

2002 Spring Semi-Annual Report

President H.L. Hall, MJE

It doesn't seem possible that it's time for another convention. It seems like we just finished celebrating "Freedom First" in Boston, and now it's time to get excited about "PHXtremes" in Phoenix. I'm writing this report one day after returning from Phoenix where Linda Puntney and I met with 15 members of the local committee to finalize plans for the April 3-6 convention at the Hyatt Regency. The local committee members, under the guidance of Peggy Gregory and Tony Gomez, are excited about the convention, and it's obvious they have planned some great opportunities for delegates. For those of you who love Krispy Kreme doughnuts, you'll be glad to know they are available in the Phoenix area. Mary Titus, a member of the local committee, brought several dozen warm ones to our planning meeting.

As president, I have just started attending these planning committees. In January, I went to Portland for the initial planning session for the spring 2003 convention. Linda and I, along with Tom Rolnicki and Ann Akers, met with the local committee. Steve Carrigg is serving as the local chair. They are in the process of creating a convention that delegates should find unique. I wish I had been attending these planning sessions before this. They give me a great opportunity to meet the members of the local committee prior to a convention, and they also give me a great feel for the convention activities.

My term of president is nearing its end, but I would hope future presidents would attend one of the planning sessions. Portland committee members chose "Connections" as the theme for their convention. I feel as if I am more "connected" because I sat in on their meeting. If I were still teaching, it would be more difficult for me to get days off for these meetings, and it may not be possible for the next president to take time from school, either.

However, I would urge all who are thinking about seeking the office of president to discuss necessary days off with their administration first. I do think attending one planning session for each convention is important, but it is not mandatory.

Besides attending the two planning sessions, I also participated in the AEJMC Scholastic Journalism Division's winter meeting at the Poynter Institute in St. Petersburg, Fla., in January. I served on a panel discussion entitled "Twenty-Minute Outtakes" where I discuss JEA's efforts to establish an AP Journalism class. I reported that in December the College Board's Academic Council decided before taking any immediate steps toward the development of new courses that it needed to create a set of criteria and plan future steps at a meeting in March. That meeting had not been held at the time of this report. I hope to have additional information to everyone at the general membership meeting in Phoenix.

While Linda and I were in Phoenix in February we discussed JEA's budget for the next fiscal year (July 1, 2002-June 30, 2003). The two of us, along with the rest of the members of the Executive Committee (Candy Bowen, Ann Visser and Terry Nelson) met in Nashville the first weekend in March to create a proposed budget to present to the board for approval at the Phoenix meeting. The proposed budget called for expenditures and income of nearly \$900,000. While in Nashville, we were hosted by the Convention and Visitors Bureau who showed us the facilities the city has available for hosting a convention. NSPA will be hosting an upcoming college convention in Nashville, and it is my hope that NSPA and JEA will decide to host a future high school convention there as well.

At the Nashville meeting, Linda Puntney presented a self-evaluation to the Executive Committee. Committee members gave their reactions to the self-evaluation. In the past, members of the Executive Committee have formally evaluated Linda's performance by rating her performance in several areas on a scale of 0-4. Because committee members are not working with Linda on a daily basis, some of us found this method of evaluation difficult. Therefore, we switched to a self-evaluation where we could give Linda more positive comments on her performance, and where we could offer suggestions in areas where she found frustrations.

In March I promoted JEA in Tennessee when I led a workshop for high school teachers, which the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association and the Tennessee High School Press Association hosted. I hope that this workshop will lead to increased JEA membership in Tennessee. JEA membership is at an all-time high. I hope that's in part because the organization is offering programs beneficial to all members. If anyone has ideas for new programs, please let me know. I look forward to seeing everyone in Phoenix in April and in Dallas in November.

Past President Candace Perkins Bowen, MJE

Since the last semi-annual report in Boston, I have done the following:

- o Continued to run the JEAHELP and JEATALK listservs. This includes the monthly reminder messages and the maintenance of the lists at Kent State University. As of March 1, we had 447 on JEAHELP, the general membership list, and 76 on JEATALK, the list for board, committee and commission members and chairs.

- o Chaired the joint JEA/AEJMC Scholastic Journalism Division committee to establish national journalism standards. The Board will vote on approval of these standards in Phoenix and should be receiving copies with pre-convention materials in March. The goal was to create standards that would help states without them and to make them flexible enough to support journalism teachers in a variety of situations.

- o By the time we are in Phoenix NCTE Standards in Practice as They Apply to Journalism, will be in the publishing process at NCTE. It contains explanations of how journalism courses and assignments at all levels, including junior high/middle school and elementary school, fulfill the 12 standards of any integrated language arts class. We hope to have it out by next fall.

- o Chaired the Convention Assessment Committee. After collecting suggestions and comments from committee members and current and former local convention chairs, we decided the most pressing need is to resurrect a book of guidelines for local committees. Parts of the book still exist, but we are going to update and collect the elements. Timeline for this:

By May 1 •Write remaining sections

•Copy to others in group

June •Edit/revise/make additions

By July 1 •Clean copy, ready to format

By Aug. 1 •Booklet formatted for final proofing

By Aug. 15 •Corrections returned

At D.C. year-out meeting

•Booklet in use

- o Served on the Scholastic Press Rights Commission. As such, I helped reassess materials for the "Let Freedom Ring: First Amendment Schools Award." I also worked directly with schools having legal problems in Ohio.

- o Continued to write a law column with John Bowen for the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund Adviser Update.

- o Continued to serve as national convention coordinator, meeting with the Portland committee for the year-out meeting in February.

Vice President Ann Visser, MJE

Communication has continued to be of utmost importance as I have strived to address questions and concerns of state and regional directors in a timely manner. It has been a major goal to make sure that the semiannual report is as complete as possible. Revisions have been suggested as far as the report is concerned, and those will be discussed in Phoenix.

The semiannual report will be available for those attending the Phoenix convention; it will be posted on the JEA website in a timely manner after the convention.

Secretary Terry Nelson

It's been an active travel time for me this past year, with lots to say about scholastic journalism and our organization and lots of places at least pretending to listen! This fall I was able to represent the Journalism Education Association in my role as secretary and as the Dow Jones Journalism Teacher of the Year at a Kalamazoo, Michigan, yearbook workshop, the Idaho High School Press Association's state convention in Boise, the Virginia High School League at their Fall Journalism Workshop held in Richmond, Virginia, the Indiana High School Press Association's state convention in Franklin, along with the JEA/NSPA convention in Boston and the CSPA convention in New York City. Additionally, young journalism teachers have been referred to

me because of my background struggles with the student press, whom I continue to counsel and advise as they attempt to keep their jobs and maintain, regain or establish a healthy administrative-publications department rapport.

This spring, I will travel again to the CSPA convention in March and to the JEA/NSPA convention in Phoenix, to the ASNE convention in Washington, D.C., and finally to Ball State J-Day in Muncie, Indiana, all in April. Dow Jones Deputy Director Linda Waller tells me I even get to meet President G.W. Bush while in Washington.

CNN produced a two-minute report on Muncie Central's high school publications department and my struggles with student press issues this winter, which was aired on Feb. 18 was rebroadcast on CNN Headline News, and distributed to schools who use the CNN Student News Network. The message was positive, and I hope many people caught the short program. At the end of this month, I will also be part of a panel on student freedom of the press and speech for the Ball State University Telecommunications Department as they produce a special 45-minute segment for television.

All in all, I appreciate the association with JEA, to give me more credibility and access to journalism educators nationwide as we strive to improve the education of our youth regarding free, accurate and fair reporting about topics of concern and interest to a real student reading audience.

Idaho State Director Steve Beck

The Idaho Journalism Advisers Association (IJAA) fall conference, Oct. 27-29, was well attended, featuring outstanding keynoters Merle Dieleman, Terry Nelson and Gary Lundgren. Following the state write-off competitions on Monday, students participated in a variety of workshop sessions. Tuesday morning state write-off competitions and Best of Show awards were distributed. Of note is the wide distribution of awards to a variety of schools over the past few years. This is a change from past competitions, where a few used to win most of the awards. Top individual contest entries in writing, graphics, and photography were also awarded. Scholarships of \$100 were awarded to Best of Show winners to help them attend JEA/NSPA spring national convention. These scholarships were sponsored by Bell Photography, BYU-Idaho, Scroll and the Post Register of Idaho Falls. Ronda Konst of Bishop Kelly High School was named as the 2001-2002 Idaho Journalism Teacher of the Year.

Current state leadership of IJAA are: President Marla Allen, Centennial High School; Secretary Delia Shigeta, Riverglen Junior High; Treasurer and Idaho JEA State Director, Robert Stephen Beck, Rigby High School; Immediate Past President, Ronda Konst, Bishop Kelly High School. Unfortunately the organization had its president-elect/contest chair resign after serving for only three months. This is the third person in the last six years who has resigned from this position. IJAA is finding it difficult to draw new leadership who are willing to commit the time and energy needed to make the organization function.

JEA memberships fell somewhat this year with 33 paid memberships collected at the fall convention.

Washington State Director Sharyn Gagen, CJE

WJEA has updated its Web site, which provides direct links and information to JEA and NSPA, encouraging advisers to join. This website is being promoted as the best resource for current information on WJEA activities, contests, and application forms.

Membership has not grown this year due to large budget cuts in schools, limiting participation for travel and membership fees for advisers. Other sources of funding are being researched. We encourage our members to join JEA at the same time they join WJEA using the same application form, and this often works.

Members in Washington have experienced several problems with censorship. Many schools and school districts are attempting to adopt or amend policies to include prior review language. We are working on how to counter this. Our members continue to appreciate the support they've received from WJEA, JEA and the SPLC.

Our spring conference/contest was held March 16 at Mountlake Terrace High School. Awards to study grant and scholarship recipients, as well as Washington's Journalist of the Year, were announced.

Washington again presents its WJEA Summer Workshop for advisers and students at Central Washington University in August. The workshop draws attendees from several western states, and offers college credit to advisers.

Our annual summer board retreat will take place at the end of June.

Wyoming State Director Mike Riley

In Wyoming we have experienced a decline in WHSSPA membership, from 55 schools (of 73 in the State) in 1998 to 46 this year. We have also seen attendance to our state journalism convention dramatically decline. Administrative decisions to cut funding for journalism, if not the programs themselves, seem to be the reason.

Yearbooks, however, continue to be important enough to districts that administrators search for alternate certification for advisers.

Northwest College in Powell is helping with journalism certification by offering on-line classes and summer workshops.

Wyoming has also seen an increase in censorship of student publications this year, ranging from a new insistence on prior review to confiscation of published papers.

Southwest Region 2 Director Tony Gomez, MJE

As the co-director of the 2002 national convention I can honestly say that the local committee has been working hard to make this conference a memorable one. Lots of meetings and e-mails have been exchanged among the Arizona Interscholastic Press Association members that have volunteered their time to make this convention happen. My hat goes off to them for such a wonderful job.

Just as we in Arizona have been doing our part to serve JEA this year, the other state directors in our region have also been working quite hard to promote the organization and lend support. See for yourselves.

Arizona State Director Carmen Wendt, CJE

We anticipate Arizona's membership being up this year thanks to the national convention in Phoenix this April. Another strong influence on JEA membership in the state is having a strong state organization. Having an active state organization that is supportive of JEA encourages membership in both organizations. The biggest problem in Arizona is that our population centers are separated by hours of driving, making it difficult to gather members for state activities.

Arizona continues to have strong representation in the Pacemaker competition.

Many members are hard at work preparing for the JEA/NSAP Phoenix convention. As in 1997, work is being done by committee.

The committee is being chaired by Tony Gomez, Southwest Regional Director, and Peggy Gregory, AIPA President. Both have volunteered many hours to create a memorable Phoenix experience.

The state is looking forward to a summer workshop at Northern Arizona University in July and a fall convention at Arizona State University.

Northern California State Director Lynn McDaniel

Lynn has been appointed to fill the state director's position left vacant due to Arnetta Garcin's death.

Southern California State Director Ellen Kersey, CJE

Our biggest news is the publication of the most wonderful journalism idea book for advisers - Practical Ideas for Teaching Journalism, edited by Dwight Bustrum, Carol Hallenbeck, and Alison Rittger. Our association, and these three in particular, have been working on this book for over 10 years, and we are so excited that it is finally completed and ready for use. The book includes 695 pages of lessons that cover every area of student journalism. It is three-hole-punched and ready for classroom use. The three editors will be showing the book at the Phoenix convention, where copies may be ordered or purchased.

2001 - Our major activity was the state convention, held at the Sutton Place Hotel in Newport Beach in October. More than 600 attended and were rewarded by a large variety of sessions, great speakers, and the lovely town of Newport Beach. Michael Ramirez, Pulitzer Prize winning L.A. Times cartoonist, was the keynote speaker and was enjoyed and appreciated by those who heard him and saw examples of his cartoons.

2002 - A workshop for advisers will be held at Cal State Fullerton on April 20, where sample lessons using the new book will be presented. This workshop will be sponsored by the California Newspaper Publishers Association and the California Press Association.

Our state write-off, where students who placed in the top 10 in their individual area competitions will compete, is set for May 18 at Cerritos College.

We continue to seek new advisers to serve on the board, and we continue to strive to serve all the schools and advisers in Southern California.

Colorado State Director Mark Newton, MJE

- Promoted membership, programs, contests, requests, national conventions and the Multicultural Commission's Outreach Program to Colorado High School Press Association (CHSPA) board of directors, at its newspaper and yearbook conventions and in its newsletter.
- Continue to develop synergy between JEA and Colorado High School Press Association. The paper focused on establishing a better working relationship between JEA and CHSPA. In the paper, I urged CHSPA to: (1) promote JEA to its members, potential members, and administrators; (2) maintain its JEA Affiliate Membership; (3) align its membership with JEA's; (4) change to the CHSPA Constitution to make the JEA State Director a voting member of the CHSPA Board of Directors; (5) continue, promote, and improve the awards and scholarship connections; (6) encourage its members to become certified by JEA; and (7) agree to host a spring national convention in Denver by 2005. We continue to make progress in all areas.
- Helped monitor an Internet filtering bill in the Colorado legislature. Last spring, we helped defeat the bill in committee with lobbying and a letter-writing campaign.
- Asked JEA to provide financial support to attend several CHSPA events (board meetings, retreats, workshops) in the Denver-Boulder metro area.
- Worked with CHSPA to dovetail the application for its outstanding high school journalist, who becomes the JEA Colorado High School Journalist of the Year. The selection process is currently in process.

• Membership

JEA membership in Colorado has increased 100 percent since 1998. The latest figures I have show that there are 38 members (up from 22 in the spring of 1998).

Colorado JEA membership continues to grow, albeit at a slow rate since 2000. Most members cite the cost of membership as the major reason why they do not become members. As with most states, we struggle with increasing membership. In my opinion, we have aggressively marketed JEA membership, but we can't make advisers join.

In Colorado, we will continue to promote JEA and the benefits of membership. We have promoted JEA membership at state conventions, camps, and at the new advisers workshop. Many of our new members are new advisers, which is a positive sign. In addition, many CHSPA board members are JEA members, which is another positive sign. In my opinion, many of the better advisers in the state are JEA members. In a tactful way, perhaps we should make those observations known to non-JEA members. At one time we explored a joint membership between the Colorado High School Press Association and JEA. The CHSPA, extremely proud of its independence, decided not to pursue the joint membership at the time. Perhaps, it is time to revisit the idea.

• Successes/Upcoming

Several Colorado JEA members presented learning sessions at the CHSPA New Advisers Workshop, Newspaper Conference, Yearbook Conference, and at Jostens Journalism University. As excellent role models, they promoted JEA, too.

In 2002, JEA is looking forward to sending a superb student to the Journalist of the Year competition, and promoting JEA at as many workshops, conventions, and gatherings as possible. In addition, as state director I hope to attend several CHSPA functions and board meetings. In addition, several JEA members have expressed interest in becoming more involved in national issues and programs. Good for them!

Also, Colorado hopes to meet with JEA and NSPA to begin discussion of hosting a national convention in Denver by 2007.

Hawaii State Director Blanche Sugimoto, CJE

Patti Shannon, JEA member, Herff Jones Hawaii representative, and Journalism Hawaii originator, is sponsoring Dave Adams as a speaker in March. Dave Adams is now a resident of Hawaii. He helped to get Kansas' Freedom of Expression Law passed after the Hazelwood decision. He also advised Pacemaker and Gold Crown publications at high school and university levels.

Shannon will also be sponsoring her Mahalo Scholarship for seniors currently on a yearbook staff. It is based on a 500-word essay, GPA, and current extracurricular activities. Aside from JEA's national scholarships, the Mahalo Scholarship is the only local scholarship that recognizes a yearbook staff member.

So far, only Waianae High School has said it was attending the Phoenix Convention. More school representatives may probably attend if airfares go lower.

Tidbit: Cathy Ikeda and Blanche Sugimoto were two representatives from Hawaii to attend JEA's convention in Phoenix so many years ago on the Multicultural/Outreach Scholarships.

The JEA Hawaii directorship will be changing as of this spring, and reports will then go to Lorraine Gershun, CJE, Waianae High School's yearbook adviser. She is dynamic, dedicated and diligent. She will serve as director responsibly. Her e-mail is: lgershun@hotmail.com. Her mailing address is: Lorraine Gershun, Waianae High School, 85-251 Farrington Highway, Waianae, HI 96792 (808) 697-7007 (school phone).

Best wishes to Lorraine as the new Hawaii director. Aloha.

Nevada State Director Susan Thornton

No report.

New Mexico State Director Mary Massey, CJE

Journalism advisers from across New Mexico came together last January for the third annual "Recharge Retreat" to share ideas on how to integrate technology into their journalism classrooms, sponsored by the New Mexico Scholastic Press Association. Co-President Mary Massey gave participants an overview of the IntelTeach for the Future program that encourages student publishing using Microsoft Office for any type of instructional unit. Participants also created their own video using desktop video editing software. Advisers agreed that the retreat is a valuable experience and plan to repeat it next year.

For the first time this year, NMSPS joined with the members of the New Mexico Press Association when they met for their annual fall conference.

Students worked side by side with professional journalists on an exercise regarding news judgment and interviewing skills. It was a valuable experience for both organizations, and we hope to encourage its growth for next year.

In other news, NMSPS has set its annual state contest and workshop for April 20. That is where the members of the state Hall of Fame student journalists will be named. The student representing the state's entry for National Journalist of the Year also will be honored at that time.

Several members plan to attend the national JEA/NSPA convention in Phoenix and have attended other national professional development conferences.

Utah State Director Chris Sloan, MJE

The highlight of the year so far has been the enthusiasm we've had from the University of Utah. Partnerships with universities and colleges in the state of Utah had been lukewarm lately; Westminster College dropped their annual spring journalism conference two years ago, Brigham Young's future seems uncertain as host of their annual spring conference, and there was a change in leadership at the University of Utah. Luckily for our organization, Jim Fisher, associate professor at the University of Utah, is very enthusiastic in his support of scholastic journalism. The fall conference held at the University of Utah was well attended and received rave reviews. Jim and I will be meeting next week to plan the 2002 fall conference, and he's already added about 10 new categories to their contest. There is talk of conducting a student journalist of the year contest at the fall conference, although I'm afraid that might be too soon into the school year for students to put together a strong portfolio.

Support from the professional press has been pretty good overall, with The Salt Lake Tribune being by far the one that has taken a real leadership role.

The Tribune will again conduct a spring contest for best high school paper in four different categories. The newspaper at the winning school in each category gets a plaque and \$500. The paper has individual categories too, where the winning writers get \$50 per story. The Tribune also hosts an annual minority journalism day for area high school students in the spring.

Of course the big news in our area was the 2002 Winter Olympics. With so many high school students and their families involved in this event, we anticipate a spate of Olympics-related stories and commentaries in the Utah high school press in the coming months. It should make for some interesting spring issues.

North Central Region 3 Director Rod Howe

Illinois•Iowa•Minnesota•Nebraska•North Dakota•South Dakota•Wisconsin

Illinois State Director Randy Swikle, CJE

On the FREE AND RESPONSIBLE STUDENT PRESS front, we have had a few reported incidents of censorship in high schools. We are working to get a better grip on censorship cases. The feeling is that perhaps a significant number of student staffs are engaging in self-censorship or not reporting cases of administration intrusion. We will try to reach more staffs through our IJEA newsletter, state conferences and workshops and other means. At a Chicago Tribune workshop, for example, advisers discussed common problems regarding censorship, such as prior review, self-censorship and controversial stories. One issue involved the sports editor of a student newspaper who was tossed out of a girls basketball game he was attending because he was holding a sign protesting the coach. He wanted to write a column about the incident, and the new adviser (a very capable third year teacher) wanted some ideas about how to handle it. She was advised to guard against any staff members using the clout of the newspaper to advance their own personal (rather than newspaper) interests. Editors who cut such stories are not engaging in the kind of “censorship” that’s so abhorrent to supporters of the First Amendment. Rather, they are protecting the integrity of their newspaper from those who would abuse it. So long as the decision comes from the student editors rather than the adviser, First Amendment issues supporting student control of content are met. The Illinois Press Foundation, which serves the more than 600 professional newspapers in Illinois, has an IJEA journalism teacher/publication adviser on its board of directors. In June, he is on the agenda to present a perception of the “State of Scholastic Journalism.” He will be making a pitch for the responsibility of the pro media to support scholastic journalism. He will give them lots of ways to get involved in our school J-programs. He will also discuss the importance of a free and responsible press in our secondary schools, and why the pros should be more supportive of that goal. In February, a journalism summit conference was held in McHenry County. Sponsored by one high school, all 13 schools in the county were invited to attend an all-day conference on a Monday. Only half participated, but there still were about 80 students and their advisers. A two-time Pulitzer Prize winner was the keynote speaker. The idea was to get schools to network on issues involving the journalism programs. Four years ago, the Illinois General Assembly passed a student press rights bill, 109-4 in the House and 57-0 in the Senate. The Governor vetoed it. But the overwhelming House/Senate vote shows what networking can do. State legislators received hundreds of letters and phone calls from scholastic journalism supporters. The goal is to rebuild a strong network to advance not only future legislation but also journalism excellence in our schools. The newly-formed IJEA newsletter made its debut. It features a new layout and covers a wider assortment of topics, including teacher profiles. IJEA is working with the Illinois High School Association to get information on journalism programs entered into a data base.

Iowa State Director Gary Lindsay, MJE

The panel for judging this year’s Iowa Journalist of the Year contest will include two of last year’s finalists. The two students currently pursuing journalism studies will join a panel that includes JEA members from across the state. The two young journalists include last year’s state winner Jennifer Strum and runner-up Shelbi Thomas. Both are currently journalism majors at the University of Iowa and staff writers for the Daily Iowan. Joining them on the panel will be some members of last year’s panel: Cynthia Schneider, media studies teacher at John F. Kennedy High School; Vanessa Shelton executive director of IHSPA; Patrick Reipe, online news editor of the Iowa City Press-Citizen; and other JEA Members yet to be determined. The panel will review the criteria stated in the contest brochure, use a scoring rubric for the first round of scoring and then work to arrive at consensus on the eventual winner. There are three entries in this year’s contest. The winner of the competition was announced March 11. Other JEA activities this fall included recruiting new members at the state and regional fall conferences of the Iowa High School Journalism Association in October. Iowa membership in JEA has increased to 37, up from 29 last year (based on information from the JEA National Directories).

Minnesota State Director Laurie Hansen

The Minnesota High School Press Association sponsored a sportswriting and sports photography contest which was coordinated with the National Scholastic Press Association. The contest involved 24 students from various Minnesota schools attending a practice of the Minnesota Wild hockey team and then having an interview with one of the players, Cam Stewart. On Jan. 24, the students attended the practice, interviewed Stewart and then had to e-mail a story to coordinator Tim Dorway (JEM vice-president) by noon on Jan. 25. Students participating in the photography part of the contest also had to get pictures mailed to Dorway by the 25th. Winners were then selected by a panel of judges from Twin Cities local media. The following students were recognized for their work:

- Dustin Wenzel—1st place sportswriting, Park High School, Cottage Grove;
- Jessi Klein—2nd place sportswriting, Park High School;
- Evie Jones—3rd place sportswriting, Stillwater Area High School, Stillwater;
- Honorable Mention—Gabby Bach, Stillwater Area High School;
- Photography—Best sports photography portfolio, Evie Jones of Stillwater.

Both Wenzel and Jones won free tickets to a Minnesota Wild game on dates of their choice.

Other than that, I am trying to plan a spring advisers gathering for JEA advisers, and I am also going to invite other advisers to get more networking going in Minnesota.

Our membership list has grown by three people! Woo-hoo! Better than zero, so I’m continuing my crusade. I also passed my CJE exam in Boston and am looking forward to Phoenix

Nebraska State Director Bob Bair, CJE

MEMBERSHIP

A statewide journalism contest was held to bring attention to JEA and encourage membership. Called the JEA/Nebraska Journalism Contest, the annual contest is open to all high school students across the state. There is no entry fee for students of advisers who are JEA members; a fee of \$1 per entry was charged for those schools whose advisers are not members. The contest, which was conducted in December, drew over 200 entries.

JEA membership in Nebraska has increased over the past three years. In 2000 we had 20 members. That number increased to 22 members in 2001. This year we have 29 members.

A winter JEA/Nebraska newsletter was mailed to all members of the Nebraska High School Press Association. The purpose of the newsletter was to bring advisers up to date on statewide activities of NHSPA and the national/regional JEA activities and to make the advisers more aware of the benefits of JEA membership. The newsletter promoted the JEA conventions in Phoenix and Portland. It also reemphasizes the method of paying JEA dues through NHSPA. It is hoped that members will budget for JEA membership and, thus, this will increase the number of JEA members in Nebraska.

SUCSESSES

Membership materials and JEA brochures were distributed to Nebraska advisers at last falls state convention in Lincoln, Neb. Members were urged to help their senior students work early in preparing their portfolios for entry in the Journalist of the Year competition. There were 4 student entries in the Journalist of the Year state competition. The state winner is Steve Munch of Bellevue East High School.

Marsha Kalkowski, CJE, was appointed secretary of the NHSPA. Kalkowski teaches at (Omaha) Marian High School where she advises the newspaper and yearbook.

The (Omaha) Central Register was named No. 1 in Best of Show for large newspapers (17+ pages) at the JEA/NSPA convention in Boston. The Register won the same award at the Spring 2001 convention in San Francisco. Matt Deabler advises The Register.

OTHER NEWS

The 2002 summer NHSPA journalism camp will return to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Last summer it was held at Hastings College while the UNL School of Journalism moved to their new facilities. Susan Bair, JEA member from Bellevue East High School, and Kathy Davis of Hasting High School were named co-directors of the summer workshop.

The NHSPA listserv was used to urge members planning to go to Phoenix and to volunteer to assist with judging at the convention.

The NHSPA Board of Directors is revising the state's evaluation criteria for yearbook and newspaper. Minor revisions will be made for the 2002 contest, with major revisions being done during summer 2002.

North Dakota State Director Jennifer Montgomery

Membership in North Dakota is static at present. Members will be recruited at the spring convention April 20-21 in Grand Forks. Journalism programs across the state, however, have withered over the last 20 years. There are very few rural schools with newspapers, and even some of the 1000+-student schools have scaled back their programs. The Northern Interscholastic Press Association and its member schools are trying to reverse this trend; unfortunately, NIPA's host site, the University of North Dakota, has offered only limited support.

NIPA will again host the spring awards convention for member schools. Also, NIPA will hold a summer camp for journalism students and advisers. This will be the second camp. No dates have yet been set.

One bonus for journalism students in the western part of North Dakota is the revitalization the teen-journalism page in the Bismarck Tribune. The Gear page is written weekly by and for teenagers in the region. Scott Winter, a former JEA member and publications adviser (Albert Lea HS), is editing the Gear page and working with students.

South Dakota State Director Deb Rothenberger

South Dakota's all-state journalists spent two days at the South Dakota State Legislative session Feb. 14-15. The journalists shadowed their district representatives for the two days and had a press conference with the governor. The all- staters also have been shadowing professional journalists for the program called "A Day With a Journalist."

The spring writing contest entries were due March 1. Students submitted work in various categories including writing, photography, advertising, cartoons, page design, infographics and special edition. Winners will be announced in April. Besides individual awards, there are the High Point Student Award, Writing Sweepstakes, and the Overall Sweepstakes. The contest is sponsored by the South Dakota High School Activities Association and the South Dakota State University Department of Journalism and Mass Communications.

The South Dakota High School Press Association's summer Publications Workshop Institutes are June 9-13 for yearbook and photography sessions and June 16-20 for newspaper and photography sessions. Desktop publishing sessions are offered both weeks and relate to the yearbook/newspaper sessions. Actual publications are produced at the end of the sessions. The workshops are offered to advisers who may earn from two to four graduate credits.

Wisconsin State Director Sandy Jacoby

No report.

South Central Region 4 Director Susan Roberts

Arkansas•Kansas•Louisiana•Missouri•Oklahoma•Texas

Arkansas State Director Beth Shull, CJE

No report.

Kansas State Director Susan Massy, CJE

Kansas continues to be the home of award-winning student journalists and outstanding journalism teachers. Kansas yearbooks garnered eight of the 62 Pacemaker Finalist awards; three of 41 Crown Finalists and one of the seven Junior High Crown Finalists. Congratulations to KSPA president, Linda Drake of Chase County High School in Cottonwood Falls who was named a Distinguished Yearbook Adviser.

Kansas Scholastic Press Association just completed the on- site regional contest in mid-February. Four of the five sites in the state showed increased participation. The state contest will be held in Lawrence on May 4. More than 1,000 students are expected to compete. All-Kansas awards for newspaper, yearbook and broadcast will be announced at the state awards banquet.

The major concern facing KSPA right now is financial funding for schools across the state. Due to declining state revenues, the state legislature has proposed major funding decreases for education. With financial issues facing every school in the state, KSPA executive director John Hudnall is trying to determine how significantly this will affect KSPA membership and participation.

Hudnall and Drake are also working to secure the future of the organization. With this in mind, a Future of KSPA committee has been formed. The committee will look at every aspect of the organization and how it can continue to be a viable organization providing appropriate services to the student journalists and their teachers. The Future of KSPA committee is writing a grant to procure funding for a long-range planning symposium.

Louisiana State Director Dawnya Saunders

No state director report.

Dr. Joe Mirando, professor of journalism and instructor of the course in scholastic journalism at Southeastern Louisiana University, answered these questions after a query by Susan Roberts.

Roberts: Where are newspaper and yearbook — publications courses — in the curriculum in Louisiana?

Mirando: They're usually listed as Publications I or II in the English curriculum.

Roberts: Where is photography in the curriculum in Louisiana?

Mirando: Nowhere for the most part, although a few schools have it as an arts elective.

Roberts: Where is Journalism I- Reporting in the curriculum in Louisiana?

Mirando: A small number of schools have the course listed under the name because the only way they can have it is if they have a teacher certified in journalism, and most don't. For the most part, it will be in English.

Roberts: What type of guidelines are there for journalism - reporting - photography - publications courses from the state?

Mirando: The state does have highly-structured curriculum guides for it based on the English guides and the book Scholastic Journalism.

Roberts: Is there a state journalism teachers association? Would you like one? Why? or Why not?

Mirando: Yes, we have a state teachers group.

Roberts: What do feel is the status of publications courses in your state — strong — healthy — dying, growing? Explain.

Mirando: The status is dying. Only one college in the state has a major leading to certification in journalism, and fewer than 10 students are enrolled in it each year.

Roberts: What do you feel like JEA can do to help you as a teacher in your state?

Mirando: Having a JEA national convention in New Orleans would be a good way to promote it in the local media as well as encourage local teachers.

Roberts: Membership in your state? What are problem areas? Membership is low.

Mirando: Mainly, the lack of curriculums for college students leading to certification in journalism. Only one school has one.

Roberts: Successes/Upcoming What have JEA members done that should be recognized? What good things have occurred in your state since the last report? What's up for the rest of the 2002 school year? Have any of you been honored — in your school — in your profession?

Mirando: Not sure. The state press association is small and does not include all JEA members and rarely involves colleges other than Louisiana State University.

Missouri State Director Karen Van Meter

Missouri has experienced the retirement of many well-respected journalism teachers over the last few years. H.L. Hall retired first after an illustrious career at Kirkwood High School. This last year Ron Clemons, who had taught at Truman High School in Independence for over 40 years, also retired. Although it is hard to believe that these advisers could ever be replaced, several new advisers as well as several veteran advisers attended the first MIPA fall advisers conference in Columbia Sept. 22. It was an opportunity to share lesson plans and discuss many of the concerns facing advisers in Missouri. Officers of MIPA expressed a desire to modernize literature that is mailed to advisers and prospective advisers from the state organization. Membership is low, so MIPA has offered a one-time opportunity for those advisers new to scholastic journalism to join for free. The officers hope that by showing

what kinds of assistance MIPA can offer new journalism advisers that membership might increase.

In Kansas City, JEMKC hosted its annual Adviser's Winter brunch Jan. 26. Advisers were treated to a program given by Kansas City Star editor Mark Zieman. JEMKC will hold their annual Awards Night April 25.

In St. Louis, SSP hosted a spring conference on March 7 at Washington University. Over 750 students attended this event. Students were able to participate in sessions on yearbook and newspaper topics as well as compete in write-offs. The sessions were conducted by working print and broadcast journalists from the St. Louis area.

MIPA's annual J-Day will be held April 10 on the MU campus. Bev Chapman, a reporter from the Kansas City ABC Channel-9, will speak to students. There will also be two break-out sessions that students can attend.

Beth Ann Brady, Ladue High School adviser, was named Missouri Journalism Teacher of the Year. Christopher Young of California, Mo., was selected as Missouri Student Journalist of the Year. MIPA's Summer Media Workshop is scheduled for July 21-July 25 in Columbia.

Oklahoma State Director Joe Nations

Oklahoma's membership has remained the same. No special projects have been reported. I am going to be visiting several area high schools over my spring break talking with high school principals about the importance of KEEPING the journalism programs.

Spring is pretty dead here.

Texas State Director Peggy Morton

We're 245 members strong and making Texas size plans to welcome the nation to Dallas for the JEA/NSPA Fall 2002 convention with the theme, "Two Steppin' thru Texas." Our planning committee is up and running to bring you the best convention ever.

We increased membership this year after offering three regional one-day staff development workshops for journalism teachers last summer around the state; that helped us realize we need more than our current six elected officers, two convention directors and executive director. Thus, our officers are in the process of naming four regional directors. We now elect officers every two years, and we're planning to eventually elect regional directors during the alternate years. As we provide services throughout our huge state, we need to solicit help from more journalism teachers to meet the diverse needs of our group.

Additionally, TAJE has successfully lobbied for journalism teachers now offering desktop publishing credit as part of their publications' courses to continue doing so without needing to be recertified in Technology Applications in our state. Our State Board for Educator Certification voted unanimously to grandfather technology teachers at its meeting Jan. 4. This included journalism teachers teaching publications courses and giving Technology Applications credit. While teachers won't need this new certification until 2003, we're proud to have gained the state board's attention and respect early, as this certification is more typically offered through business education and career tech.

Finally, Reva Bhalla of Westlake High School in Austin reigns as our new State Journalist of the Year. Reva has worked in journalism for four years taking photos for the El Piasano yearbook and writing, photographing, designing and editing stories for the Featherduster News Magazine. In her spare time, she does volunteer work for about four hours a week along with working about 10-45 hours a week as the production manager for one of Austin's exclusive photo studios, Gray Hawn, where she co-authored a book, "Something to Believe In."

Understandably, her advisers Deanne Brown and Cindy Todd sing her praises and assure us she spends many an evening in the publications room directing staffers to produce nationally recognized publications, and fellow students love her. Reva was named State Journalist of the Year from 11 applicants and will be recognized at the state's ILPC convention April 6-7. Next year, we're hoping to submit two candidates to nationals since TAJE has 245 members. That will be an agenda item in Phoenix.

Again, we hope to see you in Dallas for "Two Steppin' Thru Texas." Mark Nov. 21-24 on your calendars now.

Southeast Region 5 Director Sylvia Daughtry

Alabama•Florida•Georgia•Mississippi•North Carolina•South Carolina•Tennessee

Around 400 students and advisors attended the Alabama Scholastic Press Association's State Convention. The attendance was down compared to last year, a record year.

The Alabama Scholastic Press Association is nearing the end of their search for a new coordinator. According to Paul Issom, the Director of Office of Student Media, they are still receiving applications. A committee will meet very soon to review applications.

The summer will be filled with exciting workshops this year! Although the speakers for the workshops have not been chosen, there will definitely be a speaker for the workshops have not been chosen, there will definitely be a speaker for the broadcast workshop. Also, the University of Alabama journalism department is holding a minority journalism workshop. The slots are filling up fast.

Florida State Director Anne G. Whitt, MJE

The final draft has cleared the curriculum committee of the DOE and will now circulate among state universities for approval to grant honors credit for Journalism 2, 3 and 4.

Orlando Sentinel sent Deb Jepson of Oviedo High School and two Florida students to the Free Spirit Freedom Forum in Washington, D.C., in November.

The Texas Association of Journalism Educators honored Jostens' John Cutsinger of Orlando with its Trailblazer Award for expanding the scope and capability of Texas scholastic journalism.

Teacher magazine featured Linda Evanchyk on the "Colleagues" page for her work in producing an elementary school newspaper.

Georgia State Director Sherry Taylor

Newscape 2001, the GSPA Fall Workshop, kicked off the scholastic journalism year in Georgia by moving its location from the University of Georgia campus in Athens to Shaw High School in Columbus in order to attract more attendees from the western part of the state. With the support of The Columbus Ledger-Enquirer, The Columbus Times, WRBL-TV, Columbus State University, and Shaw High School, workshops were conducted on "Reporting and Storytelling Using Your Senses," "Handling Tragedy in Your Student Publication," and "Professional Tips for Better Photos." During a working lunch, staffers swapped publications, professional journalists conducted on-site critiques, and advisers met with the GSPA Coordinator and the Georgia Association of Journalism Advisers President/JEA State Director.

A winter workshop tentatively planned for January in Savannah had to be cancelled due to timing and financial constraints. In its place GAJA/JEA will sponsor a two-day retreat for advisers in August at the Continuing Education Center of the University of Georgia.

As a result of publicity in the GSPA Bulletin, on the GSPA/GAJA website, and on the GAJA listserv, students and advisers from Georgia have participated in the Communications Day at Berry College in Rome (GA), JEA/NSPA Convention in Boston, a Journalism Seminar in Legal Reporting at the UGA School of Law, Mock Trial Competition, a Newspaper Guild Communications Workers of America competition, JEA Journalist of the Year competition, Student Press Law Center opportunities, Southern Regional Press Institute in Savannah, Southern Interscholastic Press Association Convention in Columbia, Columbia Scholastic Press Association Convention in New York, American Scholastic Press Association competitions, Southern Newspaper Publisher's Association Traveling Campus Workshop for Journalism Teachers, Broadcast News Bluejeans Workshop co-sponsored by Grady College of Journalism and Mass

Communications (UGA) and Turner Broadcasting, Full Court Press Sportswriting Seminar and Scholarship co-sponsored by the United States Basketball Writers Association and Grady College (UGA), the Georgia Association of Broadcasters Winter Institute, and the State University of West Georgia Media Day.

The GAJA listserv continues to be a source of quick communication among advisers seeking information, opinions and support on matters such as cancellation of journalism classes on block scheduling, financing journalism courses through state funding, counseling seniors toward college admission, evaluation of different journalism conferences around the country, participation in online newspapers and news services, registration for professional development opportunities (such as the American Society of Newspaper Editors Institutes), selection of printing companies and computer formats, designing publications budgets, and taking advantage of educational field experiences. Membership in GAJA/JEA/GSPA/NSPA has been solicited this

year through a newly-designed brochure, "Get Connected Today!" Membership fees were established on a tiered system which allowed schools/advisers joining earlier in the year to get a price break.

In February the GAJA executive board met with new Grady College Dean John Soloski, a strong advocate of scholastic journalism. He is providing the leadership and encouragement necessary to strengthen and unify GSPA/GAJA, making the combined organizations more efficient as a one-stop resource for both student journalists and their advisers. A major initiative under the direction of his office for 2001-2002 has been expanding the job responsibilities of the GSPA coordinator to build visibility within the state via school visits and to increase publicity of journalism opportunities. The GAJA executive board has formed a constitutional committee to review changes which will focus GSPA on advisers, who will represent students and who will be responsible for directing the activities of the association. A curriculum guidebook will be created this summer especially to help new advisers and programs that are losing students.

As a result of decisions made at the joint meeting of JEA/GAJA/GSPA officers in August, advisers and students have enjoyed more input than ever in the planning of the spring GSPA convention, which will be an overnight affair. New categories have been added to the contests, especially for yearbook, broadcast, and magazine. GAJA/JEA will sponsor a Meet & Greet Brunch to provide the opportunity for advisers to learn more about the association and how they can get involved. Awards for Adviser of the Year and Friend to GSPA will also be implemented. More sessions will be led by advisers and student staffs.

The Georgia Journalism Academy is scheduled for June 9-14, and more funding for minority scholarships is being sought, in addition to the ones already provided by GAJA/JEA and the Georgia Press Educational Foundation.

Mississippi State Director Beth Fitts, CJE

JEA activities are being encouraged through MSPA conventions as well as several workshops being sponsored by SNPA and SIPA. Convention information and such benefits as the bookstore have started to interest advisers in the state. Membership has not grown this year due to large budget cuts in schools, limiting participation for travel and membership fees for advisers. Other sources of funding are being researched.

North Carolina State Director Kay Windsor, MJE

Membership:

North Carolina continues to offer membership to both North Carolina Scholastic Media Association and Journalism Education Association. (To receive the rebate from JEA for the state affiliate, we send the membership dues through UNC, and this pathway is sometimes slow. Is there a more expedient way to get credit for the rebate by verifying state membership?) Membership is offered at state and regional workshops. At the January NCSMA board meeting, several members renewed or joined for the first time, some of them because of conversation about the benefits of the JEAHELP listserv and C.JET magazine.

Successes:

- Robin Gibson Sawyer, adviser to Sound to Sea newspaper at Manteo High School and the 2000 National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year, was elected to a seat on Dow Jones Newspaper fund board; she is the first high school teacher to serve on the board.
- Brenda W. Gorsuch, adviser to the West Henderson High School yearbook and newspaper in Hendersonville, was named a Distinguished Yearbook Adviser in the 2001 National High School Yearbook Adviser of the Year awards. The Distinguished Adviser's schools will receive a \$500 scholarship for a student journalist. Gorsuch was a Special Recognition Adviser in the same competition in 1996.
- Two North Carolina student journalists were winners in the annual Youth Journalism Competition during the National Federation of Press Women conference in Indianapolis, Sept. 12. National first-place winner in editorials was Ashlely Vandewart, of A.C. Reynolds High in Asheville. Vandewart was a student of Phyllis Cooper. National first place in graphics went to Sakura Christmas, a staff member of the Durham Herald-Sun's teen page, directed by Cameron Tew.
- Monica Hill began work as Director of NCSMA in January. She can be reached at NCSMA, 285 Carroll Hall, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC 27599.
- Kay D. Phillips, retired director of NCSMA, was honored at Southern Interscholastic Press Association's conference March 1-3 with the distinguished administrator award named in her honor and awarded for the first time.

Upcoming:

- Central North Carolina Journalism Day was held March 12 on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus, one of several regional workshops planned for North Carolina students during the year. Raleigh News & Observer staff members will teach.
- North Carolina Scholastic Media Summer Institute is planned for June 11-14 on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus.
- North Carolina Scholastic Media Association, in association with North Carolina Press Club, the state's professional press association, continues the Rachel Rivers-Coffey Scholarship for winners in the Journalist of the Year competition at the state level. North Carolina journalist of the year Katie Pennock, West Henderson High School, Hendersonville, will receive \$500; Carrie Johnson, North Iredell High School, Olin, will receive \$300; and, Elizabeth Saputo, J. H. Rose High School, Greenville, will receive \$100. Honorable mention recognition goes to Charlotte Powell, Broughton High School, Raleigh, and Michelle Dalton, McMichael High School, Mayodan. The Rachel Rivers-Coffey Scholarship is named in honor of the former NCPA president who was killed in a horseback riding accident.
- Fellowships for summer courses for training for advisers will again be offered. The first two-week course will cover journalism education in the high school. The second will address desktop publishing and technology. Applications were due April 1.

South Carolina State Director Karen Flowers, CJE

Advisers of scholastic publications in South Carolina are struggling with mounting responsibilities from state, district and school administrators. They are also struggling with the problems block scheduling creates and often are struggling from problems with having to advise more than one publication. Exasperated and frustrated, teachers are resigning from their advising roles and often from their roles in education.

Advisers are encouraged to seek membership in the South Carolina Scholastic Press Association, the Southern Interscholastic Press Association and the Journalism Education Association as crucial to their survival.

PRO (Professionals Reaching Out), a program sponsored by the University of South Carolina and the South Carolina Press Association, offered three fall regional retreats and three in February. Only three-to-four advisers were able to take advantage of these meetings, but those who did found them beneficial. Professional reporters and editors came to the fall meetings to talk with the advisers about editorials, and during the February meetings, advisers discussed recruiting and staffing for the coming year.

PRO also offered three regional workshops for staffs to get more information on the work of the Education Oversight Committee and the new report card which every school in the state got in December.

This summer, in addition to SIPA's Carolina Journalism Institute June 9-13, PRO and SCSPA will sponsor three regional retreats to teach the maestro method and to help students with redesign or just better design.

The state organization, under the direction of Bruce Konkle, continues to be one of the strongest in the nation. SCSPA will hold its spring conference April 22. Student and adviser elections will be conducted during this conference. Students serve a one-year term and advisers are elected to two-year terms.

Trying something new

New this year to SCSPA has been mini-evaluations for newspaper members. The idea was that a staff could send in an early newspaper and get a one-page written evaluation. The staff could have feedback early in the year without worrying about competition - just a pure learning experience. The fee was \$10 and the turn-around time was about a week.

We also provided a new membership opportunity for our schools - a three-year membership option. We thought this might help keep a staff on the mailing list even if there's an adviser turnover. Membership costs are \$40 per year per publication or \$100 for three years per publication. Critique fees are extra.

A third change was in the way we conducted our individual entry contest for newspapers - Excellence in Newspaper Awards. After years of asking judges to write comments but having judges not be able to meet their deadlines, we went to a pure rating system. Now ESNA is just a selection process; no comments are written and no entries are returned. Most of the winners will appear in Scholastic Review, a publication provided for SCSA members. SCSA assistants are currently working on major updates of membership brochure and adviser notebooks. JEA membership in South Carolina is at an all-time high because of better communicating, promoting the state, regional and national organizations together and of course, the listserv.

Tennessee State Director Linda Chambers

The goal in Tennessee is to increase membership. Currently the membership stands at 10, including two universities, the state director, and H. L. Hall. This leaves us much room for growth. Rather than attempt to contact people after our fall meeting, I decided that a spring approach would be better. I plan to contact all the schools in my district in late spring as principals are assigning journalism responsibilities. I also plan to hand out literature at all workshops I attend this spring and summer. H. L. Hall will also discuss JEA membership with groups he works with in Tennessee. I would encourage the national organization to continue to look at providing mass communications to schools in those states with low memberships. Databases with schools' and principals' names should be available. Mass mailings as a state responsibility is cost prohibitive. Also, as a national organization, we need to continue to look at ways to convince school systems that journalism-related studies and activities will increase test scores. Although as journalists we realized this is true, school systems are currently being driven by test data and are eliminating and/or cutting back on those programs that do not directly relate to those areas being tested. Journalism is a fringe area-program that could be eliminated in school systems that are very small or that are suffering from severe budget cuts.

Mid-Atlantic and Great Lakes Region 6 Director Carol Lange

In Fall 2001, our region celebrated the naming of Terry Nelson from Indiana as DJNF National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year. In Phoenix we will celebrate JEA's naming East Lansing yearbook adviser Lynn Strause as its 2002 National Yearbook Adviser of the Year. Lynn is our Michigan JEA state director. In addition to Lynn, the dedication of two outstanding advisers in our region is being honored: Judith Coolidge, Bay High School, Bay Village, Ohio, is a Distinguished Adviser and Mary Kay Downes, Chantilly High School in Virginia is a Recognized Adviser. I am pleased to introduce two new state directors in our region. Dr. Jan Bowman, Walt Whitman High School, has agreed to be our Maryland JEA state director. Fran Sharer, Language Arts Specialist, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, and former publications adviser, is our new Virginia JEA state director.

In the process of finding a state director for Delaware, I have discovered the Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association. This organization recognizes a high school journalist of the year and sponsors college internships at five to nine of its 164 member newspapers. We are discussing ways to work together to support scholastic journalism in their jurisdiction area.

In March, I attended the Southern Interscholastic Press Association convention and presented workshops.

As of March 2002, the membership in the Mid-Atlantic/Great Lakes Region is 299 teacher/advisers. In diverse ways, we are trying to support our members and scholastic journalism in our jurisdictions.

Delaware State Director

No director.

Washington, District of Columbia State Director Leo Bowman

Membership in Washington, D.C., has grown through ASNE summer institute benefits. Ann Cohen, an ASNE participant from Cardozo High School, will be attending the JEA/NSPA Phoenix convention.

The Washington Post's Young Journalists Development Project remains a strong advocate of and trainer of D.C. journalism teachers and students. Over 100 Post writers, editors and photographers have been involved since September 2001 in workshops either at the Post or in the eight YJDP press partnership schools. In addition, Wilson High School in the District and DuVal High School in Maryland are ASNE/Post Partnership schools. The Post also donates computers, scanners, printers and photographic equipment to area high school newspapers.

In spring the Post has or will sponsor an Urban Journalism Workshop for high school journalism students with the Washington Association of Black Journalists, a Writing Seminar and competitive news and feature writing contest for scholarships, and a one-day layout and design workshop for high school editors. JEA Mid-Atlantic/Great Lakes Regional Director Carol Lange and Alan Weintraut joined Post staff teaching at the one-day High School Journalism Advising Seminar.

Indiana State Director Nancy Hastings, MJE

While colder weather and winter drear generally make people retreat to the comforts of home and familiar surroundings, Indiana journalists have been far from retreating. Fall kicked off with another successful Indiana High School Press Association State convention under leadership of President-elect Carmen Mann from Franklin Community High School. Mike Frazier from Hanover Central High School in Cedar Lake was honored as the Ella Sengenberger Journalism Teacher of the Year, and Mark Herron of Ball State University was named the Louis Ingelhart Friends of Journalism honoree. With new officers in place, the IHSPA took a daylong December retreat to reassess and restructure the organization's focus and member services. As the group defined its goals and mission, four core values emerged that guided their restructuring process. If approved by the general membership at the next fall convention, the organization leadership will divide into four task teams focusing on inclusion, service, support and advocacy. Each team will be co-chaired by an adult and student officer. Details for this reorganization are still being worked out, with the new plan ready for an October 2002 vote.

While the IHSPA is busy with restructuring, the Indiana Professional Standards Board is seeking members to serve on a Journalism Advisory Group, whose mission will be to create official standards for the new, stand-alone journalism teaching license. This is the final step in a long process to license journalism teachers according to a new performance-based standard. Instead of counting courses and credits toward certification, the new licensing requires pre-service teachers to show proof of "performance," "knowledge," and "disposition" in their content area. The advisory board will work a minimum six days reviewing literature and research in education and licensing, and preparing the standards.

Journalism won its separate license last June when the IPSB standards board agreed that journalism was sufficiently different from the English/language arts license area. The battle took three years to establish journalism as a separate "discipline."

Beyond restructuring and license advising, Indiana journalists look forward to a busy spring full of activities. Indiana University's School of Journalism sponsors its Media Merit-thon in Indianapolis April 13, offering students a chance to compete in 13 write-off contests. Ball State University hosts its Red White and New High School Journalism Day April 19, with a full day of nearly 70 class offerings and contests recognizing individual student achievement for published stories, designs and photography from newspapers, yearbooks and magazines.

Kentucky State Director Elizabeth "Scoobie" Ryan

The single biggest challenge here in Kentucky remains membership. The members we do have are active and trying to help spread the word about the benefits of JEA membership. Two especially stand out.

Lauren Hill, Western Hills High School, continues to turn out a fine paper and keep up the spirits of her journalism students despite problems with prior review. I visited her class in the fall to discuss stories that had been pulled from publication by their principal and discuss strategies to help them continue to cover the issues they've identified as important.

Steve Galyon's Henry County High School students once again have been nominated for a Pacemaker for their broadcasts. Winning those honors last year caught the attention of teachers in Kentucky, and he's been enthusiastic about recommending JEA membership to his colleagues.

Our state scholastic association, run by the Kentucky Press Association with help from the Kentucky Broadcasters Association, has just named a new director, David Greer. Greer, a publisher from Bardstown, replaces Lisa Carnahan who moved onto a job in state government at the beginning of February. Greer and I had preliminary discussions on March 13 about instituting a Kentucky Journalist of the Year competition to parallel JEA's. We've also discussed a plan to allow KHSJA members to pay JEA membership fees through a joint billing plan. He's agreed to look at that and present a recommendation to the advisory board. My previous request to bring that to the KHSJA advisory board had been rejected. His willingness to explore

closer ties between KHSJA and JEA are encouraging.

Currently, I'm helping plan the "traveling campus" program sponsored by SNPA and SIPA that will be in Louisville, April 20. On May 1, KHSJA's annual convention will be held in Louisville. At both events, I'll have packets of JEA information for teachers.

I attended the Boston convention, presented sessions and helped judge Write-offs. I plan to attend the Phoenix convention and help with judging as well as seek ideas and help from other state directors on how to increase membership.

Maryland State Director Jan Bowman, PhD, Director

I have only just begun to get into my responsibilities since I just came on board JEA as director at the end of January 2002.

I am putting together an effort to contact every newspaper adviser in Maryland with membership materials, a brief information update about JEA and a short survey of their perceived needs before the beginning of May 2002. I am hoping to get together an extensive e-mail list of advisors. Also, I hope to get a number of Montgomery County (I work here) and Howard County (I live here) school newspaper advisers on board. I am preparing a PTSA grant proposal to see if the grant will pay for the individual membership costs for the TV production, yearbook, literary magazine, as well as the introductory journalism teachers. If that works out, the idea might be useful to other schools, as well.

Our own Whitman newspaper, the Black & White, held a student and adviser workshop-conference Feb. 2 to commemorate our newspaper's 40th year anniversary. The conference served as a reunion, and all three advisers of the paper over the last 40 years attended - along with some former Black & White student staff who now are involved in journalism at the national level. One former editor, Richard Berke, now works for the New York Times and has made national headlines for a number of major stories.

Keynote speaker Judy Hines, founding education director of the Newseum, spoke about her experiences working to support student press. She offered a top 10 list of things a journalist must do to be an ethical, responsible journalist. Her speech was followed by two workshop sessions hosted by local and national journalists including NBC News correspondent Steve Handelsman, Pulitzer prize-winning commentator Clarence Page, Ron Hutchinson, John Heaney, Beryl Adcock and Savannah Guthrie. Also journalism students from local universities and student journalists from schools in Maryland and Virginia participated in and led small group discussion sessions. The conference concluded with an afternoon round table session which was based on the ethical decisions surrounding the Bay of Pigs fiasco of 1963 when The New York Times found out about the invasion but didn't report on it at the request of the Secretary of State. Later, President Kennedy admitted that if the press had broken the story, the country would have been spared a tragic event. Editors and advisers who attended the conference played the roles of reporters and debated the ethics of printing a similar story.

The reunion was so successful that our staff plans to have another one in 10 years. If other schools are thinking about having a reunion, it helps to combine it with a workshop and bring in media specialists of all types. We actually had a number of interested parents who attended because they were interested in the speakers' take on national media events of recent years.

Michigan State Director Lynn Strause

MIPA hosted its fall convention on Oct. 11 with several thousand students in attendance. The day-long conference offered over 40 sessions on topics of interest for students in yearbook, newspaper, video media, photography and for advisers.

Michigan was well represented at the JEA/NSPA Boston convention where Betsy Pollard Rau, newspaper adviser from H.H. Dow High School in Midland, received a Pioneer Award.

In support of student journalists, MIPA agreed to award \$100 to Michigan's High School Journalist of the Year. Three students submitted portfolios this spring.

MIPA continues to actively promote JEA and encourage membership at its conferences and through STET, MIPAs quarterly magazine. We continue to develop our outreach program to encourage membership in both organizations.

Ohio State Director Sarah Ortman, MJE

Senior Lindsey Nelson from Hoover High School in North Canton has been named this year's Ohio High School Journalist of the Year, and I am proud to enter her portfolio in the 2002 JEA National High School Journalist of the Year competition. Ohio has been represented in every national JEA Student Journalist of the Year competition since the program began, including three students who have been named the National JEA Student Journalist of the Year and several others who have been named national semi-finalists.

As Ohio's first place winner, Nelson will receive a \$1000 scholarship from the Columbus Matrix Foundation of the Columbus Chapter of the Association for Women in Communications (AWC), as well as a \$250 cash award. The second and third place Ohio portfolio winners are Katy Ganz from Glen Oak High School in Canton and Rami Daud from Lakewood High School in Lakewood. Both will also receive cash awards.

In addition to the \$1000 scholarship sponsored by the Columbus Chapter of the Ohio Association for Women in Communications, the individual cash awards for the top three 2002 Ohio portfolio winners are again being sponsored by Ohio's three active student journalism associations: the Journalism Association of Ohio Schools (JAOS) at the Ohio State University, the Great Lakes Interscholastic Press Association (GLIPA) at Bowling Green State University and the Northeastern Ohio Scholastic Press Association (NOSPA) at Kent State University.

Directed by Linda Glomski, the Great Lakes Interscholastic Press Association sponsored its annual high school journalism workshop last fall. GLIPA offers individual sessions and on-the-spot journalism contests which attract schools from all over Ohio, as well as from several neighboring states.

Under the direction of Candace Bowen, the Journalism Association of Ohio Schools co-sponsored its annual winter journalism workshop for students and advisers Dec. 11 at the Ohio State University. Winners from the annual JAOS summer publications contest were announced at the conclusion of the December workshop.

Bowen will also direct the Northeastern Ohio Scholastic Press Association's annual high school student media day at Kent State University April 17. In addition to a variety of sessions, overall and individual award winners in this year's NOSPA media contests will be announced.

Many of Ohio's veteran journalism educators, a great number of whom are nearing retirement, continue to be concerned about finding new ways to encourage the development of active high school journalism programs in public schools throughout the state. Following Ohio's recent change from educational certification to licensure, journalism is now included under the teaching license for language arts.

Few Ohio colleges currently offer prospective English teachers any courses in journalism education, which are needed to help build strong student publications and teach effective high school journalism courses. Kent State University continues to be one of the few in Ohio that strongly supports journalism education and offers courses designed specifically to train high school journalism teachers.

Although many of us are concerned about recruiting new journalism teachers and advisers, according to the most recent JEA directory, Ohio is currently represented by 62 JEA members—a number which has actually grown in recent years.

Virginia State Director Fran Sharer

Thirty-eight journalism teachers and media advisers in Virginia accepted the one-year free membership from JEA. Each of the 36 teacher/advisers remaining in the classroom will be contacted with a letter inviting him or her to continue membership.

Four excellent entries from around the state made the selection of the Virginia Journalist of the Year a difficult one. After careful consideration, Shant Raffie Shahrigian, co-editor of the A-Blast, Annandale High School, Annandale, is the first place winner. Shant's adviser is Alan Weintraut. Part of the judge's decision to award Shant first place was based on his work with the special four-page edition that the students published after the Sept. 11 attacks. Further, according to Weintraut, Shant is instrumental in maintaining the printing partnership with the Washington Post that allows the A-Blast to print color on many pages. Shant will receive a \$200 savings bond, and his entry will represent Virginia in the national competition.

Second place was awarded to David Covucci, co-editor of the A-Blast, Annandale. David's excellence in page design earned him the nod for second place. According to Weintraut, "When David designs a page, he does so with professional style and attention to depth and detail. David's computer skills are obvious as is his dedication." David will receive a \$100 savings bond.

Thomas Berry, McLean High School, is the third place winner. Thomas is the co-editor-in-chief of the Highlander. His adviser, Becky Sipos, says that Thomas is a great writer and editor as well as an excellent role model for his staff. Thomas is responsible for this third place entry.

West Virginia State Director Rubv Dyer

JEA membership in West Virginia continues to be low, not at all indicative of the quality of scholastic journalism taught in the state or of the quality of newspapers and yearbooks produced in the state. It has been a few years since I have tried a mass mailing, so I hope to try that again in late summer or early fall. Since West Virginia ranks about 44th in the nation in teacher pay, some teachers may feel that they don't have the extra money to join organizations, such as JEA.

Despite low membership, our successes continue. Braxton County journalism teacher Brenda Gibson will be in New York at the CSPA convention where the Braxton County High School yearbook is up for a Crown award.

Broadcasting programs in the state are doing well. Sandi Slavey announced that Princeton Senior High School is producing a one-hour news program broadcast every Thursday night on cable TV. Also, Lewis County has teamed up with Title I to produce Book Look, broadcast on an educational access channel. Two sophomores serve as anchors and write all scripts. They read books and tape children in an activity that goes along with the books.

Teresa Grant, yearbook adviser at Cabell-Midland High School, was named the Rt. 60 Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year. Her school received \$500, and she received \$100 with the award.

Approximately 110 students and journalists attended the annual United High School Media convention at Marshall University in Huntington, Feb. 23. A variety of classes and an awards luncheon highlighted the event. Shawn Ross, Wayne High School, was named the Most Promising Student Journalist and received a \$500 scholarship to MU to study journalism there. He has also been named the JEA High School Journalist of the Year for West Virginia. Student journalists are also looking forward to the High School Journalism Contest at West Virginia University in April.

Northeast Region 7 Director Jane Blystone, MJE

As we pull together this report we can honestly say this has been a trying yet very fruitful time for JEA in the northeast region. The Boston convention took the concerted effort of every state director in the region. Our region has state associations in only four of the nine states in the region, so we had to team up to create a local committee guided by our local chair and former region director Barbara Flanagan.

My personal involvement with the convention included working again with my dear friend, Sue Everett, from New Jersey. We spent months gathering on-site critiques and judges only to see several judges bow out several days before the convention because their schools had canceled their trips to the Boston convention due to the 9/11 attacks on the US. Fortunately, several JEA longtime members like Deb Buttleman and Randy Swikle came to our rescue and picked up the slack. For this we are definitely grateful.

The JEA We have added 169 new advisers to the JEA membership ranks. New members gained in each state are included in each state director report. Our primary goal for the coming year is to assist the state directors in their efforts to maintain these new members and to help several state directors develop state associations to provide local journalism support for advisers and students.

Several members in our region earned awards from JEA at the Boston convention. Barbara Flanagan, Medal of Merit, Massachusetts; Carol Remick, Lifetime Achievement Award, Massachusetts; Michael Vieira, Lifetime Achievement Award, Massachusetts. The NSPA Pioneer Award will be awarded to Kathleen Zwiebel from Pennsylvania at the Phoenix convention in April.

Connecticut State Director Mary Ellen Minichiello

15 new members

Two conferences in March: The CJEA is sponsoring a workshop for high school students at Quinnipiac University. We'll be having a write off contest as well as speakers from area newspapers and media. I'll be taking students to American International College to The Scholastic Press Forum conference, which also has a competition tied into it.

At my school, my editors are sponsoring a First Amendment conference for students; they are presenting material themselves, and they have also invited a lawyer to speak. I delivered a presentation on Hazelwood to some local legislators at Southern Connecticut State University recently as well.

Maine State Director Jennifer E. Lacher-Starace

13 new members

Massachusetts State Director Carol Ziemian

26 new members

It was a busy year in the fall because of the National Convention in Boston; I was a member of the local committee. My main task was coordinating student volunteers; this required many hours of work prior to and at the convention. I also helped out in several other areas and spent numerous hours at planning meetings as well as working on various projects. I served as a judge in the editorials category at the convention and spent three hours in the hospitality room when away from my job as coordinator of student guides.

I acquired free note cards from a printer friend with the convention logo so we could provide all teachers who visited the hospitality room with one or two free packages of 10 each. The idea was that they could use them for thank you cards once they arrived back home and spread further the good word that JEA is helping kids become journalists.

I have sent two articles to print in the professional press (CNC Newspapers owned by Boston Herald) about JEA and its work and my students have sent four to print concerning the JEA Convention, a digital camera we won at the convention, and a visit we had by the adviser and his three editors from Winthrop High who came to study our journalism program. The JEA Convention put us on the map concerning their interest in our work as they struggle to put out a paper with little history.

Our candidate for JEA's Student Journalist of the Year comes from Taunton.

New Hampshire State Director Michèle S. Hansen

26 new members

As a New England state director, the bulk of the last two years has been helping to coordinate the Boston convention this past November. Barbara Flanagan had everything wonderfully organized, and it was a joy to work with her, but there was still much to do. My primary jobs were in hospitality and coordinating student volunteers, along with Massachusetts director, Carol Ziemian. The student volunteer program was an enormous undertaking beset with many problems, the biggest of which was that for post Sept. 11 security reasons, convention authorities would not let us into the Hynes Center the day before for a student orientation. Thus the kids were flying blind. The other major problem was that some of the student volunteers were not as reliable as others. Consequently, the students who came with Carol, Mary Ellen, Barbara and I ended up doing the lion's share of the work, so attended fewer workshops. Kudos go out to all those students who graciously, without complaints, took on the burden. The convention itself was deemed a success by all those who attended, the culmination of months of hard work. Membership in New Hampshire increased largely because of blanket mailings for the convention. I also attended an early fall all day high school journalism workshop at New Hampshire's largest daily, The Union Leader, and brought JEA pamphlets as well as information about the convention for distribution.

As for the rest of the year, the local Yankee Penn convention seems to be questionable at this time. However, NH still has the state-wide scholastic journalism competition coming up, again sponsored by The Union Leader.

New Jersey State Director Sue Everett, MJE

39 new members

Membership in New Jersey increased significantly this year. Many of the new members came via the free memberships offered in the region before the Boston convention.

I plan a letter to the New Jersey members in late March or April to encourage renewals.

I will again hand out JEA materials at the GSSPA spring adviser conference on May 13.

The Journalist of the Year is run in conjunction with the New Jersey Press Foundation which awards a \$5,000 scholarship in memory of the late Bernard Kilgore of the Princeton Packet.

New York State Director Sherri Taylor

5 new members

In answer to question one the New York membership is larger this year than ever. That's primarily due to the ASNF workshops' paving for state and

In answer to question one, the New York membership is larger this year than ever. That is primarily due to the JEA workshops paying for state and JEA memberships for the participants. I picked up about 27 members that way. We did gain a few members from including our membership application on our state forms and from including information at our fall conference.

Things JEA members in my state are doing? Good question. We had no participants in the JEA Boston conference unfortunately.

New York newspapers did an excellent job of covering the events of 9/11 in their newspapers. We featured many of their coverage ideas in our newsletter in January. We will also add that coverage as a competition area in our state competition for next fall.

The Brocton High School newspaper won a George Gallup award in the Quill and Scroll competition. That newspaper is advised by JEA member Dodie Sedota. International first place awards were won by Niskayuna High School, Paul D. Schreiber High School, and G.W. Hewlett High School (JEA members Margery Kashman and Robert Carp, advisers). Second place awards went to Chaminade High School and Garden City High School.

Pennsylvania State Director Ali Bouwers

54 new members

JEA membership has grown thanks to the free offer from JEA, but still the total number of members is sorely lacking. The adviser turnover is drastic from year to year due to the fact that teachers do not have to be specifically certified to teach journalism (an English certification or communications or math certificate will suffice) or to advise publications of any kind. Even with the state association mailings where we advertise membership to JEA as well as to PSPA, less than a quarter of all publication advisers in Pennsylvania belong to a state (PSPA) or national student press association.

The current problem, however, is much bigger than membership. Currently the State Board of Education is reviewing the state code and proposing changes in the area of student publications. The Board proposed the changes because members believe that section of the code needs to be brought "more in line" with court rulings bolstering school administrators' authority over student newspapers.

Of special concern to student-press advocates is the deletion of the word "immediate" in the regulation stating students cannot publish material that "threatens immediate harm to the welfare of the school or community." Another point of contention is a sentence in the broad guidelines stating students can't print material that is "vulgar, lewd, obscene, or plainly offensive." George Taylor, PSPA executive director, argued before that State Board that such language was so broad that administrators could apply that standard to exclude anything. The revisions would drop Pennsylvania from the short list of states with statutes or regulations specifically protecting freedom of expression in the student press.

Professional newspapers across the state have covered the story both on the news and editorial pages. The Philadelphia Inquirer and the Pittsburgh Post Gazette as well as smaller papers have spoken out on the side of the students. Education Week covered the story in January. Nat Hentoff plans coverage in his nationally syndicated column as well as in his Editor & Publisher column.

We'll keep you posted.

Rhode Island State Director Janice Place

5 new members

I have called our first annual state JEA board meeting for March 19, and so far I only have received one reply to attend. I am going to have to personally call the advisers whose names I have from a small journalism conference I attended at the Providence Journal. I e-mailed them because they signed a sheet and gave me their e-mail addresses saying they would be interested in joining JEA and a Board, but now they have not replied to my call for the meeting.

Vermont State Director Nancy Olson, CJE

0 new members

Membership: I was delighted that Vermont had two schools at the Boston JEA/NSPA convention. Vermont gained no new members from the offer of free JEA membership. What we need, I think, is a state-wide solicitation so that we know what schools even have newspapers/news magazines/television/radio/literary magazines. There is no statewide database on this.

Successes: Being on the local planning committee for the Boston convention was an amazing experience. We had representation from every New England state, and working with this group was amazing! My goal for the summer of 2002 is to start some kind of state-wide journalism awareness, so we can see what we can get going in-state. Most of the education action is in the northwestern part of the state because that is where Burlington and Montpelier are. I've convinced, however, that in the other three-quarters of the state, journalism is also happening.

PAGE 29 Certification Commission Chair Carla Harris, MJE

As of Feb. 9, 2002, JEA has certified 674 CJs and 124 MJEs during the certification program's existence. Of these 30 CJs and 8 MJEs are new since the last report.

The Certification Commission continues to be responsible for two steps in JEA goal #2, to provide resources and educational opportunities for professional development of journalism teachers and advisers. These steps are to increase the number of CJs and MJEs by 5 percent and to promote certification renewal. During the past year we have neared that goal, gaining 29 Certified Journalism Educators, just three persons short of the 5 percent goal. We gained six MJEs during the past year, matching the 5 percent goal.

Certification is valid for five years. It may be renewed every five years for an additional five years pending completion of a report of activities showing professional advancement in three areas for CJs and five areas for MJEs and payment of a \$10 processing fee for JEA members. During the past year 35 CJs and 15 MJEs renewed their certification.

During the Boston convention, certification test takers were the first to be evaluated using the higher minimum standard of 75 percent, raised from 60 percent at the Certification Commission meeting in San Francisco. All three who took the MJE exam met that standard and 11 of the 13 who took the CJE test passed it. While we are always regretful for any failure, the commission feels that the higher standard represents a more realistic demonstration of basic knowledge needed by one holding JEA certification.

In Phoenix the commission again will sponsor two sessions at convention: the informal workshop "JEA Certification: Why is it Important?" and the semiannual commission meeting at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday. Certification tests will be administered on Friday afternoon. We will promote certification at Meet, Eat and Greet sessions as well as regional and general membership meetings.

Development/Curriculum Commission Chair Mike Dunlap, CJE

Work continues on curriculum writing, and new materials should be finished by early summer 2002. The materials will be available on CD through the bookstore by the beginning of the 2002-03 school year.

I hope to also have additional curriculum materials (unit and lesson plans, handouts, etc.) on the JEA website this spring. Susan Tantillo has submitted several MJE projects that may become our first on-line offerings.

I am also working to jump-start the mentorship program by seeking input from former and current JEA mentors and mentees. By the Phoenix convention, we should have forms on line at the JEA website for new mentors and mentees. I will be handling these through a new e-mail account:

jeateacher@sunflower.com.

Junior High/Middle School Commission Chair Mary Patrick

Committee Members: Anita Wertz, Dawn Thurmond, Dana Benfield, Margie Watters, Jennifer Chavez-Miller, Mark Levin, Linda Chambers, Eileen Regen.

Our Boston meetings proved very successful and as a commission, we were encouraged by middle school/junior high attendance in Boston. Sixty-five attended the Middle Madness kick-off session. Feedback from that session indicated middle level attendees appreciated the middle school information and program sidebar for middle school in the main convention program. They also appreciated the reduced rate for entry in Best of Show and the fact that only a middle level adviser needed to be present for a publication entry into Best of Show. All but two schools which attended Middle Madness indicated that they did not know enough about Write-offs to feel comfortable entering, so the emphasis for the spring middle level mailing/e-letter was explanation of the middle level Write-off competitions. Only four middle school students entered Write-offs in Boston, so we are hoping for more in Phoenix.

In addition to critiquing the middle school portion of the convention, our commission also discussed better promotion of Scholastic Journalism Week and ways in which Dow Jones could become more involved in middle level activities. Also, we discussed providing information for summer activities!

ways in which Dow Jones could become more involved in middle level activities. Also, we discussed providing information for summer activities workshops open to middle school journalists and how to advertise those. Suggestion was made to do a mailing/e-letter after Phoenix with summer opportunities listed.

To publicize Phoenix, I have sent e-letters or mailings to 240 advisers who are members of JEA, NSPA, or advise in Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and Nevada at the middle level inviting them to the convention and to participation in Write-offs and Best of Show. We will continue Middle Madness as the kick-off program. In addition to the handouts, door prizes and gimmicks, a panel of middle school journalists who are Pacemaker, Best of Show, or Crown winners will discuss organizing middle level programs. Once again, a middle level sidebar will appear in the convention program, promoting helpful sessions, and I am pleased that, to date, four middle level sessions will be given at Phoenix.

Multicultural Commission Chair Norma Kneene, MJE

The Outreach program invited two advisers to the Boston convention in November 2002. They were Danita Eatman of Lecanto High School, Lecanto, Fla., and Douglas Petersen of Cheyenne-Eagle Butte High School, Eagle Butte, S.D. Douglas Petersen, however, was unable to attend due to travel restrictions from his school district. He is scheduled to attend the Phoenix convention in April 2002. Also in attendance were Multicultural Commission Chair Norma Kneene and Ad Hoc Board Member Joe Nations. New Ad Hoc Board Member Teddi Johnson was unable to attend due to her daughter being in a car accident shortly before the convention.

There was not a booth at the Boston convention. However, the Multicultural Commission will try to maintain a booth at each convention if at all possible. The commission decided to move the booth to the advisers' hospitality room. We anticipate more exposure with advisers if we man a booth in the hospitality room with the Multicultural Commission video playing. The commission feels it is important for advisers and students to be aware of multiculturalism in their staffs and in their publications. A booth helps advisers and students to bring this issue to their staffs and also helps to answer any questions they may have.

Several workshop presentations were offered at the Boston convention which included multiculturalism and diversity. These included a workshop taught by the Multicultural Commission Chair assisted by Ad Hoc Board member Joe Nations using the Time-Out for Diversity handouts. Schools were excited to participate, but when it actually came down to doing the survey, the schools did not follow through. Part of the problem was the length and extent of the survey that discouraged many staffs. Publication deadlines were a higher priority than the Time-Out survey.

May 1 will be the deadline for submission for Fall 2002 and Spring 2003 conventions. There are several applicants: Luane Higuchi, Waianae Intermediate School, Waianae, Hawaii; Zena Whitworth, DuVal High School, Lanham, Md.; and Jennifer Chavez-Miller, Jemez Valley High School, Jemez Pueblo, N.M. We can still accommodate one more applicant to attend the Spring 2003 convention.

At the AEJMC summer meeting in Washington, D.C., it was determined that Norma Kneene and Joe Nations should attend the AEJMC convention in Miami Beach, Fla., Aug. 6-10, to further the cause of the Multicultural Commission by helping with the Teach-In for high school teachers. Budget proposals were submitted to H.L. Hall for this event.

Teaching Tolerance, a magazine devoted to discussing diversity, interviewed Multicultural Chair Norma Kneene for an article on how students cover issues on social change. Kneene made the statement that diversity in the schools need to be reflected in the student newspapers. JEA, NSPA, CSPA, and SPLC are all mentioned in this article.

Scholastic Press Rights Commission Chair John Bowen, MJE

In support of JEA's goal to "support free and responsible scholastic journalism," the Press Rights Commission has been charged with the following tasks:

1. Support members facing censorship and prior review, providing referrals for additional information.
2. Support efforts to pass state legislation for the protection of student freedom of expression.
3. Build public awareness of censorship and prior review and the negative educational impact of such practices.
4. Develop publication/production policies for media, emphasizing teacher academic freedom, ethics and student free expression.
5. Provide guidance to advisers and student about ethical standards in the use of new technology.
6. Communicate with administrators and their organizations about free scholastic media and its importance.

1-5. This seems to be the area of our most constant effort. Almost all members of the commission report working with other advisers, several on highly public censorship or restraint issues. Advisers and students from Washington to Pennsylvania have reported instances of censorship and have asked for advice. Fern Valentine has been quite active in Washington with incidents in several school systems. Jane Blystone and others in Pennsylvania face a shift in the state code which had been supportive of a free scholastic press. Commission members continue to monitor the JEA listserv, asking questions and offering advice as needed. The Commission is also updating the Let Freedom Ring: America's First Amendment High Schools for its third year of applicants.

2. There has not been a lot of activity here we have been asked to participate in.

3-4. The commission continues to work on this through its activities outlined below, as well as continual development of materials for the commission's Web site. We hope to have a newly- designed and upgraded website ready by the Phoenix convention. We hope to have articles written by members of the commission and articles from administrators stating why they think administrators should support student freedom of expression. In addition to the articles by administrators, we continue to attempt to involve administrators in free press discussions and be involved in their conventions.

Individual comments from commissioners:

o Tony Gomez

The latest thing I have been dealing with is an adviser who is in trouble because one of her students wrote a column on how easy it was to crack the district's server's security. He gave detailed information on how to get into the all the files. Her principal requested prior review, but I think we may have it resolved. The last I heard, he is willing to give her total control with the stipulation that she take more control of her students and teach them to be more ethical.

o Tom Eveslage

As you probably know, most of our press-rights concerns in Pennsylvania are coming from efforts to fight changes in our Education Code. That tool, as you know, has had the effect of law in Pennsylvania, albeit without the teeth that legislation has had in other states. Nonetheless, there's been a great deal of attention to this effort. George Taylor has done an excellent job staying on top of this in Harrisburg, our state capital, where much of the official action takes place. There have been many news accounts and supportive editorials in the state's newspapers, and representatives of our state scholastic press association are monitoring the hearings being scheduled so that the strong Don't Change The Code message gets through. There's more on this at the PSPA Web site, too.

o John Tagliareni

I have responded to many questions from various students and advisers at conferences where I made presentations on student press rights, censorship issues or legislation. I also focused on New Jersey's strong constitution which protects student journalists. In addition, there have been numerous times when advisers will call me in school or at home to ask for advice related to censorship issues. I have attempted to help them as much as possible, or I have referred them to the Student Press Law Center for further assistance.

The Democrats took control in New Jersey in November, and Assemblyman Impreveduto, the original sponsor of the anti-Hazelwood legislation, now has gained much seniority. That coupled with a Democratic governor gives us hope for passage, since the Republicans had previously opposed the bill's passage. We hope to make another attempt at it, but the urgency is not there since we feel we can rely upon the state's strong First Amendment protection. I am working on a project for the JEA as we discussed. New Jersey is still the only state that has case law on its side. I am also looking into shield laws. The other concern is of state education codes.

There are negative developments here. First, the bill that would restrict student surveys in the public schools (A2351) was finally passed into law after it originally had stalled last year. It has had a huge effect on the way surveys are done in schools and has affected class surveys we frequently rely on for

Barry Esch. Publications are not directly affected, it seems. Schools must use permission forms and are careful to communicate with the parents about the

Deal Facts. Publications are not directly affected, it seems. Schools must use permission forms and are careful to communicate with the parents about the nature of the proposed surveys. The other bill (A592) makes it illegal for any personal information about students to be posted on the Internet, including school Web sites, without written consent from a legal guardian. This would include a student newspaper. The bill passed in the senate and assembly unanimously and is now law. In addition, this bill would prohibit school districts from posting any information about students — from names to photos — on a school sponsored Web site. The law prevents newspapers hosted on a school district's website from including names and photographs of students. This also encompasses by-lines of articles or upcoming event calendar dates and locations of these events despite the fact that such material routinely appears in the print version of student publications available in public libraries and other places. School districts have made it mandatory to obtain written permission from a legal guardian before a minor's picture maybe be published in any format, including yearbooks and student newspapers. (This includes group shots of sporting events where opposing players are photographed.) The new information sent to teachers is that the warning must be the official warning in a form from the state, which we have yet to see.

We hope that this can be overturned in court with New Jersey's strong constitution and First Amendment protections. I had presented our concerns to NJ ACLU and worked with Deborah Jacob, the director. They were more interested in the survey bill than the other at first, perhaps due to the huge publicity the Ridgewood School District received from the parental objections it received after a survey regarding drug use and sexuality. We hope to see the challenge in court overturn this law.

o Sarah Ortman

Internet censorship issues due to the threat of FERPA are still a major concern at many high schools. I attended several sessions at the Ohio SchoolNet conference on the topic. I was told the Supreme Court hearing on CIPA was to be postponed from its scheduled hearing in mid-February, but I am hopeful the Court will rule against it when it finally does hear the case— brought by ACLU and the American Library Association. I wish we could do a survey of all JEA members about the FERPA issue.

Also, you may be interested in the email message I've included below. I received it from a woman I met at the Ohio SchoolNet conference, who said school kids in Ohio HAD been the subject of Internet harassment after their names appeared on school Web sites. I asked her to send me information about specifics. I haven't had time to follow up on her contacts yet, but considering the information Mark Goodman got from his call to the FBI—I think Mark said the spokesperson admitted he could not verify ANY such incidents have actually occurred—it might be interesting to find out where the FBI agent this woman refers to got HER facts.

o Dianne Smith

We are encouraging advisers and staffs to send their papers to state legislators, professional newspapers, anyone in the community who is influential and might have an interest. We want them to see professional quality high school papers and to see how far high school journalism has come. We've also found that professional newspapers are seeing exactly what we want them to see...that the high school press is being censored.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram ran a piece last weekend (which I sent to the list)...their reporters are regular visitors on my jteacher.com website and the taje.org web site, and they noticed all the First Amendment stuff on both sites, which got them thinking about doing a story. I've had a couple of other newspapers contact me as well ... not Texas papers, though ... about doing something similar. I've referred them to Mark and Mike, but I've encouraged them to do what they can to make the plight of the censored high school known.

o Candace Perkins Bowen

Since last fall's JEA convention, I have worked with several different schools in Ohio to improve their press freedom situation, continued to co-author the column in Dow Jones Newspaper Fund's Adviser Update and answered questions about legal and ethical topics on the JEAHELP listserv.

Ohio situations include Manchester, where the students are writing their first policy in hopes of eliminating prior review; Boardman, where the adviser hopes to have a policy in place before a new principal arrives next summer; Twinsburg, where students continue to sporadically fight prior review; Washington High School in Massillon, where the administration is attempting to prior review a columnist; and Greenville High School in western Pennsylvania, where the adviser lost her position because she would not prior review — her editor this year continues the fight. I have visited some of these schools, had e-mail discussions with students and advisers, and provided much material to help them show the educationally sound reasons to allow students First Amendment rights.

We have also made sure that the soon-to-be-published book, NCTE Standards in Practice as They Apply to Journalism, has vignettes and explanations of legal issues and the value of allowing students to make content decisions.

Awards Committee Chair Carla Harris, MJE

As a result of the flood of nominees for various JEA awards last summer and the difficulty in selecting from the nominees, the awards committee discussed the selection process at our Boston convention meeting. Our goals were to solicit enough information on each nominee to compare each fairly with the others in their category and to collect the nominations in a timely manner.

A revised nomination form is now posted on the JEA website, thanks to Brad Wilson. All those nominating someone for an award will be required to use the official form. It requests a one page resume, up to three supporting letters of recommendation, and information regarding how the person submitting the nomination knows the nominee. It maintains a July 1 deadline.

The committee hopes that the new form will eliminate the more than 50-page nomination packets received last year as well as the one-paragraph nominations offered on behalf of other applicants.

As in the past, the form includes the qualifications for each award category and the number of awards that may be given in each.

Committee members include Kathy Craghead, Missouri; Bob Bair, Nebraska; Beth Shull; Arkansas; and Ellen Kersey, California. In addition, Carol Lange, Virginia, serves on the committee, charged with the responsibility of representing JEA in work with the Ryan White and NEA Literacy awards

Nominations Committee Chair Julie Dodd, MJE

Members of the Nominations Committee met with Linda Puntney in January during the AEJMC Scholastic Journalism Division meeting to discuss possible candidates and the process for recruiting and announcing candidates. The slate of candidates will be presented at the business meeting in Dallas, November 2002. Committee members are Bart Asato, John Hudnall, Cheryl Pell, Vanessa Shelton and Julie Dodd, chair. We will be hosting an information session at Phoenix to talk with individuals interested in learning more about running for office.

Publications Committee Chair Ann Visser, MJE

This committee will continue to offer its assistance to Headquarters in selecting and reviewing materials. A major goal is the establishment of a review column regarding bookstore materials in at least one issue of a JEA publication yearly.

The session highlighting bookstore materials continues to offer members insight into what the bookstore has to offer.

Technology Committee Chair Bradley Wilson, CJE

Committee members and "buddies": Mark Murray; Jake Palenske; Victor Wallace, Bradley Wilson (chair), Ben Stamey, Brent Gray, Linda Drake, Steve Matson, Rob Melton, Susan Roberts, John Bowen, Carol Lange

Since the committee met in Boston, the primary focus was getting a new Web page online. The new Web page went online Jan. 15 and has been receiving over 1,000 hits per week. It contains literally hundreds of new pages of information including a complete bookstore catalog, the ability to submit speaker and awards nominations forms via e-mail, and detailed information on the JEA certification program. Ben Stamey, the new JEA Webmaster, and I each spent nearly 100 hours over the Christmas break making this Web page a reality. Ben's (bts9559@k-state.edu) been successfully updating the home page every two weeks with new and current information.

According to the original report approved by the Board, the technology committee should

- lead in the creation of a comprehensive technology area on the JEA Web site. The website would feature useful FAQs that members typically ask.

Without giving specific endorsements, the web resources would help members with buying decisions by offering product specifications, pros and cons, and links to other sites. It would guide users through the complexities of scanning and digital cameras. It would help members trouble-shoot common problems, such as computer crashes and printing difficulties. It would also cover non-print journalistic publishing for the web and for broadcast video.

•help JEA publications cover technology issues by writing articles and permitting others to write articles that address technology needs.

- help JEA publications cover technology issues by writing articles and recruiting others to write articles that address technology needs.
- help headquarters select topics and speakers to create technology “tracks” for conventions.
- provide information about legal and ethical issues relating to technology, and to the Internet.
- assist the certification commission develop technology questions for CJE/MJE testing

RECOMMENDATIONS

THE LISTSERV

CONCLUSION: Leave JEAHELP and JEATALK alone for now

There had been some discussion on the LISTSERVs about changing their format. The benefits, the vast majority of members concluded, outweighed any disadvantages. And the positive comments about the benefits of the LISTSERV were constant and lengthy.

RECOMMENDATION: Educate users through print publications and Web page about how to manage their e-mail and the LISTSERV. The winter issue of Communication: Journalism Education Today features four pages on the maintenance of e-mail distribution lists in general and the JEA lists specifically. This same information is now, with appropriate links, on the JEA Web page.

RECOMMENDATION: Digest the LISTSERV

The LISTSERV is available in various forms with settings attainable via the Web page at <http://listserv.kent.edu/archives/jeahelp.html>. Complete

NATIONAL OFFICE

CONCLUSION: Computers in need of maintenance and upgrade

More RAM was purchased for the two iMacs in the office. The network was upgraded with the purchase of about \$8 worth of cables. Complete.

National office needs to develop technology plan.

RECOMMENDATION: Get some new software so everyone is working on the same versions, especially font maintenance. The system software was upgraded on all machines and a common Font folder installed on all machines. The same version of all software was installed on all machines. As long as office users don't independently upgrade their software with incompatible versions, this software should serve JEA for several years with the exception of accounting software which needs to be modified.

RECOMMENDATION: Revise database to make it more functional. The original group said, “We don't see the committee as providing technical support for machines at conventions or making buying decision for JEA headquarters. These services were mentioned in the original proposal.” Yet the current committee felt it prudent to assist the national office staff with database issues if for no other reason than to make our lives easier at the conventions. So after lengthy discussions with write-off officials (Judy Babb, Bernadette Tucker, Alyce McNeerney Stanwood and Cathie Parks) and national office staff, we set out to write a new series of database programs for the national office. This goal has largely been completed, resulting in the ability to access information much more easily.

The new databases are in place in the national office. Mark Murray and Bradley Wilson wrote the software in FileMaker Pro with two goals:

1. To ease processing of memberships allowing for better statistical information with more reliable data entry;
2. To ease handling of the write-off data from data input to output in all its various forms.

This software is not complete, and we will be working with the national office staff as needed to ensure that this software is as well-designed as it can be.

Some significant achievements:

- Each JEA member is now assigned a unique membership number that will stay with them regardless of where they teach.
- Each school is assigned a unique number to facilitate handling of write-off materials.
- Statistical information is handled through drop menus and check-boxes allowing for less data entry error.
- Both home and business/school addresses can be tracked with mail going to either address and with either address appearing in the directory.
- When a person's membership has expired, he/she is no longer deleted from the database allowing JEA to track individuals for a much longer period of time and allowing us to do targeted mailings to people who let their membership lapse.
- The write-off sections of the database are all linked, allowing one database to be used, avoiding duplication of data entry. Further, they are linked to the membership database so accurate and up-to-date name/address information can be entered on-site.

One problem writing this software identified was the need to automate the generation of receipts and invoices not through the database software but through Quickbooks, software specifically for accounting functions and the generation of timely and accurate accounting reports. By keeping the accounting functions separate from database functions – using the right software for the right job – also ensures a check and balance on finance issues.

RECOMMENDATION: Create a Web style guide

This style guide is now, at least partially, on the JEA Web page.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

CONCLUSION: Need to purchase two or three computer projection devices in the short term

Committee members all researched the issue and made a recommendation to purchase one device immediately to take advantage of a financial “deal” available. Further purchases would be made as monies permit. One projector, a Mitsubishi equivalent to the recommended model, has been purchased and may be available for use in Phoenix. See “National Office.” JEA now owns one such device and can purchase others as needed.

TECHNOLOGY COLUMNS

CONCLUSION: Still need help writing Technobabble columns

It would be a nice goal to see all these columns compiled. But in the short-term, it would be really nice to have some guest columns research and write the in-depth columns which have become a regular part of Communication: Journalism Education Today. Little progress was made on this goal throughout the year.

Future goals: The next step for the Technology Committee involves completing the goal to establish a presence with technology on the Web and in JEA's printed publications.

C:Jet and NewsWire Editor Bradley Wilson, CJE

JEA has successfully published three issues of Communication: Journalism Education Today and NewsWire so far this year on schedule.

Major contributors to C:JET this year include: Scotty Coppage, Beth Fitts, Annie Gable, Harry Proudfoot, Sean Elliott, Eileen Hohmuth-Lemonick, Chris Keane, Dick Whipple, David Eulitt, Karl Grubaugh, Dean Hume, Laura Schaub, Kathy Schrier, J. William Click, Lillian Lodge Kpenhaver, Tony Willis, Anne Whitt, Mary Kay Downes, Elizabeth Walsh, Amy Medlock, Betsy Kay Ahlersmeyer, Becky Lucas and Linda Ballow.

Other contributors included: Don Bott, Tim McGuire, Zach Long, Mike Shepherd, Kelly Glasscock, Jeanel Drake, Association of Food Journalists, Michael Bauer, John Beale, Jenny Braniff, Treasure Bunch, Jean Ann Collins, Lauren Cuninghame, Bill Daley, Will Doody, Rachel Eaton, Layton Ehmeke, Brian Epps, Ron Erdrich, Lynda Farabee, Sue Farlow, Steve Frischling, Connie Fulkerson, Kelly Glasscock, Greg Cox, Mark Greenberg, Paul Guillory, Faith Harris, Catherine Larroca, Zach Long, Mark Loundy, Becky Lucas, Karen Mikols, Andrew Mitcham, Terry Nelson, Lori Oglesbee, Chad Pilster, Martin and Linda Puntney, Betsy Rau, Evan Semon, Mike Shepherd, Carol Singletary, Regina Skrovanek, Dianne Smith, Matt Stamey, Carey Sweet, Sandra Turley, Patrick Vincent, Ann Visser, Alison Vrtiska, Jacob Williams, Michael Young, Jenny Zerke, Allison Zurcher, John Dalke, Travis Kavulla, Victor Wallace and Emily Bulger.

This mixture of students, instructors and professional journalists helped produce a 32-page fall issue with stories about covering wrestling, increasing the frequency of your publication, advising the literary magazine, creating PDF files; a 32-page winter issue with a cover story showing how high schools responded to the Sept. 11 attacks, the mug shot, professionals in the classroom, the newsmagazine format and managing e-mail and distribution lists; a 44-page spring issue with features on censorship, converting to broadsheet, writing restaurant reviews and photographing food, a first look at QuarkXPress 5, OpenType and a brief history of fonts; and a 32-page summer issue with features on student radio stations, getting bids on publications, newspapers on the first day of school, and copyright.

Comments on the various issues included:

“Congratulations on what I call my first issue. I loved it. I have entertained some information and opinions around that must be carefully read, but in

Congratulations on what I call your 1000 issue. I loved it. It was entertaining, very informative, and unique, a word that must be carefully used, but in this case, I am sure, apt," said Bob Greenman.

"You always do a nice job, but this issue in particular has some very nice design touches. I love the display of the wrestling story and the full-spread photo for Beth Fitts' piece is very nice and appropriate, and a different look for C:JET," said Gary Lundgren.

"This particular issue of CJET (fall) happens to be one of my most favorites. I love the designs, especially all of the Wrasslin' and the lit mag entry pages, and I found myself wanting to read all of it, even every word of the wrestling glossary because of those designs," said Bernadette Tucker.

Advertisers this year included: Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, J&S Printing, Herff Jones, Taylor Publishing, the Missouri Summer Media Workshop, the University of Southern California at Sacramento, Jostens and the Association of Texas Photography Instructors. Beginning with the first issue of next year (volume 36), Claudia Ingwersen will be handling advertising for JEA. As I said three years ago when I took over the publications and we started selling ads, I'd really like to see the magazines become self-sufficient.

With the third issue, we entered into a new partnership with the Web page, putting a "secret" password on the last page of the magazine that will allow members to access a protected area of the Web page—www.jea.org—that contains special curriculum material.

At the Phoenix convention, I will be recommending that JEA approve mailing each issue of C:JET and NewsWire to the editors of the publications of our sister organizations such as the College Media Advisers and American Society of Newspaper Editors.

NewsWire also came out four times, on schedule. In fact, the January issue reached most schools before they let out on Christmas break. While it continues to have a focus around the conventions, it also serves as a printed record of all of our award winners and news. In my opinion, the best part of the magazine is the president's column that keeps us all updated on issues relevant to members.

I hope that regular contributions will be added to the job descriptions of the various committee chairs. Below is a list of the regular stories in NewsWire and who is responsible for them. It's critical to get these stories in on time, particularly the post-convention stories, since the post-convention issues have a quick turnaround time.

STANDING STORIES

Issue #1 (Members receive in early October)

Convention preview•Linda/local chair(s)

President's column•President

Leadership directory•JEA

Feature of DJNF Teacher of the Year•DJNF with supplements

Officer nomination information (in election years)•Nominations chair

Issue #2 (Members receive in early January)

Convention wrap-up

Attendance information from NSPA

Quick facts from NSPA, etc.

On-site winners•Write-off chair(s)

President's column•President

Certification update•Certification Commission chair

Feature of Towley Award winner•Awards Committee chair with supplements

Mini-profiles of other JEA Award winners•Awards Committee chair

Impact Award application (due March 1)•Impact Award coordinator

JOY Entry form and guidelines (due Feb. 15)•Scholarship chair

Profile of candidates (in election years)•JEA

Issue #3 (Members receive in mid March)

Convention preview•Linda/local chair(s)

President's column•President

Election results (in election years)•JEA

JEA Awards nomination form (due July 1)•Nominations chair

Feature on Yearbook Adviser of the Year•JEA with supplements

Outreach application (due May 1)•Multicultural Commission chair

Issue #4 (Members receive in late May)

Convention wrap-up

Attendance information•NSPA

Quick facts•NSPA, etc.

On-site winners•Write-off chair(s)

President's column•President

Certification update•Certification Commission chair

Feature of Journalist of the Year•Staff writer

Feature on Impact Award winner•Impact Award coordinator

Future goals: The lead article in next fall's issue of C:JET will be on motivating the student staff. It's a great series of articles, but I need some good art possibly from summer workshops, to accompany it. I'd really like to see photographers take some high-quality pictures of all the neat icebreakers we do during summer workshops. I'd also like to get some more people to coordinate features in the magazine. For example, Anne Whitt did a great job coordinating the series on student radio stations; Mary Kay Downes will have an awesome series of articles on bidding the publications; and Linda Ballow had her students help write the series of articles on copyright. Such cooperation ensures a thorough look at the topic and gives me more time to work on the packaging. I'd also like to enlist some college student help in designing pages and coordinating story packages. Maybe some college-level instructors will volunteer their students who want the experience.

Scholastic Press Directors Liaison Julie Dodd, MJE

Scholastic Press Association Directors

The SPA directors met for a two-hour roundtable at the Boston convention with representatives from 16 different scholastic journalism organizations. Discussion topics included financial concerns for scholastic press organizations, the 75th anniversary of Quill and Scroll and updates from various associations. Margaret Weston, director of the Georgia Scholastic Press Association, won a "Care notebook" – a collection of press association materials compiled by Cheryl Pell. The Care notebooks are an AEJMC Scholastic Journalism Division program, developed by Cheryl and Candace Perkins Bowen. Notebooks may be purchased for \$35 (which includes the cost of shipping) from Cheryl. A SPA roundtable will be held at the Phoenix convention. One of the topics for discussion will be summer journalism workshops. SPA directors also will bring lists of possible publication judges from their states to exchange.

SPA electronic newsletters

Electronic SPA newsletters are e-mailed to directors to announce information about JEA conventions, solicit input on roundtable topics and to obtain information about SPA organizations and activities to share among the group members. A newsletter will be going to SPA directors prior to the Phoenix convention to obtain information about summer journalism workshops, including time schedules, fees and salaries.

Teach-In for high school teachers

The AEJMC Scholastic Journalism Division will conduct a one-day workshop for new (or nearly new) high school media advisers in conjunction with

the AEJMC convention in Miami Beach. The Teach-in will be held on Tues., Aug. 6, with funding for materials and a reception provided by the AEJMC Committee on Diversity in High School Journalism. Linda Puntney is the coordinator for the workshop. Several JEA members who also are members of the Scholastic Journalism Division will be the workshop instructors. Julie Dodd will be working with Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver (Florida International University) to recruit advisers to attend.

NCTE Liaison/Assembly Director

Links continue to be forged between the Journalism Education Association and the National Council of Teachers of English. This link is formalized in the form of JEA having created the Assembly for Advisers of School Publications, one of the largest assemblies in NCTE. This assembly system allows JEA to provide programming at NCTE's annual convention in the fall.

At the Milwaukee NCTE convention in November 2000, Pat Graff met with more than 20 advisers from 13 states to talk about concerns of publications advisers throughout the country. A variety of concerns and topics were discussed, and participants received packets of materials about the services available to advisers from JEA. In addition, numerous personal links were established among individuals. Several in attendance stated that this meeting was the first time they had heard of JEA's services and were grateful for the information.

One major area of concern expressed by the various advisers in attendance was the difficult position advisers are put in when JEA and NCTE have their conventions on the same weekend, a problem which the JEA board has now addressed with a specific policy stating that JEA/NSPA will avoid the NCTE conference weekend as much as possible; in fact, the convention planners must present specific reasons why the conference cannot be placed on any other weekend to the JEA board before approval of any fall conference dates can be made. This policy is in effect for conventions that had not already been planned, starting the fall 2004.

NCTE continues to be a strong advocate for intellectual freedom and problems with censorship. Although NCTE tends to focus on issues of censorship with regards to teaching materials, their organization has consistently made itself available to advisers dealing with censorship issues as well. JEA members should remember that NCTE can offer an additional voice in favor of intellectual freedom and free expression. A proposal to bring together various individuals within the two organizations who are involved with censorship issues has been made, which has received much positive support from the NCTE president-elect David Bloome. He is interested in helping make connections at this summit, which may take place this summer or fall.

NCTE's next national convention is set for the third week in November in Atlanta. JEA and the Assembly will be hosting two full-day workshops at the convention. On Monday, a workshop on adviser basics and survival will be presented. On Tuesday, a workshop on intensive journalistic writing will be taught. In addition, an interest group/assembly meeting for interested individuals will be held on Saturday evening, and contacts are being made to offer a few workshop sessions at the Conference for English Leadership convention, which is held Monday-Wednesday following the convention.

One key project, undertaken as part of a coalition with JEA, NCTE, the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, Quill & Scroll, and the National Association of Secondary School Principals, has progressed well in the past six months. A team of eight educators representing all these groups gathered in Newark, N.Y., for a weekend in April 2000 to rewrite the Principal's Guide to Scholastic Journalism, last published by Quill & Scroll in 1982. This meeting/writing session was the first time that JEA and NASSP had officially collaborated on a project. Both JEA and NCTE allocated \$2,000 to help pay for production costs of the book, and work is underway to complete production on the guide and distribute it widely throughout the country to both principals and advisers. With a grant from the American Society of Newspaper Editors, the revised publication is being printed and should be ready for distribution in the fall.

Thanks to the work of Candace Perkins Bowen, the companion standards document which would show how scholastic journalism helps students meet national language arts standards, is close to completion. A contract with NCTE was signed, and drafts of the book are now being edited. This should be a valuable document for all publications advisers looking to show how their programs align with national standards and help kids master specific language arts skills.

Executive Director Linda Puntney, MJE

Goal 1. Support free and responsible scholastic journalism. The executive director has been an initial spokesperson on scholastic journalism with a number of reporters who were writing stories on the subject. The reporters were always referred to John Bowen, Scholastic Press Rights chair.

Goal 2. Provide resources and educational opportunities for professional development of journalism teachers and advisers. The executive director has distributed JEA information and discussed certification at the conferences and programs she has attended in New York, Michigan, Louisiana. (G, H, K) Established networking relationships with Center for Concerned Journalist to offer adviser instruction at Phoenix convention and to perhaps partner in a traveling curriculum program. (A,C)

In spite of additional restrictions being placed on us by some book publishers, the JEA Bookstore continues to offer quality publications at affordable prices. We have some 300 listings available. (J)

The Advisers Institute will offer three sequences this summer: Las Vegas retreat, Advising Student Publications and Desktop Publishing.

Goal 3. Offer programs which meet a wide variety of member needs.

Executive director and headquarters staff have helped develop the program for the Phoenix convention. The executive director held year-out meeting with the Portland local committee, secured keynote speakers for Phoenix convention, made site visits to Georgia and Tennessee for future possible convention planning. (B, C)

Thanks to the free incentive memberships given by the Board and the memberships provided by ASNE to those teachers involved in their summer workshops, membership in the fall stood at just over 2,400. That was the highest it has ever been. This spring the membership is at 2,287. (E)

The Phoenix program features more sessions in larger rooms and special sessions geared and recommended for the middle school/junior high school staff. The separate middle school/junior high school segment of the Write-off competition will be offered again. Enrollment in it has increased over the Boston convention.

(H, I)

Headquarters did supply materials for Scholastic Journalism Week. New materials will be developed for next year's celebration. (K)

Executive director serves on the Teacher Impact committee to offer an additional recognition to advisers or former advisers. (L)

Executive director works with Tom Monson of Piper Jaffrey to determine investment strategies. Until late August the portfolio was in a growth mode, but since the 9/11 attack we have experienced significant losses. Because of the uncertainty of the market I have not send additional funds to be invested at this time. As soon as the market stabilizes, I will send additional investment funds. Those funds will be invested in secure, moderate growth areas. (N)

Goal 4. Support an organizational outlook which encompasses diversity and builds unity.

Attended the meeting of the Multicultural Commission and worked with the commission to develop new ways to develop this program. As a result, the commission chair and assistant chair will attend the AEJMC convention in Miami this summer where they will participate in programs, network and help teach at the pre-convention Teach In.

Goal 5. Provide leadership in media education.

Executive director serves as the adviser to the K-State chapter of Student Journalism Education Association which has 10-12 members. That group participates in workshops and conventions and has developed a series of workshops they conduct for Kansas schools. In March they presented a workshop at K-State for area high school. The evaluations were outstanding. The group intends to hold that workshop again. (A)

Through the Council of Presidents and attendance at the APME meeting JEA is becoming known among the professional journalism organizations.

There is still much more to be done but we are being looked at as possible partners for some projects. (B)

Additionally, at the recommendation of the technology committee we have implemented a new system for cataloging members, Write-off registration and other areas. Each school will be assigned a permanent number that will be used in every transaction. There are a number of bugs to work out of the system but ultimately the new system should be more efficient.

Currently, three JEA student workers - Rachel Powers who works with the executive director on design and production; Ben Stamey, the webmaster; and Lindsay Porter, who works with the executive director and the Fairchild office on a variety of projects.

