

FLAGS POLE

FALL, 2015

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
Calendar Snap-shot	1
President's Perch	2
Letter from the Editor	3
Membership Info	4
Calendar of Events	4
Summer Seminar, 2015	5
Fall Festa	6
2015 Membership Application	7

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SACRAMENTO



The FLAGS Board

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Language Association of Greater
Sacramento

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Katherine Thornburgh
Spanish Teacher, El Dorado HS

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

II

PAUSE...

**AND MARK YOUR
CALENDARS! :)**

Fall Workshop:
Saturday, Oct. 17,
2015, 8:00 a.m. -
12:00 p.m.

ACTFL, (in San
Diego): Thursday,
Nov. 19 - Sunday,
Nov. 22, 2015

FLAGS Give & Get
(Post-ACTFL
Conference):
Thursday, Dec. 3,
2015, 4:30
p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Winter/Spring
Workshop: Sat.,
Jan. 30, 2016, 8:00
a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

CLTA conference:
Thurs., March 17 -
Sun., March 20,
2016

Student Awards
Breakfast: Sat.,
April 30, 2016,
8:30 - 10:30 a.m.



The President's Perch

Happy Fall FLAGS Members!

And we're back! Welcome to the 2015-2016 academic year. We know that you have probably already participated in at least one staff-development day at your schools sites. Most likely, you joined your staff at one or two days of professional development at your schools just before the students returned. But did your site staff development provide specific strategies to enhance your effectiveness as a world language teacher? FLAGS has you covered with two low-cost workshops to take your practice to the next level. Our Fall workshop will present the ACTFL Performance Descriptors as a tool to help teachers design communicative lessons around functional objectives. In the spring, we will turn our attention to technology, with free web-based tools that allow you to crop YouTube (and other) videos to just the amount you want your students to watch and intersperse many different kinds of questions for students to answer throughout the video. We'll also look at tools to capture evidence of students' speaking proficiency.

New this year, we will be offering a free "FLAGS Give and Get" session after the ACTFL conference in November. ACTFL is the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. This year, their annual Convention and Expo will be held in San Diego. With more than 600 sessions presented, attendees are sure to leave with a lot of new strategies, tips, tools, and activities. So, we wanted to bring the wealth of ACTFL back home to our FLAGS members with our "ACTFL Give and Get" (free for all FLAGS members; non-members and expired members may attend by paying their 2015-2016 dues at the door). At this event, there is no official "topic" or "presenter." Instead, anyone who attended ACTFL is invited to share something they learned at the conference with everyone who comes to the "Give and Get." Like all of our professional development, there will be door prizes as well!

Check our events calendar online (<http://www.flagsteacher.com/events.html>) or the announcements in this issue for more information about these and other events FLAGS has planned for you this year. We hope to see you at all of our events.

Happy Fall!

Nicole

Nicole Naditz
FLAGS President

FROM THE EDITOR...

Dear FLAGS Members,

Welcome to the 2015-2016 School Year! I hope each of you had a fabulous summer, and that your school year has kicked off on the right foot!

FLAGS is very excited about this coming year, and as Nicole outlined in the President's Perch, we have some fantastic opportunities for professional development this year. Please keep an eye on our website, www.flagsteacher.com for updated information regarding events we are hosting, and see page 4 for more information about our October 17 Workshop!

Additionally, I am requesting any submissions or requests you have for material. We create four issues of the FLAGS Pole each year, and we always welcome material and/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, and/or at katherine.thornburgh@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you at the the workshops we are offering, as well as at the ACTFL Conference in San Diego, (Nov. 20-22, 2015), and at the CLTA Conference in Visalia, CA, (March 17-20, 2016). Other fantastic ways to keep yourself in the loop include paying a visit our website, www.flagsteacher.com, keeping your eye on upcoming issues for breaking news, and checking FLAGS announcements as they arrive in your inboxes. (TIP! If you are not sure if you have an up-to-date email address, please help us update our records by sending your most current email address to us at flagsacramento@gmail.com.) Finally, if you have not already done so, go "Like" us on Facebook!

Have a fantastic fall, and let me know if there is information you want to see in the FLAGS Pole.

Best to everyone,

Katherine

Katherine Thornburgh

Editor, FLAGS Pole

Calendar of Events!

Sat, Oct. 17, 2015: Fall Professional Development Event: *ACTFL Performance Descriptors as a Tool for Communicative Lessons around Functional Objectives*. SacState, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Fri., Nov. 20 - Sun., Nov. 22, 2015: ACTFL Annual Languages Convention & Expo in San Diego, CA. Registration is now open. Visit <http://www.actfl.org/convention-expo>.

Thurs., Dec. 3, 2015: *FLAGS - Post-ACTFL - Give & Get*: This is an opportunity to share take-aways from ACTFL! Join FLAGS from 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m for ACTFL sharing. Location TBD.

Sat., Jan. 30, 2016: Winter/Spring PD event - Tech Focus! 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at SacState. Look for more details in your email and in the Winter, 2016 FLAGS Pole!

Thurs., March 17 - Sun., March 20, 2016: CLTA Annual Convention in Visalia! For information, visit the CLTA website (<http://clta.net>) or the conference page (<http://go.clta.net/conference>)

Saturday, April, 30, 2016: *Student Awards Breakfast*, 8:30-10:30 a.m., Location TBD. More information to come in the Winter 2016 FLAGS Pole!

Got Membership?

Greetings to our Members!!!

School is back in session and all those eager faces are looking to you to help them learn communication skills in another language. FLAGS is here to help!

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.
- And you get instant updates on matters of importance to the profession.

So, **how** do YOU take advantage of FLAGS this year? Fortunately, you can take advantage of FLAGS' offerings **simply by renewing your professional memberships.**

When is your membership up for renewal? NOW! The membership year is from September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016. If your label on this newsletter has 2015 (or earlier year) in the upper right corner, then your membership has expired and you need to renew. **Membership Dues are only \$20 (regular), \$10 (student), \$5 (retiree).**

While you're renewing or joining FLAGS for the first time, think about renewing or becoming a member of our mother Association – CLTA. **AND, as you renew, think about inviting that new teacher at your school/district to become a member or give them a gift of membership. They'll thank you later.**

To renew or join FLAGS, print and send in the membership form on page 8 of this newsletter or visit <http://www.flagsteacher.com/membership.html>. To renew or join CLTA, visit <https://www.tfaforms.com/368575>.

Have a GREAT year!

Sincerely,

Evelyn

Evelyn Bejarano

FLAGS Membership Chair, Retired Spanish & French Teacher

~

Summer Seminar, 2015...A Year of Success

Annual Summer Seminar 2015 Another Success

The 26th Annual CLTA/CWLP Summer Seminar theme was "Common Core, World Readiness and Interculturality: The Passport to Global Leadership." The forward-looking theme set the stage for well-received general sessions, and seven week-long strands in which participants "engage[d] with their peers and facilitators in applying concepts learned in the general sessions." The Seminar was held July 17-22 on campus in Santa Barbara.

Jacque Bott Van Houten, current president of ACTFL and the World Language Specialist at Jefferson County Public Schools introduced the general session topics with "Interculturality: The Passport to Global Leadership." Gregory Duncan, world language educator who has held multiple leadership positions and has received many awards, and currently collaborator and highly-sought speaker, delighted participants with "Common Core, World Readiness and Learner Engagement." Ali Moeller, Professor at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and Sheri Hurlbut, a PhD candidate at the University of Nebraska, rounded out the week's general sessions with hands-on "Interculturality, Where Language Meets Culture: From Theory to Classroom Practice." Strand topics included an AP for Heritage Spanish Speakers, Integrated Performance Assessments, Italian AP Language and Culture, Project-based Learning, Teaching Japanese for Global Leadership, Technology Tools and Curriculum Design, and a STARTALK strand for Leadership Development or Teachers of Critical Languages and Cultures. Among the many outstanding and popular presenters were FLAGS own Nicole Naditz and Christine Lanphere.

CLTA held its very first "Town Hall Meeting" which was a very successful evening of sharing and strategizing for CLTA members and others who simply wanted to attend. Participants left the meeting with a renewed goal of sharing the many

professional benefits of CLTA with their colleagues. New people joined CLTA and several volunteered to fill needs within the association and the profession.

A highlight of Summer Seminar for many was when Vernon Jones attended the CLTA Town Hall meeting to present the nine awardees their partial scholarships to Summer Seminar on behalf of his wife Sylvia, through the Sylvia Jones Foundation. Sylvia's legacy allows CLTA to present a partial scholarship for mid-career teachers to attend the Summer Seminar. Go to www.clta.net if you consider yourself a mid-career teacher and might be interested in this scholarship to help defray expenses to next year's Seminar.

FLAGS extends a deep thank-you to Co-Conveners Duarte Silva, PhD, and Lorraine D'Ambruoso, former Executive Director of CLTA, as well as to the hard-working Summer Seminar aides and volunteers, for tireless dedication and professionalism that makes the Summer Seminar so appealing and beneficial to participants.

Summer Seminar continues to seek funding and leverage current sources of funding to move forward every year to provide for the needs of world language educators and supporters who realize the value of the event, and to keep costs as low as possible for participants. If you have already attended, you understand the value. If you haven't attended, perhaps due to the perception that it is a costly event, you may want to consider the number of days, lodging, most meals, incomparable professional development that could and usually does change lives, and the availability of units from Stanford University. Look for information about Summer Seminar 2016, and join with so many others who look forward to this exceptional opportunity for world language educators. Hope to see you there next year!

FALL FESTA

On Friday, August 17th, FLAGS members gathered for an afternoon of food and fun at our 6th Annual Fall Festa at 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. The event was free to FLAGS members.



ACTFL Heads West for 2015 inspire... engage.. transform

Attention FLAGS members!

In San Diego this fall the ACTFL Conference & Expo will take place in San Diego, November 20-22, 2015 (Pre-convention work-shops begin November 19).

This is an incredible learning experience at this international event - close to home!

- More than 6,000 language educators in attendance
- Thought-provoking speakers, including Rick Steves
- More than 700 educational sessions
- More than 250 exhibiting companies with the latest products and services for you and your students

If you are not a member of ACTFL you can still register at the member rate if you are a current 2015-16 member of CLTA. You can attend a pre-conference workshop for free if you register and preside at that workshop. Contact Paula Hirsch phirsch@windwardschool.org if you are interested in being a presider. Register at: <http://www.actfl.org/convention-expo>

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SACRAMENTO

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

Membership Application or Renewal

September 1, 2015 - August 31, 2016

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* (\$20 Regular; \$10 Student; \$5 Retiree) \$_____ (A)

CLTA dues (\$45 Regular; \$10 Student; \$35 Retiree) \$_____ (B)

TOTAL (A + B) \$_____

(A) If paying FLAGS dues only, 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, 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
425 Twain
Fresno, CA 93704





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