

Scrabble Scramble

Second annual event raises more than \$10,000 for Lincoln Literacy Council

STORY AND PHOTOS COURTESY OF LINCOLN LITERACY COUNCIL

How much do people love playing Scrabble? More than 100 people from Lincoln and as far away as Omaha poured into the Great Plains Room of the Nebraska East Union on Nov. 7 to take part in Lincoln Literacy Council's second annual Scrabble Scramble tournament.

Playing in teams of four, they battled furiously – and uproariously – through three rounds of wordplay, creating instant crosswords on Scrabble boards. At the end of it all, Channel 10/11 meteorologist Brad Anderson, in the role of celebrity emcee, joshed with the newly declared champions.

Word Freaks, the winning team, included nationally ranked Scrabbler George Asaka along with Leta Powell Drake, Raina Gulbrandson and Joni Shaw.

The event raised more than \$10,000 to help Lincoln Literacy Council carry out its mission of helping people of all cultures and strengthening the community by providing English language and literacy services to more than 1,000 adults and children a year.



1) The top-scoring team in the recreational division included (from left) Leona Mitchellree, Linda Stevenson, Donita Bowers and Lisa Tolliver. 2) Word Freaks – The 2010 champs hold the traveling trophy: from left, Leta Powell Drake, Joni Shaw, George Asaka and Raina Gulbrandson.