

English Language Learning

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 the PiELL President

Dear PiELL Friends,

I'm excited to share what we have been up to since the last newsletter. The Board completed a strategic plan which includes the steps we need to take to further realize our mission. We established five goals and tactics to support each of them. This plan will be our roadmap for new initiatives moving forward. Our goals are:

- Enhance the tutor experience to increase effectiveness, loyalty, and retention
- Enhance student life skills, community integration, and English learning opportunities
- Diversify fundraising
- Increase PiELL's profile and outreach in the community
- Develop and implement succession, sustainability, and back-up plans

What we do is ALL about our students and requires a lot of committed, caring people. I want to thank our tutors and other volunteers who make it happen. I also appreciate the Board for filling so many critical roles. We are in a great place with the wealth of experience we have, as well as new, fresh ideas.

I must thank Judi Kreinick and Bev Stout, our past co-presidents. The strong foundation they created and the commitment they continue to have is amazing. We are so grateful to you for your continuing gifts of time and talent! We are excited to have our new tutors. Welcome to the team!

As a friend of PiELL, we thank all of YOU for supporting our efforts.

Christie Gillison
PiELL Board President

Board of Directors

President

Christie Gillison

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Acacia Daniels

Secretary

Norema Strongin

Past President

Judi Kreinick

Directors

Alan Archer

Louise Beesley

Sherry Davey

Jon Fox

Nancy Guenther

Caitlin Jones

Bev Stout

Coordinator

Donna Cobb



Our New Board

We recently welcomed new Board members, growing our Board to eleven people! We are happy to introduce our 2016 Board members: Front row: Acacia Daniels, Sherry Davey, Caitlin Jones, Christie Gillison and Norema Strongin. Back row: Nancy Guenther, Judi Kreinick, Bev Stout and Alan Archer.

Not pictured: Louise Beesley and Jon Fox.

Welcome New Tutors!

We recently held another successful New Tutor Training, and we are pleased to welcome ten new tutors! Congratulations to all of them! They completed the two-day training in September and are excited to begin teaching their new students.

PiELL's next two-day New Tutor Training will be offered on March 11th & 18th, 2017. If you are interested in becoming a tutor or know someone who might be, please contact us at 265-2116 or at admin@piell.org for information.



New PiELL Tutors: Front row: Cheryl Branch, Nancy Miller, Kristin Steindorff. Back row: Brandon Handy, Sarah Turner, Jeff Gale, Roberta Swanson, Anna Villegas, and Sandra Portz. Not pictured: Trish Gaynor.

A big THANK YOU to all of our volunteers. We could not do this without you.

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

What a Difference Three Years Make!

Paula is from Chile, but lived many years in Mexico...this is her story.

When I first came to the United States, I felt lost. In Mexico I managed our house because my husband was not home very much. It was my job. I took care of my boys and helped them with their homework. I talked to their teachers about their progress. If they were sick, I took them to the doctor. If something needed fixing at our house, I called a repair person. I even supervised the building of our house. I paid all the bills.

Now I was in a new country and didn't know the language. I couldn't do most of the things I could do in Mexico. What was my role? I decided I needed to learn English as soon as possible. I called PiELL and got a tutor. My English improved. I became a certified meditation instructor. I got my driver's license. I easily passed the written test, which was in Spanish, but the driving test was in English and would be harder. I practiced with my tutor and passed on the first try! When I began studying with PiELL three years ago, I was in a level 1 book. Now, I'm in a level 4 book. I have more confidence. I understand more, and more people understand me!

By Paula
Paula's PiELL Tutor is Nancy Guenther



Paula and Nancy

Did You Know?

In 2015-2016...

- 4,500 hours were donated by PiELL volunteers
- 58% of PiELL tutors had graduate degrees
- PiELL had 75 active students

Our Generous Donors ~ Oct. 1, 2015-Sept. 30, 2016

| <u>Friends \$1 to \$49</u> | <u>Partners \$50 to \$99</u> | <u>Bronze \$100 to \$199</u> | <u>Silver \$200 to \$499</u> | <u>Platinum \$1000 to \$5000</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| AmazonSmile Foundation | Alan Archer | Charlotte & Bruce Bolinger | Christie Gillison | Chevron HumanKind |
| Anonymous | Terry Rose Armor | Marianne & Michael Cartan | Barbara Fain | Ghidotti Foundation |
| Rosalee Doherty | Emily Gallagher | Susan & Anthony Clarabut | Grass Valley Gold Country Lions Club | Save Mart Cares |
| Anita & Paul Dupratt | Allyson & Ellen Gallagher-Goose | Eric Dahlgren | Nancy & Ross Guenther | ShopWithScrip.com (GLSC) |
| Hindi Greenberg | J.M. Keating | Sherry Davey | Dr. Arthur Katz | United Way of Nevada County |
| Madlyn Helling | Marilyn Mociun | Daughters of the American Revolution | Northridge Restaurant of Nevada City | |
| Dorothy & Ralph Hitchcock | Marty Mosman | F.D. & F. Francis | Rotary Club of Grass Valley | <u>Donations In-kind</u> |
| Mary Alice & James Kiser | Fred Nichols | Sarah Jordan | Save Mart E-Scrip | David Arstein |
| Mimi Lofgren | Eric Robinson | Judi Kreinick | Becca Schultz | Judi Kreinick |
| Margie & Brad Miller | Jay Schuff | Lisa & Joe Macrina | Westamerica Bank | Trevor Michael, Owner Margaritas |
| Susan Reynolds | Norema Strongin | Phyllis Murdock | | Lisa Schliff |
| Lisa Rowe | Alison Sweetser | Claudette & George Paige | <u>Gold \$500 to \$999</u> | Philip Smith |
| Sally Smith | Alan Weisberg | Jean & Roger Poff | Judith & Bill De Camp | Norema Strongin |
| Patricia Werner | | Emi & Jerry Sakai | Holiday Market | |
| Helen Williamson | | Smiley Guys Smokehouse | SPD Markets E-Scrip | |
| | | Kathy & Mick Tuttle | Bev Stout | |
| | | Virginia Van Wagner | | |

Chika Explores

Chika, my student from Japan, read “The Little Prince” to me at each session. She chose the book, and it was an excellent choice as it’s full of conversations. As she read, I wrote down all the words she stumbled over, and she practiced the pronunciation and meaning for our next session. Chika finished “The Little Prince”, and we went on to another topic, geography.

We then added geographical words to her vocabulary lists. She wrote down every country in each continent, one continent per week, and read them. We discussed their location and any facts either of us knew about each country. It was fun. We used articles cut from magazines and newspapers that referred to Japan and discussed them.

By PiELL Tutor Terry Davis



Terry and Chika

Sierra Assets

PiELL is able to stay abreast of trends and new methods of teaching ESL by attending meetings with the Sierra Assets Consortium. This group was formed to implement Assembly Bill 86, which provided grants for regional efforts to better provide adults with basic educational skills, including classes for those learning English as a second language.

Members of the consortium include Placer School for Adults, Sierra College, Nevada Union Adult School, Roseville Adult School, and Tahoe Truckee Adult Education. PiELL is a partner with this group of schools, and does not receive any funding from the effort, but participates with schools who provide ESL classes.

A PiELL Wish

The PiELL office space is quite small. If you have space available for an occasional meeting, please contact us at 265-2116 or admin@piell.org

We would be very grateful!



Partners in English Language Learning received a very generous donation of \$1000 from Save Mart Cares this year. Save Mart representative, Laura Mesunas (pictured at left with Judi Kreinick, Bill De Camp and Christie Gillison) personally awarded PiELL Board members with the check. A big "THANK YOU" goes out to Save Mart!

Thank you to Mr. Mony Monir, the owner of Northridge Restaurant in Nevada City, for hosting a fundraiser for PiELL in August! A percentage of all of the proceeds from the evening were pledged to PiELL. Thank you to all of you who went out in the heat to enjoy a tasty meal and help PiELL at the same time. Pictured at right: PiELL members and friends.





FUNDRAISING AT PANDA

Join Partners in English Language Learning!



When:

At This Panda Location:

***Code:**

Monday, November 28, 2016
12:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Brunswick & Sutton Way
688 Sutton Way
Grass Valley, CA 95945
Phone: (530) 273-1040

222643

***Ordering online? Enter this code at checkout to have your purchase support the event.**

Participating fundraiser guests are required to present a valid fundraiser flyer (hard copy or smart phone) with each order to receive credit for the fundraiser. Flyers may not be distributed inside or within vicinity of restaurant including, without limitation to, the restaurant parking lot before or during your fundraiser. Panda Restaurant Group reserves the right to cancel any and all fundraiser events for any reason and/or withhold payment of associated donation funds if the Panda Restaurant Group Fundraiser Guidelines are not followed.

Thank you to the following businesses where PiELL students and tutors meet in a comfortable and welcoming environment!

BriarPatch Co-op
Caroline's Coffee
Flour Garden Bakery locations
Nevada County Libraries
P.A.R.T.N.E.R.S. Family Resource
Peace Lutheran Church

Safeway, Brunswick Basin
Sierra Mountain Coffee Roasters
Starbucks Coffee
Summer Thyme's Bakery & Deli
Unitarian Church
What's Up? Coffee



PiELL Events

Panda Express Fundraiser

Monday, Nov. 28th - Noon - 8pm

Enjoy a delicious dinner (dine in or takeout) and 20% will go to Partners in English Language Learning!

Must present copy of flyer (above)!

Hard copy or picture on phone.

Panda Express is located in the Glenbrook Shopping Center
688 Sutton Way, Grass Valley ~ 273-1040

Spring 2017 New Tutor Training Schedule*

March 11th ~ Sessions 1 & 2 8:30am-4:30pm

March 18th ~ Sessions 3 & 4 8:30am-4:30pm

**Must attend both days.*

Call us at 265-2116 or email admin@piell.org for more information.

Check our website "Event" page for upcoming events!

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PiELL Office

103 Providence Mine Rd., #104B, Nevada City
Phone/Fax: (530) 265-2116 ~ Email: admin@piell.org ~ www.piell.org
Mailing Address: 578 Sutton Way, PMB 198, Grass Valley, CA 95945
Office Hours: Mon./Wed. 1:30-4:30, Fri. 9:00-1:00

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