

ETAG e-Newsletter

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Successful training for Chaglar Educational Institutions



On December 25-28 ETAG trainers Nona Chavchavadze and Nikoloz Parjanadze conducted a three-day training for teachers of English from Chaglar Educational Institutions. Chaglar Educational Institutions encompass primary and secondary schools throughout Georgia. The training intended to introduce the FCE Cambridge Exams format to teachers who intend to set up FCE preparation courses at their schools. The training sessions were productive, and teachers were actively involved in the discussions concerning the format of the exams, as well as the pedagogy which should be employed while teaching exam skills to students. Teachers and Chaglar Educational Institutions administration were highly satisfied with the training and expressed a wish to actively cooperate with ETAG in the future.

Moving towards better management and Leadership - Nino Salukvadze, ETAG Batumi branch.



On February 2, 2014, Giuli Mikeladze, ETAG Batumi branch representative conducted a (follow-up) workshop on the topic Leadership and Management. Giuli shared invaluable information and knowledge she gained in the 'Developing the Next Generation of Association Leaders' organized in Budapest. The most essential issues like leadership styles and roles, strategic planning and strategies for recruiting members were presented and discussed with ETAG members. A special interest presented SWOT analysis which showed clearly our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats and helped us reflect on how to recruit and retain members. The workshop proved that attending a conference has an immense value for the development of teacher associations which in its turn leads to professional development.

A visit to Shanghai - Mzia Khibulava, ETAG Zugdidi Head



Natia Kvaratskhelia, ETAG trainer in Zugdidi, works for a private elementary school equipped with the latest inventions in the field of educational technology. With the ultramodern science labs, smart boards, internet access in all classrooms and a lot more, the school now aims to determine the best teaching practices throughout the world and to implement effective programmes. With this definite goal in mind Natia and her colleagues were sent to China to observe lessons in two of Shanghai schools. Both schools focus on developing a whole person - a critical thinker capable of finding his/her place in the highly competitive world. Natia found the primary years programme especially attractive because it provides every child with an opportunity to demonstrate what his/her special talents are. Open-mindedness, recognizing and respecting cultural, religious and other diversities are also highly encouraged and advocated in the schools of China.

ETAG Zugdidi teachers participate in Intensive Course for Teachers of English (ICTE)



More than fifty teachers from Samegrelo Region were involved in one of the most successful projects “English Language through Civic Education” funded by the US Embassy, implemented by PH International and ETAG. Later the most active teachers applied for ICTE program and as a result 4 teachers: Nana Kikalishvili, Elene Changelia, Lana Chakhaia and Irma Kiria were chosen and sent to the USA for three weeks with other teachers of English from different regions of Georgia. The training sessions were mainly provided by the World Learning Centre. On returning to Georgia, a final conference was held and the teachers had opportunity to share their experience with their colleagues. The ELCE graduates also participated in the Open Lesson Weeks which were conducted in Zugdidi as well as in village schools. At the end of the programme the teachers showed remarkable improvements in comparison to their previous lessons observed by their trainers. At the end of January Nana Ioseliani-Meissner, English Language Programmes Manager and Anna Adamia, English Language Programmes Assistant from the Project Harmony visited Zugdidi to award these four ladies with the certificates and books.

ETAG Gori Activities - Marine Chalauri, ETAG Gori Head



Gori ETAG held a scheduled Saturday session with 12 members in attendance. It's a nice sight to have some new, young members next to the experienced ones. Here the friendly working environment creates understanding and respect, provides the possibilities for learning, cooperative working and self-assessment. The session topic was ‘Job Compatibility’ from Business English. The content was based on reading and listening tasks. The members got involved. They activated such ‘business words’, as: compatibility, conventional and social personality, etc. The most interesting part of the session was defining their own personality types according to their work experiences. The session ended with sincerely positive feedback from the teachers about the job they have done.



Rusudan Tkemaladze, one of the founders of ETAG and the Head of the Foreign Languages Group at NAEC will be attending the TESOL Convention in Portland, Oregon, on March 25-30. Rusudan's participation in this important professional event was made possible with the kind support of the Regional English Language Office (RELO) and the Public Affairs Section of the US. Embassy in Tbilisi.



Nick Parjanadze, one of the ETAG trainers is selected to participate in the U.S. Department of State's English Access Microscholarship Program's *Access: English Teacher Leadership Institute* occurring March, 2014 in the U.S.



ETAG congratulates **Elene Changelia**, our member from Zugdidi, and **Irma Giorgadze**, our member from Rustavi on getting married and wishes them everlasting love and happiness!!! .



HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY!

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