



THE MISSOURI IRA NEWSLETTER

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International Reading Association

Winter 2007

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear MSC-IRA Members,

Happy New Year 2008! This is a time of year that can be very exciting and very frustrating at the same time. I am writing to you from my office today because I have no phone or computer that is working at my house right now. We lost our power New Year's Eve and have been having troubles ever since then. This time last year we were on the brink of the worst ice storm in Springfield in over 20 years. Missouri is a wonderful place to live, but we do have to put up with ice and snow. The snow is great, but I can do without the ice on the power lines.

Have you made your resolution for 2008? This is the exciting part of the year because we are full of hope and good intentions for the new year. Tomorrow I will start my diet. Tomorrow I will read that book I have been meaning to read. Tomorrow I will start to volunteer in my community. Tomorrow I will finish the project I am working on. I have a challenge for you. Live in the moment. Don't wait until tomorrow to work on the project. Do it today. Improve yourself. Improve your community. Get out there and do those things that you have been meaning to do. Read to a child. Donate some of your old books to a shelter. Tell someone how much you love him. Go for a walk. Take time to listen to your children or your grandchildren. Be the best person you can be in 2008. I am going to get started on that book I have had dancing around in my head. I will let you know how great I am at following my own advice. Let me know if you take the challenge as well...I will be waiting to hear from you!

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

A MESSAGE FROM THE HISTORIAN

Attention Council Leaders!

If you have photographs of a council event or council news that you wish placed in the MSC-IRA Historian's Album or if the item is part of the Honor Council or Show Me Award requirements, then mail it to me at the following:

Lillian Katzenmeyer
900 Hanna Valley Estates Dr.
Manchester, MO 63021

If you have a photograph of a council event or council news that you wish published on the website, forward all of the information to Lou Sears, our website coordinator, at lousears@hotmail.com for placement in a specific section of the website (not the newsletter).

Have a great year!

Submitted by Lillian Katzenmeyer, Historian
lk Katzenmeyer@aol.com

These Items Require Your Special Attention

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From the Coordinator

With the start of a new year and the school year half over, we take stock of what we have accomplished and what we still need to do to meet our goals. Most importantly, I hope everyone had a happy holiday season and got to spend time with family and friends.

Marie Puett and her Committee are to be congratulated on their hard work and dedication which made our 2007 Fall Conference a wonderful experience! Everyone in attendance went away with new ideas and strategies for helping students in their home school districts. In addition, it's always enjoyable to renew old acquaintances and meet new literacy friends each year! We hope to see everyone at next year's fall Conference in Springfield at the University Plaza Hotel.

I urge you, as you make plans for the 2007-08 year, to schedule your election of new officers soon after the first of the year. This will ensure that you will have your officer list ready for submission before the due date of April 15, 2008. (This is a Show-Me requirement.) It will also give newly elected officers the opportunity to work with the current officers to learn the responsibilities of their office and how to make the new council year a successful one.

Remember – The deadline for Honor Council (International) and the Show Me State Award materials is March 1. I know that local councils have been working very hard to meet the requirements for these awards. Be sure to double check the list of requirements and if you have any questions, please contact me or your Zone Coordinator for assistance.

Each new year always brings new challenges for each of us when trying to meet the needs of the students in our classrooms on a daily basis. The website, the publications, and the information to be gained from attending local council and state meetings, and the sharing of ideas (both the successes and the problems) with fellow IRA members across the state can be of great assistance to you in your efforts to provide quality instruction for your students.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

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

MEMBERSHIP

Everyone seems to be adjusting to the new system of membership very well. There are still some problems to work out, but as everyone becomes more familiar with enrolling on-line, it will continue to be easier and more efficient. Please keep up the good work you are doing.

Keep in mind that there is a new membership form on the website and more information is required for enrollment on-line than was needed on the old membership form. Items that are necessary to complete the enrollment are indicated by an asterisk (*). If you use the membership form and send it to your membership director or to me, this information must be entered or the membership will not be accepted by the computer program.

A note to the local Membership Directors: When you have entered your local members and send in a check to me for their memberships, please send me a list of their names in order that I will be able to keep the state membership information up-to-date and accurate. Also, you need to “edit” the membership for that person to show that it has been paid which will take that membership off the “pending” membership list.

We will be holding the annual contest for the highest percentage of membership increase (councils are divided into three categories depending on size) and the winners will receive a free International membership to be given to someone in their council. The membership chair whose council shows the highest percentage of membership increase will receive a complimentary registration to the fall conference 2008. The deadline for determining winners will be March 1, 2008.

Membership cards are available and if you need some for your council, please e-mail me and I will mail them to you.

If you have any questions or problems, please contact me.

Submitted by Barbara Hiles, Director of Membership Development
bhiles24@msn.com, 816-229-8509



THE GIFT OF LITERACY CONFERENCE

Attending this year's MSC-IRA State Conference was like opening a gift every hour. We knew what was in the package, but we did not know the impact that we would experience after opening the package. The Gift of Literacy presenters, featured and keynote speakers, and authors provided expert professional development with humor, knowledge and fun. The conference evaluation sparkled with positive comments about the experiences from the attendees. The gifts we left The Lodge of Four Seasons with will impact our teaching of literacy in a great way.

I would like to thank those who helped make "The Gift of Literacy" a success. A special "Thank You" goes to Ella Jones for her gift and talent as our Meal Functions Chair. The special events were delicious. Everyone involved with the conference gives a huge THANKS to Barbara Ryczek for her expertise of handling conference registrations. Your efforts to make every conference attendee welcomed were appreciated. Applause, applause, applause goes to Karri Chladek for organizing the program proposals and conference schedule. There are bushels of thanks for Tamara Rhomberg's years of experience as the Exhibitor Chair. Your contacts with the exhibitors no doubt contributed to their generosity with door prizes and give-a ways. Behind the scenes thanks goes to Mary Newton, the Finance Chair, as she wraps up the hanging strings and remits our expenses. Heart-felt thanks goes to Rayann Mitchell, our Leadership Development Associate from *International*, for her positive encouragement and support. I am still giving daily thanks to my best friend, Glenda Haley, for her right-hand-man support as Conference Co-Chair. I'm glad I was able to have her along for the ride. She helped me to stay balanced. No doubt we will both have special keepsakes from this conference to place in our memory box. These dedicated conference steering committee members are one of the keys to the reason we can call "The Gift of Literacy" a success. There are so many other people that need to be thanked: everyone who volunteered to preside over a session, all of the presenters, the Lodge's staff, past conference chairs, and all my MSC-IRA friends. But saving the most important thanks for last-THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO ATTENDED.

Next year's conference is October 2 – 4, 2008 at Springfield, Missouri. Linda McGlothlin and her committee are preparing their road map for the *Journey Into Reading & Writing Across the Curriculum*. Check our web site regularly for updated conference information.

Greatfully,

Marie Puett, *President-Elect*
MSC-IRA 2007 Conference Chair
mlpuett@ccp.com

INTERNATIONAL PROJECT

For the past several years, Missouri State Council has sponsored the Philippines Project, which is a service project that attempts to promote and improve literacy and the general welfare of children and adults in the Philippines. Our goal is to raise at least \$1000.00 each year for this purpose. Monies collected will give educators in the Philippines the resources needed to be able to fly from island to island to attend conferences on reading. Past donations have been gratefully received, providing the opportunity for professional development and the purchase of resources to be used in the classroom.

I am urging all chapters to send in a contribution to this worthy cause. Whether your council designates a specific amount, or collects funds in other ways, I am confident that we will be able to reach this goal. Furthermore, your donation may be used by your council as one of the options to qualify for Show Me Award and Honor Council. Most importantly, you will be playing a part in furthering literacy in the Philippine Islands. I will be sharing updates as I get them, and look forward to hearing from all of you. If you have questions, my home phone number is (816) 524-5076 and my e-mail address is lbranson@kc.rr.com.

Contributions may be sent to MSC/IRA Treasurer: Nicole Costello, 2821 Yale Boulevard, St. Charles, MO 63301.

Be sure to designate these funds for the Philippines Project.

Thank you,

Submitted by Petro Branson, International Projects Chair
lbranson@kc.rr.com

CELEBRATE LITERACY AWARD

Time has come to submit your "Celebrate Literacy Award" nominees to the MSC-IRA committee to be considered for the award given at the state level.

This award may be used by your council as one of the options to qualify for Honor Council. Please see page 11-3 through 11-5 in your Leader's notebook for guidelines.

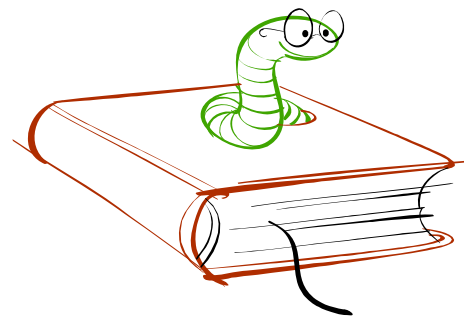
The local nominations submitted to us will be considered for an award to be given at the Fall 2008 State IRA Conference. Be sure to include the following information:

- Name, address, and phone number of the nominee;
- Description of the contributions to literacy on which the nomination is based (not to exceed three pages);
- Results of their contributions and their benefit to the community or state.

Nominations should be sent to Barbara Ryczek, Literacy Award Chairperson, 7618 N.E. 75th Terr., K.C., MO, 64158.

Submitted by Barbara Ryczek
barbryczek@aol.com

The deadline is May 1, 2008



POSTER CONTEST

The 40th annual IRA conference captivated its attendees with outstanding speakers and learning opportunities. It also provided a wonderful art display of posters supplied by Missouri students in a contest held each year during the conference. The poster contest entries were displayed at The Lodge of Four Seasons for all to enjoy. The winners were presented with their awards by the local councils.

OVERALL POSTER WINNER
Sarah Sunderland, age 13, grade 7, Lee's Summit

<u>1st Place</u>	<u>2nd Place</u>	<u>3rd Place</u>
Grades K-2 Olivia Faulkner 2 nd grade Lee's Summit	Allison Mullins 2 nd grade Winona	Sasha Curl 2 nd grade Independence
Grades 3-5 Sammy Morris 4 th grade Lee's Summit	Mike Bolton 4 th grade Carthage	Emily Pence 5 th grade Carthage
Grades 6-8 Nontapoth Vongkittiarom 8 th grade Joplin	Margaret Mouton 6 th grade Carthage	Kaitlyn Mosher 6 th grade Lee's Summit
Grades 9-12 Deuyn Shaw 10 th grade Winona	Danielle Ball 10 th grade Weaubleau	Jake Lacey 10 th grade Winona

**HOORAY FOR THE ST. LOUIS SUBURBAN COUNCIL
IN CELEBRATING THEIR 50TH YEAR.**

Gateway, Truman, Mark Twain, and Show-Me Book Award Nominees for 2008-2009

It was a busy three months, but I enjoyed every minute of my duties as a reader for the Gateway, Truman, and Mark Twain book award nominees for 2008-2009. MASL now sponsors four, children to young adult choice book awards: the Show Me Readers Award, the Mark Twain Award, the Gateway Readers Award, and the Truman Readers Award. Following is a list of nominees. If you need more information, please visit the MASL web site maslonline.org.

Submitted by Clover Noack

cnoack@charter.net

The winner of the Gateway Readers Award is selected by students in grades nine through twelve. Missouri students in grades nine through twelve are eligible to vote for their favorite book if they have read at least THREE of the titles on the current master list.

2008-2009 Gateway Award Nominations

Just Listen

Dessen, Sarah

Life as We Knew It

Pfeffer, Susan Beth

Copper Sun

Draper, Sharon

Terrier: The Legend of Beka Cooper #1

Pierce, Tamora

The Christopher Killer

Ferguson, Alane

Dead Connection

Price, Charlie

Diva

Flinn, Alex

A Brief Chapter In My Impossible Life

Reinhardt, Dana

What Happened to Cass McBride

Giles, Gail

Notes From the Midnight Driver

Sonnenblick, Jordan

Born to Rock

Korman, Gordon

Rooftop

Volponi, Paul

Hattie Big Sky

Larson, Kirby

Rules of Survival

Werlin, Nancy

The Truman Readers Award is the name of the new award established to primarily address those readers in the middle/junior high ranges. This is a category for book titles a little “older” than those on the Mark Twain list, and a little “younger” than those on the Gateway list. Voting is no longer restricted to the grade levels originally targeted for the previous three Readers Awards. Four of the 12 books will be required reading in both categories for voter eligibility.

2008-2009 Truman Award Nominations

Carey, Janet Lee. Beast of Noor. Simon and Schuster.

Hautman, Pete. Rash. Simon and Schuster.

Jones, Kimberly K. Sand Dollar Summer. Simon and Schuster.

Key, Watt. Alabama Moon. Farrar and Straus.

Lisle, Janet Taylor. Black Duck. Philomel Sleuth.

Lupica, Mike. Heat. Philomel Sleuth.

Miller, Kirsten. Kiki Strike Inside the Shadow City. Bloomsbury.

Nolan, Han. Summer of Kings. Harcourt.

Pearsall, Shelly. All of the Above. Little Brown.

Pfeffer, Susan Beth. Life As We Knew It. Harcourt.

Rorby, Ginny. Hurt Go Happy. Tom Doherty LLC.

Van Draanen, Wendelin. Runaway. Random House.

The Show Me Readers Award is selected by students in grades one through three and is presented annually. Children in grades one through three are eligible to vote for their favorite book if they have read or had read to them a minimum of six books on the current master list.

Show Me Award: 2008-2009 Nominees

Can I Bring My Pterodactyl to School
Grambling, Lois

Gold Miner's Daughter: A Melodramatic Fairy Tale
Hopkins, Jackie Mims

Hero Cat
Spinelli, Eileen

Jake's 100th Day of School
Laminack, Lester

Last Day Blues
Danneberg, Julie

Library Lion
Knudson, Michelle

Lilly's Big Day
Henkes, Kevin

Melissa Parkington's Beautiful,
Beautiful Hair
Brisson, Pat

Miss Malarkey Leaves No Reader
Behind
Finchler, Judy

One Potato, Two Potato
DeFelice, Cynthia

The Mark Twain Award is selected by students in grades four through eight and presented annually. Nominations of titles of literary merit for the stated grade range to be considered for the award are invited. Missouri students in grades four through eight are eligible to vote for their favorite book if they have read, or have had read to them, at least FOUR of the titles on the current master list.

2008-2009 Mark Twain Award Nominations

Balleitt, Blue. Wright 3. Scholastic.

Blume, Lesley M. Cornelia and the Audacious Escapades of the Somerset Sisters. Random House.

Bulion, Leslie. Uncharted Waters. Peachtree.

Gutman, Dan. Million Dollar Putt. Hyperion.

Lord, Cynthia. Rules. Scholastic.

Nuzum, K.A. A Small White Scar. Harper Collins.

Park, Linda Sue. Archer's Quest. Clarion Books.

Platt, Chris. Moon Shadow. Peachtree.

Riordan, Rick. Sea of Monsters. Hyperion.

Ullman, Barb Bentler. Fairies of Nutfolk Wood. Harper Collins.

Wait, Lea. Finest Kind. Simon and Schuster.

Winthrop, Elizabeth. Counting on Grace. Random House.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

I hope all of you have been doing a Community Service Project that gets your members involved in your community. The Community Service Project should encourage literacy development in children and/or adults in your community. Some successful council projects have included book bags for babies, books/materials for family shelters, reading to homebound students/adults, reading and giving books to preschoolers or young readers...or create a new project tailored to fit your council members and community! Your council could be awarded \$200 for your outstanding efforts! Additionally, projects may be included in the Show Me State Award report and the Honor Council report (international) in the spring.

The Community Service Award guidelines, application information, and an optional application form are online at the MSC-IRA website: www.missourireading.org—or contact the Community Service Chair. The application is due June 1st, 2008, so mark your calendars now and don't forget! There is ample time to get as many members as possible out into your community and help promote literacy.

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

MSC-IRA CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2007-2008

February 9, 2008	Executive Committee Meeting, Parkade Elementary, Columbia, MO, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (For State Executive Committee)
March 1, 2008	Honor Council Deadline and Show-Me Award Deadline
April 11, 2008	Executive Committee Meeting, Columbia Inn, Columbia, MO, 7:30 p.m., (For State Executive Committee)
April 12, 2008	Board of Directors Meeting, Columbia Inn, Columbia, MO, 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
April 15, 2008	Report of Council Officers Deadline
May 4-8, 2008	53 rd Annual IRA Conference, Atlanta, Georgia
July 11, 2008	Executive Committee Meeting, (Date tentative – location to be announced)
July 12, 2008	Missouri IRA Leadership Retreat (Date tentative – location to be announced)
October 2-4, 2008	MSC-IRA State Conference, Springfield, MO

**SEND NEW CALENDAR ITEMS AND ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR BY
MAY 1ST FOR THE SPRING NEWSLETTER**

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