

LiteracyLinks

The Portland Literacy Council Newsletter for Volunteer Tutors

Peggy L. Murphy, Editor

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Note:

Active internet links
in this file updated
May 31, 2013.

Save the Date!

Volunteer Literacy Tutor Conference Literacy for a Brighter Future

**Saturday March 16, 2013
Vollum Center – Reed College**

Preregistration is required.
If you are on our mailing list, you'll
receive an invitation in early February.
Doors open at 8 am, sessions begin at
9 am. Registrants select two morning
and one afternoon workshop. Guest
speakers are the featured attraction
at the catered luncheon.

See you there!

You Should Bookmark the Portland ESL Network — Here's Why

Adult literacy advocates in the Portland metropolitan area have free access to the [Portland ESL Network](#), an online community directory featuring ESL classes, ESL teacher and student resources, cultural information, volunteer information, and community news. Conceived and developed by Heidi Dryden as her MA TESOL project at Portland State University, the site first went online in 2009. Volunteers Ariana Chandler, Emilia Gilroy-Sander, and Patrik McDade work with Heidi in gathering and updating information quarterly. Portland ESL Network has had over 14,000 hits since its inception.

About that Internet bookmark

The Portland ESL Network is a rich resource for students, tutors and teachers — just like a Timex®, “it keeps on giving.” Portland ESL Network is a website that deserves top placement in anyone’s Internet bookmarks. Here’s just a few reasons why:

- 1. Learner Autonomy** Students have access to programs ranging from video lessons, vocabulary, grammar, listening to writing practice. The site includes two typing programs: with computerized GED tests, typing will be a critical skill.
- 2. Connections** Get access to programs for ESL students, teachers, and tutors throughout the Portland metropolitan area. You might be surprised what a geographical search for ESL classes in your part of town will bring up. Maybe a church a block away teaches English a few nights a week. Or students might find that they can take a class in Hillsboro and save a weekly trip to Gresham.
- 3. Current, “Green,” & Accessible** Having online access beats paper lists any day. Anyone who’s ever had the task of keeping a directory current knows that within a short time of printing and distributing it, someone will send you an update.
- 4. It’s a “wiki”** — anyone can update it, so you can share your knowledge with others. Portland ESL Network includes a users’ manual to orient new users to the site.
- 5. Free Access** There are no subscription fees to post or access information.



Heidi Dryden (left) of Portland ESL Network

Learn more about the Portland ESL Network

If you’ve been to a Portland Literacy Tutor Conference in the last 3-4 years, you may be familiar with Heidi Dryden and the Portland ESL Network. At the 2013 PLC Tutor Conference, workshop, she will present an workshop about the Portland ESL Network’s resources for students and teachers.

Tutors looking to improve computer literacy (either their own or that of a student) will have that opportunity at Heidi’s workshop. Through the ESL Network site, tutors will connect with resources for students, tutors, and teachers. Links include online learning sites and a geographical listing of ESL classes in the Portland metropolitan area, including Clark County, WA. One of the workshop activities will focus on the map (Heidi’s favorite feature on the website) and how students can locate nearby class locations.

About Heidi

Heidi Dryden has an extensive background in ESL. She is an instructor at the Mt. Hood CC Maywood ESL vocational program, worked in Guatemala and Honduras, and studied Spanish in Mexico. When doing the groundwork for the ESL Network, she met extensively with government and NGO resources to gather ESL program information. She remains dedicated to the ESL Network and is happy she chose this project for her MA, rather than thesis that might be gathering dust on a shelf.

What's in Your Tutor Toolbox?

ESL Cell Phone Apps

Sponsored by **Troy Hickman and Sharon Hennessey, Portland Community College**

Would you like to bring your tutor toolbox into the 21st Century? How about ESL cell phone apps? (Texting your seatmate apparently is only one of the things one can do with a cell phone.)

- **Vocabulary Spelling City.com** — Access to 42,000 words, spoken and used in sentences by a human being. Customizable spelling lists, tests, and learning games. Free and premium activities.
- **Quizlet** — “We make simple tools that let you study anything, for free.” Students can use to make their own vocabulary notebooks, learning games, and tests. Instructors can see the words students choose and create vocabulary quizzes
- **Sounds, The Pronunciation App** — “The ultimate mobile English pronunciation aid, for students and teachers. Based on the best-selling ‘Sound Foundations’ by Adrian Underhill . . .” Includes an interactive phonemic a built-in phonemic spelling feature. chart and phonemic typewriter to practice phonemic spelling. By Macmillan Education.

Google Play sells several apps for android phones/ tablets:

- **ESL Daily English**— a “helper application for beginner to intermediate to advanced English learners. This independent application has been made by ImApp Soft . . .”
- **Language Nomad ESL**. 300 of the most commonly used English vocabulary words, illustrations, audio recordings from native speakers and written words . . . By Clarion Creative.

Phones have come a long way since the days of telephone party-lines and dials! Try it out!!!

Editor's Note: Troy Hickman is a board member of Portland Literacy Council and a specialist in the Adult Basic Skills program at PCC Sylvania. Sharon Hennessey is an ESOL instructor at PCC Southeast Campus.

For Your Calendar

Tutor Discussion Group

Saturday, February 2, 2013, 10 am to Noon
PCC CLIMB Center

1626 SE Water Avenue

[More Info/RSVP](#)

Volunteer Literacy Tutor Training

Registration Information (register by Email or telephone 971-722-6111 X3700)

- March 2 & 9, 9 am to 4 pm
PCC Willow Creek
241 SW Edgeway Dr, Beaverton
- May 11 & 18, 9 am to 4 pm
CCC Harmony Campus Bldg

Opportunities

Health Literacy Conference Registration

Registration is now open for the second Oregon and SW Washington Health Literacy Conference, sponsored by Legacy Health and community partners. The conference, “Toward a Culture of Clarity,” is set for Friday, March 1, 2013 in Portland. See the [conference details and registration for more information](#).

From information provided by Kari L. Stanley, LPH, Director of Community Relations, Community Benefit, Legacy Health.

Multnomah County Library

Multnomah Co Library GED Learning Labs

Learn general information about GED testing requirements. Take a practice test and learn how to study online and from library study guides. Learn about many resources to help prepare you for your GED test. Attendance at the lab qualifies participants for a partial GED testing scholarship.

Registration is required.

- North Portland Library, Saturday, February 16, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm
- Troutdale, Saturday, March 16, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm