

Literacy Volunteers of Coconino County

LVCC Reader

LVCCReads.org

Summer 2007

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2007 - 2008

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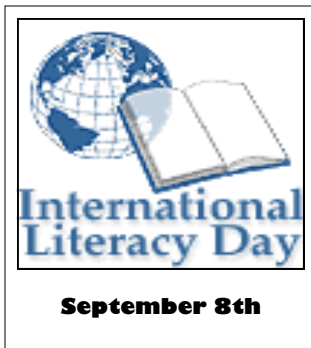
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*LVCC is a fully accredited
affiliate of ProLiteracy
America.*



Volunteer Highlight: Farewell to Old & Welcome New

We would like to extend a warm thank you and farewell to our outgoing board members Gail Reed, Holly Taylor, Sharon Richards, Randi Reppen and Susana Mills. ...

LVCC's board members are a hard-working group of dedicated volunteers. Together, the outgoing group contributed 18 years of service to our organization! Continuing members Phyllis Wolfskill, Rick Smith, Scott Kemp, Charlie Silver and Jean White welcomed the new tutors at our annual retreat in June.



Board members Scott Kemp (back left), Phyllis Wolfskill, Gail Reed, Holly Taylor, Sharon Richards (bottom left), Randi Reppen, Rick Smith and Charlie Silver. Gail, Holly, Sharon, Randi and Susana Mills (not pictured) will not be returning for fiscal year 2008.

New board members for 2007-2008: Anne Buzzard, Barbara Coyne, Barb Eickmeyer, Judy Finney, Roberto Serpas and Kathy Mahosky. We're happy to have you all on board!

Our board will be very busy in the next few years as we work to develop a reading program for teenagers, find a new home for

LVCC and, of course, raise the money we need to keep all of our programs going strong. If you are interested in joining the board or working on one of our task forces, please give us a call!

International Literacy Day

September 8th is International Literacy Day, a day created by UNESCO to raise awareness about the importance of literacy around the world. In the US, only 60% of the population can read, write and problem solve well enough to thrive in the 21st century! If you receive this newsletter, you already support literacy in the community as an LVCC friend, tutor or board member. The following ideas can be shared with co-workers, friends and family to spread the word about literacy.

- Attend our Ice-cream Social at the library on International Literacy Day.
- Take a field trip to a local literary landmark.
- Learn about and support local literacy projects.
- Join a book discussion group.
- Develop a home library.
- Give a book as a gift.
- Have an informal read-a-thon at home or at the office.

- Volunteer to read to patients in a hospital or nursing home.
- Get a library card and use it.
- Share your enthusiasm for a book with a child.
- Read books aloud to family and friends.
- Reread a favorite book.
- Ask your friends to tell you about the books that shaped their lives.
- Help a child write and illustrate a book.
- Attend readings at your local library or bookstores or the Northern Arizona Book Festival.
- Recommend a favorite book to a friend.
- Use television to encourage reading.
- Teach someone to read.
- Spread the word about the prevalence of illiteracy in this country.
- Send letters to public officials.
- Read the history of International Literacy Day on page three of this newsletter.

Some ideas from http://www.nifl.gov/nifl/literacy_day/ild_current.html



Tutor Tips: The Rule of Five

Wouldn't it be great if a learner could look at a book or magazine and decide if it is appropriate for his or her reading level? There *is* a way!

Here's how: Ask the learner to silently count or circle the number of unknown words on a page of the text. If the count is more than five words, the publication is probably a bit above the learner's reading level. If the count is five words or less, then the material is at the appropriate level—particularly if it's about a familiar topic.

After reading the material, the learner's comfort level can be adjusted higher or lower by simply increasing or decreasing the number of unknown words on a page—the

higher the number of unfamiliar words, the more difficult the reading level.

Remember, the learner will continue to progress if the reading is not only at his or her level, but at the *top* of his or her level. Yet, the learner shouldn't move on to more difficult texts until he or she has mastered texts at lower levels.

Learners love the *Rule of Five* because they can assess reading materials without being conspicuous and they can control the difficulty of the material selected.

Adapted from Evey Renner's Great Start 5 Tooter July Newsletter, soon to be available on Greatstart5.com

Save the Date!

July-Aug.

In response to a Northern Arizona Food Bank challenge, LVCC is going to hold a summer **food drive**. Our goal is to collect 100 pounds of non-perishable food items from now until the end of August! Donate today to support those who are suffering from hunger at the time of the year when the food bank's shelves are nearly empty.

Aug. 3

Join us for a **1st Friday Art Walk** designed for you, by you! Several tutors, learners and friends will display their artwork at LVCC from 6 to 8 pm. Please stop by to support them.

Aug. 23

Learn about the history of our dynamic language through a viewing and discussion of **The History of the English Language**. We will view two half hour lectures on DVD and conclude with a 30 minute discussion. Don't forget to bring your brown bag lunch! 12-1:30.

Sept. 8

International Literacy Day is a day for us to take the time to make literacy a priority in our community. We will celebrate at the Main Library lawn (corner of Birch and Sitgreaves) from 1 to 3 pm. There will be activities for children and adults alike, including Scrabble, alphabet bracelets, book-making, a book exchange and more! We are combining this special day with our **Ice Cream Social** this year, so there will be ice cream and a piñata as well. A great opportunity for tutors, learners, and their families!

Sept. 28 & 29

AZTESOL Conference in Chinle, Arizona. If you are interested in attending a professional Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages conference near beautiful Canyon de Chelly, please contact us for more details.

On-Going Summer Events

"Oh, The Places You'll Go!" There are plenty of things to do in Flagstaff in the summer, and many of these events can be excellent learning experiences for your learner. Consider the following select few and see *Flagstaff Live!* for more complete event listings. Don't forget the museums and many festivals happening throughout the summer!

Self-Discovery Through Poetry, Hasting's, Tuesdays, 1:30-3:30 pm. Discuss a poem and then write your own. Call ahead to ensure continuation.

Storytime, Hasting's, Saturdays, 11 am; Main Library, Wednesdays, 6:30 pm; East Library, Tuesdays, 6:30 pm. Opportunities for learners to bring their children for storytime.

Conversational Spanish Class for People 55+, Adult Center, 8-week course begins August 14, Tuesdays, 1:30-3 pm. Given by LVCC tutor Shirley Coles. Please call 773-3848 or 779-3409 to sign up.

Also ...Wed. **Concerts in the Park**, Thur. **Music on the Square**, Fri. **Movies on the Square!**

International Literacy What?

In 2005, the city of Flagstaff proclaimed September 8th International Literacy Day! Read on for more history about this important and special day.

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| <p>1945 Founding of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)</p> <p>1946 First meeting of the UNESCO General Conference</p> <p>1965 World Conference of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy</p> <p>1966 International Literacy Day established on a recommendation by the 1965 World Conference of Ministers</p> <p>1967 First UNESCO International Literacy Day celebration on September 8th to promote worldwide literacy</p> <p>1975 International Reading Association (IRA) begins alliance with UNESCO</p> <p>1979 First IRA Literacy Award presented</p> <p>1980 Creation of the Noma Prize by the late Japanese publisher Shoichi Noma</p> <p>1985 Fourth International Conference on Adult Education</p> <p>1989 Establishment of the King Sejong Award by the Republic of Korea</p> <p>1990 "International Literacy Year" proclamation by the United Nations</p> <p>1993 IRA Literacy Award presented to the Sebenta National Institute of Swaziland. National teleconference on the significance of professional development opportunities for Chapter 1 teachers</p> | <p>1994 IRA Award presented to National Centre for Literacy and Adult Education of Malawi. International video teleconference on Lifelong and Family Literacy, Literacy in the Classroom, and Literacy in the 21st Century</p> <p>1995 IRA Award presented to Community Academic Services Program (CASP) of the Province of New Brunswick, Canada</p> <p>1996 The IRA Literacy Award presented to the Mini-Schools Project in La Saline District of Port-au-Prince, Haiti</p> <p>1997 5th International Conference on Adult Education in Hamburg, Germany</p> <p>1998 The Malcolm Adiseshiah International Literacy Prize created by the Government of India to honor the late Malcolm Adiseshiah, former Deputy Director-General of UNESCO and Chairman of the International Literacy Prize Jury</p> <p>2000 "Literacy in the Information Age" panel discussion held at the United States Library of Congress in coordination with the International Literacy Day commemoration</p> <p>2001 National Adult Literacy Survey reported new information about adult illiteracy in America</p> <p>2002 UNESCO's International Literacy Day celebrated for the 38th time with the theme "Literacy as Freedom," linking literacy to development</p> <p>2005-2015 United Nations Literacy Decade initiative to energize work towards reaching the goal of increasing global literacy levels by 50 percent by the year 2015</p> |
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From <http://www.nifl.gov/nifl/literacy_day/ild_current.html>

Made in America: All About Our Language History

Review by Laura Bohland

Made in America: An Informal History of the English Language in the United States by Bill Bryson is an oftentimes humorous story of this nation's language, which is closely related to the history of its people. It not only analyzes American linguistics, but focuses on American life and its many eccentricities throughout its brief history.

The book begins before the arrival of the Mayflower and linguistically explores the birth of the nation, as well as delves into topics like immigration, travel, food, shopping, entertainment, "forbidden" subjects, technology and much, much more. By the time the reader gets to the end, a much greater appreciation for the ever-changing complexities of our language has developed. The story ends in the early nineties; however, the reader is able to understand and possibly even write the next chapter on the evolution of

American English. Just think of all the new terminology that has become mainstream in the last decade. And what about the future?! We are never up to date when it comes to language.

Yet what a fun and highly informative read! Bill Bryson also wrote *Mother Tongue*, which is a similarly-written tale of the history of the "original" English: British English.

Note: If you want to know the "forbidden subjects," you have to read the book! It's available through the public library system. Also, keep an eye out for workshops on the history of English via a set of DVDs we now have in our collection, courtesy of long-time tutor and friend of literacy Ted Tonkinson. Thanks, Ted—Literacy Volunteers shall graduate many an amateur linguist because of your generous donation.



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We now have 10 computers available with Windows 98 as well as 2 MACS—including one Laptop! Please let us know if your learner is interested.

Changing lives through literacy

Rosetta Stone: A Great Resource at Your Fingertips

For those of you who don't yet know, the language learning program *Rosetta Stone* is now available through the library system. This is made possible by an agreement between the Arizona Department of Education, Maricopa County Library District and Arizona State Library. While it is required that users have a library card, the card number itself is not necessary to use the program. It can be accessed at LVCC, the libraries or on your home computer. The program teaches language by mimicking the natural way we learn our first languages—gradually, with immediate feedback and through context, without memorization or translation.



The Rosetta Stone

What is the Rosetta Stone?

The real **Rosetta Stone** is a Ptolemaic-era stele written with the same text in two Egyptian language scripts (hieroglyphic and demotic) and in classical Greek. It was created in 196 BC, discovered by a soldier in Napoleon's army in 1799 at Rosetta, a harbor on the Mediterranean coast in Egypt, and translated in 1822 by Frenchman Jean-François Champollion. Comparative translation of the stone assisted in understanding many previously undecipherable examples of hieroglyphic writing. The text of the Rosetta Stone is a decree from Ptolemy V, describing the repealing of various taxes and

LVCC is holding a summer food drive—please stop by with non-perishable food items to support the Northern Arizona Food Bank.

Would you like to receive this newsletter via email? Let us know by calling 556-0313 or by emailing lvcc tutor@lvccreads.org

All four language skills are reinforced—reading, writing, listening and speaking. English, French, Spanish, Italian, Greek, German and Russian are available.

Try it! Go to the Main library page, <http://www.flagstaffpubliclibrary.org/> and follow the link "NEW! Learn a Language with Rosetta Stone." Click on the program link and then "Flagstaff City-Coconino County Public Library." Follow the instructions to register, and be sure to read "First Time Users" as there are program requirements like Macromedia Shockwave. There is a downloadable "Quick Start Guide" that will help guide you through the main components of the program. Once you've gotten the hang of the program, you can teach your learner how to use it.

instructions to erect statues in temples.

The Stone is 114.4 centimeters high at its tallest point, 72.3 centimeters wide, and 27.9 centimeters thick (45.04 in. high, 28.5 in. wide, 10.9 in. thick). Weighing approximately 760 kg (1,676 pounds), it was originally thought to be granite or basalt but is currently described as grandodiorite and is dark grey-bluish-pinkish in color. It currently resides in the British Museum.

From en.wikipedia.org