

Laubach Literacy of Ventura County, Inc.

*Trains and supports volunteers who provide
free, student-centered ESL tutoring to adults
seeking to learn English and to understand U.S. culture*



December 2017 Newsletter

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The Prez Sez, “Communication is the keystone of all human cultures and success...”

VOL-UN-TEER:

A person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task without pay.

What a wonderful concept that goes back over 450 years! In a world where money always seems to be the motivating factor, a volunteer does what he or she does from the heart and chooses to act in recognition of a need, with an attitude of social responsibility.

A volunteer reaches out to help those who for many reasons need a helping hand to overcome the obstacles life has put in the way. Some of those obstacles are small and all that is needed is a little advice. Other obstacles create a real roadblock and require hours and hours of hard work to overcome.

The Universal Declaration on Volunteering states: Volunteering is a fundamental building block of civil society. It brings to life the noblest aspirations of humankind – the pursuit of peace, freedom, opportunity, safety and justice for all people.

As a Laubach volunteer, you accomplish much more than you know. By the unselfish giving of yourself, you make the world a better place. Thank you for all you do!

Linda Lambert, Board Co-President

More LLVC News Below.



DONATIONS

LLVC wishes to thank the following companies and individuals for their support from September through November of this year. We can't do it without you. Thank you very much.

Financial donations were received from: AmazonSmile, Sy Einstoss, the Kroger Foundation, Linda and Jon Lambert, Geri Levine Loe, Michael Montalvo, Herb and Naomi Smith, Louise Vien, Lee Weiss, Lee and Joan Woodward, and a grant from the Loebel Family Fund.

In-kind contributions were received from: Marianne Flam, Linda Lambert, Joyce Thomsen, Amy Trejo, Louise Vien, and Barbara Wagner.

You can also provide support by specifying us as your nonprofit to share in the Ralph's Community Program at communityprograms@ralphs.com; LLVC is NPO #82697. Note: Those of us who participate in this program need to re-register each year after September 1. That can also be done at the Ralph's website.

Another way to support us is by selecting LLVC as your nonprofit when ordering at Amazon through [smileamazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).

Thanks.



WELCOME NEW TUTORS

There were 11 attendees at the September 16 tutor training workshop. The following received their certificates of completion: Andy Abate, Wendy Anderson, Charleen Birgy, Jennifer Conkright, Marta Freixas, Randy Holzer, Meg Horton, Joyce Jones, Susan Ludes, Estelle Rhodes, and Ann Wartinger.

Welcome to all of you and a special welcome back to Joyce Jones; thanks to all for joining us!



(Pictured above are the graduates from the September 16 tutor training workshop.)

FUTURE TUTOR TRAINING

Our next training opportunity for new tutors will be on January 27 (9:00 AM – 4 PM). We'll be presenting information about cultural awareness, how adults learn, second language acquisition, lesson planning, tutoring materials and tips and tutoring practice; all of you are invited to attend as a refresher or to take the opportunity to meet one on one with any of our trainers. Please call (805) 385-9584 or email at info@laubachventura.org to have us save a space for you and provide directions. Please let your friends know about this opportunity; as always, there's no charge for the training and materials for those who tutor.

FROM OUR TUTORS

1. Our program here in Santa Paula just keeps growing. We are so excited. (Guy Mansfield, Santa Paula)
2. I started taking an online course for TESOL certificate. Oh, and I became an American citizen. It has never occurred to me if I weren't teaching the citizenship class. (Yoko Mansfield, Santa Paula)
3. On October 27 a group of eight tutors met for lunch at Mandala restaurant near Ojai. It was a beautiful day and the prayer flags were blowing in the breeze. The owner, a former Laubach student, served some sundaes in addition to our delicious lunch which featured Indian, Tibetan, and Japanese dishes.

Tutor Talk began as a way for tutors to come together to share experiences, encourage one another. We meet 8 times a year on the 4th Friday of the month at 10 AM. (No meetings in November) In January 2018 we will meet at Barrister's Suites ([1500 Palma Drive](#), first floor conference room)

Inspired by our students, future plans may include other lunches, featuring foods from around Ventura County! Plan to join us! (Louise Vien, Ventura Area Coordinator)

4. Late August to early September, three hurricanes hit Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico and Don and I were first responders with FEMA for such emergencies. We were called up over 2 months ago and left in 2017. I was deployed in Puerto Rico and I've been in the Gulf area of Texas.

We've been transparent from the beginning with both FEMA (as first responders) and the Peace Corps (in Guatemala); and met with our representatives last winter in their respective offices in Washington. We know how it would play out for timing.

But as the enormity of the devastation became evident, it was clear that we were needed to help with the hurricanes. The door to later serve in the Peace Corps is still a possibility. It looks like Don and I will be leaving next week. We'll fly to San Francisco and then Denver to see family and then hopefully to go to see Leslie Nelson, former Ventura tutors)

ADDITIONAL TUTORING SITES

The following sites are used by the County's READ Literacy Program which generously has offered them to us as well. Please contact the site before use to confirm availability, which is sometimes offered after regular hours.

**Buena High School Library, Ventura (805-701-1323) on Mondays and Wednesdays from
4:30 – 7 PM.**

**Simi Valley Library, Community Room (805-256-5122) on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from
4:30 – 7 PM**

**Ray D. Prueter Library, Port Hueneme (805-340-1724) on Tuesdays and Thursdays from
4:30 – 7 PM**

CONVERSATION CLASSES

Conversation English classes are conducted in Camarillo, El Rio, Ojai, Oxnard, Santa Paula, Saticoy, and Ventura. The classes in Camarillo, El Rio, Oxnard, Santa Paula, Saticoy, and Ventura are open to all on a drop-in basis.

At the Camarillo Library on Tuesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 PM, Wednesdays from 1:30 – 2:30 PM, and on Fridays from 10:00 AM – noon. (the contact is Lee Woodward: 805-482-4005).

In Oxnard, at the Soliz Library, [2820 Jourdan Street, \(El Rio\)](#) on Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:15 AM. At the Rio Plaza Elementary School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 AM to noon. And at the Salvation Army Center ([622 W. Wooley Road](#)) on Tuesdays from 10:30 AM - noon.

In Santa Paula, at the Rodney Fernandez Gardens Community Center: ESL 1 on Monday from 1 -2 PM and Wednesday from 9 – 10 AM, ESL 2 on Tuesday and Thursday from 9 – 10 AM, and for Citizenship on Monday from 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM (the contact is Yoko Mansfield, yokomansfield@hotmail.com).

At the Saticoy Library at [1292 Los Angeles Avenue](#) on Mondays and Wednesdays at 3 PM (the contact is Louise Vien).

At the Avenue Library, [606 North Ventura Avenue, Ventura](#) on Mondays at 11:00 AM (the contact for the Ventura class is Louise Vien, louisev99@juno.com). Any tutors who would like to help with this class can

just drop in.

The class in Ojai has a specific roster of attendees, but contact can be made for Ojai with Linda Lambert (ojailamberts@sbcglobal.net)

Tutor Tips

Want to help a farmworker improve their English? Email Alex Castilla (azaharplace@cabrilloedc.org).

Thanks to Lee Weiss, we now have a complete copy of the Scottish Rite Hospital Literacy Program designed to help people with learning difficulties. If you have a student that you think might benefit from some specially designed help, contact Barbara at: barbarawagner37@yahoo.com to obtain a copy of the program or a portion of the program that might be helpful to them.

Crossroads Café was a PBS program about an eclectic group of characters experiencing everyday happenings in the venue of a small café. There's tutoring material available in the form of books with comprehension related exercises. This material is available in DVD form. Call us at (805)385-9584 if you're interested in more information or obtaining copies.

A number of our tutors have reported success with their students using *News for You*. This is a weekly newspaper that has a variety of international articles including hard news, entertainment, and sports along with a crossword puzzle. It comes with a Teacher's Guide and is also available in hard copy, but the online versions allows the reader to listen to the stories while they read. They can listen over and over again to help

with their aural comprehension. Please take a look yourself and share with your students; call us at (805) 385-9584 to get the password.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 18, 2018: Board meeting at 6:45 PM at the Barristers Executive Suites, [1500 Palma Drive, Ventura](#) (second floor conference room).

January 26, 2018: Tutor Talk at 10 AM at the Barristers Executive Suites, [1500 Palma Drive, Ventura](#) (first floor conference room).

January 27: Saturday (9 AM – 4 PM): Tutor Workshop, [1500 Palma Drive, Ventura](#) (second floor conference room).

February 23, 2018: Tutor Talk at 10 AM at the Barristers Executive Suites, [1500 Palma Drive, Ventura](#) (first floor conference room).



THANKS

As you know, we try to get as much mileage as possible out of our tutoring materials. If you have any books you're not using, they could be put to use

by other tutors. Please give us a call at: (805) 385-9584 so that we can make arrangements to pick them up. This will help us stretch our funding to its greatest value. Thanks.

If you believe this is a public service that is important, support this work by donating online at [Laubach Literacy Online Donation website.](#) Or, send a check made out to "*Laubach Literacy of Ventura County*" at: [1500 Palma Drive, Ventura, CA 93003.](#)

Thank You For Your Support!

The 2017- 2018 Board

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Louise Vien, Ventura Area Coordinator

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Laubach Literacy of Ventura County [1500 Palma Drive Ventura, CA 93003](https://www.laubachventura.org) (805-385-9584) www.laubachventura.org

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