



OPEN DOORS NEWSLETTER

Literacy Volunteers—HBPL

May 2016



2016 Walk! Run! READ!

by Susie Hodge

In the hushed pre-dawn hours of Saturday, April 23rd, the Walk, Run, Read! committee began arriving to set up for Literacy Volunteers 4th annual 5K in the Park. In short order, the course was set, the balloon starting gate was ready, the tables were set with raffle items and snacks for the runners, and various booths were readied for customers.

Over 100 racers and walkers registered for this year's event, lapping last year's total by over 25%. Race coordinator Ed Bonk said, "We couldn't have had better weather for our 'Fun Run' in the park. I want to thank my committee for their diligence and hard work over many months."



After the adults and teens finished, the little ones ran their mile. A small glitch required they run it a second time, which only added to their fun. They were so cute, waiting to take off again. They didn't seem tired at all, and shot off like rockets at the sound of GO!



New this year, the HB Fire Department set up a kitchen on wheels to cook hotcakes and sausages. In addition to breakfast, participants had a chance to win raffle items, enjoy storytime with Kevin & Amy, and borrow a book from the library's Book Shack.

I would like to say THANK YOU to the committee and its chair, Ed Bonk, for

all their hard work to make our event a success. Also, kudos and thanks to the literacy & library staff, the volunteers, those who donated but could not be there, merchants and vendors, Ocean View High Parent Prep Academy, the HB Fire Department, to the Library, and to anyone I've forgotten, for being such avid and enthusiastic literacy supporters!



See you next spring!

What We Do Matters

- Celia and her tutor Marlys are reading The Pearl.
 - Working hard with her tutor, Kathy, Rocio has gained confidence. Recently a customer at her job needed help and asked Rocio if she spoke English. Rocio said "Yes!" and was able to understand the customer and help her.
 - Sana and her tutor Carla are reading the play Our Town.
 - Marisela was recently accepted into *Career Online High School*.
 - Marisa was recently accepted into *Career Online High School*.
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Writer to Writer 2016

By Barbara Robinson

Want to encourage your learner to submit a letter for the Writer to Writer Challenge this fall? Mark your calendar for Thursday, May 19th. In lieu of the conversation class, five local authors will read from their books, answer questions from the audience, and discuss the writing process.

Letter details will be sent in August at the formal launch of the Challenge. But it's never too early to read a book or two, so you'll have choices when you are ready to start writing the letter.

Join us in the Balboa Room from 10am-noon on May 19. Please call the office at Central, 714.375.5102, if you or your learner can attend. [Click here for author details.](#)

Thank You!!

- Thank you, Dona B and Cathy T! They both earned the President's Lifetime Achievement Award for their lifelong commitment to building a stronger nation through volunteer service.
- Thanks to Cindi S & Julie H for speaking at our recent Tutor Training Workshop at Central.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Cathy Thomson for earning the President's Volunteer Service Award! Cathy's more than 25 years of volunteer service with Huntington Beach Public Library began with the Friends of the Children's Library when her children were young.

When her children got older, she decided to explore other volunteer opportunities with the library and chose to volunteer with Oak View Literacy Program in 2008. Since that time Cathy has helped many learners improve their English literacy skills and confidence and there is always a lot of laughter and fun in her classes. She has had two classes each week for years and has always been there to help with special events. Oak View Literacy is grateful to be the recipient of Cathy's dedication.



Tutor / Learner Exercise: Coupsfortroops.org Helping Soldiers

by Jennifer Shim

Coupsfortroops.org is a nation-wide organization which helps soldiers by collecting manufacturer's coupons and sending them to troops around the world. Enlisted military with families are often living on bare subsistence pay and the coupons help with their purchases at commissaries and PXs.

Coupon-cutting is also an educational and worthwhile exercise that tutors can do together with their learners. Open up the latest Sunday paper and help your learner find the coupon section. For pronunciation and vocabulary practice, discuss what type of coupon it is and where it can be used; to practice numbers, use math to show the economic benefits of using coupons (50% off - 3 for \$1 - buy 2 get 1 free); sneak in a writing exercise about what the coupon can buy, when it can be used and the expiration date.

Find coupon collection boxes in the Literacy offices. Only general coupons can be accepted since individual retailers (ex: Kohl's or Bed Bath & Beyond) may not be located in a country where the troops are located. We will collect and mail coupons every month or so.

You just need a newspaper, scissors and a pencil to get started helping U.S. troops and learning about coupons!

Contest

Only 7 people entered the April contest, and there was no winner! Ed Bonk says he is sorry that it was confusing to so many. Searching the internet for the answers to the questions, especially about the parks and historical sites, revealed several different answers for the same question! Even after throwing out some questions, there was no winner.

Ed promises that the next time, he will provide websites to go to for answers. Or the contest will simply be less confusing all around. It will be available the week of May 9th.

OC Register

Literacy has partnered with the Orange County Register to offer a fantastic bargain for program participants, and their friends and families. For just \$1, you can get Sunday home delivery for an entire year, and the OC Register will give Literacy Volunteers a donation!

You will get all your local news, sports and entertainment delivered to your doorstep each Sunday. And, you will get coupons; if there are some don't use yourself, you could consider donating (see "coupsfortroups" article elsewhere in this newsletter). All sections make great teaching tools. There is no obligation to continue, and the subscription will not automatically continue.

Pick up a form in the office, start saving, and start enjoying today!

Important Dates

- May 14-15: Duck-A-Thon at the pier
- May 19, Author Talk, 10am, Balboa Room

Full calendar available in the office or click [May 2016](#).

Newsletter Feedback

If you have a comment, question or a suggestion about an article or idea for the Open Doors Literacy newsletter, please send it to Ed at ebonk69@gmail.com or to the literacy office at literacy@surfcity-hb.org. We hope you enjoy reading this and welcome your feedback.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the adult and family literacy programs at Huntington Beach Public Library. Without your help we would not be where we are today, and we appreciate you.

Sincerely,
Board of Directors
Literacy Volunteers-HBPL
