

VENTURA COUNTY READING ASSOCIATION

# VCRA GAZETTE

January 2011



## *President' Message from Kristin Jensen Storey*

The start of a new year always offers opportunities and often self-created challenges. We challenge ourselves with New Year's Resolutions to eat healthier, exercise more, get organized, etc... Our wish for this New Year, 2011, is that the Ventura County Reading Association be an organization for you that offers both opportunity and challenge. We vow to continue to provide opportunities for you and for the greater community to celebrate literacy. That may take the form of our Winter Workshop or perhaps our Young Authors' Faire in April or our Spring Celebrate Literacy event.

We challenge you to join us, your colleagues, in the important work and fun of bringing more joy to our community through literacy! May all you desire and hope or be yours in this new year.



## *Upcoming Calendar of Events Please mark your calendar*

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| Saturday, February 5, 2011                          | <b><u>Winter Workshop</u></b> at Ventura County Office of Education, Camarillo<br>See flyer inside |
| Saturday, April 9, 2011                             | <b><u>VCRA's Authors' Faire</u></b> at CSUCI<br>See Registration Form inside                       |
| Saturday, May 8, 2011 to<br>Wednesday, May 11, 2011 | <b><u>IRA's 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention</u></b> in Orlando, Florida                          |
| Saturday, May 21, 2011                              | <b><u>Celebrate Literacy Banquet</u></b><br>Look for information in our next issue                 |

The Ventura County Reading Association, a professional organization for teachers, student teachers, administrators, librarians, instructional assistants, parents and anyone committed to fostering literacy in Ventura County has been an advocate for literacy in Ventura County since it was established in the mid-sixties. VCRA is an affiliate of the California Reading Association and the International Reading Association.

The Board is made up of classroom teachers, like you, who want to keep current with reading and language arts developments.

### Officers for 2011 – 2012

The following members have agreed to be your officers for the upcoming year.

President	Marlyce Nesson
President Elect	
Recording Secretary	Sue Measures
Corresponding Secretary	
Treasurer	Josh Goldstein
Membership	Charlotte Lucero
Past President	Kristin Storey

They will be elected at our Winter Workshop.

Honor Council Chair	Margaret Dunlevy
CRA Director	Carolyn Gleisberg
Family Literacy	Alexis O'Neill
Website	Kathryn Hunley
Young Authors' Faire	Jody Shapiro

**Now we come to ask your help.** We have openings on our Board and need your assistance. The Board meets one a month during the school year. The following positions are open: Hospitality (we would like two members to work together at our workshops), Citations and Awards, Evaluations, and *VCRA Gazette editor*. There is a spot for you in our organization!!!

Please contact [www.vcrareading.org](http://www.vcrareading.org) for more information.

# VCRA's 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Authors' Faire

VCRA's 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Authors' Faire will be Saturday, April 9, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the CSUCI Campus Library, Camarillo.

## What is an Authors' Faire?

VCRA's Authors Faire is an event where young student authors can meet and discuss their mutual interests with an adult author. It is also a way for teachers to recognize their students' efforts in writing, whether the student can attend or not. Each child that enters a book is awarded a special Authors' Faire gold seal.

## What happens on the day of the Faire?

- Books written by students in Ventura County will be displayed and recognized in the library.
- A successful adult author and/or illustrator will discuss his/her work with students and autograph his/her books.
- Books written by the participating author/illustrator will be available for purchase.
- Additional activities, such as art projects, storytelling, etc. will be included.

## What will you need to do?

- Return the registration form below!!!! You will be sent a packet to assist in your entry.
- Begin collecting your students' best writing efforts for display at the Faire.
- Now is the time to prepare! Admission is free.

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### THE 34<sup>TH</sup> VCRA YOUNG AUTHORS' FAIRE

This is your opportunity to have your students display their writing to the public and to meet author, Kristine O'Connell George.

And it's your chance to see what's happening in classrooms around the county.

Saturday, April 9, 2011 9:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

CSUCI Campus Library, Camarillo

To register for this event, please do the following by **March 15, 2011**

Complete form and mail to Jody Shapiro, 183 Via Pasito, Ventura, CA, 93003

e-mail: [jody@jodyfickesshapiro.com](mailto:jody@jodyfickesshapiro.com)

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Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

School Name and District \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Home/School \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate number of student's books to be exhibited \_\_\_\_\_

Note: After we receive your registration, we will send you a packet to assist in your entry and a flyer to copy encouraging your students and their parents to attend the CSUCI event that will include an author talk with a nationally published author, art projects, Storytelling circles, young author's readings and a chance to visit the campus.

## **CRA Establishes New Book Award**

The California Reading Association has established a new Eureka! Nonfiction Children's Book Award that will assist teachers, librarians, and parents in identifying outstanding nonfiction books for young readers. The first annual awards were announced in October at the *Weave a Tapestry of Literacy* Professional Development Institute in Riverside.

Six Gold Award winners and 22 Silver Honor Books were named. The Gold Award winners are:

**Birmingham Sunday** written by Larry Dane Brimmer (Boyd's Mills Press, 2010)

**Black Elk's Vision: A Lakota Story** written and illustrated by S. D. Nelson (Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2010)

**The Extraordinary Mark Twain (According to Susy)** by Barbara Kerley, illustrated by Edwin Fotheringham (Scholastic Press, 2010)

**Pierre the Penguin** by Jean Marzollo, illustrated by Laura Regan (Sleeping Bear Press, 2010)

**A Polar Bear's World** written and illustrated by Caroline Arnold (Picture Window, 2010)

**Ubiquitos: Celebrating Nature's Survivors** by Joyce Sidman, illustrated by Becki Prange (Houghton Mifflin, 2010)

For further information, please contact CRA's website at [www.californiareads.org](http://www.californiareads.org)

# Ventura County Reading Association

www.vcrareading.org

## Winter Workshop “Potpourri of Good Ideas”

Saturday, February 5, 2011 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Camarillo Room  
Ventura County Office of Education Conference Center  
5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo, CA.

Registration will be from 8:15 to 8:45. Continental breakfast will be offered.  
Door prizes and raffles at break time.

### Cheryl Schoffstolls, San Luis Obispo Reading Association

#### Session 1: “*Strategies for Teaching Reading Comprehension*”

This presentation is based on Ellin Keene’s Mosaic of Thought. It will include ideas and resources for explicit instruction in a standards-based reading workshop/language arts curriculum. Cheryl has a wide variety of teaching experiences: 35 years teaching in K-8 classrooms and Special Education, Reading Recovery, and college-level literacy courses. She is a literacy coach and consultant trained at Ohio State University under Gay Su Pinnell. A hand-out will be provided.

### Meredith Larson, PhD, San Luis Obispo Reading Association

#### Session 2: “*Using Picture Books in the K-8 Classroom*”

Dr. Larson will share mostly new, but a few “old favorite” picture books to use in the K-8 classrooms. Why picture books can enhance the curriculum while addressing the Standards will be shared. Specific activities relevant for each of the books are included in the handouts. Dr. Larson has 30 years of classroom and University teaching. She has presented at numerous state, national, and international conferences. Last summer, she presented at Oxford University, England, on how NCLB has impacted California’s classrooms. She is an Associate Professor in the School of Education at Brandman University.

### Christie Ezovski, San Luis Obispo Reading Association

#### Session 3: “*Foldables - Ideas and Activities*”

This portion of our workshop is a hands-on activity. Christie will demonstrate inexpensive, quick and relatively easy hands-on activities to weave and enhance subject areas, themes, unit, etc. and ideas to motivate students across the curriculum that can add a little fun to the NCLB curriculum. These are applicable to all grade levels. You will take away many samples to use in your classroom. Christie is a retired English teacher and is currently adjunct faculty at Brandman University in Santa Maria.

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Please print

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

School/District \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

University \_\_\_\_\_

Member: \_\_\_\_ \$30.00 Non-Member: \_\_\_\_ \$65.00 and University Student: \_\_\_\_ \$25.00 (includes membership in VCRA and CRA and workshop).

**Send form and check made out to VCRA to: Charlotte Lucero, 751 Hermosa Way, Oxnard, CA. 93036-8219 by January 31, 2011. Home phone: 988-7593 call after 5:00 p.m. or e-mail: [jerrynchar@aol.com](mailto:jerrynchar@aol.com)**

If paying by Purchase Order, make yourself a photocopy of this form and send original to Charlotte Lucero with PO information.

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