



You and ICARE

February 2010

PENNIE'S PENNINGS

As the Winter Olympics dominate our world though swirling snowflakes and racing athletes, it is time once again to get in touch with all of you.

First of all, regretfully, we have to cancel the "IRC's Got Talent." With only 3 entries, it is impossible to ask people to pay to see a show. Hopefully we can revisit this idea and maybe tweak it a bit to make it a viable activity.

Next, we will once again be sponsoring a strand at the IRC Conference. It will feature last year's Gene Cramer ICARE for Reading Award Winner, Bonnie Diamond; current IRC President, Chris Moen; and past IRC President, Roxanne Owens. The strand is on Thursday, March 18, 2010 in Springfield. Information to attend the conference is available on the IRC website, illinoisreadingcouncil.org If you haven't been to an IRC Conference in the past, you need to make it a part of your professional development.

With only one entry for the Gene Cramer ICARE for Reading Award, the officers decided that we would not be giving that award this year. We sincerely hope that in the future we can celebrate affect in reading by recognizing one of the thousands of teachers in our state that use that domain as a hallmark of their teaching. Begin thinking now of someone (maybe even yourself) who "Fosters the Love of Reading" on a

daily basis so we can present the award next year to a deserving teacher.

Fourth, ICARE will be striving to get the IRC Council of Excellence Award and the IRA Honor Council Award this year. It will take time and energy and help from many of you to achieve these goals.

Larry Pennie, ICARE President

2009 - 2010 ICARE OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - Larry Pennie

lapennie@comcast.net

PRESIDENT-ELECT - Roxanne Owens

rowens@depaul.edu

SECRETARY - Rick Prestley

r.prestley@comcast.net

TREASURER - Donna Monti

imatexn@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP - Kathy Sweeney

sweenkthl@aol.com

PAST PRESIDENT - Boomer Crotty

608boomer@sbcglobal.net

ICARE DISPLAY AT IRC

Donna Soukup has volunteered to put together an ICARE display for the Hall of Councils at the IRC Conference. If you are attending the conference, look for the display in the lower hallway of the Convention Center. Thank you Donna for volunteering for this job.

Thinkin' and Inkin" About Lincoln

Roxanne Owens was the project leader for what was a continuation of the ABC's of Illinois that ICARE has been doing over the past years. The difference this year is that the focus is on Abraham Lincoln in honor of his 200th birthday. The project is being funded by an IRC Literacy Grant. The books were received and judged by members of ICARE following the IRC Board Meeting in January. The books received were unique and varied in their approach to honor Lincoln and were a delight to read.

ALL classes submitting a manuscript will receive a copy of the final book (even if their particular manuscript is not included in the final published book.) Additionally, the final book will be posted on the IRC website so teachers and students from across the state can use it as a resource. You can also view copies of previous published books from this ongoing project. Click on Area 9 on the left hand side of the home page. Then click on ICARE when the box opens. Then click on ABC's of Illinois: About the Beautiful Communities of Illinois. "A Book For Illinois Students, By Illinois Students."

We expect to do this type of project again next year so be looking for the information on the direction it will go.

ICARE FOR READING AWARD

As mentioned earlier, we will not be presenting the annual GENE CRAMER ICARE FOR READING AWARD at the IRC Conference this year. This award is named in honor of the founder of ICARE, Gene Cramer. In addition to a plaque, an honorarium of \$500 will be presented to the winner. Now is the time to be thinking of someone to nominate for next year's award. The nomination forms will be in the November, 2010 *IRC Communicator* and will be found on the IRC website www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org. Click on Area 9, then in ICARE and then on the link that says "Gene Cramer ICARE for Reading Award." The form for next year will be the same or very similar to that of this year so you can use this year's guidelines to begin processing your nomination.

It doesn't matter how fast you are running with the football if you are going in the wrong direction.

Sometimes the best one in the play has the fewest lines.

Make up a reason to have a party.

-- From Really Important Stuff My Kids Have Taught Me

ICARE AT IRC

As mentioned earlier, ICARE is presenting a strand at the IRC Conference in Springfield on Thursday, March 18, 2010.

- 9:15 am Christine Moen (current IRC President) *Students Show They Know: A Dozen Multimodal Comprehension Demonstrations*
- 10:30 - 11:30 am Bonnie Diamond (2009 Gene Cramer ICARE for Reading Award Winner) *Fostering the Love of Reading" The Yellow Brick Road*
- 1:45 - 3:45 (Double Session) Roxanne Owens and half a dozen authors *Flabby to Fab-y: Writing Workouts to Shape Up Your Curriculum*

Look for the room location for these sessions in the Conference Program Booklet. There will be a short ICARE Meeting following the Double Session.

IRC HALL OF FAME

Each year a member of the Illinois Reading Council can be awarded membership in the IRC Hall of Fame. The award is given to a person who:

1. Is a native of Illinois or has been actively involved in work in reading in Illinois for a minimum of five years.
2. Is well-known and respected by colleagues in the profession.
3. Has held positions of responsibility in the field of reading.
4. Has made meritorious contributions in professional activities (such as writing publications, research reports, speaking, organizing programs, helping teachers, and involvement in professional organizations) and has upheld the philosophy and principles of the IRA and the IRC.

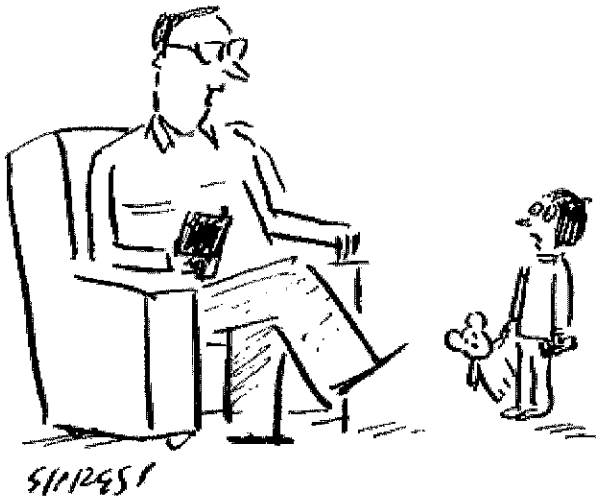
The winner for this year is ICARE member, Steven Layne, a strong proponent of using affect in reading education. Congratulations to Dr. Layne for this well deserved award. The award will be presented at the Friday night Banquet during the upcoming IRC Conference.

DID'JA KNOW?

The thing that is unique about the ICARE officers and board is that most of them have other jobs in IRC. Roxanne Owens is President-Elect of ICARE and is past President of IRC, Chris Moen is the current President of IRC, Boomer Crotty, ICARE Past-President is chair of the Newspapers in Education Committee of IRC, Larry Pennie is ICARE President and continuing as chair of the Strategic Planning Committee of IRC, Donna Monti is the current ICARE Treasurer and is an IRC Regional Director and Kathy Sweeny chairs the ICARE/IRC Static Sticker Committee and is an IRC Regional Director. We are truly a busy group working to improve literacy in Illinois and beyond.

ICARE LEADERS NEEDED

As we move ahead this year, we must begin looking at the next year. In that respect, we are seeking individuals who exhibit leadership skills to fill some of our leadership positions in ICARE. As a teacher and ICARE member, you are a leader and that makes you eligible for a position. We will meet at the IRC Conference to vote. Interested? Email Past-President, Boomer Crotty at 608boomer@sbcglobal.net



“Get into bed and I’ll text
you a story.”

Reprinted from Funny Times / PO Box 18530 / Cleveland Hts. OH 44118
phone: 216.371.8600 / email: ft@funnytimes.com

AUTHOR FEATURE

In each addition of “*You and ICARE*,” there will be an author feature. It is the hope of the editor of this newsletter that readers will send a short author feature to become a part of a future newsletter. Email such features to benfranklinchat@comcast.net. Be sure to put Author Feature in the subject. This is a chance for you to let everyone know about a favorite author of yours.

This newsletter features an author feature that is vastly different from the one in the last newsletter yet there are similarities.

I have chosen to feature Steven Layne not for his many excellent books for children but instead for a new publication entitled *Igniting a Passion for Reading* (2009 Stenhouse Publishing). This book is a **MUST READ** for anyone who believes in fostering the love of reading in children.

The book is filled with usable, workable and practical ideas in the affective domain that can be used or adapted for any classroom or school. Steven’s writing style makes it easy to understand and process each of the strategies and how to use each one. He includes personal comments from teachers and librarians (who are teachers too) to augment his activities.

An added bonus in the book is the one page at the start of each chapter that is devoted to well known authors each focusing on the idea of telling about a teacher that impacted them in some way. Authors included are: Mem Fox, Margaret Peterson Haddix, Neal Shusterman, Steven Kellogg, Sharon M. Draper, Jordan Sonnenblick, Karen Beaumont, Candace Fleming, ERic Rohmann and Joan Bauer.

The underlying theme in this book is that we have too many students who are alliterate. They can read but don’t. We tend to overlook these students with our everlasting focus on skills and propping up those who can’t read. We cannot keep promoting aliteracy in our schools. This book will help all of us “ignite a passion for reading” and build lifetime readers.

Larry Pennie

ICARE Officer List
Thinkin' and Inkin' About Lincoln
ICARE Strand at the IRC Conference
IRC Hall of Fame Winner
Author Feature - Steven Layne
and MORE!!

WHAT'S INSIDE?

ICARE
1902 Quail Run Ct.
Normal, IL 61761