



Fall/Winter 2011/2012

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English language gives each individual the voice to be heard in our community.



We help English language learners become thriving members of our community by offering one-on-one English language tutoring, and building bridges that foster cross-cultural respect, understanding, and friendship.

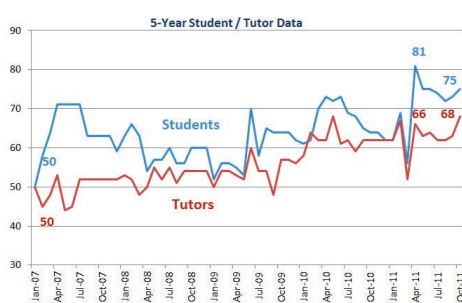
Letter from Myra Arstein, Board President

We are so thankful for your support.

In our last issue we discussed areas in which PiELL, as an organization, would explore avenues that would best serve our community and meet the needs of our clients (our expanding student base). Working towards that goal we have reached out to our student base to help us better understand their needs by encouraging our successful students to participate with us at a committee and board level, bringing us a better understanding of the challenges they meet.

We have been most fortunate to collaborate with other non-profits in our area in an effort to ensure that those individuals seeking to become better educated in our language have the appropriate tools to be successful. By that I mean we offer enhancement to local public education programs such as those provided at McCourtney Road Adult Education Center, by working with their class lessons on an individual one-on-one basis. Our tutoring program can reinforce their group learning experience and advance their learning. We guide our learners to appropriate services offered in our community that can meet or serve as an intermediary solution; and often find that collaborative partners will recommend our programs as a solution to their customers. Nevada County is indeed a very caring and resourceful community and in these tough economic times is striving to ensure the best utilization of our limited resources.

PiELL had a most successful tutor training take place this fall securing ten additional tutors, one of whom is a Nevada Union senior student who is using her experience as a tutor with PiELL as her senior project. We still have a waiting student list, but it has been minimal compared to the 16 students we had waiting this summer. I can't



emphasize enough how important our volunteer tutor program is. Can you imagine being unable to communicate while living and working in any community? How limited you are even in explaining an emergency

situation or trying to get assistance for a sick child? These are the issues our students deal with on a daily basis, no matter what country they originate from. English language skills are essential in all aspects of our adult students' lives; which also affects the success their children have in our schools.

| PiELL Student Demographics | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|----------|
| Asia | Latin America | Other |
| China | Argentina | Poland |
| Mongolia | Cuba | Slovakia |
| Thailand | El Salvador | |
| Vietnam | Mexico | |
| | Paraguay | |
| | Peru | |

Our adult students come from many different countries and the beauty of our program is that as a tutor you do not need to speak the language of your student. We offer tutor training (2 full days) that guides you through the process of teaching English as a second language. We also have tenured tutors who will mentor new tutors through any rough spots.

PiELL operates with a very minimal budget with a volunteer base providing over 5,000 volunteer hours and supported by our part-time, 12 hour a week Program Coordinator. We currently have a base of 6 intake evaluators, 60 tutors matched with 65 students (yes, some of us teach 2 students) and a very small working board. We have been serving Western Nevada County for just over 25 years. You can check us out at www.piell.org and do check out our success stories. We are proud to boast about our students and their accomplishments.

PiELL is interested in seeking input from our local business community and would welcome interested parties to participate in our program so we can better understand your needs and how we may serve you and your employees via the services we provide to our English language learners.

We thank you for all - our sponsors, donors and especially our volunteer staff for all you do to support our program and wish you all a very warm and healthy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Myra Arstein, President



Sign up for e-Scrip!

By Kathy Mollet, PiELL Treasurer

We need your help!

Sign up for eScrip

It's Easy! It's Free! It's Powerful!

What is eScrip?

eScrip has created a system that rewards customer loyalty by contributing a percentage of purchases made by participating families to schools and other learning organizations like PiELL. We encourage all of our supporters and friends to register their grocery club cards for Safeway and SPD. A percentage of all purchases made at eScrip merchants will be given back to PiELL.

How Does eScrip Work?

Participating merchants contribute each time our participants make a purchase using their registered

cards. There are no receipts to collect, no vouchers or certificates to buy, no hassles for you and every purchase counts.

eScrip Advantages:

Ease of use - simply present your grocery club card at time of purchase
Participation in a broad and growing base of national and local merchant partners
Online access for families to sign up



Monthly funds distribution and reports
Contributions based on everyday purchases
Joining eScrip is a donation that costs nothing and earns \$\$'s for PiELL all year long.

Simply:

- Obtain a Safeway Club Card or an SPD Community Card, if you don't already have one.
- Log onto www.escrip.com Click on "sign up"
- Locate Partners in English Language Learning (our Group Name) or 500029815 (our Group ID#)
- Register your grocery club cards.

Shop the eScrip Way –Everybody Wins!

www.escrip.com

OUR GENEROUS DONORS (Oct. 1, 2010~Sept. 30, 2011)

| <u>FRIENDS \$1-\$49</u> | <u>PARTNERS \$50-\$99</u> | <u>BRONZE \$100-\$199</u> | <u>GOLD \$500-\$999</u> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Mervin F. Baker | David & Myra Arstein | Marianne Cartan | WestAmerica Bank |
| Robert Blofeld & Nancy Nelson | Yvonne Bartlett | Marlee Chamberlin | <u>PLATINUM \$1000-\$5000</u> |
| BriarPatch Co-op | David & Louise Beesley | Curtis Bok & Sharon Bailey-Bok | Ghidotti Foundation |
| Nancy Creech | Bruce & Charlotte Bolinger | F.D. & F. Francis | GLSC Scrip |
| James Dodds | Rosalee Doherty | Mary Gibson | Kathy Mollet |
| Barbara Duval | Barbara Fain | Pam Jessup | Morgan Stanley/ Smith Barney |
| GoodSearch/GoodShop | Margaret Glaeser | Art Katz | Save Mart Cares |
| Custis Haynes | Nancy Guenther | J.M. Keating | United Way of Nevada County |
| Wendi Lehman | Ralph & Dorothy Hitchcock | Eric Robinson | <u>DONATIONS IN KIND</u> |
| Brad Miller | Sarah Jordan | Daniel Rodriguez & Deborah Alcott-Rodriguez | David Arstein |
| Mary Nelson | Lawrence & Lisa Lang | Helen Shaw | Yvonne Bartlett |
| Albert & Mary Thelander | Joe & Lisa Macrina | <u>SILVER \$200-\$499</u> | Grass Valley School District |
| Anita Wald-Tuttle | Marc Orman | 49er Rotary Club of Nevada City | Trevor Michael, Owner Margaritas Restaurant |
| Helen Williamson | Roger & Jean Poff | Jay Egan | Philip Smith |
| | Diane & Lowell Robertson | Judi Kreinick | South Pine Café |
| | Ryan & Amy Shaw | Rotary Club of Grass Valley | |
| | Virginia Van Wagner | Save Mart Shares | <u>IN MEMORIAM</u> |
| | Jesus Villareal | SPD e-scrip | Helen Williamson for John Jessup |
| | Joanne Weatherly | Arthur & Evelyn Stecher | Custis Haynes for Fred Hargeshiemer |
| | Patricia & Lawrence Werner | Bev Stout | Anita Wald-Tuttle for Sam and Bill |

'Tis The Season

Gift Cards as Holiday Gifts!



**Order your GLSC Scrip
Gift Cards soon.**

*Last day to order for the holidays
is December 10th!*

A Student "Success" Story...In my own words

By Angie

I wanted cut my hair.
 But I'm scared because my English isn't good. I asked my husband to bring me for the salon hair. He didn't want to go with me.
 He said to me. Why don't you go alone? You don't need me because you can drive, you have credit card, you know of the place, other idea you can print the styles you want.
 Ok. Is good idea I printed the styles and I went, on the parking I look for my paper and I didn't have because I forget in my house.
 I thought that if I didn't go then I would never get my cut hair.
 I enter in the salon
 Secretary: Can I help you?
 Me: Yes, I want cut hair.
 Secretary: You have appointment?
 Me: No, I don't have, I need?
 Secretary: Yes, you want for tomorrow in the morning.
 Me: I thing mmm, No, Thank you.. Good Bye!

I don't ask appointment because I want in this moment. I called to my husband;
 Me; I said to his I'm sad because I need appointment for this salon.
 Husband: Go in other salon.
 Me: Where maybe to go to need appointment?

My Student, Ana Lloyd

By Wendy Hartley

One day my student, Ana Lloyd, came to our lesson beaming with excitement. She had had two wonderful experiences during the time since our previous lesson. The first one happened when she was at a gas station filling her car's tank. Another customer approached her and asked for directions in English. Ana responded in English, the man thanked her, went back to his car, told his passenger what she had said, and drove off in the correct direction.

Husband: ok. Go the Trend Cuts, there you don't need appointment is in the place.
 I went to the Trend Cuts,
 Secretary: Can I help you?
 Me: Yes, I want cut hair. I'm sorry! Do you speak Spanish? Because my English is not good!
 Secretary; No, I don't speak Spanish, You have appointment/
 Me: No, I don't have, I need? Because I need now, maybe you have time.
 Secretary: One moment please,
 Secretary: Yes, You can wait fifteen minutes?
 Me: Yes, thank you!
 Secretary: What is your name? I gave my name, Secretary she said to me can sit. In one moment she called me, are you ready?
 Yes, I enter she asks me the form the cut my hair, I explain, she understands me at all time and I also.
 I felt so good because it is the first time I did something for myself, is not easy but I do.



Angie and her Tutor Judi Kreinick

The second success happened when Ana entered a shop. The shopkeeper was on the phone. She asked Ana if she spoke Spanish. When she said "yes," she was asked to take the phone and to translate; the call was with someone in a Latin American country who did not speak English, and the shopkeeper did not speak Spanish. Ana was able to translate between the two languages so that the business of the call was successfully completed!

Wendy has been meeting with Ana for nearly 2 1/2 years.

Thank you!

THANK YOU to the families actively using Great Lakes Scrip Center (GLSC) Scrip Gift Cards, SPD Community Cards with a designation to PiELL and Save Mart SHARES cards. We have earned a total of over \$2653 in 2011 to date through these 3 mechanisms - \$2031 from GLSC Scrip Gift Cards alone (PiELL buys gift cards at a discount, and makes them available to you at face value, earning about 5% on the average and it is tax deductible to the card purchaser). If you haven't tried one of our Scrip programs yet, this is the year! For more information, please contact Kathy Mollet at 478-1848 or kvmollet1@me.com

More Listening/Speaking Practices For Your Student

By Bev Stout, Board Member and Tutor

We have recently purchased four digital recorders, available for checkout in the office. These provide an easy way for you to record speaking and listening activities for your students. It is easy for them to then record a response to share with you on your next visit. What is so helpful with recorded lessons is that the student can replay and replay until they feel comfortable with all portions, and they can re-record their responses until they feel they have it right! It is a good way to move the students toward mastery at their own pace.

I have been recording lessons from Focus on Phonics 2A for my student. For pronunciation practice, I provide a hard copy, but when I want to exercise listening skills, I do not; I ask her to write down what she hears. If you need help working the device, I'd be glad to help. Call me on 265-6434, or email blstout@pacbell.net, and we can arrange a time to meet at the

office for a demo.

For those of you with internet savvy students, this can also be accomplished by establishing free accounts at <http://www.audioboo.fm>, where you can use an online recorder that provides equally excellent quality.

If you'd like to listen to some examples, go to my account there, <http://www.audioboo.fm/bstout>. Click on any of the recordings of mine, or of people "following" me, to get some ideas. I'm just beginning to use it and am still experimenting, but I like it!



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Grass Valley, CA 95945

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Help PiELL go Paperless!

In our on-going effort to utilize funds more effectively, please help us, by taking a moment to update your contact information using the enclosed donation envelope. Let us know how we can better serve you, and if we can save paper by including you in future e-mail newsletters and other mailings. Thank you!

Thank You!

to the following businesses where PiELL students and tutors meet in a comfortable and welcoming environment:

BriarPatch Co-op
Carolines Coffee, E. Main St.
Flour Garden Bakeries
Grass Valley Library
Nevada County Country Club
Nevada City Library
Penn Valley Community Church
Safeway, Brunswick Basin
Summer Thyme's Bakery & Deli

We've moved!

**We are located in a new
room at Lyman Gilmore
School. Room L1/L26**

Partners in English Language Learning

Mailing Address:

578 Sutton Way, PMB 198
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Physical Address:

Lyman Gilmore School
10837 Rough & Ready Hwy
Room L1/L26, Grass Valley

Phone/Fax: (530) 274-8428

Email: admin@piell.org

www.piell.org

Office Hours

Mon.: 1:00—5:00
Wed.: 2:00—6:00
Fri.: 9:00—1:00

Calendar

Celebrate the New Year Party
Jan. or Feb. (TBD)
Watch for your invitation!

Winter 2012 Training schedule:*

Saturday, Feb. 11th 8:30am-4:30pm
Saturday, Feb. 18th 8:30am-4:30pm

Spring 2012 Schedule:

Saturday, May 12th 8:30am-4:30pm
Saturday, May 19th 8:30am-4:30pm

**Must attend both days.*

Tutor Coffee:

Wednesday, April 11th 1:30-3:30
Peace Lutheran Church, Grass Valley

Check our website for
upcoming events!

www.piell.org

Congratulations and thank you to the 2011 graduates of
our New Tutor Training!

Jack Bacich
Julie Carroll
Dora Cividino
Peter Elias

Pamela Jessup
Katherine Keenan
Michelle Loeffler
Carol Nathan