



# » THE LANTERN «

ORLEANS COUNTY ADULT LEARNING SERVICES—“LIGHTING THE WAY TO LEARNING”

Volume 7 Issue 1

JUNE 2013



“Hello”  
from Rose

I decided to say “Hello” and update everyone about what I’ve been

doing since stepping down from the presidency of OCALS’ board of directors. First of all, everyone should be aware that relinquishing the reins of the top position to Penny Nice brought great peace of mind and comfort to me. When it became obvious that health problems, including spine fusion surgery on May 8<sup>th</sup>, were interfering with my handling the role of president Penny quickly assisted, serving as interim president until her election at the organization’s 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner Meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Penny possesses many admirable traits and to list them all would take more space on this newsletter than I’m allowed. Suffice it to say that when I prayed for a strong leader, a trustworthy and reliable person, one who loved literacy and would protect and help OCALS continue in its’ mission and growth, God answered my prayers.

I have remained on the board of directors and took on the role of Leadership Development Chairperson, in addition to chairing our board’s Accreditation Committee. All board members assist on other committees, as needed; therefore, I try to assist with fund development and community relations. I’m from the old school of Literacy Volunteers of America (LVA)...when they used the “50/50 Program Management System.” All volunteer literacy programs should have a good management system and I learned years ago from the State and National Literacy offices about the 50/50 system. This system separates volunteer literacy management into two focus areas, Intake and Support. Each focus area is of equal importance in the operation of a program. Maintaining a balance between the two is the essential element of good volunteer literacy program management. We had an organizational meeting in March last year introducing the 50/50 system and also developing committees and determining their functions. These functions are: Program; Budget/Finance; Fund Development; Public/Community Relations; Personnel; and Leadership Development/Nominating.

in non-profit and literacy organizations, I could best help our new board president and the OCALS organization by seeing where voids exist and what’s necessary to the growth and well being of OCALS. Due to the loss of prior literacy organizations in Orleans County, I’m very conscientious about the stability and future of OCALS. One major step we took was finding a home for our base of operations in the new Hoag Library in Albion; the next step is becoming accredited with the national literacy organization, ProLiteracy America. We’ve already applied for our accreditation and will soon have a site visit by a representative of ProLiteracy.

As all who know me, I love the written word and tend to go overboard in my messages, therefore, I’ll end at this point and say thank you for your interest in OCALS and support of the literacy cause, and know I’ll be with the program for as long as they’ll have me.

Sincerely,  
Rose Ruck



I decided that with my background



## OCALS ANNUAL VOLUNTEER PICNIC

Mark your calendars! Volunteer Appreciation Picnic, Saturday, August 3rd at the home of Richard and Pam Foss at 3:00 pm. See you there!

For more information contact Pam Foss at [pfoss1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:pfoss1@rochester.rr.com)

(Please bring lawn chairs, if possible.)



*OCALS would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their generous donations this past year:*

**\$2,000+**

Donna & Shane Seyler

Terry & Kevin Novak

**\$1,000+**

Mark & Nancy Schaaf (in honor of Joseph and Joyce Gehl)

**\$100.00—\$999.99**

Batavia Walmart

Christopher Mitchell Funeral Homes

Iota Master Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, Medina, NY

Joseph & Joyce Gehl

Mark E. Erway

Orleans Co. Deputy Sheriff's Assoc.

**\$25.00—\$99.99**

Child Welfare Assn. of Orleans Co.

Clarendon Lions Club

James & Barbara Hancock

Tonawanda office of Optum Health

*Special Thanks to all who contributed to OCALS by participating in RoctheDay on 12/12/12!*

**THANK YOU!**

This year the **United Way of Orleans County** allocated \$15,000 in grant monies to OCALS allowing us to pursue the objectives and goals of our Family Literacy Program. In providing this financial support the United Way assists us in partnering with key organizations, agencies, and the local school districts that serve Orleans County to provide a continuum of services spanning early childhood through senior citizen. Through our partnerships with AgriBusiness Child Development, BOCES, GCC, HOAG Library, LIFE Program and other Human Service agencies it is our goal to impact high school completion rates, help build parenting skills that relate to literacy development, as well as meet the diverse literacy needs represented in the communities of Orleans County. We are grateful for their continued support and confidence in our organization.

In December 2012 OCALS was the recipient of a generous grant from the **Curtis Foundation** in the amount of \$1793.00. This important grant was used to buy iPads for use in our Family Literacy Program at Holley's Agri-Business Child Development Center (Grace's Place). The iPads are used by OCALS' tutors to help the children improve their reading and writing skills. The iPads are also being used with the LIFE program at Albion Middle School in English Language Arts studies, and are used to help students develop their math skills.



**OCALS ANNUAL DINNER MEETING**

OCALS 7th Annual Dinner Meeting will be held Thursday, September 12, at 6 pm at the Millville United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

For more information contact us at [OCALS2006@gmail.com](mailto:OCALS2006@gmail.com)

(Please bring a dish to pass for the potluck dinner)



**UNITED STATES CONFERENCE ON ADULT LITERACY**

OCALS is looking for a representative to attend the 3 day USCAL conference in Washington, D.C. Oct 31—Nov. 2, 2013. Attendees get to choose which workshops and seminars they would like to participate in, and most expenses such as lodging, transportation and registration fees will be paid by OCALS. Please let us know if you would like to attend this informational and inspirational event. This is a wonderful opportunity for anyone truly dedicated to learning more about literacy!

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

### *Thinking about volunteer work??*

### *Interested in Literacy??*

**OCALS is a not-for-profit organization that recruits, trains and supports a dedicated group of volunteers who serve in various capacities to promote and foster literacy in Orleans County. We encourage the participation of volunteers who understand our goals and support our mission to provide literacy services for all those in need in Orleans County. Here is a list of some the important volunteer opportunities available:**

**Tutoring**  
**Fundraising**  
**Office/Clerical**  
**Public Relations**  
**Board of Directors**  
**AmeriCorps Worker**  
**Program Coordinator**

**For more information on OCALS please check out our website at [www.ocalsfamilyliteracy.com](http://www.ocalsfamilyliteracy.com).**

**For more information on how you can become involved in our organization call (585) 590-1292 or email [ocal2006@gmail.com](mailto:ocal2006@gmail.com)**



## MONTARY DONATIONS

If you cannot volunteer your time or your services but would like to make a tax deductible donation to our organization please send your donation to the following address:

**OCALS**  
**134 S. Main St.**  
**Albion, NY 14411**

Thank you for your interest in our organization and your participation in supporting our goals!

## "HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BOARD"

### From the February 14, 2013 Meeting

- The Program Committee met with LIFE Program representatives to develop our partnership in providing tutors to work with middle and high school students in Albion and Medina.
- It was announced that the GED Program in Medina is now accepting tutors on a walk-in basis Mondays through Fridays from 9:00 am – Noon.
- AmeriCorps worker, Stephanie Merkley, has completed 300 hours.
- The Board revised the contract for services with Pamela Foss, Family Literacy Program Director, from 20 hours per month to 40 hours per month for 2013.
- The Board regretfully accepted resignations of Della Morales from the Board of Directors and Tutor Trainer and April Fuller as Home Connection Coordinator.

### From the May 9, 2013 Meeting

- Timothy Dunham was voted onto the Board of Directors. Tim is currently employed by the Holley CSD. He has been involved with Special Olympics and looks forward to helping with literacy needs in Orleans County.
- Barb Dunham reported that we currently have 17 tutors working with 15 early childhood students at Grace's Place, 6 adult students, 2 tutors working with the LIFE Program in Albion and 3 tutors working at the Medina site.
- Treasurer Don Ruck presented the proposed budget for July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014 as prepared by the Finance Committee which was accepted. An audit of the July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012 books completed by David Callard was also accepted.
- Rose Ruck gave an update on the progress being made toward our goal of accreditation with ProLiteracy America. Our Site Review is being scheduled for June.
- President Penny Nice reported on attending a "Coffee at the College" event hosted by GCC. It was an opportunity for GCC and partner agencies/businesses to dialogue about local needs and services.



## Orleans County Adult Learning Services

134 S. Main Street

Albion, NY 14411

"THE LANTERN" is a publication of  
*Orleans County Adult Learning Services.*  
Submissions from staff, students and tutors  
are invited and encouraged.  
Please send submissions to:  
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Holley, NY 14470  
jeanneflow@rochester.rr.com

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DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT OUR  
FACEBOOK PAGE AT  
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/OCALS1](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/OCALS1)  
AND OUR WESITE AT  
[WWW.OCALSFAMILYLITERACY.COM](http://WWW.OCALSFAMILYLITERACY.COM)

## **OCALS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President—**Penny Nice**

Vice President—**Mary Lee Knights**

Secretary—**Jeanne Flow**

Treasurer—**Don Ruck**

Chair of Adult Learner's Support Group - **Marcie Van Epps**

Nominating Committee—**Lorienda Smith**

Fund Development-**David Callard, Chairperson of Orleans County  
Legislature**

Literacy Representative-Medina/Lyndonville School System—**Penny Nice**

Literacy Representative-Albion School System—**Barb Dunham**

Program Committee—**Renee Garnier**

Board Member—**Kathy Bogan, Asst. District Atty**

Board Member—**Georgia Thomas**

Board Member-**Rose Ruck**

Board Member—**Tim Dunham**