



LitBits

1600 South Avenue, Rochester New York 14620-3036

(585) 473-3030

www.literacyrochester.org

LVR's Annual Awards Night



Judy Dauphinee Volunteer of the Year Jake Pietruszewski with outgoing Board President John Chapman



LVR student Luz Dary Gomez and her family at Awards Night



Rose-Marie Klipstein and Peter Giopulos at LVR's Annual Awards Ceremony

The room was filled, the audience was dazzled, the cake was beautiful, and the spirits were soaring as LVR presented awards to graduating students, pins to tutors and thanked all who make LVR such an incredible place to learn.

One of the evening's many highlights came from Luz Dary Gomez, who read her essay on the journey - both geographic and scholastic - from her native Colombia, to Rochester, NY.

The Judy Dauphinee Volunteer of the Year award was presented to Jake Pietruszewski for his outstanding work as a tutor, preview presenter, spokesman, and "Navigator" for LVR.

Pins were presented to five year volunteers Lois Benedict, Lori Englund, David Heinsler, Britton Hopkin, John LaVaque, Cathy Pospula, and Ronald Rockwell; 10 year volunteers Allison Di Marco, Diana Perry, and Mary Jo Peters; for 15 years, Florence Smith, for 20 years, Peter Giopulos, and to Rose-Marie Klipstein for serving LVR for 40 years.

Additionally, there was a special tribute to Mellissa Woodhams, Services Coordinator, for 15 years of dedicated service to LVR.

PLEASE HELP SPREAD THE WORD – LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF ROCHESTER GOES GREEN. SEND US YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS TO RECEIVE LIT BITS ELECTRONICALLY. We promise not to clutter your mail box or share your information. Send your e-mail address to office@literacyrochester.org

A Message from Executive Director

Bob Mahar

In this edition you will find a list of our donors - 300+ of you! A German proverb says that "charity sees the need and not the cause" - your generosity makes the work at LVR a reality. We cannot thank you enough. Literacy Volunteers of Rochester would not exist without your support.

Together we have changed this community; but our work is not finished.

Unemployment in Rochester is high; we are the 5th poorest city in the US among the top 75 metropolitan areas. Too often these facts are the result of lack of skills - reading and math. With your help we have enabled our neighbors to learn to read and speak English, to learn math, qualify for a high school equivalency program and to gain employment. With your help we have been able to go to libraries and community centers to assist individuals with job applications and housing forms - and there is still work to be done.

To each and all of our donors we thank you for enhancing life in our community.

Save the Date!

Sept. 8: International Literacy Day

Oct. 16: Brain Game. Play, watch, bid on outstanding prizes- don't miss it!

Oct. 26: LVR at GEVA. Benefit performance of "Good People" for LVR.

Nov. 9: Memorial Art Gallery Family Day for "Golden Books" FREE and open to the public

Dec. 5: LVR Holiday Open House

For a full schedule of Previews and workshops go to www.literacyrochester.org



LVR's 50th Anniversary Night at Frontier Field

In W.P. Kinsella's 1982 novel, *Shoeless Joe* (the basis for the Kevin Costner movie "Field of Dreams"), a character says: "The one constant throughout all the years has been baseball. America has been erased like a blackboard, only to be rebuilt and then erased again..." Yet, baseball "...is the same game that Moonlight Graham played in 1905. It is a living part of our history."

....and so to celebrate LVR's 50th anniversary, we went to a baseball game!

On August 11, LVR hosted almost 200 students, tutors, and volunteers as the Rochester Red Wings played against the Durham Bulls. It is no exaggeration to say that a good time was had by all. "Rare feat a real Frontier treat" was the poetic headline in the Democrat & Chronicle on Tuesday morning. Two wins for the Red Wings and a big win for LVR!!!!

The fun is not over - we have more anniversary events scheduled throughout 2014 and hope to make new friends and continue to honor all of our long-standing friends and "family".

An LVR Christmas Story

Sometimes we are asked, "How is my contribution used?" In addition to a 4,000 item library, and the location to house this specialized resource, our program staff, and the evaluations (mandated by NY State Department of Education), there are tools that help us teach. While December is months away here is Literacy Volunteers Christmas Story....

"My students got an iPad for Christmas and wanted to use it to practice their English. After some searching, I found the well-reviewed Sentence Builder app by Mobile Education Store LLC for \$5.99. With an iTunes gift card provided by Literacy Volunteers of Rochester, I purchased the app for them and we began using it. Each screen has an illustration under a series of rotating wheels. A sentence is formed by choosing the correct word from each wheel. Multiple students can have their own accounts and progress through the app at their own pace.

We practice ordering the words in sentences during our lessons with sentences I type and cut up. I noticed an increase in the rate of improvement after they started using this app as additional homework each week. Using the app also creates an opportunity to increase vocabulary and discuss different parts of speech.

Next we purchased PrepositionBuilder, another app by Mobile Education Store LLC. This app requires the student to select the correct preposition of location to complete the sentence. There are three choices and an illustration of the sentence. This app was helpful to diversify the way we do preposition work during class and also brought up different concepts such as paddling down a river and falling off a ladder. This app is simpler than Sentence Builder and does not challenge my students as much as the Sentence Builder. Still, it is good for practice and review".

To each and every donor – thank you for supporting innovative learning at LVR!

Not So Trivial...

Each year the Brain Game, an evening of corporate trivia challenges, raises funds needed for LVR programming. To date, we have underwriting from Excellus and St. John Fisher College, and the teams committed as of this writing are St. John Fisher, Harter Secrest & Emery, Trillium Health, Triumph Group, Inero & Company, Friends of the Library, Brighton Securities, Bond Schoeneck & King, and Martino & Flynn. Don't miss out! Call for your reservation or send an e-mail to skramarsky@literacyrochester.org

...and LATE BREAKING NEWS!!!!

As of August 5th we have 11 teams playing! The word is OUT this is a great night for a great cause. We have underwriting from Excellus and St. John Fisher, and we have raffle prizes from Wegmans, Rochester Broadway Theatre League and outstanding auction prizes – a NYC condo and **NEW this year are 4 box seats for the Bills vs. the NY Jets**. Make plans to BID BID BID and win the game or a prize!

"Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope." –Kofi Annan

The former UN Secretary General said it best! As we look forward to September 8, 2014 and the celebration of International Literacy Day we are reminded of the many global connections celebrated at LVR.

In 1965, UNESCO declared September 8 International Literacy Day (ILD) in an effort to focus attention on worldwide literacy need. Celebrate ILD and share the message that developing a habit of reading, writing, listening, and speaking leads to lifelong literacy success. This year ILD is advocating an additional 60 seconds of literacy activities for 60 days to improve skills.

Our volunteers and students come from all parts of the world. Recently we have matched students and tutors from China, Colombia, and Turkey. Our friend and neighbor, Dan Meyers, President of Al Sigl, calls LVR a mini UN and we are flattered by his comparison. Thanks to each and all for broadening our horizons!



Literacy Volunteers of Rochester
Members of the Board of Directors
President, Ray Martino
Vice President, Margaret Sánchez
Secretary, Lois Benedict
Treasurer, Brian Bennett, Esq.

Sara Stout Ashcraft
Linda Bell
Richard Cardot
Alejandra Céspedes, CPA
Todd Colvin
Kim Emilo
Marion French
Erik A. Goergen
Anita Hawkins
Will Head, CPA
Jack A. Heisman
Colleen Holland, Esq.
Christopher Johnston, CPA
Victoria LaVilla
Richard Nangreave
Luis Ormaechea, Esq.
Suzanne Rodgers, PhD
Alvin Scott

Advisory Board

Ellen Arnold, EdD
John Chapman
Stewart D. Davis, Esq.
Peter Giopulos, PhD
Peter Greaves-Tunnell
Edward Hourihan, Jr., Esq.
Dianne J. Kassmann
Paul F. Keneally, Esq.
Rose-Marie B. Klipstein
Thomas Kubiak
John Laurence
Jon C. Lazenby, Esq.
Laurie Leo, CPA
Nannette Nocon
Thomas Proietti
Ray W. Warrick, ChFC

Members of the Staff

Shelley Alfieri, Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Eaton, Program Coordinator
Philip Gigliotti, Literacy Navigator Coordinator
Alice Lewis-Hickey, Accountant
Susan Kramarsky, Development Director
Robert Mahar, Executive Director
Mellissa Woodhams, Services Coordinator

Literacy Volunteers of Rochester, Inc.
1600 South Avenue
Suite 100
Rochester, NY 14620-3036
Telephone: 585-473-3030
Fax: 585-473-7478
www.literacyrochester.org



[Like us on Facebook!](#)



[Follow us on Twitter!](#)

Tribute and Memorial Donations

Please remember that another way to support Literacy Volunteers of Rochester is through your tribute and memorial donations. LVR is pleased to accept donations in celebration of special occasions, such as birthdays, anniversaries, and retirements as well as in memory of volunteers, donors, family, and friends. An LVR contribution is also the perfect gift to honor that person who doesn't need another "gift" and would appreciate knowing that LVR is benefiting from your generosity. Use our secure, online giving option at www.literacyrochester.org or give us a call at 585-473-3030.