



TUTOR TALK FALL 2017



2017 GLA Fall Tutor In-Service

Tips and Tactics for Better Instruction

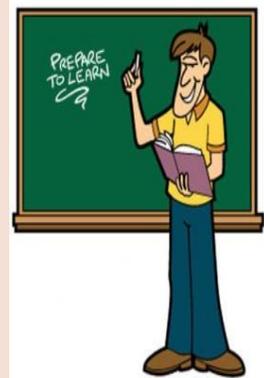
- Connect with tutors at **your** learning center
- Review new/selected resources
- Hear from veteran volunteers on how to make lessons relevant to your students



November 2017

- ♦ Greenville: Nov. 3, 12:00 - noon
- ♦ Simpsonville: Nov. 10, 1:30-3:00 PM
- ♦ Greer: Nov. 16, 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Refreshments/lunch will be provided, come and join us.



Friends of GLA

One year ago, we held the kickoff celebration for a new group called Friends of GLA. We never could have imagined how it would grow in such a small window of time! Thank you to all of our wonderful members who have supported this group of GLA proponents. We have had a ball working together to get the word out about GLA - from the kickoff brewery event to our latest Chipotle fundraising night, we've kept the events varied and fun. The proceeds from memberships go directly to supporting the mission of GLA.



Friends of GLA's one-year anniversary was celebrated on October 25. Want to be a part of this wonderful group? [Join here!](#) Thank you for being a Friend!

Thank you!

HIGHLIGHTS



Greenville

Kasanta, known at GLA as **Sandy**, came to our organization through the Servant Scholar program at Furman during the summer of 2015.

As an intern, Sandy was instrumental in teaching summer classes, preparing lessons, training interns, coordinating workshops, assisting tutors, covering the front desk and most importantly helping staff prepare for a statewide audit.

A year later, she was hired as a full time program manager in the ABE program. Shortly thereafter, she transitioned into the ESL program, where she partook of a TESOL certification class that has now enabled her to travel to Costa Rica to teach English as a Second Language.

Although we will miss Sandy, we know that she will achieve whatever she sets her mind to...her contagious smile, positive attitude and hard work ethic will take her very far.

We wish **Sandy** success in her future professional endeavors and we thank her for making GLA a better place. As the locals in Costa Rica say, "Pura Vida"!

Greer

Geneene Thompson has taught ESL classes at Greer Learning Center for 2 years. Serving and being involved in her community has always been important to her. When she moved to Greer and saw an ad in the newspaper for volunteers, she jumped at the opportunity. She uses her personal experience with learning a foreign language to connect to the struggles of her students.

Geneene finds witnessing the students grow in confidence and achieving a greater command of the language the most rewarding aspect of being a volunteer.



GED Bootcamp!

GLA is excited to offer a 14 week intensive GED Bootcamp class again this Fall at the Greenville Learning Center. It will prepare students to take and pass the GED through a combination of class instruction, independent study, and practice testing. This is a great opportunity for motivated students to earn their GED quickly.

Dedicated volunteer **Sally Gurrie** is teaching the classes. The total cost for the program is \$20, and includes testing and materials. Completion will be in December.

Simpsonville

When **Mary Lou Reeves** retired from a remarkable teaching career that included teaching at the American School in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, she moved to Simpsonville and began tutoring at the Simpsonville Center. Over the course of the last 14 years, she has taught just about every ESL class that the Center offers. She has endeared herself to hundreds of students and goes out of her way to befriend them and help them acclimate to living

in the United States. She loves learning about other countries—their cultures, customs and food, and even goes so far as to study their languages online. When asked about her teaching “tips,” **Mary Lou** said, “Enjoy it. Don’t be too serious. Have fun!”

Mary Lou just turned 90 years old. One would never know it, though. Besides being an excellent teacher, her students absolutely love her. She is a joy to be around, and we all hope that she will continue to teach for many more years! Thank you, **Mary Lou**, for your commitment and dedication and for making us all feel so good when we’re around you!



This comes after a successful Spring pilot session with a passing rate of 90%



ESL

Susan Looper
 JoAnn Borovicks
 Angela Tartaro
 Joyce Rogers
 Laura MacPherson
 Rachel Jeffreys
 Kayleigh Cox
 Sally Hinson

GLA Welcomes New Volunteers

David Enter
 Jean Fontaine
 Nan Kislik
 Nancy Wilmoth
 Linda Green
 Lizzie McCallion
 Dan Ruck



ABE

Kathryn Mendez
 Linda Harris
 Glenn Spittler
 Marian Purdue
 Jim Stiepan
 Alana Parish
 Alli Burgess
 Andrea Dieterly
 Ruth Haggerty



At the **Simpsonville Learning Center, Betsy Turnbull** from the Center for Community Services is going to have an office in our building. She will be interacting with students one day a week to help them set goals and work on job and life skills. In January, she plans to offer career readiness classes to both ABE and ESL students as a part of their weekly schedule.

We have had several **Greer ESL** students express interest in getting a GED. We will decide if transitioning these students into existing GED classes, or if creating an ESL GED class would best serve them and the traditional ABE students. We may begin by giving these students Aztec logins.

We will continue our partnership with **Caroline Aneskievich**, an HR rep from BMW who comes in once a month and does Job Skills lessons with higher level ESL students.

Our main focus will be retention, post-testing and gains for both ABE and ESL.

GLA is going to spend the next year changing the structure of both the ABE and ESL workshops. We are looking for **veteran volunteer tutors** who would be willing to do small group lesson planning trainings at their learning center. We hope for these to occur monthly, but if we have enough volunteers, we should be able to spread out the workload. Please contact Cheryl Bentley if you are interested in helping.

bentley@greenvilleliteracy.org

Greenville Learning Center's ABE program is focusing on strategies and practices to help students attain their goals (short and long-term) and the transition into Quick Jobs and/or postsecondary education, enhance learning through the use of technology and digital literacy, increase retention of students, achieve more measurable skill gains, and improve the delivery of curriculum and instruction from our tutors. We are also hopeful that our **Strategies for Success** classes will help inform students about different personal and professional options available to them during their time with us and after they complete their GED.



The root of education is bitter but the fruit is sweet

We want your ideas!

Tutor Talk is a forum to exchange ideas and tips. Just like you, we are always looking for new and better ways to help students. If you have an interesting idea, valuable tip or a great website to share, please call Harriet at **864 688-2212** or email to:



withers@greenvilleliteracy.org

If you change your email address, please let Elizabeth know at: rosier@greenvilleliteracy.org

November

All centers will hold In-service functions. See page one for details.

4 - ESL Workshop 9:00 AM - 3:30PM
11 - ABE Workshop 9:00 AM- 3:30PM
23 - 24 Thanksgiving, all centers closed



December

15 - All centers will close for the holidays. We will reopen on January 2, 2018

Merry Christmas

