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The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Volunteer Weekend

Help others while helping yourself!

This Saturday, March 15th, we are

holding our second major **Volunteer Day** of the spring term. This is your chance to help out the community while practicing your English in a real-life environment. Remember to take pictures to share on the ELI Facebook page! Below is a description of the volunteer activities going on this weekend.

Cost: Free! Wear comfortable clothes and sneakers. You should bring water to each volunteering activity.

Friday, March 14th – Don't miss class for this!

Bread of the Mighty: We will help create care packages and store food for the needy of Gainesville. Meet at Norman Hall at 1:30pm.

Project Downtown Gainesville: We will make lunch bags with sandwiches for the poor and hungry. Meet at the Norman Garage at 2:00pm.

Saturday, March 15th

Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs: Guardian Angels trains dogs to assist people with disabilities. We will help clean the area both inside/outside, dog crates, etc. If we are lucky we might also even help out with the dogs or

watch them train. Meet at the Norman Garage at 9:00am.

Little Orange Creek: Help us clean and keep Little Orange Creek beautiful. Learn about plants, animals, weeds, and historical sites like the old cemetery. There are many animals such as deer, birds, and even snakes. Meet at the Norman Garage at 9:00am.

Project Downtown Gainesville: We will help feed the homeless. Meet at the Norman Garage at 12:30pm.

Emeritus: Come out to Emeritus and engage the elderly residents with fun conversation and/or games. If you are interested in playing music and have an instrument, please sign up. Let's make this a memorable day! Meet at the Norman Garage at 9:30pm.

Please sign up on the Activities Board for your choice of activity by 4pm on Thursday, March 13th but don't sign up for an activity if it is already full. Arrive **ON TIME** at Norman Garage! If you have any questions about any of the activities, see Chris in the CIP Office, Room 318.

The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will be going to **First Strike Paintball!** **IMPORTANT:** Students under 18 should see Nate to

pick up a paintball waiver which their parents will need to sign **before** the trip. Please sign up on the Activities Board as soon as possible. There are only 40 spots available and they go quickly! Details about the trip will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Student Voices Deadline

Have you been writing a lot in your classes? Submit your paragraphs, essays, stories, recipes and anything else that you'd like to see in print to Student Voices! The deadline is **Friday, April 4th**. Please remember to include your name, class, and title for the piece. Email your entries for the *Voices* to my email address, mpjimenez@ufl.edu.

Class Photo

Because everyone has access to our photos on the ELI Facebook page, we won't be taking a class photo to print. Therefore, we are sadly retiring this tradition. However, there are lots of group shots on the ELI Facebook page so make sure to check them out!

Talent Show Info Meeting

We will be holding an informational meeting for the Talent Show. **It is very**

important that you go to this meeting.

We will talk about what is available to you (as the performers), instrumentation (if you need instruments such as drum kits, amps, etc.), and anything else you might need.

When: Tuesday, March 11 at 5:15pm

Where: NRN 184

If you have any questions, feel free to ask Nate, Melina, Tiffany, Daryl or Jessica.

Manners and Culture

Q: What is the history of St. Patrick's day? What do people do this day?

A: St. Patrick's Day is celebrated on March 17th because that is the day that Saint Patrick died. Saint Patrick is one of the patron saints of Ireland. On this day, you will see people wearing a lot of green, drinking lots of beer (sometimes also green), and more importantly, singing happy birthday to your ELI Weekly editor.

Q: Why did we change the clocks this weekend? What does Daylight Savings mean?

A: Daylight Savings Time (DST) was started during World War I as a way to save energy by making evenings have more

sunlight. It is controversial and not all parts of the US observe DST. Some opponents of DST argue that it actually costs more money. Other countries, such as Australia, Great Britain, and Canada also observe DST, although some places within those countries do not.

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between not and non?

A: *Not* is a word that can be put in front of other words. *Non* is a prefix that attaches to the words. They mean the same thing, which is the negative of the word, but you'll need to memorize which words take *non*, *un*, *dis*, *anti* and so on. Be careful, however, since they can have slightly different meanings.

- The children are *not* interested in the case.
- The children are *uninterested* in the case.
- The judge is *disinterested* in the case.

Q: What is the difference between do not have and have no?

A: There is no big difference between the two but we generally use *do not have any* more.

Conversational: I don't have any food.
Academic: I have no food.

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

A: Most of your teachers will say "100% no because *since* and *ago* can never be paired. However, it does occur. For example, in Shakespeare's play *As You Like It*, one character states "Tis but an hour ago since it was nine." To make your sentence sound more academically correct, you can change it to the following:

I have been going to class since it started 3 days ago.

Quote of the Week

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life round.

Leo Buscaglia

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