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The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Volunteer Day

Help others while learning English!

This Saturday, March 31st, we are holding our second **Volunteer Day** of the spring 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 at the NRN Garage and carpool to the different sites. Please sign up on the Activities Board for your choice of activity by 4pm on Thursday, March 29th.

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

Car Wash for the March of Dimes – Help raise money to save the lives of babies. Great way to practice English and meet people! We will meet at the Norman Hall Garage at 11:15am and return around 4:15pm.

Nursing Home – Speak with elderly people who do not have their families nearby...brighten up their day! We will play bingo, chess, and other board games You can go on walks and share stories. This is excellent English

practice! We will meet at the Norman Hall Garage at 1:30pm and return around 4pm.

Ronald McDonald House— We will help prepare meals for the families of patients at Shands Hospital and hear their stories.. We will meet at the NRN Garage at 4:30pm and return around 7:30pm.

Have a great day, everyone!

Next Weekend

Next weekend, on Saturday, April 8th, we headed to beautiful **Historic St. Augustine**. This is a van trip, so you must purchase your \$25 transportation pass from The Outfitter at the Reitz Union this Friday, March 31st. **Meet at the NRN Garage at 12:45, and we will walk you over to get your transportation pass.** More details will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Student Voices Deadline

It's *ELI Student Voices* time, everyone! Steve wants us to let you know that the deadline for submissions for this semester will be on Friday, April 13th. You can give your submissions to your

teacher, to Steve directly, or you may place them in Steve's mailbox (marked *Flocks*) in the ELI Main Office, Room 315. Let's see what you can come up with!

Activity Schedule

The following is our latest Activity Schedule. This week, however, on Tuesday, we will have Pool and Bowling instead of Swing Dancing. Meet in front of the Reitz Union Taco Bell and bring a few dollars.

Basketball (Carol)	Monday 5:20pm	Meet at The Norman Garage Free! Bring your UF ID
Swing Dancing (Bethany, Christian)	Tuesday 5:00	Room TBA FREE
Coffee Talk (Dan, Stef)	Wednesday 7:00	Meet at Kay's Coffee (near Crisper's) Money for coffee
Dodgeball and Workout Classes (Matt, Laureen)	Thursday 5:30pm	Meet at Norman Garage Free with UF-ID
Gator Nights (Olga, Carol)	Friday 5:45pm	Meet at Freshens (ice cream place) FREE Bring your UF ID.

Meet our Students

We have a new feature on our website, everyone! Go to www.eli.ufl.edu and click on the Meet Our Students link on the left hand side. You'll see lots of pictures of goings on around the ELI!

Birthdays

The following are ELI birthdays from March 30-April 5:

Students:

April 2: Halimah Hathah

April 3: Jorge Ochoa

Staff:

April 1: Bethany Rowlings

Happy Birthday, one and all!

Manners and Culture

Q: Why do people in the US shake hands rather than hugging and kissing?

A: It's purely a matter of the culture in which we were raised. In some cultures, particularly those that sprung up around the Mediterranean, people express greeting with great enthusiasm. In Eastern countries, for the most part, people don't touch at all in greeting. In the northern areas of Europe (including England, from which many US behaviors came), the custom developed somewhere in between these extremes—the handshake was established as a norm.

Q: Why don't people here help you in the bus with your luggage or backpack?

A: Just as with the previous question, it's a matter of what we're used to. In mass transit in the US, we are just simply used to minding our own business and keeping to ourselves. We don't really like too many strangers handling our stuff. The bus driver is hired to drive the bus, and that's pretty much it.

Quote of the Week

Getting ahead in a difficult profession requires avid faith in yourself. That is why some people with mediocre talent, but with great inner drive, go much further than people with vastly superior talent..

Sophia Loren



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