

**Minutes from the CLA Literacy Section  
President's Program & Annual Meeting  
Saturday, October 27, 2007**

**Attendees: (44)** Monica O'Hara, National City (President); Randy Weaver, San Francisco (Vice-President); Lynne Price, Benicia (Past President & newly elected section representative to the Assembly); Mary Miller, Glendale (Vice-President, elect); Susan Lynn, Contra Costa (Executive Committee, Assembly Representative, Member-at-large); Carey Gross, Butte (Legislative Representative); Jerry Edwards, Santa Fe (Conference Representative); Jacquie Brinkley, Carla Lehn, Suzanne Flint, Cindy Tackett, California State Library; Kathy St. John, ProLiteracy; Vikki Cervantes, Becky Jauregui, Porterville; Carol Chapman, Ventura; Monique Le Conge, Richmond; Pat Lawson-North; Santa Clara County; Lisa Llewellyn, San Bernadino; Cherall Weiss, Newport Beach; Alina Sanchez, Imperial; Marjo Mello, Susan Manger, Brawley; Lucy Sims, Beaumont; Winifred Walters, Oakland; Carrie Scott, Carlsbad; Rosalie Jaquez, Pasadena; Rose Saylin, Huntington Beach; Kelley Nolan, Del Norte; Marilyn Odegard, Redding; Madeline Gabriel, Delores Allmond, Beverly Hills; Alan Archer, Nevada; Jeanine Asche, San Mateo County; Shanti Bhaskaran, Santa Clara County; Roberta Lauderdale, Altadena; Susan Charlton, San Rafael; Tracy Block, Valerie Hardie, San Diego Public; Rosie Manela, Rancho Cucamonga; Liz Barbee, Upland; Melissa Ramos, Butte; Hilaria Wright, Richmond; Cathay Reta, Cornerstone Concepts; Joanne Wright, Solano (Secretary).

**Effective Team Building** – Monica introduced Cathay Reta, Cornerstone Concepts who presented the training portion of the meeting.

**Recap of the Year –**

- Monica reported that literacy's involvement with CLA has had a huge impact. The section continues to offer valuable workshops at each conference.
- Last March, at the PLA Symposium in San Jose, there was a Literacy sponsored track. This track was highly successful and produced income for the section. Lynne Price gave a synopsis and highlights were shared.
- Next year ALA will be in Anaheim.
- Susan Lynn has just completed her term on the Executive Committee of the Assembly. She is now the member at large.
- Lynne Price has been elected to the Assembly as the Literacy Section Representative.
- Carla Lehn has been serving on the Membership Committee. A new member is needed.
- Lynne Price will serve on the Planning Committee for next year's conference.
- Carey Gross continues to serve as our representative to the Legislative Committee. This is a four year commitment.
- A literacy representative is needed for the Continuing Education Committee. Anyone interested should contact Randy Weaver.

**Executive Committee Report** – Susan Lynn reported that a past retreat identified concerns within the organization. There is some dissatisfaction with the way the organization is being run. A consultant was hired to look at ways to restructure to make the organization more inclusive and available. Recommendations were made to establish a board of directors, elected by the membership. The Assembly would be replaced by the Leadership Development Committee who would develop a slate of people to run. It was recommended that sections be eliminated and replaced by special interest groups. Susan encourages us to read, be informed and email responses.

**Legislative Committee Report** – Carey Gross reported on Legislative Day highlights:

- Henry Huffman Adult Learner Letter included in the packet.
- A tutor/learner pair from Contra Costa attended the event with Susan Lynn.

Caballero 1030 Assembly bill will not go forward, due to the fact that it was not signed by the governor.

**CLA Planning Committee** – Thanks to Jerry Edwards for his work on this committee, and for his part on the Workshop Planning Committee for the section.

**California State Library Report** –

- Jacquie Brinkley drew our attention to materials on the tables: *A Community Discussion Guide – What Should Our Children Learn in School?* and brochures available from SCLLN. She invited us to visit the State Library exhibit to see a photo show of adult learners. Please continue to send photos to Mickie Potter. Make sure you obtain a waiver to use the photos before sending them.
- Carla Lehn said that they are working on the 2<sup>nd</sup> payment, and that letters should be in the mail within a week or two.
- In response to the recent listserv discussion, Carla responded that the State Library team has been working on this.
  - There is a strategic plan meeting scheduled for the spring. They will be asking 1) Is it a problem? 2) If it is, what should be done about it? 3) If not, what should be done?
  - Carla's presentation included a pie chart which identified 10% of all the people reported served by CLLS programs are adult learners. Another 2% includes adult learners served in FFL. 48% of people reported served are served in a CLLS program – Adult Literacy, FFL, ELLI and MLLS. 52% of people served are other than CLLS programs—not in the CLLS target populations. Examples of those programs included ESL, Spanish Literacy, Prime Time, Reach Out and Read, and Homework Assistance.
  - Of the \$5.064 million provided by the legislature for CLLS funding, 77% is allocated for Adult Literacy; and another 14% on FFL, which is also a service for adult learners. The remaining 9% of the total amount is divided between ELLI and MLLS programs.
  - Every \$1 from the state is leveraged statewide by another \$4 raised locally. The State Library has control over only the State Library monies.
  - Each program strives to meet the needs of its community. This is done with other funding.

- There are 2500 adult learners waiting throughout the state.
- Tracy Block, San Diego, wants to start up the listserv discussion again—not to point blame—but to capture this rich discussion.
- Adult literacy coordinator turnover is being tracked and maintaining consistently at 25%.
- Are we meeting the intent of the legislation? Have we expanded beyond that?
- Discussion followed. Due to time constraints it was tabled for the future.

**Incoming Officers** – Monica introduced Mary Miller, Glendale, as our new Vice-President elect and Joanne Wright, 2<sup>nd</sup> term as Secretary. She then presented to our new section President, Randy Weaver, a scepter. This scepter “represents the power of literacy and the power of this section. With many voices we can accomplish many things.” Randy accepted the scepter and his new role. He charged the group to go back and find one person who is a literacy believer and talk to her/him about joining. He passed out copies of a handout entitled *There’s Power in Numbers! Join CLA and the Literacy Section (Top 10 Reasons Why You Should Join CLA and the CLA Literacy Section!)* This is available from the Literacy Section page of the CLA website.