

From the Back of the Boat

By: Bob Garfinkel

Hopefully, we are into spring and have turned the corner on a horrendous, cold winter and a wet, frigid spring. I don't know about you, but I was getting a bit gun-shy and cautious about scheduling meetings and numerous tutoring sessions were postponed due to horrible driving conditions. With warm, stable weather expected soon, tutors and students will meet more regularly and learning opportunities will be more abundant.

Over the years, some of my best classes have been from May-October simply by taking walks with my student and sometimes including his/her children. We'd walk and talk about various things and when a learning opportunity arose to increase vocabulary I'd jump on it as fast as a tick would jump on a dog's ear. I'd point out names of various birds, flowers, insects, trees, and even parts of buildings, cars, etc...

Another learning experience we'd take advantage of were trips to the zoo in both Kewaunee and Brown County. We'd take the student's kids, a picnic lunch, and have a ball. We'd have a short class while the children played on the playground equipment and we would see and talk about the animals. Words flowed like a fine wine and much vocabulary was learned. I also met weekly with a student in Fireman's Park, Luxemburg, with great results. There is also wonderful playground equipment there for the kids.

Summer classes can be an enjoyable experience. Find a common interest or hobby you share with your student and you are in business. It could be quilting, cooking, gardening or whatever. Some of my favorite summer classes were on local fishing outings with my student. Learning opportunities were everywhere! I taught him basic knots, how to cast, clean fish and even how to cook the catch. Following directions is a great skill to practice. During the fish supper, we'd revisit our fishing outing with his family. Every story grew in size and was funnier than the last. He kept up with me pretty well and everyone enjoyed the journey. By the way, my fish stories were true!

Summer classes don't have to be a chore. Use your imagination and have fun!!

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Brat Fry

Anne Laurent

On Friday, June 27, 2014, Literacy Partners will be holding a brat fry at Festival Foods East. It's a great time to meet some of our Board Members, as well as other tutors. We have fun, laugh, and raise money for our literacy programming.



And...

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

There will be 2 shifts available. Shift 1 is from 9 am - 1 pm, and Shift 2 is from 1 pm – 5 pm. If you can help us out, please let Bob (920-676-2061, garfinkel.bob@gmail.com) or Anne (920-632-4911 or aniemlaurent@gmail.com) know. It's a great way to meet others in our organization, and we always have a really great time! Thank you in advance!



Amazon Smile

Anne Laurent

Supporting: Literacy Partners Of Kewaunee County Inc.

About your charitable organization

Literacy Partners Of Kewaunee County Inc

Location: Luxemburg, WI

Categories: Educational Services and Schools - Other

> Change your charity

Recently, I was placing an order on Amazon when a window popped up. It prompted me to pick a national charity to donate a percentage of my purchases to. I

was about to click on any random one, when I noticed "Search for a different charity" underneath the box. I thought to myself, "It's not likely, but never say never...", and sure enough---Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County was an option!

I, like many people nowadays, do a lot of shopping online. I get free shipping with Amazon, and whatever I buy is on my doorstep in 2 days. Sometimes it takes me longer than 2 days just to make it out to the store I need to get to! Now I have an extra incentive to shop on Amazon.com.

 <http://smile.amazon.com>

The only catch is that you have to start at <http://smile.amazon.com> instead of the normal <http://www.amazon.com>. It's a small change that can make a big difference. If you need help finding our organization or run into any problems, please let me know. Join me in continuing to help Literacy Partners grow and expand!

Conversation and Pronunciation Workshop—A HIT!

Bob Garfinkel

The number 1 requested tutor workshop was a Conversation/Pronunciation learning experience listed in our Fall Tutor Survey. On May 1, 2014, Shawn Jensen, NWTC Instructor extraordinaire, hit the ball out of the park with her presentation! About 20 tutors, one-third of our tutor numbers, were upbeat and excited after the presentation. In fact, their evaluation (on paper) was the highest rated workshop we've ever had! If anyone would like a hard copy of the workshop and an extensive list of pronunciation resources available on the web, contact Bob.

Shawn summarized a study made by Lynn Mullens, NWTC Green Bay, concerning English Language Learner articles about the teaching of pronunciation (mostly Hispanics).

*Students want to learn to pronounce all sounds of English, not only the ones which they make mistakes.

*Students want to learn pronunciation in a classroom environment-not alone (includes 1 on 1 tutoring).

*Students prefer to learn pronunciation using a computer only if an instructor is present.

*Students are comfortable having others hear their mistakes

*Students like to learn pronunciation from instructors who use a variety of books, activities, games, and practice sheets.

Comments from the tutors at the event include:

-Wonderful program!

-Can't wait to explore the web links!

-Best workshop yet Shawn-Thank You!

-Good ideas and hands on techniques.

-I will use the ideas and websites in planning lessons!

-I wasn't sure how to gauge pronunciation—now I have ideas.

-My student is computer literate and those websites will motivate her!

-Time went fast—so many good ideas!

-Ideas galore!



Tutor of the Season: Beth Fox

My husband, Tom, and I are from Maine.

We moved to Algoma 6 years ago and, after living here for a couple of years, knew this was home. We love the freshwater "ocean" (known as Lake Michigan), the friendly people and all of the social activities throughout the year. We both have family in Maine and get back to visit at least once a year.



Although I earned a degree in Elementary Education, I decided to work at home raising our son, Justin, and running the household. I volunteered in the schools throughout the years my son was growing up. I spent any free time weaving, crafting, cross-stitch embroidery and reading. Today, my hobby is my Morgan horse, Ollie, who gives me great joy and relaxing trail rides.

My interest in tutoring comes from my enjoyment in teaching. When I read an article about Literacy Partners I decided to learn more about it and, ultimately, signed on. I have been working with my student for three years now. It is wonderful to see the progress in English speaking, reading and comprehension. My student is more than just a student, she is a friend and her family is special too.

Literacy Partners provides a wonderful service to its students and a meaningful experience to each of us tutors. Thank You Literacy Partners, and students!

Duolingo - An Exciting Website

Bob Garfinkel

Peggy Sankey, Literacy Partners tutor in Door County, sent me an exciting website her student has been using to help him with his English. There is an App for computers, cell phones, and one for Kindle. I tried it and it is fun! Tutors are also able to use this to review your Spanish, German, etc. Your student

can learn English on Duolingo independently or with you. This is not a site to replace tutors. The one to one experience is the best way to learn any language. This site is a great supplement, and the best part is—it's free!

If you try Duolingo, please let me know what you think!



<https://www.duolingo.com/>

What's new in the Resource Center?

Our Student/Tutor Support Committee has found an answer for any student looking to improve math skills. It is called "Breakthrough to Math." We have ordered and received Levels 1 and 2 which covers:

Level 1

- Adding whole numbers
- Subtracting whole numbers
- Dividing whole numbers
- Word problems with whole numbers
- A Teacher's Guide
- Student Workbooks

Level 2

- Understanding fractions
- Adding and subtracting fractions
- Multiplying and dividing fractions
- Decimal fractions
- Percent
- Word problems with fractions
- A Teacher's Guide
- Student Workbooks

"Breakthrough to Math" will be displayed the entire month of June on a table in the Resource Center. Instructions will also be there*

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. This year, there are some exciting new additions!

As always, 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 are hopeful that we will also qualify for a Soles4Souls shoe grant again this year. If so, we will need volunteers 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.

Volunteers are needed for set up (**Wednesday, August 13**, times TBD, but most likely 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 most likely be from 11 am – 2:30 pm, and the 2nd shift would be from 2:30 pm – 5 pm. I am still awaiting time confirmation for the event, but this is what it has been in the past.

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**

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