

## 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!!

# THE STAR

---

A Bi-Monthly Publication of Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County

June 2014

Vol. 8 No. 3



---

**Bob Garfinkel, President**

[garfinkel.bob@gmail.com](mailto:garfinkel.bob@gmail.com)

920-676-2061

**Anne Laurent, Coordinator**

[anniemplaurent@gmail.com](mailto:anniemplaurent@gmail.com)

920-328-5552

---

### Features:

From the Back of the Boat  
Fundraising  
Tutor Enrichment Seminar  
Tutor of the Season  
New Tutor Resources  
Health Literacy Summer Event  
New in the Resource Center  
Board Members/Advisors  
Supporters

## 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...

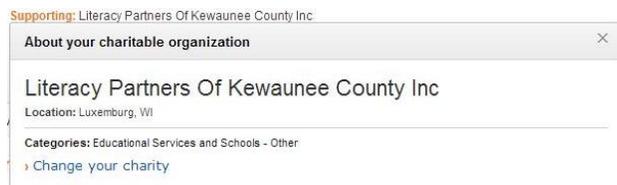
### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

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](mailto:garfinkel.bob@gmail.com)) or Anne (920-632-4911 or [aniemlaurent@gmail.com](mailto: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



Recently, I was placing an order on Amazon when a window popped it. 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.



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 fresh-water "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 as 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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**

### **Board of Directors**

Bob Garfinkel **President**, Maureen Kinnard **Vice President**, Judy Delain **Secretary**, Ingrid Weitzel, **Treasurer**, Barb Baldwin, Sandy Ehren, Mary Gotstein, Sue Hingst, Kate Phillips, Jerry Waara, Jackie Yon, Jan Zenner.

### **Advisors**

Mary Novak, UW-Extension; Jill Jorgensen, UW-Extension; Anne Laurent, Coordinator; Stephanie Vincent, Legal Advisor; Elaine Holmes, Bookkeeper

### **Supporters**

Dominion Foundation, Green Bay Community Foundation, Green Bay Packer Foundation, Wisconsin Public Service, East Shore Industries, N.E.W. Technical College, Kinnard Farms, United Funds of Kewaunee Cty, Inc, CenturyLink, Baylake Bank, Union State Bank, Kewaunee School District, Herbert Kohl Foundation, Kewaunee Rotary Club, Algoma Lions, Kewaunee Lions, LensCrafters, M&I Bank, Friends of Kewaunee Library, Algoma Library, Kewaunee Library, Wiesner & Massart, Buy Local, Wisconsin Literacy, McMahon's of Luxemburg, Pagel's Ponderosa, Deb Jirtle, Catholic Diocese of Green Bay, Stodola's IGA, Festival Foods, Robert and Rita Kraus Foundation, Roundy's, Russ Flemming, Wisconsin Literacy, Harbor View Realty, Abts Law Office, Algoma Utilities, Brewers Community Foundation, Great Lakes Kraut, Kewaunee Inn, Lemen's Hardware, Forest Construction, Tri-State Feed, Nancy Lamack, Sandy Ehren, Donna Kinnard, Betsy Rossberg, Village Kitchen, M&I Bank, Verizon, Richard and Chris Hanneman, WI Packaging, Fox View Dental, Muriel Seidl, Sue & Warren Hingst, Mary Novak, Friends of Kewaunee Library, US-Extension, Melissa Huizinga, Michael Conard, Shopko Foundation, Catholic Financial Life, Barb Baldwin, Elise Leonard, Denny's SuperValu, Algoma Optimists, Luxemburg Lions, Aurora BayCare Hospital, Schneider Foundation, Volunteer Center of Brown County, The County Times, Bellin Health, Lary & Jan Swoboda