



LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF THE TARRYTOWNS INC.

www.lvtarrytown.org

The Warner Library, 121 N. Broadway, Tarrytown, NY 10591 914-488-4250

August 2016

NEWSLETTER

Volume 40 Number 1

Our Spring 2016 Tutor Class!



The following new tutors completed our Spring Tutor Training. Welcome to Literacy Volunteers!



Thanks to the volunteers who helped train our new class: Anna Li, Promila Saxena, Nancy Kaufman Panagacos, Kathy Kee, Barbara Cohen, Sharon Hart and Marilyn Ghilardi. Presentations included information on tutoring materials, learner-tutor matching, survival kit preparation, Warner Library materials, LV materials and tutor advisors. Thanks to John Lough for collecting the workshop fees and filling in for refreshments.

We are grateful to Peter Marrinan for the Dunkin Donuts discount extended to us. Thanks also to our refreshment hosts: Gillian Mullings, Helene Gomez, Harold German, Eric Kemperman and Kathleen Kane.



President's Report Mary Jane Driscoll

In Memoriam

On June 5th, we opened our annual meeting with a moment of silence in memory of Louise Raybin who passed away on March 9th. Louise had been a Literacy Volunteer for 17 years in our affiliate. She served as a tutor and later as a tutor advisor. A former teacher, she was passionate about literacy and helping others in the community. Louise also volunteered at Phelps Hospital for many years and was frequently the smiling face greeting patients and visitors at the front desk. Her dedication and enthusiasm as tutor and mentor in our affiliate will be greatly missed.

Annual Meeting

At our annual membership meeting, we elected our board for the 2016-2018 term. The current board members are:

<i>Mary Jane Driscoll</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Sharon Hart-Fanelli</i>	<i>Vice President</i>
<i>John Lough</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Marie Olenych</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Marilyn Ghilardi</i>	<i>Director Tutor Advisors</i>
<i>Nancy Kaufman Panagacos</i>	<i>Director-Learner/Tutor-Matching</i>
<i>Kathy Kee</i>	<i>Director-Publicity</i>
<i>Promila Saxena</i>	<i>Director-Tutoring Materials</i>
<i>Niamh Fitzgerald</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Ben Hunter</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Joan Meade</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Joan Stern</i>	<i>Director</i>

Attendance Awards!

The following students received the *Lucille and Ted Hutchinson Attendance Award* for attending at least 15 hours of tutoring lessons in a two-month reporting period. Congratulations to our students and their tutors.

ATTENDANCE AWARD

November / December

Oneida Fernandez \	Tutor – Barbara Breen TA – Joan Meade
Maria F. Chuchucha	Tutor – Claire Davis TA – Promila Saxena
Monica Tenelanda	Tutor- Sarita Roy TA – Sandy Mirsky
Amarilis Lopez	Tutor–Katie Commando TA – Akiko Takano
Rosa Quituisaca	Tutor – Lenaora Macri TA – Fred Steigman
Maria C. Chuchuca	Tutor–Susan Robinson TA– Kristen Lankester

May / June

Romulo Sequi	Tutor–Barbara Catterton TA-Maria Gorordo-Daly
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Tutor Chat

Joan Stern will host another Tutor Chat on Thursday, September 15th at 7:00 P.M. in meeting room B. This get-together will include a demo of the new version of the BEST Plus test followed by a question and answer period. Please join us to learn more about our standardized test. Meet other volunteers and share some tutoring experiences.

Rotary Grant Received!

LVT is happy to announce that the Rotary Club of the Tarrytowns has donated \$500 to our affiliate for the purchase of new digital recorders to be used by students and tutors as part of their ESL instruction and practice. We are very grateful for this grant and for all of the funding the Rotary Club has provided to LVT for tutoring materials in the past.

LVT's Amazon Wish List and Amazon Smile



A reminder that our affiliate has an Amazon.com Wish List. Click on the link below which will take you directly to the wish list or go to the Amazon.com website, and search for “Literacy Volunteers of the Tarrytowns” in the Your Lists tab, https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/ref=c_mwl_your_lists

Amazon Smile

Amazon Smile is a great way to raise funds for our affiliate. Each time you purchase something from Amazon.com using the Amazon Smile application and designate Literacy Volunteers of the Tarrytowns as the beneficiary, a percentage of the amount you spend will be donated to our affiliate. Follow this link to get started: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/13-3539210>

Volunteer Needed!

If you would like to be trained to be a certified BEST Plus Tester and are able to volunteer during the week and/or on weekends to test our LVT learners, please contact us at info@lvtarrytown.org.

Tutor-Student Matching

Nancy Kaufman Panagacos

As of May 9th, we have 35 students on the waiting list for an LVT tutor. A total of 8 students are waiting for replacement tutors, and 2 students request to be tutored in Ossining. Some of these new learners have been waiting for a tutor for 5 months or more. It would be helpful if we could reduce the turnaround time from application to matching with a tutor.

If anyone can accept a new student, please email info@lvtarrytown.org or leave a note for Nancy in the LV mailbox. Be sure to include your contact information as well as the days and hours you are available to tutor.

Director, Tutor Advisory Services

Marilyn Ghilardi

We currently have 46 active tutors and 41 learners. There are five tutors who need to return Initial Student Report forms. I am following up on the missing ISRs, and have asked tutor advisors to work with their advisees to make sure that their students are BEST Plus tested. Each student must be tested once a year.

Important!

There is a new version of the BEST Plus test that we must use from now on. It is important to learn about the new version of the test, as the scores from it cannot be compared to scores from the previous version. Please see the Tutor Chat section of this newsletter for information about a preview of the new BEST Plus test.

Director of Teaching Materials

Promila Saxena

New sign-in policy - effective immediately, all Literacy Volunteers will need to sign in at the reference librarian desk when they are using the tutoring room or LV office. This process will ensure the library staff is aware of our presence in the building in order to control the security of our

tutors, students, materials and library property. There will be a binder at the reference desk labeled "Literacy Volunteers" with sign-in sheets for you to date and sign.



Fall 2016 Tutor Training

The Fall Tutor Training Workshop is starting soon! Our first session is September 17th. Please share this newsletter and your enthusiasm with anyone who might be interested in helping someone on our waiting list to learn English. Applications are available in Warner Library and on our website - - <http://www.lvtarrytown.org/join-now-.html>. Workshop dates and times are on the website and at the end of this newsletter.

The People We Serve



On June 4th, **Gerry Mahoney and Blanca Medina** attended a follow-up session to the Spring workshop and shared some information about their tutoring experiences.

Gerry has been working with **Rosa**, a very dedicated woman from Ecuador who has been in the United States for about 16 years. Rosa was educated in Ecuador until she was 11 years old and did not attend any school until she was 37 years old. She works as a housecleaner and lives with her two brothers. Gerry says Rosa loves vocabulary and recently learned how to say “*your house is too dirty, I have to charge extra.*” Gerry and Rosa have been working on other vocabulary like: “*fast*” as in “*Rosa you work so fast!*” They have also been working on telling time and US money. They read stories together, but her reading comprehension in English needed improvement. She tests at level 1 on the ESLOA. Rosa’s goal in learning English is to get a better job. She recently took the GED exam in Spanish and found it difficult. Outside of her tutoring time with Gerry, Rosa has very little opportunity to practice her English.

Blanca’s student Louisa is from the Dominican Republic and has been in the U.S. for a long time. She had some college level education before coming to the U.S. Louisa also attends English

classes at the Life Center in Sleepy Hollow. She and Blanca check the homework assignments together. Blanca says Louisa can write but not speak very well. She tried attending classes at Westchester Community College but found them too difficult. Louisa scores level 1 on the ESLOA. Her goal in learning English is to be able to communicate better with her employers. She works as a babysitter, but would also like to get a better and higher paying job. Louisa and Blanca have been working on the verb “to be.” They have also been working on basic “life skills” – learning how to live here in the U.S.

EVENT!

TaSH Farmers Market

LVT will be at the [TaSH](#) on Saturday, September 3rd from 8:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. in Patriot’s Park. We will have a table to raise awareness of our program and to recruit new volunteers. We will also be selling comic books to raise funds for our tutor training workshop. Please stop by and visit us – and bring your friends !

See the LVT 2016-2017 Calendar on next page...

2016- 2017 Calendar

LVT FALL TUTOR TRAINING WORKSHOP	September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 22 and 29	SATURDAYS 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Meeting Room B
TUTOR CHAT	September 15	7:00 – 8:30 P.M	Meeting Room B
BOARD MEETINGS	September 12 November 14 January 9 March 13 May 8	MONDAYS 5:30 – 7:00 P.M.	Meeting Room C
HOLIDAY PARTY	December 4	SUNDAY 12:00 – 2:30 P.M.	Reading Room
ANNUAL IN- SERVICE	June 10	10:00 A.M.	Meeting Room B
ANNUAL MEETING	June 10	11:00 A.M.	Meeting Room B
BOARD MEETING	June 10	12:00 P.M.	Meeting Room B