

# READ WRITES

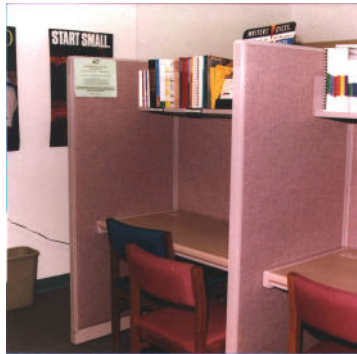
For You and About You  
September 2011

## Where Were You In '92?

**In the coming year, READ/OC will celebrate 20 years of Adult Literacy Services in Orange County!**

*In 1991, OCPL was awarded an implementation grant from California Literacy Campaign sponsored by California State Library to offer basic literacy services to the community. The grant was good for a five year decreasing term. After 5 years, it was assumed the community would support the program.*

**In August 1992**, READ/Orange County (READ/OC) staff assessed the first learner. The first Tutor Training Workshop followed in September 1992 with a class of **8 tutors**. These tutors provided service to adult learners in one of the 5 literacy centers located at Garden Grove Regional, La Habra, San Juan Capistrano, Tustin and Westminster Libraries.



*La Habra Literacy Center, in 1992*

READ/OC initially offered basic literacy instruction to English speaking adults. As the need for additional service became evident, READ/OC expanded services. Later in 1992, READ/OC developed a partnership with the Orange County Sheriff Coroner's Department to provide tutoring to inmates in the five Orange County Jail facilities through its *Working for Inmate Literacy Now (WIN)*. In September 1996, READ/OC added a *Families for Literacy (FFL)* component, which works with adult non or low level readers with at least one child in the home under age five. FFL tutors are specifically trained in methods of incorporating children's material into the tutoring sessions, helping adults in choosing age-appropriate reading materials for the children in their lives, using daily activities as fun

and relevant learning experiences for the entire family to enjoy together.

**Today**, 10 of the 33 branch libraries have dedicated READ/OC Literacy Centers. The Literacy Centers have private areas for use by the learner/tutor pairs, as well as a collection of literacy teaching materials. READ/OC has conducted more than 200 Tutor Training Workshops, certified over 2,500 tutors, assessed more than 4,500 learners, and referred over 1,500 learners to higher level ABE or other programs. READ/OC has responded to more than 4,000 tutor information requests and over 6,500 requests for information from potential adult learners. During this same period, volunteers have contributed 100,000+ hours of tutoring and an additional 115,000+ hours in talent and support services. READ/OC actively supports an average of 300 tutor/learner pairs in any month.

We will be celebrating the 20 years of READ/OC throughout the coming issues of this newsletter over the next several months.

***If you have special READ/OC memories of the past 20 years, please share them with us.***

***If someone introduced you to READ/OC, share this memory with them, and encourage them to get in touch with us so we can include them in the celebrations planned for the coming year.***



**The monthly report winner  
for August is**

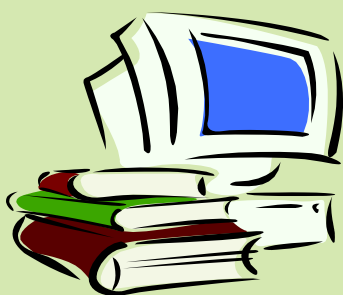
**Adrienne Mok**

**Congratulations Adrienne!**

Monthly Reports are due by the 5<sup>th</sup> of every month. Get yours in on time for a chance to be next month's winner and receive a \$10 gift card to Starbucks.

If you have missed sending in your Monthly Reports, it is not too late to catch up! Remember, the hours you report each month are the only record READ has of your learner's hours!

Of course you can still access monthly report forms online, submit them by email to [readoc@occr.ocgov.com](mailto:readoc@occr.ocgov.com) or mail them to READ/OC, 1501 E. St. Andrew Pl., Santa Ana, CA 92705



# Proud Moments



July was another successful month for our tutors and learners! Here are just a few of their achievements in July, taken from monthly reports:

- Sommer's learner used the computer to apply for several jobs.
- Stanek's learner is getting better with putting words into sentences and his vocabulary is growing.
- Larry's learner is doing well on almost all types of tests that require comprehension and logic.
- Adrienne's learner and her child are selecting and reading books together and then answering the comprehension questions together after they read.
- Barbara's learner is now initiating conversation and asking clarifying questions more often.
- Debby's learner enrolled in online classes for the fall and now practices test questions until she gets them right!
- Nayoung's learner read a news article during her tutoring session and then again at home with her children!
- Alta's learner completed reading her first book in English!
- Daniel's learner figured out the meaning of a complex word while reading by looking at the word's beginning and comparing it to a similar word she already knew!
- Richard's learner finished reading his first novel ever!
- Jim's learner is reading to grandchildren and taking them to the library.
- Judith's learner added 21 words to his personal word list this month and got a promotion at work!
- Patrick's learner is now writing complete sentences.

Please remember to submit your monthly reports. We want to let everyone know about your accomplishments!

**Attention Learners and Tutors:**  
**START READING!**  
Writer-to-Writer 2011  
is coming!

*Did you ever read a book, feel the message is "so ME!" or want to talk to the author about your connection to their story?*

The Southern California Library Network will again sponsor the annual Writer-to-Writer opportunity for adult learners participating in the library literacy programs throughout Southern California.

To participate in this exciting annual writing opportunity, learners simply select a book they have recently read or are currently reading. After reading it, they write a letter to the author sharing their feelings and thoughts about the book and how it relates to *their* story.

Tutors, you can encourage your learners by helping them select a book that connects with a current interest of theirs. Depending on your learner's skill and confidence levels, you can use a language experience approach (LEA) to help get them thinking about what they might want to include in their letter. *(Remember, it is their letter...their words.)*

Tutors, encourage your learner to start thinking about a book and author that they would like to write about.

Learners, *Try It! You'll Like It!*  
*Nothing to lose so you become automatically a winner!*

Watch for more details, include the deadline to submit entries in next month's newsletter and in READ/OC's monthly email blasts.



**Accent Reduction Class**  
**Now Forming!**



Orange Library  
407 E. Chapman Ave.  
Orange, CA 92866  
Dates to be determined

Call READ/OC if you are interested in this class.

**714-566-3070**

**Missed an Issue??**

Did you know that previous issues of our READ Writes newsletter can be accessed online at [www.readoc.org](http://www.readoc.org)?

Check out our website, often!



There is a great collection of resources and advice brewing on our website. Review the previous issues of our newsletter for ideas, activities, and suggestions to use in your tutoring sessions. And remember to share it with a friend when they ask you "what's new?"



## FROC Corner Friends of READ/OC

It is hard to believe we are two months into our new board year, but here we are and we are busy. Over the next few months you will find us at the Fall Feast, at Barnes & Noble and at the Orange County Children's Book Festival, just to name a few events. We attend these events to encourage people to get involved with our organization and to support READ/OC.

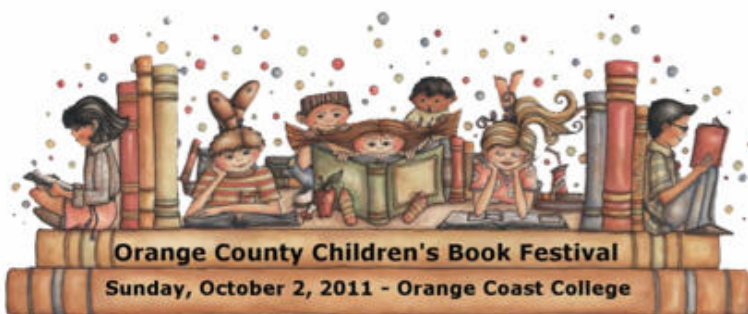
The Friends of READ/Orange County was founded in July 1993 as a 501 C-3 nonprofit group of volunteers dedicated to helping READ/Orange County.

Have you been considering volunteering? We are currently looking for members for our Friends of READ/OC board. We encourage tutors, learners and everyone with a heart to make a change to contact us and volunteer.

You can find out more by visiting our web site at [www.friendsroc.org](http://www.friendsroc.org). Or visit us at one of our outreach events, we want to get to know you.

Coming up:

You can find us at The Orange County Children's Book Festival on Sunday, October 2. Tutors and learners, visit the festival and bring your families. The festival is held at Orange Coast College from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm and is a FREE community event with FREE parking. Come and meet authors, publishers and many people involved with reading.



## OUTREACH NEWS

We attended the 9th Annual "People Helping People" Volunteer Event on Sunday 9/11, honoring the lives impacted by the events on September, 11, 2001. We want to thank OneOC.org for inviting us to participate in this event.

The attendees at the event were asked to pledge volunteer hours for the next year to the non-profits attending. It was heart warming to see so many come out to find out how they could volunteer.

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If your company has an Outreach Coordinator, we would love to talk to you about how you can get involved to make a difference. It is easy to get involved, here are a couple of suggestions:

Book Drives / Jeans Days

If you would like more information on how to have our Outreach Coordinator come to your place of business or talk to your group, please call 714-566-3070 and *ask for Karen!*



Next time you are online - "LIKE" **READ/OC** and **Friends of READ/OC** on Facebook.

While you are there, check out literacy news and events on the Facebook pages for Southern California Library Literacy Network (SCLLN) and our very own Friends of READ/Orange County (FROC).

And then share us with a friend - encourage them to volunteer and help change a life through literacy.

If you are reading this line, call the READ/OC office to claim your "Reader of the month prize!"



## Word Search

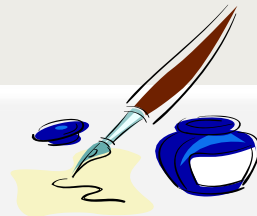


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N D E T I V N I Y L R E

FACEBOOK	FALL FEAST	FOOD
FRIENDS	INVITED	LIBRARY
LIKE	LLAMA	MONTHLY
OUTREACH	PAJAMA	PROUD MOMENTS
READ	RECORD	STORYTIME

Tutor Tip: Read through this newsletter with your learner in a tutoring session. Help your learner practice reading and writing words forwards, backwards and diagonally. Then, together work on the word search puzzle. Learners can start by finding the words spelled out straight, and tutors can help then find the diagonal and backward words. Then together, skim through the newsletter to find these words within the articles and talk about the article. This can be a warm-up for a new writing activity, practice assignment or an invitation to read more!

**Ms. Paige Turner  
(Fun advice for tutors and learners)**



Dear Paige,

In commemoration of 9/11, there have been several messages in the media and throughout the community about "Be the Change" and "Get Involved."

A friend told me about READ/OC and suggested I should check it out and consider volunteering. I have not heard about READ/OC before and want to know more.

Considering

*Dear Considering,*

*Your friend is right on! READ/OC provides a great opportunity throughout Orange County to get involved and "Be the Change."*

*Perhaps the messages from some brand new tutors can inspire you to become an adult literacy tutor and change two lives or more—yours, an adult learner, their family and the community!*

*Here's to Lifelong Learning, Paige*

## **September – Remember and Get Involved!**

It may come as a surprise to many that adult illiteracy is very prevalent in our community. The vast majority of us take reading and writing for granted. Yet, for many, being illiterate is a burden carried every hour of every day. It is also something that we, as a community, can help to change.

The benefits of helping people break the cycle of illiteracy are both satisfying and exciting –

The opportunity to give back to the community, to teach, to meet people that we would probably never meet, to share the joy of reading...

But perhaps, most of all, to make a significant difference in peoples' lives.

If you are looking to make a real difference, the READ/OC program is a perfect place to start.

New READ/OC Tutors: Murray, Joan Marie, Richard and Jeanne

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I am looking forward to my tutoring with READ/OC because reading and writing has had such a pleasurable and important impact on my life. I think it will be very meaningful to share not only the joy of reading but also teach others the skills of reading and writing. In this way, my learner can achieve their goals and become a more productive citizen.

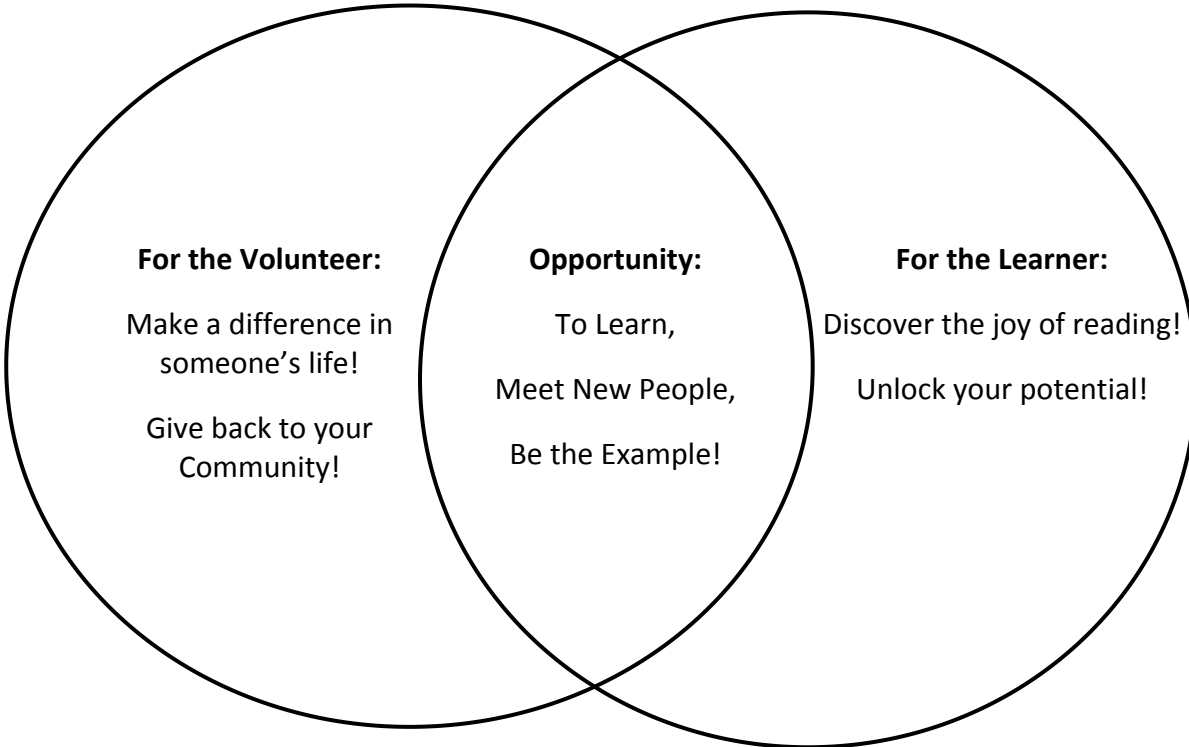
New READ/OC Tutors: Arica, Robert, Riette and Claudia

**WWW.READOC.ORG**

## September – Remember and Get Involved! (continued)

*As we reflect on our nation this month and opportunities to "Get Involved," it is appropriate to share the following thoughts from our current class of new READ/OC volunteer tutors as a call to action to "Be the Change!"*

### READ/OC Tutoring



### Call Today!

**"Be the change you want to see in the world!"**

New READ/OC Tutors: Sam, Sean, Jae and Don

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### A Fairy Tale

Once upon a time, in a land far, far away, there lived a mean, old witch, who lived in the forest. She never wanted to serve the community or be a good example to her children.

One day, the witch was walking in the woods and met a toad, who promised her 3 wishes if she would first do the following tasks:

- Meet new people
- Help someone achieve their goal
- Make a difference in someone's life

The witch was very excited and decided to become a tutor. She was able to complete the tasks and also learned to share the joy of reading. Because she had the opportunity to learn, she was very happy and became the most loved witch in the woods. And she lived happily ever after!

New READ/OC Tutors: Susan, Leigh, Emily and Kimberly

**What's new in the forest?  
The Fall Feast Potluck is  
Saturday, October 1**



The READ/OC Fall Feast Potluck Luncheon and Literacy Celebration will be Saturday, October 1 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Bring your family and a favorite dish to serve 8 or more.

Have you told us yet that you are coming? Don't wait for Red Riding Hood! Call READ/OC at 714-566-3070 now and then get out that family favorite recipe!

**You've Got Mail!**

Watch for the new READ/OC Tech Survey to arrive in your mailbox in a few weeks! Please take a few moments to complete this brief survey and return to READ/OC before 10/28! (Then get ready for tricks and treats!)



**Save the Date or Mark  
Your Calendars Now!**



**The Southern California Library  
Literacy Network (SCLLN)  
Conference will be on  
Saturday, February 25, 2012!**

New date but "Same Place – Same Bat Channel!" At the Buena Park Holiday Inn. More information about workshop sessions coming soon!

Plan to attend. It is a wonderful resource for tutors and learners!

**Solution to Puzzle on page 5**

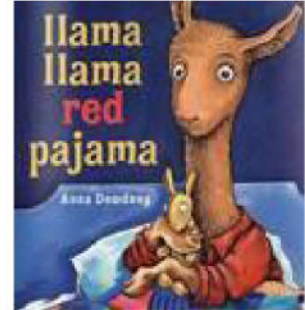
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**Join READ/Orange County  
Celebrate literacy and set a world record!**

On Thursday, October 6 more than 2.1 million people will promote the importance of early literacy skills for children and families reading together while attempting to break a world record for people reading the same book on the same day!



*Read For the Record* is a national celebration of literacy and an opportunity to share the joy of reading with family and community. The book celebrated this year is Llama, Llama, Red Pajama by Anna Dewdney.

**Pledge to read Llama, Llama, Red Pajama with your family on Thursday, October 6** at [www.jstart.org](http://www.jstart.org).

Consider reading the book to your child's class or over the phone to a grandchild who lives out of the area. *You can even read the book online at [www.wegivebooks.org](http://www.wegivebooks.org)!* OR *join us at one of the 32 special Read For the Record storytimes at the following Orange County Public Libraries and community locations to celebrate literacy and the joy of reading together!*

**Monday, October 3**

Costa Mesa Library	11:00 am
Rancho Santa Margarita Library	11:00 am
Seal Beach Library	11:15 am

**Tuesday, October 4**

Rancho Santa Margarita Library	10:00 & 11:00 am
Fountain Valley Library	10:30 am
Villa Park Library	10:30 am
Irvine University Park Library	11:00 am
Seal Beach Library	11:15 am
Garden Grove Chapman Library	11:15 am
La Palma Library	6:30 pm
Garden Grove Regional Library	7:00 pm
La Habra Library	7:00 pm
Stanton Library	7:00 pm

**Wednesday, October 5**

Cypress Library	9:30 & 10:00 am
Rancho Santa Margarita Library	10, 10:45 &11:30am
Ladera Ranch Library	10:30 & 11:00 am
Garden Grove Chapman Library	10:30 am
Garden Grove Regional Library	10:30 am
La Habra Library	10:30 am
El Toro Library	1:30 pm
Fountain Valley Library	7:00 pm
Costa Mesa-Mesa Verde Library	7:00 pm

**Thursday, October 6**

West Garden Grove Library	10:30 am
Costa Mesa Library	2:00 pm
Aliso Viejo Library	3:30 pm
San Clemente Library	3:30 pm
Dana Point Library	4:00 pm
El Toro Library	6:00 pm
Stanton Community Resource Ctr.	6:00 pm
Aliso Viejo Family Resource Ctr.	6:30 pm
Costa Mesa-Mesa Verde Library	7:00 pm
Cypress Library	7:00 pm
Westminster Library	7:00 pm

## Newsletter Editors

Barbara Neder &

Karen Ruhl



# September-October 2011

Staff & Volunteer

Contributors:

Tangela Ashe

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Barbara Neder

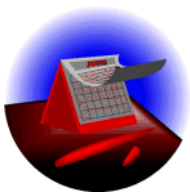
Karen Ruhl

Ms. Paige Turner

*If you are interested in contributing an article for READ WRITES, contact us at 714-566-3070.*

When you have finished reading this newsletter, please share it with someone so they will know about the services and volunteer opportunities

[Click here to go directly to the READ/OC Calendar of Events](#)



Last Week of September

Saturday, October 1

Monday, October 3

Tuesday, October 4

Thursday, October 6

Saturday, October 8

Monday, October 10

Tuesday, October 11

Thursday, October 13

Saturday, October 15

Thursday, October 20

### READ/OC Tutors – Watch your mail for the Tech Survey!

READ/OC Fall Feast & Potluck Luncheon, 11am-2pm @ Read/OC HQ

**(Tell us now if you and your family plan to attend!)**

Thursday, October 6 – Read For the Record events at Several library locations!

*Check page 9 of this newsletter for locations and details.*

Learner Orientation @ La Habra Library, 6-8

Family Reading Time @ La Palma Library, 6:30-7:45pm  
*(A Read For the Record event! Fun for the whole family!)*

Family Reading Time @ El Toro Library, 6-8pm  
*(A Read For the Record event! Fun for the whole family!)*

Family Reading Time @ Irvine University Park Library, 10am-12pm

### Columbus Day – Libraries & READ/OC Office Closed

Learner Orientation @ Orange Main Library, 6-8pm

Family Reading Time @ Mesa Verde Library, 6-8pm

Family Reading Time @ El Toro Library, 10am-12pm

Family Reading Time @ Tustin Library, 6:30-8pm



ORANGE COUNTY  
**OC Community Resources**  
Our Community. Our Commitment.

**lead**  
ORANGE COUNTY

ORANGE COUNTY  
**OC Public Libraries**  
OC Community Resources

Accredited  
**PROLITERACY**  
AMERICA

READ/OC is the adult literacy services of OC Public Libraries and OC Community Resources

**1501 E. St. Andrew Place, Santa Ana, CA 92705**  
**Phone: 714-566-3070 • www.READOC.org**