



## 2008 Exemplar Award:

### Tom Weiler

Tom Weiler, TLP Board President, was presented with TLP's Exemplar Award. The award is the highest given by the agency to a volunteer who serves in a non-tutoring capacity. Tom received the award for his support of TLP staff, contributions to the tutor training process, staffing of our computer lab and his work on the TLP Board of Directors. TLP Executive Director David Smith comments: "His support for the work of TLP staff is gratifying as he patiently provides them his time and attention - without an appointment!"

The Exemplar Award is presented annually to an individual, business or organization that has partnered with TLP to further its mission to help individuals enrich their lives through literacy.



Exemplar Award recipient Tom Weiler (left) and Henry Cowan Outstanding Tutor recipient D. G. Bancroft (right).

## 2008 Henry Cowan Outstanding Tutor:

### D. G. Bancroft

D. G., a tutor for ten years, was Tompkins Learning Partners' 2008 Henry Cowan Tutor of the Year Award recipient. The award is given to a volunteer tutor who has demonstrated a consistent commitment to the agency's mission to help students achieve their individual learning goals. Henry Cowan, the honor's namesake and a volunteer at the agency for 17 years, helped to present the award.

D. G. has helped at least a dozen students and has been a wonderful resource for several ESL coordinators. She has worked with students from all over the world, who spoke a variety of languages. D. G. has also come to the aid of several ESL coordinators through her willingness to jump in and help others where needed, when needed. TLP ESL Coordinator Sarah White noted: "What is most wonderful about working with D. G. is that she does all this hard work graciously."

## TLP's Mission

Our mission is to help adults and young people who live or work in Tompkins County meet their personal goals, free of charge, by improving their ability to read, write, and speak English, and to use math and computers.

Students achieve these goals by working together with professionally trained and supported volunteer tutors.

## Revenues and Expenses

<i>Revenues:</i>	
County/City	81,902
NYS Dept. of Education	40,957
United Way:	
Community Fund	15,624
Designations	2,221
Contributions	12,076
Service Organizations	8,905
Foundations	16,400
Fundraising Events	13,151
Misc. Income	7,717
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>198,953</b>
<i>Expenses:</i>	
Program Services	177,915
Management & General	16,933
Fundraising Expenses	2,310
Depreciation/Adjustments	2,704
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>199,862</b>

Value of Volunteer Time **\$85,200.17**

# TLP Student Achievements

## *ABE Students*

H.Y. studied hard and passed the GED! She improved from 390 to 570 on the writing portion.

L.P. now writes regularly and understands subject-verb agreement, main ideas, clear transitions and sentence structure.

G.H. continues to practice word spelling and organization. He is also working on his grammar and alphabetizing.

R.M. is making progress as a young Ithaca businessman growing his housekeeping/cleaning business.

N.T. renewed her library card, which enables her to use the public computers. She established an e-mail address, sent and received messages and explored links on the Yahoo website.

## *ESL Students*

B.F. started working on Microsoft Word. She can create documents using templates or from scratch, draw tables and figures, change fonts and colors and insert pictures and hyperlinks.

V.C. reads medication labels and is able to describe symptoms of an illness.

N.E. is able to interpret maps/transportation schedules and directions as well as identify and use different types of transportation in the community.

L.A. talked about the new governor and wrote an essay with his tutor about what L.A. did in China.

V.C. reads and understands bills and mail. She can fill out her insurance, credit, housing and consumer benefits forms.

## Students Served

	ABE	ESL	Total
Instruction $\geq$ 12 hours	51	47	98
Instruction $<$ 12 hours	34	28	62
<b>Total Students</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>160</b>

## Active Volunteers

ABE Tutors	51
ESL Tutors	44
Other	43
<b>Total Volunteers</b>	<b>138</b>

## Volunteer Hours

ABE and ESL Tutors	4,547
Other Volunteer Hours	775
<b>Total Volunteer Hours</b>	<b>5,322</b>

## Students' Birth Countries

Afghanistan	Dominican Republic	Iraq
Azerbaijan	Ecuador	Japan
Botswana	El Salvador	Kazakhstan
Brazil	Estonia	Mali
Bulgaria	The Gambia	Mexico
Burma	Guatemala	Molodova
Cambodia	Honduras	Nicaragua
China	India	Peru
		Puerto Rico
		Russia
		South Korea
		Thailand
		Tibet
		Ukraine
		Uzbekistan
		Venezuela
		Vietnam



# TLP Tutors:

Lori Abbott, Debbie Allen, Matt Applegate, Pat Avery, D. G. Bancroft-Gowin, Cheryl Barbasch, Trudy Baum, Kris Bennett, Becky Bilderback, Patricia Bogdan-Lawson, Linda Bors, Phyllis Bowers, Pat Brehl, Dawn Bricen, Julie Brumsted, Molly Buck, Jean Celeste-Astorina, Carrie Chalmers, Mary Chapman, Summer Copelan, Mary-Lynn Cummings, Marion DaGrossa, Joshua Eberle, Lizzy Evett, Sarah Forbes, Bethany Fuller, Debra Galvin, Chris George, Barb Goldberg, Maggie Goldsmith, Jan Gurnon, Barb Hatt, Jean Healy, Deb Herrmann, Larry Hirschberger, Carol Hockett, Richie Holtz, Alicia Irwin, Sarah Jane Blake, Susan Jaquette, Linda Keeler, Rus Keeler, Barbara Kretzmann, Nelda Kubat, Meredith Kusch, Jim Lombardi, Kendra Lynn, Marielle Macher, Russell Martin, Jan McCarrick, Laura McCullough, Judy Mehravari, Denise Moore, Cara Morgan, Vasudha Neti, Katie Parrotte, Ann Piombino, Patty Porter, Wally Powers, David Rothstein, Karen Salino, Massiel Santos, Elliot Schrank, Katie Schwartz, Sara Sepanski, Karen Siefert, Janet Simon, Nicholas Sims, Samantha Smith, Matt Snyder, Susan Soboroff, Ralph Soden, Kate Soriano, Edie Spaulding, Ilan Speizer, Nancy Suci, Jae Sullivan, Sheryl Swink, Levana Taylor, Nicole Tedesco, Bill Tyler, Lucia Tyler, Marian Van Loan, Jill Vaughan, Eleanore Vollweiler, Pat Wagner, Jenny Waldron, Sue Watkins, Tom Weiler, Greg Wheeler, Carol Whitlow, Lola Winter, Jan Zeserson, Clare Zuraw\*

\*This list compiled from the 2008 calendar year

TLP would also like to recognize two non-tutoring volunteers, Phyllis Allen and Jim Atkinson, for their many dedicated hours.

Tompkins Learning  
Partners, Inc.  
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Ithaca, NY 14850

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607-277-6442

URL:  
[www.TLPartners.org](http://www.TLPartners.org)

E-mail:  
[literacy@TLPartners.org](mailto:literacy@TLPartners.org)



TLP respects the privacy of our students. We never use students' full names or photos without their permission.

Non-Profit Organization

U.S POSTAGE

**PAID**

Ithaca, NY 14850  
Permit No. 909



# Tompkins Learning Partners, Inc.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2008

"Accumulate learning by study, understand what you learn by questioning."

- Cha'n Master Mingjiao

## TLP Staff

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David H. Smith, Executive Director  
Arline A. Woolley, ABE Coordinator  
Sarah B. White, ESL Coordinator  
Sharon McGee, Administrative Assistant  
Tom Connors, Program Support Assistant  
Kelsey Walzer, Ithaca College Work Study  
Erica Hicks, Ithaca College Work Study  
Jim Atkinson, Volunteer Librarian

## TLP Board of Directors

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Tom Weiler, President  
Grace McMenemy, Vice  
President  
Cecilia Campbell, Treasurer  
Sue Lason, Secretary

Tanya Brozost  
Mary-Lynn Cummings  
Michelle Mekos  
Celia Miller  
Neal R. Spencer  
Gary Weissbrot

## A Message From *The Executive Director:*

Few of us really understand the impacts of adult illiteracy. Take a look below to see how widespread the problem is:

### ILLITERACY IN AMERICA

- As many as 23% of the adult American population (40-44 million) are functionally illiterate (Level 1 according to the National Adult Literacy Survey - NALS, lacking basic skills beyond a fourth-grade level.)
- Illiteracy is widespread, a problem in every community, not limited to any race, region or socioeconomic class.

### ILLITERACY AND ITS IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY

- Adult illiteracy costs society an estimated \$240 billion each year in lost industrial productivity, unrealized tax revenues, welfare, crime, poverty, and related social ills.

### ILLITERACY AND HEALTH

- Adults with low-level reading skills frequently suffer from health problems because they lack the ability to read medical directions, health-related literature or prescription labels. Chronic health conditions may go improperly monitored by patients who are functionally illiterate and the overall well-being of these individuals may worsen over time causing frequent doctor or emergency room visits, hospitalization, or even death.

### ILLITERACY AND THE WORKPLACE

- According to the NALS, 40% of the labor force in the United States has limited skills.

- American businesses lose more than \$60 billion in productivity each year to employees' lack of basic skills (NALS).
- 75% of unemployed adults have difficulty reading and writing, and 43% of adults with low literacy skills live in poverty.

### ILLITERACY AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

- The rate of illiteracy in America's correctional systems is over 60% (National Institute of Health)

### ILLITERACY AND AMERICA'S YOUTH

- The saddest casualty of illiteracy in America is the children who are affected by intergenerational illiteracy.
- Children of disadvantaged parents begin their school life behind their peers. Parents with minimal or no reading skills often cannot provide the kind of support their children need to do well in school.
- Analysis has shown a direct correlation between young people's test scores and the grade level attained by their parents.

These statistics connect in every way to the Tompkins County community, the students TLP serves and why we do the work we do.

*David H. Smith*