

Literacy Green Bay Memories #1

2002 was quite a year! Our organization had grown so quickly that we needed to make an extra effort not to lose sight of our mission to help adults and families acquire the skills they need to be fully-functioning community members. Staff and volunteers had worked extremely hard during the previous years to incorporate best practices into our programming. And our hard work paid off! In 2002, our organization attained national accreditation, was awarded the *Mayor's Civic Award for Outstanding Community Organization*, received our first AEFL funding for ESL classes through the state technical college system, AND received the prestigious *Laubach Literacy Action Award of Excellence for Outstanding Literacy Program* at the national conference in San Diego. Kathy Cornell, Carol Loritz and I flew out to the west coast to accept the award in honor of our staff, volunteers and adult learners. We held a press conference when we returned to inform our donors and the community in general of our significant accomplishment. Board president, Mark Jadin, represented us well that day. We all had a lot to be proud of. *"But now the days are short, I'm in the autumn of my years. And I think of my life as vintage wine. From fine old kegs, from the brim to the dregs. It poured sweet and clear. It was a very good year!"*

Tori Rader

