

Funded by the NS
Department of
Education
Community
Learning Initiative,
BSLN is one of 27
provincial Learning
Networks that offer
adult literacy
programs to
students in their
community.

The Leaf

Newsletter of the Bedford Sackville Literacy Network Spring 2002
Message from Denise Morley, Program Coordinator

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National Volunteer Week April 20-27

Happy Spring to everyone at BSLN! April 20-27th is National Volunteer Week, and a perfect time to say a big thank you to all of those who volunteer their time with BSLN. Whether it's working as a tutor, Board Member, helping with classes or special events such as Word on the Street, you are the reason our programs are a success. Included with this newsletter is a special thank you from some of the many learners who benefit from your hard work. I cannot think of a greater gift we can give or receive than the chance to learn, and grow, together.

There are many events coming up at BSLN that may be of interest to you. Please consider attending our Meet & Greet scheduled for

Wednesday, May 15 at 7 PM at Opportunity Place. We have many new volunteers starting and this is a good chance to make a new friend or renew an old acquaintance.

Volunteers Needed

Please consider sparing a few hours to help with the BSLN Year End Celebration. Volunteers are needed to help organize the event and solicit door prizes. Call 869-3838 or e-mail bsln@chebucto.ns.ca for more information.

Volunteers are also needed to help with BSLN fundraising. If you have an interest in or experience



BSLN Computer Basics Instructor Linda Beaver with students Bev and Mona. The 10-week communications/computer basics course finished on April 22.

with fundraising and are willing to approach local businesses for support, please call the BSLN office.

BSLN Tutor Meet & Greet

Wednesday, May 15 • 7 PM

All tutors, new and experienced, are invited to meet other BSLN volunteers and staff and learn more about the organization at this informal session at Opportunity Place, 506 Sackville Drive. Call 869-3838 or e-mail bsln@chebucto.ns.ca for more information.

Mission Statement

The Bedford Sackville Literacy Network is committed to addressing adult learning needs by providing learner-centered, results-oriented services through one-to-one tutoring or small group study.



Judah honoured

BSLN Legal Advisor Joshua Judah (David J. Cook & Associates) was recently honored with a Halifax Regional Municipality Volunteer Recognition Award. Josh was presented with a plaque at a Volunteer Recognition brunch held on Sunday, April 21. In addition to his volunteer work with BSLN, Josh is active as a debating coach at the local, provincial and national level. Well done, Josh!

PLAR Portfolio Literacy Project Complete

Seven BSLN students presented their portfolios on March 25 after having completed an eighteen-week course that was offered through a partnership between BSLN and the Prior Learning Assessment Centre. Congratulations to Michael, Bev, Susan, Joyce, Charlene, Sheryl, and Shelley. And thanks to Marilyn, Carrie, Linda, Joan, Jeanette and Seana for all their help with this project.

BSLN Year End Celebration: June 12

Mark your calendars as BSLN will celebrate the end of another busy programming year at the annual Year End Party scheduled for Wednesday, June 12, 7-9 PM at the Bedford Superstore Community Room, 1650 Bedford Highway.

NALD Workshop

Charles Ramsay, Executive Director of the National Adult Literacy Database will present an introduction to NALD for BSLN tutors on Monday, May 27th at 6:30 PM at Opportunity Place, 506 Sackville Drive. The NALD website (www.nald.ca) is a great source of ideas, information and literacy resources. To register, call 869-3838 or e-mail bsln@chebucto.ns.ca.

NS-Reads Project Underway

BSLN has been involved in the recent HRM Adult Literacy Project called NS-Reads. The goal of this project is to connect HRM's community literacy organizations with as many new adult learners and volunteers as possible. There is now an NS-Reads website (www.nsreads.ca) and toll-free number (1-866-NSREADS) and a new edition of the HRM Adult Learner's Directory. For more information, please contact Communications Officer Dave Caulfield at 869-3849 or dcaulfie@staff.ednet.ns.ca

Literacy Solutions Conference a Success

Literacy Solutions, a day of professional development workshops for literacy tutors was held on Saturday, April 20 at the Windsor Park Military Family Resource Centre. Presentations included Learning Styles, Teaching Life Skills and an introduction to recently developed learner resources. Thanks to everyone at BSLN who volunteered his or her time on Saturday to attend. If you have an idea for a PD event, please call 869-3838 or e-mail bsln@chebucto.ns.ca

New Books!

BSLN has recently received new materials such as easy readers, GED books (limited supply) and other resources that are available for borrowing. Come check them out at the BSLN office. Please remember that all BSLN materials should be returned by June 15 for inventory.

In Our Words

Monday, April 29 • 10am – 3pm

Opportunity Place

BSLN and Word on the Street present In our Words, a creative writing workshop for literacy students. All work produced during this workshop will be considered for publication in a book to be launched at Word on the Street in September.

Tutor & Instructor Training Course

Congratulations to BSLN volunteers Gayle, Marie, Roger, Donna, Karen, Frank, Cal, Colleen, Kate, Linda and Cory who recently completed the 10-week Tutor and Instructor Training Course. Well done! For information on this course, check out the BSLN web site at: www.chebucto.ca/Education/BSLN.

The BSLN Board Wants You!

Do you have experience working with the Board of a non-profit organization? Would you like to be involved in the administration of BSLN? The BSLN Board wants you! New members are needed for various positions. Contact Ethel Cunningham at 864-7529 or ecunning@staff.ednet.ns.ca for information about this year's Annual General Meeting.

Summer Is Coming!

Show your support for BSLN by wearing the official Growing Together t-shirt, available in sizes Medium and Extra-Large. T-shirts are \$15 and all proceeds go to BSLN. Call 869-3838 to order yours!

Student Writing

White Magic

A blanket of snow
Is a glorious sight
A glistening glow
That sparkles so bright
Shining, reflecting
Framing our homes
Trees arching over
Touching the soul
Saving the moment
In a picturesque frame
Would add such beauty
To a dull boring day
- Bev

Bedford Sackville Literacy Network

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