



New Mexico Organization of Language Educators

Promoting quality second language instruction in New Mexico

Mary Ann Garcia-Word, President, gwordup@aol.com
Sam Butler, Secretary, sbutler@abq.com
Kathy Zipf, Treasurer, kazipf@hotmail.com
David Arcangeli, President-Elect, d_arcangeli@yahoo.com

February 3, 2006
Gallup, New Mexico

Message from the President

Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure as your NMOLE President to greet you. I trust that all of you are enjoying your school year thus far, and I hope that you have had a relaxing winter break. By the time you receive this newsletter, I am sure that you are moving forward with efforts to instill in your students the lifelong desire and skills to learn other languages so that they may compete in our global economy.

As you know there are many opportunities for you as a world language teacher to improve and keep up with your foreign language skills. NMOLE, along with TFLA, the Texas Foreign Language Association, sponsored a joint conference, "**The Gateway to Global Opportunities**," in El Paso, Texas, which was held from October 20-23, 2005. Many of your New Mexico colleagues attended excellent workshops ranging from "The Power of Stories: Language Acquisition Through TPR Storytelling," presented by our own Marie Levy-Ryan and Tracie

Bartlett, to "Cutting Edge Practices That Highly Engage and Maintain Student Interest," presented by Ruben Garza of TSU, San Marcos, Texas.

I would like to encourage all of our membership to set aside April 6-8 to attend the SWCOLT/AZLA Joint Conference, "**Many Languages, Many Cultures, One Voice**," to be held in Phoenix, Arizona. Information may be found on their website www.swcolt.org.

If you know of a colleague that does not belong to NMOLE and is not taking advantage of the opportunities offered by their state organization, encourage them to join so that they may stay abreast of the new and exciting things that are going on around the state.

Sincerely,
Mary Ann Garcia-Word

Many Languages, Many Cultures



SWCOLT/AZLA
JOINT CONFERENCE
APRIL 6-8
Embassy Suites
Phoenix, Arizona

Contact:
Jody Klopp, Executive Director
 713 Rock Hollow Road
 Edmond, Oklahoma 73034
 Phone: 405-330-1318
 Fax: 405-340-0923
 Email: jklopp@cox.net

www.swcolt.org



**New Mexico Organization of
 Language Educators, Fall Meeting,
 October 22, 2005, El Paso, Texas**



Members Present included Lupe Martinez, Phaedra Shiveley, Maria Elena Chavez, Nancy Oakes, David Arcangeli, Denise Arthur, Mary Ann Garcia-Word, Kathy Zipf, Tracie Bartlett, and Marie Levy Ryan.

Outgoing President Tracie Bartlett welcomed the members, and then presented the following awards: Young Educator, Tammie Torres, Cibola High School, Albuquerque; Outstanding Teacher, Maria Elena Chávez, Oñate

High School, Las Cruces; Lifetime Achievement, Barbara Reeback, retired from Albuquerque Academy.

Marie Levy Ryan read the minutes from the meeting of September 18, 2004. Tracie amended the minutes to read that the budget includes a stipend for our SWCOLT representative to attend the annual ACTFL convention. Lupe moved to approve the minutes. Kathy seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Kathy Zipf reviewed last year's expenses and presented a budget for 2006. Nancy Oakes proposed that present and future budgets include a stipend for New Mexico representation at SWCOLT and ACTFL.

Tracie proposed that the two line items—ACTFL and NMOLE—be separated in future budgets with appropriate expense caps. The budget was approved with the above amendments.

New Business included the following. Lupe mentioned that SWCOLT proposals for sessions in French and German were poorly represented, and she asked us to encourage our colleagues to present. Nancy and Lupe encouraged people to run for office or volunteer for the SWCOLT board (3 meeting times per year). SWCOLT will help financially for board members who cannot get fund to attend the meetings. Nancy suggested it should be someone who has leadership experience.

SWCOLT offers travel scholarships and honorary awards to its members. This should serve as an incentive to become a member of SWCOLT. Mary Ann Garcia-Word will consider running for the SWCOLT board, however a final decision has not yet been made.

Maria Elena Chavez is willing to be our nominee for SWCOLT Teacher of

the Year. The election of officers resulted in Mary Ann Garcia-Word as President, David Arcangeli as President-Elect, and the secretary position is to be announced at a later date [Sam Butler has since been elected Secretary].

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Levy-Ryan
NMOLE Secretary

**NMOLE Outstanding Teacher Award
Maria-Elena Chávez**



It is my distinct honor and privilege to nominate Maria-Elena Chavez for the Outstanding Teacher Award. I have known Ms. Chavez as a colleague, mentor and friend for fourteen years. She is a charter member of Oñate High School and an active and excellent second language teacher. When the Las Cruces Public Schools District decided to build a third high school, Ms. Chavez, because of her leadership qualities and certification in Spanish, French, and German, was hired to build the Modern Foreign Language Department at Oñate High School.

Maria-Elena Chavez is also an influential leader in our school and in

our district. In 2003, when we were in the textbook adoption process, Ms. Chavez, then MFL Department Head at Oñate, found out that the district's middle school second language teachers had not seen any of the publishers' displays. She took the initiative to arrange with publishers to set up their displays at Oñate during an in-service day so that all the district's second language teachers would have an opportunity to look at the adoption materials, and invited Ms. Joyce Lentz to do a workshop on textbook adoption guidelines for the district's second language teachers. She has served on textbook adoption and curriculum revision committees, and has also collaborated with administrators to write proposals for second language programs for the district.

In her 29 and a half years as a language teacher, Ms. Chavez has taught a variety of languages: Bilingual Ed, English, ESL, Spanish, French, and German. In 1990-1991, she even served as Facilitator for a TIE-in Distance Learning Japanese class. She has dedicated many years to the teaching of second language.

She served as In-Service Trainer for the Academia de Ingles (English teachers) de la Region Lagunera while taking part in the US/Mexico Sister Cities Teacher/Student Exchange Program between Las Cruces and Lerdo, Durango. She also did a home stay, chaperoned a group of American students, and taught ESL to the Mexican students of the CBTIS in Lerdo.

She was the recipient of a Quality Education Award Program Scholarship to UNM from the Center of Teaching Excellence, and was awarded an Action Research Grant from the Center of

Teaching Excellence at Eastern New Mexico University later that year.

Ms. Chavez' impressive credentials are not only a testimony to her excellence, leadership and influence as a second language teacher, but also to her professional dedication and enthusiasm. She received a Rockefeller Fellowship to Extremadura, Spain to research, create slide units, and collect realia on the land of her ancestors. She was also the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship to Waiblingen, Germany, where she taught ESL and French at the Technisches Gymnasium of the Gewerbliche Schule. This ranks her among America's most outstanding second language educators.

Maria-Elena is a member of NMOLE, an active member in the Club Francophone, and from time to time even takes part in Alliance Française functions in El Paso. She has dedicated many years to students and to the promotion of second language teaching. Recently, she has concentrated her effort on developing the Advanced Placement Spanish Program at Oñate, and taking part in Advanced Placement Institutes for Spanish Language and Spanish Literature.

Parents, students, and peers, recognize Maria-Elena Chavez as an outstanding foreign language educator. She was Nominee Finalist for Las Cruces Teacher of the Year. She is a truly dedicated, intelligent, creative, and outstanding second language teacher.

In the eight and a half years that I was with the Oñate Modern Foreign Language Department, I observed first-hand her professional dedication and enthusiasm for second language teaching. Ms. Chavez is a wonderful teacher, colleague, and mentor who enthusiastically collaborated with colleagues on projects, and generously

shared her materials, ideas, expertise, and vast knowledge. It has been an honor and privilege to work with a colleague of this caliber. It is with pleasure that I nominate Maria-Elena Chavez for the NMOLE Outstanding Teacher Award.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Rosemary Marquez
Language Teacher
Las Cruces High School

NMOLE Lifetime Achievement Award, Barbara Reeback

It was in 1978 that Barbara Reeback took over a small three class program at West Mesa High School. Within four years, she had more than doubled the number of French students and classes. Her classes were known for their liveliness, many activities and an emphasis on the spoken language. During that time, I was her colleague, first as teachers split between the Modern Language and English Departments; then, as the French load increased, we became co-teachers of French. At that time, she was recruited by the Albuquerque Academy where she taught for the next twenty-two years.

Along with the many students whose lives she touched during those years, Barbara formed many lasting friendships with other language teachers through her generosity and supportiveness. Her home frequently served as a meeting place for AATF chapter meetings, just as she herself served over the years as an officer and French contest administrator. She was a founding member of the collaboratives ALTA and NMOLE.

She has presented numerous sessions at conferences, hosted association meetings, organized student activities at the French immersion weekends and the Language Expos, led student groups to France, attended professional workshops, and served on countless committees for professional development. Currently in retirement, she is continuing to tutor students and has volunteered to be a mentor for New Mexico French teachers through the AATF program Tête à Tête.

Sincerely,
Kathy Zipf
NMOLE Treasurer

ACTFL 2005 Baltimore

I was lucky enough to be able to attend the ACTFL Convention this year. In many ways, the highpoint of the convention was the AATG Chapter Presidents Assembly, also my primary reason for attending. Although I have attended numerous regional conferences, I looked forward to the caliber of the biggest and most prestigious convention for our profession. In reading the program, I saw the names of presenters from the most coveted German programs in the country. One thing for which I was not prepared was the ever greater representation of non-European languages, reflecting the global demand to teach world languages. Everywhere, there were instructors of Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and an increasing number of Arabic educators.

The AATG Chapter Presidents Assembly, a good 4-5 hours long, provided an excellent, and among other things a much needed, brainstorming session to help our chapter programs. Jo

Sanders, current AATG President, reported on the 2005 Internationale Deutschlehrer Tagung, held every 4 years, attended this past summer by 2000 teachers, representing 99 countries. Although her remarks apply to teaching German, there is truth in her statement that the US is on the cutting edge of methodology in the teaching of foreign languages; yet, we are on the trailing edge of enrollment being one of the only countries that does not require every student to learn a foreign language.

The brainstorming session, almost our last agenda item, gave an opportunity for regional chapter presidents to work together, in and of itself an important step in personalizing such a large group experience. Some of the ideas to strengthen our programs follow. To improve articulation between primary, secondary, and post-secondary programs, invite constituents from all three segments to a meeting, and ask each to speak briefly on the topic, "This Is our Program."

Many of us already use web pages with students to communicate our syllabi and highlight features of our courses. In order for parents of our students to understand, and more importantly, to support our work, it was also suggested that we create email lists as a tool to link parents to our web pages.

The AATG European Chapter President had an excellent idea. She proposed that each chapter make a booklet entitled, "The ABCs of German Membership": A=Analyze (send questionnaires to all members to gather information as to why people are members and what they expect from their organization); B=Brainstorm (hold regular strategy sessions and involve more people to encourage better attendance); C=Cooperate (get in touch

with German/American institutes and universities and let them know how we need help); D=Develop a Directory (to know each other better); E=Email (stay in touch and inform each other); continuing on from there.

As one could expect, “shopping” at the convention for classroom materials was grand. The textbook and language software companies vie with each other for prime booth locations, and they pay the highest dollars to get these. In this age of publishing mega houses, it is evident that the smaller, independent publisher cannot afford to make a presence. One plus was that German had an entire row of German-specific booths including representatives from the German, Austrian, and Swiss National Tourism Offices, the DAAD, the Fulbright Exchange, and as always, free materials abounded.

Although I had high expectations for the convention sessions themselves, especially since the word is that it is very difficult to get a proposal accepted to the program, by and large I was disappointed by most of the sessions I attended. Many colleagues in academia presented in panels that consisted of scholarly papers read aloud at great speed to make sure they met their time limits, with four and sometimes five presenters per 70-minute session. They were dry, extremely poorly attended, and did not bring anything that would not have been better achieved had I waited for the article to appear in a journal. For the expense to attend, my perception was that for educators looking to bring something home to use Monday morning in the classroom, my dollar is better spent at our regional conferences. Therefore, I hope to see all of you on April 7-8 at the SWCOLT in Phoenix!
Respectfully submitted,

Karen Thompson
Chapter President
AATG NM / El Paso
News from the Humanities Academy
Why World Languages?

On January 5, 2005, President Bush set in motion the National Security Language Initiative (NSLI) to encourage and support the development of more foreign language proficiency among the American people. In his remarks, he said, “Learning a language-somebody else’s language is a kind gesture. It’s a gesture of interest. It really is a fundamental way to reach out to somebody and say, ‘I care about you.’ I want you to know that I’m interested in not only how you talk but how you live.” So why do Americans need to learn other languages? National Security? To show we care? Answer: both and more.

- Language is inextricably tied to culture. Experiencing a new culture through its language cannot be duplicated in translation. As Ezra Pound said, “The sum of human wisdom is not contained in any one language.”
- It is a critical skill in this day and age with trade, travel, and technology irrevocably linking our world as never before. The internet connects people from the entire globe. Our students realize that the world does not blog in English.
- It increases overall employment and salary opportunities locally, nationally, and internationally. The NCLI will provide programs and scholarships for college and study abroad so more Americans can learn the critically important

- languages that are underrepresented in U.S. schools.
- Language proficiency and intercultural communication skills often mark a globally knowledgeable individual whose judgment is based on fact and not on stereotype. In other words, world language experience and proficiency will build a more informed and involved citizenry to support the democratic ideals and goals of the United States.
 - World language study gives insight into the need for intercultural communication and helps develop skills necessary to insure national and international security and peace. Clearly, the NCLI will strengthen national security and help us maintain our economic competitiveness also.
 - It fulfills one's interest in the pursuit of one's family heritage.
 - Virtually any career path in our increasingly changing world can be enhanced with proficiency in another language.
 - It is useful, even critical, when traveling abroad and in many places in the U.S.
 - It fosters a contemporary, humanitarian view of the world, with an understanding and an appreciation for things that are different.
 - As the peoples of the world gather for common purposes—in person or online—the ability to communicate in more than English is obvious. It's not just for college anymore.
 - It provides personal gratification when one meets and makes new friends because communication was possible.
- It heightens communication skills in English and the ability to be more articulate, eloquent and creative, and to speak as an informed, intelligent individual.
 - It provides cultural enrichment and enjoyment.
 - It is often necessary for college admission and/or graduation.
 - It increases SAT and ACT scores in all areas.
 - It gives one insight into world news, assorted media and important professional publications.
 - It opens the door to humanistic pursuits in the arts, music, history and literature.
 - It improves our country's ability to meet our needs for national security, diplomacy, law enforcement, intelligence (in both senses), and intercultural understanding around the world.
- Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said at the launching of NSLI, "I was one of those young people who fell in love with the study of the Soviet Union and Russia. But I was also told that it was a patriotic and good thing to do for my country."
- Spanish, German, French, and Italian from beginning through Advanced Placement courses are available at Rio Rancho High School. Some students may discover a passion for things global and envision ways to internationalize a career. Whereas we cannot guarantee that the language one chooses in high school will be the one needed over a lifetime in an increasingly interconnected world, in our courses, RRHS students can experience developing language proficiency, begin to understand the interconnectedness of

a culture and its language, and learn their own strengths as effective language learners. Their competence as intercultural learners will transfer to whatever language their lives may—or will—present them.

If we can talk to each other, we have a chance to understand each other. There are about 2,000 teachers of Chinese in the U.S. (K-12). There are about 200,000,000 Chinese students studying English.

Contributed by Nancy Oakes
French Teacher
Rio Rancho High School

Testing Students for Progress

Students are always interested in how their language skills compare to others. The national testing programs sponsored by the AATF, AATG, and AATSP offer you and your students a way to evaluate progress in comparison to language students within New Mexico and across the nation. This information can also be used by students for their portfolios.

The National German Test is offered during December and January each year for levels 2-5. There are many prizes for the students who score in the top 90th percentile at each level. Trips to Germany are awarded to the very best students in each region of the country. Last year 142 students in New Mexico participated in the test, with Paul Kruchoski from Highland HS in Albuquerque winning a 4-week study trip to Germany.

The National French Test or le Grand Concours as it is known is administered each March from elementary through Level 6 at the high school. In the future, a university test will also be offered. In

2005, almost 500 students in New Mexico out of 103,000 nationwide took the Grand Concours. The top students at each level receive national awards and monetary prizes.

The National German Test and le Grand Concours are easily administered in 60 minutes or less. The format is multiple-choice with items testing listening, reading, structure and culture. The tests are not based on any particular textbook or system, but rather cover material that is common to each level of instruction. For more information on the National German Test contact Ingrid Luchini at iluchini@zianet.com. For the Grand Concours, contact Kathy Zipf at kazipf@hotmail.com.

Language Groups

Continuing Education Division of UNM—Mandarin Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Sign Language, Spanish, and Russian, please visit dce.unm.edu. Instituto Cervantes, please visit albuquerque.cervantes.es. For the Alliance Française, please call 872-9288. For Lingua Franca (French, German, or Spanish), please call 889-2991. For El Grupo, conversational evenings in Spanish, contact Rene Lopez at renlop@att.net. For Le Groupe, conversational evenings in French, contact David Wilson at wilson_d@aps.edu. For German potluck dinner group, Abendessenklatsch, please call 293-6624. For the Italian conversational group, please call 266-1284. For Portuguese, please visit the UNM Brazil Club at www.unm.edu/~brazil or email them at brazil@unm.edu

Contributed by Kathy Zipf

NMOLE Treasurer

**NM OLE TREASURER'S REPORT
22 October, 2005**

Balance: September 1, 2005	\$9629.49
October 1, 2005	\$8582.36
Savings: \$283.28	Checking: \$4426.88
CD1: \$1886.13	CD2: \$1986.07
Income: Membership Dues (44), Interest	\$999.34
Expenditures: Public Regulatory Commission	\$10.00
SWCOLT	\$100.00
ACTFL	\$125.00
Mailings	\$29.60
Meeting at Rio Rancho HS	\$324.29
Stipend to Lupe Martinez for ACTFL	\$300.00
Teacher Grant to SWCOLT Dallas (David Arcangeli recipient)	\$200.00
President's Expenses to SWCOLT (Mary Ann Garcia-Word recipient)	\$657.58
Student Scholarship to Paul Ratje	\$300.00
TOTAL	\$2046.47

Budget for 2005-2006

Public Regulatory Commission	\$10.00
SWCOLT	\$100.00
ACTFL	\$125.00
Mailings	\$200.00
Lift-Up 2005	\$400.00
President's Expenses to SWCOLT in AZ (not to exceed) and/or ACTFL in Baltimore	\$700.00
Teacher Grants to SWCOLT in AZ (2@\$200each) (non-recipients in the last 3 years will be given priority)	\$400.00
Student Scholarship 1@\$300	\$300.00
Stipend to NM SWCOLT Representative for ACTFL	\$400.00
February meeting not to exceed	\$200.00
TOTAL	\$2835.00

NM OLE Membership.
(Sept. 1, 2005-August 31, 2006)

Regular Membership	\$15	Contributing Membership	\$25
Sustaining Membership	\$50	Student Membership	\$ 5

Name: _____ School: _____
Mailing address: _____
Home phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
Languages: _____ Position: _____
FAX/e-mail: _____

Return this form with a check payable to **NM OLE** to:
Kathy Zipf, Treasurer 6100 Lejano Ave. NE Albuquerque, NM 87109

I would like to receive future mailings by _____ e-mail, _____ snail mail or _____ both.

Join your colleagues in NM OLE

AATF	Phaedra Shively*	Las Cruces HS	Joyce Lentz*
AATG	Karen Thompson	Las Cruces HS	Rosemary Marquez*
Albuquerque HS	Marie Levy Ryan*	Las Cruces HS	Carmelo San Mames
Andress HS	Angelica Lempke	Las Cruces HS	Lucy C. Tena
Bernalillo HS	Lorraine Leftwich*	Las Cruces HS	Manuel Yanez
Cibola HS	Danielle Allen*	Madison MS	Lisa Nix*
Clovis Comm. College	Lorenza Hernandez	Nicolaus-Kistner Gym	Jacqueline Rudolph
Gallup HS	David Arcangeli*	NM OLE	Mary Ann GarciaWord*
Governor Bent ES	Denise Arthur*	NM OLE	Kathleen Zipf*
Highland HS	Lupe Martinez*	NMSU at Alamagordo	Sonja Devargas
Highland HS	Tracie Bartlett*	Ocate HS	Maria-Elena Chavez
Las Cruces HS	Pam Cort	Retired	Frances Cassino
Las Cruces HS	Thomas Keith Cothrun*	Rio Rancho HS	Samuel DeLyra Butler*
Las Cruces HS	Jose Luis Diosdado	Rio Rancho HS	Nancy Oakes*
Las Cruces HS	Donald Jones	Rio Rancho Mid-High	Luis Estala
		Spanish Teacher	Sylvia Oelsner

*denotes renewing member

SPRING CALENDAR

Saturday, March 4, 2005: Language Expo at UNM Contact Marina Peters-Newell
mpnewell@unm.edu

March 1-25: Le Grand Concours Contact Kathy Zipf kazipf@hotmail.com

April 6-8: SWCOLT in Phoenix, AZ Contact Jody Klopp jklopp@cox.net or
www.swcolt.org

July 5-8, 2006: AATF Convention in Milwaukee, WI

Saturday, September 23, 2006: NMOLE Fall Lift-Up Conference at Rio Rancho High
Library

November 17-19, 2006: ACTFL in Nashville, TN

**If you are interested in presenting a session at the NMOLE Fall Lift-Up Conference,
please contact Sam Butler, Secretary, NMOLE, at sbutler@abq.com**

**NMOLE HAS TWO TEACHER STIPENDS (@ \$200.00) AVAILABLE TO
ATTEND SWCOLT IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA, APRIL 6-8, 2006**

Interested teachers should submit the your name, address, phone number and email to
Mary Ann Garcia-Word
gwordup@aol.com

BY
FEBRUARY 25, 2006

Stipend recipients are expected to give a presentation about their SWCOLT experiences
to the NMOLE membership either at fall 2006 conference or in the next newsletter