



The Literacy News

Florida's Newsletter for Literacy Tutors, Teachers, Learners, and Supporters

Number 96

November 2001

2002 Florida Literacy Conference!

See inside for details



Inside this Issue:

Coalition Program News	2
Report from the VALUE Conference	5
New Learners' Club: Shared writings	6
Literacy in Florida	8
Family Literacy Task Force	10
Upcoming Workshops	11
Faith & Literacy	11
Literacy in the U.S.	12
2002 Florida Literacy Conference	14
Pre-conference Events	15
Call for Presenters Form	16
Funding Opportunities	19
Adult Learner Book Lists	20

Our Future: Parents as Family Literacy Leaders

We often hear the phrase that "our children are our future". This statement may be more appropriately worded, "our **families** are our future". But again, let's consider: who are the leaders and nurturers of those families?

Parents!

Children naturally follow the lead of their parents, including following their parents' lead in literacy development.

The Cycle of Low Literacy

The intergenerational cycle of low literacy continues when parents themselves (AND, consider those who will become parents in the FUTURE) haven't developed their own literacy skills to the point where they can teach what their children need to know.

They may not have experienced an emphasis on education in their homes as children. They may have had life problems intervene, that pulled their attention away from their own education. How do we end the cycle of low literacy? Family Literacy.

Research everywhere supports it.

As a mother's education increases, the likelihood that her child is read to increases. The more types of reading materials there are in the home, the higher students are in reading proficiency. (*Educational Testing Service. America's Smallest School: The Family, 1999.*)

A survey of over 20,000 parents found that when fathers are involved in their children's education, including attending school meetings and volunteering at school, children were more likely to get A's, enjoy school, and participate in extra-

curricular activities and were less likely to have repeated a grade. (U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1997.)

Family Literacy Programs: Developing Family Literacy Leaders

Family Literacy Programs across Florida offer parents and their children the benefit of reading and language skills, and the newfound joy of learning together. But most importantly, *programs are giving tools and knowledge that will provide rewards for a lifetime—and will continue on to the next generation.*

Children are learning the joy of reading, are better-prepared for school, and are on their way to achieving their dreams. Parents in family literacy programs become more self-sufficient and more self-confident. They become more aware of their important roles as citizens and workers. Parents are becoming "family leaders"—learning to lead their families with an increased understanding of the true power of education.

November is Family Literacy Month!

The Florida Literacy Coalition supports Florida's family literacy efforts, by sharing information, providing resources, training, funding, and working to develop a network of family literacy stakeholders statewide. Throughout this issue, we are including information, news, and resources we hope will help you to better serve your program and/or your community. Take time in November to celebrate family literacy!

Jill Dotts
Executive Director



Florida Literacy Coalition Grant Programs

The Florida Literacy Coalition will be operating three grant programs this year, thanks to grant funding awarded by the Florida Department of Education Division of Workforce Development, through the Federal Workforce Investment Act.

The "Adult and Family Literacy Team" at the Division of Workforce Development is exceptionally supportive in these grants, by empowering the Florida Literacy Coalition to serve the educationally disadvantaged in our state.

Thank you for your support!!!

Charlie Crist	Commissioner of Education
Betty Coxe	Deputy Commissioner
Loretta Costin	Division Director
Nancy Cordill	Chief, Bureau of Program Planning and Development
Leatrice A. Williams	Senior Educational Program Director

NEW PROJECT!



Equipped for the Future (EFF)
with English as a Second
Language (ESOL)

Key Components:

- Reference/relate Florida's Adult ESOL standards to EFF content standards.
- Provide technical assistance for Adult English Literacy tutors and teachers to understand the positive impact that Equipped for the Future standards can have on Florida's literacy effort.
- Produce a Technical Paper on the integration of EFF and Florida's Performance-based System.

Florida's Literacy Resource Center

Key Components:

- Serve as a central information and communication hub, dissemination channel, and resource center, collaborating with local literacy programs, Regional Literacy Resource Centers, State Leadership grant projects, and statewide initiatives.
- Provide priority support for volunteer-based literacy programs, and promote the value of volunteer- and community-based organizations.
- Recruit and refer volunteers and students to literacy programs throughout the state. Special radio-based statewide volunteer recruitment campaign November 10-30!
- Continue upgrades to the hotline system: same-day emailed referrals (optional for programs), zip code search added to database to better assist callers.
- Provide Professional Development and Technical Assistance statewide on a wide variety of topics.
- Update and produce the 11th Edition of the Florida Literacy Directory and Resource Guide in print and online. If you haven't been contacted to update your program's information, please contact Leah at (800) 237-5113.
- Visit with local programs to get their feedback. Provide assistance and incorporate feedback into next year's grant proposals. Spread the word about literacy linkages and opportunities statewide.
- Provide and promote linkages to facilitate the delivery of distance-learning for adult literacy.





Florida Literacy Coalition Grant Programs



LEAD! **Leaders Educating** **ADults**

This is a three-year pilot in its final year. During the first two years, high school students from FFA (Future Farmers of America) Chapters at 5 pilot sites around Florida were recruited and trained as literacy tutors, and were placed into adult and family literacy programs. Last year, students collectively volunteered over 700 hours in literacy programs!

During this final year, the objective is to strengthen and continue to support the programs of the participating pilot sites, to provide motivation and training to the students, and to identify other student service organizations in which this model could be replicated.

Know of potential student service organizations interested in partnering with a literacy program? This is an excellent service learning opportunity! Contact Jill Dotts at (800) 237-5113 or at dottsj@floridaliteracy.org.

Discussion Lists: How to sign up

Go to:
<http://www.floridaliteracy.org>

Click on orange button marked,
"discussion lists"

Follow simple directions-it's
easy!

FLaRE Center: Continuing Collaboration!



The FLARE Center, housed at the University of Central Florida, believes in the power of family literacy, and that's where the Florida Literacy Coalition fits in. Through a mini-grant, the FLARE Center relies on us to represent the adult literacy perspective as it pertains to K-12 literacy efforts, family literacy, parent involvement; as well as to help spread news about their work within our adult and family literacy network.

As many of you know, the FLARE Center was established last year, connected with the Reading Excellence Act. Director Dr. Patricia Striplin replaces outgoing Director Dr. Gail West, who is returning to her work in LEP program research with the University.

A far-reaching, new commission of FLARE this year is the provision of literacy professional development for teachers of K-12. These professional development experiences will take place through week-long institutes held in sites throughout the state this coming summer, FLARE/School/District Partnerships, and responses to specific professional development, consultation, and planning requests (short-term and long-term).

The website daily expands its offerings, (get there through www.floridaliteracy.org, then select: Literacy Topics, Family Literacy, FLARE) and state-wide university faculty members will continue the work begun last year, as FLARE Faculty Fellows. This group will focus on two major tasks. They will continue work on state literacy curriculum guidelines with the purpose of bringing literacy content consistency to pre-service programs at the various state universities. They also will provide information for print and inclusion on the website from their latest research keeping Center information at the forefront of understandings about literacy learning and teaching effectiveness.

More details on specific activities that the Florida Literacy Coalition will be performing as they are determined. We're excited about this continuing collaboration, which is an active reflection of the important role that adult literacy plays in the education of a child.



Florida Literacy Coalition Program News

The Governor's Family Literacy Initiative

New Family Literacy Programs Underway!

Meet the 25 recipient programs of the 2001-2002 cycle of The Governor's Family Literacy Initiative, a diverse blend of community and school-based programs from all over the state of Florida. Programs include partnerships with such groups as charter schools, libraries, housing authorities, local education foundations and faith-based institutions.



- Collier County Housing Authority (Collier)
- The Education Fund (Dade)
- Fearnside Family Services Center (Alachua)
- Franklin County Public Library (Franklin)
- Literacy Volunteers of America - Monroe County (Monroe)
- Literacy Volunteers of Leon County (Leon)
- Manatee County Schools Foundation (Manatee)
- Mt. Collier - Building a Solid Foundation for Family Literacy (Naples)
- Okaloosa Academy Charter School (Okaloosa)
- Orange Ridge-Bullock Elementary (Manatee)
- Reading Together (DeSoto)
- Sarasota County School District (Sarasota)
- West Area Adult School (Polk)
- The English Center
- Blanch Ely High School
- Chancellor Academies
- Central Charter School
- Charles Drew Family Resource/Teen Parent Center
- Hallandale Adult Community Center
- Hialeah Adult Education Center
- Nova High School
- Pine Lake Elementary School
- Stranahan High School
- Wesley Matthews Elementary School
- Westview Elementary

Lessons Learned from 2000-2001 Programs

Here are a few helpful hints from those who have recently started their own family literacy programs:

Be prepared to recruit families continually. Some families are very transient and may leave the program earlier than expected.

Recruitment flyers are most effective if written in the native language of the targeted population.

Make no assumptions with ESOL participants. Some participants may be highly literate in their own language and do not desire instruction in basic life skills.

Customer-oriented scheduling is essential to participation and overall program success. Programs that tailor their schedules to the needs of the participants are likely to be more successful than those that make schedules around the preferences of the organization.

Collaborate and coordinate with other organizations that share your target population. Recruitment, retention, and resources can be positively impacted by something as simple as a mutual understanding of the roles of each organization.

Incentives make a difference in retention! Get creative and tap your collaborative partnerships to offer awards such as gift certificates, books, free meals, and personal items to participants. Use every opportunity to **CELEBRATE SUCCESS!**

Report from the VALUE Conference: Voice for Adult Literacy United for Education

Article by Leah Takacs, Education and Outreach

July 19-21, 2001

VALUE Conference, Columbus, OHIO

Six Learner Leaders attended from Florida!

Jan Pilkington, New Learners of the Palm Beaches

Yves Joseph, New Learners of the Palm Beaches

Tony Zerrelli, New Learners of the Palm Beaches

Linda Pummell, New Learners of the Palm Beaches

Ana Alvarez, Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition

Elcin Sibrum, Martin County Schools Adult Education

Also attending, from Florida Literacy Coalition:

Jill Dotts, Executive Director

Leah M Takacs, Education & Outreach Coordinator

As soon as I met Tony, Yves and Elcin in the lobby of the conference hotel I knew it was going to be a fun conference. I was greeted with hugs and enthusiastic hellos. Everyone was checked in to their rooms and settled in. Twenty-nine states were represented, total attendees for the conference was 140 with approximately 33 program coordinator-types such as myself.

Marty Finsterbusch, Executive Director, Adult Learner, and the Conference's Master of Ceremonies, made everyone feel very welcome and comfortable. VALUE's leaders were all impressed by Florida's strong showing at the conference, and expressed their appreciation for Florida being a "VALUE state".

Friday kicked off with Opening Ceremonies and Orientation. Marty explained to all of us what our jobs were while we were at the conference:

- 1) If you see anyone with a VALUE badge on, you have to introduce yourself and say hello.
- 2) If you see anyone who looks lost or unsure of which way they should go, you have to go up to them and help.
- 3) No one eats alone! If you see anyone sitting by themselves it was our job to go and sit by them and make sure they were having a good time.

There were a wide variety of sessions offered, all presented by adult learners: I attended several, including "Building Leadership Skills Through EFF". Other sessions included "Free Basic Instruction on the Web", and "Recruitment and Retention", and BLAST (Building Lead-

ership through Adult Student Training).

At the "Meet the VALUE Board" session, we were introduced to a real "working board". The structure of their organization was presented as well as the important committees.

The current goals of the committees were presented to us:

- 1) Development of the Leadership Training (the core VALUE training program).
- 2) Continuing to establish themselves as a resource center through membership.
- 3) Website development.

In addition to lots of learning opportunities, there was lots of fun, especially the a Social Dance for all attendees.

There were so many great workshops and events at the VALUE Conference. The final event for Team Florida was the Closing Ceremonies luncheon on Saturday. A recap of the conference was presented, as well as personal thoughts from the conference organizers. The energy and compassion they have was contagious, to spend three days with such wonderful people was a privilege I will always remember.



A photo break at the VALUE Conference

The New Learners' Club

Report by Chuck Breder, New Learner's Club, Palm Beach County Library



It was July of 1997. Hot, humid South Florida in the summer. On a late Saturday afternoon, at a table in the rear of the Boynton Beach Library, sit three serious people. They are Arma Adderley, Tony Zerilli, and Chuck Breder. They are planning an overall program for the recently formed New Learners' Club. They argue strongly, laugh broadly, and slowly arrive at a proposal for the Club.

They agree that the role of the Club is to establish a regular schedule of meetings that will provide a special place for students, in a relaxed atmosphere, to meet with each other to exchange experiences and problems. These meetings should be a fun experience, complete with good refreshments, prizes, and interesting programs that would aid the students in real life.

It was agreed that the meetings would be about two hours—one hour for fun, food, games, and fellowship. The other hour to be a program which would directly interest and aid the students. In addition, there would be special events scheduled, such as family picnics, Holiday Parties and trips to interesting places.

Programs proposed included:

- 1) How to find a job
- 2) How to prepare for a job interview
- 3) Interviewing
- 4) Speaking in Public
- 5) Spelling for Success

On the fun side:

- 1) Family cook-out picnics
- 2) Year-end Holiday parties, with music and dancing
- 3) Attending stage plays at Florida Stage Theater
- 4) Food, door prizes and open discussions on current events

The current staff of the New Learners has been hard at work and is planning, for starters, the following:

- 1) Computer Basics
- 2) Spelling for Success
- 3) Speaking in Public
- 4) Basic Arithmetic
- 5) A play at the Florida Stage
- 6) A family picnic
- 7) A Holiday Party

Many more programs can be planned, based on what your interests are. We can only do this if students come out to a meeting, and express their desires and needs. So, as they say on TV—COME ON DOWN!!! For an evening of real fellowship, and laughs, come join your Literacy brothers and sisters at a New Learners meeting. You have had the courage to step out and take action to improve your lives. You deserve the fellowship that exists at the New Learners meetings, plus gaining the knowledge that is available from the special workshops. Give it a try...you'll be glad you did!



Notes from New Learners' Club Members

Hi Readers:

My name is Linda Pummell. I have been married to Jim for 33 years and have three grown children and eight grandchildren. I came from New York thirteen years ago.

About three years ago I joined New Learners because my son James was in Scotland in the Navy and I couldn't write to him. Now I am learning the computer so I can talk to my daughter Veronica in Mississippi and sons' Ron and James in New York.

In May I was chosen as the "Outstanding Student of the Year" and my tutor Marj Rockey was "Outstanding Tutor of the Year." I have had three tutors in the program and Marj has been more than just a tutor, she is a good friend and she has been there for me.

I was chosen to go to Columbus Ohio for a conference in July and met people from all over the country. We were there for three days. The workshops were very interesting. I brought back a lot of literature and ideas for everyone.

We met a student from Alaska and she spent all her time with our group.

Being a part of this group has meant a lot to me in my life.

Linda Pummell

New Learners Club

Today I can thank my wife and the Adult Literacy Program for giving me the opportunity to read. Now I can enjoy reading. My favorite books are about history. When I read, I feel that reading makes me understand about many things like other people and their past. Everything makes sense, even just the headlines in the paper.

Jerry Rivers

Adult Learners: We want to share your stories, articles, poems or other writings! Send them by email to:

info@floridaliteracy.org

OR mail them to:

Leah Takacs
Florida Literacy Coalition
934 N. Magnolia Ave. #104
Orlando, FL 32803

Literacy Providers and Learner

Leaders: If you are interested in starting your own student support group or New Learner's Club, the Florida Literacy Coalition has a resource for you! The Adult Student Support Kit was produced via last year's Literacy Center grant, and is available free of charge. It includes a guide to getting started, discusses different adult student support experiences, and includes both LLA and LVA booklets on adult student support as well. Call Karina at (800) 237-5113.

Literacy in Florida

NOVEMBER 2001

Cancer, Culture & Literacy (CCL) Institute

The Cancer, Culture and Literacy Institute is a series of educational activities that examine the nexus of culture and literacy relating to effective communications and research.

The Institute encompasses a five-day hands-on intensive learning experience at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute in Tampa, Florida (January 8-12, 2002), web-based educational experience, and a yearlong mentoring experience with a nationally renowned scholar involved in this area of scientific inquiry. A yearlong commitment is expected, where applicants apply new knowledge in research activities.

Eligibility

- Recent doctorates (Ph.D., Dr. P.H., M.D., D.N.S., Sc.D. or equivalent), or
- Mid-career doctorally prepared investigators wishing to enrich their perspectives on culture and literacy in the conceptualization and design of cancer control/population science research.

Applicants from interdisciplinary fields are encouraged to apply. This includes, but is not limited to: public health, anthropology, nursing, medicine, sociology, and other fields. Applicants should have access to a cancer or at-risk population and have a desire to enhance the delivery of respectful, appropriate health care interventions and communications for multicultural, multilingual and/or low-literacy populations. Acceptance into the Cancer, Culture and Literacy Institute is competitive and a limited number of participants will be selected each year. For Additional Information, please contact:

Cathy D. Meade, Ph.D., RN
Director, Education Program
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute
at the University of South Florida
12902 Magnolia Dr., MRC-CANCTRL
Tampa, FL 33612
Telephone: (813) 632-1414
FAX: (813) 632-1442
E-mail: cdmeade@moffitt.usf.edu

Tutor Tip!

One of my students admitted having trouble using "want" and "like" correctly. After working through several examples and situations, it was clear he **did** understand the difference. The issue turned out to be the difference between "want" and "would like". Those modal verbs just don't register sometimes as the culprits causing the confusion in spoken English. Here are some tips on four different uses of "would":

- With the word "like", the modal verb "would" creates the common expression used to soften the phrase "I want" into the more polite "I would like ..."
- "Would" is often used in making polite requests, for example, "Would you help me?" This type of request is also heard using another modal "could".
- "Would" can be used to create a kind of artificial past for "will" in indirect or reported speech. For example, "Marie said she would help".
- Another way to use "would" is for present/future time in unreal conditional ("if") sentences. This type of conditional sentence refers to situations that are hypothetical, impossible, contrary-to-fact, or unreal. "Would" is used in place of "will". For example, "If I were you, I **would** borrow money to buy that car." You aren't going to borrow the money to buy a car. Because you aren't me, your ideas about how to buy the car or about borrowing money in general are different.

Roberta Reiss
Literacy Program Coordinator
Collier County Public Library
Phone: 941-394-3272
Fax: 941-394-2383
email: marcolit@collier-lib.org

Governor Bush Attends Orlando Magic Opening Game to Promote Literacy in Florida

ORLANDO-Governor Jeb Bush attended the Orlando Magic's season opener on October 30 to promote the Governor's Family Literacy Initiative's partnership with the basketball organization, and the team's program to promote literacy statewide.

"Literacy is a passion for my entire family. My love for reading was developed at a very young age by sharing wonderful books with my mother," said Governor Bush. "I'm proud to join you here today to announce a partnership between the Magic's Read to Achieve literacy program and the Governor's Family Literacy Initiative."

The Orlando Magic's Read to Achieve program targets more than 150,000 children in kindergarten through fifth grade in the tri-county area to help them develop an interest in reading, with the help of the Read to Achieve All-Star Reading Team. The All-Star Reading Team consists of government and business leaders, Orlando Magic and Miracle players, coaches and local community leaders who have

all agreed to read to children in the central Florida area. There are a total of 40 initial members on the All-Star Reading Team.

"It's important to show youth today that to be successful in life, it takes more than being a good basketball player," said Grant Hill, forward for the Orlando Magic. "Making a habit of reading as often as possible will take you far in life."

The Magic will establish three Read to Achieve Centers at Bentley Elementary School in Seminole County, Wheatley Elementary School in Orange County and Highlands Elementary in Osceola County.

Governor Bush was joined at a courtside ceremony during the game by many of the local volunteers who are participating in the literacy effort.

Publication Announcement!

The Volunteers and Literacy Committee Practitioners' Task Force on Restructuring and Accountability announces that manuals are now available for volunteer literacy programs. The manual is free!

Chapters Include:

- Community Linkages
- Marketing
- Program Management
- Retention Strategies for Adult Learners
- Collaborative Connections
- Partnerships for Powerful Proposals

To request your copy, contact:

Volunteers in Literacy Task Force
c/o Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition
551 SE 8th Street
Delray Beach, FL
33483

Tel: (561) 279-9103
Email: dskostrub@aol.com

Florida's Bridges to Practice Website Offers Assistance for Learning Disabilities

Get there from www.floridatechnet.org/bridges or click on the link on the bottom of the TechNet main page.

Just added: a link on the Bridges site to over 80 "Resources for Adults with Learning Disabilities." There's also a new section called "Q & A" that contains most commonly asked questions regarding Adults with Learning Disabilities. Web-based training is also available!

Dr. Rochelle Kenyon is the project director for Florida Bridges and welcomes your comments or suggestions. You can reach Dr. Kenyon at rkenyon721@aol.com.

Website Training at:
<http://www.floridatechnet.org/inservice/bridges>

The Florida Department of Education Practitioners' Task Force on Family Literacy

The Practitioners' Task Force on Family Literacy is authorized by the Division of Workforce Development of the Florida Department of Education; it is comprised of family literacy practitioners from Florida school districts, community colleges, volunteer literacy groups, community-based organizations, and other state/local agencies. Task Force membership also includes Florida Literacy Coalition Board Members Sandy Newell, Brenda Glass, Susan Shugar; and Executive Director Jill Dotts.

Recent Task Force Accomplishments

- Family Literacy Resource Guide
- A Survey of Family Literacy in the State (see below)
- Family Literacy Symposium (11/00, University of Central Florida)
- Family Literacy Summit (4/01, with the Florida Literacy Coalition)

Upcoming Events

- Family Literacy Celebration – November 2001
Symposium with the Southeastern Literacy Conference
- Family Literacy Summit – March 2002
with the Florida Literacy Coalition
- Family Literacy Seminar – April 2002
With Bureau of School Improvement, Office of Family Involvement

Florida Literacy Survey Findings: A Summary

"It is clear that funding and community support are available to sustain family literacy programs in their various forms. Although these sources help to lay the foundation for basic literacy, more assistance is needed to help adults transition to the next level—the real working world. Interview preparation, job fairs, work opportunities and placement services are just a few of the basic necessities adults require in order to survive in this present economy and beyond.

Workplace readiness is a lofty goal, but it is only one part of a two-prong approach to address the needs of targeted families. Basic needs should be addressed in order to bridge cultural and language barriers. The population is often transient, unable to regularly participate in programs, and addressing these needs is difficult without appropriate adult curriculums, steady volunteers, and adequate funding."



Save the Date:
Family Literacy Summit
March 5, 2002
Radisson Riverwalk
Jacksonville

Limited quantities of the full report of the survey results, as well as the Family Literacy Resource Guide are available through Florida's Literacy Resource Center, a Florida DOE grant program of the Florida Literacy Coalition.

To request copies, contact:
Karina Cuevas
Literacy Referral Specialist
(800) 237-5113
cuevask@floridaliteracy.org

Free Upcoming Workshops From Florida's Literacy Resource Center



**FLORIDA'S
LITERACY
RESOURCE
CENTER**

A Program of the
FLORIDA LITERACY
COALITION

Travel scholarships are currently available for all workshops. If your organization needs training, contact Leah Takacs at (800) 237-5113 or email to takacsl@floridaliteracy.org

Date: November 9, 2001
Topic: Community Relations: The Total Package
Location: Blountstown, FL
Contact: Phyllis Cauley
(850) 674-8773 ext. 2 or
phyllis_cauley@hotmail.com

Date: November 28-30, 2001
Topic: Positive Action through Cooperation:
PAC/RCB Certification Training
Location: Miami, FL
Contact: Roxanna Torre
(727) 816-1353

Date: February 6, 2002
Topic: Basic Computer Skills for LiteracyPro Users
Location: Orlando, FL
Contact: Leah Takacs
(800) 237-5113 or info@floridaliteracy.org

Date: February 7th & 8th, 2002
Topic: LiteracyPro Training
Location: Orlando, FL
Contact: Leah Takacs
(800) 237-5113 or info@floridaliteracy.org

Date: May 16, 2002
Topic: Fundraising Institute
Location: Orlando, FL
Contact: Leah Takacs
(800) 237-5113 or info@floridaliteracy.org



May Symposium to Link Literacy and Faith-Based Organizations

On May 15, 2002, there will be a state-wide symposium focusing on "Linking Literacy and Faith-Based Organizations" at the Sheraton World Center in Orlando.

Coordinated by the Volunteers and Literacy Committee of the Florida Department of Education, the symposium will bring together literacy providers and state and national faith-based leaders.

A panel of local practitioners will describe programs currently successful and based at faith-based organizations. A second panel of religious leaders will outline their state and national literacy priorities.

The event will be held from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. For further information, contact Darlene Kostrub, 561-279-9103.

Join the Coalition and Make a Difference for Literacy in Florida!

- ☐ Individual Annual Membership \$20
☐ Organizational Annual Membership \$40
(please indicate primary contact person)

I want to increase my impact of membership:

- ☐ Supporting Donation: \$5—\$99
☐ Sustaining Donation: \$100—\$499
☐ Patron Donation: \$500—\$999

Name _____ Title _____ Email _____

Company/Organization _____

Address _____ ☐ Home ☐ Business

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____

Please make your tax-deductible check payable to the Florida Literacy Coalition.

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll-free within the state, 1 (800) 435-7352. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.

Literacy in the U.S.

NOVEMBER 2001

National LLA and LVA: Merger Update

**From Peter Waite
Executive Director, Laubach Literacy Action
Syracuse, New York**

General Activities

During the last several months, members of the staff and board of Laubach Literacy and Literacy Volunteers of America have been meeting to share information and compare general operations. Both organizations have retrained legal counsel to explore the necessary steps in formalizing the merger and establishing a new legal entity, which would acquire the assets of the two organizations. Respective staffs have been identifying key areas of concern and establishing a number of comparison charts for the purposes of general discussion and information.

Naming/Branding

Laubach Literacy and LVA have jointly retained a national firm, DSW Partners, out of Salt Lake City, to assist in the research and development of an appropriate name for the new literacy organization. DSW outlined a comprehensive process, including significant field input to ensure the name would reflect the goals and vision for the combined literacy organizations. DSW hopes to make recommendations by December to the new literacy organization board. Shortly thereafter, the board will make a decision on the new name. We welcome any thoughts that individuals have regarding the name.

NALS 2002 is Coming!

We've received countless calls to the Hotline, asking, "When is the next National Adult Literacy Survey going to happen?"

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is pleased to announce that additional details related to the National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL) are now available on their Web site, at: <http://nces.ed.gov/naal>

Find information about:

* Assessment Design for the 2002 assessment, including an updated data collection timeline, and planned enhancements such as the use of

computer assisted personal interviews, a supplemental assessment for low literate adults, and a health literacy component.

* State Participation, including additional information on the benefits of state participation, etc. (Say THANK YOU to the Florida Department of Education's Division of Workforce Development— Florida is participating!)

* Publications and Resources, including recently released reports on English language minorities and education.

We also plan to solicit input from some key stakeholders.

Training

Staff has been sharing information regarding each organization's recommended training standards and training materials. While no task force has been established to address this area, it has generated significant interest at the local level. The most common concerns center around whether local programs will be required to change their training. Both Laubach Literacy and LVA have agreed that the new organization will not prescribe specific training as part of its membership requirement. Local training will continue to be a local program decision.

The new organization expects to develop and implement a national trainer certification system during the first year of operation. Current certification trainers will be grandfathered into the new system.

Accreditation

A formal accreditation task force was established in conjunction with the merger agreement. This task force, made up of five members from each organization, will be co-chaired by Pat Gaul of LLA and Pat Johnson of LVA. Initial work has begun to review the standards and the respective processes utilized by both organizations. The task force has agreed to continue both of our current accreditation processes thru December 31, 2002.

A new combined process will begin January 1, 2003, with all programs accredited prior to that date grand-fathered into the new literacy organization accreditation system. A preliminary review has revealed a high degree of commonality in both the standards and the process. The program will not be mandatory for member groups but will be strongly encouraged by the national office.

We encourage programs that have begun the LLA accreditation process to complete it by December 2002. Programs wishing to pursue LLA accredi-

tation must register by December 31, 2001.

State and mid-level-operations

A second task force will be set up to review state and mid-level operations. Members of this task force have not yet been identified. However, we anticipate it will begin its work in the fall of 2001.

Membership

No formal task force has been created for the membership area. However, respective staffs are discussing and comparing membership criteria. We anticipate new criteria for membership will be established during 2002. We encourage groups to keep their current membership up to date to ensure continued benefits during the transition.

Conference

The LVA conference in October is expected to be the final conference for the LVA network. The 2002 Laubach Biennial Conference will likely be the first conference for the new literacy organization and will reflect our new partnership.

Staffing

An initial staffing plan for the new literacy organization is being developed and a draft recommendation will be presented to the proposed new literacy organization board. The staffing plan will incorporate all existing staff of both organizations with appropriate restructuring to meet the respective needs of the larger network.

This represents a summary of the major activities to date. We look forward to keeping you updated on a regular basis.

Editor's Note: Thank you, Peter, for keeping Florida "in the loop"! We will continue to keep you all informed on the news of the merger between LLA and LVA. In between newsletters, feel free to send us an email, give us a call, or check out our website for interim updates at www.floridaliteracy.org

Valuable
professional
development!

Full Registration Includes:

- Daily keynote session
- Your selection of over 90 sessions in 10 learning tracks
- Daily Continental breakfast
- Social & networking events
- Literacy product exhibits
- More!

March 6-8, 2002
Radisson Riverwalk
Jacksonville, FL

Watch your mail for
registration materials!

Online registration
available at:

www.floridaliteracy.org

2002 Florida Literacy Conference: Charting the Course for Literacy

What's your course of action to ensure excellence in your literacy efforts? Join field experts, top speakers, and literacy providers from around the state to gain new insight, learn best practices, network with literacy colleagues, and get the latest news on emerging trends and issues.



Learning Tracks:

- Reading
- Family Literacy
- Volunteers in Literacy
- Program Management
- English Literacy
- Discovery
- Workforce Development
- Curriculum and Assessment
- Adult Learner
- Technology

Pre-Conference Events: Save the Date!

2002 Adult ESOL Symposium

March 4 - 5, 2002

Sold out last year! Don't delay!

- Features key speakers and interactive sessions
- Presented by the Practitioners' Task Force on English for Speakers of Other Languages (funded through the Florida Department of Education, Division of Workforce Development)



Train-the-Trainer for Literacy Tutors

Begins March 5, 2002

Class sizes will be limited!

- LLA and LVA Train-the-Trainer sessions will be offered
- Sponsored by Florida's Literacy Resource Center (funded through the Florida Department of Education, Division of Workforce Development)



Health and Literacy Symposium

March 5, 2002

Space will be limited!

- Explore the Connections between Health and Literacy
- Learn about best practices currently in use
- Network with Health Literacy "Change Agents"
- Sponsored by Practitioners' Task Force on Adult Basic Education (funded through the Florida Department of Education, Division of Workforce Development)



Family Literacy Summit

March 5, 2002

Building on last year's successful symposium, the Family Literacy Task Force is proud to announce an opportunity for continuing dialog among professionals in the field of family literacy.

- All participants will receive the Task Force's newly-published Family Literacy Resource Guide.
- Solutions to your program's everyday "opportunities" will be addressed in an "Issues and Answers" session.
- Statewide focus groups consisting of outstanding literacy providers will share their tried and true best practices as we network together.
- Sponsored by the Practitioners' Task Force on Family Literacy (funded through the Florida Department of Education, Division of Workforce Development)



2002 Florida Literacy Conference

Charting the Course for Literacy

March 6-8, 2002
Radisson Riverwalk
Jacksonville, FL



Call for Presenters!

Help literacy providers and adult students “Chart the Course for Literacy” by presenting innovative ideas, emerging issues, and/or practical, effective, and proven practices. We intend the 2002 Florida Literacy Conference to lay the foundation of literacy knowledge for the upcoming year.

Guidelines:

Please complete the entire form, including presenter agreement. Your presentation will be ranked and selected by the Conference Program Committee based on the information you provide.

Since we try to offer new sessions each year, please note that if you have previously presented your proposed session at the Florida Literacy Conference, it should still be relevant, timely, and should be updated with fresh material.

All sessions are scheduled to last 1 hour and 15 minutes. If you are interested in presenting a longer session, we may be able to accommodate a “part 1/part 2” arrangement or a pre-conference workshop. Please note on the form if your proposed session will be longer than 1 hour and 15 minutes.

The preferred method is to fax, e-mail or submit your proposal on-line. To submit a proposal by mail, complete the enclosed proposal form and submit the original. The proposal must be post-marked no later than December 7, 2001. All information should be typed. Information as it appears here will be used in the program book. Please adhere to the word count guidelines.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the 2002 Florida Literacy Conference! You will be notified regarding the status of your proposal by January 8, 2002. If you have any questions, call the Coalition office at 407-246-7110. Proposals submitted should be sent to:

**Florida Literacy Coalition
Conference Program Committee
934 N. Magnolia Avenue, Suite 104; Orlando, FL 32803-3854
Fax: 407-246-7104 e-mail conference@floridaliteracy.org
submit on-line at www.floridaliteracy.org**

Proposal Form

Please type and adhere to word counts

For office use only.

Date Rec:

Date:

Room:

Time Slot:

Set-up:

Program Title (10-word maximum)

Program Abstract (30-word maximum)

- ☐ This is an "Adult-Learner friendly" presentation.
☐ This is a vendor presentation.

Primary Presenter:

(The primary presenter, who must be one of the presenters, will be responsible for communicating information between the Conference Program Committee and the co-presenter(s). If there will be more than one co-presenter or panelists, please provide this information for all presenters participating.)

Name _____ Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____ E-mail _____

Co-Presenter (if there is more than one co-presenter, please attach information on a separate sheet. Pre-senter agreement will apply to these co-presenters as well.)

Name _____ Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____ E-mail _____

Topic Area, Format, & A/V Needs

Topic Area (s):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assessment and Evaluation | <input type="checkbox"/> Program Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Learner | <input type="checkbox"/> Reading |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discovery: New information or issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> English Literacy | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers in Literacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Literacy | <input type="checkbox"/> Workforce Development |

Target Audience

- ☐ Literacy Tutor
- ☐ Adult Education Teacher
- ☐ Adult Learner
- ☐ Program Manager
- ☐ Business or Community Leader
- ☐ All

Presentation Format

- ☐ Traditional Presentation
- ☐ Classroom Format
- ☐ Roundtable Discussion
- ☐ Panel Presentation

____ Number of panelists

If requesting a Pre-conference workshop session,
(length of time requested _____)

Audio - Visual Equipment Needed

- ☐ Overhead w/screen
- ☐ TV/VCR
- ☐ Flipchart

If you need an LCD projector, please contact the hotel directly. Fees will apply.

Rank Days of Preference (1,2,3)

____ Wednesday, March 6, 2002

____ Thursday, March 7, 2002

____ Friday, March 8, 2002

or Pre-conference (March 5, 2002) ____

Conference Presenter Agreement

By submitting a proposal, I agree that if selected, all presenters and co-presenters:

1. Will be responsible for all costs related to transportation, room and board.
2. If presenting ONLY, and not attending sessions, the registration form must be completed but no registration fee will apply. I understand that I/we will not be admitted to other conference events without appropriate name badge.
3. If I/we plan to participate in other conference sessions or events, I/we must register for the conference. See registration form for rates.
4. Will be responsible for furnishing handouts in the quantity needed for workshop sessions.
5. Commercial vendors must be exhibitors to be eligible to present.
6. The Primary Presenter's contact information will be provided to conference attendees unless indicated below.

Signature of Primary Presenter

Date

☐ Please do not include the Primary Presenter's information to conference attendees

Funding Opportunities

National Book Scholarship Fund

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK, August 8, 2001 - Laubach Literacy International will be accepting grant applications for its National Book Scholarship Fund (NBSF) starting September 4, 2001. NBSF grants distribute New Readers Press books and educational materials to qualified adult literacy providers in the U.S.

"The National Book Scholarship Fund is different from other book "give-away" programs that often focus on placing a book in the hand of a child or adult who may otherwise not be able to afford it," says Mara Roberts who directs Laubach's NBSF program. "Organizations that receive books from the National Book Scholarship Fund actually use these books to provide men, women, and children with the literacy instruction they need to learn to read. Educational materials from Laubach Literacy are specifically designed to meet the unique learning needs of adult literacy students, tutors, teachers, and trainers."

The National Book Scholarship Fund helps literacy organizations expand their current programs or initiate new efforts. "Family literacy is an important focus for us," notes Ms. Roberts. "First priority is given to applicants who work with parents and their children to improve their literacy skills." NBSF grants are also awarded to English as a Second Language and adult basic education initiatives. For more information about the NBSF or to apply, visit the NBSF Web site at www.nbsf.org <<http://www.nbsf.org>> .

The grant application will be available online from September 4 to November 30, 2001. The deadline for grant applications is December 6, 2001.

For additional information, please contact Mara Roberts, project administrator by phone 315-422-9121, extension 345, by e-mail mroberts@laubach.org <<mailto:mroberts@laubach.org>> , or by writing to the National Book Scholarship Fund, Laubach Literacy, 1320 Jamesville Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13210.

Orlando Sentinel Family Fund

The Orlando Sentinel Charities Fund supports programs that will have a long-term, positive impact on the community, reflect the racial and cultural diversity of our citizens, and meet the needs of targeted and under-served populations.

Guidelines

Grants are made in response to applications from 501(c)(3) organizations addressing the priority program interests . Literacy is one of the primary program interests of the Orlando Sentinel Family Fund.

Geographic Priority

Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Lake, and West Volusia counties.

Most frequently, grants range from \$2,500-\$25,000.

There is no guarantee of annual support. Generally, grantees will not receive more than three consecutive annual grants.

The Orlando Sentinel Family Fund supports requests for innovative programs or projects. The Fund typically does not support capital grants. Requests for general operating expenses to cover administrative costs are not encouraged.

Application Due Dates

January 7, 2002

July 1, 2002

Application and information:

Orlando Sentinel Family Fund

Contact: Cindy Spraker -- (407) 420-5591

633 North Orange

Orlando, Florida 32801

The Fundraising Institute!

Date:	May 16, 2002
Topic:	Fundraising Institute
Location:	Orlando, FL
Contact:	Leah Takacs (800) 237-5113 or info@floridaliteracy.org



FLORIDA LITERACY COALITION, INC.

934 North Magnolia Avenue, Suite 104
Orlando, FL 32803

Phone: 407/246-7110

Fax: 407/246-7104

Email: info@floridaliteracy.org

Florida Literacy Hotline: 800/237-5113

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
Paid

Permit #1514
Orlando, FL

Executive Committee

President	Linda D'Olympio <i>PRIME Public Relations and Marketing, Valrico</i>
VP Providers	Joe Perez Tampa, FL
VP Business	Ron Drew <i>Verizon, Tampa</i>
Secretary	Sandy Newell <i>State Library of Florida Tallahassee</i>
Treasurer	Jay Roesch <i>Walt Disney World, Orlando</i>
Past President	Renee Hotes <i>Bank of America, Jacksonville</i>

Executive Director
and **Literacy News Editor**

Jill Dotts

Looking for Good Books for Adult Learners?

WEB RESOURCES:

The Public Library Association
keeps a list:

<http://www.pla.org/newread.html>.

Also, the OLRC maintains a database of tradebooks:

<http://literacy.kent.edu/Oasis/Resc/Trade/>