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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 27th, 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.

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 25th.

Help groom retired horses at the **MILL CREEK HORSE FARM** from 8:15am-12noon. Meet at Norman Garage at 8:15am and wear outdoor clothes and close-toed shoes! Bring carrots if you want to feed the horses!

Do you like talking with the elderly? Join us at **EMERITUS** from 2:45pm-5pm and then play games and talk with older people. Meet at Cabana Beach rental office.

How about helping the homeless? Volunteer for **ST. FRANCIS HOUSE** from 8:30am-1pm. Help prepare and serve lunch for the homeless. Meet at Norman Garage.

Want to meet new American friends and UF students? Join us for **THE GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP** from 12:30pm-5pm. Clean up around the nature areas and roads of Gainesville. Meet at Norman Garage.

Have a great day, everyone!

Next Weekend

Next weekend, on Saturday, April 3rd, we will be going **Canoeing**. 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 9th. 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!

Class Photo

The ELI Class picture for Spring, 2010 will be taken at the front of Tigert Hall on SW 13th Street on Tuesday, March 30th, at 1:45pm. We will walk over together from Norman Hall at 1:30 from L/S Classes or LA hours. For classes not in Norman Hall, please gauge your time to arrive at Tigert Hall by 1:45. 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

B-Term Countries

The following are the countries and places represented by our students in our new B-Term:

Brazil	Spain
Colombia	Taiwan
Costa Rica	Turkey
Ecuador	USA
Korea	Venezuela
Saudi Arabia	

Welcome, new students!

Birthdays

The following are ELI birthdays from March 26-April 1:

Students:

March 26: Albani Da Silva

March 26: Chun Hyung Park

March 28: Mert Gumusbasoglu

April 1: Jihoon Kim

Staff:

March 27: Roxy Fraser (Yes, I know. I put it in last week's by mistake!)

Happy Birthday, one and all!

Manners and Culture

Q: I often see American flags in front of restaurants, classrooms, houses, buildings and so on. In my country, we hang our flag only

on specific days. I wonder why American flags are always hanging outside?

A: Just a simple cultural point for us. The flag is a very strong symbol of patriotism in the US, and it has been for most of our existence. Study the lyrics to our national anthem—you'll find that the song is about seeing the flag in the middle of a battle. Interestingly, there's now even a law in the State of Florida that requires that all state classrooms to have one!

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between a simile and a metaphor?

A: They're both used to create an image in reader's mind that compares things, but the main difference is that a simile uses "like" or "as".

Q: Is it correct to say, "I have been going to class since 3 days ago?"

A: 100% No. "Since" and "ago" can never be paired.

Q: What's the difference between "different from" and "different than"?

A: "Different from" is correct. "Different than" isn't. However, this is one of those that a lot of native speakers get wrong. It may be a case in which the error eventually becomes the rule.

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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