



READ Writes ... about you and for you

Number 10, November 2007

November News



Volunteers Needed for Holiday Gift Wrap Fundraiser at Barnes & Noble

READ/Orange County and Friends of READ/Orange County will be participating again in the popular, and very fun, Holiday Gift Wrap fundraiser at the Barnes & Noble store in the Metro Pointe Shopping Center in Costa Mesa near South Coast Plaza. We are seeking volunteers who would like to gift wrap books and other purchases to sign up to work three hour shifts for the five days – three days that tie in with our big literacy event and Bookfair on Nov. 30 – Dec. 2 and the last two days before Christmas. The days and hours are:

- Friday, November 30 from 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM
- Saturday, December 1 from 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM
- Sunday, December 2 from 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM
- Sunday, December 23 from 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM
- Monday, December 24 from 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM

This is a courtesy no-charge service to the Barnes & Noble customers but they can make a donation in return for the convenience. It is a great way for us to raise money to support READ/OC and the very best opportunity to talk to people about our literacy program, answer questions, and recruit new tutors and learners while they wait.

Please volunteer by calling READ/OC at 714-566-3070 to sign up for a shift. You can bring a friend too.

Who and What is FROC?

The Friends of READ/Orange County (FROC) is a group of dedicated people just like you - tutors, learners, and persons from our communities - who strongly believe that literacy changes lives. It is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization that is comprised of the Executive Board of Officers and general members who are committed to the support of READ/Orange County primarily through resource development, public awareness, advocacy, and recognition services for volunteers and learners. Some of the examples of how they have supported the READ/OC programs are by:

- Raising \$5000 to fund the Tenth Anniversary Celebration event.
- Funding and providing volunteers for the 13 Annual Family Picnic and Appreciation Celebrations and the Spring Fling social events every year.
- Purchasing thousands of giveaway children's books and birthday books.
- Sending learners to State and National conferences and workshops.
- Monitoring and advocating for literacy issues in Sacramento.
- Soliciting marketing opportunities for READ/OC in the local media.

You can help by becoming an Active or Supporting member of the Friends of READ/OC. Become an active board member and participate on the resource development, advocacy, and recognition activities. Become a supporting member by sending your tax deductible check for \$25.00 or more for the annual membership dues to FROC, 1501 E. St. Andrew Place, Santa Ana, CA 92705. For more information, visit the FROC website at www.friendsroc.org.

**If your tutoring experience is as good as you hoped it would be, please tell everyone!
If your tutoring experience does not meet your expectations, please tell us, right away!**

Catching Communication

This story began not many months ago when my niece Heather and I were visiting at a large family gathering. I was sharing with her about the new adventure I was taking with READOC, and what I was learning in my tutor training classes. This sparked an interest in Heather as she questioned me and explained that there are some employees at the company where she works in Orange, Thermal-Vac Technology, who would greatly benefit from the type of tutoring offered through READOC. That conversation was just the beginning.

Soon after, Heather took the initiative to contact READOC and exciting things began to happen. Members of the READOC team paid a visit to Thermal-Vac to determine what the specific needs were for their workers. Assessments were made of the Spanish and Laotian speaking employees and a practical plan was put in place. The learners are now meeting with their tutors three times each week for one hour in the company conference room. Although the tutoring takes place after the learners have completed their work shifts, they are enthusiastic and appreciative of the opportunity to study English together at their workplace. It was exciting to visit, observe a tutoring session, and hear about the significant progress being made!

Thanks to Larua Blaisingham, Branch Manager at Irvine University Park Library. READ/OC will have a display in the branch through November.

Catching Communication cont'd

Two of the goals for the employees at Thermal-Vac are team work and respect for one another. The program through READOC is helping to reinforce these goals. Heather stated that each of the employees who takes diligent responsibility for his/her learning will be recognized and rewarded by the company. After only one month of tutoring and learning together, the Spanish and Laotian speaking workers are beginning to communicate with one another in English. Heather shared that this has had such a positive impact among the employees. Terrific teamwork by Thermal-Vac Technology, its employees, and the dedicated people from READOC is helping to change lives through communication.

(Staff note: And a special thanks to Susan Chambliss for putting us together with this terrific company)



Sharing the Precious Gift of Reading

The giving of gifts is a significant part of the upcoming holiday season. The gift of reading is a gift that is precious to receive and a wonderful gift to give. Both the adult learner recipient and the tutor giver find great joy in the sharing of this gift.

“Sharing the Precious Gift of Reading” is a multi-faceted holiday literacy event brought to you by READ/Orange County (READ/OC) and the Friends of READ/ Orange County (FROC) in partnership with the Barnes & Noble (B & N) store located in the Metro Pointe Shopping Center in Costa Mesa at 901 B South Coast Drive. This celebration of literacy event and major fundraiser will be held in the store each day from 9 AM to 9 PM on Friday, November 30; Saturday, December 1; and Sunday, December 2.

Present and former adult learners from the READ/Orange County literacy program will participate in daily panel discussion presentations and share their personal stories about the difficulties that they faced as an adult who could not read and how their lives have changed since receiving the gift of reading. The panels are scheduled for Friday, November 30 at 7:00 PM; Saturday, December 1, and Sunday December 2, at 3:00 PM. The audience will be invited to ask questions at the conclusion of their presentations. Staff and volunteers from READ/OC will also be on hand to also answer questions and handout written information about our program. The print and broadcast media will be invited to attend.

We will also be participating in a Barnes & Noble Bookfair fundraiser event during these three days that will benefit FROC with a minimum donation of 15% of the total dollar sales during the three day event that are generated by customers who present the special Bookfair voucher form at the checkout. The special Bookfair voucher forms will be available at READ/OC headquarters and electronically on both the READ/OC and FROC websites for downloading and printing.

Volunteers from READ/OC and FROC will be manning the courtesy Holiday Gift Wrap table at the front of the store each day of the event wrapping the store purchases of the customer at no charge. Customers will be informed that they can make a cash donation to FROC in return for this service if they wish to. This is a great opportunity to talk to the customer and answer questions about the READ/OC literacy program and recruit potential tutors while you are wrapping the books.

The children involved in the READ/OC program will be the beneficiaries of the books purchased by customers and donated to us during the event. B & N will have displays of many of the books from our list of preferred books for customers to purchase and donate.

You can participate in this “Sharing the gift of reading” event and help by:

- Attending one of the presentations to show support for the learners.
- Encouraging your learner to attend with you.
- Signing up to volunteer for a three hour shift for the Holiday Gift Wrap.
- Buying book/music gifts at this store during the event using the voucher.
- Distributing copies of the Bookfair voucher to friends, family, and at work.

For more information go to our website at www.readoc.org or www.friendsroc.org or call READ/OC at 714-566-3070 to sign up to help.

Learner Meeting

Hurry, hurry learners, time is running out. There is just one more meeting before the end of the year. If you have not yet been to a meeting then you're missing out on all the fun. You're also missing out on the opportunity to meet many interesting and wonderful people. Learners get together on a monthly basis to have group discussions on various topics. We meet from 10am to 12pm, and then join the READ staff and new tutor trainees for a delicious potluck lunch. For some learners, the meetings provide opportunities for them to practice their English skills. For others, the meetings are a way to meet and talk to new people without feeling scared or intimidated. Once you attend one meeting, you won't want to miss the next one. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, December 8th, 10am to 12pm. Call 714-566-3070 to reserve your seat.



Support Our Organization.
Barnes & Noble
Welcomes
READ/Orange County

(The adult literacy services of Orange County Public Library)

Friday, 11/30/07 – Sunday, 12/2/07

Daily 9:00 A.M. – 11:00 P.M.

Barnes & Noble Metro Pointe

901 B South Coast Drive

Costa Mesa, CA 92626



Barnes & Noble
Bookfair Voucher
Supporting

READ/OC

Friday, 11/30/07 – Sunday, 12/2/07

Barnes & Noble Metro Pointe
901 B South Coast Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Simply present this voucher at the cash register at the time of purchase.

A percentage of the net sale will be donated to your organization.*

OFFICE USE ONLY

Register #:

Transaction #:

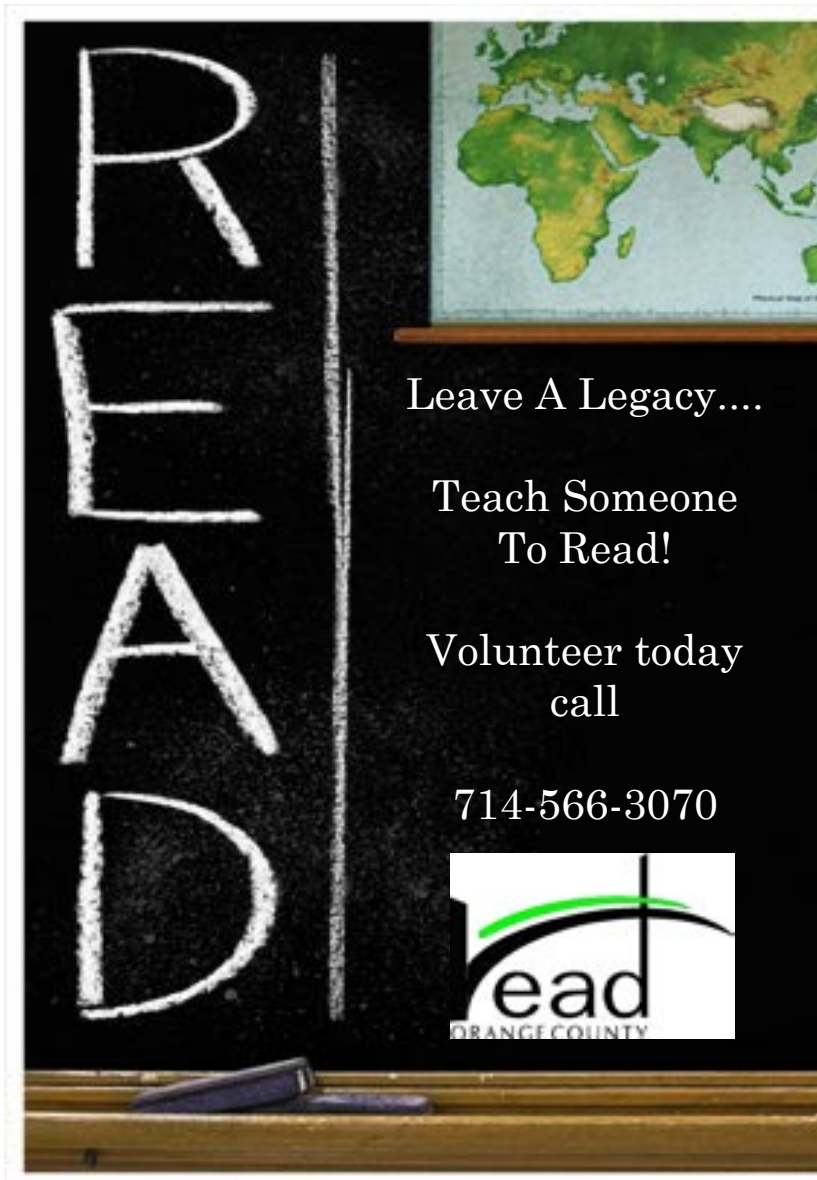
Amount of sale before tax less purchase of Gift Cards, Membership Cards, and Gift Consumables.

\$

* THE FOLLOWING TRANSACTIONS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN BOOKFAIR TOTALS: THE PURCHASE OF GIFT CARDS, MEMBERSHIP CARDS, AND GIFT CONSUMABLES. NON-PROFIT AND BUSINESS ACCOUNT DISCOUNTS MAY NOT BE APPLIED TO BOOKFAIR PURCHASES.



Detach here and bring to the Bookfair.



Leave A Legacy....

Teach Someone
To Read!

Volunteer today
call

714-566-3070



To find a program near you, call
1-888-767-7323
(1-888-SOS-READ)

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**If you are interested in contributing
an article for READ Writes, contact
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