



GOT BOOKS?

Fall 2011, Volume 1, Issue 2

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Greetings from the President...

Happy Fall! It seems as if it has been a busy fall. We started with our "Massages, Martinis, and 1/2 Price Membership" evening. The massages were wonderful! Thanks to Stout Chiropractic for providing such a treat. Throughout the evening, we met four new members to MID-State and became reacquainted with one renewal. Welcome!

Many of you attended our Fall Fest with Rexie Lanier and Jill Lyons presenting on Comprehension Focus Group and Guided Reading Plus. Hopefully, you were able to take something back to begin implementing in your classroom. For some of us it was a nice refresher to take the next step in our process of meeting the needs of our students. Thank you for helping make the Fall Fest such a huge success!

In the next few months, we have our Carnival of Reading in November. This is a great event for families with a storyteller, face painting, popcorn, a clown, balloons, and a book walk. The best part - it's FREE! Classroom teachers and administrators, please pass this on to your students and families.

Next in January, we will be offering a free event for helping you find some extra money to fund a literacy project in your school or classroom with a "Grant Writing Workshop." Be sure and check the date in this newsletter and mark your calendar! You won't want to miss it.

The Board has been busy planning a summer conference. We are bringing Kelly Gallagher, teacher and author from California. You may be familiar with one of his books, Readicide: How Schools are Killing Reading and What You Can Do About It, and his newest book Write Like This is to be released in late November. In addition to this we are also planning to offer some book studies using one of his books prior to his visit. Be watching for more information coming in the next few weeks.

Remember to tell your colleagues about MID-State. I met someone this summer and asked if she was a member, and she told me no one had ever asked her about it. So invite your friends! Let them in on what your Council has to offer.

We still have t-shirts for sale. Last year's t-shirt is at a reduced price of \$10. Get them before they are gone. If we get enough interest in this year's shirt design we will place another order. This year's design is "got books?" They are available in brown or black and cost \$12.00 for S - XL sizes, \$14.00 for larger sizes.

Don't forget we're on Facebook and have a blog www.midstaterreadingcouncil.blogspot.com where you can keep up with our events. You can always find us at Illinois Reading Council's www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org website as well. We hope to see you at our events and be sure to bring a friend or two!

Teresa Arendell

Save The Dates:

Carnival of Reading,
Friday, November 4,
4:30-6:30 p.m.

**Grant Writing Work-
shop,** Thursday, January
12

Spring Fling, March 1

Summer Conference
with Kelly Gallagher, June
2012



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Try these electronic up- dates:

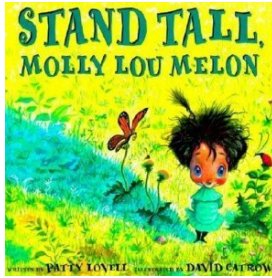
Check out our blog at
www.midstaterreadingcouncil.blogspot.com

Join us on **Facebook!**
MID-State Reading Council

Illinois Reading Council
Website
illinoisreadingcouncil.org

From the Parents and Reading Committee By Debbie Johnson (Parents and Reading)

Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon



It's only October and already my class has had one boy move in and one girl out. He appears at the door, questioning, looking for something familiar. That everything-is-new-to-me wide-eyed look tugs at my heart every time. But, even worse are the good-byes. This week we wrote, "I remember letters," and drew pictures for her class book. We framed her goodbye letter and drawing for our room. So, how do parents and teachers best handle this

transition of moving to a new school?

Moving in:

- Students try to meet the teacher and visit the class before officially starting school.
- Compile a newsletter, note, and name tag kit, even if it is hard to keep current.
- Assign a buddy to help with routines.
- Try to have new student's desk, books, mail box, and name tags in place before they arrive.
- Encourage parents to bring progress reports, report cards, any special needs information.

Read stories: *Chrysanthemum* by Kevin Henkes comforts the unfamiliar.

Moving out:

- Read stories: *Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon* by Patty Lovell will initiate discussion as she deals with a bully and **then** has to move to a new school.
- Create class memory books.
- Call or email the new teacher.
- Celebrate! Have a special treat and an extra long recess to create fond memories.

CARNIVAL OF
READING IS
JUST AROUND
THE CORNER!
LOOK FOR MORE
DETAILS IN THIS
NEWSLETTER...

Why Become a MID-State Member? By Noma Simpson (Membership)

Benefits of membership... Becoming a member of MID-State Reading Council can be beneficial to your professional growth.

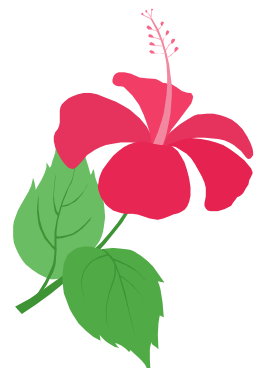
These benefits can include the following:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Keep your understanding of best teaching practices current B. Attend conferences | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> C. Network with other teachers and potential employers D. Develop camaraderie E. Receive professional journals F. Add to resumè G. Attend activities by other local councils H. Door prizes for person- | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> al use or for your classroom I. Make and take events J. Summer workshops |
|--|--|--|

Spring Events UPDATE- By Debbie Johnson (Parents in Reading)

Are we ready to think Spring? It is not too soon to plan to attend MID-State Reading Council's Spring Fling event, "Engaging Family Literacy." The evening will feature a keynote speaker emphasizing the importance of communication between home and school. With lots of ideas and plans, the com-

mittee looks forward to a huge turnout for this important topic. The tentative date set for our Spring Fling is March 1st. Be looking for more details in upcoming newsletters.



Fall Fest Success! By Janel Dowling (Treasurer)

Thank you to the MID-State members who attended our most recent MID-State event, "Fall Fest: Don't let the word Intervention Frighten You!" Educators from the area participated in a four hour workshop on Reading Interventions to use during their literacy block time in their classrooms. We saw many new faces that we hope will return and welcomed new members!

In case you missed it, our Fall Fest event included two nights to break up our after school attention spans with many features. Teachers had the opportunity to experience training on two interventions: Guided

Reading Plus and Comprehension Focus Groups. During this time, teachers participated in group discussion, watched videos of the intervention in action, and practiced planning with materials. The first night we welcomed educators to pick up the most recent IRC Journal, an IRC membership form, and Carol Berry Grant application. We kicked off the night with dinner and announcements while ending the evening with door prizes. The next workshop was just as eventful with a Book Fair from Greg Carter with Blue Ribbon Books, a guest appearance by our very own Illinois Reading Council Vice President, Tammy

Potts, and more door prizes! During this evening, teachers had the opportunity to donate a book to our Habitat for Humanity Book Drive.

At the conclusion of the two evenings, educators were encouraged to give us feedback on their experience with MID-State to ensure we are always offering quality events. One of the most popular comments referenced our knowledgeable and personable speakers from Unit 5 Schools: Elementary Literacy Specialist Jill Lyons and Secondary Literacy Coach Rexie Lanier. Thank you ladies for helping make this event a MID-State Success!



HELP YOUR
COUNCIL
GROW! TELL
YOUR
FRIENDS
ABOUT US!

Carol Berry Memorial Literacy Grant By Trisha Warner (Vice President/ Grants Chair)

Purpose: The MID-State Reading Council will annually award two financial grants up to \$300 to individual council members for the purpose of promoting the literacy of children in the classroom.

Guidelines:

Each applicant will:

- ♦ Be a current member of the MID-State Reading Council
- ♦ Submit a complete proposal for the program or project which includes:
 - ⇒ A statement of purpose

- ⇒ A needs statement, including information about the population to be served
- ⇒ A description of the project including a timeline
- ⇒ An itemized budget
- ⇒ A plan for program or project publicity
- ⇒ A plan for program or project evaluation

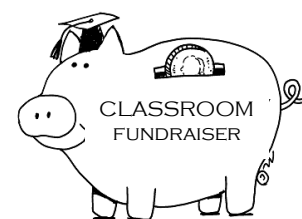
Review Process:

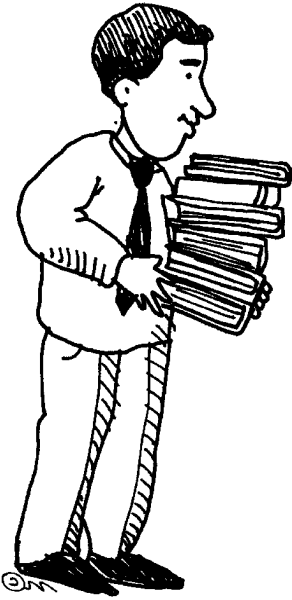
A committee of MID-State members will serve on the review committee using a blind review process. Grants with identifi-

ers will be disqualified. Grant recipients will be informed of their awards by email by the notification deadline. Those who submitted but did not receive grants will be notified by email and will be provided with feedback.

**1st Grant Deadline:
December 15, 2011**

**Notification and Award
Date:
January 12, 2012**





Bloomington Public Library News— By Georgianne Schau (Bloom. Library Liaison)

Special Programs from the Bloomington Public Library

Ghost Stories October 27 at 6:30 pm in the Community Room- Shivery tales for the whole family presented by the Twin City Tale Spinners

Gifts from the Garden (for adults) Thursday, November 10 7 pm in the

Community Room- Learn about various gifts you can make from your garden harvest!

Happy Birthday, Louisa May Alcott November 29 from 6-9 pm in the Community Room- All ages will enjoy the activities planned to celebrate the birthday of this influential author.

Includes storytelling by Twin City Tale Spinners, crafts, and activities.

Nutcracker Suite Saturday, December 10 in the Community Room- USA Ballet Youth Ensemble will present this classic story through dance. All ages will enjoy this enchanting performance.

At the...

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Events at the Normal Public Library-By Katrina Pollitt (Normal Library Liaison)

There is a lot going on at the **Normal Public Library** this fall! Please come in and check us out!!!

Baby Rock
Mondays, September 19 to December 12, at 10:30 am. Enjoy stories, songs, and bubbles.

Tuesday Tales
Tuesdays, September 20 to December 13, at 10:30 am. Enjoy stories and songs in the Book Nook.

Lapsit Story Hour
October 31 to December 6. Please call to register or register online. Various times. For infants ages 0-23 months and their caregivers. Enjoy songs, stories, and bubbles.

2 Year Old Story Hour
November 2 to December 8. Please call to register or register online.

Various times. For children who are 2 years old and their caregivers. Enjoy songs, stories, and simple craft and activities.

Trains! Trains! Trains!
Saturday, October 22, drop in from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm in the Children's Department and the Community Room. Come join us for a train show, stories, and a yummy cereal train craft that's almost good enough to eat!

Family Story Hour
November 4 and 5 at 10 am. Enjoy stories, songs, crafts, and activities.

Paper Plate Pizzazz
Saturday, November 5, drop in from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm in the Community Room Please, Come join us to listen to fall stories, to play games, and to make fun paper plate characters

Me, You and a Bottle of

Glue
November 17: Origami, from 3:30 pm -5 pm. Intended for tweens. Please call or go online to register.

Lego My Library
1st Thursday of the Month from 3 pm to 6 pm. Come on out to build! Build! Build!

And teachers please don't forget to ask about our teacher pack program and outreach services!

For more information and more events or to register for a particular activity please visit our website at www.normalpl.org.

And whether we have an official activity going on or not, you can always find fun things to do in our Book Nook and Discovery Room! We hope to see you soon!



MID-State Reading Council
Proudly Presents



Our Annual Carnival of Reading

Featuring Professional Author, Puppetry Artist, & Creative Dramatics Instructor at ISU, Michael J. Vetere III, with Impulse Tap and Tanya Picard



Come join Michael, Impulse Tap, and Tanya as they bring stories to life, incorporating Puppetry and Tap!

It will be a fabulous evening of storytelling, puppetry, dance, and entertainment!!!

**Join us at Bloomington Junior High School – 901 N. Colton Avenue
Friday, November 4, 2011
From 6:30 pm to 8:15 pm**

6:30 – 7:15 pm

**Storytelling, Puppetry & Dance – Michael Vetere
with Impulse Tap, and Tanya Picard**

7:15– 8:15 pm

Book Walk! Clown!

**Face Painting! Popcorn! Balloon Animals! Library
Tables! Make-a-Bookmark Craft!**

This is a **FREE** family event! All children need to be accompanied by an adult.

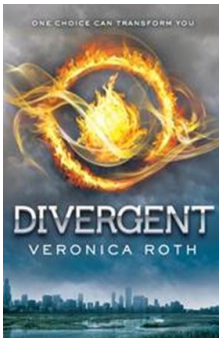
Thanks to District 87 Schools, McDonalds, and the Bloomington and Normal Libraries for their generous support.



Read a Good Book Lately?

A 'Novel' Story By Cally Hutson (Hospitality)

Divergent by Veronica Roth
Young Adult



Enter the futuristic dystopian society of Chicago, where a highly guarded fence surrounds the 5 factions of citizens. 5 separate and distinctly unique factions that work to instill the virtuous qualities of candor (honesty), abnegation (selflessness), dauntless (bravery),

amity (peacefulness) and erudite (intellect) in their citizens. At the age of only 16, citizens are allowed to make a choice: to stay with the faction that has raised them since birth, or choose to join another faction that may align better with their inner instincts/qualities. Choosing a new faction means surviving the training and initiation of the faction and being welcomed into the new society; or failing and becoming factionless, no longer accepted by your birth faction and shunned by the ones you have

loved.

This thrilling novel leads the reader through unexpected decisions and consequences, through loyalty and betrayal of friends and family, through conflict that inevitably comes from within a human being, while continuously challenging the reader to examine which faction is most aligned with his/her personal values. Dare to read! With which faction do you identify? You won't be disappointed!

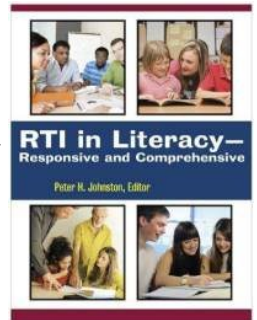
Professional Book Nook By Trish Warner (Vice President/Grants Chair)

RtI in Literacy—Responsive and Comprehensive edited by Peter Johnston. Published by International Reading Association. Looking for some sanity in the insanity of RtI? Peter Johnston has edited the book for you. No matter where your district is in the process of implementing RtI, this book offers help. Even though I've been hearing about, attending professional development about, and helping my school plan for RtI, the introduction and first section offer a clearest history and definition of RtI I've read to date. Other sections address important pieces of

the RtI puzzle and include: quality Tier 1 instruction, literacy assessment, high quality interventions, professional development to support RtI, and the development of systemic intervention. Every section has several articles by highly regarded researchers and experts. I found the articles to be informative and thought-provoking with solid theory and research to support the ideas presented. *RtI in Literacy* would be an excellent resource for discussions around RtI in professional learning communities or in grade level/department meetings because the

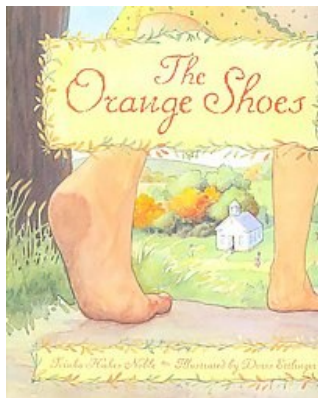
individual articles in each section are short enough and targeted

enough to be tackled in the time frame of such meetings. I would recommend a copy of this book for every building as administrators and teachers tackle the question of how to most effectively implement the response to intervention model.



Check Out This Book! By Lori Stevens (Hospitality)

Trinka Hakes Noble is the author of one of the most touching, endearing books...



The Orange Shoes
Adella (Delly) Porter comes from a large, loving family that works hard to make ends meet.

When the story begins, it's October and

Delly is still walking to school barefoot because her family cannot afford to buy her new shoes. The cold mud and dirt road is nothing compared to the cold-hearted classmates that taunt her at school. Delly tries to look beyond these bullies and focuses on her artwork. When her teacher announces that the school is adding a Shoebox Social to the annual Fall Festival, Delly is excited about the possibility of helping to raise money to get new art supplies for her school. The festive occasion is threatened by the cruelty shown toward Delly by the mean girls at school, and she

finds out that one must stay true to oneself to successfully navigate life's challenges and celebrations. The Orange Shoes offers readers an old-fashioned story about poverty, creativity and determination. Reading this book to your students provides the perfect opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations about positive ways to respond to bullying behavior. So, as the autumn days grow cooler, gather your students close and share the story of a young girl who learns the most precious things in life are not measured in dollars and cents but by the warmth of one's heart.



MID-State Reading Council
Serving McLean & DeWitt, Counties

Member Address