



»THE LANTERN«

ORLEANS COUNTY ADULT LEARNING SERVICES—"LIGHTING THE WAY TO LEARNING"

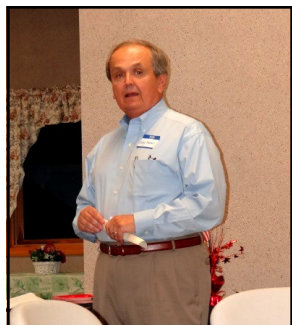
Volume 7 Issue 2

Dec 2014

OCALS 8th Annual Dinner Meeting Highlights:



Penny Nice passed the OCALS Lantern on to our new President, Mr. Don Ruck. Congratulations Don, as you enter your term leading us as President and also remaining on as our Treasurer. OCALS members wish to thank Penny for all the great work she has done as President these last two years, and for remaining on the board as our Secretary. Jeanne Flow was voted in as Vice-President



We were pleased to greet our surprise guest, Senator George Maziarz, who was instrumental in obtaining start-up funds for OCALS to ensure literacy support in Orleans County. He attended this year's meeting to express his continued faith in our organization and to thank tutors, students, and volunteers for their continued service to residents of Orleans County who are struggling with literacy issues. The Senator will retire from his position at the end of 2104, and we are truly grateful for his support of OCALS.



Guest Speaker was our own Board member, Georgia Thomas, who dressed in costume to give us some interesting facts about our anthem, "The Star Spangled Banner", and the flag which inspired it. It was an appropriate topic for September 11 as we remember the sacrifices people have made for our country on this date, and throughout the years. Georgia presented an 1812 era flag centerpiece to Sen. George Maziarz before he left. These centerpieces also decorated the tables, and several lucky winners got to take one home.

Volunteer of the Year Award:

Barb Dunham

Special Friend Award:

Lisa Ireland

Key Contributor Awards:

Terry & Kevin Novak

Donna & Shane Seyler

Mark & Nancy Schaaf

Mark Erway

Penny Nice presented Certificates of Appreciation and awards to honor all tutors and students.

“Tutor of the Year “ award was presented to **Ann McElwee**.

“Student of the Year” award was presented to **Carlos Smith**.

Appreciation to: United Way of Orleans County-accepted by Virginia Kropf

Orleans-Niagara BOCES

GCC Liberty Partnership Program - accepted by new director Maryann Bowman

ABCD at Holley “Grace’s Place” - accepted by Pam Foss

Hoag Library—accepted by Terry Wilbert

Pathstone—letter sent by Regional Administrator, Marcel Taylor, was read by Penny Nice

Orleans County Foundation

Albion Walmart

Baxter Healthcare

“The Daily News” - accepted by Virginia Kropf

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BOARD:

8th Annual Dinner Meeting, September 11, 2014

- **Workforce Literacy** - Will be offering literacy services to local employers. We are also reaching out to Genesee Community College and 10 other major businesses in the interest of collaborating efforts.
- **Adult Literacy** - In 2013-2014 several people are working on basic literacy, ESL, and math. There were 21 tutors with 343 teaching hours. Age ranges of clients are 9 to 71. We will start the new year with 22 tutors.
- **Family Literacy Program** - This year we completed our 3rd year at ABCD Holley. 3 tutors worked with 16 children who showed above par readiness skills when they started Kindergarten in September. ABCD Newfane serviced 11 students and will continue to provide services.
- **Tutors** - We will continue to support the Albion and Medina Liberty Partnership Program at the middle school level.
- **Nominating Committee** - Discussed responsibilities and job descriptions of board members. Don Colquhoun was familiar with board responsibilities at a state level. He offered to help make a few changes to our job descriptions. He also suggested we add a conflict of interest policy and continued board of director training. It was decided that we will recruit more board members and more evenly share the workload. We also discussed the need to regroup the board list so that all board members don’t rotate off the list at the same time.
- **Please** - remember that speakers are available to talk to various groups about our organization and programs, and to present opportunities for volunteer work.



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**CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
FOR OCALS UPDATES AND TO
FIND OUT ABOUT UPCOMING
EVENTS.**

PLEASE LIKE US ON FACEBOOK:

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/OCALS1

*A Very Sincere Thank You to all of the
volunteers who have dedicated so
much time and talent to OCALS !*

WWW.OCALSFAMILYLITERACY.COM

Public/Community Relations

We were successful in bringing awareness to residents of Orleans County about the services provided by OCALS during several public events this year.

In May we set up a booth along the Memorial Day Parade in Medina and handed out balloons, enjoyed conversation and walked along the parade route handing out flyers. Thank you to **THE BOOK SHOPPE** for allowing us to set up in front of their store.

In June we greeted Spring with a beautiful white tent at the Holley June Fest. Residents enjoyed our display and many entered their names to win the beautiful basket raffle. Thank you to **St. Mary's Church** for providing us with a space to set up.

Also in June we attended the Strawberry festival in Albion where more balloons and flyers were handed out. It was fun to see all the children walking around the festival with OCALS balloons.

In July we attended the Orleans County 4-h Fair where we met several hundred people and continued to hand out more information and lots of balloons!



Special recognition to Jeanne and Vic Flow for all the hours they spent working on the Community Relations Events. They not only set up the tent and tables, but also decorated and transported items. Jeanne designed raffle baskets and filled in whenever needed. Jeanne and Vic are both dedicated to OCALS and its' success! **THANK YOU.**

OCALS ANNUAL BAKE SALE

Each weekend in October OCALS held a bake sale during Knight's Giant Pumpkin Event. Mary Lee Knights graciously provided shelter and electricity to our table where dozens of beautiful and tasty baked goods were displayed and sold.

Some days were rainy and cold, but we had lots of fun watching the smiles on the faces of children and adults alike as they chose the perfect pumpkins and then topped off their day with a cup of hot chocolate, bowl of hot soup and/or a fabulous treat from our table.

Each weekend many board members and volunteers donated home baked goods and delivered them to Knights Farm in Lyndonville. We are so grateful for each and every one who contributed to this wonderful event.

Special Thanks to Jackie Keller for organizing the Bake Sale and to Mary Lee Knights for hosting the event and providing us whatever we needed, including her very helpful employee, Terry, and his family who all helped in any way they could.

THANKS TO ALL

Diana Pathammavong
AmeriCorps

I'd like to thank OCALS for allowing me to work with you during the last 10 months. I've enjoyed getting to know many of you and learn about the valiant work you do to enrich the lives of Orleans County residents through the gift of education. I especially enjoyed my part in Community Relations events during my time with OCALS. We handed out balloons and flyers to several hundred people in Medina, Holley, Albion and at the 4-H fairgrounds. We continued to reach people during the bake sale held at Mary Lee Knights Pumpkin Farm in October. My life was enriched with every encounter.

SPECIAL THANKS to Rose Ruck for introducing me to AmeriCorps, and to Jeanne Flow for instructing me and serving as my mentor. I was so impressed with the dedication of these two women that I have offered to volunteer after my term with AmeriCorps. I'll assist in any way OCALS deems appropriate. **THANK YOU!**



Orleans County Adult Learning Services

134 S. Main Street

Albion, NY 14411

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Joseph Epstein once said,

“We do not choose to be born. We do not choose our parents, or the country of our birth. We do not, most of us choose to die; nor do we choose the time and conditions of our death. But within this realm of choicelessness,

we do choose how we live.”

Thank you to all who have chosen to better the life of others through the gift of reading and education!

A funded agency of:



United Way of Orleans Co.



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PAGE AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/OCALS1
AND OUR WESITE AT
WWW.OCALSFAMILYLITERACY.COM

OCALS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President—**Don Ruck**

Vice President—**Jeanne Flow**

Secretary—**Penny Nice**

Treasurer—**Don Ruck**

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

Leadership Development Committee Chair—**Rose Ruck**

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

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

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

Board Member—**Kristine Mostyn—Asst. Dir. Lee-Whedon Library**

Board Member—**Lynne Johnston, Vice Chairperson/Orleans Co.
Legislature**

Board Member—**Georgia Thomas**

Board Member—**Tim Dunham**

Board Member—**Don Colquhoun**