

FLAGS POLE

FALL, 2014

FLAGS is a membership organization whose purpose is to provide networking, resources and professional development to world language teachers in the greater Sacramento area. We are an affiliate of the California Language Teachers' Association.

In This Issue...

Your FLAGS Board	1
President's Perch	2
Letter from the Editor	3
Membership Info	4
Calendar of Events	4
Local Happenings	5
CLTA	6
Fall Festa	7
2015 Membership Application	8

Demystifying QR CODES!

Tired of typing in long, annoying web addresses? For immediate access to those websites and email addresses, simply scan the QR Codes that appear throughout the

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SACRAMENTO



The FLAGS Board

Published by the Foreign Language
Association of Greater Sacramento

President & CLTA Rep

Nicole Naditz

French Teacher, Bella Vista HS

Vice President / Conference Chair /

Awards Chair

Inga Templeton

German Teacher

Mira Loma HS

Treasurer

Chrstine Lanphere

French Teacher

Natomas HS

Membership

Evelyn Bejaramo

Spanish & French Teacher, Retired

Historian / Secretary

Marie Robb

French Teacher

Center HS

Advocacy, Webmaster & At-Large

Member

Tanya Zaccone

Spanish Teacher, Retired

Newsletter Editor

Katherine Thornburgh

Spanish Teacher, El Dorado HS

Board Members can all be reached at
flagsteacher@gmail.com.



Take a moment
now to mark
your calendars
for the 2015
CLTA World
Languages
Conference in
Sacramento!
March 5-8,
2015 at the
Double Tree by
Hilton in
Sacramento.

Keep an eye on
your email,
and on our
websites for
more
information to
come!





The President's Perch

Happy Fall FLAGS Members!

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year! How has your 2014-2015 school year started? How was your summer, (or does that now seem as if it were far in the rear-view mirror?)

How did you refresh and renew over the summer? In my case, I was fortunate to be able to take two short vacations, but also participate in a lot of professional development. My new area of focus for this year is examining my grading and assessment practices. One great resource for backwards design is the ACTFL-NCSSFL Can-Do Statements, which are written in student-friendly terms and can be used to guide lesson planning, assessment products and for students to reflect on their own progress and set personal language goals. You can access an interactive, online version here: http://www.actfl.org/global_statements.

We've been very busy over the summer updating the Website and we invite you to check it out at <http://www.flagsteacher.com>. We also have a new email address where you can reach all of our board members: flagsacramento@gmail.com.

As you look through our first FLAGS Pole of the 2014-2015 school year, look for information on exciting opportunities for professional development this fall, including our annual FLAGS Fall Conference and our national professional conference (more than 600 different sessions and attended by approximately 6,000 language teachers each year). This amazing conference is hosted by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Convention and Expo.

In other exciting news, FLAGS is the host of the 2015 CLTA conference, at the Doubletree Hotel on Arden Way, March 5-8, 2015! If you would like to help out in any way, please contact Conference Chair Tanya Zaccane at tzaccane@surewest.net. The help of volunteers is critical and we look forward to working with you to make this year's conference a great success.

Happy Fall!

Nicole

Nicole Naditz
FLAGS President

FROM THE EDITOR...

Dear FLAGS Members,

Welcome back to a great school year with lots of opportunities to take part in our local representation of World Languages!

As I jump into my third year as part of the FLAGS Organization, I have also embarked on a new teaching opportunity at El Dorado High School in Placerville. I was fortunate to enjoy two wonderful Years at Golden Hills School in El Dorado Hills, but also welcomed the opportunity to teach in Placerville.

My primary purpose for addressing you is to encourage you to reach out to me when you have material or information that is of general interest to our community that you would like published. This could be special events or dates that involve cultural or language-related celebrations, ideas you would like to share with others in the community from your classroom, or to share a particular success from another World Languages colleague. I can be reached at flagsacramento@gmail.com. (For automatic link to this email from print issue, see QR code on pg. !!)

I look forward to seeing you at the conference, and keep your eye on this issue as well as our winter issue for updates and information. We will also be sending out information to your email addresses, so please be sure that your email address is current and up to date. If you are not sure if you have an up-to-date email address, please email us at flagsacramento@gmail.com with your most current email address so that we can update our records. (For automatic link to this email from print issue, see QR code on pg. !!)

Have a fantastic fall, and let me know if there is information you want to see in the FLAGS Pole. The next deadline for submitting all articles and information will be Friday, December 12, 2015 for our January (Winter Issue) publication.

Best to everyone,

Katherine

Katherine Thornburgh

Spanish Teacher, El Dorado High School

Calendar of Events!

Thursday, Nov. 20-Sunday, Nov. 23, 2014: ACTFL Annual Languages Convention & Expo in San Antonio, TX. Registration is now open. Visit <http://www.actfl.org/convention-expo>. (Scan the QR code below to connect to ACTFL!)



Thursday, March 5-Sunday, March 8, 2015 - CLTA ANNUAL CONVENTION in Sacramento! For continuously updated information on Registration, visit <http://clta.net/conference-2/registration/>. (Scan the QR code below to connect to CLTA!)



Saturday, April, 25, 2015 - Student Awards Breakfast, 8:30-10:30 a.m., Annie's Breakfast and Steaks, 8800 Greenback Ln, Orangevale, CA 95662. Invitation to provide to student: coming in early spring 2015!

Got Membership?

Greetings to our Members!!!

This is just a reminder that if you are currently (2014) member, your membership is good (valid) through December 31, 2014.

Not a member yet? Join now! Membership ran out? Renew now! In an effort to keep our membership year the same as CLTA and to better serve the needs of our members, FLAGS is changing the membership year from the calendar year to the school year. The prorated rate is only \$15 (for full-time teachers) from January 1-August 31, 2015. Also, for this transitional period **FLAGS is again offering a BOGO deal, buy one get one free!** Yes, you can sign up yourself and a colleague for only \$15. Such a deal! Membership dues for part-time teachers are \$10; \$5 for full-time students and retirees.

So, what's in it for you?!?! There are lots of benefits to being a member of FLAGS. You get reduced rates for FLAGS workshops. You can nominate colleagues for awards recognizing them for their outstanding teaching. You can honor a student at the annual Student Awards Breakfast for FREE. You can apply for small grants to fund special Advocacy/outreach events with your students. You can join us at the FREE fall member reception. And you get instant updates on matters of importance to the profession.

Finally, while you're renewing or joining FLAGS for the first time, think about renewing or becoming a member of our mother Association – CLTA. Membership in CLTA will get you reduced rates to the annual CLTA conference coming to Sacramento in March, 2015.

To renew or join FLAGS, print and send in the membership form on page 6 of this newsletter or visit: <http://www.flagsteacher.com/membership.html>



To renew or join CLTA, visit: <http://www.tfaforms.com/293845>



Sincerely,

Evelyn

Evelyn Bejarano

FLAGS Membership Chair, Retired Spanish & French Teacher

Local Happenings in the World of World Languages...

FLAGS Fall & Winter

Workshops

Since FLAGS is hosting the CLTA Conference in March, 2015, there will be no additional workshops presented this year. Please plan to attend the CLTA Conference this year, where you will have a multitude of opportunities to learn from and engage with California's expert Language Educators! See you there in March!

ACTFL!

Can't wait for March to get some new ideas androgen practices to inject into your teaching? Come to ACTFL Annual Convention in San Antonio, TX from November 20-23, and get a head start! For more information, visit: <http://www.actfl.org/convention-expo>



CLTA/CWLP Summer Seminar in Santa Barbara 2014

Here is Summer Seminar according to participants: Language Camp for Teachers! Friends! Colleagues! Return to dorm life! Best PD ever! Excellent presenters! Wide variety of strands! Positive atmosphere! Engaging activities! Great prices! Current information! Santa Barbara! And the list goes on. The Summer Seminar report, based on participant input for 2014 includes high marks in every category (well, dorm and cafeteria life maybe not as high), as program always does.

A total of 143 participants enjoyed the many strand offerings and events: welcome reception, coffee breaks, ice cream social, poetry reading and other presentations, farewell dinner and more. In the general session Friday and Wednesday, Yo Azama (former ACTFL TOY) and our own Nicole Naditz (CLTA/SWCOLT candidate for ACTFL TOY 2015, and FLAGS president), explored 21st Century Skills, in their always informative and entertaining style. Paul Sandrock from ACTFL and David Jayner from AP rounded out our morning general sessions, with absolutely amazing and usable presentations on Standards and Assessment. If that sounds dry to you, trust me, it was anything but dry. If you were there, you know that there was collaboration,

laughter, dawning awareness, agreement, and deep discussion as we progressed.

Strands included 21st Century Learning Tools to Engage French Learners; Common Core & 21st Century Skills in the World Language Classroom; Developing Language, Literature and Culture Competency through Student Participation; Innovative Instructional Strategies for 21st Century Japanese Learners; Project-Based Learning in the World Language Classroom; Standards-Based Lesson/Unit Design to Increase Students' Linguistic and Academic Performance; STARTALK Leadership Development for Teachers of Critical Languages and Cultures; and of course, the Student Strand: Student Workshop on Language Teaching, designed for undergraduate students who are considering teaching world language as a profession.

Duarte Silva, Director of CWLP, and Lorraine D'Ambruso, former CLTA Executive Director, are the current co-conveners of the Seminar. We all owe them a debt of much gratitude, along with the many support staff, volunteers and those who donated to the Student Strand and elsewhere. FLAGS once again donated toward the support of a student, along with some Board members who donated personally.

Next Summer Seminar (Santa Barbara!) will be July 17-22, and we encourage you to try it out if you are not already a diehard fan. Some of the most popular strands will be back, and newer strands will also be offered.

Catching up with CLTA...

Big News for CLTA Members! Did you attend the free webinar? By the time you read this, the first of three free webinars for CLTA members will already have happened. Evan Rubin of LARC¹ is slated to share the ins and outs of the LARC Lesson Plan Generator, or LPG. Later in the academic year, expect webinars from Toni Thiessen and Yo Azama, both SWCOLT¹ members and former ACTFL¹ Teachers of the Year. CLTA and other affiliates of SWCOLT¹ have collaborated with LARC to bring these exciting presenters and messages to members of the SWCOLT affiliates. Enjoy! And encourage your friends to become members of CLTA as well as FLAGS!

Conference is coming up and FLAGS will be the host in 2015! Save the date, March 5-8 at the DoubleTree on Arden (Thursday the 5th and Friday the 6th are workshops; Saturday and Sunday, the 7th and 8th are the regular Conference.) We are receiving many engaging proposals for presentations, both workshops and interest sessions. And don't forget, ACIS will generously be giving away two free trips to ???

- FLAGS and Sacramento WL teachers have always had such a generous spirit and we are counting on you again to volunteer for one of the many committees it takes to host a Conference. At this writing we especially need a Local Registrar who will help the CLTA Conference Registrar (Evelyn Bejarano!) at the Conference table. To volunteer or ask questions for our Sacramento Conference, please email Tanya at tzacccone@gmail.com. Contact Evelyn Bejarano at eob2jmf@pacbel.net to volunteer or to share ideas regarding Local Registrar.
- Take a look at the Awards and Grants section of our website and consider nominating a colleague for an award (how fantastic to win an award right here in Sacramento where friends and family can be a part of the fun!), or consider applying for one of the many government or foundation grants. Several of the grants have changes for this year, so read carefully. Questions may be addressed by Kevin at past-president@clta.net. There are many ways you can donate to the memorial awards on the website; CLTA and recipients are especially indebted to Sylvia Jones' legacy and the work her

husband, Vernon, has done to make it happen.

- Consider starting to plan now for your department attendance at Conference. There may be funds for you in your district, including Common Core professional development funds.

Speaking of Conference, the ACTFL Conference will be held in November 2015 right here in California! And the 2015 CLTA Annual Conference will be in Visalia! Stay tuned for more information!

As a member of FLAGS, a vigorous and popular local source for professional development and collegiality, you may be surprised to know that not all areas of our state have such active groups. CLTA is working with these areas to revive inactive affiliates, to create new ones, and to seek ways to support and partner with world language professionals to build strong organizations locally.

One of the services that CLTA provides to affiliates is an economical way to provide background checks for affiliates who are interested in hosting language camps for students. If you have this need, please contact exec-director@clta.net right away, ASAP, now, this minute, because the process takes a while.

You may have heard that CLTA sent out a call for applicants for open positions. Several CLTA members have applied, including Web Designer, Membership Chair, Secretary and Summer Seminar Coordinator. We will keep you updated! We are looking for ways to include more people in our activities, and always welcome ideas on how we can improve. Please email Tanya at exec-director@clta.net to share ideas. Please check out our website and clta.net for teaching opportunities, teacher resources, professional development, advocacy, and much more.

¹Acronyms

- LARC Language Acquisition Resource Center, San Diego site
- SWCOLT Southwest Conference on Language Teaching (our regional umbrella organization)
- ACTFL American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (our national umbrella organization)

FALL FESTA

On Friday, September 5th, FLAGS members gathered for an afternoon of food and fun at our 5th Annual Fall Festa.

Mimi's Cafe on Alta Arden was so accommodating to us last year that we were eager to return. Twenty new and current members congregated from 4:30 to 6:00 to enjoy a delicious selection of appetizers and salads. We also exchanged stories about the start of our school year as we got better acquainted. Many of us continued talking well past 6:00! The event was free to FLAGS members.



SAVE THE DATE!

FLAGS will be hosting it's 18th Annual Student Awards Breakfast on **Saturday, April 25th, 2015** from 8:30am to 10am. Please stay tuned for more information once Spring approaches. All members are invited to nominate one of your students. This is truly a wonderful opportunity to honor and appreciate those who you impact every day.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SACRAMENTO

(A regional affiliate of the **California Language Teachers Association**)

Membership Application or Renewal

FLAGS: January 1, 2015 - August 31, 2015 [CLTA: Sep 1, 2014-Aug 31, 2015]

Circle One

Name (please print)

New Renewal

Title (circle one) Miss Ms. Mrs. Sister Dr. Mr. Rev. Brother

Home AddressCA.....

number street city zip

Home Phone (.....) School Phone (.....)

School Language(s).....

School AddressCA.....

number street city zip

E-mail Fax

(New members) I was encouraged to join by

FLAGS dues* (\$15 Regular & BOGO; \$10 Student; \$5 Retiree) \$_____ (A)

☐ I'm doing BOGO with _____ (first & last name)
(both BOGO members must complete separate forms)

CLTA dues (\$45 Regular; \$35 Student or Retiree) \$_____ (B)

TOTAL (A + B) \$_____

(A) If paying FLAGS dues only (including BOGO), please make check payable to **FLAGS** and send it with this form to:

FLAGS Membership
9400 Trenholm Dr.
Elk Grove, CA 95758

(A+B) If paying both FLAGS & CLTA dues (but NOT BOGO), please make check payable to **CLTA** and send it with this form to: (or go to clta.net/membership to pay w/a credit card and/or join other affiliates)

CLTA Membership
8822 Woodman Way
Sacramento, CA 95826



Please note: **FLAGS Dues** are prorated for 2015 only to bring our membership year into alignment with CLTA's.