

Mission Statement

The mission of the Marinette & Oconto Counties Literacy Council is to provide adults of Marinette and Oconto Counties with programs and services to improve literacy in reading, writing, comprehension, health, speaking English, math, digital skills, and cross-cultural awareness. The power of literacy will enable adults to become self-confident, contributing, members of their community and work force and positively impact their families.

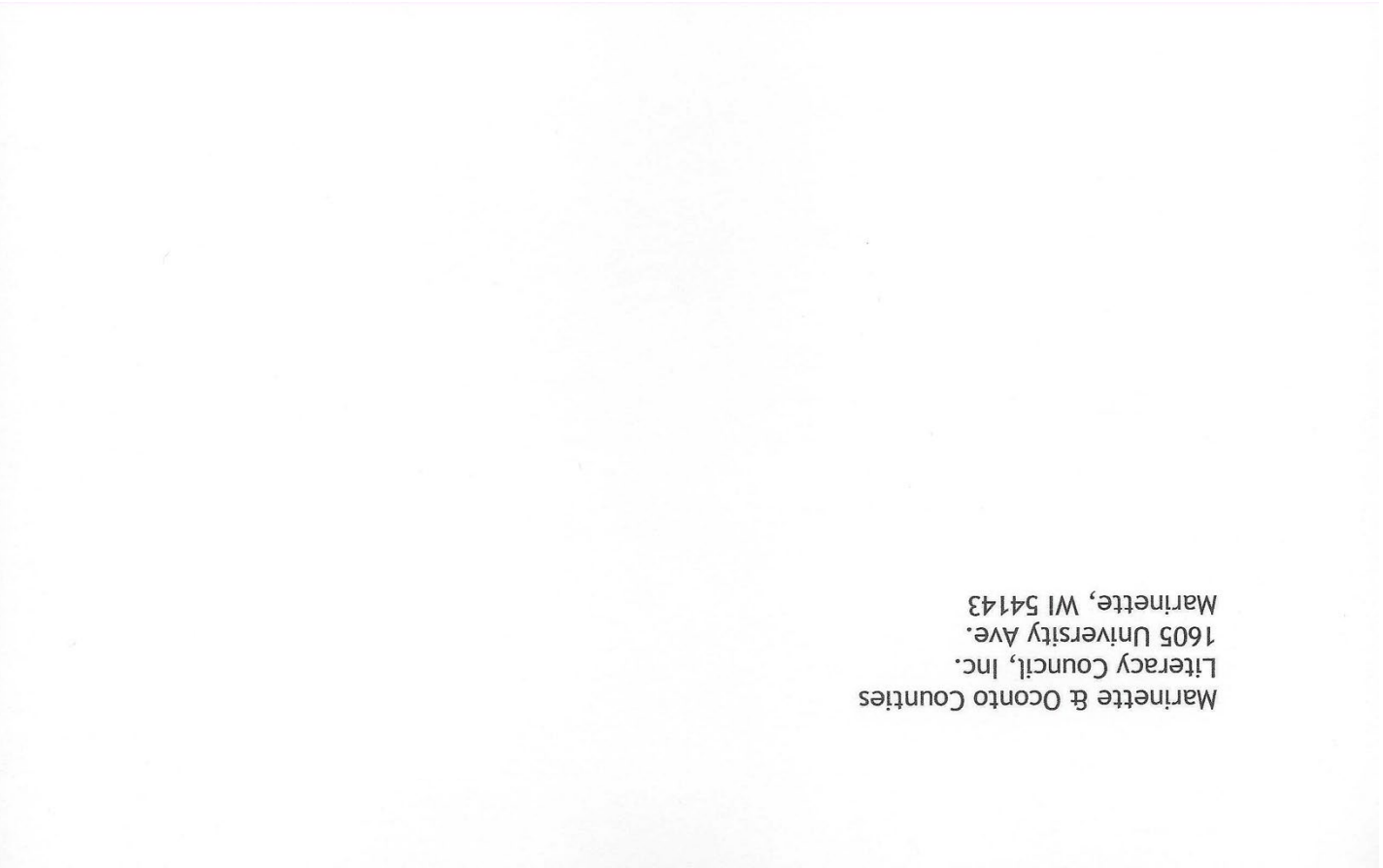
Vision Statement

Our vision for the organization

Marinette & Oconto Counties Literacy Council actively assist those with a literacy need and remains committed to those we serve and to our organization. Community outreach is ongoing and involves many organizations within Marinette and Oconto counties. The marketing effort is strong and has many available resources at its disposal through grants, fundraising and human resources, such as volunteers.

Our vision for the region

Within the communities, there is an increase awareness of the resources that are available to individuals who are in need of literacy services. Community organizations, together with individuals, have become advocates for those in need of literacy services. The literacy rate continues to improve through the willingness of individuals to accept assistance without fear.



Tutor Talk

Summer, 2025
Volume 11
Issue 3

A Newsletter for and about the Marinette & Oconto Counties Literacy Council, Inc.

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Contact Us:

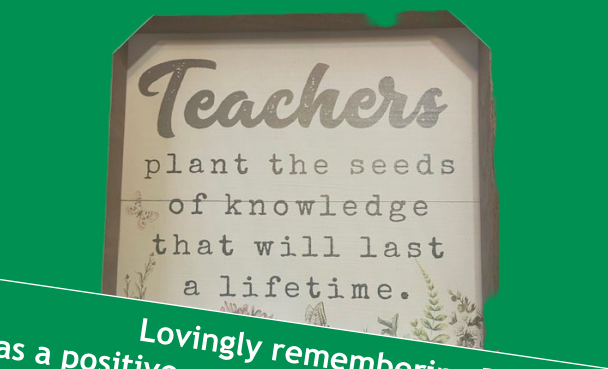
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follow us on FB
[http://facebook.com/MarinetteO
ntoCountiesLiteracyCouncil](http://facebook.com/MarinetteOcontoCountiesLiteracyCouncil)



Lovingly remembering Rita
as a positive example to our students, tutors,
and board members:
Thank you for your toolkit and many teaching
ideas.
The M&O Counties Literacy Council

In Memory Of...by Janet Glime

In 2012, when our literacy council was in its infancy, a retired teacher named Rita Henquinet had returned to Marinette County to her husband's home, and contacted us to see if she could be of assistance. So excited for this offer, I tried hard to not get down and kiss her feet. Rita then helped with, not only forming our council, but also became certified as a trainer of tutors. Then, not wanting to be left out of the teaching experience, she also taught students herself. Rita's former students remember her fondly and state how well they learned from her. Rita was the one who suggested we have a newsletter.

Rita passed away March 18th. She requested that any donations be sent to the council in her honor, and the council has received several donations.

Now, even though we miss her, we carry on with her ideas. Thank you, Rita, for giving us a part of yourself

April
Student/
Tutor of the
Month

Garriel &
David



Student: Gabriel

Gabriel was born and raised in Mexico where he completed high school and one year of preparatory school for healthcare. He came to the USA in 2023, first to Texas, then in August 2023, he came to Pound. He is employed on a dairy farm and resides with friends and his brother. His brother is also learning English with a tutor, who just happens to be Dave's wife, Tracy! Gabriel wants to learn English so he can improve his communication both at work and in the community. He is learning basic English concepts from Dave and also farm terms. Dave says that Gabriel is a very nice man to work with.

Tutor: David Merges

Dave first came forward as a literacy volunteer in 2021. He and his wife, Tracy, had moved into our area, Tracy's hometown, after retirement. Being a person who gets involved, Dave quickly joined some local civic clubs and activities. We're glad that our literacy council is one of the groups both he & Tracy chose to join. Dave was first matched with a couple of different students who sadly, didn't choose to stay in our area. But at least they got a head start on their English with Dave. And Dave, knowing how to speak some Spanish, does help, of course. Then, in Oct. 2024, Dave was matched with Gabriel. They meet at the Lena Library and are reviewing basic spoken/written English as well as common farm phrases and phone conversations. Gabriel says that Dave is a patient and kind teacher.

*Congratulations, Dave & Gabriel for being chosen as
April's Tutor/Student of the Month!*



No July Board Meeting
July 22, Tuesday 1:30 pm
Bud Bartel & Vicki Dobratz will give a health talk at the AARP meeting at the Presbyterian Church, 15552 Hwy 32 Lakewood.

July 29 Tuesdays, 4:30 pm.
English Classes begin (10 weeks)

August 5, Tuesday 4:00 to 8:00 pm.
National Night Out in Oconto Falls
Bud will attend & all are welcomed.

August 19, Tuesday 1:00 pm
Literacy Board Meeting at the Coleman Village Hall, 202 E. Main Street

September 16, Tuesday 1:00 pm
Literacy Board Meeting at the Coleman Village Hall, 202 E. Main Street

October 23, Thursday 2:00 pm.
Tutor Training Class

CONNECTIONS:

We support or are supported by:
COAB-Coalition on Adult Basic Education
Coleman Municipal Building
Crivitz Woman's Club
The Dollar Store
Jack's Market supports Rounding Up
North Coast Marine Manufacturing Training Center, Marinette
NWTC Marinette
Oconto Falls Senior Center
Oconto Falls H.S. FBIA & Business Class
OEC Grant
Pirates of the Northwoods Parrot Head Club in Lakewood
ProLiteracy
Peshtigo City Hall
Stephenson National Bank
Wisconsin Literacy Council, Inc.
WVCA Wisconsin Volunteer Coordinators Assoc.

Board of Directors & Officers:
Janet Glime, President/Consultant
Marycarolyn Jagodzinski, VP
Allen Bartel, Secretary
Candy Deschane, Treasurer
Linda Bublitz
Leonard Burns
Mike Churchill
Vicki Dobratz
Brenda Friction
Charity Joy
Carol Lee Saffioti Hughes
Dale Mohr

Advisory:
Candy Descharne, Consultant for Tutor Training
Howard Eslien, Attorney
Sarah Ferdon, Foodwise Nutrition Coordinator at the UW-Ext, Marinette & Oconto Counties
Robyn Hallet, WI Literacy NE Regional Consultant
Marycarolyn Jagodzinski, Grant Consultan
Charity Joy, student/tutor pairing & tutor assessments
Danielle Lemke, Health & Wellbeing Educator at the UW Extension, Marinette County
Marti Matyska, Newsletter
Sarah Schindel, Food Nutrition Educator at the UW-Ext, Marinette & Oconto Counties

Friends of M&O Counties Literacy
Claudia Bartz
Jill Cholewa
Nancy Crevier
Romelle Delzer
Francis Lewandowsk
Daniel Slater
Judy Sytsma
Chris Verges



CONNECTIONS:

Library Support
Coleman Area Library
Crivitz Area Library
Gillett Public Library
Lakes County Public Library
Niagara Public Library
Peshtigo Public Library
Stephenson Public Library, Marinette
Spies Public Library, MI
Suring Area Public Library
Wausaukee Public Library



All above received a donation from the Crivitz Woman's Club on June 26, 2025 at the Crivitz Village Hall. Our Council received \$1500 from this fine group. Thank you so much to the Crivitz Woman's Club for their generosity which then allows us to purchase quality books and materials to help fulfill our mission.

Literacy Council

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Coleman Area is currently in need of volunteer tutors to work with adult students. This is generally done in one on one settings and most meet at the Coleman Library. Meetings are normally once a week. Training is provided for this fulfilling role!

About us: Marinette & Oconto Counties Literacy Council is an all-volunteer nonprofit that has been operating since 2012

TIME: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

PLACE: Farnsworth Library 715 Main St. Oconto

If interested or for questions regarding volunteering please text/call Janet at 920-373-1035

Thank you!

TUTOR TRAINING CLASS

For all new tutors and any tutor wanting a refresher.

DATE: Thursday, October 23, 2025

TIME: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Lunch provided

PLACE: Farnsworth Library
715 Main St. Oconto
(Parking in side lot or on the side street)

RSVP: Janet 920-373-1035 text/call
or email: moliteracy2012@gmail.com by Oct. 16.

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 5, 2025 4:00-8:00 pm
Memorial Field, Oconto Falls

Many vendors plus a bouncy house, food trucks & law enforcement.

Bud Bartel will be representing our Council

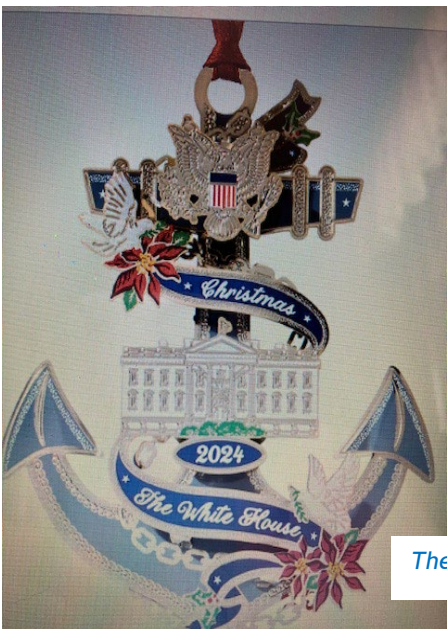
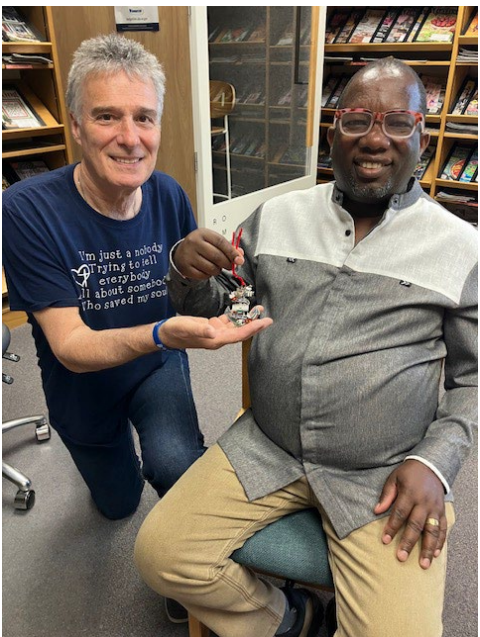
English Class

DATES: (10 weeks) on Tuesdays
July 29 - September 30, 2025

TIME: 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

PLACE: North Coast Marine Training Center
1428 Main St. Marinette

RSVP: Janet 920-373-1035 text/call
Or email: moliteracy2012@gmail.com by Jul. 22



May, 2025 Tutor/Student of the Month

Jeff Schullo &
Shadrach

The 2024 ornament gifted to Shadrach

Tutor: Jeff Schullo

Jeff became a volunteer tutor in 2022. Jeff has taught previous students, some of whom then moved out of the area. But, Jeff gave them a good headstart on their English skills. Jeff also taught a small group of construction workers, referred by their employer. Then, in April of this year, Jeff became Shadrach's tutor. This time, it wasn't so much the spoken English that needed assistance but computer skills. Since prior to retirement, Jeff was employed as an educator, he is easing into this role very well. Shadrach has dreams of getting an advanced degree for his role as a minister and Jeff is stepping right up to help him in that endeavor. Shadrach would also like some help with understanding local slang. Jeff is glad to work with a student who is intelligent and has set goals.

Student: Shadrach

Shadrach was born in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Africa, where he completed high school. He then went to Uganda where he attended ministry school and helped establish a church parish there. In 2015, Shadrach came to the USA, first to Oshkosh, then in 2024, he moved to Oconto where he is pastor of 2 churches. Shadrach's spoken English is quite good although he states he would like to improve his pronunciation of certain sounds. His wife has also come to the USA and also plans to become a literacy student to learn English. Shadrach's main language from his school days is French, which is taught in the Congo schools. However, the family also speaks an African dialect at home. Shadrach became a USA citizen in 2024 so today, a 2024 White House ornament was presented to him as a congratulations gift.

Shadrach appreciates a tutor like Jeff who is helpful, kind and encourages him to do as much by himself as he can.

*Congratulations to Jeff and Shadrach for being chosen as
May's Tutor/Student of the Month!*


From WI Literacy:
Tutor Training News

by Jamie Kobbs, Manager of tutor training & digital literacy
Live ELL Training series starts in July
Tuesday morning on Zoom 9:00-11:00 am

- July 15: Getting started
- July 2: ELL1
- July 29: ELL2
- August 5: ELL3

Wisconsin Literacy News

Register Today!!!



Wisconsin Literacy's
Forward Conference
Advancing Adult and Family Education
August 18th-19th
Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel

Register by July 14th
for a chance to win a
Kindle!

The graphic features a blue and white sunburst design on the left and right sides. In the center, there is a black Kindle device displaying a page of text. Above the Kindle, the text 'Wisconsin Literacy's Forward Conference' is written in white and blue. Below the Kindle, the text 'Advancing Adult and Family Education August 18th-19th Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel' is written in white. At the bottom, the text 'Register by July 14th for a chance to win a Kindle!' is written in white. The background is a solid blue color.

This two-day event will feature presentations from leaders in the field of adult and family literacy. Attendees can look forward to:

- learning about best practices and innovative techniques
- hands-on, engaging sessions
- networking with peers and industry experts
- leaving inspired, equipped and refreshed

1 & 2 day registration options are available.
Contact Janet Glime if interested. (920) 373-1035

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Crivitz Class: Barb and Mike are teaching a group from Pelkins Meat Market but are having difficulty getting the group together. At present one student has been participating. Will continue with the one student.

“It’s hard to report the number of students enrolled as it changes too often.” J. Glime

Meet a new Board Member: Charity Joy, brings lots of real-life experience, education and technical skills to the council. Charity offered many suggestions on how technology can be used to benefit and enhance the learning of our students. If technology is used correctly, it is a very useful tool. Can offer tutor support and Zoom is a great communication tool for both the tutor and student. Welcome to the Board of Directors.



Bud Connecting at CONNECTIONS

Bud Bartel at a table during Marinette’s *COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS DAY* where information was shared by local nonprofits, organizations and businesses for all area residents to help them be aware of all services in the area.

Bud showed and told about what services our literacy council offers to individuals present.

Bud reported that there were approximately 500 people that went through the hall. It was held April 1 at the Marinette Rec Center from 3-6 PM.

Report of Tutor Lunch:

TUTOR LUNCH with **SPEAKERS**

On April 23, 20-25-2025 at The Shop in Oconto, there were 28 people in attendance. They enjoyed a light lunch, and during the event, they listened to 4 speakers. Janet Glime, gave a general overview of tutoring at this time. Carol Lee presented a short presentation on writing poems. Charity Joy gave information on how technology can be used as a benefit for both tutor and student. And there was a phone call from Megan Carollo, immigration attorney, who answered question on current concerns. There are plans to have another tutor gathering this Fall.

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