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The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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St. Augustine

Visit the Nation's Oldest City!

On Saturday, March 30th we will be going to St. Augustine which is the oldest European city in the US! St. Augustine was founded on September 8, 1565. It was named St. Augustine after the Saint with the same name.

First, we will visit the Old City, where everyone can visit the Fort and walk through the streets during a special art show event. After that, we will visit the beach (depending on the weather) and the lighthouse. Families are welcome!

When: Saturday, March 30th. We will be meeting at Norman Garage at 9:00am. We will leave St. Augustine around 6:30pm and arrive in Gainesville around 8:00pm.

Cost: You'll need to purchase a bus pass from Nate in Norman 318 between 9:00am and 12:30pm before Friday, March 29th. Please bring \$20 cash, exact change, and a picture ID (like a Gator 1 ID card or a passport). Bus passes are non-refundable and first come, first serve.

What to bring: Your yellow bus passes and Gator 1 IDs to get on the bus. You should bring about \$40 for museums and food. Bring a swim suit, towel and sunscreen for the beach! Don't forget to bring a camera!

The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will be going to the **Santa Fe College Spring Arts Festival**. Details about the activity will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Class Photo

The ELI Class picture for Spring 2013 will be taken in front of **Tigert Hall** on SW 13th Street on Tuesday, April 2nd, at 1:45pm. Classes will walk over together toward the end of the first Listening/Speaking hour. Please gauge your time to arrive by 1:45. If it is raining on Tuesday, we will hold the picture on Wednesday at the same time. Classes will meet as usual before and after the photo, so make sure to go to class as soon as the picture is taken.

For any and all students not taking Listening/Speaking classes, as well as all other teachers, LAs, and any other ELI personnel who want to participate, please join us for the picture!

Please leave your backpacks on the floor by the bushes. Don't sit on the edges or the floor in front of the stairs. Move towards the back of the steps and squeeze together as much as possible. The more you squeeze, the better you'll fit in the picture!

Staff out

Emily: Emily will be on vacation from Friday, March 22 until Monday, April 1st, when she returns to the office. Emily would like to remind you to take care of your immunizations even though she's away.

Daryl: Daryl returns to the office from his business trip on March 25th but will be on vacation March 28th and March 29th.

Requesting Documents

Please be specific when requesting a document such as proof of enrollment letters, extension letters for scholarships, parking letters, grade report, or letters of recommendation. Make sure to plan ahead when requesting these documents. **Most documents take at least three business days but some can take as long as two weeks to process.**

If you need a letter of recommendation, ask your instructor first to see if she or he can write a letter for you. Please note that instructors' letters have to be an accurate description of your work and student skills so if you have a lot of absences or do not do the classwork, it will be very difficult to write a letter that will be helpful for you.

If your instructor agrees to write a letter for you, you will then have to go to the ELI main office and fill out a document request

form. Then you can give the request form to your instructor. Without this form, your instructor is not able to write a letter.

Weekday Activities

The following is our afternoon activity schedule. Please check the Activities Board from time to time to see if there are any changes.

Day/Time	Activity	Location/Cost
Monday 7pm-10pm	Game Night (Megan)	Meet in the Reitz Union Game Room on the Ground Floor. Bring \$5-\$10 for games
Tuesday 6:30pm-9:30pm	Field Night (Travis)	Meet at Hume Field. Free
Wednesday 7pm-10pm	Coffee Talk (Hanna)	Meet at 7 p.m. at the Reitz Union tables near Orange & Brew. Free
Thursday 7pm-10pm	Volleyball (Karen)	Meet at Lexington Crossing. Free
Friday 7pm-10pm	Volleyball (Lauren)	Meet at Lexington Crossing. Free
Friday 6pm-10pm	Gator Nights (Robert)	Meet at the Reitz Union Information Desk. Bring your UFID

Attendance

Class attendance is a requirement of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). It is also required by the ELI because we feel that you will not learn English if you do not come to class. To help students stay focused on their studies and to enforce the USCIS rules, the ELI has a strict attendance policy. That means that there are no excused absences, even if you are sick. If you are sick, tell your teacher. If you're going to be absent for three days, tell your teacher AND the office.

Remember! Absences due to illness and religious holidays are already covered by the number of absences already permitted by the ELI! Also remember, if you miss 5 days in a row in a class without notifying us, you risk termination of your student status.

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of March 25 to March 31:

- Students:
 March 25: Pinga Ouare
 March 25: Bruno Cavalcante Hanna
 March 26: Aziza Zairova
 March 26: Viviana Iwasita
 March 29: Nara Lim
 March 30: Selin Altunkaya
 March 30: Jhon Mendoza Robles

Staff:
 March 29: Pascale Belony

Happy Birthday, one and all!

Manners and Culture

Q: Why do American people apologize or say "I'm sorry" a lot? For example, when I am on a bus and I accidentally hit someone, he or she tells me "I'm sorry" even when it was my fault.

A: The other person knows that it wasn't their fault. In this case, "sorry" doesn't really mean "I apologize for bumping into you". The function of "sorry" here is to acknowledge that something bad happened.

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between "like" and "such as"?

A: Depending on which grammar book you're reading, when we use "like" to mean "such as" (in other words, to introduce an example or series of examples), it's either slang, conversational, or informal. In other words, it's incorrect grammar that a lot of people use anyway.

Conversational: I enjoy many American foods, like pizza and hamburgers.

Academic: I enjoy many American foods, such as pizza and hamburgers.

Quote of the Week

The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page.

St. Augustine of Hippo



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