

NCRA Newsletter

CHARTERED BY THE INTERNATIONAL READING ASSOCIATION

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North Carolina Reading Association

May/June 2011

President's Message

As spring moves toward summer, I'm reminded of the start of an E.E. Cummings poem:

Spring is like a perhaps hand
(which comes carefully
out of Nowhere)
arranging a window, into which people look
(while people stare)
arranging and changing
placing carefully there
a strange thing and a known thing here)
and
changing everything carefully



By mid spring, classroom teachers find themselves reflecting on the changes in their students, reflecting on whether or not the curriculum has been covered well enough to assure their students readiness for the next grade. Like the "perhaps hand of spring," we trust our end of grade assessments to "change everything carefully." As you read through this newsletter, ponder the article by Maryann Nunnally entitled *Teachers Can't Guarantee Their Students' Results*.

Last month in Raleigh, I had the opportunity to talk and learn with educators from all over the state. We cheered and sang with the Apron Ladies, we created comprehension tools with Kathy Bumgardner, we climbed the word ladders with Tim Ransinki and we heard Cajun stories and drew cartoons with Mike Artell. We explored the author's craft at the Teachers As Readers evening with many writers including Kathleen Krull, Paul Brewer, Mike Artell, and Judy Sierra. We snickered through Lester Laminack's one man Wizard of Oz presentation, but we understood his analogy - courageous, caring, and brilliant teachers strive for and with their students every single day - to build literate lives, in spite of the obstacles that befall our paths.

For all those classroom teachers, reading specialists, college professors, graduate students and other volunteer presenters who made the conference possible, the state is most grateful to you for sharing your enthusiasm and expertise. To all the volunteer members who worked countless hours to bring the conference to a successful conclusion, we thank you endlessly.

While the school year is moving toward conclusion, NCRA is already gearing up for next year. Look for more information in this issue about the upcoming summer NCRA Leadership opportunity.

Thank you for a wonderful year with NCRA,
Ava Bevins, President

NCRA Delegates Assembly

On Sunday, March 13th, the North Carolina Reading Association held its annual Delegates' Assembly with President Ava Bevins presiding. There were 37 delegates in attendance from various councils across the state.

Mary Ellen Skidmore Grant Recipients were recognized by Mary Jo Floyd, President-elect. Ten local councils received grants. They were: Duplin County: Global Literacy Efforts that Strengthen Our Teachers; Greater Cabarrus: Take the Lead to Read; Greater Greensboro: Celebration of Literacy; Harnett County: Feed the Baby, Feed the Mind; Moore County New Beginnings; New Hanover: Books and Buddies; Onslow-Lejeune: Dr. Seuss at the Mall; Raleigh-Wake: Early Intervention with Little Green Books; Robeson County: Healing Hearts with Books...and More; Twin Rivers: Building a Bond with Belize.

Sandy Cook, Vice president for Membership, announced that three councils received the President's Award: Twin Rivers, Greater Cabarrus, and Duplin for having 200+ members. Councils that received monetary incentives for maintaining or increasing their membership were Charlotte, Crystal Coast, Duplin, Greater Cabarrus, Greater Greensboro, Harnett, Moore, New Hanover, Onslow-Lejeune, Price, Raleigh-Wake, Rockingham, Sampson, and Twin Rivers.

Rosemary Enos, Nominations Chair, announced results of the election for vice-president: Dr. Treana Bowling was elected as Vice president for Membership, 2009-2010; other officers for 2011-212: Mary Jo Floyd, President; Sandy Cook, President Elect; Barbara Perry-Sheldon, Secretary.

Past-president, Sharron Regan presented this year's scholarship winners. Recipients of the scholarships were Shane Fletcher (Robeson Council) and Meredith Ormond (Tar River Council). Shane is attending graduate school at NC State and Meredith is attending East Carolina.

State Coordinator Barbara Falkenbury honored area directors and local presidents for their service. Ava Bevins also recognized Elaine DuPree for her ten years of service coordinating and chairing the Young Authors' Writing Project for NCRA.

Shane Fletcher presented a Power Point presentation titled NCRA: 21st Century. Shane has been investigating the possibility of NCRA developing a Facebook page or similar networking site. He also conducted a survey of those present regarding this project.

The NCRA Newsletter and Website Need Your Help!

The NCRA newsletter and website are about YOU, so please submit short articles and photos for each throughout the year. These can include local council programs and events, information and resources about literacy, book reviews, legislative issues, sources of free or inexpensive materials, research findings on literacy, and more. Email website information to Claudia Sweger at ncrawebsite@aol.com and email newsletter submissions to Jean House: jhouse52@bellsouth.net.

Deadline for next newsletter: August 15

Delegates Assembly



Scholarship Recipients with Sharron Regan



Representatives from councils winning Mary Ellen Skidmore Project Grants



NCRA Area directors



Nominations chair Rosemary Enos & Vice President Treana Bowling



NCRA local council presidents

Local council membership award winners



NCRA Conference Highlights



Staff from Exemplary Reading Award Winner: Ashley Park



Conference attendees enjoying lunch and networking



President Ava Bevins welcomes attendees



Attendees visit with vendors



Author Mike Artell with State Coordinator Barb Falkenbury



President-elect Mary Jo Floyd introduces Kathleen Krull at the closing luncheon.



Belinda Carter wins a trip to Boone at the closing lunch



Author Kathleen Krull

Celebrate Literacy Award



Mary Andrews, James B. Hunt Celebrate Literacy Award winner



Celebrate Literacy Committee Chair Cassandra Graves presents Mary Andrews the award.

The James B. Hunt, Jr. Celebrate Literacy Award was presented to Mary Andrews and her READ2ME: Tailgate Stories project during the NCRA Conference in March. Mary was nominated by the Triangle Reading Council. Mary is a reading teacher who developed this project from the funds received through a \$1800.00 grant from a Chapel Hill Carrboro City Schools Foundation.

Most of the funds were spent on the take-home books for the children. The purposes of the READ2ME project were:

- to expose children to a variety of quality read-aloud experiences
- to maintain their interest and accessibility to stories during a 3 week period during summer break
- to build their personal library by giving a book to every child following a Tailgate Story event
- to build a literacy relationship bridge between school personnel and members of lower economic neighborhoods.

This project was implemented in 3 different neighborhoods, serving 3 different elementary schools for 3 weeks during the summer break. The total participation: 470 children, 97 parents, and 100 volunteer readers. You can imagine that the rewards have been many. The educators involved in the sessions shared that it was fun, easy to manage, built community spirit, developed leadership among parents, built trust and a communication link between the home and the school, and most importantly provided reading experiences for hundreds of children outside of the school year.

Another significant measure of the program's success is the commitment of the many volunteers and parents who are ready to participant again during this summer's break. We applaud and congratulate Mary Andrews and her wonderful READ2ME: Tailgate Stories project and wish her and her team continued success.

The Celebrate Literacy committee also recognized two honorable mentions for their contributions to literacy. The first is Raleigh-Wake Reading Council's nominee - Carol Mead Moyer and the Quail Ridge Books & Music. Mary Jane Leak was also recognized as a honorable mention. Mary Jane Leak was nominated by the Moore County Council. They both exhibit a dedication and commitment in promoting literacy in their communities.

NCRA and the committee are proud to know that these individuals are making such an impact in their communities.

VIVA VOCABULARY!

**Practical Ways to
Promote Word
Consciousness**
by Lois E. Huffman

Each edition of “Viva Vocabulary!” focuses on different word genres. The goal is to help students (re)discover the joy of language and the expressive power of vocabulary.

Lois Huffman is an adjunct faculty member at NC State University and a consultant with the Center for Applied Linguistics. She conducts workshops on literacy and language for schools and reading councils. Her email address is loishuffman@gmail.com.

Clipped Words for Our Crazy-Busy Lives

“I hung out with the fam on my bday. It was redic how many pres I got.”

Did you notice a lot of clipped words in the above sentence? It seems that you can’t read online, watch TV, or talk with a friend today without encountering at least one clipped word. Clipped words are shortened forms of multisyllable words, however, unlike abbreviations, they are not followed by a period (e.g., vet for veterinarian). Words can be clipped by removing one or more syllables from the end, front, or middle of a word. The part that remains is faster and easier to say or write.

Below are some clipped words I’ve noticed in recent years. If the word is not on <http://merriam-webster.com>, I’ve indicated where I first heard or read the word. Almost all of these words are back-clipped (i.e., the end has been removed).

advert: advertisement

app: application (as in Apple’s “There’s an app for that.” Some folks would like to banish the word, app: <http://www.lssu.edu/banished/archive/2010.php>)

bib: bibliography (<http://www.easybib.com>)

biz: business

cat: category (as in Cat 4 hurricane)

cheer: cheerleading (<http://www.thefrugalgirl.com>)

contro: controversy (Jon & Kate split, People, June 2009)

cred: credibility (as in street cred)

deets: details (<http://www.younghouselove.com>)

delish: delicious

diap: diaper (The View, March 2011)

diff: difference

fav or fave: favorite (faves: favorites)

gorge: gorgeous (<http://theletteredcottage.net>)

mag: magazine

mani-pedi: manicure and pedicure (<http://www.urbandictionary.com>)
meds: medications
merch: merchandise
micro: microwave (oven) (“Melt it in the micro.” *Mr. Food*, 2008)
nabe (OR hood): neighborhood
obit: obituary
pap: paparazzi (<http://www.doubletongued.org>)
pref: preference
prexy or prex: president
promo: promotion/al (promos: promotions)
pic (biopic): picture (biopicture)
rom com or rom-com: romantic-comedy (<http://www.urbandictionary.com>)
reno: renovation (HGTV, July 2009)
sig: significant (as in significant other) (<http://www.thenest.com>)
tat: tattoo (tats: tattoos) (<http://acronyms.thefreedictionary.com>)
trou: trousers (<http://www.urbandictionary.com>)
tute: tutorial (“My craft tute is on Totally Tutorials.”) (<http://en.wiktionary.org>)
vacay: vacation (<http://www.glamour.com>)
vid: video
vill: village

Teaching Ideas

1. Introduce the idea of clipped words to your class. Share some school-appropriate examples from the above list and ask students how clipped words are like abbreviations (e.g., *Both are shortened forms. Shortening does not change the word’s meaning. The reduced forms are easier and faster to write. They save breath when speaking.*) and how they differ from abbreviations (e.g., *Clipped words require no punctuation. The missing portion of the clipped word might be from the beginning or middle, not just the end.*)

Make a list of these similarities and differences for future reference. Also ask students what might be contributing to the prevalence of these shortened word forms (e.g., *pace of modern life, attempt to sound “hip,” texting, laziness, familiarity with topic, repeated use of word, efficiency, part of group identity*). Encourage interested students to research George Zipf’s Principle of Least Effort in communication.

2. Invite students to keep track of all of the clipped words (including proper nouns) that they hear, see, or use during one week. Develop a chart in which students write down the clipped word, the context in which it was used, the long form of the word, and the

part/s that was/were clipped off (i.e., end, front, and/or middle). If you have a class wiki, add a section on clipped words where students can post their finds. Encourage students to notice which people they know go by a clipped name (e.g., *Brad, Chris, Kate, Liz, Will*).

2. Explore appropriate and inappropriate situations in which to use a clipped word. Display some examples in a t-chart with the headings, CLIP and DON'T CLIP. Help students discover that, in general, they should limit their use of clipped words to informal contexts such as a conversation with a classmate or an adult they know well, text message to a friend, journal entry/blog post, or article headline. Clipped words are not appropriate in formal writing such as class papers, college application essays, and business emails.
3. Have small groups of students investigate a clipped word that may not be recognized as such by most people (e.g., *cab (cabriolet), cell phone (cellular telephone), chemist (alchemist), fan (fanatic), fax (facsimile), flu (influenza), gab (gabble), lunch (luncheon), movie (moving picture), pants (pantaloon), piano (pianoforte), prom()/promenade, typo (typographical error), van (caravan), wig (periwig)*).

Students should search for answers to questions, such as: *When and why were these words shortened? Why have the long forms more or less disappeared from contemporary usage?* Invite students to present their findings using <http://www.prezi.com> or <http://www.voicethread.com>. Follow up with a class discussion about the future use of the long forms of other common clipped words (e.g., *app, fave, meds*).

4. Challenge students to blog about how long they can go without using a clipped word in their speech or writing. It's likely that most students will not last more than a couple hours. We Americans just love to clip. We even join clipped words with other words to form new blended words (e.g., *flutsunami = (in)flu(enza) + tsunami*).

Some Professional Resources

Information on clipped words as well as lists of them can be found online and in:

- Fry, E. B., & Kress, J. (2006). *The reading teacher's book of lists*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.
- Fox, B. J. (2003). *Word recognition activities: Patterns and strategies for developing fluency*. Columbus, OH: Merrill Prentice Hall.
- Johnson, D. D., & Johnson, B. (2011). *Words: The foundation of literacy*. Philadelphia, PA: Westview Press.

Teachers Can't Guarantee Their Students' Results

Reprinted with permission. (Wilmington StarNews Sunday, 4/10/11) By Maryann K. Nunnally)

It seems to be the popular sentiment these days to lay the blame for low student achievement on the teacher.

For three afternoons every week I volunteer in a math classroom in a socio-economically poor school. The teacher in that classroom, who has many years of experience, is a marvel. Her ability to manage behavior while teaching a lesson with all the diverse needs of the students in mind is nothing less than miraculous. She is patient, calm and knowledgeable about her subject matter.

Because this class will take North Carolina tests at the end of the year, she must try to teach the curriculum as it is required while keeping the interest of each student in the room.

After 40 years in public schools as a teacher, principal and board member as well as an instructor of intern teachers for six years, I think I am qualified to recognize good teaching when I see it.

This teacher is everything that anyone would want in a classroom. So it is with some trepidation that I read Robert Luebke's column, in which he states that good teaching should be linked to student achievement.

Who will judge whether a student has achieved or not? When I see how hard the teacher in my volunteer classroom works, I wonder what motivates her to come to school each day.

She is constantly worried about her students' scores. Anxiety shows on her face as she presents a math concept in as many ways as she can in order to reach every student in that classroom. And it is my professional belief that regardless of her great plans and her incredible teaching skills, many of the students will not achieve the 3 or 4 needed to successfully pass the EOG test.

Will they show growth? Absolutely. Every student in that class has grown and shown continual improvement, but some will not have reached the level that would guarantee a passing score on the state test.

All over New Hanover County are teachers who are struggling with students who are chronically absent, who are too tired to learn, who have myriad learning problems, who are hungry and lack adequate nutrition, and who carry with them problems from their troubled home lives.

Who will judge their student achievement?

North Carolina is a non-union state, so teachers have no collective bargaining rights and very little voice in their teaching conditions or salaries. What should these teachers do if pay raises are linked to student achievement? Should they ask for a transfer to a school where the majority of the students come prepared to learn, a school where students have breakfast before they leave home in the mornings, where someone worries about their nutrition, where bedtime is a sensible hour and where someone reads to them each night as well as checks their homework

The teacher where I volunteer chooses to work in a school where many of the students do not have their homework completed, and when they do it is often done incorrectly. She comes to work every day to a school where students stay home to baby-sit younger siblings when they are ill, and where the top parent priority is food and a roof over their heads.

This teacher chooses to stay after school for meetings every week, and then goes home to endless hours of planning for individual students. She chooses to worry about her students and invests in their learning, and what's more she believes in their ability to achieve.

Who will judge her student achievement?

My concern is that writers such as Luebke seem to believe that school is a place where only the affluent send their children. I wonder if he has set foot in an inner-city school with a student population that has as many problems as there are students in attendance.

Would it come as a big surprise to him that there is no magic pill that will solve all the problems that are evident in any school?

It is a fallacy to believe that basing teacher pay on student achievement will somehow magically raise student achievement. The problem is too complex to think that money will somehow motivate teachers to do better.

The problem is one that we all need to work on, and it is not the sole responsibility of our teachers to manage student achievement when society does not take its part seriously.

Maryann Nunnally is a retired New Hanover County teacher and principal and served on the Board of Education from 2000 to 2004.

Council News



Bob Long conducts a program for members; Carol Crane presents to members; members prepared personal notes for the early literacy book bags.

Harnett County Reading Council

Harnett County Reading Council has enjoyed presentations from Bob Long, Educational Representative from Cuisenaire, and Carol Crane, noted NC Author.

The Harnett County Reading Council is also excited about promoting early literacy by donating books to newborns at a local hospital. New parents will receive a bag with a book or two, a personal note and information about literacy.

Sampson County Reading Association

The Sampson County Reading Association has been busy. We've had seven meetings throughout the school year, each of which have had sustained focus on improving literacy and reading activities in our school. For instance, in our February meeting we had teachers share "Best Practices in Reading" and "Lapbooks". Our March meeting included a collaborative presentation from elementary and intermediate teachers on "Five Ideas to Bring Your Reading Classroom to Life". In each of these teachers were presented with ideas and strategies for instruction and hands-on activities. In April a local author, Melissa Davis shared her writing process and ways to get students involved in writing, as well as her experiences with publishers and the books she has written. Her books "Home is Where the Army Sends You" and "Home is Where the Marines Corps Sends You" spotlight children as they cope with life in the military environment.

In addition, we had our first SCRA "Read Out" week April 11-16. During this week we invited all the schools in Sampson County to have activities scheduled that emphasize reading for students and the community. Events included book fairs, guest readers, character days, writing contests and book talks. We also partnered with the Sampson-Clinton Public Library System in media blitz and promotion that occurred in our schools as well. The council purchased and donated books which were presented to every 2nd grader in the Sampson County and Clinton City systems as well as at Harrells Christian Academy during the week.

The culminating event of the week was our community "Read Out" Celebration held at the City Market in Clinton on Saturday, April 16th. Various fair-style games, such as Fishing for books, Author/Title Bingo, and Knock-Down Books were available for children of all ages to partake in.

Books were awarded as prizes for successful attempts at the fair games. One of the most popular attractions was the Make Your Own Book and Bookmark tables where students took their arts to paper and created something special they could take home. A "Dino Bouncy House" and concessions was also available to the attending patrons. Various guest celebrity readers, including both Clinton City and Sampson County School system's Superintendents, delighted children with their favorite story book. High School Beta Clubs also provided volunteers to help the young people in the games, crafts, and reading activities. The event was a major success despite the impending bad weather that forced an early closure.

In all, the entire "Read Out" week was a reading explosion of major proportion. Nearly every school took place in one manner or another. The Sampson County Reading Association donated over 1,500 books to the community through their various events. There have been many positive comments from administration, teachers, parents, community leaders, and especially students about the activities, and a desire to repeat them next year.



Meghan Dillner and Deborah Taylor



Karen Conner presents two Judges' Choice Awards

Greater Cabarrus Reading Council

Young Authors' Celebration

The Greater Cabarrus Reading Association held their Young Authors' Celebration at the Kannapolis Performing Arts Center on Sunday, April 10. President Karen Conner welcomed everyone and the celebration began with the A.L. Brown High School Vocal Ensemble performing three songs. Columbus County author, Dwayne Morgan, was the guest speaker. He told about his endeavors as a teen-age writer. He published his first book, *Destiny Star*, while an eighth grader and as a sophomore, he has completed his second book of the series, *Fate's Eclipse*.

The Teresa Ann Nash Jordan Scholarship was presented by GCRA's vice-president, Deborah Taylor. Each year a graduating senior, who has been a previous local Young Authors' winner, is selected to receive the scholarship. This year's recipient was Meghan Dillner from Jay M. Robinson High School in Concord. Meghan plans to study Journalism in college.

Medals and books were presented to eighty Young Author winners and seventeen Forever Young winners. Additionally, thirty-three winners were recognized as a Judges' Choice for receiving a perfect score from the local judges.

Following the celebration, a reception was held in honor of the recipients. Annie Parker and Erin Anderson were co-chairs of the Young Authors' project.

More Council News

Moore County Reading Association



The Moore County Reading Association held its monthly meeting on Monday evening, February 21st, 2011 at Mr. B's in Carthage. President Fox welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. Our guest presenters for the evening were Kathy McGougan and Sally Hale, author and illustrator of the Buddy

series of books. Mrs. McGougan (left) shared tips about becoming a published author and Mrs. Hale (right) provided illustrations as Mrs. McGougan shared this information.



Rockingham County Reading Association

Annual Dinner Meeting & Celebration 2011



Rockingham County Reading Association celebrated another successful year at its Annual Dinner meeting held on Thursday, May 5th at Bethlehem United Methodist Church. Val Pyrtle, President of RCRA began the meeting by welcoming North Carolina Area Director, Treana Bowling. The program for the meeting was provided by three Rockingham County School teachers who received local RCRA grants to enhance literacy instruction in their classrooms. The teachers presented results from their classroom projects and

reflections from their students allowing the 35 members in attendance to learn from their experiences. Pictured: Treana Bowling, Beth Archibald, grade 3 Monroeton Elementary, Marla Joyce-Nelson, Pre-K Stoneville Elementary, Ellen Smith, Media Specialist Central Elementary.

Price Reading Council

Price Reading Council had a very productive year with four meetings and great programs! Their third program of the year was conducted by Dr. Beth Frye, Department of Reading, Language & Exceptionalities, Appalachian University. Beth has created a website where those who are interested can access the ideas and materials she shared: <http://fryeempetry.wordpress.com>

Ellen also shared an informational book series, Seeds of Science/Roots of Reading , and shares the link to their website where you can download strategy guides for each book in the series. The guides are great and useful for many informational books, not only those in the series:

<http://www.delta-education.com/index.html>

Price Council's fourth meeting was May 5th; they learned about teaching social justice topics using language arts and social studies goals from speaker Dr. Connie Green.

March 7-11, 2011 marked NIE Week, established as a partnership with the International Reading Association. The Newspaper Association of America Foundation funds development of NIE Week instructional materials each year and has posted some of its materials. This year's FLIP BOOK for studying fine arts makes this different from any other teaching guides.

<http://www.naafoundation.org/Curriculum/NIE/NIE-Week.aspx>

1. ON your calendar, RESERVE Thursday, July 28, 2011 for a NC NIE meeting focused on approaches to technology. Presentations will feature educators who integrate news and newspapers into their classroom studies. Come and bring teachers. Meeting will be held at a middle school in Durham. Specifics will follow.

2. Teachers who apply for the Dave Jones Award should submit their application by June 15, 2011. Nominations are welcome. For the application, visit www.ncpress.com/ncpf/ncnie/newsindex.html. Scroll down; look for Teachers! at the bottom right of the page. The attachment provides details. Email sandynie@unc.edu, if you wish to have questions sent in WORD document, making the application easier to complete.

3. April was poetry month. Here are materials available through NIE that encourage using news as the basis for poetry: www.ncpress.com/ncpf/ncnie/For_Teachers/poetrymonth.html

4. NC Newspaper in Education worked with the State Library of NC and the Collaborative Summer Library Program to produce activities that support the library's summer reading programs and the use of news and information. For 20+ features that support the CSLP's summer reading themes, One World, Many Stories and You are HERE, visit this website:

www.ncpress.com/ncpf/ncnie/summerreading2011/summer2011.html

5. Newspapers have and will continue to offer extensive coverage of events organized around the commemoration of the Civil War. One example, recently an op-ed column took on the question, "What if the South had won the war?"

Starting on April 12, UNC-CH's Wilson Library began sending out briefs pulled from historic documents. Refer to and refer teachers to this site for daily briefs: <http://www.lib.unc.edu/blogs/civilwar/>

North Carolina Public Radio featured the Civil War blog and FRANK FEE, journalism professor, who had his students conduct research on how reporters covered the war during the four years of conflict. Check this website for the interview with Fee and his students and discussion about the library's efforts on The State of Things: <http://wunc.org/programs/tsot/>

New York's Mary Miller shared the following: The Civil War Reporter, an engaging new feature on the National Park Service's website, offers daily dispatches from reporter Beglan O'Brien, a (fictional) Civil War era correspondent. The website, www.nps.gov/civilwar150, is part of the National Park Service's commemoration of 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

6. The Newspaper Association of America Foundation just released a curriculum titled Community Connections With Geography and the Newspaper:

www.naafoundation.org/Curriculum/NIE/Community-Connections-With-Geography-and-the-Newspaper.aspx

7. The Newspaper Association of America Foundation also promoted the 2011 Writing Challenge offered by Reading Rockets. Called "Citizen Writer," Reading Rockets describes its four writing prompts as connecting "civics, citizenship, and our communities" and offers a link to resources on civic education. A quote by Epictetus on the site reminds us, "Only the educated are free." Prompts include the following:

- * Mapmaker
- * Take a letter
- * Free to
- * In verse

8. NC Reading Association Conference Sessions featured Sterling Williams, Dave Jones award winner for 2010, Helen Marley, author of the serialized story, Behind the High Board Fence, and an NIE session on core standards. Tom Tufts also conducted an institute.

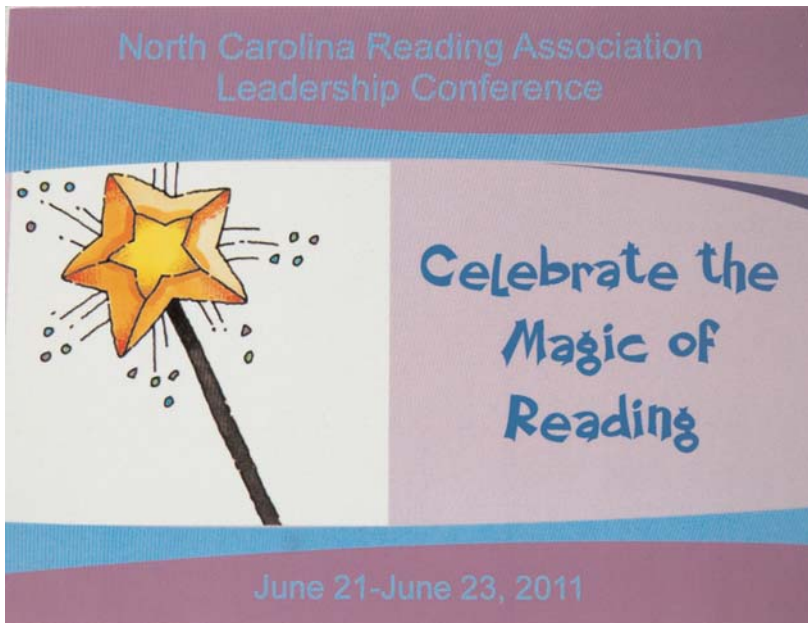


Members of the councils who participated in sponsoring Caribbean IRA members.

Success for NCRA Caribbean Project

As of April 27, 2011, NCRA local councils have sponsored 26 IRA members from the Caribbean islands. The names and contact information of the first 18 members have been shared with their NCRA sponsors. During the conference in March, sponsorships for nine more members were collected and submitted to Sakil Malik, IRA Global Affairs. We are awaiting the list of new names to distribute to participating councils. Sponsors for this project are members of the following councils: Blue Ridge, Duplin, Greater Cabarrus, Greater Greensboro, Moore, Onslow-Lejeune, New Hanover, Price, Raleigh/Wake, Robeson, and Twin Rivers

Our goal is for NCRA members to contact the Caribbean teachers before this school year ends. Each participating local council will decide how best to be supportive. It's never too late to get involved in this project. You may contact Ava Bevins avab@ec.rr.com or Marsha Lewis mlewis@duplinschools.net for more information.



NCRA Leadership Conference

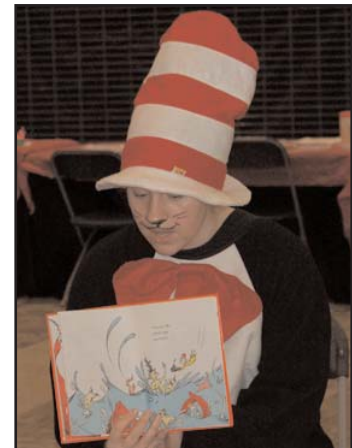
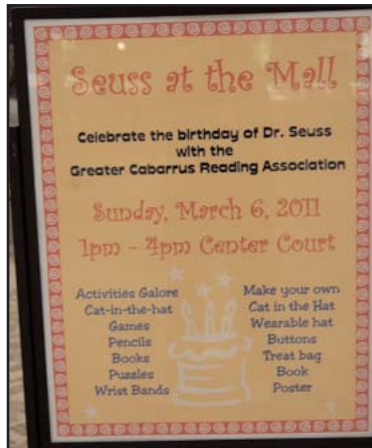
- * **Where?** LaQuinta, Boone, NC -
- * **When?** June 21 - 23
- * **What?** Training for local officers

NCRA covers the cost for two officers from each council to attend; cost for an additional attendee from a council is \$90 if an extra room is required.

For more information, contact Barb Falkenbury at:

falkenbb@gmail.com

Greater Cabarrus Reading Association's Seuss at the Mall



Pictures:

Top row from left: at the Flooring Shop; mall sign; Cat in the Hat reading a story;

2nd row from left: Barb Falkenbury at the Publishing House; Amanda Dyer, Treasurer of GCRA, at the Travel Agency helping a young traveler; GCRA member Catherine Falkenbury, making oobleck;

Row 3: McEligott's pool



On Sunday, March 6th, the Greater Cabarrus Reading Association sponsored Seuss at the Mall in honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday. It was held at the Carolina Mall in Concord. Over 100 families were in attendance for this yearly event.

The event provided children and their families activities centered around the Cat in the Hat and other favorite Seuss stories. The event takes place in "Seussville" where each child received a travel bag at the Travel Agency and a book mark and book at the Reception Center. As the children visited venues in "Seussville", they made Cat in the Hat hats and ties at the Hat Shop, oobleck at the Science Center and they wrote books at the Publishing House. They also had a chance to fish for rhyming words at McEligott's Pool, play games at the Bingo Hall and make puzzles at the Seussville Flooring Shop. Pins were made at Doc's Rock Shop. The Cat in the Hat was on hand to read stories to the families at the Seussville Book Store. All the literacy activities have been organized the last four years by Barbara Falkenbury, State Coordinator and past president of GCRA.



North Carolina Reading Association

NCRA

ATTN: Jean House
4309 Boxwood Road
Raleigh, NC 27612

NCRA 2011-12

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

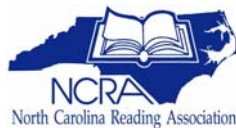
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Treana Bowling	Pattie Jones
Vicki Rivenbark	Carol Bowen
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Upcoming Events

2011 NCRA Leadership Conference
Boone, NC.....June 21-23, 2011

2012 NC Reading Conference
Raleigh Convention Center
.....March 18 - 20, 2012

2013 NC Reading Conference
Raleigh Convention Center
..... March 10 - 12, 2013

Visit ncreading.org for up-to-date
information.
2011 Conference & Hotel
Registration forms coming to the
website soon!