



From the Back of the Boat

By: Bob Garfinkel

We are coming off a highly successful tutor training session. Except for our initial training 11 years ago, we had our second largest class ever! All of our new tutors have been placed with a student (see picture inside of new tutors), are excited, and looking forward to a wonderful journey of learning. We've had a number of exciting things that have happened and will happen in the near future. Please page through the entire newsletter for information on Recognition Day, the student book, our 11th anniversary, volunteer opportunities, and more.

Thank you to all of our wonderful tutors who give their time and energy to help a student be successful in our community. Of course, we could not be successful without donations from all of our supporters. The venture to fight illiteracy has truly been a team effort with all of our literacy partners!



THE STAR

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Kate Phillips Honored as Adult Volunteer of the Year

On April 27, Kate Phillips, Bob Garfinkel and Anne Laurent attended the WPS Volunteer Awards at the KI Center in Green Bay. The program began with a breakfast buffet and then a 1.5 hour program honoring volunteers in 8 different categories.



In the Adult Volunteer award category, there were 52 nominees--a far cry from the 5 nominees in the Arts & Culture Award category, 13 nominees in the Small Group Award, 8 nominees in the Leadership category and 10 in the Volunteers in Education category.

Thanks Kate, for all you do for our organization, as well as for Kewaunee County! And congrats again--you are more than deserving of this special award!

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The Two Letter Word: **UP**

Bob Garfinkel

The word "up" can be used as a noun, verb, adjective, or adverb. This two-letter word has more meanings than any word I know of in the English Language.

It's easy to understand the meaning of "up" meaning toward the sky, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake up? At a meeting, why does a topic come up? Why do we speak up and why are the officers up for election? Why is it up to the secretary to write up the minutes?

We call up our friends, brighten up a room, polish up silverware, warm up leftovers, and clean up the kitchen. We lock up the house and fix up the car.

At other times, this little word has special meaning. People stir up trouble, line up for tickets, work up an appetite, and think up excuses. To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed up is special.

This up is confusing. A drain must be opened up because it is stopped up. We open up a store in the morning but we close it up at night. We seem to be mixed up about up!

To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of up, look up the word up in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes "up" almost 1/4 of the page and can add "up" about 30 definitions.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding up. When the sun comes out, we say it is clearing up. When it rains, the earth soaks it up. When it doesn't rain, things dry up.

One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it up for now. My time is up!

I included this in the newsletter to give another example how confusing the English Language can be. Can you imagine how confusing this could be for an English Language Learner?

Bob Garfinkel

PS: The name of the author is "up" for discussion!

Of This and That

1. Thank you for the tremendous recent financial support from the Casco Lions, Dominion Energy, and Nicolet Bank. The bank also donated folders for Recognition Day, pencils and pens. Denny's Super Value in Algoma sent a gift card for the receipts placed in our slot in their hallway. The slot says Kewaunee Literacy. Your receipt from Denny's is worth real money!

2. Thank you to Wisconsin Literacy for donating a Colors Program which we will pilot, and some Ventures workbooks we will use for Teacher's Editions.

3. ADRC (Lakeshore Aging and Disability Resource Center) publishes the Senior Scene about 6 times a year. It includes opportunities for classes to improve your health, informational meetings and much more. If you would like to get your free online copy, contact them at [1-877-416-7083](tel:1-877-416-7083).

4. Through Wisconsin Literacy, all of our tutors receive free online copies of "News For You," a current events magazine written at about the third grade level. If your student needs help, he/she can click read and listen and the article will be read out loud. Otherwise, you can make copies on your printer. There is also a crossword puzzle, word search, and teacher's edition. Our subscription will last another year and 1 month. Go to <http://www.newreaderspress.com/news-for-you-online> I did not need a password, but if you do it is B1AAB8

5. About 5 years ago, UW Extension put together a beautiful, colored pamphlet called "Spanish in the Dairy." We had copies in the Resource Center and many tutors picked them up. The last couple of years, the pamphlet went out of print. I saved the email version and have hard copies. My search for this information became serious when someone mentioned that we had copies at a Wisconsin Literacy get-together last year. Since that time, I have emailed 2 copies and mailed 3 more to literacy directors. If anyone would like "Spanish in the Dairy", contact Bob.

Summer Fundraising & Events

Anne Laurent

With every non-profit comes fundraising. It is a fact of life these days. I'd like to think that our group doesn't overwhelm its members with the hassles of fundraising. Nobody here has the energy to sell pizzas and popcorn, or has the time to go door to door. Everyone's children and grandchildren are selling things multiple times throughout the year for school and sports organizations, as well.

For this reason, we try to rely solely on grants, donations from our yearly *Dinnerless Dinner*, and 2 fundraisers a year in the form of a brat fry at Festival Foods East in Green Bay, and a joint Pig Roast Fundraiser with Kewaunee County HCE each year at the end of July.

This year, the dates and needs are as follows:

Brat Fry: Friday, June 2
Shift 1 (9a-1p): 1 volunteer
Shift 2 (1p-5p): ~~Filled~~—thanks!

Pig Roast Fundraiser: Saturday, July 29
Shift 1 (8:45a-12:00p): 3 volunteers
Shift 2 (11:30a-3:00p): 4 volunteers
*We will also need pie donations for this event!

Please email or call Anne Laurent, Coordinator, if you are available to help with any of the above!

Exclusive Tutor Event offered by Our Health Literacy Committee

Do you want to know about all the resources available to assist Kewaunee County residents? Do you know a friend or loved one who might qualify for assistance who isn't taking advantage of it? Is your student or are your student's children eligible for free aid and not accessing the help?

The Health Literacy Committee has partnered with UW Extension and Kewaunee County Public Health to put on a fantastic *Lunch & Learn program*. The program will be on June 5 and will last from 11a-1p.

Tutors are encouraged to come. All Kewaunee County residents are welcome to join, we just ask that they register so we know a total count.

Please email Anne (annielaurent@gmail.com) if you are interested. A formal invitation and form will be coming out shortly. As always, there will be no fee for this event.

New GED Graduate

President's Note

I met Shareen and Desiree at NWTC in 2016 and knew instantly that they were a great team and would accomplish their goal of getting a GED. Despite some challenges, they reached their goal and now the sky is the limit! On behalf of our Board of Directors, I want to congratulate both of you on your achievement and wish you all the best in the future.

Shareen Gutowski was unable to finish her high school years and receive her diploma due to circumstances not under her control. Shareen made many attempts throughout the years to receive her GED, but something always got in her way and the support she needed wasn't there.

In the spring of 2016, Shareen enrolled in the GED program at NWTC. The NWTC GED instructor, Nancie Brennan, heard that Literacy Partners was going to be offering the HSED program which would be a perfect fit for Shareen and would help her achieve her goal of receiving her diploma. With the help of Bob



Garfinkel and Shana Parker from Oneida Education, Shareen was set up and on her way. Within six months, Shareen had passed all the competency tests and received her HSED with support from Desiree Mertens, her Literacy Tutor. Shareen is thrilled to have finally achieved something that she has tried so hard for so long to do. More doors have opened for her by obtaining her HSED. Shareen is very thankful to Nancie, Bob, Shana, and Desiree for leading the way.

Desiree Mertens

New Tutors

Congratulations to the *Spring 2017 New Tutor* class!



Left to Right- Marisa Jarabek, Karen Jakimczyk, Ruthie Woodbeck, Gail Elsholz, Harv Hanneman



Ralph Elsholz (L) and Diane Zastrow (R)

What Is In The Resource Center?

There is a 3 book series in our Resource Center that may help your student be a better writer. It is called "Power English." This series helps adults develop skills in usage, sentence structure, mechanics, and composition. 'Power English' is perfect for Level 3 and Level 4 students. "Power English" encourages rapid and enjoyable acquisition of fundamental writing skills.

There is no placement test for 'Power English.' Page through Book 1. If it seems too easy for your student, check out Book 2. Bob has been using this series for over 7 years and have had great success with it. Books can be found in our writing section.

Your Fondest Tutoring Memories

This July is our 11th anniversary as a literacy organization! To celebrate this event, our newsletter staff would like to feature fond memories of current and past tutors. To be successful, we need your help. You could write about an event, concentrate on an accomplishment(s), or anything that you might remember from throughout the years. Please email or snail mail your memories to: garfinkel.bob@gmail.com or

Bob Garfinkel
PO Box 203
Luxemburg, WI 54217

Your deadline is June 15, 2017. We will accept any length of memories. We hope you will participate and enjoy doing it!

Easy Fundraising!

What if fundraising could be easy? You could raise funds for our organization without selling anything or even writing out a check! Well guess what—YOU CAN!

A separate flyer will be coming out with detailed information on some new (and old!) exciting ways that you can help Literacy Partners financially—just by doing what we all do anyway—*shop online!* Watch for it to show up in your email May!



Recognition Day 2017

Bob Garfinkel

Recognition Day is a celebration of our students' accomplishments, dedication of our tutors and recognition of groups and organizations that support us. You and your student will receive a letter in the coming months with all the details. At this point, please put August 20, 2017 on your calendar with a tentative time of noon as a starting point.

Briefly, Recognition Day is a picnic under the largest shelter in Bruemmer Park, Kewaunee. We have a planned pot luck (more later), a short program, and 2 piñatas for the kids. Children and students receive free books to take home and tutors and supporters will receive a nice present.

Recognition Day is our event of the year. Please plan to attend!

Student Book for 2017

Our annual student books the past few years have been outstanding! The last 3 editions have featured:

1. Any topic students have wanted to submit
2. *Where is Home?*
3. *My Family*

Stories varied in length from 3 sentences (for beginners) to 2 pages in length. Tutors may help students, but the bulk of the work is on the student. Pictures may be used but they must be emailed.

This year's title of the student book is: *A Look Into My Future*. The deadline for turning in stories is July 4, 2017. We need about a month lead time for editing, typing and printing. Stories are best if emailed, but can be snail mailed, as well to the following addresses:

Garfinkel.Bob@gmail.com

Or

Bob Garfinkel

PO Box 203

Luxemburg, WI 54217

Student books will be handed out to tutors, students and guests at Recognition Day. Special Recognition of student authors will be given at that time.

Calendar of Events for 2017

June 2: Festival Foods East Brat Fry Fundraiser: **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**. Look for more information in this newsletter

June 5: Tutor Resource *Lunch & Learn* event 11a-1p

July 29th – Pig Roast with HCE – **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**. See *Summer Fundraising & Events* article

August 15: Back to School Day set up

August 16: Back to School event: **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** for both. Watch for times to be announced

August 20: Recognition Day. See article

Fall 2017: Tutor Training Evening Classes

Also coming in 2017: Fall Health Literacy event & tutor in-service

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

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Stephanie Vincent, Legal Advisor; Donna Mahlik, Bookkeeper

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