

Elko County Reading Council News

Elko County Reading Council News

Special points of interest:

- > Join the Elko County Reading Council!
- > Visit <http://elkoreadingcouncil.org/> for more information.

- > Visit the International Reading Association web site at <http://www.reading.org>.



Inside this issue:

Literacy Conference	1
Elko County Reading Council	1
Reading Journey	1
IRA	2
Botswana Book Project	2
Poem in Your Pocket	3
Good Reads	3
Public Library	3

Literacy for All Conference

Thank you to everyone who supported the Literacy for All conference. Participants enjoyed presentations given by Dr. Ray Reutzel on Friday and Saturday. He provided great information with a sense of humor.

Attendees also enjoyed presentations by authors Terri Farley, Suzanne Morgan Williams, and Gini Cunningham.

iPod Touches were introduced by Ralph Benkus. Cindy Plummer gave two great presentations as well as Sharon McLean and Hugh Rossolo.

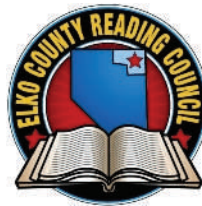
Our grand prize for attending the conference was an Amazon Kindle. David Gertson of Churchill County was the lucky winner. There were also books and a gift basket that were given away.

We look forward to another conference next year and hope to see you all there!

Elko County Reading Council

The Elko County Reading Council is in need of officers. We are looking for people who would be willing to serve in the following positions: President, Vice President, Vice President-Elect, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Membership Director.

A call of nominations is due by March 31. Please let Susan Neal know if you are interested in running for one of the positions. You can contact her at 753-5367 or sneal@elko.k12.nv.us. We would greatly appreciate your help.



West Wendover's Reading Journey

West Wendover Elementary School has been on a reading journey this year. Each student was given a passport to have stamped each month they met their goals of 400 minutes of outside-of-school reading.

Each month was dedicated to a certain destination which included Back to School, Frightening Places, Out of This World, Italy, Hawaii, On Tour, On a Safari, Mexico, and To the

Movies.

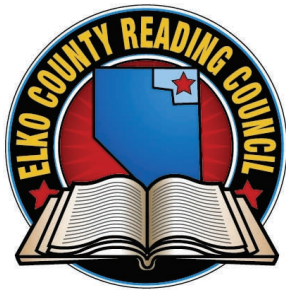
Students who met their goals were invited to participate in a special celebration that went along with the monthly themes. In February, students made shell magnets to celebrate reading about Hawaii (and anything else they read).

Passport Inspector Hagness makes monthly visits to several classrooms to award students

who've met their goals. These prizes go with the monthly themes.

The Million Minutes campaign has been successful since its beginning a few years ago. This year the students passed the 1,000,000 minute mark in late January. Our next destination: 2,000,000 minutes before the end of the year!

—Submitted by Todd Hagness



Mission Statement:

- ⇒ To promote literacy in the community on an ongoing basis.
- ⇒ To further the awareness of reading to the public through media.

Elko County Reading Council

- ⇒ Promotes local literacy projects
- ⇒ Professional development for educators
- ⇒ Reading events for children
- ⇒ Developing a lifelong love of reading

International Reading Association

The International Reading Association has started a project entitled "1,000 Lights for Literacy". This fund empowers teachers to make positive change by giving large grants to teachers to power classroom literacy programs. Grants will be awarded each year for amazing and bold literacy programs created by classroom teachers. Pulling together, donors can make a tremendous impact in our communities round the world. The fund seeks \$1,000

donations from 1,000 individuals or groups, raising \$1 million in a year. The interest generated from the \$1 million endowment will fund large grants (\$10,000 or greater) in the literacy field. Donors will vote on how the earnings from the endowment are spent.

You can make a personal donation or gather a group—local reading councils, schools, clubs—any group of people interested in helping teachers



can participate in the fund. For more information, contact IRA's Director of Development, Barbara Teter, by phone at 800-336-7323, ext. 480 or by bteter@reading.org.

Botswana Book Project

The Botswana Book Project was formed in 1998 by Pam Shelton to answer the immediate library needs of northern Botswana. Since then it has served as a catalyst for literacy and library development throughout the country. Approximately 330,000 new or like new school and library books have been distributed throughout Botswana by this project.

You can help with this project by contributing to the shipping costs, donating books, and/or supporting Bana Ba Metsi school.

For more information about this great project visit <http://botswanabookproject.org/index.html>.



Poem in Your Pocket

Take a day for poetry this April, and join the Academy of American Poets in celebrating the third national Poem in Your Pocket Day, during National Poetry Month. The idea is simple: select a poem, pocket it, carry it, and share it with family, friends, and coworkers throughout the day.

Keep a favorite poem in your

pocket to read during the day at your local park, library, school, workplace, or bookstore. Organize your own event for Poem in Your Pocket Day. Print or email poems from a selection on Poets.org, or tear and share poems from the Academy's Poem in Your Pocket anthology. For more ideas and pocket poems, Visit poets.org/pocket.



Good Reads

Here are a just a few names of books that teachers are reading and enjoying.

- ◆ Close Encounters of the Third-Grade Kind. Thoughts on Teacherhood by Phillip Done—A great book about the life of a teacher and it's full of laughs!
- ◆ Left to Tell: Discovering God

Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust by Immaculee Ilibagiza—Amazing what people are going through right now in the world while the rest of us get up and go to work and carry about our usual business!

- ◆ Crossroads Café by Deborah Smith—Two damaged people find love

and redemption.

- ◆ The Help by Kathryn Stockett—This book is set during the nascent civil rights movement in Jackson, Mississippi, where black women were trusted to raise white children but not to polish the household silver.



Elko County Library

The Elko County Public Library is hosting an after school program called "Let's Go Play Legos!" The program will take place each Wednesday in March (March 3, 10, 17, 24,31) from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. It is a free program for all ages, no registration is needed, and the library will supply the Legos.

On March 19 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. the library will be celebrating Big Bird's 41st birthday with games, a craft, and birthday cake. Children and adults are encouraged to drop by the library during that hour to participate in the fun and sign Big Bird's big birthday card.

During Spring Break, the library will offer activities each day in conjunction with the celebration "El Dia de Los Niños, El Dia de los Libros." Watch for more details and a schedule of activities, or contact the library at 775-738-3066.

—Submitted by Mary Jo King



"No matter how busy you may think you are, you must find time for reading, or surrender yourself to self-chosen ignorance."

—Confucius

Don't forget to visit your school or local library! Support the Bookmobile!



We are on the web!

Visit our website at
[http://
elkoreadingcouncil.org](http://elkoreadingcouncil.org)

The Elko County Reading Council (ECRC) is a local non-profit organization whose mission it is to promote literacy in the communities in which we live and work.

Membership opens the door to collaborative projects, networking, grant opportunities, and professional development.

Silver State Reading Council

The Silver State Reading Council is in need of state officers. We desperately need your help! We are looking for people who would be willing to serve in the following positions: President-elect, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Membership Director, and State Coordinator.

If we can't find people to serve the council we are in danger of losing our Silver State Reading Council.

Please let Susan Neal know if you might be interested in one of the positions. You can contact her at 753-5367 or sneal@elko.k12.nv.us. She can fill you in on what the duties are for the position you are interested in.

Elko County Reading Council Board 2009-2010

President: Beth Kern

Vice President: Susan Neal

Treasurer: Chris Back

Secretary: Cheryl Porter

Membership: Robbie Nickel



If you are interested in becoming a member of the Elko County Reading Council please contact Robbie. We want and need your support!

If you are interested in becoming a board member please let one of us know. We need board members for next year!

