

**INTRODUCING “j”
THE NEXT BIG THING
IN SCHOLASTIC JOURNALISM.
LAUNCHED NOVEMBER 2011
482 STUDENT MEMBERS TO DATE**

**STATE
DIRECTORS
NEEDED:
MAINE,
DELAWARE
& NEW
HAMPSHIRE.
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REGIONAL
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FOR MORE
INFO**

**JEA HAS
2,594
VOTING
MEMBERS**

PROFESSIONAL REPORTERS NOTEBOOK •
ASSOCIATED PRESS STYLEBOOK
• THE RADICAL WRITE • 45WORDS SHIRT •
INSIDE REPORTING

JEA BOOKSTORE
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**TOP 5
ITEMS**

92 MENTEES
BENEFIT FROM THE EXPERTISE
& SUPPORT OF JEA MENTORS

JEA WELCOMES ARTHI SUBRAMANIAN
TO HEADQUARTERS STAFF AS WEB/
DATABASE DEVELOPER

WWW.JEA.ORG



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Kelly Furnas

Membership: The promotional membership initiatives have raised our voting membership to 2,594, the highest level on record and a 30 percent increase from 2010. However, with promotional memberships set to begin expiring in December, member retention should take on a new level of urgency for JEA's board and staff. Our highest concentration of members are in the South Central region (574 members) and Southwest region (486 members). California (280 members) and Texas (240 members) boast the highest number of members among individual states.

Happenings:

May 18-21: Association Masters conference, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

May 26-30: JEA board of directors retreat, Denver

June 25-30: Advisers Institute Sequence I, Washington, D.C.

July 12-16: Advisers Institute Sequence II, Manhattan, Kan.

July 17-21: Advisers Institute Sequence III, Manhattan, Kan.

July 24-28: JCAMP at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

July 28-30: Site inspection for Advisers Institute 2012, Las Vegas

Aug. 13: Kansas Scholastic Press Association board of directors meeting, Manhattan, Kan.

Aug. 16-18: Site inspection for 2015 Fall National JEA/NSPA Convention, Orlando, Fla.

Sept. 23-25: Planning meeting for 2011 Fall National JEA/NSPA Convention, Minneapolis

Sept. 30-Oct. 2: Planning meeting for 2012 Fall National JEA/NSPA Convention, San Antonio

Oct. 13-15: Familiarization tour for possible JEA/NSPA convention, Salt Lake City

Oct. 22-23: Texas Association of Journalism Educators Fall Fiesta, San Antonio

Nov. 4-6: JEA Executive Committee meeting, Denver

For the board: Headquarters is thrilled to have a new staff member on board. Arthi Subramanian provides a wealth of computer programming and database management skills that will help us transition into a more technological future. Since bringing her on board, we have been able to diagnose and work toward solutions on both our Write-off and memberships databases. Our long-term goal remains transitioning to a new content management system for the website but members' immediate needs may push back that transition until the first quarter of 2012.

Financially, we ended the first quarter of fiscal year 2012 with \$90,000 in income (8.3 percent of our budget) and \$130,000 in expenses (11.7 percent of our budget). More up-to-date figures will be presented at the JEA board of directors meeting in November.



Mark Newton

Mark Newton, MJE

President

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It has truly been an honor to serve as JEA president. Since my term began July 1, I have been quite busy with JEA.

While a few board members could not attend, most of the new board met in Denver in late May for a retreat. We had an orientation for new board members, spent considerable time on the budget and established goals and action items for our three-year tenure. Please take a few moments to review the notes from the meeting and the subsequent motions and results.

While much of the nuts and bolts can be found in the board members' reports, the highlights of my first 120 days or so include

- Reappointing all committee chairs, liaisons and editor.
- Appointing committees: Branding (Sarah Nichols), C:JET (Tom Gayda, Brenda Gorsuch), Common Core/Partnership for 21st Century Skills (Gary Lindsay, Brian Wilson).
- Creating a JEA organizational chart.
- Working with the Executive Committee to create an application and rubric for Special Projects funding. Evaluated six proposals.
- Working with Kelly on a variety of issues, most notably the new and improved Advisers Institute.
- Attending and presenting at fall workshops in Arizona (keynote), Kansas (keynote), Colorado (keynote) and Texas.
- Spending the afternoon with JEA headquarters staff while in Kansas. I met Arthi, our new webmaster. The highlight was taking the staff to lunch. What a great group!
- Hosting an Executive Committee meeting in Denver in early November. The agenda and notes are online.

I've had many conversations with board members and general members. I am amazed at the talent, dedication, work ethic, passion and vision of all involved in JEA. Our headquarters staff is unbelievable. Our board members — elected and appointed — are exceptional. And, our members are incredible. We've had an amazing start and I'm excited about our ideas and plans as we work together to move JEA forward. It truly is an honor to serve JEA. Thank you for the opportunity. I/we won't let you down.



Sarah Nichols

Sarah Nichols, MJE

Vice President

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Thank you for the opportunity to serve our JEA members — the past five months have been fun and challenging in this new role.

Since the start of my term, I've had the opportunity to support JEA in a variety of ways, some of which include

- Conducting a state director survey to determine wants/needs.
- Researching brand strategy, including serving as the logo committee chairperson.
- Promoting the j program at state and regional workshops.
- Working with regional and state directors on new member retention and general membership outreach.
- Conducting Google+ Hangouts for group communication.
- Exploring options for an expanded online presence.
- Serving on committees (magazine, website, Advisers Institute) to share ideas and enhance JEA programs.
- Working with the Executive Committee team for Special Projects funding, bylaws revision, budget review and other tasks.

We have so many fantastic programs in place and so many committed volunteers working together to support scholastic journalism. I appreciate each of you and all you do.



Lori Oglesbee-Petter

Lori Oglesbee-Petter, MJE

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Jack Kennedy

Jack Kennedy, MJE

Past President

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Membership: I have been involved at several levels with trying to boost membership. In Colorado, I have marketed JEA while wearing my CHSPA executive director hat and while conducting all sorts of workshops, in Colorado, Iowa, Florida, among other places. I am a little concerned about our changeover from \$50 to \$55 for dues, but assume this year will include a mix of amounts paid. By 2012, this will all clear up.

Happenings: CHSPA sponsored its first-ever Constitution Day event, hosted by CU-Boulder. We are trying to reconnect with our friends in Boulder, and we continue to treasure our relationship with CSU in Fort Collins. On Oct. 13, over 1,400 attended our annual J-Day state conference, where we unveiled our first All-Colorado Awards. The conference featured Sarah Nichols and Aaron Manfull as featured speakers — a coup of sorts for any conference at the state level.

Awards and honors: I took over the chair of Awards Committee, which was both gratifying and an eye-opener. We clearly have some amazing folks who deserve recognition, and we clearly need to do a

better job of getting other people nominated. We will work on our marketing. As I passed the presidential baton, as it were, to Mark, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank the board and JEA's general membership for entrusting me with some small part of the leadership of the organization for the past four years (and many more than that, if you want to count other gigs on the board). I made many errors and never quite accomplished what I dreamed of, but I gave it a shot.

For the board: As one of the gray hairs on the board, I will be doing my best to clean up everything from bylaws to procedures to policies, while occasionally providing some context, based on two decades of board meetings, etc. I did not run for this position of past president, and never imagined myself being one of the "wise old heads," but I welcome the challenge. The energy and vision of the newly-constituted board is exciting and challenging.

JEA Award recipients, from Awards Committee Coordinator Connie Fulkerson:

The following awards will be presented Nov. 19 at the 2011 JEA/NSPA Fall National High School Journalism Convention:

Carl Towley Award: Steve O'Donoghue, director, California Scholastic Journalism Initiative, Sacramento, Calif.

Administrator of the Year: Jeffry Henderson, principal, Bloomington (Ind.) High School North

Medal of Merit: Jan Kohls, executive director, Kettle Moraine Press Association, Whitewater, Wis.

Lifetime Achievement: Marian Adams, retired from Lewiston (Idaho) High School (to be awarded posthumously); Linda Mercer, retired from Halifax County (Va.) High School; Dale Schwalm, retired from Daniel J. Gross Catholic High School, Bellevue, Neb.

Friend of Scholastic Journalism: Barbara Martinez, former reporter for The Wall Street Journal, Hoboken, N.J.; Amy DeVault, Elliott School of Communication, Wichita (Kan.) State University; Derius Mammen, former representative for Jostens Publishing, Salina, Kan.; Teresa Scribner, visual journalist, The Seattle Times; George Wilson, publisher, Harrison (Ill.) Daily Register; Lydia Ramos, director of internal communications, Los Angeles Unified School District; Russell LaCour, The Tulsa (Okla.) World and director, NABJ-Tulsa Urban Journalism Workshop; Allison Frick and Robert Charette, WUSA-TV and dc.highschoolsports.net, Washington, D.C.

JEA Commission Chairs



Kim Green

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Our completed projects include

- Updating CJE and MJE applications.
- Welcoming two new Commissioners: Cathy Wall, MJE, and Starr Sackstein, MJE.

Projects in progress include

- Creating three versions of the MJE exam, updating the application, finalizing project guide/rubric.
- Developing additional version(s) of the CJE exam.
- Writing and publishing a series of articles for C:JET on "What's Next" initiative.

Our next action items are

- Aligning Certification initiatives with other JEA commissions, committees, initiatives.
- Identifying more coursework/professional development that will help members complete the three required courses for CJE Option A (news writing/reporting, media law and advising student media).
- Exploring using JEA Certification for state-approved certification in journalism.

We welcome all comments on exploratory items, which include

- Working in partnership with the Poynter Institute and NewsU to develop future online courses for certification options.
- Posting on the JEA website the fact that graduate credit from Kansas State can be earned for acquiring MJE status.
- Posting on the JEA website a database of all MJE projects.

Our current active files show 382 CJE's and 140 MJE's. In Minneapolis, we expect to honor 26 CJE's and seven MJE's as well as six CJE renewals and two MJE renewals. Sharon noted a trend for CJE people to move on to MJE or drop out while MJE's tend to maintain status once they have it.



Tom Gayda

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With almost four months under my belt as chair, a new team has been assembled and plans are underway for several new initiatives and updates.

First, the new commission consists of: Bob Bair, Blair High School; Jeff Browne, University of Kansas; Christine Anne Peirce Coleman, Nolan Catholic High School; Linda Drake, Chase County Junior-Senior High School; Michele Dunaway, Francis Howell High School; Jan Ewell, retired adviser; Deanna Hand, Sinton High School; Michelle Harmon, Borah High School; Brian Hayes, Ball State University; Megan Hughes, Park Hill South High School; Michael Moon, Kinston High School; Laura Negri, Alief Kerr High School; Holly Soboroff, Washington High School; Lizabeth Walsh, Reno High School and Laura Williams, Ruskin High School.

The commission has actively discussed what will take the place of the curriculum exchange CD at conventions and the agenda they would like to tackle. As we have yet to meet as a group in person,

we are looking to Minneapolis as our first chance to set several goals.

Working directly with JEA HQ, we have overhauled the curriculum section of the website to post popular content more frequently based on listserv-users' requests. Personally, I have tried to respond to listserv requests as fast as possible with requested materials when it is available.

Under my command the group is off to a subtle start, with Minneapolis serving as a launch pad for our commission to become better organized and active.



Anita Wertz

Anita Wertz, MJE

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JEA 2011 Aspiring Young Journalist Award

Gabrielle J. Eyl from St. John the Evangelist School in Encinitas, Calif. was named as the 2011 JEA Aspiring Young Journalist. Runners up were Emily Biffinger from Sierra Middle School in Parker, Colo., Anglea Chen from Charles W. Young Junior High School in Arlington, Texas, Danielle Ledgerwood from Maranatha Christian School in San Diego, Calif., and Madison March from Berry Middle School in Hoover, Ala.

Eighth graders are encouraged to start compiling their portfolios for the 2012 Aspiring Young Journalist Award. All information can be found on the JEA website. Portfolios are due March 15.

JEA Junior High/Middle School Mail-in Contest

The mail-in contest continues to showcase great work from junior high/middle school students across the country. The contest is held twice a year. All information is posted on the JEA website.



Norma Kneese

Norma Kneese, MJE

Multicultural Commission Chair

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Dawn Nelson chaired the Outreach Academy at the Anaheim convention in April 2011. Sixteen advisers and teachers attended. A myriad of topics from press law to using JEA sources were covered. According to Nelson, two of the participants were from out of state, two were from Northern California, and the others were from Southern California. She noted that the feedback was favorable. The program also included a student panel made up of California students.

Mary Barron-Traut was the Outreach Academy chair for the Minneapolis Outreach Academy. There were 10 participants. Kathy Schrier was the Outreach Academy chair for the Seattle

Outreach Academy with 11 participants. A new model was implemented to hold the academies during the summer before the fall and spring conventions. During the conventions a final wrap will be conducted with those involved present.

The Teacher Cadre of Stan Zoller, Linda Shockley and Steve O'Donoghue worked with the local Outreach Academy chairs in helping them prepare the curriculum and program of each academy.

From the Outreach Academy report (August 2011): "The team presented on press rights, curriculum, writing, reporting, ethics, resources, funding sources, instructional materials and JEA resources and activities. We spent considerable time prepping them for the convention and how it worked. We stressed practical issues (e.g., transportation, chaperones, sessions, contests) and encouraged them to help each other. We explained how the membership worked, the value of the listserv, and the various opportunities in JEA (e.g., mentors, curriculum, press rights). Both Mary Barron-Traut (Minneapolis) and Kathy Schrier (Washington) did an outstanding job recruiting teachers. Almost without exception they were advisers who were looking for help and needed it."

There were two applicants for the Diversity Award: Arrow Newsmagazine of Renton High School, Renton, Wash. and J Camp sponsored by AAJA of San Francisco, Calif.

Steve O'Donoghue, former Multicultural Commission chair and active JEA member, has been selected to receive the Carl Towley Award, the highest and most prestigious award bestowed by the Journalism Education Association, at the fall 2011 convention.



John Bowen

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The commission remains busy since the Anaheim convention. In addition to working with students and advisers, in-person and through the JEA listserv, on censorship issues and intervening where needed or asked, commission members have been busy on several projects that include

- Constitution Day lessons and teaching materials.
- Lessons and resources for understanding the importance of the *Sisley v. Seattle* decision.
- Developing guidelines for ethics of online student media.
- Continued work on Making a Difference compilation of student reporting as examples of strong journalism.
- Continued work with the 45words Student Partners group.

In addition, commission members will meet at Kent State University in March 2012, to work on

- Developing lessons and activities covering legal and ethical issues and tying them to Partnership for 21st Century Skills, Common Core, tests and JEA-SPRC mission and goals.
- Developing a toolkit, action plan template and how-to packages that supporters of free student expression legislation can use in

their regions/states that don't have such laws in place.

- Developing a definite process for handling censorship notifications. This could be standardized and shared with JEA members, state and regional directors and others. The format would provide for a procedure for those who intervene according to JEA position passed several years ago.
- Formulating a three-year mission and goals will provide perspective and priority for commission ongoing and long-term activities and projects. We will also look at ways to obtain outside funding for such projects and evaluate effective ways to reach and maintain our goals through individual, team or group efforts. We will also develop a way to measure journalism teacher needs and wants concerning press rights and ethics.
- Creating a model for what "boot camps" for incoming staffs or programs without classes might teach about law and ethics, including lessons, activities and materials.
- Creating a toolkit of legal and ethical materials and resources for new journalism teachers and advisers.
- Developing a model for a community outreach and information program to explain the importance of scholastic journalism, especially focusing on legal and ethical issues.

Our projects support JEA's long-standing mission and position statements on press rights and moving them into alignment with 21st century standards and practices. Our work will go a long way in protecting our members and journalism teaching in general by providing materials and educational rationale to support JEA's mission and core values of pedagogy, advocacy, excellence, innovation and community.

Individually, commission members have also been busy:

Jane Blystone, MJE

Since the spring 2011 report, I have spent considerable time working to advertise for and gather student work for the Making a Difference project. At this point, an editorial team will review these documents for selection. We hope to get the project ready for the spring convention.

At the state level, I have worked with several students in Pennsylvania to help them through a censorship problem, and we are now working to enhance their student publications policy. Additionally, I have provided opportunity for two 45words Student Partners to speak at the Pennsylvania School Press Association convention about the work they do as national members of this group.

I have also posted updates as they come from the National School Boards Association Legal Clips to the JEA-SPRC blog to keep advisers abreast of First Amendment court cases that relate to the First Amendment as interpreted by the NSBA.

Candace Perkins Bowen, MJE

Since last spring's Scholastic Press Rights Commission report, I have served in ways that include

- Assisting students, their parents (and former adviser) at Ohio's Rocky River High School when they were fighting the reassignment of the teacher. I attended a school board meeting and spoke on their behalf. I worked with the student editor to plan next steps to avoid prior review.
- Working with 45words students, including participating in

conference calls and helping with the technology needed for their blog (housed at Kent State), Twitter and Facebook accounts. I put them in touch with several student newspaper editors who were having censorship issues.

- Following up on the contact Fern Valentine made in Anaheim with a printer willing to make business cards for the 45words students. Then I helped Alison Dunaway finalize the content and design for the cards. The printing is in process at this moment and will be delivered before the Minneapolis convention.
- Finishing the activities/questions/tests/PowerPoints to go with "Law of the Student Press" (3rd edition), coauthored with John Bowen with help from Mark Goodman and several others.
- Answering censorship and other legal questions that JEAHELP listserv members sent to me (approximately 12 of various types, including copyright issues, prior review and editorial policy statements). Did the same with five others (besides Rocky River) for Ohio Scholastic Media Association schools.

Carrie Faust, MJE

The majority of my spring was spent working with the student journalists from the Overland Scout in Aurora, Colo., in their fight against censorship. In short, their paper was held after prior review, their adviser was removed from her advising assignment, and the administration decided the paper would be "going another direction" in the fall. My involvement included giving the Scout staff a place to meet off campus so that their adviser would not be tagged with insubordination, getting the kids in touch with the right people to help them, including the SPLC and the ACLU, and fielding calls from local and national news organizations. Much of that fight was documented through my posts to the listserv in an attempt to keep the story alive and the pressure on the administration. The result of the students' efforts was the reinstatement of their adviser and a "business-as-usual" decision about the paper's future. I'm also proud to report that the editors, Lori Shafer and Jackie Gutierrez, were honored with IHSPA's Champion of Freedom Award at their First Amendment Day celebration and, most recently, with the SPLC Courage in Student Journalism Award. Both awards are so well-deserved and these amazing young ladies are to be commended for their efforts in this fight.

John Bowen and I presented on "Sound Editorial Policies" at the Anaheim convention and will do so again this fall in Minneapolis.

This summer, I again went on my "yearbook camp tour" from Florida to Pennsylvania and back to Colorado. At each stop, I worked to encourage yearbook journalists to know their rights and explore, responsibly, the type of journalism that will be important for years and years to come. As I experience more pockets of scholastic journalism through workshops and judging, I realize how important it is to educate yearbook journalists and their advisers on their First Amendment rights; this part of our community have believed themselves to be "not-really-journalists" for too long.

News from Colorado has been relatively quiet this year. The Colorado High School Press Association has reorganized with its latest election and created new board positions including that of an Advocacy Coordinator. Regis High School newspaper adviser Adam Dawkins was elected to this position and is already reaching out across the state. One item to watch is a possible case of censorship at Windsor High School, home of CHSPA board member Jill Jones.

At last word, her newspaper staff has been told they cannot write an article about a powderpuff football game-turned melee (complete with hospital visits) or the ensuing discipline action. We have all been in contact. At this point, Jill has wisely extracted herself from the fight and her kids are still deciding whether they want to push forward. They have been in touch with the SPLC.

Finally, the next “big item” on Colorado’s agenda is to pursue adviser protection legislation in line with California’s recent law. CHSPA’s executive director, Jack Kennedy, is currently laying the groundwork and finding allies for this fight. We’re excited to have support from the Colorado SPJ chapter and are working on bipartisan support to help introduce future legislation.

Karen Flowers

We (SIPA) have plans to do a survey late fall that tries to get a handle on what is going on in the state with prior review and censorship. We are especially trying to see if advisers are operating under prior review but don’t know it. We are trying to get a handle on what the advisers really know about law.

We have had a case this fall in which paper under prior review published a four-page special showing the principal “trying to take money from a charity event” (said he was going to use \$25,000 of money collected in annual fund-raiser for an after school program he was developing because grad rate so low). The coverage was awesome — even had a column from principal — principal asked for some changes before it went to press and those changes were made, and it was printed and distributed. He got angry saying he thought it wouldn’t be printed because of the point of the controversy was moot after a contributor came forward to pay for the program — because of being made aware of the principal’s demand (not request).

Our liaison position is still in the works. We need much more time to develop and get the word out.

Megan Fromm

Since I’m relatively new, I don’t have a ton of activities to report. Here’s what I have:

- I wrote a back-to-school letter for teachers to use when looking to start a dialogue with their principals, with a focus on encouraging free student media. I posted the letter on the commission blog.
- I provided a lesson for the blog on truth and the marketplace of ideas.
- I wrote lessons for and coordinated the Constitution Day package.
- I contributed content and editing suggestions to H.L. Hall’s Seattle case PowerPoint.
- I taught a First Amendment session in Anaheim.

H.L. Hall, MJE

I wrote the introduction for the blog material for *Sisley v. Seattle* which reinforces JEA’s belief the school has no liability when students make final decisions of content.

I will also serve on the Making a Difference committee. I did get Franklin McCallie, former principal, to write a statement on the importance of student free expression.

I push the First Amendment at every conference I’ve spoken to. I always offer a \$20 bill for anyone who can say the First

Amendment, but I rarely give one away. I offer \$1 at Kent’s ASNE Institute. I couldn’t afford to give \$20 to everyone who says it there. I also push Constitution Day at every conference where I am. I encourage the journalism teachers to create some “across the curriculum” activities that will make the First Amendment come alive for students and teachers.

Marina Hendricks

The NAA Foundation revised and updated a curriculum for Constitution Day this year — First Things First: Using the Newspaper to Teach the Five Freedoms of the First Amendment. <http://www.naafoundation.org/Curriculum/NIE.aspx>

Other activities: pitching in with 45words, contributing to the blog during John Bowen’s Social Roles class, helping with the online guidelines.

Lori Keekley

Since the last report, I attended the SPRC work session at Poynter where I helped write and edit some materials. During the summer and early fall, I worked with John Bowen, Megan Fromm, Jeff Kocur and Chris Waugaman on Constitution Day materials, which may be found at www.jeasprc.org. For Constitution Day, we offered three different sets of lesson plans centered around the First Amendment. Aside from Constitution Day, I have provided some general support for those threatened with prior review from administration — both in Minnesota and in other states.

Miranda Leung, 45words

For 45words thus far my activities include

- Submitting photographs to Flickr for the SJW photo contest.
- Designing Student Journalism Week poster.
- Contacting and corresponded with Lori Schafer from Overland High School about the censorship battle The Scout faced.
- Designing a Constitution Day poster.

Deb Buttleman Malcolm, MJE

First, the good: Four kids wrote a grant for community outreach concerning the First Amendment and the Constitution. We had 16 pages of inserts to the print newspaper on constitutional thought and creativity.

Constitution Day for us here was an all-day event at Central High School in Davenport. The morning began with athletes digging a hole for a Literacy/Liberty Tree to be planted later in the morning by dignitaries and elementary students as the climax to their activities sponsored by the local Quill & Scroll chapter. About 100 students were part of face painting, constitutional songs and cheers, speakers and awards for essays, art and photos about the Constitution.

Over lunch, all high school students at our school had the opportunity to hear talking statues and participate in soapbox debate. At 1p.m. the event came inside for a town meeting with other area high schools concerning why students should be able to address controversial issues.

Day panelists included Brian Smith, digital media director for the Iowa State Daily and SPA chapter treasurer at Iowa State; Mark Witherspoon, professor at the Greenlee School of Journalism and adviser of the Iowa State Daily; Michael Dahlstrom, assistant professor of journalism at the Greenlee School and chair of the

First Amendment Day Committee for the Greenlee School of Journalism; Dylan Boyle, last year's Society of Professional Journalists ISU Chapter president; Vanessa Shelton, executive director of Quill & Scroll and professor at the University of Iowa; Principal Robert Scott; city alderman and teacher Mike Matson; and Senior Class President Whitney Leming.

Later in the evening, Davenport city attorney Tom Warner and retired Central social studies teacher Barb Hess joined the group on stage. Gene Policinski, senior vice president and executive director of the First Amendment Center, joined by Skype. We had a really good showing and lots of positive feedback.

The bad: There appears to be more than one way to stop freedom of expression. The kids had originally wanted to get into topics and critical thinking in regard to controversial issues and reporting. However, the meetings shifted after North High School addressed what was going on with technology and that became the focus of both the afternoon and evening sessions. North High School was unable to produce their first issue until West High School allowed them to utilize their equipment. As of today they are still waiting for software. To resolve the problem, Witherspoon suggested students go public and Shelton added to get parents involved. Policinski cautioned students to first investigate the intent. Two school board member in the audience said they had no idea students were facing problems.

The ugly: We ended up putting our Issue 2 (Constitution) together on a laptop computer with five days left in the term. Our Quark was restored yesterday but the motion graphics lab is still not complete and we had computers purchased that have not been faced. Everything we do now is being duplicated as our joint principals are hoping to change things.

Janet McKinney, MJE

During the past year I revised curriculum for the summer yearbook workshop at Indiana University and developed new handouts to give editors on topics that include

- Online ethics and responsibilities while utilizing 21st-century technology.
- Common copyright infractions.
- Copyright registration of publications.
- First Amendment rights and responsibilities.
- Importance of documentation and consistency in solid journalistic research and reporting skills.
- Making a positive difference in community through responsible reporting.

Since I have retired I have dedicated quality time to give back to working advisers and high school journalists through judging for state organizations and national critique services. Also, I am mentoring new advisers and continuing to speak at regional, state and national conventions. I continue to be an advocate for high school publications, but now with more of a personal connection.

While judging newspapers and yearbooks I have been discouraged by the reckless disregard or possibly lack of awareness for simple copyright rules. Therefore, in more than half of my judging comments I share facts about copyright law and suggestions for how to accomplish the same goal/purpose without copyright infractions.

One of two sessions I presented at the Indiana state convention

addressed press rights and responsibilities with examples taken from publications I have been judging, of course blocking out all identification of the publication. At the national convention, again I will participate in the panel. Also, I am doing an adviser session to address handling nightmare situations with administrators.

Currently, I am mentoring three new advisers. I provided each with handouts, First Amendment and press rights posters, activities and lesson plans. I maintain regular contact with them to help them build confidence and to know they are not alone in any circumstance.

At the start of the school year, a Jeffersonville High School adviser was the target of prior review and related actions. I shared her situation and an editorial supportive of her and her students via social networking. Responses validated that the administrator was wrong. The administrator causing the problem is still with the school corporation but is no longer the adviser's superior involving publication situations. I continue to monitor this case through personal contacts with the Indiana adviser.

Anaika Miller, 45words

I will co-present the "Ethics & Law" session with Caroline Zhang at the Minneapolis convention.

I organized our first Constitution Week video contest, though unfortunately, nobody entered. I shared with the group that I think this is because we need to increase our presence at conventions and in the minds of student journalists before we expect a following.

I also created flyers for the video contest so that all of the Student Partners could advertise it in their community.

I was in charge of the Facebook page, and also kept it up during my shift (Sept. 2-10). Some of my posts include the Oscar winning short film "I Met the Walrus" which featured an interview with John Lennon conducted by 14-year-old fan, a link to a ruling regarding off-campus blogs, one regarding student censorship and two posts regarding the Constitution Week video contest. I also wrote one that tried to increase our fans during our fan drive.

I wrote a blog on my coverage of Osama bin Laden's death with the goal of helping others localize larger, world events.

Sarah Nichols, MJE

Since my spring report, I have continued online communication, including Wimba chat, Facebook group and Student Partners listserv, with the Student Partners group toward their 45words initiatives. The group's two main summer projects were creating a Constitution Day video contest (publicized on Facebook) and creating a schedule for systematic, scheduled content on Twitter and the blog site. They also finalized business cards to be distributed at the fall convention and during other presentations.

I helped coordinate the four sessions they will be presenting in Minneapolis, working with Connie Fulkerson to handle the session descriptions, bios and contact information. This convention will be the largest presence of Student Partners, both in terms of attendance and programming. They are working on plans for the booth, including giveaways, activities and interactive forms of supporting free speech and spreading awareness about the First Amendment.

In terms of outreach, I have been able to promote the various support systems of the SPRC, Student Partners and SPLC during spring and summer workshops. As a featured speaker at the Florida Scholastic Press Association's spring conference, I did a presentation

on First Amendment topics in the leadership seminar. I passed out 45words buttons and promoted awareness in six states during a variety of journalism workshops. I also contacted students for support in dealing with administrators and communicated with advisers in need about what we could do to support their students.

Locally, I worked with Jim Ewert (legal counsel, California Newspaper Publishers Association) to have him as a speaker at our state convention in California (Oct. 14-15) to present a law/ethics session on our program, and have been in contact with Peter Scheer from the First Amendment Coalition about ways we can work together for additional programming in Northern California.

Glenn Morehouse Olson, CJE

Thought one: This summer I was up to my eyeballs writing a number of articles for C:JET magazine concerning covering the arts. I think if journalism teachers have natural allies in the schools, they would come from the arts departments. This might be something to pursue at some point. Often, arts students have First Amendment issues, but really don't have as much support as journalism students.

Thought two: Last year I did some action research concerning Partnership for 21st Century Skills and I hope to pursue that discussion with members of the SPRC and other JEA groups. Specialty programs (not just journalism) are facing cuts as schools knee-jerk to create cookie-cutter classes to accommodate common assessments. Perhaps we can help save some programs if we can continue to tie our "outcome-based" learning programs to national and state standards.

Thought Three: I will be presenting a First Amendment session at the fall convention.

Thought Four: I also spent the summer lining up the featured speakers for the fall convention. We have some great folks on board, including a Minnesota Supreme Court justice.

Matt Schott, CJE

I continued to run the 45words project with Sarah Nichols, Marina Hendricks, Candace Bowen and John Bowen. We selected and began working with our second class of 45words Student Partners, as the first class has graduated and moved on to college. One is now a SPRC member. I think this is a great idea to see if we can get these students to continue on with this project and fighting for First Amendment rights.

I helped lead the fight against Missouri SB54, a law passed in the summer of 2011 by the Missouri Senate which would have infringed upon First Amendment rights of teachers. A revised bill with the offending portions removed sits on the governor's desk. He hasn't stated whether he will sign it or not, because the bill still requires Missouri school districts to have some sort of social media policy. The fear of teachers here is that the districts will rely on the Missouri School Board Association, which is notoriously conservative.

To that end, I crafted a Model Social Media Policy. This has been shared with the two teacher unions in Missouri (MSTA and MNEA). I am waiting for their feedback and whether they are willing to help support and promote this policy.

The 45words students in Missouri presented at the state press association gathering in April, as well as the St. Louis press association gathering in March.

Kathy Schrier, MJE

In our summer discussion about what projects we should prioritize, a number of commission members agreed we should find ways to promote the recent Washington Superior Court decision affirming that when students control content in their media, school districts are protected from being successfully sued for content. I jumped on the bandwagon with this project, because I work in the Seattle School District where this case is now being appealed. If the decision is upheld, it will be significant on a national scale. During commission discussions about the case, I suggested doing a short video report. Others agreed that this would be effective.

With the help of Vince DeMiero (interviewer) and his daughter, Maria (camera), we conducted interviews with both the adviser, Christine Roux, at Roosevelt High School, and with SPLC attorney Mike Hiestand about the significance of the case. I then requested an interview with Roosevelt principal, Brian Vance, who was then advised by school district attorneys to not provide the interview. They also instructed Christina to not speak to us further.

The video project is currently on hold, probably until the case makes it through its appeal. The recorded interviews will still be useable at a later date, so our time was not wasted.

My other efforts include our annual summer workshop, where we make sure new advisers are indoctrinated with information about how the First Amendment applies to the work of student journalists, and how the role of a media adviser fits into this.

Also, my work at the Washington News Council involves promoting the TAO of Journalism Pledge (endorsed by JEA) to student journalists around the country. I will be conducting a session on the TAO of Journalism at the Minneapolis convention.

Randy Swikle, MJE

I have been working on a number of projects that can enhance services of the Scholastic Press Rights Commission and promote our causes in scholastic journalism. As I recover from my July 1 stroke, I am able to pick up the pace of my activity. Some of my ongoing efforts include

- To continue promoting the McCormick Foundation's Protocol for Free & Responsible Student News Media. We need to make sure more scholastic journalism stakeholders are aware of the protocol and how they can use it to enhance the practice of authentic journalism by students in our schools. I am working particularly on strategies to showcase the value of free and responsible student news media and to encourage the support of school decision-makers in applying the protocol process.
- To create an instrument to hold school authorities and all stakeholders accountable for their priorities regarding the student press. For example, We can ask stakeholders to respond to questions that reveal their top priority:
 - the school mission, or the school image?
 - to listen, or to hear?
 - to confront controversy, or to dodge controversy.
- To create an instrument to identify attitudes school officials and other stakeholders hold regarding the student press.

For example:

What is the primary purpose of student news media:

- a. To serve as an exercise for journalism students to practice media skills;
- b. To serve as a vehicle for presenting positive, school-approved coverage of community issues and events;
- c. To serve the functions of authentic American journalism within the

parameters of scholastic press law.

Which oversight strategy for student news media best nurtures intrinsic motivation and student responsibility?

- a. PRIOR REVIEW, which allows school authorities to examine and approve or prohibit the dissemination of student news media before distribution.
- b. COMPLETE STUDENT AUTONOMY, which places total responsibility on student journalists to independently guard the ethics, competence and operation of their news medium within the parameters of school policies and scholastic press law.
- c. COLLABORATION, which achieves oversight — without prior review — among journalism stakeholders through voluntary protocol and interactions that inspire legal and ethical decision-making before, during and/or after a publication/broadcast cycle.

Which statement best reflects your understanding of scholastic press law in public schools?

- a. Public school authorities have ultimate control over all content of student news media and may arbitrarily censor any article that is controversial, unpopular, offensive or disagreeable to the views of school authorities and the school mission.
 - b. The First Amendment rights of student journalists are coextensive with the rights of professional journalists.
 - c. Public school students have control over the content of their news media within the parameters of scholastic press law, and scholastic press law limit school authorities regarding when they may supersede the content decisions of student editors.
- To develop a blueprint for inspiring professional news media to cover the profound, positive impact scholastic journalism can have on American education and culture; and to bring light to how many administrators subvert the school mission by their attempts to autocratically control the student press.
 - To develop a coordinated plan for an alliance of scholastic journalism organizations (and perhaps other stakeholder groups) to endorse a single document that illuminates:
 - the nature and value of scholastic journalism in America,
 - the threats that impair its authentic implementation, and
 - the need to adopt protocol that will protect democratic education from authoritarian administrators.

John Tagliareni

Since my retirement last year, I have been active at Bergenfield High School, assisting the new Bear Facts adviser as an unofficial mentor. I am still active in the Garden State Press Association as a past president and member of the executive board.

I will speak at the Columbia Scholastic Press Association Fall Conference Nov. 7, and at the CSPA Spring Convention in New York in March 2012. I will speak at the Garden State Scholastic Press Association Fall Conference at Rutgers University Oct. 24, and the GSSPA Spring Conference May 4, 2012.

I will present sessions on how to deal with controversial and sensitive issues as well as other sessions. I always cover the legal aspects of Tinker and Hazelwood, and I give students and advisers strategies for working with administrators. I discuss their rights and responsibilities and assist them if with any censorship issues.

At the GSSPA Spring Conference last year, I presented a session on the McCormick Foundation's Protocol. I had a variety of stakeholders in attendance, and they had a lot of interest in the information that I handed out and discussed. I will continue to offer sessions and to have the GSSPA continue to promote the protocol throughout New Jersey. I will be happy to help with the committee regarding the protocol.

I will also work with the group to develop strategies and to create a blueprint for helping those who want to take on the task of getting a bill passed in their states to counteract Hazelwood. I had experience with this in New Jersey. At that time, our legislation had passed in the assembly. Governor Florio, our keynote speaker at the GSSPA conference at Rutgers, promised to sign the bill when it got to his desk. Unfortunately, it failed in the senate by a narrow margin. I learned valuable lessons that I can share with those who want to work on this project.

However, I also want to explore another idea that has worked in New Jersey and might also work in other states. This would make the legislation unnecessary. Mark Goodman, who served as the director of the SPLC at that time, assisted us with his expertise and support. He explained we still had the N.J. State Constitution on our side, which has broader First Amendment protection than the U.S. Constitution.

The New Jersey Constitution, Article 1, Section 6 states, "Every person may freely speak, write and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right." We have even had a State Supreme Court victory against Hazelwood, in *Desilits v. Clearview Regional District*. That case involved a middle school student who was censored for writing reviews of two R-rated movies. The courts held for the student, and included the decision that Hazelwood did not apply in New Jersey due to the state constitution. This precedent has helped to counteract Hazelwood in New Jersey.

As Mark explained when the case was litigated, the U.S. Constitution, while powerful, is worded in the negative, but the state has its constitution worded in the affirmative, in which the state can provide a greater degree of protection than the U.S. Constitution.

I recently looked back on some material from the SPLC that I had saved on Hazelwood, and it stated that 44 states had some similar affirmative language. It is something that could be explored further and distributed to those states through their state associations, making it easier for publications to challenge or threaten to challenge censorship in court. Rather than going through the long process of legislation, this is something already on the books in many states. It worked here and could make an immediate impact in other states.

Mary Turocy, 45words

This year, I posted four or five comments on articles about censorship situations, in addition to posting on the Facebook page during my assigned week in September.

I am currently in contact with Unionville (Pa.) High School's editor-in-chief. Their newspaper, the Indian Post, was the focus of a censorship debate last spring. Meghan Morris led an effort from our staff to support them, especially because Unionville is only about 20 minutes away from our high school.

This fall, I've picked up where she left off, emailing regularly with their co-EIC, Laura Kelly. I shared our policy with her as a model and hope to meet with her soon over Skype to discuss it. They will be meeting with the superintendent soon, and I will continue to stay in touch with her throughout the school year. I also invited Laura to come to the PSPA convention Nov. 10-11, where she can meet SPLC lawyer Frank LoMonte and Laura Weiss and I will present a 45words session about First Amendment basics.

In addition to presenting in Harrisburg, I will help present the 45words “Ethics and the Law” session in Minneapolis.

During the rest of the year, I’d like to continue posting comments to support students facing censorship, especially now that I’ve had practice expressing my views quickly and convincingly. I will be doing much to prepare for the conventions in Harrisburg and Minneapolis: I’m writing a scenario including a censorship situation and 45words to be the topic of the PSPA write-off, and I’m in charge of coming up with a way to provide Internet access at the 45words booth at the JEA/NSPA convention, so people can tweet and like our Facebook page.

Fern Valentine, MJE

We have been working on finding a senator to sponsor a press rights bill in Washington state. No luck yet. I worked on writing a synopsis of the Seattle Roosevelt lawsuit for H.L. Hall’s PowerPoint. He revised my notes, as they needed it badly.

Mike Heistand and I spoke to the advisers at WJEA’s Annual Newspaper Day at the University of Washington Sept. 15 about student press rights and how to get help as needed and made an appeal for senator ideas. Heistand gave a wonderful synopsis of relevant court cases including the one at Roosevelt and answered lots of questions. We are so lucky to have him. Our Fight for the Right to Write students attended as well. Kathy Schrier did a superior job of organizing this event as always. We had around 30 advisers and their students there from all over the state.

I represent the SPRC at our WJEA Board meetings and also participate in the committee for the April convention in Seattle although my job there is to get Write-off judges.

Brittany Valencic, 45words

As a Student Partner, I have made several posts on the 45words Facebook page. I have had the opportunity to contact students to offer support in situations and with publications facing censorship issues.

I have spread the word about the First Amendment through my high school and have run several projects to help do so. I will be speaking at a session in Minneapolis, as well.

I hope to do more as a Student Partner and make a bigger difference in the year to come.

Joe Weber, 45words

So far this year in 45words, I’ve had the chance to hear some amazing stories of students and teachers dealing with censorship at their school.

When three of us presented at Webster University for Sponsors of School Publications and MU for Missouri Interscholastic Press Association, we sat down with several students — mostly from rural areas in Missouri — whose small town atmosphere created an environment where their administrations feared any controversial subject the newspaper wanted to cover.

I was not able to attend the “Think First” presentation at the spring convention in Anaheim, but I was able to sit at the booth and answer questions during the first day of sessions.

I also wrote a blog post about a teacher from Boonville, Mo. who lost her position as journalism adviser due to an article about homosexuality in her class’ newspapers which I posted in July. I can’t wait to get started on Minneapolis!

Victor Xu, 45 words

It has been a profound honor to serve as a Student Partner. Beginning with Anaheim, I helped plan the 45words agenda at the convention but was unable to do more because I was not able to attend.

During the summer, I worked with our social media. I wrote two blogs for <http://www.45words.org> about the debacle at The Scout and lessons journalists can learn from the Murdoch scandal. I have tweeted several times regarding news pertinent to the First Amendment and student press rights.

This summer, I attended Ball State Journalism Workshops, where another Student Partner and I gave a presentation on 45words, the First Amendment and how our Student Partners can aid schools facing problems with prior review.

Currently, I am working on my presentation for the convention at Minneapolis.

SPRC members:

John Bowen (chair), Karen Barrett, Jane Blystone, Candace Perkins Bowen, Merle Dieleman, Vince DeMiero, Tim Dorway, Carrie Faust, Karen Flowers, Megan Fromm, Mark Goodman, H.L. Hall, Marina Hendricks, Lori Keekley, Janet McKinney, Sarah Nichols, Glenn Morehouse Olson, Cheryl Pell, Linda Puntney, Matt Schott, Kathy Schrier, Tracy Sena, Diane Smith, Randy Swikle, John Tagliareni, Fern Valentine.

45words members:

Kelci Davis, Francis Howell Central High School; St. Charles, Mo.
Alison Dunaway, Francis Howell High School; St. Charles, Mo.
Miranda Leung, Chantilly High School; Chantilly, Va.
Jennifer Lin, Palo Alto High School; Palo Alto, Calif.
Anaika Miller, Foothill Technology High School; Ventura, Calif.
Mary Turocy, Conestoga High School; Berwyn, Pa.
Michael Tuschman, St. Louis Park High School; St. Louis Park, Minn.
Brittany Valencic, Hillsborough High School; Tampa, Fla.
Joe Weber, Kirkwood High School; Kirkwood, Mo.
Laura Weiss, Conestoga High School; Berwyn, Pa.
Victor Xu, Carmel High School; Carmel, Ind.
Caroline Zhang, Carmel High School; Carmel, Ind.



Visit the
JEA Bookstore
for 45words
T-shirts,
posters and
buttons:

<http://store.jea.org/>

JEA Committee Chairs and Liaisons



Bradley Wilson

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This fall got off to a rough start. Because JEA had a new executive director, new president, new vice president and new secretary, it took a while to get the editorial leadership appointed, putting us behind on the fall issue. However, thanks to strong work by Howard Spanogle in gathering information on arts coverage that turned into an in-depth package, we produced a 40-page issue on schedule and ahead of budget in terms of income.

The first idea is an online feature that expands on a concept we started back in 2003 adding content to the magazine online. This will serve as a value-added concept for current members and enticement for prospective members. The second idea reemphasizes information contained in print particles of the entertainment package. It changes sidebars in the fall issue into direct links to the fall convention. The winter issue, also 40 pages, went to press early.

Authors: One of our goals is to have a variety of authors. Of our 11 major contributors to the first two issues of the magazine this fall, all but three had never written for the publication before. This means 73 percent were new authors. Of the 266 authors of which I've tracked addresses, 38 states are represented, as are all regions.

Feedback: Some years, we do an in-depth survey of content to get feedback from members. Some years, we have done focus groups at the national conventions. Some years, we've just settled for soliciting feedback at the Meet, Eat and Greet sessions as well as the General Membership and Board meetings. This fall we will be having a session at the Minneapolis convention to discuss the magazine, solicit contributors and get feedback.

Proposal: We have asked the Certification Commission to consider requiring MJE applicants to have a published piece of work as part of their Master Journalism Educator application. Their published work would NOT have to be published in a JEA publication but would have to be published in a publication that required working with an editor so the author could experience the editorial and review process.

A detailed report regarding the magazine is available online: <http://issuu.com/wilsonbrad/docs/cjetf11report/1>.



Aaron Manfull

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The JEADigitalMedia.org site has continued to grow, as has the support for the flood of schools moving online. We have continued

tracking data so we can get a gauge of how we are doing with this. I will put some links at the end of this report for you to see all of the data if you wish, as I will only be touching upon a bit of it.

I have decided to compare six month periods of the site (from March 13-Sept. 13 and Sept. 14-March 12) each year that I do this. They are even six-month periods and allow us to get an annual report together in time for each convention.

Since we began in 2009, we had more than 350 articles published, 47,000+ visits, and more than 117,000 page views. Including myself, there are 30 members of the committee. Ten committee members are considered contributors for contributing frequently to the site.

Traffic to the site is still mainly coming from those coming to us directly and those finding us on Google. We also have a presence on Twitter and Facebook (links below). Our goal is to get three posts per week. We are pretty close to that most weeks.

Aside from keeping up with the site, we have worked to increase digital media sessions offered at national conventions.

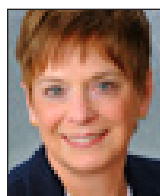
The main thing we focused on the past six months was creating the "Guide to Moving Online." It's a portion of the website we created to help schools who are moving online easily find articles they need to get them started down the path. While we still have some holes to fill, we feel it is a great starting point for schools. The launch of the Guide was the site's biggest traffic day ever.

We plan to continue the path we are on. As always, if there is anything anyone would like to see on the site, please email us at info@jeadigitalmedia.org.

Visitor data for JEADigitalMedia.org: <http://bit.ly/9fEoUf>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/jeadigitalmedia>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/jeadigitalmedia>



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As of Oct. 9, the JEAHELP list, open to all members, had 1,259. As it continues grow, that's 33 more than last spring and 133 ahead of last fall. The JEATALK list, for officers, commission and committee chairs and regional and state directors, had 85, the same number as last spring.

Listserv update and trivia: It's a bit hard to come up with new info about the lists for my reports twice a year. Since JEAHELP began Aug. 24, 1998, we've had good news and bad, funny posts and very sad ones. I tried to get the server to indicate how many total posts we have had, and it spun and coughed and spun some more. I gave up finding that bit of trivia. I do know the following:

- Two of the first four posts that inaugural week were from our new Carl Towley winner, Steve O'Donoghue. His were suggestions for how a first-year teacher can deal with his school's strike. The second week had only one post: The strike was settled.

- However, O'Donoghue, with a total of 8,664 posts, is not nearly as visible as some listservians. Wayne Brasler, our Windy City sage, has posted 28,594 times since his first JEAHELP message Nov. 14, 1998. Your listserv liaison (cpb) has posted 19,544 times, which, of course, includes weekly current events quizzes, the first one Sept. 29, 2004. (The second week's quiz, Oct. 5, included answers ... by popular demand.)
- "Newsies" was in the subject line 56 times and in the body of posts 376 times, including 14 times since last spring's report. Meanwhile, some form of the word "censor" has been in the subject line 4,277 times and in the body of a message 7,327, 48 of those since the spring report.
- Not surprisingly, questions and comments about the upcoming JEA/NSPA convention have been plentiful. I tried searching the archives for "Minneapolis" and was amazed it came up 13,271 times! Then I discovered that also included every time it appeared in the address in Logan Aimone's signature. (Logan, by the way, posted an even 2,300 times, BUT that isn't very accurate because, prior to becoming NSPA's director in 2007, he used a different email address, which I no longer have.) Perhaps another way to gauge this: The word "convention" has been in messages 1,624 times since April, and the word "hotel" 372.
- And, finally, although this was also in last spring's report, I'm adding it here again:
 - To get the digest form, go to <http://listserv.kent.edu>.
 - Select List Subscriber Login.
 - Input your email address as it is on the listserv. You probably don't have a password, so you may have to click on the link above the fields to "get a new listserv password."
 - Once you have logged in, click on "Subscriber's Corner" below the top blue bar. This allows you to choose My Settings, and then select [Settings] (in blue) and change to the digest format. Check the list (you probably only have one — or maybe two) and hit SUBMIT.
 - The archives are also accessible through that portal.



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Membership: Julie Dodd and Linda Barrington (co-chairs), and committee members Bill Flechtner, Peggy Gregory, Norma Kneese, Mary Anne McCloud and Judy Robinson.

Happenings: The JEA Mentoring Program is beginning its fifth year. To date, we've trained 39 mentors who have worked with more than 200 mentees in 17 states. New mentors are Cornelia Harris and Kay Windsor, both from North Carolina. The program for 2011-2012 has 33 active mentors. Dianne Gum (Colo.), one of the members of the first cohort of mentors, retired this fall from the program for health reasons. We thank her for her valuable mentoring and contributions to the program and scholastic journalism. Mentors Nancy Becker (Wis.) and Jolene Combs (Calif.) both passed away since the Anaheim convention. Current mentors in those three states have picked up the mentees who were working with Becker and Combs.

The training of new mentors was held during the JEA/NSPA convention in Anaheim, as that is a less expensive model than conducting the training in the summer, which is what we had done for the three previous training sessions. The training was redesigned to fit into the convention schedule. The next training for new mentors will be at the JEA/NSPA convention in Seattle in April 2012. The new mentor training and the Mentor Forums focus on JEA goals, including student press rights, promoting diversity, and encouraging best practices in curriculum development and use. The training follows the best practices of the New Teacher Center, originally a part of UC/Santa Cruz and now an independent non-profit.

We are recruiting new mentors and new states for the 2012-2013 school year. To participate, a state needs to provide the funding for the mentor's stipend, which is \$2,500 a year. We have found that it can take six months to a year (or more) for a state organization to secure the funds needed and to identify a retired or soon-to-be-retired adviser to participate in the program. All of this needs to be lined up by March so the new mentors can make the needed arrangements to attend the April mentor training.

A fall edition of JEA Mentoring Matters will be posted on the mentoring blog, with copies for distribution at the JEA/NSPA convention in Minneapolis. The newsletter highlights the activities and people involved in the mentoring program. We email the newsletter to funders and others interested in the program. The mentors distribute copies of the newsletter during their recruitment work at schools and state scholastic journalism workshops and conventions.

The mentor blog (<http://jeamentoring.org>), launched two years ago, has been a useful tool not only for publicizing the ongoing work of the program but as a way for mentors to share ideas and happenings with the rest of the group. Committee members, mentors and mentees contribute to the blog. We have asked headquarters to provide a link from the JEA site to the mentor blog.

The mentoring program also uses a listserv for internal communication.

The next issue of C:JET will include a package on mentoring with an article by Linda Barrington. Coverage of the program has been included in C:JET wraps, but this is the first time the program has received in-magazine coverage, which we appreciate.

Sixteen mentors attended the Mentor Forum in Anaheim. Topics included strengths training for advisers (emphasis on what an adviser is doing well) and new technology training. In addition to attending the forum, mentors who receive funding to attend a JEA/NSPA convention must present a session and assist with judging. In addition to the mentor sessions, five JEA mentees presented

a session on the value of the mentoring program from a mentee perspective. The Mentor Forum for Minneapolis includes training on andragogy (working with adult learners), new technology, and using community resources for special assignments. The Mentor Forum will be held Thursday before the start of the convention.

This is the fifth of JEA's six-year funding commitment to the program. The funds from JEA pay for the mentor training, provide partial stipends for some mentors, and provide funds to cover travel and hotel for some committee members' attendance at conventions for Mentor Forums and mentor training sessions. The JEA Mentoring Program continues to receive funding from Yellow Chair Foundation. We will be submitting our annual report to the Foundation for its October deadline for filing. The Yellow Chair funding has been set to be almost at the level of the JEA funding. A portion of the Yellow Chair funding is earmarked for stipends for California mentors. The rest of the funding is used to pay for travel and hotel for the mentors to attend one JEA/NSPA convention each year so they can attend the Mentor Forum and participate in convention activities. We certainly value the role Yellow Chair Foundation has made to the JEA Mentoring Program.

Due to a change in organizational priorities, the Newspaper Association of America Foundation (NAAF) no longer is funding mentor stipends. For the three years, NAAF provided stipends for four mentors who were working with advisers of color or who were working with mentees who teach in minority majority schools. Sandy Woodcock, NAAF director, has been a real supporter of the mentoring program and the positive effect of having NAAF funding at a school to start a student media product plus having a JEA mentor working with the school's adviser. We hope that NAAF funds and organizational goals will change to enable us to re-establish that partnership.

For the board: Thank your continued support of the JEA Mentoring Program.



Brian Wilson, CJE

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This is my first report as NCTE liaison, a position I inherited from Linda Barrington last spring. I want to thank Linda for all of the work she's done to make this transition as smooth as possible. I look forward to trying to live up to all she brought to this position.

Membership: All members of JEA are automatically members of the NCTE Assembly for Advisors of Student Publications. Our group is the largest assembly in NCTE. I am contemplating ideas on how to publicize this matter, since I don't think most JEA members are aware of this information. This fact could be utilized to our organization's strength in the future.

Happenings: In conjunction with my responsibilities as NCTE

liaison, I am co-chairing a committee that will be looking at aligning journalism standards with the English portion of the Common Core.

The NCTE yearly convention will take place in Chicago from Nov. 17-21. This is, unfortunately, the same week as the JEA convention. JEA will be holding these four events/sessions:

"I'm the New Adviser to What???"

Sponsoring group: Assembly for Advisers of Student Publications/Journalism Education Association

So, you've been assigned to newspaper, yearbook or magazine duty, even though your only journalism experience may be reading the Sunday paper. We'll run down the common legal and diplomatic issues you can expect to encounter and how to minimize your risk of (or finesse your way out of) a controversy.

"Growing a Strong Literary/Art Magazine"

Sponsoring group: Assembly of Advisers of Student Publications/Journalism Education Association

Starting up or resurrecting a literary magazine at your school can be a challenge. This session will cover the basics of how to grow a strong publication showcasing the best work of student artists and writers. Literary magazine judges will share the best qualities they look for.

"Advising Student Publications"

Sponsoring group: Assembly for Advisers of Student Publications/Journalism Education Association

Advising a student publication can be a lonely job without anyone in your building understanding your challenges. Come to this roundtable discussion and share your successes and challenges. An experienced advisor will offer advice and resources. Copies of "The Radical Write" by Bobby Hawthorne will be given away in a drawing.

"Putting it Together: 12 Steps to Creating a Literary/Art Magazine"

Sponsoring group: Assembly for Advisers of Student Publications/Journalism Education Association

A published literary magazine allows staffs to explore both the creative process and the imagination, with formats ranging from traditional to alternative to avant garde. We will guide you through the steps of the creative process, including issues related to material selection, page design, and finances.



Jill Chittum

Jill Chittum, MJE

National Journalism Professional

Learning Community Committee Chair

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NJPLC Members: Jill Chittum (chair), Karen Barrett, Jim Streisel, Heather Lawrenz, Brad Lewis, Linda Ballew, Laura Negri and Paul Restivo. This will be our team for the beginning. I eventually envision our committee being a little more open, like the Digital Media Committee, with a larger, more fluid membership. The members listed volunteered to be a part of the group after I put out calls to the listserv.

Happenings: We're getting the committee off the ground. Jim Streisel set up the <http://jeanplc.org> website as part of the original NJPLC initiative, and I hope to make that site more active so it can be a real resource for teachers looking for PLC information.

We've established a Twitter account, @JEA_NJPLC, which has 29 followers right now. Each time the website is updated, I tweet the link as well as post a message to the listserv to drive traffic.

Goals: The committee members will post frequently to the website. When these posts go up, links will be sent to the listserv and tweeted. We would like to increase traffic to our website and make it a resource people can use. In the beginning, Streisel, Barrett and Chittum are posting, but others can be added into the rotation whenever they feel ready.

The committee will work to connect teachers who are already well-versed in the PLC model so that they may begin their own virtual/regional PLCs. We have already had two requests for this, so they will be our first group connected without attending convention training. I am soliciting requests for matches via the listserv and Twitter account. There has been some interest.

The committee will develop and maintain a database of those interested in becoming part of a PLC, serving as a matching service to seed PLC groups all over the country. Committee members will each be responsible for mentoring new groups developed either through conventions or after connecting through the committee.

The committee will work with existing JEA commissions and committees to enhance the journalism-specific PLCs.

Pre-convention workshop: For now, we will keep the format that has been used the past couple of years. Streisel and Chittum will teach the workshop in Minneapolis and Seattle. We would like to solicit one person from each group started at the workshop to remain the point-person to work with the committee. This will be one way to grow the committee's profile and get some new people who might want to get involved but haven't known where to start.

Convention PLC meetings:

I have asked Connie to schedule our PLC meeting at the convention in a room large enough that PLC groups that started at earlier conventions could meet to talk about progress toward their SMART goals. Basically, it would be an open workshop time, scheduled into the convention booklet for those who are interested.

Overall: Based on the follow-up survey I sent out, the biggest challenge everyone faces is keeping in contact with the group once the high of being together at convention wears off. I hope to encourage groups to stay with it so they can see results.



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SPA Roundtables from each JEA/NSPA convention:

Anaheim: The Roundtable had two main presentations:

Aaron Manfull, Mark Newton and Steve O'Donoghue discussed thinkSJI.org, a group developed to promote and protect scholastic journalism programs. The SPA members said they hope at least one SPA director or board member will be invited to participate on any future thinkSJI strategy sessions to provide the perspective of active scholastic press groups.

Vanessa Shelton led a discussion of how technology is affecting scholastic journalism contests. She explained how Quill & Scroll created an online evaluation booklet and moved a contest to online assessment.

Minneapolis: Scheduled for Saturday, 9 to 10:50 a.m., 205D We'll talk about issues of concern to scholastic press association directors and board members. Candace Bowen will talk about research she has conducted providing a national profile of student media. She also will discuss the Scholastic Press Rights Commission's 45words program that recruits students to promote student-to-student awareness of the First Amendment.

JEA Regional and State Directors

Region 1: Northwest



Sandra Coyer

Sandra Coyer, MJE

Region 1 Director

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Membership: Overall JEA membership in the region is up due to the promotional memberships given out last year. There are 174 voting members.

Events: The region is working hard to prepare for the JEA/NSPA Spring National Convention in Seattle. In addition, Oregon and Idaho both held their annual press days in October, while Washington held its event in September.

Initiatives and vision: Shrinking budgets have continued to impact student publications in the region. Many have noticed a continued decrease in advertising revenue that mirrors what the professional press is also dealing with. However, through all this, journalism advisers in the region remain confident that students need to understand how the media works and be able to compete in the

marketplace of ideas that has resulted from the online boom. Media advisers continue to look for new and innovative ways to get current technology into their programs and into the hands of students, especially with the lack of funds to do so.

Awards: Two schools in the region were announced as NSPA Pacemaker Finalists for newspapers and newsmagazines: The Marshfield Times, Marshfield High School, Coos Bay, Ore., Jake Crump, editor, Catherine Hampton, adviser and the Arrow Newsmagazine, Renton High School, Renton, Wash., Olivia Fry, editor, Derek Smith, adviser. JEA also recognized Marian Adams, a retired adviser from Lewiston (Idaho) High School with a Lifetime Achievement Award.



Gretchen Wehmhoff-Stoltze

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Alaska State Director

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those, several are anxious to stay on board.

Events: One of the new members, Alison Reed, and her students pulled together a great Anchorage area journalism workshop that included mini-seminars on story ideas, Web publishing, photography and three guest speakers. The speakers came from a popular radio station, an alternative press and a session with the state director on student press rights. The response was amazing and the students took it upon themselves to start to take action together as a group, supporting each publication. The plan is to attempt a gathering twice a year.

Initiatives and vision: With the new infusion of JEA members, we have been able to reignite energy to promote student press programs and rights information. There will be an Alaskan representation at the Seattle convention. Look for us.



Courtney Morgan

Courtney Morgan

Idaho State Director

Skyline High School

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Membership: There are currently 28 voting members of JEA in Idaho, reflecting an increase in membership since last year.

Events: This year's State Fall Conference took place Oct. 14-15 on the campus of Idaho State University, in Pocatello, Idaho. Keynote speaker was David R. Stoecklein, "Photographer of the American

West." Stoecklein is one of the master photographers in Canon's "Explorers of Light" education and inspiration program and for four years has been recognized by the editors of True West magazine as "Best Living Photographer of the West." The distinguished award is given each year as part of the magazine's "Best of the West" issue.

Initiatives and Vision: Emphasis this year was creating a more "contemporary" feeling website, which is now up and running at <http://idahostudentjournalism.com>. In addition, all contests now have been updated with clearly defined rubrics. All contest information as well as rubrics are available on the website.

Due to the early conference date this year, conference attendance dropped as many schools found conflicts with PTC meetings, weekend sporting events, as well as homecoming activities. The western part of the state has not been represented as well as when the convention was located in Boise, but research is ongoing to find a location that will accommodate the convention needs for all schools. With ISU supporting all of the journalism programs on their campus, it does not appear that convention site will be moved anytime soon. However, the board is exploring the idea of having the state conference in early March prior to JEA/NSPA spring national convention.

At the December board meeting, members decided to change the format of selecting the Idaho Journalism Teacher of the Year. Rather than being nominated by principals and students, the teacher will be nominated by his/her peers. Criteria includes: professionalism, leadership qualities, achievements, awards, experience, additional responsibilities, participation in state and national conferences, membership in ISJA, advising for at least five years and membership in other professional organizations. A \$100 for classroom supplies/needs will be awarded the winner.

The Ron Hayes Scholarship: This scholarship will be awarded to students from ISJA member schools. The scholarships are \$100 each to help with the costs of attending the 2011 fall state journalism convention. Applicants will submit a 300-word essay. Idaho Falls' Skyline High School students, Julia Carroll and Kevin Reed, each received a scholarship.

A bylaw was adopted in 2009 and needs restating: No one may enter a contest while it is in progress, especially advisers, or students will be disqualified.

To win best of show, advisers need to have students attend and participate in the state conference.

To win a contest, JOY, or scholarship, adviser must be an ISJA member for the current year of competition.

Awards: JEA named Marian Adams, retired from Lewiston High School, as a Lifetime Achievement Award recipient.



Save the date!

JEA Advisers Institute

July 9-12, 2012

Flamingo Las Vegas

... training, networking and more!

<http://jea.org/workshops/advinst/advinst.html>



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Membership: Montana has had a relatively stable interest in membership. Because members will participate in the Montana Journalism Education Association conference at the state teachers' convention in Missoula, Mont., Oct. 20-22, the board of MJEA hopes to recruit new members and increase our numbers. The retirement of key personalities such as Judie Woodhouse from Poulson, Mont., and other seasoned advisers has left a gap in MJEA's leadership.

Interest continues because of the spring MJEA newspaper, online and photography critiques and contests. However, the majority of entries have come from only from the larger AA school districts. Emily Jense, the former newspaper adviser from Florence, Mont., expressed concern about diminishing membership and contest entries from smaller school districts. After serving as MJEA's treasurer for four years, Jense has resigned. Kim Lucostic of Big Sky High School from High School in Missoula, Mont., will begin this position at the October business meeting.

Happenings: Regarding MJEA's annual publication critique and awards competition, Judie Woodhouse has made certain that an MJEA newspaper competition occurred last spring; however, the yearbook competition was discontinued. She worked with the University of Montana's School of Journalism faculty to provide judging, and award results were sent to high schools in the spring.

The yearbook contest/critique was not offered last spring. Ballew has volunteered to resurrect the yearbook critique service. She will ask for approval to do so at the October executive board meeting.

Awards: Brooke Hansen from Great Falls High School represented Montana as the nominee for JEA's Journalist of the Year and earned a \$1,000 scholarship. She is currently working toward a degree in graphic design at Brookes in Santa Barbara, Calif.

Justyne McGowan, from Sentinel High School in Missoula, Mont., was honored by the U of M as the state journalist of the year, earning a \$1,000 scholarship from the Montana Newspaper Association.

Sentinel High School's newspaper also earned recognition as the 2011 state Pacesetter.

Junior Sarah Graybill from Great Falls High School was selected as the Montana representative to the Freedom Forum.

MJEA will participate in the 2011 Educators' Conference Oct. 20-21, 2011, in Missoula, Mont. The organization will be allowed to join other curricular groups at the convention and will be supported by MEA-MFT.

Retired adviser Judie Woodhouse, JEA state director Linda Ballew and Dean Peggy Kuhr from the University of Montana's School of Journalism are working to schedule workshop sessions for the convention. Advisers, journalists and the U of M School of Journalism will be on the program presenting a variety of workshops. Woodhouse and Ballew have insured a full complement

of journalism sessions at this October's MEA-MFT Educators' Conference. JAC and MJEA board members and J-School faculty will present at eight of the 11 sessions. The sessions include

- Starting a Broadcast Program: 10 Do's and Don'ts.
- Make 'em Laugh and Cry: Above All, Make an Impact (coverage).
- Run Your Publication like a Theme Park (yearbook staff motivation).
- Opening the 'Mustard Jar' (literary magazine).
- Sizzle and Pop with a Splash of Color (design with color).
- Online High School Journalism.
- Print and Web Design Principles.
- Photojournalism.
- A View from the Bench (what judges look for in high school publications).
- Building and Improving Journalism Programs.

Woodhouse will work on getting the word out to teachers about the Oct. 21 breakfast and online journalism session hosted by the U of M Journalism School.

Scholastic journalism continues relationship with the University of Montana's School of Journalism.

The Journalism Advisory Council (JAC) met Sept. 29. Meeting notes indicate items discussed relevant to scholastic journalism concerns and needs.

High School Initiative Committee report by Anne Medley:

This committee saw their challenges as: no money, no staff, getting people to staff high school initiative activities. Medley, Ballew, Lucostic and Woodhouse compiled and conducted an online survey last spring regarding high school advisers and the condition of the high school journalism programs. The survey addresses the climate and culture of journalism in Montana high schools regarding:

- What technology do they have?
- What do they need to continue?
- Repackage idea of journalism (online, multimedia, and print).
- Outreach training, particularly in multimedia.
- Journalism camp (a two-day camp during winter session 2012 training for students and teachers).

These concerns continue to be a dilemma for Montana advisers:

- Initiatives: how to get money; start small, don't wait for big grant; cross-train with newspapers.
- High school journalism education needs to be included in Common Core standards. Currently, there's no journalism standard through Montana's Office of Public Instruction. Media and journalism need to be represented as viable core courses. In Montana, it's very rare to have an "accredited" journalism teacher. Advisers need endorsements from J-School, professors.
- Help in emphasizing that journalism as a career field is viable and has a future path for students.

Again, the journalism school has been asked to realign some of its new core courses and design an accredited journalism minor or certificate for high school teachers who will be or may find themselves teaching/advising high school journalism courses in newspaper, online, broadcast and/or yearbook.

Lucostic emphasized that teachers usually will be called on to teach in more than one area. If their education prepared them to teach in several disciplines or elective areas, they're more likely to get the job. Offering a journalism certificate/minor would be an inducement for secondary education students at UM. Teachers

are required to earn six renewal credits every six years. Providing this course as an incentive, especially at the beginning of teaching careers, increases their means for not only increasing their salaries and certification, but it also, creates more interest in stronger and more viable high school journalism programs.

High school yearbook editors are an untapped resource because schools usually still have yearbooks, even if they don't have student newspapers. These publications really need to be journalistic magazines and digital products.

Actions for this year: We will work on logistics for several events:

- A teacher workshop at the journalism school (best time for high school teachers, students and the school may be in the fall. Another possibility is in early January.
- A Journalism Day, where students can sit in on a college class, visit the Kamin office, see the broadcast newsroom, eat in the Food Zoo.
- Include teachers who oversee the yearbook. They'll be interested in sessions on layout/design, feature writing, how to write a lede, and they might be interested in meeting with the UM students on the Kaimin business staff: how to sell ads, etc.
- Consider a three-day workshop for teachers at MEA-MFT.
- Continue to work on the high school journalism contest. Work with the journalism school to develop a new category for multimedia/broadcast.
- Name new members to the high school committee. Emily Jense has moved and is no longer available to be on the JAC. Anne Medley, who was chair, needs to step down and won't be a member of JAC anymore because of her work schedule.

For the board: Please consider moving the deadline of the state report. The value of updating two times per year has been noted, but Oct. 15 is really an awkward timeframe as few events occur until after the state convention which happens in late October.

Offering free or reduced memberships from JEA to potential members again this year would be especially helpful with membership. This gesture to assist these new advisers would be very beneficial to our membership on both the state and national level. Having access to these membership coupons during the state convention in the fall rather than in the spring would also help to reach many more journalism educators.



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J.D. McIntire

Membership: Currently Oregon is home to 54 JEA members. This is consistent with numbers from recent years. The OJEA yearly membership count will be completed Oct. 26 after Fall Press Day.

Events: The Oregon state convention, known as Fall Press Day, is hosted by our sister association Northwest Scholastic Press Association. Fall Press Day was moved from Oregon State

University to Western Oregon University for the first time this year. It will take place Oct. 26. Lori Oglesbee-Petter, the 2010 Yearbook Adviser of the Year, will be the keynote speaker.

Due to the reorganization of NWSP, both the adviser and student summer workshops did not take place last summer. We hope to restart them for the summer of 2012.

Initiatives and vision: The main focus of our efforts in 2011 has been to assist Northwest Scholastic Press in their reorganization. A number of functions, previously split between the two organizations, will be merged. NWSP co-sponsors our Journalist and Teachers of the Year awards and also runs the yearly state journalism awards. The organization split from Oregon State University as OSU was no longer able to fund the operations. OJEA helped NWSP forge a union with the University of Oregon for the future. The U of O School of Journalism has added a full-time position that will be responsible partly for NWSP operations and partly for U of O J-School community outreach. Having the largest journalism school in the state add a paid position to focus on scholastic journalism and community involvement will be a huge boost to the OJEA and NWSP.

Awards: Sarah Moreau of South Albany High School was selected as the Oregon High School Journalist of the Year. Moreau enrolled at Corban College in Salem, Ore. this fall. Charlie Kidd of Lakeridge High School was the runner-up. They received a \$1,000 scholarship and \$500 scholarship, respectively. The awards are co-sponsored by OJEA and NWSP.

Trisha Farver, the adviser at South Albany High School, was selected as the Oregon Rookie Journalism Teacher of the Year. Advisers with two or fewer years of experience are eligible.

Unfortunately, due to the reorganization of NWSP, the annual student journalism awards were not presented for the 2010-11 school year. We hope to work with new NWSP executive director Rob Melton to restart these awards for the current school year.

Mentors: Oregon currently has three mentors in the JEA Mentor Program. Retired advisers Bill Flechtner, Patty Turley and Ellen Kersey have a combined seven new teachers under their mentorship. The tough economic times have resulted in the elimination of many scholastic journalism jobs and thus reduced the number of new journalism teachers eligible for the mentoring program.



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Membership: The Washington Journalism Education Association continues to attract new members and re-enlist former members. We are currently processing all memberships for this school year, so an exact count isn't available, but we expect to be slightly above the past few years' average. Right now our numbers look like they'll be between 120 and 130 members. We are continuing to work

on ways to attract and retain even more members and last year we introduced several new membership categories and levels.

Happenings: Our WJEA Summer Workshops were a success. Approximately 210 students and advisers from throughout the state (and beyond!) attended the camps held at Central Washington University. Our featured guest this summer was Alan Weintraut. It was great to have Weintraut with us, particularly since he had recently returned from an incredible journalism teaching tour of China. Additionally, the Adviser Outreach Academy worked cooperatively with our summer adviser workshop and 10 attendees participated. Steve O'Donoghue joined us to talk about the program and online journalism. These 10 participants will reconnect in Seattle at the national convention in April 2012.

WJEA held its annual Western Washington J-Day in mid-September at the University of Washington. More than 525 students and advisers were in attendance for the day of sessions and symposia presented by members of the working press in the Seattle area. WJEA Executive Director Kathy Schrier again coordinated the event and did an amazing job. Our keynote presenter was Linda Thomas — also known as the blogger “The News Chick.” Following the keynote, an optional “after workshop session” focusing on the 2012 national convention in Seattle was moderated by local organizing chair Steve Matson.

WJEA's Board held its annual planning retreat in late June at the offices of POP in downtown Seattle. The day-long session focused on planning for the 2012 national convention in Seattle and was facilitated by POP manager W. Joe DeMiero, who is a former student journalist and now one of the top e-media strategists in the business. He also happens to be my younger brother.

WJEA continues to be very pleased to be participating in the JEA Mentoring Program. Executive Director Kathy Schrier is in her third year as a mentor and is doing a wonderful job. Veteran educator and adviser Kay Locey joined the ranks last summer when she attended the training workshop at KSU. We're proud to have two excellent mentors working with advisers in our state.

On the student press rights front, Washington continues to be a hotbed of activity. Most notably, the Seattle School District was victorious in defending itself in a lawsuit brought by local landowners who took issue with a story written by a reporter for the Roosevelt High School newspaper claiming they had been libeled. The judge threw out the lawsuit and cited the fact that the Roosevelt News is an “open forum” publication and also noted that there was no libel. Adviser Christine Roux and her students conducted themselves in an exemplary manner. Additionally, we hope that scholastic press rights legislation will again be introduced in the coming legislative session. This would be our fourth attempt and we remain hopeful that persistence will pay off.

For the board: WJEA is very excited to be hosting the JEA/NSPA spring national convention. Long-time adviser and former JEA Northwest Regional Director Steve Matson will again serve as the local organizing chair for the convention. Matson was our chair in 2005 as well. Our theme is “Journalism on the Edge” and we have special strands focusing on the rich traditions that are unique to the Seattle area — including our edgy music, our edgy technology and the fact that we live way out on the upper left-hand corner — the edge — of the country. It'll be a lot of fun!

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Membership: There are currently eight JEA members in Wyoming.

Events: The Wyoming High School Student Press Convention took place Oct. 10-11 in Casper, Wy. There were 180 students from 19 schools in attendance. Keynote Gary Massaro addressed the students Monday evening, calling the students his future stars. He encouraged the students to pursue their passion and to not “give up” as they are the future of this nation and its future stars. Massaro is an award-winning journalist who is currently a professor at Metropolitan State College in Denver, where he also advises the student newspaper, The Metropolitan. Massaro's keynote was the topic of the write-off competition. Kyndall McNaulty from Cody High School won the write-off competition. Her story was printed in the Casper Star Tribune the following morning.

The convention sported several presenters including Carrie Faust, LeAnne Adels, Wyoming JOY Award winner Jess Neary, Michael Roberts, Roz Schliske from LCCC, Lisa Smith, Jorden Escamilla, Jayme Frasier and Jim Heath. Workshops covered everything from grammar to photography, from typography to writing skills, as well as layout and design, from using computer programs to using the Internet and social media.

Initiatives and vision: A group of young lobbyists from Cody High School will be researching a bill to present to the Wyoming State Legislature to protect and preserve Wyoming Student Press Rights. The group asked for support from WHSSPA and the organization proudly voted to support this group of young activists. This is currently not an issue in Wyoming, however, the group and WHSSPA wish to be proactive in this area.

WHSSPA became a non-profit organization this year. The purpose of becoming a non-profit was to establish itself as an independent organization with the ability to collect and raise funds to become a self-sufficient organization and to provide scholarships for students. Our future goals include the ability to offer more dollars for student scholarships as we build up our funds.

Awards: The following high schools received All-State awards:

- Newspaper: 1A-Rock River; 2A-Pine Bluffs; 3A-Cody; 4A-Star Valley
- Yearbook: 1A- Arvada-Clearmont; 2A-Sundance; 3A-Hot Springs County; 4A-Cheyenne Central
- Lit Magazine: Cody H.S.
- Photography: All-State, Chase Vogel, Cheyenne Central; Runner-up, Tawni Moore, Natrona County

The Adviser of the Year Award went to Vin Cappiello of Cody High School. Cappiello is a member of JEA, an award-winning journalism teacher and a writer in his own right. Jess Neary from Cody High School was the JOY winner for 2011.

Region 2: Southwest

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Carmen Wendt

Membership: There are 67 members, which is pretty standard for Arizona, except when a JEA convention is in Phoenix.

Events: The state Journalism Summer Workshop was a commuter workshop July 7-9 at Arizona State University's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism. About 75 students and advisers attended. The adviser session was on Thursday with Konnie Krislock as the teacher. Rave reviews were given by the attendees. On Friday and Saturday, students and advisers attended strands on InDesign, writing, Photoshop, Web design, multimedia. Instructors included classroom teachers and media professionals. In addition, there were newspaper critiques, pullout sessions and keynote speakers each day.

The fall convention was Sept. 15. JEA President Mark Newton was the keynote speaker as well as presented sessions. Over 500 students and advisers attended about 50 different sessions given by advisers and journalism professionals.

Arizona has selected a new state organization logo to be presented at the spring reception.

Initiatives and vision: At the fall convention an Arizona Free Expression Committee was formed to work on getting legislation passed in the state supportive of First Amendment Rights in student publications. The committee discussed local contacts to begin putting together possible legislation.

Mentors: The Arizona mentors are Joe Pfeiff and Carmen Wendt. Both are now third year mentors with four mentees each. They are working with newspaper, broadcast and yearbook advisers in their first or second year of advising. Any new advisers in the state are encouraged to contact Arizona Interscholastic Press Association or JEA for more information about the program.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: A committee was formed at the state fall convention to work on getting a law similar to Colorado's to free school publications from prior review and censorship. Currently the committee has five members and is seeking more. Membership is not restricted to advisers but will include others in the journalism community. Sherry Siwek is the

committee chair, and Carmen Wendt is the AIPA liaison.

Awards: Fall Student Contest Award winners are online at <http://azaipa.org>.



Karin Swanson

Karin Swanson

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Membership: As of Oct. 5, Hawaii has 22 JEA members, up from 10 a year ago. Fourteen of the current members joined through the free membership promotion.

Events: Around 250 high school journalists attend the Hiki No workshop Sept. 10, sponsored by PBS Hawaii. The University of Hawaii High School Journalism Day nearly doubled in size, with around 200 students in attendance on Sept. 24. The spring awards luncheon by Hawaii Publishers Association was held in April. UH adviser and contest coordinator Jay Hartwell introduced new categories in video production and student news website.

Initiatives and vision: The bright spots in Hawaii high school journalism are in new media and broadcast programs.

Our local PBS affiliate began a statewide news network for high schools last spring. Hiki No, Hawaiian for "Yes, We Can," broadcast its first season of shows in the spring of 2011. The second season kicked off with a day-long workshop in early September, with the first show broadcast Oct. 13. Sixty-four public, private and charter schools are participating this year. Visit <http://www.pbshawaii.org/hikino/index.php> to view episodes.

Print programs continue to be hit hard by budget cuts. High oil prices boost the costs of anything that needs to be shipped to Hawaii. This includes newsprint paper needed for printing. We've seen many schools cut back or eliminate print programs. In the public school sector, Radford High School, long a front-runner in print programs, saw its budget slashed; printing a paper became prohibitive. The Radford adviser is still trying to sustain an online program, but it will be an extracurricular as her class was cancelled. Another perennial state journalism powerhouse, Farrington High School, has a new adviser, a veteran teacher who is new to teaching journalism. After decades of teaching expository writing and literary analysis, he is gamely taking on InDesign and HTML.

Student journalists in Hawaii are able to sample the world of professional journalism due to the openness and accessibility of our news organizations. Civil Beat, an online subscription news site launched in 2010, has sponsored forums for students. Editor John Templeton participates in the UH Journalism Day. Writers and editors from our lone remaining daily, the Star-Advertiser, encourage student journalists through guest lecturing in high school classrooms and showing up for layout and upload meetings. When the Honolulu Advertiser and Star-Bulletin merged to create a single paper, several innovative journalists launched their own ventures.

One of these is sports website www.scoringlive.com, which solicits input from student journalists.

Awards: Several advisers and publications have been recognized at the national and state levels. There are probably far more than I have listed here, particularly the trailblazing excellence of Waianae High School's Searider Productions. The advisers and students have been extraordinarily generous in sharing their expertise.

Ka Leo o Nakoa, the print newspaper of Kamehameha Schools-Maui, was honored as the outstanding newspaper in the state at the annual Hawaii Publishers Association luncheon in April. Adviser Kye Haina is a 2008 Reynolds Institute fellow. She also attended the JEA-sponsored Internet Youth Journalism Advising workshop in December 2010 on Oahu. Kamehameha-Maui's news website is www.kaleoonakoa.org.

Maui Waena Middle School's Media Club won first place honors from the Student Television Network's fall competition for their PSA against drunk driving. Adviser Jennifer Suzuki participated in the IYJA workshop in December 2010. The student news website is <http://www.falconnews.net>.

St. Francis School media students won first place for a video they entered in the Clarence T. C. Ching "Inspired in Hawaii" contest. Adviser Karly McClain participated in the IYJA workshop in December 2010. The student news website is <http://www.kealakai-newsonline.org>.

Colleen Pasco was honored in Washington, D.C., by the 2011 NEA as an outstanding educator. Pasco advises at Kohala High School and participated in the IYJA workshop.



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Membership: There are currently 280 names on the California membership list; 221 of those are designated teacher/advisers. Unfortunately, I have no efficient means of determining the number of JEA members in Northern California, but I trust JEA has a sortable database somewhere in its files, which could be sorted by zip code. For the future, I would very much appreciate access to such a file. In addition to providing the membership numbers you request, access to member emails would allow me to send out questions well in advance of these state reports, and the responses would make the reports much more comprehensive.

As a brand new state director, I also have no way of accessing trends, which leads me to my second suggestion: for JEA to provide me with a copy of the most recent state reports, say the past three or four. *[Note: all reports are available online at <http://jea.org>.]*

Short of encouraging the six other newspaper advisers in my school district to join JEA, especially so they could have access to the listserv, I have not initiated any outreach efforts since my appointment to this post.

Events:

- JEANC State Convention at Sacramento Convention Center, Oct. 14-15, 2011
- San Francisco Peninsula Press Club High School Journalism Boot Camp, Oct. 21, College of San Mateo
- Boldfaced Journalism high school workshop, San Francisco State University, Feb. 25, 2012
- San Joaquin Valley Scholastic Press Association Conference, March 3, 2012 CSU Fresno

Initiatives and vision: JEANC began offering in-house training. Board members provide on-site training for advisers and students on a variety of specific skill-based topics. To date, two such trainings have been completed.

Two journalism collaboratives operate in the North State, one in Contra Costa with the Contra Costa Times, one in Sacramento with The Sacramento Bee, both through Steve O'Donoghue and the California Scholastic Journalism Initiative.

Awards: Longtime California journalism proponent Steve O'Donoghue, director of the California Scholastic Journalism Initiative, will receive JEA's Carl Towley Award in November.

NSPA Newspaper Pacemaker Finalists: The Hub, Davis Sr. High School, Davis, Calif. (Kelly Wilkerson, adviser); Campanile, Palo Alto High School, Palo Alto, Calif. (Esther Wojcicki, adviser); Sacramento Country Day School, Sacramento, Calif. (Patricia Fels, adviser); El Estoque, Monta Vista High School, Cupertino, Calif. (Michelle Balmeo, adviser); The Gazette, Granite Bay High School, Granite Bay, Calif. (Karl Grubaugh, adviser); The Saratoga Falcon, Saratoga High School, Saratoga, Calif. (Mike Tyler, adviser).

NSPA Newsmagazine Pacemaker Finalist: Verde, Palo Alto High School, Palo Alto, Calif. (Paul Kandell, adviser).

NSPA Spring Convention Yearbook Pacemakers: Details, Whitney High School (Sarah Nichols, adviser); Wingspan, Enochs High School (Tamra McCarthy, adviser); Titanium, Antelope High School (Pete Leblanc, adviser); Rampages, Casa Roble High School (Dan Austin, adviser); Nugget, Cupertino High School (Leslie Robledo, adviser).

JEANC Annual Contest: Results are posted at <http://jeanc.org>.

For the board: For the next report, after JEA sends me a database including Northern California member emails, I will be able to include anecdotal information provided by our members in response to an email poll.



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Events: California State University, Northridge, hosted "Generation J" High School Workshop and AdviserFest on Oct. 15, a half-day high school journalism day for students and advisers. The day consisted of workshops and competitions. USC Annenberg School of Journalism will host a High School Journalism Day Nov. 18.

High School Journalism Day provides an opportunity for high school juniors and seniors to participate in workshops and panels taught by professional journalists and USC faculty members.

Mentors: The mentor program in Southern California took a major hit with the death of Jolene Combs. Konnie Krislock has taken on Combs' mentees in addition to her own. There have been proposals for SCJEA to pick up the cost of another mentor, but the organization has not met to discuss this issue.

Awards: NSPA Newspaper Pacemaker Finalists to be recognized in Minneapolis: High Tide, Redondo Union High School (Mitch Ziegler, adviser). NSPA Yearbook Pacemakers recognized at the Anaheim convention: Wings, Arrowhead Christian Academy (Crystal Kazmierski, adviser); Volsung, Downey High School (Michelle Napoli, adviser); The Pilot, Redondo Union High School (Mitch Ziegler, adviser); Currents, Westview High School (Jeff Wenger, adviser).

Mary Seal

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Membership: There are currently 12 JEA members in Utah. As a new state director, I do not have access to last year's records, so I am unable to report on whether or not this reflects a change or not. I have been sending out, by regular post, an introductory packet with a calendar of journalism events locally and nationally as well as promotional JEA literature and a letter to introduce myself. So far I have not had even one response to that mailing. I have also been contacting the high schools that I know have outstanding journalism programs in my state and I am attempting to form a state committee, to bring more people on board in Utah. The response is very lukewarm so far. At the upcoming university-sponsored high school journalism convention, I will be trying to talk with the advisers there as well and see what the response is in a face-to-face conversation. The common thread to all of the conversations I have had so far has been that journalism is something these teachers have been assigned to do, but not something that they would like to pursue outside of the classroom. I will continue working on this.

Events: In February 2010, Utah Valley University hosted a high school journalism conference with the Deseret News as a co-anchor. Over 235 students attended the UVU workshop. Awards were handed out from prior story and photo submissions, the News Editor for the Deseret News spoke to the students, advisers had a roundtable meeting, and there were classes on editing, photography, etc. It was well-done and I am in talks with the sponsors from the college about having a meeting for advisers where we can talk about JEA this coming February.

Nov. 18 is the University of Utah's Writers and Photographers Workshop. There is an advisers' luncheon that will give me an opportunity to try to make some contacts and set the ball in motion for more cooperation between the schools in Utah.

I'd like to see the state have a summer three-day workshop offered for high school kids at one of the universities.

Initiatives and vision: There was a bill passed through the Utah legislature that targeted Freedom of Information access. A concerted effort by the public media forced the retraction of the bill. It is no longer in effect.

Overall, there is a real reluctance to be excited about high school journalism in Utah. I have heard about a lot of prior review in the schools that have talked with me so far, and I am sure that plays a role in the overall pessimism that has been expressed about journalism from the advisers I have spoken to. At the February convention at UVU I've been granted permission to host an adviser's clinic on how to work toward freedom of the student press in Utah. I am hoping to get the teachers to be willing to push for more freedom in their own schools. I have also just initiated a discussion with a Utah legislator about passing a student press law in Utah. She is very hesitant, but I plan to keep working on her. We have seen a few high schools discontinue their journalism programs this year, as well as a few move to sporadic online coverage. Overall the trend is not positive, but I remain hopeful that with a little unification we can change a lot of the pessimism.



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Membership: JEA membership sits at 70 (down from 87 in the spring, up from 58 last fall). Education and awareness of JEA and its programs for advisers and their publications will continue at various events and contests in the following year.

Events: CHSPA hosted the SoCo (Southern Colorado) Journalism day Sept. 1 and Constitution Day Sept. 17. Be EPIC – CHSPA J-Day 2011 – was Oct. 13. Featured speakers included JEA National Yearbook Adviser of the Year Sarah Nichols and DJNF National Journalism Teacher of the Year Aaron Manfull. Nearly 1,500 students and advisers from around the state participated in breakout sessions and keynotes from some of the state's and nation's top advisers. Music Critic Steve Knopper was the featured speaker for J-Day's Night Before special seminar Wednesday evening.

Awards: Smoky Hill adviser and JEA Regional Director Carrie Faust was chosen as Colorado Journalism Teacher of the Year. Faust's work advocating for Overland High School's Scout newspaper in their First Amendment fight with administration last year was just the pinnacle of a monumental year. Her publications both received

All-Colorado ratings at J-Day in addition to being included on the NSPA Pacemaker and CSPA Crown lists.

Other honorees included

- Darryl Stafford, Kent Denver High School: CHSPA Medal of Merit.
- Yvette Roberts, Salida High School: CHSPA Medal of Merit.
- Pam Shepherd, CHSPA Friend of Scholastic Journalism.

Initiatives: CHSPA has undergone a bit of reorganization. New positions on the board include: advocacy, education and outreach coordinators. These board positions are aimed at improving student journalism statewide as well as providing immediate responses for those facing issues related to student expression.

CHSPA President Karen Wagner is accepting applications at her school from students who want to pursue a special journalism diploma. The first program of its kind will allow students to obtain special recognition upon graduation for their work in student journalism as it relates to 21st-century skills.

I am planning on helping advisers pursue CTE (Career and Technical Education) credentials on their Colorado teaching licenses. Additionally, programs can receive CTE status in their school districts as a way to maintain journalism programs. Encouraging advisers to get this certification can help make tech funds available to publications and reduce the (alarming) trend of student journalism programs being shut down in schools due to lack of funding.



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Membership: Current membership count is 17 members with three promotional memberships. Membership is relatively constant. For the 2011-2012 the governor cut the state education budget including \$411 million dollar cut in Clark County School District's budget. Clark County is approximately 75 percent of the state population. CCSd estimated 2500 employee layoff including 500 teachers. Principals have cut newspaper programs or combined journalism and yearbook courses to save money. Other elective courses were cut at the principals' discretion including art, music, media and so forth.

Initiatives and vision: Clark County School District: New this year is the move of broadcast courses to CTE. This move will provide new resources for increasing funding for these programs.

Discussion among southern Nevada advisers includes looking at the possibility of creating one beginning journalistic media course that feeds students into newspaper and yearbook and possibly broadcast. The idea is to save cost as many of the beginning courses are small in number due to increased graduation requirements and curriculum changes. One concern is being able to find qualified teachers to teach these courses.

Discussed on the Southern Nevada adviser's forum is the

requirement by some principals to include specific content, such as senior superlatives, in the yearbook.

For the board: After reviewing district policies that are based on state regulations, payment of JEA membership from school funds has come under question. Personal memberships are not allowed to be purchased from school accounts is how the regulations are being interpreted by some school administrations. With budgets being scrutinized, membership payments may become more of a discussion or problem. Additionally, as both school and personal teacher budgets are being tightened, this may become more of an issue. Has this been a concern for any other districts/teachers? What are suggestions for addressing this concern?



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Membership: In New Mexico, members join JEA independent of our state association (New Mexico Scholastic Press Association), so I do not have any solid statistics on this. We did, however, host our fall conference on Sept. 10. We worked with the state activities Association (NMAA) to send out an email blast to all high schools in New Mexico. Also, several NMSPA officers taught at a N.M. High School Journalism Camp in June. We emailed our students from the camp, asking them to pass along the conference info. to their advisers, as well as posted information on our web site and facebook page. At our fall conference, we had several advisers new to NMSPA join us, including four who have never been JEA members and who asked for the free one-year membership for new members. For our state, four new members is a substantial growth.

Events: State Fall Conference, Sept. 10 at Highland High School in Albuquerque – We had about 40 students total and about 13 advisers. While this turnout is small, the most we have had in recent years has been 90, and we saw representation from Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Clovis, Tucumcari and Ojo Caliente as opposed to just Albuquerque and/or Santa Fe. The conference offered students and advisers sessions in newspaper design, yearbook design, sports writing, feature writing, photography, TV/video journalism and advertising.

The highlight of the conference, I think, was our panel entitled, "Censorship in Student Publications: What Can We Print?" Our regional director, Colorado adviser Carrie Faust, came down from the Denver area to talk about her involvement and perspective on the censorship in her district last school year. Clovis High School graduate James Walker spoke about his struggle to cover the Clovis School District's effective blocking of a Gay-Straight Alliance, despite a directive from his principal not to cover it. He worked with me off campus to write his story anyway and shopped his story to local newspapers including the Clovis News Journal and the Albuquerque Journal, before getting it published in the Weekly Alibi, the alternative newsweekly in Albuquerque. (The American

Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico is honoring James with the “Defender of Liberty Award” in October for his efforts.) Filling out the panel was Albuquerque adviser Pat Graff and her 2010-11 opinions editor, who spoke about the backlash from a parent and the local newspaper, leading to a policy of prior review, when they ran an opinion article about the benefits of legalizing marijuana.

We will not have another event until the State Competition, which is tentatively scheduled for March 31 at Rio Grande High School in Albuquerque.

Initiatives and vision: Logan Aimone from NSPA would like to build membership in New Mexico and we chatted on the phone about possibly having him to speak in March. I did have to explain that we have no speaker budget and that New Mexico has low membership in JEA and NSPA because there are so few journalism teachers in this state in the first place (including high turnover of the ones we do have).

New Mexico feels a bit like the Wild West still. We have had a poorly funded, poorly run, under-staffed Dept. of Ed. for many years, so recent economic hits haven’t been felt as hard. Districts in this state are having to get creative, however, to make it this year especially. See the story one student wrote for the New Mexico Press Association’s High School Journalism Camp in June: <http://my.hsj.org/447866>

My district and several others have gone to a four-day week. The largest district in the state, the Albuquerque Public Schools, has stopped hiring subs and principals are actually subbing classes. We’re not sure how this is affecting journalism programs, but we’re certainly scrambling for money more now than before.

Awards: I have been trying to keep our awards posted here: <https://sites.google.com/site/nmspaonline/home/contest-results>

Mentors: Pat Graff, La Cueva High School (retired adviser, currently testing coordinator) is a mentor for our state.

Region 3: North Central



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Membership: I supported the JEA membership drive by asking each state director to contact the members recruited by promotional memberships in their state. In addition, I have had discussions with the affiliate office in Iowa to see how membership renewals are handled after noticing that several Iowa JEA memberships are listed as expired. Coupling memberships may be having some negative effects on JEA renewals and this is something that we will need to explore further.

Events: This is my third year as JEA mentor for Iowa and some details of my activity in that can be found in the Iowa report.

At Jostens Yearbook New Adviser Workshop Sept. 7 I addressed the group to promote involvement in IHSPA and JEA, and encouraged them to attend the fall conferences. I also distributed brochures and answered questions about the mentoring program.

To encourage attendance of the Fall Convention I organized bus transportation from Iowa to Minneapolis. We hope to have a full bus of 47 advisers and student journalists from the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City area.

Brian Wilson and I are co-leaders of a committee to Journalism Standards/Common Core committee. Other members of the committee are Linda Barrington, Candace Bowen, Jack Kennedy and Rob Satterthwaite. We have been collecting materials and will have an initial report ready for the Minneapolis Convention.

I have also been serving as a member of the JEA Magazine and the Membership committees whose work is just underway.



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Membership: Our current JEA membership is 136. Our membership includes 109 teacher/advisers, nine retired teachers, 19 lifetime members, one associate member, one collegiate member and 15 promotional members. Despite having the largest JEA membership in Region 3, only seven members have MJE certification while 15 have CJE certification.

Events: The Illinois Journalism Education Association (IJE) hosted its annual fall conference at the University of Illinois at Urbana. The event drew 600 participants.

In April, the Illinois High School Association held its fifth state journalism tournament. The tournament was once again hosted by Eastern Illinois University with site coordination handled by James Tidwell, Ph.D., Chairman of the Journalism Department and Sally Renaud, Ph.D., executive director of the IJE. Three hundred students competed in the tournament finals with nearly 100 advisers attending the competition. Advisers met for a breakfast and series of presentations.

The IJE also held its first newspaper contest, which attracted nearly 50 entries in 12 categories.

On June 4, the IJE held its annual awards luncheon, which honors the Illinois Scholastic Journalist of the Year honorees, All-State Journalism Team, and the Administrator of the Year. The event was held at Executive Mansion in Springfield. The keynote speaker: Dave Bakke of the State Journal Register.

Upcoming workshops

Feb. 29: Southern Illinois Scholastic Press Association at Southern Illinois University (Carbondale).

March 2-3: Kettle Moraine Press Association Winter Advisers Workshop, Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva, Wis. Featured speaker: Mark Newton.

March 2012: Digital Media Workshop, Eastern Illinois University, sponsored by the Illinois Press Foundation.

April 26: Northern Illinois School Press Assn. Spring Conference, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

April 21: Sectionals, Illinois High School Association Tournament.
April 27: Finals.

Initiatives and vision: There are several initiatives identified by the IJEA Board as ways of enhancing scholastic journalism. They include

- Working toward some type of certification requirements for journalism teachers with the Illinois State Board of Education. The ISBE used to offer certification for journalism teachers, but dropped several years ago.
- Promoting and helping middle/junior high school journalism programs in the future by working cooperatively with the Illinois Elementary School Association, which offers a full slate of activities for junior and middle school students.
- Increasing the number of CJE's and MJE's.

Awards:

- Friend of Scholastic Journalism: George Wilson, publisher, Harrison (Ill.) Daily Register
- Dow Jones News Fund Distinguished Adviser, Stan Zoller, MJE, Rolling Meadows High School
- NSPA Pioneer Award, Janet Levin, MJE, John Hersey High School, Arlington Heights, Ill.
- IJEA 2011 Adviser Service Award: Herman Albers, former SISPA executive director and journalism teacher at Coulterville High School.
- IJEA Administrator of the Year: Tina Cantrell, John Hersey High School, Arlington Heights, Illinois

In addition to these awards, the IJEA Board approved development of the following four new awards

- Adviser Service Award – honors active or retired scholastic media educators and advisers who are member of IJEA for special initiative on behalf of scholastic journalism in Illinois. Members of the IJEA Board must make nominations.
- Lifetime Achievement Award – honors retired scholastic media educators for a lifetime of dedication to scholastic media education.
- Hall of Fame Award – honors individual scholastic media educators who have made outstanding and sustained contributions to the success and progress of IJEA and scholastic media education.
- Illinois Scholastic Journalism Educator of the Year, cosponsored by IJEA and EIU Department of Journalism – honors a single outstanding high school media educator who has done exemplary work during the year of nomination and the previous academic year.

Mentors: Illinois has three mentors who are mentoring nine advisers. Babs Erickson is mentoring Kendra Stone of Durand High School, Durand, Sara Paulson, Guilford High School, Rockford, Kelly Engler of Harlem High School, Machesney Park and Rachel

Rice of Lutheran High School, Rockford. Carol Smith is mentoring Sue Fuller, Heritage High School, Broadlands, James Caudle, Arthur-Lovington High School, Lovington and Stephanie Mitchell, of Lovington High School, Lovington. Randy Swikle is mentoring Kathleen Beckman of Antioch Comm. High School, Antioch and Evelyn Lauer of Niles West High School, Skokie.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: Harrisburg High School continues to be a school of interest because of the strained relationship between the adviser (Cathy Walls) and members of the administration and school board.

Over the summer, I received word that the paper at Libertyville High School was under prior review. I was able to connect with the now former adviser who said, "They do not want to be potentially responsible for anything that we print, so they have kept with the district policy that states we are 'not a forum' and that says the paper needs to stay away from anything that does not adhere to the school's educational philosophy (which is, of course, is a bit vague); but they also do not want to review every single thing we aim to print either, so they've asked the adviser to bring any potentially harmful article to them ahead of time so the principal can decide what to do about it. (They claim to be okay with controversy as long as the article is appropriately researched and written. But, of course, since they get to decide the latter stipulation...) obviously this brings up a host of 'what ifs', but the administration seems to think things are much simpler than that as long as the adviser does his/her job."

The adviser said he was not fired, but stepped down willingly. He said, "Last year I had multiple issues come up that caused my principal at one point to tell me the administration had lost confidence in my ability to do the job, but there was no indication that I was going to be let go from it."

Despite a myriad of circumstances around his situation, he did say, "I really appreciate the work that you, the JEA, NSPA and SPLC do; you are immensely important and very diligent. So I also want to thank you for your support." I plan to monitor the situation with the new adviser to try and determine what policies the school is trying to enforce.

Questions: There have not been questions raised by members recently, but I am hoping to be in contact with JEA members around the state to get an idea of their needs and concern.

As the IJEA refines its initiatives, it is likely we will work closely with JEA Board committees, especially in the areas of Middle/Junior High School program development and in general outreach.

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Membership: Iowa has 53 current JEA members compared to 43 from March 2011. Currently 52 schools in Iowa are IHSPA members. Every adviser whose school was an IHSPA member was

contacted last spring about a free JEA membership. Two contacted Shipp to ask questions but did not sign up. One person did sign up, Ron Trobaugh, the 6/7 Johnston yearbook coordinator. Gary Lindsay is working on signing up another.

Events: The IHSPA Annual Board Meeting took place in Iowa City in June 2010. Members discussed the IHSPA Scholar Program, which will be unveiled in early 2012. The program will recognize the state's top journalism students. A 3.0 GPA, five hours of community service, and an essay will be the requirements.

There was another lengthy discussion about mentoring in Iowa. The board voted to continue Gary Lindsay's contract for another two years and have Jack Kennedy finish the 2011-2012 school year with his four mentees but pick up no new ones. Concerns about the cost and Kennedy's Colorado residency led to this decision. Ann Visser will spearhead the formation of an Iowa mentoring program.

A brainstorming session was held as to what people receive from being an IHSPA member. Thirteen services were generated. The board voted to use these services along with a one-year free membership to schools that had not been members in the past five years to entice new members.

There was lengthy discussion about Regents Admissions Index not counting yearbook and newspaper production courses as core credit for admission to three the regent universities. Iowa and Northern Iowa defy this declaration. Iowa continues to allow one year of newspaper to count, but not yearbook. Northern Iowa counts one year of journalism. It was agreed that guidance counselors are confused by/unaware of these conflicting situations. Advisers will need to continue to educate.

Fall conference: The state conference is scheduled for Oct. 27 in Iowa City. Starre Vartan, founder and editor of Eco-Chick and a green living expert will be the keynote. Other presenters include Julie Dodd, H.L. Hall, Jack Dvorak and Stephen Berry.

Initiatives and vision: People need help understanding how to get their courses accepted by the NCAA and how to make courses satisfy the Iowa Core so they count as core credit for graduation and college admissions. One answer is to offer a one-semester intro to journalism type course that does no production. The NCAA will not accept courses that consist of production. The State of Iowa also frowns on counting production courses as core English credit, but it will accept an intro to journalism course, as will most colleges. The key is to offer an intro course that will earn students core credit and NCAA approval and then recruit them into the production courses which will be counted as electives. Sell students on the idea that colleges and employers look for people who have the skills learned on a publications staff.

Several advisers have told me they are not JEA members and they do not travel to conventions because of tight school budgets.

Awards:

- Stratton Award for scholastic journalism supporters: Bonnie Neyens, retired adviser to the Fort Madison High School yearbook for 41 years.
- Rod Vahl Teacher of the Year: No nominees.
- Administrator of the Year Award: John Bacon, Iowa City, City High and Chuck Bredlow, S.E. Polk High School.

Mentors: Gary Lindsay is entering his third year as JEA Mentor for Iowa. One teacher/adviser, Diane Hicks of West Des Moines Valley High School, has completed her two-year mentoring experience with Lindsay. Like many journalism advisers, Hicks teaches a full load of classes in addition to advising two publications. The mentoring program has supported her in this very challenging situation. Hicks has improved and expanded the journalism program at her school, adding an online publication. She encouraged her students to enter competitions, and with her students, she attended IHSPA and JEA conventions.

Two other mentees are entering their second years, Kyle Phillips at Washington High in Cedar Rapids, and Alissa Hansen at Clear Creek Amana High School in Tiffin. Beginning her first year mentoring with Lindsay is Natalie Niemeyer at East High School in Des Moines. Lindsay is looking for one additional mentee.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: A school whose adviser wishes to stay anonymous is having an advertising situation concerning the school newspaper. A business (Business A) who has an exclusive contract with the school does not want another business (Business B) to advertise in the school paper. Business B has already purchased a substantial amount of advertising for the year, some of which paid for the first three issues of the paper. The school's administration has told the adviser to refund the money to Business B to make Business A happy. Much discussion has occurred between Lindsay, Shipp and the adviser. The adviser was going to contact SPLC and give SPLC contact information to the students. Lindsay will be following up with this adviser.



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Membership: Increase from 30 members to 36 current members.

Events: The convention local committee had the month-out meeting Sept. 24 with Logan Aimone, Kelly Furnas and Jack Kennedy. We are extremely excited and proud to be hosting everyone at the fall convention and having the opportunity to showcase our city. Many new events have been planned and coordinated by all committee members involved.

Minnesota Wild Sports Writing, Broadcasting and Photography contest is in the planning stages. This contest takes place in January at the Excel Energy Center in St Paul.

Journalism Day at the Guthrie in February is also in the planning stages. The play students will review is "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" on the Wurtle Thurst stage at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis.

The Minnesota State High School Journalism Convention is not being held this year in lieu of the national convention preparations. NSPA Gold Medallions and JEM All-State awards will still be presented via mailed awards.

Laurie Hansen and Lori Keekley are still friends.

Awards and honors: Lori Keekley and her staff of the St. Louis Park Echo earned (for the second year in a row) a Pacemaker finalist nomination. Congratulations also to Ryan McCallum of Buffalo High School and Jason Wallestad of Benilde St. Margaret's for their online newspaper Pacemaker wins at the spring convention in Anaheim. Bridget Bennet of Hopkins High School won the Grand Prize in the Jostens annual photography contest. Jeff Kocur is Bennet's adviser. The EagleEye Broadcast program at Apple Valley Senior High School is a Pacemaker finalist.

NSPA's Broadcast Story of the Year finalists in the Broadcast Sports category are Paul Duckstad and Mitch Hall, South Side, of Lakeville South High School.

Ryan McCallum was named Special Recognition Adviser by the Dow Jones News Fund.

Initiatives and vision: After a few months of intense federal paperwork and narrowly missing the Minnesota state government shutdown for state filing, I received non-profit status for JEM (Journalism Educators of Minnesota) in early September.



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Marsha
Kalkowski

Membership: High school journalism is alive and well in Nebraska! Membership continues to be strong. Many JEA members paid their dues through combined membership with the Nebraska High School Press Association. Exact numbers were not available as today because of some on-site registration at our Oct. 17 Fall Convention. As of Oct. 12, Nebraska had 55 total voting JEA members.

Happenings: At the state convention Oct. 17, more than 430 students and 45 advisers attended the one-day event at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. The keynote speaker was Les Rose of CBS News and publications from the last school year received their ratings. Cornhusker Awards were also named for the best of the best publications in the state. This was our inaugural year for a Cornhusker program for broadcasting programs and online publications. Not many entries were received, but we have confidence that this will be an exciting and growing field for Nebraska programs. Contact NHSPA Executive Director, Mary Kay Quinlan at mquinlan2@unl.edu for more information.

JEA Nebraska 2011-12 Winter Contest: Nov. 30 is the postmark deadline for entries in the JEA Nebraska contest. Thanks in advance to all the generous JEA volunteers who will help us judge the entries. Any proceeds from the contest are donated to the Student Press Law Center.

NHSPA/UNL Summer Journalism Camp: Nearly 100 students attended the July 25-28, summer workshop held at UNL. Scholarships were available and tracks were updated for truly

motivating and inspiring high school journalists in newspaper production, yearbook production, journalistic writing, photography, broadcasting, and editorial leadership. For more information or for dates for the 2012 camp, contact camp directors, Courtney Archer and Kim Bultsma at nhspaworkshop@gmail.com. We welcome attendees from other states!

Awards and honors: Matt Rasgorshek of Westside High School will be named Nebraska's Distinguished Adviser for 2012.

Six incredible portfolios were submitted for Nebraska's journalist of the year competition. Karin Shedd of Scottsbluff High School was named the 2011 winner. Her adviser was Terry Pitkin.

Nebraska tips its hat to Dale Schwalm, retired adviser from Omaha Gross Catholic High School, who will be recognized in Minneapolis as a Lifetime Achievement Award winner.

For the board: Thanks for all you do!



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Sue Skalicky

Membership: JEA membership in North Dakota is slowly increasing every year. We have grown by eight members in the past two years. In August Jostens presented a regional three-day yearbook workshop in Bismarck. I presented two sessions and promoted JEA membership at the advisers meeting. I plan to join with Jostens again next summer for a yearbook workshop and will work with them at other events throughout the school year.

Events: The Jostens regional yearbook workshop took place in Bismarck July 31, Aug. 1-2. The Northern Interscholastic Press Association fall workshop took place Oct. 3 at UND Grand Forks.

Initiatives and vision: North Dakota currently is experiencing some reduction in force due to federal budget cuts, but it has not affected our journalism programs yet. We are seeing an increase in attendance at our state competitions and workshops. I am promoting "j" — the new high school student chapter of JEA.

Awards: These are results from the spring NIPA state competition:

Division I — Overall newspaper

First: The Hi-Herald, Bismarck High School
Second: The Packer, West Fargo High School
Third: The Century Star, Century High School
HM: The Scroll, Fargo North High School

Division I — Overall yearbook

First: West Fargo High School, "Expect the Unexpected" – All-Northern
Second: Bismarck High School, "Demonosity"
Third: Century High School, "Extreme Exposure"
• Carrie Sandstrom, Century High School: Free Spirit Award
• Devils Lake Staff, Devils Lake High School: Service to School and Community

- Sue Skalicky, Century High School: Adrian Dunn Adviser of the Year
- Katie Birrenkott, West Fargo High School: Photographer of the Year
- Jessica Lee, Bismarck High School: NIPA Journalist of the Year



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Debra
 Rothenberger

Membership: At the South Dakota High School Press Association Press Convention's adviser session in September, state director Debra Rothenberger presented information about JEA membership, certification and the national JEA/NSPA Fall National High School Journalism Convention in Minneapolis.

Happenings: The South Dakota High School Press Convention was Sept. 26, 2011, at the South Dakota State University in Brookings. Dr. Matthew Cecil, an associate professor in the SDSU Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, was the keynote speaker. His topic was branding and the social media. He reminded the audience to be responsible when using social media because the information never goes away. His prediction is apps are the ultimate medium. Speakers for the breakout sessions were Kyle Beck, the technical producer for LaVoz Hispana TV, a weekly bilingual television show on KDLT, and Andrea Leesch, producer of KELOLAND News at Six.

After the keynote speaker, the advisers met. James Weaver, the new fine arts assistant executive director for the South Dakota High School Activities Association, introduced himself and explained the publications website. Also, the advisers discussed the press pass policy for student journalists at state meets and the academic ineligibility policy, which affects all students producing a publication. Currently, SDHSAA's policy is if anyone on the staff is academically ineligible and contributes to a publication, that publication may not be submitted to any of the South Dakota High School Journalism Activities Association's sponsored competitions.

Awards and honors: In the afternoon during the general session, Dr. Lyle Olson, a professor in the SDSU Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, and SDHSPA coordinator Jessica Jensen presented the awards including the Founders Award, the on-the-spot contest awards and the newspaper/yearbook awards. Receiving the Top of Class Award was Vermillion High School for yearbook and Brandon Valley High School for newspaper. Brandon Valley also received the Sweepstakes Award.

Also, Brandon Valley publications adviser Debra Rothenberger, MJE, will receive the National Scholastic Press Association's Pioneer Award at the JEA/NSPA Fall Convention in Minneapolis, Nov. 19.



Sandy Jacoby

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Membership: Fall Scholastic Journalism Conference recruited new advisers to join both JEA and Kettle Moraine Press Association through direct appeals, member forms, JEA Bookstore catalogs, JEA Calendar of Events, Certification pamphlets and JEA convention information. With KEMPA membership at 110 publications, Fall Scholastic Journalism Conference offered time with 60 KEMPA member and 14 non-member advisers to talk about advantages of dual membership. Wisconsin posted 45 JEA adviser members. Even membership reflects the downturn for school finances with Wisconsin cutting education budgets by nearly a billion dollars.

Happenings: For Summer Workshop programming, co-directors Linda Barrington and Kellie Doyle designed curriculum to reflect school journalism needs. Summer also offered Adviser Day free to advisers of workshop students. Directors gathered marketing research through student query. With improved marketing, KEMPA will adapt and reinvent our workshop presence.

Fall Scholastic Journalism Conference took place Oct. 14 at University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, attracting 1,020. Students and 78 advisers who attended three sessions each from 51 professional presenters. The presenters included newspapers, broadcast media, photography, communications and advertising professionals as well as journalism educators.

In spite of dramatic state budget cuts to education, the SJC drew 55 schools, many more schools than expected. Media Impact on Politics panel led Dr. Steve Brown of NEIU featured Wisconsin Assembly Minority Leader Peter Barca, DPI Policy Initiatives Adviser Jeff Perl and Kenosha News Editorial Page Editor Steve Lund. The session capitalized on the national and state media analysis and political turmoil that resulted in 100,000 protesters, recall elections for nine state senators and a current effort to recall the governor. In the journalism evaluation/competition, 11 newspapers and 11 yearbooks achieved All-KEMPA rank. The 8:20 a.m. schedule drew nearly 700 for awards followed by the three sessions.

At our advisers' luncheon/annual meeting and awards presentation, KEMPA President Linda Barrington recognized recently retired Executive Director Jan Kohls and remembered former officer and JEA Mentor Nancy Becker, whose death occurred in September. Also at the luncheon Wisconsin State Director and Fall SJC Director Sandy Jacoby promoted JEA directly and placed brochures in adviser folders so that those would be taken back to schools. In spite of budget constraints, KEMPA Fall Conference is hugely successful.

Winter Advisers' Seminar March 2-3 will feature JEA's president, Mark Newton, at Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva, Wis.

Awards and honors:

- JEA Medal of Merit: Jan Kohls, KEMPA Executive Director, retired
- JEA Lifetime Achievement: Mike Gordy, Whitewater, Wis.

Follow JEA President Mark Newton:
<http://twitter.com/jeapresident>



- NSPA Pioneer Award: Linda Barrington, Wauwatose, Wis.
- Dow Jones News Fund Distinguished Adviser: Stan Zoller, Rolling Meadows High School
- Administrator of the Year: Dr. Matt Gibson, Elmbrook School District
- Media Award: Rick Wood, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
- Newspaper Adviser of the Year: Jill Cook, Brookfield Central High School
- Yearbook Adviser of the Year: Karen Frank, Stillman Valley High School
- Friend of KEMPA: Randy Swikle, Johnsbury, Ill.
- Hall of Fame: Kathleen Burke, Mike Gordy, Audrey Kemp and Dave Wallner
- Gebhardt Writing Award: Krystyna Keema, Lake Zurich High School

Region 4: South Central

Wayna Polk, CJE

Region 4 Director

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Our region continues to work hard to promote the core values of JEA through outstanding scholastic journalism programs.

Traditionally, our region's advisers, students and their publications are recognized for accomplishments in every part of their genre and the awards for this fall have honored some of our region's best and brightest. Congratulations to all those schools, students and advisers who have received state, regional and national awards.

We are especially proud of Aaron Manful, Francis Howell High School, who was named as the Dow Jones News Fund Teacher of the Year and Susan Colyer, Fort Smith Southside High School, who was recognized as a Distinguished Adviser.

Our membership for our region stands at 574. We have given away more than 45 promotional memberships and our state directors plan to increase that number before the end of the year.

I have been fortunate to travel throughout Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana promoting JEA and will travel to Oklahoma next month to share JEA with their advisers.

State legislatures and financing continue to rank as primary concerns within our region.

The Texas Association of Journalism Educators is happy to host the Fall 2012 JEA/NSPA convention in San Antonio.



Stephanie Emerson

Stephanie Emerson, MJE

Arkansas State Director

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Membership: ASPA continues to work to increase membership. We continue to encourage our members to enroll in JEA when they join the state organization. Several JEA members continue to be active at

the national level. There are approximately 73 members in our state AJAA organization; 53 of those are in JEA. We have 116 different publication members in ASPA.

The Arkansas Scholastic Press Association is housed on the campus of Pulaski Tech in North Little Rock under the direction of Allen Loibner, MJE, of Pulaski Tech. Our website: www.arkansascholasticpress.org. Our email address: arkansascholasticpress@gmail.com

Happenings: The 2011 annual state convention was held in Rogers on April 15-16 at the new John Q. Hammons Center adjacent to the Embassy Suites Northwest Arkansas that served as the convention hotel. Approximately 800 students attended. On-site contests had 478 entries: 10 in newspaper; nine in yearbook; five in literary magazine; two in photography; eight in broadcast. We averaged about 30 entries in each category. Twenty workshops were held in different areas for students and advisers to attend. Approximately 1300 awards were presented.

This past June, our organization's annual Camp ASPA was held on the campus of Pulaski Tech in North Little Rock with a record attendance. See our website for more information.

The state convention will be held again in Rogers April 12-13, 2012, at the John Q. Hammons Center.

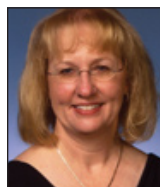
Awards and honors: Susan Colyer, adviser at Fort Smith Southside High School, will receive the Distinguished Adviser of the Year by the Dow Jones News Fund at the NSPA/JEA Fall National Convention in Minneapolis in November. Colyer also was a featured writer in the Summer 2011 ADVISER UPDATE with her article "There is life beyond advising."

The American Society of News Editors and Quill and Scroll 2011 International Writing and Photography Contest had a total of 3,248 entries received for the 2011 contest in all 12 categories for a total of 220 entries selected as national winners and 277 individual student winners in all 12 categories. National winners from Arkansas include:

- Bryant High School: Kory Sexton, Review Columns; Rachel Tucker, General Columns; Cody Elmore, Editorial

- Fort Smith Southside High School: Irvin Martinez, Advertisement

Bryant High School publications and staff have been honored with several awards. Margaret Sorrows, CJE, is the adviser to the Bryant yearbook and newspaper. The Hornet yearbook won a Gold Crown from CSPA and was named a Pacemaker Finalist from NSPA. Also the Prospective newspaper and Hornet yearbook won Quill & Scroll awards. They won several National Press Women awards and Jostens Photo Contest awards.



Susan Massy

Susan Massy, MJE

Kansas State Director

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Membership: There are 114 active JEA members in Kansas. KSPA's new president Jill Chittum has asked the board to set a goal of 200

members for this year (The KSPA membership form includes the opportunity to sign up for JEA membership as well). As a part of this effort, Chittum and other board members will be working to increase the use of the website and Twitter to promote KSPA and JEA as well as to improve communications. The Twitter account has 164 followers and many of them are high school journalists, which is good to see.

Following JEA's lead, KSPA will be offering new member vouchers which in addition to providing a free KSPA membership will also admit advisers to our fall conference free of charge.

Events: The two largest workshops in the state were held at K-State University and at the University of Kansas during the summer.

KSPA kicked off "The Drive: The Jackie Engel Endowment Fund Golf Tournament" as a means for potential donors to have fun and contribute to the endowment. The tournament was held on July 10. In 2012, for the first time, the Endowment will be used to cover the awards for the High School Journalist of the Year competition. The state winner will be awarded \$1,250 and two runners-up will earn \$750 each. The Endowment hopes to raise enough money to cover continuing education opportunities for beginning and mid-career advisers who want to improve their teaching and journalism skills.

Fall conferences took place in three locations across the state including Hays, Manhattan and Lawrence. President Mark Newton was the guest speaker in Hays and Manhattan; Thad Allender, the founder of Graph Paper Press, was the guest speaker in Lawrence.

Mary Patrick, the middle school liaison, conducted middle school workshops in September and October and will do so again February and March.

The regional contest will be held in six locations throughout the state in late February. Students who place in the top six will advance to the state contest which will be held in Lawrence on the first Saturday in May.

Initiatives and vision: Budget cuts continue occur throughout the Kansas educational community. Many school districts in the state are literally down to bare bones and looking for options to be able to maintain a suitable educational environment for students.

Journalism teachers are working this year to adapt the current curriculum to the new Career Tech Ed pathways and to align the curriculum with state standards. Participation in the program provides 1.5 funding for students in qualifying classes. Journalism classes were scheduled to be cut from the state's CTE program, but journalism teachers from Topeka and Lawrence spearheaded an effort to bring awareness to key media organizations in the state that then supported the efforts to save journalism funding.

Awards: Kansas Scholastic Press Association is proud to announce the inauguration of two state awards:

The Ad Astra award will honor an individual who has displayed a significant effort to improve his/her journalism program or made a significant contribution to the profession of advising in Kansas carries a \$250 cash prize along with a plaque and complimentary one-year membership to KSPA. This award honors an individual who has displayed a significant effort to continually improve his/her journalism program OR make a significant contribution to the profession of advising in Kansas. The recipient of the award will receive a \$250 cash prize, a plaque, and a complimentary one-year membership to KSPA.

The Sunflower award recognizes a new adviser who shows enthusiasm and dedication to building a strong journalism program and aims to encourage him/her to remain in the profession. The recipient of the award will receive a scholarship to a Kansas workshop, a plaque and a complimentary one-year membership to KSPA.

This year's winner of the Ad Astra award is Jane Wagner of Russell High School. Wagner was honored at the KSPA State Contest meeting on May 7 and the 2011 recipient of the Sunflower Award is Michelle Wilmes of Ottawa High School. Wilmes was honored at the KSPA State Contest brunch on May 7.

Amy DeVault and Derius Mammen will both be honored in the Friends of Scholastic Journalism category on Nov. 19 at the fall JEA/NSPA National Journalism convention in Minneapolis. DeVault is an instructor of digital media in the Elliott School of Journalism at Wichita State University. Mammen is a former representative for Jostens Publishing in Salina as well as a member of the KSPA Hall of Fame.

We are so proud of the following Kansas journalism educators and student journalists:

Twenty-one Kansas journalists are finalists or won honorable mentions in NSPA's ... of the Year contests. These 21 students represent nine high schools including: Blue Valley North, Blue Valley Northwest, Blue Valley West, Free State High School, Maize High School, Shawnee Mission East, Shawnee Mission North, Shawnee Mission Northwest, and Sterling High School.

Amy Morgan, the journalism adviser at Shawnee Mission West High School, has won Kansas' top honor for a journalism teacher, the Jackie Engel Award, sponsored by the Kansas Associated Collegiate Press and named in honor of a former journalism teacher at McPherson High School, who was commonly known as the Grandmother of Kansas scholastic journalism.

Tanner Maxwell of Goddard High School was been named the 2011 Kansas High School Journalist of the Year. Maxwell was editor-in-chief of The Lion's Roar newspaper for the past two years.

The results for All-Kansas winners for news publications, websites and videos were announced last spring. The entries, judged by top journalism advisers from around the country, went through an extensive critique process. Below are the 2011 All-Kansas winners:

News Publications: The Western Plains Cat Tracks from Western Plains High School, The Eagle Insider of Canton-Galva High School, The Oracle of Hillsboro High School, The Pow Wow of Bonner Springs High School, The Reporter of Paola High School, The Pirates' Log of Piper High School, The Comet of Chanute High School, The Dickinsonian of Chapman High School, The Flyer of Bishop Carroll High School, The Tiger Print of Blue Valley High School, The Newtonian of Newton High School, The Trojan Bluestreak of Andover High School, The JagWire of Mill Valley High School, The Harbinger of Shawnee Mission East High School, The Express of Blue Valley Northwest High School, and The Northwest Passage of Shawnee Mission Northwest High School.

Video News: MVTV of Mill Valley High School

Website: Shawnee Mission East High School, <http://smeharbinger.net>

Personal note: Kansas journalism teachers mourn the death of Shirley Gabrielson, 76, who passed away after a battle with cancer on Sept. 18. Mrs. G to her students, Shirley taught journalism at Wichita West and South high schools, retiring in 1991. Memorial gifts may be made to WARSP Teacher Scholarship Fund, in care of Jan Scott, 7813 W. Prestwick, Wichita, KS 67212, or the First Presbyterian Church of Wichita.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: In September, Basehor-Linwood school board proposed a policy prohibiting "memorials" of deceased students or staff in school publications. In mid-October, the school board set aside the proposed policy after

two organizations (KSPA and SPLC) warned the district that it could violate students' free speech rights.

A Johnson County Community College student and the SPLC have joined forces to sue the community college for excessive fees to release open records. JCCC wants to charge the editor of the student newspaper more than \$10,000 for one day's worth of emails.

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Events: The upcoming LSPA conference will be held Oct. 29 at LSU-Baton Rouge. LSPA sponsors a design contest for yearbooks, radio, television broadcasting and Web design, with submissions due in January.

The fifth Louisiana Scholastic Journalism Institute was held in June of 2011. It is a summer program for high school students who are interested in majoring in journalism.

The director of LSPA at LSU has changed from Yvonne Cappe to Bob Ritter, Director of Student Media. He can be contacted at rwriter@lsu.edu.

Initiatives and vision: Louisiana has experienced budget cuts in education this year. In Caddo Parish, some electives have been cut, but the area of journalism has not been affected.



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Michele
Dunaway

Membership: We were excited to give a complimentary one-year membership to the adviser at Joplin High School. Our state's totals can be found at <http://jea.org>.

Events: We held the annual Summer Media Workshop at the University of Missouri. MIPA held its annual J-Day and SSP held its annual spring conference at Webster University. All groups plan to continue the events.

Initiatives and vision: The Post-Dispatch has offered to give critiques to local student journalists. One of the first meetings was Oct. 18.

Awards: We are thrilled to have the 2011 Dow Jones News Fund Adviser of the Year, Aaron Manfull, in Missouri. Other advisers earning recognition include

- MIPA State teacher of the year: Ben Merithew.
- CSPA Gold Key: Michele Dunaway.
- JEA Yearbook Special Recognition Adviser: Michele Dunaway.

From Anaheim: C. Mitch Eden earned MJE recognition and Ben Merithew and Jaclyn Scott earned CJE recognition. Winners from the Anaheim JEA Write-offs are available at <http://jea.org>. Five Missouri publications earned awards in NSPA's Best of Show competition and eight were recognized as Finalists and Pacemakers (results available at <http://studentpress.org>).

To be recognized in Minneapolis:

Newspaper Pacemaker Finalists

- Globe, Clayton High School, Clayton
- The Rock, Rockbridge Senior High School, Columbia
- The Central High Times, Central High School, Springfield

Broadcast Pacemaker Finalists

- Central Intelligence, Central High School, Springfield
- KLHS/KLPS Channel 18, Liberty High School, Liberty

Mentors: This is an area that needs to be addressed by the JEA Mentoring Committee.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: We have battled the "Facebook law" and are currently waiting to see what type of policies individual districts are going to be creating. Matt Schott, MIPA co-president, is investigating the creation of shared guidelines for social media (as a result of the SB54/SB1 issue) and has drafted a proposal.



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Membership: of OSM-OIPA has remained low over the past few years as State Director Kathryn Jenson White continues to work to increase the numbers. A faltering economy and changes in advisers appear to be the primary reason for the decline, since often new advisers in rural areas have difficulty convincing superintendents to finance the membership and travel to the fall and spring state meets.

We continue to encourage members to join JEA when they join the state organization. Journalism Education Association South Central Regional Director Wayna Polk plans to attend the FMM (Fall Media Monday) Nov. 7 to talk with attendees about the benefit of becoming a national member. Currently there are only 21 JEA members in Oklahoma including Lifetime Achievement Member Joanne Graham.

The Oklahoma Scholastic Media/Oklahoma Interscholastic Press Association is based on the campus of the University of Oklahoma

in Norman, Okla. Visit the website: <http://jmc.ou.edu/osm-oipa>.

Happenings: The 2011 Spring Media Monday (SMM) State Convention was April 25, 2011 at the Oklahoma Memorial Union on the campus of the University of Oklahoma. On the agenda were several break-out sessions, plus write-off competitions and concluded with the afternoon awards assembly which focused on the successes of high school newspapers, magazines and video productions in the state's (members) high schools.

The 2011 Fall Media Monday (FMM) will take place Nov. 14 in the Oklahoma Memorial Union on the campus of the University of Oklahoma. The day will include breakout sessions for students interested in yearbooks, newspapers, newsmagazines, video production and photography. The awards assembly at the end of the day will focus on honoring the achievements of submitting yearbook staffs and their work.

After being away for a full year of teaching in Europe, OSM/OIPA Executive Director Kathryn Jenson White returned this fall to man the operations for FMM. In her absence, the organization was guided by Interim-Director Sarah Cavanah, who did an excellent job filling in for KJW while she was gone.

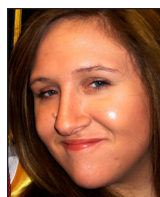
Student registration costs for FMM have been raised for the first time in 12 years from \$14 to \$16. The increase was necessary since costs continue to increase for salaries for office managers, supplies, event-related fees, etc.

SMM 2012 Conference: The originally scheduled April 2 date for SMM 2012 will need to be moved. Discussions are underway as to which date would work best for schools.

Changes in SMM Writing, Design and Photography Contest: Kathryn Jenson White has asked the OSM/OIPA Advisers to consider experimenting with a new approach to the spring write-off contest. Instead of having the write-off on campus, she would like to allow the competition to consist all of prepared-in-advance entries. This would allow students more preparation time and speed the grading process since judges would not have to wait for competitions to be completed. An alternate proposal is to have judges consider already printed articles that have been submitted from the monthly writing competitions.

OSMI Grant: Oklahoma Scholastic Media Initiative Grants are issued for \$7,500 each. Five grants are awarded to high schools with existing programs to improve technology and printing support. Five are awarded to new programs. The Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation provides funding for the grants. KJW reports that they had a superb workshop in late July, welcoming five new newspapers and providing support for four existing ones. One grant recipient had to drop out. The grant recipients were

- Tiger's Tale, Cleveland High School: Carol Durham
- The Royal Messenger, Community Christian School: Matthew Wilson
- The Eye of the Tigers, Coweta High School: Shelly Hazen
- The Bear, Harding Fine Arts Academy: Barry Schmelzenbach
- The Stinger, Kingfisher High School: A.J. Johnson
- Mercy School: Tamara Melhem, Tehmina Cheema, Rebekah Stone
- Pawnee High Times, Pawnee High School: Ronda Hill
- Take Two Times, Take Two Alternative Academy: Brandi Naylor
- The Varsity Blue, Vinita High School: Angela Martin



Alyssa
Armentrout

Alyssa Armentrout

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Membership: Texas JEA membership is at 244, slightly up from the spring (231). TAJE's membership is 199. After TAJE's Fall Fiesta, Rhonda Moore will contact members who have not rejoined.

Events: The Texas Association of Journalism Educators held its board retreat June 15-16 in Tyler. The main topic of discussion was the fall 2012 convention in San Antonio. The board assigned committees and opened them up to other teachers in Texas. The board left the retreat with a solid plan for promoting the convention.

Next fall, Texas will forego its state convention to have the national convention. Our Friday night auction will benefit the Student Press Law Center. We'd love to have a basket from every state in attendance so other state directors can contact Alyssa Armentrout, Rhonda Moore or Pat Gathright to make a donation.

Board members attended a year-out meeting with Logan Aimone and Kelly Furnas in San Antonio Oct. 1.

Jeanne Acton, director of ILPC has started filming sessions at the spring convention. Several of those are available on the UIL website and will be posted on the TAJE site so they'll be available for those who could not attend.

The ILPC convention is April 28 and will not conflict with the national convention in Seattle. Regional reps for TAJE have hosted numerous summer workshops to great success in Texas. The next TAJE board meeting is Oct. 21 leading up to the TAJE Fall Fiesta in San Antonio Oct. 22-24.

TAJE operates its own website and listserv at www.taje.org.

Initiatives and vision: The state's educational budget is still the biggest concern for Texas journalism teachers. Will know more about where we stand in the spring.

Awards: The following schools from Texas have been recognized as **NSPA Pacemaker Finalists:**

Newspaper

- The Eagle Angle, Allen High School
- Panther Pride, Midlothian High School
- The Edge, Pleasant Grove High School
- The ReMarker, St. Mark's School of Texas
- The Shield, McCallum High School
- Pirate Press, Crandall High School
- The Fourcast, Hockaday School
- Stampede, Burges High School
- Panther Prints, Plano East High School

Broadcast

- Titan TV, Centennial High School
- MHS1, McKinney High School

Texas had 24 finalists in the individual NSPA Story/Photo/Design of the Year contests (available at <http://studentpress.org/nspa>).

Region 5: Southeast



Brenda Gorsuch

Brenda Gorsuch, MJE

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I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the scholastic journalists and advisers who make up the South Carolina Scholastic Press Association on the organization's 75th anniversary. The anniversary was marked with a celebration at the University of South Carolina on Oct. 16. Radical Write author Bobby Hawthorne gave the keynote address at a banquet on Oct. 16 and spoke at the fall SCSPA conference on Oct. 17.

Under the leadership of director Karen Flowers, CJE, and her assistant, Leslie Dennis, SCSPA is a driving force for scholastic journalism in our region. Flowers, who is also the director of the Southern Interscholastic Press Association, currently serves as JEA's state director for South Carolina.

Congratulations to all scholastic journalists and advisers in South Carolina. I am grateful for the strong support S.C. advisers provide for JEA in our region and across the United States.

Since the Anaheim convention last April, the Region 5 state directors and I have focused our attention on awarding the additional 100 free memberships the JEA board allotted for our region. We awarded all 100 of our first allotment last winter, and as of mid-October, we have awarded more than half of the second allotment. We hope to award all of the remaining memberships prior to the Dec. 31 deadline. We are focusing on giving memberships to new advisers who attend fall workshops sponsored by the scholastic press associations in our states.

Scholastic journalism remains strong in the Southeast. SIPA, the North Carolina Scholastic Media Association, and the Alabama Scholastic Press Association continue to support JEA mentors in Region 5 states. We currently have mentors in North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama.

We are very pleased that the Dow Jones News Fund recently recognized Erin Coggins of Sparkman High School, Harvest, Ala., with a Distinguished Adviser Award in the National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year awards program. North Carolina adviser Robin Sawyer of First Flight High School in Kill Devil Hills, N.C., a former DJNF Journalism Teacher of the Year, will receive a Pioneer Award from NSPA in Minneapolis. We congratulate her on her numerous contributions to scholastic journalism.

Since the new JEA board took office on July 1, I have been working with Tom Gayda, JEA Development/Curriculum Commission chair, and a committee of JEA members to consider the future of JEA's publication, *Communication: Journalism Education Today*. The committee has reviewed the fall issue and is currently considering motions to bring to the board at the Minneapolis convention.



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Susan Goins Newell, MJE

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Membership: We have 34 members of JEA from Alabama; two are lifetime members, 16 are promotional members and three are retired teachers who are serving as mentors to new teachers. On the report of expired members from 2009 received from our regional director this summer were nine Alabama teachers, many who are retired. They are being contacted to help us get memberships from new advisers at their former schools.

Events: ASPA had successful Fall Regional Workshops in Mobile, Tuscaloosa, Montgomery and Huntsville. The 75th anniversary committee is planning our 75th anniversary State Convention to be held in February. Deadlines for ASPA are

- Dec. 15: Deadline for all media for competitions and critiques (<http://aspa1.ua.edu/contests-and-critiques/>).
- Jan. 27: Senior award deadlines: Bragg, Thomson, Stevenson and Journalist of the Year awards. Administrator and Adviser of the Year award deadlines.
- Feb. 17-18: ASPA's 75th Anniversary State Convention.
- April 1: Deadline to apply for the Multicultural Journalism Workshop. <http://aspa1.ua.edu/mjw/>
- June 15-17: The Long Weekend summer camp.
- June 15-24: [a.edu/mjw/](http://aspa1.ua.edu/mjw/) Multicultural Journalism Workshop.
- Sept. 17-21: Fall Regional Workshops.
- Sept. 17: Mobile.
- Sept. 18: Montgomery (Renaissance Montgomery Hotel Convention Center).
- Sept. 19: Tuscaloosa (University of Alabama).
- Sept. 21: Huntsville (University of Alabama – Huntsville).

Initiatives and vision: Classes are larger due to budget restraints. Classes have as many as 42 students. Some newspaper and yearbook classes are being combined. More is being asked of teachers because of a new program called RTI (an individual plan for students that must be followed; it is mandated by law) and the inability of schools to meet AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) – teachers must attend many more meetings during planning time and after school. Another law demands that all 2013 graduates have online instruction – some English/Language Arts teachers are required to have substantial additional training to meet this mandate without supplemental compensation or extra professional development time.

Awards: Erin Coggins of Sparkman High School, Harvest, Ala. was named one of four distinguished advisers by Dow Jones News Fund.

Mentors: JoAnn Hagood, Marie Parsons and Nora Stephens serve as mentors. ASPA received a \$5,000 National Education Association (NEA) Foundation grant for our ASPA mentoring program.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: Some principals tend to tell some advisers what they can and cannot print.

For the board: We would like for the JEA board to consider reducing the registration fee for students to attend national conventions so more students from low income families may attend. As little as \$10 to \$20 would help.



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Membership: We currently have 100 members in Florida, 37 of which are from the promotion. We have been promoting membership at our state convention, summer workshops and regional workshops. Joe Humphrey, Florida Scholastic Press Association, has also been including information in his monthly email blasts to current FSPA members.

FSPA offered the JEA Certification exams at our state convention in April. Several people took us up on that offer, resulting in more CJEs and MJEs in Florida. We've begun offering free FSPA memberships to new publications.

Events: State convention was April 28-30 at the Hyatt at Disney and had more than 1,000 students registered.

We're holding seven fall workshops this year — the first time our organization has offered that full slate in at nearly a decade due to parts of the state that had declining involvement.

- District 1: Sept. 29, Emerald Coast Convention Center (Fort Walton Beach)
- District 2: Oct. 8, University of Florida (Gainesville)
- District 3: Oct. 22, University of Central Florida (Orlando)
- District 4: Oct. 7, University of South Florida (Tampa)
- District 5: Oct. 29, Braden River High School (Bradenton)
- District 6: Oct. 22, Florida International University-University Park Campus (Miami)
- District 7: Oct. 15 Stoneman Douglas High School (Parkland)

We're working with Walt Disney World to hold an FSPA-exclusive media day at the resort. Students will learn about photography and social media and get a behind-the-scenes look at Disney. We're hoping to continue building that partnership in anticipation of the fall 2015 national convention in Orlando.

Initiatives and vision: Like stated above, we are working with Disney to hopefully build and foster a relationship with them in hopes of having the fall JEA/NSPA convention in Orlando. We are also working to increase membership at the state and national level, as well as national certification.

Awards: Our state Journalist of the Year, Carson Bailey from Oveido High School, was also a finalist for JEA's Journalist of the Year. Renee Burke, Orange County Public Schools' 2012 Teacher of the Year, was named Florida Journalism Adviser of the Year.

In NSPA individual contests, 10 entries recognized as finalists and winners were from Florida students. Results are available online at <http://studentpress.org/nspa>.

2011 NSPA Broadcast Pacemaker Finalist:

Weekly/Biweekly, DSOA Today, Dreyfoos School of the Arts, West Palm Beach, Fla.

In CSPA Gold Circle Awards, 17 student entries from Florida earned recognition.



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Membership: There are currently 43 members of JEA from Georgia. This includes five lifetime members, 14 promotional members and 21 regular teacher/adviser members. We really made a push with complimentary membership for new advisers this fall, submitting 20 applications.

Events: The 2011 GSPA fall conference was the most successful conference in recent history. More than 600 students and advisers attended from 32 different high schools, an increase of 30 percent over last year. GSPA strongly promoted the conference to new advisers, offering an advisers-only track that was attended by roughly 30 teachers. More than 50 general sessions were held, including four editors-only sessions focusing on editing and staff management. Photos from the conference can be viewed at <http://www.gspa.uga.edu>.

In the summer, 75 students attended the Georgia Journalism Academy and produced a newspaper and a broadcast news TV show. Products can be viewed at <http://www.georgiajournalismacademy.com>. Grants by CNN and the Hispanic Scholarship Fund helped increase minority enrollment, with roughly 40 percent of the students attending being under-represented students.

Despite the decrease in submissions into our annual competition (see below), a record 525 people attended the annual awards ceremony, held in late April 2011. The event was keynoted by Patch.com regional editor Perry Parks.

Initiatives and vision: Despite the poor economy and increasing restrictions on student travel, there was record attendance for state scholastic journalism events.

We have seen an increase in student publication websites, and GSPA is in the process of collecting addresses and posting them on its site: <http://www.gspa.uga.edu>.

GSPA unveiled a new logo and website in August, as well as adopting a Twitter and Flickr account. The organization is working to load the website with more adviser-helpful materials, including posting conference presentations.

Awards: A total of 999 submissions were entered in GSPA's annual competition, a decrease of roughly 10 percent.

The top scholastic journalism honor for publications is the All-Georgia award, and they went to the following publications:

- Newspaper/newsmagazine: The Odyssey, Clarke Central High School, Athens
- Yearbook: The Legend, George Walton High School, Marietta
- Literary Magazine: The Epiphany, Collins Hill High School, Suwanee
- Broadcast TV: Grady News Network, Henry W. Grady High School, Atlanta

Georgia had 13 portfolios entered into the JEA Champion Journalist competition. Our state winner, Kinsey Clark of Clarke Central High School in Athens, was chosen as a runner-up in the national competition. There were nine portfolios entered into the GSPA Junior Champion Journalist competition. The winner was Shaun Kleber of Henry W. Grady High School in Atlanta.

The state's Adviser of the Year honor went to David Winter of Henry W. Grady High School in Atlanta.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: We had one adviser, Chris Canter of Pope High School in Marietta, not get his contract renewed due to alleged administrative concern over the content of the school's award-winning publication. I wrote a letter to the school's principal and the district's superintendent on behalf of GSPA and the Grady College criticizing the decision. Canter was still dismissed, but later found employment within the district in a non-teaching position.

We have another adviser, Emily Weigert of Bleckley County High School in Cochran, express concern over having to "defend the journalism program" to her principal. We forwarded her the Jack Dvorak study about the benefits of scholastic journalism, and she received feedback from several other senior advisers in the state. She said in a recent email that her situation has subsided for now.



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Membership: The Mississippi membership is currently 39, which is almost double the membership we had last year. The JEA free membership initiative has been helpful in getting many involved who have never heard of JEA. We have given away 13 free JEA memberships this fall and plan to have a new JEA members' session at the MSPA Spring Convention to help get advisers involved and interested in coming to JEA events. Advisers who have attended JEA conventions and taken part in the bookstore and listserv will facilitate this session.

Events: The MSPA Spring Convention at The University of Mississippi brought 476 students and advisers to campus to participate in more than 60 teaching sessions, a carry-in competition and an award ceremony for the annual mail-in competition. Advisers attended the MSPA state meeting in which JEA membership was promoted and membership applications were

distributed. Current MSPA/JEA members spoke to the group about benefits of JEA and JEA/NSPA conventions. The best way to get new advisers interested is personal invitation and testimonies, so we try to use those at as many meetings as possible.

The Mississippi Journalism Summer Institute offered advisers a summer boot camp experience from which they carried home teaching and topic ideas for their staffs. Students chose sessions from several tracks: yearbook, writing, photography, desktop publishing and broadcast. The three-day workshop included top instructors from across the nation and lots of hands-on experiences.

The MSPA Fall Regional Workshop at The University of Mississippi gained the highest recorded attendance in MSPA history: 520 students and advisers. All-day tracks included yearbook, newspaper, photography, new media, broadcast, online, sports reporting and desktop publishing. This year was the first for on-site contests where students competed in news feature writing, sports writing, design, broadcast and photography. Over 40 participated in the contest, which was a good number for a beginning competition. MSPA President Jack Schultz tweeted the contest results to participants within minutes of the final judging.

The MSPA Fall Regional Workshop in South Mississippi will take place Oct. 17 in Oak Grove, Miss. Sessions offered include newspaper, yearbook, photography and desktop publishing.

Initiatives and vision: The biggest challenge in Mississippi is to get advisers in small towns to know about the scholastic journalism organizations that can help them. This year, I have (as usual) mailed letters, schedules, free membership forms and applications to every high school staff in the state who are not currently MSPA members. However, in addition, I am personally calling every school asking to speak to publication advisers. I have found that many did not know any organization existed to help them, and some of those schools have now joined us for the fall regional conventions. I hope to increase awareness of the bigger journalism picture and, thereby, promote higher standards for scholastic journalism through this personal contact initiative.

I have found that a number of schools (especially those in poorer areas) have dropped their newspaper programs, and some do not even have a yearbook program anymore. Money is the main issue; having teachers who will take on the extra load is a secondary problem. MSPA has offered principals on-site and regional training for new advisers to help them gain a knowledge and comfort base.

Awards: At the state convention more than 300 awards were presented to high school students in newspaper, yearbook, magazine, broadcast and online categories. Carry-in contests allowed about 50 more students to receive recognition.

Adviser and staff awards included the following:

- Administrator of the Year: Kathy Howington, Oxford High School
- Newspaper Staffer of the Year: Heather Rodgers, Oxford High School
- Yearbook Staffer of the Year: Bailey Brocato, Starkville High School
- Broadcast Staffer of the Year: Andrew LaFrance, Starkville High School
- Caroline Fair Award - Yearbook Adviser of the Year: Cynthia Ferguson, Oxford High School
- JoAnne Sellers Award - Newspaper Adviser of the Year: Joy Davis, Oak Grove High School
- Broadcast Adviser Award: R.J. Morgan, Starkville High School
- Newspaper Editor of the Year: Kent McCarty, Oak Grove High School
- Yearbook Editor of the Year: Margeaux Miller, Oxford High School



Monica Hill

Monica Hill, CJE

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Membership: Current JEA membership total for North Carolina was 144 as of Oct. 5. Our membership has more than tripled since last year when we participated in the free, first-time membership offer through the JEA board promotion. We are participating again this year in that promotion, offering free JEA memberships to new advisers who attend one of our six N.C. Scholastic Media Association fall workshops.

Membership renewal notices were sent in September to former JEA members in the state. At least two advisers have since then renewed through the NCSMA office.

N.C. Scholastic Media Association membership materials continue to offer a JEA membership option, as NCSMA is an affiliate member of JEA.

Events: NCSMA's fall regional workshops are currently underway. The six workshops are scheduled on Thursdays throughout October, concluding the Thursday before the national high school journalism convention. We began in the mountains of the state with the Northwest regional workshop in Boone at Appalachian State University. We will conclude Nov. 10 with the South-central Piedmont workshop inside The Charlotte Observer building in downtown Charlotte. These six workshops are co-hosted with newspapers and universities across our state. They offer low-cost workshops for students who may not otherwise attend a scholastic journalism event. We are proud to announce each year that our workshop registration fee remains only \$10 per person – and that covers lunch. The 2011 workshops remain at six locations across the state – Asheville at the University of North Carolina at Asheville; Boone at Appalachian State University; Chapel Hill at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Greenville at East Carolina University; Charlotte at The Charlotte Observer; and Greensboro at N.C. A&T State University. More than 1,000 students typically attend these statewide workshops.

The June 13-16 summer N.C. Scholastic Media Institute provided four days of intense instruction in yearbook, newspaper, TV news, literary magazine, design, advising and photography for students and teachers from across the state. This year we added a full sequence in online news. Students in that sequence produced an online news site, using equipment and facilities in UNC-Chapel Hill's School of Journalism and Mass Communications 24-hour digital newsroom.

NCSMA continues to offer graduate-level courses in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication specifically for high school journalism teachers. Funding for tuition and lodging is available to N.C. high school journalism teachers through NCSMA's Journalism Education Fellowship Program. The summer 2012 course will be JOMC 491, "Teaching Online News in the Secondary School." This short-term summer class will meet July 8-14. This will be an intensive week of class sessions, but teachers may complete three hours of graduate credit in these seven days.

A self-paced study course, "Journalism Education in the Secondary School," is offered online for N.C. high school journalism teachers. Teachers may take up to nine months to complete the online course.

Initiative and vision: The Carolina Sports Journalism Camp will launch in summer 2012. This new four-day workshop will allow rising juniors and seniors to participate in an exciting summer camp opportunity June 27-30 on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus. Students will take a behind-the-scenes sports media tour, cover a coach's press conference, attend a UNC-CH creative sports writing class and choose from among optional classes in sports photography and sports play-by-play. This residential camp will allow students to experience campus life and explore sports journalism. Advisory Council members, who will teach sessions for the event, include sportswriters, media relations directors, an NFL play-by-play announcer, an NBA community relations director. Lead instructor will be Tim Crothers, author and former Sports Illustrated writer, who currently teaches sports writing at UNC-Chapel Hill. All proceeds from the camp will support the outreach efforts of the N.C. Scholastic Media Association, offsetting yet another round of budget cuts for the association.

NCSMA student assistants developed a resource list of all college journalism programs in the state of North Carolina. At the close of the Summer Institute, student attendees now have the opportunity to indicate all in-state college journalism programs that interest them. NCSMA staff then forward the students' names and contact information to those respective universities.

Awards: Robin Sawyer, adviser at First Flight High School in Kill Devil Hills, will receive the Pioneer Award from National Scholastic Press Association during the Minneapolis convention.

The two alternates in our state's High School Journalist of the Year competition (Catherine E. "Katie" King of Hendersonville and Elizabeth "Liz" Crampton of Greensboro) edited newspapers that were named Pacemaker Finalists this year: Wingspan at West Henderson High School in Hendersonville and Northwest Horizons at Northwest Guilford High School in Greensboro.

Two literary magazines received Crown awards from Columbia Scholastic Press Association in March: Roars and Whispers at Providence Senior High School in Charlotte earned a Gold Crown; Pegasus at Myers Park High School in Charlotte earned a Silver Crown.

Westwind yearbook at West Henderson High School won a Pacemaker from National Scholastic Press Association and a Silver Crown from CSPA.

Jeremy Parrish, assistant principal at Athens Drive High School in Raleigh, and Dr. Linda Florence Callahan, associate professor at N.C. A&T State University, received the Kay Phillips Distinguished Service Award from the N.C. Scholastic Media Advisers Association. Phillips, former director of NCSMA, presented the award at the closing awards of the N.C. Scholastic Media Institute in June.

Each year at that closing awards brunch, cash scholarships are awarded to student attendees based on their performance at the Institute. The 2011 Don Curtis scholarships in TV news were awarded to Garrett Bird of Ravenscroft School in Raleigh and Addie McElwee of Statesville High School. The Daily Tar Heel scholarships in newspaper journalism were awarded to Arjun Gupta

of Providence High in Charlotte and Amanda Slowickowski of First Flight High School in Kill Devil Hills. Each student received \$650.

Mentors: Three mentors currently serve North Carolina. Kay Windsor, one of two new mentors, sends the following update announcing her new mentee:

“Amber Bryant from Reagan High School in Pfafftown, N.C. is my mentee for 2011-2013. She is teaching Introduction to Journalism and Newspaper. Last school year was a difficult one for the school when two faculty members and three students died, all in separate incidents; another student died just as this school year began. The newspaper staff had to decide how to cover these deaths that affected their school community, and how to do so with fairness and compassion. Reagan High School is beginning its six year, and the newspaper is helping to reflect and effect the community it represents.”

Martha Rothwell is our senior mentor, having participated since North Carolina joined the program. Martha, who is now mentoring mentees as well as our new mentors, submits the following report, which perfectly illustrates the effectiveness of this national initiative:

“As I begin my fourth year as a JEA mentor, I reflect with satisfaction and pleasure on my experiences with five mentees. Each mentee has brought unique backgrounds and talents to the field of scholastic journalism.

“Melanie Hunyh-Duc, my first mentee, brought to the classroom only a limited journalism background from her high school years as a member of her yearbook staff. She, however, has a very determined, spirited personality that challenges her to be only the very best in everything that she does from teaching freshmen English to advising newspaper production. Her journalism class meets before school at 7:30 every day. Applications for the staff exceed the number allocated to the class. She has taken a weak program and built a Pacemaker Finalist newspaper. When she began advising the paper five years ago, her principal practiced not only prior review but also prior restraint. This year, his first read is with delivery to the entire school. The newspaper under Melanie’s leadership has earned his respect as well as the respect of the student body, community and staff.

“Bill Cutler, also a mentee in my first mentoring year, worked on his high school newspaper but had no plans to work as a newspaper adviser when he began teaching English. However, as so many young advisers experience, his principal included this responsibility when he offered Bill the teaching position. The program had failed since the retirement of the former award-winning adviser several years earlier. The principal wanted to see another award-winning newspaper. The budget was in the red, and the staff had dwindled to only a few students who needed an easy course to fill their schedules. The program today is successfully producing an on-line edition by a full class of eager young journalist. Last year Bill was voted Teacher of the Year by the staff at his school.

“In my second year of mentoring, a friend asked if I could help the journalism adviser at her school. Leah Baisden had moved to the area from Florida where she was a successful high school AP English teacher. She was placed at a local middle school for her first year of teaching in the Iredell-Statesville Schools. With the reduction in force after her first year, her middle school position was cut and she was asked to move to the high school to teach AP senior English, a position that she was highly qualified for. However, the job also

included advising the school newspaper and yearbook, neither of which had she ever advised. A former athlete, her competitive personality challenged her to become a winning adviser. She has recruited outstanding writers and is building her program to be an award winner. The editor last year was selected as the North Carolina Journalist of the Year and is majoring in journalism at Campbell University.

“The third year of mentoring brought another outstanding adviser to the mentoring program. Sara Fox, a Missouri University graduate and former professional journalist, accepted a part-time job as a journalism adviser. The school had a tradition of an outstanding newspaper that was totally supported by the administration for the past 20 years. As Sara’s daughter graduated from the high school, Sara stepped in when the former adviser retired for the simple reason that she, as a parent, valued having a quality newspaper at a high school. Her primary support from the mentoring program was to help her transition from the professional world to the scholastic world of journalism. She was very successful, yet after the first year, the position for a part time teacher was cut.

“To replace her, another former journalist who had joined the staff only one year earlier, accepted the adviser position. He too brings a tremendous amount of knowledge about journalism from his career as a sports writer. He has completed his teaching certification and has transitioned into the classroom quite smoothly. His enthusiasm for this new turn in his career is exciting. The mentoring program is helping him feel secure and successful in the journalism classroom and introducing him to all the avenues of scholastic journalism that are open to him. He is an adviser who is going to make a difference in scholastic journalism.

“It has been my pleasure to work with these five advisers. They have generously opened their classrooms to the mentoring program. They have even taken their students from the classroom into the state and regional journalism organizations. Although they may not have voluntarily chosen to be advisers, they have all found success in the journalism classroom. As mentors, our goal is to help them find that success and to have fun while doing it. With these five mentees, the mentoring program has achieved that goal.”

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: We are pleased to announce that the 25th anniversary of the Hazelwood ruling will be marked on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus in fall 2012. The First Amendment Law Review Symposium (based in the UNC-CH Law School) will explore the ruling and subsequent effects in a two-day media law research event on the Chapel Hill campus. The spring 2013 First Amendment Law Review will then focus solely on Hazelwood. The 25th Anniversary Symposium will be sponsored by Student Press Law Center, the First Amendment Law Review, the UNC-Chapel Hill Center for Media Law and Policy and the N.C. Scholastic Media Association.



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Membership: Currently our JEA membership in South Carolina is at 53 with this breakdown:

28	promotional
2	lifetime
1	associate/individual
1	affiliate adviser organization
1	institution/library
17	adviser memberships
1	promotional (is no longer teaching)
2	promotional (have moved to other states)

During the promotional drive in the spring, I contacted all SCSPA members who were not JEA members and offered the promotional membership and if they responded, I forwarded the information to Brenda Gorsuch, our regional director. The number we received shows that promotional membership drive in South Carolina was successful.

This fall, I contacted all new advisers who had replaced former members and offered the same. I am still receiving those. Every month I try to email the JEA members who have not renewed their membership and remind it's time to renew. To my knowledge, all do renew unless they move, leave advising or leave teaching. I can't think of anyone who just doesn't renew. Additionally to promote membership in JEA, we have the JEA membership option on all our membership brochures and online membership form.

Events: We offered a number of workshops for the third weekend in September, but only a handful responded, all for InDesign, which we had Sept. 24. We have the 75th anniversary of SCSPA Oct. 16 with about 225 expected. Our annual SCSPA fall conference, usually the fourth Monday in September, will be Oct. 17 with 526 registered.

Initiatives and vision: The SCSPA board voted to begin a First Amendment liaison at our winter board meeting. This person is supposed to help the office identify and work with staffs/advisers who find themselves operating in less than ideal conditions — most often under prior review and/or censorship. Although we have written the description, we need to work on getting the word out and surveying our advisers to see what is really going on in our state. In general conversations with our advisers at conferences, through email, etc. we find that so many of our advisers do not know the differences among prior review, prior restraint and censorship. That's a beginning point for us.

Although I know a number of scholastic journalism programs statewide were probably cut this year, I have only heard from member schools, and two newspaper programs were eliminated. At one school the adviser moved, and the administration chose to absorb the students who had signed up for newspaper into the broadcast class. At the other school, a teacher pitched "media literacy" and designed a curriculum — a great idea. But the administration said the school didn't need a newspaper anymore

since they had "media literacy."

South Carolina is no different from other states in suffering from cuts in programs and in administrator's putting inexperienced teachers in the publications classroom. Therefore turnover is high. Experience is low.

Our state organization, SCSPA, and our regional organization, SIPA, are working to contact all new advisers to let them know we are here to help them.

Awards: We are beginning a new adviser's award this year — to be presented for the first time at the 75th anniversary banquet, Oct. 16. When we began getting nominations for our Adviser of the Year award for advisers with just a few years of experience, we realized there was a need for such an award — to recognize and reward the young advisers. This award is honoring the former director, Bruce E. Konkle, the longest serving director of SCSPA with 17 years and a former adviser. Nominees had five or fewer total years of experience advising a publication. Konkle is a JEA lifetime member.

Something learned: Two new approaches to getting nominations have developed from beginning this award: (1) I have learned to send letters directly to principals of member advisers and give the adviser's name and the publications he/she advises; (2) keep this award at the beginning of the year to award at the fall conference, thus keeping the less experienced and the more experienced from having to share the same spotlight, or put another way, so both will have the spotlight and shine.

The recipient of the first Bruce E. Konkle Rising Star award is Katie Yon, a newspaper (online) adviser at Brashier Middle College Charter High School in Greenville. I thought it was interesting the winner publishes only online. The judges said although the judging was close, and difficult, Yon's work with students was highly effective and brought students and community together.

We awarded our Reid H. Montgomery Adviser of the Year in May to Rene Horton, yearbook adviser at Pleasant Hill Middle School. Horton had previously advised the newspaper at two other South Carolina high schools.

One note about our adviser awards: nominees do not participate in the process. The nomination process is secret, so judges see only what others see.

Students recognized:

- Chris Rosa, the 2011 Journalist of the Year, served as design editor and editor-in-chief of Lexington High School's newspaper, The Wildcat.
- Anna Stevens, Lugoff-Elgin High School, is the 2011 SCSPA scholarship winner. Stevens has been a member of the Kaleidoscope yearbook staff since she was a sophomore.
- Macaylee Jones received the SCSPA/Jostens yearbook scholarship. Jones, a Lugoff-Elgin High School senior, was on the Kaleidoscope yearbook staff as student life design editor to now co-editor-in-chief.

Publications recognized:

- Most Improved Broadcast Program: AHS News, Aynor High School
- Best in Broadcast: Real TV, Stratford High School
- Most Improved Newspaper: The Wave Breaker, Summerville High School
- Best S.C. Scholastic Newspaper: Tribal Tribune, Wando High School

Mentors: South Carolina has one mentor, Marilyn Chapman.

However, SIPA supports mentors in South Carolina, North Carolina and Alabama through \$1,000 grants to each state.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: We had a successful “challenge” to prior review/First Amendment rights when a staff in Greenville, S.C. put out a four-page special covering a charity event that had been going on for 12 years in the county. The fund-raising for a number of charities was also a competition among the high schools.

The principal of one of the schools wanted to take \$25,000 of the money raised and use it for an after-school program he wanted to begin to help low graduation rates. The money was to be used for the buses for the program.

The newspaper staff's coverage brought the issue to light even before the paper was distributed ... obviously a lot of sources knew the topic was being covered. And there was a column by the principal explaining his reasoning for wanting the program. Since the paper is under prior review, the adviser sent the principal a copy on Friday. The principal did not get back to him over the weekend.

Principal contacted adviser Monday, requested a number of changes that were made and the adviser sent the paper on to printer for printing. In the meantime, a sponsor came forth to pay for the buses, so when the paper came out, the principal was upset about the paper coming out since there wasn't a problem any longer. The adviser says the principal has been found to be untruthful in several circumstances. The adviser knew his and the students' rights and stood behind them. The in-depth coverage was balanced and information was accurate.

Heather Nagel

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Membership: We have 33 active JEA members in Tennessee. That is up from the 22 we had in November 2010. As well, I plan to reach out to expired members in the state via email as well as to schools who have never had a membership.

Events: On Nov. 21, Tennessee High School Press Association will host a state workshop at David Lipscomb University. Dr. Jimmy McCollum, Director of THSPA, has put together the workshop and a collection of presenters in more than 35 sessions with representation from area universities, television and radio broadcast stations, freelancers and high school advisers (I will present two sessions). The keynote speaker will be Phil Williams, the chief investigative reporter for News Channel 5 in Nashville.

During June 5-8, 2011, THSPA partnered with Lipscomb University to host J-Camp, a four-day intensive program to help young journalists hone their journalism skills in writing and other media, meet with professionals in the field and give students the opportunity to bring their school publications to a whole new level.

workshop at New Horizons Computer Learning Center in Nashville. Instruction was given on InDesign CS5 and the company's eDesign program. Forty students attended from 13 area schools. Debbie King, technical support adviser, led the class.

Initiatives and vision: University of Tennessee's Dr. Jim Stovall collaborated with THSPA's Dr. Jimmy McCollum to boost the number of online outlets in Tennessee high schools. Dr. Stovall directs ISONN, the Interscholastic Online News Network. Also, he and Harpeth Hall adviser Denise Croker will be teaching workshop sessions at THSPA's fall workshop about launching publications online.

Awards:

- H. L. Hall Student Journalist of the Year: Patrick J. MacCoon, Red Bank High School
- Bonnie Hufford Award for Adviser of the Year: Jan Little, Brentwood High School

Best Overall Newspaper

First Place: The Edge, Coffee County High School

Second Place: The Phoenix, South-Doyle High School

Third Place (tie): Logos, Harpeth Hall School; The Knightly News, Hume-Fogg Academic Magnet

Honorable Mention: The Blarney Stone Press, Knoxville Catholic High School

Honorable Mention: Trojan Torch, Dyersburg High School

Best Overall Yearbook

First Place: Lion's Roar, Christ Presbyterian Academy

Second Place: Princeps, Webb School

Third Place: Flight, Hardin Valley Academy

Honorable Mention: Shamrock, Knoxville Catholic High School

Honorable Mention: Mark of the Bruin, Brentwood High School

Honorable Mention: The Golden Leaf, Mt. Juliet High School

Best Online Publication

First Place: The Blue and White, Red Bank High School

Second Place: Logos Now, Harpeth Hall School

Third Place: Digitalis, Harpeth Hall School

Best Overall Literary Magazine

First Place: Hallmarks, Harpeth Hall School

Second Place: The Walking Shadow, Brentwood High School

Third Place: Slip of the Pen, Hardin Valley Academy

Honorable Mention: Beyond Words, Franklin Road Academy

Best Website

First Place: Logos Now, Harpeth Hall School

Second Place: WBHS 9, Brentwood High School

Third Place: Digitalis 2.1: Origins, Harpeth Hall School

Mark Madison Best Overall Television Station

First Place: CHigh School Pride, Columbia Central High School

Second Place (tie): KNN, Kenwood High School; "The Mane News," Red Bank High School

Third Place: Hawk Television, South Side High School

Honorable Mention: WBHigh School 9, Brentwood High School

Honorable Mention: RHigh School, Ravenwood High School

Herff Jones representative Mary Harris hosted an InDesign

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: Even though this conference was not directly intended for high school students, it still shows one of the biggest issues in Middle Tennessee right now for First Amendment rights. Middle Tennessee State University received a \$40,000 grant this year from the McCormick Foundation to organize and host a conference and workshop for journalists who report on the topic of Islam in their communities, since there has been much debate in the area recently due to a mosque being built in Murfreesboro, Tenn. It took place at the First Amendment Center in Nashville Aug. 21-23.

Featured speakers included John Seigenthaler, founder of the First Amendment Center, Dr. Lawrence Pintak, founding dean of The Edward R. Murrow College of Communication at Washington State University and Asma Uddin, founder of the site <http://www.altmuslimah.com>. MTSU professor emeritus Ronald Messier also spoke, and MTSU Journalism assistant professor Jason Reineke presented survey results from the MTSU Poll. Twenty-two journalists, primarily reporters and religion writers from newsrooms across the South, participated. Currently, the construction of this mosque is a very hot topic in this area for students as well as professionals.

Region 6: Mid-atlantic/Great Lakes



Rod
Satterthwaite

Rod Satterthwaite, CJE

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Membership: The Great Lakes/Mid-Atlantic Region has 386 JEA members spread out over states. This includes 50 CJE's and 23 MJE's. Virginia leads the way in our region with 110 active members.

Happenings: We have a Maryland state director after many years, Karen Hott. Delaware is still in need of a state director, and we have no active JEA members in Delaware. In addition, we plan to have a meeting in Minneapolis with those state directors who can attend to discuss ways we can recruit, maintain and better serve members in our region.

Awards and honors: Congratulations to the following people from Region 6 who have received national recognition:

- Principal Jeffrey Henderson from Bloomington (Ind.) High School North, who is JEA's Administrator of the Year. The adviser at Bloomington North is Ryan Gunterman.
- Linda Mercer, retired from Halifax County (Va.) High School, who is a Lifetime Achievement Award winner.
- Allison Frick and Robert Charette, from WUSA-TV and <http://dc.highschoolsports.net> in Washington, D.C., who will be honored as Friends of Scholastic Journalism.



Nancy Hastings

Nancy Hastings, MJE

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Membership: Our membership is 58, which has dropped three since last fall, eight since last spring. I'm not sure why, except membership tends to rise as convention registration deadlines near and advisers remember to renew. Working through regional workshops to encourage new advisers to join, 11 members have been added as a result of the membership promotion.

Events: Although many educational institutions are eliminating programs and special projects due to budget cuts, Indiana groups have continued to boost traditional journalism events.

The Indiana High School Press Association hosted the annual state convention the end of October, with JEA members Rachel McCarver of Columbus North High School, Nicole Wilson of Carmel High School and Melissa Deavers-Lowie of Portage High School serving as the Media Power program chairpersons. Scott Swan, anchor for Central Indiana's Channel 13 Eyewitness News on WTHR, keynoted the opening session. In 2011 he won five regional Emmys for his stories previewing the Vancouver Olympics, a story about an inner-city boxing program and a story about a little tree embraced by an entire community.

The Thursday evening portion of the convention provided a bonus for schools that wanted to participate in specialized on-site contests. JEA members Sarah Verpooten and Carrie Wadycki of Lake Central High School took charge of organizing the competitions and judging panels.

Indiana's Ella Sengenberger Journalism Teacher of the Year and the Administrator of the Year were also honored during Friday's festivities.

Plans are already underway for the IHSPA First Amendment Symposium, March 7 in Indianapolis at the Statehouse

Ball State University Journalism Department hosted its 56th annual J-Day in its traditional large format. As other conferences across the country report drops in attendance at frightening percentages, J-Day still drew a crowd of 1342 students and 78 advisers representing 68 schools, under the leadership of JEA member Brian Hayes and his staff. To serve younger students, Ball State hosted Junior High Journalism Day in early October, offering short courses under the theme Media Training Camp.

Awards: Indiana is especially proud of Victoria Ison, who was named the national 2011 Journalist of the Year. She was a four-year veteran at Bloomington High School North in Bloomington, Indiana, working under for publications adviser/JEA member Ryan Gunterman. She is now a freshman at Ball State University.

Bringing more honors to Indiana and Bloomington North, Jeffrey M. Henderson, principal at Bloomington High School North, will be honored as JEA's 2011 Administrator of the Year in Minneapolis. This award goes to an administrator who has shown a dedication to journalism education. According to Gunterman, Henderson went on record in a special First Amendment edition of the paper, saying

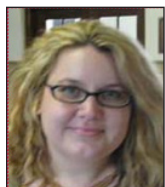
“Part of teaching responsible journalism requires that students be placed in positions of making decisions regarding the content of the student newspaper.”

And he has held to that position, defending the paper when it published the name of a student who had fired a gun at school, when it covered the firing of two secretaries, and when the paper endorsed a candidate for school board, incurring the wrath of another candidate.

Also earning special recognition, JEA member Jim Streisel of Carmel High School was named Teacher of the year for his school district. Jim has taught at Carmel 16 years, and he is adviser of the HiLite newsmagazine and online newspaper.

JEA member Jim Lang of Floyd Central High School received similar recognition with the Principal's Tribute to Excellence award presented to one Floyd Central faculty member each year. In addition to advising publications at Floyd Central, Jim has been an IHSPA board member since 1998 and an Indiana Adviser of the Year. He has also been a member of task teams to develop the First Amendment Symposium and journalism/mass media standards.

Two other JEA members and publications advisers made the elite list of Lilly Teacher Creativity Award recipients for this year: Tom Gayda, publications adviser at North Central High School; and Kathy McKinney, publications adviser at Kankakee Valley High School. Teachers must submit a grant plan to expand their creative thinking and winners are announced in the spring of each year.



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Membership: Membership has increased over the past year from 15 to 24 members. Kentucky faces a lack of student media funding (it is not considered a vocational or fine arts credit). Many programs operate with advertising revenues and have very little left over for memberships in organizations at the national or even state level with KHSJA. However, the promotional memberships have provided a boost in the numbers, though time will tell if these continue.

A non-fee based organization called KJEA networks journalism teachers within the state through an email list and encourages them to take the next step with a national level membership. At this moment, we have 35 participating journalism educators. The list has been used for workshop announcements and collaboration between schools attending the conventions.

Journalism teacher Bobbi Templet of Oldham County High School has agreed to take over the state director position beginning after the fall convention in Minneapolis.

Happenings: The Kentucky High School Journalism Association canceled the spring convention for the second year in a row, citing complications due to state testing schedules, attendance and snow days. David Greer, director of the organization, has said the organization will focus on local workshops rather than a large-scale convention in the future.

There is a publisher-driven summer workshop available to yearbook staffs. (Balfour) Publishing Representative Elizabeth Knapp hosted Summer Yearbook Camp at Bellarmine University in Louisville.

Both state-level organizations (WKU's Media Institute and the Kentucky High School Press Association) planned local conventions that coincided with JEA/NSPA and CSPA national conventions in the 2010-2011 school year. Both conventions have agreed to avoid the conflict in the 2011-2012 year.

WKU Media Institute's fall Journalism Scholars Day will be held Nov. 11 and will feature a yearbook contest, journalism workshops, a WKU contest/scholarship opportunity, and a tour of the WKU journalism facilities. JEA will have a table at this journalism event.

KJEA contributed a gift basket to the fall auction benefiting the Student Press Law Center.

KJEA organized the Kentucky Journalist of the Year competition for the first time in the 2010-2011 school year. Joshua Beal from duPont Manual High School won the title and his portfolio was sent to JEA for national judging.



Karen Hott

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Membership: Maryland currently has 20 members on the JEA roster. Having taken on the role of state director only recently, my outreach has been minimal. I have spoken to Alan Weintraut, Becky Sipos, Carol Lange, Gary Clites and Peter Daddone to get tips on how to proceed. Carol has offered to help.

I have sent out a number of emails to English coordinators around the state to obtain the names of publications advisers, but I haven't received any responses (even from my own county, Anne Arundel). Peter suggested that I have students call principals' secretaries around the state to find out who runs the publications in each school. It's on my "to do" list.

Peter Daddone has left his position as adviser of the Rockville Rampage in order to pursue a career in administration, but he remains active in journalism education as president of the Maryland-D.C. Scholastic Press Association. He has promised to send me his list of MDCSPA members.

A note about the JEA membership list on <http://jea.org>: It was easy to search by state, but it would be helpful to list the school system. In Maryland, school districts are set up by county.

I plan to contact current Maryland JEA members to find out more about the state of the student press in their counties. Honestly, I thought we would have more than 20 JEA members in Maryland. What has kept people from joining? Is it lack of awareness? Does it cost too much?

Events: Towson University conducted a High School Journalism Day on Oct. 7. Although I'd received information about these before, I had never attended. This year the program sounded promising, so I took a group of 13 students to the event. It was

well run: three workshop sessions with four or five choices per session, including feature writing and feature leads, InDesign basics, censorship, and making use of social networks. They offered an on-site critique and Best of Show contest.

Initiatives and vision: Anne Arundel County is trying to establish magnet schools for science-technology-engineering and the arts. I'd like to see a communications magnet, but it's not on the books. With budget cuts I can't even get the county to pay for registration for the fall convention, and it looks like I'll need to use sick days for my substitute.

Awards: My students won second place in the Towson High School Journalism Day Best of Show. First place went to a Montgomery County school, Blake High School.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: I'd like to see the SPLC take on the issue of school system firewalls blocking legitimate websites. It makes getting and disseminating information absurdly difficult, especially with an online presence.



Brian Wilson

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Membership: We are currently at 72 members in Michigan, up five members from this time last year. The free membership initiative definitely drew in new members. At our state's fall conference, Rod Satterthwaite and I let people know that the deal was still available, and I had three more email addresses within five minutes. I do believe that these will continue to grow. I am more concerned about those advisers who are on their second year of membership; I have questions about whether or not they will renew for \$25. I sent out a reminder to the people in that situation and did not hear back from them. While this doesn't necessarily suggest that they aren't going to re-up, I have my doubts. Still, I believe that our membership numbers overall are strong.

Happenings: We are still meeting as a statewide committee to align journalism standards to the new Common Core curriculum. The group met three times thus far and spent time looking at lesson plans that teachers can use in journalism courses that would constitute possible English credit. We intend to meet several more times to look at how to align newspaper, yearbook and broadcast classes, as well as an introductory journalism course. I am the chair of a national committee given the same charge, and my hope is that the statewide work we are doing will lay the foundation for standards that JEA can endorse on the national level.

Professor Nancy Costello's law class at Michigan State University is again looking for schools to participate in a series of student forums on press law. Four schools went through the process last year and another set of schools is on board for this year.

Awards: These Michigan publications earned honors:

- The Tower from Grosse Pointe South was named a Pacemaker Finalist.
- North Pointe from Grosse Pointe North was named a Pacemaker Finalist and won a Silver Crown.
- The Update from Midland Dow was named a Pacemaker Finalist and won a Silver Crown.
- Gallimaufry, the literary magazine at Cranbrook won a Gold Crown.
- Icons, the magazine at Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy, won a Silver Crown.
- The Northern Star, the online newspaper at North Farmington, won a Silver Crown.
- Espirit de Corps, the yearbook at Eisenhower High School, won a Silver Crown.
- Gladiator, the yearbook at Troy High School, won a Silver Crown.



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Membership: Last year at this time, we had 65 members. Currently we still have 65; however several of those are new while others have let their membership lapse. I have contacted all of those whose memberships have expired and encouraged them to re-up. Several have already done so (though they haven't made the official list yet) while a few more will be joining with their fall registrations through OSMA, our state affiliate organization.

We continue to struggle with finding a system to identify new advisers at schools in Ohio.

Happenings: Ohio Scholastic Media Association (OSMA) will hold its fourth state conference at Kent on April 20-21, 2012. We will be announcing our state Journalist of the Year as well as the many overall and individual award winners for the year in newspaper, newsmagazine, yearbook and broadcast. We will also be conducting day-of contests and awarding those prizes at the banquet on Friday evening. We hope to finalize plans for an award-winning Cleveland-area columnist to keynote.

Partnership: OSMA hopes to reestablish (after a change in leadership at OHSAA) a partnership with the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). We are working to improve the accessibility of high school journalists to area and state-wide tournaments. In addition, we want to educate high school journalists, including photographers, about the rules for obtaining press credentials as well as expectations for athletic contests.

We are planning to once again work with the Greater Columbus Sports Commission to sponsoring a Be a Sports Journalist program for the OHSAA Boys Basketball Championships during March 2012. High school students have the opportunity to be a member of the working media during the OHSAA Boys Basketball Championships. This program provides an opportunity for students to be involved with the OHSAA Boys Basketball Championships in a new way giving real journalism experience for high school students that are interested in this as a career.

The Ohio Scholastic Media Association holds an annual contest, which includes a sports news category. The top 10 students who receive a superior ranking in this category are chosen as the program participants. The high school reporters file a story by a deadline. All of the stories are published on The Columbus Dispatch website. A representative from the OHSA and The Columbus Dispatch select the best story which is published in the print version of The Columbus Dispatch.

Mentors: We have begun the fifth year of the JEA Mentoring Program, underwritten by the Ohio Newspaper Association. The first year, mentors Wayne and Georgia Dunn mentored four advisers: three in the Columbus area and one in South Central Ohio. The next year, they added one more in the Columbus area. In year three they had four in Southwest Ohio and three in the Columbus area. Last year, they had one in the Columbus area, one in Central Ohio, and five in Southwest Ohio. We are finding it more and more difficult to get young advisers to commit to the program, but we are still working. We are compiling testimonials from previous mentees to help in the process. Currently, we have a total of five in Southwest Ohio and one in Central Ohio. We hope to have two in Northeast Ohio, but that is not a certainty.

Awards and honors: Congratulations to Ohio's student Journalist of the Year, John Sisser, from Findlay High School. At the national convention in Anaheim, he was named one of only six runners-up in the nation. http://www.osmaonline.com/?page_id=541

2011 NSPA Newspaper/Newsmagazine Pacemaker Finalists

- Blue & Gold, Findlay High School, Findlay, Ohio
Jim McGonnell, adviser
- Spark, Lakota East High School, Liberty Township, Ohio
Dean Hume, adviser

Story of the Year

Honorable Mention - Sports: Devin Casey
Spark, Lakota East High School, Liberty Township, Ohio

Broadcast Story of the Year

Finalist: GVTV, Grand Valley High School, Orwell, Ohio
Honorable Mention: GVTV, Grand Valley High School, Orwell, Ohio

2011 NSPA Design of the Year Finalists

Finalist - Front Page: Leah Cramer
Blue & Gold, Findlay High School, Findlay, Ohio

Sports Picture of the Year

Finalist - Sports Photo: Eric Muenchen
Spark, Lakota East High School, Liberty Township, Ohio

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: As in all states it seems (even those with laws protecting student speech!), we deal with censorship issues in Ohio. Currently, we are not aware of any high-profile cases, but we continue to monitor situations as they are brought to our attention. The Scholastic Media group at the Kent State University School of Journalism and Mass Communication keeps an interactive map of all reported censorship issues not only in Ohio but also throughout the country.

We did have one case in Northeastern Ohio where a teacher was reassigned and, although the reason for her reassignment was not

listed as a result of publication issues, we feel strongly that it was.

For the board: The requirement that state directors be working toward their MJE status seems very reasonable for those who are still actively engaged in the teaching profession. For those of us who are retired, it seems more difficult to attain. Perhaps the board could revisit this requirement.

A huge thank you to the webmaster for establishing a sort function that allows us to sort membership by our states. This has saved me hours of work. Thank you, thank you, thank you.



Valerie Kibler

Valerie P. Kibler, CJE

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Membership: We have 109 members — the highest number in our region and up slightly over previous years.

Events: The Virginia High School League in conjunction with Jostens held its Fall Championship workshop series Oct. 3 in Fredericksburg, Oct. 5 in Roanoke and Oct. 7 in Richmond. Attendance was up at all three venues.

VAJTA will be sponsoring the second annual jDay April 20-21 at Harrisonburg High School in Harrisonburg. Keynote speakers will be Logan Aimone of the National Scholastic Press Association and Ellen Austin, former JEA Board member.

jCamp will be held July 15-19 on the campus of Virginia Tech in Blacksburg.

Awards: Our Virginia student Journalist of the Year, Maria Rose, was named one of the six runners-up for JEA National Student Journalist of the Year.

VAJTA Director Chris Waugaman has been named one of the Dow Jones News Fund's Distinguished Advisers. He will receive his award in Minneapolis in November. Retired yearbook adviser Linda Mercer from Halifax will receive a JEA Lifetime Achievement Award in Minneapolis. Virginia advisers Bretton Zinger and Valerie Kibler received Gold Keys from CSPA in New York City last March.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: Our state department of education tried to pass a policy last spring that would prevent teachers from communicating with students via social media platforms or electronic devices. An extensive letter writing campaign with huge support from the Student Press Law Center resulted in the DOE changing the wording of its policy so as not to restrict basic First Amendment rights.

Carol Lange

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Membership: The official D.C. JEA membership as of Oct. 5, 2011, is 22. Of these, 16 are the result of the JEA promotional efforts. Several others are in the process of renewing or becoming members; this number will be reflected in the spring 2012 report.

Carol Lange continues to share with all current D.C. JEA members JEA programs, local activities and resources. Carol is also contacting all other D.C. public, private and charter schools to identify changes in programming and current personnel involved in journalism/media-related courses and after-school programs. At present, she found that two of the high schools cancelled existing journalism classes; one of which does have two teachers who are creating an after-school club for newspaper.

Happenings: Carol Lange proposed and worked with Barbara McCormack, the Newseum's Education Director, and Jaye Linnen, The Washington Post PR specialist and director of the Post's Young Journalist Development Project, to make Second Saturday, the D.C. JEA, Washington Post and Newseum co-sponsored series a reality. Through the sharing of best practices in the classroom and the workplace, teachers gain perspective, lesson ideas and resources for use in the classroom. Each workshop is lead by a successful high school teacher and a Washington Post professional.

The first of nine Second Saturday workshops was held Sept. 10 at the Newseum. "Succeeding in Your Roles as Teacher and Adviser" was run by Becky Sipos, Alan Weintraut and Adam Goldstein of the Student Press Law Center. The October workshop, "It's the News," was hosted at The Washington Post Young Journalists Development Project. Alan Weintraut, print and online teacher/adviser at Annandale High School, and Robert "Bob" McCartney, The Post's Metro columnist and former AME for continuous news and foreign correspondent, lead the workshop.

Workshops are held once a month, September-June, on the second Saturday. From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., one high school journalism/media teacher-adviser and one Washington Post professional co-teach the month's topic. In the last hour, a First Amendment or student rights lesson is provided. Participants may stay an additional hour for a tour of a pertinent gallery at the Newseum or, in October, a tour of The Washington Post. In addition, details of the workshop series was promoted through direct phone calls to D.C. JEA members, emails to JEA members in Maryland and D.C. and The Washington Post's various high school contacts. Valerie Kibler sent blasts to Virginia and VAJTA members. Meghan Percival assisted with notification to all Fairfax (Va.) County Public School journalism employees.

In the last two months of the school year, Carol Lange worked with Prime Movers of D.C. to assist the journalism teacher at Coolidge Senior High School. The two journalism classes had not produced a student newspaper. Our goal was to instruct and work with students to produce one issue.

Lessons were taught by Dorothy Gilliam, Carol Knopes, Lois Page and Carol Lange. When students had written and edited

articles, they traveled to Annandale (Va.) High School where A-Blast students worked with three Coolidge students to layout the four-page issue. Lange wishes she could have captured the looks of amazement and pride that appeared on the faces of students and teacher as they saw the first drafts of their pages. Prime Movers paid for the printing.

Brendetta Starling and Sadiqa Al-Salam, leaders of the new Richard Wright Public Charter School for Journalism and Media Arts visited the A-Blast staff at Annandale High School on May 5. After Alan Weintraut's introduction, students took over. Al-Salam described the experience as "impressive, equally so were the presentations made by the students. Annie, CJ, Dee, Dee, Elisabeth, Daniel, Patrick and Nikki (hope that I didn't forget anyone) did a phenomenal job articulating the program, process and their experiences with such professionalism that we forgot, at times, that they were students."

On Aug. 11, Becky Sipos and Carol Lange presented a four-hour inservice for the faculty of the new Richard Wright Public Charter School for Journalism and Media Arts.

Becky Sipos is former print and broadcast journalism teacher at McLean (Va.) High School, longtime JEA Scholastic Press Rights Commission member, and current director of communications for the Character Education Partnership, a non-profit organization in Washington, D.C. She presented an introduction of schools of character and creating a First Amendment school environment. She and Carol worked with teachers on ways to support expression of student voices.

Carol presented an introduction to journalism across the curriculum, reasons for integrating disciplines, and interdisciplinary objectives. She lead a group activity that focuses on the inclusion of journalism using The Washington Post INSIDE online guides as a beginning point for lessons and projects.

Awards: Wilson Senior High School was recipient of recognition in four categories in the 2011 CSPA Scholastic Circle awards: Newspaper, Sidebar Writing, CM. Staff, "Mr. Morgan mourned"; Newspaper, Photo layout: Full page, 3. Balbine Jourdan, "Kids in the hall"; Magazine, Cartoon, CM. Anh Le, "Mermaid," L.A.V.A.; and Magazine, Literary single spread, CM. Mika Altskan, Jack Nessman and Maggie Scholten, "Harbin Metro," L.A.V.A.

Ideas: How might locating your school's alumnae benefit your journalism/media program? Ron Nessen, a professional journalist with more than 30 years of experience, including press secretary for President Gerald Ford, was a graduate of Coolidge Senior High School. He was willing to meet with journalism students. Mary Stapp reported that her staff at Wilson Senior High School (D.C.) in 2010-2011 "did a Timeline of the school's 75 years, which included numerous famous alums. Not only did Warren Buffett graduate from Wilson, but it turns out the school has a rich history of top-notch journalists: Frank Rich, Judith Martin (Miss Manners), one of my favorite local news anchors — Derek McGinty and Roger Mudd." Mudd provided the following quote for their timeline: "I graduated in June, 1945. After 66 years, driving by school brings it all back: dedicated teachers who sent us into an uncertain world; not being sure of what would become of us; thinking of countless classmates I've lost track of; spending endless hours on the telephone, trying to get dates and finally still embracing Wilson as

the place where we were taught indelibly to accept responsibility for ourselves and our actions.”

Heather Gates-Rusher, CJE

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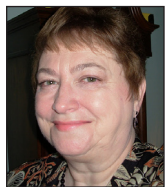
Membership: Our membership numbers are the same since March.

Events: WVU hosted a workshop and competition in late April. They were very receptive to a full-blown JEA exhibit table at the Spring 2012 event. Upcoming events will be at Marshall University February/March 2012 and WVU April/May 2012.

Initiatives and vision: Right now, I would just like to have a semi-accurate mailing and email list of advisers. Communication between advisers doesn't exist at this time. I asked WVU's dean to share their mailing list, but they would not. However, she offered to forward email communications to their list of high school and junior high advisers; this is a step forward, although their participant list is not comprehensive. The WV Department of Education has no such list. The narrowest list they can give me is by school department; this, for example, in my school would provide the contact information for 14 teachers, only one of whom teaches journalism or advises publications. I have an accurate list for three of 55 counties.

Awards: Results from the West Virginia University High School Journalism Competition & Workshops are available at <http://journalism.wvu.edu/hsjc>.

Region 7: Northeast



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Jane Blystone

This fall, I have been working on several big scholastic journalism projects. The JEA Making a Difference project is in full swing for the JEA Scholastic Press Rights Commission. I publicized this through various JEA media and through the summer edition of the Dow Jones News Fund Adviser Update. The editorial board will be reviewing the entries for this publication before the Minneapolis convention, after which the selected pieces will be formatted for publication by JEA headquarters.

We also gave our state directors more new member forms to distribute before Dec. 31, so that is in progress as there are several fall conventions to come in several states. We challenged the state directors to create a Facebook page for each state during the school

year. New York has an amazing Facebook page that advisers and other journalism friendly folks have been adding to during the past months. I have started to build a Facebook page for the region and hope to have all advisers in the region invited to the page by the time of the Minneapolis convention, so we can build a better communication network in the region.

I have also been working with a student publication on the other side of the state to write a new student publications policy after their student publication was censored. They started an off-campus paper and one of our former 45words Student Partners from Pennsylvania has also been working with them.

During the summer I had the great joy of teaching a page editor workshop at Columbia Scholastic Press Summer Journalism Workshop for 26 amazing high school journalists. For the first time ever, we went all digital in instruction and in production.

I have also spent considerable time leading Pennsylvania School Press Association and putting together our fall conference.

Several concerns we have in this region are programs that are being cut or curtailed due to budgetary issues and blatant censorship by administrators who are not up to date on state laws regarding student free expression. Also, we have not been able to get a JEA member to take on the state director positions in Maine, New Hampshire or Rhode Island.

Two states, New Jersey (Susan Everett and Ron Bonadonna) and Pennsylvania (Janice Hatfield and Kathy Zwiebel) have established mentors.

Two states (New York and Pennsylvania) have several advisers who participated in the ASNE Reynolds Institute over the summer.

Additionally, New York set the bar for numbers of individuals getting certification in the region, with two CJE's and one MJE, since the previous convention.

I also serve on the JEA Certification Commission.

Region membership to date by state:

Connecticut: 9

Massachusetts: 27

Maine: 2

New Hampshire: 8

New Jersey: 69

New York: 60

Pennsylvania: 60

Rhode Island: 2

Vermont: 13

TOTAL for Region 7: 255



Stacey Wilkins

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Connecticut State Director

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Membership: The Connecticut chapter now has 17 members, up from 10 members last year. The Connecticut JEA chapter continues to work to link our expanding Connecticut Academic Press Association (CAPA) membership to the JEA membership.

Events: More than 200 students and 15 faculty advisers attended the Fairfield County Journalism Symposium in Norwalk, Conn. on Oct. 7. Stacey Wilkins presented a workshop on profile writing.

Wilkins also taught journalism in the five-week journalism program at the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. She was an instructor in television broadcasting with an emphasis on international coverage. Wilkins worked with 84 students hailing from Asia, Europe and the United States. Wilkins was joined by top journalists including Mike Wilbon from the show "PTI" on ESPN. Wilkins will return to join the Northwestern staff in 2012.

Initiatives and vision: The Connecticut chapter will start a Facebook group for JEA state members. We also hope to hold another spring journalism conference. The event last year in New Britain was a successful initiative to target members in the other end of the state.

Awards: The Connecticut Student Journalist of the Year is McKinley Stauffer from Darien High School in Darien, Conn. McKinley plans to pursue journalism at Brigham Young University.

Wilkins presented the Connecticut Academic Press Association Courage in Journalism award to Ben Reiser from Staples High School in Westport, Conn. at the Fairfield County Journalism Symposium.

Wilkins received the 2011 JEA Rising Star Award last spring.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: Darien High School in Darien, Conn. has faced a six-month censorship battle over a story that examines the cut of untenured teachers.

For the board: Can we simplify the new procedure for the membership drive?

Colleen Gacic, CJE

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Membership: Massachusetts has 38 members in the JEA spreadsheet and see 38 members good through 2012, but a JEA headquarters email dated April 6, 2011 told me we only had 13 voting members — did we really decrease all that much or is something missing somewhere?

Events: New England Scholastic Press Association's 63rd annual conference at Boston University's College of Communication took place May 6, 2011.

Unfortunately, the annual Boston Globe/UMASS, Boston Media Matters conference set for November 2011 was cancelled. Scholastic journalism programs around the region have come to rely on this wonderful free conference for students. According to letters sent to advisers, the Boston Globe was no longer able to support the event and there was not enough time to identify other media partners.

The university hopes to offer the conference next fall.

The NESPA will offer a fall workshop on opinion at Boston University College of Communication Nov. 19 for students for \$25.

Initiatives and vision: For the first time New England advisers met for a working lunch during spring NESPA conference and discussed issues surrounding their journalism programs.

Also this summer, for the first time, NESPA Director Helen Smith hosted a week-long adviser workshop entitled "How to Advise a Scholastic News Publication" with Harry Proudfoot, who recently retired as adviser of The Villager at Westport High School in Westport, Mass. and Dan Levinson, adviser of Voice, at Thayer Academy in Brantree, Mass. According to Smith, both new and experienced advisers attended the workshop. Plans for 2012 are in the works for July 2, 3, 5, 6 at Boston University.

Jan Haughey, chair of the organization Media Educators for America contacted me this spring about joining forces in ideas. The groups fall conference is Nov. 2 in Wrochester, Mass. The group's website is <http://www.mediaedoa.org/> While I will not be able to attend I will be keeping in contact with Jan as we look towards to Fall 2013 national conference.

According to Carol Lange the Boston Globe has agreed to host the 2012 Intensive Journalistic Writing Institute in July. We are excited to have the IJWI in Beantown next summer.

Awards:

NSPA 2011 Pacemaker:

Student Press Network, Wayland High School, <http://www.waylandstudentpress.com> (David Ryan, Melanie Wang, Matthew Gutschenritter, editors; Janet Karman/Mary Barber, advisers)

Columbia Scholastic Press Association

2011 Gold Circle Award Online

- Breaking News: 3. Elizabeth Doyon, David Ryan and Kruti Vora, "Voluntary evacuation of Pelham Island Road," Wayland Student Press Network, Wayland High School
- Photos and Audio Slide Show CM. Evan Barber & Elizabeth Doyon, "Mock car crash," Wayland Student Press Network, Wayland High School
- Video CM. Melanie Barber, Jefe Varghese and Kruti Vora, "Indian students talk cultural differences," Wayland Student Press Network, Wayland High School
- Video CM. Zoe Corner and Meredith Riley, "Teachers reflect on past winter weeks," Wayland Student Press Network, Wayland High School
- News Online Design Website 2. Matthew Gutschenritter, David Ryan and Melanie Wang, Wayland Student Press Network, Wayland High School



Susan Everett

Susan V. Everett, MJE

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Membership: The JEA website currently lists 71 New Jersey members, of which 43 are teacher/adviser members and three are retired teacher advisers.

Events: On May 6, GSSPA held its annual adviser workshop at which JEA materials were distributed. On Oct. 24 the statewide Fall Press Day will be held at Rutgers, and JEA materials will be distributed.

Initiatives and vision: We are waiting to see what impact budget cuts are having on attendance at the fall conference.

Mentors: New Jersey has two mentors: Sue Everett and Ron Bonadonna.



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Membership: There are currently 65 active members. Of those, 26 are teacher/adviser (two of which are lifetime), four are library or institution, one is non-affiliated and 34 are promotional memberships for the last and current membership giveaways. Currently there are four CJE's (Michael Simon and Christina Semple just received theirs) and two MJE's (Cindy Carey just received hers).

Events:

- High School Journalism Educators Workshop at Canisius College in August
- Summer journalism institutes at Syracuse University and Columbia University
- Empire State Scholastic Press Association conference at Syracuse University Oct. 21
- Baruch College's High School journalism initiative Oct. 26
- Columbia Scholastic Press Association fall conference Nov. 7

Initiatives and vision: The New York City Scholastic Press Association (NYCSPA) has been talking about working on anti-Hazelwood legislation with the help of Lisa Cowen, retired journalism teacher. We are currently in the research phase.

This summer there was some discussion of trying to lobby to get a new teaching license specifically for journalism to take the certification out of the hands of English educators only. We have only been talking about it, but many of us agree that journalism should be represented separately from English as the skills are more specific. I have emailed and called Albany to find the right person to talk to on this matter, but have been given the run-around. A trip to Albany may be necessary.

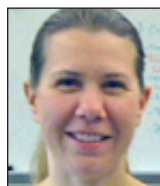
I continue to try to connect N.Y. journalism educators on our Facebook page. It has served as a source of support and a forum for teachers to share their accomplishments and promote activities. This is also a great way for members to get in touch with me when they need something (anything from paper exchanges to Certification questions).

Awards:

- Scott Mencher of Edward R. Murrow High School and Starr Sackstein of World Journalism Preparatory School were recognized by the Dow Jones News Fund as Special Recognition advisers
- Megan Tomlinson of High School for Public Service, Jill Cowburn of Saratoga Springs High School and Starr Sackstein of World Journalism Preparatory School attended the ASNE Reynolds Institute this summer at Kent State.
- Cortney Weisman at Ward Melville received an NSPA First Class Honor Rating with three Marks of Distinction for the yearbook, CSPA Gold Medalist and had some pages highlighted in Herff Jones's Ideas that Fly, Best of the High School Press. Her students also earned a Digital Yearbook Pacemaker.

Mentors: There are currently no mentors in New York. We have brought it up in the past, but because of budgetary issues it has yet to be possible. The other option was to try to hook up with another state and do regional mentors to offset the cost. I am still looking into possibilities.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: <http://www.splc.org/news/newsflash.asp?id=2222> – The Ithaca decision was bad for scholastic journalism as it gave administration the right to censor student publications based on forum classification loopholes. Many of the schools in my state are still dealing with prior review and given the current climate (as per this last decision) I fear that it may get worse before it gets better. I'm trying to educate advisers about the Student Press Law Center so they can empower students to know their rights.



Wanda Pletcher

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Membership: There is a continued push toward increasing membership in the region. I promoted this program through PSPA's bulk email and a separate email to Pennsylvania JEA members. Only three advisers responded to the free membership offer so far. I sent each new member an email welcoming them to JEA. I also helped some members answer other JEA questions when they responded to the membership email.

Happenings: PSPA will its annual convention in November at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg East, Nov. 10-11. I will be attending. I will be unable to attend the national conventions this year. There is no money in my personal budget or my school budget for these trips.

Awards and honors: Summer evaluations for the state took place. Many advisers also send away publications to national organizations for evaluation.



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There is nothing to report. People are still recovering from the damage from Irene with the added pressure of winter approaching. The Latchis Hotel just reopened this Friday. Damage to it alone was \$500,000. Membership numbers are the same as last spring.

About this report:

Board members and state directors submitted reports in October and November 2011. JEA Vice President Sarah Nichols compiled this report. Calendar clip art by OCAL, used with permission from Clker.com. Twitter bird by Matt Hamm from Flickr with Creative Commons licensing. Advisers Institute promotion provided by Kelly Furnas. Any errors or omissions are unintentional. For the latest news and information about all JEA programs, visit www.jea.org.

ABOUT THE LOGO:

APPROVED BY THE BOARD
IN MINNEAPOLIS.
 CREATED BY NORMAN MALLARD
 WITH INPUT FROM THE JEA
 LOGO COMMITTEE.

[former logo]



To learn more about
 JEA's graphic identity, visit

<http://jea.org/about/graphicidentity.html>



JEA would like to say thanks again
 to Norman Mallard for the logo
 design and for his contributions
 to scholastic journalism.

[new logo]



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Registration Fees

JEA member (postmarked before May 15): \$135
 Nonmember (postmarked before May 15): \$155
 JEA member (postmarked May 15 and after): \$150
 Nonmember (postmarked May 15 and after): \$170

Hotel Information

The Flamingo in Las Vegas is the official hotel of the Advisers Institute and the location of all event activities. Rooms in the JEA block are \$49 single/double, or \$69 for the Flamingo's "Go" rooms. Call 888-902-9929 and mention group code SFJEA2.

Regardless of your experience level or the type of publication you advise, the JEA Advisers Institute has programming specifically for you.

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- Products and services from scholastic media companies.
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