



MESSENGER

A Member of ProLiteracy

www.proliteracy.org

www.southcoastliteracy.org

Spotlight on Harriet!

SCLC member **Harriet Kelly**, Past President, is known to most in the council because she has been active in so many ways. She has tutored, led tutors, helped open centers, presented at workshops, developed a tutor handbook, held leadership rolls and has been involved in several other ways. She is currently a tutor, center director and board member.



What inspired you to become a tutor?

I began my journey with English Learners in 1980 when I qualified to teach English Learners. Fountain Valley had centers where ESL students were transported for pull-out specialized classes. At the same time, I kept being a learner of how to better serve the students. Being responsible for some federal projects focusing on both parents and students continued my focus. Without too many details, I can say my path included teaching teachers to work with English Learners and always following my heart to be involved with programs that supported English students.

How did you get involved with South Coast Literacy and when?

After retiring in 2007, I looked online for an option to continue teaching ESL. My church, Presbyterian Church of the Master, had a center and my life began in the world of adult ESL. I appreciated the workshops for tutors. It was a new world and one I enjoyed, both with students and fellow tutors.

In what capacity have you been involved with SCLC?

My administrative journey with SCLC began as recording secretary, and I also enjoyed offering a workshop on writing with Lesley Bindloss. I appreciated everyone's commitment to the purpose of serving our communities. I also served as vice-president of tutor training. In 2017-18 I was elected president. I was a center director at the El Toro Library and now serve as director of the PCOM center. Each of the roles with South Coast Literacy has provided me with learning experiences as well as given me the opportunity to use many skills from my career.



... Continued from p.1

What is your favorite memory from volunteering with SCLC?

Each student brings a personal story which most often brings joy to the group. Laughter at small and big things bring the best memories.

What's the one thing you would tell someone who is considering volunteering with SCLC?

If you have time and want to serve your community, consider volunteering with South Coast Literacy. Willingness to be a learner and appreciate the language needs in your community is all that is necessary.

Tell us more about yourself.

I live in Lake Forest where I have special neighbors, as well as groups of teachers and other friends I spend time with. I enjoy concerts and theater, as well as television. I enjoy keeping in touch with friends and doing things for others, and a nap is a wonderful treat every day!

President's Report

Having been in the role of President for four months, I am extremely grateful for all the support and encouragement I've had so far. In the fall of 2019, when I moved to South Orange County, I was delighted to find that there were ESL classes where I could tutor a few miles from my home. Then I realized there were centers all around connected by a passionate group of people committed to supporting English Language Learners. Naturally, I wanted to learn more about this organization, so I attended Board meetings and training workshops and transitioned to Zoom classes. Having the opportunity to represent SCLC at the Pro Literacy conference in San Antonio, Texas, was a turning point in my level of confidence in my ability to step into a leadership role. I have a lot to learn about leading a team of people with so much knowledge of the best practices for teaching English to adults and such a big heart for our mission, and I welcome your ideas and feedback at any time.

Submitted by Laura Casellas, President



Remember to set your clocks *BACK* one hour this Sunday, November 5th at 2:00 a.m.



Daylight saving time begins on the second Sunday of March each year and ends on the first Sunday of November.

In 2022, the U.S. Senate unanimously approved the "Sunshine Protection Act," a bill that would make daylight saving time permanent starting in 2023. That measure was not passed in the U.S. House of Representatives and was not signed into law by President Joe Biden.

**Please note that the
SCLC Fall Workshop for Tutors
has been rescheduled to February 3, 2024.
Registration information will be sent at a later date.**



RESCHEDULED TO FEBRUARY 3, 2024

**SCLC's Fall Workshop for Tutors
"Resources Galore!"**

~~November 4, 2023~~

~~9:30 AM – 12:00 PM~~

*Join us for a time of sharing ideas and resources
among our own tutors!*

Location

Mariners Church
In the Upper Room (above the Global Café)
905 Newport Coast Drive, Irvine

What's going to Happen?

9:15-9:30	Arrive for coffee, breakfast, and check-in
9:30-10:05	Let's begin sharing resources for all!
10:10-10:40	Roundtable Session #1
10:45-11:15	Roundtable Session #2
11:20-11:50	Roundtable Session #3
11:50	Wrap Up

Choose 3 Roundtable Sessions from the following topics:

Simplify your Language for Understanding
Getting creative with Holidays
Strategies for Lower Levels
Intercambio: Emphasizing Communication
Using WhatsApp for Community-Building

Using " Novel Scenes"
Interactive Learning Games
Just for New SCLC Tutors
Strategies for Online Instruction
More topics coming!

Irvine Global Village Festival

On Saturday, October 14th, SCLC had an exhibition booth at the annual Irvine Global Village Festival, at the Great Park in Irvine. The IGVF is a celebration of people, culture, food, arts, music, and more from around the world. It is hosted annually by the city of Irvine, which bills it as the premier international celebration in Orange County; this year they expected more than 25,000 visitors! A target-rich environment for us!

The SCLC booth displayed samples of our ESL materials, many large photos of our classes, a very large map showing the location of all our Centers, and international candies (which were gone by the end of the day!). The pictures and maps were mounted on tall, sturdy wooden dividers loaned to us from the Center at Voyagers Bible Church.

Our booth was open for business for the entire time of the festival, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.. Throughout, we had at least 2 SCLC volunteers on-hand to talk to visitors, and we had a steady stream! Some were interested for themselves, others on behalf of family members or friends. Ten or more SCLC students stopped by, as did a similar number of tutors. Many familiar and happy faces to greet!

We also went out to our students! The International Pavilion was near us, so we stopped by, SCLC flyers in hand. We talked to a leader or two in each of the booths present, representing OC communities of Turks, Iranians, Indians, Sudanese, Palestinians, Sikhs, Chinese, Mexicans, Taiwanese, Koreans, Japanese, Syrians, Pakistanis, Qataris, and Kurds (who at the time were dancing up a storm!). We had a positive reception and interest from everyone we talked to, and a few returned the favor, visiting our booth in turn to learn more.

Our objective was to recruit new students, new tutors, and even new Centers. People could indicate interest on-line or on paper. Within a day or two, our website had received about 130 visits; a record! And to date, about 20 indicated interest in being a student, and 10 in being a tutor. No potential new Centers have come forward, as of yet.

Many thanks to the planning team: Laura Casellas, Joan Nadeau, Barbara Looney, Cat Ailanjian, Jim Gustafson, and Judith Slotsky, and to those who helped man our booth: Keri Comer, Harriet Kelly, Micky Hoegh, Pat Heilig, Ilene Bradberry, Sharon Miller, and student G! This was our first time at the Irvine Global Village Festival, and we all agreed it will not be our last!

Submitted by Jim Gustafson, Center Director, Voyagers Bible Church

[Watch this photo montage of this exciting community outreach event!](#)



More Community Outreach

In early September, Laura Casellas and Sharon Miller had an opportunity to present our ESL program to the Dana Point's Women's Club at their fall meeting. The women of DPWC are committed to philanthropic service, and they were engaged and very interested in the work we are doing in our community. They were impressed by the high number of homes in Orange County where a language other than English is spoken (46%). They appreciated that we support the students in meeting their own goals, whether it's life skills, getting jobs, citizenship or being comfortable out in the community. We shared pictures of our recent visit by the EMT and police department and the fun we have celebrating holidays, food and cultural activities together. They graciously presented us with a check for \$250.



Submitted by Laura Casellas, President, and Sharon Miller, Dana Point Center Director and Board member



Executive Board & Center Directors' Meetings

Light breakfast and lunch were served at the July Executive Board meeting held at the Gloria Dei Church center in Dana Point, and isn't that the best part? The Executive Board met first, followed by a Center Directors' meeting.

Laura Casellas, new president, presided over this first meeting of the 2023-24 fiscal year. The council's 2023-24 budget was approved, the Intercambio conference and SCLC's fall workshop were announced, and other board business was carried out.

After lunch, Center Director Representative Sandy Williams conducted the meeting for CDs. The new policies and procedures for inducting new volunteers were explained by Vicki Sommer. CDs will now oversee applications, intake, prep for teaching and approval of new tutors. Center directors received the New Readers Press books they requested from the Book Fund grant, and were encouraged to attend the virtual Intercambio Annual Conference. Those in attendance received a new, updated CD handbook full of information, forms and materials to help them.

Our September Meeting was also held in person (with snacks 😊) at our new center, Arbor Christian Fellowship Church in Lake Forest. The next one will be a virtual meeting on November 18, 2023.

All SCLC members are welcome and encouraged to attend board meetings. Contact President Laura Casellas at laura.casellas@yahoo.com for a Zoom invitation.

Submitted by Barbara Looney, VP Administration

Teaching Tutors

In August, SCLC's Laura Casellas and Sharon Miller presented at Intercambio's Summer Conference. The title of their workshop was, "**Why do My Neighbors Have Tombstones and Spiders in their Yard?**"

Reaching a national audience on zoom, they immersed tutors in learning activities and resources to actively engage their ELL's in exploring, understanding and participating in American holidays and culture. The workshop was well received as participants discussed Halloween, Thanksgiving and Easter/Spring. We showed pictures from our classroom, had them share their holiday ideas in breakout rooms and finished with a Kahoot! Game.

Submitted by Laura Casellas, President



Tutor Tips

Students should be doing at least 80% or more of the talking in class; something that always needs to be worked on, right?

This activity turned out to be a great way for getting students to talk more and teachers to be quiet. And it was fun! It's also a great way to practice telling and asking questions.

Think About Something You Like or Don't Like

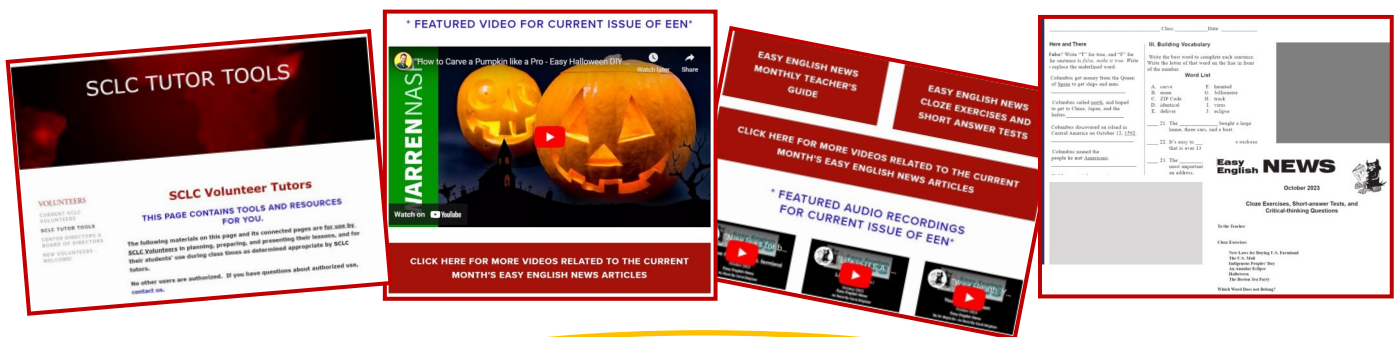
Directions: Students take turns telling something they like or don't like and why. Then they ask another student if he/she likes it and why. We gave them the following suggestions:

1. Getting up very early
2. Watching the news on tv
3. Vacuuming the carpet
4. Flying on an airplane
5. Taking walks
6. Having parties at your home
7. Speaking on the phone in English
8. Reading stories
9. Doing laundry
10. Paying bills
11. Receiving flowers
12. Filling out paperwork of applications



Submitted by Barbara Looney, VP Administration

Website Wonders!



<https://southcoastliteracy.org/>

Our ***SCLC Tutor Tools*** page on our website includes each month's current issue of Easy English News (EEN). If you have ever used the paper version of EEN in your classroom, you know what a valuable teaching tool it is, and the website version has all of the same features.

The website version also comes with audio recordings of the main articles in the current issue. Your students can read along as the audio clips play. This "dual-modality" teaching method may help improve your students' comprehension and reading skills, and it serves as a model for correct pronunciation.

In addition to the audio recordings, which are available with one click on our *SCLC Tutor Tools* page, a featured video is posted, which starts with one tap from you. If you are able to display a video in your in-person class, it is a fun and engaging activity. (If you do not have access to a projector, SCLC has a projector you may borrow.) If you are online, of course, you need only start the video and then use Share Screen from Zoom to display it to your entire group.

Aside from the specific article audio and video features, EEN provides links to several more videos that supplement the written articles. This list of video links is also posted on the website, so that you have easy access to them. Choose one or two videos and delight your students!

As for direct tutor resource materials, EEN provides a comprehensive Teacher's Guide each month as well as cloze exercises, a crossword puzzle, a vocabulary list, questions and answers related to the articles, and suggestions for conversations.

The *SCLC Tutor Tools* page requires a password since only SCLC volunteers are allowed access to it. If you need the password, see your Center Director, or contact me (Sandy Williams) at Info.southcoastlit@gmail.com.

If you have never explored the EEN on our website, I encourage you to do so. You will become a huge fan!

Submitted by Sandy Williams, Website Manager/CD Representative

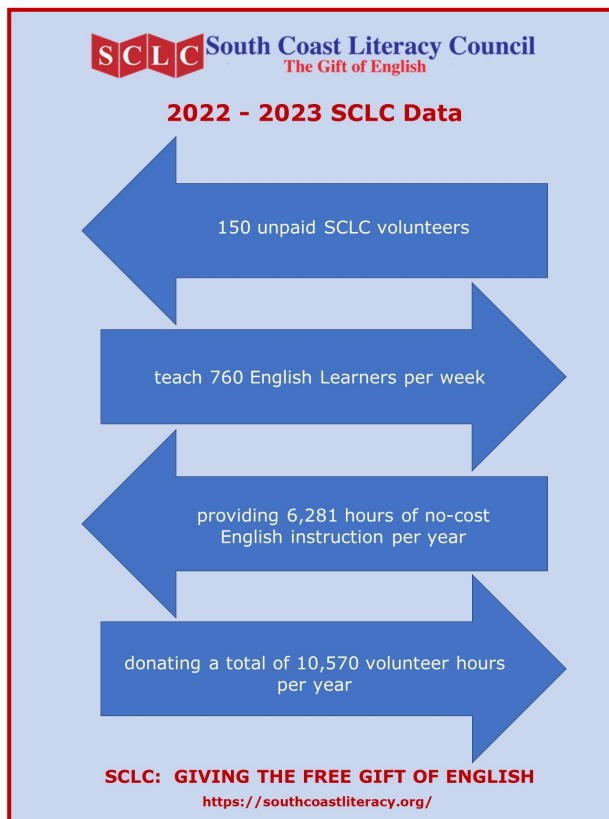
SCLC 2022-2023 Statistics

A huge CONGRATULATIONS is due to all SCLC volunteers! Our statistics for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, are in, and they tell a terrific story!

Active SCLC volunteers number 150, and we have worked with 760 English Language Learner adults throughout South Orange County. Last fiscal year, SCLC volunteers donated 6,281 hours of English instruction and 4,289 hours of other volunteer hours, for a grand total of 10,570 hours of unpaid service to our community. We explain what we do on our website in these words:

“As our students acquire English proficiency, they can become active and helpful participants in the community. Importantly, they are also empowered to live their personal lives with greater confidence and success. As ability and confidence increase, our students can participate fully in their own economic endeavors, their education, their health care, and their children’s futures. In sum, the entire community benefits from our efforts.”

Watch **this video** to see the testimony of Vi, an ELL student from Vietnam, who attends our Dana Point/Gloria Dei Learning Center.



We are indeed a little charity with a big heart! Congratulate yourselves!

Submitted by Sandy Williams, Website Manager/CD Representative

Center Locations Update

SCLC *lost* one center this Fall; the one held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Tustin led by Jan Miles. That center focused on citizenship classes for several years, and now the Tustin Adult School holds their own classes there. We are sorry to lose them and thank the tutors who were there so long.

SCLC *gained two* new centers, one of which started with a bang in September at **Saddleback Church Rancho Capistrano**. This new center had 22 students to start, then 41 the next week, and 8 more the next week after that! A Turkish student and a Vietnamese student drive there from Irvine, and some Hispanic students go all the way from Santa Ana and Lake Forest.

The classes held at this branch of Saddleback Church are led by Center Director Ilene Bradberry and her team, including four tutors, two volunteers who help with student intake, and Ilene's husband and a friend who help set up. Ilene was a leader in Saddleback's ESL program back when they were part of our council a few years ago, and we are happy to have her and this program back with us!

Arbor Christian Fellowship Church in Lake Forest was also accepted into SCLC's family of ESL centers at the September board meeting. Jim Baldwin, Center Director there, told board members the church held ESL classes for 30 years before Covid struck and the classes stopped. Jim is now looking forward to resuming classes in January with new tutors in place. If you are interested in joining his team, or know of anyone who might be, please contact Jim at JRBaldwin@gmail.com.

Below are class photos from Saddleback Church Rancho Capistrano.

Submitted by Barbara Looney, VP Administration



Around the Centers!

Irvine Central Online

The Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. online class can no longer meet in person at the mosque, yet they like to get together now and then because they have become good friends. We finally got to have our end-of-year party at Northwood Park in Irvine, and it was a lot of fun! Everyone brought delicious food to share, and then we played Bingo with summer words vocabulary, which went really well because everyone had a chance to call out the words and everyone won a prize! Students also each received a certificate for the past year's attendance.



Submitted by Barbara Looney, Tutor and Center Director



Irvine Central -University Community Park



New tutor, Julie Jordan (pictured above) lead students from all our groups in learning a new song, "[Hello Goodbye](#)", by the Beatles on our first night of classes, and it was so much fun! First, they listened to the song, then they read the words together in pairs, after which they sang all together, followed by singing in dialog back and forth across the tables. Julie plans to introduce more vocabulary through singing in the future, including favorite songs the students choose from their countries. They will teach us their songs.

Submitted by Barbara Looney, Center Director

Gloria Dei Center

All the classes at Gloria Dei Center got in the Halloween spirit by dressing up, decorating pumpkins, and sharing special spooky snacks. Such a fun and funny time together learning how America celebrates this holiday.

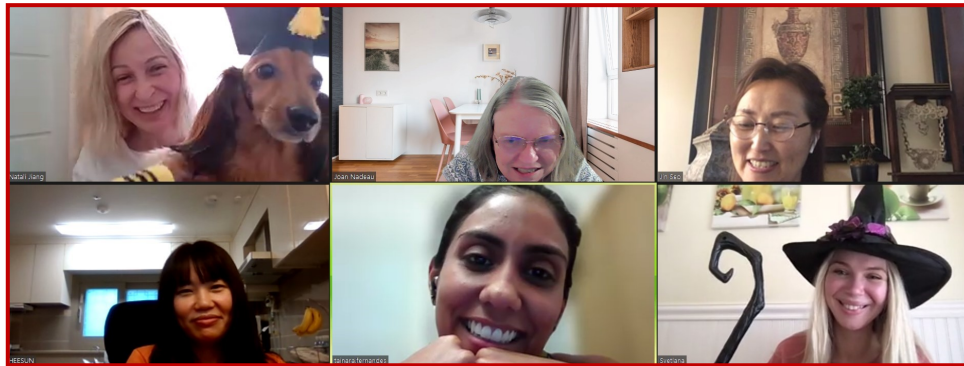
Submitted by Laura Casellas, Tutor



Central Irvine Online

This screen shot from our Zoom class was spontaneous. The students started talking about Halloween, and Svetlana quickly ran to get her costume, and Natali dressed up her dog. We all had fun with this silliness and celebration.

Submitted by Joan Nadeau, Tutor



Woodbridge Manor



Students in the Woodbridge Manor class celebrated Halloween by carving and decorating pumpkins, and everyone wore their fall colors or costumes. A good time was had by all!

Submitted by Sandra Malone, Tutor/Center Director

Time Management for Students

The ***Pomodoro Technique*** is a time management method developed in the late 1980s by an Italian student, Francesco Cirillo. He found that he could focus more effectively on his studies when he broke them down into shorter intervals, and he used a kitchen timer shaped like a tomato (*pomodoro* in Italian) to track his time, traditionally 25 minutes in length, separated by short breaks. Each interval is known as a pomodoro. After four pomodoros, the user is advised to take a longer break.



How can ESL students use the Pomodoro Technique?

The Pomodoro Technique can be very effective to help students:

- ◆ Focus more effectively on their studies
- ◆ Avoid distractions
- ◆ Improve their time management skills
- ◆ Reduce stress and anxiety
- ◆ Increase their motivation

To use the Pomodoro Technique to study English, ESL students can follow these steps:

1. Choose a task they want to work on, such as reading an English article, completing an English grammar exercise, or practicing speaking English.
2. Set a timer for 25 minutes.
3. Work on the task until the timer goes off.
4. Take a short break of 5-10 minutes.
5. Repeat steps 2-4 until the task is complete.
6. After four pomodoros, take a longer break of 15-30 minutes.

Here are some additional tips for ESL students using the Pomodoro Technique:

- ◆ Choose tasks that are specific and measurable. For example, instead of saying "study for English," say, "read one article from the New York Times."
- ◆ Break down large tasks into smaller, more manageable tasks. For example, if you are writing an English essay, break it down into tasks such as brainstorming ideas, outlining the essay, writing the introduction, writing the body paragraphs, writing the conclusion, and editing the essay.
- ◆ Eliminate distractions during your pomodoros. This means turning off your phone, closing your email, and finding a quiet place to work.
- ◆ Take breaks when you need them. If you are frustrated or losing focus, take a short break and return to the task later.
- ◆ Reward yourself for completing pomodoros. This could be something simple, such as taking a stretch break, getting a snack, or watching a funny video.

The Pomodoro Technique can be a very effective way for ESL students to study English. It is a simple but powerful technique that can help students to improve their focus, time management skills, and motivation.

Submitted by Joan Nadeau, Tutor



Annual Fall Membership Dues Drive!

This is our largest fundraiser of the year!

Only once each year, members are asked to donate \$10 for dues. These funds provide support for our joint efforts by paying for our administration, website, affiliated memberships, and teaching materials and resources for our volunteers.

Membership Dues are optional and nominal, but **they are extremely important!** We have no government funding or sponsorships, and our only other limited funding sources are periodic small donations or grants.

Have you paid your annual \$10 membership dues yet?

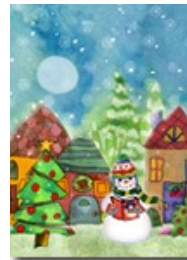
There is still time to have your contribution count towards our annual goal, and **all contributions are 100 percent tax-deductible!** SCLC's tax ID is 953446927.

Pay your dues quickly and conveniently online at

<https://southcoastliteracy.org/support>

or mail a check payable to South Coast Literacy Council to
23615 El Toro Road, Suite X, # 422, Lake Forest, CA 92630-4707

Holiday Cards with a Cause



This holiday season, you can send greeting cards that support adult literacy at the same time! Buy your greeting cards from the **ProLiteracy** collection at **Good Cause Greetings**, and they will donate 10% of your purchase to ProLiteracy. Choose from a wide selection of custom, reading-themed cards created just for ProLiteracy and spread awareness along with seasonal cheer!

[Good Cause Greetings](#)



GIVING TUESDAY
is a time to give back.

Tuesday
after Thanksgiving

***"Giving is not just about making a donation.
 It is about making a difference."***

Kathy Calvin, former CEO, UN Foundation



At SCLC, we give the gift of English!

Please join SCLC and support those who struggle to learn a new language in a new country, often because they have no choice.

Donate online at:

<https://southcoastliteracy.org/support>

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Membership Dues / Donations



Once a year we invite tutors and friends of South Coast Literacy to become members and/or make a donation to support our students. Our primary goal is to help adults acquire the English language skills they need for daily living, to gain confidence in using English for jobs and to communicate for many purposes.

There are nearly 800 ESL students from many language backgrounds served by over 150 volunteers in our South Coast Literacy Centers from San Clemente to Huntington Beach. Centers appreciate financial help for newspapers, books, digital resources and other materials to enhance student learning and engagement, as well as tutor training conferences, and administrative costs (insurance, affiliate dues and fees, etc...).

If you would like to review the details about South Coast Literacy Council, its history, and its goals, be sure to visit the website: www.southcoastliteracy.org

Membership is \$10.00 and is voluntary. If you would like to send your dues/donation via check to our treasurer, **please identify your center in the memo line.**

Make checks payable to South Coast Literacy Council and mail to:



South Coast Literacy Council
C/O Aparna Venkateswaran, Treasurer
23615 El Toro Rd, Ste X, # 422, Lake Forest, CA 92630-4707

Or make your DUES / DONATION at our Website:

<https://southcoastliteracy.org/support>

Please note "Membership Dues" or "Donation" in the Additional Comments line.



Please consider signing up with Ralphs' donation program, whereby they donate a small percentage of your purchases to our organization. This is part of our ongoing fundraising effort, and it doesn't cost you anything. Plus, every little bit helps!

To register for the Ralph's Donation Program go to : www.ralphs.com. Have your rewards card handy and go to 'Create an Account', where you will then click on Get Started, Sign Up today. After you create an online account, then link your account with SCLC by editing your Community Contribution Information on your profile page. Our Nonprofit Organization number is **BS799**.



Online Connections

Visit the **SCLC Website** today for excellent materials and resources:

WWW.SOUTHCOASTLITERACY.ORG


Featured Tutor Resource
Check out Intercambio!
SCLC is an Intercambio Family Member.




Teaching English Connecting People
We bring English learners and community volunteers together in language classes and gatherings to build skills, confidence, and life-changing connections.

[Learn more](#) [Volunteer](#)

SCLC Volunteers have access to Intercambio resources. Check with your Center Director for information, or email Sandy at info.southcoastlit@gmail.com.



SOUTH COAST LITERACY COUNCIL



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All online classes are on Zoom.

All times are Pacific (California) time zone.

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Upcoming Events

November 18	Board Meeting	10:00 a.m.	Virtual on Zoom
January 20	Board Meeting	10:00 a.m.	TBD
February 3	Tutor Training	9:30-12:00 p.m.	Mariners Church

Please E-Mail all Newsletter Submissions to:
Karen Dvorman at kdvorman@yahoo.com
Or call or text **714-925-0953** with any questions

