

South Suburban Reading Council

Volume 18

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A Note from the President

Dear South Suburban Reading Council members:

Welcome to all new and returning members! I hope you had a relaxing, rewarding and enlightening summer vacation. I hope many of you were able to travel, read a few good books and enjoy your family. Another school year brings another great year for the South Suburban Reading Council.

Your SSRC board members have been working hard to select good speakers and meeting locations for the upcoming year. There are a few positions available if you would like to volunteer to help the SSRC board. We would love to have you. The board meets about five times a year in addition to the five dinner meetings. Your help and suggestions are always welcome.

We will be starting the year with Nancy Updegraff. She always provides a wonderful night packed with ready to use ideas. Nancy is a former SSRC member and now works for Harcourt School Publishers. Nancy is a "must-see" speaker.

I look forward to seeing you at the September meeting. Have a great school year!

Happy Reading!

Anne Wallace
President

Books for Shelter

It is a new school year. Why not start it off by sharing your love of reading with others? Please bring your new or gently used adult and children's books to our September meeting. You will expand the love of reading to others. Your donations are given to the Crisis Center for South Suburbia. Thank you!

**Reading, Writing, Reasoning – Strategies for Developing Vocabulary,
Critical Thinking and Writing.**

Dr. Nancy Updegraff, International Consultant for Harcourt School Publishers

September 12, 2007

The first South Suburban Reading Council meeting of 2007-2008 will feature Nancy Updegraff, International Consultant for Harcourt School Publishers. Nancy has been with Harcourt for over 10 years and has traveled all over the United States and the world including the middle east, China and South America, sharing her expertise in reading and writing and helping teachers and school districts implement a core reading program. Prior to working for Harcourt, Nancy was a reading specialist in Brookwood School District 167 and a consultant for Ginn and Company.

SSRC has been fortunate to have Nancy present at our meetings in the past and we are looking forward to hearing her on September 12, 2007. Nancy is a dynamic speaker who shares her knowledge of best practices in reading and writing in a humorous and entertaining manner. This presentation will be a hands-on session focusing on the three tiers of vocabulary and developing critical thinking. Vocabulary is one of the critical components of reading instruction. Every teacher can use additional ideas for helping students both acquire the vocabulary necessary to becoming a successful reader and for thinking critically about what they read and experience.

Don't miss this opportunity to grow as educators! Come on Sept. 12th and bring a friend!

New Ideas in Educational/Classroom Microphones

Elementary school teachers in Endora, Kansas are trying a new amplification system in their classrooms. Teachers are wearing small, wireless microphones around their necks. This allows the teacher's voice to travel through receivers and out of a speaker in the back of the room.

There are many advantages in using the system. Foremost, it attracts students' attention because it is just as easy to hear the instruction in the back of the room as it is in the front. Teachers don't need to repeat themselves or raise their voice, as often so there is less vocal fatigue. It also has the potential to help children who are learning English. If children hear more clearly, they are going to learn the language more quickly.

Experts note that children's hearing isn't completely formed until about age 13. When you add in temporary hearing losses from colds and ear infections, turning up the volume in early grades makes sense. It is also documented that amplification provides a link between listening and literacy. Kids who can hear parts of speech are better readers and spellers.

Effective Teacher Questioning Supports Students' Comprehension
Submitted by Bernadette Wachel, Studies & Research

The Report of the National Reading Panel (2000) has identified question answering (where readers answer teacher generated questions and receive immediate feedback) as one of seven research based comprehension strategies. *HOWEVER*, the types of questions asked by teachers affect what readers attend to during text reading. Low level questions (recall, facts, etc.) elicit low level thinking among the students who in turn focus their attention on item knowledge during reading. Higher level questions (inference, summarization, etc.) elicit higher levels of thinking among the students who in turn focus their reading on broader text information necessary to support the thinking processes.

Questions asked before, during and after reading are of more value rather than just asking questions afterward (Duke & Pearson, 2002).

It has been found that questions asked:

- Before reading: help readers activate prior knowledge and make predictions.
- During reading: help readers make inferences and connections.
- After reading: help readers extend their connections and inferences and make judgments about the text.

National Reading Panel (NRP). (2000, December). *Teaching children to read: An evidenced-based assessment of the scientific research on reading and its implications for reading instruction*. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health.

Duke, N.K. & Pearson, P.D. (2002). Effective practices for developing reading Comprehension. In A. Farstrup & J. Samuels (Eds.), *What research has to say about reading instruction*. (P. 205-242). Newark, DE: International Reading Association.

Oh What a Night!!
By Pam Bartusiewicz

This past May 9 David Greenberg was our guest speaker as we celebrated our 35th Anniversary and what a night it was. David was an energetic speaker who lovingly and artistically shared his books with us. He shared his poetic flare with us and kept us on the edge of our seats. It was a grand night. For further information about David Greenberg please refer to his web page at <http://www.authorsillustrators.com/greenberg/greenberg.html>

Thank you to everyone who helped make this night so special. A special thanks to the Illinois Reading Council for a \$1,000 grant that helped make this night a reality.

Book Crush
By Pam Bartusiewicz

The "Lusty Librarian" better known as Nancy Pearl has done it again. Nancy's newest book is Book Crush: For Kids and Teens. This compilation is a wonderful source of book titles for teachers who wish to add books to their classroom collections, or to add a special story to a lesson. Nancy includes recommended titles for young children and teens. Her titles are arranged into thematic units. This is a great reference tool for teachers, parents as well as librarians. To learn more about Nancy and her other anthologies, visit her website at <http://www.nancypearl.com/shop.html> Check out her books today!

South Suburban Reading Council Board Members 2007 - 2008

Anne Wallace	(District 153)	President
Kathleen Puchkors	(District 167)	President Elect
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	Hospitality Arrangements	
Debbie Murphy	(District 161)	Past President
	Hospitality Arrangements	
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Pam Bartusiewicz	(District 167)	Membership Chairperson
Gayle Allen	District 181)	Hospitality/Arrangements
Joyce Brennan	(District 145)	Hospitality/ Reservations
Gail Prindle	(District 145)	Hospitality / Reservations
Kathy Curran	(District 127)	Newsletter
Bernadette Wachel	(District 146)	Studies and Research
Kathy Doyle	(So. Cook Intermediate Center)	Legislation
Debbie Black	(District 161)	Parents and Reading
Rita Queeney	(District 146)	Books for Shelter
Karen Pohrte	(District 162)	CPDU State Provider
Marcia Zmuda	(Retired District 148)	Adult Literacy

SSRC Events for 2007 – 2008

Nancy Updegraff with Harcourt School Publishers Wednesday, September 12, 2007	Reading, Writing, Reasoning Georgio's Banquets, Orland Park
April DeCesare Tuesday, November 13, 2007	Writer's Portfolio Silver Lakes Country Club Orland Park
Michelle Kuhn and Dawn Zuffante with KZ Creations Thursday, January 24, 2008	Literacy and Math centers Orland Chateau Orland Park
Dr. Maureen Reichel Tuesday, March 4, 2008	Reading First DiNolfo's, Mokena
Megan Hillegass Thursday, May 8, 2008	Language Development for ELL students Rivera Country Club Orland Park

South Suburban Reading Council presents
Nancy Updegraff
Reading, Writing, Reasoning
Wednesday, September 12, 2007

Menu

Cream of Broccoli Soup
Chef's Tossed Salad
Double Breast of Chicken with Basil Sauce
Baked Potato with Sour Cream and Chives
Harvest Blend Vegetables
Vanilla Ice Cream with Crème de Menthe Sauce
Rolls & Butter, Coffee, Tea (Hot and Iced)

Georgio's Banquets
Sunset Room
8800 West 159th Street
Orland Park, IL 60462
5:00 Cash Bar
5:45 Dinner

No smoking, please. Come early for convenient seating.
Reservations are due by **August 27, 2007.**

Mail this form and payment to:

Gail Prindle
17203 Parkside Ave.
Tinley Park, IL 60477

There is limited seating and first come
will be first served.

Late reservations cannot be honored.
No smoking please.

Please PRINT clearly and make check payable to SSRC

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ District & School _____

Please indicate: (Amount due)

_____ Member (\$20.00)

_____ Non-member (\$27.00)

_____ Student Teacher (\$10.00)

_____ Yes, I would
like to receive 1 CPDU
for attending this dinner.