

READ WRITES

For You and About You
January 2011

Tutor Profile: Fritzi Goldberg



After watching the 1989 film, Stanley and Iris, starring Robert DeNiro and Jane Fonda, about a volunteer literacy tutor helping a man learn to read better and change his life, Fritzi Goldberg decided that helping another adult to read better was something she had to do.

Even though work and personal commitments dominated Fritzi's time, she did not let go of her desire to help another adult change their life by learning to read and write better. Years later in 2005, she joined the READ/OC team as a volunteer tutor. Soon after, she enhanced her skills and completed training for the Wilson Reading System® to use in her tutoring sessions with her learner. Her commitment to literacy and READ/OC continued to increase and Fritzi enrolled in the assessor training and then trainers' training. She has been a member of READ/OC's training team since 2008, and is now the lead trainer for READ/OC.

Fritzi has been eager to learn and increase her involvement with READ, while enjoying each experience as a learning opportunity for herself. Even though she is retired from work, often travels abroad with her husband, and is a dedicated grandma, Fritzi continues to share her enthusiasm with new volunteers at Tutor Training Workshops and with almost anyone she meets, especially at community outreach events for READ/OC, such as the recent Friends of READ/OC Holiday Gift Wrapping event at Barnes & Noble.

If you are inspired by Fritzi's story, and want to help another adult change their life while changing your own, call READ/OC at 714-566-3070. And remember to share your READ/OC story with a friend who might want to do the same!



Fritzi and tutors, marching for literacy!



Welcome Future Reader!

A new addition to the Braun family, Susan, was born healthy, happy, and *pink* on December 13.

Congratulations to proud parents, Rebecca and Chris, and *new big sister* Claire!



Proud Moments



Congratulations to our tutors and learners as they continue to work towards their goals! Here are just a few of their achievements in November, taken from monthly reports:

The monthly report winner

for December is
Judy Burgraff

Congratulations Judy!

Monthly Reports are due by the 5th 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.

Speaking of Monthly Reports, don't forget the READ/OC Branch Sign-In Book has blank copies of Monthly Report Forms. It also has notebook paper, and other useful forms.

This is also a reminder to be sure to sign-in the READ/OC notebook each time you meet in the library.

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

● **Darlene's** learner completed writing an essay in preparation for passing his GED.

● **Scott's** learner does a great job staying motivated and always applies himself on homework assignments, doing more than he is asked to do.

● **Gayle's** learner was able to resolve a problem with an insurance double-billing situation.

● **Nata's** learner met her goal of accepting invitations to special events with English speakers over the holidays.

● **Patrick's** learner shows improvement, "baby steps at a time."

● **Beth's** learner is gaining confidence in writing sentences with health related theme. She calls immediate attention to words/concepts she does not understand. Also, with a letter prompt, she can speak and write word patterns.

● **Angie's** learner's English is continuing to improve.

● **Linda's** learner is able to understand with help, stories in "News For you" the easy reader newspaper. He is also remembering much of the content from "Citizenship Passing the Test." He's usually able to answer simple comprehension questions from easy reading stories.

● **Erin's** learner took his first trip on an airplane.

● **Katie's** learner read two school flyers on her own.

● **Anne's** learner is now able to understand and describe the difference between giving and taking.

● **Fredericka's** learner is now able to complete parts of several forms, how to write a check, how to address an envelope, as well as the purpose of a self-addressed, stamped envelope. She also successfully obtained information over the phone.

Volunteers Needed!

We've all seen the recent headlines telling us that the oldest Baby Boomers will start turning 65 this year. According to the Pew Research Center, for the next 19 years, about 10,000 people "will cross that threshold" every day. So what does this mean for these new seniors and FROC?

Dr. Linda P. Fried, at the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, believes that "Giving back to your community may slow the aging process in ways that lead to a higher quality of life in older adults." With this "higher quality of life" these trailblazing boomers can more easily navigate those long awaited retirement years, and the opportunities that come along with more free time.

For FROC this growing pool of potential volunteers is great news. Our job is to make sure there are meaningful opportunities available and find a good fit for new volunteers.

The most recent statistics from The Corporation for National and Community Service, a US Government website that measures volunteering statistics, tells us that an average Californian volunteers 33.1 hours per year. At the California volunteer rate of \$23.29/hour we could estimate the value of the time given by the approximately 500 volunteers working with READ at more than \$380,000. Given the number of volunteers we recognize each year for 100 or more hours of service, this estimate is low but very helpful.

There are websites, books and infomercials galore telling us we need to keep our brains active. What better way to keep the synapses firing than helping someone improve their literacy skills. Whether working directly with a learner, with FROC and one of our committees, or helping the READ staff there are many ways to "make a difference." Call the READ office at 714-566-3070 or visit www.friendsroc.org to learn more.

We have many requests from learners with school-age children in need of READ Jr. tutors. READ Jr. tutors meet with a READ/OC adult learner and the learner's child who is in 1st-6th grade. The READ Jr. tutors help students with school work, while helping the parent improve reading and writing skills in order to help their children and be learning partners with their children.

If you know of a teen who may be interested in this unique volunteer opportunity, please encourage them to call READ/OC immediately. READ Jr. tutors need to be at least 15 years old and entering their sophomore year of high school, have a B average in their previous semester, submit an application with a reference from a teacher or supervisor, complete a telephone interview by a READ/OC staff member and successfully complete tutor orientation and training. The READ Jr. tutor commitment is to meet with a learner family weekly for 1½ hour tutoring sessions at a local library and complete a minimum of 10 hours of tutoring time. The next READ Jr. Training is Tues. 2/15 and Thurs. 2/17, 6-8:30p at HQ. Call READ/OC at 714-566-3070 to apply.

OUTREACH NEWS



It is so nice to be able to represent READ/OC as Outreach Coordinator and meet so many great people in the community who want to help.

Thank you to all who volunteered at our **Borders®** and **Barnes & Noble®** gift-wrapping events. You were all inviting and represented READ/OC with enthusiasm and pride.

Thank you **Santa Ana Zoo** for hosting "Holiday with the Critters." For those who stayed home because of the rain, you missed a great event. There was story time for the kids, and READ/OC and the Zoo gave away free books to all of the little ones who visited Santa.

We are always looking for opportunities to come and visit with companies or service organizations and tell you more about our services. Call the office at 714-566-3070 and ask for Karen - I'd love to hear from you.



Find us on
Facebook

Family Holiday Traditions, continued from the Fall Feast

A few months ago, at the tasty Fall Feast event hosted by FROC, learners, tutors and volunteers shared memories of family holiday traditions. Below are the final holiday favorites shared at the event.



"In New Year's Eve we stay up till 12:00 and my favorite part is when we eat 12 grapes, each grape is one wish for each month." – Ari

"When I was a child, my favorite Japanese tradition was the New Year. The adults give the children a New Year's gift (money). The adults were usually relatives (parents, grandparents, etc.). Now I give my children it." – Yumiko

"On New Years we went to my parents' friends' house. Other friends were there. We had lots of fun. It was the first time spending time with friends. We hadn't seen those friend since a long time. It was nice to see them again. – Nadia

"Chinese New Year and Moon Cake Festival." – Mary

"We have a good New Year celebration in my family. The New Year in my country is 21st March." – Massood

Best wishes from READ/OC for a healthy, prosperous, wonderful New Year to all. May 2011 be a year full of success, friendships and new adventures that only reading and life-long learning can bring!

Census 2010 Results Reported - California is #1 in the Count

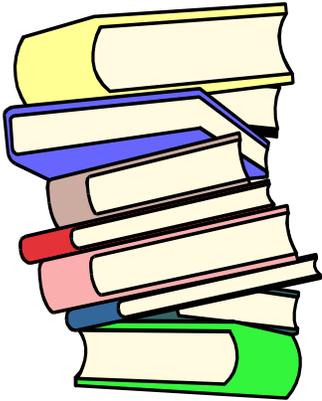
According to recently released 2010 census results, California is the most populous state in the country with 37.2 million residents. The population of the United States is now more than 308 million people, an increase of almost 10% over the last census taken in 2000. That is a lot of readers, a lot of people who need help with reading, a lot of people who can help others become better readers, and a lot of people who know how to read and should be reading more!

The Census is mandated by Article 1, Section 2 of the US Constitution to count all people by state every 10 years. It is used to determine the apportionment of the 425 seats in the House of Representatives among the 50 states. The data is also used to determine how federal funds are distributed to local communities.

READ/OC's 2011 RESOLUTIONS

Read MORE:
Read Weekly...Daily...LEARN!

Read to yourself and for yourself.
Read to *and* with others – often!
Read to help another!



Read and LISTEN!
Read and DO!
Read and DREAM!
Read and WRITE!
Read and ACCOMPLISH!
Read and GROW!
Read and LIVE – LIVE to READ!

Happy New Year!
READ and PROSPER!



For more information about how to accomplish the above, volunteer with READ/Orange County to learn and help another to learn!

Got Friends? Got Time?

If you or someone you know would like to volunteer a few hours to help READ/OC beyond the wonderful efforts you already share, please consider the following volunteer opportunities! Remember to share this with family and friends.

- Volunteers who love planning parties and having fun – join the Recognition and Appreciation Committee (RAC) for the Friends of READ/OC (FROC). This fun loving group meets monthly to plan the annual picnic (AFPAC) and the fall feast.
- If you enjoy reading aloud to young children, making/doing crafts, having fun and being silly – consider becoming a Family Literacy Tutor and presenting or helping with monthly Family Reading Times.
- If you would like to help with a variety of office tasks at the READ/OC office or in READ/OC Literacy Centers, let us know. There are a variety of projects available from making phone calls, helping with files and mailings, to “sprucing” up Literacy Centers.
- Experienced tutors: If you would like to assist at upcoming Tutor Training Workshops, please contact Rebecca. Tutor Training Workshops are scheduled in 2011 in March/April, September/October, and October/November on Saturdays, and in July/August on Tuesday/Thursday evenings.
- And, *as always*, more tutors are needed! We currently have more than 100 learners waiting for tutors. Share the joys of tutoring and volunteering with friends, co-workers, and neighbors! If you are willing to tutor more than one learner, please let us know!

Resource of the Month: ABC's For A Successful Partnership With Your Adult Learner

Here are some tips that may help you and your learner be Learning Partners for Literacy.

A – Be **alert** to signs that your learner may feel **anxious** and needs encouragement or reinforcement.

B – **Build a bridge** from tutoring session to home, work, school, or community.

C – **Communicate** with your learner and with READ/OC about **challenges** and **celebration** of successes.

D – **Discuss** everything.

E – **Encourage** your learner and ask if you need to **explain** or **elaborate** more for understanding.

F – **Follow-up** after tutor sessions with your learner and/or with READ/OC staff for additional resources.

G – **Goal** setting is the key to creating a successful learning and tutoring experience.

H – **Help** your learner explore new items to read and new tasks to do at home or work that will affirm new skills and provide new learning opportunities.

I – **Involve** your learner in setting learning goals, selecting resources or materials, and evaluating their progress and challenges.

J – **Join** other tutors at READ/OC Quarterly Tutor Meetings and area Literacy Conferences to learn and share about adult learning resources, activities, and methods.

K – **Know** your learner's goals and skills. Remember to start with what they already know - it helps build confidence for both of you.

L – Don't be afraid to **laugh** and have fun. **Learning** doesn't always need to be serious.

M – Remember to always teach new words in context in order to bring **meaning** to the words.

N – **Notice new** resources in the library and other places that can be helpful tools for the reinforce learning for your learner.

O – **Open** your mind to new ideas and learning opportunities for both you and your learner.

P – **Partner** with your learner to **prepare** learning activities and lessons.

Q – Ask **questions** of your learner to check for understanding and encourage your learner to do the same.

R – **READ** for yourself, share what you **read** with your learner and **recognize** your learner's efforts to **read**.

S – **Share successes** with READ/OC.

T – **Take Time** to review.

U – **Understand** your learner's needs, interests and challenges.

V – Find ways to help your learner practice skills while on **vacation**.

W – **Wait** for your learner – go at his/her pace.

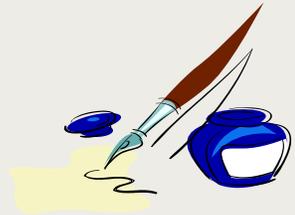
X – Get **eXcited** about your learner's progress and success.

Y – Remember **you** are there to tutor your learner, not to be a counselor.

Z – Don't just **zip** in and out of the library. Take time to introduce your learner to the various resources at the library, including the Friend's bookstore. Also, feel free to introduce yourself as a READ/OC tutor to library staff. They can be helpful resources for you both.

If you are reading this line, call the READ/OC office to claim your "Reader Of The Month" prize.

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



Dear Paige,

Every year I feel compelled to make a New Year resolution, with good intentions. And then everyday life happens and, by Spring, I have either forgotten all about my resolution or have given up on it entirely.

Do you have any suggestions on how I can be successful for 2011?
-- *Uncertainly Resolved*

Dear Uncertain,

While it is traditional for people to make resolutions for the New Year, it can often be a challenge to keep them!

According to Altiusdirectory.com, a New Year's resolution is "a promise that one makes to a scheme...improvement..., frequently a way of life transformation that is usually construed as beneficial," and "it must be computable AND definite." *A resolution should impact your life in some positive way.*

Consider the following steps from Altiusdirectory.com for making a New Year's resolution (*These steps can also apply to making personal learning goals*):

- Think of a few goals in a specific area of your life. Don't just aim at losing weight and giving up smoking. Think of new pastimes, delicate relationships, reading habits, skills to be learned, and so on.
- Be original and consider connecting two or more goals into a single resolution, such as lose weight and be more active.
- Think or visualize a "detailed roadmap" that can be a guide from your present situation to where you need to be in order for the resolution to be claimed an accomplishment.
- Each step needs to be so basic that anyone can have a good idea of what you want to accomplish.
- You don't need to chart the end of your journey as one of your beginning steps. "The significant thing is that one has at least one action step that he can take RIGHT NOW in the direction of each of the resolutions."
- And then, **Review for Success!** At least once a week, make a meeting with yourself to evaluate your progress along the path to your resolutions.

Make it **SMART** – **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**ction Oriented, **R**ealistic, and **T**ime bound. Sound familiar?
-- Paige

Please share with READ/OC some of your "2011 Reading Resolutions."

Source: www.Altiusdirectory.com, an online information and service provider that helps computer users make the most of the Internet.

Newsletter Editors

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Karen Ruhl**



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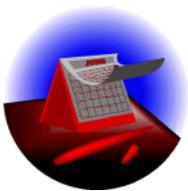
Karen Ruhl

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 of READ/OC.

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



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

January - February 2011 Calendar

Month of January

January 8-14

Tuesday, January 11
Wednesday, January 12

Saturday, January 15

Monday, January 17

Wednesday, January 19

Thursday, January 20

Saturday, January 22

January 24-28

Wednesday, January 26

Saturday, January 29

Month of February

Tuesday, February 1
Thursday, February 3
February 1-7

Saturday, February 5

Wednesday, February 9

Saturday, February 12
Monday, February 14

Tuesday, February 15 &
Thursday, February 17

January is National Braille Literacy Month – Did you know the Braille Institute has a regional center in Anaheim?

Universal Letter Writing Week – Send a note or letter to someone!

Learner Orientation @ READ/OC HQ, 6-8pm

Family Reading Time @ Stanton Family Resource Center, 6-8pm

Learner Orientation @ Aliso Viejo Library, 6-8pm

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

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

Libraries Closed for Martin Luther King Holiday
National Day of Service Honoring Martin Luther King – Volunteer to help someone!

Tutor Training Orientation @ Garden Grove Regional Library, 6-8 pm

Family Reading Time @ Taft Library/Orange, 6:15-7:45pm

Tutor Training Orientation @ El Toro Library, 6-8 pm

Family Reading Time @ Tustin, 7-8 pm **★New Location!**

FROC Board Meeting @ READ/OC HQ, 6-8 pm

Tutor Training Workshop Session #1 @ READ/OC HQ, 9am-4pm

No Name Calling Week! Write a nice note to a friend!

Family Reading Time @ El Modena Library/Orange, 6:15-7:45pm

Tutor Training Workshop Session #2 @ READ/OC HQ, 9am-4pm

February is Black History Month

Family Reading Time @ La Palma Library, 6:30-7:45 pm

Family Reading Time @ El Toro Library, 6-8 pm

Children's Authors & Illustrators Week – Read a children's book!

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

Family Reading Time @ Stanton Family Resource Center, 6-8 pm

Libraries Closed for Abraham Lincoln Holiday
Valentine's Day! Write a poem or letter to someone you love!

READ Jr. Training @ READ/OC HQ, 6-8:30 pm

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