

Highlights

- Volunteer Day
- Birthdays
- Notes from the Office
- Manners

The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Volunteer Day

Help others while helping yourself!

This Saturday, January 31st, we are holding our first **Volunteer Day** of the fall term. This is your chance to help out the community while practicing your English in a real-life environment. Below is a description of the volunteer activities going on this weekend.

We will meet at different times. Students, language assistants, teachers, and staff will meet and head to the different sites.

Please sign up on the Activities Board for your choice of activity by 4pm on Thursday, January 29th.

There is no cost to volunteer. Wear comfortable clothes and sneakers. You should bring water to each volunteering activity

Hoggetowne Medieval Faire— Dress in Medieval costumes and take tickets for the Hoggetowne Medieval Faire. You will receive a free admission ticket to the faire when you are finished helping out! Meet at Norman Hall at 8:30am and we will drive together. We will return around 2pm.

Summerville— Come and play Bingo and talk with senior citizens.

This is a great way to practice your English and have a wonderful time!! We will meet at the Cabana Beach at 3pm and return around 5pm.

Mill Creek Horse Farm--Help groom retired horses at the Mill Creek Horse Farm from 9am-1pm. Meet at Norman Garage at 8:15am and wear work clothes!

Gainesville Pet Rescue--Like pets? Help clean up the yard at Gainesville Pet Rescue from 9am-12pm and then play with the animals! Dress to do work outdoors and meet at Norman Garage at 8:45am.

Great Air Potato Roundup-- Rid a Gainesville neighborhood of invasive plants from 9am-11am in the Great Air Potato Roundup! Volunteer to clean the Kincaid Property of air potatoes. Dress to work outdoors, and bring a bucket if you have one! Meet at Norman Garage at 8:45am. Afterwards, you can attend a FUN celebration with food, live music, and guest speakers at Morningside Nature Center.

If you have any questions about any of the activities, see Chanelle in the CIP Office, Room 318.

Have a great day, everyone!

Notes from the Office

TOEFL Scores: If you gave the ELI office as your address to receive your TOEFL Scores, we have them in the student mailbox in the Main Office. Come and pick them up!

Notes from Lia's Office

Infirmary Fees and Cancellations: If you made an appointment to see a Team C doctor at the SHCC (Student Health Care Center) and then did not show up or cancel the appointment, you have a \$5.00 charge on your student account. We will get a list of all the students who owe fees at the end of the semester. If you have ANY outstanding fees on your student account you will not be able to register for the TOEFL, nor will you be able to receive test scores, grades, etc. Please look on your MyUFL student account to see if you owe any fees. Cultural tip from a previous ELI Weekly – in the USA we think it is extremely rude to be late and it is inexcusable to miss an appointment! You will be charged for

inconveniencing professionals like doctors.

COE Project: If you are from a country OTHER THAN China, Taiwan, France, Brazil, Korea, or Costa Rica, I have a wonderful opportunity for you. A professor in the College of Education is matching her students with international students to do a children's literature project. If you would like meeting and telling a COE student about yourself and looking at children's books from your country (they will provide the books), then this is a great project for you. Come to my office (316 NRN) and sign up!

The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will be going to Orlando to visit the wonderful **Islands of Adventure** Theme Park at Universal Studios. Want to go? Sign up on the activities board. We will have a walk-over to the TRiP office to buy tickets on **Friday, January 30th at 1:00p.m.** Meet at the Norman Garage at 12:45. You **MUST** buy your van tickets at this time. Van tickets are \$25.00. **You may also buy your Islands of Adventure ticket at this time for \$51.00 + tax.** If you buy

your park ticket on September 15th at the park, you will have to pay \$71.00 + tax. Remember, we have 12 spots on the van... if it is not full, the trip will be CANCELLED!

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of January 30-February 5:

Students:

January 30: Maria Sarmiento
January 31: Nasser Al Khaili
February 4: Mutaz Atallah
February 5: Ramon Padilla

None this week!

Happy birthday one and all!

Manners and Culture

Q: How can I greet Americans Politely when I am introduced to them? Does it make any difference when there are either/ both men or women?

A: No, it doesn't make any difference. The most polite way to greet someone for the first time is to extend your hand for a quick

handshake and say "How do you do?" or "Nice to meet you."

Q: I've heard that people give bigger tips on the weekend. Should I give more than 20% on the weekend?

A: The day of the week makes no difference at all, though some restaurants have slightly more expensive menus on some busier days. Generally, you should tip 15% for good service and 20% (or more—if it's a reeeally good server) for very good service.

Grammar

Q: What is the difference between "during" and "for"?

A: "During" means "for sometime within a specified time". "For" simply means "This is exactly how long." Here's a sentence with both: "I studied for two weeks during the spring."

Quote of the Week

I'd rather be a failure at something I love than a success at something I hate.

--George Burns

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