



P.O. Drawer 989  
Morganton, NC 28680  
828-437-7477

fax: 828-437-7948

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

[www.facebook.com/burkeliteracy](https://www.facebook.com/burkeliteracy)  
[literacydirector@bellsouth.net](mailto:literacydirector@bellsouth.net)

### Board of Directors

Bobbie McCombs  
*Chair*

Joy Buff  
*Vice-Chair*

Annelle Mulwee  
*Secretary*

Jay Turner  
*Treasurer*

Melinda Davis  
David Flom

Ivon Garza Rodriguez  
Jasper Hemphill

Jennifer Johnson  
Scott Mulwee

Jeannie Pope

Mary Marcia Salsbury  
Sue Taylor

Rhiannon Thomas

Héctor Vélez



Please join us for our 23rd Annual Community Spelling Bee. The Bee is set for the evening of Tuesday, May 5th. This fun-spirited competition includes a larger-than-life Bee and dinner with friends! The hot dog dinner begins at 5:15 pm and is free for 3 spelling bee team members (\$5 for guests), team registration starts at 5:30 pm, and the Spelling Bee will start at 6:00 pm. This is our signature event and with **your** help we raise vital program funds!

**How can you help?** We are seeking **your** support for the Spelling Bee:

- *Presenting Sponsor:*\$500 (Name and logo in program with a PowerPoint presentation, team sponsorship, and buzz-a-friend)
- *Buzz-a-Friend Sponsor:*\$300 (Only one company can claim this slot per year and is highlighted with your name and logo in program in a special advertising slot with a PowerPoint presentation)
- *Team Sponsor:*\$250 (Team sponsorship and buzz-a-friend)

**We are bringing back "FreeBees"!** All Spelling Bee Teams must bring 5 audience members to sign up as part of your cheering section to earn your FreeBee (mulligan-a free missed word). Entry fees are \$2 for adults and \$1 for children. Be sure to bring/invite lots of people for your cheering section.

**Why invite more than 5 friends?** The more friends you have cheering you on the better! We award prizes for the team with the best name, and the winner is judged by the loudest cheering and applause.

**What is Buzz-a-Friend?** This year you will receive a special Buzz-a-Friend pass that you may use to call on anyone in the room to spell a word. The team then gets the opportunity to accept or decline the speller's submission. If the team declines, they will have 10 seconds to submit their word. Bring an extra speller as your guest so you have a better chance of winning.

**Why should I help the Literacy Council?** More than 15,000 Burke County adults lack basic English literacy skills. Our programs—provided free-of-charge to participants—provide weekly tutoring, homework, computer lab access, and life skills workshops. Last year we helped **598** adults with basic literacy skills, English as a second language development, and/or gain their citizenship. Additionally, **2,573** children in 2014 have stronger literacy skills through our programs: Reach Out and Read, Project FLOWER, and MotheRead.

Our mission is to teach adults and their families to read and/or instill in all those served a commitment to life-long learning. We hope you will partner with us this year to reach and expand our goal for Burke County.

Please call me if you have any question, know of additional companies or organizations that would like to sponsor a team.

Thank you so much for your support.

Browning Rochefort  
Executive Director  
Burke County Literacy Council  
501(c)(3) / Tax ID #58-1814596