

FLAGS POLE

FALL, 2016

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.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SACRAMENTO



The FLAGS Board

Published by the Foreign
Language Association of Greater
Sacramento

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Executive Director, CLTA
Spanish Teacher, Retired

Newsletter Editor

Katherine Thornburgh
Spanish Teacher, El Dorado HS

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

II

PAUSE...

AND MARK YOUR
CALENDARS! :))

ACTFL, - Boston -
Nov. 18-20, 2016:
AKA, IMPACTFL, -
More details on Pg
6 about this
extraordinary
annual conference!

Winter/Spring
Workshop @
SacState: Sat., Jan.
21, 2017 - More
details on Page 5!

CLTA conference:
Monterey, CA -
February 16-19,
2017 - More
details on Page 6!

Student Awards
Breakfast: Sat.,
April 29, 2017,
8:30 - 10:30 a.m.,
@ Dad's Kitchen in
Fair Oaks, CA.
More details to
come in the
Winter Issue of
the FLAGS Pole!

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The President's Perch

Greetings, FLAGS Members!

Fall is in the air, but I have to say that those of us on the FLAGS Board felt the excitement all the way back in August, with our Fall Festa and then again in September at our Fall Workshop. In both cases, the energy of our attendees and the sheer number of attendees was a joy to all of us. It was truly our pleasure to meet all of the members who attended those events for the first time and to reconnect with our ongoing members. It is my personal hope that the connections forged or renewed among those who participated in those events are continuing to sustain you now as you all do your wonderful work with your classes.

In the meantime, there has been huge news in California's world language education community: Governor Brown signed AB-2290 into law just a few weeks ago. **This bill will allow a "refresh" of our California World Language Content Standards to reflect Common Core State Standards, as well as best practices that have emerged since our current standards** were adopted in 2009, in the fields of instruction, practice and assessment. When the refreshed standards are in place, we will update our state framework for teaching world languages. The current framework was a tremendous accomplishment by those who worked on it, but it is now out of date. In fact, it pre-dates our current standards (and frameworks are normally written after standards to provide an implementation guide to teachers). Although it's still a bit early, I want to invite you to keep your eyes out for opportunities to apply to serve on committees that will draft our refreshed standards or to eventually provide public comment on drafts of the standards. Your input is not only valuable, but rather, it is essential in order to craft a document that will truly and realistically represent our expectations for students as global citizens who are members of multilingual communities on their campuses, in their communities and around the world.

Finally, although we have already had two great events this year, FLAGS still has more to offer. Check this issue or the web site for information about our Winter Workshop and the ever-popular Student Awards Breakfast.

Nicole

Nicole Naditz
FLAGS President

FROM THE EDITOR...

Dear FLAGS Members,

Wow! Already?!?! Is it really October, a quarter of the way into our 2016-17 school year? My desk - probably much like yours - already needs excavation from the books, grading, and various meeting notes and lists. I could attack the stacks, but, as usual, it is more fun and interesting to use my prep time to scan Twitter, Pinterest, Edutopia and World Language Teacher Blogs in search of engaging ideas for a communicative classroom, and then dive in to planning their delivery.

And, in addition to the enjoyment that comes with online perusing, I look forward to the profusion of upcoming opportunities we have to learn, share and collaborate with one another as we strive for increased language acquisition from our students, and appreciation of the work each of us does in our classroom every day. Here are just a few of the highlights that you can expect this year:

- 📍 CWLP - For more information about the amazing professional development opportunities through CWLP, visit: <https://csmc.ucop.edu/cwlp>
- 📍 ACTFL Annual Conference & Expo: Boston, MA - November 18-20, 2016. For more information and registration, visit: <https://www.actfl.org/convention-expo>.
- 📍 FLAGS Winter Conference: More information to come, but pencil in Saturday, Jan. 21 and 28, and we will update you on final details ASAP!
- 📍 CLTA Annual Conference & Workshop: February 16-20, 2017 in Monterrey, CA. Since this is over Presidents' Day Weekend, we'll have time to enjoy the full conference, and get to see some sights before heading back to the classroom. For more information, visit: <http://clta.net/conference/>

Again, I am requesting any submissions or requests you have for material to include in the FLAGS Pole. We always welcome material and/or information that is of general interest to our community. 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.

Please keep an eye on our website, www.flagsteacher.com for updated information regarding events we are hosting, as well as events that different partner organizations offer throughout the year. We look forward to seeing you at the the workshops and conferences. Additionally, if you are not sure if your contact information is up to date, 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 best to everyone!

Cheers,

Katherine Thornburgh

Editor, FLAGS Pole

Summer Seminar, 2016: You Know What We Did Last Summer...

Summer Seminar 2016

It's the only free afternoon/evening of the Seminar and I am having a delicious seafood dinner (oh, yummy fresh and delightful) with dear friends at a local place right on the Santa Barbara beach. Are those sea otters? seals? Being a landlubber, I can't say, but I can say the Annual CLTA/CWLP Summer Seminar is a cherished fusion of traditions that mingle with all new information and skills every year. The 2016 Seminar "Common Core and World Language Education: Enhancing Global Competence and Academic Performance" did not disappoint, and once again achieved the highest accolades from participants.

To get an idea of the offerings and facilitators, as well as keynote speakers from this past summer, you can go to: <http://clta-cwlpsummerseminar2016.wikispaces.com/home>

A big deal for CLTA was our Second Annual Town Hall Meeting. It was interesting, fun, and there were sooooo many lovely quotes on our padlet page - how to choose? – just pick a few:

- “My colleagues told me about CLTA and I am here because of them. Absolutely worth the investment.”
- “CLTA? CWLP? BLT? Seriously, too many acronyms from new teachers!”
- “We can take our roles as mentors to new faculty as an opportunity to enrich the field through participation in amazing seminars like these.”
- Second best quote of the night: “My wife was very happy to get me out of the house for a week.” [To get the first best quote – you have to be there.]

It is difficult to pin down every highlight, but sharing ideas and taking action on these ideas, also added to the inherent value of our collaboration time. Specifically, there were lots of ideas for CLTA – this is a chance to have your say after all. One key example is that CLTA now honors the request for automatic renewal of membership. We had value-adds everywhere, in so many conversations, so if you weren't there...

Wait! What's that you say? You have never been to Summer Seminar? Save your pennies and ask your administrator to send you and your colleagues next July! You will be glad you did, and after your experience, you will try your mightiest to persuade others to join us, because you will have personal understanding of why the Summer Seminar is a magical happening for educators and supporters of world language and culture.

Contact me personally at exec-director@clta.net for info. (I sort of promise not to gush overenthusiastically about the Summer Seminar experience...

~ Tanya Zaccone
Executive Director of CLTA

What's Going on @ FLAGS this year?

FALL FESTA

On Friday, August 26th, 2016, FLAGS members got together to celebrate the launch of the 2016-17 school year, and share in an afternoon of food and fun at our 7th Annual Fall Festa at Mimi's Cafe on Alta Arden. A number of new and current members congregated from 4:30 to 6:00 to enjoy a delicious selection of appetizers and salads, exchange stories about the start of our school year and get better acquainted. The event was free to FLAGS members.

Teacher Awards!!!

We all know that one special teacher. The one that is organized, creative and just simply an amazing world language teacher. Why not honor this special teacher with a FLAGS Teacher Award. As a bonus the teacher will receive \$200 and the award will be presented at the faculty meeting in front of the whole staff.

It is really easy to nominate a teacher. All we need is the name of the teacher and three letters recommendation, why the teacher should receive the FLAGS Teacher Award. The letters have to be from a principal, a colleague and a parent or a student. Only teachers who are current FLAGS members can be nominated for this award. Once you have collected all the letters you can email them to the awards chair Inga Templeton at ingatempleton@hotmail.com.

FLAGS WINTER CONFERENCE

FLAGS Winter Workshop: Bring your students to the world with Google Cardboard

Learn how Google Cardboard and other Virtual Reality viewers can take students on a 3D and 360-degree tour almost anywhere in the world. This exciting workshop will probably sell out, so register NOW.

Presenter: Nicole Naditz

Date & Time: January 21, 2017, Time: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Location: CSUS (room information coming in late fall 2016).

Campus map: <http://www.csus.edu/campusmap/>

Cost: FREE registration for FLAGS members. \$20 for non/expired members (includes 2016-2017 membership)

IMPORTANT NOTE: *all attendees are responsible for paying for their parking at CSUS.*

Registration link: <https://goo.gl/forms/ovrGrH5kCuJJAvz72>

Special notes:

- The early bird gets the worm!
- The first 30 teachers to arrive at workshop will receive a free Google Cardboard Virtual Reality Viewer, compatible with most smartphones.
- **IMPORTANT:** Please be sure your phone can download and install the free Google Cardboard App BEFORE registering. You may also want to download the Google Street View app, which works with Cardboard.

The 411 on Upcoming State & National Conferences

ACTFL Annual Convention & World Languages Expo - 2016!!!

ImpACTFL

November 18-20, 2016
Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, Boston, MA
(Pre-Convention Workshops – November 17, 2016)

The ACTFL Annual Convention and World Languages Expo is an international event bringing together more than 6,000 language educators from all languages, levels, and assignments. Our goal is to provide a comprehensive professional development experience that will have an impact on language educators at all levels of teaching and in turn impact their students to succeed in their language learning process. The program, which will feature more than 700 educational sessions in a variety of formats, will focus on innovative programs, emerging trends that impact the language profession, and research-informed practices.

Ready to register? Need more Information? Visit:
<https://www.actfl.org/convention-expo>

The 2017 CLTA Conference!

The Linguistic Growth Mindset: Cultivating a Future of Global Innovators

Coming February 16-19, 2017 in Monterey!
Registration Opens in November!

**TO VIEW THE FLAMCO VIDEO, AND LEARN MORE ABOUT
REGISTRATION AND THIS AMAZING PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY, KEEP WATCHING
[WWW.CLTA.NET!](http://WWW.CLTA.NET)**

Psssst...For LIVE web Links, visit the digital version of this newsletter at

<http://www.flagsteacher.com/flags-pole-newsletter.html>

Got Membership?

Membership & Advocacy...

Our Fall Festa (see Page 6 for more info) - our first time back together after each summer, is always a great time to talk about Language Association Membership. and the benefits of Membership. And, while individual benefits are drivers to join organizations, benefits do not show the entire picture. Tanya Zaccone, Executive Director of the CLTA, and FLAGS Member-at-large, eloquently reminded us that Membership means numbers, and numbers are key to... **ADVOCACY!**

So, using Tanya's logic, let's talk about advocacy. When legislators and government officials think about the influence of groups of people, numbers speak volumes! World Languages are in constant competition with other forces, inside and outside the field of education, and World Language Leaders wage battles for legitimacy every year that we never see from our classrooms. And while these World Language Leaders are enthusiastic advocates for us, they need support - from us! One of the most impactful tools for these advocates is their ability to show a following for World Language Development. There is no group like the World Language teachers to provide that following, and we do this by becoming members and maintaining membership in organizations like FLAGS, CLTA and ACTFL.

So, when you are thinking about membership, it is a personal investment, but a low-cost, high-yield investment. Membership is not just about free workshops and collaboration time. It is also about making sure that students today have the opportunity to develop into effective, well-versed 21st Century Global Citizens. Our students need us to advocate for them, and we do this through our membership.
#strengthennumbers

Greetings to our Members!!!

School has been back in session for a couple of months now, and we are all seeing the benefits of student language acquisition. But, like our morning cup of coffee (or tea), we can all use an injection of energy and new ideas, and FLAGS is here to help!

There are lots of benefits to being a member of FLAGS.

- You are part of an advocacy group for language acquisition everywhere.
- 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, this is simple!!! **By renewing your professional memberships, you get all these benefits and participate in an organization that is driving change in World Languages.**

When is your membership up for renewal? NOW! The membership year is from September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017. If your label on this newsletter has 2016 (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).**

AND, whether you're renewing or joining FLAGS for the first time, think about renewing or becoming a member of our mother Association – CLTA. **Furthermore, while 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

~

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SACRAMENTO
 (A regional affiliate of the California Language Teachers Association)
Membership Application or Renewal

September 1, 2016 - August 31, 2017

Circle One

New Renewal

Name (please print)

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

Home Address CA

number street city zip

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

School Language(s).....

School Address CA

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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Placerville, CA 95667