

Roslund Family Readers

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NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our First Edition!

by Lynne La France

Welcome to the first edition of Roslund Family Readers. I'm excited about this project because it allows me to go on and on about one of my favorite subjects, books! You might expect that since I'm the reading teacher at Roslund, we'll only discuss children's books. Not true! As our newsletter title indicates, this is the place to discuss what the entire family is reading.

In every newsletter, I'll put a question or two out into cyberspace in order to get your feedback and ideas to be included in next month's newsletter. You respond by e-mailing me with your thoughts. Easy enough, right? Just remember to include your family name with your ideas. And since we'll be talking about reading materials for all

age groups, please indicate what age group the book (internet site, magazine, etc.) is appropriate for. Age groups are: infant, toddler, preschool, grade level, and adult. Let's remember too that our newsletter is posted on the school website, so all comments must remain family oriented. Alright already, enough with the rules. Let's get this party started.

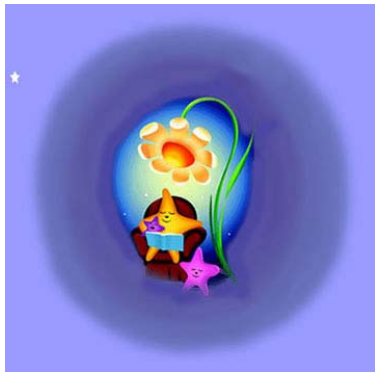


Hot book tip of the month

Are you tired of spending too much money on your reading habit? House being overrun by books? Thinking about having a yard sale or throwing books out in order to sit down somewhere? DON'T DO IT! There's a better way. Discover trading your unwanted books online for books you've been waiting to read at www.paperbackswap.com. This website makes it super simple to start trading all your books (hardcover too). Start out by

creating an account by following the onscreen instruction as you would for most other websites. Okay, now gather up all those books lying around collecting dust. These can be children's books, romance novels, sci-fi, textbooks, how-to guides, travel guides, etc. Just about any type of book goes, but they must be in decent condition (no water damage or falling apart, and no scribbling on pages. A name crossed

continued on page two





Look before you leap!



Hot book tip of the month (continued from page 1)

out on the inside cover would be okay.) Now it's time to list the books. You can list them by title and author, or simply by typing in the ISBN number. List all your books and wait for them to be requested by other members of the club. When your book is requested, you will be notified by e-mail. Log into your account and print the wrapper. If you're mailing a paperback book, you can wrap it like a present with the wrapper. If the book is larger, just drop it into a bubble mailer (I keep a supply on hand) and attach the mailing label. Take it to the post office, or include USPS postage on your printout by setting up an account online. You pay postage, but you get that back when you request a book from another member. Once the book is received, you receive a credit (in addition to the free three credits they give you for signing up.) Now it's time for you to go book shopping. Search the database for books you'd like to read by title, author, or subject. Find what you like and request it. When your request is accepted by another member, you will be notified by e-mail. If the book you want is not there, just put it on your wish list. Whenever another member posts the book, you will be notified.

Since joining paperbackswap this summer, the only money I've spent on books has been at the post office. I have 20 credits to shop with and I have a pile of books just waiting for a snow day so that I can curl up and read them.

Best of all, after you've read a book that you received in the mail, you can recycle it back into the system and keep reading indefinitely. Paperbackswap also has audio book CD's (they cost 2 credits). They are also starting to swap DVD's and music CDs. I haven't looked into this yet, but you can look into it on the website. I highly recommend joining this site. If any of you decide to join, send me some feedback for the next newsletter. Happy swapping ☺!



The Reviews are in!

Our time is valuable. I love to read, but I don't want to waste my time reading a book that is only so-so, when there are so many great books out there just waiting for me. Yes, once in a while I see a book in the drugstore and take the plunge, but most of the time I like to look before I leap. Here are some places where you can comparison shop before you leap.

Amazon.com is great for lists. When browsing books at Amazon, watch for Listmania links in the sidebar. Amazon has lists to suit all tastes in reading. Clicking on a Listmania link will not only give you a list of books gathered around one interest area, it will also give you a short blurb on each book in the list. I've found lots of great books by reading the lists at Amazon. At the

end of the year, Amazon publishes the Best of List and that list has just been published for 2007! This list has the top 100 books picked by editors, as well as customer's top 100. Click on the Best of 2007 to check it out.

Another list worth your time is the Children's Choices of 2007. Here is the background information given on the International Reading Association's website. "Children's Choices is an annual joint project of the International Reading Association and the Children's Book Council, begun in 1974. Each year an average 100 favorite books are chosen by approximately 10,000 children ages 5 to 13 from different regions of the United States. Books are selected from among titles published in 2007.

Get in your 2 cents in 2008!

Roslund Family Readers wants to hear from you for next month's edition. Get in your 2 cents by e-mailing me with your feedback. Teachers out there, please e-mail me with the "Best of" books for your grade level, voted on by YOU and your class of course. And for everyone else out there in cyberspace who might be peeking in on this newsletter, here's a question for you. What books are worth rereading? Have you ever read a book that was so hard to put down that you actually reread all or parts of it because you just couldn't let go of the characters? These are the books that we want to hear about for the next issue.

"When you reread a classic you do not see more in the book than you did before; you see more in you than was there before."

Clifton Fadimon



Roslund's Favorite XMAS Books

Ah, it's that time to pull out our old favorites and read them to the kiddies. Here's some XMAS books that we love. Mrs. La France, Mrs. Nightingale, and Mrs. Brogan all picked [The Amazing Christmas Extravaganza by David Shannon](#). Mrs. Thomas likes [Santa's Book of Names](#) by David McPhail. Mrs. Franko and Mrs. Sands voted for [The Polar Express](#) by Chris Van Allsburg. Mrs. Vieczorek's pick is [Night Tree](#) by Eve Bunting. Both Mrs. Haslett and Mrs. Sinker pick [The Night Before Christmas](#) by Clement Moore. Mrs. Haslett even has her childhood copy framed!

If you are interested in checking out any of our favorites you can help our PTO earn money too. Click the links to amazon.com or Visit Our Mall to shop for books online. While you shop as you normally would, the PTO is earning money for our students.

Get in on the Action!

I'm hoping that Roslund Family Readers will be a monthly event, but that can't happen without your input every month. Please contact me with comments, suggestions, and ideas you might have for the newsletter.

You can reach me at:
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Thanks,
Lynne La France

amazon.com



Happy
Holidays!

