

# From the Back of the Boat

*Bob Garfinkel*

The summer of 2011 has come and gone but thoughts of tremendous student achievement and volunteer fundraising efforts will keep us warm through the long Wisconsin winter ahead. The summer took off with a BANG with the Dairy Dash. Twenty-three literacy volunteers spent a beautiful June morning helping about 600 runners/walkers register during a well-organized event sponsored by the Luxemburg Chamber of Commerce. We felt a sense of community spirit while volunteering our time and received a wonderful check from the Chamber to boot!

Shortly after the run, our fourth student passed the citizenship test and took the oath in downtown Milwaukee. His story inspired two additional students to study for the test. Presently, four students are preparing to take the test in 2012.

The pig roast fund-raiser was next as a cooperative effort with HCE. The weather was good, cooperation between the two organizations was outstanding, the turn-out was tremendous and the roast pork and sauerkraut was spectacular. We learned a lot about running an event and hope to do it again.

Next on the agenda were two brat fries at Festival Foods East. Each event was supported by two shifts of 4-5 volunteers and the food was great! Our literacy volunteers got to know each other and had a great time raising money for our cause. There were a few casualties however. Michelle Debaker, Maureen Kinnard, and Barb Porath received minor burns and I developed a fairly rare ailment called *bratwrist* caused by turning too many brats in a short time period (according to the Garfinkel's dictionary).

## THE STAR

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### Back of the Boat, continued.

Thanks goes to tutors and board members who filled the 60+ volunteer opportunities in a busy, yet enjoyable summer schedule. It was time away from family and personal time, but if you ask any of the volunteers, the events were fun and they made new friends within our organization and raised much needed funds to continue our mission.

Next in line was our participation in the Kewaunee County "Back to School" program. 330 students from low income families benefited from the efforts of UW-Extension, Kewaunee County Department of Health, UW-Medicine, and Literacy Partners.

Last, but not least, we were notified that our nominee for English Language Learner of the Year for Wisconsin Literacy has been selected as the winner! Complete details will be in the November newsletter.

Thanks for the help, and thanks for the memories!

## Fundraising was HOT! HOT! HOT! THIS SUMMER!

Anne Laurent

The **Summer of 2011** brought out a new side of Literacy Partners. We were out and about, and busier than ever! Here are some of the things that Literacy Partners was a part of this summer.

**JUNE**— We Kicked off the summer by rounding up an amazing group of volunteers for the June 4 Dairy Dash 5K run/Walk. The Luxemburg Chamber of Commerce decided to give the profits of this year's Dairy Dash to Literacy Partners. Volunteers met at the Kewaunee County Fairgrounds early in the morning, and helped register run participants, as well as prepare food, give out shirts, and take off running timers once racers were done. It was less than a half day's work, and we were able to raise some great funds that will go toward helping students buy books, as well as buying new materials for the Hillcrest Resource Center. Thanks to all that volunteered!

**JULY** --- The warmer July days brought us to our first ever collaborative fundraising effort with the Kewaunee County HCE group. They were an amazing bunch of ladies to work with. We had a pig roast on the shores of Lake Michigan. The event was July 23, 2011, and lasted from 10 am – 2 pm. Each of the two groups raised almost \$700. It was a fun day, as well as profitable. We hope to make this a yearly event. Again, thanks to everyone who showed up to volunteer!

**AUGUST** --- August was the month of brats. Literacy Partners held two separate brat fries, located at Festival Foods East. Both days tuned out to be great. We had great food, some laughs, and were able to raise some money, as well! Thank you to all of the people who turned out to work.

I know we have said “thank you” over and over again... but I need to say it once more. With the current economy, we have been finding it significantly more difficult to raise money through the grant writing process. We need to find ways through our local economy to raise funds to help support amazing programs such as Literacy Partners. Plus, as an added bonus, it is spectacular to show all the big corporations that we are doing our best to help our sustainability taking fundraising into our own hands, not just relying on them. In closing, thank you for all you do—tutoring, volunteering, and helping us make Kewaunee County a better place to live!



Left: Lily and Aubrey Laurent watch Michelle DeBaker prepare hamburgers for Bob to cook. Right; Sr. Mary Anne calculates how much money we made with Maureen looking on.



Left: Bob developing his "bratwrist." Right: Marietta Kenzik, Sue Hingst, and Sr. Mary Anne take time out for a quick picture in the Brat Fry hut.

## 2011 Advantage Cards

Anne Laurent

It's that time of year again! The Advantage Card is back on sale, bigger and better than ever! This year we have 29 deals, and all of them are improved! The cards are good from September 1, 2011 until September 1, 2012. Again, the cards have unlimited use at any of the 29 featured Kewaunee County businesses. A big thanks goes out to Jennifer Brown and the entire Buy Local group for helping Literacy Partners make this fundraiser a success! Please support Literacy Partners by picking up an Advantage Card at your local bank (Baylake Bank in Algoma, Union State Bank in Kewaunee and the Bank of Luxemburg). Bob and Anne also have Advantage Cards at their houses. We can send them to you, or you can pick them up at Bob's house at your convenience. If you would like to go a step further and help us sell them, we would be ever so appreciative!!!

Merchants on the card include: Algoma Mercantile, Augie's Bar & Grill, Caffe Tlazo, CJs Restaurant & Banquet Hall, Diggins Café, Harmann Studios, Kasey Georgel Spa Services, Kewaunee Custard, Krohn Dairy Store, Kunkel's Korner, Northbrook Country Club, Off the Hook, Parallel 44 Vineyard & Winery, Penguin City, Premier Travel, QualiT, Inc., Rocks of Ages, Simonars, Sonny's Pizzeria, Subway-Luxemburg, Subway-Algoma, Tavern Bistro at Kewaunee Inn, The Ceramin Shoppe, The Fishmonger Market & Eatery, Tia Spa, Trikes to Bikes, Von Stiehl Winery, Zen Salon & Spa.

Contact Bob @ 920-676-2061 or Anne @ 920-406-9162 to get some cards to sell to your family and friends!

Thanks in advance!!!

## Recognition Day 2011

It is that time of year again. Recognition Day 2011, sponsored by Dominion Energy is almost upon us. Mark your calendar for Sunday November 13, 2011 (no Packer game), at the Kewaunee Grade School Cafeteria at 4:00 pm.

We will share a great meal and celebrate our student and tutor accomplishments. Once again students and their children will be given free books compliments of Dominion Energy. Tutors and sponsors will receive a mailing before mid-September with all the details. See you there!

## Introducing Our Tutor of the Season

Danielle Metzger – mother, interpreter, tutor

Upper Peninsula of Michigan was the home of Danielle as she grew up. Choosing to study to be a teacher, she attended Grand Valley State University near Grand Rapids, Michigan. She completed her degree with a major in Spanish while completing the required studies for elementary ed. As she finished her degree, and completed one

of her final classes, Spanish for Medical Professionals, she decided that perhaps Spanish in the medical field may be an interesting career option.

After graduating, Danielle and her husband, Derek, along with their first child, moved back to the UP for a short while, then moved to Green Bay. They lived in Green Bay for one year, and during this time she was able to volunteer at the New Community Clinic as an interpreter for a few hours each week. Then, last summer, the family purchased a home in Luxemburg, where she is a stay-at-home mom. Their eldest son is now 3 ½ years and they were blessed with another son this past December. Most recently, they have expanded their family by taking guardianship of their 16 year old nephew.

One day, while visiting the library in Algoma, she saw the poster from Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County, inviting Spanish speaking people to get help in learning English. She had been praying to the Lord to lead her to a volunteer opportunity, if possible one where she could utilize her Spanish. "God provides for our needs," She thought, "and sometimes, also provides places for us to use our talents. That seemed to be happening here." The poster was in Spanish, but the invitation was clear. On inquiring about helping with the tutoring, she discovered that a training session was just beginning. She believes it was no coincidence that the series of sessions for training fit in perfectly with her husband's temporary schedule change. Thus, she was able to complete the training.

Her experience of teaching a woman from El Salvador has been wonderful. This woman is a joy to work with and is extremely thankful for all she has been able to experience here in Wisconsin. This has made Danielle more aware and appreciative of the privileges we experience as a result of living in the United States. Having responded to the call for tutors, Danielle comments, "Hopefully, my work in Literacy Partners will make life easier and productive for others. Everyone deserves to be able to communicate in the place they call home."



Danielle with husband Derek and their two sons.

## Calling All Potential Tutors!

Tutors are needed in all parts of Kewaunee County. If you know an adult who would enjoy the experience of helping another learn how to read, write, and improve English speaking skills, have him/her call Bob to reserve a seat at our tutor orientation. Our schedule is listed below.

### Tutor Orientation :

Date: September 29, 2011  
Time: 6:00 -- 7:30 pm  
Place: Hillcrest School, 915 2<sup>nd</sup> Street,  
Room 110  
Kewaunee, WI (use NE door).

### Tutor Training:

All classes will be held at Hillcrest School Room 110 from 6:00 to 9:30 pm.

Class #1	October 6
Class #2	October 13
Class #3	October 17
Class #4	October 20

## Healthy Communities

Bob Garfinkel

### 1. Local Resident Qualifies for Boston Marathon

Russell Flemming, Luxemburg resident, just qualified for the Boston Marathon. Russ is a certified running and walking coach with Road Runners of America. He will lead a walk/run workshop sponsored by Literacy Partners on September 17, 2011 at Fireman's Park in Luxemburg (Across from the Village

Hall) rain or shine. If you have thought about starting or continuing a running or walking program or know someone who would like to attend, call Russ at 920-264-7210 or email him ([rifrunner@gmail.com](mailto:rifrunner@gmail.com)) to register by September 14, 2011. Bring your running or walking shoes.

Russ will be "Running for Literacy" on October 22, 2011 in the 50 mile Door County Ultra Marathon. 100% of the donations that Russ receives will help support Literacy Partners. Tax deductible donations can be sent to Bob Garfinkel, PO Box 203, Luxemburg, WI 54217.

## **2. 2-1-1 Get Connected – Get Answers**

2-1-1 is a free and confidential non-emergency telephone number that connects people with community services and volunteer opportunities. 2-1-1 is a 24/7 service assisting residents of Kewaunee County to locate important resources.

This service can provide information about:

1. Food pantries, shelter, assistance
2. Disaster information
3. Healthcare information for you and your student
4. Crisis intervention, support groups and counseling
5. Employment support, job training, transportation assistance, education programs
6. Childcare, after school programs and Head Start
7. And much more

I called this service recently for one of my student's needs and it was very helpful. Just call 2-1-1 and get ready to talk to a friendly operator.

## **3. What To Do When Your Child Gets Sick**

Literacy Partners Healthy Communities Committee is planning an outstanding free program called "What To Do When Your Child Gets Sick" for our students and parents in Kewaunee County on certain assistance programs. The program will have two dates.

English version -- October 18, 2011 from 6:00 – 7:30 pm  
Luxemburg-Casco Middle School in Casco.

Spanish version -- November 1, 2011 from 6:00 – 7:30 pm  
Luxemburg-Casco Middle School in Casco

Cindy Kinnard, RN and Kewaunee County Public Health nurse, will lead the program. Participants will receive a free copy of the book "What to Do When Your Child Gets Sick" written in English or Spanish. All information along with a sign up form will be mailed to you shortly.

## **4. Start School with a New Smile!**

Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County participated in the Kewaunee Back to School Program on August 21, 2011 along with UW-Extension, UW-Medicine and Kewaunee County Department of Health. Low income families pre-registered to qualify for the back to school supplies. 300 excited children with their parents attended the event.

Literacy Partners provided dental information and a free dental package to each child and parent. The package contained a toothbrush, tooth paste, floss, and a three minute timer. A video of a real monkey flossing, a trainer brushing a seal's teeth, and a dental cartoon and information from Colgate were shown.

Special thanks go to our adorable 4<sup>th</sup> grade Tooth Fairy Lauren Siemers Maureen's granddaughter), Terry Casper, Mary Anne Albert, Karen Robillard, Bob Garfinkel and Renee Koenig for helping out. Everyone involved enjoyed the event and thought it was very worthwhile. We saw many of our students and families.



Karen Robillard demonstrating proper brushing techniques on Sr. Mary Anne Albert with our Tooth Fairy supervising at “Back to School Day.”

## Literacy Partner’s Clothing

Last winter we had a tremendous response for Literacy Partners T-shirts, sweatshirts and polo shirts. QualiT Screening in Luxemburg offered quantity sale pricing and our 70+ order helped to keep the prices extremely low. Since prices at 6 and 12 items are high, we will wait for 24 or more items before placing another order. If you are interested in purchasing T-shirts, polos or sweatshirts, contact Bob and he will let you know how close we are to placing another order. Samples of the items will be on display at Recognition Day so you can check colors, sizes, etc.

## New Wisconsin Literacy Consultant for NE Wisconsin

Our new Wisconsin Literacy Consultant is Andrea Pease. She has a background in business, education and English language learning. She has taught at the high school and college levels and has worked in many types of business from small to state government.

Wisconsin Literacy has been a very important source for information that has helped Literacy Partners make some important decisions. They have also made available excellent manuals in the areas of health literacy, and organizational toolkits. We look forward to working closely with Andrea. Welcome Aboard!

## Student Success

### Cooking and Conversation with my Student

Mary Naumann

Several Tuesdays ago, my student, Ana, and I decided that instead of our regular book lesson we would do a Mexican cooking and conversation day. It was a lot of fun and a great success.

The tamale making was something else. I had no idea so much work was involved. I thought Ana would just buy some tortillas from the store, slop on some tomato sauce, roll them up in a corn husk and call it a day. No, no my friends. When I arrived, the pork and chicken were cooking in large stock pots on the stove as well as a large saucepan of dried peppers. Ana was busy washing the corn husks – a job delegated to me and Lizette (her daughter). Ana then drained the peppers, added one clove of garlic – or is it a toe – just one piece – and threw it all in a blender to liquefy. This was transferred back to the stove to cook down with constant stirring. “Lizette’s time to stir.” I kept washing the five bazillion corn husks. Then she drained the chicken and took that apart. Then drained the pork and I was pulled from my first job to shred the pork. Lizette was still stirring.

Ana took a HUGE container of corn flour starter – looked like lumpy paste – from the frig. She divided this in half and to one half she added meat broth, and a heaping teaspoon of baking soda and I think one other thing but I forgot what. And then kneaded it like bread.

This was set aside and to the second batch she added broth, the baking soda and salt – no measuring for this girl. She said this was for the tortillas for the pork, the other salt was for the chicken. OK, set that aside and then get out this press. Place a piece of wax paper on the press and then a corn husk. Take a handful of the chicken tortilla dough, roll it into a cigar like shape and put in the press. Press down and voila – you have a tortilla. How this cigar shape turned into a circle is a mystery to me. Slather some of the pepper sauce on that, sprinkle some chicken, roll the corn husk up and fold it and there you have it – a tamale.

Of course we were not done. She had another huge pot on the stove with water on the bottom and a metal plate over the water with holes for steam. After making up many, many tamales, we placed them in the steamer, covered it with corn husks and a cover and let them steam for quite a while. I asked how long do they need to steam. Ana: “Until it smells oh so good”. Ah, of course.

I said to Ana, “So you do not add any tomato sauce to this?” “No,” she said. I asked, “The red sauce is peppers and garlic?” Ana said, “Yes, we might have to add some salt, too” She is quick. So another eye opening experience for me. I was there for 3 hours and brought home many tamales. She said you could have cheese, or vegetables or whatever for a side.

They were delish. Ana said they are even better the second day.

We had a wonderful lesson together. Chattering as we worked together. We have become great friends and we both learn so much from each other. There is so much learning that can be done outside the text books.

If you would like to share your student's success story with our readers, please contact Bob at [Garfinkel.bob@gmail.com](mailto:Garfinkel.bob@gmail.com) or 920-676-2061

## Of This and That...

Congratulations to Nancy Lamack who recently received her tutor training certification from Pro-Literacy.

- Congratulations to Sandy Ehren's student for reading all 14 books in the Junkyard Dan series this summer!
- If you cannot get to one of the three bank locations to pick up a 2011-2012 Advantage Card, call Bob at 920-676-2061 and a card will be mailed to you. Price is \$10.00.
- Thank you for the grants we received from:  
Milwaukee Brewer's Foundation  
Catholic Diocese of Green Bay
- Thanks goes to Wisconsin Public Service for donating a color printer so our snail mail "Friends of Literacy can enjoy this newsletter in color.

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