



THE MISSOURI IRA NEWSLETTER

Visit Our Website at
www.missourireading.org

Volume 29, Number 1

International Reading Association

Fall 2008

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Ever since I have known my husband he has had a motorcycle and I have been the passenger riding right behind him. I cannot begin to calculate the miles I have sat perched on the “backseat” viewing the countryside as it sweeps past over the past thirty-five years. Six years ago we upgraded our ride to a touring cycle and took to the highways for our summer vacations. My personal tour guide has prepared breath taking trips to Minnesota, the Grand Canyon, Glacier National Park, Colorado, and Oregon. The road trips have left a lasting impression.

I always felt that learning to ride a motorcycle was more of a challenge than I was willing to risk. However, last fall I started thinking that I would like to learn how to *ride* a motorcycle-not just be the passenger. Maybe I was ready for the risk. After contacting our local tech school, my name was placed on the Motorcycle Rider Course list. In June I was notified that I was assigned to take the course in July. After twenty hours of learning and practicing I passed the Motorcycle Rider Course and earned my Missouri motorcycle license!

Just as in my personal life, I am hesitant to take risks in my professional life. I am the classroom teacher for second grade learners at Eugene Field Accelerated School in the St. Joseph School District. As educators we have a huge responsibility to teach our students to be lifelong readers. Even after nineteen years of teaching I find myself focusing on learning something new as I teach my young students. I take a risk that the strategy

will be effective. Some of my past year focuses have been implementing a Reader’s Workshop approach for instruction, developing effective guided reading strategies, becoming proficient at administering the DRA, and developing appropriate comprehension strategy units that would prove effective for beginning readers. This year I hope to utilize *The Daily Five*, by Joan Moser & Gail Boushey, structure within my classroom.

With each new learning experience, a risk factor is involved. Prior to choosing a new focus I have to decide how big of a risk I am willing to take with adapting a new strategy that will ultimately influence the learning and achievement of my students. Will this new strategy facilitate them to be life-long readers?

Missouri IRA has frequently played a role in influencing my decisions. This network of reading educators has become my mentors. I value the exchange of effective experiences from my colleagues at State Board meetings, MSC-IRA Conferences, *The Missouri Reader*, and this newsletter.

As you begin this school year ask yourself, “What risks am I willing to take that will influence how my students learn and become proficient lifelong readers?” As you begin to develop a plan of action for taking your risks, remember MSC-IRA is the most important professional organization to which you belong. Use that membership as a tool to influence your success.

Submitted by Marie Puett, MSC-IRA President
marie.puett@sjsd.k12.mo.us

These Items Require Your Special Attention

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From the Coordinator

Fall 2008

[Leadership Retreat – “Journey into Reading & Writing Across the Curriculum”](#)

The twentieth annual Summer Leadership Workshop was held June 14, 2008 at the Columbia Inn in Columbia, Missouri. Local council officers from fourteen local councils along with members of the State Executive Board attended the workshop. The workshop is designed to share information about IRA at all levels with incoming council presidents, president-elects (or vice presidents), and membership directors (or treasurers) in order that these new or returning local council officers will be better prepared for their upcoming responsibilities.

The workshop was opened with information from International regarding locating information at <www.reading.org> website such as forms, award requirements (Honor Council), and contact information. This information was previously distributed in a packet to each council. An IRA Maze activity got people working in teams to learn more about how to reach your goals as a local council. Job Alike sessions gave officers an opportunity to meet with those from other councils holding the same office and share successes and solutions to problems encountered. Two Potpourri sessions offered a wide variety of subjects such as brand new council leaders, awards, newsletters/communications, local council program ideas, and identifying and “growing” future council leaders.

[Local Council Officers Report Form](#)

As of August, I have received 12 local council report forms either from International or directly from local councils. If you haven't sent me a copy of your officers for the coming year, please do so as soon as possible. We need the current officers so that information during the year is distributed to the correct leaders in your council.

[Website](#)

The MSC/IRA Yearbook is posted online on our website <www.missourireading.org>. The Yearbook includes a timeline with important deadlines and State Board Meeting dates for the year. This should be a helpful resource for you and your council.

Please remember to check the website for important dates, Newsletters, Council News, and information on the fall Conference. Additionally, please include the website address on all Local Council Newsletters and Image Brochures!

www.missourireading.org
Submitted by,
Lou Sears
MSC/IRA State Coordinator
lousears@hotmail.com



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

At the Summer Leadership Meeting held in Columbia, all councils were given a new set of instructions for reporting memberships for the coming year. If your council was not present at that meeting, the information was mailed to your council. Please be sure that this information was received by all Council Membership Chairs. We are returning to our old method of reporting memberships and it is vitally important that membership chairs follow these new instructions.

The following was part of the instructions: “It is very important that the State Director of Membership Development has the name, address, phone number and e-mail address for the Membership Director for each council. Therefore, please e-mail this information to her upon receiving this information. (Barbara Hiles, bhiles24@msn.com).” As of this date, I have only been contacted by four local councils with their information and a request for the Excel spread sheet on which to report their membership.

We know that changing procedures can be very confusing, but we were having difficulties with keeping records straight by using the website enrollment forms. Hopefully when we get everything back to our old method of reporting, these problems will not occur. If you have questions, please e-mail me, or call (Barbara Hiles 816-229-8509).

Submitted by Barbara Hiles, Director of Membership
bhiles24@msn.com
312 SE Gingerbread Lane

NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION WEEK

NIE Week is March 2-6, 2009. At the time of this newsletter there was no new information posted on the Newspaper in Education website. You can go to www.NIEonline.com for grade level lesson plans on utilizing newspapers in your classroom. New lessons are posted each Monday. At the September Board of Directors meeting in Columbia brain based newspaper lessons will be shared.

Submitted by Tamara Jo Rhomberg, NIE Chairperson
rhombergtamara@rockwood.k12.mo.us

**MESSAGE FROM THE HISTORIAN**

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve MSC-IRA as the Historian. Thanks, Marie, for entrusting me with this important job. I am beginning my 7th year teaching first grade at Mark Twain Accelerated Elementary in Carthage. In addition, I am serving as Jasper County Council President. It looks like IRA will keep me busy this year! In keeping with the structure that has already been established with the job of Historian, I would like to remind Council Leaders that if you have photographs of a council event or council news that you would like to have 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:

Lisa Sweet
 1411 W. Aylor
 Webb City, MO 64836

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).

Hope your new school year is the best yet!

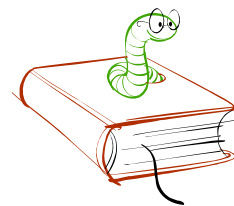
Submitted by Lisa Sweet, Historian
sweetl@carthage.k12.mo.us

*Expand Your Horizons:
 Professional Development
 Opportunities*

Applications due by September 1, 2008

This year the Missouri State Council will offer two different professional development opportunities for local/state members. Scholarships in the amount of \$250 each are available for graduate coursework in the areas of reading or areas related to reading. Missouri State Council Conference Travel Grants in the amount of \$250 each are available for members attending the conference for the first time, who might not otherwise have the opportunity to attend an MSC-IRA State Conference. Don't miss out on this opportunity! Application materials are available on the website (www.missourireading.org) or from:

Submitted by Jason Adams, Professional Development Awards Committee Chair
 2107 South Grand Blvd. Apt. 1005
 St. Louis, MO 63104
adamsja@gw.kirkwood.k12.mo.us





**CALL FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS
FOR THE
MSC-IRA RESEARCH IN READING AWARD
GUIDELINES FOR THE 2007 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 Sept 1, 2008.

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

COUNCIL NEWS

*What exciting events
are happening
in your council?*

Share your successes with other councils through the MSC-IRA Newsletter.

Send your articles to
Jeanie Cozens at
cozens-j@mssu.edu

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.

Exemplary Reading Program Award

Does your school have an outstanding reading program consistent with sound theory, research and practice? Do your students show a high degree of success in reading? Are listening, speaking, viewing, and writing integrated into and support the reading program? Do the school, administrators, teachers and district offer support services to the program?

These are the basic criteria that are evaluated in the Exemplary Reading Program Award. Missouri has had schools in the past that have been recognized as having exemplary reading programs. These schools are recognized at the International IRA Convention in May. However, in the past several years, we have not had any schools apply. Please consult with your teachers and principal and if you feel you have a program that should be recognized for its excellence, please contact me or ask your Council representative that will attend the September Board meeting to be sure and get a copy of the Guidelines and Application Form.

Barbara Hiles, Exemplary Reading Chair
bhiles24@msn.com

SEEKING APPLICATIONS

It is with bitter-sweet emotions that I am seeking applications for the MSC-IRA State Coordinator. The position of State Coordinator will be opened effective July, 2009.

During my time as a member of the Executive Board for MSC-IRA I have been fortunate to have worked with two outstanding State Coordinators, Barbara Hiles and Lou Sears. Barbara was State Coordinator when I began my journey with MSC-IRA and was appreciative of the wealth of knowledge she had about our organization. She always greeted me with a smile, and immediately helped me with any question or problem I encountered. When Barb stepped aside from the Coordinator position I wondered if her shoes could ever be filled. Lou was just the right person to step into those shoes. Lou has elevated our organization to a new level as she wore her new shoes. Her strength has been with our web site and has helped steer that quest into the world of cyber space.

A few of the guidelines and duties:

- The State Coordinator will be the chair for the Zone Coordinators. This committee will be responsible for preparing and encouraging new and established councils in the administration of council business.
- Maintain records of councils & report information to IRA.
- Serve as a liaison and conduit of information between IRA and MSC-IRA.
- Attend & participate in Council Activities for Council Leaders at the International Convention.
- Attend the annual regional Leadership Workshop.
- Organize annual Leadership Retreat for all state and local council officers.
- Serve for a *three-year term*.

Now it is time to invite someone new to continue to lead MSC-IRA as we further our journey in literacy. If you are interested in applying for or would like more information about the position of State Coordinator, please contact me.

Submitted by Marie Puett, MSC-IRA President

CELEBRATE LITERACY

Note: There were no nominees for the award this past year. (2008)

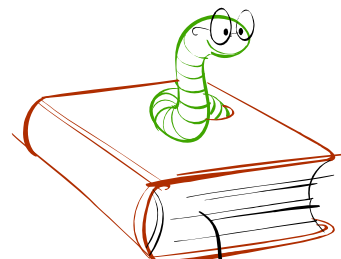
Time has come to submit your "Celebrate Literacy Award" nominees to the MSC-IRA committee to be considered for the award given at the state level. This award may be used by your council as one of the options to qualify for Honor Council. Please see page 11-3 through 11-5 in your IRA Leader's notebook for guidelines. The local nominations submitted to us will be considered for an award to be given at the Fall 2009 State IRA Conference. Be sure to include the following information:

- Name, address, and phone number of the nominee;
- Descriptions 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 and the state.

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

The deadline is May 1, 2009

Submitted by Barbara Ryczek, Celebrate Literacy Committee Chair
barbryczek@aol.com



JOURNEY into

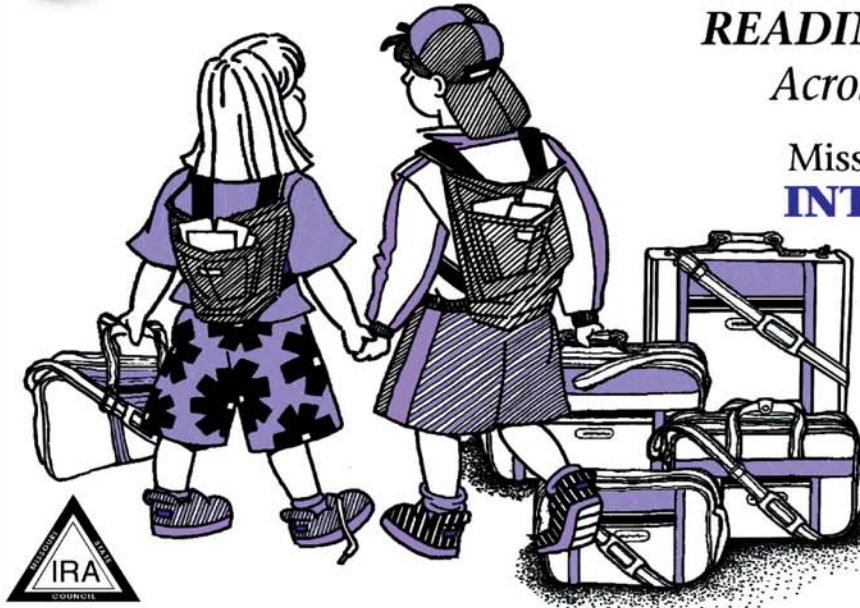
READING & WRITING Across the Curriculum

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



**Register
Early
and
SAVE!**



**October 2 - 4, 2008
Springfield, Missouri**

**Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum
42nd MSC/IRA CONFERENCE
University Plaza Hotel
Springfield, MO 65806
October 2-4, 2008**

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

**MSC-IRA CALENDAR OF EVENTS
2008-2009**

September 12, 2008	MSC-IRA Executive Committee Meeting, Columbia Inn-Best Western, Columbia, MO, 7:30 p.m. (For State Executive Board Only)
September 13, 2008	MSC-IRA Board of Director's Meeting, Columbia Inn-Best Western, Columbia, MO, 9:00-2:00 p.m.
October 2-4, 2008	MSC-IRA State Conference, Springfield, MO
January 31, 2009	MSC-IRA Executive Board Meeting, Location to be announced (For State Executive Board Only)
February 21-25, 2009	IRA Annual Convention-West Phoenix, Arizona
March 1, 2009	Honor Council Deadline (International Award) Show-Me Award Deadline (State Award)
April 24, 2009	MSC-IRA Executive Committee Meeting, Stoney Creek, Columbia, MO, 7:30 p.m. (For State Executive Board Only)
April 25, 2009	MSC-IRA Board of Director's Meeting, Stoney Creek, Columbia, MO, 9:00-2:00 p.m.
May 3-7, 2009	54th Annual IRA Convention - North Central, Minneapolis, MN

**SEND NEW CALENDAR ITEMS AND ARTICLES
BY DECEMBER 1ST FOR THE WINTER NEWSLETTER TO:**

Jeanie Cozens, Editor MSC-IRA Newsletter
Missouri Southern State University, 3950 E. Newman Rd., Joplin, MO 64801
cozens-j@mssu.edu

Lou Sears, State Coordinator
Missouri State Council
International Reading Association
3421 SW Lois Lane
Lee's Summit, MO 64082

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Teresa Krigbaum, Mark Twain

