

THE EMPTY NEST NEWSLETTER

VOL 1. NO 12. APRIL 1-29, 1983

"My heart is like a singing bird
Whose nest is in a watered shoot."

A.K.A. WATER CRESS

RENO AQUA-BABE



Reno: C.I.G. Broten has completed Infant Survival and has been pronounced "drown-proof." She can support herself on the edge of the pool, hold her breath under water, and, when ducked or dropped in various manners, including off the diving board, will kick to the surface, turn on her back, and float. Broten will now enroll in the Aqua-babe class, where she and the other graduates will add breath control, kicking to the side, and arm movement to their repertoire.

JJJ FULL PROF AT LAST!

The good news is: that Spfld. After 13 years as an Associate, J. Jackson, Editor of the ENNL, has finally achieved the pinnacle of Academe, than which she can go no higher (unless to an endowed Chair) (or unless the Peter Principle goes into operation & she becomes an administrator.) This was her 3rd attempt at promotion. The first, in 1977 or 78, resulted in the immortal words by JJ's chairman, that JJ "had not internalized the professorial ethos." The 2nd got up to the top last year, but didn't make it through the U. Personnel Committee. The third, with Dennis in my Camp (purr, heh heh, my dear is named Dennis' Camp) finally succeeded. The Ed. says that she can now sit back & relax and pull out her old lecture notes. Comments friend Therese Clarke: You can't do that, you've washed your hand. The bad news is, that due to financial crunch & all, there will be no raise.

JAMBOREE'S A BLAST!

Spring field, IL., April 20: Today Sangamon State and Reading & Writing & Radio played host to 1300 area children on the campus. All are users of J Jackson's weekly radio show. Preparations for this day consumed most of her semester, but it went off flawlessly, everyone had a grand time, and the University is at long last AWARE of RWR. Reciprocally, the kids & schools are now much more aware of the University. The supplements to this edition will give you a pretty good idea of what went on. The day was the first NICE day in weeks, warm, blue skies, dry ground, etc. The kids were overjoyed to be out, as were teachers. JJ recruited 50 SSU guides (students) as well as 50 activities for the 50 attending classes. The sight of huge yellow

schoolbuses after huge yellow schoolbus rolling in was staggering! And out poured the kids, dressed in school T-shirts, or with bright identification, & with huge banners which they put up by the striped tent in the campground before the library. The kids met their pen-pal class & spent the day together, reading at the nuke, going to their activity, playing games & races, eating lunch, & viewing the Verbal Arts Displays each class had brought, in the Brookens Concourse. There were very exciting & colorful & varied - their own books, Post-Trees, all sorts of good writing. At the nuke, the President Alex Lacy (who sent me a half dozen yellow roses later!) gave a strange speech to the kids, but other speakers did better. John Knoepfle recited "Dogs of Auburn," and Marion Levin led all the kids in hindsay's "Potato Dance." One little 5th grader recited from Memory, "Abraham Lincoln walks at midnight." Marion, dressed in a long frock coat studded with hindsay buttons, was a wandering troubadour on campus, & did poetry with classes who hailed her (or who she hailed) & it added a lot to the festivity of the day. At day's end we sent off 70 helium balloons, each with a verbal arts message. I got tangled & went off together. They landed in a field near Mt. Vernon, Illinois - abt a hundred miles away -- kindergarten kids spotted them, their school bus driver - a woman - retrieved them - & there was one balloon for each kid! They were thrilled & so was she, & she wrote us, and sent us a map! --- Doubters on campus have now been converted & thought it was a marvelous day. The guides were ecstatic, those who worked with the activities were, the teachers, parents & kids were. Many people have said how great it was to have so much life & joy & color & spirit on the campus -- and that's certainly something SSU has very little of. So, I feel it was worth all the effort, & am happy abt it.

THE CHOSEN, by Chaim Potok, has been made into a beautiful film. See it, everyone. — Demi

[Chaim Potok even takes a part!]

The Ed. of ENNL took Demi's advice and snatched time to go see. It was so moving & beautiful that she went back the next night (its last in Spfld.) and saw it again. She plans to go a third time, when she finds it running somewhere else. It is very reminiscent of Uncle Bill, kids (Perlmutter): he read in the NY Public Library, growing up, like Danny does.

"THIN MAN" SERIES VIEWED IN MPLS.

While S. Mudge correctly guessed the murder in 5 out of 6 movies, D. Jackson sat with her mouth open.

On back of envelope from Pat Delvit: "What do people have against 'static cling'?" I think it's cute."

Spfld. Once the ENNL Ed. got movie-going, she went also to see the much touted Raiders of the Lost Ark, and found it boring & stupid & bad acting.

ERRATA

In the last issue, we left blank that R.A. Dougan had seen 15 Sparrows & 1 Starling on the Ned Hollister bird count.



NEWS BRIEFS

Mpls. Bill Hathaway has come out of his hook-up-again operation and stomach stapling job with flying colors. Peristalsis has resumed in the dormant part, and he may be going home from the hospital around A.6 or 7.
Burlington, Vt. Chad Welsh is recovering nicely from a prostate operation, and he too will be home from the hospital shortly.
Peterborough It is with sorrow that the ENNL reports that Ed & Carol Dell are being divorced. The ENNL Ed. talked to Carol Easter Eve, and she sounds pretty together, though she has her ups & downs. Heather was there. Carol is planning to visit Sara (U. of Chi.) and Chad (Madison) in early May, and will drop down to Springfield to the ENNL offices at 816. Go to a class or two. 'Twill be a ball!
Beaver Creek. Craig & Barbara Dougan will be coming to Beloit & Madison early in May. How will their managerie survive w/o them?

Spfld. J.D. Jackson is contemplating going to England the last 3 weeks of May and bicycling with her godchild Wendy Hocking. The pair would start from Nancy Hocking's home in London and head South. JDJ must make up her mind soon.
Spfld. J.D. Jackson nearly lost \$520, the sum the 1st Nat Bank was insisting she pay to be bonded, having lost all her C.D.'s, saved for Ellie's education. Fortunately her accountant, Mr. Joe Corriqan, intervened with a friend, the vice president. J.D.J.'s personal banker is furious at being countermauded. J.D.J. is getting a new personal banker.
Spfld. The Laupier Lions are the state basketball champs. Bravo!
Mpls. Damaris Jackson & S. Mudge recently traveled to Champaign to see Sarah Wiseman in a play. En route they stayed with R.A. Dougan. They saw Megan in Champaign, and would have returned to Dougan's, but icy roads near Chicago forced them to a motel.
Hanover Overheard at Dartmouth College: "I'd rather have a bottle in front of me than a frontal lobotomy."

COEUR STANDS GUARD

Beloit. Jo & Karl Schmidt gave the dog of Mr. & Mrs. R.A. Dougan Coeur D'Or, a Portable Palace Home for Christmas. R.A. has been placing meat in the far end, but Coeur has shown no interest in the house. However when cousin Fleurs de Lis visited recently, and started into the house to get the meat, Coeur snarled and would not let her in. Thereupon Coeur spent all night and all the next day guarding the doors, not going in herself, but not letting Fleurs in, either!

CLIMBS WALLS

Beloit. V.W. Dougan has been having such vivid dreams of Olive & Nona in the next room (old age dreams get more vivid, VWD reports) that she got up, took a header, and nose-bled all over the blue rug. Whereupon RAD moved the bed so that one side is against the wall, & VWD sleeps on the inside. Now if she wants to go anywhere, she has to climb the walls.

ELLIE GOES TO STOW TO SKI

Stow, Vt. While most college kids were heading South to sunny sands, Ellie Jackson went with a friend Sarah and her family first to Poughkeepsie, to Sarah's home, & then to Stow to ski. Unfortunately it rained a lot. But it turned cold at least one day, the snow machine made snow, and Ellie got to ski. She pronounces it capital fun. The holiday was during Dartmouth's Spring break.

TRIPLE TABLES FOR GRANDPA

Beloit. All this happened on one day in Beloit recently. Jo & Karl came to visit, & brought their dog Charlie. Grandpa leapt thru the front door after Charlie in order to see the meeting of Charlie & his cousin Cover D'or, he tripped and such was his momentum that he sailed across the hall headfirst into that table w/ its surface rotated perpendicular, & knocked it down the basement stairwell, knocking himself on the head. A short while later, as Jo & Karl were leaving, RAD leaved on the dining room table, one of its legs broke, and RAD & table & everything on it went down. Jackie arrived mid afternoon, in time to witness Grandpa knock over Grandma's little TV table he was loading in the kitchen. All this while completely sober!

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THAMES 1-3-83

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FIRST ENTRY SUBMITTED
IN ENNL READER'S CONTEST,
"Most Photogenic."
(Caption MUST accompany
entry.)



"Look when you get a chance
and tell me if there's dog
poop on my shoe."

EDITOR CHATS. Spfld. Today is Easter Eve, & I sit here at the kitchen table writing, & have nobody to tell the day's thoughts. So will say that mid afternoon I quit working and went off on my bike in the cold cold drizzle. Rode thru Lincoln Park & then into Oak Ridge Cemetery (Lincoln's by the back way. (No bikes allowed.) Rode around looking at the tombstones, & came to a whole area I'd never seen before of stone crosses packed like a military cemetery. Alongside were marble markers, also packed. The very uniformity made me stop, & investigation confirmed what I'd suspected, here is where the diocesan nuns & priests are buried. The nuns all have concrete crosses, with their names, and date of death only. The priests, on the other hand, have polished marble headstones, dates of birth & death, often date of ordination, and sometimes the parish served. I went on a ways, and came to the section - or a section - where they bury infants. Found twins, who lived a day. Found "triplet son" of some couple. And found several graves of the past year with Easter baskets on them. It was a sad little sight.

HAS STRANGE URGE
Hanover. Ellie Jackson has requested that her mother send her her piano music.

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY OFFERED
Climax of Verbal Arts Festival

News Briefs Updates, Apr. 25
Due to the length of time it takes the Editor to get out an issue of the ENNL, news is often outdated or needs updating before it ever hits the Xerox. A case in point is Bill Hathaway. After the successful operation (in M.I.S.), the reunited gut developed adhesions, there had to be another operation, there was a strange puncture, then embolism in the lung, and pneumonia. Hathaway has been in intensive care for some weeks now, but seems to be out of the extreme danger stage. He has been on oxygen & six machines. He will stay in intensive care until the embolism are absorbed. There has been a lot of prayers going for Bill, & if you are a praying sort - or if you're not - your prayers are solicited.

Spfld. Saugamon State University recently offered the grad. student assistant of the Ed. of the ENNL a unique (?) opportunity. The last evening of the week-long Verbal Arts Festival, was a public lecture by Norman Mailer, attended by perhaps 1200 people, & followed by a party for 125. After the party the grad assistant accompanied Mailer to his hotel and slept with him. When the Ed. queried how she enjoyed the dirty old man, the assistant said, "He was nice."

Spfld. Ms. Muffet Jackson (known in Beloit as Fleurdelis) recently enjoyed a dinner of sweet-breads that had been in the freezer a year.

SEES ODD SIGHT
Beloit R.A. Dougan was looking out the front window recently and saw an odd sight. A sparrow was on a branch, hanging head down, and holding an apparently dead sparrow by the tail. (holding the tail with his beak.) As RAD watched, bemused, the top sparrow let go of the bottom sparrow, & the bottom sparrow, beginning to fall, spread its wings & flew away.

NOT FULLY REPORTED IN EARLIER ISSUE
Peter Schmidt of Bethesda Md. is a PARTNER in Arnold & Porter Law Firm. Peter is a tax pension lawyer.

PAINTINGS FEATURED
Champaign Megan T Jackson, Jr. at U. of I. Art School, has 2 paintings in the Spring Student art exhibit, which is one more than anyone else. Congratulations!

DOES NOT WIN AWARD
Spfld. The Ed. of the ENNL entered The Round Barn in the Lincoln Library Writer of the Year Contest. She did not win the award, and all the attached glory. However, her student, Carol Miller DID! But not in the same division. See later news item about Carol.



SURPRISE FOR M.T.J.'S BIRTHDAY

Champaign On Feb. 2, the Ed of the ENNL and mother of Megan T. Jackson, art student at the University of Illinois, and Becky Veach, long time friend of MTJ, piled cake and gifts into TJ's little Rabbit and sped to Champaign, leaving SSU at 5 PM in a sleet storm. (First bad weather of the winter.) It didn't amount to anything, and they genuinely surprised MTJ, who was just preparing to depart for her evening lithography class. Becky spent the night at her son Tim's apartment, and TJ stayed with Megan, attending her lithography class, and then being given a tour of Megan's spaces in other Art buildings. The Ed was very impressed with Megan's work. The two mothers departed at 6 AM in order to be back at work active the next morning.

MULTI MALADIES!

Beloit. Not just Hathaway + Chad Walsh, this issue, but now we add RAD, who went to the Emergency Room Weds. AM April 27, due to inability to pee. The doctor put in a catheter, & we will know more when it comes out. There may be a prostate operation coming up. The doctor for these things is on vacation, so no specialist examined our progenitor.
Beloit On either Tues. or Weds., April 26 or 27, Scottie Cook went under the knife on account of her knees. We hope that when they're all repaired, Scottie will be dancing around like a Spring chicken.
Beaver Creek On April 27, Barbara Dougan was operated on for her back. As I understand it, it's ruptured discs. Both Craig and Barbara are expecting Barbara to recover rapidly enough to make the planned trip to Beloit on May 9. The pair are planning to come by train.

BIRTHDAYS, ETC.

- May 3: Jackie Jackson
 - May 3: RAD + VWD Anniversary
 - May 10: Great Groupa Lesson Joseph Dougan
 - May 20: R.A. Dougan
 - June 6: Lisa McDonald
 - June 10: Barbara Dougan
 - June 16: Trevor Dougan
 - June 28: Souja Yde
 - June 30: Jackie Jo Guthrie
 - June 30: Mig Schaefer
- Mauy, happy reruns, & who's forgot?

MTJ VISITS NYC

Champaign. A number of weeks ago, Megan Jackson, needing a break, flew to NYC and stayed with her friend John Lewis. While there she visited the Guggenheim, saw the Vatican exhibit, saw the work of sculptor Julio Gonzalez, rode the ferries, went up on the Empire State Bldg, checked out Pratt Institute and the Parsons School of Design, and had a harrowing 13 hr. trip home, starting with the subway to the airport being stalled for ages, due to a stabbing in a subway station.

WINS AWARD

Spt 14. The Lincoln Library "Author of the Year" award went to Carol Miller, Jackie Jackson's student, for a collection of essays entitled "Family Album." JT discovered Ms Miller's writing ability & has been encouraging her for a number of years. Ms. Miller is the first woman, & first SSU student, to win this honor. JT entered Round Barn 1 in the fiction division of the contest, & lost to a stranger. Carol Miller won the non-fiction division.

GRANDMA RE-MEMBERS SONGS

Beloit Recently, VWD recalled several songs she sang as a child & favored us with a concert:
 "Mary had a little lamb, she put it on the sheep. And every time it turned around, it spunked its little self."
 And,
 "Mary had a little lamb. Its legs are made of mutton. And every time it lifts its tail it shows its union button."
 Thankyou, Vera Werdner Dougan.

Jeremy Schmidt has written a novel, but so far only a few Schmidt's have been privileged to read it.

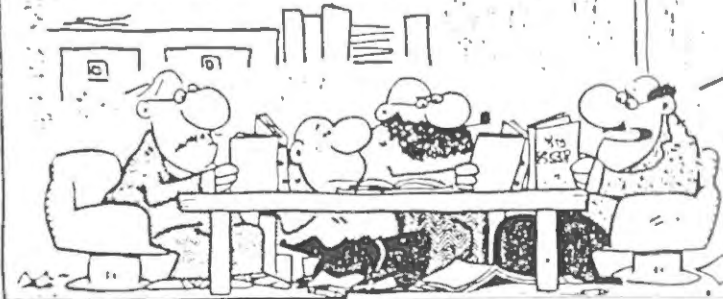
News That Probably Won't Get Reported (in any detail)

JDJ went to Mich recently & spoke at the College Conference on Communication Composition. JDJ went to Reno recently to attend ostensibly a Ch. Lit. Conf., but really to see Cressida Ingrid Grey Broten & her parents. (more later.) JDJ spent last weekend at Pere Marquette State Park, as a speaker for SSU Alumni Group. The view of the swollen Illinois River from the top of the bluffs was spectacular. JDJ has decided to go to England on May 16 & bike for 3 weeks with her godchild Wendy Hocking. JDJ's house is one godawful MESS. No hope or help in sight.

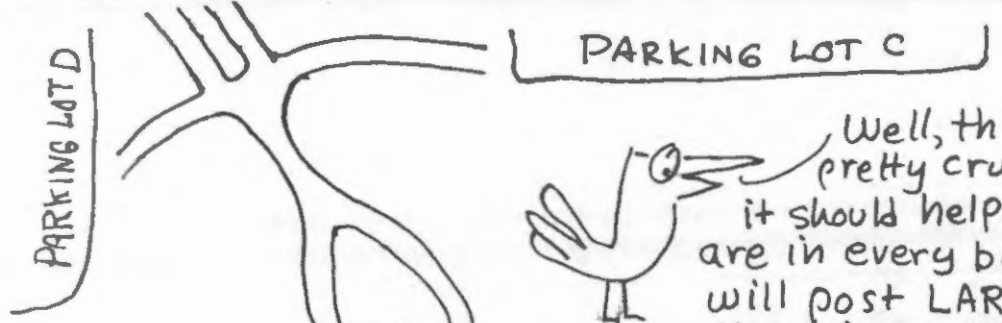


© 1982 by NEA, Inc. *John Berry* 9-13
 "Your manuscript is trashy, tawdry, sleazy and idiotic — in short, it's DYNAMITE!"

NETWORK PROGRAMMING

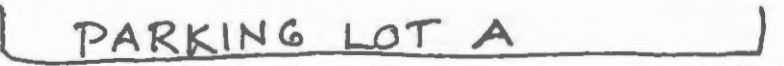


IS THIS PLOT REALLY ESSENTIAL TO THE SEX AND VIOLENCE?

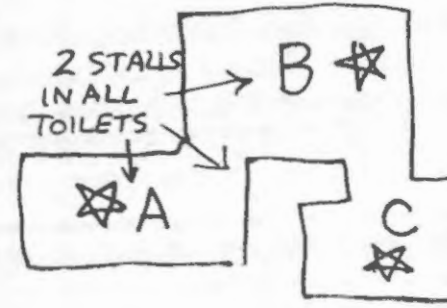
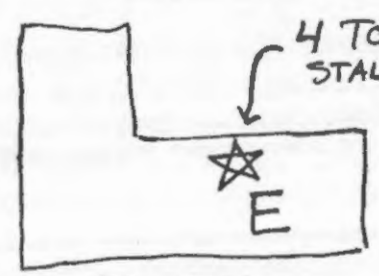
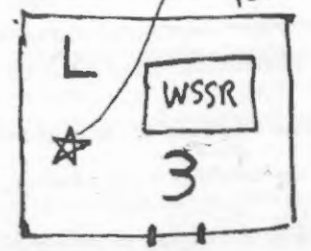
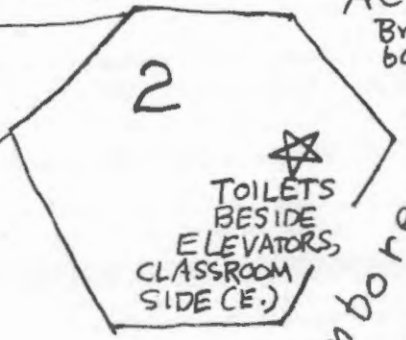


NORTH ↑

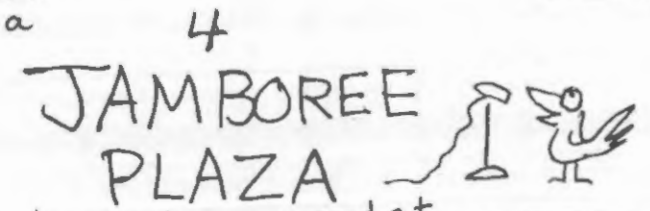
Vol 1
12
Pages



Well, this is a pretty crude map, but it should help. TOILETS (★) are in every building but I, and we will post LARGE SIGNS giving directions. NOW, y'all have a good time, and BE SURE to visit the DISPLAYS OF VERBAL ARTS ACTIVITIES, in Brooken's basement!

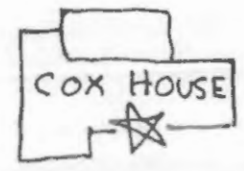
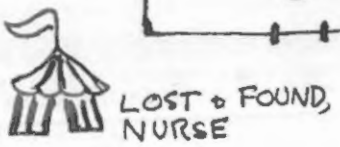


Stop Marian Levin for a "Lindsay Lift."



- 1 PAC Auditorium
Energy Conservation
- 2 Brooken's Library
Library entrance on E., toward PAC.
Archives in Library Basement
DISPLAYS in Brooken's Basement Concourse
Oral History, Brooken's 3rd Floor
Observatory, Brooken's Roof. Use outside entrance.
- 3 Bldg. L: WSSR in center
- 4 Jamboree Plaza!
- 5 Bldg H: Apple, Plato Computers
- 6 Bldg I: Painting, Ceramics
- 7 Bldg K: Biology, Chemistry labs
Vivarium.
- 8 Tear Drop Drive to PAC Auditorium.

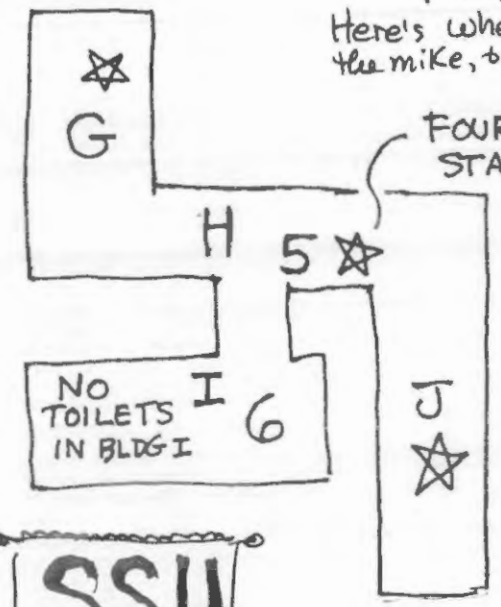
Jamboree
Campground
where you'll meet your post-class.



PARKING

CLEAR DAY: LOT A
RAINY DAY: Cars and buses disgorge kids at Tear Drop (8) then go park in Lot C.

See other map in Teacher Kit for access roads, ring road, etc.







FOUR TOILET STALLS



FOUR TOILET STALLS!



APRIL 20 ACTIVITY SCHEDULE FOR INDIVIDUAL CLASSES AT JAMBOREE

Time	CHEMISTRY LAB K-	BIOLOGY LAB, K-	VIVARIUM Bldg K	APPLE COMPUTER H-	PLATO COMPUTER H-	CERAMICS ROOM I-115	PAINTING ROOM I-119	WISSR	PAC AUDITORIUM	ENERGY CONSERVATION	OBSERVATORY (Brookens)	ARCHIVES (Brookens)	LIBRARY (Brookens)	ORAL HISTORY (Brookens) 3rd fl.
10:45	K- Quick! Get it down!	10:50-11:20 PRIOR		10:50-11:10 Emerson	10:50-11:10 1/2 Etheridge	10:50-11:10 Lindvahl	10:50-11:20 Williams	10:45-11:00 Sullivan Gotta scampar to get there!	10:50-11:10 Joplin	PAC, SEE SIGNS	10:50-11:35	10:50-11:20	 I'm a bird brain!	
11:00				11:10-11:30 Barton	11:10-11:30 1/2 Etheridge			11:00-11:15 Beetzle	11:00-11:30 Havey	11:00-11:30	Carlson + Goodwin	Smrcina (Hop back quick to the milk!)	11:00-11:30 Paisley	11:00-11:30 Mr. Sexton
11:15	11:20-11:50 Anderson	11:20-11:50 Pettyjohn		11:30-11:50 15 of Swift's	11:30-11:50 12 of Swift's	11:20-11:40 Jensen		11:15-11:30 Ford	11:10-11:30 Stewart					
11:30				11:50-12:10 Stone	11:50-12:10 1/2 of Tucker		11:30-11:50 Keating	11:30-11:45 Kuntzman You gotta scampar too!	11:30-11:50 Bruce	11:30-12:00 Blackman	11:35-12:20	11:50-12:20 Jackson	11:30-12:00 1/2 Ortmann	11:30-12:00 1/2 Ortmann
11:45		11:50-12:20 Letner				Notice where you are, and stick to your schedule!		11:45-12:00 Clarke + Steincamp	11:50-12:10 AND		Bickers + Flood			
12:00	12:00-12:30 Hackett			12:10-12:30 Schneller	12:10-12:30 Other half of Tucker				12:00-12:15 Weisman	12:10-12:30 BROWN A + BROWN B + COWDREY (Divide yourselves into 2 equal groups)			11:50-12:20 Corgan	
12:15						 Notice where your pal-class is, too, & make plans where to meet up again - and when!		12:15-12:30 Meyers		I got birdseed sandwiches! Me, too!				
12:30				12:30-12:50 Pauley	12:30-12:50 Mack				12:30-12:45 Odle	12:30-12:50 Kennedy		12:25-1:15 Graddy + Pelati + Muir	12:20-12:50 Bev Sexton	
12:45			12:45-1:15 Caruso	12:50-1:15 15 of Magill's	12:50-1:15 12 of Magill's			12:45-1:00 Benson	12:50-1:10 YOUNG					
1:00	Oh ph! 1:15! Time to get to the GREAT BALLOON SENDOFF!							1:00-1:15 Hemingway		 Kin we come again next year?		12:50-1:20 Hope		 That's 'cause they think us little birds are IMPORTANT!

THINGS TO DO ON CAMPUS

EVERY CLASS WILL:

- Read at the mike at your scheduled time!
- Participate in the activity scheduled for you on the reverse of this sheet. BE ON TIME!
- Eat your lunch with your pal-class. (You'll leave lunches by your banner, at start of day, in dog-resistant containers!)

Hey! Even if it's a warm day, have your kids bring a sweater- then if they have to sit on a step or sidewalk for a while, they'll be comfortable.



YOU ARE URGED TO:

- Visit 60 LANGUAGE ARTS DISPLAYS in the basement of Brookens.

YOU MAY:

- Have a Lindsay Lift! Hail down our wandering troubador, Marian Levin, and she will recite and/or engage your group in some Vachel Lindsay poems.
- Engage in activities with your pal-class in any free moments. TEACHERS! bring waiting game ideas: spelling games, word games, guessing games, "funny bunny", etc., and ideas for vigorous games: various sorts of races, circle-follow-the-leader, three-deep, streets & alleys, etc.

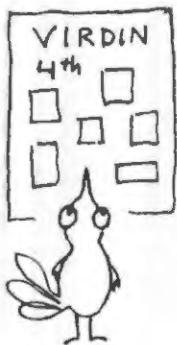
(Look over your schedule too and see where there's a time you can herd them all past a toilet facility!)

AND:

- with this many kids we could only manage one special SSU activity per class. But you can come back, as a class or with your families, for star night visits, to use the computers, to use the library, to visit WSSR, or other activities. Call and make a date.

But are they edible?

ABOUT YOUR DISPLAYS



Share one of your fun ideas with other classes! How about a haiku display, with your haikus writ daintily on flowered wallpaper, and rolled at the ends? How about a POET-TREE? How about something with this whole pen-pal project? Or does your class write to shutins? Oldsters? How about some ways you use Reading and Writing and Radio? One class, bringing its Young Authors books, plans to leave an adult to guard 'em--we can't guarentee security for such attractive items. Use your imagination--and show us what you're doing in Language Arts!

DISPLAY AREA DIRECTIONS

We will use the basement of Brookens, "Brookens Concourse," where registration is held. It's okay to tape posters to the cement walls, but bring plenty of masking tape. Have your class name prominent on your poster or display. There are a lot of long tables, so you may use one of those with your poster or by itself. If too many of you want tables, you may have to share, but they are good and long.

To set up your display, do one of the following:

- put it up yourself any time on April 19.
- send an extra adult to put it up as soon as you arrive on the 20th.
- deliver your display to Jane Ford at Little Flower School, 900 Stevenson Drive, Spfld, and she will set it up the day before.

To take it down, you can 1) send an extra adult at 1:20 PM or later, on the 20th, to take it down, or 2) take it down yourself later in the day on the 20th, or 3) the display committee will take it down for you and you can pick it up later at Little Flower, or Jackie Jackson's office at Sangamon State.