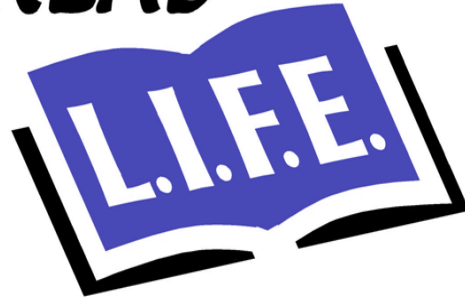


***READ for***



***Literacy Is For Everyone***

## ANNUAL REPORT

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2009/2010

Read for L.I.F.E. Office

P.O. Box 1032

Findlay, OH 45839

419-425-3515

[readforlife@yahoo.com](mailto:readforlife@yahoo.com)

### **Organization Mission Statement**

The mission of Read for L.I.F.E. is to provide opportunities for adult residents of Hancock County to learn to read and develop related skills

Adopted by the Board of Trustees  
March 2010

### **The Vision**

The aim of RFL continues to be: to increase the reading, writing, and basic numeric skills of functionally illiterate adults 18 and over, who live and/or work in Hancock County, by means of free, one-to-one sessions.

### **Involvement with other Organizations**

Read for L.I.F.E. is a member of :

Ohio Literacy Network  
ProLiteracy America  
Literacy Volunteers of America  
Hancock County Coordinating Council

Literacy Coalition for Hancock County

Read for L.I.F.E. collaborates with:

Learn to Read English Through the Bible (LETB)

Bridges Out of Poverty

Summer Smart Lunch Series

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## History of Read for L.I.F.E.

Read for L.I.F.E (RFL) was the offspring of Findlay Service League in 1987. After a member noticed that one of her husband's employees was unable to read, the League researched illiteracy in Hancock County and estimated five percent (5%) of the population to be functionally illiterate. A Board of Directors was established and Read for L.I.F.E. was established. The first tutor training sessions were held in August 1987, and the first adult learners were matched with tutors in November 1987.

Members of RFL, specifically Ginny Shipps and Gene McEvoy, took charge of the program in its original location above Evans' Office Equipment. After a successful beginning, Read for L.I.F.E. was incorporated in the spring of 1989. A Dorney grant was awarded in 1990 and steps were taken to hire the first Director.

In April 1990, RFL moved to the Ohio Bank Building on Tiffin Avenue. Susan Smith was hired as the first director in the fall of 1990 and served for five years. In July 1993, RFL relocated to its present location on the lower level of the Findlay-Hancock County Public Library (FHCPL), forming a strong community bond in the effort to increase literacy. Cheryl Stacey became RFL's second director in February 1996 and served for one year. Anna May Peterson was hired in April 1997 and she was the director for three years. Deb Arce served as interim director until 2001 when Todd Snyder was hired. Todd left Read for L.I.F.E. in July of 2001 and Donna Burch was the director from August 2001 until August 2004. Leslie Vano was hired in August 2004 and served until June 2007. Kathy Krucki served as interim director until she was formally hired to the position in August 2007.

Sept 1997

Amended 2005,2007

## President's Report

Read For L.I.F.E.

President's Annual Report

May 26, 2010

This past year brought new and exciting changes and opportunities for the Read For L.I.F.E. Organization (RFL). We spent our first full year in our new office in the basement of the Findlay-Hancock County Library and finally fully recovered from the devastation caused by the 2007 flood. The Library's decreased hours forced the tutors and students to adapt and change their schedules in order to find suitable times to meet. Our organization has been fully thrust into the "electronic age". Brian Buckley spent a great deal of time and effort designing and developing our new RFL website and it is now up and running at <http://AdultReadHC.org>. We are very excited and hope that individuals in the county who could utilize our services will be able to obtain information via the website and contact us. Also, students in last fall's Technical Communication class at the University of Findlay developed an Annual Report, printed and electronic, that RFL can use each year to send to donors and that we will be able to submit with grant applications.

We instituted a new format and venue for this year's Spelling Bee, which was held on April 15 at the First Presbyterian Church. We adopted the new guidelines recently instituted by the Toledo Read For Literacy which basically takes the "sting" out of the Bee, allowing it to flow smoother and make it more enjoyable for the spellers. Team sizes were also increased to allow for up to six spellers and we had the pleasure of having Miss Ohio, Erica Gelhaus, serve as one of our judges, as she has chosen literacy as her platform.

Despite the on-going recession, our financial situation remained solid as the Bee brought in a record amount of revenue to the organization. Business and individual donations surpassed our budgeted amount due to our dedicated members continuing to recognize the need for the important service we provide to the community. We were invited to participate in the Findlay Chow Now lunch program and received money from several new grants and fundraising events. Due to our financial solvency we were

able to reinvest our CD and watch our endowment at the Community Foundation continue to grow.

Our RFL Director, Kathy Krucki, continues to exceed our expectations by ensuring that new students enter our one-to-one program while working to advance new collaborations between RFL & community organizations, especially her participation on a task force for “Bridges Out of Poverty”; a new ESL program with St. John Evangelical Church; and a reading program for Summer Lunch at Glenwood Middle School. Kathy has offered to help gather information for a Literacy Coalition that the Community Foundation is interested in starting for Hancock County. She also continues to vigorously promote RFL by giving presentations to community organizations and members that result in an increased community awareness of the RFL program.

We continue to move in the right direction under the guidance of a diverse group of Board of Trustees who represent all aspects of our community. They provide insight and guidance in ensuring that RFL will be able to continue to provide a valuable service in the community to individuals who are lacking the basic literacy skills. A huge thank you goes out to the concerned friends, neighbors and coworkers who donated hundreds of hours tutoring the students. We are proud to announce that under the guidance of these individuals a RFL ‘graduate’ has opened her own restaurant while another passed her STNA test and is now able to be employed.

Finally, in the coming year I would like to see us continue to explore opportunities for increased individual and business memberships and fundraising opportunities. We also need to widen our search for new grants and continue to add new collaborations within the community. We need to find ways to increase our endowment at the Community Foundation and come up with new ideas to help expand the Bee and encourage more non-profit teams to participate. We also need to make sure we continually monitor and update the website with current information. Special attention should be paid to the Strategic Plan update to incorporate all these ideas as well as the valuable information we obtained during the Standards of Excellence clinic that the Community Foundation sponsored.

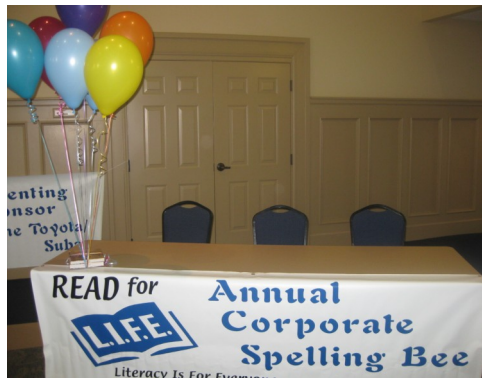
*Sandra S. Stone*



Marathon's Team: 2010 winners!



Judges for the 2010 Spelling Bee.



We used a new format for our Spelling Bee this year. Took the "sting" out of the Bee!



Admin. Director Kathy Krucki speaking at the Spelling Bee.



Tutoring training session.



One-on-one tutoring session

**Board of Directors**

Nancy Abbey  
Trinity Episcopal Church  
Start: 2006

Ginny Lee Pilstl  
Community Representative  
Start: 2005

Vicki Blaser  
Vicki Blaser, CPA  
Start: 2007

Sandra Stone  
Marathon Oil Company  
Start: 2006

Judy Carlson  
Huntington Bank  
Start: 2005

Christie Tipton  
Owens Community College  
Start: 2009

Erick Hayenga  
Univ. of Findlay  
Start: 2010

Sarah Clevidence  
Findlay-Hancock County  
Public Library  
Start: 2009

Ann Demler  
Altrusa  
Start: 2007

Kathy Young  
Findlay City Schools  
Start: 2008

Barb Emmons  
Head Start  
Start: 2007

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

PRESIDENT – SANDRA STONE

V. Pres. – Ginny Lee Pilstl

Treasurer – Judy Carlson

Secretary – Sarah Clevidence

Rachel Lopez  
The Courier  
Start: 2007

Linda Miller  
Community Representative  
Start: 2007

**ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR**

Kathy Krucki

## Budget

Budget Results: July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010:

### INCOME

	<b>Actual</b>
Grants	2868.85
Investments	108.29
Membership Drive	4776.00
Misc Revenue	0
Other Donations	90
Pancake Breakfast	1160
Other	144.51
Spelling Bee	7473
<b>Total Income</b>	\$16,620.65

### EXPENSE

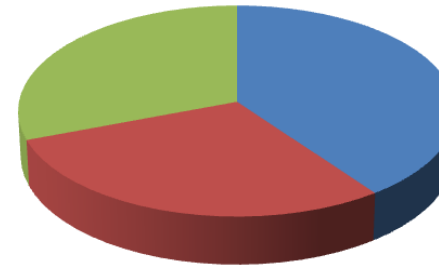
	<b>Actual</b>
Registration Fees	0
Contact Services	0
Equipment Maintenance	174.30
Fundraising	1438.50
Insurance	649.20
Operations	3385.87
Misc Expense	87.88
Taxes	918
Salaries	12000
Travel/Meeting/Training	100
<b>Total Expense</b>	\$18,753.75

*Net Income* -2133.10

**Donors**


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Bob and Nancy Abbey  
 Act-1 Temporaries  
 Asian Grill  
 Mr. and Mrs. Phil Bader  
 Ball Corporation  
 Jane Barbieri  
 Dr. and Mrs. Joe Barkey  
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Bennet  
 Mr. and Mrs. Tom Blaser  
 J. Bruce Brimley  
 Chris and Don Bruce  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jim Brucklacher  
 Dave Burget  
 Larry and Janelle Busdeker  
 Dow and Susan Campbell  
 Nondace Campbell  
 Judy Carlson  
 Sarah Clevidance  
 Jenny Schaub- Clyde-Findlay Area Credit Union  
 Robroy Crow  
 Dr. and Mrs. Paul Davis  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jim Demler  
 Nicole Diederich  
 Dietsch Brothers  
 Dr. and Mrs. Stan Doty  
 Barbara Dysinger  
 Mr. and Mrs. Bob Edds  
 Dick and Lillian Edelbrock  
 Rod Fellows  
 Findlay's Tall Timbers Distribution Center  
 William Fitzgerald  
 Leah Flory  
 William D. Frack  
 Diana Froning  
 Stefanie Preston – Hercules Tire and Rubber Company  
 Nancy Hutchison  
 Paul and Barbara Janowiecki  
 Dan and Marie Jernigan

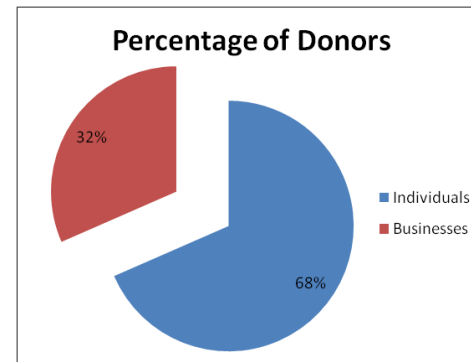



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■ Newspaper Giving Level: Up to \$30  
 ■ Magazine Giving Level: \$31 to \$100  
 ■ Book Giving Level: \$100 or more

**Donors (continued)**

Roger and Ginny Lee Kapeluck  
 Kathy Krucki  
 Eric and Lisa Kurjan  
 Vince Lichtinger  
 Dr. and Mrs. Michael Lindamood  
 Dr. and Mrs. John Malacos  
 Jim and Beth Maurer  
 Betty McBride  
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard McCleary  
 Nancy Dysinger – McComb Family Dentistry  
 Dr. and Mrs. Robert McEvoy  
 Angie McGinnis  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Miller  
 Mr. and Mrs. Les Miller  
 Mark and Linda Miller  
 Diana Montague  
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Neimeyer  
 Ohio Automotive Supply  
 Milton and Carol Peters  
 Ronald and Carole Pohlmeier  
 Isabelle Pratt  
 Judge Vernon Preston  
 Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Reid  
 Alec and Sandy Reinhardt  
 Carol Roessing  
 Paula Rosencrans  
 Dr. Doris Salis  
 Marianne Springer  
 Sandra and Elwood Stone  
 Janet Taylor  
 Miriam Vance  
 Susan Waltemeyer  
 Judy Wardle  
 Jacquie Weimerskirch  
 George and Shirley Whitson  
 Susan Williams  
 Ivan and Judy Withrow  
 Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Younger



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