

Keystone Reader
KSLA-Central Eastern PA
January, 2022

This is the traditional time of the year to reflect on the past and plan for the future. During the first half of this year, our chapter held a variety of events for educators and our community.

This fall KSLA-CE financially supported the Marvine Elementary School located in Bethlehem, PA for their Little Free Library, our chapter's second such literacy effort promoting reading and literacy within our area.

Our 6th annual Fall Kickoff to Literacy was held September 23rd on the campus of Cedar Crest College. Dr. Melissa Kamyab presentation topic was #WeRead360: Celebrating and Sharing Diverse Literature. In honor of Hispanic American Heritage Month, attendees were asked to bring a book to be donated to a multicultural book collection library located at Cedar Crest College.



KSLA CE hosted authors Valerie Bolling and Carol Eckster via zoom on October 21, with 13 people attending. Our evening was titled **Step by Step Writing for Educators**. Our evening was full of great tips and tools for teaching writing in the classroom. But the most exciting part was our oldest attendee, Gloria Aloia who will be turning 95 in November. She attended her first zoom meeting and offered motivation tidbits for all the teachers attending.

Both Carol and Valerie are published authors and award winners. Both began their careers as classroom teachers and then blossomed into children's authors. Our evening progressed with tips on writing from both authors, and we also learned about their journeys to becoming published authors. All attendees learned the Step by Step Writing process from drafting and crafting to revision and writing. We all took great tips back to our classrooms. A special

thanks to Angela Saleeze for getting us together with these two extraordinary authors and educators.



On November 10th, KSLA-CE presented Part 1 of our Teachers as Readers Series. This event was an in-person and Zoom event. Several teachers shared books useful in enhancing curriculum or satisfying students' pleasure reading experience. Our evening also included a virtual chat with author Terry Jennings to learn more about her many books, her writing and life



journey.

The 54th Annual Conference, Literacy in a Digital World was held at the Hershey Lodge November 28-30. Our chapter received KSLA's Leadership Award and Distinguished Chapter Award. Congratulations to Sandee Cecchini and her committee on providing a powerful and motivating conference. It was absolutely amazing to see the excitement of seeing each other in person. It was wonderful. Thank you, Sandee and conference committee members!

We continue to promote Keystone to Read Book participation with our 3rd year Literacy Lending Library project with preschools and elementary schools within the Lehigh Valley and surrounding counties.

Enjoy this holiday season, while we continue our plans for the new year!