

Spelling Bee held June 7, 2010

Bond County Senior Center, Greenville, Illinois - www.bondseniors.org

[Taken from Pages 1 and 16 of the June 10, 2010 article published in the *Greenville Advocate*.]

Thursday,
June 10, 2010

Greenville, Illinois Since



Senior Spelling Bee

Greenville resident Gerald Jenner concentrates as he attempts to spell "smithereens" in the late rounds of the Bond County Senior Citizen Spelling Bee Monday afternoon at the Bond County Senior Citizen Center in Greenville. Jenner, surrounded by competitors Elaine Kilmer (left) and Betty Schankel (right) was the runner-up in last year's bee but finished fourth this year.

Smith Wins Sr. Spelling Bee

Cassie Smith of Greenville seized the opportunity.

Through 52 rounds of the Bond County Senior Citizen

Spelling Bee Monday afternoon, Elaine Kilmer hadn't missed a single word.

Yet it took the word "malacol-

ogy" to give Smith the Spelling Bee crown.

After Kilmer misspelled malacology, Smith correctly spelled it and then "wrytail" to earn her first win in the competition.

Both Smith and Kilmer, the runner-up, advanced to the Programs and Services for Older Persons Regional Bee in Belleville later this summer.

The top two spellers from that event will advance to the statewide bee to be held at the Illinois State Fair.

A total of seven spellers began the bee, including last year's winner, Barb Weise, and last year's runner-up, Gerald Jenner, both of Greenville.

The spellers breezed through the opening rounds. No spellers missed any words until the fourth round of the event.

Given two misspellings and three chances to spell each misspelling, the competitors were often able to come up with the correct spelling before getting charged with a miss.

Jenner, for instance, found himself getting the right spelling on the third and final try three times. He eventually fell out of the competition as the fourth-place finisher in round 35.

The sponsor for the event was State Senator Kyle McCarter. Linda Dissen was the master of ceremonies. Greenville resident and Dirty Roots Revolution founder Ryan Miffin, along with McCarter aide Shirley Johnson, was a judge in the event.



ADVANCING TO REGIONAL BEE: Cassie Smith (right) won the Bond County Senior Citizen Spelling Bee Monday afternoon by correctly spelling the word "wrytail." Elaine Kilmer (left) finished second in the bee and will join Smith in the regional bee in Belleville later this summer. The women are pictured with State Senator Kyle McCarter who sponsored the event.



SPELL CHECK: Judges Ryan Mifflin (right) and Shirley Johnson check the dictionary for the spelling of a word during the Bond County Senior Citizen Spelling Bee Monday afternoon.



GETTING INSTRUCTIONS: Contestants in Monday's Bond County Senior Citizen Spelling Bee receive instructions from Linda Dissen prior to the start of the contest.

Kyle McCarter.com, State Senator, 51st District of IL posted on Facebook:

June 14, 2010. Senior Spelling Bee Winner from Highland, Susanne Campbell, wins regional and will go to the IL state fair to compete in the finals.

Senior Spelling Bee Regional Coverage story from Belleville News Democrat online:

Senior Spelling Bee

Six winners from local spelling bees for senior citizens in Bond, Madison and St. Clair counties who spelled it out at the regional contest for the right to advance to the state level were d-y-n-a-m-i-t-e. Their spelling talents were p-r-o-d-i-g-i-o-u-s.

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