
May 1967

President's Letter

Diana Umstattd

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/mrj>

Recommended Citation

Umstattd, Diana (1967) "President's Letter," *Michigan Reading Journal*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 1 , Article 3.
Available at: <https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/mrj/vol1/iss1/3>

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@GVSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Michigan Reading Journal by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks@GVSU. For more information, please contact scholarworks@gvsu.edu.

President's Letter

by Diana Umstattd, President
Michigan Reading Association

My warmest greetings to all MRA members and friends about the State.

The year 1966-67 has been a year of growth and change for the Michigan Reading Association. It has more than doubled its membership, held its first annual conference away from Kellogg Center, and launched the publication of a Journal. The action has called for new machinery, more and larger committees, and a sharing of numerous responsibilities. To all the past-presidents and executive councils we extend words of appreciation and thanks. We are experiencing the fruition of a decade of hard work and capable leadership which you have given the association since its birth in the Oak Room of the Union Building on the campus of Michigan State University.

The tireless efforts of a host of people have met the challenges of this year. Space does not permit us to enumerate all of them, but we want to give credit to chairmen and to individuals who have led the organization in some of its "firsts".

Mrs. Sybil Michener, treasurer, has attended to the printing of membership application forms, cards, and envelopes, and has obtained P. O. Box 665, Flint, for MRA business.

Complimenting the work of the treasurer has been that of Mrs. Clarice Stafford, secretary. Together they have organized the book-keeping and records to enable MRA to serve you efficiently.

Dr. Dorothy McGinnis, your president-elect, assumed the tremendous responsibility of planning the program which you enjoyed at Grand Rapids.

Mrs. Norma Conklin, a member-at-large, was chairman of the commercial exhibits. The exhibits, a "first" for MRA, added to the overall breadth of the conference and assisted financially.

Mrs. Marian Dygert was registration chairman. She and her committee handled thousands of pieces of mail

in order to complete the registrations for the conference.

Mrs. Thelma Boca, the hospitality chairman, was the friend of guests and conferees. Her many acts of kindness made the large convention a happy experience.

Sister M. Bernetta, O.P., your past-president, kept in close contact with the Grand Rapids Convention Bureau, obtained and supervised the hostesses, and took care of innumerable details.

The Elementary Principals of Kent County served as hostesses at the sectional meetings.

Mr. Anthony Maran and the members of the advisory committee presented proposals which led to plans for more continuity in leadership and more grass-roots participation within the coming months.

Last, but not least, Clarice Stafford chaired the committee which formulated the plans for this new publication, THE MICHIGAN READING JOURNAL. Our thanks to Clarice and congratulations to Mr. Charles Sherwood, the editor.

At the annual meeting, Mrs. Edith Strang, nominations and election committee chairman, announced the following results: Mrs. Norma Conklin, president-elect; Mrs. Thelma Boca, member-at-large. To fill the unexpired term of Norma Conklin as member-at-large, the president appointed Miss Ruth Crowley.

In conclusion, let me express my thanks to all the members of MRA. Your constant support, your enthusiastic co-operation, and your participation in local councils have made this a great, good year. It has been my privilege to get acquainted with more of you and to serve all of you.