

WINTER 2015

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West Suburban Reading Council



News from Co-Presidents Anne Hufnus & Mary Alheim

Hello and Happy New Year! We are looking forward to another great year with West Suburban Reading Council. Below you will find some of our favorite highlights since our last newsletter.

The Fall Membership Rally was spectacular and we were able to welcome several new members. Dr. Debbie Gurvitz engaged everyone with her enlightening presentation, *Mapping Writing Instruction to Purpose and Common Core*.

Our December event was remarkable! This event focused on world wide writing connections, teaching students how to write letters to our troops overseas. Master Staff Sergeant Kenneth Davidson was invited as the guest speaker (see photograph page 4). He shared his experience from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars and what it meant to him to receive letters from students. Our IRC President-Elect, Louis Ferroli, was able to attend this event and enjoyed the presentation immensely, commenting that "the presentation was great, specifics on instructional how-to, lesson plans right there at the ready, and the outcomes -- sending real letters to real and deserving service people -- was as good as it can get." It was truly an event that reached across the globe.

In a few short weeks, WSRC will be hosting one of our most anticipated events, ***What's New in Children's Literature***. Please join us on **February 17th at Stimac's** restaurant to listen to Kathleen March share the latest and greatest in the world of books. An e-mail blast was recently distributed, so please check your e-mail for information on how to register for this exciting event.

We are looking forward to seeing each of you at our events in 2015.

Sincerely,

Mary Alheim and Anne Hufnus

WSRC Co-Presidents



WSRC Event:

February 17, 2015
4-8 p.m.

What's New in
Children's Literature

Stimac's
4843 Butterfield Rd,
Hillside, Illinois
60162

Register by February
12th

\$ 30.00 Members
\$ 35.00 Non-
members
\$20.00 Pre-service
teachers

Family Night



Barbara Ashton– Past President and Historian

December 11, 2014 was Family Night at the Early Childhood Education Center at Concordia University. Students participated in various Christmas activities using their five senses. West Suburban Reading Council members used the sense of hearing to read good Christmas stories to the students and their parents. After a brief discussion about the book being read, each child was given a cute bookmark (compliments of WSRC) that read – READ A GOOD BOOK.





Noteworthy News from Barbara Ashton

Licensure – Clock Hours

As we all know, there have been many changes from ISBE in regards to CPDU's – now known as Clock Hours. This is all part of the new Licensure process.

As part of this new process, West Suburban Reading Council will also be following new procedures in regards to Clock Hours. At all future WSRC events there will be a new sign – in sheet. Please provide us with all current information that will be requested, especially emails and addresses. While things are tentative, Clock Hours will now come through the IRC office and not at the end of the event as we've done in the past.

Our February 17th event, What's New in Children's Literature, is fast approaching. At this event WSRC hopes to have all final details and procedures you'll need to follow in order to obtain your Clock Hours. Please bear with us as we embark on the new Clock Hours/Licensure process.



Master Staff Sergeant Kenneth Davidson with school children in Iraq

