

yamaska literacy council

ROADWAYS

Volume 24
Issue 1



September
2007



YLC SAYS A SAD FAREWELL to Valerie McAdam, longtime volunteer and friend. Most notably, Val brought compassion to the literacy work she did in the community and the prison. Val was an advocate for many students. Valerie graciously agreed to pose as *Miss April* to raise funds for literacy in YLC's "Literacy Exposed" calendar. *We will miss her free and gentle spirit.*



Singin

Valerie



All YLC

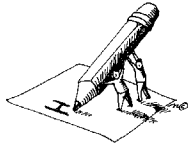
members, tutors and students, are asked to attend our **Annual General Meeting** to be held **5 pm, October 25, 2007** at the **YLC Centre**.



Refreshments will be provided.
RSVP by October 19, 2007

A special ceremony to inaugurate the **Patricia Lafreniere Memorial Award** will take place at the AGM.

YLC Launches New Scribe Service



The Scribe Service addresses the needs of individuals in our communities with low level literacy skills who struggle to manage the documentation encountered in their everyday lives. Many adults with low literacy skills do not recognize a need to improve their skills or do not know what services exist. YLC will perform activities such as reading official documents, filling out forms and writing or proof-reading documents. We will maintain a public scribe mandate. The focus is on literacy and not professional expertise in the field of the document. Individuals need not be current YLC students. If you would like to volunteer in this capacity, let us know.

Spread the word!



YLC cards are now for sale.
Buy your favourite for \$2
or 4 for \$6.

Looking for something new to read this fall? Check out the shelves of the "Freda Hudson Reading Room". Some new titles include **Canada at a Glance**, **The Oxford Canadian A-Z of Grammar, Spelling, and Punctuation**, and **Birdie** by local author Bea Santori.

Coming soon to a bookstore near you!

Local author and YLC tutor *Don Davison* will soon be launching his book **Raid From Hell**. The title originates from the Governor's wife, Anne Eliza Brainerd Smith, who wrote to her husband in Montpelier the day after 21 Confederate soldiers hit the banks in St. Albans for over \$200,000.

"We have had to use Cousin Joe's forcible expression a 'Raid From Hell'. For about half and hour yesterday afternoon I thought that we should be burnt up and robbed. But I hope you don't imagine I was one moment frightened, though the noise of guns, the agitated looks of the rushing men and our powerless condition were startlingly enough".



2007 Annual General Conference
When? Saturday, November 3, 2007
Where? Maritime Plaza Hotel, Montreal



New this year –workshops in the morning and in the afternoon.

Morning Workshops:

Introduction to Brain Gym®
What makes me "me"?
Science
(Others to be confirmed)

Afternoon Workshops:

Living on a shoestring budget
Introduction to Brain Gym®
Essential skills – Just Make Them
Useful to Literacy!

Keynote speaker – **Dorothy Silver**, lifelong learner from New Brunswick.

Tutors encourage your students to attend!
For more information or to register, call the office.

DECADENT
DOUBLE CHOCOLATE AND NUT
COOKIES

200 g (7oz) semi-sweet chocolate
chunks
80 ml (1/3 cup) soft butter
2 eggs
150 ml (2/3 cup) white sugar
60 ml (1/4 cup) brown sugar
2.5 ml (1/2 teaspoon) vanilla
extract
150 ml (2/3/ cup) flour
15 ml (1 tablespoon) cocoa
1 ml (1/4 teaspoon) baking powder
2.5 ml (1/2 teaspoon) salt

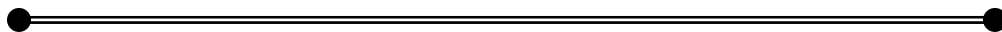


125 ml (1/2 cup) of semi-sweet
chocolate chunks
175 ml (3/4 cup) of grilled nuts
(pecans, walnuts, cachous,
macadamia), chopped
coarsely

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. In a double boiler, melt chocolate (200g/7oz) and butter together over a low heat.
2. Beat eggs and sugars together for 2 minutes. Add vanilla and mix well. Add to chocolate mixture and beat 1 minute.
3. Sieve dry ingredients together, add to chocolate mixture. Add chocolate pieces and nuts*. Fold in delicately.
4. Drop 30 ml (2 tablespoons) of cookie dough on a cookie tray covered in parchment paper. Be careful to leave 4 cm (1 ½") between each cookie. Lightly flatten. Garnish each cookie with a nut or chocolate chunk.

Bake on the highest shelf of the oven for 9 to 11 minutes. The edge will be crisp and the centre still soft. Do not bake too long because they will continue to bake on the cookie sheet after they have been removed from the oven. Leave them on the cookie sheet until cool and firm enough to move, and then let them cool completely on a cookie rack.

**Note: If desired, save 80 ml (1/3 cup) of nuts and chocolate chunks to use as garnish.*



Reading Companion – Are you interested?

YLC is piloting a reading software program called, Reading Companion, IBM's web-based literacy initiative, that uses voice recognition technology to help adults learn how to read. The software "listens" and provides feedback, enabling students to practice reading and pronunciation as they acquire fundamental skills.

The student simply logs on to the website and is presented with material to read. An on-screen mentor "reads" a phrase to the student then provides an opportunity for the student to read the material, using a headset microphone. Depending on the accuracy of what was read the program will offer the student positive feedback, an opportunity to try again or the correct reading of the words on the screen.

Accessible any time, anywhere, through the Web, students sign in with their own ID and password and the software resumes where they student left off. If you are interested in using this software and to register, call Wendy.

<http://www.readingcompanion.org/>

YLC's website is about to go "under construction". We want to hear from tutors and students – what do you want from YLC's website?

Ideas:

- Links to tutoring materials
- Information about upcoming events
- Tutors, do you want a bulletin board to communicate with other tutors?
- Students, do you want a bulletin board to communicate with other students?



Get your input counted! It's your site!



Telephone:
450.263.7503
1.866.337.7503

Fax:
450.263.7209

Email:
yamaskalit@endirect.qc.ca

Address:
239, rue Principale
Cowansville QC
J2K 1J4

Website:
www.nald.ca/y/c