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Literally Speaking

A publication of Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy, a program of the Newport Beach Public Library

Newport/ Mesa ProLiteracy

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Donor Appreciation

We wish to thank and acknowledge all of those in our community who supported Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy in 2017. These generous donations allow us to fulfill our mission "To develop the literacy skills of adults to empower them to achieve greater success in their lives—at home, at work, and in the community."

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"To develop the literacy skills of adults to empower them to achieve greater success in their lives — at home, at work, and in the community."

- Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy Mission Statement



LEARNER'S CORNER

The Call of the Wild

By Sarah Kim



Buck, (the main character of the story) and Jack London (the author of this book) both had two different lives. At first, Buck lived in an atmosphere of calm and restful in the sun-kissed Santa Clara Valley and it would be called the "life of a country gentleman." But after being kidnapped by gardener's helper who needs money, his life was turned upside-down. He was sent to southern Alaska and the time there was strange, unfamiliar, cold, starved and unfriendly. He was taught the "law of club and fang" while he was struggling to adapt himself in new circumstances. And finally he did cope with the new situation well even though it was extremely hard and bleak.

On the other hand, Jack had miserable life from his birth since her was rejected by his natural father, step-father, and even his natural mother. He had no choice but to do a lot of work in his youth to make his living. He even went to work in the harshly cold Alaska, and the experience of this time was used as the subject of this novel. Afterward, he became one of America's most famous authors and it seemed that he had a grand and splendid life for awhile. But his life was ended miserably by taking an overdose of morphine.

What I am thinking after reading this novel about Buck and story about author (Jack London) is that there is a critical period to form human character. And how much proper care and attention that the person received during her (his) childhood can affect her (his) whole entire life. Buck had gotten enough affection when he was young, and it gave him the driving force to overcome the difficulties that he was facing. While, Jack's situation was exactly the opposite. He got no love, no warmth, and there was nobody taking care of him when he was a kid.

If I can meet him, I want to tell him this. [I feel so sorry for you having a tough time all through your life. Nevertheless, thank you for you wonderful writings that affect many people who is having a hard time like you. Your novels can give them encouragement and energy to overcome their conditions.]

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A New Year Message

As we have just finished celebrating the holidays, we are reminded to reassert the light of the season- not only by decorating and viewing bright displays but also by thinking of others; loving and caring for our friends and family, acts of kindness and generosity towards others and most importantly being thankful for the good things that happened during the year!

2017 was a tremendous year for NMPL in terms of the love and support we received from community, donors and volunteers. Our annual Gift of Literacy fundraising luncheon was very successful. Author Lisa See drew a crowd of more than 250 people and kept us all entertained with stories about her newest book "The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane." Our second Happy Hour event with Lisi Harrison and her fun new fiction "The Dirty Book Club" was a lovely evening with friends in the Bamboo Courtyard at the library.

We shared in community events and were again invited by Elite OC, this year to the Charity-Palooza at UCI. It was a fun evening with other non-profits. We also visited with other community groups like: The Family Resource Center, OC Head Start, Rotary and Exchange Clubs, to allow more people to be engaged in our programs.

Our Career Online High School (COHS) program is going smoothly with 7 students working to reach their goal of getting their high school diploma and career certification. Stay tuned for information on their graduation.

I would like to say thank you to NB City Council members and our OC supervisor and District Representative for supporting us at International Literacy Day. A big thanks to The Friends of the Library, The NBPL Foundation, our staff and volunteers for their continued support. Without everyone's help it would not have been possible to achieve such success and recognition! Thank you all!

Lastly, I am truly touched and amazed by our hard working learners as they are an inspiration for all of us! Heartiest Congratulations to you all.

As I am concluding my 2 years of presidency at NMPL, I am looking forward to working with the new board and all of you for a happy, healthier and even brighter New Year.

Best Wishes,

Farah Mozaffar

President

"Hope is the thing with feathers, that perches in the soul, and sings the tune without the words, and never stops at all."

- Emily Dickinson
(American Poet, 1830-1886)

2017 Annual Holiday Potluck

Saturday December 9, 2017, the Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy family of learners, tutors and volunteers, together with their families, celebrated the holiday season with a morning full of meeting new friends and eating delicious food (as always!) The morning began with a fun Bingo mixer followed by the recognition of tutors who contributed over 100 volunteer hours to NMPL in 2017.

Each year at this event, one tutor is recognized for their work and dedication to the program. This year, Robert Wahrhaftig - with the program since 2014 - received the Tutor of the Year award.

Cherall also presented outgoing Advisory Board President Farah Mozaffar with flowers of appreciation for two terrific years of leadership.

New friendships were forged, stories were shared and laughs were plentiful as everyone indulged in wonderful treats from around the world.

We are grateful to our literacy family and appreciate their continued dedication to the program.

Happy New Year!



Literally Speaking

Literally Speaking, the newsletter of Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy at the Newport Beach Public Library, is published bi-monthly and sponsored by corporate and private donations.

Literacy Advisory Board

Farah Mozaffar, *President*

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Jan Oates, *Secretary*

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Unlock the potential.

Become a tutor.

Join us on January 31st and February 7th at 5:30pm at the Newport Beach Public Library for our Tutor Training.

- **No Experience Necessary**
- **Flexible Hours**
- **We Prepare You and Supply All Materials**
- **Be Part of Your Community**

We require all prospective tutors to complete our online Tutor Orientation. Check out our website for more information at

www.newportliteracy.org

Newport Beach, CA 92660

1000 Avocado Avenue

a program of the Newport Beach Public Library

Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy

Upcoming Literacy Dates/Events

January 8, 22, 29	Mondays, 10:30 a.m.	Book Club
January 15	Monday, All Day	Library Closed
January 9, 16, 23, 30	Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.	Discussion: Life Skills Class**
January 9, 16, 23, 30	Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.	Evening Book Club**
January 9	Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.	Advisory Board Meeting
January 10, 17, 24, 31	Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.	News You Can Use**
January 10, 17, 24, 31	Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.	Grammar & Vocabulary**
January 3, 10	Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.	Creative Writing**
January 17	Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.	Learner Orientation
January 31	Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.	Tutor Training
January 11, 18, 25	Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.	Writing Workshop**
January 11, 18,	Thursdays, 1:00 p.m.	American Sitcoms**
January 11, 18,	Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.	Conversation Class
February 5, 12, 26	Mondays, 10:30 a.m.	Book Club
February 19	Monday, All Day	Library Closed
February 6, 13, 20, 27	Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.	Discussion: Life Skills Class**
February 6, 13, 20, 27	Tuesdays, 6:15 p.m.	Creative Writing**
February 7, 14, 21, 28	Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m.	Evening Book Club**
February 7, 14, 21, 28	Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.	News You Can Use**
February 7, 14	Wednesday, 1:00 pm	Grammar & Vocabulary**
February 7	Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.	Tutor Training
February 1, 8	Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.	Writing Workshop**
February 1, 8, 15, 22	Thursdays, 1:00 p.m.	American Sitcoms**
February 1, 8, 15, 22	Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.	Conversation Class

Note: All programs are held at the Central Library unless otherwise posted and subject to change.

For more details, contact the literacy office at (949) 717-3874 or email us at literacy@newportbeachca.gov