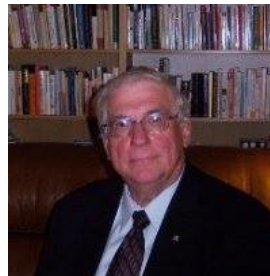


“Literacy is a bridge from
misery to hope.”
— [Kofi Annan](#)

Our Mission Statement is Our True North By: Richard Chagnon



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We are starting our 32nd year on the Eastern Shore teaching adults to read, write, speak, and understand spoken English. I have chosen to bring you up to date on what we have done since our last newsletter and plans going forward by anchoring them on our mission statement, first introduced ten years ago.

Our Mission Statement

The Eastern Shore Literacy Council’s mission is to empower adult residents of the Eastern Shore of Virginia, through competence in digital, financial, health and basic literacy, to more fully and confidently participate in our community as well as to attain higher levels of education and/or employment

Empowering Adult Residents

We have two distinct communities of Adult Learners. The ABE (Adult Basic Education) Learners speak and understand spoken English, but have difficulty reading and writing the language at a level at which they can continue their education as well as get meaningful employment. The ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Learners come to us from different countries, languages, and traditions, most notably Spanish, French Creole, and Vietnamese. We continue to address their need for inclusion by strengthening their ability to speak, understand, read and write English.

Competence in Digital, Financial, Health and Basic Literacy

Adult Learners are attracted to the learning that will benefit themselves and their families. We are introducing more and more opportunities to use computers, tablets, and yes, even phones to further advance the learning of English. In addition, later this year we will introduce budgeting and health education to increase their incentive to develop a fully workable English.

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Spell-Rite Friday 4/6/18

Are you excited about words? Are you a crossword puzzle enthusiast? Do you love spelling? Who doesn't?

This is your chance to participate in Eastern Shore Literacy Council's Spell-Rite fundraiser.

Perhaps you are looking for a night out that's full of fun? It is a three-fer. It's fun, it's food, and it's family. It's also another opportunity to experience the humor of well-known Carla Savage Wells!

It's the annual adult spelling bee, Spell-Rite. It will be held at the Mary Nottingham Smith Cultural Enrichment Center on Friday, April 6th. Silent Auction will start at 5:30 P.M. with Dinner at 6:00 P.M.

Dinner will be provided by Kendall's Kountry Kitchen and will

consist of pulled pork, cole slaw, fried chicken, green beans, collards, potato salad, and tea rolls. A Cash Bar will be available.

Last Year winners Book Bin Baddies also took first place in the 2016 Spell Rite. Will they win three in a row?

Tickets are available at the following locations:

Book Bin
Rayfield's Pharmacy
Sundial Books
CD Marsh
H&H Pharmacy (Oak Hall and Chincoteague Locations)
Literacy Office

\$35 before March 27, \$40 after. No tickets sold at the door.



Annual Meeting/Award Celebration 4/16/18

The Eastern Shore Literacy Council is holding its Annual Meeting/Award Celebration on Monday, April 16th at 6:30 PM at Metompkin Elementary School. All tutors, learners, friends of Literacy and interested public are invited to attend. We will honor our English as a Second Language and Adult Basic Education Tutors and Learners of the Year, as well as presenting community awards and recognitions. Light refreshments will be served. Please join us to celebrate our learners' and tutors' accomplishments.

Rainbow Dinner 2018 - 5/18/18



The Eastern Shore Literacy Council will be hosting a Rainbow Dinner on Friday, May 18th at 6:pm. The dinner will be held at Grace United Methodist Church in Parksville, Virginia. This is an event that focuses on the diversity of our organization, and the people we serve in our community. The dinner is a good time for all to come together and share fellowship and a good meal.

Tutors Needed-New Tutor Training

“Once you learn to read, you will be forever free.”

— [Frederick Douglass](#)

We love our tutors! They give generously of their time and knowledge to help adults on the Shore improve their English skills. But, we have learners waiting to be matched to a tutor, and we just don't have enough tutors. What you need is a love for the Shore and the willingness to improve it one Learner at a time.

Won't you consider becoming a tutor? No special education is needed. We train you and give you the materials you need to be a great tutor. Give us a call at 757-789-1761 or email us at esliteracy@gmail.com for more information, and thank you in advance for your help. Our next tutor education will take place in two parts. Part I will be Thursday evening, April 12th, from 6 pm to 9 pm, and Part II will be Saturday morning, April 14th, from 10 am to 1 pm.

Family Literacy Night is a Huge Success



“Children are made readers on the laps of their parents.”

— [Emilie Buchwald](#)

Our main focus for family literacy night is to provide families with the opportunity to build their knowledge and interest that assists with their growth within the community and involvement in their children's success as well as their own.

Each of the lessons that is presented to the families promotes interactive activities that focus on improving their literacy skills, becoming an active member in the community, and building positive home and school relationships.

Guest speakers who presented at our family literacy night are representatives of well-known organizations in the community such as Chincoteague Bay Field Station, Eastern Shore Public Library, and Chincoteague Island Museum.

Family Literacy Night takes place every 2nd Wednesday of the month at Metompkin Elementary School. All our learners and tutors are invited to attend. Please call so we have enough supplies for all.

Planning is underway to establish a second Family Literacy Program, this time at Pungoteague Elementary School. We are currently looking for teachers and child care workers. The school principal is eager to receive us when we are ready.

Eastern Shore Literacy Council

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Richard Chagnon - Executive Director

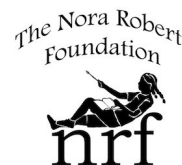
Jessica Pawin - Office Manager

Raquel Strand - Program Coordinator

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Want to stay up to date on with all the latest news and events of the Eastern Shore Literacy Council, find us on Facebook and like our page on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/easternshore.literacycouncil



Change a life. Volunteer to be a tutor. Call 757-789-1761 or email esliteracy@gmail.com

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More Fully Participate in our Community

Our Family Literacy experience at Metompkin Elementary has been most positive. Adults are systematically learning to speak and understand English with their children supported by our child-care attendants in dealing with homework and school. The family nights of Parents and Children Together (PACT) have speakers from Eastern Shore organizations that broaden our Learners' knowledge and help them engage in the larger community. Our plan now is to expand our Family Literacy offerings, first in Pungoteague, and then later this year into Northampton County as well.

Higher Levels of Education and/or Employment

We are delighted to have initiated a joint course with the ES Community College called "Customer Service and Sales" with a goal of providing the successful students with a certificate they can add to their resume when looking for a job in one of the retail stores on the Eastern Shore. We plan to do more.

Yes, I would like to donate to the Spell Rite Event 2018

I would like to make a tax free donation to sponsor ____ a learner \$60 , ____ a tutor \$120, ____ a class \$500, ____ other

Send this form with your check to the address above. Check for total of \$_____ enclosed.

PAYPAL may be used for donations to Eastern Shore Literacy Council

Name: _____ Phone _____

Mailing address: _____

Street/PO Box

City & State

Zip

Email: _____ ***Yes, send me this newsletter by email in 2018*** _____

