

Council News / Fall 2005 MSC-IRA Newsletter

Northwest Council

The Northwest Council is looking forward to an exciting and eventful year! Our optimistic goal is to increase membership to 75 members. Two of the officers, Connie Kelly (Membership Chair) and Debbie Robertson (President), returned from the IRA Leadership Conference on July 9 motivated and refreshed with new ideas. In fact, the two officers scheduled a second planning meeting with the other officers to refine plans for the upcoming year! The first meeting will be held on Sept. 15, in St. Joseph. The theme of the evening will be "Sail Into Reading: Chart Your Own Course!" Displays, refreshments, and a take home keepsake (serving as a "reading" reminder) will follow the theme. The program will focus on forms of thought and questioning strategies. The council will participate in Literacy Day at the area mall on Oct. 22. The topic of the November meeting will be "Responding to Literature." The council recently received a \$1,000 grant from Weyerhaeuser for Books for Babies. Materials have been purchased to distribute over 250 literacy bags to two area hospitals this fall! We are gearing up for a great year in the northwest corner of Missouri!

Submitted by Debbie Robertson, President