



THE MISSOURI IRA NEWSLETTER

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www.missourireading.org

Volume 28, Number 3

International Reading Association

Spring 2008

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear MSC-IRA Member,

Ahhh...the end of the school year! What an exciting time! MAP testing has come and gone, field trips have begun, and the weather is slowly warming up. It is an exciting time. I am wondering how everyone is doing with their New Year's Resolutions? I hope you take some time this summer to reflect on your past year and to make some new goals for the 2008-2009 school year. I know I will.

I have just returned from the annual convention in Atlanta. The Missouri State Council received the Award of Excellence from International IRA. That is an accomplishment that we should celebrate. We are doing great work in Missouri and we should be very proud. I heard some inspiring authors and I came back energized and exhausted all at the same time.

I think there are some challenges for us in the coming years. We need to pay more attention to Adolescent Literacy. We need to make sure that every child has access to reading materials that are at the instructional level. We need to make sure children have choice in what they read. We need to make sure children have time to read. We also need to take time as teachers to nurture the reader within us. Please be an advocate for reading instruction in your school.

Remember that our fall conference *Journey into Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum* will be October 2-4, 2008 in Springfield. Please plan to join us then. Thanks so much for a great year. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as president of MSC-IRA.

Submitted by Laurie Edmondson, MSC-IRA President
ledmondson@drury.edu

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The Community Service Award application deadline has been extended to June 30th.

The MSC-IRA would like to recognize councils for their efforts in encouraging literacy in the community! The winning council will receive \$200.

Whether your council's Community Service Project has given books to the community, sponsored storytimes and parent/adult programs, prepared preschool packages, or completed other projects, just submit the application!

The work is done, and it is time to report how your council has contributed in your community! The guidelines and application are readily available at www.missourireading.org. Click on "Awards and Grants," then "Form" beside Community Service Award. Print, complete, and submit by June 30th!

Submitted by Linda McGlothlin, Community Service Chair
mac-read@yahoo.com

These Items Require Your Special Attention

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FROM THE COORDINATOR

It's hard to believe that it's almost the end of another school year! I'm sure everyone is ready for some time to relax and to recuperate.

2008-09 Officer Report

Please send a list of your new officers to me at the email listed below. It is very important to have contact information for each council's officers so that Leadership information and Board Meeting notices are sent to the current officers.

New Zone Coordinators

We want to welcome a new Zone Coordinator to our Missouri State Council. Debi Pearson is joining us as the Ozark Mountain Zone Coordinator.

Summer Leadership

Plans for Summer Leadership are finalized. We will be meeting Saturday, June 14, 2008 at the Columbia Inn, Columbia, MO. Information and registration materials will be emailed to each local council's in-coming President. If new local council officers haven't been submitted to the State Coordinator prior to the information being sent out, it will be sent to the 2007-08 President.

The State Executive Board will meet Friday evening, June 13th prior to Saturday's Leadership Workshop.

Show-Me Award

There were six councils that completed the requirements for the Show-Me Award this year. The councils are: Springfield, Lee's Summit, Northwest, Jasper County, Independence/Fort Osage, and St. Louis Suburban.

Show-Me Award forms are now available on our website at www.missourireading.org under the password protected section of the website. Click on Member Resources then On-Line Forms, then Show-Me Award Form to access the documents.

Honor Council

There were five councils that received Honor Council Awards from International at the Awards Ceremony May 4, 2008 in Atlanta. The councils are: Springfield, Lee's Summit, Northwest, Independence/Fort Osage, and St. Louis Suburban.

Congratulations to all the councils who worked hard for Honor Council and for the Show-Me Award! We celebrate your success!

Submitted by Lou Sears, State Coordinator
lousears@hotmail.com

Membership

During the past two years we have made every effort to make joining MSC/IRA easier by using a database on the Missouri State Council website. However, many problems have been encountered.

At the April Executive Board meeting considerable discussion centered on the effectiveness of using the data base for membership. It has been too complicated and multi-stepped for effective use. Local council membership chairs have not been able to track memberships without individually checking each person's account to see if they joined or rejoined and whether or not their membership had been paid. Some councils have lost membership during the time we have used the system. We have also kept people on the mailing list when they have failed to renew their membership. This has resulted in additional printing and mailing expense for the Missouri Reader.

Therefore, the Executive Board voted to discontinue the database portion of the website. This was readily accepted by the Board of Directors on Saturday, April 12.

Members should contact their Local Council Membership Chair for information on joining or renewing their membership for 2008-2009. The current information will remain on the database of the website until June 14 (the date of our Leadership Workshop). Membership Chairs should print the lists of their members from the current database before that date.

A report form using Excel is being developed so that it can be forwarded by e-mail (or printed) from your council records to the State Director of Membership Development along with a check for the state dues. This will enable us to keep the state membership numbers and mailing list up-to-date.

All the effort and hard work that many of you have given to making this program work has been appreciated. We now need to focus on the 2008-2009 membership year and work toward increasing our membership numbers.

It would be appreciated if each local council Membership Director would e-mail your current e-mail address to me (Barbara Hiles, State Director of Membership Development at bhiles24@msn.com). This will enable information to be sent as needed.

FROM MSC-IRA PRESIDENT ELECT**A Journey into IRA**

Nineteen years ago a colleague in my building invited me to attend a Northwest Council's meeting. She said that the topic of the meeting was a hodge-podge of stations with various presenters sharing effective reading practices. At the time I was an elementary learning disabilities teacher and thought that I might gain some ideas for working with my special needs children.

Carol Hurst was the guest speaker! Carol was a great storyteller! I was hooked almost from the moment she began to speak. Carol also shared a piece of literature by an author that at the time was unknown to me, Eleanor Estes. The snippet that enticed me to search out the book from the library the next day was from *Rufus M.* She told the part where Rufus wanted to get his own library card. I remember laughing so hard I had tears rolling down my cheeks. I left that evening with a few effective reading, writing, and spelling practices and a list of names whom I could contact for further ideas and dialogue. I also took my two children to the library to get their own library card.

As a new teacher, mother, wife, Sunday school teacher, and grad student I had no desire to join an organization in which I had very little time to participate. But that did not stop my colleague from extending an invitation to come to the next, and the next, and the next NW-IRA meeting. I declined, declined, and declined.

Sometime later, I found in my school mailbox a flier promoting an upcoming program featuring author, Ruth Heller. The program was free and opened to the community. Well, I had never met a real author before and had no experience with Ruth Heller. However, I thought it would be a good experience for my children and me. I hadn't noticed on the flier that the program was sponsored by the NW Council.

The next day at school, with my autographed books in hand, I searched out my colleague and asked how I could become a member of the NW-IRA Council.

I never dreamed that nineteen years later I would be the President of the Missouri State Council of the International Reading Association! Of course, it is not a dream, it is an honor. There are many people who have led this organization with great leadership. Today, many of them are my friends. I know I cannot fill their shoes. I have my own shoes to wear and paths to walk. However, I will not walk the path alone. I am counting on your support to continue moving MSC-IRA forward. Please *walk with me* down our path as we collaborate at finding the best literacy support in our schools and communities through our participation in this unsurpassed, professional organization.

Submitted by Marie Puett, President Elect 2007-2008

marie.puett@sjsd.k12.mo.us

Looking for a Few Good Committee Chairs

Have you wondered how you can give back to MSC-IRA without being an officer? Are you aware that we have nineteen Ad Hoc Committees? Many of these committees have been chaired by the same committed members for more than a decade. As people move into retirement, they are struggling with continuing to serve MSC-IRA, or whether to move on so new faces can become active.

There are several openings for Ad Hoc Committee Chairs: Administration and Reading, Community Service, Exemplary Reading Award, Family Literacy, Hospitality, Newspaper in Education, Professional Resources, Professional Development Award, Speakers Bureau, and Missouri Reading Week. Most of these committees *do not* require attendance to our Board Meetings. The duties are easily completed by communicating information or nominations through the MSC-IRA Newsletter or/and packets at the Board Meetings and Leadership Training.

To find out more information about any of the above committees, please contact Marie Puett at marie.puett@sjsd.k12.mo.us or (816) 667-5766. A complete description of the committee chair responsibilities can be located in the Council Yearbook (under resources) on our web site: www.missourireading.org.

Thank you!!

Marie Puett, President Elect

marie.puett@sjsd.k12.mo.us



CALL FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS for the MSC-IRA RESEARCH IN READING AWARD Guidelines for the 2008 Award Year

You are invited to share your research with the rest of the SHOW-ME State. Guidelines and directions to apply for the **MSC-IRA Research in Reading Award** are posted below. The MSC-IRA Research in Reading Award is awarded annually to the member who designs and carries out research focused on reading, writing, spelling or any other aspect of literacy.

Eligible Projects:

- All applicants must be members of the Missouri State Reading Council.
- Studies may be undertaken using various research approaches or methods, including teacher-research or action research.
- Studies conducted in conjunction with advanced degrees (Masters, Specialist, or Doctorate) are eligible.
- Projects developing new programs or instructional materials are **not** eligible.

Deadline:

Applications must be postmarked by September 12, 2008. Late entries will be accepted and held for the 2009 MSC-IRA Research in Reading Award.

Mail Application to:

Dr. Willie Edwards
Missouri Southern State University
Department of Teacher Education
3950 East Newman Road
Joplin, MO 64801
edwards-w@mssu.edu

Preparing Your Application for Submission:

Applications should include a cover sheet with title, name, address, telephone number, email address, and local council. Description of your research project should be single-spaced and not exceed five typed pages. The description must include:

- 1) Approximately a 250-word abstract describing the project;
- 2) Topic, research questions or problems studied;
- 3) Rationale for the study and relationship to existing body of research or previous findings;
- 4) Methodology (action research, case study, survey, etc.);
- 5) Grade levels or level focused on by study;
- 6) Results of study; and
- 7) Implications of study on practice or research (describe what populations will benefit).

Review Procedures:

Applications will be reviewed by the members of the *MSC-IRA Committee on Studies and Research in Reading*. Evaluation of proposals are conducted as a blind-review. The winner will be notified no later than the last week of September by e-mail. The winning researcher(s) will be recognized for his or her work during one of the general conference meetings at the October 2-4 2008 MSC-IRA Fall Conference in Springfield, MO.

Your research proposal will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Significance of topic and research questions	4
Rationale for research	4
Adequacy of methods	5
Significance of project impact	4
Clarity and specificity	3

All areas will be ranked from 1 (low) to 5 (high) and multiplied by the weights above.

Questions?

Please contact Dr. Willie Edwards at 417-625-9626 or edwards-w@mssu.edu if you have any questions or need technical assistance in preparing your application.

MEDIA AWARD

Have you been **READING** the newspaper, **LISTENING** to the radio, and **WATCHING** TV, and by any chance seen or heard promotions of literacy in your homes, schools, and the community? If you have, and if they attempt to educate the public about literacy, then we can spread the word. Newspaper columns about literacy, TV shows that spotlight reading in the classroom, or frequent radio commentaries may be candidates for the Broadcast Media Award for Television or Radio or the Print Media Award, which includes reporting by professional journalists in newspapers and magazines. Applications for the awards, which may be found online at www.missourireading.org give specific details about the awards. The forms may either be given by a member to the newspaper, TV, or radio station office to submit or they may be filled out by the MSC-IRA member. The deadline for receiving completed award application forms is September 1, 2008.

Submitted by Faye Crow, Media Award Chair
fcrow@mchsi.com

COUNCIL NEWS**ST. LOUIS SUBURBAN COUNCIL**

The St. Louis Suburban Council held its Spring Banquet on April 23rd. The Spring Banquet took place in the Monsanto Room at Maryville University. Peter Brunn, known for his out-standing presentations at literacy conferences and as Director of Professional Development for the non-profit Developmental Studies Center, was the presenter and his topic was on writing. This was an exceptional presentation and provided the latest information for teaching a subject known to be challenging at all grade levels. We also celebrated the 50th Anniversary of St. Louis Suburban Council with presentations of special "Service Recognition Awards" for those who had made a substantial contribution to the St. Louis Suburban Council since its inception in 1958. A notable special guest from the council's earlier leadership made a rare appearance at the Spring Banquet. Surprising details of the early history of our council was shared.

Submitted by Lil Katzenmeyer, Council President

NORTHWEST NEWS

The Northwest Council continues to support the St. Joseph Area Literacy Coalition. We have been active with the Coalition for about seven years. As one of its projects, each year the Coalition brings an author to visit local schools and the community. Well known authors such as Vicki Grove, Roland Smith, Cheryl Harness, Judy Young, and Lisa Campbell Ernst have made an impressive presence to the children in our community. During the two day visit, the authors speak at five to six schools and conduct a public evening appearance in the community.

This year's author, Mike Thaler, visited five area schools on March 12th and 13th along with a public community presentation. Mr. Thaler has authored over twenty books. His best known work is *The Teacher from the Black Lagoon* with various versions such as *The Librarian from the Black Lagoon*, *The Principal from the Black Lagoon*, and *The School Nurse from the Black Lagoon*.

Northwest members gather together to attend the community program. The group's favorite part of the evening is the private dinner prior to the program! The Kodak moment and the memorable experiences of meeting an author each spring is one of our favorite meetings. We are proud to be able to help bring known authors into the schools for children to meet and for the children to have the opportunity to build their own memories.

Submitted by Marie Puett

FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Beginning with this newsletter, council news will be included in the publication. Although council news is online at www.missourireading.org, it was decided by the MSC-IRA Board that the council news should also be published in the newsletter. We will still publish on the website the photos taken at council meetings but not in the newsletter because of the length of time it would take to download.

I am retiring as the newsletter editor and I hope that you have enjoyed having your newsletter delivered to you by way of the internet and that you are pleased with the information that was contained in each issue.

Thank you for your support in sending in articles and I know you will continue to do so with the incoming newsletter editor.

JOURNEY into

READING & WRITING Across the Curriculum

Missouri State Council of
**INTERNATIONAL
READING
ASSOCIATION**

*42nd State
Conference*

October 2-4, 2008

University Plaza
Springfield, MO



Missouri State Council of the International Reading Association
Presents the 42nd Annual Conference

Journey into Reading & Writing across the Curriculum

Keynote & Featured Speakers



Sharon Taberski
*The Reading/Writing
Connection*

Sara Holbrook
*Writing Poetry Across
the Curriculum*



Michael Sallinger
*Memoir Mapping:
story structure, tone,
character development
and descriptive*

Harvey Daniels
Content Area Reading



**Gail Boushey &
Joan Moser**
*"The Two Sisters",
The Daily Five*

**Miriam P.
Trehearne**
*Literacy Learning
in Kindergarten
to Grade 2*



Missouri Author: Judy Young

Authors: Carla McClafferty,
Joyce Hostetter, Amy Axlerod

Missouri History Lessons:
*Featuring the Veterans
History Project & Harry S.
Truman Library & Museum*

For conference registration,
hotel reservations &
program details go to
www.missourireading.org

Don't miss the best conference
of the year! Share this with
a friend and plan to attend!
**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

**Register
Early
and
SAVE!**



October 2 - 4, 2008
Springfield, Missouri

CALL FOR PROGRAM PROPOSALS

**Missouri State Council of the International Reading Association
42nd Annual Conference
University Plaza Hotel
Springfield, MO
October 2- 4, 2008**

JOURNEY INTO READING & WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

1. Person submitting proposal Dr. ___ Mr. ___ Mrs. ___ Ms. ___

Last _____ First _____ Middle _____

Institutional Affiliation _____ Position/Title _____

Mailing Address _____ Address is: ___ Home ___ Work

City _____ State ___ Zip _____ Phone (H) _____

E-mail Address _____ Phone (W) _____

I am a member of IRA and my membership # is _____ I am not a member at this time. _____

Local Council _____ I am not a member at this time. _____

2. Presenter(s) List on an attached page, names of colleagues who will be presenting with you. Include biographical information about all presenters that may be used by the chairperson when making introductions.

3. Title of Presentation (as it would appear in the program) and Description (in 20-25 words, describe your presentation as it will appear in the program) Please type on a separate sheet and attach with "Call for Program Proposals" form.

4. Presentation Summary Please attach a brief program summary that in 250 words or less addresses the following:

A. Objectives B. Content of the Presentation C. Methods of Presenting (lecture, discussion, hands-on, etc.)

5. Topics Please indicate the topic(s) of your proposal.

_____ Assessment	_____ Differentiated Instruction	_____ Technology Literacy
_____ Adolescent/Adult Literacy	_____ Reading in Content Area	_____ Reading Strategies
_____ Balanced Literacy	_____ Phonics/Phonemic Awareness	_____ Poetry
_____ Content Area Study Skills	_____ Integration/Thematic Study	_____ Literature Study
_____ Emergent Literacy	_____ Exemplary Teaching Methods	_____ Other

6. Appropriate Grade Levels

_____ Early Childhood	_____ Primary	_____ Intermediate	_____ Middle School
_____ High School	_____ Teacher Education	_____ Adult Education	

7. Intended Audience

_____ Classroom Teachers	_____ Administrators/Supervisors	_____ Special Education Teachers
_____ Reading Teachers	_____ Librarians/Media Specialists	_____ Parents
_____ Teacher Educators		

8. Please assign a chair for my session _____ or my chairperson will be _____.

9. Presentation Preference If possible, schedule my presentation at:

_____ Thursday, Oct 2 nd AM	_____ Friday, Oct 3 rd AM	_____ Saturday, Oct 4 th AM
_____ Thursday, Oct 2 nd PM	_____ Friday, Oct 3 rd PM	OR, I have no day/time preference. _____

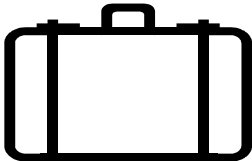
10. I will need an overhead projector. _____ Yes _____ No (All other equipment must be provided by presenters.)

11. If you plan to use music in your presentation, please list separately titles of all musical scores. Copyright requirements mandate this information be sent to IRA headquarters.

12. I understand that I must register and pay the reduced conference fee of \$70.00 by September 1, 2008

Please mail proposal postmarked by July 1, 2008 to:

Debi Porter
1124 Black Forest Drive
St. Charles, MO 63301
debiporter@sbcglobal.net



Journey into Reading & Writing across the Curriculum
42nd MSC/IRA CONFERENCE
University Plaza Hotel
Springfield, MO 65806
October 2-4, 2008

Clover Noack
5 Pine Cone Court
O'Fallon, MO 63366
cnoack@charter.net

Please Print or type

REGISTRATION FORM

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Email Address _____

IRA # _____ Local Council _____ State _____
On Membership Card or IRA Journal

Full-time Student Institution _____ Student ID# _____

Have you been accepted as a 42nd MSC/IRA Conference Presenter? _____ Yes _____ No
 () Please specify if you require any special dietary considerations. _____

() Please check if, under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you require specific aids/services during the conference.

REGISTRATION FEES

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

Postmarked Before September 5, 2008

Includes general sessions, break-out sessions and exhibits (MEAL FUNCTIONS NOT INCLUDED)

IRA Members	\$135.00	Pre-service teachers (ID required)	\$50.00	
Non-members	\$165.00	Retired Teachers	\$70.00	\$ _____

AFTER September 5, 2008

Includes general sessions, break-out sessions and exhibits (MEAL FUNCTIONS NOT INCLUDED)

IRA Members	\$155.00	Pre-service teachers (ID required)	\$60.00
Non-members	\$180.00	Retired Teachers	\$80.00

After September 24

Registration will be done on site and no guarantee on meal availability. \$ _____

MEAL FUNCTIONS/ Meal functions are optional/Please check if vegetarian meal is required/Include payment with registration

- Thursday Speaker Series Box Lunch..... vegetarian **\$20.00** \$ _____
- Friday Speaker Series Box Lunch..... vegetarian **\$20.00** \$ _____
- Friday evening Banquet..... vegetarian **\$35.00** \$ _____
- Dr. Danny Brassell "A Baker's Dozen of Lessons Learned from the Teaching Trenches"***
- Saturday Authors' Breakfast/Reading Across the Content Areas... vegetarian **\$25.00** \$ _____
- Featuring authors Judy Young, Amy Axelrod, Carla McClafferty, Joyce Hostetter, & Cheryl Harness***

TOTAL MEAL FUNCTIONS \$ _____

Total Conference Fees

Please make checks payable to MSC/IRA Conference 2008. Thank you!

Refund policy: Telephone cancellations will not be accepted. Refunds will be made upon receipt of a written request postmarked no later than September 5, 2008. Substitutes accepted. A processing charge of \$20.00 will be withheld. Refund checks will be issued after the conference. Payment must accompany registration.

Please submit Check/ Money Order/ Purchase Order to: 42nd MSCIRA Conference, Clover Noack, 5 Pine Cone Court, O'Fallon, MO 63366

When making reservations at the hotel, please use this code: MOSCR
Place your cursor on “Book Online” and then control and click and it will take you directly to the link.



■ **Book Online**

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Springfield Missouri Hotels

At the top of its class

Located in downtown Springfield in the Jordan Valley Park area, and near both Drury and Missouri State Universities, the University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center Springfield is surrounded by great restaurants, lounges, coffee shops, art galleries, unique retail stores and theaters. The hotel is just a few blocks from Hammons Field, home of the AA Springfield Cardinals baseball team and just minutes from the world headquarters of Bass Pro Shops. The University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center Springfield offers the best stay of all Springfield, Missouri hotels, whether you're traveling on business or looking for a discount family vacation.

As a guest, you'll enjoy first-class accommodations with a fitness center, sauna, sundeck and both indoor and outdoor pools. High-speed Internet access is available throughout the hotel and parking is complimentary. Pets smaller than 25 pounds are welcome with a small deposit.

The University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center Springfield offers more than 43,000 square feet of meeting space, all on the first floor of the hotel. Directly across the street from the hotel is the Springfield Expo Center, featuring more than 112,000 square feet of additional meeting and exhibit space. An onsite business center, audiovisual staff and full catering services ensure that your event occurs exactly as planned.

Click [here](#) to book your stay at the finest of the Springfield, Missouri hotels.

MSC-IRA CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2007-2008

June 13, 2008	Executive Committee Meeting, Columbia Inn-Best Western, Columbia, MO, 7:30 p.m. (For State Executive Board Only)
June 14, 2008	Missouri IRA Leadership Retreat, Columbia Inn-Best Western, Columbia, MO, 9:00-2:00 p.m.
October 2-4, 2008	MSC-IRA State Conference, Springfield, MO

**SEND NEW CALENDAR ITEMS AND ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR BY
AUGUST 1ST FOR THE FALL NEWSLETTER**

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