

From the Back of the Boat

Bob Garfinkel

I have been chasing dreams my entire life and have been lucky to have caught up with several of them. As with most people, I needed help to reach most of my goals, dreams and personal accomplishments. As far as my higher educational goals are concerned, I owe a lot to my mother and one key teacher in my life, rather than the American educational system. My mother spent endless hours teaching me how to spell and write essays. The single most important teacher in my life gave me encouragement and convinced me that I could handle higher level work and achieve my goals. I don't know about you, but from my experiences in life, there were very few people encouraging me but there were always plenty of people telling me that what I wanted to do couldn't be done. Encouragement was few and far between.

I've often been asked why I got involved in Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County. From memory, I think I've always given different responses to that question. Really thinking about it, my involvement in this fine organization is to encourage people to chase and catch their dreams. If this is my goal, we are right on track! Three of our students have taken and passed the US Citizenship Test in the last year. One student has almost completed her G.E.D. There are at least four student job promotions that can be attributed to learning English and many students have attained first time employment. Our students have attained many short term goals too numerous to mention.

Few of us ever reach our goals and dreams without help. A real strength of Literacy Partners is the high quality and caring nature of our volunteer tutors who encourage our students to reach their goals and dreams. Perhaps that's what our wise board of directors had in mind when they came up with our logo: two people hand in hand reaching for a star (goal).

THE STAR

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Recognition Day 2010

Anne Laurent

It's that time of year again! Recognition Day 2010, *sponsored by Dominion*, is almost upon us. Mark your calendars for October 10, 2010 if you have not already. Festivities will be held in the Kewaunee Grade School Cafeteria (same as last year). Supper will be served at 4:00 pm.

We have a fantastic program lined up that will make our students' accomplishments shine, our tutors' dedication sparkle, and our donors' and supporters' commitment to literacy once again be acknowledged. Our entire organization would not be thriving without the participation and dedication of all of you. Please join us for great food (being catered by CJs), an excellent program, and memories that will be with us for a lifetime!

Driver Permit Forum

Bob Garfinkel

A driver permit forum has been scheduled for October 14, 2010 at St. Mary's School in Algoma from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Speakers will be given 10 minutes to voice their point of view on the permit and will include the Kewaunee County Sheriff, a local educator, Door County farmer, an immigration counselor, young immigrant without a driver's license, and a state proponent for the permit. A question and answer session will follow the speakers.

Immigrants in Wisconsin lose the right to drive a vehicle when their current driver's license expires. Having no other way to get to work, our classes, church, the grocery store and other places, immigrants have taken the risk to drive without a license and many have experienced large fines. To avoid further problems, people have moved to areas where police will not find them as easily.

Several of our tutors have been involved in keeping the driver's permit alive after the state legislature decided not to vote the bill this year. Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County is not a sponsor of the event. Under federal law, non-profits may work individually to further political ideals and goals, but may not participate politically as a group.

Introducing Our Tutor of the Season

Maureen Kinnard, dairy farmer, teacher, tutor and Literacy Partners board member.

One cannot be involved with Literacy Partners for very long before meeting Maureen Kinnard. Even if one is unaware, the results of her work are experienced in many ways.

She grew up in Casco as the oldest of 7 children. After obtaining a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education with a major in English and a minor in History, she took a position at L.C. Middle School teaching 7th grade Social Studies. She enjoyed the students and the other teachers, but quit in order to raise a family, and to help in her husband's business. She continued teaching, however, leading Girl Scouts, teaching religious education, and eventually teaching and training Hispanic employees on the dairy farm, the family business.

Maureen and her husband developed very close relationships with many of their employees and were very interested in their immigration stories and culture. They did whatever they could to help them acclimate to Wisconsin and to this culture. Because of Maureen's involvement with her employees, the U.W. Extension Ag Agent for Kewaunee County asked if she would be interested in helping start up a literacy program in Kewaunee County. The rest is proverbial history.

Maureen tells us, "Until that time, my whole life revolved around my family and the dairy. Literacy Partners has given me a view of Kewaunee County that I never knew existed. The diversity of the population has changed so much over the years - it is no longer the same family names that have been here forever. It has been so gratifying and so much fun to be a part of all this."

She encourages anyone with an ounce of interest to just say yes to the opportunities and give back while you are receiving so much in return.

Maureen currently serves as Vice President of Literacy Partners as well as serving on a number of committees. She also tutors two Hispanic women and enjoys a close relationship with their families.



Maureen Kinnard, Literacy Partners Vice-President and Tutor of the Season.

Kewaunee County Advantage Card 2010

Anne Laurent

Support your organization! September 1, 2010 Literacy Partners launched its first ever fundraising campaign. We partnered with the Kewaunee County Buy Local group and came up with an amazing idea! We will be selling a Kewaunee County Advantage Card, full of discounts that span the entire county. Each card will be sold for \$10 and each deal on the card can be used unlimited times for one year. What an amazing deal! Get one for you, one for your children/grandchildren and one for your neighbor. This is a great way to raise money and ensure that our organization is able to continue providing excellent service to our students and to our community.

The cards will be available throughout the county. You can purchase them at Baylake Bank in Algoma, Union State Bank in Kewaunee and the Bank of Luxemburg in Luxemburg. We will most likely also have some for sale at Quail T Screening. Your children and grandchildren will be able to purchase them at the LC High School in the office as well. Signs will be up all around the county. Promote it! Sell it! Tell everyone you know! Literacy Partners thanks you in advance.

KEWAUNEE COUNTY ADVANTAGE CARD
 2010-2011
 Literacy Partners
 of Kewaunee County
 PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT LITERACY PARTNERS. **\$10**
www.buylocalkewauneeconomy.org

BACK VIEW WHEN FOLDED

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES!

See card inside for participating businesses.

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT LITERACY PARTNERS.
 FOR MORE INFO PLEASE VISIT
www.literacykewauneeconomy.org
www.buylocalkewauneeconomy.org

Annie's Emporium LLC - K	1/2 off purchase of one specialty coffee
Augie's Bar & Grill - L	\$2 off any \$20 food bill (dine in only) - 1 coupon per table
Batten True Value - L	Buy 1 greeting card, get second card at 1/2 price
CJ's Restaurant & Banquet Hall - K	10% off any food purchase
Colly's Cuts & Styles - L	\$3 off any retail purchase
Full Circle Therapeutic Massage - K	Buy a 1 hr massage, get \$10 off a 1/2 hr massage
Hair Tenders - L	Back to Basics Shampoos & Conditioners - 2 for \$26
Hamann Studios - L	One complimentary child session - \$80 value
JW's Place - C	10% off all dine in meals
Kunkel's Korner - K	10% off meal - cardholder only - dine in only
KeLe Alpacas - K	20% off any KeLe Alpaca Product
Krohn Dairy Store-Trega Foods - L	10% off a minimum purchase of \$25 or more
Parallel 44 Vineyard & Winery - K	10% discount on any purchase over \$25
Ponytails - L	\$62.50 Shampoo & Conditioner for \$30
Quali T Inc. - L	\$5 off the purchase of \$25 or more
Rocks of Ages - L	Buy one Beading Class @ \$10, bring 1 friend free
Tavern Bistro at Kewaunee Inn - K	10% off any food purchase
Trikes to Bikes - NF	10% discount on any purchase
The Fishmonger - K	10% off any purchase
Caffe' Tlazo - A	10% off any purchase of \$5 or more
Subway - L	\$0.50 off a 6" sub and \$1.00 off a 12" sub
Kewaunee Custard - K	10% off any purchase
Sonny's Pizzeria - L	10% off any food purchase of \$10 or more
Village Kitchen - C	Cheeseburger, Fries & Soda for \$4.85
Premier Travel - L	One free manicure w/purchase of 4 night vacation
Diggins Café - K	\$0.75 off any sandwich/pizza w/ purchase of beverage

A=Algoma, C=Casco, K=Kewaunee, L=Luxemburg, NF=New Franken
 Valid 9/1/10 - 9/1/11. Not valid with any other offer. One use per visit; can only be used by cardholder.

www.buylocalkewauneeconomy.org

If you would like to help sell some, or need to pick up a few, contact
Bob @ 845-2516 in Luxemburg,
 or
Anne @ 406-9162 in Green Bay
 if you would like to pick some up there!

Literacy Partners Represented

Anne Laurent

We are pleased to welcome Stephanie Vincent, JD to the Literacy Partners family. Stephanie has agreed to be Literacy Partners advisory counsel. She will provide us with legal guidance and recommendations on a variety of topics. We are so grateful and appreciative that she is making her services available to us!

Stephanie holds a triple major in International Relations, Political Science and History from UW-Madison and her Juris Doctor, *magna cum laude*, from Marquette University Law School. She is currently employed at Voith Paper in Appleton. Stephanie also serves on the board of directors of the Wisconsin Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel.



2010 Fall Tutor Training Set

We need your help to tell your friends, neighbors, and family members that our next tutor training is just around the corner. We have many potential students on a waiting list in all parts of the county waiting for a chance to improve their lives through literacy.

Please pass on the following information or have them call Bob at 920-845-2516.

Tutor orientation and all classes will be held at Hillcrest School, Kewaunee (915 Second Street)

September 28, 2010	Tutor Orientation	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
October 5, 2010	Class #1	6:00 pm – 9:30 pm
October 12, 2010	Class #2	6:00 pm – 9:30 pm
October 19, 2010	Class #3	6:00 pm – 9:30 pm
October 21, 2010	Class #4	6:00 pm – 9:30 pm

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News from the Resource Center

Bob Garfinkel

The Junkyard Dan series remains hot item as a tutor/student favorite! Adults across the country are going wild over this series and they are not all men. Women are discovering and enjoying low vocabulary adult mysteries almost as much as men!

I was talking to the author of the Junkyard Dan series (Elise Leonard) in August, telling her how much our students enjoy her work-especially one particular student. She asked if it would be okay if she dedicated her next book to the enthused student and his tutor. Both have agreed to the request. The book should be in print this October/November. Perhaps we can get a picture of our dynamic duo for the next newsletter!

The Trainer's Corner

Barbara Baldwin

Is your student interested in becoming a naturalized citizen or do you know someone who has this desire but is intimidated by the process? If so, the Minnesota Literacy Council website has material you may find helpful:

<http://www.themlc.org/aboutmlc.html>

Select Tutor Resource Center; then Tutor Training, scroll down to Online Training and select: <http://online.themlc.org/> or simply use this short cut. Under available course, select: "Study for U.S. Citizenship."

This site not only has the study material to prepare for the citizenship exam, but also a link to a video: "Becoming a U.S. Citizen: An Overview of the Naturalization Process," and three other helpful video segments which can be found in Unit Ten. These three videos will allow your student to observe another adult participating in a practice session of the civics test, implementing clarification strategies, and practicing for the oral interview questions.

Although, only Minnesota residents are allowed to officially enroll in the course (due to grant funding), MLC has been kind enough to offer guest status which allows access to everything except Unit 9, Review Quizzes. Thank you, MLC. You have prepared an excellent resource!

Oksana Kurowski, U.S. Citizen



Oksana and her mother Svetlana relax at the lakeshore after completing her US Citizenship test.

Of This and That...

1. Literacy Partners welcomes new supporters: Algoma Utilities, WS Packaging, and The Robert and Rita Krauss Foundation
Thank You!!
2. Congratulations to Mary Anne Albert and Julie Thoreson and their students for finishing a level in Laubach.
3. Please remember to promote our discount card fundraiser and our next tutor training.

La Cucaracha Says -----

There is a lot to remember in this issue—
Events – Tutor Training
Recognition Day
Driver Permit Forum
Fund Raising—the Advantage Card
Links—Study for citizenship

Be sure to check it all out!



At 10:47 am. August 3, 2010, Oksana Kurowski was all smiles when she told her mother, Svetlana, and tutor, Bob Garfinkel, that she passed the US Citizenship Test. The threesome was in the waiting room at the federal building in downtown Milwaukee when she broke the news. After the test, the group celebrated the event by stopping at a Russian store and picked up supplies for a first-class picnic which was held on the Lake Michigan shoreline.

At this picnic, Oksana relived the entire test with her tutor and mother, going over the questions that were asked. Oksana also reflected on her feelings about being a new U.S. citizen. "I am excited and proud to be a U.S. citizen. It is hard to believe that I have been in America for five years. When I came here, I

New Citizen continued.

was lost and frustrated because I could hardly speak any English. I have to say “thank you” to Literacy Partners, especially Bob Garfinkel for teaching me so much English. He found my weaknesses in English and helped me fix them. There weren’t any teachers in Chicago that paid as much attention to my mistakes in English as he did.” Oksana continued by saying, “Working on citizenship gave me a better understanding of American history and American culture. I found the U.S. Constitution interesting and it helped me understand things in the United States. There is one part of it that I like so much and I wish it was always followed by people in this country and that’s “the rule of law.” Oksana concluded by saying, “I am happy to be a US citizen and I hope to do many good things to help people in the future.”

Bob Garfinkel was thrilled when Oksana passed the test. He said, “I am so proud of all Oksana’s progress and accomplishments. We have been together a little less than a year and I have seen her grow both with her literacy skills and socially. Oksana, originally from Ukraine, has only been in this country five years. Except for her accent, she speaks as well as most locals. Oksana is a bright, caring young lady and will be a plus, a real benefit to her community.”

Oksana plans to continue working with Literacy Partners and is currently taking classes at NWTC. She is our third student to become a citizen since June of 2009. She will take the oath of citizenship on September 10, 2010 at the Federal Court Building in Milwaukee.

Our next “citizen to be” started studying for the test last month with Oksana’s help.

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