



THE MISSOURI IRA NEWSLETTER

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International Reading Association

Winter 2006

From the President



Dear Members;

As I sit here writing this message, it is snowing outside and I am reminded of a comment a colleague said to me about watching it snow. "It is like watching sea-life in an aquarium; you can sit and watch all day and never get bored." I never thought about comparing the two. Why do I mention watching snow? Well, what is your favorite thing to do when you have a snow day? I bet most of you do what I do, watch it snow from the big living room window and READ!

I have been fortunate this year to be selected as a reader for the International Reading Association's Children's Choice Award. To date, I have read over 200 books. Eligible books are ones written by first time published authors. There are several categories which include primary fiction and nonfiction, intermediate fiction and nonfiction, and young adult fiction and nonfiction. The goal of the committee is to choose a book from each category that meets the literacy standard set by the International Reading Association.

Books began arriving in July and some days I would receive a box with over twenty hard back books from some of the most prestigious publishing companies. I started reading at once and what a lovely chore it was! As I finished reading the last book today, I realized my job was not over. The top rated books will be reread and the committee will convene, discuss, and choose this year's winners.

Being a part of the Missouri State Council of the International Reading Association has opened many doors for me. I have met accomplished experts in the area of literacy and through networking with fellow reading teachers across the state, I have developed many lasting friendships that I will always cherish.

I encourage all members to consider taking a larger role in our organization. I know you will have an experience that is professionally rewarding and gratifying.

*Debi Porter
MSC-IRA, President*

VICE PRESIDENT NEEDED

Our vice president, Anna Cline, will be taking a leave of absence from MSC-IRA. This leaves an opening on the Executive Board of Directors. If any MSC-IRA member would be willing to assume her position, please contact Debi Porter @ debiporter@sbcglobal.net as soon as possible. The role of the vice president is planning the 2006 state conference. Marie Puett has agreed to continue as the new vice president's conference co-chair.

SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR MSC-IRA STATE COORDINATOR POSITION

The term of the MSC-IRA State Coordinator will expire at the conclusion of the 2006 Annual Convention in May in Chicago. The procedure for the appointment of coordinator has been designed so that the state, local, and special interest councils have maximum input into the selection of the person to fill this important position. A special screening committee has been formed. Interested applicants should complete the application form (pages 7 & 8) accompanied by three letters of recommendation completed by individuals who are familiar with the applicant's qualifications. The deadline for applications is February 15, 2006. All applications are to be sent to Debi Porter, 1124 Black Forest Drive, St. Charles, MO 63301. The IRA Board of Directors and the Council and Affiliate Services Committee recognizes that state councils should have a role in determining the term length of the coordinator. IRA recommends that a coordinator serve a maximum of two consecutive three-year terms (6 years).

These Items Require Your Special Attention

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From the Coordinator

Here we are again with a new year beginning and the school year half over. I hope everyone had a happy holiday season and that you have a successful and rewarding year.

Clover Noack and her committee are to be congratulated for a successful fall conference at The Lodge of Four Seasons. Everyone who attended not only gained new knowledge that will be helpful in their daily teaching but also enjoyed meeting with old friends and making new ones.

Please be sure to mark November 16-18, 2006 on your calendar now and plan to attend next year's conference.

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.

Also, be sure to schedule your election of new officers for 2006-2007 in order that you will be able to have your *Officer Report Form in to me by the deadline date of April 15, 2006* (this is a Show-Me requirement for the 2006-2007 award).

Each new year always brings new challenges and ideas to each of us in our endeavors to meet the needs of the students in our classrooms on a daily basis. The web-site, the publications, 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 daily efforts to provide the best instruction for your students. If you have any questions or concerns about local councils or the state council, please contact your zone coordinator or myself for information and assistance. My home phone number is (816) 229-8509 and bhiles24@msn.com is my email address.

*Submitted by
Barbara Hiles
State Coordinator*

Membership Development

Winter Greetings from your Membership Friends!

The Missouri State Council of IRA has many things to celebrate in 2006!

We have a total of 1895 members in the state of Missouri right now! That is exciting news! We have received 46 online memberships from people who were not affiliated with a local council before! Isn't that great? Our website is working! If you are the local membership chairperson for your council, please make sure you get your memberships in to Sandy Lane as soon as possible so your people can remain on the official list. Don't forget that your council can win some fabulous prizes for getting everything turned in early. We still have a few councils that we haven't heard from yet. It is not too late! We would love to hear from you now!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Laurie Edmondson at ledmondson@drury.edu or Sandy Lane at slane@dfamilk.com.

*Submitted by
Laurie Edmondson
Sandy Lane
Membership Development*

From the Editor

We hope you have been pleased with the format of our newsletter and the transmitting of it to you through your email.

We are still attempting to obtain all of the email addresses for our members. If you have an email address change, contact Sandy Lane at slane@dfamilk.com.

Starting with this issue we are going to incorporate into the newsletter a literacy help column. If you have any requests to assist you in your teaching and promotion of literacy, please email me and I will include it in the Spring Newsletter.

If you have any suggestions on ways to improve our newsletter, please email Dodie Barnes at dodiejb@aol.com.

*Submitted by
Dodie Barnes
Newsletter Editor*

LITERACY HELP COLUMN

Hello Reading Friends,

I am running a Breakfast Book Club with 4th, 5th & 6th grade students. I am searching for some good mystery titles that might be interesting to this group of readers.

Any suggestions or where I can search for some ideas?

Thanks for your help!
Marie Puett
mlpuett@ccp.com

AWARDS AND CONTESTS

Poster Contest

The 39th 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 this event. The poster contest entries were displayed along the walkways in the Four Seasons Lodge for all to enjoy. After the judging of posters, winners were announced on Saturday. The local councils returned the posters to the students and the winners were presented with their awards.

*Submitted by
Deborah Pearson
Poster Contest Chair*

KINDERGARTEN - 2ND GRADE

1st Place

Student: Emily Barkley, 2nd grade
Council: South Central Ozark Council
Sponsors: Amanda Kyle/Juanita Jett

2nd Place

Student: Alayna Martin, 2nd grade
Council: St. Louis Suburban
Sponsor: Mrs. Sallee

3rd Place

Student: Emily Huddleston, 2nd grade
Council: Jasper Co.
Sponsor: Elaine Edman

THIRD - FIFTH GRADE

1st Place

Student: Venessa Costello, 5th grade
Council: St. Louis Suburban
Sponsor: Linda Crull

2nd Place

Student: Mac Hoern, 5th grade
Council: Mark Twain
Sponsor: Mrs. Churchill

3rd Place

Student: Evelyn Martinez, 3rd grade
Council: Southwest
Sponsor: Dottie Smith

SIXTH - EIGHTH GRADE

1ST Place

Student: Reagan Holt, 6th grade
Council: South Central Ozark Council
Sponsors: Amanda Kyle/Juanita Jett

2nd Place

Student: Jill McCarthy, 6th grade
Council: St. Louis Suburban
Sponsor: Linda Crull

3rd Place

Student: Jane Jackson, 8th grade
Council: Kansas City
Sponsor: Sherry Fields

NINTH - TWELFTH GRADE

1ST Place

Student: Jessica Humphrey, 12th grade
Council: St. Roberts, MO
Sponsor: Gayle Geiger

2nd Place

Student: Delcina Gasho Larson, 12 grade
Council: South Central Ozark Council
Sponsors: Amanda Kyle/Juanita Jett

3rd Place

Student: Carolina Richard, 9th grade
Council: Lakes Country
Sponsor: Mrs. Walden

OVERALL POSTER WINNER

Student: Judge Bockman, 11th grade
Council: South Central Ozark Council
Sponsors: Amanda Kyle/Juanita Jett

Mark Twain Award List 2006-2007

It is always a great honor to be a reader/selector for the Missouri Book Awards, whether it be for the Show Me Award, the Mark Twain Award, or the Gateway Award. As a reader/selector, you must read and rate thirty-five books from a list you receive in August. Your ratings must be sent to the MASL committee by December 1. This year I had three dedicated MSC members who helped me: Roxanne Viviano, Jefferson Middle School Library; Sandy Wion, St. Cletus Elementary Library; and Ella Jones, Past-Chair of the Mark Twain Award for MSC. I would like to thank these fellow avid readers for their dedication to elementary school students in Missouri. Check to see if you can be a reader/selector for next year.

*Submitted by
Irene Hettich
Mark Twain Award Chair*

AUTHOR	TITLE	PUB. CO	GRADE	R.L.	LEXILE
Bartek, Mary	Funerals and Fly Fishing	Henry Holt	4th - 7th	4.3	
Choldenko, Gennifer	Al Capone Does My Shirts	Putnam	5th - 8th	3.5	600
Clements, Andrew	The Last Holiday Concert	Simon & Schuster	4th - 7th	5.4	800
Clements, Andrew	The Report Card	Simon & Schuster	4th - 7th	4.9	700
Dahlberg, Maurine	Escape to West Berlin	Farrar, Straus and Giroux	4th - 8th	5.3	
George, Jean Craighead	Charlie's Raven	Dutton	4th - 8th	4.6	710
Hahn, Mary Downing	The Old Willis Place	Clarion	4th - 8th	4.2	630
Hale, Marian	The Truth about Sparrows	Henry Holt	5th - 8th	5	820
Harlow, Joan Hiatt	Thunder from the Sea	Simon & Schuster	4th - 7th	4.2	700
Kehret, Peg	Abduction!	Dutton	4th - 7th	4.7	760
LaFaye, A.	Worth	Simon & Schuster	4th - 8th	4.5	830
Myers, Anna	Hoggee	Walker & Co	5th - 7th	4.5	
Patneau, David	Thin Wood Walls	Houghton Mifflin	5th - 8th	4.3	
Philbrick, Rodman	The Young Man and the Sea	Blue Sky Press	5th - 8th	4.5	800
Rodman, Mary Ann	Yankee Girl	Farrar, Straus and Giroux	4th - 8th	3.7	550
Ryan, Pam Munoz	Becoming Naomi Leon	Scholastic	4th - 8th	5.4	830
Seidler, Tor	Toes	HarperCollins	4th - 6th	5.7	
Van Leeuwen, Jean	Cabin on Trouble Creek	Dial	4th - 7th	4.5	660
Wait, Lea	Wintering Well	Simon & Schuster	5th - 8th	4.9	
White, Ruth	Buttermilk Hill	Farrar, Straus and Giroux	4th - 7th	4.9	790

Newspapers in Education Week March 6-10, 2006

Encourage your students to appreciate and enjoy reading the newspaper by participating in Newspapers in Education Week.

Save the Date

40th Annual MSC-IRA
Conference at Lodge of
Four Seasons

November 16-18, 2006

Show Me Readers Award Books 2005-06

The Show Me Readers Award is a children's choice award sponsored by the Missouri Association of School Librarians. The program was started in 1994 and its purpose is to promote literature, literacy and reading in Missouri elementary schools for grades one through three. The program promotes the recognition of authors and illustrators of books that are favorites of Missouri elementary children. 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 list of nominated books. Votes are tallied by each individual school and then sent to MASL to be tabulated for the state. The Show Me Reader winner is announced at the MASL spring conference.

The 2005-2006 Show Me Reader Nominees are:

- *Bad Boys* by Margie Palatini—Two big bad wolves try disguising themselves as sheep to get a meal but discover that the sheep are too smart to be tricked.
- *Blizzard* by Betty Ren Wright—Billy is disappointed that a blizzard has “canceled” his birthday party until his entire class is snowbound at his house for the night.
- *Boxes for Katie* by Candace Fleming—Katie, who lives in post World War II Holland, receives relief boxes from Rosie, an American girl, which she shares with her friends and neighbors.
- *Diary of a Worm* by Doreen Cronin—A young worm chronicles the ups and downs of being a worm.
- *Fishing Day* by Andrea Davis Pinkney—Reenie and her mother frequently see Mr. Troop and his son, Peter, while the two families are fishing at the river. Although Reenie is African-American and the Troops are white, Reenie shares her fishing secret so Peter will be able to help feed his family.
- *George Washington's Teeth* by Deborah Chandra—George Washington's life long problem with his teeth is described in humorous verse. A timeline taken from diary entries and other nonfiction sources are included.
- *How I Became a Pirate* by Melinda Long—Jeremy Jacob learns how to be a pirate from Captain Braid Beard and his crew but decides he prefers home.
- *Jackalope* by Janet Stevens—When his fairy godrabbbit grants his wish to look ferocious, a jackrabbbit discovers that it's better to be himself.
- *My Brother Martin* by Christine King Farris—Christine King Farris is the sister of Martin Luther King Jr. and remembers the childhood of her famous brother.
- *Souperchicken* by Mary Jane Auch—Because she can read, Henrietta is able to save her friends from the perils of the Souper Soup Company.

Show Me Readers Books 2006-07

The following nominated books will be voted on by students in grades one through three in the 2006-2007 school year:

- *Lulu and the Swamp* by J. Carville
- *Bed Hogs* by K. DiPucchio
- *Henry and the Kite Dragon* by B. Hall
- *Apples to Oregon* by D. Hopkinson
- *Pickle Patch Bathtub* by F. Kennedy
- *Best Cat in the World* by L. Newman
- *John Philip Duck* by P. Polacco
- *Rooster Can't Cock-A-Doodle-Do* by K. Rostoker-Gruber
- *Why Epossumondas Has No Hair on His Tail* by C. Salley
- *Arrowhawk* by L. Schaefer

*Submitted by
Phyllis Shanker
Show Me Books Chair*

Call For Research Projects for the MSC-IRA Research in Reading Award Guidelines for the 2006 Award Year

You are invited to share your research with the rest of the SHOW-ME State. 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 October 15, 2006.

MAIL APPLICATION TO:

Dr. Willie Edwards
Missouri Southern State University
Department of Teacher Education
3950 East Newman Road
Joplin, MO 64801

Additional information and requirements are on our website at www.missourireading.org. 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.

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 ll-3 through ll-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 2006 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 or to barbryczek@aol.com. The deadline is May 1, 2006. Additional information available on the website at www.missourireading.org.

*Submitted by
Barbara Ryczek
Literacy Award Chair*

MSC-IRA International Project: THE PHILLIPINES

The last governor-general of the Philippines, Frank Murphy, said: "No people ever accepted the blessing of education with more enthusiasm than the Filipino."

In an economically-developing country such as the Philippines, there is a strong need for financial support if students and educators are to receive the education that will prepare them for the workplace. Classrooms need books and materials, and educators need professional development if they are to gain new ideas and keep up with current issues. Here's where YOU come into the picture! MSC-IRA has adopted the Philippines as our international project. Our goal is to support reading associations and educators in the Philippines. Monies we send will be put to good use, both providing books and materials for classrooms, and the opportunity for educators to travel throughout the many islands to receive professional development. I am appealing to every council in Missouri and to any individual who would like to, to contribute by sending what you can to our state treasurer, Marie Puett, P.O. Box 8042, St. Joseph, MO 64508. Last year we sent close to \$1000 and would like to send that much this year as well. So far, we have received \$155.00. Let's do our part and contribute to this worthy cause and thank you!

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

IRA MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE
Application form for Position of Coordinator
May 2006 – April 2009

Name _____

Business Address:

Home Address:

Phone: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

Present Occupation: _____

I. IRA Council Involvement:
Please specify positions held or committees on which you have served.

Positions/Committees Dates

Local: _____

State/Provincial: _____

International: _____

II. Identify other organizations in which you have held leadership positions.

Organizations Positions Dates

III. List leadership materials you have developed (i.e., handbooks, brochures, newsletters, manuals, committee guidelines, etc.).

Four horizontal lines for listing leadership materials.

IV. Availability and Resources:

Would you be available to attend local council meetings throughout the state/province? Yes No

Would you be available to attend a regional leadership workshop with leaders of other states and provinces? Yes No

Would you be available to help conduct state/ provincial leadership workshops? Yes No

Would you be available to work with the state/provincial executive board? Yes No

Do you have the secretarial support and facilities to devise, duplicate, and disseminate mailings to councils in your state/province? Yes No

I consent to my name being place in consideration for the position of coordinator for the MSC-IRA and I agree to fulfill the roles and responsibilities of the position, if elected by my council and appointed by the IRA President-elect.

Three letters of recommendation from people who know me and who understand the qualifications of the coordinator are attached.

Signature of Applicant: _____

Date: _____

MSC-IRA CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2005-2006

January 28, 2006	Executive Board Meeting, Park Lane Elementary School, Columbia, MO (State Executive Board Members Only)
March 6-10, 2006	Newspapers in Education Week
March 31, 2006	Executive Board Meeting, Columbia Inn
April 1, 2006	Spring Board Meeting, Columbia Inn
May 1-5, 2006	51st Annual IRA Convention Chicago, Illinois
June 24, 2006	13th Annual Summer Leadership Workshop
November 16-18, 2006	40th Annual State Conference, Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark

Send New Calendar Items and Articles to the Editor by
May 1st for the June Newsletter

Dodie Barnes, Editor MSC-IRA Newsletter, 811 Dutch Mill Dr., Ballwin, MO 63011
dodiejb@aol.com

**Barbara Hiles, State Coordinator
Missouri State Council
International Reading Association
312 S.E. Gingerbread Lane
Blue Springs, MO 64014**

Missouri State Council

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Clover Noack, President-Elect
Anna Cline, Vice President
Michelle Gautz, Corresponding Secretary
Debra Dickerson, Recording Secretary
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Cathy Barr, State Dept. Rep.
Dr. Phyllis Wilkinson, Missouri Reader
Dodie Barnes, Missouri IRA Newsletter
Sandy Lane, Membership Development – Management
Laurie Edmondson, Membership Development - Promotion**

Zone coordinators

**Winnie McKinley, Big Springs
Hortense Burr, Kansas City
Carol Perry Davis, Lake Ozarks
Tamara Rhomberg, St. Louis
Judy Wampler, Ozark Mountain
Sally Minnick, Pony Express
Ann Porter-Gifford, River Heritage**

