

# The Reader

April 2009



## ***In This Issue:***

- >> ***PWC Learners Write!***
- >> ***Check out our new website!***
- >> ***National Volunteer Week, April 19 – 25***
- >> ***New Books at PWC***

***The Reader is the monthly newsletter of People, Words & Change. We welcome stories and articles by our members.***

People, Words & Change  
153 Chapel Street  
Ottawa ON K1N 1H5  
(613) 234-2494 or [info@pwc-ottawa.ca](mailto:info@pwc-ottawa.ca)  
<http://pwc-ottawa.ca>

## ***The Wu Channel***

***by Lelin – December 2008***



I'm writing about the most wonderful place I've ever visited in China, the Wu Channel. It is a part of the biggest river in China, the Chang Jiang River. It's located in Southeast China.

The Wu Channel is a section of river that is very complex. It's about 3 kilometers long and ranges from more than 100 meters wide to only 15 meters. Where the channel is wide, the river runs slow and shallow, but where it's narrow the river becomes fast and deep. Spectacular mountains line each side of the channel. Like the channel, the mountains are very complex. In some places they consist of tall, jagged peaks. In other places they're more like a series of large

rounded hills. The fog at the Wu Channel is interesting. It's mostly thin and it looks like white gauze around the green mountains. When the sun comes out, the fog changes completely. Clouds of Wu Channel have many shapes. Sometimes they look like a group of horses, other times they look like a dragon, and then sometimes they look like a young girl.

## MUSIC

by Salem Saikali



When you hear or listen to music for the first time.

You will not know if you like or not.

There are all kinds of music that you would like to hear or listen to.

Like I like to listen to rock n' roll.

Some people listen to different kinds of music.

Some people like country, some like blues, jazz, and rap

Or folk.

Whatever kind of music people like to listen to.

Enjoy it have fun.

Long live ROCK N' ROLL.



# New Curlers



by Iryna Sherstyuk

One day we went to the curling club. We hoped we could be on the ice, moving that stuff. Later we learned that stuff is called a stone and a broom. When you watch curling on TV it looks very easy. But when you try it by yourself on the ice it is more complicated than what you see.

First the ice is very slippery. Surprise! When you see the game on TV the players are moving on the ice with confidence. But when we tried it, it was step by step with arms open from our sides. Second, you have to be in good physical shape. To move a stone, you have to be at the beginning in the position for a runner and then push yourself ahead on one leg. The other leg should be behind you. You have to keep your weight on this leg, which is not a comfortable position and keep your balance and then throw the stone in the right direction.

So, we tried and it was fun! I think we will sign up for a membership.

*We would be delighted to include any of your stories or articles in our newsletter! Just e-mail it to [kae@pwc-ottawa.ca](mailto:kae@pwc-ottawa.ca). Tell us if it's OK for us to use your whole name, or just first name or initials – or no name at all.*

## People, Words & Change has a new website!

Please visit us at <http://pwc-ottawa.ca>

We hope you enjoy our fresh new look! Be sure to check out the special features for tutors and learner. Learners, take our poll and tell us what you enjoy reading the most. Tutors, log in to our tutor chat room where you can post questions, share tutoring tips, and find links to great teaching sites with free downloadable resources.

We want to give special thanks to Janet Jansen, our web designer, for walking us through the process with great imagination, creativity, kindness and patience!



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK  
APRIL 19 TO 25, 2009

We are sometimes asked, “Who are your volunteers?” The answer to that question comes from our volunteers themselves, who have said:

*“I have been lucky to have had a good education, and being a literacy tutor is one way I can give back.”*

*“I work all day at a computer. When I get together with my learner, I am doing something real.”*

*“I get great satisfaction from helping another person discover they can learn.”*

*“I get as much out of this as my learner does. We have become good friends.”*

*“Now that I am retired I have time to do something I have always wanted to do, help someone share the love of reading that I have always had.”*

Those are some of the gems we have heard from our volunteers, who are hard to describe as a group because they are all unique individuals. What we can say is this – our volunteers are simply the best!



***Hats off to a special group of volunteers – our Board of Directors. From left to right: Trevor Heavens (Treasurer), Bruce Clarke, Kae McColl (staff rep), Brenda Smith (Vice-President), Ron Lachance, Dan Killoran (President), Gary Warnock, and Rose Anne Leonard (Secretary, seated).***



**New Books in the Library . . .we got 'em for you, so come and get 'em!**

Thanks, in part, to a donation of the proceeds from a workplace “Friday Dress-Down Day,” we were able to purchase some novels for our Level 3 learners.

Three titles by the popular Ottawa author Brian Doyle: ***Angel Square, Mary Ann Alice, and Pure Spring.***

***Mud City*** -- the third book in the series by Deborah Ellis, which includes ***The Breadwinner*** and ***Parvana’s Journey.***

***TELL US ABOUT YOUR FINDS . . . We would be delighted to include information about good books you have found! Just send it by e-mail to [kae@pwc-ottawa.ca](mailto:kae@pwc-ottawa.ca).***