

Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society to Sponsor Seventh Annual Essay Contest

Thousands of people come to Pepin every year to see the birth site of Laura Ingalls Wilder and the town about which she wrote in *Little House in the Big Woods*. They come because they have been inspired by her books, and many report life decisions or philosophies that have been influenced by Laura. Many families read the books together, hoping their own family can learn from the Ingalls "all work together cheerfully even when things aren't going perfectly" style.

Knowing that there are many more great stories out there, the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society is sponsoring the seventh annual essay contest. The theme of the essay is, "How Laura Ingalls Wilder influenced my life." The contest is divided into two sections, one for adults of eighteen years or older, and one for young people under eighteen years of age. The essay can have a maximum of 300 words. The entrance deadline is August 19, 2008, and the winner will be announced and the winning entry read on Saturday, September 13, 2008, during Laura Ingalls Wilder Days in Pepin.

Past winners have written about their "discovery" of Laura Ingalls Wilder and how her books helped them through a difficult time, or awakened them to a lifelong interest in reading or history. A retired teacher wrote about her pleasure and success using the "Little House" books in the classroom for many years. The young writers wrote about the way Laura Ingalls Wilder inspired them to do their best.

For more information contact: Catherine Latané, (715)442-2419

The Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society of
Pepin, Wisconsin is sponsoring
**The seventh annual
Essay Contest**
On the topic

How Laura Ingalls Wilder influenced my life.

Prize includes publication in the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society newsletter.

Rules

1. Entrants must be current members of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society of Pepin.
2. Entries must be 300 words or less.
3. Entries must be typed.
4. Entries must be the original work of the entrant.
5. Only one entry per entrant.
6. Entry deadline, August 19, 2008.
7. Send entry to: Essay Contest, PO Box 62, Pepin, WI 54759
8. Winner to be announced, and winning essay to be read aloud, on Saturday, Sept. 13, 2008 during *Laura Ingalls Wilder Days* in Pepin. Winners will be notified by Sept. 1, 2008.

Fill out the form below and return with entry

Name: _____ Phone number: _____
Address: _____ email address: _____

- A. Category
 Eighteen years or older
 Under eighteen years
Age (if under eighteen years) _____
- B. I am a current member of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society
 Enclosed is my membership payment for 2008. (\$3.00, junior historian, under 18, or \$10, individual and family.)
- C. I consent to having my essay read aloud in public and to having it published in the Laura Ingalls Wilder Society newsletter.

Signature _____

_____ I plan to attend Laura Ingalls Wilder Days in Pepin on Sept. 13 & 14, 2008. (We invite writers who are present to read their essays during the essay presentation.)