



the Lantern

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A newsletter of the Presentation Lantern Center, Dubuque, Iowa
Sponsored by the Sisters of the Presentation, Dubuque, Iowa

Proud to Pass the U.S. Citizenship Test

Manuel and Rocio Morgan began as students learning English each with their own tutor at Presentation Lantern Center and then preparing for the U.S. Citizenship test. Soon they became the tutors as they helped their daughter Dulce Aline prepare for the test.

During the last week of January Manuel, Rocio and Dulce passed the citizenship test.

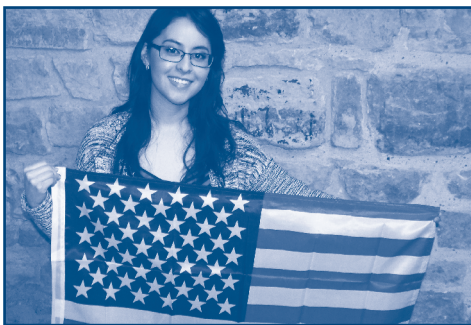
"It was a delight to receive a telephone call with their good news," comments Sister Corine Murray, executive director.

Individuals taking the test must correctly answer six of the ten randomly chosen questions from a list of 100. This family was especially proud of the fact that they successfully answered the first six questions, thus passing the test with flying colors. Their success brings the total of new citizens who prepared for the test at the Lantern Center to sixty-six.

"I was so happy to pass the citizenship test in January," comments Manuel. "I want to thank everyone at the Lantern Center for all the help and everything they gave me and my family this past year and-a-half to accomplish our dream of becoming American citizens. I'm grateful to Sister Corine, Debbie Frommelt and my tutor Sister Susan, for their guidance. May God bless our friends at the Lantern Center for their good work."

Students and tutors count on each other in this process. "It was a real joy to work with Manuel," states tutor Susan Ivis, OSF. "He was truly committed to the learning process and excited to become an American citizen. He took his studies very seriously, but we also had fun meeting the challenge together."

Manuel, Rocio and Dulce were delighted to participate in a swearing of allegiance ceremony in Des Moines on March 18.



Top Left, Dulce Aline proudly displays the U.S. flag. Top Right, left to right, Rocio also passed the citizenship test and is delighted to celebrate with her tutor Mary Toohey. Bottom Right, left to right, Manuel, announces to his tutor Susan Ivis, OSF, that he passed the citizenship test.

LANTERN CENTER

Welcome

by Corine Murray, PBVM, Executive Director



"Often real generosity," states Frank A. Clark, "is doing something nice for someone who will never find out."

Our students from faraway places, 56 countries to date, may never know your names or recognize your faces, but they know that because of the generosity of others, they have opportunities to learn English, overcome the bonds of isolation, make new friends and prepare for the citizenship test.

I wish you could meet our students who directly benefit from your generosity. Your support helps them create a new future. Their lives are also enriched by the relationships they have with our volunteer tutors.

Most cultures have a strong tradition of people gathering around food. We do this during our scheduled breaks. Sometimes students treat us to specialty dishes from their countries of origin. Ingredients are named, recipes are exchanged and friendships blossom.

With a grateful heart, I thank the Sisters of the Presentation who sponsor our mission and all of the individuals, groups, parishes, businesses and foundations who partner with us to welcome the strangers among us. Together, we are making a difference.

SUPPORTING THE MISSION

Friends of the Presentation Lantern Center

Presentation Lantern Center is sponsored by the Sisters of the Presentation. We are deeply grateful to all who partner with us in this ministry of hospitality, educational opportunities and advocacy to newcomers from around the neighborhood and across the globe. We appreciate your generosity and remember you in our daily prayers.

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Carla (Chile) examines the globe that has a light for each country of origin of Lantern Center students. To date there are 66 lights on the globe.



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Holidays are celebrated with the sharing of cultures, including foods. Left to right, Fadi (Syria) pictured with his tutor Mary Clare O'Toole, OSF, added cookies to the line-up of Christmas treats.



Gifts from the Knights



Left to right, Corine Murray, PBVM, receives gifts of coats from the Knight of Council 1009 being presented by Knight Bill Griffin.



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* CFGD (Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque)



University of Dubuque students Carl (far left) and Ellie (far right) work with tutors Nathan (center left), University of Wisconsin-Platteville, and Ser Rangel (center right), Divine Word College, Epworth, Iowa.

2014 Presentation Lantern Service Award

by Beth Kress, PBVM

Presentation Lantern Center and the Board of Trustees hosted the Presentation Sisters Leadership Team and volunteer tutors at the annual appreciation dinner on December 7. Volunteer tutor Dianne Roche received the 2014 Presentation Lantern Service Award at this event.

"Dianne has donated over 300 hours of service and has maintained a very flexible schedule by rotating the days she came, Tuesdays or Thursdays depending on the work schedule of her student," comments Executive Director Sr. Corine Murray. "We called her the 'Queen of Flexibility.'"

Dianne has worked with two students, Nasrin from Iran and Erasmo from Mexico. "I have learned about their food, family life, holidays, movies, music and what it is like for them to live in their societies, both the good things

and the not so good," states Dianne who has visited Nasrin's home for holidays and attended Erasmo's wedding. At present she works with a student from Ukraine.

In her own family Diane is aware of all that her immigrant son-in-law has gone through,

"the hurdles, the cost, the time and frustrations he met along the way to get his Green Card.

"With all of my students, I have learned to have tremendous respect for their courage, hard work and ability to enjoy life even in the midst of some real challenges. Often my students have struggled

with limited financial resources, but they are generous, and grateful beyond my expectations," comments Dianne.

This former pre-school teacher has truly found new joys in working with adult English language learners.



Left to right, Nasrin and Dianne Roach have enjoyed many times together.



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Dubuque, Iowa 52001
563-557-7134
lanterncenter@aol.com

The Presentation Lantern Center is a drop-in center offering hospitality, educational opportunities and advocacy to adult immigrants, especially women, who are striving to better their lives. Sponsored by the Sisters of the Presentation, Dubuque, Iowa, the center is a non-profit organization.

HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Tuesday, Thursday
1:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Contact us at
563.557.7134
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Please make checks payable to Presentation Lantern. Thank You.

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Join Us on Great Give Day, May 5, 2015

On May 5, 2015, from 12:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m., Presentation Lantern is participating in the Great Give Day. During this time, every donation of \$10 or more will be stretched further if you donate to our organization through the website www.GreatGiveDay.org

The Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque is sponsoring this event for its endowed nonprofit partners as part of a nationwide day of giving.

Your donation will go a long way in helping us to purchase educational materials. Gifts given that day will receive a portion of local and national bonus funds. We hope you will consider supporting us on Great Give Day, May 5!