



# Literacy Volunteers of South Sarasota County



**Literacy  
Changes  
Lives**

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Venice, FL 34285  
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[www.literacychangeslives.org](http://www.literacychangeslives.org)

*Serving the people of  
Englewood, Laurel,  
Nokomis, North Port,  
Osprey and Venice*

October, 2008

## Success Story

Justin Kendrick is steadily improving his reading skills by working with his Basic Literacy tutor, Lenee Owens, for 1½ hours twice a week. Justin is 25 years old and a high school graduate, but because of severe dyslexia he was unable to read. Since January 2008, they have been using the Barton Reading and Spelling System which was designed especially to teach children and adults with dyslexia to read and spell.

Now Justin is able to read well enough to look up information on the internet and use e-mail to communicate with his friends. Congratulations to Justin and Lenee. Your hard work and commitment are paying off. Lenee, Justin, and LVSSC are thankful to Verizon for the \$3,000 grant that made it possible to purchase the Barton System.



*Tutor Lenee Owens and student Justin Kendrick*

## LITERACY VOLUNTEERS FLEA MARKET – OCTOBER 18

It's that time of the year when we get the urge to clean out closets to make space before the holidays. So get rid of those unused items that take up valuable space. They can be donated to benefit Literacy Volunteers.

We need items to sell such as dishes, pots and pans, lamps, clocks, jar candles, small appliances, bedding, towels, placemats, books, jewelry, purses, and knick-knacks. We cannot accept clothing. Call Ruth Williams at 493-8662 to arrange for pick up of your items.

There will be many booths at the Jacaranda Community Sale in Woodmere Park (across from the Jacaranda Library) on Saturday October 18 from 8:00 AM to 1:00. Come to shop and stop by the LVSSC booth where you'll find bargains and raise \$\$\$ for Literacy Volunteers.

## Change.....

*Nine terms as President has gone by in a flash!*

*Literacy Volunteers became a United Way Agency and earned full accreditation for our programs and organization.*

*Most rewarding though has been the increase in tutors and volunteers serving more and more adult students. Back in 1998 under a hundred were served and now well over 200 men and women are helped each year. There are countless inspiring stories concerning speakers of other languages, many well educated in their homeland, working at low paying jobs, raising a family while learning English from a personal tutor or in a small group. Some become citizens, and always all are happy to be living in the land of the free.*

*Kudos also to those native-born men and women who had the courage to reveal they could not read or write and to the dedicated tutors who patiently helped them improve.*

*My sincere appreciation and thanks to all the tutors, volunteers, our one employee, board members, and financial supporters who over these past nine terms truly made "Literacy Changes Lives" a reality for probably 1,700 people and their families!*

*---Marybeth Catizone*

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## INTRODUCING.....

*My name is Sandy McIntyre, and I'm the new LVSSC President. First I want to thank Marybeth Catizone for her nine years as President. I'm glad she's still active as Past President because her energy and enthusiasm are big assets to us. Second I'd like to introduce the 2008-2009 Officers: Bob Knowler, Vice President; Ruth Toms, Treasurer; Olive Calvert, Recording Secretary; and Ruth Williams, Corresponding Secretary.*



*Left to right: Ruth Toms, Ruth Williams, Olive Calvert, Bob Knowler, Marybeth Catizone and Sandy*

*After two years as LVSSC Treasurer, an important goal for me is to obtain adequate funding to meet our operating expenses. Another goal of the Board of Directors is to increase community awareness of Literacy Volunteers and our mission.*

*If you would like to become more involved in this worthwhile organization or if you have questions or suggestions, please e-mail me at [sandymac@comcast.net](mailto:sandymac@comcast.net) or call me at 412-0107. I hope to meet many of you in person during the year.*

*--- Sandy McIntyre, President*

## Computer Resources for Learning English

Rosetta Stone is an excellent computer program for all students learning English. It was designed as an independent study source for the student, but tutors will find it helpful as a tutor tool working along with their student.

Rosetta Stone is available in Study Room C for both independent study and tutoring. Several ESL tutors are using it for supervised tutoring in the Venice Library Computer Lab in the Youth Dept. Call Ruth Toms, 485-0325, for information on scheduling the Computer Lab.

North Port Library has Rosetta Stone and Ellis Academic software available at two computer stations that are only for ESL students to use with or without a tutor. New users can inquire at the Library Information Desk.

### Note These Dates In 2009

Saturday, February 28

United Way Walk-A-Thon

Thursday, March 12

“Deal Me In” Card and Game Party

Tuesday, April 14

Celebrate Literacy

## Looking for New ESL Students

Some of the returning “snowbirds” are LVSSC tutors planning to connect with new students. We would appreciate your help in locating adults who want to improve their literacy skills. Tutors, please ask your students to tell their friends and family to call the office at 488-8994 if they would like to be matched with a tutor. Please pick up a few Student Recruitment cards in the LVSSC office (near the copier) that can be given to prospective students. We have volunteers waiting to take the ESL tutor training class so they can start tutoring a student. Please help us make sure that everyone who wants to learn to speak, read, and write English knows about free tutoring by Literacy Volunteers.

## New Afternoon Conversation Group Gets Students Talking

Students who crave more conversation have an exciting new option. A Saturday Afternoon Conversation Group has been started for ESL Level III and IV students, and the focus is strictly student-to-student and conversational.

The group is moderated by a Literacy Volunteers tutor, but students themselves play the key roles. Each week, all students have a chance to talk casually about events of the past week and how those events influence and shape their daily lives – if they do. Each student is encouraged to share information about his or her own culture and country.

Students are asked to select one or two topics from a half dozen “conversation starters,” and are encouraged to share their opinions and feelings with fellow students. Also, hand-outs will be available that include specific word-group or sentence challenges; these will probably relate to the topics under discussion that week.

The emphasis will be on speaking so others understand us, and on understanding others when they speak. Grammar and idioms will play lesser roles, as will reading and writing.

This group is in addition to and does not replace the Conversation Class that continues to meet on Monday evenings with Al and Alice Anderson. The Monday night class also welcomes new members so students have a choice of day and time.

The Afternoon Conversation Group meets Saturday afternoons from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Venice Public Library. The Group is open to Literacy Volunteers students at Level III and IV, as well as Level III or higher SCTI students who are willing to join Literacy Volunteers. New students are welcome. Tutors – contact Robin Blair for more information: 493-0633 or robinblair8@verizon.net.

ATTENTION: IF YOU TUTOR ON FRIDAYS IN A LIBRARY  
Sarasota County Libraries are closed on Friday, October 24, 2008, for Staff Development Day

## TUTOR TIPS

- Put correct word sequence or answers on paper to keep by the telephone. Examples: questions for doctor/pediatrician, where/when family member is going to be and time of return.
  - Make sure student watches your lips and tongue when you pronounce words.
  - Have student practice in front of a mirror.
  - Praise, praise, praise!
  - Ask questions about children, grandchildren, and other family members.
  - Tongue-twisters are helpful with pronunciation.
  - For sentence building, give 4 words that are related and have the student write a complete sentence using the 4 words.
  - Today's News items – Use specific news items for that day's sessions.
  - Internet Examples – Search the internet to find examples/topics from previous sessions to use as review.
  - Attendance at class – Calling the student the night before class improves attendance. It also reminds the student that homework is due.
  - Experience as much as possible with your student – cooking, sewing, gardening, going on farm tours, going to garden shows.
  - Read aloud together from newspapers, magazines, supplements, brochures and discuss main ideas. This also helps improve pronunciation and reveals patterns where help is needed.
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### Website Recommended by ESL Tutor

Take a look at this outstanding web site: **www.ello.org** **ELLLO** stands for English Language Listening Lab Online. It is a collection of over 1,000 listening activities that students can view free via the internet. Most listening activities come with a downloadable MP3 audio file, transcript and interactive quiz. ELLLO offers a variety of listening activities that each target a specific listening skill, need or interest. This web page outlines the different features of the web site: [www.ello.org/english/About.htm](http://www.ello.org/english/About.htm)

--- Recommended by Barbara Loney

THANKS LV\$\$C \$UPPORTERS\$

The organizations, businesses, and individuals listed below made it possible for us to help adults in South Sarasota County learn to READ, WRITE, and SPEAK English in the year that ended June 30, 2008, through their in-kind and financial contributions. We couldn't have done it without your support! Thanks!!

Organizations and Businesses

Sarasota County Libraries  
United Way of South Sarasota County  
Verizon Foundation  
Plantation Foundation  
Wachovia Securities  
King's Gate Round Table  
Women's Sertoma Club of Venice, Inc.  
Our Lady of Lourdes Council  
San Pedro Ladies Guild  
St. Rapheals Council of Catholic Women  
Friends of the Venice Public Library

Individuals contributing more than an Individual or Household Membership

Shirley Anderson	Frank & Margaret Kaprive
Jack Bissett	Ann Kellum
Roberta Blair	Diane Kivari
Liz Bruckman	Sandra McIntyre
Olive & David Calvert	Nancy & David Pike
Marybeth Catizone	Robin Scott
Blanche Chase	Anne Skinner
George and Lorraine Cooper	Pat Swindler
Carol Davenport	Ruth and Fred Toms
Judith Duran	Linda Underwood
Bernadine Ensor	Donna Wanvig
Tina Fan-Seto	Jean West-Walker
Barbara & Dennis Gahry	Nancy & George Wettlaufer
Gerald Hill	Ruth Williams
Mr. & Mrs. M.C. Hollenbeck	Eleanor Wilson
Alan D. Johnson	Gene & Mary Ann Wolfzorn
Clair Johnson	Margaret & John Woods III

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of South Sarasota County**  
300 Nokomis Ave. S  
Venice, FL 34285

**FIRST CLASS**

**Literacy Changes Lives**



**Literacy Volunteers of South Sarasota County**

An Affiliate of ProLiteracy America

Venice Public Library, 300 Nokomis Ave. S.  
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**Officers**

President Sandy McIntyre  
Vice President Ruth Toms  
Secretary Olive Calvert  
Treasurer Ruth Toms

**Directors**

Alice Anderson  
Marybeth Catizone  
Priscilla Miranda  
Patricia Swindler  
Ruth Williams

**Conversation Class (Monday)**

Al and Alice Anderson

**Conversation Group (Saturday)**

Robin Blair

**North Port ESL Classes**

Ronnie Caruso

**Staff**

**Program Services Manager**  
Rosanna Miller

**Volunteers**

**Database, Reports, Records**  
Sally Pieper

**Certified ESL Tutor Trainer**  
Patricia Swindler

**Grant Writers**

Marybeth Catizone  
Priscilla Miranda

**Newsletter Publisher**

Anne Harrison

**Newsletter Coordinator**

Ruth Toms

*Many thanks to:  
**Wachovia Securities**  
4242 S. Tamiami Tr.  
Venice, FL*  
*for generously covering the cost  
of this newsletter!*



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