



# Newsletter

Fall, 2006

## Special Interest Articles:

- Join GWRC
- Fall Conference
- International Literacy Project

IRA 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference

Virginia State Reading Association

40th Annual Conference

March 15-17, 2007

Roanoke, Virginia

[www.vsra.org](http://www.vsra.org)

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.gwrc.net](http://www.gwrc.net)

## A Letter from Your President

Dear Members,

Welcome back to another school year! How exciting it is for us all to be back together again and to have the chance to share with each other a common goal – that of spreading literacy learning to all!

As we get to start fresh, it is also a chance to stop and reflect on things that are truly important to each of us. One of the cornerstones and missions of the Greater Washington Reading Council is to provide the opportunity for you to share with colleagues. We promise to provide you with as many opportunities to do this as possible throughout this coming year. The first chance for you to do this is at our annual Fall Conference. Carl Anderson will provide you with many opportunities to think in new ways, challenge your thinking about the way you teach writing, and provide you with practical ideas to take back to your classrooms. We are so excited to have the chance to bring him to you!

As the year goes on, look for new and different ways that we can help you bring literacy and learning into your classrooms and into your students lives. Most of all, keep sharing and learning with those around you!

Sincerely,

Annette Lauber

# Nominate...

Someone you know for GWRC's Reading Teacher or Administrator of the Year! Visit [www.GWRC.net](http://www.GWRC.net) for more information.



### 2006 – 2007 Membership Application

Enjoy the professional rewards of membership in this affiliate of the Virginia State Reading Association (VSRA). **Benefits in Greater Washington Reading Council** include:

- Reduced rates for conferences
- Membership in the Virginia State Reading Association
- GWRC and VSRA journals and newsletters
- Eligibility for GWRC and VSRA scholarships and professional development grants
- Other professional opportunities such as After School Specials, Family Literacy Events, Teacher Research Support Groups
- Supports outreach programs at daycare centers, hospitals, and in developing countries

**To join GWRC for the 2006-2007 year, complete the form below and mail with a check for \$25 payable to GWRC (include current address and phone number on check) to:**

Gail Schwarz  
GWRC  
P.O. Box 5  
Fairfax Station, VA 22039

Visit GWRC's website:  
[www.gwrc.net](http://www.gwrc.net)



### Greater Washington Reading Council Virginia State Reading Association Membership Form September 1, 2006 – August 31, 2007



For Office Use Only  
# \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete all information to insure that you are registered and will receive all state information. (IRA Council #51200)

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Council you are joining: Greater Washington Reading Council

New Member    Renewing Member   Type of Membership:    Professional (\$25.00)    Student (\$14.00)

Dual (\$3.00 member of more than one council) Which Council: \_\_\_\_\_

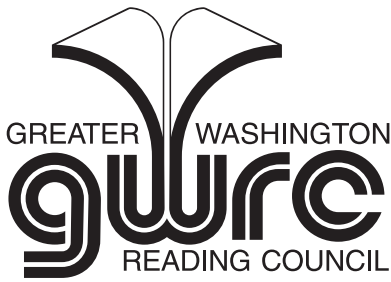
I would be interested in joining the Secondary Reading Council    (\$3.00 additional)

International Reading Association Member?    Yes    No   If yes, list IRA Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

School Division/University \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

I would be interested in helping with a:    Conference    Committee

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO GWRC**



**Greater Washington  
Reading Council**

**announces...**

## **Fall Conference 2005**

**featuring Carl Anderson**

Author of:  
*How's It Going* and  
*Assessing Writing*

**Please join us Thursday, November 9, 2006 from 8:30-3:30 for a day of literacy and learning and Leave with field tested and practical ideas to make the writer's workshop sparkle through links between effective assessing, conferring, and teaching.**

- Registration and vendor sales will begin at 7:30 AM (40-50 vendors are expected with lots of books and samples for you to explore)
- Continental Breakfast and networking before the conference begins!
- GWRC Teacher of the Year and Administrator of the Year Awards
- Buffet-style gourmet luncheon in the Waterford Ballroom with several choices (vegetarian entrée included)

Visit <http://gwrc.net/> for GWRC membership application and more details!

**\*REGISTRATION FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE**

**Conference Registration (Please Print)**  
**Registration Deadline: Wednesday, November 1**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone # (H) \_\_\_\_\_

(W) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: (mandatory) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate category for registration:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$80 non-member\*

\_\_\_\_\_ \$65 member\*

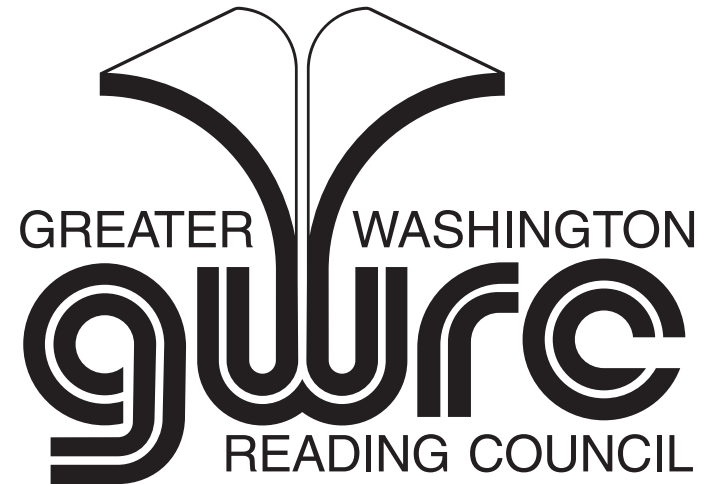
\_\_\_\_\_ \$55 full-time student that is not under professional contract\*

Send your check and this form to: GWRC Conference  
C/O AMEE SHEA  
London Towne ES  
6100 Stone Road  
Centreville, VA 20120

**Checks should be made payable to GWRC**

If you wish to also register to become a member please send the membership form to the separate PO Box listed on the membership form. You may register at the member rate now for the conference while simultaneously becoming a member of GWRC and your recent membership application will be verified for the conference.

**\*REGISTRATION FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE**



## **Fall Conference**

**Thursday, November 9, 2006**  
**Waterford at Fair Oaks**

**Featured Speaker: Carl Anderson**

**Literacy Vendors and Professional Book  
Sales Available**

**(GWRC book sales will accept cash or  
check only)**

# Carl Anderson

Author of:  
*How's It Going* and  
*Assessing Writing*

**Carl Anderson** is currently an education consultant and writer. He recently worked for Teachers College Reading and Writing Project at Columbia University as a Lead Staff Developer, providing staff development in the teaching of writing for teachers grades K-8. He spent school days in New York City elementary and middle schools demonstrating effective teaching in the writing workshop and coaching teachers. He gave day-long workshops for teachers at Teachers College on launching the writing workshop, conferring with student writers, mini-lessons, and developing curriculum for the writing workshop.

In his book, *How's It Going?*, Anderson leads readers through the challenging but essential terrain of learning to confer with student writers. The book includes an in-depth discussion of the teacher's role in conferences, strategies for teaching students to take an active role, ways to weave literature, mini-lessons, classroom management strategies, and responses to the most frequently asked questions about conferring.

Leave with field tested and practical ideas to make the writer's workshop sparkle through links between effective assessing, conferring, and teaching.

*a culture of trust, respect, character, rigor, common vision and love.*

## **GWRC Membership**

Membership in the Greater Washington Reading Council provides participation in conferences with other literacy professionals, includes automatic membership in the Virginia State Reading Association (VSRA), subscribes to the GWRC Journal and Reading in Virginia, provides opportunities for professional grants, supports outreach programs throughout the Northern Virginia area and gives today's classroom teachers, reading teachers and administrators a wonderful professional organizational membership opportunity. Please join today if you are not already a current member!

**Please join us on Thursday, November 9, 2006  
from 8:30-3:30 for a literacy day of learning.**

- Registration and vendor sales will begin at 7:30 AM (40-50 vendors are expected with lots of books and samples for you to explore)
- Continental Breakfast and networking before the conference begins!
- GWRC Teacher of the Year and Administrator of the Year Awards
- Buffet-style gourmet luncheon in the Waterford Ballroom with several choices (vegetarian entrée included)

**Location: Waterford at Fair Oaks  
12025 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax, VA.**

This GWRC conference location is conveniently located next to the Fair Oaks Mall near Route 50 and I-66 West. Check the website [www.waterfordatfairoaks.com](http://www.waterfordatfairoaks.com) for specific directions.

**\*REGISTRATION FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE**

**Registration Deadline: Wednesday, November 1**



Fairfax County Public Schools



**CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS  
For the GWRC *Journal***

Greater Washington Reading Council would like to revive the *Journal* for our members. The theme for the 2007 *Journal* is **"Shifting Our Thinking: How New Understandings Shape our Literacy Instruction."**

We'd like submissions that reflect how you have changed in your work and why. We all participate in professional development opportunities and work with children. Sometimes, there is an "aha" moment which changes our thinking and then our instruction. That's what we're interested in gathering for the GWRC *Journal* – articles that share what impacted you as a literacy educator.

Please consider writing an article for this new edition.

**Types of Submission**

- Descriptions of literacy programs or instructional practices;
- Results of research studies;
- Commentaries on or analyses of literacy issues;
- Profiles of or interviews with experts in the field of literacy;
- Classroom ideas on specific teaching/learning strategies and techniques;
- Stories of literacy in educational settings and incidents in authors' own lives as literate persons;
- Quotations, writings or drawings from students;
- Poetry from students or teachers about topics related to literacy learning;
- Cartoons, drawings, or photographs.

**Manuscript Form**

All manuscripts should be prepared according to the style prescribed by the fifth edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA, 2001). Because the articles are subject to a blind review the author's identity should only appear on the cover page.

**Submitting a Manuscript**

Prepare your manuscript using a word processing program. Prepare your figures and graphics using applications capable of generating high-resolution files (e.g., .tif, .eps, .jpg). After preparing your manuscript, submit it to the GWRC website at [www.gwrc.net](http://www.gwrc.net) under Submit Manuscripts.

**The Review Process**

Articles submitted to the *Journal* are reviewed anonymously (blind review) by members of the Editorial Review Board. Articles are judged primarily for their contributions to the field, usefulness to teachers, timeliness, freshness of approach, and clarity and cohesiveness of presentation. Selection also depends on editorial determination of overall balance of content in the journal.

## GWRC's International Literacy Project... A Step Towards Improved Reading Comprehension



The books have arrived!

This year, students at Chetwood Memorial Primary School in Montego Bay, Jamaica will be able to work on developing their reading comprehension skills. While students have been successful in the area of decoding, teachers had

found their comprehension to be lacking and were eager to receive support in developing this skill in students. Thanks to the generous donation from the Greater Washington Reading Council (GWRC), this summer the professional books, *Reading With Meaning* by Debbie Miller and *Strategies That Work* by Stephanie Harvey, were delivered to the school! Also provided were many sets of children's literature to accompany these wonderful resource books.



The principal and teachers were very grateful for the donation.



After further discussion with teachers this summer, it is evident that these resources were placed in the hands of dedicated, concerned teachers, and that this donation is the first step they can use to further their students' growth in the area of reading comprehension.

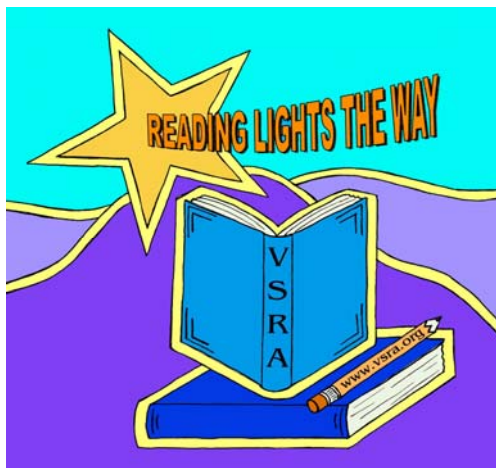


# 52nd IRA Annual Convention: Literacy Without Boundaries

Metro Toronto Convention Centre  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
May 13–17, 2007



Thousands of educators from around the world will attend the leading professional development opportunity of 2006: IRA's 52nd Annual Convention in **Toronto**, Ontario, Canada, from **May 13 to May 17**.



## Virginia State Reading Association

### 40th Annual Conference

March 15-17, 2007

Roanoke, Virginia

[www.vsra.org](http://www.vsra.org)

#### General Session speakers will be:

Linda Gambrell - Thursday afternoon, Don Leu - Friday morning, and Doris Walker Dalhouse - Friday afternoon.

#### Meal function authors will be:

Robert Sabuda, Seymour Simon, Annette Curtis Klause, and Marc Brown.

#### Featured authors and speakers include:

Jerry Pallotta, Sharon Flake, Gail Karwoski, Danny Schnitzlein, Laura Elliott, Helen Lester, John Guthrie, Michael McKenna, Maria Elena Arguelles, Debbie Miller, Nancy Polette and Laura Robb. These and many other speakers will present over 100 professional development sessions. Regular conference breakout session are from noon-5 Thursday, from 8-5 Friday and from 8-11 on Saturday. The Literacy Institutes on Thursday morning and the meal functions are costs added to the regular conference registration fee.