

January 1975

MRA Highlights

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Recommended Citation

Michener, Sybil (1975) "MRA Highlights," *Michigan Reading Journal*: Vol. 9: Iss. 1, Article 2.
Available at: <https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/mrj/vol9/iss1/2>

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MRA HIGHLIGHTS

by Sybil Michener, President



SYBIL MICHENER, *President*



CLARICE STAFFORD, *President-elect*

A number of events have occurred during the past year which are worthy of recognition. Also, there are some notable events that will be taking place. Some highlights of this 1974 - 1975 MRA year follow.

Leadership Workshop

August 1974

During August 1974, workshops were held in Flint and Grand Rapids for officers of local councils. Forty-four officers, representing fifteen councils, attended "Operation Update".

An objective of the workshop was to identify concerns of local councils and cooperatively seek solutions.

The participants identified issues and suggested action steps that related to council functions and community support. These issues and action alternatives were organized into a pamphlet entitled "Operation Update" for the

local council officers to record the actions their councils implemented. At the 1975 MRA Conference, there will be an opportunity for the officers to UPDATE the past years council's OPERATION.

Bylaw Revision,

October 1975

Every member of MRA should have received a copy of the revised Bylaws with their Fall issue of the Michigan Reading Journal. On the cover of the Bylaws the process for revision was described.

Some of the major changes are:

1. Expanded the purposes of MRA. (Articles II, Section 2)
2. Dues are payable to the treasurer beginning July 1, and are accepted if postmarked by December

31 of that year.
(Article III, Section 4)

3. Elected officers and members-at-large comprise the Board of Directors.
(Article V, Section 1)
4. Increased the members-at-large from 3 to 6.
(Article V, Section 3)
5. Changed name and composition of Executive Board and Executive Council to Board of Directors and Local Council Assembly.

Michigan Reading Assessment Conference March 1975

The Michigan Reading Association Board of Directors have contracted with the Research, Evaluation, and Assessment Services of the Michigan Department of Education to review and analyze the 1974 assessment tests in Reading and make recommendations for the 1975 State Assessment Tests.

As a part of this project, the MRA Board of Directors, acting as a steering committee, is conducting a state-wide invitational conference to do certain tasks related to this contract. There will be approximately 250 participants representing local councils, intermediate districts, local districts, related professional organizations, and Michigan Reading Association.

The conference will be held March 7 and 8, 1975 in Flint, Michigan.

Local Council Assembly Meeting April 1975

The composition of the assembly was increased in the revised Bylaws to include "the president, president-elect or designee of each local council of IRA within the state." The intent of this change is to increase the opportunities for participation in the MRA organization. To support this concept the Local Council Assembly must develop to become a vital part of MRA and perform its function as described in the Bylaws.

The first step in working towards this goal is the Local Council Assembly meeting at the 1975 conference. The meeting is scheduled Sunday, April 13, 1975, from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. in the Sadler Lounge, Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids. The agenda will include:

1. Reports from your President, Secretary, Treasurer and committee chairpersons.
2. Goal setting for 1975-1976

Michigan Reading Association is as great as its members. Be sure your council is represented.

Annual Conference April 1975

The MRA Annual Conference provides members an outstanding opportunity for professional development. The theme this year is: *Models of Teaching*. This year will be another excellent conference.