



## Cultivating Professional Learning

Volume 19 Issue 3



L-R: Sandy Liberty, Margaret (Yoshi) Asuncion, visiting author Kenn Nesbitt, and Cyndy Pruski show some island spirit.

### Inside this issue:

[Kenn Nesbitt's Welcome](#)[Language Arts Conference](#)[Membership Update](#)[President's Message](#)[Themes/Calendar of Events](#)

## UOG's LANGUAGE ARTS CONFERENCE TO FOCUS ON READING AND WRITING FOR PACIFIC ISLAND STUDENTS

The University of Guam's 23rd Annual Regional Language Arts Conference (LAC) is an annual event in which Western Pacific educators are provided with opportunities for professional growth and enrichment in literacy. The conference theme is "Scaffolding Reading and Writing Instruction for Pacific Island Students."

The conference will be held Friday and Saturday, November 5 and 6, 2010 at the University of Guam and Guam Marriott Resort and Spa respectively. For more information, go to

<http://www.uog.edu/languageartsconference>.

This year's keynote speaker, Dr. Junko Yokota, is the Director of the Center for Teaching through Children's Books and Professor at National - Louis University in Chicago, Illinois. She is the author and co-author of several books, eight book chapters, several hundred thousand dollars of grants, forty journal articles, and an encyclopedia article. Yokota has given over a hundred presentations in her career, including an invited speech to the Annual Convention of the American Library Association this June. Her specialty is Asian-American language acquisition, and she was one of the co-leaders of a U.S. delegation to China focused on "Children's Literature and the Language Arts" in November 1994.

The LAC will also offer two graduate credits for those who possess at least a bachelor's degree or three CEUs for those who do not hold a degree. As part of the course requirements, students must complete the following: full attendance at the conference; classroom application of one or more of the strategies/techniques learned at the conference; write a brief reflection for each session attended; and write a five-page, typed, double-spaced paper explaining how the Language Arts Conference has increased their knowledge and understanding of using reading and writing for Pacific Island students.

Students must register for the conference before they register for the graduate credits/CEUs at the Professional International Programs, 2nd floor, MARC, Computer Center, PIP Building, Room #217. For more information, students may call 735-2601 or fax 734-1233. They may also e-mail the instructor, Dr. Matilda Naputi Rivera: [mnriviera1@yahoo.com](mailto:mnriviera1@yahoo.com).

The LAC registration fee includes the following:

\*IRA members, UOG students, presenters \$40

\*On-site registration - \$55

For additional information regarding the conference, participants/presenters may call Debbie Respcio at 735-2725 or e-mail her at [ugum.languageartsconference@yahoo.com](mailto:ugum.languageartsconference@yahoo.com)

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WHO BROUGHT NEW MEMBERS TO IRA. Pick up your MEMBERSHIP CONTEST CHITS at the Membership Table!

Abud, Brenda	Harada-Zeimer, Fumiko	O'Donnell, James
Atalig, Dolores	Laniog, Josephine	Paulino, Carmen
Bell, Cindy	Lujan, Melissa	Rivera, Matilda
Calvo, Lea	Milan, Nilfa	
Doi, Annie	Nelson, Jodie	

300-237= **63** MEMBERS NEEDED TO REACH OUR GOAL!

### Remember

Teachers who are members of IRA receive 25% of

Read-A-Thon money raised. Non-members receive 20%.

### JOIN IRA NOW!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Buenas yan Hafa Adai,

Our theme for November is Cultivating our Professional Learning with the Language Arts Conference I would like to encourage everyone to participate in the University of Guam's 23rd Annual Language Arts Conference. All current IRA members receive a discounted registration price of \$40.00. I hope to see you there.

Last month, Kenn Nesbitt was definitely a poetic treat for our island. He prepared different programs for us as each presentation had a diverse audience. During his 10-day stay he had a busy schedule as joined us at the general membership meeting, visited fourteen schools, conducted a teacher workshop, was the featured author during story hour at the Barrigada Public Library, and was a guest at the PBS studio for a public service announcement. As we promised him a memorable experience, we were able to take him around our island to enjoy the beautiful sights, experience the many cultures at the Micronesian Island Fair, feel the warmness of our waters as he went snorkeling and tasted many of our island's flavors while he dined in several restaurants. As he said his good-byes, he shared that he enjoyed the people, was appreciative of our island's hospitality and felt sad that he had to leave so soon.

I would to extend a humble and gracious Si Yu'os Ma'ase to our Partners in Literacy: Continental Airlines, Marianas Cable Vision, Pacific Daily News, Hotel Santa Fe, Cyndi Pruski, Dr. Underwood, Superintendent of Department of Education, Cynthia Agbulos, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, school administrators and teachers, hostesses, Read-A-Thon Representatives, and to all participants' of our Go Green, Go Read! Read-A-Thon 2010, together with their families and friends.

### THIS YEAR'S MONTHLY THEMES

**R**ead in Many Languages: Convention Highlights—**September 11.**

**E**nriching Poetry with Kenn Nesbitt—**October 16.**

**C**ultivating Professional Learning with the Language Arts Conference—**November 6.**

**Y**ou, Me, and the Community Book Fair—**December 11.**

**C**rafting a Story with SASS—**January 15.**

**L**aunching Read-A-Thon 2011 "Read to Succeed"—**February 5.**

**I**nstilling Literacy Through our Cultures—**March.**

**N**urturing our Students with Resources. "Spend it All, Spend it Now"—**April.**

**G**athering Together for the Year in Review—**May.**

[Click here if you are unable to view the November 2010 Guam Council IRA E-Letter.](#)

If you no longer wish to receive the Guam Council IRA Newsletter, please reply to the webmaster at [mnriviera1@yahoo.com](mailto:mnriviera1@yahoo.com).