



MICHIGAN READING ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
March 21, 2010
Amway Hotel ■ Grand Rapids, Michigan

Members in Attendance:

Pat Gallant	Kathleen Operhall	Sue Ann Sharma
Terry Pawl	Jeff Beal	Dee Halstead
Kari Routledge	Amber White	Erin Donovan
Cynthia Clingman	Laura Guzman	Lynnette Van Dyke
Lee Rose	Victoria Les	Megan Howd
Dennis Graham	Andrea Brunett	Lisa Spinelli-Partogian
Ingrid Snyder	Nancy Fairchild	Lynette Suckow
Tracy Hales	Linda Winslow	Mary Howell
Becky Borglin	Andrea Valo	Grace Velchansky
Geri Pappas	Rosemary Grier	Heather Jensen
Karen Feathers	Amanda Swanson	Linda Winslow
Lynette Suckow	Marcia Klemp	Sue Szczepanski
Jill Bartlett	Pam Marchuk	Cathy Balten
Heather Dahl	Barb Jaszcz	Andrea Andera
Linda Rulison	Clodie Martin	Evelyn Johnson
Jen Taylor		

Guests:

Sean Kothe	Ann Laurimore	Rosalyn Shahid
Wendy Marty	Kathryn Bell	Mary Rearick
Bob Schwartz	Jim Ciplewski	

I. Call to Order at 3:50 PM.

- A. President Pat Gallant welcomed the participants and introduced the 2009-2010 Board members
- B. No additions/changes were made to the agenda

II. Approval of 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes

01-10 Dee Halstead offered the motion to approve the March 15, 2009 Minutes. Heather Jensen seconded. Motion approved.

III. Reports

- A. The Committee Reports were distributed as handouts for review by the membership.
- B. The Committee Reports for 2009-2010 included were:

Officers

- A. President..... Pat Gallant
 - led the charge for 2009 Conference “Bridges to Lifelong Literacy” and preconference “Reading and Writing Connections” (approximately 3000 participants).
 - attended all Executive Committee, Office Personnel Committee, and Budget Committee meetings
 - attended June 2010 MRA Summer Leadership Conference in Bay City
 - revisited and revised MRA’s strategic plan and worked with Board to move it forward

- collaboratively determined specific MRA committee and Board goals and established committee action plans for promoting literacy in Michigan
 - worked with IRA/MRA Coordinator to strengthen local council participation
 - conserved expenditures and explored cost-saving operations
 - built communication and positive relationships among Board members
 - supported MRA office personnel in establishing new office location and procedures
 - focused on serving MRA members statewide through support of local councils and literacy publications
 - gave greetings from MRA and promoted our mission and annual conference at:
 - Summer Literacy Conference in Ypsilanti (July)
 - Oakland County Reading Council Tim Rasinski event (October 5)
 - Upper Peninsula Reading Conference (October 8-9)
 - Great Lakes Regional Conference, Grand Rapids (Oct. 28)
 - Reading Recovery of Michigan Conference (Nov.19)
 - Blue Water Reading Council Nic Bishop event (Jan. 21)
 - CLASS-IRA planning meeting in Mt. Pleasant (Jan. 24)
 - Wayne County Reading Council Exec. Committee Meeting (Feb. 19)
 - planned and led MRA Board retreat and summer Board meeting on July 16-July 17 at Ann Arbor Marriott at Eagle Crest in Ypsilanti. Jane Kline, IRA Leadership Associate, attended.
 - planned and led July, October (at Mt. Pleasant), and January (at Novi) Board of Directors meetings and annual membership meeting (Detroit)
 - attended July, October, November, and January Budget Committee meetings and Office Personnel Committee meetings and assisted with evaluation of personnel
 - worked with T. Pecht to secure cost-effective contracts for Board meetings, and reviewed contracts for future MRA events (2011 conference, July 2010 Summer Literacy Institute, June 2010 Leadership, August 2010 Board Retreat)
 - established ad hoc Action Planning Committee and appointed chair. Attended all Action Planning meetings
 - met at MRA office in Grand Rapids on Oct. 3 with 2010 conference chair, conference coordinators, and other MRA friends to read and organize conference session proposals
 - worked with 2010 conference chair on MRA president's components of 2010 conference, and in advisory role
 - set and communicated important deadlines to Board members.
 - met with Amway and Detroit Marriot business representatives, T. Pecht and J. Beale to discuss future contracts. Consulted with Brenda Townsend at IRA and attorneys regarding hotel contracts for 2011-2014
 - wrote letters or messages for each issue of *News and Views*, *Michigan Reading Journal*, *Kaleidoscope*, and 2010 Conference Program Book. Reviewed and edited each issue of *MRA Bulletin Board /Constant Contact*
 - communicated with committee chairs about committee goals and action plans, as appropriate
 - presided over 2011 conference "Weaving a Tapestry of Readers and Writers" March 19-21 in Detroit
- B. President-Elect Kathy Operhall
- attended board retreat, executive committee meeting, budget committee meeting and office personnel committee in August, 2009
 - facilitated Conference 2010 . . . ongoing "labor of love":
 - secured all featured speakers; contracts sent out via MRA office;

- worked with committee on putting featured speakers on the wall grid;
 - worked with Erin Donovan and Heather Jensen on securing Michigan authors
 - planning first conference planning committee meeting for October 17, 2010
 - created ad for News and Views
 - reading speaker proposals at MRA office on October 3, 2010
 - placing proposal speakers on grid on October 11, 2010
 - working toward completing first draft of Conference at a Glance; due to Lee Lewis on October 10, 2010.
 - worked closely with Lisa Charland getting Conference at a Glance proofed and edited.
 - completed CaaG; sent out the week of December 7, 2009.
 - secured several more featured speakers and authors; contracts sent out via MRA office.
 - planning second conference planning committee meeting for January 10, 2010.
 - wrote article for News and Views (January/February edition)
 - proofed conference book for both revisions
 - worked closely on the conference (details, details and more details) with Teresa Pecht and Lisa Charland
 - chaired conference at Cobo Hall, March 19-22, 2010.
 - attended IRA regional conference
 - promoted 2010 conference
 - posters and flyers were available at MRA table in the exhibit hall
 - provided flyer for duplication and distribution at the Upper Peninsula Reading Association conference
 - attended Oakland Reading Council's January seminar and promoted conference.
 - registered and will be attending IRA Conference in Chicago, April 25-28, 2010.
 - worked with Teresa Pecht in securing Lake Huron Retreat Center for August 25-26, 2010 board retreat.
 - worked with Teresa in securing sites for 2010-2011 board meetings.
- C. Vice-President.....Sue Sharma
- reviewed 2009 Award of Excellence with president-elect, Kathy Operhall in April 2009.
 - attended July 16-17th 2009 Board retreat in Ypsilanti, MI.
 - attended Executive Committee meeting in July 2009 in Ypsilanti, MI.
 - attended Budget Committee meeting in July 2010 in Ypsilanti, MI.
 - attended Office Personnel Committee in July 2010 in Ypsilanti, MI.
 - attended October 16th Office Personnel Committee meeting in Mt. Pleasant, MI.
 - attended October 16th Executive committee meeting in Mt. Pleasant, MI.
 - attended October 16-17th Board meeting in Mt. Pleasant, MI.
 - read proposals for conference 2010, October 3rd, in Grand Rapids with 2010 conference planning chair and coordinators.
 - developed Grid and CAAG for conference 2010, October 11, in Grand Rapids with 2010 conference planning chair and coordinators.
 - attended Board of Directors meeting October 24-25, 2008.
 - attended Executive Committee meeting in January 2010 in Livonia, MI.
 - attended Office Personnel Committee in January 2010 in Livonia, MI.
 - attended Board of Directors meeting January 8-9, 2010 in Livonia, MI.
 - set theme for conference 2011: Pages of Tomorrow
 - selected Conference coordinators: Grace Valchansky and Amber White
 - selected Graphic artist, Oleh Godzak (MISD) to create the poster design
 - selected Port Huron High School student to create 2011 conference DVD.

- met with Jeff Beal and Teresa Pecht in March 2010 to review contract for 2011.
 - met with key conference staff at Amway Grand in March 2010 with Jeff Beal and Teresa Pecht
 - printed posters and promo will be ready for dissemination on Monday, March 22, 2010. DVD promoting the conference will be shown at the end of Monday’s general session.
 - working on securing keynote and featured speakers for 2011.
- D. Secretary Terry Pawl
- collected and submitted Board reports prior to each Board Meeting
 - completed Board Minutes for each Board of Directors Meeting
 - submitted News and Views Board Briefs
 - attended Council Luncheon at MRA (March 14, 2009)
 - attended MRA Annual Meeting – Grand Rapids (March 15, 2009)
 - attended MRA Title I Annual Meeting—Grand Rapids (March 16, 2009)
 - attended MRA Board Meeting – Livonia (May 16, 2009)
 - attended Leadership Conference – Bay City (June 24-25, 2009)
 - co-facilitated Leadership session in Bay City (June 25, 2009)
 - attended Board Retreat – Ypsilanti (July 16-17, 2009)
 - attended Board Meeting – Mt. Pleasant October 16-17, 2009)
 - attended IRA Great Lakes Conference – Grand Rapids (October 29-30, 2009)
 - attended Executive Committee meeting in July 2009 in Ypsilanti, MI.
 - attended Budget Committee meeting in July 2010 in Ypsilanti, MI.
 - attended October 16th Executive Committee meeting in Mt. Pleasant, MI.
 - served on the MRA Past President’s Legacy Fund (PPLF) as Secretary and Liaison to MRA Board
 - acted as proxy for MRA Election at the Annual Meeting (March 15, 2009).
- E. Treasurer Jeff Beal
- attended MRA Annual Meeting – Grand Rapids (March 15, 2009)
 - attended MRA Title I Annual Meeting—Grand Rapids (March 16, 2009)
 - attended Board Retreat – Ypsilanti (July 16-17, 2009)
 - attended Executive Committee meeting in July 2009 in Ypsilanti, MI.
 - chaired Budget Committee meeting in July 2010 in Ypsilanti, MI.
 - attended Board Meeting – Mt. Pleasant October 16-17, 2009)
 - attended Executive Committee meeting – Mt. Pleasant
 - chaired Budget Committee meeting – Mt. Pleasant
 - chaired IRA Great Lakes Conference – Grand Rapids (October 29-30, 2009)
 - met with Marriott about 2012-2014 conference – Detroit (December 21, 2009)
 - attended Board Meeting – Livonia (January 8-9, 2010)
 - attended Executive Committee meeting – Livonia
 - chaired Budget Committee meeting – Livonia
 - see Budget Committee accomplishments

Regional Representatives and Members-at-Large

- A. Member-at-Large.....Kari Routledge
- attended annual conference in Grand Rapids March 2009
 - planned and implemented council luncheon at 2009 conference
 - contacted presidents of adolescent and adult literacy councils
 - attended IRA 2009 in Minneapolis
 - met with Dee Halsted to turn over all coordinator duties

- planned and implemented Leadership Conference in Bay City
- attended summer literacy conference with Nell Duke and Stephanie Harvey
- attended October board meeting
- submitted information to News and Views
- joined MRA's new blog
- attended January board meeting
- presented information on behalf of Lynn Bigelman at January board meeting
- promoted 2010 conference in my school district
- attended annual conference in Detroit

B. Member-at-Large..... Amber White
Celebrate Literacy: A Student Society (CLASS)

- held regular scheduled Wednesday meetings during the 2009-2010 year (7pm Anspach Hall, Room 258, CMU campus)
- collaborated with a local middle school and high school to develop a writing club
- brought in guest speakers to CLASS members--Mary Hennessey, young adult librarian from East Lansing Public Library, Pat Gallant and Heather Jensen, MRA.
- held a "Family Reading Night" on February 27th at CMU Campus
- holding an early spring book drive for Rwanda and Ghana-international project
- organizing a "First Year Teacher Panel" consisting of past CMU students
- celebrated CLASS board and members with end of trimester banquets
- developed a website for CLASS that contains meeting dates, minutes, as well as upcoming events and news
 - find CLASS website at <http://sites.google.com/site/classiracmu/home>
 - maintenance of site by Alison Tuma, CLASS Secretary
- sent the following student volunteers to assist at the MRA March 2010 Weaving a Tapestry of Readers and Writers Conference
 - Megan Howd, Rebecca Reas, Alison Tuma, and Katrina Hibbs
- planning a March 27, 2010 Learn Today Teach Tomorrow Conference with several other pre-professional organizations for CMU students going into the education field
 - Member-at-Large, Amber White, will present a writing workshop at this event
 - More detailed information about this conference at www.lttt.org

MRA Title I Special Interest Council

- held six council meetings during the 2009-2010 year
- used \$300 from MRA General Council Grant to publish copies of the Boys and Books brochures developed by the following Title I officers and members: Bonnie Wolf, Harriet O'Brien, Barb Benford, and Jeanne Smith.
 - drafted and revised brochure in the fall of 2009
 - published brochures in January
 - began disseminating brochures to various libraries and schools late January (Harriet O'Brien overseeing)
 - included a letter explaining the purpose behind the literacy project, as well as contact information to provide feedback
- sent out monthly e-newsletter to members with valid e-mail address
 - gained and preserved MRA Title I members during the year as a result of e-newsletter renewal or interest
- earned 2009/2010 Honor Council
 - planned Title I events and strand at the MRA Weaving a Tapestry of Readers and Writers Conference

- Steven Layne, “Confessions of a Reading Arsonist” will be the MRA Title I Luncheon Keynote.
- Suzanne Klein, WriteSteps, has agreed to sponsor the luncheon
- Annual Meeting and 2010-2011 MRA Title I election will take place on Monday, March 22, 2010, following the luncheon.

SVSU TALL Readers Student Special Interest Council

- confirmation that Lisa Midcalf, a SVSU faculty member, is resurrecting the SVSU TALL (Teaching All to be Life-Long) Readers-university council
- informed by Beth Cady (IRA Council and Affiliate Services) that SVSU TALL Readers was still deemed active, although the last list of council officers on file was back in April 2006.
 - IRA e-mailed Lisa Midcalf the bylaws on file, along with the SVSU TALL Readers charter certificate
 - ensure that the group is a recognized nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. No EIN (federal tax ID) on file for the council. IRA will help council establish tax exempt status if it is not held through the university.
 - pending IRA membership, the SVSU TALL Readers Council consists of:
 - Julene Wellington, President; jjwellin@vmail.svsu.edu
 - Rose Ferrett, VP; rmferret@vmail.svsu.edu
 - Kim Latuszek, Secretary; krlatusz@vmail.svsu.edu
 - Lydsi Sheick, Treasurer; lnsheick@vmail.svsu.edu
 - Lisa Midcalf, University Advisor; lfmidcal@svsu.edu

C. Region 1 Lynette Suckow

- attended 2009 MRA Conference with representatives from both councils
- attended 2009 Leadership Conference with MARC representative
- attended MRA Board meetings in May, July, October, and January
- submitted monthly interaction logs
- corresponded with Eastern U.P. Reading Council to support and promote literacy activities in the area
- attended Marquette-Alger Reading Council meetings to support and promote literacy activities in the area
- attended dinner for MARC Literacy Awards
- assisted with paperwork for MARC Honor Council status
- advocated for local nominees to receive recognition at the state level
- attended Upper Peninsula Reading Conference
- promoted increased MRA membership at the council level
- promoted 2010 MRA Conference and Summer Literacy Conference

D. Region 2 Tracy Hales

Sunset Coast Reading Council

- promoted family literacy using literature and puppetry during Ludington’s Friday Night Live. Participants were awarded children’s books.

Rosen Council

- No response to phone calls and emails since July, 2009

Possible new council in Traverse City Area.

- provided TBA consultant with information and paperwork needed to form a new council in the Traverse Bay Area

E. Region 3 Linda Winslow

Kent Reading Council

- organized program on October 6, 2009 – Pooh’s Corner, New Book Titles

- organized program on November 3, 2009 – Voice Threads with Ron Houtman. Voice Threads is a powerful, new way to talk about and share images, documents, and videos.
- held a program on December 8, 2009 – Differentiated Instruction, presented by Jacque Melin, educational consultant, affiliate professor at Grand Valley State University.
- held a program on February 2, 2010 – Dr. Mary Bigler, one of the most humorous, enthusiastic, and inspirational educational speakers in North America.
- held on March 16, 2010 – Tim Hargis, academic support coach, Kentwood Public Schools, Adjunct professor Grand Valley State University, Author of The Writing Diner: Creating Active Thinkers in the Writing Classroom Gr. 2 – 9.
- holding a program on April 27, 2010 – Two Sisters – Gail Boushey and Joan Moser – Writers of the Daily Five.

Western Dunes Reading Council

- held a program on October 21, 2009 – Sara Kajder, Assistant professor of English Education at Virginia Tech, Author of The Tech Savvy English Classroom. Digital storytelling as a tool, genre and powerful approach to teaching writing.
- held a program on February 17, 2010 – Linda Denstaedt, co-director and writer in residence, Oakland Writing Project, Author of Winning Strategies for Test Taking Grades 3 – 8. Strategies for preparing students for writing on high stakes tests.
- held a program on April 28, 2010 – Diane Titcher, Murray Lake Elementary teacher, Lowell Area Schools. The development of inquiry projects with students.

F. Region 4Mary Howell

Bay Area Reading Council

- elected new president for the council, Jill Bartlett

Flint Area Reading Council

- hosted Great Lakes, Great Books
- promoted membership through authors event
- held fundraiser event November 20
- created invitation to service learning projects involving writing holiday cards for senior citizens two times in fall and winter
- began book study with many in attendance
- sent newsletters to members
- hosted various events including authors and family involvement
- promoted various MRA events such as Great Lakes, Great Books,

Saginaw Area Reading Council

- sent multiple newsletters to members announcing various events
- hosted Bosses night membership drive
- promoted various MRA events such as Kaleidoscope

G. Region 5Becky Borglin

- attended the MRA summer board retreat
- attended all scheduled board meetings
- attended the MRA conference
- attended the IRA Great Lakes conference in October
- served as President of Tri-County Reading Council
- advocated for MRA memberships
- promoted the 2010 conference in Detroit
- meet with Tri-County board members
- held a Tri-County organizational meeting on January 28th
- scheduled a meeting for Tri-County in April
- invited President Pat Gallant to the April meeting of Tri-County

- communicated with Carrie Muessig on Homer-Carter Reading Council issues
- H Region 6Andrea Valo
- tried promoting CARC as much as possible.
 - attended the board meetings in Mt. Pleasant and Livonia.
 - signed up to volunteer at the speaker check-in booth as well as speaker introductions and the SB-CEU booth.
- Capital Area Reading Council
- not currently functioning
 - spoke with different people throughout the year interested in joining the council, but not willing to be part of the board
- Washtenaw Reading Council
- corresponded with council president, Kim, in the beginning of the current year.
 - council website diminished due to council board member taking care of it leaving position.
- I. Region 7Grace Vechansky
- Blue Water Council
- sent notification of new Honor Council requirements and request for 09-10 Council events (September 14, 2009)
 - requested updated list of Council Board Members (October 8, 2009)
 - corresponded with Council President regarding completion of Honor Council forms (January 4, 2010)
- Macomb Reading Council
- met president and rep from Barnes & Noble to secure authors for 2009-2010 events (April 15, 2009)
 - attended Board Meeting regarding Kaleidoscope Dinner for Young Authors (April 21, 2009)
 - attended Kaleidoscope Dinner for Young Authors (May 4, 2009)
 - met with council president regarding ways to increase membership (August 5, 2009)
 - sent notification of new Honor Council requirements and request for 09-10 Council events (September 14, 2009)
 - attended Board Meeting to establish community project (October 5, 2009)
 - met with Council President to update council website (November 19, 2009)
 - attended Board Meeting at Macomb ISD (December 9, 2009)
 - attended Board Meeting at Macomb ISD (February 24, 2009)
- Oakland Reading Council
- sent notification of new Honor Council requirements and request for 09-10 Council events (September 14, 2009)
 - requested updated list of Council Board Members (October 8, 2009)
 - set date to attend Oakland Reading Council Board Meeting (October 14, 2009)
 - attended Board Meeting at Oakland Schools (January 4, 2010)
- MRA Events
- attended Council Luncheon at MRA (March 14, 2009)
 - attended MRA Annual Meeting – Grand Rapids (March 15, 2009)
 - attended MRA Board Meeting – Livonia (May 16, 2009)
 - attended Leadership Conference – Bay City (June 24-25, 2009)
 - attended Board Retreat – Ypsilanti (July 16-17, 2009)
 - participated in the MRA Conference Proposal Selection – Grand Rapids (October 3, 2009)
 - attended Board Meeting – Mt. Pleasant October 16-17, 2009)

- attended IRA Great Lakes Conference – Grand Rapids (October 29-30, 2009)
 - presented to Wayne State University Pre-service teachers: updated students on literacy initiatives, MRA membership; MRA 2010 Conference (November 23, 2009)
 - attended MRA Board Meeting – Livonia (January 8-9, 2010)
- J. Region 8Geri Pappas
- Wayne County Reading Council
- reorganizing council.
 - planning included:
 - workshops for pre-service teachers to help bring them into the fold.
 - family literacy programs at the mall or any place where parking and venue are easily accessible.
 - providing books for an empty library in a school in Jerusalem
 - maintaining a relationship with a local book store, Barnes and Noble to develop ideas promoting literacy in the community
 - reconnecting with Wayne RESA to brainstorm on ideas which would provide support for educators and families in Wayne County
 - making an effort to “celebrate” literacy by assisting those who are strangers to it.
- Metropolitan Detroit Reading Council
- only contact is Ms. Mildred Peteet a Detroit Public School teacher at MacDowell elementary.
- K. Region 9Rosemary Grier
- Copper Country Reading Council
- elected President Evelyn Johnson, Vice President Veronica Horning, Secretary Rosemary Grier, Treasurer Marcia Drenovsky, Membership Corinne Hauring and Historian Lois Jambekar
 - attended and participated in MRA Reading Conference March 2009 in Grand Rapids
 - attended strategic planning meeting for CCRC and review of the year 2008-09
 - developed new committee/teams: Outreach, Membership & Fundraising, Budget, Communication & Promotions, Archives/History and Executive
 - attended Leadership in Bay City with two other CCRC members
 - held several fundraiser used book and Chico Bag sales
 - attended MRA Board Retreat to review and define MRA Mission and Strategic Planning with Pat Kline from IRA
 - attended planning session for CCRC new school year programming
 - received the following grants: Professional Development, Parent Involvement and General Council
 - held a series of PD sessions featuring the book Make Way for Literacy-Teaching the Way Young Children Learn, culminating with a Readers Theater event
 - held series of interactive public family activities in collaboration with the Portage Library
 - attended the UPRA Reading Conference in Marquette, MI
 - received Honor Council Award
 - attended MRA Board meetings in October 2009 and January 2009.
- L. Region 10.....Heather Jensen
- attended 2009 MRA conference in Grand Rapids with several members of the council.
 - elected new officers in April. Andrea Andera (President), Kelly Pieprzyk (Vice President), Jennifer Pettersch (Treasurer), Lisa Kreider (Secretary), and Donna Venglar (Membership).
 - attended Leadership in June in Bay City. Andrea Andera, Kelly Pieprzyk, and Donna Venglar attended sessions to better plan the 2009-2010 year.

- designed a new agenda format for the council meetings to maximize learning opportunities.
- used theme of conference “Weaving a Tapestry of Readers and Writers” as theme for this council year. At each meeting, pictures and quilt squares were taken.
- held a membership drive in September. Promoted Great Lakes Great Books and the benefits of becoming a member of MRA and IRA. Members learned about a Writing Jeopardy game and Andrea Andera shared more on thinking maps.
- invited Dr. Tamara Jetton to present Writing to Learn to members in November. Members also took home a new idea: The Writing Menu to use in their classrooms.
- held fourth annual community project night in December. Members had a nice dinner at a local restaurant and created “Read to Me More than Onesie” bundles.
- donated board books, wrapped in new onesies with bows, to local doctor offices and community agencies for new parents in Clare and Gladwin counties.
- held a t-shirt fundraising project in January 2010. “Wild about Reading” t-shirts were sold with Clare Gladwin Reading Council on the back.
- started Book clubs in January. Members had the choice of four books to choose from. Nonfiction Writing, CAFÉ, Readicide, and Adolescent Literacy were the choices. Members met in small groups to discuss book and how to apply the strategies in the classroom. Members also took part in a make-n-take multi-syllable activity.
- held a Make-n-Take workshop in February highlighting activities from The Florida Center for Reading Research. Anne Southworth from Beaverton also presented on Writer’s Notebooks at the meeting.
- wrapping up our year and book clubs in April with a Spa night and quilt raffle.

Board Appointments

- A. MRA/IRA CoordinatorDee Halstead
- created a MRA Ning to communicate within the council
 - submitted Bi-Monthly newsletters via e-mail and/or mailed to the council presidents
 - held meetings with each of the region representatives at each of the MRA board meetings
 - helping Saginaw Valley Tall Readers Council in reactivating and working with Amber White, MRA Member at Large to follow the process and procedures
 - working on the 2010 Leadership conference which will focus on technology and how to work on creating communication within their councils. The conference will take place June 23rd and 24th, in Okemos Michigan. Each council will hopefully bring a laptop and we will work on creating council Nings, Google Pages, or any other means of communication.
 - worked on the MRA Annual Conference Council Presidents Luncheon.
 - worked on Honor Council for the MRA Local Councils. Created and maintained a list of councils who earned honor council, notified the councils and created certificates to be handed out at the luncheon.
 - The following councils earned Honor Council for MRA:

Blue Water	Heather Dahl	
Clare-Gladwin	Andrea Andera	
Copper Country	Evie Johnson	
Flint Area	Stacy Price	
Marquette-Alger	Lynette Suckow	
Michigan Title 1	Amber White	
Michigan Adolescent Literacy Council	Andrea Brunett	
Oakland County	Lisa Partogian	
Saginaw Area	Cathleen Brewer-Kelley	

Wayne County Clodie Martin
 Western Dunes Rita Remboldt

- maintained presidents e-mail and contact information
 - working to create a constant line of communication with the council presidents and the region representatives.
 - e-mailed updates on a regular basis, return phone calls and follow up e-mails.
- B. MDE/MRA LiaisonLynnette Van Dyke
- provided updates and direction regarding the writing and adoption of the Common Core. The Common Core Standards will be released to the public on March 10, at 9:00 a.m. Feedback from individuals will be solicited through a survey accessed at the website and accepted through April 2.
 - wrote and was awarded Stage I of the Five Star. Michigan and the nomination authors (Lynnette Van Dyke and Lynn Bigelman) are currently awaiting an announcement from IRA related to whether or not we were awarded Stage 2 on Implementation of the Five Star Policy components.
 - worked as co-secretary to the Adolescent SIG committee: revising and sending membership forms, working with leadership team to rebuild this group.
 - continuously disseminated public relations and conference information statewide through various means including the state English language arts listserve.
- C. Historian..... Cindy Clingman and Laura Guzman
- continuing the reshelving of archival materials in new office.
 - facilitated memory activity at 2009 July Retreat.
- D. *Michigan Reading Journal* Leonie Rose and Tamara Jetton
- edited articles for publication in *Michigan Reading Journal* issues
 - published an issue of the *MRJ* in Fall/Winter 2009-2010 with a balance of research and classroom practice articles with elementary and secondary foci, teachers as writers, conference 2009 highlights, and literature reviews.
 - published an issue of the *MRJ* in Spring 2010 before the Annual Conference with the balance of research and classroom practice articles with elementary and secondary foci, teachers as writers, and literature reviews.
- E. *News & Views*..... Victoria Les
- presently assembling articles for the Spring issue.
 - distributed Winter issue as planned. Good feedback.
 - encouraging members to submit ideas for making issues teacher-oriented.
- E. Parliamentarian..... Leonie Rose
- served in an advisory role related to parliamentary procedures at the Annual Meeting, March 2009
 - served in an advisory role related to parliamentary procedure at Board of Director's Meetings in May, July, and November.
 - served in an advisory role to the MRA President on issues related to parliamentary procedure between MRA Board Meetings.

Standing Committee Chairs

- A. Adolescent/Adult Literacy.....Andrea Brunett
 Adolescent Literacy Conference Planning Committee
- helped to promote and improve adolescent literacy through the planning and promotion of the adolescent literacy strand at the 2010 Annual Spring M.R.A. conference
 - planned, promoted, and hosted the adolescent literacy luncheon at the 2010 Annual Spring M.R.A. conference
- Adolescent/Adult Literacy Committee

- explored the creation of a content-area strand for the 2011 annual conference
- reviewed other state literacy council websites to help gain ideas for the MRA website (specifically to find ways to draw in more secondary teachers)

Michigan Adolescent Literacy Council

- attended the state leadership council hosted by the Michigan Reading Association
- completed a council membership drive
- had an 8% increase in membership
- made a submission focusing on the importance of teachers writing with students to the Michigan Reading Journal
- awarded a parent involvement grant from MRA to help fund a program to promote parent and adolescent reading partnerships throughout the summer of 2010
- created and sent an electronic newsletter to MALC members
- advertised in the MRA conference program booklet
- launched a professional book study with an on-line discussion forum using the book, Adolescent Literacy: Turning Promise Into Practice by Kyleene Beers and others
- created and maintained a council website
- created a Facebook fan site
- created a tri-fold and informational bookmarks for the 2010 MRA annual spring conference
- achieved State Honor Council status with highest honors
- recognized by the International Reading Association for a 30 year partnership between IRA and MALC

B. Assessment.....Lisa Houk

- established a Group under the MRA Ning, and will continue to develop topics of focus as participation on the site grows. MEAP information will be added when MDE releases it.
- secured sessions for the literacy assessment strand at the annual conference.
- published an article in News and Views on Assessment Literacy
- developed literacy assessment strand
- planning to hold a professional writing mini-retreat to share ideas and generate assessment related topics.

C. Awards.....Marcia Klemp

- distributed Individual and Literacy Awards forms at Summer Leadership Conference.
- distributed Individual and Literacy Awards forms at July Board meeting
- submitted Gwen Frostic nominations to MRA office electronically.
- read Individual and Literacy nominations by committee in December.
- initiated vote for Full board electronically for the Gwen Frostic Award in January.
- announced recipients at January Board Meeting
- announced recipient at Past President's dinner Gwen Frostic (Patricia Polacco)
- announced recipients of the following awards in March at MRA Annual Conference
 - K-6 Teacher - Marsha Page
Sandy Knoll Elementary School, Marquette, Michigan
 - Individual Literacy Award – Lynette Marten Suckow
Peter White Public Library, Marquette, Michigan
 - Agency/Group Literacy Award – Muskegon Area ISD Reading Workshop Teacher Trainers

D. BudgetJeff Beal

- In an effort to keep the office staff at two employees and to prudently use the money entrusted to us the following measures were taken:
 - implemented account/data entry changes to:

- reduce redundancy and improve financial checks and balances, and
 - allow for better reporting and tracking of members.
 - introduced new conference confirmation mailing procedures to:
 - reduce manual errors,
 - take advantage of bulk mailing rates, and
 - reduce man hours in the office.
 - increased financial reporting during times of increased financial activity (i.e., annual conference time) to:
 - improve MRA officers' ability to review conference expense and income, and
 - assist them in making better informed operating decisions.
 - revised conference procedures to:
 - reduce the cost of providing SC-CEUs, and
 - reduce the cost of providing on-site name badges.
 - began the process of streamlining the annual conference to:
 - continue to provide a high quality low cost conference in a time of economic uncertainty, and
 - evaluate alternate sources of additional support if less teachers, vendors, sponsors, or advertisers are unable to support MRAs annual conference.
- E. Community Projects and Programs.....Lisa Spinelli-Partogian
 Community Projects/Programs Committee
 - met with committee members to set goals
 - collected 105 books for families
 - worked on reading bookmarks
- F. Early Childhood/Family Literacy.....Ingrid Snyder
 - met as a committee 6 times to work on the following issues
 - arranged for a PreK-K strand at the MRA conference
 - committee members worked with other on presentations to build capacity
 - networked with MAEYC on common early childhood issues
 - developed discs on parent read aloud and distributed them in local doctor's offices
 - worked with Great Parents to distribute books
 - worked as a partner with OCRC for a book distribution
- G. Ethics & Evaluations.....Carrie Muessig
 - Matters were brought to the attention of the committee in August in regards to the Office Personnel Committee Chair. This concern was resolved and further discrepancies shall be rectified by language changes in the bylaws and policies and procedures.
 - continually monitoring Board meetings to ensure that all policies and procedures are upheld.
 - provided, collected and typed evaluations for January Board meeting and forwarded to the President
- H. Grants.....Nancy Fairchild
 Professional Development Grants-- Total awarded \$4912.50

Copper Country Reading Council	\$1300
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book study using <u>Make Way for Literacy: Teaching the Way Young Children Learn</u> by Gretchen Owocki <li style="padding-left: 20px;">20 participants 7 sessions 	
Flint Area Reading Council	\$1110
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book Study using <u>The Cafe Book: Engaging All Students in Daily Literacy Assessment and Instruction</u> by <u>Gail Boushey and Joan Moser</u> <li style="padding-left: 20px;">30 participants 5 sessions 	
Saginaw Area Reading Council	\$600

- Requested \$450 Total cost \$500 Grant Award \$300
- Estimated 100 participants
- Region 9
 - Copper Country Reading Council
 - Increase membership using a new brochure, free memberships
 - Requested \$250 Total costs \$330 Grant Award \$250
- Special Interest Councils
 - Title I Special Interest Council
 - To compose, print and distribute to libraries, a brochure.
 - Requested \$615 Total cost \$615 Grant Award \$300
 - Estimated 500 participants
 - Michigan Adolescent Literacy Council (MALC)
 - Membership drive, postage for newsletters and membership information, ink, cards, brochures, copies, banners and signs, website setup and maintenance
 - Requested \$800 Total cost \$800 Grant Award \$300
 - Estimated 100 participants
 - Michigan Council on Literacy for Adults (MCLA)
 - Newsletter printing and mailing
 - Requested \$300 Total cost \$300 Grant Award \$300
 - Estimated 500 participants

Parent Involvement Grant 2009-2010—Total awarded \$1850 for 8 grants

- Region 1
 - Marquette Alger Reading Council
 - Provide a book and 'onesie' promoting reading to newborns and their parents
 - Requested \$500 Total cost \$800 Grant Award \$250 (books only)
 - Estimated 100 parents
- Region 3
 - Kent Reading Council
 - To provide 100 books, book bags and information for parents of newborns at HELP Pregnancy.
 - Requested \$250 Total cost \$300.95 Grant Award \$250
 - Estimated 100 parents
- Region 4
 - Flint Area Reading Council
 - One book, one community family literacy night
 - Requested \$459 Total cost \$700 Grant Award \$200
 - Estimated 30 parents
 - Saginaw Area Reading Council
 - Teen parent services project with board books, parent session at Young Author's conference
 - Requested \$300 Total cost \$500 Grant Award \$250
 - Estimated 50-100 parents
- Region 7
 - Oakland County Reading Council
 - Using mentor texts to bump up the level of writing. (Session held during young authors' conference)
 - Requested \$300 Total cost \$480 Grant Award \$200
 - Estimated 40 parents
- Region 8
 - Wayne County Reading Council

- Contribution of books and other literacy related materials to the Child’s Hope IMPACT project.
- Requested \$275 Total cost \$275 Grant Award \$200
- Estimated 50 parents
- Region 9
 - Copper Country Reading Council
 - Four sessions that tie literacy, storytelling and activities together for area families
 - Requested \$400 Total cost \$400 Grant Award \$250
 - Estimated 45 (per session) 180 parents

Young Authors’ Conference Grant 2009-2010--4 grants awarded \$1350

- Region 1
 - Marquette Alger Reading Council
 - Requested \$800 Total cost \$10,000 Grant Award \$400
 - Estimated 3300 participants
- Region 4
 - Flint Area Reading Council
 - Requested \$500 Total cost \$750 Grant Award \$350
 - Estimated 300 participants
 - Saginaw Area Reading Council
 - Requested \$500 Total cost \$750 Grant Award \$300
 - Estimated 150-200 participants
- Region 7
 - Oakland County Reading Council
 - Requested \$500 Total cost \$2000 Grant Award \$300
 - Estimated 125 participants
- Summary
 - General Council Grants 12 awards Total \$3178 (\$2200)
 - Parent Involvement Grants 8 awards Total \$1850 (\$1998)
 - Young Authors’ Conference 4 awards Total \$1350 (\$2200)
 - Total Grants awarded \$6378 Budget \$6398

- I. Immediate Past President, Bylaws and Policies & Procedures and Elections.....Lynn Bigelman
 - co-chaired Summer Literacy Conference “The Art of Nonfiction” in Ypsilanti with Julia Reynolds. This included obtaining speakers Nell Duke and Stephanie Harvey, arranging for hotel accommodations, organizing a bus shuttle to the Ann Arbor Art Fair and the meals for attendees.
 - gave greetings from MRA at an Oakland County Reading Council event in the Fall.
 - worked with bylaws committee (Julia Reynolds and Gwen Graham) on suggested changes for By-laws and Policies and Procedures. This work was brought to the January meeting.
 - organized a committee to research possible candidates for upcoming positions.
 - worked with the office staff to create ballots for the candidates
 - ensured the delivery of ballots to MRA members in a timely manner. The voting committee members will meet on Friday night of the conference to count ballots.
- J. Intellectual Freedom.....Adnan Salhi
 - no report
- K. International Projects/Programs.....Adnan Salhi
 - formed a new committee.
 - adopted two projects this year: Shyira School in Rwanda and MOAS School in Lesotho.
 - sent the following to Rwanda: one box of supplies to Shyira Primary School. The box contains 1,000 sheets of construction and writing paper.

- sent the following to MOAS school in Lesotho: one box of supplies containing the following:
 - two packages of alphabet reusable appliqués and forty ink pens
 - three boxes of addition/subtraction flash cards and forty glue sticks
 - one box of color/ shape flashcards and sixty pencil eraser caps
 - one growth chart and six 24-pks of crayons
 - four hundred sheets of construction paper and one hundred #2 pencils
- L. Legislative/Government RelationsCindy Clingman
- updated Local Council Legislative Chairs.
 - assembled Committee members.
 - completed Committee Plan of Action.
 - displayed and distributed legislative information at the MRA Leadership Workshop and at local council meetings.
 - secured membership on the OEAA Advisory Committee; attended meetings.
 - tracked Legislative and Policy initiatives at state and local level.
 - planned and conducted the 2010 Conference Legislative Panel Discussion.
 - developed Advocacy Blog for Committee updates and activities.
 - sent Legislative Updates to the Board.
 - applied for and received the IRA Legislative Advocacy Award.
 - attended the IRA Government Relations Workshop in Washington DC.
- G. MRA/IRA Director of MembershipJoyce O'Brien Cradit
- requested to join the MRA Board in November 2009 as Membership Chairperson.
 - attended January 2010 Board meeting
 - currently attending/working 2010 MRA Annual Conference
 - current number of active MRA members as of March 2010: 4,263
 - planning on attending Summer Leadership Conference 2010
- H. Office Personnel.....Nancy Fairchild
- changed wording for job description of Business Manager
 - changed wording for job description of Administrative Assistant
 - changed health insurance coverage for Business Manager and Administrative Assistant (thus saving the Michigan Reading Association money)
 - completed yearly evaluation of Business Manager, Teresa Pecht
 - wrote goals for Business Manager, Teresa Pecht
 - clarified wording in Office Personnel Handbook/Policies & Procedures regarding closing of office or delayed start time during bad winter weather conditions
 - accepted applications for additional help in the office during conference preparations (placed three interns for that period of time)
 - visited office and kept in touch with office personnel and committee via frequent e-mail contact
- I. Professional Studies and StandardsKaren Feathers
- critiqued the IRA Draft Standards for Reading Professionals
 - held 4 meetings via conference call to critique the IRA Draft Standards
 - developed a power point presentation on the IRA Draft Standards
 - presented the critique of the IRA Draft Standards at the January meeting of the Michigan Alliance of Reading Professors
 - processing a written critique based on the presentation
 - initiating Study Groups through the MRA website (on hold until the development of the MRA website. It is hoped to begin with topics from the MRA 2010 conference)
- J. Public Relations (Publicity).....Patti Graham

- initiated “Constant Contact”, an email newsletter service that provides informal newsletter information to entire MRA membership. Three issues were sent via email system in December 2009, January 2010, and February 2010, highlighting the 2010 conference, but also local council news, international work, and other special interest items.
- Established a procedure for publication of Constant Contact, from writing of articles, editing, approval, and transmission to membership.
- obtained approval of MRA Board in October 2009, to subscribe to Constant Contact on a trial monthly basis. After first two editions, MRA Board approved continued use of service at January, 2010 meeting. There are links to the MRA website and to contact people mentioned in all articles.
- continued assessment of the success of the Constant Contact “e-letter” includes determining the frequency of future issues, format changes as the communication evolves, and reviewing data from Constant Contact survey regarding success of mailing (opening email, deleting email, forwarding email).
- created flyers and conference publicity materials that were made available to MRA Board members and committee chairs for advertising uses with their contacts.
- created flyers and information materials for the Pre Conference Research Institute held on March 19, 2010.
- wrote press release for Detroit News and Oakland Press about student involvement at the 2010 conference.
- communicated with Devin Scillion, Detroit Television News Anchor and author, to talk about his speech at the MRA conference and to highlight positive nature of student involvement in literacy at the 2010 conference. Devin responded that possibly information about MRA will be broadcast during the week prior to the conference on the local evening newscasts on WDIV Channel 4.
- established agreement with Detroit Convention Bureau who will set up a “Welcome Station” on Friday, March 19, 2010 in the afternoon/evening at the Marriott Hotel, and Saturday, March 20, all day, in front of the Exhibition Hall. Welcome to Detroit information bags with maps, People-Mover schedules, coupons from local restaurants, the Detroit Magazine, and other materials will be available. The DCB will provide volunteers to work in the booth on both days. Contact was Rhonda Davis, Detroit Convention Bureau, 211 W. Fort Street, Detroit, MI 48226, 313-202-1800.
- wrote the 2010 conference poem used in the promotional video, and the welcome to 2010 conference video shown at the opening ceremonies Saturday, March 20. It was also used as the back of the promotional bookmark handed out at the 2009 conference.
- wrote advertising/promotional copy used in variety of publications and flyers for the 2010 conference.
- obtained decoration materials, banners, ribbons, stands, and tabletop objects for the Author’s Garden through Pat Blackwell of Party Assurance, who donated the materials and time to assist in creating the setting for the authors and illustrators at the 2010 conference.
- designed and made available to MRA Board members, “Got Literacy?” tee shirts. Thirty people purchased the shirt and plan to wear them at the 2010 conference.
- wrote poem for 2011 conference, “Pages of Tomorrow.”

K. PublicationsJen Orton

- identified committee members
- met as team in October and via email and etherpad throughout rest of year
- drafted and reorganized Action Plan (combined items 2 and 3)
- marketed publications at Upper Peninsula Reading Association Conference—action

- item #1
- will market MRA publications at 2010 annual conference through booth sales and through publications session—action item 1
- drafted initial, working version of updated and streamlined publication process—action item 2 (formerly action item 2 and 3)
- published MRA cookbook—action item 4
- published Social Studies Reading Strategies—action item 5
- working with author on updating ELP Standards publication—action item 6
- drafted disclaimer for Genre Bookmarks and decided to sell this publication at discounted price with disclaimer—Executive board later pulled the publication pending revision action item 7
- inventoried outdated publications and took one of the following actions: lowered sale price, free give away, or discard—action item 7
- updated print and web publication form—action item 8
- L. Research/Research Grant Nell Duke and Nicole Martin
 - submitted research-related items to *News and Views*
 - provided research reviews for October, 2009 issue
 - provided research reviews for January, 2010 issue
 - developed plan to provide research reviews for April, 2010 issue
 - coordinated the completion of the Helen Gill Memorial Research Grant requirements
 - drafted, sought and obtained approval for, and facilitated dissemination of the MRA Statement “Responding to the Change in MEAP Writing Administration”
 - reviewed proposed and current MRA publications upon request
 - supported a focus on research and research-based practices at the 2011 MRA Research-to-Practice Institute
 - provide representation on Research-to-Practice Institute Planning Committee
 - assisted with many aspects of Research-to-Practice Institute planning and support
- M. Student InvolvementErin Donovan
 - offered Michigan educators an opportunity for one writer per building to be published in the annual MRA Kaleidoscope publication
 - planned the Young Author Luncheon and coordinating activities for students who are published in the Kaleidoscope publication
 - publicized and promoted the procedures for participating and voting for the annual Great Lakes’ Great Books program
 - organized an ongoing reading campaign for students, teachers, and committee members to select the next collection of Great Lakes’ Great Books winners
 - shared a Reading Tips for Parents document and March (Every Month) is Reading Month document.
 - created a summary of one Michigan school’s activities throughout March is Reading Month as a model for other schools to use as an example.
 - planning to visually document one school’s March is Reading Month experience in order to provide a ‘digital story’ to be used as a mentor.
- N. Summer Literacy ConferenceHeather Jensen
 - agreed to co-chair conference with Amber White, Heather Jensen, and Jeff Beal
 - reviewed evaluations from Summer Lit. 2009 “The Art of Non-Fiction.”
 - researched possible locations for the 2010 conference decided to use Bavarian Inn in Frankenmuth as our location.
 - set the dates of July 14 and 15, 2010

- brainstormed possible presenters. We are excited to have Donalyn Miller who wrote The Book Whisperer.
 - invited Mary Bigler to start the conference off with a bang and a good laugh and she has accepted the invitation.
 - invited Michigan Authors to present at the conference and possibly co-present with classroom teachers
 - created theme : Reading and Writing for a Better World
- O. Technology/Media.....Troy Hicks
- gathered input from MRA board for revisions to MRA website to share with office staff and web developers
 - collaborated on "Constant Contact" email marketing to MRA members
 - created an MRA social network using the web-based Ning platform and welcomed members to sign up for it at the 2010 Annual Conference (<http://michiganreading.ning.com>).

Ad Hoc Committee Chairs and Appointments

- A. IRA Award of Excellence..... Sue Sharma
- gathered reports and artifacts to complete IRA Award of Excellence; mailed to IRA on Feb. 22, 2010.
- B. IRA Exemplary Reading Program Award.....Sue Sharma
- no Michigan applications were received.
- C. MRA/IRA Director of Student Membership..... Megan Howd
- had a membership drive for MRA at CMU in August.
 - promoted MRA membership at CLASS-IRA meetings and gave away free memberships
 - hosted a meeting through CLASS-IRA with Pat Gallant and Heather Jensen to give members a different outlook on membership.
 - promoted MRA and Conference to English and Education Classes around campus
 - worked on a revised student brochure
- D. MRA Literacy Advocate.....Cindy Clingman
- completed Committee Plan of Action.
 - promoted MRA membership, publications, and conference information at the MRA Leadership Workshop and local council meetings.
 - promoted MRA membership, publications, and conference information at various state level meetings: School Improvement, MAISA grant meetings, Title I meetings, ISD Leadership Network meetings, and OEAA and MDE meetings, Michigan School Testing Conference.
 - joined and represented MRA on the MASCD statewide school funding committee.
 - participated in IRA and REL webinars for updates in literacy initiatives at the federal level and it’s impact in Michigan.
 - participated and contributed to the statewide Adolescent Literacy Project (Mission Literacy).
 - participated and contributed to the statewide Response to Intervention Committee.
 - answered questions and provided information in response to MRA office inquiries.
 - attended the UPRA to promote MRA membership, publications, and annual conference.
- E. SB-CEUs Rita Maddox
- provided onsite support for Grand Valley State University student volunteers at 2009 Conference
 - maintained information desk at 2009 for participants’ questions and concerns
 - worked with Lisa Charland to order SB-CEU stamps for 2010 conference

- worked with Lisa Charland to coordinate MRA Conference SB-CEU application-to be sent to MDE mid-January 2010 (application approved February 2010)
 - communicated with Lisa Charland regarding preparation of MRA Conference SB-CEU recordkeeping booklet
 - coordinated efforts with Dr. Karen Feathers of Wayne State University to recruit student volunteers for SB-CEU assistance at conference
 - worked with Barb Jaszcz to organize volunteer database for conference
 - created schedule of assignments for 200 Wayne State University student volunteers
 - communicated with Wayne State University student volunteers regarding work assignments and responsibilities for 2010 Conference
 - communicated with Meagan Shedd of Michigan State University regarding assignments and responsibilities of MSU student volunteers at 2010 Research Conference
- F. Strategic Plan..... Dennis Graham
- identified WIG (Wildly Important Goal) – Literacy Leadership in a Digital Age
 - reached consensus that in order to reach this goal, the association needed to update website and create a more timely way of getting information to members in an electronic format
 - developed association flow chart for both posting information to the website and sending out information in a timely manner to the MRA membership
 - continued committee work with a focus on one doable goal
 - surveyed board members/membership related to attitudes about literacy/our organization
 - developed belief statements about literacy (at October board meeting) by June.
 - identified uses and audiences for beliefs
 - added Ning to website to begin dialogue around a variety of issues related to literacy
 - implemented Constant Contact to provide monthly information to membership
 - connecting with universities to get information to them
 - discussed ideas about changes to News & Views (with Victoria and Troy)
 - assembling and creating MRA listserv based on database
 - exploring other content and delivery of News & Views
 - informed membership of changes
 - exploring creation of professional learning community or study group (Take and Talk)
 - reviewing and developing job descriptions for the MRA board, committee chairs and Local Councils
 - outlining and creating a flow chart of how the MRA Organization works, and who to contact for specific information
 - developed and sent out survey related to Friday night meeting time and Saturday board meeting format

Other:

- A. Past Presidents’ Legacy Fund..... Nancy Seminoff
- awarded two recipients a 2009 MRA Past Presidents’ Legacy Fund Beginning Teacher Professional Development Grant sponsored by MEEMIC Insurance Company upon the recommendation of the PPLF Conference Grants Committee to attend the 2009 MRA Annual Conference and, through a drawing at the 2009 MRA Annual Conference, awarded registration for one beginning teacher to attend the MRA Summer Literacy Conference;
 - met the conference grant recipients at the 2009 MRA Annual Conference, where they were acknowledged also at a General Session by the MRA leadership;

- provided an exhibit at the 2009 MRA Annual Conference and shared information through a variety of conference venues;
- continued an agreement with MEEMIC Insurance Company to award successful applicants the MRA Past Presidents’ Legacy Fund Beginning Teacher Professional Development Grant Sponsored by MEEMIC Insurance Company for the 2010 MRA Annual Conference. MEEMIC is the sole sponsor of these awards that provide each recipient with conference registration and a one-year MRA membership. Beginning teachers (new teachers) are defined as in their first three years of teaching.
- welcomed Zaner-Bloser Company as a corporate sponsor of the MRA Past Presidents’ Legacy Fund Professional Development Grant for an Educator in a New Professional Role to attend the 2010 MRA Annual Conference;
- approved seven recipients for the MRA Past Presidents’ Legacy Fund Beginning Teacher Professional Development Grant Sponsored by MEEMIC Insurance Company, and three recipients for the MRA Past Presidents’ Legacy Fund Professional Development Grant for an Educator in a New Professional Role Sponsored by Zaner-Bloser Company to attend the 2010 MRA Annual Conference;
- met as a PPLF Board of Directors: March in Grand Rapids, June 2008 in Auburn Hills, September in DeWitt, and November in Mackinaw City;
- provided an exhibit at the Upper Peninsula Reading Conference in October and at the Upper Peninsula Special Education Conference in February to disseminate information;
- completed a 2009 Annual Report for distribution to current and potential donors, corporate sponsors, and special friends of MRA PPLF, and acknowledged the generous support of donors;
- continue to work closely with the MRA Board of Directors and Office Staff to disseminate information through the MRA website, *News & Views*, and at MRA Board meetings.

B. Great Lakes Great Books.....Lynette Suckow

- met with GLGB committee to select titles for the 2010/2011 ballot
- counted votes to determine 2010 winning titles
- coordinated with MRA office for new GLGB promotional packets
- contacted Perma-Bound with information for 2010/2011 posters
- contacted publishers of winning titles
- contacted publishers of titles on new ballot
- coordinated with MRA office for sale of GLGB titles at 2010 conference
- prepared display of GLGB winners for MRA conference
- requested commitments from committee members for 2010/2011
- started new reading list for book nominations
- sent articles to *News & Views* for year-round GLGB promotion
- answered questions about the GLGB program by e-mail and post.

IV. Discussion Items

A. MRA Strategic Plan.....Dennis Graham

The committees met 4 times during the year to identify MRA’s Wildly Important Goal (WAG). Several highlights were mentioned including NING, Constant Contact, and the *News & Views*. (See 2009-2010 Strategic Planning Summary handout for more information)

B. Literacy Advocacy Role.....Cindy Clingman

Several partnerships were established with other organizations.

MRA was represented on the MDE OEAA Advisory Team and on the State Literacy Leadership Team.

Materials were distributed for MRA membership, publications, and events promoted. (See Literacy Advocacy for MRA (2009-2010) handout for more information.)

V. Action Item

A. 2009 Election

The candidates for the 2010 election were presented:

- Vice President—Grace Velchansky
- Member at Large (1 year)—Dennis Graham
- Member at Large (3 year)—Amber White and Laura Pardo
- Region 3 Representative—Kathy Munger and Linda Winslow
- Region 6 Representative—Barb Jasczc
- Region 8 Representative—Roslyn Shadid and Clodie Martin
- Region 10 Representative—Heather Jensen

02-10 Terry Pawl, on behalf of the Election Committee, offered the motion to accept the 2010 Election results. Motion approved.

As proxy for the membership, Terry Pawl, MRA Secretary, accepted the ballot count completed by the Election Committee on March 20, 2010 and reported the results of the 2009-2010 Election. The results were:

- Vice President—Grace Velchansky
- Member at Large—Dennis Graham
- Member at Large—Amber White
- Region 3 Representative—Kathy Munger
- Region 6 Representative—Barb Jasczc
- Region 8 Representative—Roslyn Shadid
- Region 10 Representative—Heather Jensen

03-10 Terry Pawl offered the motion to hold the election ballots for 60 days and at the end of 60 days destroy them. Dee Halstead seconded. Motion approved.

VI. Announcements

- A. MRA 2010 Update.....Pat Gallant
 - The conference co-chairs were thanked and commended for a successful conference.
 - The conference ran smoothly (as of today) with a solid number of attendees—Pre Conference (372), Conference (2300). The active membership count is currently 4500.
- B. Summer Literacy Conference.....Heather Jensen
 - “Reading and Writing for a Better World” will be held on July 14-15, 2010 at the Bavarian Inn Lodge & Conference Center. Participants were encouraged to attend and bring friends.
- C. MRA Awards from the International Reading Association.....Pat Gallant
 - Award of Excellence--Pat Gallant thanked Sue Sharma for her leadership in attaining this award.
 - IRA Advocacy Award--Pat Gallant thanked Cindy Clingman for her leadership in attaining this award.
- D. Other:
 - NING pictures--Look online at michiganreading.ning.com for pictures.
 - President’s Reception--Everyone was invited to Pat Gallant’s suite at 9 on Sunday night.
 - Made in Michigan Reception—Everyone was reminded to attend by Erin Donovan.
 - MRA award recipients were announced at the Past Presidents Dinner:
 - Literacy Award (Agency/Institution)—Muskegon ISD Reading Workshop

(Sally Kahlo, Toni Ertzinger, Okeelah McBride, Linda Fox, Erin Brown, Tammy Peterson, and Tia Peterson)
Literacy Award (Individual)—Lynette Marten Suckow
Teacher Educator Award—Martha Page
Gwen Frostic Award—Patricia Polacco

VII. Adjournment at 4:20 P.M.

04-10 Mary Howell offered the motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathy Operhall seconded. Motion approved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Terry Pawl