



New Mexico Organization of Language Educators

Promoting quality second language instruction in New Mexico

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**Greetings to our membership!!! Bonne Annee!!! Ein Fröhliches Neues Jahr!!!
Felice Anno Nuovo!!! Feliz Ano Novo!!! ¡Feliz Año Nuevo!**

Multiple greetings to our professional colleagues!!! World Languages Rock!!!

**We hope this newsletter finds you all taking on the spring term with good health,
energy, excitement and creativity in the classroom.**

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SWCOLT/Las Vegas Conference 2007 **by Guadalupe Martínez**

I know that the date of April 12-14, 2007 seems much too far away but your SWCOLT Board has been working hard for a year now to get ready. We are currently requesting proposals for presentations for the Las Vegas Conference and again this year they can be submitted online. You might consider presenting at the SWCOLT Conference. It is not too early to start asking your Department Chairs or Principals for funding. For those of you who are not familiar with the acronym Southwest Conference on Language Teaching (SWCOLT) is the regional language organization. American Council on Foreign Language Teaching (ACTFL) is the national language organization. ACTFL will hold its annual conference November 17-19, 2006 in Nashville, Tennessee.

I will be the first to tell you that it is hard to leave your classroom to attend a conference. I remember the first time I attended a conference I had my doubts whether I wanted to

go through all the trouble. You have to make lesson plans, you have to get all the materials ready for the sub. I even alerted the teachers around me to watch for any problems. When I did all I could do to prepare for my absence I crossed my fingers and just hoped that all would go as planned.

As I made my way to the conference I kept wondering if I had made the right choice. I could have just said I wasn't going. I could have pretended that I had gotten my dates mixed up. Oh well, I had my tickets and there was no turning back.

What I discovered at my first SWCOLT conference in California was a world I had no idea existed. There was a hotel filled with language teachers from all over the region. The lobby was buzzing with all sorts of conversations in all sorts of languages. WOW! The enthusiasm, the energy, the congeniality was contagious.

After registering I began to scan the program I discovered that there would be sessions after sessions all weekend. The topics ranged from curriculum to technology the entire spectrum. All presenters were bringing to their audience the latest techniques in language education. I attended as many as sessions as I could until I could no longer think. After each session I left with a packet of ideas that I was anxious to try when I got back to my classroom.

As I was deciding what other session to attend, I bumped into someone I knew Kathy Zipf. Kathy at that time was teaching French and German, at West Mesa High School. She asked me if I had been to the Exhibitor Hall. Double WOW! There were rows and rows of language material on display from the different publishers.

At the luncheon, besides enjoying the company of my colleagues, SWCOLT was awarding Scholarships and Awards of Recognition. Kathy Zipf received the SWCOLT

Excellence in Teaching Award at the Secondary Level. It was a proud moment to see one of New Mexico's language educators be recognized.

Now, I share this story with you because what I came to realize was that if I was going to grow professionally I had to leave my classroom and spend time interacting with others in my field. Make this the year that you experience that growth and attend SWCOLT in Las Vegas. All the information that you will need in order to submit a proposal to present, to register, to apply for a scholarship for summer travel, to nominate a fellow colleague for a Language Teaching Award can be found on our website swcolt.org. The deadline for proposal submission is October 1st and for scholarships and awards it is December 1, 2006.

At the end of the conference I came back to my classroom to discover that the students did fine and so did I.

TEACHER STIPENDS TO ATTEND SWCOLT

NM OLE has 2 Teacher Stipends @ \$200.00 available to attend SWCOLT in Las Vegas, NV, April 12-15. Interested teachers should submit their names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses to: David Arcangeli (d_arcangeli@yahoo.com) by February 28. Stipend recipients are expected to give a presentation about their SWCOLT experiences to the NM OLE membership either at the fall 2007 conference in Las Cruces or in the next newsletter.

SWCOLT 2007 at the Riviera in Las Vegas, Nevada **Discover Other Languages and Cultures!** **April 12-15, 2007**

To help you plan:

- Register on-line at www.swcolt.org until March 21.
- Registration fee: \$100 SWCOLT member registration fee: \$50
- Pre and post conference workshops - \$100 (full day) and \$50 (half day)
SWCOLT member - \$80 (full day) and \$40 (half day)
- Friday SWCOLT Awards and Scholarships Luncheon - \$26
- Saturday Luncheon with keynote speaker - \$26
- SWCOLT Membership (Jan.-Dec.) - \$50 (Full), \$25 (Student/Retired)
\$125 (Organizations, Universities, Companies)
- Hotel Information:
Riviera Hotel and Convention Center
Conference Rate is \$111/night single/double occupancy
Reservation Deadline: March 21, 2007
1-800-634-6753 or 702-794-9412

2007 ACTFL Conference in San Antonio, Texas

The 2007 ACTFL Conference will be held in San Antonio, Texas on Thursday, November 15 to Sunday, November 18. Check out the article below by Valerie Putnam on how she benefited from her experience at the last year's meeting held in Nashville, Tennessee.

Plan ahead and be ready to take advantage of the excellent program offered

There are topics of professional interest in the following categories:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| -Advocacy / Policy | -Teacher Preparation / Development |
| -Immersion | -Curriculum |
| -Recruitment / Retention | -International Education |
| -Assessment | -Languages for Specific Purposes |
| -Instructional Materials / Textbooks | -Diversity / Learner Variables |
| -Research-Literature | -Technology |
| -Culture | -Methods / Techniques |

Make your plans now!!! Check with your school administrator and, or, district office for professional development credit and financial assistance with travel and conference expenses.

Early bird registration with ACTFL is in June.
See you there!!!

A.C.T.F.L. 2006 - WOW!!
by Valerie Putnam

I went to the Nashville convention in November and just thinking about it still puts a smile on my face! I came back home as if I had been on a vacation, refreshed and inspired. Imagine a space reserved to thousands of professional language teachers like you and me... Hundreds of workshops, offered by educators coming from all over the world, prepared to share with you their best practices and resources. Imagine a gigantic bookstore with dozens of publishers ready to offer you their sample materials for free! I was no longer an isolated professional but a part of a world community of teachers who share my interests and concerns.

The reason why I decided to go was that Italian is not (yet) a must learn language and I imagined that I could attend workshops which are not available in the Southwest. Well, I was not disappointed. I spent all my time running from one great workshop to another, I hardly had time for lunch. There were so many exciting

choices. I attended some excellent sessions offered by experienced East Coast teachers on the theme of classroom activities, preparation to A.P. composition, teaching with movies, with poetry, with story telling, with lexical games, etc... They were friendly and open, and it was a great opportunity to make new contacts.

I also enjoyed the more intellectual and cultural aspect of the convention. University professors came to speak about subjects such as "the norm and what registers of language are we teaching in the classroom" or "comic strips" and "movie directors" and what unique cultural approach these artists bring to universal themes. All the workshops were held in Italian which made it even more fun to attend, having to take your notes as if you were a student in an Italian University. I found everything I was looking for and discovered things I did not even know existed!

GERMAN SPELLING REFORM NEWS

Since August 2006, the updated and finalized version of the new German spelling rules has been made official. This ends the several year-long transitional phase, during which both new and old spelling rules were considered acceptable. The new rules are now binding and official. Pre-reform spelling is no longer considered correct. Beginning with the 2012 AP exam, students will be required to follow the new spelling rules.

Some features of the new spelling reform: In compound words, where three of the same letter come together, all three will remain. (e.g.: Schiffahrt and Imbissstand) The rules for Zusammen-und Getrenntschreibung have been modified and for many cases two versions are now acceptable. (e.g.: it is now correct to write kennenlernen as well as kennen lernen.)

The spelling of most commonly used words with foreign roots has been adapted to German, but in most cases the old spelling is still acceptable. (e.g.: Geografie as well as Geographie) This does not apply to all foreign words, so it's best to consult a dictionary when in doubt.

The rules for punctuation and for the separation of words at the end of a line have been simplified.

Reliable information on the spelling reform can be found in the newest edition of Duden (2006, 24th edition), the Institut fuer Deutsche Sprache at www.ids-mannheim.de/reform/, other publishers' web sites such as www.duden.de or www.wahrig.de and finally, at www.apcentral.collegeboard.com/german

NM STUDENT WINS REGIONAL STAR AWARD

Travis Van Horn, a French student at Cibola High School, won the STAR Scholarship 2006 for Region 8 of the AATF. This region includes Arkansas, Texas, Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Utah. Travis earned a bronze medal for Le Grand Concours Level II in 2006. He used the money to take summer study classes at the Alliance Francaise in Albuquerque. Travis has a passion for studying languages. He started French in his sophomore year. He immediately began supplementing his French class work with novels, movies, music, and the Internet. He is preparing for the AP French Exam this year. He is also

taking Italian at Cibola. On his own Travis is studying Gaelic, German, and American Sign Language. He plans to continue studying languages in college. He hopes to study and travel abroad.

The American Association of Teachers of French will award nine \$500 scholarships to winners of the 2007 National French Contest, le Grand Concours. These grants are intended to further the students' study of French. To be eligible for a 2007 STAR award, a student must place nationally in the National French Test 2007. For further information, contact Kathy Zipf, Contest Administrator for New Mexico at kazipf@hotmail.com

2007 CALENDAR AND DEADLINES

Saturday, March 3: Language Expo at UNM. Contact Marina Peters-Newell at mpnewell@unm.edu

February: Discover Languages Month. More information for ideas and projects at www.actfl.org

February 28-March 24: Le Grand Concours. Contact Kathy Zipf at kazipf@hotmail.com

March 1: Deadline for NEH summer seminar applications. More information at nehmcnamara@triad.rr.com

March 1: AATG Summer Study Program. Further information at www.aatg.org

March 15: Deadline for Walter Jensen Scholarship for Study Abroad. (\$1500 to non-native speakers of French in an established teacher education program in French.) Form available at www.frenchteachers.org

March 16: AATG Professional Development Summer Seminars. More information at www.aatg.org

April 12-15: SWCOLT in Las Vegas NV. Contact Jody Klopp at jklopp@cox.net or www.swcolt.org

July 12-15: AATF conference in Baton Rouge LA. Further information at www.frenchteachers.org

September ____: NM OLE state conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Date to be announced.

November 16-18: ACTFL/AATG/AATI annual conference in San Antonio TX. More information at www.aatg.org or www.actfl.org

2006-2007 BOOK CLUBS

AATF Book Club Community listserv: <http://calvin.ednet.lsu.edu/~aatfbook/index.php>.
Contact rlafaye@lsu.edu for all discussion locations.

1. Tonnerre mes chiens! A Glossary of Louisiana French Figures of Speech (1999) by Amanda LaFleur. Available on-line at www.booksXYZ.com.
2. L'habitation Saint-Ybars by Alfred Mercier. For a copy, contact Centenary College at bookstore@centenary.edu.
3. Ouragan sur le bayou (2004) by Lili Maxime. For copies contact www.lagrandemaree.ca.
4. La Fayette (2006) by Gonzague Saint Bris. Copies are available on-line at www.shoptelemaque.com.

Spanish Book Club Selection:
Chac Mool by Carlos Fuentes

German Book Club Selection:
Am kuerzeren Ende der Sonnenallee by Thomas Brussig

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Feb. 8-11: First Albuquerque Italian Film Festival – showcasing 12 films including Life is Beautiful, The Bicycle Thief, La Strada and La Dolce Vita. www.italianfilmfest.org.

Feb. 16-17: Viver Brasil Carnaval – Hispanic Cultural Center Journal Theater
 Feb. 24: Asian Music Event – Sandia Resort & Casino 8 P.M.
 March 8, 9, 10: Rio de Lagrimas – National Hispanic Cultural Center Wells Fargo Theatre
 March 17-18: Lipizzaner Stallions – Santa Ana Star Center
 March 17, 20, 23, 25: La Boheme – Kimo Theatre
 March 30: Son de Madera – National Hispanic Cultural Center Journal Theater
 April 29: Russian Rendezvous – New Mexico Symphony Orchestra
 May 13: Viva Italia! – New Mexico Symphony Orchestra
 June 3: French Fantasy – New Mexico Symphony Orchestra

NM OLE \$300.00 Student Scholarship Application

Requirements:

1. Student must be a high school senior or in a post-secondary institution.
2. Student must have participated in a second language activity, such as the Language Expo, national language exam, language honor society... Specify which activity.
3. Student must furnish an official transcript of high school or post-secondary grades.
4. Student composition in English on the following: Why I plan to continue studying a second language. (150-200 words)
5. One teacher reference from a second language teacher
6. Nominating teacher must belong to NM OLE.

Name _____ Address _____
 Phone _____ GPA _____ Second Language GPA _____
 Extracurricular Activities _____
 Academic Awards _____
 College Area of Interest _____
 Nominating Teacher _____

Return this form with an official transcript, one letter of recommendation and the student composition by April 15 to Kathy Zipf at kazipf@hotmail.com

ACTFL Programs

NNELL Award for Outstanding Support of Early Second Language Learning

The NNELL Award for Outstanding Support of Early Second Language Learning will be given to an individual or individuals who have demonstrated *outstanding support of early second language learning of languages other than English*. Nominees may be actively involved in their efforts in a variety of ways including, but not limited to, the following: principal or other school administrator, district or state school superintendent, classroom teacher, parent, school board member, businessperson, civic leader, politician/elected representative. *Nominees should be individuals whose primary job responsibilities are not related to the field of second language education.*

The nomination for this award will be in the form of two letters of recommendation (a letter of recommendation and a letter of support) from individuals who can attest to the nominee's work in the field of early language learning. The letter of nomination *must come from a current NNELL member*, and the letter of support should be written by another individual who is very familiar with the nominee's work for early language learning. The letters should include documentation that clearly demonstrates evidence of the ways in which the nominee supports early language learning and that is clearly separate and distinct from the individual's primary job responsibilities.

The nomination may also include up to five photocopied pages of supporting evidence such as copies of newspaper articles that recognize the nominee's work for early language learning (brochures, pamphlets, etc. will not be accepted). The following are examples of criteria that can be considered in writing the letters of nomination as they apply to the nominee's work on behalf of early language learning:

- ***Demonstrates commitment to early second language learning in the school and the community, e.g., seeks ways to inform the community of the need for beginning language study early as an integral part of the school curriculum and in an uninterrupted sequence***
- *Provides visibility to the second language program, e.g., seeks media and/or newspaper publicity of school foreign language events, sends newsletter with second language program updates to parents*
- *Provides leadership in establishing and maintaining early second language programs at the local or state level*
- *Supports and provides professional development opportunities for early second language specialists*
- *Advocates for early second language programs at the local or state level, e.g., represents his or her foreign language program at local or state school board meetings*
- *Serves on local or state committees for early second language learning, e.g., advocacy projects, state world/foreign language association committee or board, PTA*
- *Supports exemplary ongoing second language instruction in his/her classroom, e.g., collaborates with the world language specialist on interdisciplinary projects*

Three copies of the nomination packet including the two letters of nomination and *up to five pages of sample supporting evidence* should be mailed as one nomination submission with a postmark date of no later than May 1, 2007, to:

Terry Caccavale, President
National Network for Early Language Learning
Holliston Public Schools
370 Hollis Street
Holliston, MA 01746

WESTERN INITIATIVE FOR LANGUAGE LEADERSHIP (WILL)

WILL is a two-year professional development program aimed at helping rural second language teachers. WILL builds a community of teachers by bringing together young rural teachers for summer intensive workshops and maintaining that community through technology-mediated networks to overcome the isolation that challenges rural teachers. Greg Hopper-Moore, Center for Applied Second Language Studies (CASLS) at the University of Oregon, directs the program. Information about the program and applications for the 2007-09 session will be out in December. Starting in 2007, CASLS is expanding the program to include the SWCOLT region. CASLS is anticipating accepting 5 rural teachers from each of our SWCOLT member affiliates: TX, OK, UT, CO, NM, AZ, NV, CA, HI. To get more information about WILL and to download the informational brochure, please go to: <http://casls.uoregon.edu/will.php> <<http://casls.uoregon.edu/will.php>> . The deadline for applications is February 16.

Defense Language Institute

ACTFL has been contracted by the Defense Language Institute to provide proficiency testing support. This project is part of a greater initiative to increase the U.S. government's ability to provide accurate and reliable testing in a number of essential languages for government agencies.

ACTFL is recruiting native speakers of specific critical languages (please see the list below) to participate in February, March and April training workshops. A willingness to learn new skills and proficiency in the target languages equivalent to an educated native speaker are required. A good command of English is desired. Individuals must have a university degree and all participants must either be U.S. citizens, permanent residents or have a 3-5 year Visa to work in the U.S.

ACTFL is looking for native speakers in the following languages:

Afrikaans	Indonesian
Egyptian Arabic	Malay
Iraqi Arabic	Pashto
Lebanese Arabic	Slovak
Bengali	Somali
Cebuano	Tagalog
Chavacano	Thai
Dari	Urdu
Haitian Creole	

ACTFL will train and compensate qualified candidates to become ACTFL/ILR OPI Testers. Participants in this workshop are paid by ACTFL to attend the workshop and to complete the post workshop qualification process. Upon successful completion of the training and qualification process, you will have the opportunity to earn extra money by conducting telephonic oral proficiency tests from your home, on an as needed basis, on your own terms and setting your own hours.

Interested or know someone who is? Let us know by logging onto the [ACTFL Career Center](#) and applying for the [ACTFL/ILR OPI Testers position](#). After you apply online for the position, we will e-mail you more detailed information.

Please post this information and share it with your colleagues to help us spread the word about this opportunity.

**CENTER FOR ADVANCED RESEARCH ON LANGUAGE
ACQUISITION (CARLA)**

CARLA at the University of Minnesota is one of the U.S. Department of Education's Title VI Language Resource Centers, whose role is to improve the nation's capacity to teach and learn foreign languages effectively. CARLA's research and action initiatives have centered on several key areas:

Articulation of second language instruction	Technology in the second language classroom
Content-based language teaching	
Immersion education and research	Second language learning strategies
Culture and language learning	Research on learning pragmatics
Less commonly taught languages	Material development to maximize student study abroad learning
Second language proficiency assessment	

Information on CARLA's programs, research and summer institutes can be found at www.carla.umn.edu.