



LitBits

1600 South Avenue, Rochester New York 14620-3036 (585) 473-3030 www.literacyrochester.org

LVR Celebrates Students, Volunteers, and Friends

Literacy Volunteers of Rochester hosted its Annual Student and Volunteers Awards and Recognition Ceremony on June 15, 2011 in the Al Sigl campus gymnasium at 1100 Elmwood Avenue. This ceremony, our first since our move to 1600 South Avenue, was attended by more than 80 people and included LVR adult learners and their families, LVR volunteers, and many friends and supporters from throughout the community.

LVR learners received recognition certificates for their accomplishments during the 2010-2011 program year, as well as graduation certificates for those who

have completed either the Adult Basic Education or English as a Second Language Program. Additionally, LVR recognized more than 180 years of service by awarding volunteer service pins for volunteers who have completed 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service to our organization! These dedicated volunteers are listed below.

Friends of Literacy Awards were also given to individuals and organizations from the communities who have lent their support to LVR and our mission during this past year. The recipients included Senator Joseph Robach for

his continued support of LVR and the needs of adult learners, WHEC-TV 10 for their efforts to develop a cause-marketing campaign highlighting the needs for community support and St. Thomas' Episcopal Church for their efforts to promote the need for volunteer support. to volunteers within their own faith community and throughout the community through a grant which funded development of "Back to Basics", a video about LVR and its need for volunteer support.

One of the highlights of the evening was awarding the Judy Dauphinee Volunteer of the Year Award to Cathy Pospula, LVR tutor, trainer, and librarian. (A profile of Cathy is included in this issue of LitBits)

The event was a wonderful celebration of the three most important factors that help make LVR a successful program: the courage of our learners; the dedication of our volunteers; and the support of our many friends in the community. Congratulations to all our award and recognition recipients and thanks to everyone in our organization for helping make 2010-2011 another successful year.

Volunteer Service Awards

5 years

Karen Barbato, Dick Barrett, Kathy Beabout, Cheryl Bodensteiner, Charles Fallon, Mary Ellen Gaynor, Jerry LaBlanc, Sandi Mandarano, Anne Mercier, and Jane Shosten

10 years

Mary DiCesare, Susan Chapman, Jack Skvorak, and Marilyn Vandenberg

15 Years

Virginia Barclay, Margaret Fien, and Barbara Hussar

20 Years

Edline Chun

25 Years

Eileen Woods



The 2011 Judy Dauphinee Volunteer of the Year Award

The Dauphinee Award is given annually to an LVR volunteer tutor, trainer, office administrator, or other who exemplifies selflessness, team spirit, positive attitude, dependability, follow-through, and a willingness to go beyond a job description. All these characteristics were typical of Judy, a valued tutor and volunteer who passed away in 1991.



Cathy Pospula, LVR tutor, trainer, and librarian was nominated by Chuck Lundeen, LVR Trainer and Previewer

Cathy, is a retired K-12 teacher and now an adjunct faculty at MCC, she began with LVR in March of 2009 and in a very short time has had a major impact on

our organization. Starting as a Librarian, Cathy went on to become a tutor in our basic literacy program and in 2011 became part of the LVR trainer corps.

In his nomination, here is how Chuck describes Cathy; “Cathy is very generous with her time

and is always willing to go the extra mile whenever I have worked with her at LVR. She is always on time and very forgiving of those of us who are less organized or more forgetful! We have taught two Volunteer Training sessions together. She is truly a team player: willing to listen; making suggestions; trying new things; volunteering to type up revised material. She encourages students to work together and maintains a spirit of fun in her classes. Cathy greets everyone with a smile, or better yet, a hug. She has great ‘tech’ skills she is willing to share. She always gives the impression that she is enjoying her work—because she is!”

Library News

As many of you know, LVR has an extensive lending library for our learners and volunteers of over 4000 titles. Throughout the year we add new titles based on various recommendations, including those from learners and tutors.



Please contact the LVR Library with needs, questions, or your ideas for acquisitions. The best way to do this is through the library’s e-mail: Librarian@LiteracyRochester.org

LVR office hours

The LVR office and library are open

Monday through Friday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The third Saturday of the month from September through June:

9 a.m. to noon

(9/17, 10/15, 11/19, 12/17, 1/21, 2/18,

3/17, 4/21, 5/19, 6/16)

Office and library are closed

Monday September 5—Labor Day

Thursday and Friday, November 24&25—Thanksgiving

Friday and Monday, December 23&26 —

Christmas

Mary Sue Schaefer Fund



Mary Sue Shaefer was an active volunteer until 1990. The Mary Sue Shaefer Fund was established in her honor to help underwrite the cost of tickets for students and tutors to attend local cultural and recreational events. The Fund provides a maximum combined reimbursement of \$35 for the tutor and student.

Interested tutors should contact Mellissa or Jennifer at least 24 hours before tickets are needed to see if funds are available. Preference is given to those who have not previously received sponsorship from this Fund. Students who attend the event are expected to write a short article that will be published in the next LitBits. Receipts should be submitted to our offices after the event to receive reimbursement.



My Trip to the Museum, by Aja Mara

Aja and her tutor, Susan Miller, used the Mary Sue Schaefer Fund to visit a museum earlier this year. The following letter was written by Aja after their visit.

Dear Mellissa,
I liked the museum. I learned they get the salt underground for the snow. I learned wind can make electricity. I saw how big the dinosaurs were.

Thank you for giving me a teacher. Now I can spell words like look and cook. Thank you for the tickets for the museum.

Aja



LVR Supports Citizenship

Many of our learners have expressed an interest in acquiring information that will assist them as they prepare for their citizenship test. Along these lines, we recently received VHS videos, workbooks and teacher resource books that we are giving away to interested tutors and

learners. The materials are part of a program called *On Common Ground*. *On Common Ground*, from the producers of *Crossroads Café*, addresses civic and government concepts for citizenship education. Call our office at 473-3030 to get these materials.

As we have mentioned before, the cost of the United States citizenship testing procedure is now \$675. At the suggestion of one of our LVR tutors, LVR created a scholarship fund directed toward LVR learners who have shown their readiness to take the citizenship test.

Scholarship Fund provides up to \$200 per qualified LVR learner to assist the learner with the costs of the citizenship application. We have created specific guidelines and requirements for this Fund. For more information please contact Mellissa at 473-3030.



LVR

Professional Development Saturdays

9/17, 10/15, & 11/19

9am-11am

◆ **9/17 - Using Technology in Tutoring**

Jennifer Eaton and Bonnie Martin will share tips on how you can use technology in your tutoring. LVR has an Apple iPad and computers for student and tutor use. This session will explore iPad apps, websites, computer programs, e-books, and audio books that could be used for reading, math, and English instruction. For ESOL, ABE, and Math Tutors

◆ **10/15 - What does my learner need to move ahead?**

Melissa Woodhams will demonstrate a variety of informal assessments. You will learn what they assess and how to use them in order to help your learner move ahead in their learning. For ESOL and ABE Tutors

◆ **11/19 - Using TABE Results to Plan Instruction**

Jennifer Eaton will show you how to use your learner's recent TABE test results to plan instructional activities that will help you address reading and/or math skills that they need to improve. For ABE and Math Tutors

Please RSVP to 473-3030 as class size is limited for each session

LVR Spring Book Sale

We are currently collecting book donations for a book sale we plan on holding in the spring of 2012. If you have any books you would like to donate please drop them off at our office Monday through Friday 9am-4pm and the third Saturday of each month from 9am-noon.

We welcome donations of all books in good condition for both adults and children with the following exceptions: No Reader's Digest Condensed Books, moldy, smelly, water-damaged books (dusty & old OK), National Geographic Magazines, Text or Course Books over 5 years old, Computer Manuals over 2 years old and Encyclopedias except pre-1940's.

In addition to books, we also welcome: Compact Discs (CDs of music) in original case, DVDs in original case, videotapes in original box, unabridged books-on-tape in original box and books-on-CD in original box.

*Yes! I/we wish to support Annual Giving for
Literacy Volunteers of Rochester at the following level:*

<input type="checkbox"/> LitVol Benefactor	\$5,000	<input type="checkbox"/> LitVol Member	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> LitVol Underwriter	\$2,500	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporter	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> LitVol Patron	\$1,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Friend	\$ 50
<input type="checkbox"/> LitVol Partner	\$ 500	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	_____



Payment Information

Please make check payable to: Literacy Volunteers of Rochester

or

Charge my donation to:

Master Card/Visa No. _____

Expiration Date _____ 3-digit code on back of card _____

Name on Credit Card _____

Signature _____

You may also charge a donation to LVR through PayPal on our website, www.literacyrochester.org, or by calling the office at 473-3030 if you would prefer to charge to your credit card over the phone.

Donor Information

Name _____

Name(s) as it should appear in print _____

I want my name to remain anonymous

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please check here if this is a new address

Email address _____

Employer _____

Matching Gift Program? Yes No

Please call me regarding a deferred gift, such as an IRA rollover, annuity or bequest

Call for information (585) 473-3030

*Mail to: Literacy Volunteers of Rochester
1600 South Avenue, Suite 100
Rochester, NY 14620-3921*

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Save the Date
2011 LVR Brain Game



LVR's Brain Game is a unique fundraising event – a live trivia contest with some of Rochester's best and brightest business people. Mark your calendar for Thursday, October 13 at 5 p.m. to join the fun. Tickets are \$20; only \$750 to sponsor a four-person team. For more information call 473-3030.

**ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN –
SUCCESS!**

Thanks to the generosity of many new and longtime donors, LVR 2010-2011 Annual Giving Campaign contributions exceeded our goal. Over 300 donors helped make this another successful Campaign year. Generous matching grants inspired donors to give extra dollars to help support programs and services for our adult learners and their volunteer tutors.

YOU made a difference – and LVR says “thanks” for helping to open new chapters in the lives of our learners. These gifts are very important, as public dollars in support of LVR are shrinking and our learners continue to need our assistance in meeting their literacy goals.

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