

Spanish Department Newsletter

Las noticias para ti

April, 2010

Volume 2, Issue 4

Recognizing Melba Buxbaum

This month, the Spanish Department would like to recognize one of Blackburn's former instructors: Melba Buxbaum. Some students may recall seeing Melba at a few Spanish Department events such as Noche Latina or Día del los Muertos. However, Melba has done more for Blackburn than help with events. From 1972 to 2002 and again from 2005 to 2006, Melba worked in the Modern Language Department. She has also worked as an adjunct here at Blackburn from 2002 to 2005.

While teaching at Blackburn, Melba most enjoyed "the

intense involvement with students from freshman to senior years." "Seeing students develop their capacities and skills in Spanish and mature as persons made all the effort worthwhile," she says. "Also, supervising the Mexico Semester Program and the scholarship program for students from Mexico was very rewarding."

Since retiring, Melba fills her free time using her Spanish to serve the community, working as an interpreter for the Public Defender under the Health Department of the Circuit Court. She also helps out in



the Maple Street Clinic, the Domestic Violence Victim's Services, and assisting Hispanics living in Carlinville. Melba also volunteers to teach English as a second language at the Springfield SOS homeless shelter.

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Word of the Month

Equipaje

Luggage



Latin American News

Argentina – Between March and December, one can watch the whales swimming in the Atlantic Ocean waters near Argentina. The Southern Right Whale is found near parts of Argentina during the summer because the cold waters near the Antarctic are cold and are a food rich territory. This specie has been around for 50 million years. At birth, they are 3 tons, and when adults they are 50 tons and 52.5 feet long. Males are usually 52.5 feet long and females are usually larger than males. Almost 600 of the right whales come to the peninsula during the month of August. Annually, the Southern Right Whales migrate along the Atlantic coasts of Argentina near Peninsula Valdés and Patagonia.



Cultural Fact

In Mexico, April Fool's Day is not celebrated on April 1st but on December 28. This day is called *el Día de los Santos Inocentes*, the Day of the Innocents. Originally meant to observe the deaths of countless children slaughtered by King Herod in the Bible, this day has mutated into a day of jokes and pranks. On this day, newspapers often write fictional articles to prank the public.

— Alisa Schrader

— Nicole Eichelberger

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Student Worker Spotlight

The Spanish Department is proud to announce Asia Steele as their Spotlight Worker of the Month. Asia is the Language Lab Co-ordinator/Spanish Tutor. Her job is to keep everything running smoothly in the computer lab. Originating from Chicago, she is majoring in Biology with a minor in Spanish. Asia's favorite pastime is singing. She hopes that being bilingual will be very helpful in obtaining a job. Asia has also been awarded Student Honor Worker for the month of March 2010. *¡Felicidades!*

— Nicole Eichelberger

Working with a Family

It is almost the end of the year! There are many exciting activities and opportunities on campus. Dorm event and Siblings weekend are right around the corner, and our seniors will soon be stepping into "the real world" on May 8.

For returning students, there is still time to look for a new job or re-apply for their current one. There are, currently, two openings in the Spanish Department. While I will not be returning to the Spanish Department, I felt my time in the department was one of the best jobs I have had in and outside of Blackburn. You work with a family while learning more about the Spanish language and culture. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, Callie Cummings, at callie.cummings@blackburn.edu. I would love to tell you about my experience!

— Callie Cummings

Recognizing Melba Buxbaum (Continued)

Most of all, Melba enjoys spending time with her family and friends.

Melba's advice to Spanish students is to "spend a lot of time exposing [oneself] to Spanish: converse with proficient speakers, listen to CD's and radio, watch TV and movies in Spanish, read...work on vocabulary..." However, the best way to learn Spanish, she says, is to "live as long as possible in either Spain or



The Spanish Department would like to congratulate Asia Steel for earning the title of Spanish Department Honor Worker for the month of March 2010.

¡Felicidades, Asia!



Don't forget to stop by

Día del Idioma

Friday, April 23, 2010 in
DCC from 9 AM to 3 PM

Come on out for games, food,
prizes, and more!

Latin America, totally immersed in [the] Spanish language." This experience of leaving one's home for another culture, she says, broadens one's horizon in a way that cannot be attained by remaining in one's customary environment. To learn Spanish, one must be immersed in both the language and the culture. According to Melba, to study abroad is "a transforming experience."

— Nicole Eicherlberaer

Phrase of the Month

¿Dónde hay un mercado municipal?

Where is an open air market?

Featured Recipe

Churros

Ingredients:

- 1 cup water
- 2 1/2 tablespoons white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 quarts oil for frying
- 1/2 cup white sugar, or to taste
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon



- 1.) In a small saucepan over medium heat, combine water, 2 1/2 tablespoons sugar, salt and 2 tablespoons vegetable oil.
- 2.) Bring to a boil and remove from heat. Stir in flour until mixture forms a ball.
- 3.) Heat oil for frying in deep-fryer or deep skillet to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C).
- 4.) Pipe strips of dough into hot oil using a pastry bag. Fry until golden; drain on paper towels.
- 5.) Combine 1/2 cup sugar and cinnamon.
- 6.) Roll drained churros in cinnamon and sugar mixture.

Spanish Lab/Tutoring Hours for the Spring Semester

Computer Lab. Hours (Hudson 206)

Sundays	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
3-9:30 pm	2:30-3:30 pm 6-8 pm	6-8 pm	2:30-4:30 pm	4-5:30 pm 6-8:30 pm	8-9:30 am 2:30-3:30 pm

Regular Tutoring Hours (Hudson 204 and 222)

Sundays	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
7-8 pm (204)	8-10 AM (204) 2-2:30 pm (204) 3:30-4:30 pm (222) 3-5 (204)	6-7 pm (222) 7:30-8:30 pm (204)	8-9 am (204)	2-3 pm (204) 7-9 pm (222) 8:30-9:30 pm (204)	2-2:30 pm (204) 3:30-4:30 pm (204)

Spanish Tutor Contact Information

<u>Tutor Name</u>	<u>E-mail Address</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
Callie Cummings	callie.cummings@blackburn.edu	(217) 556-1585
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Nicole Eichelberger	nicole.eichelberger@blackburn.edu	(618) 225-0293
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 whalesargentina.com
 Featured Recipe.....allrecipes.com
 L A News Source.....whalesargentina.com
 Cultural Fact Source.....latinamericanstudies.org

We want to hear from YOU!

If you have suggestions, articles, recipes, phrases, photographs, or anything else you can think of that you would like to submit to the Spanish Department Newsletter, please contact Nicole Eichelberger at: nicole.eichelberger@blackburn.edu.

Any and all submissions would be much appreciated! ¡Muchísimas gracias!

SPANISH CLUB

Activities:

- Discussing up-coming events, trips, & fundraisers
- Playing games
- Making friends
- Building Spanish vocabulary
- Watching films in Spanish
- Having fun!

For meeting times, contact:
07keycummic@gmail.com

