

ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada

NEWSLETTER

Tutoring in ESL, GED, Computer Literacy and Citizenship AT NO COST!

Volume 3, Issue 5

September-October 2012

ANOTHER ONE OF OUR AMAZING TUTORS

This month we would like to profile one of our Carson City tutors, JANET BRAHAM. Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, Janet attended Cal State Long Beach and earned a Master's in Pediatric Nursing. Thereafter, she worked in Texas for five years as a Midwife. She retired to Carson City in 2000, and since then has been volunteering as an ESL Tutor and manages the Gardnerville Senior Center Gift Shop, singing in her church choir, and playing bridge.

Janet married Doug Braham 22 years ago; 5 grown children and 13 grandchildren. They relocated to Minden, Nevada 7 years ago.

Janet first learned of the ESL In-Home Program from her friend Ann, who was a tutor for three years. When Ann passed away, Janet decided that she should carry on the work in her stead. Since then, she has been an ESL tutor for three years. One of her students is IRMA McCLOSKEY, who Janet tutored in all 4 levels of ESL, then GED and Citizenship Study. Irma just passed her exam and is now an American Citizen. We are very proud of this dedicated person to become a U.S. Citizen which was her first goal when starting in our program.



Student Irma/Tutor Janet



New American Citizen, Irma McCloskey

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Janet said that the most rewarding part of tutoring is knowing that you have helped someone reach their goals, and that when you tutor, "You get back more than you give, knowing that you are doing something that helps other people."



Janet and Husband Doug

From: Lyon and Churchill County's Vista, Donna McElroy

August 14, 2012

I have recently had the pleasure of attending a very interesting seminar entitled "**Bridges Out of Poverty**" which was given by Debora McDermed, clinical psychologist

The class allowed us to explore the way in which people in poverty look at their world. Their views are very different from those who do not have to worry about where they may find food or shelter. The key points that were brought up were that, of the three classes, some of the things of most importance to these groups are as follows:

People in Poverty	Need people
People in Middle Class	Need Stuff
People of Upper Class	Need Financial and Political Security.

People in Poverty depend on others for babysitting, car rides, and loans of food, money, medicine, drugs, and ways to solve problems. They need Social Workers and all others to help them get along in life. Too often the children in poverty have few mental models to look up to. If they do not see others in their environment do well they do not see a possibility or need for them to excel. The three classes described above have much different ways of looking at their worlds. Those in poverty do not have the luxury of working towards achievements as do the middle and upper class. They are too busy struggling for the basic necessities in life.

Below is a list of businesses that are frequented by people of Poverty and those of Middle and Upper Class:

Poverty		Middle to Upper Class	
Pawn shop	Fast Food	Shopping/strip malls	Office complexes
Liquor store	Check cashing	Bookstores	Coffee shops
Corner store	Temp services	Banks	Restaurants/bars
Rent to own	Used-car lots	Fitness centers	Golf courses
Laundromat	Dollar store	Vet clinics	

In the different classes of our society there are so many areas to be considered. The "Mental Models" for the wealthy are so very different than those for middle or lower class. Those in upper class look at their surroundings and see lawyers, accountants, national & international advisers, boards of directors both male and females, etc. The lower class "Mental Model" is often of those who have struggled to make a living, acquired money illegally, or gone to jail. Unfortunately there are also the gang elements to be dealt with. They are therefore less likely to excel.

The course also showed the difference in the vocabulary of the classes. Those in the lower class have fewer words to describe their world. Too often they are at a loss to use the proper language to describe, in an appropriate way, what they want to convey. Street language may be acceptable to their peers, but not in the work place. It was noted that those in the different economic levels of our society are actually exposed to a different number of words in our language:

Number of Words Exposed to	Economic Group
13 million	Welfare
26 million	Working class
45 million	Professional

With this amount of difference it is easy to see why it is difficult for some to be able to express their needs. Often it is easier to have them draw pictures to find out what they are thinking or feeling.

We also looked at what is called the "Hidden Rules." These are family or societies' ways of doing things without being told. It may be that people always take their shoes off when entering a certain home or that the flag is always flown on a certain day. More importantly, it is the way we conduct ourselves at schools, worship, and work. Hidden rules dictate that we dress and act a certain way without being told to do so.

Dressing a certain way for a job interview is a good example. We should attempt to look our best when applying for a job. To some, this is a "Hidden Rule" and needs no explanation. Unfortunately, to other's, they fail to see the importance of this.

The seminar was only a part of this subject. I hope to take more of them and will share what I can with you. If you have the chance to take any of the courses yourself, please do so. I believe that it is a very worthwhile subject and very interesting.

I would like to share with you a quote from my workbook, "**Bridges out of Poverty**"

"No
Significant
Learning
Occurs without
A significant relationship" (By: Dr. James Comer)

SUCCESS STORIES

1) Congratulations to the following students for passing the exam and becoming U.S. Citizens in July 2012:

- a) **MARISELA REYES**
- b) **SANDRA UNQUILLA**
- c) **IRMA McCLOSKEY**

2) **Carson** Tutor Jean Hesse reports that her student **SOONI ROBERTS** has written her first English story.

AN ESL FUNDRAISER

If you ever wanted to be an actor, now is the time: Douglas County ESL Vista, **ROSEMARIE SHERMAN**, has written a play with Tutors and Students participating in it. It is a **fundraiser** for the ESL In-Home Program. It is based on a Latin American children's story called "A Movie In My Pillow" — **Come see: OCTOBER 13th at 2:00pm at St. Gall's gym in Gardnerville.** It addresses the 1980 Civil War in El Salvador that caused the emigration of political refugees to the USA. It will show facts and perceptions that many people coming to the U.S. have when they first arrive.

Auditions will take place on Sep. 5 at St. Gall's for a narrator, several stage hands and 6 actors. If you ever wanted to act, now is the time. Call NOW: **1-702-722-3398.**

Tickets: Seniors and children under 12: \$8;
Adults: \$10

"Papusas", a native Indian food of Central America will be on sale. These are corn masa cakes filled with either cheese, meat, beans and an El Salvador leaf-herb called "Loroco" Mmm

Call 1-702-722-3398 or 775-888-2021



From: Vista Summer Associate, **TARA COGHLAN**

August 9, 2012

A victim of Domestic Violence constantly lives with uncertainty, control and fear. Such a victim may feel like they are completely powerless to escape, like they have nowhere to turn and no one to rely upon. It is therefore easy to imagine how, in the case of a non-native victim, an unfamiliarity with our country's culture, language, and laws can only compound these feelings of desperation. An abuser may even use this to his or her advantage as another means of controlling the victim's access to resources, or using their legal status as collateral. For an immigrant victim of domestic violence, learning English can be a first critical step in extricating him or herself from the abusive situation.

How exactly could a knowledge of English help such victims? Primarily, a knowledge of English means that victims do not need to rely upon their abuser to communicate with the rest of the world. He or she would be able to read his or her own financial statements and governmental correspondence. He or she can form friendships and contacts in the community that were previously impossible, reducing feelings of helplessness and isolation. Finally, knowledge of English can help these victims discover organizations and resources to aid their departure from their abusive situation. Taken all together, a knowledge of English can help a victim of domestic violence take back control of their life and have the ability to live independently in a safe and secure situation.

The ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada, a non-profit volunteer service organization, empowers people by arranging for Community Volunteer Tutors to help those who want to learn to speak, read, and write in English, either in the student's home, the tutor's home, or a public place such as the library - at no cost to the student. Founded in February 2004 in Carson City by resident Florence Phillips, the program has expanded to cover Carson, Douglas, Lyon, Churchill, and Washoe counties. Furthermore, the program has expanded to offer lessons in GED preparation, Workplace Communication, Citizenship Study, and Computer Literacy skills. If you or someone you know is interested in learning English or take any of our other classes, please visit the web page at www.eslinhome.org; phone 775-888-2021; Email: eslinhomenv@aol.com

THANK YOU

When her Vista Summer Associate position ended, **TARA COGHLAN** left for Amsterdam where she will take her Master's program. Before leaving, Tara donated her beautiful 2002 Hyundai Elantra to the ESL In-Home Program. Asking price: \$2,700 to purchase books in order to start 39 new students. If interested, call Florence at 775-888-2021

Our heartfelt thanks and gratitude go out to **Tara**, for the wonderful accomplishments she made in Carson and Douglas counties and, of course, for the car. Our best wishes in all that you, **Tara**, are endeavoring. Let us hear from you.

STATISTICAL UPDATE

Current Tutors.....284
Current Students...139

U.S. Citizens-----103

Potential Students Waiting for a tutor:

- Carson.....66
- Douglas.....37
- Lyon..... 10
- Churchill..... 2
- Washoe.....77

Total Waiting all Counties: 192
?????Won't you tutor just one?????



RECIPÉ

From Carson Tutor Pam Penrose

"Tabbouleh" (serves 8-10)

- 1 cup medium grain bulgur
- 4 large tomatoes, finely chopped
- 2 cups chopped parsley
- 1 cup mint, finely chopped
- 1 bunch scallions, chop finely (or 1 medium onion, finely chopped)
- 1/4 tsp. black pepper
- 1/3 cup lemon juice
- 1/3 cup olive oil

Boil 2 1/2 cups water. Put bulgur in a bowl and pour hot water over it. Cover with a plate and let stand until all water is absorbed, about 30 minutes. Drain if needed. add in all remaining ingredients and toss to combine. Add salt to taste. Can be made a day ahead to allow flavors to develop.

(Isn't anyone cooking? We need more recipes!!!!)

ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada

702 Sean Dr.
Carson City, NV 89701

One-on-one English tutoring for adults in their own home at their own pace at no cost

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Mission Statement: ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada Inc's team of community volunteers will provide no-cost tuition and materials in English language fundamentals to adult individuals who wish to learn or improve their English language skills regardless of sex, age, race, religion or national origin, or physical disabilities. This learning process quickly empowers these individuals, especially those of low to moderate income, to become more productive members of their local communities by providing them with the language and cultural skills necessary for life in America..

To make donations to the ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada send check to:

*702 Sean Dr.
Carson City, NV 89701
All donations are tax deductible.*

Invite your friends to become a volunteer tutor! Tell them why you enjoy the experience. Invite them to learn more about our program at our website: www.eslinhome.org. It is not necessary for tutors to know a foreign language or have prior teaching experience. We train at no cost.

If you would like to be taken off the mailing list for our newsletter please email us at: eslinhomenv@aol.com

Also, check us out on Facebook
Click on the logo below



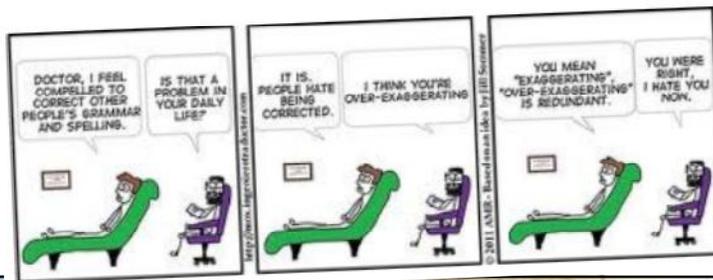
We're on the web!
www.eslinhome.org

From The Executive Director



Florence G. Phillips

Fun Stuff!



I can't think of anything profound to say.
So hope these make you smile

