



OPENING THE WORLD THROUGH WORDS

Literacy Matters

A Quarterly Newsletter Presented by

Oakland Literacy Council

Autumn 2014

*Join us as we Harvest the very best in
Autumn's Bounty*



Ex Libris

*Latin: From the
Library of*

Celebrating 25 years
of friendship,
laughter,
wit and
warmth
all under one roof!

Thursday, October 23
at the Village Club in
Bloomfield Hills

See related article on
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Please join the Oakland Literacy Council on Sunday, October 26th between 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. for **Leon & Lulu's Books and Authors** event! All proceeds from the day's tips and raffles, as well as 10% of overall sales, will benefit OLC. If you've never been to Leon & Lulu, it is an award winning lifestyle store filled with beautiful furniture, unique gifts, jewelry and accessories. It's located in the historic Ambassador Roller Rink, so you're guaranteed a fun shopping experience. To learn more about this event and this year's authors, visit www.leonandlulu.com

What: Leon & Lulu's Books and Authors

Where: Leon & Lulu, 96 W. 14 Mile Rd., Clawson, MI 48017

When: Sunday, October 26, 2014 from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Mark your calendars and start planning your dish for our

International Potluck Dinner!

Tutors, students, volunteers and friends always look forward to this annual event where they can share delectable dishes, enjoy interesting conversation and mingle with fellow supporters of the OLC.

Wednesday, October 1, 2014

5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Bloomfield Township Public Library

1099 Lone Pine Road
Bloomfield Hills, 48302

To register call or email the Council by **September 26th**.
248-253-1617 or
info@oaklandliteracy.com

A few words...



When I lived in Manhattan, thousands of us had a weekly ritual and that was that at the stroke of midnight on Sunday mornings we would gather at our favorite newsstand kiosk and wait for the New York Times truck to drop off the first edition of the Sunday New York Times. You'd stand shifting your weight from foot to foot until you heard the familiar sounds of "New York Times, get your paper here". Never was there more anticipation than the second week of September when the paper included the fall season of Arts and Entertainment--all five sections (along with plumped up fashion and travel sections). That's when I knew fall was quickly approaching. Perhaps for you, autumns' arrival is the start of the school year, and for others it's that first nip of cold weather, and for many more that first football game. Whatever it is, I never think of fall as "the year coming to an end". Quite the contrary, I think of it as new beginnings. My hope is that you mark your calendars and enjoy the cornucopia of all our fall offerings!

One more "item of business", and that is to continue our **list of 30**, in celebration of our 30 years. For this issue, I've decided to list 30 adjectives that best describe our volunteers, tutors, board members and staff. They are: **effervescent, loyal, dedicated, hardworking, fun, lively, determined, enthusiastic, gracious, inventive, steadfast, unshakeable, animated, ebullient, resolute, energetic, generous, tenderhearted, cheerful, smart, interested, compelling, energetic, giving, altruistic, honorable, supportive, courageous, organized and charitable.**

Judy Lindstrom *Judy*



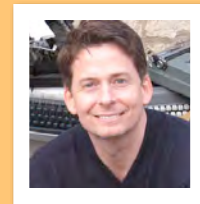
Ex Libris

This year we are proud to celebrate another milestone in our long journey--the 25th anniversary of our annual fundraising dinner, Ex Libris.

This year's event will be held at the lovely Village Club in Bloomfield Hills
on Thursday, October 23.

The evening never fails to delight attendees with the wit and warmth of local celebrities and authors who give of their time to support learning and literacy.

Our speaker this year is **John Searles**, the author of the best-selling novels *Boy Still Missing*, *Strange But True* and *Help For The Haunted*, which won the American Library Association Alex Award and was named a Best Crime Novel of 2013 by the Boston Globe. John appears frequently as a book critic on NBC's Today Show and has also appeared on CBS's The Early Show, and CNN to discuss his favorite book selections. His essays have been published in the New York Times, Washington Post and other national publications. We think you will enjoy his exuberance and quick wit.

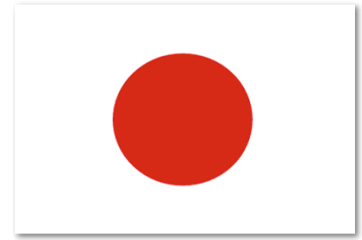


We are also delighted to welcome Sandy Nahm and Kuma Lee as our tutor/student speakers.

Visit our website for ticket information, or call the OLC office to receive an invitation.

Country Spotlight: Japan

Country:	Japan
Location:	Asia
Capital:	Tokyo
Population:	127 million
Size:	145,914 square miles (about the size of Montana)
Primary Language:	Japanese
Climate:	Japan experiences all four seasons. In the north, winters can be bitterly cold. To the south, a more tropical climate prevails. Otherwise, the climate is temperate with warm, humid summers and mild winters. The western side of the islands is usually colder than the eastern side. Japan is subject to typhoons in August and September.
Greetings:	A bow is the traditional greeting between Japanese. A bow is correctly performed by standing with the feet together and arms straight at one's side and bending at 45 degrees from the waist. While bowing, people do not look directly in the other person's eyes. Persons wishing to show respect or humility bow lower than the other person. The Japanese shake hands with Westerners. While some appreciate it when Westerners bow, others do not, especially when the two people are not acquainted. Therefore, a handshake is most appropriate for foreigners.
Eating:	Eating in public is generally considered bad manners. Therefore, snack foods sold at street stands are usually eaten at the stand. In a traditional meal, people typically eat from a bowl while holding it at chest level, instead of bending down to the table. It is not impolite to drink soup directly from the bowl or to make slurping sounds. Japanese use chopsticks (called hashi) to eat most meals but generally eat Western-style food with Western utensils. The main meal is eaten in the evening.
Holidays:	National holidays include New Year's, Coming of Age Day (also called Adults' Day, 2nd Monday in January), National Foundation Day (11 Feb.), Vernal Equinox (in March), Golden Week (29 April–5 May), Maritime Day (3rd Monday in July), Respect for the Aged Day (3rd Monday in September), Autumnal Equinox (in September), Fitness Day (2nd Monday in October), Culture Day (3 Nov.), Labor Thanksgiving Day (23 Nov.), and Emperor Akihito's Birthday (23 Dec.).



Student **Mayu Kubota** shares that February 3rd marks the end of winter with a bean throwing ceremony. People throw roaster soybeans inside and outside of their homes. Good luck is invited in and bad luck/evil is thrown out. It is also customary for people to eat as many roasted beans as one's age.

Student **Nobuko Hirano** describes the big ceremony each year for people turning 20 which is the age they can drink and smoke. Each town sponsors a celebration for everyone turning 20. Typically women wear their kimonos and men wear a kimono or a suit.

Student **Misa Shoji** shared a vacation recommendation for visitors to go to Kyoto which is the old imperial capital. The city has over 2,000 Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines of which many have traditional gardens. She adds that Kyoto is special for Japanese tourists as well. Last year, traditional Japanese meals were added to UNESCO's (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) intangible heritage list which makes her proud. Misa is excited about the 2020 Olympics being held in Japan.

Our cookbook, ***Sharing our Best*** includes a number of Japanese recipes including: Cold Soba Salad and Korokke, It makes a wonderful gift. Pick up your copy today!



WILD WALKERS SUPPORT LITERACY

By Mary Hiller, Communications Volunteer

On Saturday, September 6th the Oakland Literacy Council held its first charity walk at the Detroit Zoo. Over 140 people participated in the walk, and the walk raised over \$5,000 to support funds for adult literacy.

Walkers of all ages began to register at 7:30 a.m. to walk the 1.5-mile route through the zoo. It was great to see past and present tutors, students and their families and supporters of OLC come together for an exotic morning filled with music and food, and of course the animals, to raise awareness about adult literacy. All walk participants were given a goodie bag filled with KIND Snack Bars, literacy facts and information about OLC and our sponsors.



During the walk we were able to talk with some of the participants and learn about their connection with OLC. Ralph Fader, who has been a tutor for 16 years, accompanied his 2-year student, Paul Liu and his family through the zoo. Paul thought the walk was a great way to bring OLC families together! Ralph said tutoring is a very rewarding experience and his favorite part is learning about his student's culture. "My students' eagerness to learn throughout the years has been inspiring. That's why I enjoy doing it."

Su Darmody was participating in the walk with her family and close friends. She has been a tutor since April 2014 and is passionate about getting to know her student and teaching her about the state of Michigan. "My student really wants to know about what makes Michigan great, so it's been fun teaching her about different places throughout the state," Su said. "This exclusive morning at the zoo was a reminder of what great resources we have in our area."

Later on in the walk we met up with Pat Wagner who is a current tutor, and Carol Roble who tutored at OLC in the past. Pat is a retired elementary school teacher and has been with OLC for 4 years. When asked why she joined the organization she said, "I wanted to keep my hands in education as a teacher. The literacy council is a place of encouragement for the students, and I think that's very important to remember as a tutor." Pat thinks the charity walk is an impressive event and will be one to grow with OLC.

We appreciate all of the hard work the OLC members put into planning Wild About Reading, as well as our event volunteers for making the walk possible. And a special thanks to our major sponsors: Clark Hill Legal and Professional Services, GRT Photographic Associates, Health Plus, KIND Snack Bars, Lawrence Larson, Mike and Katie Dahl, Nino Salvaggio and Whole Foods Market.



From the Water Cooler



My student is nearing graduation from the Oakland Literacy Council program. How will I know when they graduate and what happens after they graduate?

A student graduates from the OLC program when they test at a ninth grade level or above in reading and/or an eighth grade level in listening (ESL students). Tutors are notified when their student is scheduled for testing and also the testing results. Once a student graduates, the student and tutor are no longer active at the OLC. Although we routinely hear that the pair will continue in a social capacity because of the relationship they have formed.

When a student graduates from OLC they are ready for higher levels in their educational pursuits. There are Adult Education programs offered throughout the county through the State of Michigan. Also, we are fortunate to be in an area with colleges and trade schools in abundance. Community colleges also are a good next step for the student. Students are also encouraged to look within their own local communities for enrichment course offerings.

It is important to remember that the OLC program is a temporary stop for students. We expect all students to graduate from the program at some point. Graduation should be a goal the student and tutor strive for and discuss as part of their goal setting. We are working on defining this for our organization as well.

We have had several students graduate the past two months.

Congratulations

to the students and tutors for that accomplishment!



OLC Production Crew

Behind every successful movie, play or musical is a great production crew!

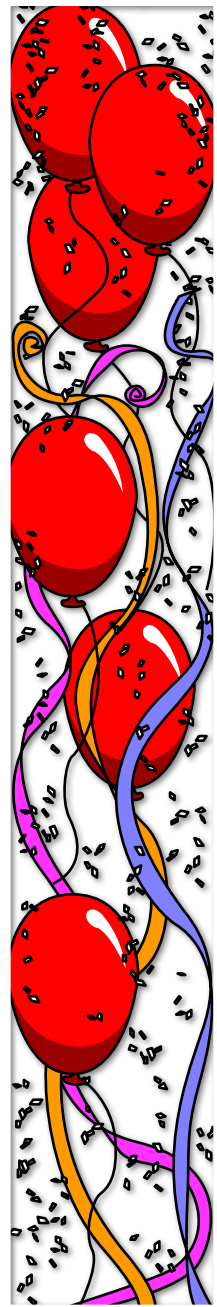
Without the lighting crew, the costume designers, the choreographers, etc. the show does not go on. At Oakland Literacy Council, we are fortunate to have a great production crew that performs regular functions for us that often go unnoticed. Without these dedicated volunteers, the organization could not run as effectively and compliant as it does. A big thanks to our unsung heroes who have been performing these volunteer functions for years:

Judy Bryce, Event Volunteer/Coordinator
Carol Foster, Tutor Mentor (ESL Students), ESL Facilitator
Jay Herbst, Tax Attorney
Joe Johnson, Accountant
Bill Klindt, Test Administrator
Rita Lindstrom, Event Volunteer
Pat Peck, Bookstock Lead
Ellie Robertson, Newsletter Editor
Marilyn Rose, Tutor Mentor (Basic Students)
MaryAnne Thorndycraft, MAERS Consultant
Ann Weber, Office Volunteer

Lights, Camera, Action...let the show go on.
 The Oakland Literacy Council Production Crew is ready!

Oakland Literacy Council

Student Goal Achievements - 2014



May 2014	FM retook TOEIC exam surpassing her goal by 35 points.
May 2014	MC read Peter Rabbit in Japanese and told the story in English.
May 2014	YD completed her resume.
May 2014	JH joined a writing club then wrote and shared three compositions.
May 2014	QY finished reading Call of the Wild.
May 2014	KS wrote a thank-you note to her daughter's teacher.
May 2014	MP finished reading The Spider Bites.
May 2014	LD completed her resume.
June 2014	HM helped her son open a bank account.
June 2014	HJ was able to go to the coffee shop by herself and order her coffee.
June 2014	HK completed the text and picture selection for a story book for her children about her life in South Korea.
June 2014	CS made a hole in one while golfing. She used two idioms correctly to describe the action.
June 2014	KS wrote instructions to a non-English speaking contractor for work she wanted done.
June 2014	KH completed his resume and cover letter.
June 2014	AB GRADUATED from OLC.
July 2014	NI GRADUATED from OLC.
July 2014	PH learned how to write a check and pay her bills.
July 2014	NH acted as spokesperson for her family when crossing the border from Canada into the United States.
July 2014	NS passed the Citizenship test.
July 2014	RN GRADUATED from OLC.
July 2014	KK GRADUATED from OLC.
July 2014	BR GRADUATED from OLC.
July 2014	YI GRADUATED from OLC.
July 2014	JO passed three tests and obtained full time employment.

"Happiness is not a goal...it's a by-product of a life well lived."

Eleanor Roosevelt

Money Does Not Grow on Trees

“Money doesn’t grow on trees” is an idiom that is relevant to the Oakland Literacy Council. For a side ESL lesson, it means that you have to work to earn money, it doesn’t come easily or without effort.

OLC is a not-for-profit organization. In a nutshell that means we use revenue to achieve goals rather than distributing it as profit. So where does money come from that the OLC uses to operate? We use a variety of income sources which fall into these four areas:

- 1) State Funding – the State of Michigan provides funding for adult education programs that meet certain requirements. We are required to apply for a state grant every two years. The amount we can request and receive is based on available state money and the needs/size of our program.
- 2) Grants – foundations and other organizations set aside money for philanthropic causes. Each organization defines the causes they support, application process (paper, electronic) and requirements. The review process varies by organization some with specific deadlines others with rolling deadlines.
- 3) Fundraising – OLC raises money through events available to supporters and the general public to raise awareness for adult literacy. Ex-Libris is an established annual fund raiser held every fall. This year marks the first year for Wild About Reading a fund raiser for adult literacy.
- 4) Donations – we receive donations from giving and generous supporters. General donations come in all amounts and at any time. In December of each year, a Winter Solicitation mailing goes out to a broad list of supporters requesting donations.

All of these sources of money are important and contribute to the ability to continue the good work we do. Because money is entrusted to us from these sources for adult literacy, we have the responsibility to manage the money carefully. We take that responsibility to heart and watch program costs and expenditures so that the office runs efficiently and cost effectively.

We are fortunate to have these sources and constant contributors that value our work. So while money does not grow on trees, we are working every day to earn money to keep the office running in order to address the adult literacy issue in Oakland County. Thanks to all our donors for their generosity.



Drum Roll Please.....
Our 2014 Honor Roll Recipients



Students:

Tutors:

Michael Beasley	Jiyeon Kim
Norma Bermejós	Jee Yeo Kim
Martha Campbell	Yoo Kim
Marta Cappato	Sang Hee Kim
Elizabeth Carrera-Garci	Kaoru Kobayashi
Kam Chan	Arjana Laci
Grace Chang	Kuma Lee
Aygun Chimitdorzhiev	Hyea Jin Lee
Sun Hong Cho	Paul Liu
Eun Kyung Cho	Hyeonsook Moon
Consuelo Dacunha	Fumi Murata
Will Daoud	Doretha Murray
Liz Dominguez	Laura Paolucci
Ana Donato	Manjula Patel
Laverne Dorsey	Bushra Perveen
Zoe Fang	Sonia Pineda
Lilian Faranso	Cornelia Plankenhorn
Alessio Felice	Marcela Preciado-
Yoko Hara	Ramirez
Rhonda Heath	Jinglan Qiao
Jennifer Huang	Roger Rocheleau
Mandy Hung	Emi Suguira
Kyoung Hwang	Keiko Suzuki
Young Mi Jung	Jason Walsh
Heajung Kang	
Sarah Kim	

Gillian Abbott
 Henry Bareiss
 Julie Baumkel
 Alison Beland
 Carol Brichford
 Kristin Byrne
 Mariano Cadiz
 Joanne Chapman
 Rebekah Craft
 Mark Drapek
 Joseph Falik
 Carol Foster
 Amy Girard
 Pam Hall
 Robin Kaufman
 Judy Kavanagh
 Karen Melaas
 Barbara Miller
 Tana Moore
 Cindy Oberg
 Diane Pederson
 Beverly Pryor
 Mitzi Robinson
 Tom Rowe
 Jenny Savage-Dura
 Rick Scarpelli
 Gerald Semanson
 Joan Smith
 Daniel Stewart
 Gayle Weakland
 Jane Wiener
 Edna Williams
 Glynette Wolk
 Renee Zimmerman

Tutor of the Year- Mariano Cadiz
Basic Student of the Year- Martha Campbell
ESL Student of the Year Kuma Lee
Volunteer of the Year Pat Peck

Calendar of Events

September:

Tutor Training September 20 9a.m. to 3p.m.
September 22 6p.m. to 8:30p.m.
September 24 6p.m. to 8:30p.m.

ESL Conversation Groups

September 18 and 25 10a.m. to 12p.m.

October:

Potluck October 1 5:30p.m. to 8p.m.

Tutor Training October 18 9a.m. to 3p.m.
October 20 6p.m. to 8:30p.m.
October 22 6p.m. to 8:30p.m.

Ex Libris October 23 6:30p.m. to 10p.m.

Leon and Lulu, Book and Author Event October 26 11a.m. to 5p.m.

ESL Conversation Groups

October 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 10a.m. to 12p.m.



November:

Tutor Training November 15 9a.m. to 3p.m.
November 17 6p.m. to 8:30p.m.
November 19 6p.m. to 8:30p.m.

Office Closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday November 27

ESL Conversation Groups

November 6, 13 and 20 10a.m. to 12p.m.



*“Let us be grateful to people
who make us happy; they
are the charming gardeners
who make our souls
blossom.” –*

Mareel Proust