

LITERACY LINES

A NEWSLETTER OF TARRANT LITERACY ASSOCIATION



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VOL. 19 NO. 2

3rd QUARTER 2009

*Derwood Rowell—Chairman of the Board
Karen Carlson—Vice Chairman*

Grimes Fortenberry—Executive Director

*Joyce Toombs—Secretary
George Ramsey—Treasurer*

LINES FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I taught a Sunday School lesson titled "Making Choices." The scripture reference was from Joshua 24:15, "But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve... But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." (NIV)

As I thought about that title, I realized that we all have many choices to make each day.

There is a battle going on against illiteracy and we must choose whether or not to get in the battle.

Most of you who are reading this column have already chosen to help fight illiteracy by volunteering your time, talents and/or money. I thank you and congratulate you on this decision.

If you have a friend who would like to join us in the fight against illiteracy, please call our office and give us their name, address and phone number.

***Grimes Fortenberry
Executive Director***

PROLITERACY: WE BELIEVE

- That the ability to read, write, perform math, and use technology is a basic human right
- That everyone, from children to adults in every part of the world, has the right to learn these skills and to have access to programs that make it possible for them to acquire those skills
- That education is a lifelong pursuit
- That literacy skills are key to reducing poverty, crime, poor health, high health care costs, human rights abuse, and increasing the literacy of children.

THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Hi everyone in Tarrant Literacy. First let me say thanks for doing me the honor of being your chairman of the Board for the coming year and what a wonderful year I think it can be.

The main course of business for all of us is to reach out into the community and find those that need the wonderful programs we have to offer. I know that there is a vast number of them out there and far too few of us to teach them. But what we do have is quality, both in the teachers we have already trained and those we are aiming to train this year.

Grimes has done a wonderful job of setting up workshops and will continue to do so. Our prayer is that there will be more individuals taking the workshops and more trainers who are trained to lead the workshops. The trainers we have now are all wonderful, able and dedicated people, but we need more than the faithful few. We should all make this a matter of prayer because the need is great. Thank you so much for your dedication over the years and I know that you will continue to be faithful this coming year.

I also want to thank the members of our cabinet and am looking forward to working with you this year. Keep up the good work and I know God will bless our efforts. Roll up your sleeves and let's get to work.

***Derwood Rowell
Chairman of the Board***



New LWE and LWR Tutors

Congratulations are in order to the following two ladies who took the LWE and the LWR training on April 24, 25 and May 2, 2009.

Lin Livingston completed the Laubach Way to English Workshop and is qualified to teach Americans from foreign countries how to speak, read and write English.

Ester Rodriguez completed the Laubach Way to Reading Workshop and is qualified to teach Americans how to improve their reading and writing skills.



Our Mission

Tarrant Literacy Association, Inc., has been reaching out to Tarrant County's non-readers since 1963, when a group of people committed themselves to helping others learn one of the most important skills of life --- how to read.

Through affiliation with and by using methods developed by Laubach Literacy International which has merged with Literacy Volunteers of America, creating ProLiteracy Worldwide, Tarrant Literacy continues to teach adults and teens how to read or how to speak English as a new language.

This local independent, non-profit organization provides tutors to those needing help learning to speak, read, and write English. This group also conducts workshops or seminars to train other adults in the methods used to teach someone.

TLA Executive Board Changes

At the 2009 Annual Meeting several key leader positions changed hands.

The Association thanks Bob Waybright for his years of service as Chairman of the Board and look forward to his continued commitment to us in the Public Relations position. Any newsworthy items and announcements for this publication can be sent to him at bob.waybright@travis.org.

Derwood Rowell is no stranger to the Tarrant Literacy Association. He has served over the years in many positions, including Chairman of the Board, and brings a solid commitment to the executive leadership team.

Karen Carlson was promoted to position of Vice Chairman and we look forward to the wealth of experience in literacy training leadership she brings to the position.

Joyce Toombs will serve on the executive board as Secretary for the Association and she brings to the position years of excellent service to TLA membership. She has kept the TLA office running smoothly over the years and will not doubt do the same for the executive board.

A continued thank you to George Ramsey for his unflinching commitment as Treasurer for the Association.

A big **THANK YOU** for those who have served and are presently serving Tarrant Literacy Association.

Tutor Tips for Creative Writing

Give your student a photograph or picture from a magazine or newspaper. Develop a word list of people and objects in the picture and some action words.

Ask your student to write a story about the picture. The story can be in the form of a newspaper article, purely imaginary, or written as a letter to a friend or relative.

Upcoming Workshop

TLA is hosting a workshop to train individuals to be a tutor for those who do not speak English or read English. The Workshop is also for those who need to learn to read who do speak English, as well as those who want to improve their reading skills.

The dates are Friday, September 25, and Saturdays, September 26 and October 3, 2009.

The training being held at Travis Avenue Baptist Church, 800 W. Berry Street in Fort Worth on Friday, September 25, will be for those who want to teach non-English speakers. If you want to learn that skill, come at 6:00 pm to sign in and get your materials. Class will end at 9:00 pm. We will provide snacks and drinks for the evening. The class will continue the following day and the next Saturday. For this training, the cost of your materials will be \$52.00.

For those who want to learn to teach Reading to English speakers, the classes will begin on Saturday, September 26, and continue the following Saturday, October 3, 2009. The Reading training materials will cost \$48.00. All classes on Saturday will begin at 9:00 am, and end at 4:00 pm. On Saturdays we will provide coffee, snacks, and drinks for the day. Participants will need to bring a sack lunch or go to a nearby fast food place to purchase your lunch.

You **MUST** register with us by sending a deposit of \$10.00, which will be deducted from the total cost of your workshop. This deposit must be received no later than September 11, 2009, if you plan to attend this workshop.

Send your registration fee to Tarrant Literacy Association. 800 W. Berry Street. Fort Worth, Texas 76110.

Following completion of your training, you will be a member of Tarrant Literacy Association and Pro-Literacy. We will help you find a student and you will receive quarterly newsletters from Tarrant Literacy Association.

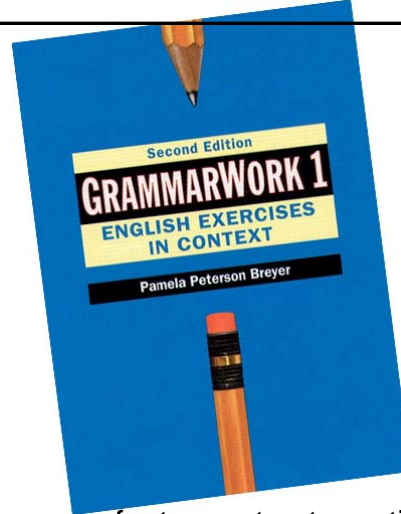
If you have any questions, you can call (817)923-4242, or email tlat@tarrantliteracy.org.

Thank you for your interest in Literacy.

Grimes Fortenberry

Grimes Fortenberry. Executive Director

Resources



**English Exercises
In Context
Second Edition
Books 1, 2, 3 and
4.**

*Pamela Peterson
Breyer*

**Beginning—
Intermediate**

This series of
exercise books

features structures tied to meaningful
contexts.

- Self-contained, contextualized exercises are designed for written practice.
- **Make it work** sections enable students to apply what they have learned to realistic situations.
- Can be used for individual or classroom practice.
- Perforated answer keys are included.

Student Writings

My Shoes Will Last a year

Did you know that you could spend fifty dollars on shoes that last four months. It happened to me. You know what I did? Well, I'm still wearing them.

Shouldn't shoes last a least a year? So what if my socks get wet when it rains outside? My shoes will last a year.

Bobby Taylor

Friendship

There's a miracle called friendship

It dwells within the heart,
And you don't know how it happens

Or when it gets its start . . .
But the happiness it brings you
Always gives a special lift,
And you realize that friendship
Is God's most precious GIFT.

JOIN Today!

You can become a member of the Tarrant Literacy Association in a variety of ways.

You can donate your time to learn how to teach someone to read or to speak English. Experience the joy of sharing a skill that opens a whole new world for someone. Tarrant Literacy Association can train you as a tutor and refer students who need help.

Another way is to donate financially to this service reaching out to all kinds of people. Annual membership can be maintained on several levels.

Basic Member.....	\$20.00
Contributing Member.....	\$30.00
Supporting Member.....	\$60.00
Sustaining Member.....	\$120.00

Your donations are tax-deductible and provide for nominal administrative costs and materials for the students. Join the fight against illiteracy and become a member and/or a volunteer.

Membership forms available on our website:

www.tarrantliteracy.org

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