

The Reading Edge

The Newsletter of the Duval County Reading Council

August 2009

duvalreadingcouncil.org

Duval County Reading Council 2009-2010 Meeting Calendar

General Membership Meetings: Please visit the website for updates on the upcoming programs.

Thurs., September 24th

Location: Schultz Center
Time: 6:00 P.M.

Thurs., October 22nd

Location: Schultz Center
Time: 6:00 P.M.

Thurs., November 19

Location: Schultz Center
Time: 6:00 P.M.

Special Events

**Florida Reading Association Conference
September 10th through 13th**

DUVAL COUNTY
READING COUNCIL
BOARD OF
DIRECTORS
2008 - 2009

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Dama Dunnington

BY-LAWS
Cora Reed

FRA CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD
Anne Draper

NOMINATING &
FRA DISTRICT DIRECTOR, AREA V
Denise N. Pedro

LEGISLATIVE LIASION
Katy Kearson

PAST PRESIDENT
Sue Lauzon

2009-2010 Florida Reading Association's Children's Book Award

Looking for some exciting new titles? The Florida Reading Association's Children's Book Award Titles are out for this year and there are some wonderful stories to share with your students this year.

<http://www.flreads.org/>

A Seed is Sleepy
by Dianna Hutts Aston

Grace for President
by Kelly DiPucchio

Help Me, Mr. Mutt!
by Janet Stevens and
Susan Stevens Crummel

I Know an Old Teacher
by Anne Bowen

Listen to the Wind
by Greg Mortenson and
Susan L. Roth

One
by Kathryn Otoshi

Thea's Tree
by Alison Jackson

Candy Cole, Community Service Project

Special thanks to all of you who contributed books to *Reading*, our traveling cat's, book box last year. *Reading* promoted reading throughout Duval County during the 2008-09 school year. When the year ended the 70+ new or gently used books donated by you were distributed throughout the county. It was difficult to decide where to donate, but *Reading* had places in mind. He thought of the *purrfect* place many children go when they are feeling sad or hurt. That's right! Your contributions now reside in urgent care centers across Duval County, as well as Nemours, and the Ronald McDonald House. The label inside each book tells parents that the book was given by the Duval County Reading Council. Our website is also listed so parents can easily learn more about you who are making a difference in the lives of children each and every day. I can tell you that even the most stressed looking office worker had a smile on her face when I told her that the DCRC wanted to donate books to their waiting room. Most even said, "What a great idea!" If you were unable to donate last year, don't worry. We plan to begin all over again. As you know nothing looks worse than a well loved book. I'm sure these books will be loved to shreds and will need to be replaced yearly. Thanks again for your support!! Our Duval County Reading Council has the most giving members!



President's Message.....

I feel as though in June, I must have boarded a time-travel machine that dropped me off in August in the blink of an eye. Summer seemed to rocket by as I enjoyed reading several books for pleasure (I highly recommend Jane Hamilton's The Book of Ruth) and excitedly began making plans for the 2009-2010 school year.

Our theme for Duval County Reading Council this year is "Literacy: the Final Frontier". If there are any "Trekkies" out there, you might recognize the catchphrase. I chose this theme thinking that as we embark upon a school year where we will see the calendar flip to 2010, it all sounds very futuristic to me. I also know that many of us have been in this profession long enough to observe how our teaching has evolved with ever-changing technology. We need to dedicate ourselves to integrating technology with our instruction to keep pace with our students who are digital "natives". I believe powerful literacy instruction that meets the needs of all of our learners truly is a final frontier. Despite classrooms with dedicated literacy professionals, cutting-edge technology and research-based best practices, we still have students that are not literate in the critical ways they must be to compete in this 21st century workforce. So we're still searching for the ways to best meet our students' needs. We are still explorers in this frontier called literacy.

Jill Newhouse
President

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Did you know you can access Reading Council newsletters and other council information on our website at duvalreadingcouncil.org? It's worth checking out.