

# Vision LITERACY

Partners Creating Opportunities

## Tutor and Volunteer Newsletter

September 2008

### MEET FRIENDS OF VISION LITERACY:



#### Larry Hayes Board Member

**How did you become involved with Vision Literacy?** While working as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Madras, India, in the late 60s, I was awarded a postgraduate scholarship offered by Laubach Literacy to study literacy journalism at Syracuse University. This unique MA program was taught by Dr. Robert Laubach (Dr. Bob), the son of Dr. Frank C. Laubach, the founder of Laubach Literacy now called ProLiteracy. Many years later, that experience led me to Vision Literacy.

**Why are you interested in being on the board?** I made a promise to Dr. Bob 40 years ago that someday I would make a contribution to literacy. About 10 years ago, my marketing agency created the current Vision Literacy branding program, including the logo design. Pro bono, of course. Two years ago, Pat Lawson-North asked me to join the Board so I could continue to help promote the work of Vision Literacy.

**Tell us about your magazine ActiveOver50.** This is my current passion and dream of a lifetime. I launched ACTIVE three years ago after shutting down my marketing and public relations agency of 25 years. Published quarterly, ACTIVE is a local, niche magazine written for people over 50 living in the Bay Area. The past three years have been the best years of my life. (For a free, online copy of ACTIVE, visit [www.activeover50.com](http://www.activeover50.com).)

**How do you use your magazine to promote Vision Literacy?** People over 50 represent the largest demographics for volunteer work. San Jose alone has over 250,000 residents over the age of 50. ACTIVE magazine is a perfect vehicle to reach this age group. I've run articles and free ads about Vision Literacy in ACTIVE magazine because I believe in the mission of the organization. Find out more about Larry go to [www.visionliteracy.org/newsletter.html#volunteer](http://www.visionliteracy.org/newsletter.html#volunteer).

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Vision Literacy is a service of the Santa Clara County Library

## INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY – SEP 8<sup>TH</sup>

### What is International Literacy Day?

In 1965, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) designated September 8 as International Literacy Day.

Literacy begins at home! When you send your children back to school, give them the gift of a lifetime – teach them to read! Here are some ways you can help your child “get ready to read” during the ages of 2 and 3:

I read with my child every day, even if it's only for a few minutes.

I encourage my child to bring his favorite books to me so that we can read together.

I point to pictures and name them out loud, and encourage my child to point to pictures while we read.

I watch to see if my child sometimes makes eye contact with me when I read aloud. That tells me she is paying attention to me and the story.

I talk with my child throughout the day about things we are doing and things that are happening around us.

I try to be patient when my child wants to read the same book over and over again.

I encourage my child to “play” with books – pick them up, flip them from front to back, and turn the pages.

Sometimes I listen when my child “pretends” to read a book – he holds the book, goes from page to page, and says words, even though they're not the words on the page.

I give my child paper and crayons so she can scribble, make pictures, and pretend to write.

Tips are from the National Institute of Literacy. Go to: [www.nifl.gov/nifl/publications.html](http://www.nifl.gov/nifl/publications.html) for more reading instruction.



**Tutors: Please submit monthly progress reports, by mail or online at [www.visionliteracy.org](http://www.visionliteracy.org). 408-262-1349**

**Due date: Oct. 3rd. Thanks!**

## Tutor Tip - CHILDREN'S LITERACY

This month's tip comes from FIRST5 for Kids of Santa Clara County.



Reading regularly to your child can help prepare

them for a lifetime of learning. First Santa Clara County recommends choosing books for your toddler that feature familiar pictures and names of objects. As you read aloud, ask your child to point to certain objects and have them follow along by pointing to words.

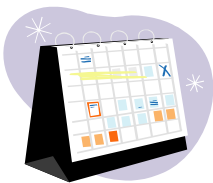
Choosing the right books can help your child develop a love of reading. For more information on Early Literacy and choosing the right books for your children call 408-260-3700 or go to [www.first5kids.org](http://www.first5kids.org).

## PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION WE NEED:



- Computer keyboards
- Laptop computer with internet capabilities
- Paperback books for the Elmwood Correctional Facility

Please call the Vision Literacy office at 408-262-1349.



## BOOK MARK THE DATE!

### PARENTING WORKSHOP: DENTAL CARE Gilroy Apartments

Tue., Sep. 30 11am-1pm

Discuss the benefits of tooth brushing, flossing and eating healthy snacks. All children in attendance will receive an oral health exam by the nurse. For more info call Vision Literacy Gilroy Office at 408-848-5366.

### PARENTING WORKSHOP: PUT READING FIRST Gilroy Apartments

Wed., Oct. 8 - 11am-1pm

This workshop will give parents the tools needed to help their child be successful in reading. Parents will be given strategies on ways they can incorporate reading into their daily activities. For more info call Vision Literacy, Gilroy at 408-848-5366.

### MONTHLY LEARNER MEETING

Sobrato Center, 540 Valley Way, Building 5

Sat., Oct. 11 10:30am-12:30pm

For more info call Vision Literacy at 408-262-1349.



## PRIME TIME – A SIX WEEK SERIES THAT ENCOURAGES FAMILY READING!

Cupertino Library, 10800 Torre Ave.

Wednesdays October 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12  
6:00-8:00pm

For info and to register call 408-262-1349.

## ESL CLASSES AT MACSA MACSA Youth Center

Starting Oct. 6 - 9am-12noon

Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays

For info and to register call 408-262-1349.

## ORIENTATION COMING UP - TELL A FRIEND

Vision Literacy offers orientation sessions in October.. Tell friends or colleagues who would like to share the gift of reading – as a tutor, volunteer or donor – please invite them to call the Vision Literacy office at 408-262-1349 to register. Please note: orientation may be rescheduled due to low enrollment.

### Morgan Hill Library, 660 West Main Ave.

Wed., Oct. 1 - 6:30-7:30pm

### Gilroy Office, 42 Martin St.

Tue., Oct. 7 - 6:30-7:30pm

### Gilroy Office, 42 Martin St.

Sat., Oct. 11 - 10:30-11:30am

## PARENTING WORKSHOP: LEAD HAZARDS IN THE HOME Gilroy Apartments

Wed., Nov. 5 - 11am-1pm

Parents will become aware of the dangers of lead in the home, how it can negatively affect children and how to identify it. This workshop will be given by the Santa Clare Public Health Department. For more info call Vision Literacy Gilroy Office at 408-848-5366.

## WRITER TO WRITER AWARDS CEREMONY LUNCH Martin Luther King Public Library, San Jose

Sat., Nov. 15 - 12 noon-2pm **NOTE : NEW DATE**

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT - Save the Date! Toll House Hotel, 140 S. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos

Sat., Oct.18 - 10am-12 noon

To RSVP call 408-262-1349 or email [info@visionliteracy.org](mailto:info@visionliteracy.org).

If you have a question, comment or submission for the newsletter, please contact 408-262-1349 or [info@visionliteracy.org](mailto:info@visionliteracy.org).  
Next deadline for submissions: Oct. 3rd.