

**BETWEEN THE LINES--The Quarterly Newsletter**  
**Monongalia & Preston Counties Literacy Volunteers, Inc.**  
**296-3400 United Way Agencies SPRING EDITION April 2005**

**From the Office**

It's the end of March and start of April; that must mean winter is over... at last. Since our last newsletter the office staff has been very busy with a variety of projects and activities – computer classes, Literacy Month, Reader's Digest Word Power Challenge West Virginia State Championship, Bowl-a-thon, Networking dinner, and various expos in addition to the normal office activities.

PCLV has been active planning for the new "Ruby Read" bookmobile and conducting the Baklava class, Elegant Dinner Class, Monday computer class, and the quilting class. We also received authority to increase our staff in Preston County – **Delisa Riley** is now a member of the Vista volunteer organization and **Jennifer Graham** is our new AmeriCorps member.

**Susie** taught a class on statewide literacy issues at the Jackson's Mill 4-H conference in March. **Stacy** coordinated a very well attended event at the Monongalia Arts Center to celebrate Martin Luther King Day and Civil Rights Month. The next quarter looks just as active and hectic! Make sure you mark your calendar for the Annual Board and General Membership Meetings for both counties – Great food and company and our business meetings.

**Networking Dinner held at Café of India**

On January 18 MCLV met for a networking dinner at Café of India. Attending were: Elaine Mason, Lois Hatfield, Julie Quarrick, Carol Hamblen, Joanna Ham, Don Morrison, Frank McGreevy, Conrad Pesyna, Stacy Clovis-Woofter, Jack Coster, Nikki Wilhide, Sandra Dixon, Anka Fantulin (?), Pete Tzavaras, Susie Huggins and Vicki Conner.

Vicki presented information on the upcoming Health Literacy Expo as well as the student tutor survey that was mailed to those not attending the event.

**FAMILY LIFE EXPO**

Melisa Lipscomb won the quilted bag made by the Quaint Quilters during the Family Life Expo held at the Craig Civic Center in Kingwood. 86 people signed up for the WV Wildlife Magazine during the Family Life Expo and the Valley District Health Fair held on Saturday March 12.

**Health Literacy In-Service Training Held**

MCLV held a Health Literacy In-Service Training on March 29 at the Sabraton Community School. **Elaine Mason** made an excellent presentation on issues with low literacy patients to volunteer tutors and staff.

**Literacy Month Events**

In February we held our annual Monongalia and Preston County Literacy Month Activities. During the events, **Susie** and **Stacy** became radio personalities for a day; our annual literacy open house was held at the Morgantown Public Library on February 12<sup>th</sup> with a theme of "Health Literacy". Our thanks go out to all the fine organizations and individuals who helped make the day a

success, including the United Way of Monongalia and Preston Counties, Alzheimer's Association, Monongalia General Hospital, WVU Extension Office, Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity, Literacy West Virginia, the *Dominion Post*, WDTV-3 Clarksburg-Fairmont, Betty Cross, Preston County Hospice Association, Literacy West Virginia. We would like to give a special thanks to **Betty Cross** for her great storytelling.

**Bowl-A-Thons**

The MCLV Feb 5 bowl-a-thon raised \$600.00 for the program.

The PCLV Bowl-a-thon will be on Saturday April 2 from noon to 3 at H&L Lanes in Reedsville. Elvis impersonator Franky Dee will perform at 2pm. Sign ups for the event were mailed to businesses in Preston County. We hope to have at least 50 bowlers participate.

**Welcome to Jennifer Graham**

Preston County's new AmeriCorps member is **Jennifer Graham**. Jennifer is a lifelong resident of the Preston County area and has served on several civic and government boards. Her employment has included radio and newspaper positions in Preston County. Jennifer has become the instructor for our Monday & Wednesday night computer classes at the Kingwood Public Library, among her many AmeriCorps duties.

**Welcome Back to Delisa Riley**

**Delisa Riley**, who served as our AmeriCorps member for Preston County for the past two years is back with us as a VISTA volunteer, a separate federally funded program from AmeriCorps. Delisa will be dealing with organization development issues during her VISTA tenure, with an emphasis on organizing our new mobile library program ("**Ruby Read**").

**READER'S DIGEST WV State Championship**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Readers Digest Word Power West Virginia State Championship was held on Friday, March 18 at Lakeview Resort. Forty-one students in grades 4-8 in West Virginia schools participated in the competition. We were very fortunate to have **Geri Ferrara**, editor of the *Dominion Post* serve as celebrity moderator for the final and championship rounds of the competition. We must be learning how this thing works, because the competition went off without a hitch – even after Reader's Digest accidentally sent us Vermont's materials!

Our winner this year was **Sarah Fowler**, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Mount de Chantal Visitation Academy in Wheeling. She had to survive a close championship round with **Donald Grant IV** of St. Joseph the Worker School in Weirton and correctly define "decant" before winning the competition and a trip to Disneyworld to compete in the National Championship for a \$25,000 scholarship. Third place this year went to **Todd Latocha** of Barrackville Middle School in Marion County.

Good Luck in the National Competition, Sarah!

### Grant Status

We are in the final stages of consideration for our 2006 grant from the **United Way of Monongalia and Preston Counties**. Our final presentation before the Community Review Committee is scheduled for April 12 at 8:30pm. We will hear the final determination soon after that.

The Community Development Office for the City of Morgantown has made its initial recommendations for 2005 Community Development Block Grants to the City Council. **Dave Bott**, Office Director, has informed us that the review committee has recommended that MCLV be funded in the amount of \$5000.00 to purchase brand-new computers for the Literacy Center and to purchase a storage building for our materials (we have outgrown all our current storage space). Once the city Council approves the allocations, the list goes to the Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington, DC for final review and approval. Funding will be in the FY2006 Federal Budget

### Quilting Class Continues to be a Success!

The Preston County quilting classes have proven to be very attractive (as have the quilts). Three classes have been completed and a fourth is currently underway. Another will be scheduled to start in the summer time frame. Quilts are available for sale on the Internet at [www.quilts-pclv.org](http://www.quilts-pclv.org).

### AmeriCorps Doings!

Monongalia County AmeriCorps member, **Stacy Clovis-Woofter**, has been busy recruiting new volunteers and students, promoting literacy awareness, and teaching free basic skills computer classes at the public library. She is also working hard to make Literacy Volunteers more accessible to the western end of Monongalia County.

### Computers

The computers donated by the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) in Morgantown, from the last newsletter, have had software installed and are ready for adoption by students or tutors. Our great thanks to **Keith Woofter**, Stacy's husband, for volunteering to load the software for us. These are Pentium III-850 mghz machines. We still have a number of older P1's & P2's on hand. While they are a little older, they work fine and would make great home or student computers. Call the office if a tutor or adult learner could use one of the machines.

The Social Security Administration has agreed to donate a large group of surplus computers to our program in early April. We understand these are 3 year old Compaq computers. They will not have monitors, so we will have to either swap out the CPU's or find another source of monitors. If you have one of the older Dell machines and would like to upgrade to one of these Compaq's, call us in the office.

### Free Computer Classes Offered

PCLV and MCLV are offering a new series of computer classes in 2005. In Preston County, the next class will be start in May and will be on Mondays, 6-7:30 pm. Classes will be held at the Computer Lab at the Kingwood Library. This six week course is intended for beginners.

In Monongalia County, two classes will be offered each month. In April, the Introduction to Computers class will be

given on April 18, 19, and 21 at the Literacy Center in the Morgantown Public Library. This 3-hour class is intended for persons who have never used a computer. The Introduction to Word and Excel class will be offered on **April 25, 26, and 28**. This 3-hour class is intended for persons who have some computer experience, but need help with toolbars and functions. The first week of May we are doing an intensive Introduction class at Jakes Run Early Head Start Center, so there will be no classes offered at the library in May. June has not been scheduled; the schedule will be in the newsletter, on the access channel on cable, and in local newspapers.

To register for Preston County classes or Mon County classes call 296-3400.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### APRIL 2005

Annual testing for any student in our program over 9 months  
**April 2 Sat--** **LEVAR BURTON VISIT**-On Saturday, April 2, 2005, at 1:00 p.m., Levar Burton (Reading Rainbow) will be coming to the Health Sciences Auditorium for a 45-60 minute presentation. His visit is sponsored by the WVU Eye Institute and will be geared for families with young children. Read Aloud and Family Connections have been invited to include their participants in his visit but it will not be open to the general public. This is a great opportunity for families, so spread the word in your school newsletters! An informational flyer will follow closer to the event. Let me know if you get this e-mail O.K. Peggy McCarty Co-Chair-Mon. Cty Read Aloud  
**April 2** - PCLV Bowl-a-thon noon-3 at H&L Lanes--2pm Frankie Dee as Elvis will be performing.  
**4--** PCFRN meeting 11:30 Extension Office  
**17-25** Volunteer Appreciation Week  
**18**—Wall of Caring Mountaineer Mall 10am. Pick posters back up April 25  
**19**—Tuesday Networking dinner 6pm Voyagers Basic Reading  
**28--**Monday--Starting Points 12:15 Waitman Barbe

### MAY 2005

**2** - PCFRN meeting 11:30 Monroe's  
**3** - Senior Expo Mountaineer Mall 8-1  
**2, 3, 4** - Jake's Run Computer Class  
**6-7** - LWV State Meeting Hawk's Nest State Park  
**7**- Saturday—8am-11am Craig Civic Center—Preston County Health Fair Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Kingwood and Preston Memorial Hospital.  
**7**- In Touch & Concerned, Inc. Art Expo 2005 Creative Arts Center May 7, 2005, Saturday 6:00pm-10:00pm  
**13**- 12:30 Friday presentation to Senior Citizens in Kingwood with Jeniffer Graham.  
**16--**Monday--Starting Points 12:15 Waitman Barbe  
**18**—Wednesday UW Day of Caring; MCLV Car Wash at Arby's  
**30**—Monday OFFICE/BUILDING CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY

### JUNE 2005

**6** - PCFRN meeting 11:30 Monroe's  
**13--**Monday--Starting Points 12:15 Waitman Barbe  
**14**—Tuesday—6pm MCLV Annual meeting and Board meeting Marilla Park  
**20**—BUILDING CLOSED WV BIRTHDAY  
**16**—PCLV Annual picnic and meeting 6pm Whetsell Settlement Thursday