

IN THIS ISSUE:

- ▶ Citizenship News
- ▶ Library Resources
- ▶ News for You
- ▶ President's Day
- ▶ Ohio TESOL PD
- ▶ Q & A

Vol III, Issue 9  
February 10, 2009

# ESOL TAPAS

TEACHING AND PROFESSIONAL APPETIZERS

## Citizenship News!

**Webinar: Passing the New Citizenship Test.** New Readers Press is sponsoring a webinar with Lynne Weintraub, author of *Citizenship: Passing the Test*. This webinar will show you how the citizenship test has changed and will answer your questions about the new test. Learn how to prepare your curriculum to meet the new test requirements. Plus, preview the newly updated edition of Lynne's *Citizenship: Passing the Test* student book. This webinar is an excellent forum for sharing ideas, information, and asking questions with an expert in the field and a group of peers from around the country.

All webinars run from 3:00-4:00 pm ET. Choose the date that works for you: February 27, March 13 or April 24. To register, e-mail [nascenzo@prolitteracy.org](mailto:nascenzo@prolitteracy.org).

### Revised N-400 Filing Instructions from USCIS

See [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) for updated forms and instructions. Changes include:

- Stating that 2 passport photos are required;
- Stating that a copy of the front and back of the Permanent Resident Card is required of all applicants that are Lawful Permanent Residents;
- Updates regarding the filing locations for non-military, military and spouses of military members;
- New language regarding USCIS' authority to reject the form for no signature, incorrect fee, or for incomplete forms or missing required initial evidence.

## NERC Library New Resources

### *Refugees from Iraq*

From the Cultural Orientation Resource Center at the Center for Applied Linguistics, 2008  
This enhanced refugee backgrounder provides basic information about the history, cultures, and background experiences of the new Iraqi arrivals. It also looks at experiences of refugees in the countries of first asylum and potential resettlement issues. There is also a list of recommended books, articles, reports and web sites that will be useful for further study.

To access this publication, go to [www.neablelibrary.org](http://www.neablelibrary.org), choose the title search, type in the title, reserve the book and we will send it to you. If you have any difficulty with this process, please call the resource center at 1-800-361-7076.



## “News for You” Online!

Your students can now read and listen to top stories online. Teacher guides, classroom ideas and archived stories are all available at: [www.newsforyouonline.com](http://www.newsforyouonline.com).

### Ohio TESOL Member Services for PD

The Ohio TESOL organization is expanding the services to its members this year to include several awards and scholarships for professional development activities. First of all, they offered up to \$2000 for a member to attend our national TESOL conference to be held in Denver this March. Two members were selected to share this amount: Dr. Tim Micek of Ohio Dominican University and Jill Kramer of Dublin City Schools. The incoming president, Gloria Gillette, will be representing Ohio TESOL at the affiliate sessions and hosting a party for Ohioans during the conference. If you are going to Denver as well, watch the TESOL bulletin boards in Denver for the time and place.

Secondly, there are two \$1000 scholarships being offered this spring. One is for a current ESL high school senior who will be attending college this fall. The second is for a person in the TESOL field who needs financial assistance to pay for college coursework. The application form for these two scholarships is on the Ohio TESOL website at [www.ohiotesol.org](http://www.ohiotesol.org). The deadline for application for both of these grants is April 1st.

Additionally, there are smaller grants for members who would like to attend professional development activities closer to home. Each member can apply for up to \$200 to attend a local workshop or seminar. That application is also on the website and in the spring Ohio TESOL Journal.

Finally, there will be five \$300 stipends, which will be awarded in late summer, to allow members to attend the fall Ohio TESOL conference. The application form for those stipends will be located in the summer issue of Ohio TESOL Journal and on the website.

If you have questions about any of these opportunities, please contact your professional development coordinators, Marcie Williams ([williams.3277@osu.edu](mailto:williams.3277@osu.edu)) or Barb Wookey ([wookey.4@osu.edu](mailto:wookey.4@osu.edu)).

### Q and A from the field-

**Question:** When is the next BEST Plus training?

**Answer:** The RCN is in the process of scheduling a Spring PD day in Columbus to include BEST Plus. Stay tuned for details. There will also be one in the NE region on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Question:** Where can I get more information on Transitions?

**Answer:** The upcoming issues of the RCN Statewide Newsletter are devoted to transitions.