

President's Letter - January, 2008

35 participants heard Carla Soffos' colleague, Karen James, speak about scaffolding young writers during our September meeting at Lakeland College. We watched a compelling video of a writers' workshop at 3 different grade levels: Kindergarten, 3rd and Middle School and learned about the craft of conferencing with students at differing entry points in the process. There are still copies of Carla's books (co-written with Linda Dorn) available for purchase at the next meeting:

- Shaping Literate Minds
- Scaffolding Young Writers
- Teaching for Deep Comprehension

Please join us on Saturday, January 26 for brunch at Whispering Orchards Café (W1650 Hwy MM, Cleveland, WI) and the **WSRA** Roadshow on **RTI** - Response to Intervention panel discussion. The panel includes highly trained experts in the field of reading: Jeanne Pfeiffer, Lorraine Gerhardt and Lori Roelse to name a few. Registration begins at 10:30, a hearty brunch at 11:00 and discussion at 11:30. This promises to be a comprehensive overview of all that RTI implies for regular and special education practitioners. Bring a notebook!

Put the Annual WSRA convention on your calendar for February 7-9 at the Midwest Airlines Center in Milwaukee. This year's keynote speaker on Thursday is award-winning author, **Patricia Polacco**, and on Saturday, internationally known expert on writing craft, **Lucy Calkins**. Just go to the WSRA website to register. It's really not a year to miss!

Looking ahead to springtime, our final meeting on the lush lawn of Longfellow School in Sheboygan will feature Julie Kramer from Green Grove Kennels and her Reading Therapy Dogs. On Thursday, April 24 we will enjoy an old fashioned wiener roast beginning at 5:00.

Interlake Reading Council is filled with dedicated, creative, inspirational members. Please consider joining the executive board for a very special experience with truly extraordinary people.