



COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Happy Summer! I don't know where the time goes! I had hoped to send you a newsletter in January, but that didn't happen. The months between January and June just flew by, and before I knew it was time for our annual recognition banquet. I am sorry for the delay, but hopefully, we can get back on schedule with the newsletter!

Our annual Recognition Banquet with our guest speaker, Marty Finsterbusch was a huge success. Many thanks go to the committee, sponsors, and those who helped make this year's banquet a success.

We have held two tutor training workshops since the first of the year. We held one workshop in Troy in January and trained five tutors. We also completed a tutor training workshop at the Children's House in Towanda in April and trained eight tutors. We are currently planning our tutor training workshops for the fall.

In addition to our tutor training, assessments, etc., we have completed two successful Pre-clinical CNA trainings. One class was held at the Bradford Co. Library in January and February with six people completing the class. The other one was held in Sayre in April and May with five people who completed the class.

We have also held seven inservices since January. Our presenters have included

Mary Mingle, Christina Bove, Amy Wilson, and Rosie Fry.

This gives you an idea of what we have been doing since January! I haven't mentioned grant writing, working with students and tutors, going to many meetings, etc., etc. Maybe you are beginning to realize why I haven't sent out a newsletter recently!

Thank you so much for all you are doing to help your student learn to read, do math, or learn English as a Second Language. You are terrific! You are making a difference in the lives of our students!

Sherry Spencer
Program Coordinator

WELCOME NEW TUTORS

Please welcome the following new tutors who completed a tutor training workshop at the Western Alliance Emergency Services in Troy: Mimi Fosnocht, Helen Hess, Mary White, Troy; and Cheri Pinho, Columbia Crossroads. Diane Andrus of Columbia Crossroads also completed the training at a later date. Trainers for the workshop were Sigrid Wilkinson, Gail Wardrop, and Sherry Spencer. Barb Pulver and her student explained "real life" tutoring to the new trainees.

Also welcome these new tutors who completed a tutor training workshop at the Children's House in Towanda: Duane Cramer, Julie Ann Them, Sayre; John Kelly, Athens; Eileen Farrell, Maria Seda, Joanne Vago, Towanda; Vivienne Slear, Gillett; and Amanda

Newell, Wyalusing. Trainers for the workshop were Gail Wardrop, Sigrid Wilkinson, and Sherry Spencer. Terry Duvall explained real life tutoring to the new volunteers.

For information about upcoming workshops, please call the Literacy Program office at 570-297-3375, 570-996-5203 or email literacy@bradfordcountylibrary.org.

LITERACY LIGHTS UP YOUR LIFE

“Literacy Lights Up Your Life” was the theme of this year’s Recognition Banquet, held at the Towanda Elks. Approximately 85 tutors, students, families, and friends attended the banquet. Of these 85, twenty-four were students. The guest speaker was Marty Finsterbusch, Executive Director of VALUE, Voice of Adult Learners United to Educate.

Finsterbusch, a former adult literacy student, reviewed the beginning of adult education in the United States. He stated that adult education in the United States began in Valley Forge with George Washington providing instruction for his troops. Although there are 90 million adults in the United States that lack basic reading and writing skills, 30 million are reading at a very basic level.

Finsterbusch, who graduated from high school with a fourth grade reading level, sought help from the Delaware Co. Literacy Council in Chester, PA. As he began to attend regional and national conferences as an adult learner, he wondered where the other adult literacy students were. Later forty-five adult learners from across the United States met in Highlander, Tennessee and formed VALUE. In 2001, Finsterbusch was appointed VALUE’s first executive director. VALUE, Voice of Adult

Learners United to Educate, is the only national non-profit adult literacy organization in the United States governed and operated by current and former literacy students.

Finsterbusch explained that the adult learners across the United States realize that reading and writing skills are not enough as they prepare to enter employment or post secondary training. They also need critical thinking skills. He also stated that VALUE has recommended that adult literacy programs add case managers to their staffs so that the adult learners realize the opportunities that are available to them once they complete their study with a volunteer literacy tutor from a local literacy program.

Recently, Finsterbusch testified before a subcommittee of Congress in preparation of the re-authorization of the Workforce Investment Act. In addition, Finsterbusch has served on the governing boards of several national and state organizations including SCALE, Laubach Literacy Action (now ProLiteracy) and Pennsylvania’s State Coalition for Literacy. Since the mid-1990’s Finsterbusch has been a planner, speaker, and workshop presenter for numerous national, regional, and state conferences throughout the United States.

Later Finsterbusch and Sherry Spencer, Program Director of the Bradford-Wyoming Co. Literacy Program, presented awards to those volunteer tutors who had achieved a significant amount of tutoring hours during the past year. Howard Smith was master of ceremonies for the banquet. Faith Jaynes provided musical entertainment. Those tutors who received an award for 40 hours of volunteer tutoring include

Dolores Anthony, Penny Burgoyne, Agnes Fells, Mimi Fosnocht, Diane Meislohn, Shirley Michaels, Ruth Russell, Peggy Trentacosta, and Margaret Zinser.

Those who received an award for 100 hours of volunteer tutoring include Dolores Anthony, Candy Benscoter, Marcene Billingsley, Susan Carmalt, Deitlind Crain, Jonell Foster, Sarah Gottschalk, Judy Lorincz, Barb Pulver, and Edward Zinser.

Lois Hutter and Mary Ann Vallilee received awards for reaching 200 hours of volunteer tutoring.

Barbara James was recognized for 500 hours of volunteer tutoring.

Barbara Gary and Phil Hungate received awards for 600 hours of volunteer tutoring.

Claire Borits was recognized for 800 hours of volunteer tutoring. Laurie Anson and Charlotte Reeve received awards for 1,100 hours of volunteer tutoring. Marie Pierce was recognized for 2,000 hours of volunteer tutoring. Finally, Judy Smith Parmenter received an award for her outstanding accomplishment of 2,800 hours of tutoring.

Corporate sponsor for the Recognition Banquet was the Tunkhannock WalMart. Other sponsors included Baskets, Blooms, and Beyond, Pickering Winery, and Roloson Brothers Maple Syrup.

A blue and white umbrella was found at the Elks after the banquet. If you are missing an umbrella, please contact the Literacy Program office.

The annual recognition banquet has become a tradition with the Bradford-

Wyoming Co. Literacy Program. Plans will soon begin for the 2010 Banquet. If you would like to be a member of the committee, please contact the Literacy Program office. We need you!

NEW ON THE SHELVES

BWCLP now has copies of the Junkyard Dan series available on loan to tutors and students. The Junkyard Dan series from Nox Press is designed for struggling, emergent, and ESL older adolescent and adult readers. These easy-to-read books are perfect for HS students, GED students, and adult literacy programs. Although this series is written on a first-second grade level, these books are not babyish, boring, or condescending. They are adult stories with adult characters, written for adults by author Elise Leonard, to provide ease and success for adult learners while they read something of interest.

Endeavor is a new series from New Readers Press. A research-based reading and writing series specifically for adult learners, Endeavor emphasizes vocabulary, comprehension, and fluency to build reading and writing skills. The series begins with Level 3 and goes through Level 8.

Also, ReadingWise contains comprehension strategies that work! This series teaches comprehension strategies to enhance any reading experience. The series covers Reading Level 1 – 8.

Several tutors and students are using the weekly newspaper from New Readers Press, “News for You.” If you would like to use “News for You” in your lessons, contact the Literacy Program office. “News for You” is also now

available on line at www.newsforyouonline.com .

Learning Express Library is another resource that is available through the Bradford Co. Library website, www.BradfordCountyLibrary.org . It includes GED preparation, Job Search and Workplace Skills, as well as Skill Building for Adults.

The student newsletter, “New Readers News,” is sent directly to adult learners enrolled in BWCLP as well as being included with the tutors’ newsletter. Most of the articles in NRN are written by students in the Literacy Program. If the reading level is too difficult for your student, try reading the articles with your student as a Duet Reading exercise.

For more information about these resources or to request a copy, please contact the Literacy Program office at 570-297-3375 or 570-996-5203 or by email at literacy@bradfordcountylibrary.org.

IN MEMORIAM

The Bradford-Wyoming Co. Literacy Program extends sympathy to the families and friends of these former tutors, Nancy Schuessler of Columbia Crossroads and Deb Kjellander of Gillett. They both tutored several years ago and made a difference in the lives of their students. We hope beautiful memories will give these families and friends comfort.

SUCCESS

Congratulations to these students who have completed skillbooks, Challenger books, or other series since the last newsletter. (This information is

compiled from tutors’ monthly calendars.)

Skill Book 2

Sally Engdahl’s student

Challenger 2

Judy Smith Parmenter’s student

Challenger 3

Marie Pierce’s student

Challenger 4

Penny Burgoyne’s student
Kris Eller’s student
Kim Kal-Downs’ student
Judy Lorincz’s student
Marie Pierce’s student
Pat Stadelmaier’s student

Challenger 5

Ruth Russell’s student

Challenger 6

Pat Thomason’s student

Challenger 7

Marlene von Voightlander

Voyager 3 & 4

Marie Pierce’s student

Endeavor Bk. 3 & NSE Book 5

Barbara James’ student

RFT Introductory Book & Understanding Numbers

Jonell Foster’s student

Number Power Bk. 6

Marie Pierce's student

Number Power Level E

Helen Hess' student

Pre-GED Mathematics

Marcene Billingsley's student

Charlotte Reeve's student got his driver's license. Two of Vicki Vannan's students and Barbara James' student have gotten their learner's permits. One of Vicki's students has passed the bar exam in Brazil to become a civil lawyer. Mary Ann Vallilee's student is a hospital volunteer. Judy Parmenter's student passed the EMA test. If we have omitted your student's accomplishment, please contact the Literacy Program office. Congratulations to these students and their tutors!

THANK YOU!

The Bradford-Wyoming Co. Literacy Program has received donations from the following: Tunkhannock WalMart, Jack and Joy Strobe in honor of Joyce Strobe Burgart on her birthday, George Clymer Chapter of the DAR, First Citizens National Bank, Citizens & Northern National Bank, Ace Robbins Oil and Propane, Gannon Associates, Procter & Gamble, and Tunkhannock Jr. Women's Club. Thank you!

The Bradford-Wyoming Co. Literacy Program will also be receiving a bequest from the estate of Nancy Schuessler. This is our first bequest! We appreciate this very much!

THIS N' THAT

Congratulations to George and Dorothy Lehman, who celebrated their 60th anniversary in June. Dorothy is a former tutor and tutor trainer. Congratulations to Roland and Tammy Cooper on the birth of their son, Maddox. Tammy and Roland renewed their wedding vows this summer.

Best wishes to Susan Turrell on her retirement as Director of the Tunkhannock Public Library. Kristin Smith-Gary is now the Director of the Tunkhannock Public Library, and David LaFrance is the Director of the Wyalusing Public Library.

Please note that the current email address is literacy@bradfordcountylibrary.org. Also, Sherry Spencer can be reached at sspencer@bradfordcountylibrary.org. Sheryl Deibler's address is sdeibler@bradfordcountylibrary.org, and Vicki Vannan's email address is vvannan@frontiernet.net. Check out our website at www.BWCLiteracyProgram.org !

There is no better exercise for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up.

John Andrew Holmes, Jr.

"One to One News" and "New Readers' News" are bimonthly newsletters of the Bradford-Wyoming Co. Literacy Program, sponsored by the Bradford Co. Library, RR 3, Box 320, Troy, PA, 16947. (Phone 570-297-3375, FAX 570-297-4197, email literacy@bradfordcountylibrary.org) Partial funding for the Bradford-Wyoming Co. Literacy Program is provided by the state funds administered by PA Dept. of Education.

Bradford Co. Library
RR 3, Box 320
Troy, PA 16947

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
BURLINGTON, PA
PERMIT NO. 2

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sept. 2 Wyoming Co. Tutor Get together
Tunkhannock Public Library, 6PM
- Sept. 6 – 12 International Literacy Week
- Sept. Tutor Training Workshop
Dates, Location to be announced

Thanks, Volunteers!