



## Literacy Volunteers of Lee County

## Creating a Literate Community - July 2010

### Fort Myers Office:

7275 Concourse Dr. #300  
Myers, FL 33908  
239-415-3621

### Lehigh Acres Office:

9 Beth Stacey Blvd., #202  
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936  
239-368-1002

### East Fort Myers Office:

4162 Palm Beach Blvd.  
Fort Myers, FL 33916  
239-693-9304

[www.leeadultliteracy.com](http://www.leeadultliteracy.com)

Find us on Facebook 

*"We build on foundations we did not lay . . . We warm ourselves at fires we did not build. . . . We profit from persons we did not know. . . . We are ever bound in community." Adapted from Deuteronomy 6:10-12*

## Thank You United Way

United Way of Lee, Hendry & Glades Counties has recommended that LVLC receive \$36,000 in 2011-the same amount we are receiving this year. These funds are essential to our operation. They support staff and our Fort Myers office. Please remember to support United Way-their support of the many partner agencies in Lee County is essential to our quality of life.

## Meet Carrie Adams



Meet Carrie Adams

If you call our Fort Myers office on a Thursday morning, chances are the phone will be answered by one of our valued office volunteers, Carrie Adams. Carrie, 80, started as an office volunteer four years ago when our office was in Cape Coral. She saw a notice in her local church bulletin and joined us. Her interest in literacy increased. She became a regular volunteer in the English Café program of the Lee County Library, which provides adult learners the opportunity to practice speaking English with native speakers like Carrie. Carrie is a retired accountant, has been jogging daily for 40 years and is a member of the Fort Myers Track Club and the Epiphany Episcopal Church in Cape Coral. She has lived in the Cape for 31 years and enjoys her family of 3 children and 6 grandchildren. We appreciate Carrie and the smiling face she brings to us every Thursday

morning.

## Board of Director Elections

At LVLC's Annual Meeting on June 23, four directors were elected to a two-year

term: Lina Abril, Harry Casimir, Michele Hoover, CPA, and Carlos Urzola. Three directors were re-elected to a two-year term: Amy Breault, Julie Lewis Hauf, Esq. and Mary Smiley. They join: Rachel Cooke, Doug Harrison, Ph.D., Amy Wecker, MD and Wendy West. Officers elected: President, Doug Harrison, Ph.D.; Vice-President, Amy Breault; Treasurer, Michele Hoover, CPA, and Secretary, Rachel Cooke.

## New Email Addresses

The LVLC Staff has new email addresses. Please note this change: Tess Murphy, tesslvlc@gmail.com, Kristin Przelomiec, programdirectorlvlc@gmail.com, MaryAnne Aivaliotis, lvlcread@gmail.com, and Julia Krasynska, datamanagerlvlc@gmail.com.

## Program Highlights

### Teaching Adults with Learning Disabilities



Program Director Kristin Przelomiec opens the shipment to Barton Reading and Spelling curriculum which LVLC uses to tutor adults with learning disabilities.

About 10% of our adult students are native English speakers who cannot read and write because of a learning disability. With a donation from the Kleist Foundation we have purchased another level of the Barton Reading & Spelling System--considered by many to be the best system in the world for teaching people with dyslexia how to read and write. We purchased Levels 1-3 last year with a grant from the Cape Coral Community Foundation. Our recent purchase of Level 4 is just in time for several students who are ready to move to the next level. (There are 10 levels in all.) Adults who need tutoring for learning to read and write should contact us at 415-3621. We provide a free, confidential and EFFECTIVE program for them.

### LVLC Partners with Goodwill Industries in East Fort Myers

Goodwill has opened a new facility in East Fort Myers that provides free space for community partners such as Literacy Volunteers to offer their services to local residents. LVLC will register adults in our adult literacy program. This includes adults who want to learn to read and write, or who are speakers of other languages and wish to learn English. Other partners include Catholic Charities, CCMI, Goodwill Job-Link, GoodGuides, Moms and Tots Family Literacy program, and NAMI. The new facility is located at 4162 Palm Beach Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33916. To find out about Literacy Volunteers services available in this new facility, call 239-693-9304 x 220.

We will hold a training session on August 11 to train tutors for the East Fort Myer site. We are also looking for enthusiastic volunteers to staff our office there. Please contact Kristin Przelomiec, our program director, if you are interested in being a tutor or an office volunteer. She can be reached at 239-415-3521.



## Adults Learn English through Community Partnerships

Lee County parents of pre-school children in two community programs are learning English with the help of LVLC tutors. The Heights Foundation is providing Parent-Child Play Groups this summer in the Harlem Heights neighborhood in South Fort Myers. After the parents spend time with their children (see photo), they meet with an LVLC tutor to learn English. This free program is open to Harlem Heights residents. LVLC tutors also

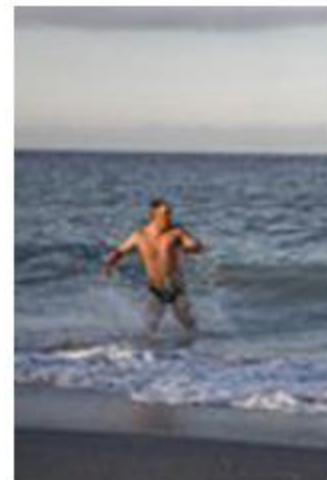
just completed a 5-month program in which 18 parents of children in Head Start improved their ability to read, write and speak English. This was part of Parent University in Fort Myers, a program of the federally-funded Head Start program for income-eligible preschool children and their parents. These are just two programs in which LVLC tutors work with community partners to provide English literacy education to adults who need it. Research shows that having literate parents is a major predictor in the success of children in school.

## LVLC Events:

### RUN for Reading

Our second annual RUN for Reading weekend will be October 23-24 at South Seas Island Resort. On Saturday, walk or run a 5K course, and on Sunday, combine the run with a swim in the Gulf's warm waters to participate in the Aquathlon. This event is presented by IMA and hosted by South Seas Island Resort. Other sponsors include the Zonta Club of Sanibel/Captiva and Alexander & Hoover CPA's, PA.

To find out more about this event, or to register, contact LVLC at [www.leeadultliteracy.com](http://www.leeadultliteracy.com) or become a fan of RUN for Reading at [www.facebook.com/RunforReading](http://www.facebook.com/RunforReading). Participants can register for the 5K Run/Walk and the Aquathlon at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com). South Seas will be offering discounted special weekend rates for RUN for Reading participants, including athletes, volunteers and anyone else who wishes to stay at this fabulous resort and enjoy the event. Please contact [www.southseas.com/run\\_for\\_reading/](http://www.southseas.com/run_for_reading/).



A participant in the 2009 Aquathlon at South Seas Island Resort

**Interested in being a sponsor or volunteer for this event? Contact LVLC at 415-3621.**

## Chico's Warehouse Sale

Thank you to the 75 women who joined us for this sale in May. Your shopping raised \$553 for LVLC.

## Cheers for Literacy

Our second annual Cheers for Literacy party was a happy occasion in a beautiful location. We were fortunate to be hosted by the award-winning Blue Coyote Supper Club in the Caloosa Yacht and Racquet Club, Fort Myers. We raised \$1300! Our thanks to our sponsors: **IMA, Alexander & Hoover, CPA's, Planet Fitness and the Blue Coyote Supper Club.**

## Thanks to:



Scott Gregory of Rotary of Fort Myers South presents a check to LVLC Executive Director Tess Murphy

In May LVLC received a \$5,000 grant from Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Florida to continue a second Health Literacy Project in cooperation with the Adult Education Program of the Lee County School District, and Lee Memorial Health System. June brought word of a \$2,000 grant from the Sanibel/Captiva Congregational United Church of Christ, and \$1,000 from the Rotary Club of Fort Myers South.

### Staff:

Tess Murphy, Executive Director, tesslvlc@gmail.com  
Kristin Przelomiec, Program Director, programdirector@gmail.com  
MaryAnne Aivaliotis, VISTA Volunteer, lvlcread@gmail.com  
Julia Krasynska, Data Manager, datamanagerlvlc@gmail.com

## Mission Statement

Our mission is to promote adult literacy in one-to-one or small group instruction through the training, supervision and support of volunteer tutors. Our methods and procedures include effective training of volunteers; providing support services for volunteers and learners; inspiring broad community awareness and support for our services; and, collaborating with individuals, groups and organizations that share our goal of providing literacy services to Lee County..