

# CLATSOP COMMUNITY COLLEGE VOLUNTEER LITERACY NEWS

Volume 1, Issue 7

June 2010

## 5/5/10 Tutor Training: Highlights

We discussed an eclectic mix of topics, a summary of which follows:

The student handbook (in Spanish and English): this short document is to explain to our students what the program is and what their responsibilities are.

Suggestions for additions or changes are welcome.

Ask for a hardcopy or check it out at:

<http://www.clatsopcc.edu/info/volunteerliteracy.html>

Suggestions from the Portland Literacy Council Conference: handout is enclosed with this newsletter.

Helping our students with phonics- this information is helpful for tutors working with low-level students.

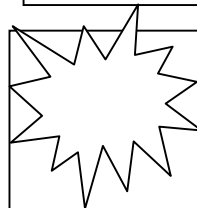
Packet available upon request.

Emotional events: turning student distress into improved literacy skills. Oftentimes our students are stressed and hard-pressed to stay on track with their studies. These suggestions are from tutor Jean McGonigle who has been very successful in helping her student turn emotional distress into positive literacy activities. Interested? Call and ask for this handout, and an accompanying document titled "Are you a tutor or a social worker?"

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## TUTOR TIP OF THE MONTH

Staff at CCC's library would like to see more Hispanic patrons using the resources of the library. Included with this newsletter is a flyer for your student listing some of the Spanish-language resources that are available. Students need a college ID card to check out materials; this card is issued only at the main campus. When your student registers for the literacy program, they are eligible for the card. It is my understanding that many of our Hispanic students do not have experience with lending libraries, and do not understand how they work. As tutors, you can do them a great service explaining how our libraries work, what's available to check out, and perhaps even taking/ accompanying them to the library. I know some of the tutors have already done this. Let's hear from you about this next month at the July tutor training.



## **Departmental News**

The 2009-2010 program year ends at the end of June. All of our reporting data is due by June 22. This means that students who have at least 40 hours of study time need a post-test by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June. If students have 40 hours and do not test, they will need to test again in July (or when they register again) for the 2010-2011 program year. This also means that students without 40 hours of study time will need to test again to enter the new program year after July 1<sup>st</sup>. Does this make sense? Call Percy @ 338-2557 and let's talk tests!

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## **Profile of a Literacy Tutor: Marshall Tate**

Marshall has been tutoring with the literacy program for over a year. He became a tutor because he loves to teach. Marshall taught pharmacology/clinical pharmacy at OSU and OHSU. His interest in immigrants grew as he took time to talk to the janitorial staff at OHSU where he met doctors and bankers cleaning floors- entry level positions for many immigrants to the USA, not matter what their background in their home countries. He says he volunteers with CCC because he has always wanted to participate in a literacy program. He also wanted to contribute to the Hispanic population in our area because he "admires and loves" Hispanic culture. He and his wife are frequent visitors to Latin America and he steadily works on improving his ability to speak Spanish.

Marshall has worked with one student, a woman from Peru. She is beginning to read in English, and is working her way through a leveled reading program. Last week, she and Marshall reached a milestone when he helped her obtain a library card and she checked out her first English language book from the local library.

Marshall acknowledges some frustration as a literacy tutor. "It's a slow process, but I've learned to accept that," he says. His student is definitely making progress; when she calls the literacy office she speaks in English and is trying to get her friend to participate as well. Marshall recognizes that developing literacy leads to better socialization of the student. He sees her beginning to branch out because of her improved abilities to communicate. Mil gracias, Marshall!



### **July Tutor Training: 7/15/10**

Our next tutor training is scheduled for July 15 at the CCC campus. We will have a guest trainer, Frann Grossman, from Portland. Frann worked as a journalist and was PR director for a Gold Beach (Oregon) hospital for many years before deciding to go for her MA TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) at PSU. She had been frustrated as a volunteer ESL teacher in Curry County because training was not available. That dearth of support is what drives her interest in passing on to volunteers what she has learned these last two years in university classes and ESL teaching stints in Portland. (Frann also misses the coast!)

Frann wants to know your responses to the following question to guide her training:

**"If you were stuck in an elevator with a TESOL professor for 15 minutes, what advice would you ask for to help you become a better tutor?"**

Send or call Percy with your responses, or she will calling you to pick your brain to help Frann guide her training agenda!

