



## Welcome New Tutors!

Literacy Volunteers of the Tarrytowns is pleased to welcome the new tutors who have joined us since September.



Our Fall 2012 training class prepared these volunteers to be ESL tutors: Dancy Balestrieri, Sherwood Chorost, Bridget Cooke, Anthony Di Berardo, Stephen Gomory, Jane Herbert, Helaine Hertzlich, Grace Kwon, Rishi Mahajan, Denise Pugh, Michael Pugh, Sarah Quinn, Sandra Simon, Mark Thoma, Saundra Williams, and Kathleen Williamson. Sharon Hart and Promila Saxena led the workshop.

Sincere thanks to Joe Ambrose, Nancy Bonagura, Mary Jane Driscoll, Abigail Burke Hall, Sadi Rebsch and Joan Stern, for hosting refreshments and sharing their experiences with our new tutors during the workshops. Also, many thanks to Joan Meade, Darla Kholer, Jim Kittler and Nelson Correa who served as workshop presenters.

Welcome to Cheryl French and Jean Chenalt who joined our program as tutors. Cheryl has a master's degree in TESOL. Jean has been a teacher for 34 years and has worked with ESL students.

## President's Report

*by Mary Jane Driscoll*

Holiday Greetings to all! It has been a busy four months since the annual meeting in June. On August 6th I was invited to speak at Kendal on Hudson about

Literacy Volunteers of the Tarrytowns. Marilyn Ghilardi, our Secretary, accompanied me to a dinner with some current and former Literacy Volunteers – Penny Broome, Juanita Carmi, Yolanda Wesley and Topsy Preus. Following dinner, I gave a presentation to about 40 residents of Kendal and answered questions. Many thanks to Topsy for helping us reach out to the Kendal community.

## Sleepy Hollow Street Fair



On September 8th, a number of Board members took turn manning a booth that we shared with The Warner Library at the Sleepy Hollow Street Fair. Our intent was to raise awareness about our program and recruit new volunteers. Unfortunately, a very windy storm forced the street fair to end early, but we were able to share information and tote bags with those who did not let a little rain keep them away. Many thanks to H&R Block for sharing their extra waterproof tent with us!

## Grant Solicitation

Jim Reisler, one of our tutors, has agreed to help the Board solicit grants from local foundations. He has been actively communicating with the Board and ghost writing our letters for us. We hope to be able to report news on this matter in the next newsletter.

### Board Resignations

I regret to report that the Board received letters of resignation from Nelson Correa - effective January 2013, and Susan Lewis – effective immediately. Both cited their travel obligations as impediments to fulfilling their responsibilities to the Board. This means we are looking to replace our Director of Tutor Advisory Services and our Director of Publicity. This newsletter comes to you through the kindness of Joan Meade, one of our new Board members, who has volunteered to edit the content the Board has provided in their reports. If anyone is interested in assisting with Tutor Advisor assignments and reporting or publicity and newsletter, please email me at [info@tarrytown.org](mailto:info@tarrytown.org).

### Director of Tutor Advisory Services

Nelson Correa reports that, as of 9/12/2012, we had 56 students in our program and 40 active tutors. Four of our tutors were each tutoring multiple students, either one-on-one or in small classes of two to eight students. There were two more tutors waiting for a new student to be assigned.

### Tutor student matching

by *Jim Kittler*

We currently have 25 students on the waiting list. This is the shortest our waiting list has been in recent memory. Sixteen new tutors were matched with students during the Fall Tutor Training workshop. If any of our tutors can take on an additional student, please contact Jim at [jim.kittler@lvtarrytown.org](mailto:jim.kittler@lvtarrytown.org).

### Notes for Tutors!

New Voyager workbooks (level F, 1, 2, 3 & 4) were purchased for use by our students. Thanks to a generous \$500 grant from the Rotary Club of the Tarrytowns. Book plates will be placed inside each book in recognition of the Rotary Club's gift. We are grateful to Niamh Fitzgerald for her work securing this funding.

### Tutor for Two Hours a Week

In late 2009, the Directors created the Theodore and

Lucille Hutchinson Student Attendance Certificate as an incentive for students to increase their learning time with LVT. The certificate is awarded to students with 16 or more classroom hours during a bi-monthly reporting period. In 2012, certificates have been awarded to the following students:

Student	Tutor
Liliana L. Miranda	Fatma Ghailan
Maria V. Tello	Fatma Ghailan
Isabel Rivas	Fatma Ghailan
Edgar F. Suconota	Fatma Ghailan
Luis E. Lojano	Jordon Seacor
Anita Murillo	Nancy Bonagura
Juan Hernandez	Sandra Mirsky

### Report from the Director of Teaching Materials

*Promila Saxena writes*

The following books have been purchased for our Tutoring Center:

#### Books added in Tutoring Center in 2012

NAME OF BOOK	AUTHORS
Patterns of American English: A Guide for Speakers of Other Languages	Marion Brown Lorenz
A Conversation Book 1: English in Everyday Life (4th Edition)	Carver, Tina Kasloff
English in Action 3	Barbara H. Foley
English in Action L3-Student Book	Elizabeth R. Neblett
English in Action, vol. 3: Workbook	Elizabeth R. Neblett
Jazz Chants&#174;: Student Book	Carolyn Graham
The Electric Elephant, and Other Stories	Carolyn Graham, Gerry Mooney
English Step by Step with Pictures	Ralph Boggs and Lolita Dixson
Voyager Text and Workbooks	

The Warner Library donated the Crossroads Café series of VHS tapes to our tutoring center. If tutors would like more VHS monitors installed in the tutoring center, please send an email request to [info@tarrytown.org](mailto:info@tarrytown.org).

There have not been many requests recently for gift books for students. Remember, we offer a choice of gift books for students who have been working with a tutor for six weeks or more. If you have questions about gift books for students, send an e-mail to [info@tarrytown.org](mailto:info@tarrytown.org).

## Spring Tutor Training Workshop

We are in the process of setting the dates for the next Literacy Volunteers 18-hour ESL Tutor Training Workshop. The schedule will be posted on our website – [www.lvtarrytown.org](http://www.lvtarrytown.org).

This training workshop will prepare new volunteers to tutor a student from a waiting list of men and women in our community seeking help in learning to speak English. It is not necessary to know a foreign language in order to help a student learn English. If you have friends, relatives, neighbors who are at least 19 years old and can commit to tutoring a student for approximately two hours a week for one year, please encourage them to join us!

Applications for the next workshop will soon be available at The Warner Library, or can be completed on-line using our volunteer application form. For more information, please call Literacy Volunteers of the Tarrytowns at (914) 488-4250 or e-mail [info@lvtarrytown.org](mailto:info@lvtarrytown.org).

## Best Plus Testing

Good News – Amy Plofker has been trained as a Best Plus Test Administrator and will be helping Carol Hagglund, Coordinator of Best Plus Testing, get as many students as possible tested this year. It's time to have your student tested if you have not done so in the past 12 months. We need to have all students tested with the Best Plus assessment in order to qualify for ALE grants. Please call Carol to arrange a time for your student to be tested. Contact your tutor advisor or leave a message at 914-488-4250 if you need Carol's phone number.

## Milestones

Jim Kittler reports of his student: Angela Villa received U.S. Citizenship this summer and voted in the recent Presidential election! Angela has been in the U.S. for 11 years and in our program about six months. Maria Silva also passed the citizenship exam. Maria has been working with her tutor Edna

Zambo for about 18 months and has completed a course to become a Home Health Aid. She plans to study for her GED next. Congratulations!

## Corporate Support

Special thanks to Peter Marrinan, CEO of FAC Management Group, for extending a discount to our affiliate to purchase Tutor Training workshop refreshments from the Wildey St. Dunkin Donuts.



## Save the Dates!

The **Holiday Party** will be Sunday, December 2nd in Meeting rooms A & B at The Warner Library, from 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 PM.

The next **Board Meeting** will be Monday, January 14, 2013 at 5:30 P.M. in meeting room C at The Warner Library. All are welcome!