



## Orange County Literacy Council

# READ

503 West Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27516  
2000

Summer

### OCLC is on the Web!

The Orange County Literacy Council has recently established a presence on the World Wide Web. You can visit the Web site at the following Web address:

[www.orangeliteracy.org](http://www.orangeliteracy.org)



Web pages, like most publications, usually have certain goals in mind. We are trying to appeal to several audiences with our Web site at this time. Friends who are interested in learning more about the Orange County Literacy Council will find information on our services and links to current and past editions of our newsletter READ. Those interested in supporting the Council's efforts will find information on contributing with their time and/or money. Volunteers will soon be able to submit their monthly reports via the Web and explore other literacy resources through a page of literacy-related links.

One of the great things about the Web as a medium is that it is easy to change and update. We suspect the site will grow richer over time. Suggestions for improving the OCLC Web site are most welcome! Send your comments via electronic mail to [oclc@rtpnet.org](mailto:oclc@rtpnet.org).

- Bob Henshaw, Co-chair, Technology Committee

*A big thanks to Bob Henshaw and a wonderful team of volunteers who have made this accomplishment*

*possible: Matt Mielke, Co-chair of our Technology Committee; Amy Ising, a UNC graduate student who is providing Web design and implementation skills; and Miguel Jackson, a UNC employee providing graphics work.*

### Fall Fundraiser

The Literacy Council will celebrate our 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year with the annual Authors and Booklovers Celebrate Literacy fundraiser. This year, the event will be held on Sunday, October 22, from 2-4:30 pm at the Fearington Village Barn. We are delighted to have as honorary chairs Bill and Leesie Guthridge and Richard "Stick" and Teresa Williams. Themed "It's Never too Late to Plant the Seeds of Literacy", the event will feature authors including Lee Smith and Hal Crowther reading from their work and signing books. McIntyre's Fine Books and Bookends will contribute a portion of the book proceeds to benefit the OCLC.

This year's silent auction will include a variety of unique products and services. A new addition this year will be "The Pleasure of Your Company" – an opportunity to bid on sharing a meal with some of our community's most interesting personalities.

Join us for a wonderful afternoon of author readings, book signing, a silent auction and raffle, and light refreshments.

Hillsborough, McIntyre's Fine Books and Bookends at Fearington, and at the event.

Tickets are \$15 and will soon be available at the Literacy Council offices in Chapel Hill and

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**PROGRAMS**

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**READ**

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## PHONO-GRAPHIX TRAINING

Ten tutors and two staff members attended a 4-hour workshop on May 20. The training was on a new method of teaching reading called Phono-Graphix. Marnie Ginsberg, Educational Consultant and Phono-Graphix Trainer and tutor, presented the workshop at the Orange County Skills Development Center.

The two most common methods of teaching reading used in schools today are “phonics” and “whole language”. Yet an astounding 43% of children test below grade level in reading, the most important tool for any child to develop. The Phono-Graphix method differs in that it teaches the student to separate each phoneme (the smallest unit of sound in language) in a word so that it can later be blended back in correct order. This approach stresses the 43 sounds of the English language, treating letters as symbols of the sounds. Working with what the student knows, the sounds of his/her letters, this method teaches sound pictures that represent sounds.

Workshop participants were assigned readings prior to attending the training and interactively worked in pairs using role-playing techniques. The Phono-Graphix method has been successfully used with many adult non-readers. This workshop was offered as part of the OCLC’s Bridges Learning Disability Training Project.

**The Literacy Council will sponsor a Phono-Graphix lecture by Marnie Ginsberg on Wednesday, September 27, from 7- to 8:30 at the Chapel Hill Public Library. All interested tutors are encouraged to attend.**

## ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL & ALL TUTOR MEETING

Sunday, August 13  
2-3:30 pm

Skills Development Center

“Integrating Technology Into Literacy Work”



- ❖ Updates on what’s new at the Literacy Council
- ❖ See new tutor resources available at our two OCLC learning centers
- ❖ Meet your fellow tutors
- ❖ Opportunities to see new adult literacy software programs, including Reader Rabbit, Lexia (a phonics program), Basic Skills, Pre-Ged, GED
- ❖ Opportunity to talk with tutors and adult learners who have been using these programs – discuss how they have integrated these programs into their tutoring sessions

Please join us - attendance at this meeting fulfills the OCLC's continuing education requirement.

## READ

## A Walking Miracle: The Life Story of Louise Evans Lawson

*The following selection was written by Louise Evans Lawson, an adult learner with the Literacy Council, who is working with her tutor Therese Johnson to write down her life story. This excerpt was originally published in the Chapel Hill News.*

My name is Ida Louise Turner Upshur Evans Lawson – I have a long name. I was born April 19, 1941. I'm writing my life story, and hopefully some day this will get published and will help other people. I'm going to start from the time that I can remember and continue on.

I was born to the late Irene Thompson Turner, and my father was the late Ross Carr Turner. They were both ministers in Hillsborough, North Carolina. I was born in Durham County, North Carolina, at Lincoln Hospital, which is now called Lincoln Health Center. From what I was told, I was born with a hole in my heart, and the hole never closed. I was told also that most babies are born with holes in their hearts, but they usually close up and mine didn't.

For years, from as far as I can remember back, I was always a very tired child. I wanted to play with the other children, but I wasn't able to run and play like other children because I would get out of breath. My condition was not discovered until later years. I remember my father carrying me to Duke University for an enlarged heart as a little girl – I'd say around five years old as far as I can remember. At that time, we had a bus running from Hillsborough, and we'd catch the bus on the side of the street in front of the old Carr's Supermarket, and we'd ride to Durham to the bus station. And then we would get off, and Dad – I won't say he was stingy, because they may not even have had cabs in those days – but we would walk from the bus station to Duke Hospital, and I'm sure that was at least five or six miles. But we walked there, and Daddy was 69 when I was born, so he had a lot of

strength walking at that time in his life. We'd get to Duke Hospital

and the doctors would treat me for what they called an enlarged heart

But, as I grew older, I was in school, and, as I foretold, I couldn't play like the other children. And one incident I remember when I was in the second grade was that one of the teachers – I will just call her Miss Blank, I won't use her name right now – Miss Blank came up to me. I had my head down on the desk, and I was sleeping. This condition that I had with my heart would make me sleep. I slept all the time. I stayed sleepy, sleepy, sleepy – just couldn't stay awake. And she came up to me, and she said, "Turner, wake up." And she smacked me in the face. She said, "You got to do your work just like anyone else around here." She didn't know I was sick. At the time, I got kind of angry with the teacher, but as I've grown older and know that medical science wasn't available to tell us – at least they didn't have this information like they do today – I don't dislike her anymore. I did go to her after I had my open heart surgery – which I had in 1959 – and I told her the reason I was sleeping in class. They used to want to make me run and play, and those teachers just didn't know that I couldn't. So today I am so glad that they have nurses in the schools so that if children are not feeling well, the nurse can check on them, send them to the hospital, and find out what's going on with them. That's a big change that's very helpful to the school and to the children today. I thank God for these changes and the advances in medicine.

Because of my condition, I would sleep a lot and wouldn't catch a lot in school. I could hear it and capture it in my head, but I was just too tired and worn out to put it on paper, and I didn't have a chance to do a lot of that work. And so I quit school. I was promoted to the ninth grade – I finished eighth grade – but I barely got through each class because I was always slow, and people would make fun of me and call me "retarded,

stupid,” and “crazy” – all those names. And kids would laugh at me, make fun of me. But I knew I

didn't feel good and I didn't know why...

## READ

### MORE COMPUTER TIPS

In the last newsletter, we talked about learning to use the mouse. The other skill needed for computer success is the ability to type. We (OCLC tutors) use “Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing” to help people learn the keyboard. It gradually introduces new keys and tracks both speed and accuracy, which can be displayed at the end of each lesson. Students can see their progress as the weeks pass. This program also provides games that give typing practice while having fun. Typing speed comes with practice but just knowing where the most commonly used keys are allows people to learn additional computer skills.

### Using typing for short literacy projects

Students might choose to type a short paragraph from a book they are reading or from the newspaper. To begin with they should just get the words on the computer screen and then go back to correct errors. They could participate in a typed “conversation” where the tutor types a question and the student types a short answer. The student could write a paragraph at home and then type it during the computer lesson. Today’s computers include spelling and grammar checks that can be turned on or off depending on the emphasis of the lesson.

Some people may want to type a short letter to a friend or relative. Others may want to type a journal or a diary. Others decide to make a greeting card, an invitation, type a recipe, a meeting agenda or meeting minutes. Projects that people can use in their lives will get students coming back to the computer lab or increase their interest in literacy lessons.

After some material has been typed add some finishing touches. Type a title at the top. Put

the title in larger type, make it bold, or perhaps give it a contrasting color. Insert a picture to add interest. The student can then print a copy to take home. The finished product looks very professional and is something that the student can exhibit with pride. – *Rita Weimer*

### NEW to the OCLC Bookshelf

*Come by our Chapel Hill or Hillsborough offices and check out these new resources!*

Cambridge Pre-GED Programs:

Interpreting Literature and the Arts

Mathematics I

MapAttack! Understanding globes and maps

StudySmart Ready to use reading & study skill activities

Creative Memory An alternative to rote learning

Smart Solutions Math Books

Algebra and Geometry

Algebra and Geometry – Teacher’s Guide

New selections in the Writers Voices series:

Fatherhood and Time Flies – Bill Cosby

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings – Maya Angelou

Women of Brewster Place – Gloria Naylor

Giant Steps – Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

### WELCOME NEW TUTORS

The following tutors completed the April Tutor Training Workshop. Welcome to our community of learners!

Karen Barrows  
Jennifer Browning  
Janet Campbell  
Cathy Cole  
Beth Cresante  
Linda Crisp  
Shannon Currey  
Cathryn Derian  
Barry Freeman  
Ann Glassman  
Julie Jacobs

Beverly Kawalec  
Pat Murphy  
Laura Nasrallah  
Jan Paris  
Allan Rosen  
Susan Short

Susan Triplehorn  
Holly Tuten  
John Wilson  
Ann Woodham

**OCLC**

**READ**

**THANK YOU'S to:**

- **Zina Almers and the Chapel Hill Herald**

Web site

- **Barry Beggs and IBM Corporation** for a new computer with CDROM for our Hillsborough office

***BECOME A FRIEND OF LITERACY***

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

We are always looking for supporters who are interested in volunteering for OCLC activities or serving on one of our Board committees; call 933-2151 for more information or email us at oclc@co.orange.nc.us

- Tutoring – either one-to-one or small group
- Family Reading Workshops
- Office assistance
- Fundraising Committee
- Community Outreach Committee

I would like to become a friend of the OCLC. Enclosed is a tax-deductible contribution of:

- \$500 purchases an adult literacy software program
- \$ 100 subsidizes a tutor training workshop
- \$ 25 provides an adult learner with workbooks
- \$ 15 continues 15 years of adult literacy instruction
- Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Please do not mention my name in newsletter.

Please make checks payable to:  
*Orange County Literacy Council*  
503 W. Franklin St.  
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

for taking photos and running ads for Orange County READS

- **Social Concerns Committee of the Chapel**

**Hill of the Cross** for donating funds for educational supplies for adult learners

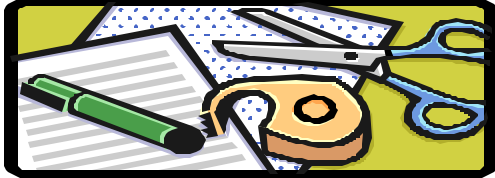
- **Delta Kappa Gamma** for their donations of books for children and their financial contribution
- **Bob Henshaw, Matt Mielke, Amy Ising, and Miguel Jackson** for designing our new

- **Marnie Ginsberg** for offering the Phonographix training to our tutors and staff
- And to **Mindspring**, for providing Internet and Email access for our Hillsborough office

**WISH LIST**

We would welcome any contributions towards the following items:

- Small spiral notebooks
- Reams of colored paper
- Boxes of ballpoint pens
- Boxes of pencils
- Modular office desks
- Dolly



### **SAVE THIS DATE!**

Our annual Appreciation Banquet will be held on Tuesday, December 5, from 6-8 pm at the Big Barn in Hillsborough. We hope that all adult learners and volunteers can join us for this special evening.