

# Literacy Nanaimo Newsletter

19 Commercial St., Nanaimo, BC V9R 5G3 Phone (250) 754-8988  
Fax: (250) 754-8114 Email: [info@LiteracyNanaimo.org](mailto:info@LiteracyNanaimo.org)

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## Staff

**Carolyn McWhinnie**, *Executive Director*  
**Wendy Chapplow**, *Administrative Assistant*  
**Brian O’Rooney**, *Computer Technician*  
**Jane Rose, Pat Donaldson, Bronwen Brice:**  
*Bookstore Supervisors*



## Board of Directors 2007/08

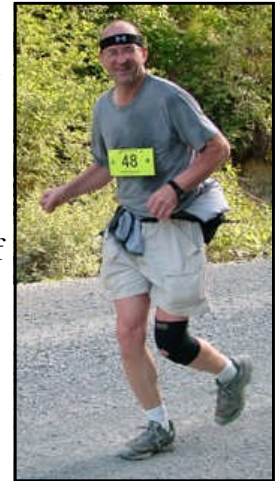
Pictured is our newly elected board of directors: Front row left to right Vice President **Christine McAuley**, President **Valerie Fulford**, Secretary **Jane Muise**. Back row left to right **Tony Bellevia**, Treasurer **Brian Anderson**, **Julie Stewart-Boyle** and **Terry-Lynn Saunders**. Absent are **Julie Powell** and **Tina Manson**.

## Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting was held Monday, June 18th. Highlights included brief presentations from our Regional Literacy Coordinator **June Hughes**, **Wayne Kuss** of the Nanaimo Daily News talking about the Raise a Reader campaign, Volunteer Tutor **Bob Calderwood**, and volunteer BEAR **Jennifer Pringle**. Tutor Coordinator **Margaret Ames** and our Computer Technician **Brian O’Rooney** gave brief reports.

## Brian broke his record!

**Brian O’Rooney** completed the **Great Walk** (63.5 K from Gold River to Tahsis) on Saturday June 2nd in **7 hours and 55 minutes**. He finished 25th in a field of 284. This is the 5th time Brian has completed this walk. He managed to raise \$1,677.50 for Literacy Nanaimo programs.



## BEAMS & BEARS

Another school year is coming to a close. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the **52 BEARS** volunteers who worked in **30** schools during the past school year.

These volunteers work under the supervision of a teacher and act as reading buddies or assist with math. Some children need a little extra one-to-one and these volunteers are happy to provide it.

Thanks again for their efforts.

## Computer Recycling

**102** computers were donated to families last year. The computers are donated from the community. Our two volunteers, **Frank Hughes** and **Frank Marsden**, clean them up, load them with Windows 2000 and Works 7 (we are a licensed Microsoft refurbisher) and some spelling games. They are then donated to families through the elementary schools and community organizations.

**Privacy Statement:** At Literacy Nanaimo, we protect your personal information and adhere to all legislative and privacy policy requirements. Information you provide is held in confidence. Information is not sold, rented, or traded to other organizations. Your personal information will be used only to keep you informed of our activities, services, and opportunities to volunteer or to contribute. If at any time you wish to be removed from our mailing list, or if you have any questions, simply contact us by phone at 250 754-8988 or via email at [info@LiteracyNanaimo.org](mailto:info@LiteracyNanaimo.org).



# Bookstore News

Bookstore Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 to 5:00, Saturday 10:00 to 5:00 Summer Hours: Sunday 12:00 to 5:00

All of our books are donated and the store is staffed primarily by volunteers. We have 3 individuals sharing the responsibility of Book Store Supervisor: **Jane Rose, Pat Donaldson** and **Bronwen Brice**. There are currently 30 volunteers most of whom take responsibility for a specific section or category of books. It may surprise you to learn that we have approximately **35,000** books on our shelves. This doesn't count the overstock or storage area.

## New

We have created two new sections for summer: **Local Authors**, e.g. William Deverell, Joe Garner, Lyn Hancock, James Hawkins and B.J. Petit and **Local Interest** e.g. *Hub City* by Jan Peterson, *Boss Whistle* by Lynn Bowen and *Discover Nanaimo* by Charles Lillard.

## Joyce Raitt

Joyce has been volunteering in the Literacy Nanaimo bookstore for 12 years. She is responsible for the children's book section.



Joyce is a retired primary school teacher and says that "Literacy is very important to me, having taught children to read. I "love" the bookstore. It keeps me learning. It inspired me to take a 10 week course at Malaspina University-College on the change in children's literature over the past 20 years. I hope I can continue to volunteer forever".

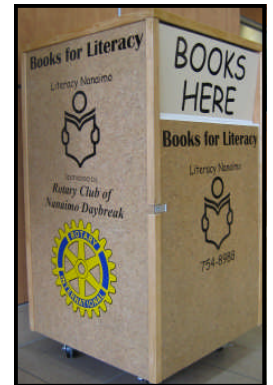
When you come into the store be sure to check out the Children's book section and pay attention to the seasonal/holiday decorations. Joyce has saved all of these from her teaching days and is so pleased that she can continue to use them.

## Check out our video

If you go to our website [www.LiteracyNanaimo.org](http://www.LiteracyNanaimo.org) and click on "Bookstore" you will be entertained by a short video of the bookstore. Our thanks to the **National Adult Literacy Database** ([www.nald.ca](http://www.nald.ca)) for hosting our site and converting our video to something computer friendly.

## Book Drop Boxes

Pictured is one of the book drop boxes donated by **Rotary Daybreak**. The boxes are located in **•Port Place Mall** (near CIBC), **•Country Club Centre** (next to *Save-On Foods* entrance) and **•Woodgrove Centre** (next to *Toys R Us* entrance).



You will find the boxes convenient for small donations but if you are doing a major clean out you will need to bring them to the store. If you have difficulty delivering the books please call the store **754-8988** to arrange for a volunteer to pick them up.

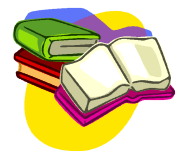
Our thanks to **Rotary Daybreak** for not only donating the boxes but for regularly collecting the books and bringing them to our store.

## Book Donations

The primary purpose of the book store is to sell books to raise money to support our programs, when we have an overabundance, we donate books to worthwhile literacy endeavors. Since January we have donated 650 children's books to community organizations and given 25 large print books to Nanaimo Seniors Village.

## Languages

Do you read a language other than English or French? From time to time we come across a book in our donations that is in a language none of us understand (we have very limited language skills). We would like to be able to call on a volunteer to interpret the title and give us an idea of the content so that we might list them on the Internet. For example we currently have a book that we think is Norwegian. If you can help please call.

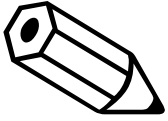


## Quotes from visitors:

*Tom , Ottawa: "Wish we had this store in Ottawa!"*  
*Bev, Brisbane Australia: "Worthwhile plus great service".*  
*Kate, York, UK: "Super Shop, found many old friends!"*  
*John and Bernice, Derby UK: "Huge Selection, Thanks!"*  
*Michael, Krefeld, Germany: "Big and great choice of books"*

## Malaspina University-College / Literacy Nanaimo

### *Volunteer*



# Tutor Program

Phone: Literacy Nanaimo 754-8988 or Malaspina 753-3245 Local 2822



### Greetings from Margaret:

I have truly enjoyed this past six months as your volunteer tutor coordinator. Meeting all of you and hearing your stories has been very rewarding to me. I have always believed strongly in programs such as this and this past six months have only added to my conviction that these programs really do make a difference; to both learners and tutors. I thank you all very much for your support and for the opportunity to assist you.

Jacqueline Webster will be returning in August but I am happy to announce that I will be job sharing with her. We are both looking forward to continuing our work with you and to providing the best support that we can.

Have a great summer and don't forget to READ!!!

Cheers—

Margaret

### MultiSensory and Math Manipulatives

Conducted by Marilyn Wardrop June 2nd

Submitted by **Elliot Chalmers**, volunteer tutor

**Marilyn Wardrop** teaches a multi-sensory math technique for working with adults and children with dyslexia and learning disabilities. The technique works especially well with kinesthetic learners and moves from building the problem through drawing it to writing it. The technique begins with the student building the math problem with the blocks. Using the blocks with carefully structured procedures impressed the regular motions and sensations of each mathematical operation on the student. Along with the building step the learner produces a drawing of the blocks in the problem. This step allows a smooth transition from the concrete procedure to the symbolic procedures using numbers.

### Learning Styles Workshop

Report by **Crystal Carson**, learner.

**June Hughes** led the learning styles workshop. I met a tutor by the name of Lorne. We both worked as a pair. We went into the first room and saw a VHS tape on learning styles, working one-to-one with your tutor. Then we went into the second room and we wrote a story about our childhood in 1998, age eight and ten. This is my story:

*One day our father said he would buy a personal computer for our mom's and his use. We wanted to use the computer too. We had friends who wanted to use the computer too. We had friends who had played fun games on their computer. So we struck a deal with our parents. We promised Mom and Dad to keep our rooms tidy and set the table, walk the dog at least once a day.*

In the last room Lorne and I did some Canadian geography questions on famous Canadians and our score was ten out of ten.

I think I learn best when working with both Cheryl and Wendy using all three learning styles: visual, auditory and hands-on.



Left to right:

**Gordon Schlagel** and **John Kupusa**

John is no stranger to Literacy Nanaimo but recently approached the Tutor Coordinator requesting some assistance with the math he is working on at Malaspina University College. Gordon is new to the Nanaimo area having moved here just 7 months ago. He was interested in becoming part of the community and to using his skills so he approached Literacy Nanaimo about volunteering. He took tutor training in the spring and then matched with John. They meet twice each week at Literacy Nanaimo and work on the material John wants help with. John is very pleased with the progress he is making and Gordon is enjoying seeing John improve.

## Literacy Fun

Try this with your tutor---

Change one letter each time to make a new word, ie:

B A K E change the B to M

M A K E change the A to I

M I K E change the K to N

M I N E lastly change the E to T

M I N T now you have a new word

Now you try-- Change the word BOAT to MEEK

BOAT

MEEK

(email Margaret at [amesm@mala.bc.ca](mailto:amesm@mala.bc.ca) with your answer---prize for the first 3 received)

## Face idioms

by Douglas DeLong

What do the following mean?? Read the sentence and select the correct answer—

1. The news that he had been accepted by the University was "music to Mike's ears."

- Mike is going to study music at the university.
- Mike received some very good news.
- Mike enjoys listening to music.

2. Wayne doesn't know for sure what he's going to do tomorrow. He'll "play it by ear."

- Wayne will listen to his friend tomorrow.
- Wayne will make a definite plan for tomorrow.
- Wayne won't make a definite plan for tomorrow.

3. When Robert met his girlfriend after a long separation, he told her that she was a "sight for sore eyes."

- Robert told his girlfriend that he was happy to see her.
- Robert told his girlfriend that his eyes were sore.
- Robert told his girlfriend that she had pretty eyes.

4. Jack told his wife to "keep her eyes peeled" for a gas station because they were almost out of gas.

- Jack told his wife that they were out of gas.
- Jack told his wife to look at the gas station.
- Jack told his wife to look for a gas station.

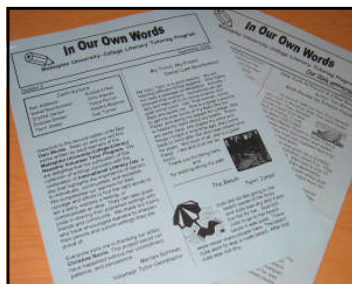
5. The Japanese and American negotiators had been meeting for ten hours, but they still couldn't "see eye-to-eye" on many important issues.

- The negotiators couldn't agree.
- The negotiators couldn't see clearly.
- The negotiators couldn't look at each other.

6. The way that Cindy was fired from her job "left a bad taste in her mouth."

- Cindy ate some strange food.
- Cindy was fired because she said something rude.
- Cindy had some bad feelings about being fired.

## Helping Learners with Writing



If you have a learner with newly developing writing skills try the following:

- ask the learner to dictate their thoughts on an experience
- Write what the learner says (some may prefer to write this on their own)
- Ask the learner to read their 'story'
- Learner should select words from the story that they recognize on sight or would like to learn
- Write these words on index cards for the learner to Review
- Submit the story for publication in the next newsletter.

## Nanaimo Women's Centre

We are now offering tutoring opportunities at our first satellite location. The **Nanaimo Women's Centre**, 285 Selby St.. If you think you or someone you know would be more comfortable receiving tutoring there please feel free to drop in **Fridays** between **1:30 and 3:00**.