



# Tutor Talk - Spring 2016

225 South Pleasantburg Drive  
Greenville, SC 29607  
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## 2016 GLA Spring Tutor Refresher

Educate.



Enrich.



Empower.



**GLA**  
GREENVILLE LITERACY  
ASSOCIATION

Save the Date for the  
**Spring Tutor In-Service:**

**Monday, April 4, 2016**

Greenville Learning Center

225 S. Pleasantburg Dr. Suite C-10

9am-11am

6pm-8pm

Refreshments and networking for 30 minutes followed by both  
ABE and ESL breakout sessions

## Tutor In-Service 2016

The annual GLA spring tutor in-service is coming up on Monday, April 4th. All GLA tutors are encouraged to attend. It provides a wonderful opportunity for tutors to enjoy some refreshments, learn about new programs and materials, gain some teaching ideas and network with other tutors. Please mark your calendars and RSVP to the program managers at your center.

### Morning Session 9:00 - 11:00AM

9:00 - 9:30 - Appreciation Breakfast

9:30 - 11:00 Choose one only:

ESL Civics and Citizenship  
Contextualized Learning for ESL  
Introduction to WorkKeys  
Contextualized Learning for ABE  
Classroom Management.

*RSVP your program manager with your choice.*



### Evening Session 6:00 - 8:00

6:00 - 6:30 - Refreshments

6:30 - 8:00 Choose one only:

ESL Civics and Citizenship  
Lesson planning made easy for ESL  
Contextualized Learning for ABE  
Smartboard Savvy  
Classroom and Campus Security

*RSVP your program manager with your choice.*

*Note: The computer lab will be open from  
6:00 - 6:30 for those who want to learn  
more about the ABE Aztec Program*

# Tutor Highlights

## Greer

ESL tutor **Mariola Gorska** is no stranger to learning a new language. She came here from Poland, learned to speak English herself, and recently became a US citizen! She began tutoring as a way to give back to her community of fellow immigrants. "The emotional connection to my class is the most beautiful aspect of teaching. The students are teachers of courage," she says. **Mariola** teaches a class on idioms, one of her favorite teaching moments occurred while teaching the idiom "heart of gold." She asked her students to write a poem featuring a heart of gold. The class enjoyed sharing their poems, and **Mariola** was touched by their creativity and openness.



## Greenville ABE

**Ed Maier** always had a desire to share knowledge. It was his membership in the Rotary Club which led him to GLA, first with the Rotary Family Literacy on Augusta Rd. and now at McAlister Square. **Ed** teaches Intermediate Algebra and also has 2 Algebra tutoring sessions weekly. He says that, "helping folks help themselves is not only incredibly rewarding it also helps grow a stronger, more positive community." **Ed's** class has a very faithful following and his students really enjoy him. Although Math can be tough for many students, **Ed** makes it inviting and less scary than they may have once remembered. "We do try to have fun with algebra and laugh too! And as impossible as that seems...we sometimes succeed"! We thank **Ed** for his continued commitment to GLA!



## Greenville ESL

**Cindy Rogers** came to GLA in 2010 initially teaching at The Smith Center and now at The Greenville Center. "Teaching them, and seeing them acquiring fluency in English, is just pure fun for me," says **Cindy**. "My ESL students are an inspiration they have made challenging moves from their home countries in order to find a life in the U.S. We have students from Mexico, Colombia, Vietnam, South Korea, Japan, Iraq, Egypt, France, Argentina, Brazil, China, and I'm probably forgetting some. We never run out of things to talk about."

**Cindy's** classes are very well attended. She incorporates reading, writing, speaking and listening and colors the class with humor and conversation. Thank you **Cindy** for helping our students reach their goals.



## Simpsonville

Following a successful career as an information systems manager, **John Heinrichs** decided it would be fun to live in a foreign country for a while. He moved to Peru where he studied Spanish and taught English for four years. After a short stay back home he went to Guatemala working as a volunteer, teaching impoverished children, many of whom didn't even speak Spanish. It was when he returned to live in Simpsonville that he started volunteering for GLA. He likes to teach Basic English and also vocabulary. This semester he started an advanced writing class. He uses a variety of materials and has literally developed his own course. Having lived in a foreign country himself, **John** knows what it feels like to not know the language, having to ask for help with the simplest tasks. Many thanks go to **John** for sharing his teaching talents and having such a warm and kind heart.



## Miracle Hill

The Miracle Hill Overcomers Center houses a 27-week residential addiction recovery program for men. The partnership with GLA provides on-site instruction focusing on Math, teaching up to 15 men at all levels, from beginning subtraction to advanced algebra. New students enter our "one-room schoolhouse" on a bi-weekly basis and study with us every Tuesday morning for as long as they remain in the Overcomer program. The students often mention the ABE class in their testimonies at Overcomers graduation. It is very moving to hear the men say that they have learned that they are not failures and that they have succeeded with the help of patient, dedicated tutors. Many thanks to veteran GLA tutors **Sue Auld, Bob and Lydia Collett, and Henry Morgan** who followed us to Overcomers, and to **John and Steve**, our MHM volunteers. We couldn't do it without you! **Sue Auld** is pictured here with the first of two Overcomers who earned a GED this year.





# New Staff News



## Stephanie Patton

**Stephanie** graduated from North Greenville University with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies concerning Linguistics and Spanish. She came to Greenville Literacy Association in December 2015 to be an ABE program manager. GLA and United Ministries have partnered together to make a Pre-GED program at United Ministries and **Stephanie** is the program manager for this site.



## Susan Looper

**Susan** began working in a partnership with GLA and United Ministries in November 2015. Her role as an employment counselor in the Employment Readiness Program allows her to assist the unemployed and underemployed to develop the employability, financial, and personal skills necessary to obtain and retain quality employment. She provides coaching to help students overcome challenges like housing, childcare, transportation, mental health, and criminal backgrounds. The class curriculum includes information and real practice with searching for and completing job applications, personal appearance and habits, and answering interview questions. Counselors keep in touch with participants for a full year after they have

gained employment to help maintain focus and motivation.

**Susan** has 28 years' experience as a vocational rehabilitation counselor and she is excited about the opportunities this partnership offers. She lives in Pickens with her husband Don.



## New Tutors Trained September - November

### ABE

Jeanne Brown  
Wayne Cameron  
Weston Cavett  
Aurelia Che  
Stephen Christopher  
Amy Connolly  
Alina Cook  
Kay Cummings  
Beverley Dickson  
Mike Dickson  
Cynthia Epps  
Berry Gower  
Amy Hickman  
Ariane Huba  
Barbara Kucer  
Lora Liimatta  
Kamalshil Lokhande  
David Looney  
Ashley Mills  
Sameer Sament  
Ron Tamaccio  
Tim Turner  
Rachel Veltri  
Rindi Wilson  
Lena Wright  
Edward Woodford Jr.  
Richard Zatzoff

### ESL

Achieng Adongo  
Briana Armstrong  
Linda Blair  
Heather Cirincione  
Mia Cox  
Rose Cox  
Teresa Donn  
Silke Duerrmann  
Barbara Fancher  
Kathy Fitzsimmons  
Joyce Galloway  
Amy Heggan  
Ann Huffaker  
Janine Lewis  
Pooja Mahajan  
Michelle McCallum  
Brett McInnis  
Doris McLellan  
Kevin McMurtrey  
Kate Mizell  
Leila Oakley  
Linda Tassie  
Beth Phillips  
Jeannette Rhodes  
Kelly Snell  
Edward Woodford Jr.  
Lena Wright

### Tutor Tips:

**John** tutors a beginning level group of students at The Simpsonville Center, these are some of his favorite tips.....

- Set up a safe environment where mistakes are used to learn.
- Assume from the start that students will speak, if you have this expectation they will.
- Correct pronunciation problems as they occur. Take notes during a presentation and address problems as soon as everyone has finished.
- Find ways to make classes fun and interesting. I use puppets, potato heads, children's doctor kits and anything else I can think of to enhance lessons and get the students laughing while they are learning.
- Set up as many opportunities as possible for students to speak more and you, the teacher, less. Book series like Ventures are great for structuring classes and helping students to see progress but, they often don't have enough opportunities for speaking practice. Pair activities are great for this.

More important than all of these tips is to show your students that you care about them and their progress.

**Come and meet John at the tutor In-service on April 4th where he will be presenting more of his tips.**

### 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:

[witthers@greenvilleliteracy.org](mailto:witthers@greenvilleliteracy.org)

If you change your email address, please let Wendy know at:

[Hamilton@greenvilleliteracy.org](mailto:Hamilton@greenvilleliteracy.org)



### GLA Calendar

- April**  
4 - GLA Tutor In-service in the Greenville Office. Simpsonville and Greer closed.
- May**  
30 - Memorial Day - All GLA offices closed.
- June**  
11 - All centers closed on Fridays  
14 - ESL workshop DT 9:00 - 3 - 30pm  
14 - ABE workshop DT 9:00 - 3:30pm

