

## ***A Step Worth Taking***

*by Ms. Lana Muasher*

Tic tak tic tak tok tok toc tic .....not too loud, whispering, barely heard; technology has come a long way from noisy typewriters. The screen lights up the letters, the words and sentences. I have to trust it does: I unlike many cannot tell; the gift of seeing is one I no longer possess! Grateful to many others I listen carefully to what I type. Do words fall on ears like they do on eyes?!! Here comes ICDL. It was not easy, I went through all modules. Those involved showed concern and interest, positive attitude to help to make it possible. But then, I thought Technology alienates people.....they become antisocial. Still holds true in some cases but what a gift when it enables us to help each other! This is yours trully's experience with those involved in ICDL, the trainers , those who had to read to me the questions to make sure I had the same chances at success as everyone else. Granted the effort and work is mine, but equal opportunity had to present itself: from the heart a thank you to each one that made it possible...YOU made a difference in my life.

Now the output of my excel sheet is no different to that of the best accountant and with the same efficiency though I must admit not the same speed. Often, I smile when my mom calls out loud to over talk my reader or my music wandering if *her computer* lost her article. To my power point presentation I get such responses as, "Lana the choice of colors in your presentation are part of what you say- they give a message too....how do you do it? Dr. Abu Haija, a dear friend, emailed me to let me know about this contest. Normally my reading program could not read my emails, now all my correspondence I handle independently with Outlook Express.

And now here I am connecting with the world to enrich my life.

Do words fall on ears like they do on eyes?!! I guess they must, ICDL made sure of that, I just hope and pray they fall on fertile hearts.