

Volume 1, issue 9

Summer 2018

"Not all readers are leaders, but all leaders are readers."

- Harry S. Truman

Board Members
Betty Mariner-CoPresident
Steve Doan-Co President
Philip Wilson-VP
Jackie Davis-Treasurer
Karen Morris-Sec'y
Kitty Croke
Lakesha Gummeson
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Our Mission Statement is Our True North

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.

Saying Goodbye to Our Leader and Friend



On Friday, June 1 at St. Andrew's Catholic Church in Chincoteague, Richard Chagnon, the man who had spent the last year guiding our Eastern Shore Literacy Council, was laid to rest. In his 76 years, Richard had been a Christian minister (Roman Catholic), a business entrepreneur and leader, a devoted husband and father, and a friend and advocate for so many

both in Chincoteague and on the Shore as well as in New Jersey. His life reflected great loyalty and a passion for literacy, a cause his beloved wife Lucille had championed and for which she authored three books.

Richard's decision to steer our group was a labor of love and a tribute to Lucille. In just one year, he had worked for and received many corporate and government grants, oversaw the move to a new temporary office, begun to build a new Board and Staff, and tirelessly put in many extra hours to publicize the cause of literacy here on the Eastern Shore-both for those whose native language is not English and for adults seeking to increase their reading proficiency. His untimely passing leaves a great hole in our lives and in our group. In his memory, let's resolve to work even harder for the goals he set for us--with the same infectious optimism and bright spirit he radiated. Rest in Peace, dear Richard!

SPELL RITE SUCCESS!



Relocating from the Country Club to Accomac and Mary N. Smith Cultural Enrichment Center for our "new" annual spelling bee was an adventure – one we chose, hoping that our loyal Spell Rite fans would follow us. And come they did. The community came to try their hand at spelling words many had not

heard before and watch their friends battle it out for Adult Spellers of the Year. Kendall's Kountry Kitchen supplied mountains of fried chicken, BBQ and fixin's and the battle was fierce for best team.

Congratulations to the winning Spell-Rite team, The Bear Cubs (shown above) who battled the library team, The Bookmates, to take the title. The team of Joe and Amy Betit, former Bear

and Cub owners, and Sue Mastyl, who have won numerous times, held on while most in the audience were amazed that they could spell so many words they had never even heard before. Several supporters commented that Kendall's Kountry Kitchen food was the best yet and a welcome change.

The Board of Directors and staff regard the event as a resounding success and look forward to another fun-filled event next year. Thank you to everyone who participated in Spell-Rite.

Annual Meeting/Award Celebration 4/16/18

The goal of the Annual Meeting is to recap Literacy activities from the past year, say goodbye to departing Board members and install new ones, and to honor our learners and supporters. Board President, Betty Mariner, thanked outgoing Board members Janet Rochester and Dr. Art Fournier and introduced new members Steve Doan, Philip Wilson, Lakesha Gummeson, and J. F. Gariepy. ED Richard Chagnon installed the Board and then announced awards for tutors, learners and supporters.

Awards for 2017 were then presented:

- ABE Tutor of the Year: Donna Doan
- ABE Learner of the Year: Robert Lenihan
- ESOL Tutor of the Year: Beverly Hill
- ESOL Learner of the Year: Nehemias(Nemi) Roblero
- Volunteer of the Year: Doris Gebel
- Business Supporter of the Year: WESR, which promotes announcements of our upcoming events
- Class Supporter of the Year: Metompkin Elementary School; Principle Belinda spoke briefly to the group in Spanish and English
- In-Kind Supporter of the Year: Tankard Nurseries, which supplies an array of beautiful plants every year for our auctions
- 12 ESOL and 2 ABE learners received gift cards for outstanding attendance

Also at the meeting was the soon-to-be-elected Board Secretary Karen Morris. Since moving to the Shore, Karen, an elementary school teacher for 20 years, has been an ESLC tutor for 1 1/2 years and tutored youth for Una Familia. She has also worked as the assistant manager and volunteer at the RSMH Gift Shop for about four years.

FEED A MIND 6/15-24

"There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all."

Jacqueline Kennedy



Feed-A-Mind is where restaurants, businesses and the Literacy Council meet; restaurants support the Eastern Shore Literacy Council programs empowering adults. Everyone on the Shore can join in by eating out during FEED-A-MIND week and please let the restaurants know you are there to support Literacy.

The Blarney Stone Pub, Bojangles, Club Car Café, Don Valerio's, The Great Machipongo Clam Shack, Happy Buffet, Little Italy, Machipongo Trading Company, and the Island Creamery, are participating all week. Wolff's Sandwich Shoppe kicks off the event with a surf and turf dinner on 6/15. The event ends

on June 24 at Mallard's at the Wharf with a fun-filled deck party and auction hosted by Johnny Mo.

Other restaurants have selected a specific day—June 19th-The Island House; June 20th-Brown Dog Ice Cream, Captain Zack's, and The Fairgrounds with Celebrity Waiters. The final list will be published on our Facebook page. Shown above is the 2017 celebrity wait staff at Fair Grounds in Onancock.

Tutors Needed-New Tutor Training

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 on 6/29 9-3 and 6/30 9-1.

Fire Safety Training at Family Literacy Night

"Reading is a discount ticket to everywhere."

- Mary Schmich

Fire Safety was the topic for our May Family Literacy Night. Peter Surran, Fire Inspector for the Accomack Department of Public Safety led our Metompkin Adult Learners and their families through the steps to take should a fire occur in their home using a helpful guide book. After a demonstration on the use of a smoke alarm, Mr. Surran told the group the exciting news that he would come to their homes to install a smoke alarm free of charge. Many families have already taken advantage of this opportunity. Mr. Surran was an ideal educator for our families and concluded the evening by donning his fire safety gear to

show the children what a fire fighter would be wearing should they ever need to be rescued from a fire



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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

PRESORTED STANDARD NON-PROFIT ORG PERMIT NO 104 EXMORE, VA 23350







SAVE THE DATE! The 2018 Drive for Literacy Golf Tournament is Friday, October 5, 2018 at the Eastern Shore Yacht and Country Club. Yes, they had a devastating fire in 2017 but you'll still enjoy a buffet lunch and social hour with hot and cold appetizers in a protected area during which prizes will be awarded.

Sponsorships are available ranging from \$2000 to \$100 with multi-media promotion for your business with several levels also including golfer fees. Single golfer fee is \$100, or sign up your team for \$400. Please call the office at 757-789-1761 for additional information or email us at esliteracy@gmail.com.

Yes, I would like to donate to the Eastern Shore Literacy Council						
	d this form with your check to the	a learner \$60,a tutor \$120,e address above. Check for total of	\$ enclosed.			
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