



# Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin

*Promoting, providing, and developing literacy opportunities to serve children, adults, and their families in North Central Wisconsin*

## What we do:

- Provide tutoring for struggling children and adults
- Train reading tutors using scientifically research-based methods
- Utilize explicit, systematic, multi-sensory strategies
- Give talks about literacy to area agencies, organizations, and schools
- Raise money for training scholarships and resource materials for parents and teachers

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Dear Friends of Literacy,

Spring has finally arrived after a long, long winter. The 2011 Literacy Task Force Board has been very busy planning for this year's activities. On April 9th, the early literacy workshop **READY, SET, READ** was held at the Rhineland Public Library. Lively presentations on the early warning signs of reading difficulties, beginning language development and beginning literacy skills were enjoyed by over 25 local day care providers, parents, and early childhood teachers.

On September 10, 2011, the task force will be participating in the 2nd Annual Northwoods Non-Profits Got Talent at the Campanile Center for the Arts. We anticipate an afternoon of sharing with the Lakeland community our mission and goals and hopefully raise money to provide a scholarship or two for tutors and tutoring.

Our 7th annual Beginning Literacy Training Workshop is being held August 8-19th at Nicolet Area Technical

## From the President's Desk

College, Lake Julia Campus. Guest speakers will include Dr. Marcia Henry, Marie Rippel, author of *All About Spelling*, and Trish Ellis owner of *Commitment to Learning*. Scholarships are available for participants. For more information, go to the website at [www.literacytaskforce.org](http://www.literacytaskforce.org) and click on the Scholarship link and information on the 2011 brochure.

Last December, Le Ganschow and Nona Soroosh, founding members of the Literacy Task Force retired from our board. These incredible women were honored on February 21st with a lovely luncheon at the Dinner Table Restaurant in Manitowish Waters. A Founder's Scholarship has been established to remind all of their good works in helping the Northwoods community understand and treat dyslexia. We hope they enjoy their well-deserved retirement.

On March 31st, Governor Scott Walker named a blue ribbon task force to recommend legislation to ensure that all Wisconsin students read proficiently by the end of third grade. Members include

Wisconsin Reading Coalition founding member Ste-

ve Dykstra, Past President of the International Dyslexia Association Marcia Henry, former MPS principal and author Tony Pedriana, former teacher and Rowland Reading Foundation associate Linda Pils, and Wisconsin Literacy's Michele Erikson. Rounding out the panel are Rachel Lander from the Value Added Research Center at UW-Madison, Mara Brown from Jefferson Elementary in Oshkosh, Mary Read from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, State Reps. Steve Kestell and Jason Fields, State Sen. Luther Olsen, State Superintendent Tony Evers, and Kathy Champeau from Wisconsin State Reading Association. Gov. Walker will chair the panel. The Literacy Task Force supports the efforts of the Blue Ribbon Task Force as they move forward to problem solve Wisconsin's poor reading scores on the National Assessment Educational Progress.

Thanks to all that support us through time, treasure, and talent.

Warmly,  
*Donna Hejtmanek*  
 Co-President  
 Literacy Task Force

The Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin is a non profit organization dedicated to helping families and individuals in north central Wisconsin who struggle with reading and spelling. We are parents, educators and concerned citizens. We partner with the Wisconsin Branch of International Dyslexia Association (WIBIDA), Wisconsin Literacy, Inc., American Association of University Women (AAUW) and Nicolet Area Technical College.

**Literacy Task Force  
of Northern Wisconsin**  
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[www.literacytaskforce.org](http://www.literacytaskforce.org)

***The Task Force  
is a member of  
Wisconsin  
Literacy, Inc.  
a state-wide  
Coalition that  
supports  
volunteer adult  
and family  
literacy  
services.***

## Northwoods Non-Profits Got Talent—Take II

Campanile Center for the Arts in Minocqua is hosting their second annual "Northwoods Non-Profits Got Talent" at the Center Saturday, Sept. 10, 7:30 p.m. This event, organized in the spirit of the popular America's Got Talent television show will provide great entertainment. The event will showcase area non-profits through pre-recorded one-to-two minute videos explaining what the organizations do in the community, and how people can help, followed by a live performance from each group.

The organizations featured, including the Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin, will receive funds not only from the ticket sales, but also from corporate sponsors for the event.

This community fundraiser helps bring the Northwood's community together in an effort to help recognize the work that many service clubs/non profits do in our area.

The members of the Literacy Task Force of Northern Wis-

consin would like to thank the Campanile Center for the Arts for organizing, hosting and sponsoring this local talent show.

Each participating group has an obligation to sell a minimum of 25 tickets. If you are interested in attending the performance, please contact Donna Hejtmanek.

Come learn a little, laugh a lot and get to know the members of the Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin in a whole new light.

## Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin Honors Founding Members

On Sunday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, Le Ganschow and Nona Soroosh were the guests of honor at a luncheon celebrating their retirement as Presidents of the Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin. Ganschow and Soroosh are the founding members of the 7 year-old organization whose mission is promote, provide, and develop literacy opportunities for children, adults, and their families in Northern Wisconsin. The event was held at the Dinner Table in Manitowish Waters.

During the summer of 2005, Ganschow and Soroosh and other interested community members gathered in order to brainstorm solutions to the literacy needs of children and adults in northern Wisconsin. In a recent interview, Ganschow said, "I had one phone call too many from parents in need of help for their children." Ganschow, a former professor of education at Miami University, decided to take action. She called Nona Soroosh, the only person she knew of in

the northwoods area that had experience teaching individuals with disabilities. Soroosh, the former director and owner of a school for boys with reading disabilities in Eagle River, was eager to help.

The two of them, along with a small group of others, developed a training program for those interested in helping individuals with reading and spelling difficulties. The result was a 70-hour course designed to teach Orton-Gillingham, a multi-sensory, structured language approach targeted at individuals who experience difficulty learning to read and spell.

Every summer for the past seven years, the Literacy Task Force has conducted the 2-week training workshop for those interested in



*Nona Soroosh and Le Ganschow,  
founding members of the Literacy Task  
Force of Northern Wisconsin*

becoming tutors. To date, 89 tutors have been trained and over 110 children and adults have received short-term instruction. This course will again be held this summer, August 8-19, at the Nicolet Area Technical College, Lake Julia Campus.

For more information go to: [www.literacytaskforce.org](http://www.literacytaskforce.org) or contact Donna Hejtmanek at 715-277-3105 or [dhejtmanek@yahoo.com](mailto:dhejtmanek@yahoo.com).

## Literacy Training Workshop 2011

This intensive (60 hour) Literacy Training Workshop is designed for parents, regular and special educators, reading specialists, tutors, or anyone interested in in-depth, research-based instructional interventions in reading and spelling and ongoing methods for measuring student progress that are directly related to instruction. It specifically addresses needs identified in *IDEA 2004 (Response to Intervention)*. Participants will have hands-on experiences tutoring a child or adult who has moderate to severe reading and spelling difficulties. Tutoring will occur under the close supervision of instructors trained in Orton-Gillingham (multi-sensory structured language) instructional methodologies. Participants will:

- Observe instructors modeling how to tutor a student with reading and spelling difficulties
- Learn how to determine a

student's specific reading and spelling difficulties

- Prepare and teach five daily individualized lesson plans at a student's reading and spelling level
- Learn direct, systematic and multi-sensory methods for teaching, reading, and spelling
- Learn a variety of resources on decoding, spelling, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension.

### Workshop Staff

Workshop staff include director Donna Hejtmanek, career educator and owner of Northwoods Reading Advantage, and an instructor for every three trainees. Guest speakers will include Dr. Marcia Henry author of *Unlocking Literacy: Effective Decoding and Spelling*; Trish Ellis, Educational Consultant and President of Commitment to Learning, LLC; and Marie

Rippel, author of *All About Spelling* and President of All About Learning Press. All are trained in multisensory structured reading and spelling methods of instruction.

### Workshop Fees

Tuition for the Literacy workshop is \$500 (\$348.90 Seniors). Registration and full payment must be

received by July 22, 2011. Registering early is recommended as spaces are limited. Workshop materials will be available for purchase.

### Scholarships

Partial and full scholarships may be available. Persons receiving scholarships are expected to provide up to 30 hours of volunteer tutoring in their community. For scholarship information, contact Donna Hejtmanek at 715-573-0125 or email at dhejtmanek@yahoo.com

**We work closely with the Wisconsin Branch of the International Dyslexia Association in promoting awareness of dyslexia and related difficulties.**

## **Become a Member or Donor:**

The Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin relies solely upon donations to support literacy needs in north central Wisconsin.

Your \$10 per person membership and other donations are used for workshops and presentations, informational literature, tutor training scholarships, tutoring materials and to support operating expenses for the organization.

See our website for more information

[www.literacytaskforce.org](http://www.literacytaskforce.org)

## Ready, Set, Read An Early Literacy Workshop

The Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin presented an Early Literacy Workshop entitled Ready, Set, Read on April 9 at the Rhineland District Library.

Topics shared with parents, daycare providers, preschool and kindergarten teachers, HeadStart and early childhood teachers and support staff included:

- Early warning signs that predict reading difficulties
- Beginning language development and benchmarks
- Building oral language and beginning literacy skills

If you, your school, or service organization are interested in learning more about early literacy skills, strategies for learning/teaching struggling learners or would like more information on how the Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin can help you, please visit us on the web or contact one of our board members.

*The Task Force would like to thank the following organizations for helping sponsor the Ready, Set, Read Early Literacy Workshop.*



# Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin Board Members

## EXECUTIVE TEAM

### Presidential Team

#### Donna Hejtmanek

Donna is the Transition Specialist for DC Everest School. She taught special education for twenty-one years in while living in the state of Illinois. She has training in Project Read and is Wilson Reading System Level 1 certified. Donna holds a M.S. degree in Education from Northeastern Illinois University and in Educational Administration from Northern Illinois University. She is the director of Literacy Training for the Literacy Task Force. (H): 715 277-3105, W 715 359-6561 ext. 4356; cell: 715-573-0125 [dhejtmanek@yahoo.com](mailto:dhejtmanek@yahoo.com)

#### Bob Steber

Bob is a faculty member and case manager for Nicolet Area Technical College's Disability Student Services, Nicolet Technical College. 1-800-544-3039, ext. 4580 [bstber@nicoletcollege.edu](mailto:bstber@nicoletcollege.edu)

### Secretarial Team

#### Bonnie Margitan

Bonnie is a retired elementary teacher from MHLT in Minocqua. She completed the beginning level literacy training in 2005, the advanced level training in 2007, and tutors students in the Minocqua area. In April '06 Bonnie was hired under grant monies to assist with the coordination of the task force, with a primary focus on training/ services for adults. 715-356-6889, [bmargitan@gmail.com](mailto:bmargitan@gmail.com)

#### Peggy Steber

Peggy is a recently retired school counselor after twenty-eight years at MHLT Elementary School, Minocqua. She taught third, fourth, and fifth grades in West Allis and Menomonie, Wisconsin. Peggy taught Title I reading for six years in corrections at Lincoln Hills School in Irma, Wisconsin. Peggy completed Orton Gillingham training in Duluth, Minnesota in 1977 and again at Nicolet College in 2005. She received a BS in Education from University of Minnesota Duluth, and a MS in School Counseling from UW Stout. Peggy currently administers GED and HSED testing for Nicolet College part time. (H) 715-277-2019, 715-277-2019, (C) 715-367-2090, 715-367-2090 [ste@newnorth.net](mailto:ste@newnorth.net)

### Treasurer

#### Connie Hicks

Connie is the Applied Technology instructor at Gogebic Community College where she also teaches remedial English and math. She has a degrees in Technical Accounting from Nicolet; a BS in Natural Science from Northland College, and Masters in Science and Mathematics with computer emphasis from the University of Wisconsin, River Falls. Connie has completed both the beginning and advanced level literacy trainings in 2007. W: 906-932-4231; H: 715-762-3574; email (school year only): [connie.hicks@gogebic.edu](mailto:connie.hicks@gogebic.edu)).

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Deborah Aaron

Deborah is a retired School and Psychologist and Pupil Services Director from northern Wisconsin schools. Formerly a speech and language clinician, she currently serves on the Appeals and Grievance Committee for Northern Bridges (in Northern WI). 715-373-0201 cell 715-699-2962. [aron@centurylink.net](mailto:aron@centurylink.net)

#### Trish Ellis

Trish is the founder of Commitment to Learning, LLC, where she provides professional development and parent workshops. She specializes in neuro-education (brain-based learning), differentiation, gender differences, and organizational and teaching strategies. Trish holds a Masters in Education, and has experience as an educator for 20 years in public, nonpublic, and private schools grades 1st through 12th as well as at the graduate level. 715-904-1061; 866-314-4594 [www.trishellis.net](http://www.trishellis.net)

#### Jan Evans

Jan is a retired teacher of students with learning disabilities and a member of the Wisconsin Branch of The International Dyslexia Association for many years. She has tutored students and trained in O/G, Project Read, Lindamood Bell, and Wilson overview. Jan has two years of service as a master teacher for the Literacy Task Force. (715-385-2318 (summer); 608-868-3695 (winter); [davejanevans@gmail.com](mailto:davejanevans@gmail.com))

#### Heather Geiss

Heather is a Middle School Special Education Teacher at MHLT Elementary School in Minocqua. She was an elementary special education teacher in Minnesota for five years and completed Orton Gillingham training in 2000 in Minnesota and literacy training in 2008. Heather holds a BS with a double major in Special Education—Learning Disabilities and Regular Education from Winona State University, Minnesota. 715-358-2892 [hgeiss@mhl.org](mailto:hgeiss@mhl.org).

#### Julie Hagstrom

Julie is a tutor for the Disabilities Support Services Program at Nicolet Area Technical College as well as a Vision Therapist at Buffington Optometry. She and her husband, Fred, home educated their two children, now grown, for 12 years. Formerly a research technician at the Forestry Sciences Lab in Rhinelander, Julie holds a degree in Bacteriology from UW-Madison. She took the literacy training course in 2009. 715-277-3883 [fredjulie@frontiernet.net](mailto:fredjulie@frontiernet.net)

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## Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin Board Members

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### Sandy Jenkins

Sandy holds a M.A. in Human Development and has been working in the adult literacy and disabilities fields for over 10 years. She currently serves as an instructor for the Academic Success Center at Nicolet College, and is also the Peer Tutor Coordinator for the college.  
1-800-544-3039; 715-365-4693  
sjenkins@nicolet.college.edu

### Kathleen Marshall

Kathleen is the Rhinelander-Northwoods Branch of AAUW (American Association of University Women) representative on the Task Force. Kathleen serves on the Board of Nicolet Technical College.  
715-277-2664

### Marie Rippel

Marie is a Literacy Consultant who helps educators and parents teach spelling. Using multisensory techniques and research-based strategies, she has helped thousands of children learn to spell and has published a spelling series entitled *All about Spelling* [www.all-about-spelling.com](http://www.all-about-spelling.com) Marie was a lecturer for Literacy training course in 2009 ; [marie.rippel@gmail.com](mailto:marie.rippel@gmail.com)

### Carol Lorbetske

Carol is a retired elementary school teacher from the Three Lakes School District. She completed the literacy training course in 2010 and is currently tutoring an elementary aged child.  
715-272-1434  
[c-lorbetske@hotmail.com](mailto:c-lorbetske@hotmail.com)

### Stephanie Smith

Stephanie is a retired elementary teacher and special education teacher from the Three Lakes School District. She completed the beginning level Orton-Gillingham training in 2010 and is currently tutoring two children in Rhinelander.  
715-369-0520  
[Stephanie@2grd.hotmail.com](mailto:Stephanie@2grd.hotmail.com)

### Sara Adamovich

Sara has been a multi-categorical Special Education Teacher in the Northland Pines School District, St. Germain Elementary since 1998. She is a private tutor of the Wilson Reading System. Sara holds a BS in Special Education from UW-Oshkosh and is Wilson Reading System Level I certified. She is currently pursuing Wilson Reading System Level II certification, and is enrolled and working on UW-Stout's MSE program as well as their Reading Certification program.  
715-614-5949  
[adamovichfamily@gmail.com](mailto:adamovichfamily@gmail.com)



WIBIDA Presents

Reading with



## Reading with TLC

Saturday August 6, 2011

Community Center

6100 W. Mequon Road, Mequon, Wisconsin 53097

*In this dynamic, information-packed, seminar, learn to provide powerful intersensory strategies to quickly improve phonemic awareness, phonics, and phonetically irregular sight word skills.*

### Reading with TLC Training in Lively Letters & Sight Words You Can See

Presented by the program authors  
Nancy Telian, MS, CCC-SLP and Penny Castagnozzi Logemann

Reading with TLC:

- Is research based and clinically proven for 20 years to quickly closed achievement gaps
- Crosses all 3 tiers of the Response to Intervention Model, as a supplement to the core reading program in grades Pre-K-2, and as an intervention program for students of all ages
- Integrates well with other regular ed. and intervention reading programs already in place
- Features 2 unique programs to develop critical reading and spelling skills
- Is as fun as it is powerful, for students and teachers, cleverly using colorful images, music, and mnemonics to enhance learning

**Lively Letters**, created by Nancy Telian, MS, CCC-SLP, simultaneously trains phonemic awareness, speech production, and phonics. This program cleverly uses mnemonics, oral kinesthetic cues, hand/body cues, music, stories, and colorful embedded letter characters to make learning to read easy and fun for students of various ages and ability levels.

**Sight Words You Can See**, created by Penny Castagnozzi trains acquisition of phonetically irregular, abstract sight words, creatively using humorous stories and mnemonic pictures drawn in and around printed words with infrequent or irregular letter patterns, promoting improved spelling and reading fluency.

**For questions or to register,  
call or email Cheryl Ward  
414-235-0816  
[cacward@yahoo.com](mailto:cacward@yahoo.com)**



## Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin

*The Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin would like to thank the following organizations for their generous donations and contributions:*

- *Lakeland Kiwanis Club*
- *Wisconsin Literacy*
- *Lioness Club of Manitowish Waters*
- *Rhineland Rotary Club*
- *Baraboo National Bank*
- *AAUW—Association of University Women*
- *Ministry Health Care—SSO*
- *St. Matthias Thrift Shop*
- *Beta Sigma Phi Epsilon Gamma*
- *Ministry Medial Group*
- *Oneida County Tavern League*
- *Kiwanis Club of Rhineland*

*All donations are tax deductible. Donations will be used to fund tuition scholarships, literacy training, resource materials for trainees, parents and person of low literacy, and instruction/tutoring. Please visit our website or contact a member if you'd like to make a tax deductible donation.*



Check us out on the Web!  
[www.literacytaskforce.org](http://www.literacytaskforce.org)

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