

# LEARN

# Alive!

Libraries Empower All to Read Now  
Adult Literacy Program  
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April/ May 09

## LEARN SAYS THANK YOU WITH ANNUAL PICNIC

LEARN hosted its 2nd Annual Volunteer Tutor Picnic Appreciation Celebration on Saturday, April 25th at the San Dieguito Park in Solana Beach. The picnic celebrated all of the hard work of learners and tutors over the past year. It was our way of saying thank you to everyone in the LEARN program. While the weather that day was less than superb, the picnic was a great success and over 40 people attended the event. The party was catered by Z Pizza in Carmel Mountain Ranch. The menu included classic picnic fare of sandwiches, chips, cookies, and lemonade.

One of the main highlights of the picnic was the band Soneros de San Diego. They



entertained guests with their acoustic performance of "Son Jarocho" style of music from Veracruz, Mexico. This included authentic



dancing, clapping, and melodies that enhanced the atmosphere of the party.

The other highlight of the picnic was Sandi Masori, of Balloon Utopia. She was able to create amazing balloon models of everything from crazy hats, to lifelike snakes, and even people! Sandi was a wonderful addition to the picnic and received rave reviews from everyone.

As the afternoon went on, everyone was invited to play bingo and there were small prizes awarded to winners. An opportunity

drawing was also held at the conclusion of the picnic. There were many wonderful prizes donated by local business and the LEARN program for attendees including: gift cards to Barnes and Noble and Henry's, free yoga sessions, books, a gift basket of cookies from the Champagne Bakery, free haircuts, and a Scrabble game, among other incentives.



The LEARN staff would like to thank everyone who attended the picnic and we hope to see everyone back for next year's picnic.

AmeriCorps Member– Laura Burlew

## CALCULATING THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF VOLUNTEERS

How does one put an economic value on the time volunteers give to an organization? Traditionally volunteer time has been estimated using a single dollar value for all types of volunteering. The *Value of Volunteer Time*, which is updated annually, is made available by Independent Sector. **The current Independent Sector rate is \$18.05 per hour.\***

Use of a single value assumes that all volunteers are doing jobs that are of equal value. However, it can easily be shown that this is not true when considering the potential cost of replacing a volunteer with paid staff. A volunteer performing a professional task such as accounting is worth more in the market place than that same volunteer doing gardening. How, then, can a realistic economic value be put on volunteer time? By putting a value in what volunteers do at the task level.

The *Economic Impact Of Volunteers Calculator* created by the Points of Light Foundation makes this possible. It estimates the appropriate wage rate for volunteer time based on what the person does, the value of specific tasks according to market conditions as reported by the US Department of Labor. Organizations can use the Calculator to

determine the value of the time their volunteers give doing a wide variety of volunteer jobs.

-Excerpt from [www.pointsoflight.org/resources/research/calculator.cfm](http://www.pointsoflight.org/resources/research/calculator.cfm)

To give you an idea of how much volunteers have helped our organization, we have used the calculator to determine how much the work of an Adult Literacy Volunteer Tutor is worth. A volunteer that tutors for 3 hours per week for 52 weeks would make \$4,594.20 per year, which is based on an hourly wage of \$20.91 plus hourly benefits of \$8.54. all of our Adult Literacy tutors donate a combined total of more than **11,000 hours** of tutoring per year, that is worth more than **\$330,000** dollars per year! Thank you to all of our volunteer tutors and all that they do, as you can see their time is extremely valuable!

\*The specific hourly rate for Adult Literacy Tutors is \$20.91 per hour according to [www.pointsoflight.org/resources/research/calculator.cfm](http://www.pointsoflight.org/resources/research/calculator.cfm)

AmeriCorps Member– Laura Burlew

For article submissions, please contact Laura Burlew at  
Laura.burlew@sdcounty.ca.gov or (760) 643-5144

## CITIZENSHIP SUCCESS

### 66. When was the Constitution written?

See answer at the end of this article

The question above is just *one* of the 100 civics questions that immigrants need to know to pass their Naturalization test. The LEARN Citizenship class held its first meeting on Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, at the San Marcos Library. Seven people attended the class from all over North County. Since that first class many changes have been made to the LEARN. citizenship program. The

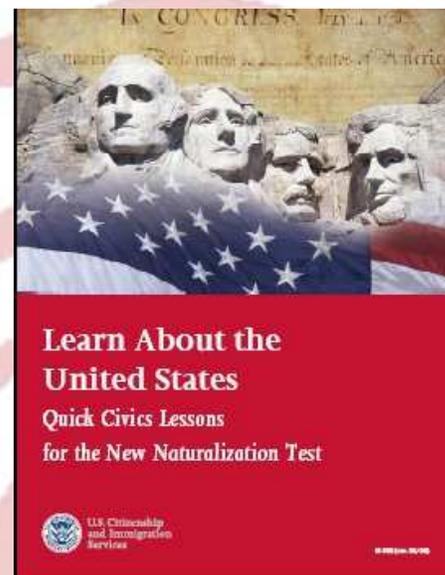
San Marcos class was moved to Thursday nights from 5:00 p.m-7:30 p.m. and a new citizenship class was opened up in Vista on Monday nights from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Between the two classes there are currently 20 students enrolled in the program.

The LEARN. citizenship class was set up to mirror the Solana Beach class with an ongoing, circular, curriculum that encourages students to begin attending at any time. Students are encouraged to work at their own pace and apply for Naturalization when they feel confident and ready for the interview.

The class provides instruction on the 100 civics questions, help with filling out the N-400 application, and practice reading, writing, and speaking English.

The class has been a great success so far and there are more exciting experiences ahead for the citizenship class. On Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> in Vista and Thursday May 21st in San Marcos Yolanda York from the Social Security Administration will be presenting information at both the Vista and San Marcos classes about what immigrants can expect after they become citizens.

*A. 1787 The Constitution, written in 1787, created a new system of U.S. government—the same system we have today. James Madison was the main writer of the Constitution. He became the fourth president of the United States. The U.S. Constitution is short, but it defines the principles of government and the rights of citizens in the United*



*States. The document has a preamble and seven articles. Since its adoption, the Constitution has been amended (changed) 27 times. Three-fourths of the states (9 of the original 13) were required to ratify (approve) the Constitution. Delaware was the first state to ratify the Constitution on December 7, 1787. In 1788, New Hampshire was the ninth state to ratify the Constitution. On March 4, 1789, the Constitution took effect and Congress met for the first time. George Washington was inaugurated as president the same year. By 1790, all 13 states had ratified the Constitution.*

AmeriCorps Member- Laura Burlew

### WITH SINCERE APPRECIATION

The LEARN Staff would like to thank the following people for their help in making our program a success!

**José Aponte**-Library Director  
**Barabara Flynn**-Deputy Director  
**Suman Godbole**-San Marcos Branch  
**Jenny Hanson**-Adult Services Tech  
**Sandy Housley**-Encinitas Branch  
**Susan Moore**-Adult Services Librarian  
**Honey Notley**-Encinitas Branch  
**Christina Patterson**-El Cajon Branch  
**Sandy Puccio**-Valley Center Branch  
**Cecilia Rincon**-Fallbrook Branch  
**Brenna Ring**-Rancho San Diego Branch

## READING AND WRITING INDEPENDENTLY

I first saw an advertisement about the LEARN program on the front window at the El Cajon Library. I wanted to learn to read, write, and spell better. I thought the program could help me. I have now learned to spell, read, and write better. I have had two good tutors, Erica Abbey and Nick Crosby. I have learned about the computer and a little about how to type. I have written and then typed out my stories on the computer. I have also been learning about other classes through the posters in the library. I have lessons two times a week.

Since being enrolled in the program, I can now write letters to my family and stay in touch with them. My writing is much clearer now than it was before. Now I can write stories without help from anyone else. I feel more independent than I used to. I don't need anyone else to help me do things like read and write.

Learner- Nancy Blanton



# May 2009

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1 ESL Café Bonita 9:30a-11:00a Spanish Conversation Encinitas 3:00p-5:00p	2  Kid's Magic Mile Balboa Park 8:00a-5:00p ESL Café Vista 3:30a-4:30p
3  Race for Literacy Downtown San Diego 8:00a-5:00p	4 ESL Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Citizenship Vista 6:00p-7:30p Computer Classes El Cajon 5:30p-6:30p	5 ESL Café Lincoln Acres 6:30p-7:30p	6 ESL Café Vista 10:30a-12:00p Dyslexia Workshop El Cajon 6:00p-7:30p Spanish Literature Encinitas 6:00p-8:00p	7 Citizenship San Marcos 5:00p-7:00p	8 Spanish Conversation Encinitas 3:00p-5:00p	9 ESL Café Vista 3:30a-4:30p	
10 ESL Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Citizenship Vista 6:00p-7:30p	11 ESL Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Citizenship Vista 6:00p-7:30p	12 ESL Café Lincoln Acres 6:30p-7:30p	13 Spanish Literature Encinitas 6:00p-8:00p	14 Citizenship San Marcos 5:00p-7:00p	15 ESL Café Bonita 9:30a-11:00a Spanish Conversation Encinitas 3:00p-5:00p	16 ESL Café Vista 3:30a-4:30p	
17 ESL Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Special Citizenship Presentation with Social Security Admin Vista 6:00p- 7:30p	18 ESL Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Citizenship Vista 6:00p-7:30p	19 ESL Café Lincoln Acres 6:30p-7:30p	20 ESL Café Vista 10:30a-12:00p Spanish Literature Encinitas 6:00p-8:00p	21 Special Citizenship Presentation with Social Security Admin San Marcos 5:00p-7:00p	22 Spanish Conversation Encinitas 3:00p-5:00p	23 ESL Café Vista 3:30a-4:30p	
24/31 ESL Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Citizenship Vista 6:00p-7:30p	25 ESL Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Citizenship Vista 6:00p-7:30p	26 ESL Café Lincoln Acres 6:30p-7:30p	27 Spanish Literature Encinitas 6:00p-8:00p	28 No Citizenship Class in San Marcos	29 Spanish Conversation Encinitas 3:00p-5:00p	30 ESL Café Vista 3:30a-4:30p	

# June 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> ESL Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Citizenship Vista 6:00p-7:30p	<b>2</b> ESL Café Lincoln Acres 6:30p-7:30p	<b>3</b> Spanish Literature Encinitas 6:00p-8:00p	<b>4</b> Citizenship San Marcos 5:00p-7:00p	<b>5</b> ESL Café Bonita 9:30a-11:00a Spanish Conversation Encinitas 3:00p-5:00p	<b>6</b> ESL Café Vista 3:30a-4:30p
<b>7</b> ESL Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Citizenship Vista 6:00p-7:30p	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> ESL Café Lincoln Acres 6:30p-7:30p	<b>10</b> ESL Café Vista 10:30a-12:00p Spanish Literature Encinitas 6:00p-8:00p	<b>11</b> Citizenship San Marcos 5:00p-7:00p	<b>12</b> Spanish Conversation Encinitas 3:30p-5:00p	<b>13</b> ESL Café Vista 3:30a-4:30p
<b>14</b> ESL Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Citizenship Vista 6:00p-7:30p	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> ESL Café Lincoln Acres 6:30p-7:30p	<b>17</b> Spanish Literature Encinitas 6:00p-8:00p	<b>18</b> Citizenship San Marcos 5:00p-7:00p	<b>19</b> ESL Café Bonita 9:30a-11:00a Spanish Conversation Encinitas 3:00p-5:00p	<b>20</b> ESL Café Vista 3:30a-4:30p
<b>21</b> ESL Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Citizenship Vista 6:00p-7:30p	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> ESL Café Lincoln Acres 6:30p-7:30p	<b>24</b> ESL Café Vista 10:30a-12:00p Spanish Literature Encinitas 6:00p-8:00p	<b>25</b> No Citizenship Class in San Marcos	<b>26</b> Spanish Conversation Encinitas 3:00p-5:00p	<b>27</b> ESL Café Vista 3:30a-4:30p
<b>28</b> ESL Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Citizenship Vista 6:00p-7:30p	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> ESL Café Lincoln Acres 6:30p-7:30p				