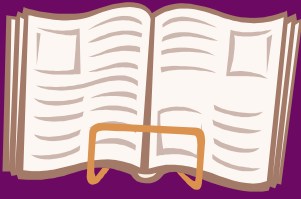


SEPTEMBER 2003



THE ELPASO READING COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL READING ASSOCIATION

The Lectern

President's Message

Welcome Back to School!

The El Paso Reading Council Executive Board has been working hard to bring the best of reading to our members. I would like to thank all board members for their commitment and professionalism in performing their duties.

The Recipe to Succeed... READ is our theme for the 2003-2004 school year. This theme has provided me the opportunity to prepare a menu of events that will address different strands of reading. We kick off the year on September 11 with Dr. Steven Layne. His message "Read to Change Yourself, Write to Change the World: Literacy Lessons for a Lifetime" will enlighten us to begin the year with the efficacy to charge forward. In October Erminda Garcia will provide us "Avenues of TAKS Writing Success for All Students." Edward Bloor, coming in November, will show us the realities of assessment and how we can rise to the occasion. Struggling Readers will be the focus for J. David Cooper. He will be our January speaker. To honor teachers we will have Dr. Kathy Escamilla as our speaker for our April dinner meeting. It is a menu of outstanding individuals who bring a wealth of recipes to our council.

In addition to our dinner meetings we will have a series of institutes for superintendents and administrators. These institutes will provide our leaders a wealth of information in regards to literacy development. Our first one will be on October 17 and will feature Dr. Margarita Calderon, Research Scientist/Director, El Paso Center for Research on the Education of Students Placed at Risk, John Hopkins University. Her topic will address "Teaching Reading to English Language Learners at K-12." She will also include the following in her presentation: What we know from scientific research, applying program features, instructional strategies and conclude with elements of effective staff development designs. Dr. Calderon is currently on the National Literacy Panel for Language Minority Children and Youth. The remaining three institutes will be announced in the next issue.

I would also like to mention our Newsletter. "Bit & Bytes" will feature websites for teachers. "Appetizers" will provide mini-lessons. "The Book Nook" is a section of our newsletter devoted to book reviews. And you can look forward to many other articles submitted by our membership. We hope it will be an informative and useful newsletter.

My best wishes for a successful school year and I know that all students will receive recipes of success throughout the year!

Sincerely,

Eliza Simental
President





The El Paso Reading Council held the Annual Membership Drive at the Ysleta Cultural Arts Center on August 14, 2003. Attendees enjoyed food, door prizes and the time to network with other



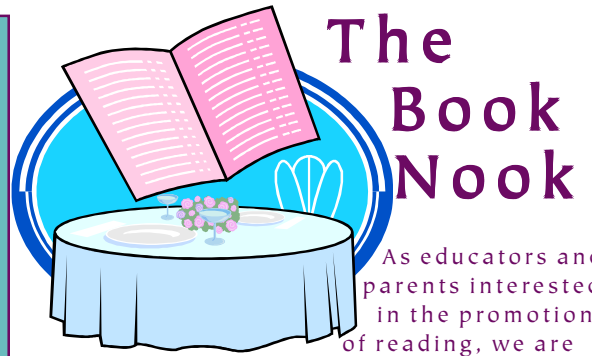
The event was a success! Bringing together teachers, administrators and other professionals who are committed to enriching our literacy community.



Members of the Executive Board address the group. Eliza Simental, president, introduces Susan Erbe from Educational Sales. Those campus representatives who were unable to attend will receive their

2003-2004 EPRC Board and Committees

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TSRA Development Specialist	Patricia Carrington	Patriciaann520@aol.com	434-4439
Newspaper in Education/	Anna Piña	annapina@hotmail.com	764-3711
Read Across America			



The Book Nook

As educators and parents interested in the promotion of reading, we are always on the lookout for good books and stimulating reading materials for our children. A wonderful source for a wide variety of quality current books for children and young people may be found in the reading lists put out annually by the Texas Library Association.



The Texas Library Association sponsors four different reading lists for children aged two through high school. These lists contain titles of some of the best new literature being published for children today. The 2X2 Reading List provides recommended titles for children from age two through second grade; the Texas Bluebonnet Award focuses on third through sixth grade students; the Lone Star list is for sixth through eighth grade students; and Tayshas is geared to high school students. This article and those in subsequent newsletters will feature books from the 2003-2004 Bluebonnet list.



Corrections: Our previous issue incorrectly listed Dee Cramer's email address. Her corrected email address is deewcramer@aol.com Our Webmaster's name is Dr. Robert Walshe.

The Lectern is published four times a year (*September, November, January & April*) by the El Paso Reading Council of the International Reading Association. Comments and information may be sent to Christina Lara, P.O. Box 972684, El Paso, Texas 79997 by phone, 972-3920 or email, chlara@seisd.net.

Although the Bluebonnet program targets third through sixth graders, you will find that many of the books on the list are great for younger children, and some are terrific for middle school students as well.



The Texas Bluebonnet Award reading program was established in 1979. Its stated purpose is "to encourage Texas children to read more books, explore a variety of current books, develop powers of discrimination, and identify their favorite books." Each year the program puts out a list of 20 book titles which Texas students are invited to read. Then all third through sixth graders who have read, or have had read to them, at least five of the books on the list may vote in January for their favorite. The votes of all eligible students in Texas are tabulated, and the winner is announced. This year provision has been made for home-schooled students to participate as well.



The Bluebonnet list contains books of fiction, nonfiction, biography, and poetry. About a third of them are chapter books, and the rest are picture books. Accelerated Reader quizzes are available for all of the books on the list, and this year the AR reading levels range from 3.9 (Toasting Marshmallows: Camping Poems by Kristine George) to 6.9 (Bull's-Eye: A Photobiography of Annie Oakley by Sue Macy).



You can find more information about these reading lists and the reading programs by going to <http://www.txla.org/html/reading.html>.



Ask your school or public librarian if your library has the books on these lists. Then sit back and enjoy some quality reading time with the children in your life!

Submitted by
Nancy Williams, Librarian
Josefa L. Sambrano Elementary
San Elizario ISD



Dr. Steven Layne

"Read to Change Yourself, Write to Change the World: Literacy Lessons for a Lifetime"

Sponsored by EPRC and Pearson Learning

EPRC Dinner Meeting

Bosses' Night

September 11, 2003 at the Marriott.

Tickets are

\$24 for EPRC members

\$48 for nonmembers

Deadline for reservations is

September 4, 2003

MENU

Iced Tea with Lemon Wedges

Rolls and Butter

Fresh Garden Salad

Smoked Chicken Penne Pasta

Fresh Vegetable Medley

Cheesecake with Raspberry Sauce

Regular or Decaffeinated Coffee

Tea

Social hour 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Reservations Deadline is

September 4, 2003

fax, 852-6377

email, eprcreservations@yahoo.com

phone, 593-8314

Please note: no reservations accepted after deadline because of arrangements with hotel. Make reservations early as there is a 600 person capacity



Menu of Events

Bosses' Night
September 11, 2003
at the Marriott

**Pre-Conference
Institute**
October 17, 2003
Marriott hotel

**EPRC Literacy
Conference**
October 18, 2003 at
the Marriott

**Newspapers in
Education**
November 8, 2003

Librarians' Night
November 13, 2003
at the Marriott

Leaders' Night
January 22, 2004 at
the Marriott

Teachers' Night
April 22, 2004 at the
Marriott

**31st Annual TSRA
Conference**
March 4-6, 2004
Corpus Christi, Texas

**49th Annual IRA
Convention**
May 2-6, 2004



A special thanks goes out to
Pearson Learning for
cosponsoring **Dr. Steven
Layne.**

Thank you
Laura McDonald
Shelly Thompson
Joey Rovira

Award Winning Recipes

Outstanding Progress in Reading Award

Submitted by Phyllis Sully, EPRC Awards Chairperson

Welcome back EPRC members. EPRC will be presenting the Outstanding Progress in Reading Award at each of our dinner meetings in the school year 2003-2004.

Recognizing the importance of teacher and parents working together with the student to ensure their progress in reading, EPRC will honor a student that has overcome many obstacles to become a successful reader. The student will receive a \$50 check plus a plaque and the teacher will receive a check for \$100 and a certificate.

EPRC, in collaboration with the student's school, will ensure that the student, teacher and parents are guests at our dinner meeting when the award will be presented. Students nominated may be from the past school year or from the current school year. A teacher at any grade level may nominate a student for this Award, but the teacher must be both a local and state Reading Association member.

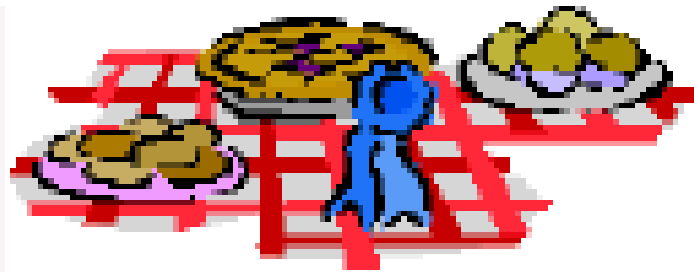
Each building representative will have copies of the nomination form. The deadline for September nominations is August 29, 2003.

April 2003 winner for Outstanding Reading Award:

Student: Diana Lujan 3rd Grade
School: Frank Macias Elementary
Teacher: Claudia Ureño-Olivas

April 2003 Professional Development Scholarship Award:

Teacher: Jennifer Jones



The Celebrate Literacy Award

Submitted by Susie Frescas, Celebrate Literacy Chairperson

Do you or someone you know have the perfect recipe to succeed in reading? If so, the El Paso Reading Council of the IRA would like to recognize you with the Celebrate Literacy Award! This award is an award locally implemented by the El Paso Reading Council as a way to recognize innovative, quality instruction of reading or contributions to the enhancement of literacy. Candidates for this award may be considered in one of the following areas:

1. direct teaching at any level
2. organizing local literacy programs
3. promoting support from the public relative to enhance literacy
4. producing teaching materials or special media for literacy programs
5. conducting research in fields related to literacy
6. conducting special surveys of importance for literacy planning
7. providing young people the opportunity to help in literacy activities
8. conducting informal educational activities of a social, cultural, economic, or political nature in which literacy activities are included

Please go to our web site, <http://members.aol.com/elpasoir>, to download a Celebrate Literacy nomination form or email Sfrescas@aol.com for more information. Nominations will be accepted through October.

The perfect blend of ingredients to succeed in reading will be recognized at the January 22, 2004 dinner meeting. Provecho!

Bits and Bytes

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/ayp/index.html>

2003 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Status for Districts and Campuses will be available Sept 10. The AYP Guide will be online Sept 2.

<http://www.tsra.us>

The Texas State Reading Association has a new address.

www.ncela.gwu.edu

This website is a great resource for teachers of bilingual

students. It is the website of the National clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition on Language Instruction Educational Programs.

<http://www.kidsreads.com>

Treasure trove of resources on popular kids' books. Grade Level: K-2, 3-5, 6-8

<http://members.aol.com/elpasoir/>

Have you seen the new EPRC website?

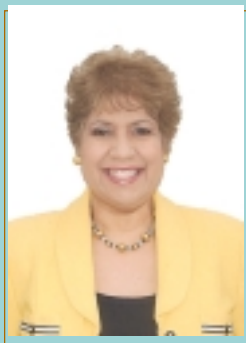
El Paso Reading
Council
P.O. Box 972684
El Paso, Texas 79997

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elpasoir](http://members.aol.com/elpasoir)

AGENDA



**Pre-Conference
Institute
October 17, 2003
Marriott hotel
8:30 am - 1:00 pm**
*Audience:
Area Superintendents
and Principals*

Teaching Reading to English Language Learners at K-12

Margarita Calderón, Ph.D.
Research Scientist/ Director, El Paso Center
for Research on the Education of Students Placed
at Risk, Johns Hopkins University

EPRC members: \$60

EPRC nonmembers: \$90

Mail your completed registration form to

El Paso Reading Council

P.O. Box 972684

El Paso, Texas 79997

*Registration forms will be mailed out or
download a copy from the EPRC website.
Questions? Please call Eliza Simental 872-3920*

Morning Session: What We Know About Teaching
Reading To English Language Learners

1. What we know from scientific research:

- w The National Literacy Panel for Language
Minority Children and Youth,
- w The El Paso ISD/Socorro ISD longitudinal study
and curriculum development project on ELL's
transition from Spanish to English reading,
- w The National Institutes on Children's Health
and Development Study on Transfer of Reading
Skills in El Paso, Boston and Chicago,
- w Teaching Reading in Secondary Schools
through Science, Social Studies and Language
Arts.

2. Applying program features.

- w Hands-on activities for participants

3. Applying some instructional strategies.

- w Hands-on activities for participants

Luncheon Presentation: No El Paso Teacher Left
Behind!

- w Elements of Effective Staff Development
Designs,
- w Support Mechanisms for Teacher Empowerment,
- w Establishing Teachers Learning Communities in
Schools.