

# Roadways

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April 2009

## National Volunteer Week

*How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world. ~ Anne Frank*

**Let us celebrate you!** We would like to invite all our volunteers to a Tea and Tutor Chat, Wednesday, April 22nd between 10-12 am. If you have something particular you would like to talk about, contact Wendy beforehand at the office, so that she may ruminate... Let us know by Friday, April 17th, if you will be attending.

**Good food, gifts for all!**

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## Reflections

St. Patrick's Day 2009 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my work in literacy. Much has changed since then... we no longer talk about "the illiterate" or "eradicating illiteracy" as though it were a plague, and I don't type on an *IBM Selectric*. The work has been as varied as it has been interesting... Alpha Marche, dressing up as a superhero and flying through a crowd of children at Ben Wick's *Born to Read* launch, training in Sheshashit, Labrador, going to jail. I've grown up (not old?) in literacy. No one remarks "but she's so young" anymore, clearly meaning inexperienced. As in any job, there are the unpleasant things - government payroll deductions spring to mind, followed closely by all-day meetings. But, when I reflect on the highlights over the years, it has always been about the people. Each new student that comes through the door teaches me something invaluable. I still get shivers when a student shares with me the very personal details of their own struggle with literacy. I celebrate their achievements. And the tutors that work with students are a class unto themselves. They stop at nothing to make a difference. In many cases, they are the first person in a student's life who has believed in them. So as I tilt back my green beer, and celebrate this St. Paddy's Day, I am honoured to be in good company.



Wendy Seys, YLC Coordinator

# Potluck Picnic

Everyone's invited to the year-end bash **3 pm, Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009** at the home of **Jane Patrick**, YLC president. **RSVP** to YLC Centre (**450-263-7503**) by **MAY 21<sup>st</sup>**. We are asking people to sign up to bring a salad, dessert, cheese, fruit or bread & butter. The council will be providing the meat. Everyone is encouraged to write down their recipe and send it to the office before May 15th. Cornelia has offered to write up the recipes for us to share.

**Tutors!** Your next *YLC Tutor Record* is due and YLC has a **new mileage policy**. YLC will reimburse volunteers who travel to tutor students, by paying a set per kilometre rate for a roundtrip above 20 km at \$.45 per km. Mileage is paid to tutors on request only and will be paid quarterly with the submission of your *YLC Tutor Record* available from the council or from the YLC website on the Resources page.

<http://www.yamaskaliteracy.ca/resources.htm>  
The *YLC Tutor Record* should be submitted quarterly:

- **September 30th**
- **March 31st**
- **December 31st**
- **June 30th**



She also directs (in her spare time) amateur choirs, singing many genres including classical and gospel music. Since 1996, Susan has been a member of YLC serving as president and treasurer and with thirty years of experience teaching in the public and private sector, she is a force with which to be reckoned. It's a pleasure to work with Susan.

# Announcements

Details to be included are:

- **date**
- **preparation time**
- **tutoring hours**
- **travel**

*\*For this one time the March 31st deadline will be extended to April 15th.*

**The Basic Literacy Tutor Manual** is available to tutors. If you were trained before 2008 and would like a copy, please contact the office so that we can prepare one for you.

**Students!** YLC holds a weekly small group class at the YLC office, hosted by Susan Reininger. If you would like to know more about or join the class, contact the office.



**Susan Reininger, YLC treasurer,** has a university education in music and education. She has many hobbies: bee-keeping, star gazing, cycling and canoeing, and more recently taking search and rescue lessons with her dog, Bogår. Her volunteer experience includes teaching and working with the intellectually challenged. She is affiliated with the United Church where she plays



## Writer's Challenge

**LVQ is issuing a challenge to all**

**students:** Each month a student submission

will be picked at random from those submitted and the writer will win a \$25 **Chapters** gift certificate. The winning submission will be posted on the LVQ website.

[www.literacyvolunteersqc.ca](http://www.literacyvolunteersqc.ca)

Challenges: April— **How do you know it's spring?**

May—**Mother's Day**

June—**Father's Day**

**Criteria:** between 100 and 400 words

**Deadline:** the last day of each month

Send submissions to Joani by email [info@literacyvolunteers.qc.ca](mailto:info@literacyvolunteers.qc.ca) or by fax: 1(450) 243-6812



**Nominations are now being accepted** for the 2009 Canada Post Community Literacy Awards. Visit the Canada Post Literacy Website to find out how to make a nomination.

<http://www.canadapost.ca/AboutUs/Community/Literacy/Awards/>

There are 2 award categories, both representing a broad range of literacy accomplishments:

- **Individual Achievement Awards** : Celebrate the achievements of adult learners who overcame social or economic barriers by improving their literacy or English as a Second Language/French as a Second Language (ESL/FSL) skills. Winners in this category receive a cash award of \$300 and a framed, personalized Certificate of Achievement.
- **Educator Awards** : Honour English- and French-speaking educators, tutors, and advocates who have demonstrated a commitment to adult literacy or adult ESL/FSL training. Winners in this category receive a cash award of \$500 and a framed, personalized Certificate of Achievement.

**Help Canada Post celebrate literacy in our community**

**– make a nomination to the 2009 Canada Post Community Literacy Awards!**

## 2009 RECOGNITION AWARDS FOR ADULT LITERACY

If you know of someone you would like to nominate for the 2009 RECOGNITION AWARDS FOR ADULT LITERACY contact the office or check out the information on the LVQ website.

[http://literacyvolunteersqc.ca/adult\\_literacy\\_recognition\\_awards.php](http://literacyvolunteersqc.ca/adult_literacy_recognition_awards.php)

There are four awards to be won of \$125 each, plus a framed certificate.

The **student awards** are to recognize the courage of adults who know it's never too late to learn to read and write or to improve their reading and writing. Whether they see this as their only goal or the first step in a longer journey of lifelong learning, these individuals are models for many.

The **teacher/tutor awards** recognize teachers and tutors who work with adult literacy students, often outside the mainstream in unexpected places. These awards give them a public face and acknowledge their role in helping learners make it through that critical first stage.



LVQ was in the St. Patrick's Day parade in Montreal, March 22nd. It was a beautiful day, with more than 500,000 spectators.



**Mary's Carrot Cake**



**1. Mix together:**

- 4 eggs
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup oil

**2. Mix together, add to #1:**

- 2 cups flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

**3. Add to #2:**

- 2 cups carrots
- 1 cup drained crushed pineapple
- 1/2 cup flaked coconut

Bake 350° F in 10" tube pan 50-55 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean. When cool, frost with cream cheese frosting.

**Cream Cheese frosting**

**1. Mix together:**

- 1 (8 oz.) package cream cheese
- 4 tablespoons milk
- 2 teaspoons vanilla

**2. Add and beat until smooth:**

- 4 1/2 cups icing sugar

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