WSRC President’s Message

Hello Wyoming State Reading Council members,

I hope everyone is enjoying the school year and that literacy is still a priority in your daily lives! I’d like to introduce myself. My name is Becky Davis and I teach first grade at Sunset Elementary in Cody, Wyoming. I have been very involved with our local reading council and now I’m looking forward to getting to know people and to help promote literacy through WSRC.

I’m hearing about things that our local councils are doing throughout our state. Please take time to drop an email to Valli Dobbin, our secretary. She does a fantastic job with our WSRC newsletter and will share these ideas and activities so we will all benefit from one another. J

Our state’s Young Authors Celebration was fabulous! George Vlastos did a beautiful job organizing this event in Casper and honoring each writer in attendance! He took time to truly recognize and value each author as an individual. It was quite moving to see the kids/authors so proud of their work! Tina Krejci coordinated and organized the state judging for Young Authors. She gathered judges in Worland this year. Her meticulous record keeping and organization skills were key to ensuring that the Young Authors Contest ran smoothly! Thank you both for your leadership and thanks to EVERYONE for encouraging and helping students get involved with writing!

Teresa Massey, our web master, works hard to keep information updated! Young Authors information for this year is already posted on the WSRC website. Check the website for information. If you still have questions please email any board member. Our emails are on the website.

The WSRC needs board members. We are a bunch of really nice people who all believe in supporting and promoting literacy. We are all volunteers and we share the workload. We need a vice-president. If you are at all interested or know of someone who would like this office please email me. J

Please keep in mind:

* Young Authors’ judges will be needed this spring.
* Please contact Pam Jackson in Cody, WY if your council would like to sell tickets for our International Quilt Raffle.
* ILA is making changes as to how state reading councils are affiliated. More info coming as we transition through this process.
* WSRC winter meeting- date/place will be posted on website

Thanks to all for continuing to promote literacy for students and adults across Wyoming.

Sincerely,
Becky Davis
Wyoming State Reading Council President
This adorable quilt was pieced together by Joan Anderson (Casper, Gillette and OK) and quilted by Belle Temple (Gillette) exclusively for the WSRC International Project chaired by Pam Jackson (Cody Council). It reflects the title of the book October Sky by Homer Hickam, originally titled Rocket Boys. The story takes place in a coal mining town in West Virginia and it reflects the purpose of our project—to support the library of Jenkins Middle school, located in the Appalachian community of Jenkins, Kentucky.
Jenkins is a coal mining town with a depressed economy. A rural community of about 2,500 people, the majority of whom have a high school education, with very few having a college degree. We can certainly relate to the issues with coal in our state also, and the resulting economic fallout. By uniting our passion for reading and the desire to help others, we would like to purchase some new books for the Jenkins Middle School Library, and you will have an opportunity to win this quilt in our summer drawing. The Frog and Toad quilt from last year was won by Cindy Jackelen from Buffalo. Congratulations Cindy! If you would like a chance to win the Rocket Man quilt and help a kid’s library in a depressed area of our country, please return the tickets at the end of this newsletter with your contribution to Pam Jackson in Cody.
Wyoming First Lady’s Leaders in Literacy Award  
2016-2017 Recipient: Teton Literacy Center

The mission of the Teton Literacy Center is to change lives through the power of literacy in its community. The TLC focuses on family literacy through prevention, intervention, and environment programs. The Teton Literacy Center will receive $4000 for their organization. The Wyoming State Reading Council would like to congratulate the Teton Literacy Center.

Dr. Dana Robertson, WSRC State Coordinator, would like to invite you to nominate an individual, organization, or community that exemplifies a commitment to encouraging Literacy in Wyoming. The deadline for electronic submissions is October 1, 2017. Please use the following link:

http://www.uwyo.edu/education/lrcc/awards%20and%20grants/leaders-in-literacy-award.html

Dana A. Robertson, Ed.D.  
Executive Director and Assistant Professor  
Literacy Research Center and Clinic  
Dept. of Elementary and Early Childhood Education  
College of Education  
University of Wyoming
The WSRC would like to congratulate the winners of the Young Author awards in poetry, fiction and nonfiction.

A huge thank you goes out to Tina Krejci from the Washakie Reading Council for directing the judging and for taking on the responsibility for sorting and mailing all the submissions.

Thank you also to George Vlastos, Casper Reading Council, for preparing for and hosting the celebration.

Thank you to all those members and colleagues of Tina and George for their support of the Young Author’s program.
Raffle Quilt
Wyoming State Reading Council
1 for $1.00 or 6 for $5.00

NAME: ______________________________________________________

ADDRESS:____________________________________________________
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Please Mail to Pam Jackson, 2407 Central Ave. Cody, WY 82414