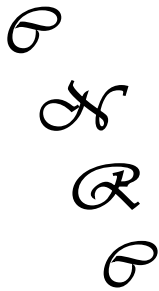


Central Nebraska Reading Council Newsletter

Volume 3 No. 1

Fall 2009



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The President's Postings

By Linda Dahlstrom



Why is your CNRC membership important?
Welcome to the new year of activities with Central Nebraska Reading Council! Every year your officers and committee chairs discuss how we should promote literacy in the community and beyond. And every year we discuss how to best use the dues that we receive. So, I thought I would share that information with you. Hopefully, it will help you realize why each CNRC membership is important.

The first activity this year is our Aspiring Authors' Event at Newell School in Grand Island, on Saturday, September 19 at 10:00 a.m. The principal, Brad Wolfe, along with the Newell PTA, sponsors a writing workshop the Friday before, with the children's author. This year is Klyie Kinley from UNL who will work with all the Newell students, then come back Saturday morning for a writing presentation for CNRC members and the public. That is \$400 well spent! Last year this event drew nearly 90 attendees on Saturday.

Have you signed up to participate in the Plum Creek Festival in Seward on October 3? You join hundreds of teachers from around the state as you meet famous children's authors face-to-face. The superb luncheon is worth the trip, for sure! CNRC provides free transportation to members.

You can register for the festival by logging on to the following web address: <http://www.cune.edu/about/2040/>.

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Save the Date

October 3

Plum Creek

Festival,

Seward

Your council sets up a cozy reading center at the November 8 ACAP Children's Day Festival at Grand Island's Fonner Park. CNRC volunteers read Big Books to small children who come and sit down on the rugs. Then they each happily choose a free book and writing tablet to drop into their plastic sack before moving on to the next fun booth. Their smiling faces tell us that is another \$500 well spent.

Meanwhile, during the year, CNRC donates to two international projects, one in Africa (in honor of Deb Weitzel) and one in the Dominican Republic (to support Kristin Hamner in her missionary work). The thank you letters we receive assure us that they really need our \$300 each.

Did you know that the Hastings Tribune, the Kearney Hub, and the GI Independent each receive \$50 donations toward their Newspaper in Education programs? You read about those programs often in each paper.

How about the \$500 donation we make for the January 23 Storytelling Festival at the MONA in Kearney? It provides a Saturday for families full of awe as costumed storytellers make us laugh and wonder.

This past May, I was gratefully named your delegate to the IRA Convention in Minneapolis and was given \$300 for the privilege to represent you all at the Delegate Assembly.

The rest of your dues is being accumulated for when CNRC is able to once again sponsor a "big name" children's author to the delight of students, parents, and teachers alike. That could cost thousands of dollars, but will be definitely worth it.

Let me know if you need any other examples. We need each CNRC member as a volunteer to promote literacy in our local communities. Please join us now!

CNRC Honor Council Winner CNRC Honor Roll Winner

The Central Nebraska Reading Council was presented with two awards at the IRA Conference in Minneapolis in May. One was for increasing membership and the second was for 27 Years as an Honor Council. In order to qualify as an Honor Council, local organizations must adhere to a number of special requirements that create an outstanding program for their members. The form is lengthy and detailed, but well worth applying for as Central members will tell you it is a real source of pride.

CNRC has been an Honor Council ever since the creation of the award. Only a few councils in the United States can boast that accomplishment and only Metro Council in NE holds the same record. Barb Seier and Linda Dahlstrom deserve the accolades for continuing the tradition!



LaVila VanBoening, Linda Dahlstrom and Colette Sorensen proudly display the All Star Award Booklet assembled by Linda and Barb Seier that won a \$500 check for Central. The Award is a State Level achievement indicating enhanced programming and the funds can be used to promote literacy in our council area. The checks were presented at Leadership Training at Camp Comeca at Cozad on July 13-14.



Creative Teacher of Kearney hosted a booth at the CNRC Literacy Fair in April. Door prizes, bargains, music, and refreshments greeted those who attended Nebraska State Reading Conference

" Lead the Way! Light the Torch for Literacy!" Sharing is always an integral part of this teaching profession and here is a great way for you to get involved. The NSRA Conference committee is looking for people who would like to present at the 2010 Conference in Kearney.

Strands include Diversity, Early Childhood, Comprehension, Content Reading and Writing, Legislative, RTI, and Technology. You could choose to do a regular session of sixty minutes, a workshop for ninety minutes or a poster session for twenty minutes that is repeated.



Variety is the spice of the conference! If you have invested time and research in a particular topic or have found a certain methodology successful or have some fun tasks that enable students to master skills, then sign up! Deadline is October 1, 2009. If your offer is accepted, you will be notified.

More information is available at www.nereads.org or email Dennis Dubry, Vice President at ddubry@panesu.org.

If you know a colleague who has done outstanding work in any of the reading and writing areas, please share this information with them and encourage them to participate, too. Teams of talented teachers are always welcome!

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To join the CNRC go to www.nereads.org and join online or
Mail name, address, phone, school and e-mail information with a \$25
check made out to CNRC to:

Colette Sorensen - Membership Chair
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