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Note from the Special Issue Editors

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Note from the Editors

As we approach publication of the fourth issue of what is no longer the “new” *Community Literacy Journal*, we are gratified by the number, the quality, and the range of manuscript submissions. We continue to encourage submissions by non-academic community literacy workers. We are grateful for the work of guest editors and peer reviewers and the unremunerated staff at Michigan Technological University and the University of Arizona, and to the administrators who have generously supported the journal’s development and growth, even in these times of diminishing resources: Robert Johnson, Chair of Department of Humanities at MTU and Max Seel, our Dean of College of Sciences and Arts. At the University of Arizona, we have received support from the Department of English and the UA Foundation.

We continue to be grateful for help with additions to our subscription list. We’ve learned that some libraries won’t subscribe to a journal these days unless it can offer itself in electronic form, which we are not yet in a position to do. We are excited about what the future holds for this journal and for the field of endeavor that it represents.

We want to acknowledge and express our gratitude to colleagues who have read and responded so thoughtfully and generously to manuscripts for issues 2.1 and 2.2: Casey Rudkin, Rob Hunter, Jnan Blau, Jill Arola, Anne Mareck, Nathaniel Gbessagee, Danika Brown, Brandon Story, Virginia Bower, Kim McMurtry, Ellen Millsaps, DruAnna Overbay, Charlene Thomas, Roberta Herron, Tess Lloyd, Ted Olson, Cara Anderson, Diana Conco, Juli Hale, Gloria Oster, Matt Peltier, Donna Raines, and Julie Roberson.

Our issue 3.1, Fall 2008, will be a special issue dedicated to papers presented at the National Community Literacy Summit in Washington, D.C. in the spring of 2007. The issue will be guest edited by Tanya Shuy, National Institute for Literacy Program Director, who helped to plan and facilitate this first Summit, whose goal was “bringing together more than 80 community leaders, scholars, and literacy experts to begin a national dialogue on improving and expanding literacy efforts at the community level.”

Tanya has edited a special issue of *Scientific Studies of Reading* (2006) and works with national groups, literacy workers, and coalitions to assist in the sustainable development of collaborations and research agendas. We think this issue of the *CLJ* will be an important opportunity to learn about emerging research and the range of community literacy experiences in federal, academic, and literacy worker contexts.

Finally, we take great pleasure in introducing the work of Jack Oyler from Michigan's Upper Peninsula, whose painting, *Old Man and the Old Man's Boat*, you see on our cover. When asked to comment on community arts, he responded, "You can't neglect your local community arts while you try to pursue a career in the wide world. If you do, you find yourself cut off from your roots, and your art is in danger of becoming derivative." We'd like to showcase *your* local community artists on future covers—and as case studies inside the journal—so please send them our way. Remarking on "our collective well being," bell hooks notes that "...we may deem art irrelevant even if it is abundantly in our midst."

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Works Cited

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