



VENTURA COUNTY
READING ASSOCIATION

www.vcrareading.org

Ventura County Reading Association Gazette
FALL 2011

"Getting Kids to Fall in Love with Reading and Writing"

Welcome to a new and hopefully exciting new school year.

It's that time again!!! Everyone is gearing up for an exciting school year whether you are a beginning, veteran, or retired teacher. Your VCRA Board wants to let you know that we are here to encourage and support you in your teaching experiences. I encourage everyone of you to update your membership and to rejoin if needed so that you will be kept up to date all year long on our wonderful speakers and programs. If you have a question about your membership please contact Charlotte Lucero at jerrynchar@yahoo.com.

We are delighted to have the following join our Board this year -- "Charice Guerra, Rene Hohls, Sheila Reilly, Holly Kunkle and Julianne Newman. We encourage and welcome members to join our team. We have positions open and available and could use your help to meet the needs of our members. We meet the third Wednesday of each month, usually at Frank Intermediate School in Oxnard at 4:00 p.m. Please feel free to check out our website at www.vcrareading.org for more information.

We are proud to announce our Fall Workshop and theme "Getting Kids to Fall in Love with Reading and Writing." It will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2011, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Ventura County Office of Education, Conference Center, in Camarillo. Doors will open at 8:15 for registration. Our program will be presented by three energetic and knowledgeable teachers with vast backgrounds in working with students and teachers. Look for our flyer on page 4 and plan to attend. Early enrollees by September 30 will be entered in a special drawing. Books for sale and door prizes will be held. It should be a fun and rewarding day.

We have scheduled and are working on our Winter Workshop to be held in January or February of next year. Our Annual Authors' Faire will be Saturday, April 14, 2012, at California State University Channel Island's Broome Library.

Looking forward to meeting you on Saturday, October 8th.
Marlyce Nesson, President

Board Members 2011-2012



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Sheila Reilly and Holly Kunkle	Communications

We need someone for Corresponding Secretary and Hospitality. Please contact me at marlycen@verizon.net if you are interested and can help us out.

California Reading Association News

By joining VCRA, you became a member of the California Reading Association. Through this membership, you received a copy of their magazine *The California Reader*.

You should receive a notice from them when your membership expires. If not, please contact them or VCRA (jerrynchar@yahoo.com) for renewal information. Membership is still \$40.00 for both organizations.

The California Reading Association is holding its 44th Annual Professional Development Institute on Friday evening November 4, 2011 and Saturday, November 5, 2011. in Vacaville, Ca. It is entitled "**Plug Into Literacy: Powerful Outlets for Teaching and Reading.**"

On Friday evening, Dr. Barbara Moss and Dr. Helen Foster James are the Keynote Speakers. Saturday has several arranged for several speaker sessions. Among them are Dr. Donald Bear, Dr. Dana Erisham, Dr. Adrian Klein, Dr. Kay Moore, Dr. John Shefelbine. Other sessions are also scheduled for Saturday.

Contact CRA at www.californiareads.org for more information.





Top Ten Compelling Reasons to Attend VCRA's Fall Workshop

Saturday, October 8, 2011

**Ventura County Office of Education, Conference Center
5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo**

- 10. Lynda Griblin, CRA President-Elect, Sylvan Union School District, "Meet the Nominated titles for the CRYM Program." Be a big part of a state-wide literacy program and keep your students reading, plugged-in and connected with good books.**
- 9. Get informed and excited about having your class, school, and district participate in one of CRA's most successful literacy outreach programs.**
- 8. Receive activities and handouts to go along with the selected CRYM books to use in your classroom.**
- 7. Charice Guerra, ELD/RLA Content Specialist, Curriculum Instruction and Continuous Improvement, VCOE, "Showcasing Your Students' Writing at the Young Authors' Faire." Learn about this exciting opportunity for authentic writing experiences for young writers in a spectacular university setting.**
- 6. VCRA and California State University Channel Islands team up to showcase students' books and offer hands-on make and take sessions, a book sale, and an interactive presentation by a well-known children's author.**
- 5. Watch a power-point presentation showcasing VCRA's 2010 Authors' Faire. Receive information about our April 2011 Faire.**
- 4. Cari Viramontes, Intervention Reading Specialist, Rosemary Kennedy Elementary School, Riverside, and Kelli Lawson, Second Grade Teacher, Myra Linn Elementary School, Riverside, "Building Blocks to Developing Writers." How can you inspire students to love reading? What do you do with the struggling writer in a diverse classroom? Why can't our proficient writers show what they know on the state standardized test? This workshop will provide teachers with information on how to develop skilled writers in grades K-8.**
- 3. This workshop will cover many topics including vocabulary, oral language development teacher instruction, ways to organize writing, and teaching the 3 main genres of writing.**
- 2. Receive ideas and handouts from presenters and well as an opportunity to purchase some of their materials.**
- 1. Get an opportunity to "network" with new and veteran teachers, meet new colleagues, and talk to old friends.**



Celebrating Literacy

by Sharon Nelson

On May 21, 2011, VCRA members and AVID students gathered at Fresh & Fabulous in downtown Oxnard to present the IRA Celebrate Literacy Award to the Oxnard Public Library in recognition of over one hundred years of dedicated service in support of literacy. The award was accepted by Barbara J. Murray, Library Director, and Barbara Warrington, Literacy Outreach Program.

In 1906, the City of Oxnard received a Carnegie Foundation Grant to construct a library. On May 15, 1907, the Greek revival building was ready to become an operating library in the heart of the young city. The Carnegie Library was in use until 1963 when a larger facility was built. The Carnegie Library building has been designated a Ventura County landmark and, in 1971, became the first California Carnegie building to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Today the building is the site of the Carnegie Art Museum owned and operated by the City of Oxnard.

In 1992, the present Oxnard Library was completed. The Colonia Branch Library opened in 1978, and the South Oxnard Branch Library opened in 1989 with construction of its new building completed in 2007.

Oxnard Public Library programs address the changing needs of a growing community. There are activities for children, teens, and adults throughout the year. Scheduled events include presentations by authors, speakers, artists, musicians, actors, and dancers. There are film screenings and book discussion groups. Special events have included being chosen as one of only two California libraries to host the Bicentennial Benjamin Franklin Exhibit.

The Oxnard Public Library has computers available for use and regular scheduled computer training offered free of charge. Additional computer resources and learning aids are available online through the library website. The Homework Center assists students. The Literacy Outreach Program links volunteer tutors with adults seeking to improve their language skills. Long range planning, funding, grants, and the active Friends of the Library Association continue to keep the Oxnard Public Library a vibrant part of the city.

California Young Reader Medal Nominees

Read these books to your students by April 1st and send your students' votes to CRA.

Primary (K-3)



On Meadowview Street written and illustrated by Henry Cole. Greenwillow Books, 2007.

Let's Do Nothing written and illustrated by Tony Fucile. Candlewick Press, 2009.

The Odd Egg written and illustrated by Emily Gravett. Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2009.

Princess Hyacinth: The Surprising Tale of a Girl Who Floated written by Florence Heide. Illustrated by Lane Smith. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2009.

I Need My Monster written by Amanda Noll. Illustrated by Howard McWilliam. Flashlight Press, 2009.

INTERMEDIATE (Grades 3-6)



Violet Raines Almost Got Struck by Lightning by Danette Haworth. Walker & Co., 2008.

Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things by Lenore Look. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2008.

The Small Adventure of Popeye and Elvis by Barbara O'Conner. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2009.

Readin' Just Takes Practice

(written by former California Reading Association Area Director Cathy Bishop)
Seems to fit right into our theme.

New reading is a pleasure,
And reading is a joy.
Reading is a special tool
For every girl and boy.

A tool for information,
A tool to make you laugh.
Perhaps the most important tool
That you will ever have!

**To learn to ride a bike, you ride.
To learn to dance, you dance.
To learn to read,
You read A LOT,
You practice every chance!**

Why? Why? You're wondering why?
Well, if you don't believe me
Just give some things a "try".

**To learn to ride a bike, you ride.
To learn to dance, you dance.
To learn to read,
You read A LOT,
You practice every chance!**

You have to read to cook a meal.
You have to read to drive.
You have to read to phone a friend
Or use the T.V. Guide.

**To learn to ride a bike, you ride.
To learn to dance, you dance.
To learn to read,
You read A LOT,
You practice every chance!**

You have to read to get a job,
To find the stores with sales,
You have to read to build things
And to understand your mail.

**To learn to ride a bike, you ride.
To learn to dance, you dance.
To learn to read,
You read A LOT,
You practice every chance!**



Ventura County Reading Association
 Fall Workshop
 "Getting Kids to
 Fall in Love with Reading and Writing"
 Saturday, October 8, 2011
 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (doors open 8:15 a.m.)
 Ventura County Office of Education, Conference &
 Education Center, 5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo 93012

"Building Blocks to Developing Writers"

Presenters: Cari Viramontes, Intervention Reading Specialist at Rosemary Kennedy Elementary School, Riverside and Kelli Lawson, Teacher of the Year and Golden Eagle Educator of Riverside County, Myra Linn Elementary School, Riverside. How can you inspire students to love reading? What do you do with the struggling writer in a diverse classroom? Why can't our proficient writers show what they know on the state standardized test? This workshop provides information on how to develop skilled writers in grades K-8 and covers vocabulary, oral language development, teacher instruction, ways to organize writing, and teaching the three main genres of writing.

"The California Young Reader Medal: Meet the Nominated Books for 2011-2012"

Presenter: Lynda Griblin, President-Elect, California Reading Association and 4th grade teacher, Sylvan Union School District, Modesto, CA Become a part of a state-wide literacy program and keep students reading, plugged-in and connected with good books.

"Showcasing Your Students' Writing at the Young Authors' Faire"

Presenter: Charice Guerra, ELD/RLA Content Specialist, Curriculum, Instruction and Continuous Improvement, VCOE. Learn about this exciting opportunity for authentic writing experiences for young writers.

Your home e-mail address will help us go paperless for future information about VCRA and our activities. Please include it on your registration form. Make check payable to VCRA and mail by Friday, September 30.

VCRA FALL Workshop 2011 (Please Print - use ink)

Name_____

Home Address_____

City_____ Zip Code_____ Home phone _____

Home e-mail address_____

School_____ Position_____

School District_____

School e-mail address_____

Check one:

_____Current Members and University Students \$25.00 _____Non-Members \$35.00

_____New Membership with Workshop \$65.00 _____Membership Only \$40.00

Purchase orders accepted. If using purchase order, photocopy this form and mail to us in advance of the workshop. Check with your District about procedure.

Return this form with your check to by Friday, September 30th to:

VCRA, Attn: Charlotte Lucero, P.O. Box 6036, Oxnard, CA 93031-6036 and be entered in a special door prize drawing.

The use of meeting room space at the VCOE site does NOT imply endorsement or sponsorship of the services or products presented or promoted by VCRA.