



THE MISSOURI IRA NEWSLETTER

Visit the MSC-IRA
website at
www.missourireading.org

Volume 29, Number 3

International Reading Association

Spring 2009

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Missouri IRA Members,

Each spring a pallet of color bursts across the hillsides and valleys as winter fades away. The "snow birds" begin to migrate back and can be heard each morning singing choruses as they busy about building new homes. Echoes of the frogs' deep croaking vibrate through the evening air as the sun settles over the horizon. There is a smell of warm rain wafts a sweet perfume. Spring is a time of renewal, and a time of freshness.

A newness and freshness is found within MSC-IRA, too. Many of the local council across Missouri are in the process of electing new officers and recruiting new members. Programs for meetings are beginning to be developed, and avenues of outreach are being explored. We all have successes and challenges embedded within our local councils. It is imperative that we continue to look forward and use our past

I am proud to have served you as President this past year. I have been a committed Missouri IRA member for over twenty years and have felt that serving as an officer was a means for giving back to an organization that has given so much to so many others. This coming year I will serve as Past President on the MSC-IRA Executive Board. I will continue to rally in the successes our council has reached, and work with my colleagues to turn the challenges into new successes.

One success that MSC-IRA has accomplished is receiving the Award of Excellence from International. This award can be compared to Honor Council for our local councils. Jeanie Cozens accepted the award on our behalf at the Convention in Minneapolis in May.

Thank you for your commitment and service to your local council and MSC-IRA!

Yours in literacy,
Marie Puett
President

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From the Coordinator

News from Your State Coordinator Spring 2009

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.

2009-2010 Officer Report

If you have not done so already, 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.

MSC/IRA Leadership

As you have probably already heard, things were handled a little differently this year for Leadership. Since our numbers have been down at Leadership in recent years, we combined Leadership with our April Board Meeting. If you were not able to attend our April Board Meeting/Leadership, information will be mailed to your Council President.

Show-Me Award

There were 5 councils that completed the requirements for the Show-Me Award this year. The councils are: Springfield, Lee's Summit, Northwest, Jasper County, and St. Louis Suburban.

If your council would like to apply for the Show-Me Award for next year, the forms are now available on our website at <www.missourireading.org>. Click on Member Resources then On-Line Forms, then Show-Me Award Form to access the documents.

Honor Council

There are 5 councils that will receive Honor Council Awards from International at the Awards Ceremony May 3, 2009 in Minneapolis. 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!

Personal Note: This is my last article for the Newsletter as MSC/IRA State Coordinator. Following the IRA Convention, Mary Jo Barker will be taking over as State Coordinator. I know she will do a great job! It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as your State Coordinator for the past three years. Missouri IRA is a wonderful organization and I have developed lifelong friendships through my affiliation with our organization since joining in 1992. I want to thank everyone for your kindness and friendship through the years.

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

Membership Report

There have been a number of problems to deal with this year in getting the memberships properly recorded since we discontinued enrollment on line. At this time it appears that starting with the new membership year (which began on March 1); we hopefully will have everything corrected soon.

In the past there has been a great deal of discrepancy between the website numbers and our actual numbers of current members. This discrepancy has been greatly reduced and it is hoped that this next year the numbers will be accurate and in agreement.

There are still a few old memberships listed on the website and we are in the process of getting them removed. Part of the problem with a discrepancy in numbers on the report stems from the fact that members were still able to enroll and pay with Pay Pal until the last of the summer when this was discontinued. Some of the councils did not get the information that these people were members. That problem should be eliminated this membership year.

It is very important that information requested on the Excel spreadsheet (or the Memberships Application Form if that is sent in to the State) be given as it is currently required to complete the enrollment on the Website.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me.

Barbara Hiles (bhiles24@msn.com)
Submitted by Barbara Hiles
State Director of Membership Development
bhiles24@msn.com



CALL FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS FOR THE MSC-IRA RESEARCH IN READING AWARD GUIDELINES

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, 2009.

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



The new state-of-the-art Branson Convention Center will be the venue for the 35th Plains IRA Regional Conference. Located within view of Lake Taneycomo and within walking distance of Historic Downtown Branson and Branson Landing, you couldn't ask for a better location.

You will be as amazed by the professional development opportunities as you will be by the dazzling interplay of water, fire, light, and music at the fountains of Branson Landing.

Share the voices and vision of these outstanding speakers:

Ellin Oliver Keene
Timothy Rasinski
Pam Munoz Ryan
Lori Oczkus

Mary Jo Fresch
Georgia Heard
Patricia Edwards

Explore conference strands on the most important topics in literacy, including:

Adolescent Literacy	Early Childhood Literacy
Literacy Coaching	Literacy Strategies for Reluctant Readers
Technology in Literacy Education	Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum

- Browse a wide range of educational materials and resources in the Exhibit Hall.
- Network with your peers from all across the region.
- Enjoy the scenic boardwalk, vibrant town square, and upscale shopping and dining district of Branson Landing on Lake Taneycomo. You'll be amazed by the dazzling interplay of water, fire, light, and music in the Fire & Fountain Spectacular. The new, state-of-the-art Branson Convention Center is within walking distance of Branson Landing and Historic Downtown Branson.

Additional Professional Development Opportunities
Mark Your Calendars!

Now is the time to mark your calendars and to check into setting aside professional development funds because International Reading Association has several additional conference opportunities coming up!

- K-3 Primary Conference on November 11th & 12th, 2009
- Write to Learn Conference on February 25-27th, 2010

Watch Your E-mail to Receive Conference Information & Click on the Link

MSC- IRA is excited about merging our Fall Conference with The Write to Learn Conference, coordinated by Willy Wood with input and voice of several MSC IRA Executive Board Council members. ***Our attendance is of great importance, as this is how MSC IRA is generating income.***

The merge will include an opportunity for you to choose to be part of an email updating system.

Here's how it will work.

1. Willy Wood will send out an invitation for the conference email update and registration information.
2. Click on the link provided in the email Willy sends.
(It is very important that you click on it immediately, as if you decide you'd like to be added at a later date, the system takes approximately 30 days before it can resubmit your name again).

K-3 Primary Conference November 11th-12th, 2009	
Day One	Day Two
November 11	November 12
Lester Laminack (Reading/Writing) Mentor Texts: Teaching Writing Through Children's Literature, K-6 The Writer's Handbook 2005 - Page 820 Beyond leveled books: supporting transitional readers in grades 2-5 - Page 13 Teaching for Deep Comprehension: A Reading Workshop Approach - Page 29 More Than Guided Reading: Finding the Right Instructional Mix, K-3 - Page 40 Deep change: professional development from the inside out - Page 63 Spelling in Use: Looking Closely at Spelling in Whole Language Classrooms Something about the Author - Page 131 Planning For Successful Reading And Writing Instruction In K To 2 - Page 68	E.O. Keene (Reading/Writing) Mosaic of Thought: Teaching Comprehension in a Reader's Workshop Assessing Comprehension Thinking Strategies with CD-ROM Grades 1-8 Misreading masculinity: boys, literacy, and popular culture Rigby Literacy
Out for Lunch	Out for Lunch
Keynote: Lester	Keynote: Keene
Debbie Diller (Literature Centers)	Debbie Diller (Literature Centers) Making the Most of Small Groups: Differentiation for All Practice with purpose: literacy work stations for grades 3-6 Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters

Write to Learn Conference February 25-27th, 2010	
<p>Preconference: Georgia Heard (Poetry) This Place I Know: Poems of Comfort The Revision Toolbox: Teaching Techniques That Work Writing Toward Home: Tales and Lessons to Find Your Way</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Awakening the Heart: Exploring Poetry in Elementary and Middle School</p> Harvey Daniels (Lit. Circles & Content Area Reading) MO Teachers Session The Brain Session	
Friday, Feb. 26th	Saturday, Feb. 27th
Opening Keynote: Harvey Daniels Literature circles: voice and choice in book clubs and reading groups Teaching the Best Practice Way: Methods that Matter, K-12 Best practice: new standards for teaching and learning in America's schools A writing project: training teachers of composition from kindergarten to college	Opening Keynote: Jim Burke (English Teacher's Companion) http://www.englishcompanion.com/
Firoozeh Dumas http://www.payvand.com/news/05/nov/1042.html http://www.amazon.com/Funny-Farsi-Growing-Iranian-America/dp/0812968379	
Evening Keynote (Option to Pay): Jack Gantos http://www.jackgantos.com/	Post Conference: Burke (again)



Get Excited and Disseminate the Information!
Check Out the Great Featured Speakers,
Authors, and Break Out Sessions
Available Through the
Professional Development Opportunities
Provided through
Missouri State Council - IRA!

!! POSTER CONTEST WINNERS !!

Missouri Council Reading Poster Contest this year had many fantastic reading posters submitted. We would like to thank the many students who participated and the sponsors for submitting the posters. The councils that participated were: S. Central, Northwest Mo. State University, Lee's Summit, St. Louis Suburban, Lakes Country and North Central. There were 4 divisions K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Each division had 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. One overall winner was also chosen. These posters will be used to promote literacy during the next year. 1st place winners and their sponsor receive a certificate and \$10 gift card to Borders book store; 2nd – 3rd place winners received certificate for participation and a ribbon.

Winners for each division:

K-2

1st place – Joseph Bruce – sponsor: Mrs. Kyle/Mrs McAfee; Council: SCOC
2nd place – Anna Cox - sponsor: Mrs. Kyle/Mrs. McAfee; Council SCOC
3rd place – Meah Wilburn – sponsor: Angie Dubbert ; Council Lee's Summit

3-5

1st place – Sarah Smith – sponsor: Erin Oehler; Council – Northwest Missouri State
2nd place – Kelsey Spinner – sponsor: Mrs. Kyle/Mrs. McAfee; Council: SCOC
3rd place – Kruz Higginbotham – sponsor: Mrs. Valter; Council: St. Louis Suburban

6-8

1st place – Brooke Martin – sponsor: Mrs. Colleen Pugliese – Council: Lee's Summit
2nd place – Emily Simpson – sponsor: Mrs. Kyle/Mrs. McAfee – Council: SCOC
3rd place – Tessa Riley – sponsor: Mrs. Colleen Pugliese – Council: Lee's Summit

9-12

1st place – Melissa Simpson – sponsor: Mrs. Kyle/Mrs. McAfee – Council: SCOC
2nd place – Nick Williams – sponsor: Mrs. Kyle/Mrs. McAfee – Council: SCOC
3rd place – Brianna Larson – sponsor: Cheryl Sloan – Council: Lakes Country Council

Overall Winner: Melissa Simpson

Submitted by Jim and Donna Bonebrake
State Poster Chairs
jbonebrake@ccr3.k12.mo.us



MSC-IRA Newsletter Editor

MSC-IRA is currently looking for a newsletter editor. I will no longer be able to fill this position since I will begin serving as Vice-President this year. The position requires you to collect information from a variety of members serving on the Executive Board and various committees and compiling it into the newsletter template.

If you feel like you would be able to serve the state council in this capacity please contact me at cozens-j@mssu.edu and I will forward your name and information to the appropriate person.

Jeanie Cozens
Newsletter Editor
cozens-j@mssu.edu



ReadWriteThink

<http://www.readwritethink.org/index.asp>

Providing educators and students access to the highest quality practices and resources in reading and language arts instruction.

Here you can find:

- **Lesson Plan Index**

Sort ReadWriteThink Lessons by Title, Grade, or Date by clicking on the appropriate header. You may also use the Lesson Plan Selector above.

- **IRA/NCTE Standards** for the English Language Arts

- **Web Resources Gallery**

The Web Resources Gallery offers links to a myriad of useful English language arts resources on the Internet. You may use the drop-down menus above to sort ReadWriteThink's Web Resources by grade band and resource type. See our Resource Definitions for a description of each resource type.

- **Student Materials Index**

ReadWriteThink offers a collection of online Student Materials to support literacy learning in the K-12 classroom. These interactive tools can be used to supplement a variety of lessons and provide an opportunity for students to use technology while developing their literacy skills. Click on the name of each interactive for a brief description of the tool and a list of the ReadWriteThink lessons that use the tool. From there you'll also be able to directly access the tool and use it in your classroom.

MSC-IRA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2009	MSC-IRA Executive Committee Meeting-Date and location to be announced (For State Executive Board Only)
September 2009	MSC-IRA Board of Director's Meeting, Date and location to be announced
November 4-6, 2009	35th Plains Regional Conference, Branson, MO
November 11-12, 2009	K-3 Primary Conference
January 2010	MSC-IRA Executive Board Meeting, Date and location to be announced (For State Executive Board Only)
February 25-17, 2010	Write to Learn Conference
March 1, 2010	Honor Council Deadline (International Award) Show-Me Award Deadline (State Award)
April 25-28, 2010	IRA's 55 th International Conference, Chicago, Illinois

**SEND NEW CALENDAR ITEMS AND ARTICLES
BY *SEPT 1ST* FOR THE *FALL NEWSLETTER* TO:**

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

Mary Jo Barker, State Coordinator
Missouri State Council
International Reading Association
maryjob@missourireading.org

2009-2010

President: Linda MacLaughlin
Pres. Elect: Jennifer Day
Vice President: Jeanie Cozens
Recording Secretary: Sarah Logan
Corresponding Secretary: Laurie Edmondson
Treasurer: Nicole Costello
Assistant Treasurer: Jason Adams
Historian: Lisa Sweet
Past President: Marie Puett
Web Site Coordinator, Lou Sears
Legislative, Tamara Rhomberg
Parliamentarian, Tamara Rhomberg
Missouri Reader, Kathryn Pole
Missouri IRA Newsletter, Jeanie Cozens
Director of Membership, Barbara Hiles
State Coordinator: Mary Jo Barker

Zone 1-Debi Pearson, Ozark Mountain
Zone 2-Winnie McKinley, Big Springs
Zone 3-Kathy Dillahay, River Heritage Zone
Zone 4- Carol Kemper, St. Louis
Zone 5-Carol Perry Davis, Lake Ozarks
Zone 6-Carla Bergstrom, Kansas City
Zone 7-Jim & Donna Bonebrake, Pony Express
Zone 8-Teresa Krigbaum, Mark Twain

