

From the Back of the Boat

By: Bob Garfinkel



I believe Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County’s story can be summed up in several words: **achievement**, **satisfaction**, **mutual respect**, and **sacrifice**. When any one component is missing, there is frustration and termination of student, tutor or **both** often occurs.

Achievement is the frosting on the cake. The fireworks on the 4th of July! Achievement of even a minor goal leads to **satisfaction** and raises the self-confidence of the student (and often the tutor, too!) The biggest smiles I’ve ever seen were the faces of our new US Citizens, their families and their tutors. Same goes for our GED grads. These major goals may not be possible for some of our students. Realistic goals may be to read a bedtime story to a child or go to the store or clinic and speak English without the help of a family member or friend. Our tutors are seeing student’s eyes light up all over the county! Have you noticed how late the sky is lit up in the evening lately?

The last components for success are **mutual respect** and **sacrifice**. **Mutual respect** includes being on time to class, maintaining consistent attendance and also maintaining high level of effort. A high level of effort often is the result of **sacrifice**. To be successful, both student and tutor have to **sacrifice** something. Often, it is time with the family, shopping time, a ball game, etc... I have known two very successful tutors with Literacy Green Bay who have tutored about 30 years. They would agree with most of what I have written. Who am I to argue?

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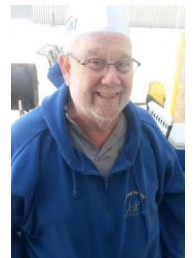
Bob Garfinkel, President
garfinkel.bob@gmail.com
920-676-2061

Anne Laurent, Coordinator
anniemlaurent@gmail.com
920-328-5552

Festival Foods Brat Fry Fundraiser!

On **Friday, June 3**, Literacy Partners will be taking over the Brat Stand at Festival Foods East.

This fundraiser has become a yearly tradition, and provides essential funds to our organization.



If you are in the area, please consider stopping by, grabbing a brat or hamburger, and saying hi to all that are working!

A big thank you to Bob & Kathy Garfinkel, Nancy Lamack, Sue Hingst and Mary West for volunteering their time to help us pull off this event. **We could still use one more person in the afternoon. If you can volunteer your time, please let us know ASAP!**

Real Colors[©] Program

On March 31st, 12 tutors and one guest had a ball identifying personal strengths, understanding different ways people process information, and applying Real Colors principles in their lives. Jill Jorgensen, UW Extension Educator extraordinaire led a short personality survey. After discovering our personality color, we broke up into our personality groups and listed our important personality traits on large sheets of paper. A lively discussion followed.

If you missed this unusual and fun event and would like to participate in a second Colors program in the evening, please let Bob know. All we need are 10 individuals to sign up. Non-tutors are welcome to join!

Comments from participants:

The workshop was a great opportunity to open our eyes to ourselves and to learn how to understand others.

This program helped me understand things about the personalities of friends and family.

The program was very informative and fun!

I'm so glad I came.

I learned a lot about myself and had fun doing it.

Jill is an energetic speaker and enthusiastically conveyed the principles of the color theory.

I liked becoming aware of the strengths of my color. I also think this program will help me to be more accepting of others who are in a different color group.

If you couldn't participate, you missed an interesting program!

I enjoyed being with the group and sharing.

Recognition Day

August 14, 2016, 11:30 AM
Bruemmer Park, Kewaunee

Last year our Recognition Day Committee felt that our special day, the "highlight" of the year, needed a face lift. And boy, was it a hit! We moved our picnic to Bruemmer Park and did that ever make a difference! The food was wonderful, people mixed in, saw old friends, and made new ones. Children ate and then excused themselves to the swings, slides and visited the animals in the zoo. The program was loaded with awards and honors. Students and children went home with lots of books, followed up with two piñatas packed with candy. Does it get any better than that?



This June, you will get an invitation to our celebration (in both English and Spanish) and registration post cards will be included along with all the details. This is a family event. Please encourage your student and his/her family to attend. We will have a great time!



New Recognition Day Award

Our Recognition Day Committee would like to add a special award to this year's celebration: *The Award for Outstanding Students*. Simply, email or mail a **one paragraph nomination** to Bob (garfinkel.bob@gmail.com). All nominations that make a good case will be accepted for this special award given at Recognition Day 2016. Deadline for nominations is **June 24, 2016**.

Things to consider are: regular attendance, homework completed on a regular basis, effort is always there, student is making excellent progress, etc...

Contact Bob with any further questions.



Student Book Deadline is Near

Last year's student book, "Where is Home?" was sensational! Stories were amazing and the books were attractive thanks to the LC School District. There is still time to write for this year's book! Deadline has been extended to July 16, 2016.



Our theme this year is, "My Family." Stories may be as short as several sentences and as long as several pages. Tutors may help students but the bulk of the story should be student work. If your student would prefer to write about a different topic, go ahead.

Student writing can be such a great learning experience. The joy of seeing one's name in print is amazing. Being published is an adventure!

It works out best to email stories to Bob (Garfinkel.Bob@gmail.com) or Anne (AnnieMLaurent@gmail.com), but hand written letters mailed are accepted, as well. Please send to: Bob Garfinkel, PO Box 203, Luxemburg, WI 54217.

Home, Health & Safety Night

April 14, 2016

On April 14, over 30 participants came together to learn about multiple aspects of home, health and safety. This multi-faceted program was planned and put on by the Health Literacy Committee, in conjunction with Kewaunee County Public Health and UW-Extension.

Participants were placed in small groups of 4-6 people and rotated through 6 stations. Each station had a hands on 8-10 minute presentation.



Students learned about CCR (CPR without mouth to mouth), choking/Heimlich, staying home alone, ticks & bites, fire safety and Burns/Nose bleeds/Wounds.



It was a highly educational, fun event for all. Participants were able to enjoy a light supper while chatting

with other Literacy Partners members before the event. There was also a drawing for prizes following the event.



A big thanks to our educational presenters: Cindy Kinnard, Melissa Patz (Kew Cty Pub Health), Renee Koenig (UW Extension), Bruce DePeau (Casco Fire Dept), Tim Kinnard (Casco/Lincoln First Responders), and Erin Ballone & her high school CCR students!

Event evaluation results: Out of 16 surveys turned in, 13 people rated the program a 5 for Very Helpful on a 1-5 scale and 3 people rated it a 4. Most people said the CPR and choking were most helpful, followed by nose bleeds and fire safety.



Summer Hours have started!

The outside door in the parking lot of our “new” Resource Center is open Monday – Friday from 10:30 am – Noon on days senior lunch is served (check the paper if not sure). If you need to get in the Resource center at any other times, you can call Bob and arrangements will be made.

What’s New in the Resource Center?

United Methodist Church, 804 Parker St, Algoma

1. Welcome to the US – 1 copy in English. Put together by the US Dept of Homeland Security, written for permanent residents outlining rights and responsibilities.
2. From Home to School – Located in Reading Comprehension. Stories and activities for parents. Comes with workbook and teacher’s edition. Ideal for late level 2 and above.
3. Cursive Writing—Located in writing section. 1 book and 1 teachers guide.
4. That’s Life—1 copy and 1 teacher’s edition. Very short stories about daily life with comprehension questions, vocabulary, spelling and phonics (for Level 1 + 2 students).
5. Oxford Picture Dictionary—English and Spanish, 2nd Edition for advanced learners
6. Sounds Easy—Phonics, Spelling and pronunciation. In 3 ring binders located in Phonics section. Multiple copies. Photocopiable. Excellent for Level 1 & 2 students. Written for English as a Second Language Learners.

Tutor Training Spring 2016

Welcome our new tutors to the Literacy Partners family!



Janet Tess, Janice Lehnert & Linda Jerabek



Sue Hingst, tutor, and her student, share insight and answer questions with the prospective new tutors during tutor training.

Tutor of the Season Mary Jadin

Bill and I have been married 40 years. We have raised two children, have one grandson, three step grandchildren, and two granddogs. After 41 years of full time employment, I decided it was time to retire but, I was really worried about how to keep busy.

I saw the posting looking for tutors in our church bulletin, thought about it, and jumped in with both feet, never looking back. I have a wonderful student. She is so eager to learn and I look forward to every day to see her accomplishments and the sparkle in her eyes when she tackles something new.



I received a great piece of advice from another tutor: Have fun and don't sweat the small stuff. Enjoy!



Saturday, July 30

Coming this summer---the 4th Annual Literacy Partners & Kewaunee County HCE Pig Roast Fundraiser!!!

Come down to the Kewaunee Harbor and enjoy some amazing *slow roasted* pork, sauerkraut, baby red potatoes and HOMEMADE pie! This will be our 4th year perfecting our craft, and let me tell you—it gets better every year!

Proceeds from the fundraising event are split between Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County and Kewaunee County HCE. It is a tasty event that benefits our organization *and* your tummy!

We need volunteers for each shift. First shift will most likely be from 8:30 am – 11:30 am, and 2nd shift from 11:30 am – 2:30/3 pm. Please get a hold of Anne Laurent if you are able to volunteer! If you cannot volunteer, pie donations are always appreciated, as well!



Lary Swoboda

*Tutor, State Legislator, Friend
Written by Bob Garfinkel*

Lary passed away in 2012, yet his legacy and impact still affect Literacy Partners and the State of Wisconsin. After Lary's death, his wife, Jan, donated a large sum to purchase the new textbook series, Ventures.



My father had a saying, "What you do for yourself will be buried with you. What you do for others, will live on forever." I have seen this saying come true many times in my lifetime. This is especially true of the work our tutors do. The interest in learning and reading is often passed down to the next generation. To make my original point, last week I had the honor of matching a new tutor with a student. The student contacted me 4 years after leaving our literacy program, and wanted to return. This student was the last student Lary had instructed before his death. Furthermore, the new tutor, a retired LC teacher, had Lary as a civics teacher in middle school! Both were Lary's students! We talked fondly of this great gentleman and a connection between student and tutor was immediate.

My point is, when you help a person you never know the lasting effect. Lary inspired the middle school student and brought civics alive. Lary inspired his English Language Learner to value education and gave him the will to learn. This could also be said of our students and the effect their classes have to inspire their children to do well in school. I know of several such cases.

Huge Donation from LC Student

Kacie Jorgensen

Bob Garfinkel

Last March I received a call from Regan Jorgensen that her daughter, Kacie, a third grader at LC, had a birthday party and had collected a bunch of student and office supplies for us instead of bringing gifts for her to her birthday party. Friends chose from a wish list on our website and brought them to the party. The donations were in 2 HUGE boxes and consisted of pens, pencils, notebooks, paper, folders, computer copy paper and more!



Kacie Jorgensen,
Luxemburg

The much needed office supplies made an immediate impact. This spring, a package of supplies was given to each of our new students entering the program. Lastly, if your student would like to receive a gift from Kacie, there are folders in the Resource Center for you to pick up (on the floor next to the “divider” wall).

I spent some time with Kacie and her mother telling them about our tutors and students. This act of kindness is rarely made by such a young individual. Thanks, Kacie!

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A special “Thank You” to all of our officers, Board of Directors members, advisors, and supporters. Without your hard work, dedication and generosity, Literacy Partners would not be the successful organization that it is today. We appreciate all of you very much!