

Leading the Way to Literacy

An Affiliate of the International Literacy Association

VOLUME XXXV, NO. 5

December 2016

President's Message

Greetings all,

Florida Reading Association is leading the way to literacy! The FRA publications provide current research and information to educators from Pre-K-12 and **beyond**. **The FRA Board of Directors is very proud of the material disseminated** via *Florida Reading Journal*, *Teachers on the Cutting Edge*, and the *FRA Newsletter*. Each publication is available electronically to FRA members—please visit www.flreads.org for more information.



The 2016 Conference Committee, led by President-Elect Deanne Panighetti, has spent countless hours during the last year planning, organizing, and developing a remarkable program. The 2016 Conference Committee has provided an exemplary variety of strands and sessions aligned to the Florida Standards.

Florida Reading Association has an outstanding Board of Directors who represent individuals from all facets of Education. The caliber of our board members is exceptional—several of whom will be session presenters at the 2016 FRA Conference. There are several tasks the FRA Board has been charged with during 2016-2017—one of which is the ILA transformation. Local Florida councils will be kept up-to-date by their District Directors regarding information received from ILA.

FRA Vision: The Florida Reading Association is a group of professionals whose focus and energy center on reading issues and other literacy concerns; by coming together to promote our common interests, we create a dynamic presence and a collective voice that can be heard throughout Florida. We invite all who share our common vision to join in our effort.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as President of FRA—and leading the way to literacy!

Kathleen Fontaine, Ed.D.

COUNCIL NEWS

BAY COUNTY READING COUNCIL (Director: Chris Smith)

Recent events included a downtown First Friday, library card sign up drive, and a STEAM event with literacy activities.

First Friday, a local street market and celebration, was held in downtown Panama City on October 7th. The Bay County reading Association (BCRA) sponsored a table where children could choose a free book. A variety of grade and interest levels were provided. In total, nearly 500 books were given away. With the school year starting, we sponsored a library card sign up drive in partnership with the local public library. Library card applications were sent to many of our elementary schools, where teachers sent them home for parents to complete. The school with the highest percentage of new cards won a box of books, courtesy of BCRA, for the school library. In total, nearly 800 new library cards were issued. Our first Steam night was held at Mosley High School, with a variety of presenters demonstrating literacy activities in their content area. Participants rotated through stations, with groups separated in to primary and secondary teachers.

Upcoming Events will mostly be centered around our annual conference. Board members will begin planning the program and sending out registrations. We will also be sponsoring a family night at Po'Folks restaurant, where we will have a literacy based craft and children can choose a new book while they wait for their meals to arrive. We have participated in this event many times in the past with great success.

DUVAL COUNTY READING COUNCIL (Director: Fay Blake)

Duval County Reading Council has been busily preparing for our second annual drive in literacy conference on January 21, 2017. Our conference was very well attended last year and hopes to be bigger and better this year.

On Thursday, September 15 Pam Allyn, sponsored by Scholastic, advocated reading and writing as a human right. Members enjoyed hearing her inspirational and practical application message at the beautiful Schultz Center for Education and Leadership.

Our November meeting will be honored with a visit from Dr. Pam Smith. Heinemann Publishing Company will sponsor this national content specialist and provide refreshments. Dr. Smith's message of responsive teaching will give teachers practical strategies to be used to motivate, engage and teach students throughout the day.

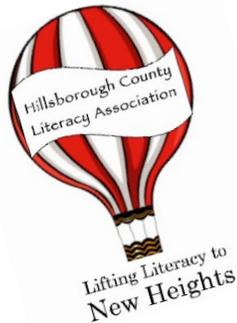
DCRC takes great pride in its very active and committed board and members. Our meetings are always well-attended and members are provided master plan points for renewal of their teaching certificates.

Additionally, our members, numbering near the 600 mark, continue to make donations for the annual Hubbard House Project. A gift bag containing toiletries for adults or children is donated and the addition of a books or magazines adds literacy comfort for displaced women and children victims of domestic

violence. Members also donate gently used books for our Little Red Bookshelf initiative which puts books in the hands of low-socioeconomic families in two housing projects on our city's Northside.

For more information, visit our website at www.duvalcountyreadingcouncil.org

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY READING COUNCIL (Director: Victoria Duke)



Recent Events

On October 13, HCLA held our annual Fall Dinner at the Palma Ceia Golf and Country Club, in Tampa, FL. All association members, along with any non-members of the profession were invited to attend. The event began with check-in & a Cocktail Hour, followed by our guest speaker's presentation and dinner.

Over 100 attendees enjoyed this year's guest, Jodi Stone, a local author as well as a Hillsborough County elementary school teacher. Jodi is the author/illustrator of over 13 books.

Barnes and Nobles provided books so our guests were able to purchase Sunshine State Readers, as well as Jodi Stone's books. Door Prizes were also given out to attendees.

Temple Terrace Reads HCLA participated in this local community event, sponsored by the Hillsborough School District Media Services. HCLA had a booth for families to play games, which were designed around the FRA Sunshine State Readers. Families were also able to take home a book for their child, from HCLA

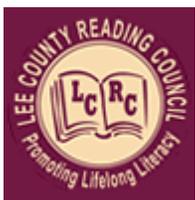
Upcoming Events

Winter PD Workshop: February 25, in Tampa, at the University of Tampa. HCLA will again provide a professional development opportunity for it's members as well as any interested non-members. This year we are excited to be able to bring Dr. Gravity Goldberg to Tampa to be our presenter for the day. Gravity is the author of recent publications, Mindsets & Moves, Strategies that help readers take charge, as well as Conferring with Readers, Supporting each student's growth and independence.

Please join us on Twitter #HCPSRead for a book study of Mindsets & Moves book study in Jan .

For workshop registration information, please email Jennifer Begley at Jennifer.Begley@sdhc.k12.fl.us

LEE COUNTY READING COUNCIL (Director: Kimberly Schmidt)



In June, LCRC board members met at Kim Schmidt's house for a day of planning and partnership. Events were planned, and a conference theme was decided upon - "The S'more You Read, the S'More You Know!"

Also in June, board members met at our storage unit as we had a huge donation of books for our Saturday Readers program and we needed more room! It was a hot and hard task, but the storage unit is now in good shape.

Our Annual Back to School Meet and Greet was held on Friday, September 16 at Famous Daves in Fort Myers. We had a good turn out! There were lots of door prizes and great food.

Next up for LCRC is our FRA Children's Book Award presentation which will be held at Orangewood Elementary School on Thursday, October 27. Each board member will present a book and an activity, as well as a list of resources for more activities. This was a huge success.

We are planning a second Pinterest Party for the beginning of February 2017.

A schedule has been created for our Saturday Readers program, and several schools have agreed to participate. We are currently looking for a responsible chairperson to head this program.

Teachers have already begun returning their RAP Sheets! An LCRC member can color in a book on a RAP Sheet each time they read aloud to their students. Once the RAP Sheet is complete, they can return it for a free book for their classroom library!

We are planning to host James Dean of Thinking Maps in the near future.

Planning has begun for our annual conference - at this point we are just struggling with a date that works for the council, presenters, and venue. Our date will be April 1 at North Fort Myers Academy of the Arts, Guest speaker James Dean.

We are planning a Literacy Technology Night for May 2017 and our end of the celebration will be Thursday, May 18, 2017.

PALM BEACH COUNTY READING COUNCIL (Director: Mary Adelle Sumner)

The Palm Beach County Reading Council is excited to announce the FRA High School Reading Teacher is our very own, Dr. Vangie Aguirre. We are so proud of Dr. Aguirre's accomplishments not only in her classroom but also through her work in The PBC Reading Council and TESOL studies.



The Bag Ladies presented A Standards Based Make and Take event at Lake Worth Beach Club. The Bag ladies showed numerous ways to get students to produce standards based evidences in fun and engaging ways.

This year, the International Project that the council donated to is the "Black Pencil Project". This project brings pencils and installs pencil sharpeners to remote schools in the provinces in The Philippines where writing utensils are scarce due to the location of the schools. Volunteers trek mountainous terrains and sometimes impassable roads to get to these schools. This might not seem much but for schools with no Internet, no books, no supplies, the pencils and sharpeners is a huge deal! In the picture are samples of pencils collected from the students to show the pencils they are currently using. The group leaves pencils and sharpeners for the students and teachers to enjoy for a long period of time.



On November 11, another home will be dedicated through Habitat for Humanity. The PBC Reading Council will be providing a bookshelf filled with books to the family to enjoy. A love for reading is something that this project hopes to instill in the family.

During the Thanksgiving season, the council will also be donating books to pediatric ICUs in the hospitals in the areas. Children in the ICUs will get to enjoy and get lost in books.

As we get into the season of the holidays, we are truly blessed to be able to share a love of literacy to our community and around the world.

POLK COUNTY READING COUNCIL (Director: Mary Ellen Sichtermann)

Polk County Reading Council (PCRC) has been exploring the gems in Polk County again this year. Our first meeting of the year was held at Florida Polytechnic University where we were treated to a student lead tour of the classrooms and state of the art computer laboratories. We learned of the vision and progress of this remarkable facility that will be redefining post-secondary education in the field of computer science, innovation and entrepreneurship. Solid literacy skill development is at the core of all of this high-tech learning.

We will be learning how to “Build a Better Learning Experience for Students with Disabilities” as we visit LEGOLAND in Winter Haven, Florida this December.

Our February meeting will be at The Center for Aeronautical Excellence. Literacy educators will gain insight on how to integrate STEM concepts with literacy instruction while surrounded by classic airplanes at the Sun N Fun museum. Our final meeting of the year will take place at The Terrace Hotel. This building was constructed in 1924, making it a gem in Polk County for almost a century! Teachers will enjoy bringing their friends and colleagues to our membership drive at this meeting. Professional development will be focused on integrating science and math instruction with literacy to increase student achievement.

PCRC will also begin a new partnership with Junior League of Greater Lakeland this year as we participant in The World of Reading program this April at Barnett Park in downtown Lakeland. We are still working on the details of this event, but we are very excited for the opportunity to create some activities to get children and families excited about reading! All of these events aim to promote quality literacy instruction, advocate lifelong reading, provide networking and collegiality, and benefit our community.

PINELLAS COUNTY READING COUNCIL (Director: Nancy Misuraca)

Exciting News from the Pinellas Reading Council



On September 7, 2016 we had our PRC Kickoff hosted by Thinking Maps. We were all treated to a fabulous night learning about Thinking Maps. Thinking Maps are consistent visual patterns linked directly to eight specific thought processes. Also, on September 28th co-author of Oral Mentor Texts, Connie Dierking shared simple and effective new ways to teach, reinforce, and practice reading skills.

In October, the PRC headed to Barnes & Noble where educator's received 25%! The school with the most participation won a \$50 gift certificate.

PRC teachers attended the fantastic FRA Conference. Allison Sisco, PRC president did an amazing job at the FRA Conference hosting a session on Close Reading. Educators gained a deeper understanding of close reading and what it looks like in the classroom.

Also in October, the Pinellas Reading Council presented the Bag Ladies, Karen Simmons and Cindy Guinn on October 29th. This was a fabulous “Make and Take Workshop!”

Upcoming Events: January 19, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt will present- "Field Trips through the Eyes of Google".

On Saturday, February 25th, at Largo High School, the PRC is pleased to sponsor **Leaders in Literacy**, a literacy conference focused on sharing best practices in literacy education in our classrooms. We are inviting educators from our neighboring counties. For more information about this fantastic event contact us at <http://pinellasrc.wixsite.com/prcs/literacy-leaders-conference>

SARASOTA COUNTY READING COUNCIL (Director: Debra Gorham Piner)

Storms Cannot Stop SRC

Hurricane Matthew was off of the East Coast, the skies were dark and rain was falling. Nonetheless, the intrepid members of the Sarasota Reading Council welcomed in the new school year at the annual wine and cheese party on Thursday, October 6 at the Venice Resort. More than 75 teachers, administrators and friends noshed, shared a glass of wine and enjoyed some games to ring in a new year for the Council. Of course, the evening would not be complete without the famous photo booth (top picture) or the great doorprizes.

Co-presidents Nina James and Erica Brusoe welcomed the crowd with a review of last year's successes. The **READ-2016 mini conference in March** brought more than 200 teachers to Riverview High School and is getting so popular that "we will soon outgrow the space, I'm afraid," said James. This year, the conference will feature additional sessions for Pre-K as well as a keynote speaker.

The first event for the 2016-2017 school year will be an in-service on **Close Reading of Complex Texts** Monday, Nov. 7 at Tuttle Elementary. The event begins at 5:30 and includes a light supper. Attendees can earn 3 PD points.

The Free Library Project at Title I schools is a "big hit," said Brusoe. Parents and students are taking the free books and sharing their love of reading.

ST. LUCIE COUNTY READING COUNCIL (Director: Lori Foley)



The St Lucie County Reading Council has conducted many services since the beginning of the school year. We started with participation in the New Teacher Orientation Fair in August where we were able to let new teachers know about our organization. This included a raffle for a one year membership for the council.

We also had a meet and greet at a local restaurant in August with door prizes, food and games to welcome new members and provide the opportunity for returning members to reconnect. Our membership as of October is approximately 170 members. A special certificate will be presented to the school with the highest percentage of teachers signing up to be a member.

Books and Inspirations is an upcoming event to be held on November 4th. This provides the opportunity for those who attended the FRA conference to share what they learned. There are make and takes, discussions, and sharing of information about the Children's Book Awards.

Literacy Explodes During October

Submitted by Joyce Warner

The Florida Reading Association (FRA) 54th annual statewide conference and The International Dyslexia Association (IDA) 67th international conference were both held in Orlando this October, making Orlando the **epicenter of literacy** during the last week of October. These bookended weekend literacy events brought teachers and educators, as well as scholars, researchers and parents to participate in workshops, institutes and sessions on all things literacy and literacy related from Pre-K through adult and from developmental through intervention stages. Between the two conferences, participants came from as close as Orange County, FL and the Bahamas (to FRA) and as far away as Australia and Singapore (to IDA). As members of FRA we are well acquainted with FRA and its mission. Let's get to know IDA.

The international Dyslexia Association has served individuals with dyslexia, their families and professionals in the field for 65 years. The annual international conference brings together researchers, clinicians, psychologists, parents, teachers, therapists and dyslexics to participate in workshops, institutes and sessions; to learn of advances in cutting edge research and time honored techniques, as well as recent legislative initiatives. This year's IDA conference also included an annual conference for families. Major educational topics presented throughout the conference included sessions on decoding, morphology, writing, communications skills, reading comprehension and the place of executive function, to name a few.

Handouts from IDA presentations can be accessed at <https://dyslexiaida.org/handouts-audio-recordings/>. The national association can be accessed at <https://dyslexiaida.org/>.

For those interested in Florida specifically, find the Florida branch (FLIDA) information at <http://fl.dyslexiaida.org/>. FLIDA will hold its annual conference on 9/23/17 in Dayton.



Publication Themes for 2016-2017

The Florida Reading Journal's audience is largely composed of PK-12 practitioners in the state of Florida. The *FRJ* editors are interested in exploring topics of interest to Florida educators and valuable in their daily literacy practices. We welcome submissions from researchers as well as PK-12 teachers. The thematic calls listed below are not intended to be exhaustive, but merely meant to be helpful to authors as they consider topics for publication. Please review the submission guidelines before submitting a manuscript.

Ongoing Annual Theme: Florida Standards in Action

FRJ has an ongoing interest in submissions related to the implementation of the Language Arts Florida Standards (LAFS) across K-12 classrooms. Manuscripts that highlight how individual teachers have adapted their instruction to integrate the arts, technology, and the content areas are of particular interest. We also have interest in articles that discuss how districts have addressed the challenges and lessons learned related to the implementation of LAFS and the Florida Standards Assessment.

Volume 52, Issue 1: Preparing Early Readers for Success

January 2017

Submission deadline: October 1, 2016

This issue will focus specifically on topics addressing early learners. What are the challenges faced by emergent readers in today's educational climate? How can we best meet the needs of diverse pre-K and primary school children to prepare them for the demands of the secondary grades, college, and careers. Manuscripts that address best practices for developing early readers are welcomed, as well as submissions that explore the various needs of emergent readers.

Volume 52, Issue 2: Navigating the World of Disciplinary Literacy

May 2017

Submission deadline: February 1, 2017

Disciplinary literacy is not just a new label of content area reading, but rather an interdisciplinary, inquiry based approach to the holistic reading and teaching of subject matter texts. To address the increasing demands of technical texts, teachers must be able to recognize strategies and features applicable to each discipline and instruct students to effectively use these strategies in academic ways. This issue will be dedicated to the many conversations, both critical and affirming, on the recent prevalence of disciplinary reading research, including addressing STEM literacy, informational literacy, and multimodal learning practices in the content areas.

Volume 52, Issue 3: The Flipped Classroom**September 2017****Submission deadline: June 1, 2017**

Flipped learning has emerged as a unique approach for improving student transfer by moving didactic instruction to the online environment and planning for active learning in the classroom. Thus, the teacher serves in many roles, including subject matter expert, media specialist, and instructional designer. How does this affect reading time in the classroom and the monitoring of student reading progress? We are interested in submissions that explore how flipped learning is accomplished in a literacy classroom. What are the challenges presented to struggling readers in this curricular design and how are those challenges met? Submissions concerning innovations and critiques of the flipped model are also welcomed.

Join FRA Today!!



FRA Membership
 P.O. Box 151555
 Cape Coral, FL 33915

www.flreads.org

Check Appropriate Box: New Member Renewal

Name _____

County _____ E-mail _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Country _____

Zip Code + 4 _____ Phone _____

Occupation: Elementary Teacher (PreK-5) Secondary Teacher (6-12)
 District/School Administrator College/University Instructor
 Retired Educator Full-time Student
 Consultant/Representative Other _____

I am a current member of: International Reading Association
 Local Reading Council _____

Referred for membership by a current FRA member? If so, please list both

The membership year is from July 1 through June 30. Membership applications received after March 1 will become effective immediately and extend through June 30 of the following year.

Membership Type:	Regular	\$30.00
	Retired	\$20.00
	Full Time Student	\$20.00

 Faculty Sponsor's Signature (Required)

 College/University

Additional Option

Printed Journals (printed version of the FRJ)	\$20.00
--	---------

_____ Total

Make checks payable to: **FRA**

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Articles for the next *FRA Newsletter* should be sent to the newsletter editors:

Susan Kelly
University of Central Florida
Tony Jennings Exceptional Education Institute

E-mail: Susan.kelly@ucf.edu

NOTE: E-mailing articles allows the editor to cut and paste your information directly into the *FRA Newsletter*.

FRA Newsletter

Published by the Florida Reading Association, an affiliate of the International Literacy Association



Deadlines for Upcoming Newsletter Issues:

Issue	Deadline
Spring 2017	February 15

Join FRA on social media!



Florida Reads



@ FRA_FL_Reads



fra_fl_reads