

CLTA Online Newsletter

CLTA Newsletter

May 2016

SUMMER BECKONS – send us your summer stories

As life-long learners and dedicated professionals, we all know the “*teachers get summers off, must be nice*” myth is getting pretty wearisome right about now. Even so, many of us are counting down the days until the much-deserved end of the school year, and we wish you a safe, happy and productive break. As teachers, there is always a part of us that is permanently at school, but we hope everyone finds something on personal “downtime” that will give you a fresh perspective.

Some of our grant winners will be enjoying their time in France, Spain and Japan. Many thanks and our deepest appreciation go to the governments of France and Spain and the Japan Foundation for their generosity in helping our members to improve their language, culture and practice through travel/study grant this summer.

July is a perfect time to commit to “World Language Teacher Summer Camp” at UC Santa Barbara, formally known as the **CWLP Summer Seminar**. See more about the Summer Seminar on our website at www.clta.net.

Whether you are looking forward to a change of pace, or you are in the classroom this summer, thank you for the work you do to help our students develop into dynamic and accomplished people as they pursue the global citizenship they rightfully deserve.

P.S. If you have a summer story or experience this year that could be interesting to other CLTA members, send it to Tanya at exec-director@clta.net and we will publish as many as we can next Newsletter.



Elizabeth Matchett is CLTA TOY 2016

There is a brand new CLTA VIP (Very Important Powerhouse) to add to the list of TOYs (Teachers of the Year) from CA. Ahem, CLTA CA TOY VIP for short. At the Conference in Visalia held in March, last year’s CA TOY Don Doehla (another VIP here and in Napa and Edutopia and the Berkeley WLP and) presented Liz with the new “Big Stick,” to signify that as a leader, she walks softly but carries a big stickin her advocacy of world languages and cultures. Liz is well-known to so many in CLTA, California and beyond, and if you don’t know her, you may have used one of her many engaging lessons that she so generously shares. She teaches and supervises at Henry M. Gunn High School in Palo Alto. Liz believes strongly that “strong and continuous professional development is one of the keys to keeping teachers engaged and dedicated to the profession.”

To find out more about Liz, past TOYS and the CA TOY program go to [<http://clta.net/california-teacher-of-the-year-toy/>]

Elizabeth Matchett is CLTA TOY 2016



Monterey in 2017

Be cool and come to the CLTA/FLAMCO Conference in Monterey February 16-19, 2017. Bring the family and stay for fun on this long week-end! Here is a preview from the FLAMCO Folks – you DO NOT want to miss this [video](#) invitation from FLAMCO.



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Lewie Johnson about to introduce Carol Gaab to a packed house.

SPOTLIGHT ON IEFLA

Submitted by Paola Padilla
IEFLA Secretary/CLTA Rep.

The Inland Empire Foreign Language Association (IEFLA) continues to provide top-notch professional development opportunities for language teachers. In the last couple of years, teachers have enjoyed gaining new ideas in world language teaching from amazing professionals such as Yo Azama, Paul Sandroch, Christine Lanphere, and our very own Svetlana Lazarova and Bethany Thompson, just to name a few. IEFLA president, Lewie Johnson, keeps up to date with the changes and demands of the language teaching field and is a major ally of teachers. Lewie works hard to draw in relevant presenters to help meet the needs of our language teachers.

To read more about IEFLA activities and see Who's Who on the Board, click [here](#).

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information

CLTA

California Language
Teachers' Association
Tanya Zaccone,
Executive Director

Email:

exec-director@clta.net

Visit us on the web at

www.clta.net

CLTA Positions Open

CLTA members are invited to apply for two positions for the 2016-2017 year. Positions are open until filled. Find the job descriptions and application forms here:

Secretary

<https://www.tfaforms.com/347053>

Membership

<https://www.tfaforms.com/346901>

Advocacy at Work for Languages and Culture

Omigosh! We need to refresh the WL Standards! What to do? Sponsor legislation of course. Have meetings with Kathy Lynch, our Legislative Advocate. Find a sponsor. Thank you, Assemblyman Santiago, at least twice. Write Key Points, have more meetings, make calls, write letters to committees, watch the progress carefully, testify at the Capitol, write more Key Points for different committees, have setbacks, deal with setbacks, trash this, work on that. Ask CLTA members to write letters and call congressional offices, and marvel at their professional responsiveness. Keep working with Kathy as she guides us through the process. Wait. Watch. Hope it finds its way through all committees, Assembly, Senate and that the governor signs the bill.

And what makes us giddy? Grass roots CLTA Town Hall Meetings, naturally. You probably already know our first CLTA Town Hall Meeting in Santa Barbara was a brilliant success. Many new leaders emerged from that gathering and are now in the business of working even harder for the WL & Culture students of California by virtue of the work they are doing through CLTA, in advocacy, social media, affiliate work, and other avenues for leadership. Next up: Second Annual CLTA Town Hall Meeting at Summer Seminar in Santa Barbara.

To find out more about the need to update outdated guiding documents, read about other needed legislation and what CLTA is doing about it,

[click here](#)

[click here for information on the Summer Seminar](#)



CALI Emerging Leaders

The California Leadership Initiative (CALI) was launched at the CLTA Conference 2016 in Visalia, California. For this professional development opportunity, language teachers from throughout the state came together to learn about the core practices in world language education and to develop their leadership skills. Modeled after the ACTFL Leadership Initiative in Language Learning (LILL) 2015, the ultimate goal of this training was to inform California language teacher leaders of the core practices, encourage them to return to their region and share the core practices with other educators, and facilitate further collaboration on high-leverage teaching practices.

Approximately fifty CLTA members applied to fill only fifteen spaces. Selection was incredibly difficult, but the final group was an excellent representation of California language teachers. Participants diligently worked to create action plans and mini presentations in order to put their plans in motion. This learning opportunity was an inaugural event for the CLTA, but the organization is committed to growing language leaders throughout California for years to come.

Click [here](#) for the list of Emerging Leaders who participated in the first training. If you know one of them, please congratulate them on their selection and invite them to share the core practices with you, your department and region!

New FLANS Affiliate is Cookin'

Here is the quiz, with the built-in answer key:



What is a FLANS? Foreign Language Association of Napa Solano, brand new affiliate.

Why did we cook a FLANS? Because people of that area felt they would like their own affiliate.

Who did all the work? They did.

How long does it take to cook up a FLANS? Three years.

Why did it take so long? Sometimes it takes a lot of thinking, then work and more thinking and more work, and sometimes it takes a long time to be sure you will be able to really do it. And they wanted to get it right, which they did. And, with each road block they were eventually able to earn more support than they had before.

How does CLTA help? CLTA gives the affiliate a bit of money to start up, helps in getting a bank account, advice in writing By-laws, and so many other things. CLTA always tries to be there for all affiliates.

Who is the new president? Georgia Cerda

How did she get to be president? You get to be president when you do most of the work. At least until you have officers and elections. And you come to CLTA Board meetings on behalf of potential FLANS members

Why would somebody do that? Here's why:

The world is hugged by the faithful arms of volunteers. ~Terri Guillemets

On April 16, in a packed room, FLANS held their first workshop/organizational meeting. The new affiliate spend the pre-workshop half hour munching on really tasty goodies, networking and just having a good time. Georgia made sure there were many student-made FLANS posters all around, which added to the festive atmosphere AND student volunteers served as hosts for the event, which helped things run smoothly. After that participants received congratulations and information about CLTA from Tanya Zacccone, CLTA Executive Director. Finally, they could choose between two outstanding morning workshops. Evaluations indicate an excellent start of a new affiliate.

For more information contact [\[gcerda.flans@gmail.com\]](mailto:gcerda.flans@gmail.com).

CLTA Treasurer is Treasure in Her Community

Nancy Pérez, CLTA Treasurer and Local Conference Chair, has been nominated for the Woman of the Year Award by the Visalia Chamber of Commerce. Here at CLTA Nancy is known as a friend, a passionate hard worker and a never-give-up force for languages and culture. Let Nancy know you support her at treasurer@clta.net. Her daughter wrote a touching letter about her mother to be shared with all of us, a slightly edited version of which you can read [here](#).



Nancy Perez

Conference in Visalia Rocks

It's hard to find a negative word, about the March 17-20 Conference in Visalia, about Visalia the community, about the heart and energy that went into this most amazing Conference. It is not often that so many dignitaries show up for a Conference and who participate as fully and enthusiastically as we saw in Visalia. It is not often that so many members of one affiliate and one community all pitch in to showcase their home turf and their passion for languages and culture. If you were not able to attend the "To the Core: Never Cease Growing" Conference, please consider being a part of this warm and inviting place next time CLTA holds our Conference in Visalia.

Thanks to Paula Hirsch, CLTA Conference Coordinator; and to Nancy Pérez, Local Conference Chair and her team including other members of the affiliate, family members and friends, for all the hard work and heart that made this Conference so special.

For more about the Conference, including some "real McFarland" winners, dignitaries, quotes, pictures and more, click [here](#).



Set up and ready to begin



Kevin, Liz, Don, Svetlana
at TOY Ceremony 2016

Grants & Awards – Many thanks to the governments and foundations and award sponsors!

French Government grant – Danielle Farve

Japan Foundation grant – Madeleine Graham

Spanish Embassy grant– Lisett Diaz

Centro Mundo Lengua grant – David Reyes Cornejo

Sydney Gorman New Teacher Scholarship grant – Michael Vossen (will use his award to offset expenses at Summer Seminar in Santa Barbara

Memorial Scholarship- Lilian Edeh

LangAbroD grants– Nicole Naditz and some grant winners who applied

CLTA Outstanding Teachers

Susan Watson

Jorge Vargas

Tomokazu Morikawa

Ying Jin

CWLP/CLTA Outstanding Teacher-Leader – Nancy Pérez

Hal Wingard Lifetime Achievement Award – Brandon Zaslow

Lorraine D'Ambruoso Award of Meritorious Service to the Profession - Sue McKee - Sue was not able to attend and will receive the award next year in Monterey.

President's Award Joseph I. Castro, PhD., M.P.P.

CLTA California Teacher of the Year – Elizabeth Matchett

New CLTA Presidential Line Officers March 2016 - March 2019

Past-president/Awards Chair – Svetlana Lazarova

President Alexis Frink - President

President-elect Tonja Byrom

Many thanks to all our advertisers and exhibitors.

CLTA World Language Jamboree is back!

by Paula Hirsch, CLTA Conference Coordinator

Join your colleagues for a day collaborating and sharing ideas on October 1, 2016 at Esperanza High School in Anaheim. Put the date on your calendar so you will not make other plans! CLTA will send you more information about registration this summer.

On behalf of the Jamboree Committee, I'm writing to ask you to consider presenting a session. Share your favorite activities, a new unit that you developed, ways to use music in the classroom, a technology that has worked well for you, etc. If you are willing to present, we are asking that you submit the proposal as soon as possible. The Proposal Website address is <http://www.tinyurl.com/jamboreeproposals/>. We are asking that all presenters be members of CLTA and their local affiliate.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at phirsch@windwardschool.org or call me at 424-289-1036.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the CLTA World Language Jamboree on October 1!