



An Honor Council of
The International Reading
Association

Nassau Reading Council Newsletter

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Welcome to our new e-letter!!! To save the cost of producing and mailing our newsletter we have decided to put our seasonal newsletter online. We are happy to go green and to do our part to keep costs down. In these economic times, NRC is trying to tighten our belts to avoid raising dues.

We hope everyone had a lovely summer. While you were relaxing on the beach, or at the pool our committees were hard at work preparing for our program at Molloy. We hope to see you in attendance at our workshops. Our Treasurers would like to remind you that dues for 2011-2012 will remain the same as this year.

Your Editors,

Sarah, Susan and Nancy

Program 2011-2013 By Kathy Conway-Gervais

The Nassau Reading Council is pleased to present a program for 2011-2012 that highlights educational concerns and provides an opportunity for professional development for administrators and teachers. The new APR Legislation which became effective in July, 2011, requires all of us to participate in Professional Growth (Standard VIII, Element VII). It requires us to remain current in our knowledge of content and pedagogy by utilizing professional resources. We also need to be members of professional organizations. Your membership in NRC also includes membership in NYSRA. NRC offers ten professional development workshops each year that are also sponsored by Molloy College and Nassau BOCES.

On October 6, 2011, we are presenting the *Friend of Literacy Award* to Marie Calder at Molloy College in Rockville Centre. Marie is a past-president of NRC and has coordinated our Books for Babies program for many years.

The NRC Executive Board is striving to better meet the needs of our members. In order to accomplish this effectively, we need to hear from you, our members. It is most important in the 21st Century to have those of you with new and innovative ideas in literacy education to participate in our planning. We are very hopeful that more members will become actively involved with the Nassau Reading Council this year. To assist you we have listed our active committees. Please contact Kathy Conway-Gervais at 516-483-3784 to sign up for one of our committees.

Author Series- Members of this committee research authors who might be invited to present a workshop. Members introduce the author at the workshop. Members who are interested in joining this committee, please email us at watcher@optonline.net.

Newspapers in Education- The International Reading Association recognizes that newspapers provide authentic, interesting reading material that support literacy development. The Newspaper in Education committee supports this initiative by disseminating media literacy teaching strategies on the council's web site, offers periodic workshops to members, and alerts members when grants for newspapers are available. Members who are interested in joining this committee, please email carol.hacker@gmail.com.

Program- Members meet to work on scheduling and inviting presenters. At the workshops, members welcome participants at the "sign in" desk and introduce the speakers. Members who are interested in joining this committee, please email us at watcher@optonline.net.

Young Author's Contest Committee- The Young Author's Contest begins in October. Mailing information is sent to approximately 400 public/parochial schools in Nassau County. After the school entries are received in February:

- Student names are checked and typed for certificate printing
- Participating school/coordinator names and addresses are typed for labels
- Entries are separated into grade level groupings for judging
- Judges are contacted and given the grade level folder with entries and scoring rubrics

NRC schedules a meeting in late March or early April to finalize grade level contest winners. Typing individual winning entries for publication begins. Participating schools are contacted in May. Winning entry authors' teachers/families receive notification of the celebration date and time. Certificates for all participants are printed and mailed to schools. Plans get underway for the celebration that is held the first Monday in June at 7pm at Molloy College. Journals are purchased for Contest winners and labels are printed. Members meet and greet Young Author's Contest winners that evening. Members who are interested in joining this committee, please email Donna at DT210b@aol.com.

Newsletter- needs people to write summaries of our program events. Members who are interested in joining this committee, please email Nancy at rolosonsreaders@aol.com.

International Guatemalan Literacy Project and Books for Babies- are two of our projects to encourage literacy. Members who are interested in joining these committees, please email us at watcher@optonline.net.

Membership- maintains the records of our organization's members. Members who are interested in joining this committee, please email us at watcher@optonline.net.

Annual Conference- Members of this committee work with the Long Island Language Arts Council to set up our conference that is held yearly, usually in March or April. Members who are interested in joining this committee, please email us at watcher@optonline.net.

