



LitBits

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Brain Game 2013 a Success



2013 Brain Game winners from Harter, Secrest and Emery with LVR Board President John Chapman

On October 10th over 200 friends of LVR came out to participate in the 12th annual Brain Game. A good time was had by all! \$22,000 was raised to support the adult students and our wonderful volunteers!

Harter, Secrest and Emery took away the coveted trophy and played intensely against 14 well qualified teams of attorneys and accountants. Not so trivial questions were asked by WHEC -TV celebrities Rebecca LeClair and Rich Caniglia in the categories of history, literature, science and items on a McDonald's menu!

A live auction added to the excitement with fierce bidding on a

NYC weekend stay donated by Nannette Nocon and Karl Wessendorf and airfare donated by Jet Blue Airlines. A raffle which included prizes from Wegmans, the Red Wings and the Apple Store added to the festivities.

Special thanks to event sponsors Rochester Community Foundation and Boylan, Code LLP and to each of the participants and the guests who came to cheer them on.

Plans are underway for Brain Game in 2014! Start practicing and sign up soon!

50 Years at LVR

*Oh yeah, I'll tell you something
I think you'll understand
When I say that something
I wanna hold your hand
I wanna hold your hand
I wanna hold your hand*

Do you remember when that song came to the United States.....it was 1964 and, in addition to Beatle mania, the Rochester chapter of Literacy Volunteers was founded.

50 years later we are still singing that song, and Literacy Volunteers is still helping adult students learn to read and speak English, and we are helping people learn basic math skills and now helping them with "e" literacy! Literacy Volunteers of Rochester changes lives - we change the lives of our students and their families- and we change the lives of our tutors and their families.

We have every reason to celebrate and are planning to do just that in May. Details of our 50th anniversary celebration will soon be announced. We "think you'll understand" and "wanna" be a part of the celebration!

Sponsorship opportunities and tribute gifts are a wonderful way to help us celebrate. We can help you "say that something." Call 473-3030 or send an e mail to skramarsky@literacyrochester.org.

LVR Tutor Becomes Author



Terry Hin holding a copy of her book "Abigail", which she donated to the LVR Library

move back, thanks in part to how much Terry had helped her adapt to the English language.

Terry has branched out further into the field of literacy, specifically family literacy, by recently writing and publishing a children's book titled "Abigail", about a little girl and a pet parakeet. Four years ago she worked together with her friend Gretchen Koch and wrote the story, and then found an illustrator, James McGuire, to illustrate the book.

When asked about family literacy, Terry said, "It's important for families to read out loud to children."

About the writing project, she reflects, "I have a love for language and communicating and this book reflects that part of me. You don't have to be a genius to do something creative. Being creative is so satisfying; I just want to encourage people to let that part of themselves out."

Terry Hin has been a tutor with LVR for 10 years and has tutored a dozen students. Terry reflected on these years of service, saying "It's so satisfying to help someone who is marginalized by illiteracy integrate into society."

Terry has been successful in helping her students achieve their goals in learning English. She has tutored mostly ESOL students and many have gone on to do great things. One student went on to MCC and is now studying to be a nurse. Another student, moved back to Japan where she got a job with Bank of America that required her to use her English language skills. Terry's current student is from China and is studying to become a US citizen. They plan for her to take the citizenship test next summer.

Terry has branched out to assist literacy volunteers beyond just

tutoring. A few years ago, Terry was asked to lead a class of three women from Japan and China. Terry worked with them for 2 years and the women became good friends and a support system for each other. "I was nervous to move from one on one to a class, but my students learned a lot and progressed and I still keep in touch with all three of them."

Terry keeps in touch with all of her students, even after she has finished tutoring them. Soon, when she travels to New York City to visit her niece, Terry will reconnect with the former student who got a job with Bank of America in Japan. She loved life in America so much that she wanted to

