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# The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of  
the English Language Institute  
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## Picnic!

*Join us and meet your new peers!*

This weekend, October 27<sup>th</sup>, our trip is also a picnic! This is the weekend we are staying here in the area and holding our **Midterm Picnic at Lake Wauburg**. Lake Wauburg is a very nice area just south of Gainesville on Hwy 441; it is owned by the University of Florida. In addition to good food and drink, we will have lots of fun playing volleyball, frisbee, soccer, canoeing and North American football. All ELI students, staff and friends are invited. This trip will also be the Welcome Picnic for the new B-Term students, so it will be a great opportunity for you to make some new friends. We will meet at 11:00am at the Norman Hall Garage and carpool to Lake Wauburg. **Please sign up on the Activities Board by 4pm on Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. Also, please sign up any relatives or friends who might be coming; we just need to make sure we bring enough food!** If it is raining, call 392-3354, extension 230 after 9:30am Saturday to see if the picnic has been moved.

There is no cost to enter Lake Wauburg, but you should bring a UF ID for entrance for each car and for canoe rental. Wear tennis shoes and sunblock. We will provide the food, so come hungry!

## Notes from the Office

- **Class Attendance**—Remember, your attendance is very, very important. We have been asked to remind you that ***every 3 tardies counts as 1 hour of absence, and you are limited in the number of hours you can miss.*** If you have any questions about your attendance, be sure to ask your teachers as soon as possible.
- **Lost and Found**—Folks, if you lose anything in the classrooms or in the hallways of the ELI, don't forget to check in the ELI Main Office, Room 315, to see if it has been turned in. We have a box of found stuff that stays pretty full.
- **Student Mail**—Please remember to check from time to time to see if you have any mail from home or from other sources. The student mailbox is a tray located on the shelf immediately below and on the right-hand side of the teachers' mailboxes just inside the door in the ELI Main Office.



**Flu Shots**- Flu (influenza) season is nearly here. If you would like to try to be protected from getting the flu, you can get an immunization from the Student Health Care Center for \$15. This is NOT a mandatory shot, like your TB or MMR shots. The flu shots will be available until the SHCC runs out of vaccine. Here is the schedule for the shots:

Tuesday, October 23 , Reitz Union Colonnade, 11am to 3pm  
Wednesday, October 24, Founders Gallery @ Shands , 9am to 1pm  
Friday, October 26 , Reitz Union Colonnade, 9am to 1pm  
Tuesday, October 30 , Founders Gallery @ Shands , 11am to 3pm  
Wednesday, October 31 , Reitz Union Colonnade, 9am to 1pm  
Tuesday, November 6 , Reitz Union Colonnade, 11am to 3pm  
Wednesday, November 7 , Reitz Union Colonnade, 9am to 1pm  
Friday, November 9 , Reitz Union Colonnade, 9am to 1pm  
Tuesday, November 13 , Reitz Union Colonnade, 11am to 3pm  
Wednesday, November 14 , Founders Gallery @ Shands , 9am to 1pm  
Friday, November 16 , Reitz Union Colonnade, 9am to 1pm

## The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will be watching the amazing **Homecoming Parade** right here in Gainesville! Details about the picnic will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

## Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of October 26-Nov 1:

Students:

October 26: Otto Sanchez  
October 28: Cesar Idrobo-Giraldo  
October 30: Shizuko Okusa  
November 1: Maria Romero

Staff:

October 29: Sonia Siegel

## Manners and Culture

Hey, everybody! I'm down to just a few questions once again. Let me know what you're thinking about in this crazy culture of ours!

*Q: What's Halloween and why is it such a popular holiday in the US?*

A: It's actually a combination of ancient Celtic and early Christian traditions. In Europe, All Hallows

Eve (the night before All Saints' Day—November 1 on the calendar) was said to be a night when ghosts and spirits would roam the earth; people carved scary faces in vegetables and left them out to scare the spirits away. This tradition is carried on in modern times with the carved pumpkins. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it became a popular holiday for children. And, so many of us remember fun at Halloween as kids that it has gradually become a holiday that adults enjoy as well!

*Q: Why can people drink alcohol in the street when the Gators are playing?*

A: Technically, they can't! It's still against the law. It's just that the police can't be everywhere at once, and a lot of people seem to associate drinking lots of alcohol with celebrating, well, anything. And when you have a normal-sized police force with 100,000 or so enthusiastic celebrators, you're quite likely to see folks who aren't particularly concerned about this aspect of the law.

## Grammar

*Q: What's the difference between "affect" and "effect"?*

A: Oh, gosh, I love it when students ask about something that even native

speakers seem to have problems with! The reason that this is so confusing is that the verb "affect" and the noun "effect" are essentially the same in how they are used:

affect(v): to have an impact on something. *The moon's gravity affects our planet's oceans.*

effect(n): an impact or result. *The moon's gravity has an effect on our planet's oceans.*

The verb "effect" and the noun "affect" on the other hand aren't really closely related in meaning:

effect(v): to begin or to cause. *All of the candidates running for US president say that they want to effect change in Washington.*

affect(n): a false or forced image: *These days, Madonna is using a British accent; many people say that this is a silly affect.*

## Quote of the Week

The best index to a person's character is

- (a) how he treats people who can't do him any good, and
- (b) how he treats people who can't fight back.

--Abigail van Buren



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