***News Release:***

**For: Immediate Release**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**TO: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**FROM: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

# **Local Educators Attend Leadership Training**

Officers of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Reading Council attended the Arkansas Reading Association’s Council Leadership Institute July 15-16 at the Heritage Conference Center on the campus of Harding University. They were (*name, office, city, school, etc.)*

Other officers include (*name them)*

Approximately 80 local reading council leaders from across Arkansas attended the workshop. Sessions focused on program promotion, leadership skill training, networking, and local literacy projects. A Celebrate Literacy Luncheon was held on Friday where ARA award and grant winners from across the state were presented with their awards. Arkansas author Nancy Hendricks spoke to the group Saturday.

The Arkansas Reading Association has approximately 1,250 members dedicated to promoting literacy throughout the state. ARA is an affiliate of the International Literacy Association. Eighteen local councils throughout the state support area educators, parents, and others through local programs and special projects. A professional development conference is held in November in Little Rock.

The event was organized by ARA President Dorothy Pollett of White Hall and Jeanne Trawick of Conway, who serves as the International Literacy Association State Coordinator.

Anyone interested in attending the state literacy conference or in joining a local council should contact Krista Underwood at krista@ara.reading.org or visit [www.arareading.org](http://www.arareading.org).

The first meeting of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Council will be held \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Add *other local council information as appropriate.)*

**Contact information: Name and phone**

For link to local newspaper:

<http://www.usnpl.com/arnews.php>