

Two Rivers Reading Council

January 2012

Dear Members,

Can't believe it is February! Even the weather doesn't feel like the blustery winters we have had in the past. Wanted to write you a short letter to let you know what your local council has been up to and what events are coming up! First of all, please get on the state website: www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org <<http://www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org>> and look at the grant money available this year. There are many grant applications that can give life to your classroom or school literacy ideas. Many of these applications are due at the beginning of May, so check them out and see if there is one that might fit your project! Next, on the state level, I wanted to remind you about the upcoming Illinois Reading Conference, Literacy in the Land of Lincoln, March 15th through the 17th in Springfield. You can register online and you get a considerable registration discount for being a member. Many of our local council members are presenting this year and the featured author is Gary Paulsen! Don't miss this opportunity to get some meaningful Professional Development.

I would like to say thank you to our January Workshop Presenter, Gail Huizinga. She presented Story Picturebooks: A Hidden Treasure and we had a great turn out and lots of fun! The IRC's President Elect, Pat Braun came out and paid us a visit that night too. She shared the exciting things that will be happening at the state conference and brought some Lincoln period costumes!

This month we will be building our display of the Hall of Councils, which is at the state conference. Last year we won and received a \$100 check for our council! The display has the theme of Literacy in the Land of Lincoln and it is our goal to build a Lincoln Memorial with children sitting on Lincoln's lap reading books. If you have any ideas or materials that would be helpful, please plan on attending our building party on February 19th at 2 p.m. The building party is at my home. If you plan on attending, please email me and I will give you my address. We are looking for an Abraham Lincoln doll, if anyone has one. It would need to be 2 foot tall or larger. This might be a way for some of you to get involved! We would love to have you.

This spring, April 5th, we are having a Pampered Professional event in the White Oak Room of the Bourbonnais Public Library. We will have a visit from the 2011 Prairie State Award Winning author Robert Burleigh, followed by mini manicures, chair massages, food, fun, raffles and some silent auction baskets. If you have any ideas for baskets, please let us know. More information will follow toward the end of February, beginning of March.

My book recommendation this month is the series The Hunger Games, by Suzanne Collins. I couldn't put them down! So, stay warm and curl up with a good book!

Happy Reading!

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