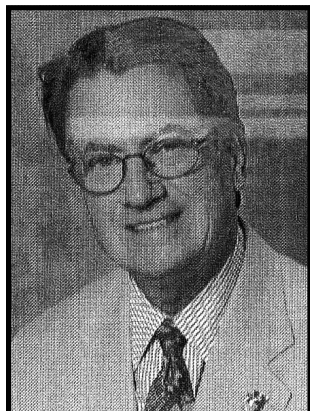




# The NMCL Report

New Mexico Coalition  
for Literacy

1st quarter  
April 07



[www.nmcl.org](http://www.nmcl.org)

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## Our wonderful Harry...

Last November Harry Pearson, former president of the NMCL, became a member of the Holtville High School Hall of Fame (Holtville, CA), where he taught and where he was principal through the years 1987-1993. His accomplishments were many—we list a few: Harry was an innovator and proponent of a positive educational environment through his initiatives in curricular and co-curriculum programs. He established and expanded school service programs for ESL students and established the high school's advancement via an individual determination program for students performing below their potential. He opened the first computer lab in the high school and introduced the first classroom computers for teachers and students. Harry initiated a school-wide character education program and started the school's first age appropriate sex education curriculum. He partnered with Cal Poly of Pomona to initiate a long distance video learning program.

We are so proud of Harry, and so very grateful that he is part of the NMCL board. His history as director of LV-Dona Ana County is equally impressive, as he first brought the program through the LVA (ProLiteracy) accreditation process with flying colors.

Congratulations, Harry. You are a splendid leader.



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## THANK YOU!

Dear program directors! With your help, we've succeeded in preserving our line in the library budget for contract services, as well as increasing funding for next year! This could not have happened without your calls, Legislative courtesy visits from the PPDA, NMCL Board calls, and the attention of the Office of the First Lady. We look forward to a healthy granting process in June; more details on that later!

You are your own best advocates. I have it from good sources that, compared to many state-wide programs, you are stellar. We know that's true, because of your successes, accountability, and dedication.

Congratulations to you, good friends. Let's look forward to a nice new program year starting in July! Warm regards, Rena and the staff at NMCL

“CREATING A  
PATHWAY TO  
THE FUTURE FOR  
NEW MEXICANS  
THROUGH  
LITERACY”



Mark your



calen-

dars!

New Mexico Coalition for Literacy's  
19th Annual Meeting

A meeting of and conference for adult  
literacy boards of directors, tutors, stu-  
dents, and literacy program staff.

June 15, 2007

Best Western, Socorro

Keynote,

Peter Waite - Executive Director of  
ProLiteracy America

Go to our website for more info. on  
workshop presenters and the hotel:

<http://www.nmcl.org/new.htm>

More info. forthcoming...

Please spread the word!!!

***ReadWest, Rio Rancho, loses a treasured friend,  
celebrates another***

Tutor/student matches are the heart of a good pro-  
gram-and ReadWest is a very, very good program.  
However, these successful matches bring bitter-  
sweet reality to our lives.

Marten Griego was one of those students to have a  
successful match with tutor, Gordon Suits. Gordon  
passed away recently at age 89. Gordon was not  
only a tutor, but also a mentor and friend to Mar-  
ten, as many tutors are to their students. Gordon  
had been with ReadWest for many years. Formerly  
involved in Vaudeville, then a children's radio show,  
and then a television show in the early years of that  
medium, Gordon must have been a terribly interest-  
ing person to be with. Bless the tutors! They  
achieve so much in the lives of their learners, and  
endow the country with millions of newly discov-  
ered human treasures. Each tutor gives, and each  
learner gives back a thousand-fold.

We will think of Gordon and those like him often as  
we see more and more inspiring stories from our  
own programs. We are so fortunate to be involved  
in adult literacy, whether a tutor or student.

*Postscript* – Marten, now a published writer, will be a  
speaker at our Annual Meeting in June, and will also  
conduct an in-service for students at that time. You  
can visit Marten's website at: [http://  
www.futuredestinationspublishing.com/](http://www.futuredestinationspublishing.com/).

***The PPDA Button Campaign***

This January was the first January for the "Read! Start the Year Right!" button campaign. Programs did different things to promote literacy in their communities. Delora Elizondo, at Carlsbad Literacy, spread yellow flyers all over town and gave out buttons. Gerry Wilks, at Artesia Literacy Council, gave buttons to her tutors and students to wear around town. Susie Morss, of Lincoln County Literacy Council, prepared a press release and encouraged participation through her newsletter to attend a community outreach activity at the local Wal-Mart. Michelle Detterick, of Literacy Link-Leamos, Silver City, formed a partnership with WIC to distribute three books to each family who participates in the supplemental food program. Books were given to families to encourage reading in the home.