

Mississippi Language Crusader

Volume 63, Number 2

May, 2015

Felice Coles, Editor

E-mail: <fcoles@olemiss.edu>

The Mississippi Language Crusader is published by the Mississippi Foreign Language Association and its collaborative sections thereof at the Department of Modern Languages, Bondurant C-115, University of Mississippi, University, Mississippi 38677.

Membership in the MFLA, which includes a subscription to the *Crusader*, is \$25.00 per year (\$10.00 for graduate students), payable to Elizabeth Harrison, Executive Director of the MFLA, 364 CR 110, Houston MS 38851. The fee includes membership in the college or elementary-secondary section.

The Crusader is published three times a year: October, February and May. Deadlines for submission of materials for inclusion are September 25, January 25 and April 25.

A Letter from the Executive Director
Elizabeth Harrison
Houston High School

Dear Members,

At the end of the school year, I want to wish you all a happy summer vacation. I hope that you take the opportunity to enjoy all that life offers and rest, rejuvenate and renew over the next months. I hope that many of you take the opportunity to participate in one or more of the summer workshops available: one at NECC in Booneville, one at William Carey in Hattiesburg, and one at MSU in Starkville. Of course, I'm really excited about the fall conference, which will be held at the Mill in Starkville, MS on November 6-7, 2015. The venue is being sponsored by the Classical and Modern Languages and Literature department at MSU. There will be a lot going on and I know that you don't want to miss it, so mark your calendars and I look forward to seeing each of you there. Until then, happy summer.

Elizabeth Harrison
<elizabeth_harrison@hotmail.com>

A Letter from the Editor
Felice Coles
University of Mississippi

Dear Members,

As a trial run, I am send the May 2015 issue of the *Mississippi Language Crusader* in PDF form to the e-mail addresses that you have written on your membership forms. The Executive Board is considering sending the journal via e-mail for the May and October issues, with only the February issue as a print version. The advantage of e-mail is speed of distribution, cost effectiveness and the ability to include photos. The advantage of print is to carry a copy to any non-member in any location, with or without e-mail, and not to tie up computer time for those with limited access.

Currently, there is no way to password-protect the journal on the MFLA web site, but your Executive Board continues to investigate all avenues to make the best use of your membership dollars and the best use of MFLA resources for the journal. E-mail me with comments, if you'd like to chime in. I'll read any polite message!

Felice Coles
<fcoles@olemiss.edu>

A Letter from the President
Janet Bunch
Northwest Mississippi Community College

Hello MFLA friends and family!

I hope you are all enjoying the warmer weather after all of the snow and ice that we had this year. As many of us are wrapping up the year, we are all looking forward to summer and slowing down to enjoy life. It has been a great year for the MFLA, with many of our own being recognized. Nolvía Ventura has been awarded the John Temple Award from AATSP. Yohanna Jiménez is serving on the 2015 ACTFL-NFMLTA/MLJ Paul Pimsleur Award for Research in Foreign Language Education Committee. Edgar Serrano had a student place second in the National AATSP Poster Contest, and one of Vanessa Mix's students won third place on the National AATSP Poster Contest. It just shows how much we are growing and improving!

The MFLA board is in the process of finalizing the details for our fall conference. The event will be hosted by The Mill, which is Starkville's newest hotel and conference center venue. The dates are set, and we are very excited to have Mississippi State University hosting the event. This summer the board will be touring the facility. Remember that we shifted the dates slightly, so the conference dates will be November 6 and 7. The link to submit proposals should be appearing shortly, and I would encourage you to submit early! Our speaker this year will be Marty Abbot, ACTFL's current Executive Director and JNCL-NCLIS Board member.

Also, summer workshop dates have been announced, and three are currently scheduled for July. The first, hosted by MSU, will be July 9; the second, by Northeast, will be July 17; and the last one by William Carey is set for July 24. I hope that you can attend one of these sessions and take part in moving language learning forward in Mississippi. I sincerely hope you each have a great summer to recharge your batteries and prepare for the next school year. I look forward to seeing you over the summer at the workshops or at the fall conference!

Janet Bunch
<jbunch@northwestms.edu>

A Letter from the Vice President for Membership
Laura Hall
Tishomingo County High School

Greetings!

It is that time again when we can all look back on the past school year and reflect on all that went well or all that didn't. This school year may be one for the books and we are ready to relax and forget it, but it is time to look to the regional workshops for more ideas for next year. This year we have three scheduled for July: July 9 at Mississippi State University, July 17 at Northeast MS Community College, and July 24 at William Carey University. Spend your June relaxing and join us for a regional workshop in July to rev you up for the next school year. Watch our Facebook page and our website for updates on what you will see at each workshop and registration information. If you have colleagues who are not part of MFLA, bring them to a regional and get them involved. Our organization is made great by our members, and we want to have all the foreign language teachers in the state to be a part of our group. We can learn so much from each other. Hope to see you at a regional this summer!

Laura Hall
<espanolyfrançais@gmail.com>

A Letter from the Classics Representative
Jennifer Lewton-Yates
Millsaps College

Happy (almost) summer, MFLA!

Latin is alive and well in Mississippi this year. For the fifth consecutive year, Millsaps College hosted the Junior Classical League Convention this March. Nearly 300 participants in middle and high school participated in academic tests, artistic competitions, *certamen* (Latin quiz bowl), and a triumphal procession through campus. It's wonderful to see such excitement for ancient languages from both students and the teachers who brought them. Mark Clark has graciously agreed to host convention next year at Mississippi State. He can be reached at <mec465@msstate.edu> for more details.

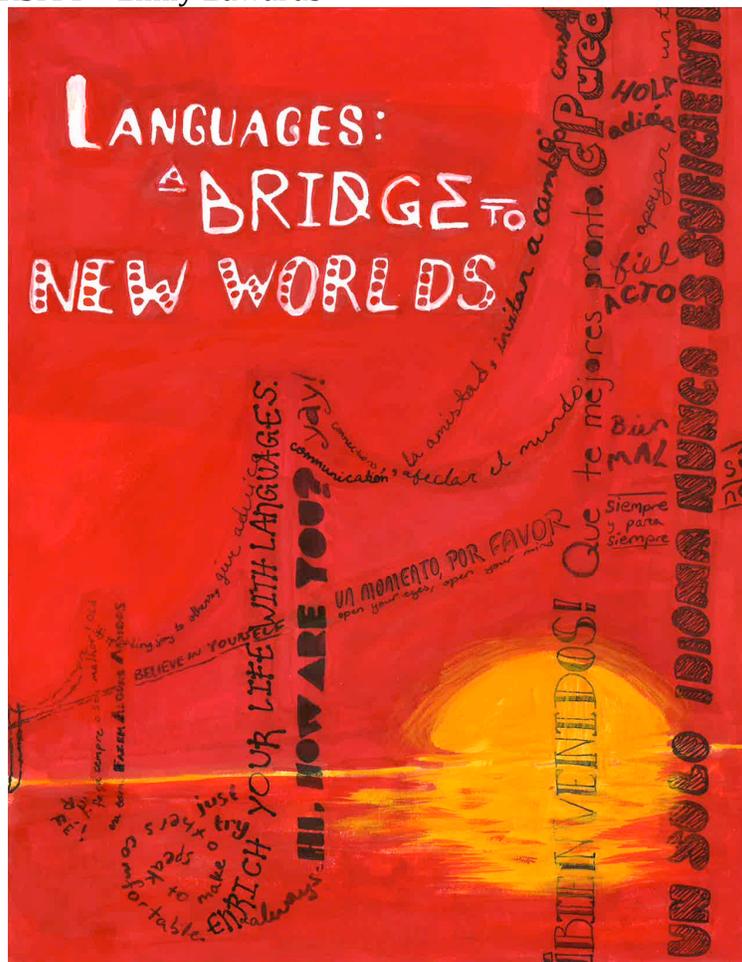
Curate ut valeatis,
Jenni Lewton-Yates
<yatesjl@millsaps.edu>

Student Success in Japanese Speech Contest

Dr. Kaoru Ochiai, Croft Instructional Assistant Professor of Japanese (University of Mississippi), led her students to the annual Japanese Speech Contest held this year on April 18 at Tougaloo College in Jackson, MS. Eleven University of Mississippi students were in attendance, taking the first place prize in each of the three categories (1st, 2nd, and 3rd year and above) as well as two second place prizes, one third place prize, and two Consul General Special Awards.

2015 MFLA POSTCARD CONTEST

OVERALL WINNER – Lauryn Elaine Smith (9-12)
COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY – Emily Edwards



2015 AATSP POSTER CONTEST

K-3

FIRST PLACE - Jack Dye (3rd grade, Oxford University School, teacher Edgar Serrano)

SECOND PLACE - Captain Alexander (3rd grade, Oxford University School, teacher Edgar Serrano)

4-5

FIRST PLACE - Anna Alger (5th grade, Oxford University School, teacher Edgar Serrano)

SECOND PLACE - Kyra Knispel-Heyworth (5th grade, Oxford University School, teacher Edgar Serrano)

THIRD PLACE - Kevin Park (5th grade, Oxford University School, teacher Edgar Serrano)

6-8

FIRST PLACE - Garret Pratt (6th grade, Oxford University School, teacher Edgar Serrano)

9-12

FIRST PLACE - Lauryn Elaine Smith (10th grade, Meridian High School, teacher Vanessa Mix)

SECOND PLACE - Jordan Redmond (9th grade, Meridian High School, teacher Vanessa Mix)

HONORABLE MENTION - Daniel Woods (12th grade, Olive Branch High School, teacher Kristin Brown)

Upcoming Workshops

July 17: Best Practices World Languages Educators Workshop. 7:50 AM - 4:00 PM, Northeast MS Community College, Booneville, MS. Cost: \$10 (lunch, coffee, snacks, drinks and other supplies). CEUs available To register please visit: <https://srtahall.wufoo.com/forms/registration-form/>

July 24: 7:50 AM - 4:00 PM, William Carey University, Hattiesburg, MS. Cost: \$10 (lunch, coffee, snacks, drinks and other supplies). CEUs available To register please visit: <http://goo.gl/forms/9tmORhgGgs>

News Notes

Donald L. Dyer (University of Mississippi) reports that the Department of Modern Languages at the University of Mississippi is proud to have been awarded a chapter of the Phi Sigma Iota International Foreign Language Honor Society. The society is a perfect fit for the department, which teaches eleven modern foreign languages and which also offers courses in literature, linguistics, culture, film, teaching English as a second language and intensive English. The department presently houses honor societies in French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish; the new chapter of Phi Sigma Iota affords the opportunity to honor excellent students studying Arabic, Chinese, Korean and Swahili, as well as students studying in other departmental disciplines. Faculty expect to induct the first students into the new chapter in the spring of 2016.

Laura Hall (Tishomingo County High School) announced the winners of the student scholarships: Samantha Van Rossenburg (Bonneville High School, taught by Monica Lamelas) and Emily Long and Kalee Nash (Tishomingo County High School, taught by Laura Hall). Only four applicants completed the work, but they were all good candidates. Thanks goes to Vanessa Mix, Julianne Briscoe and Martha Dow Adams for their help.

Yohanna Jiménez (William Carey University) will move to Alabama in May.

Lori Pierce (Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science) is focused on revising the Mississippi World Language teaching standards and thinking across languages.

Ivonne Whitehead (University of Mississippi) was the recipient of the “Random Acts of Kindness” award for 2015. Each year, student-workers from the University of Mississippi Alumni Association nominate instructors who have had an impact in their lives. Ivonne was nominated by Jack Hanson, a pre-med student from Gulfport, MS, who during his speech said how much he disliked Spanish and how much Ivonne pushed him to complete it successfully. Eventually, he said, he liked the subject, thanks to her.

Jobs

If you have recent graduates or know of teachers seeking to re-locate schools who possess a Mississippi teaching license in Spanish, **Pontotoc City School District**, an A-level district, in northeast Mississippi, has an opening. We have an online application system found through the Employment link on the <www.pontotoc.k12.ms.us> site. We prefer a teacher carrying English and English as a Second Language endorsement, as well.

Angie Quinn
Director of Instruction
Pontotoc City School District

Noxubee County High School is looking for a Spanish teacher for Spanish 1 and 2. The principal is Dr. Scott and the school number is 662-726-4428. The job is listed on the Department of Education website. Thanks so much for your support in helping find someone to educate these young minds. If you need assistance, please feel free to call me at 601-831-3192.

Sarah Clardy
<sjwashi3@yahoo.com>

**Officers of the
Mississippi Foreign Language Association
<http://www.msfla.org>**

• Executive Director •

Elizabeth Harrison (Houston High School)

• President •

Janet Bunch (Northwest Mississippi Community College)

• Past President •

Yohanna Jiménez (William Carey College)

• Vice-President for Programs •

Edgar Serrano (Oxford University School)

• Vice-President for Membership •

Laura Hall (Tishomingo County High School)

• Historian •

Nolvia Ventura (Presbyterian Christian High School)

• Editor of the *Crusader* •

Felice Coles (University of Mississippi)

• College-University Section •

Javier Gómez (Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College)

• Elementary-Secondary Section •

Diana McMillen (Pontotoc High School)

• Mississippi Chapter of the AATF •

Valerie Abraham (Madison-Ridgeland Academy)

• Mississippi Chapter of the AATG •

Lori Pierce (Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science)

• Mississippi Chapter of the AATSP •

Nolvia Ventura (Presbyterian Christian High School)

• Classics Representative •

Jennifer Lewton Yates (Millsaps College)

• TESL Representative •

Michael Raines (University of Mississippi)

• LCTL Representative •

Ra An (Mississippi College)

• Foreign Language Curriculum Specialist •

Limeul Eubanks