

Highlights

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

The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
Volume 113, Issue 10
November 5, 2010*



Volunteer Day

Help others while helping yourself!

This Saturday, November 6th, we are holding our next **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 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, November 4th.

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

Emeritus Retirement Home— Come give manicures, play piano, go bowling, and talk with the elderly at Summerville! Practice speaking English while making new friends. Meet us at the Cabana Beach mailboxes at 2pm, and we will return around 5:30pm.

10000 Villages — Help sell unique handmade treasures while supporting artisans from around the world. We will meet at Norman Garage at 8:30am and return around 11am OR 10:30am-2pm OR 1:30pm to 5pm.

Downtown Arts Festival – Come and help children be creative with arts and

crafts at the arts festival. We will meet at the Norman Hall Garage at 9:30am and return around 12noon OR 11:30am-2pm OR 1:30pm-5pm..

St Francis House—Help us paint and work on a project to improve homeless shelters. Be sure to wear clothes that can get dirty. We will meet at Norman Garage at 8:40am and return around 1pm.

Have a great day, everyone!

Class Photo

The ELI Class picture for Fall, 2010 will be taken at the front of Tigert Hall on SW 13th Street on Tuesday, November 9th, at 2:45pm. We will walk over together from Norman Hall at 2:25 from L/S Classes or LA hours. For classes not in Norman Hall, please gauge your time to arrive at Tigert Hall by 2:45. For any and all students not taking Listening/Speaking classes, as well as all other teachers, LAs, and any other ELI personnel who wants to participate, we very much would like to encourage you to come and join us for the picture.



Notes from the Office

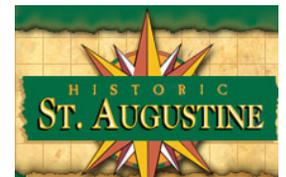
- **Thursday, November 11th**— Veteran's Day holiday. There will be

no classes on Thursday, November 11th, and the ELI Office will be closed. **PLEASE NOTE: Friday, November 12th is a regular class day!**

- **Wednesday, November 24th**—ELI Classes will end at 12:35pm on Wednesday, November 24th. There will be no afternoon classes for you on Wednesday, November 24th (The day before Thanksgiving). **All other ELI Classes will meet as normal on this day.** Also, as a reminder, we will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday on November 25th and 26th.

The Next Trip

Our next weekend trip will be to **Historic St. Augustine** on Saturday, November 13th. Details will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.



If you want to go on this trip, you will need to buy a van ticket for \$20 on Wednesday, November 3 from 10am to 1:30pm from Noreen in RM 318. **You need to pay in cash with exact change and the money is non-refundable.**

Birthdays

The following are the ELI Birthdays for the period November 5-11:

Students:

November 5: María José Suarez

November 6: Amal Alsaleh

November 6: Michal Dobrovodský

November 6: Sadik Topal

November 7: Chung Yuan Chiu

November 7: Fahad Alansari

November 8: Cheik Souleymane

Oudraogo

November 9: Keun Hyong Kim

November 10: Hasan AlHamadi

Staff:

November 9: Lia Brennehan

Happy Birthday, one and all!

Manners and Culture

Q: Why is it incorrect to call my teacher "teacher"?

A: Every society has different rules and customs for what to call people in positions of authority.

In US society, we only address our teachers as "teacher" when we are very young children, if at all. Otherwise, we call our teachers by Mr. or Ms. and the family name. In college, when many teachers hold doctoral degrees, we address them as Dr. or Professor along with the last name.

Here at the ELI, we do want to foster a more collegial and team atmosphere. Most of the teachers here do not have Doctorates; the Masters is considered the high degree for teaching ESL. Use of the first name here is considered a preferred choice.

Q: In my country, I can't wear flip-flops to school, but here it is obviously common. Why?

A: And you'll find that it's even different from place to place here in the US. Fashion and what is/is not acceptable at school is a very regional thing here. For example, your Manners Columnist is a teacher here at the ELI, and I wear shorts most every day. In some universities in northern, cooler climates, this would be very unusual. However, here in Gainesville, fashion is different because it

follows the warmer weather patterns, and it's a good thing...because most days, I'd probably come to class drenched in sweat otherwise!

The same convention applies to footwear. Gainesville and a great deal of Florida (with the exception of some private schools) just have different rules regarding the appropriateness of various fashion trends.

Grammar

Q: When can I use "get" instead of "go", as in, "I get to work," vs. "I go to work"?

A: Rarely, actually. This structure simply means, "arrive". It's usually used when we want to indicate that nothing is going to happen until after the arrival, as in, "I'll do it as soon as I get to work."

Quote of the Week

I am where I am because I believe in all possibilities.

Whoopi Goldberg

UF English Language Institute
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

English Language Institute

PO Box 117051

315 Norman Hall

Gainesville, FL 32611-7051, USA

Phone: (352) 392-2070

Fax: (352) 392-3744

Email: StudyEnglish@eli.ufl.edu

Webpage: www.eli.ufl.edu