

# ESSENTIALLY PALS

## The Program in American Language Studies Newsletter

<http://pals.rutgers.edu>

### Session III - 2005-2006

#### GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Students,

You have in your hand a copy of this session's issue of "EsSentially PALS". I am absolutely delighted to know that many of you have sent in contributions. Please keep doing so. This is your Newsletter!

So, how was the experience of living and plodding through the big American snow storm? I was caught right in the middle of it. Truly a great adventure (Of course, it's better when I think of it now sitting in my warm and sunny office). I was traveling back from a meeting in San Antonio (Texas) and had to take a connecting flight from Houston. When we arrived at Houston, we were told that all airports feeding the Newark/New York area had to be closed. New York had a record snow fall of 26.7" and the Newark runways had 22" of snow piled up. Looking out of the glass wall of the airport with a hot Starbucks coffee in hand, I was amazed at the majestic beauty of the white stretch outside. I was also thinking of all those wonderful people who were at that moment working outside with the icy winds blowing in their faces at 30-40 miles an hour, shoveling snow out so that we, the grumpy, unhappy passengers could reach home as fast as possible. Sitting there, I was thinking: do we really have the right to complain??

Well, the sun is back and we are now looking forward to the PALS Olympics! Hope you are preparing well for it. Here's wishing all teams a great cultural afternoon!!

Dr. Veena Kumar



#### FROM DENISE'S DESK

I would personally like to thank everyone who participated in the Holiday Cultural Event! The desserts and the conversation were wonderful!! Your delicious contributions and smiling faces made all of the hard work and preparation worth it!

Please don't forget these important dates:

- Session III ends on Monday, March 6, 2006
- Session IV tuition payment deadline is Thursday, March 9, 2006. Please pay on time to avoid being charged a late fee.
- Session IV begins on Monday, March 20, 2006.
- Please submit your requests for certificates, transcripts, and letters before leaving PALS.

#### EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

For campus status information, visit:

<http://campusstatus.rutgers.edu/>

or call 732-932-7799 for a recorded message.





## MARY ELLEN'S CORNER

I can't believe the end of Session III is approaching! Time flies when you're having fun! Here are a few things you should remember to maintain your F-1 status:

- If you plan on **traveling outside the US** for vacation, please bring your I-20 to me for a travel signature **before** you leave. You must pay a deposit for Session IV before I can sign your I-20 (this way I'll be sure you will return to PALS). Please do not leave the US without a travel signature on your I-20!
- If Session III will be your **final session**, please make an appointment with me to discuss your plans **before** the session ends.
- If you will plan on **transferring** to another school after Session III, you must submit all of your transfer forms **before** the last day of class. If you have any questions about the transfer process, please feel free to make an appointment with me.

I hope you enjoy Spring Break and I look forward to seeing you again for Session IV!

## RECREATION ON LIVINGSTON CAMPUS

Want to exercise, lift weights, play basketball, ping-pong, relax in a sauna and participate in other various healthy and fun activities? If the answer is "Yes," you need to buy a Livingston College Recreation membership. Stop by the PALS Office for more information.



## Student Contributions: Our New Home



### The United States of America Sangthong Puthom

When I was a child, I heard about the country of America. America is incredible-- socially, powerful, and a big country. Of course, I had to know just that. At the present, I live in America. I'm surprised at how pleasant and wonderful everything is. There is fresh weather, nice people, with diverse social and international institutions, wonderful celebrities, and a unique culture-- American style. If you are an observer, you can see anything around the world never seen before in America. America is a mixture of all cultures from diverse countries and it is flourishing non-stop. The United States of America is amazing in my life.

### My New Life Chia Chia "Sharon" Wen

I have been in the U.S.A. for a month. It's my first time coming to America. Everything is really new to me. The climate is very cold here, the scenery is amazing, and the school is awesome. Although the price is more expensive, I like eating in American restaurants, and driving in the car to the mall to go shopping. I like the snowy weather, because there is never snow in Taiwan. There are many historical sites, and all the skyscrapers are spectacular. I am busy everyday, because the course is tense and hard. I have to spend a lot of time to do my homework everyday. I have known many friends from many countries, including Korea, Thailand, Japan, and South America. All the classmates are friendly and kind. We have lunch together and go to the library after class everyday. Sometimes we hang out on the weekend. I like American culture and hope I can learn more here.



**Tatyana  
Aksyuk-  
Grigoryeva**



It's hard to learn English and I'm going to do that. Last summer, we went to Sequoia National Park in California. I've seen giant trees with a diameter which is more than 33 feet. I've seen a bear and I was scared of it. I've seen beautiful mountains, creeks and waterfalls...

But I had on the hiking boots which, as it turned out, didn't fit me. It hurt me; I hardly walked and my feet were finally hurting. But, I walked 10 miles.

How could learning English be harder than that?!



**Study in America**  
"Frank" Chung Han Lee

Three weeks ago, I came to America. This was the first time I came to United States in my life. It's really cold. I never see snow in Taiwan before. I'm really very excited. But I also faced many problems. I'm not a citizen of America, and I don't have a social security number, too. There were some problems when I wanted to open a new account. I don't have family here. I had a hard time at the beginning. But, people here are very friendly. I make many friends here. They come from Korea, Turkey, Thailand, and so on. They are very kind and patient. We study in PALS. We also go shopping together or have a party in someone's house. I like PALS. I like American culture, too.

**China**  
Se Young Son

If someone gives me a travel I will choose to travel in China. China of history is very long, and so glorious. So, there are many historical places, and many interesting places. Chinese pride culturally rich themselves. Especially, I'd like to go to Great of wall, because Great of wall has beautiful scenery. China's size is the largest of country of the world. In hence, they have not only a lot of islands, rivers, and lakes, but also a variety of delicious foods. Therefore, I want go to china, we can see that a lot of things.



**America has different things**  
Won Kyem Kim

When I arrived in America, I didn't feel different from Korea at the first time, except big and long road. Because I arrived at night. So I didn't see everything. And Korea has also long highway and beautiful scenery.

But after the time passed, I felt different from Korea. That is exactly American has a margin. Every driver has a margin, and drive a car. So there is no someone who cut in the line. I really like this situation. Because most of Korean always hurry up. They think, " If I can't pass the way, I 'm late." However it is wrong think! I think the more increase speed, the more dangerous.

So I learn about margin and rest.

At the second, when Americans met someone whom American know or not, they just say, "Hi, How are you?" I really really like this atmosphere. Because it give friendly mind to me. I think the factor is American has a free mind. When I arrived at the first time, I didn't feel different anything. But I learn many things

**Kenichi Yoshioka**

I have come to like PALS, because it is near to NYC and Newark Airport, and has a golf course. New Jersey Transit is a little slow but it can't be helped since the railroad fare is reasonable. I have no relatives, friends, acquaintances in the US, but all the more I have become interested in the like in America. I think I want to enjoy learning English at PALS, and want to make it my property and treasure in my short rest of life.





### About Washington DC

Ji Yeon Michelle Lee

Washington D.C is the capital of the United States, and a city that has no state. The city of Washington D.C. has wide streets, parks, and beautiful buildings. These buildings tell the history of the United States. For example, the most famous building is the White House. Millions of people visit Washington D.C. Tourism is an important business.

When I traveled to Washington D.C, I could see many good things. Especially I felt many things from plants and information. First, there were many plants. I could feel very comfortable and breathed cleaned air. That is important to people. If there are bad things, we won't like that place. But if we can breathe clean air, we feel much better. For example, hops known for centuries for its calming qualities, it can help relieve nervous tension, headaches, and prepare you for a good night's sleep. Second, I could get a lot of information easily. Washington D.C is very big, and also many people are living there. So many people visit that place. When I went to Washington D.C, there were many events. I could participate in many events. For example, when I went to some cafe, I watched TV, which shows many cultures all over the world, drama, sports, music, etc. I could meet many foreign people, and I learned new languages from others. It was a great experience for me.

### What Happened to me in an airplane from Seoul to NY

Sun Hee Sunny Park

December 29, 6 a.m. (America time) I had a ride in an airplane from Seoul to NY. The airplane was very crowded and confusing. When the airplane was flying, many babies cried. I watched the airplane. Some people read newspapers, other people were asleep. I was very bored, because

I couldn't move anywhere for about 14 hours. I just continued to eat and sleep, to eat and sleep. Sometimes the airplane was shaking. People fastened their seatbelts and babies were crying.

After 14hours, at last, I arrived at JFK Airport in New York. The date and time was December 29, 9 p.m. I had jet lag-- so I was tired. When I saw America for the first time, it looked so peaceful and calm. I have decided that I will study English very hard in PALS while enjoying America.



### My Good Friend, Se Young

Tae Hwan Jeon

My new friend, Se Young is my role model. Se Young is from South Korea. His last name is Son. He graduated from Busan University in South Korea this year. His major is information & communication engineering. He came to America about three weeks ago. Now, he is going to PALS at Rutgers University to develop his English communication skills. Because, he thinks that all students must speak English. He lives alone in New Brunswick in his apartment. But, his younger sisters live near his apartment. So, he is not alone. His sisters are students at Rutgers University. One of them studies art history and the other, studies design. He loves his sisters and takes care of them well. He has brown eyes, dyed brown hair. And, he is tall. I think he has a nice appearance. His hobby is playing sports. He has a Rutgers recreation membership. He likes to go to a gym in New Brunswick. He exercises everyday after class. I think he is a real fitness freak. He wants to be a CEO. He had worked at his own company. So, he came here to go for his MBA. I think he will be a good CEO, because he is very kind and smart. He is still single. I hope that he meets a good woman and becomes a good CEO. I want to copy his traits. So, I want to be a good man like him.



