



Volume 1, Issue 3

ADVANCED TRAINING

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November 2014

Be Thankful for Family at Thanksgiving and Always

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For many people who were not born in the USA the meaning of the Thanksgiving holiday may not be very clear. Indians? Pilgrims? Stuffing? Forget all of that, and try to focus on 2014 and the meaning of the holiday. Thanksgiving is a time to be thankful. Do not focus on what you do not have or what you want, but appreciate all the gifts that you already hold in your life.

Far too often people forget the basic things that they take for granted: a warm bed, food, clothing, and, of course, a family and friends.

I never take for granted all the gifts I have been given. My parents were Italian immigrants who never graduated from high school. We were very poor growing up. My Mother made all my clothes, and we ate what we called "peasant" food. The worst of which was dandelion greens, or "Escarole". Every Thanksgiving though, we always had a big turkey and all the trimmings. I honestly don't know how they did it, but they did. A big family feast!

We would go around the table and say what we were thankful for. This was a very American tradition. I think my Mother saw it on a TV show, because honestly, she barely spoke English. She would always say the same thing, "Her Family".

I want to tell you all this holiday season how grateful I am for my family. This includes all of my students and the staff at ATA.

I will have a Big turkey, stuffing and cranberries, but there is one thing that you won't ever see at my house and that's Escarole (Dandelion Greens)!

I urge you to focus on what you have to be Thankful for this year, and remember we are here for you to help you with what comes next !

Happy Thanksgiving, Warm Regards,

Jo Ferrera-Zakarín

President

ATA



Golden Words from Grandma Bing

Train of Life

At birth we board a train and meet our parents. We believe they will always travel by our side. However, at some station, our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone.

As time goes by, other people will board the train, and they will be significant—siblings, friends, the love of your life, children, and many others. Some will step down and leave a permanent vacuum. Others will go so unnoticed that we won't realize they vacated their seats. The train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy, expectations, hellos, good-byes, and farewells. A successful ride requires having a good relationship with all passengers.

We must give the best of ourselves. The mystery to everyone is, we do not know at which station we ourselves will step down. So, we must live in the best way, love, forgive, and offer the best of who we are. It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty we should leave behind beautiful memories for those who will continue to travel on the train of life.

I wish you a joyful journey on the train of life. Reap success and give lots of love. More importantly, thank God for the journey.



Volunteer Opportunities

We have two projects we are doing for Rady Children's Hospital. As you are doing your shopping over the Thanksgiving holidays, please remember the annual toy drive. Toys should be new, unwrapped, and have a value of \$10 or more. Please see the collection box by the front door for more information. Also, we will be assembling activity bags for the children at Rady's after our Thanksgiving break. We will need volunteers for this activity. Please see Kimberly for more information.

STUDENT ID CARDS

If you have been a student at Advanced Training for at least two weeks and you have not received your student ID card, please come to the office and let us know.

Where in the World is Advanced Training?

Advanced Training not only offers education at our campus in El Cajon, we also travel to Military bases to provide training. Advanced Training is currently teaching a class for MCAS Miramar. Advanced Training has taught several classes on base at MCAS  Miramar and we are currently teaching a five week telecommunications Installation and Service technology class. Telecommunications Installation and Service Technology includes training and certifications in Electronics, Fiber Optics and FCC GROL. The Telecommunications and Service Technology course is also offered here on campus to civilians, veterans and Active Duty Service Members. ATA looks forward to our next training endeavor

Education Proclamation

Many students never believed they could finish or graduate from College. If you are almost done with a Diploma program, why stop? Advanced Training Associate Degrees are only six additional months and you can look for a job during the day. Students who transition directly into the Degree have the highest percentage of completing the Degree. Associate of Applied Science Medical Assistant and Associate of Applied Technology Information Systems and Communication Technology can both be attained after finishing the Diploma program. Financial Aid is available twice for most students and can help pay for the extra \$5,603 to earn a Degree. Just imagine how happy your friends and family will be when you say you have a Degree! The next start dates for the Degrees will be January 26th and February 23rd. We are here to help, please come see Steve Howard if you have any questions.

PUZZLE OF THE MONTH

HOW MANY ENGLISH WORDS CAN YOU MAKE FROM THE GIVEN WORD BELOW? BRING YOUR ANSWER TO THE FRONT DESK BY DECEMBER 5TH, 2014.

THANKSGIVING

Good Luck!!!!

WHO WON THE SUDOKU?

Ryan Thomas, Medical Assistant Associate of Applied Science student, won two movie tickets!! Way to go, Ryan!!! Stop by the office for your prize.

Parking Reminder

Please remember that morning and afternoon students (except for the lucky winner of the Student of the Month parking pass!) should not park in the parking lot. Please park on the street. The evening students may park in the lot, but never in the covered parking area which is reserved parking.



From the Desk of Valerie—School Director



Is it really only 4 weeks until Christmas? Thanksgiving is not even over and already the stores are gearing up for the season and television commercials are inundating us with gift ideas. Don't give in to the pressure to overspend on gifts for those on your Shopping List. One way to avoid overspending is to shop around and ensure you are getting the best price. Look for sales and specials; remember many stores have their coupons on line.

Here are a few more tips:

- Plan ahead, determine how much money you are going to spend and use cash to avoid going over budget.
- Cut back in other areas of your normal monthly spending. If you usually spend \$150.00 per month on entertainment consider reallocating that spending for gifts to prevent using a credit card.
- If you do decide to use a credit card only charge an amount that you can pay off in full at the end of the month to avoid high interest fees.
- Shop during off peak hours. Many stores have specials running weekdays or Saturdays during the hours of 9am to 1pm.
- Don't be afraid to make homemade gifts. Check out Pinterest, it has many homemade gifts ideas. Not a crafty person? Perhaps baking cookies or giving the gift of your time. Grandma might prefer a "Coupon" to clean her house or mow the lawn then the fuzzy slippers and bathrobe you were thinking about purchasing.
- Don't wait until the last minute to shop; this is a sure way to spend more than you planned. Besides the stress of last minute shopping the merchandise will be picked over and you will not have time to comparison shop.

The most important thing to remember that this time of year is for being with family, friends and creating memories. Enjoy yourself and be safe!

Valerie Phillips

School Operations Director



ATA attends CACC 1 yr Anniversary Gala

Advanced Training attended the Chaldean American Chamber of Commerce (CACC) one year Anniversary Gala. The Anniversary Gala celebrated the CACC as San Diego's fastest growing business group with 308 new members in the first year. The event also included awards, speeches by the Committee, food, entertainment and the launch of the new CACC magazine. Advanced Training placed a full page advertisement in the magazine, and a copy of the magazine is located in our lobby on campus.

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Kimberly's Korner

Happy Holidays from your Career Services Department!

Career Services is here to assist you your career choices. Career assistance is available to every student and alumni's. A one-on-one appointment in the office, by phone or email is available to assess your individual career needs. Let me know how I can better assist you with your career or goals.

Searching for jobs online: Is it safe?

When searching for jobs online, do not forget to check out the company that is hiring and do research on the organization. Avoid applying to jobs/companies that charges you for training for the position you have applied for. Remember, if the company is interested in hiring you, the organization will provide job training at no cost to you.

Career Services Hours:

- Monday: 8:30am-12pm, 1pm-5:30pm
- Tuesday: 10am-2pm, 3pm-7pm
- Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 1pm-6pm
- Thursday: 8am-12pm, 1pm-5pm
- Friday: 8am-12pm, 1pm-3pm

Congratulations to the Following Recent Placements

- Farnaz Salamatbakhsh: MA grad, Rady Children's Physician Management
- Noble Benning: IST graduate, Mitchell1
- Matthew Bischoff: IS/CT graduate, Pitney Bowes

HOLIDAY NEWS!

The busy holiday season is almost here and the question on everyone's mind is when will the school be closed? Below is a list of our upcoming holidays when the school will be closed.



November 27 and 28

December 22, 23, 24, 25, 26

January 1



Student of the Month



Klara Shamoon (I) won for the month of November. Mariana Monsour drew Klara's name. Congratulations, Klara!!!



GOOD NEWS!

Selvana Younus received her U.S. citizenship in October. Congratulations!!!

I WAS ROBBED!!!

Really? Did you really not get that job because the person who interviewed you must not like wavy hair? The interview seemed to go well. You were on the top of your game. You looked good so it must have been your hair. Or could it have been the pictures posted on the Web of you doing tequila shots in the Gaslamp followed soon thereafter with photos posted by your friends of you 'decorating' the sidewalk outside the restaurant? You probably thought only your friends would see those. Wrong. Potential employers will check out your web presence. Take the time to 'google' your name. See what comes up. Go past pages one; potential employers will. Carefully check Facebook, Twitter, or whatever media you use. In California, potential employers are currently allowed to ask for your social media user names and passwords. (www.ncsl.org.) Delete anything even remotely questionable. Make your web presence so squeaky clean it would make your mom smile. And believe it or not, your mom has probably already checked you out on the web!