

# SPRING INTO TESL WW NEWS

Dare we say that spring has finally sprung? In the spirit of the season, and all things hopeful, we at TESL WW are looking forward to this spring's AGM event where you'll have the opportunity to renew and reinvigorate the TESL committee, revisit old acquaintances, make new ones, and learn new theories about second language acquisition. So save the date, Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, and keep reading...In this issue of the newsletter you'll find the itinerary and registration form for this year's Annual General Meeting. We hope to see you there!

## **Contents:**

AGM Speaker Profile

AGM Registration Information and Form & Beverage Selection

Directions to the AGM

A Call for Nominations

Book Awards Information

# **TESL WW's AGM Proudly Welcomes Dr. Barbara Schmenk as our Guest Speaker**

## **When Caveman meets Barbie in the Language Classroom. Gender and Gendering in Second Language Learning Environments**

It is widely believed that second language learning is a “feminine” domain, and that languages are “girl’s subjects.” Arguably the field of second language education is strongly feminized, and a closer look at some research findings in this area reveals that this phenomenon is deeply rooted in gender stereotypes and beliefs about the sexes. Furthermore, beliefs about gender and beliefs about language learning inform much of our views of language education and gender today.

This presenttaion sets out to explore these issues further.

- Why has the feminization of language learning been such a persistent phenomenon?
- Can the predominant feminization of language learning and teaching be challenged?
- Which strategies can teachers adopt in the language classroom to subvert some of the dominant patterns of gendering?

## TESL WW AGM

Please join us for the TESL Waterloo Wellington Annual General Meeting on Thursday May 8, 2008 at Renison College.

### Agenda

**4:30 – 5:00 Registration**

**5:00 – 5:30 Mingle over snacks and refreshments while you peruse the book display.**

**5:30 – 6:00 Participate in our Annual General Meeting**

**6:00 – 7:00 Enjoy a buffet style dinner which includes vegetarian and non- vegetarian dishes, dessert and beverages.**

**7:00 – 8:00 Listen to speaker Dr. Barbara Schmenk.**

**Cost for attending the AGM is \$30 for TESL members and \$35 for non-TESL members.**

**Deadline for registration is May 1, 2008. Please be sure to register early to reserve your spot.**

Tear-Off Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* Beverage Selection (please check your preferred beverage with dinner)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Juice

\_\_\_\_\_ Wine

\_\_\_\_\_ Water

\_\_\_\_\_ All of the above

\_\_\_\_\_ None of the above; other \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Lorraine Lasmanis: 144 Briarcliffe Cres. Waterloo ON, N2L 5T8

Please make cheques payable to TESL WW. Please contact [llasmanis@sympatico.ca](mailto:llasmanis@sympatico.ca) for additional information.



# Book Awards

In the winter newsletter you were encouraged to send in your book award nominations recognizing stellar students and teachers. We've heard from some of you, but we also know that there are many untold stories of excellence and inspiration. By honouring those who inspire you, you inspire us all. The following are the specific award categories:

- Primary School ESL Student \$25 book certificate
- Secondary School ESL Student \$50 book certificate
- Adult ESL Student \$75 book certificate
- ESL Volunteer \$75 book certificate
- ESL Teacher \$75 book certificate