

LEARN

Alive!

Libraries Empower All to Read Now
Adult Literacy Program
Phone: (888) 466 - 0668
Email: learnstaff@sdcountry.ca.gov

October/November 09

This month the literacy staff is privileged to bring you a special feature in this newsletter: articles from a tutor and learner pair who write separately about their experience with LEARN. When Ning, the learner, was approached about writing an essay for the newsletter she said she would only do it if Diane, her tutor, would also write one. Diane and Ning have been working together since May of 2009. They have quickly developed a close friendship and it is our pleasure to publish their articles.

soon to be introduced learner. On May 23rd, I met Ning at the San Marcos Library! What a joy and an inspiration it has been from the first day, and even until present, to work with someone as dedicated, courteous, and eager to learn. I actually feel very blessed to have met Ning, because she teaches me about Chinese culture. Ning is from Beijing, China and she speaks and writes Mandarin Chinese! That is a difficult language in and of itself, I always remind her. In addition to her having learned English and achieving a B.A. Degree from China, she works full-time as a document specialist. Ning continues to work very hard through the tutor program to become even more proficient and polished in her writing and reading skills. Ning is a dedicated and serious learner, and she has a great appreciation for small, yet significant things. Her motto of "simplicity in living" is truly inspiring and a great lesson for me to learn from her.

Each Sunday that I meet and work with Ning, she never misses turning in a lengthy homework and reading assignment. Her work is very accurate and consistently improving. During the summer, she has gone above the call of duty by checking out excellent library books for the Summer Reading Program and then writing detailed essays on her favorite books! Those who read her essays must have been inspired. I know I am very appreciative of her efforts to improve her writing by doing this "extra work" without my even asking. She is a real self-starter and always chooses interesting topics to write about. Her writing reflects her respect and admiration about other people, places, and things. She uses good detail and descriptions in her writing.



Ning Dong and Diane Langejans

INSPIRED TO HELP OTHERS

Growing up with the love of books and libraries has given me lifelong gratitude for learning and knowledge. My mother, Nancy Hawkes, is to be credited for always taking so much time, care, and consideration in reading to me and inspiring me to do more to help others. What could be better than passing on what I have learned to help someone else to become a more confident reader, writer, and speller? My name is Diane Langejans, and I am grateful to have been referred to the LEARN program by a fellow friend and volunteer, Adrienne Larter. I never would have known about this wonderful program, had it not been for Adrienne! She inspires me and is such a caring person. The LEARN program is an inspiration for tutors and learners alike!

After attending a beneficial tutor training at the Vista Library, I felt very impressed by the entire LEARN Staff and multitude of available resources to assist my

Ning has become a good friend to me and I know she is going to be very successful in all of her career aspirations, because she wants to constantly learn more. I have been fortunate to have been paired up with her because she appreciates my efforts, and I appreciate her kindness and genuine desire to learn.

Current Tutor– Diane Langejans

AN OPEN AND POSITIVE MIND

My name is Ning. I am glad to share my good feelings about when I joined the LEARN program to study English. And I will introduce my tutor Diane to you too.

First, LEARN is a wonderful program for the foreign adult literacy in English. The LEARN program has a powerful work team and is a great tutor resource. Also, the students can use the library resource to progress ones ability in reading and writing in English.

Second, I want to introduce my tutor. Her name is Diane. We

started working together in May of 2009. I enjoy being taught by her immensely; she is an excellent teacher and has inspired me to continue learning with an open and positive mind. I appreciate all her hard work. She helps me setup goals to follow according to the LEARN study goal list. We use the books that are provided by the LEARN program to learn English grammar as verb, noun, article, tense, and sentence structure. She also uses multiple ways to enhance my progress in my English. For example, she has made cards to do matching with such category as fruits, vegetables, meals, and plants. She is emphasizing to read out loud every time when we work together. She teaches me not only focused on the textbook, but also she can introduce good articles from the newspapers or magazines.

In conclusion, the LEARN program is a really good program that is challenging me to be the absolute best I can be. Thanks Diane for all your hard work. I truly appreciate it.

Current Learner– Ning Dong

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

WITH SINCERE APPRECIATION

Amy Chandler– Bonita
Marilyn Falsetti– Vista
Angelica Fortin- Spring Valley
Sandy Housley– Encinitas
Linda Julian– Bonita
Abigail Morales– Romona
Heather Pisani-Krisl– Casa de Oro

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

LEARN's Summer Reading Program was a huge success! This year, we did things a little differently, where each learner was able to earn a stamp for each book they read or every new goal they achieved. Together, these learners earned over 90 stamps, with 53 stamps for North County learners and 38 for East County learners. The grand prize winners were Arleth Acosta for East County and Ning Dong for the North County area. Both Arleth and Ning were awarded the grand prize of a \$50 gift-certificate to Home Depot. Congratulations to *all* of our learners who participated in the event, especially Lisa Montulli who read 33 books and received a San Diego Library Pin of Completion.

AmeriCorps Member– Nick Crosby

WELCOME, NEW AMERICORPS LADIES!

My name is Raquel Sojourner, I am a San Diego native, and I am very excited to be back home. I graduated this past June from the University of California Irvine with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology. My education and involvement in service organizations and activities over the past four years has developed my social consciousness and community awareness. It has also instilled a passion to be an agent of change by increasing the economic and educational attainment of underrepresented populations.

I am now working at the El Cajon Literacy Center where the LEARN staff have welcomed me with open arms and truly made me feel part of the team. I know my involvement with AmeriCorps and the LEARN program will provide an avenue to acquire new knowledge, insight, and skills through active involvement and engagement with the San Diego community in a way I have never experienced before. My passion for educational attainment and using community service as a vehicle of public transformation is a primary goal I will enthusiastically invest in the LEARN program this year.

AmeriCorps Member– Raquel Sojourner

Though I was pretty much raised in North County, San Diego, I was born in Texas and lived there for the first two years of my life before moving to the Sunshine State. I believe that is the reason why I have the wanderlust. I'm always itching to go off and explore new places and people.

I started my college career in East San Diego County but then transferred and received my bachelors in communications in the state of Oklahoma. Before and since college, I have traveled throughout the country and overseas at least every two years. My most recent trips have been to Southeast Asia for a writing internship and to New Zealand, where I spent a year as a volunteer communications intern for a local non-profit.

After deciding to settle back into North County for a couple of years, finding LEARN was like gold. The idea of working with people from various backgrounds and helping them adjust to this culture by becoming literate sounded so worthwhile to me. I think it is the perfect compliment of what my passion is: interacting with different people and working with them in their quest for human rights, which is what I want to get my masters degree in. I believe this job is a step

in the right direction. I think it will give me compassion and patience in my interactions with people. I look forward to what this next year unfolds.

AmeriCorps Member– Desiree Garcia

My name is Sarah Noyes Seene, and I am happy to be working to improve adult literacy in Poway, 4S Ranch, and Vista. I grew up in Poway, and it has been a joy to give back to the community in this part of San Diego County. I have always had an interest in language, culture, and history, and I enjoyed studying those subjects at Claremont McKenna College and the University of Wisconsin.

When I returned to the San Diego area, I began tutoring English as Second Language with Laubach and went through the University of Cambridge's CELTA training program. I am eager to apply what I have learned by teaching citizenship, working with the English Conversation Café, and tutoring. This AmeriCorps position has been a perfect fit in that regard. Additionally, the LEARN team has made me feel very welcome. It has been exciting working with such a dynamic group and helping people achieve their goals.

AmeriCorps Member– Sarah Seene



Raquel Sojourner, Desiree Garcia, and Sarah Seene

November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	<p>Citizenship Class Vista 6:00p-7:30p 4S Ranch 6:30p-7:45p</p> <p>Computer Class Encinitas 2p-4p</p> <p>Conversation Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Poway 12p-1p</p> <p>ESL Classes El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Lemon Grove 10:30a-12:30p Spring Valley 6p-8p</p>	<p>Citizenship Class Poway 6:15p-7:45p</p> <p>Conversation Cafe 4S Ranch 8:30a-9:30a</p> <p>ESL Class Encinitas 9:30a-11:30a Lemon Grove 10:30a-12:30p Vista 5p-8p Spring Valley 6p-8p</p>	<p>Conversation Café Lincoln Acres 9:30a-10:30a Solana Beach 10a-11a Vista 10:30a-11:30a</p> <p>ESL Class El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a</p>	<p>Citizenship Class San Marcos 5p-7p</p> <p>Conversation Café Rancho San Diego 10a-11:30a</p> <p>ESL Classes El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Encinitas 9:30a-11:30a Vista 5p-8p</p>	<p>Conversation Café El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Bonita 10a-11a</p>	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	<p>Citizenship Class Vista 6:00p-7:30p 4S Ranch 6:30p-7:45p</p> <p>Computer Class Encinitas 2p-4p</p> <p>Conversation Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Poway 12p-1p</p> <p>ESL Classes El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Lemon Grove 10:30a-12:30p Spring Valley 6p-8p</p>	<p>Citizenship Class Poway 6:15p-7:45p</p> <p>Conversation Cafe 4S Ranch 8:30a-9:30a</p> <p>ESL Class Encinitas 9:30a-11:30a Lemon Grove 10:30a-12:30p Vista 5p-8p Spring Valley 6p-8p</p>	<p>HOLIDAY No Classes</p> 	<p>Citizenship Class San Marcos 5p-7p</p> <p>Conversation Café Rancho San Diego 10a-11:30a</p> <p>ESL Classes El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Encinitas 9:30a-11:30a Vista 5p-8p</p>	<p>Conversation Café El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Bonita 10a-11a</p>	<p>Tutor Training Vista 10a-4p</p>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	<p>Citizenship Class Vista 6:00p-7:30p 4S Ranch 6:30p-7:45p</p> <p>Computer Class Encinitas 2p-4p</p> <p>Conversation Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Poway 12p-1p</p> <p>ESL Classes El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Lemon Grove 10:30a-12:30p Spring Valley 6p-8p</p>	<p>Citizenship Class Poway 6:15p-7:45p</p> <p>Conversation Cafe 4S Ranch 8:30a-9:30a</p> <p>ESL Class Encinitas 9:30a-11:30a Lemon Grove 10:30a-12:30p Vista 5p-8p Spring Valley 6p-8p</p>	<p>Conversation Café Lincoln Acres 9:30a-10:30a Solana Beach 10a-11a Vista 10:30a-11:30a</p> <p>ESL Class El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a</p>	<p>Citizenship Class San Marcos 5p-7p</p> <p>Conversation Café Rancho San Diego 10a-11:30a</p> <p>ESL Classes El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Encinitas 9:30a-11:30a Vista 5p-8p</p>	<p>Conversation Café El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Bonita 10a-11a</p>	
22/29	23/30	24	25	26	27	28
	<p>Citizenship Class Vista 6:00p-7:30p 4S Ranch 6:30p-7:45p</p> <p>Computer Class Encinitas 2p-4p</p> <p>Conversation Café El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Poway 12p-1p</p> <p>ESL Classes El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Lemon Grove 10:30a-12:30p Spring Valley 6p-8p</p>	<p>Citizenship Class Poway 6:15p-7:45p</p> <p>Conversation Cafe 4S Ranch 8:30a-9:30a</p> <p>ESL Class Encinitas 9:30a-11:30a Lemon Grove 10:30a-12:30p Vista 5p-8p Spring Valley 6p-8p</p>	<p>Conversation Café Lincoln Acres 9:30a-10:30a Solana Beach 10a-11a Vista 10:30a-11:30a</p> <p>ESL Class El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a</p>	<p>HOLIDAY No Classes</p> 	<p>HOLIDAY No Classes</p>	

December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
		<p>Citizenship Class Poway 6:15p-7:45p</p> <p>Conversation Cafe 4S Ranch 8:30a-9:30a</p> <p>ESL Class Encinitas 9:30a-11:30a Lemon Grove 10:30a-12:30p Vista 5p-8p Spring Valley 6p-8p</p>	<p>Conversation Cafe Lincoln Acres 9:30a-10:30a Solana Beach 10a-11a Vista 10:30a-11:30a</p> <p>ESL Class El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a</p>	<p>Citizenship Class San Marcos 5p-7p</p> <p>Conversation Cafe Rancho San Diego 10a-11:30a</p> <p>ESL Classes El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Encinitas 9:30a-11:30a Vista 5p-8p</p>	<p>Conversation Cafe El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Bonita 10a-11a</p>	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>Citizenship Class Vista 6:00p-7:30p 4S Ranch 6:30p-7:45p</p> <p>Computer Class Encinitas 2p-4p</p> <p>Conversation Cafe El Cajon 11:30a-12:30p Poway 12p-1p</p> <p>ESL Classes El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Lemon Grove 10:30a-12:30p Spring Valley 6p-8p</p>	<p>Citizenship Class Poway 6:15p-7:45p</p> <p>Conversation Cafe 4S Ranch 8:30a-9:30a</p> <p>ESL Class Encinitas 9:30a-11:30a Lemon Grove 10:30a-12:30p Vista 5p-8p Spring Valley 6p-8p</p>	<p>Conversation Cafe Lincoln Acres 9:30a-10:30a Solana Beach 10a-11a Vista 10:30a-11:30a</p> <p>ESL Class El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a</p>	<p>Citizenship Class San Marcos 5p-7p</p> <p>Conversation Cafe Rancho San Diego 10a-11:30a</p> <p>ESL Classes El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Encinitas 9:30a-11:30a Vista 5p-8p</p>	<p>Conversation Cafe El Cajon 9:30a-11:30a Bonita 10a-11a</p>		
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