

October-November 2013

▶ ADULT LEARNERS ARE WAITING FOR YOUR HELP!
VOLUNTEER TODAY

▶ MONTHLY REPORTS DUE 5TH OF EACH MONTH! FOR THIS AND OTHER IMPORTANT DATES, SEE THE CALENDAR

▶ LITERACY CHANGES EVERYONE'S LIFE.
READ MORE!

READ Writes



LIFELONG LEARNING FOCUS ON LITERACY THROUGHOUT THE ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY

READ/Orange County is the adult literacy services of the OC Public Libraries, providing basic reading & writing help to adults throughout Orange County.



A Bounty of Learning, Fun & Family Heritage To Share At The Fall Feast!

The Fall Feast (otherwise known as that great potluck hosted by the Friends of READ/Orange County) has returned! With a western theme, this year's Fall Feast takes on a home-spun hospitality atmosphere. It is sure to include some delicious home-cooked, family recipe treats. So dig out grandma's recipe and get cooking or baking (or shopping). Then put on your comfy jeans and boots, and bring the family to enjoy the fun!

Your invitation should have already arrived in your mail box! Tutors, make sure your learners look for their postcard invitations and give us a call to say they are coming!

The entire family is welcome. Friends of READ/Orange County will be looking for you on Saturday, November 2 at the READ/OC offices.

See you there!

Proud Moments Celebrate a Harvest of Learning

Our tutors and learners have had many successes this past month! Here are just a few of their achievements taken from monthly reports:

Mary's learner got a job and then picked up the California Driver Handbook to start working on their next goal to get a driver's license!

Shari's learner made a goal to understand and practice for a job interview for the month...she completed job applications, had interviews for two jobs and was hired for BOTH!

Cait's learner has more confidence in her reading, understands past and present tenses, and seems to be enjoying reading much more.

Al's learner is now using the picture dictionary regularly, is now able to identify and count money successfully and brings questions she has about what she sees to their tutoring sessions.

Nancy's learner successfully completed part of his bus driver training and is now getting more hours at his job.

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Kudos to OCPL Regional Manager, Trish Noa! California Library Association's 2013 Outstanding Librarian in Support of Literacy



For Trish Noa, OCPL Central Regional Manager, libraries and literacy are inseparable! She demonstrates her passion for literacy by consistently encouraging OCPL staff to promote and support adult and family literacy. As Branch Manager at Irvine Heritage Park Library, she often offered her own office for tutor/learner pairs to meet, trained as a READ/OC tutor, and led a small group of READ/OC learners.

Trish continues to work closely with the READ/OC team as liaison between the literacy program and libraries. She attends READ/OC meetings and partners with the READ/OC team to offer special workshops and programs at branches, such as the USCIS resources and workshops.

She is always on the lookout for ways to support adult and family literacy efforts in libraries and in the community. She offers valuable advice, suggests untapped resources, and provides constructive insights.

While at Irvine Heritage Park Regional Library, she brought the community into the library and took the library out into the community. When Trish learned of learners' long wait for tutors, she worked with READ/OC to make literacy a priority at her branch. She became a READ/OC tutor and continues to address specific community needs, such as encouraging branches to create literacy displays to recruit more tutors in response to a growing waiting list of adult learners.

READ/OC congratulates Trish as CLA's Outstanding Librarian in Support of Literacy, and very much appreciates the fantastic commitment to literacy and outstanding support of READ/OC by each and every OCPL team member!

PROUD MOMENTS continued from Page 1



Sharon and her learner read a short biography together.

Dan's learner read and followed a sewing pattern to make a new shoulder bag.

Patrick's learner continues showing improvement in her writing.

Tianna's learner has completed reading two chapters of a Harry Potter book.

Patrice's learner now knows the days of the week, months, colors, shapes and the names of basic clothing, food, and kitchen items in English AND can read, write and speak them.

Laurie's learner has her family speaking only English daily with her for over a month. She has new confidence due to her family's support, and praised herself for writing two sentences in English.

Barbara and her learner write emails to each other and now their messages are more productive with more content.

Susan and her learner read a school notice together and her learner made a list of school requirements to work on with his family.

Pam and her learner are enjoying reading News For You weekly and doing the follow-up activities together.

Judy's learner is now sounding out words letter by letter instead of just guessing the word without trying to read it.

Neal's student wrote her first LEA (*Language Experience Approach*) story by herself about her trip to Las Vegas.

Ellie's learner is now reading poetry – complete with pronunciation and rhythm.

FROC Corner



Friends of READ/OC Celebrate the Gift of Literacy With Words To Be Shared

Traditionally, the month of September has been a month to celebrate the gift of literacy around the world, as well as a wonderful gift to celebrate locally.

Can you think of a talent or skill you learned which has been a powerful gift to you throughout your entire life? Can you imagine the loss of that ability and how it would hamper your life? We'd like you to place yourself in the shoes of someone who has not been able to master reading. Just think about how many challenges they face every day struggling through all the tasks requiring reading skills.

We have the tools and the personnel to make it possible to change many lives for the good, and we're hoping that you will catch the fever to aid our work through your time, talent, or treasure. Those of us committed to the work of READOC are enthusiastic readers and lifelong learners, and that's the gift we work to give others seeking the services of READOC.

Friends of READOC are pleased to have welcomed four new board members on the FROC team recently. Each person brings special talents, interests, and skills, and as we tap those talents, we are able to expand the reach of the READOC program. Because the county program (READOC) cannot seek funding outside specific parameters, the Board members of FROC, a non-profit organization set up to be a support-raising arm of READOC, seek out friends, family, and businesses who support our efforts and we seek both volunteers to become tutors or office help, and we also seek funding. Additionally, we contact companies who incent their employees for volunteer hours. We ask these companies for the opportunity to introduce their employees to local literacy needs and the efforts of FROC, so we can expand our mission to provide literacy training to qualified learners throughout Orange County.

FROC's latest effort is the creation of greeting cards, which can be used for holiday greetings, a message of sympathy, a birthday card, and an encouragement card. We plan to package the cards in sets, and will be available for a donation to FROC, made in the name of the receiver of the card. Through this effort, we will be able to introduce our organization to new people, raise funds to supplement the budget of READOC, and make gift-giving simple for the sender. We are hoping that this fundraising can be an ongoing source of income, and that it will expand our contacts so more people become aware of the amazing work being done when tutors and learners are matched up and the gift of literacy is given. Please consider who you can honor with such gift-giving donation to FROC? Your gift can be truly life-changing for the adult learners, the volunteer tutors who also experience a life-changing experience of helping someone change their life through literacy, as well as those who have been remembered with the card. That's truly a win-win-win!

Please join FROC in whatever way matches your personal gifts. Ask us at the Fall Feast how you can help with FROC's activities and supporting efforts

*Remember to join Friends of READ/OC at their Fall Feast on Saturday, November 2,
and checkout their new "gifted" greeting cards!*



PAIGE TURNER

Dear Paige,

I saw the flyer about the Writer 2 Writer contest. My learner and I would like to participate, but I am afraid that she is not ready for that yet. Shouldn't we spend more time working on her goals to improve her writing skills first? How do we know when is a good time to take this step?

Tentative Tutor

Dear Tentative,

It is a good time NOW! The Writer To Writer challenge is a contest sponsored by the Southern California Library Literacy Network as a chance for adult learners to gain confidence by reading a book, story or poem, sharing their thoughts about what they read with others, and practice writing a letter. It is designed for adult learners at all stages of their literacy journey. There are categories for Emergent, Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced writers. Even an Emergent writer can listen to a book on tape and dictate a letter to their tutor. In fact, READ/OC learner Gussie placed Runner Up in the Emergent writer category last year by doing just that! If you and your learner have a story to share, don't hesitate to enter! Check out the details below about this year's "W-2-W." Share it with your learner and get started reading! The deadline for entries to be received at the READ/OC office is Friday, November 22!

Paige Turner

RESOURCE OF THE MONTH: WRITER-TO-WRITER

Attention Tutors & Learners: Time to Get Reading & Writing!

The Southern California Library Literacy Network (SCLLN) invites adult learners from Southern California to participate in the 2013 *Writer to Writer Challenge*.

It is a chance for learners to share their thoughts in writing, relate what they read in a book/story or poem to their own life, and practice writing a letter, to help them write other letters in the future. Learners can write about a book they read or listened to. Then they write a letter to the author about how the story has changed the way they think about life. The letter can be a "language experience activity" the learner tells the tutor (*it can be transcribed by the tutor*) or it can be something the learner writes on their own. It must be under 500 words. *This challenge is for all learners - from beginning to advanced level learners.*

Full instructions and the entry form are available from READ/OC. Learners who choose to participate must fill out and sign an entry form. Then the form must be signed by READ/OC. Call/email the READ/OC office for more information and entry forms. Entries **must** be received in the READ/OC office on or before **Nov. 22**, entries are judged on the following criteria:

- **Creativity:** Does the letter reflect the learner's original ideas?
- **Grasp of theme:** Does the letter describe how reading the book impacted the learner's life and doesn't merely summarize the plot of the book?
- **Fluency:** Does the letter flow smoothly, in terms of organization of ideas?

Tutors, share this wonderful opportunity with your learner and encourage them to consider writing about a book they have read on their own or one you read together in your tutoring sessions. Remember the Deadline to enter is Friday, November 22!

October—November 2013



Sat., Oct. 12	Family Reading Time @ Irvine University Park Library, 10am-12pm
Mon., Oct. 14	Columbus Day Holiday – Libraries & READ/OC office are closed.
Weds., Oct. 16	Tutor Training Orientation @ READ/OC 1-2 pm and 6-7pm
Sat., Oct. 19	Family Reading Time @ El Toro Library, 10am-12pm
	Tutor Training Session I @ READ/OC, 9am-4pm
Sat., Oct. 26	Tutor Training Session 2 @ READ/OC, 9am-4pm
November	Family Literacy Month— Read with someone you love! - in a book, on a Nook, with Book Flix,... write a poem, a recipe, your family tree... Just read together, learn together, laugh and share together!
Sat., Nov. 2	Fall Feast @ READ/OC Office, 11-2pm—See details below
Tue., Nov. 5	Family Reading Time @ La Palma Library, 6:30-7:45pm
	Monthly Reports Due to READ/OC office
Thu., Nov. 7	Family Reading Time @ El Toro Library, 6-8pm
Sat., Nov. 9	Family Reading Time @ Irvine University Park Library, 10am-12pm
Mon., Nov. 11	Veteran's Day – Libraries & READ/OC office are closed.
Thu., Nov. 14	Family Reading Time @ Mesa Verde Library, 7-8pm
Sat., Nov. 16	Family Reading Time @ El Toro Library, 10am-12pm
Sun., Nov 28 & 29	Happy Thanksgiving—READ/OC & Libraries are closed (Read the menu or a recipe, share your heritage, write about what you are thankful for & celebrate with family and friends.)

FALL FEAST RETURNS!



Mark Your Calendars...
**Get out that favorite family recipe
to share at this family potluck celebration!**

Date: Saturday, November 2, 2013
Time: 11:00 am–2:00 pm

Location: The READ/OC Office
1501 E. St. Andrew Pl., Santa Ana 92705

Call us to say you will attend.
Bring a favorite family dish to share!
There will be family fun and games,
And a lot of great food.



READ/OC is the adult literacy service of OC Public Libraries & OC Community Resources
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