

From the Back of the Boat

By: Bob Garfinkel

"Do unto yourself as you want others to do unto you." Wait a minute! Is that a correct quote of the Golden Rule? According to Charles La Torre, positive thinking guru, it is correct. Anne Laurent and I attended his workshop this summer sponsored by the Buy Local group of Kewaunee County. We found his talk both interesting and stimulating. He continued by saying that too often we treat others better than we treat ourselves. It's time to look at our behaviors and make some adjustments. We should be kind to ourselves, maintain a positive attitude, and we'll be a happier, healthier person. La Torre claims that maintaining a positive attitude could add 10 years to our lives!

Why does positive thinking matter? When I owned my own business, I saw how negative employees hurt sales and customers were lost. As a teacher, I saw how negativity in a school setting hurt student performance and achievement. In organizations, I saw people quit due to hard feelings and lack of being appreciated. In marriage, I saw friends get a divorce due to lack of communication. What does all this have to do with Literacy Partners? Everything! Nine years ago, a small Steering Committee met to see if there was a need for a literacy program in our county. The committee was upbeat and positive. We didn't listen to the skeptics who said a group such as this would never fly. We had a dream, a vision for our community. We have continued to work with UW Extension completing two strategic plans to keep our vision alive and keep us on course. We have also been blessed with a caring, intelligent Board of Directors and wonderful tutors and financial supporters.

Lastly, I would like to emphasize the importance of positivity between our tutors and students. Over the last eight years, we have worked with some students who were told they couldn't learn. Some quit school located in this country and other countries because they had a negative teacher who discouraged them. I have seen this and experienced this myself. On the other hand, our tutors provide a safe, positive, caring environment and relationship conducive for learning. Being positive does make a difference. I am grateful for the support and positive attitude of everyone reading this newsletter!

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Back To School Day Volunteers Needed!

Anne Laurent

Our annual participation in the Back to School event will take place Wednesday and Thursday, August 13 and 14, 2014.

As during previous years, we feel it is important to reach out to all of the children and adults attending this event by providing a small tutorial and dental health experience. Families will be able to see different dental exhibits and information. Children will receive dental themed information in the form of word puzzles, etc. And, as always, due to the generosity of our wonderful donors, everyone will leave with a new toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, brushing timers and dental bag to put it all in! Volunteer opportunities for the dental portion of this event will be listed below.

We have confirmation that we were selected to receive the Soles4Souls shoe grant again this year. **We still need 2 volunteers** (one 1st shift, 1 second shift) to help guide the children through this part of the event. It is usually a crazy experience, but also so fun and gratifying.

In addition to the shoes, Soles4Souls put us in contact with Macy's, and Literacy Partners has received about 240 brand new winter coats to distribute to the children who attend this event. This has the potential to make a huge difference in some of the families' lives over the bitter cold winter months that may lie ahead.

A few volunteers are needed for set up on **Wednesday, August 13**, (2-3 hours in the morning), and 2 shifts at each station during the actual event on **Thursday, August 14**. The first shift on Thursday will be from 11:30 am – 2:30 pm, and the 2nd shift would be from 2:30 pm – 5 pm.

If you can spare a little time, we would appreciate spending the day with you—and the families we will be serving (many of them our students) will appreciate you even more!

Literacy Partners Health Literacy Committee would like to recognize the sponsors that make this event possible. A huge THANK YOU goes out to:

Kewaunee Rotary
Operation Rice Bowl

Greater Green Bay Community Foundation

Website Issues and Information

Anne Laurent

As many of you are aware, our website has undergone some issues over the past month. Without getting too technical, Literacy Partners made the decision to change providers in order to fix the re-occurring problem of our site not being available. During this process, there was a week or two where the website was completely down, and tutors were unable to access tutor reports, as well as all of the other website content.

All problems have been resolved, and the website should be working perfectly. There is a slight chance that your internet browser or provider may not have updated to the new site yet, and you are being re-routed to our old site currently. Within the next week or two, that issue should not happen anymore.

If anyone has any issues with the website, please contact Bob or Anne immediately. Thank you for your patience!

Happy 8th Birthday, Literacy Partners!!!

Anne Laurent



Congratulations, everyone! July 2014 marks 8 years of our fantastic volunteers helping make Kewaunee County a better place to live, work and play! The dedication you all have not only to your student, but

to bettering our community, is remarkable. There have been numerous hurdles, yet plenty of successes and accomplishments (both personal and professional) for our students along the way.

A special THANK YOU to Bob, our President, for all the work he does, as well as to our Board of Directors. They are doing a terrific job guiding our organization to where we ultimately want to be. To all tutors and supporters—thank you so much for your commitment to our program, as well as our entire community. We wouldn't be where we are without you!



Ryan and Bob at the July Literacy Partners Board of Directors meeting with the celebratory 8 year Anniversary cake.



Festival Brat Fry—Success!

Anne Laurent

Well, we did it again—and were more successful than we have ever been! On Friday, June 27, a group of Literacy Partners volunteers manned the Festival Foods East Brat Barn. It was a beautiful day (no freezing in the rain or sweating in the heat and humidity like previous years), and we were rewarded well for our efforts.

Thanks to all of the volunteers for our most successful brat fry to date!



Tutor Training—We Need Your Help!

Bob Garfinkel

The need for tutors is greater than ever and are needed in all areas of Kewaunee County. Last fall we trained a record high (for us) 12 new tutors, but the spring recruitment was very weak. Some of our potential students have been on our wait list for over a year. The basic problem is that the longer a person is waiting for a tutor, the better the chance he/she will move or change phone numbers. Contact information is sometimes lost.

A possible solution is to run classes and set up a pool of students to place at a later time. To an extent, we have recently initiated classes at a local farm instructing 16 students in two classes. The purpose of the class was not to replace tutors, but to shorten the time students were waiting for instruction. The jury is still out on this option and, in my opinion, there is nothing close to one tutor working with one student if you have the tutor numbers to do this. Classes are impersonal but the instructors (3 of us) are very aware of individual differences and provide instruction at the level of the student. Good teachers have always accomplished this.

If you have a friend, relative, or neighbor who'd be a great tutor, please encourage them to call or send me an email for more information. Please share the tutor training schedule below. Going to tutor orientation is for **information only** and **does not** obligate a person to sign up.

Bob Garfinkel

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Fall 2014 Tutor Training Schedule

Orientation and all training classes are held at Hillcrest School, Kewaunee

Orientation	October 6	6:00-7:30 pm
Class 1	October 13	6:00-9:30 pm
Class 2	October 16	6:00-9:30 pm
Class 3	October 20	6:00-9:30 pm
Class 4	October 23	6:00-9:30 pm

Student News

Peggy Sankey, Tutor

Ricardo, Student, Author of Article

Be Color Hope (*Changing the World*)

A great and colorful 5km race happened in my little city. I was very excited because there were many people there, there were kids, young people, adults and people of all ages. During the race, it was amazing, for each kilometer the runners received some paint of different colors. After the race there were many artists and famous singers.



I won 1st place in the race; I got a beautiful medal and definitely it was really fun.

Finally, this race had an emotional moment at the ending; all money collected went to a foundation that helps women with breast cancer. For each runner there was a free mammogram. THERE WERE 1000 RUNNERS! I was really happy to hear that.

I put here some pictures of this event.



Literacy Fun—or Not?

The following article was found on www.reddit.com. We hope you not only enjoy reading through them, but also take a moment to realize just what your student is really dealing with. Could you imagine not only learning a foreign language, but a language where there are so many “rules” that are so often broken, or where one spelling of a word means two completely different things? I would think it is frustrating, to say the very least. Kudos to all of our adult learners for sticking with it, even when the going gets tough!

You think English is Easy?

- 1) The bandage was wound around the wound.
- 2) The farm was used to produce produce.
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- 4) We must polish the Polish furniture.
- 5) He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- 6) The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
- 7) Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
- 8) A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
- 9) When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- 10) I did not object to the object.
- 11) The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
- 12) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.
- 13) They were too close to the door to close it.
- 14) The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- 15) A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
- 16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- 17) The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- 18) Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.
- 19) I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
- 20) How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

Kewaunee County Rx Savings Card

“The first time I used the prescription card, I saved \$20!”
-Kate Phillips, Tutor & Board Member

Visit www.nacorx.org to look up a participating pharmacy, a price estimate for your prescription, check drug interactions, or read news articles from leading health journals.



Celebrating our Budding Authors

Bob Garfinkel

Recognition Day 2014 featured about 20 new authors (students) who wrote stories about any topic they wanted. Anne Laurent, our wonderful Coordinator, composed an attractive book containing the stories. Everyone at the event received a booklet and each author was awarded a Thumbs Up Award. We took a picture of the group and it appeared in our newsletter. I was never as proud of our students as at that moment.

The writing experiment was a HUGE success! Several students who did not participate in the writing project got fired up and started writing stories for next year! Tutors I talked to were encouraged with the success of their student that they'd like to try it again. I can't wait to see what our students come up with!

If the book is as good as I think it will be, we'd like to professionally bind it and not only have a copy in our Resource Center, but approach each public library to take a copy and put it on their shelf!

Once again, everyone attending Recognition Day will receive a copy. Authors unable to attend will also receive a book.

The format for the book will be a little different. Students will have two choices. The book will be called, "Where is Home?" Students may write about their current home or their home that may be in another country. Another option is to write about any topic they wish. Once again, there is no length requirement. Students may write a couple of sentences or write many pages. The final date for accepting student writing will be February 15, 2015. If we receive only a fair amount of writing, we may bind the book ourselves as we did this year.

Let's all get behind this project. It is not an experiment as it was this year. Our students proved they could do it, learned a lot, and felt good about what they had accomplished. Please contact me with questions. I will accept stories when they are completed.

Of This and That....

1. Thank you to two of our long-time financial supporters: The **Robert and Rita Kraus Foundation and CenturyLink!**
2. Literacy Partners has a new bookkeeper. Welcome aboard Donna Mahlik!
3. Thank you goes to Sandy Ehren and Kate Phillips, our valued proofreaders of this newsletter. Thank you for keeping us on the correct side of grammar.
4. We have received some very positive comments about Duolingo, a language learning web site we featured in our last newsletter. You might check it out at www.duolingo.com
5. Thank you to the Marketing Committee for their hard work on creating our new informational flyer! The flyer will be available in fall 2014 at our local libraries!

Tutor of the Season

Sue Colle

Hi, I'm Sue Colle. I grew up in Luxemburg and have lived here most of my life. After graduating from UW-River Falls, I taught agriculture for three years. My husband and I live on a farm outside of Luxemburg, where we have a herd of about 40 Simmental cows and five ewes.



During the school year, I stay busy as a substitute teacher in the L-C and Green Bay School Districts. I am also the FFA Advisor at Algoma High School. In the summer, the farm and my garden keep me busy.

I am also a sports fan enjoying UWGB basketball, the Packers and Brewers. I was crazy enough to stay to the end of the 16 inning Brewer game against the Nationals.

I began tutoring 14 months ago. I was encouraged by several retired teachers to give tutoring a try. Bob Garfinkel found a perfect match for me with Damiana. We are in Ventures 4 after taking a year to complete Ventures 3. It's very rewarding to see the progress Damiana has made in her English. The Kewaunee County Literacy is a wonderful program with terrific people that help so many individuals and I feel honored to be a part of this program.

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