

**Twin Lakes Literacy Council**

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"Each one, teach one"

**February 2009**

**Next tutor meeting: The "I-Survived-the-Ice-Storm" Tutor Meeting**

We know that many of you still don't have electricity, so we're hoping you'll join us at the library this Thursday for a nice warm meeting with hot coffee, home-made muffins and lots of electric lights. We'd like to see all of our friends and make sure that everyone is okay; plus, we're scheduled to have another good training session.

This meeting will feature two short trainings on topics that often arise at the literacy council. Topic #1: Learn behavioral techniques to conquer unruly student behavior. Topic #2: Discuss issues of privacy and confidentiality. This meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, February 5 from 10:00 – 11:30** at Baxter County Library. Please come.

**Student needs:**

---A 7<sup>th</sup> grader needs a **math tutor** after school. Available any day except Wednesday.

**Thank you for the roof over our heads!**

We are happy to report that rent for the Children's Tutoring Program in 2008 was **completely funded by kind people and organizations in our community**. This is very helpful. The Children's Tutoring Program *does not receive any state funding. It is completely dependent on grants and donations for its support.*

We are now raising money for rent and utilities for both the Children's and Adults' Tutoring Program for the year 2009---and people in Baxter County are already beginning to respond. So far, we have rent and utilities covered for the Children's Program through August and for the Adults' Program through May.

Can you help us by choosing a month and a program to sponsor?

- Rent for the Children's Tutoring Program .....\$187.50 per month
- Rent for the Adults' Tutoring Program.....\$187.50 per month
- Utilities for the Children's Tutoring Program.....\$90 per month
- Utilities for the Adults' Tutoring Program.....\$90 per month

## **Thank you to...**

---The **CCW**, for their help with utilities this month.

--- **Michelle Katzenmaier and Sarah Kelly** for providing snacks, stamps and Campbell's Soup Labels for adults and children this month.

---**George Knox**, for donating a complete supply of coffee, cups, creamer and sugar for our tutors for the entire year. What a practical gift!

---**Robert and Olive Waldeck**, for their annual donation to literacy.

---**Tom and Deborah Knox**, for their generous donation to our program.

---Thank you to all of the people and organizations who have already signed up to help us pay for rent and utilities this year---

**Phil and Vicki Garner**  
**John Slack**  
**First National Bank**  
**Mountain Home Auto Dealers**  
**Arvest**  
**Community First National Bank**

**Town and Country Discount Foods**  
**The Council of Catholic Women**  
**First Security Bank**  
**North Arkansas Electric Cooperative**  
**The Fraternal Order of the Eagles**

*Rent for the **Children's Tutoring Program**  
for the month of February was provided for  
by the **Mountain Home Auto Dealers**.*

*Rent for the **Adult Tutoring Program** for February was provided  
by **Phil and Vicki Garner**.*

## **Ice Jokes for Jane Austen Fans**

**Knock! Knock!**

Who's there?

**Emma!**

Emma who?

**Emma bit cold out here. Let me in!**

## **Student of the month: J.C. Morrison**

Last May, 7-year-old J.C. Morrison was brought to Twin Lakes Literacy Council for help with reading comprehension by his mother, Sabrina. She was concerned that weaknesses in reading comprehension and fluency were causing him problems at school. So in May 2008, J.C. began reading lessons twice a week with Volunteer Penny Ellis.

J.C. initially did not like reading, but Penny found a series of books that J.C. seemed to love---the Froggy books! This series of books by Jonathon London features a little frog who is always in trouble---and always funny. J.C. seemed to enjoy the books' use of humor and repetition. "He knew the sounds," Penny says. "He just had no confidence in his ability to read."

At first the Froggy books constituted the main part of each lesson. Eventually, J.C. liked them so much that Penny could use the books as a reward and add instruction on vocabulary, handwriting and writing. J.C. even wrote a fan letter to Jonathon London---and received a response from the author. Little by little, J.C. found that he could be successful in other subjects, too. As Penny says, "He'd do a vocabulary lesson and say, 'Give me another one!' I think he found that he could do it."

After seven months, J.C.'s abilities and confidence had grown to a level in which he no longer needed tutoring. He made a gain on his test scores and had started to read on his own.

We'd like to thank J.C.'s mother, who brought him faithfully each week to his lessons. We'd also like to thank Penny Ellis, who with the help of a little frog, made a difference in the life of a little boy.

## **Literacy council requests:**

Our literacy council hasn't received as many grants to fund our programs this year as we have in the past. Can you help us with some of the supplies used for our programs? We're hoping that a group or an individual might help by sponsoring some of these materials:

Paper towels	Toilet paper
Water cups	Healthy, packaged snacks for students
Hand soap	White all-purpose copy paper
Clorox Wipes	
\$.42 stamps to send the literacy council newsletter	
\$.27 stamps to send luncheon invitations	
Large and small legal pads	
Campbell's Soup Labels (which enable us to "buy" toys from Campbell's Soup)	
Best Choice Labels (which gave us \$60 in cash last year)	