



Adult
Literacy
League

BETWEEN THE LINES

Expand Your World . . . One Page At A Time.

December '10

You Had to "Bee" There! *The First Annual Lawyers for Literacy Spelling Bee!*

Once again, veteran Bee MC, Erica Lee, joined forces with the Adult Literacy League and the Young Lawyers Section of the Orange County Bar Association for a new "legal" version of the great grown-up spelling bee.

We were honored to have a panel of distinguished judges, led by judge emeritus (another 10-bee veteran), Dr. Thad Seymour, president emeritus of Rollins College. Joining him to keep everything official was Scott Harris from Central Florida News 13

and Mike Thomas from the Orlando Sentinel. Marva Hinton, an ALL tutor and WDBO radio reporter served as timekeeper. Nine teams, from throughout Central Florida businesses took the stage, with the requirement of having at least one speller be a lawyer. The words became increasingly difficult – starting with "perjury" and ending with the winning word, "mnemonics." Akerman Senterfitt and the Young Lawyers Section of the Orange County Bar Association were the two finalists, with the Young Lawyers the

victors! Congratulations to them, and to all the brave spellers at this year's bee.

Left Photo: Bee Judge Scott Harrison from Channel 13 had to give the spellers the good . . . and the bad news!

Middle Photo: The Winners — Terri Spoon (L), a new law graduate as well as an ALL tutor, and Sunny Hillary (R) — represented the team sponsored by the Young Lawyers Section of the Orange County Bar Association.

Right Photo: The runners-up from Akerman Senterfitt — Catherine Jackson (who has since married and is now Catherine Jackson Losey) and Thomas Yaegers.



Special Thanks to Our Sponsors, Contributors and Partners!

Please see page 2 for a full list of our generous friends of literacy.

Follow us on FACEBOOK: Adult Literacy League of Central Florida and TWITTER: ALL4Literacy



A Partnership that Keeps Expanding ...

For over a year now, the Adult Literacy League has enjoyed a very successful partnership with the Orange County Library System. The library provides vital information and support as well as FREE English classes currently held at the following times and locations:

- 1) South Orange Blossom Trail branch – Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.
- 2) Southeast branch at SR 436 and Hoffner – Mondays and Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.
- 3) South Creek branch – Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m.
- 4) Coming Soon! A new class at one of the West Orange area branches

For more information, please call OCLS at 407-835-7323 or visit online at www.ocls.info.

Special Thanks to All the Contributors of The First Annual Lawyers for Literacy Spelling Bee!

Host Committee

Joe Amos, Chair
Fisher, Rushmer, Werrenrath, Dickson, Talley & Dunlap, PA

William Beaver
GrayRobinson, PA

Alana Brenner
City of Orlando

Matthew Brenner
Louwdes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, PA

Ryan Davis
Winderweedle, Haines, Ward & Woodman, PA

Ex Officio Member:
Woody Rodriguez
Orange County Public Schools

Consultant: Chris Brockman
Holland & Knight, LLP

Planning Committee

Daryl Gottlieb, Chair
Fisher, Rushmer, Werrenrath, Dickson, Talley & Dunlap, PA

H. Davis Lewis
Hightower & Partners

Kelly E. Lester
Quintairos, Prieto, Wood & Boyer, PA

Melinda Wimbish
Killgore, Pearlman, Stamp, Ornstein & Squires, PA



Radio Personality and the evening's emcee, Erica Lee, and Daryl Gottlieb, Chair of the Bee Planning Committee, enjoy giving out the lucky drawing prizes.

Ryan J. Hillary
State Attorney's Office

lower case bee sponsors – fielding teams

Akerman Senterfitt
City of Orlando – sponsored by Matt & Alana Brenner

Fisher, Rushmer, Werrenrath, Dickson, Talley & Dunlap, PA
GrayRobinson, PA

Killgore, Pearlman, Stamp, Ornstein & Squires, PA & Landmark Reporting, Inc.
NASCAR

Walt Disney World
Winderweedle, Haines, Ward & Woodman, PA
Young Lawyers Section of the Orange County Bar Association

Honey Bee Sponsors

Mayanne Downs
Hightower & Partners
US Legal Support
Document Technologies, Inc.

Alphabet Sponsors

Andrea Richburg
Photography
CRAVE Restaurants
Document Technologies, Inc.
SEA, Ltd.

MorganBrothers
Honeywell Mediation
Mary Ann Morgan
Ninth Judicial Circuit, State Attorney's Office
OLV Café
Philip Michael
Photography
Ron Fleming Video
Productions, Inc.
Let's Skate Orlando

In-kind Support

Sonesta Hotel
SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment
CRAVE Restaurant
Hooters
Lisa Warren
Your Bee Host Committee
YOLO Salon & Spa

I'm Reading a Good Book!

Employees at Costa Devault – Adult Literacy League's generous design agency – always have a book in hand.



Linda Costa, APR
President, Costa Devault

"I'm currently reading *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett, but just finished *Love in the Time of Cholera*, *The Lacuna* and *Blood Meridian*. I like diversity."



Nathan DeVault
Vice President, Costa Devault

"I'm currently reading *Authentic Leadership* by Bill George. According to George, 'leadership begins and ends with authenticity. It's being yourself; being the person you were created to be.'"



Michelle Holland
Art Director, Costa Devault

"I just started reading *The Shack* by William P. Young. Although it is a work of fiction, I am finding this book to be spiritually eye-opening."



Jack Roth
Staff Writer, Costa Devault

"I'm currently reading *The Lost Symbol* by Dan Brown. There's so much truth in what he writes. He's masterful at crafting a fictional story that is based on controversial historical facts."

Changing Lives through Literacy

The Adult Literacy League is so proud of students like Indira Smythe who worked long and hard with her tutor, Marilyn Sullivan, to achieve her dream of passing the GED. Many doors will open for her as a result of this success. Alberga Smythe began his literacy studies with his tutor working on the very basics of the alphabet. He has come a long, long way. This year, he successfully passed his Commercial Driver's Test, thanks to his tutor, Jakita Allen, and our Adult Basic Education teacher, Nancy Cooper.

This year, we have built many new classes to serve our students more effectively and with greater intensity. Vince Scalise expanded his classes to include job skills, including resume writing, interviewing skills and work-related vocabulary. Several of his students have successfully obtained self-sustaining jobs thanks to this class. Many more have improved or gained work as a result of learning to read.

Thanks to Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation and the Florida Literacy Coalition, we are offering Health

Literacy classes and curriculum for our students. This helps them build the skills they need to understand health vocabulary and information, and also to make healthy life choices for themselves and their families. This class has also resulted in one of our students becoming fully credentialed as a pharmacist.

We are so proud of Alberga and Indira...and all of the adult learners we are currently serving.



Indira Moore proudly displays her GED which she earned this fall, thanks to her own hard work and the help of her tutor, Marilyn Sullivan.



Alberga Smythe has made incredible progress - learning to read and passing the Commercial Driver's Test!



Iryna and her tutor, Katherine (L)



Anthony and his tutor



Jeanne Ladd
Account Manager, Costa DeVault

"My favorite book this year is *The Help*. Set in the 1960s in rural South, it's about three women, two black and one white, told from each of their perspectives. The story shows how they came together, despite their differences, and how their determination forever changes the way women of their town view one another."



Simone Behar
Assistant Vice President of Marketing, Costa DeVault

"I'm currently reading *The Notebook* by Nicholas Sparks again. I can't even count how many times I've read his books - all of which are so compassionate and pull on my heartstrings! They're such an amazing escape from every day stresses."



Doreen Overstreet, APR
Senior Account Executive, Costa DeVault

"I'm currently reading *Freedom* by Jonathan Franzen and enjoy his cynical wit and piercing details with words. For example, one of his lines in the book reads, "She's not so pretty to be morally deformed by it." It's also an Oprah book club choice, so I'm interested in seeing his interview about the book."



Nora Roberts, who also writes under the nom de plume of J.D. Robb, graciously signed books at the recent Romance Writers of America conference held in Orlando. The RWA shared over \$12,000 of the profits of their book signing and sale with the Adult Literacy League.

THANK YOU! Recent Grants Received

Romance Writers of America
BJ's Foundation
Targot Foundation
Bond Foundation
Darden Restaurants Foundation
A Friend's Foundation
Walt Disney World Ears to You - thanks to Milton Mersinger, Christi Erwin Donnan, Lisa Bernardini, Pat Wilson and Deborah Furniss

Literacy...

The Gift that Keeps on Giving!



This year has been one of phenomenal growth! We are currently serving more than 1,200 adults EACH WEEK! Our family literacy services are growing too, with new partners like the Orlando Day Nursery supported by the Mayor's Matching Grant initiative. This will bring our *Read to Me! Book Club* to even more families.

Your help and support have never been more important. Please consider a gift to the Adult Literacy League at this traditional time of generosity toward others. You will be giving someone in our community the gift of literacy, which is the surest way to self sufficient employment and the road out of poverty. By supporting the Adult Literacy League, you are helping friends, neighbors, and co-workers become better workers, citizens and parents, thus strengthening the Central Florida community in which we all live.

An envelope is enclosed for your tax deductible gift. We have made it even easier to give online at www.adultliteracyleague.org. Perhaps your company has a matching gift program or a workplace giving campaign. If so, we'd be honored if you would designate your gift to the Adult Literacy League.

Your year-end gift makes a big difference!

- \$25** Provides children's books and materials for a full module of the *Read to Me! Book Club*
- \$50** Pays to enroll and assess a new student and provide their first workbook
- \$100** Is the average cost for curriculum for one student for a full year
- \$250** Provides children's books and materials for a full module of the *Read to Me! Book Club*
- \$500** Will recruit, enroll, match, train and support a new student and tutor!

ADULT LITERACY LEAGUE 2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ▶

President

Sean Christiansen, Ph.D., University of Central Florida

Vice President

Leslie Golden, Esq., Valencia Community College

Treasurer

Marcos Rubert, CNL Bank

Secretary

S. Brendan Lynch, Esq., Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor, & Reed

Board Members

Heidi Bedell, Starwood Vacation Ownership

Dyana Burke, Orlando Sentinel

Rick Caron, Esq., Foley & Lardner, LLP

Christi Erwin Donnan, Disney Cruise Line

Suzanne Eustache, ALL Student

Mari Jones, St. Cloud Regional Medical Center

Jessica Kepple, Fifth Third Bank

Teresa Kolb, KPMG LLP

Mick Lochridge, Florida Dairy Association

Nadime H. Nader, OUC - The Reliable One

Mary Ng, Darden Restaurants

Dianne Randolph, Community Volunteer

Debra Touchton, Ph.D., Stetson University



A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR ORGANIZATION #5C-41925 MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS BY CALLING TOLL FREE WITHIN THE STATE 1-800-435-4472. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. NO OUTSIDE INDIVIDUAL OR FIRM HAS BEEN HIRED TO SOLICIT FUNDS ON BEHALF OF THIS ORGANIZATION. 100% OF CHARITABLE GIFTS ARE RETAINED BY THIS ORGANIZATION.



345 W. Michigan Street, Suite 100
Orlando, FL 32806

Phone: 407.422.1540
Fax: 407.422.1529
E-mail: info@adultliteracyleague.org
www.adultliteracyleague.org

NONPROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ORLANDO FL
PERMIT #3904

The Adult Literacy League, Inc.
develops readers to build a
strong and **literate** community