

TRI-COUNTY LITERACY VOLUNTEERS

Helping Hands

Fall 2005

www.tricountyliteracy.org

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of Mid-Coast Maine



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 Darlene Marciniak, Executive Director
 Emmy Kappler, Program Coordinator
 Carolyn Hall, Program Coordinator, RWM

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR - Judy Dillon

Dear Members,

We are so excited about our new offices, staff and board members. This has been a very busy summer for Tri-County Literacy as we moved and then organized the new space at 2 Sheridan Road in Bath. Many people deserve our thanks for helping in this adventure and I would like to use this space to properly recognize them.

Carolyn Hall - the new Read With Me Coordinator and Kathy Kenyon for helping to keep the office running while we waited for Darlene Marciniak, the new Executive Director, and Emmy Kappler, the new Literacy Volunteers Coordinator, to arrive.

Jim Haddock - Kathy's husband who helped put the computers and wires and locks together along with Burr Taylor and Jay Collins, Barbara Collin's husband. What a crew they have been and we could not have done the move without them.

Dan Hahn - for his years of voluntary bookkeeping for Tri-County Literacy.

Tricia O'Reilly and her husband - for reviewing our lease on the new space.

Barbara Croston and Kathy Kenyon - for organizing our financial papers.

Barbara Collins for donating a beautiful oak desk to the office.

Thank You All!

-Judy



Annual Meeting Notes

The 2005 Annual meeting was held on June 1st at the Bath Senior Citizen's Center.

Noted Maine Mystery Author, Lea Wait, was the guest speaker. Her website is www.Leawait.com. Following the business meeting various awards and prizes were presented.

We are especially grateful to Barbara Collins for the outstanding job she has done as Past Chair of the Board of Directors.

Awards for Annual Meeting -2005

Tri-County Literacy Tutor/Learner Award for Adult Basic English Tutor/Learner Joyce Racine / Jill Schneidewind

Tri-County Literacy Tutor/Learner Award for ESOL Tutor/Learner Joanne Dumdey / Alsu Babb

RWM Program

Outstanding Advisory Board Member Nyree Thomas
Outstanding Public School Teacher June Dorian
Outstanding HeadStart Teacher Christine Salois

Exemplary Awards

Mary Storer
Rose Bishop
Nancy Bassett
Ames Burgess

Special Recognition

Barbara Collins
Cathey Cyrus
Barbara White

Community Partner Award

Curtis Memorial Library

PROGRAM COORDINATOR INTRODUCTION

Our new Program Coordinator, Emmy Kappler, has recently moved back to the Wiscasset/Boothbay area after being away for 30 years. Emmy lived in many places during that time and most recently lived in Winchester, VA for 7 years and in Arlington, VA for 9 years prior to that.

Emmy's work experience includes recruiting and Human Resources prior to becoming involved with hospital volunteer services. Emmy's first experience with employment in volunteer services was at Hermann Hospital in Houston, TX where she was the Training Manager and later became the Director of Volunteer Services.

After working at Hermann Hospital in Houston, TX, Emmy created a Volunteer Program for The George Washington University Hospital in Washington, D.C. In addition, she started a Chaplaincy Program and she was the president of the Women's Board of the hospital.

After moving to Winchester Emmy took a few years off to enjoy her children, and then worked briefly for an e-commerce company as their staffing development facilitator.

For the last four years Emmy taught elementary school. She tutored students in numerous subjects and taught ESL students all subjects and all levels. She also taught Adult Education Computer classes and a Citizenship class for ESL students in the Winchester area.

For the last 6 years Emmy created and developed a before/after school program for the Elementary School in Winchester. Her goal was to make learning FUN! She organized many educational opportunities for children before and after school that supplemented their reading, science, social studies and math curriculum with many hands-on fun different ways of learning.

Emmy has 2 boys, a 10-year old and a 14-year old, and her husband is an architect. As a family they love the outdoors. They love to ski, sail, bicycle, hike, and they love being in Maine where they can enjoy the great outdoors.

Emmy is excited about working with Tri-County Literacy as she feels that her new position is a combination of all of her most enjoyable work experiences and her interests in volunteerism and education. She looks forward to meeting everyone!

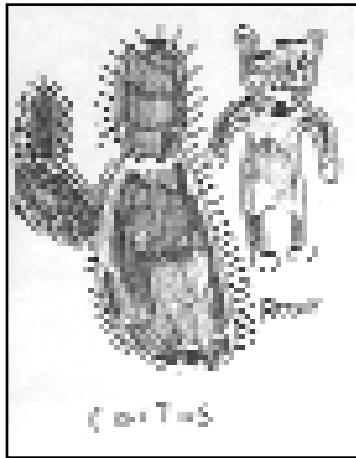


Getting Involved At Elmhurst

John

Tri-County Literacy Volunteers meets with consumers from Elmhurst, Inc. once a week to help them with their literacy skills and broaden their base of knowledge on a variety of subjects. It is a rewarding time for the TLV tutors and the Elmhurst people who attend. We work as a team to learn and teach together.

One of the consumers is John, who is always there and reliably cheerful. John has ways of expressing himself that have endeared him to the tutors. He is consistently kind and gentle, with a smile for everyone and by adjusting to his



learning style and needs, we are watching him change and grow as he expresses mature ideas and remarkable knowledge. In the consistency of the weekly sessions he is also learning to identify letters and words. John, along with the other consumers, is often given the opportunity to express himself in a Journal. At left is what John drew after a discussion about the desert. We wanted to share his fine work with the affiliate.

Working with this group of people is fun, rewarding and educational. We would urge any of the tutors to join us on Wednesdays at 2:30 p.m. in the Community Room at Patten Free Library and consider being part of the training team.

For more information, call Molly Hahn at 882-7314.

-Molly Hahn

MORE FROM AUTHOR, LEA WAIT

Dear Judy,

It was such fun to meet you and speak with your wonderful group in the spring. I just wanted you to know that my latest book, the fourth in the Shadows Antique Print Mystery series, has been published. In SHADOWS AT THE SPRING SHOW Maggie volunteers to run an antique show to benefit an adoption agency. But when an adoptive parent is shot, her son disappears, and

both the agency and Maggie get threatening letters ... Maggie knows she has to stop whoever is behind the chaos. Of course, the book also includes lots of information about prints and antiques!

Hope you can check it out!

Lea

Lea Wait

<http://www.leawait.com>

Author of WINTERING WELL (2004) and SHADOWS AT THE SPRING SHOW (2005).



June's Tutor Training Group

REMINDER:

If you haven't yet paid your membership dues, please send a check for \$10.00 to
TCLV
2 Sheridan St.
Bath, Maine 04530.

Meet Carolyn Hall, New RWM Coordinator

Carolyn Hall, the new Read With Me program coordinator, also teaches Children's Literature and Promoting Literacy classes for the American Institute for Creative Education. She was instrumental in starting the Chickadee Award: A Maine Children's Choice Picture Book Project, now in its second year.

Whenever possible, she visits with her two children and their new spouses (two weddings in 2005!). A former teacher and school librarian, it comes as no surprise to hear she loves to read. She is also a palliative care volunteer at Mid Coast Hospital, and keeps busy with square dancing, piecing quilts, gardening and walking.

Read With Me Site Coordinators

First, I am grandmother of two year old Sam, who is a gentle and constant reminder that a child is like a natural sponge, soaking in all that is around them.

I have a rather eclectic work background, having moved from the field of nursing to adult education to library work. The common thread is my interest in being of service to people in a meaningful way, wherever they happen to be on their life path.

This is my second year as a site coordinator for Read With Me. I look forward to meeting new RWM families and exploring with them the world of possibilities that reading aloud with their children invites.

-Linda Roberts

Linda will continue as site coordinator at Topsham (Pejepscot), Brunswick and Bath Head Starts, and she will take over at Huse Kindergarden Center.

June Dorion has recently retired from twenty-three years of teaching in public school education. She resides in Bath with her husband Dave. They have three children and seven grandchildren. June enjoys reading, gardening and spending time with her family and friends. She is the new site coordinator for Bath first grades and Waldoboro (Friendship St.), North Whitefield (Northern Lincoln County) and Damariscotta (Sald Bay Area) Head Starts.

Carolyn Hall will be responsible for the sessions at Boothbay and Wiscasset head starts.

-Harriet Gray

New Office Location

Along with the hiring of new staff, Tri-County Literacy has also moved into new offices. Formerly located in two separate spaces, Tri-County Literacy has now consolidated the Literacy Volunteer program and staff, the Read With Me Family Literacy program and staff and the new Executive Director into one small and cost-effective office space. Although we have valued our use of donated office spaces within Coastal Economic Development in Bath and the Curtis Memorial

Library in Brunswick, we look forward to working in a more coordinated manner in our new location in Bath, centrally situated in our tri-county service area. The new offices are located behind St. Mary's Church in Bath.

The new address is **2 Sheridan Road, Bath, ME 04530.**

Phone numbers for all TCL staff and programs are (207) 443-6384 and (877) 885-7441 (toll free).

Please be sure to update your address files for any correspondence!



Our New Executive Director, Darlene Marciniak

We are pleased to introduce our first ever Executive Director, Darlene Marciniak! After careful consideration over the past year, the Tri-County Literacy Board of Directors recently made the decision to hire an Executive Director to assist them in the leadership of Tri-County Literacy and to maximize administrative and program organization. Working closely with board membership and Literacy Volunteer and Read With Me Program Coordinators, Darlene will be a consistent representative of our programs within the Mid Coast community.

Darlene comes to TCL with a broad range of both program and administrative experience. She served the Bath/Brunswick communities as the director of Big Brothers/Big Sisters during that agency's first decade in the 80s. She was the coordinator of the Navy Family Service Center's Relocation Assistance Program in Patuxent River, Maryland in the early 90s, and since her return to

Maine 11 years ago, has been the Administrative Coordinator of Mid Coast Hospital's Behavioral Health programs. Darlene joins TCL in a part-time capacity, and will work 20 hours a week.



Darlene Marciniak

Darlene, a retired Naval Reservist, and her husband Carl, retired from active duty Naval service, have called Topsham home since 1974, with only a brief 2-year Navy relocation to Maryland. When not working, Darlene relishes spending time reading(!), gardening, swimming, and relaxing with friends and family at her cottage on Embden Pond.

A 10-year breast cancer survivor, Darlene is actively involved in the American Cancer Society's Reach to Recovery program and Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and Relay for Life fundraising efforts.

Darlene has hit the ground running in her first few weeks with Tri-County Literacy, and is eager to contribute to the great work of the organization!

Reading for Better Business

The Reading for Better Business Project is moving ahead at a slow but steady pace to reach out to employers and employees with tutoring for those who want to improve their literacy skills. The project committee, which has met regularly over the summer, consists of LV tutors Lori Harris, Ken Wiley, Cyndy Lewis and Barbara Collins, Brunswick businessman Art Boulay and Topsham businessman Steve Pecukonis. Steve represents the Chamber of Commerce Education Outreach Committee. The Chamber of Commerce is a valued partner in promoting education in the workplace.

Tri-County Literacy Volunteers has contracted with Denise Tepler, Topsham resident, at the Muskie Institute, to develop the project evaluation. This will give us a method to see how well we are doing on two fronts: 1) do adult learners reach the initial goals they set with their tutors, and 2) do the employers find it beneficial to refer employees to this Literacy Volunteers

program. Evaluation will not only help Tri-County Literacy know how effective we are, but will also provide feed-back to the funders of the project, The Senter Fund of Brunswick and Davenport Trust of Bath.

There is an extensive body of research indicating the both employers and employees benefit from raising the literacy levels of the workforce. The businesses in the area that have already referred learners to us are very enthusiastic about the program.

If you are interested in participating on the Reading For Better Business Project Committee, writing press releases, or would like to help get the word out about this project to the business community, we can use your help. Call Barbara Collins at 442-8312 or email barbara@jsea.net for more information.

-Barbara Collins



Tri-County Literacy Volunteers
PMB #286
2 Sheridan Road
Bath, ME 04530

DATES TO REMEMBER

The next 2005 Board meeting:

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

All board meetings are held in the Children's Reading Room in the Patten Free Library in Bath, from 6-8 p.m. and they are open to all Tri-County Literacy Volunteer members.

The Scrabble Tournament will be on Oct 29th 12:30-4:30 p.m. at the Curtis Memorial Library (12:30-1:00 is sign-in time).

Tri-County Literacy Volunteers **(207) 443-6384 • (877) 885-7441**

Executive Director: tricityliteracy@tricityliteracy.org
Literacy Volunteers: literacyvolunteers@tricityliteracy.org
Read With Me Program: readwithme@tricityliteracy.org
www.tricityliteracy.org



A special thanks to the community spirit of the folks at Gardiner Savings Institution, FSB who have funded the production, printing and mailing of this newsletter to benefit all LVA adult learners and volunteers.

GARDINER SAVINGS INSTITUTION, FSB

Design and layout of Helping Hands is provided courtesy of **in Demand arts Graphic Design** ~ www.indemandarts.com.

Tri-County Literacy Volunteers **MISSION STATEMENT**

Tri-County Literacy Volunteers, believes that the ability to read and write is critical to personal freedom and the maintenance of a democratic society. The mission of Tri-County Literacy Volunteers, therefore, is to promote increased literacy for adult learners through the effective use of volunteers, the provision of support services for volunteers and learners, and collaboration with individuals, groups, or organizations desiring to foster increased literacy.

As such, Tri-County Literacy Volunteers is committed to:
Enabling adults and families in need of basic literacy skills to achieve their potential through one-to-one or small group instruction.

Training, supervising, and supporting Tri-County Literacy Volunteers volunteer tutors and learners.

Strengthening and improving the organization's capacity to provide literacy instructions and services to the community.