

JEA Semi-Annual Report

Prepared for the St. Louis Convention, Board meeting Nov. 13, 2008

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One of the things I like best about JEA is that we continue to improve, we continue to dream, we continue to challenge ourselves. I am so proud of the work done thus far in our Teaching Mentoring Program. I am inspired by the National Journalism PLC initiative that promises so much for our profession. I am delighted that we continue to tinker with Write-Offs, from new contests to new ways to participate in contests, and in terms of how we communicate with participants and how we are working to make Write-Offs a positive educational experience for everyone.

Small thinkers don't take on these kinds of challenges. JEA is blessed with a large number of quality thinkers and I think we are moving in positive ways to expand our influence in teaching and advising.

Personally, I am not a key player in any of the above initiatives, but I fully support them. I hope our membership sees the potential of these efforts, and many more that can be read about in this report.

I had the pleasure of team-teaching newswriting and newspaper design with Dr. Lyle Olson at the South Dakota Summer Workshop.

One minor change to the semi-annual report was the addition of mug photos of board members and state directors. The purpose was to put a face with the name to assist members who may not be familiar with everyone. Anyone whose picture did not appear (or anyone who doesn't like the picture that DID appear) can email a new image to Connie Fulkerson and me for use in the spring report.

A special thanks goes to the regional directors for staying in contact with their state directors (and, in some cases, finding/appointing individuals to fill state director openings).

Throughout the year I have judged for Ohio, North Dakota, Missouri, and New Jersey.

Secretary Susan Hathaway Tantillo, MJE
Awards Committee Chair



Susan Tantillo

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Since Anaheim, I have represented and promoted JEA as I taught a NewsU course and the Kent State ASNE Institute with Candace and John Bowen and H.L. Hall and as I helped with the day-long AEJMC Teach-In in Chicago Aug. 5. I also promoted JEA as I taught student and adviser sessions for the Illinois State High School Press Association conference Sept. 26. As Treasurer of Illinois JEA, I encourage members

to join JEA also. I will promote JEA as I present student and adviser sessions at the Kettle Moraine Press Association Oct. 17 and at the Tennessee High School Press Association conference Oct. 21. I have judged formally for NSPA, Pennsylvania, the Kettle Moraine Press Association and New Jersey along with offering advice informally in Illinois. I have also e-mentored new and soon-to-be advisers.

As Awards Committee Chair, I have worked with Headquarters over the summer on our annual revision of the Scholarships, Awards and Contests booklet. At the recommendation of the Summer Board Meeting, the October award "received by" deadline is now Oct. 15. Those awards are Yearbook Adviser of the Year, Teacher Inspiration Award, Rising Star Award, Future Teacher Scholarships and Diversity Award. I have overseen the Awards Committee's selection of those to be honored in St. Louis. As a part of that process, I have written letters to every award recipient, every nominator and everyone who submitted a letter of support. In addition, I have written and sent a press release to at least one local media outlet for each award recipient. I have also sent press releases to the principals of those who are current teachers and recent retirees.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2008 awards process by identifying worthy candidates, writing letters of nomination and writing letters of support. Although I don't have specific statistics, my impression is the number of award candidates and letters of support continues to grow.

In addition to those listed below, winners of the Ryan White Awards and the Future Teacher Scholarships will be announced in Philadelphia.

The 2008-09 Awards Committee, including a representative from each JEA region and the 2008 Rising Star winners along with at-large members, will meet Saturday during the convention to discuss the Teacher Inspiration Award and Rising Star nominees and the selection process.

JEA Awards Winners List, Fall 2008

Carl Towley Award

- Carol Lange, CJE, Reston, Va.

Administrator of the Year

- Timothy R. Wernentin, principal, Davenport Central HS, Davenport, Iowa

Medal of Merit

- Janet Ewell, CJE, Ranchos Alamitos HS, Garden Grove, Calif.
- Casey Nichols, CJE, Rocklin (Calif.) HS
- Rebecca Tate, Shawnee Mission North HS, Overland Park, Kan.
- C. Dow Tate, Shawnee Mission East HS, Prairie Village, Kan.

Friend of Scholastic Journalism

- James "Jim" W. Ewert, California Newspaper Publishers Association, Sacramento, Calif.
- Missy Green, Walsworth Publishing Co., Altamonte Springs, Fla.
- The Long Island Press, Beverly Fortune, associate publisher, Syosset, N.Y.
- Walter C. Mallard "Skip Walters," Cherry Creek Radio, Great Falls, Mont.
- Randy Miller, University of South Florida, Tampa, Fla.
- David G. Thompson, District of Columbia Public Schools, Career and Technical Education
- Dave Upthegrove, House of Representatives, Olympia, Wash.
- Rick Wood, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Milwaukee, Wis.

Lifetime Achievement Award

- Ron Bonadonna, CJE, Nutley, N.J.
- Dave Cosgrove, Tucson, Ariz.
- John Culbertson, Sun Prairie, Wis.
- Susan V. Everett, MJE, Jersey City, N.J.

- Bill Flechtner, MJE, Milwaukie, Ore.
- Nancy Guiliani, Newport, Ore.
- Betsy Pollard Rau, Bay City, Mich.
- Martha Rothwell, Statesville, N.C.
- Charlotte Titcomb, Gurnee, Ill.
- Randy Vonderheid, McKinney, Texas

Past President Ann Visser, MJE

Past President, Convention Consultant



Ann Visser

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Happenings:

Since last report, I've learned even more about what it takes to put together a successful convention; I can't stress enough how fortunate we are to have Linda working on our behalf. She's amazing at conventions, but she's even more incredible when it comes to negotiating the finer points of a contract and making sure that every little detail is addressed.

As past president/convention consultant, I traveled to Kansas City for a site visit, to St. Louis for a month out meeting and to Washington, D.C. for a year out meeting. I continue to be appreciative of the hard work of so many local committees who put forth so much effort to make the conventions happen. All of you are superb!

I continue to network with colleagues throughout the nation on JEA-related matters and scholastic journalism issues, in general.

For the Board:

- We need to start thinking about the replacement process that lies ahead once Linda retires.
- We need to be proactive and consider what the downfall in the economy might mean for our conventions.
- We need to continue a move toward more implementation of 'new' media.
- We need to work on internal communication.

Bradley Wilson, CJE

C:JET Editor



Bradley Wilson

No Report Submitted

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Mark Newton, MJE
Certification Commission Chair



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The following projects are still in progress:

- Post a database of all MJE projects on the JEA Web site. Our goal is to have this up by Jan. 1, 2009.
- Post on the JEA Web site the fact that graduate credit from Kansas State can be earned for acquiring MJE status (project, exam, etc.). Our goal is to have this up by Jan. 1, 2009

Our next action items are:

- We will meet at Poynter Jan. 10-13, 2009, for our every-other year work session. In Florida, we plan to:
 - Identify more coursework (such as from NewsU, for example) that will help members complete the three required courses for CJE-Option A (news writing/reporting, media law and advising student media).
 - Update the MJE and CJE study guides, and post them online. Our goal is to have this up by March 2009.
 - Evaluate both exams (questions and suggested answers).
 - Create an evaluation rubric to guide candidates in answering and evaluators in judging responses.
- Creating a marketing plan for certification.
- Updating all applications that are in limbo. We will develop a plan to contact all candidates whose applications have been turned in but are not complete or on hold.

We are exploring the following and welcome all comments:

- Establish an electronic clearinghouse for teachers to access when they need ammunition to save their jobs or programs; for example, links to studies that show journalism kids to better, state definitions of highly qualified, etc.
- Propose action research to demonstrate the academic value of journalism.

Information items:

- Brian Hayes, MJE (Ball State University in Muncie) was named to commission to replace Julie Dodd. Hayes' term is 2008-2012.
- Joe Mirando, MJE (Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond) was named to the commission, replacing Julie Dodd. Mirando's term is 2008-2012.
- Kim Green, MJE (Columbus North High School in Indiana) was named to the commission to replace Chris Sloan of Utah. Green's term is 2008-2012
- Our current (Oct. 14, 2008) active files show 408 CJE's and 117 MJE's. In St. Louis, we expect to honor 13 CJE's and 6 MJE's. The total who have been certified is 985 — MJE, 169; CJE, 816

Lori Oglesbee, MJE
Development/Curriculum Commission Chair



Lori Oglesbee

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New yearbook curriculum guide is in draft form. It will be sent to several seasoned advisers for additional materials and comments. (I will pass around copies of the draft in St. Louis.)

I monitor the Listserv and answer curriculum questions addressed there. Usually, I do not send a mass reply to prevent the "me, toos." There's been a rise in the number of administrators requesting information on classroom conduct. My fear here is the "gotcha" administration. Do we need to develop guidelines or continue to help anyone who asks?

We need a place on the JEA Web site to post materials. Of course, this must be juried to prevent plagiarism and inaccurate materials from being posted.

We still need an update to the photojournalism curriculum guide. Rebecca Plumley has agreed to update her original. I do not have anyone working on newspaper or broadcasting.

Anita Marie Wertz, CJE
Junior High/Middle School Commission Chair



Anita Wertz

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Membership:

Commission members are encouraging junior high/middle school journalism teachers to join JEA, attend conventions, and get involved.

Happenings :

The Mail-in Contests for junior high/middle school have been expanded to include a broadcast category. Information regarding the Mail-in contests, St. Louis conventions, and the Aspiring Young Journalist Award was mailed to instructors who designated their school level on their JEA membership directory profile. At the St. Louis convention, the commission plans to give junior high/middle school journalists more insight and practice with write-offs, to encourage more participation. A session to

aid prospective applicants for the Aspiring Young Journalist Award is planned. The use of the AYJ portfolio for a class lesson will be emphasized.

Awards and Honors:

Rachel Plumley, Scott Johnson Middle School in McKinney, Texas, was named as the 2008 JEA Aspiring Young Journalist. Lauren Florence, Young Junior High in Arlington, Texas, and Michael Boulton, Westland Middle School in Bethesda, Maryland, were named as Runners Up for the 2008 JEA Aspiring Young Journalist

Norma Kneese, MJE

Multicultural Commission Chair



Norma Kneese

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Nancy Zubiri was the Outreach Academy Chair for the spring Anaheim convention 2008. There were 26 participants at the academy. Many compliments and kudos were sent to Nancy for all the work she did.

"I have been in education for 16 years, and that was the BEST conference I have ever had the pleasure of attending." Suzanne Newman

"I felt that all of the Outreach speakers were extremely knowledgeable, spoke from experience and offered valid and insightful suggestions throughout the day." Mark Strohschein

"I want to thank you for everything. I came back from the JEA conference refreshed and hopeful." Cynthia Bradley

A meeting at the Anaheim convention with St. Louis Outreach Academy Chair Mary Williams and St. Louis Local Chair Nancy Freeman helped things get started for the St. Louis Outreach Academy.

Appointed as chair to the spring Phoenix Outreach Academy 2009 is Yvonne Johnson of Westwood High School in Mesa, Ariz. The Teacher Cadre of Stan Zoller, Linda Shockley and Steve O'Donoghue are working with the local Outreach Academy chairs in helping them prepare the curriculum and program of each academy.

The Diversity Award was awarded to Dorothy Gillam and the Prime Movers Program at the Saturday luncheon at the Anaheim Convention. Gilroy High School's The Free Press was also mentioned as honorable mention. The Diversity Award deadline is Oct. 15.

At the St. Louis convention, Nancy Freeman, St. Louis Chair, created a Diversity Seminar. Many participants are part of the Multicultural Commission with Stan Zoller as mediator for this session. It is anticipated that this seminar will be repeated at future conventions.

John Bowen, MJE

Scholastic Press Rights Commission Chair



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The commission's major project this past year has been two-fold: enunciation of Six Principles of Responsible Journalism and then development of teaching materials, resources and activities for the commission's revised Web site focused around those principles. The six principles and the revitalized Web site are available at <http://jeapressrights.org>

In June the commission completed a poster set on the six principles, JEA Adviser Code of Ethics and the Newspaper Association of America Foundation's research by Jack Dvorak, "High School Journalism Matters." Another focuses on JEA's Adviser Code of Ethics. We received a grant from the NAAF to help with the cost of mailing the poster set. Funds from the JEA 2007-2008 budget were encumbered to pay for poster distribution to high schools across the nation. The "Journalism matters" poster is slotted to be mailed by the convention. The others are to be mailed immediately after Christmas. We have been seeking other sponsors, too. In the meantime, anyone can download the posters from the commission Web site, <http://jeapressrights.org>. Related teaching materials are available from the Commission's site. Related materials for administrators are available on the Center for Scholastic Journalism's (CSJ) site, as noted below.

Commission members will be completing various projects related to the Six Principles and will address these and other projects at the St. Louis convention.

Additionally, the commission has worked closely with Kent State University's Center for Scholastic Journalism in monitoring prior review and censorship instances and identifying schools qualifying as designated forums for student expression. That information is available at <http://jmc.kent.edu/csj>

As usual, commission members have responded to speaking requests and requests for assistance and advice and have tried to work with as many advisers, students and administrators in as many states as we could. Working with the Center for Scholastic Journalism, we have opened a meaningful dialogue with the policy creating consultant group known as NEOLA, and are working with them as they develop a new set of guidelines more responsive to First Amendment positions and more in agreement with the commission and JEA.

Our ongoing plans include developing more materials to enhance the six principles, outreach to administrative groups and community education action plans supportive of student free expression.

- John Bowen, Chair, JEA Scholastic Press Rights Commission

Individual reports:

Jane Blystone: I have been teaching teachers about School Press Law in my grad and undergrad classes. This is what I have been doing for the commission since I retired in June from public education.

In my quest to provide accurate info on the various student press law

cases for my students, I found this site that has an alternative view about the interpretation of Hazelwood. Perhaps you would like to pass it to the commission members. It is pretty scary because this interpretation of the ruling is on a gov site, so principals might cite it as FACT.

http://www.uscourts.gov/outreach/resources/landmark_studentcases.htm

Candace Perkins Bowen: Along with John Bowen, in mid-August I met with Richard Clapp and Sandy Krueger of NEOLA, a group that supplies “management documents” for school districts in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and West Virginia. We have been working with them for almost two years to help them develop the publications policy options for the school manuals they produce. These have not been updated since at least 1995 and offered no “open forum” or “forum for student expression” wording that would support publications seeking more student rights under the Hazelwood guidelines. At that time, the group was close to finalizing four options in that policy with two of them acceptable to those who believe the rights established with the Tinker case are the ones schools should use.

With graduate assistant Audrey Wagstaff, I have written two papers about the Google Maps project, a series of interactive maps that explore school prior review situations and also schools that are forums of student expression. One paper was presented at the Ohio Communications Association meeting in October, and the other is part of the Journal of the Research Center for Educational Technology (Vol. 4, No. 2 — Fall, 2008) Online at <http://www.rcetj.org/?type=art&id=89842&> and titled, “Using Online Media to Track Censorship and Prior Review in Student Publications.”

Merle Dieleman: I presented sessions about press law and ethics at the CSPA summer newspaper workshop in New York City, at the University of Iowa High School summer newspaper workshop in Iowa City, Iowa, and at the Alabama High School Press Association Fall Road Trip workshops in Tuscaloosa, Huntsville, and Auburn, Ala. I presented sessions at the two fall Iowa High School Press Association conferences Oct. 13 and 28.

Vince DeMiero: We have been working hard to educate students and advisers about free expression for students. We (both Fern Valentine and I) led sessions at our summer workshops and at our fall Journalism Day in September and Eastern Washington J-Day the following week. We have volunteered to do sessions in individual schools. Both Puyallup and Mt. Si started school with new prior review policies. We have been attending school board meetings and meeting with individuals and giving advice on these problems.

WJEA nominated Rep. Dave Upthegrove, the sponsor of our failed legislation, for a Friends of Journalism Award which he won. We pursue legislation again in January depending on the results of the November election. Some of our key supporters either are not running or are facing strong opposition and our democratic and supportive governor is facing very strong opposition from her Republican opponent. In our state, the Republican party came out against our bill so a Republican governor would be bad news for it.

Tim Dorway: Tim has been selected to be on the NSPA Board of Directors

Tom Eveslage:

- At the August AEJMC convention in Chicago, was on a panel with Candace discussing Hazelwood after 20 years.
- I was on an AEJMC convention panel sponsored by the Civic Journalism Division, discussing how ethics contributes to the “civic” role of the student press. (The discussion focused on the collegiate press, but my presentation bridged the comparative role of the high school press.)
- I wrote a column on coping with the Hazelwood fallout. The May

2008 piece was for the Pennsylvania School Press Association web site.

- I’ve followed up on the work started last year through Knight’s Prime Movers program, working with Philadelphia high school teachers trying to get student media into the city schools. I’ve made presentations related to law and ethics issues. This year, through Temple, two of us are coordinating efforts to continue this and expand its reach. I’ll be focusing again on law, ethics and teaching practices.

Carrie Faust: Carrie created a Keynote presentation for all her system’s administrators on the importance of free expression and has been invited to do another presentation this year. That presentation is posted on the jeapressrights.org Web site along with other lesson plans and presentations she created for an online master’s course. She also did the majority of design for the Six Principles posters available on the commission’s Web site and his working on designs and structure for a major collaborative reporting project for the Center for Scholastic Journalism and participating schools. As president of the Colorado High School Press Association, Carrie also worked with the ACLU to notify schools of violations concerning prior review and/or restraint.

Karen Flowers: I have used the Six Principles of Journalism we worked on at Poynter last January to help advisers understand their responsibility (used at a staff development we had in August) and used as part of a handout when an adviser and I presented to principals at the annual summer meeting (can’t remember the formal title) of South Carolina Principals. I sent you a copy of the handout we used. I took these same copies to an SIPA executive board meeting in September and told about our goals as well as the goals of the ASJMC Secondary Committee to support scholastic journalism. Additionally we put in advisers folders at our conference Monday.

Tom Gayda: 2008 was a busy year for the Press Rights Commission. A beneficial weekend work session at Poynter kicked the year off in the right direction. Working with others, I helped create a packet of law and ethics handouts and participated in a podcast about student press rights. We again tied the commission’s work to Scholastic Journalism Week, an activity I chair. There is still much to be done, and thankfully a strong commission to handle the load!

H. L. Hall: I have offered my support to WJEA and the advisers in Washington who have run into severe censorship and prior review issues. I wrote an article on yearbook free expression for the Web site and also posted the following as an August tip on THSPA’s Web site.

Constitution Day, Sept. 17

Don’t forget that federal law requires all schools who receive federal funds to celebrate Constitution Day, Sept. 17. If you haven’t celebrated this day in the past, this would be a good year to start. It’s a great time to have students learn the First Amendment, and it’s a great day to have cross-curriculum instruction in your school. Go to constitutioncenter.org/constitutionday for resources and suggestions on how to celebrate the day. Use the entire week to promote the First Amendment and then enter the Journalism Education Association’s Cornerstone Award contest. JEA and the Newspaper Association of America Foundation will provide \$2,500 to journalism programs at two schools who do the most to promote the First Amendment. JEA will present the awards at its spring convention in Phoenix in April. Get excited about Constitution Day and the First Amendment. It could mean \$2,500 for your journalism program.

Deb Buttleman Malcolm: I developed a teaching unit on Freedom of Expression and political issues. Students produced a special edition Lift Every Political Voice after giving presentations followed by surveys and interviews. They also raised \$364 for the Student Press Law Center while teaching others. We presented the money at IHSPA and challenged other schools to meet our donations Oct 13. Tim (her principal) will speak at Whitewater on freedom of expression. She also received a First Amendment Day Award from Iowa State Uni-

versity for my work with kids.

Randy Swikle: I have been traveling around the country speaking on First Amendment issues and conducting First Amendment workshops. Most recently, in August I served on a panel of three at the McCormick Freedom Museum at Tribune Tower to present a program to a large group of teachers and administrators. I presented information about building a partnership with journalism advisers, students, and principals to build a free and responsible student press. The program was well-received.

A week later, I went to Indianapolis to present another program for a group of advisers, students and administrators as part of Warren Watson's J-IDEAS program.

From Sept. 17-21, I went to Chicago to help Sam Chaltain present his Five Freedoms Project's First Amendment Academy. It is designed to show how First Amendment education can positively impact the student culture. Fifteen teams of student-adviser-administrator from 15 schools (15 X 3 = 45 [words of the First Amendment]). It was a huge success, and I will share with you a DVD the student participants produced that was premiered at the McCormick Freedom Museum. It is amazing.

I have handled many email and telephone requests for First Amendment advice and help from advisers.

Steve Matson, MJE
Northwest Region 1 Director



Steve Matson

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Membership

JEA's representatives in the Northwest Region are undergoing a significant change this year. We thank retiring Oregon state directors Nancy Guiliani and Washington state director Kathy Schrier for their excellent service to JEA, and we look forward to working with them in the future. We also welcome the new state director in Oregon, Steve Carrigg, and the new state director in Washington, Vince DeMiero. Soon too there will be a new state director in Idaho; we also thank retiring state director Carol MacPhee for her excellent service to JEA.

Happenings

Advisers in Washington continue to work for a student press rights bill to go to the state legislature in 2009. They have met to plan strategies for the bill's passage but are waiting until after the November elections before implementing them. Our legislative sponsor, Rep. Dave Upthegrove, advises that how we proceed will in part depend on who is elected and who is appointed to key committees in the House and Senate.

At the same time, the need for a student press rights bill has never been greater in Washington. Following censorship cases in Everett that received much public attention, new cases of high school administrators censoring scholastic journalists have arisen at schools in Puyallup

and Mount Si. Fellow members of WJEA have come to the support of advisers in those districts, speaking at school board meetings and writing letters to principals and to the professional press, as has Mike Hiestan of the Student Press Law Center.

Awards

A hearty congratulations to the following award members from Northwest region!

- Kathy Schrier, who receives NSPA's Pioneer Award in St. Louis
- Nancy Guiliani, who receives a JEA Lifetime Achievement Award
- Bill Fletchtner, who receives a JEA Lifetime Achievement Award
- Rep. Dave Upthegrove, who receives JEA's Friend of Scholastic Journalism Award
- Ehren Gossler, who advises The Sound, a Pacemaker finalist
- Derek Smith, who advises The Peninsula Outlook, a Pacemaker finalist
- (and me, as The Academy Times is inducted into the NSPA Hall of Fame)

From Alaska State Director Gretchen Wehmhoff, MJE



Gretchen Wehmhoff

No Report Submitted

Gretchen Wehmhoff-Stoltze, MJE

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From Idaho State Director Carol MacPhee

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Carol MacPhee retires in October as Idaho's state director. Her successor will be chosen soon. IJAA holds its state-wide conference the weekend of Oct. 25-26 with approximately 30 advisers and 350 students attending.

From Montana State Director Linda Ballew



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Membership

Montana hopes for an increase in membership because of the Montana Journalism Education Association presence at the state teachers' convention in Missoula, MT, in mid-October.

MJEA Officers: President Judie Woodhouse, Polson HS, jwoodhouse@polson.k12.mt.us; Vice-President Cathy Conaway, Laurel HS, cathy_conway@laurel.k12.mt.us; Treasurer Emily Murphy, Florence Carlton HS, murphye@florence.k12.mt.us; JEA Montana State Director Linda Ballew, linda_ballew@gfps.k12.mt.us; Secretary Sara Barrick, Libby HS; Membership Chair Shauna Kerr, Billings West HS; Conference Co-Chairs Shauna Kerr and Cathy Conaway; Newspaper and Yearbook Competition Coordinators Carol VanValkenberg and Linda Ballew

Happenings

MEA-MFT will again welcome our journalism group's participation in the 2008 Educators' Conference Oct. 16-17, 2008, in Missoula, MT. We will be allowed to join other curricular groups at the convention and will be supported by MEA-MFT during this period for our group allowing award-winning, veteran advisers, journalism professors and yearbook publishers to present sessions on a variety of topics including photography layout, writing, advising and publishing. The MJEA Keynote will address "Preparing Students for Journalism of the Future." The keynote speaker will be Peggy Kuhr, dean of the University of Montana School of Journalism.

MJEA will hold a membership meeting to discuss competitions, scholarships, workshops, goals and more.

MJEA goals: In 2008 continue presence at Educators' Conference with variety of workshops to offer state's publication advisers; add Newspaper and Yearbook Adviser of Year recognition. In 2008-09 conduct a fall state workshop for advisers.

Awards

The Montana Newspaper Association in conjunction with members of the Montana Journalism Educators' Association will sponsor the MJEA Newspaper Contest selecting winners in 16 categories from news writing and photography to layout and web site design.

The newspaper student journalist chosen as MJEA's High School Journalist of the Year will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the Montana Newspaper Association to the college of his or her choice and will be a guest at the MNA's annual awards banquet in June.

Advisers and their staffs are eligible for the Student Free Press Award competition, which honors a student newspaper's effort to battle censorship or educate its readers about press freedom. University of Montana journalism professor, Carol Van Valkenberg will coordinate the newspaper judging.

The third annual Montana yearbook contest will feature a Yearbook Student of the Year portfolio competition as well as 16 other yearbook categories. A \$1,000 scholarship will be given to the Yearbook Student of the Year

Oregon State Director Steve Carrigg



Steve Carrigg

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Report From Oregon JEA President Erin Simonsen

Membership

Oregon Journalism Education Association started the school year with 49 members. Our kick-off to the year was the 23rd Annual Fall Press Day held at Oregon State University. Oregon's new state director is Steve Carrigg, carriggs@gladstone.k12.or.us

Happenings

The OJEA board has decided to continue to provide outreach to new teachers by supporting free OJEA memberships to new teachers who volunteer to be part of the mentoring program. This February, we will also hold an adviser's social so that members can share stories in a relaxed, supportive atmosphere. Nearly 20 people came to last year's inaugural meet and greet, which featured advisers and professional journalists.

Awards & Honors

Clint Hill of Astoria High School is Rookie Adviser of the Year. Sarah Allen of Century High School is Newspaper and Broadcast Journalist of the Year. Nancy Guiliani, retired adviser, is the recipient of a JEA Lifetime Achievement Award.

For the JEA Board

Several advisers have anecdotally shared issues related to HB3279, which gave full First Amendment Rights to students with no protections for their advisers.

Washington State Director Vince DeMiero



Vince DeMiero

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From Washington

Report from Kathy Schrier

Membership

The Washington Journalism Education Association is completing its August-October membership drive and renewals, with the current number at 98. Of this, 80 are renewals and 18 are first-time members. Historically, our numbers continue to rise through November to around 130.

Happenings

Our WJEA Summer Workshops for students and advisers, held at Central Washington University the first week in August was enhanced by our 2008 Expert in Residence, Beth Fitts, MJE, from Mississippi. She received rave reviews from attendees at both workshops. Numbers were at capacity (250) for the student workshop, and some students, unfortunately, had to be turned away. The adviser workshop numbers were down by nearly half, however (18 compared to 35 in 2007). We're rethinking how better to promote our great advisers workshop in 2009 when we will bring HL Hall to Washington state as our Expert in Residence.

Journalism Day at the University of Washington (9/19/08) drew just over 700 students to campus, where they heard from 24 journalism professionals and keynoter Steve Smith, editor of the Spokesman-Review (Spokane). The week following, Smith resigned his post at the Spokesman-Review in protest of publisher cutbacks. Our event was his last public speaking engagement as editor.

On the Student Press Rights front, Washington is a hotbed of activity, as school boards attempt to establish prior review as the norm. In the Puyallup District, a longstanding open forum district with three highly respected student publications, a new policy revision actually mandates prior review. WJEA officers have spent many hours on the road attending school board meetings to speak out in protest of these flawed policies. Our hope is to see legislation reintroduced and PASSED in 2009 that will prevent these policies from taking hold around our state.

Award & Honors

We are very pleased that state legislator Dave Upthegrove, who introduced Student Press Rights legislation in Washington state two years ago, will be honored in St. Louis as a "Friend of Scholastic Journalism".

Also to be honored in St. Louis, will be WJEA past president and current executive director Kathy Schrier, who will receive an NSPA Pioneer Award.

For the Board

WJEA hopes that JEA and NSPA will continue to work on booking a venue for a national convention in Seattle. We have our fingers crossed for 2012.

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Schrier, WJEA executive director for Vince DeMiero, JEA Washington State Director

From Wyoming State Director Mandy Kolata

No Report Submitted

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Kathy Gaber

Southwest Region 2 Director



Kathy Gaber

I have been in contact with all of the states in my region and found a state representative for New Mexico. I am currently trying to find ways to meet the states' individual needs. Northern California and Colorado seem to be flourishing. Southern California is active and growing. Arizona and Nevada are currently active, but could use some help. Hawaii, Nevada and New Mexico are excited to get something started but are currently struggling the most, and none of these three states have active state organizations.

State Director Questions for the Board

- I know it has been discussed, but what are the odds that regional conventions could be held? Perhaps 4 or 5 different regions and the site could move through the region each year.
- While it has been covered before, what about the idea of going to state departments of education with plans for requiring training or certification for journalism educators?

From Arizona State Director Carmen Wendt, CJE



Carmen Wendt

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Will be attending St. Louis

- State conference is Sept. 17 at Arizona State University Arizona Inter-scholastic Press Association is the state organization (www.azaipa.org)
- Jill Jones jones.aipa@cox.net
State Director's Report:

Biggest Concern

Arizona is concerned with two major areas. One is the rapid turnover of advisers and the minimal training many advisers have before they are placed in publication jobs. The new advisers often either seek out training and mentors responding to our efforts to help, or they give up

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after a year or two of advising. The second major area is the increase of administrative review of publications. This is an ongoing struggle that we as an organization continue to see. New advisers often do not realize the position they have been put into. Educating advisers and principals is always a goal of the organization.

Happenings

Arizona had a fall convention on Sept. 17 at Arizona State University, will have a spring convention in conjunction with the spring JEA convention in Phoenix, and will have the Summer Journalism Workshop at Northern Arizona University July 15-19, 2009. The Workshop will emphasize technology with strands in Photo Shop and In Design classes as well as adviser, broadcast, and writing classes. The organization also does an adviser Jump Start Workshop in the fall, This year it was Aug. 28. Carmen Wendt will be inducted into the AIPA Hall of Fame on Oct. 10.

Currently promoting JEA and scholastic journalism in the following ways:

- Educating and supporting advisers and their students is always the goal of the AIPA conventions and workshops. The JEA membership dues are listed on the AIPA membership form. JEA is presented at state conventions, and we are promoting the April convention. Statewide mailings of the spring convention would probably have the strongest effect. So, an email flyer about the convention (one that is embedded in the email, not an attachment) would be very helpful. Since the convention is in Phoenix in our membership in Arizona is expected to rise this year.

From Colorado State Director Kristi Rathbun

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Kristi Rathbun

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Will be attending St. Louis

- State conference is in October at Colorado State University

Colorado High School Press Association CHSPA is the state association
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Retired Adviser
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President Carrie Faust
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CHSPA's involvement with JEA
The Colorado High School Press Association is in its 38th year as a pro-student, pro-journalism organization serving Colorado's student-

journalists and advisers at more than 132 member schools.

Happenings

Colorado's state Journalism Day was Oct. 16, 2008. Over 1400 students attended representing over 80 schools. Keynotes included The Newspaper Designer's Handbook author, Tim Harrower; national yearbook adviser of the year, Mary Kay Downes; and NCompass Media's Jake Palenske. Over 40 additional sessions were offered to students and advisers as well as individual critiques for publications. The day ended with individual and sweepstakes awards given to students in various classifications and categories for newspaper, yearbook and broadcast journalism.

CHSPA has also been working with the local ACLU to draft letters to school districts whose publications policies are not aligned with Colorado's student freedom of expression law. Letters were sent to school districts early in October with information about how the districts could obtain policies that were in compliance.

Four Colorado journalists received press credentials for the Democratic National Convention in August. The students reported on the DNC for a variety of news outlets.

CHSPA has a new website! Check it out; it provides adviser and student resources. <http://www.chspaonline.org/>

Awards & Honors

- Jack Kennedy has been named Colorado High School Press Association's Teacher of the Year.
- Gary Wysocki has been named CHSPA's Friend of Scholastic Journalism.
- Two newspapers have been placed on NSPA's Pacemaker Finalist list: The Surveyor, George Washington High School, Denver and The Rock, Rock Canyon High School, Highlands Ranch.

From Hawaii State Director Karin Swanson



Karin Swanson

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Will not be attending St. Louis

Biggest Concern

Our public schools are all administered through a single state-wide school district. The state board of education has adopted language requiring prior review of school publications by administrators. Hawaii also has many private schools and the degree of editorial freedom allowed by the various administrators varies immensely.

Happenings

We have an annual Journalism Day sponsored by the University of Ha-

waii. It took place Sept. 9 with about 24 high schools represented.

We also have a high school newspaper awards competition sponsored by the Hawaii Publishers Association. That takes place in April. The HPA contact is Jennifer Dang, jdang@honolulu.gannett.com ? The UH journalism adviser is Jay Hartwell, hartwell@hawaii.edu

Currently promoting JEA and scholastic journalism in the following ways:

- The UH event in the fall has been going on for three years now, and it has helped advisers to network. Karin spoke about JEA and distributed materials at last spring's Hawaii Publishers Association awards ceremony. She is currently updating the membership and contact list.

From Northern California Director Lynn McDaniel

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Lynn McDaniel

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Will be attending St. Louis

- State Convention is October 26-28 at the Sacramento Convention Center.

JEANC is Northern California's State Organization

www.JEANC.org

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Happenings

In August, JEANC sponsored an adviser workshop in San Francisco at Convent of the Sacred Heart High School, where Tracy Anne Sena is the adviser of "the broadview." Advisers were surveyed ahead of the workshop, so that the sessions could best meet their needs and/or requests. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed SB 1370, an adviser protection law, which will go into effect Jan. 1, 2009. The law makes it illegal to dismiss, transfer or discipline a teacher for protecting student free speech. The bill was carried by Democratic Senator Leland Yee, of San Francisco. Senator Yee was honored for his support of student journalism this year, and CNPA's Jim Ewert will be honored in November with the Friend of Scholastic Journalism Award for all of his efforts on this bill.

Granite Bay journalism adviser, Karl Grubaugh, has been named the Dow Jones Fund's 2008 National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year. His staff publishes THE GAZETTE, an award winning newspaper.

In September, JEANC, CNPA, and local and regional journalism associations joined forces to provide regional workshops for more than 400 journalism students and advisers. Saturday workshops, "Journalism Days," were held in Palo Alto, Riverside, Sacramento, and in San Luis

Obispo. During the events, keynote speakers from newspaper companies explained how their media companies are navigating the rapidly evolving media landscape, and newspaper advisers and working journalists led sessions on writing, editing, design, photography, production, online skills, press rights, advertising, careers, etc. Staffs could have their publications critiqued on site, and advisers were allowed time to meet to discuss issues we all have in common.

JEANC is sponsoring the Second Annual Mail-in Newspaper and Yearbook contest. Entries were due by Oct. 15, and winners will be announced in December. JEANC President, Sarah Nicholls, works hard to generate interest, secure judges, and present awards, all in the hope of encouraging enthusiastic student journalists.

From Nevada State Director Susan Thornton



Susan Thornton

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Will be attending St. Louis

- There is no state conference but there is a state organization, Scholastic Press Association of Nevada. Susan is in charge and said the organization has not been very active.

Biggest Concern

Advisor turn over is still a major concern for Nevada. In the Clark County School district alone there are more than 32 high schools and 45 middle/junior high schools. This year, in southern Nevada the advisor turn over rate was approximately 45 advisors. At the moment, with over crowding and academic needs taking the front seat, especially in the southern part of the state, communication and helping new advisors is a major goal. Several advisors are working on release time for newspaper and yearbook advisors to collaborate; however, principals are focused on academics and the district is discouraging any release that takes teachers out of the classroom. Most yearbook and newspaper teachers are responsible for other academic classes. With NCLB pressures elective classes in Clark County School District often get the short end of the educational stick. (There is no required certification to teach any journalism class in Nevada.) Five of CCSD high schools no longer have a journalism program. Less than a quarter of middle/junior high schools have any type of student run newspaper. Nevada is fortunate to have a core group of dedicated advisers in both northern and southern Nevada working to provide quality journalism programs.

Happenings

- While the state doesn't have a formal state conference, the University of Nevada at Reno has developed an annual workshop for newspaper advisers.

- In southern Nevada, The Las Vegas Review Journal and Las Vegas Sun sponsor a journalism day for newspaper advisers and students.

- In southern Nevada, each of the major yearbook companies holds a summer and fall workshop for students and advisers.

- Class Magazine brings journalism students from southern Nevada schools together to produce a student news magazine that is distributed to area high schools. Funded by private donations and advertiser, each school may send two journalism students including writers, designers and photographers to participate in the production of the magazine. Currently promoting JEA and scholastic journalism in the following ways:

- With funding being so tight, e-mail has become the primary source of shared information. Currently managed by Lisa Keith, Spring Valley High School, the Clark County School District provides list-serve dedicated to yearbook and newspaper teachers. The list-serve allows teachers to develop ideas, share lessons and find answers to problems.
- Funding has been acquired for the Mentor Program and JEA Nevada hopes to have an applicant in time to apply for the next training session.
- Grant sponsored funding allowed various advisors to receive supplemental materials ordered from the JEA bookstore.
- More than three fourths of Nevada's population lives in the southern most part of the state, so advisors in Northern Nevada have also formed associations with California scholastic press associations.
- Recently, with help from the CCSD curriculum office a limited amount of supplemental material were made available through JEA Nevada to inexperienced advisors.

From New Mexico State Director Albert Martinez



Albert Martinez

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Will not be attending St. Louis

The state organization is dissolved and there has not been a state conference or competition for over four years.

Happenings

The lack of involvement and difficulty of having a state which is spread out into sparsely populated areas.

I am currently promoting JEA and scholastic journalism in the following ways: New Mexico does not have a regional or state conference at all anymore. We do have a state organization, but I will have to find out where, if any money is in the treasury, etc... My major concern is to revamp and restart our state organization. When I first joined about ten years ago, it was strong to semi-strong, but in the past four years has fallen apart completely. I don't see NM doing anything to improve scholastic journalism at all. It is each teacher doing his or her own thing. No unity. In regards to promoting JEA to our state; a whole lot of pamphlets, convention material, administrative goodies, also anything with English ties to it usually helps as many English teachers in NM also teach the newspaper or journalism classes. I have yet to begin promoting our state. My idea is to join the Colorado Journalism State Association and

attend maybe a retreat or summer workshop there and see how it is done successfully. I then plan to come back to New Mexico and try to emulate or imitate that to our state. I need to try something new and fun to get our state board back together and involved again.

From Utah State Director April Squires



April Squires

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Will not be attending St. Louis

Utah does have a state conference in November with a mail-in and carry-in competition. There is no state wide organization.

State Director's Report:

Biggest concern is as follows:

Funding-Utah is the lowest in the nation.

Happenings

- November conference at the University of Utah for Utah JEA and co-sponsored by The Salt Lake Tribune. Also involved are The Deseret News and Brigham Young University. The U. hosts a free, all day workshops in photo and writing, called the Young Writers and Photographers Clinic. High schools state wide submit work for judging in categories including Best Newspaper, writing, graphic illustration, editorial cartoons and photography.

- In the spring I conduct a Sunshine Week celebration including First Amendment quiz raffle for free Sunshine Week T shirts and guest speakers.

- For 4 years Riverton High School has attended national conventions and was the only public high school until two years ago when the ASNE fellow and adviser at Taylorsville High School started bringing his staff. Awards & Honors

- Best Newspaper and several third place and honorable mentions in editorial, sports and feature writing as well as graphic illustration and editorial cartoon at the state level.

- On site at Philadelphia '07: HM in Editorial Cartooning and Sports Writing

- NSPA critique 07-08: First Class ranking with two Merits of Distinction in Content and Coverage.

Currently promoting JEA and scholastic journalism in the following ways:

Arizona promotes JEA through the annual November conference. Arizona needs help with state, on-site, and summer conferences. April mentors when called upon. She also organizes a Sunshine Week celebration. April has given workshops for advisers with university and daily newspapers.

From Southern California Director Mitch Ziegler



Mitch Ziegler

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Redondo Union High School?
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Will be attending St. Louis
State write-off contest in the spring and advisor fest in the fall.
SCJEA is Southern California's state organizations
Mitch Ziegler is the contact www.scjea.com

Biggest Concerns

- The economic crisis is threatening newspaper programs.
- Currently promoting JEA and scholastic journalism in the following ways:
 - SCJEA and JEANC are working to build membership base. JEANC is farther along. We also participate in CAL-JEC (California Journalism Education Coalition). We publicize membership and conventions.

Awards & Honors

California has passed an adviser protection bill (SB 1370).

Gary Lindsay, MJE

North Central Region 3 Director



Gary Lindsay

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Happenings

In July I traveled to Manhattan, Kansas to take part in the organizational meeting of JEA's National Journalism Professional Learning Community led by Jim Streisel and Mark Newton. I very happy to be a part of this exciting ground breaking project.

Logan Aimone of NSPA has offered to host a location for a joint northern Iowa / southern Minnesota journalism conference. While discussion of this event are continuing, we haven't found a time and location to spark the kind of interest that will make this event a success.

I represented JEA and presented two sessions at the IHSPA State Conference held Oct. 13 in Cedar Rapids. Several new advisers were interested in the JEA materials I distributed there. There is excitement building for November's national convention in St. Louis.

Last spring, Toni Nelson notified me that she wanted to resign as State Director for North Dakota because she is no longer teaching journalism and could not be very active in journalism association activities. Upon her recommendation I offered the position to Susan Skalicky of Century High School in Bismark. She has accepted the position and I have mailed her state director's materials to her.

State Directors from Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota Nebraska and South Dakota have submitted the reports that follow.

From Illinois State Director Randy Swikle, CJE



Randy Swikle

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Membership

Our current JEA membership tally in Illinois is more than 100. Our IJEA state organization has a membership of 125. We continue to work toward higher state and national membership by employing various strategies to inspire publication advisers and journalism teachers to see the benefits of membership. A new Web site for the IJEA, produced with the help of the Illinois Press Foundation, adds awareness of IJEA activities and benefits.

Happenings

We launched the 20th anniversary celebration of the Illinois Journalism Education Association with a special dinner on Sept. 20 featuring JEA executive director Linda Puntney as the keynote speaker. IJEA inaugurated a Hall of Fame to honor journalism teachers / media advisers. The first Hall of Fame inductees, early pioneers in IJEA leadership:

- Candace Perkins Bowen, formerly, St. Charles High School
- Sarah Doerner, DuQuoin High School
- Dana Ewell, posthumously, ISHSPA
- Melinda Foys, Conant High School
- Diana Peckham, Pekin Community High School
- Randy Swikle, Johnsburg High School
- Susan Tantillo, Wheeling High School
- James Tidwell, Eastern Illinois
- Tom Winski, formerly, Monmouth High School

The IJEA will host an Illinois adviser breakfast reception at the JEA/ NSPA fall conference in St. Louis on Nov. 15.

Illinois has become part of the JEA Mentoring Program. Babs Erickson of Rockford and Randy Swikle of Johnsburg are serving as mentors. We continue promoting our annual All-State Journalism Team to recognize 10 student journalists who have had profound influence on the staffs of their school media. The honorees receive plaques at an All-State Jour-

nalism Team luncheon in the state capital in June. The event is hosted by the Illinois Press Foundation, a strong supporter of scholastic journalism. Again the IJEA coordinates the Illinois High School Association journalism competition in the spring. Regional competition will be held at various colleges in the state. The final state competition will be held at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston.

Partnership with the Illinois Press Foundation continues to thrive as the IPF offers its resources and influence to assist with scholastic journalism projects. The IPF helped with the production of a state directory listing secondary schools and contacts for their journalism programs.

The Illinois First Amendment Center now has First Amendment curriculum for grades K-12. Illinois educators worked with the IFAC to design age-appropriate curriculum for each grade level. The material is free and available on the internet, on CDs and in some cases in printed formats. The McCormick Tribune Freedom Museum at Tribune Tower in Chicago features interactive exhibits with special focus on the First Amendment. Several special programs at the museum were especially relevant to high school journalists and First Amendment education. The museum helps sponsor a First Amendment poster contest for high school students. If you visit Chicago, you won't want to miss this state-of-the-art museum. Check it out at its Web site at www.FreedomMuseum.US.

Awards & Honors

Jared Goltz of Deerfield High School was named the 2008 IJEA Student Journalist of the Year. His adviser is Charlotte Titcomb. Runners-up were Lena Shapiro and Trupti Rami of John Hersey High School. Their adviser is Janet Levin.

The IHSA All-State Journalism Team: Senior Kimi Lillig of Lakes Community High School, sophomore Jimmy Hibsich of Rolling Meadows High School, senior Sarah Parkinson of Coulterville High School, senior Alison Peters of Deerfield High School, senior Annie Pittman of Herrin High School, senior Lena Shapiro of John Hersey High School, senior Emily Smoucha of Prospect High School, junior Jackie Wallenton of William Fremd High School, senior Liwen Xu of University of Chicago High School, and senior Matthew Yardley of Belvidere North High School.

Kellie Doyle, adviser at Lakes Community High School in Lake Villa received a 2008 Rising Star Award.

Dr. Fred Schouten, former assistant principal of curriculum and technology at Reavis High School, was honored by IJEA as Administrator of the Year. Karen Shaver is the newspaper adviser at Reavis High School.

For the IJEA Board

Kudos to the JEA Board!

From Iowa State Director Leslie Shipp, MJE



Leslie Shipp

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Membership

- 18 JEA members have paid their dues through combined membership with IHSPA.
- 34 advisers are currently JEA members.
- 58 schools in Iowa are currently IHSPA members.

Happenings

IHSPA Board Meeting: The board met in Iowa City Aug. 16, 2008. Members discussed the following items:

- Executive Director David Schwartz reviewed the budget.
- Nominations for annual awards were discussed and honorees were selected.
- Planning for the Fall Conferences and Winter Thaw were discussed.
- There was a lengthy discussion about overhauling the newspaper and yearbook contests. The Board decided to study the issue and plans to implement any changes next year.
- The board discussed efforts to make Iowa a sited for JEA Mentoring Project. Funding has been located and we have identified one of the two mentors needed. Merle Dieleman has agreed to serve as one of the mentors and a search is underway for a second, preferably someone located in the northern, central or western part of the state.

Fall Conferences:

The State Conference was held Oct. 13 at the Cedar Rapids Marriott. New Cedar Rapids Gazette executive editor Steve Buttry delivered the keynote address.

The Regional Conference will be held Oct. 28 at Drake University. Tim Schmitt, co-founder of the alternative weekly Pointblank, will deliver the keynote address.

Students attended breakout sessions. An emphasis was placed on offering more yearbook sessions.

Awards & Honors

Rod Vahl Award – Adviser of the Year is Bonnie Neyens, adviser of The Madisonian yearbook of Fort Madison High School.

Stratton Award for Distinguished Service to Journalism Education:

Administrator of the Year: Dr. Mary Wilczynski of John F. Kennedy High School

2008 Spring Newspaper Sweepstakes

Writing – for the Page in Local Paper Class

HM – Woodbine HS and Exira HS

3rd pl. – Centerville HS

2nd pl. – PCM HS, Monroe

1st pl. – Cedar Falls HS

In Class A

HM – Pella HS

3rd pl. – Washington HS, Washington

2nd pl. – Hudson HS

1st pl. – West Delaware HS

Class B

HM – Jefferson HS, Cedar Rapids

3rd pl. – Johnston HS

2nd pl. (tie) – SE Polk HS and Kennedy HS, Cedar Rapids, IA

1st pl. – Iowa City West HS

Graphics – Page in Local Paper Class

HM – Central Elkader

3rd pl. – Exira HS

2nd pl. – Cedar Falls HS

1st pl. – PCM HS, Monroe

Graphics - Class A

HM – Boone HS

3rd pl. – Hudson HS

2nd pl. – Washington HS, Washington IA

1st pl. – Pella HS

Graphics - Class B

HM – Pleasant Valley HS

3rd pl. (tie) – Lewis Central and Johnston HS

2nd pl. (tie) – City HS, Iowa City and Davenport Central HS

1st pl. – Kennedy HS, Cedar Rapids

Photography - Page in Local Paper Class

2nd pl. – Cedar Falls HS

1st pl. – Exira HS

Photography - Class A

HM – Hudson HS

3rd pl. – Washington HS, Washington, IA

2nd pl. – West Delaware

1st pl. – Pella HS

Photography - Class B

HM – Johnston HS

3rd pl. – Davenport Central HS

2nd pl. – Jefferson HS, Cedar Rapids

1st pl. – Kennedy HS, Cedar Rapids

From Minnesota State Director Laurie Hansen, CJE



Laurie Hansen

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Happenings

• JEM (Journalism Educators of Minnesota) and the Minnesota High School Press Association continued two of our popular events, the Minnesota Wild event and the Day at the Guthrie. For the Minnesota Wild event in February, students attended a hockey practice and had the opportunity to interview a player. Winning stories, photos and broadcasts were posted in the team program.

• The Minnesota High School Press Association and JEM annually selects promising young high-school journalists to visit the Guthrie Theater for a day-long session that includes lectures, a tour and a chance to see and write reviews of a Guthrie show. In March, about 30 students saw Wendy Wasserstein's final play, "Third," and submitted reviews. Two reviews were selected for publication on the Star Tribune's website.

• The State Convention is Oct. 21 at Coffman Memorial Union on the University of Minnesota's Twin Cities campus. Our keynote speaker will be Justin Neal, television critic for the Star Tribune. We will also announce "Best of Show" for MHSPA, All-State (Gold, Silver, Bronze)

awards from JEM and the Gold Medallions (individual awards from MHSPA).

• In an effort to learn more about the value of programs and services from the Minnesota High School Press Association, Logan Aimone of the NSPA/MHSPA sent out an electronic survey to gather responses from student publications and broadcasts that have been members and those whose membership has lapsed or even who have not been members. This will help us learn more about what is important Minnesota students and advisers, and how we can better serve them in the future.

Awards

• MHSPA brought back the Adviser of the Year award which had been discontinued about 15 years ago: The Minnesota High School Press Association is proud to present its 2008 Journalism Educator of the Year honor to Laurie Hansen of Stillwater Area High School and adviser to the Kabekonian yearbook and Stylus magazine. Hansen was honored at a faculty meeting at her school on June 9, 2008.

From Nebraska State Director Marsha Kalkowski, MJE



Marsha Kalkowski

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Membership

• Continues to be strong.
• Membership renewals are suggested through combined Nebraska High School Press Association membership opportunities.

Happenings

• We are bringing many delegates to the St. Louis Convention. Go Nebraska!
• Thanks to all who have organized this convention.
• The NHSPA Fall Convention was held Oct. 13 at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. More than 600 students attended. The keynote presenter was Les Rose of CBS in Los Angeles. Scott Winter welcomed the attendees and sessions were presented by journalism professionals from the Omaha and Lincoln areas and from the College of Journalism.
• Summer camp was held July 20-24 at UNL. Camp directors are Courtney Archer and Cathy Davis. Contact them for more information at nhspaworkshop@gmail.com. The 2009 summer dates are July 19-24. Tracks for Broadcasting, Journalistic Writing, YB, NP and Photography are planned.
• JEA Nebraska will have a winter contest that follows a similar format to the NSAA/NHSPA State Contest. The deadline for submissions is Nov. 21.
• JEA friends will be called upon to help judge for us. Proceeds from the contest (JEA members enter free and non-members pay \$1 an entry) go to the SPLC.

Awards & Honors

• The Distinguished Adviser for 2008 is Janelle Schultz of Gering, Nebraska. Janelle currently serves as president of the NHSPA.
• We were excited to have one of the 2008 Student Journalist of the Year

Runner Ups be from Nebraska. Congratulations to Patrick Breen of Omaha Central. His adviser is LaTrina Parker.

From North Dakota State Director Susan Skalicky



Sue Skalicky

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No Report Submitted

From South Dakota State Director Deb Rothenberger, MJE



Deb Rothenberger

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Membership

The state director presented information about JEA membership and the national conventions at the South Dakota High School Press Association's adviser's luncheon during the fall convention in September and also at the summer Publications Institute in June.

Happenings

- The South Dakota High School Press Convention was Monday, Sept. 29, 2008, at the South Dakota State University in Brookings. Mark Goodman, a professor and the Knight Chair in Scholastic Journalism in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio, was the keynote presenter. He talked about the First Amendment rights and press law basics in regard to libel, privacy invasion and copyright law. After Goodman's first presentation some students competed in the on-the-spot contests for yearbook, feature writing, and news writing.
- Doug Dreyer, owner of Dakota Images Freelance Photography and adjunct instructor of photography at Northern State University and newspaper adviser, presented information about photography principles and ethics.
- After the adviser's meeting was the general session. Giago and coordinator Jessica Jensen presented the awards for the on-the-spot contests and the newspaper/yearbook awards.
- During the business meeting, newspaper adviser Liz Vogt from Pierre, the former president of the South Dakota High School Journalism Advisers, presided over the advisory meeting. Debra Rothenberger, the Brandon Valley publications adviser and the state Journalism Education

Association director, provided information about the merits of JEA membership and certification as well as information about the fall national convention in St. Louis, Mo.

Awards & Honors

At the adviser's luncheon, South Dakota High School Press Association director Doris Giago presented the Founders Award to Dave Bordewyk, the president of the South Dakota Newspaper Association.

From Wisconsin State Director Sandy Jacoby



Sandy Jacoby

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No Report Submitted

Wayna C. Polk
South Central Region 4 Director



Wayna Polk

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There are 580 teacher/adviser members in the South Central Region as of 10/24/08.

59 Arkansas
133 Kansas
15 Louisiana
129 Missouri
17 Oklahoma
227 Texas

From Arkansas State Director Stephanie Emerson, CJE



Stephanie Emerson

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Membership

ASPA continues to work to increase membership. We continue to encourage our members to enroll in JEA when they join the state organization. Several JEA members continue to be active at the national level. There are 118 members in our state AJAA organization; 77 of those are in JEA. We have 172 different publication members in ASPA.

The Arkansas Scholastic Press Association is housed on the campus of Pulaski Tech in North Little Rock under the direction of Allen Loibner, CJE, of Pulaski Tech. Our organization's website: www.arkansasasscholas-ticpress.org Several links are there for additional information.

Happenings

The State Convention was held in Rogers on April 16 & 17, 2008 at the new John Q. Hammons Center adjacent to the Embassy Suites Northwest Arkansas that served as the convention hotel. In attendance were 137 publication members/schools, and a record 900 students. On-site contests were held with 545 entries: 10 in newspaper; 9 in yearbook; 5 in literary magazine; 2 in photography; 8 in broadcast. We averaged about 30 entries in each category. Twenty workshops were held in different areas for students and advisers to attend. Approximately 1300 awards were presented.

The 2009 annual state convention will be held April 16 & 17, 2009, in Little Rock at the Arkansas State Convention Center with the Peabody Hotel serving as the convention hotel. Every year the convention is held in a different section of the state.

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

From Kansas State Director Susan Massy, CJE



Susan Massy

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Membership

Membership in both KSPA and JEA remains strong and steady as we continue to encourage journalism teachers by offering "dual-enrollment" options in our membership pamphlet. Kansas JEA members are still active on the national level primarily through participation in national conventions, contests and critiques.

Happenings

The State Contest held in early May at the University of Kansas in Lawrence allowed students to compete in all areas of journalistic endeavor. The Kansas State Contest is one of the few on-site competitions at the state level.

The three Kansas Scholastic Press Association sponsored fall conferences in Lawrence, Manhattan and Hays drew more than 1,500 students from across the state the week of Sept. 22. Aaron Manfull, publications adviser at Francis Howell North High School in St. Charles, Mo., was the featured speaker at both the Lawrence and Manhattan conferences. The total number of schools participating was 93 with 1,590 students from across the state in attendance at one of the three conferences.

Award & Honors

We couldn't be prouder of the following people:

- Sarah Meier, Wichita East senior, was the Kansas High School Journalist of the Year. Meier was named one of the six national runner-up award winners and received a \$2,000 scholarship in addition to the \$1,000 scholarship received from KSPA. Libby Nachman from Shawnee Mission East was the 2nd place Kansas award winner and Jayson Jenks from Shawnee Mission Northwest placed 3rd.
- The 2008 Jackie Engel Award was presented to Kollen Long of Bishop Carroll High School in Wichita by the Kansas Associated Collegiate Press. This award honors the top journalism teacher in Kansas.
- Two outstanding Kansas journalism educators were inducted into Hall of Fame. Susan Agee, formerly of Blue Valley High School and Linda Puntney, JEA Executive Director were both honored in May.
- Ken Thiessen, the principal at Wichita East H.S., was named the Administrator of the Year by the Kansas Scholastic Press Association. He was nominated by Sharon Martin, journalism teacher at Wichita East.
- Four Kansas newspapers have been nominated as Pacemaker finalists: Blue Valley West, Mike Dunlap, adviser; Maize High School, Phyllis Wipf, adviser; Olathe Northwest, Paul Restivo, adviser; and Shawnee Mission East, Dow Tate, adviser.

Special Note

Kansas Scholastic Press Association Executive Secretary John Hudnall announced in May that he will be ending his 19-year tenure with KSPA will on Aug. 1. He will return to the teaching ranks in the William Allen White School of Journalism starting fall semester 2009.

"This organization needs to remain vibrant and that takes a younger person," Hudnall said. "I have most certainly enjoyed my years as executive director--only the third director since 1965. My tenure here was longer than the other two directors. I hate to overstay my welcome."

KSPA and the University of Kansas are involved in a national search for Hudnall's replacement. Interested applicants may go to the KU web site and view the job posting which will remain there until Dec. 8. We hope to have the finalists selected before the start of spring term.

From Louisiana State Director Angela Watkins



Angela Watkins

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No Report Submitted

From Missouri State Director Gavin Brady, CJE



Gavin Brady

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Since Missouri has no state JEA, I have gathered information from Missouri Interscholastic Press Association as well as regional adviser groups.

Membership

JEA Membership—105 voting members as of Oct. 16, 2008
The following include memberships from last year. Members are still joining this year:
Missouri Interscholastic Press Association—49 schools and 81 advisers (see attached sheet for officers)
JEMKC--67 teachers last year
Sponsors of School Publications of Greater St. Louis—37 schools, 50 advisers

Happenings

MIPA: 2008 has been a fairly good year for the Missouri Interscholastic Press Association.

Scholastic Journalism Day continues to evolve with more sessions every year, including a write-off and photo shoot-off competition. 2009 Journalism Day promises to be stronger than ever. Right now we are working with the new Reynolds Journalism Institute at the Missouri School of Journalism to provide our main speaker and produce at least one session for students and a session for advisers. Technology is a BIG part of RJJ and new labs are just one of the features of the new facility. JDAY 2009 is April 9/Thursday.

MIPA was part of the 100 year anniversary of the journalism school and we now have a new MIPA office and access to more rooms and speakers.

There is also a new program across the street from MIPA call Newsy.

com and the creator of the new newsroom is willing to work with MIPA. Representatives from both that program and RJJ are meeting with MIPA board members on Nov. 1 at 10am.

Summer Media Workshop: With the help of former workshop director, Diane Boyle, and other board members and the journalism school SMW 2008 was a success. We managed to pay off old debts from 2007 and come out ahead for 2008. RJJ and our convergence faculty are planning to do something with us during SMW 2009. Details coming soon.

In an effort to save money and get more MIPA advisers involved in SMW, this summer's program will be planned and directed by board members. This means more advisers will work with the jschool and the MU Conference Office to make 2009 a strong program. SMW 2009 is set for July 7-9.

Missouri Urban Journalism Workshop formerly known as AHANA: We continue to encourage MIPA member schools to have their best kids apply for MUJW. The 10-day intensive journalism like boot-camp is open to ALL high school students regardless of their ethnicity. It is open to all to apply. If selected, 16-20 students will work with students from around the country and journalists and educators on producing a publication for the daily Columbia Missourian. Remember, if your student is picked they are sponsored by the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund and other media. This means very little expense on the students part. They pay for some lunches and transportation in MO to Columbia. This year the focus will be the aftermath of the economy (bailout) and its effects on Boone County. Also, if an MIPA adviser wants to work side-by-side with our many national journalists, contact MUJW director, Anna Romero. MUJW 2009 is July 11-20.

Other MIPA Stuff: Thanks to Aaron Manfull at Francis Howell North, we still have a Web site. Christina Geabhart at Oak Park HS in KC keeps us informed with her hard work on the News Gram and Ronna Sparks-Woodward from Liberty HS in KC is making sure that Boonville's Stephanie Carey has a smooth transition in taking over the job of securing judges for our contests and critiques. All of these advisers along with our other officers like Marc Russell from Lee's Summit HS are working hard to keep MIPA in a positive direction. We also start the semester off with a new JEA Director for MO, Nancy Freeman from Clayton HS in Clayton, MO. We wish her good luck in the position and with the planning of the November conference.

JEMKC

We have an annual brunch with speakers, some sort of sharing of lessons/etc., contest info, etc.; we also have an annual contest for students with categories in YB, NP and broadcast.

Annual student clips contest in April: over 214 awards given to students in categories ranging from yearbook and newspaper writing, design and photography and broadcast. Over 20 schools from the metro area entered the contest, sending in clips from their current newspaper and yearbook and broadcasts. Judges came from all over the country and represented both professional journalists and college media representatives and students. We also presented nearly \$2,000 in scholarships and awards to students, with funding coming from the Kansas City Star and JEMKC. Keynote speakers at the event were Kansas City Star reporters and photographers who worked on a 3-part series on gangs in Kansas City. They shared their experiences in reporting, photographing and editing the series and showed their designs, stories and photos to the students.

SSP

We meet monthly at area schools and restaurants to support each other and to plan events for students. We host contests every January and a conference every spring. Last spring we hosted our conference at Webster University in March and we had 30 breakout sessions featuring local area professionals and experts in the field. Nearly 700 area students

attended. With the proceeds from the conference, we gave out \$2100 in scholarships for students and teachers to go to summer workshops or take classes.

We are also the local committee for the JEA/NSPA National Journalism Convention in St. Louis and have been quite busy planning a great convention.

Awards & Honors

2007 Newspaper Pacemaker Finalists:

The Wolf's Howl, Timberland High School, Wentzville, Mo.

Andy Swyers, Michael Herzberg, editors; Cathy McCandless, adviser

Dart, Saint Teresa's Academy, Kansas City, Mo.

Nicole Farley and Alison Raybould, editors; Eric Thomas, adviser

Image, Lafayette High School, Wildwood, Mo.

Kevin Pinney, editor; Nancy Y. Smith, adviser

2008 Online Pacemaker Finalist:

North Star, Francis Howell North HS, St. Charles, Mo.

Adam Weber, editor; Aaron Manfull, adviser

<http://northstartoday.com>

2007 Yearbook Pacemaker Finalist:

Excalibur, Francis Howell North HS, St. Charles, Mo.

Lauren Trindle, editor; Aaron Manfull, adviser

Falcon, Glendale HS, Springfield, Mo.

Angela Chase, Courtney Mellinger, Kaitlin Rush, editors; Lisa Wingo, adviser

NSPA Story of the Year 2007:

News Story - Honorable Mention

Richie Frohlichstein and Sarah Hutchins

The Kirkwood Call, Kirkwood High School, Kirkwood, Mo.

Sports Story- First Place

Michael Moore

The Purple and Gold, Hickman High School, Columbia, Mo

Diversity- Honorable Mention

Richie Frohlichstein

The Kirkwood Call, Kirkwood High School, Kirkwood, Mo

2007 Broadcast Pacemaker Finalists:

Central Intelligence, Central High School, Springfield, Mo.

Nichole Lemmon, adviser

Blue Jay Journal, Washington High School, Washington, Mo.

Michelle Hoch, adviser

2007 Broadcast Story of the Year:

Third Place

Spencer Ernst

KLHS Channel 98 TV, Lindbergh High School, St. Louis, Mo.

Ed Donnelly, adviser

Lifetime Achievement Award:

Kathy Craghead, MJE, Mexico, Mo.

From Oklahoma State Director Joe Nations



Joe Nations

Joe Nations

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Membership

Oklahoma has seen a slight increase in membership this year with 30 members.

Happenings

Oklahoma Interscholastic Press Associations media days will be Nov. 7, 2008, and April 6, 2009, on the campus of the University of Oklahoma.

From Texas State Director Susan Duncan, CJE



Susan Duncan

Susan Duncan, CJE

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Membership

The Texas Association of Journalism Educators is reaching out to new advisers through its regional workshops and convention, hoping to increase its membership both for state organizations and JEA. Our executive director sends out multiple membership reminders, and teachers can join several state and national organizations at once on the same form. Because advisers must be members for students to compete in contests and for scholarships, some school districts are paying for teacher's memberships in these organizations. TAJE is also offering free first-year convention registration for new advisers.

TAJE ended the past school year with 275 members; 194 members have joined so far this year although that number usually increases during the Fall Fiesta held later this fall.

Happenings

TAJE is hosting its state convention Oct. 25-27 at the Sheraton Gunter hotel in San Antonio. The convention will feature workshop sessions, write-off competitions, photography contests, carry-in contests, best of show contests and a keynote address on Monday. The keynote speaker for the convention is Pulitzer Prize writer, Jim Sheeler, who wrote "Final Salute," a series he did for the Rocky Mountain News. He is now teaching at Colorado University and has developed "Final Salute" into book format.

TAJE sponsors a website, taje.org, which has a library of PowerPoint presentations, archives of quarterly newsletters and other curriculum materials. All materials are free to use.

TAJE awards \$5,500 in annual scholarship money.

TAJE 2008 Journalist of the Year Alejandro Benito from Houston's Cypress Falls High School became the national journalist of the year in April, following in his brother's footsteps. His brother was national JOY in 2006. He was a reporter and photographer for Wingspan and Golden Eagle along with being a photographer for EFE News Services. He was the Editor-in-chief of the Wingspan Online. He has also worked on the literary magazine at Cy-Falls. His adviser was Lisa Van Etta.

Awards & Honors

The following were recognized as Trailblazers for their contributions to scholastic journalism: Judy Babb and Chet Hunt. Friend of Journalism awards went to Craig Coyle and Macarena Hernandez.

Brenda Gorsuch, MJE

Southeast Region 5 Director



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Brenda Gorsuch

In spite of the challenges presented by the slowing economy and increased threats of censorship, scholastic journalism is alive and well in the Southeast. Attendance at regional and state workshops has been strong in many states. North Carolina has joined the JEA mentoring program with two mentors, Martha Rothwell and Kay Phillips, and the Southern Interscholastic Press Association is working to help other Region 5 states into the program. The state directors and I have been contacting JEA members with memberships running out in October and November to encourage them to renew. We are very pleased that the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund recognized Susan Newell, MJE, from Northridge High School in Alabama and Renee Burke, MJE, from William Boone High School in Florida.

From Alabama State Director Susan Goins Newell, MJE



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Susan Goins Newell

Alabama Scholastic Press Association (ASPA) has a new director: Meredith Cummings, who worked at The Tuscaloosa News before coming to ASPA. At the news, she wrote columns, editorials, news and feature stories and was in charge of the teen section of the paper. Long time director Marie Parsons is serving as ASPA emeritus director. Jessie Patterson, ASPA graduate assistant, was sports editor of her high school paper The Central Times, editor-in-chief of her high school paper The Northridge Reporter, a sports writer for The Tuscaloosa News and editor of her college newspaper The Crimson White.

The ASPA fall workshop held Sept. 8, 9 and 10 featured Merle Dieleman, Bobby Hawthorne, Bruce Watterson, writers from The Tuscaloosa News, and University of Alabama (U. of A.) faculty and staff. The workshops were well attended with over 200 in Tuscaloosa on Sept. 9.

The ASPA spring convention will be held Feb. 13-14 in Tuscaloosa. Erin Coggins, newspaper and yearbook advisor at Sparkman High School, is president of the adviser group for Alabama Scholastic Press Association. Her email address is ecoggins@madison.k12.al.us.

Dr. Loy Singleton, Dean of The University of Alabama College of Communication and Information Sciences beginning in 2006, oversaw the journalism department at the University of Alabama for months and helped improve ASPA's future with the University of Alabama.

Jennifer Greer, journalism department chairwoman, is very supportive of ASPA. She previously worked closely with the state organization in Florida. ASPA now has a small office in Reese Phifer Hall where journalism classes are held at the U. of A. Greer has served as publisher of the ASPA newsletter.

UA Provost Judy Bonner gave the college a new faculty position which Singleton and the journalism faculty earmarked for a permanent ASPA director and faculty instructor.

ASPA and the Southern Interscholastic Press Association (SIPA) are beginning to coordinate their conferences. Susan Newell is on the SIPA advisory board. Information about SIPA events can be found online at <http://www.sc.edu/cmciis/so/sipa/>. SIPA's spring convention will be March 6, 7 and 8.

Senior at Sparkman High School Amethyst Holmes was awarded the Rick Bragg Feature Writing Award from the University of Alabama on March 6. Holmes was chosen for the award after submitting three of her feature articles from The Crimson Crier. Bragg is a Pulitzer Prize winning reporter who teaches at the University of Alabama. Holmes is also Alabama's Journalism Student of the Year.

Manuel Wallace, principal at Sparkman High School, won Administrator of the Year for Alabama in March. Susan Newell, who teaches speech, newspaper and yearbook at Northridge High School, was named Advisor of the Year for Alabama.

Erin Coggins, The Crimson Crier adviser, and Susan Newell were named Special Recognition Advisers in Dow Jones Newspaper Fund's Journalism Teacher of the Year Program. The award includes recognition at a luncheon on Nov. 15 at the National Scholastic Press Association Fall Convention in St. Louis.

"I began advising over 24 years ago. I owe the Alabama Scholastic Press Association. Almost everything I have learned about advising school newspapers and yearbooks comes from attending their events. It is now time for me to help educate younger advisors and their students. I encourage advisers from Alabama to become active in their state (ASPA), regional (SIPA) and national organizations (JEA/NSPA & CSPA). In this way students can best be prepared for college and the world of work and your school can publish quality publications," Susan G. Newell, adviser

The Northridge Reporter and blueprints yearbook at Northridge High School, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

From Florida State Director Judy Robinson



Judy Robinson

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Membership

FSPA membership continues to increase in the past two years. As of mid-October 2008 there were 112 member publications ahead of the 67 in 2007. Strongest areas of membership are yearbook and newspaper, with several members in literary magazine, broadcast, newsmagazine, and online publications. Membership is encouraged by mailing more than 700 newsletters in September to previous member schools in the state. Increased interest in FSPA is also measured by an increase of visits to the FSPA Web site (<http://www.jou.ufl.edu/fspa>) with more than 3,000 visitors in peak months.

Many of FSPA's members are also active members of JEA, SIPA, NSPA, CSPA and Quill & Scroll.

Happenings

Fall District Workshops: FSPA has seven regions and in the fall each regional director conducts a fall workshop at a local university or high school. This year, the 6 workshops held had attendance ranging, according to population density in Florida's regions, from 90 to more than 1200 attendees per day-long workshop. Monies raised at the workshops provide the operating budget for the organization and come in at \$15,000 to \$20,000 in a typical (meaning no hurricanes) fall.

Spring 2008 Convention: Held in Tampa, Florida, with a theme of "Get a Clue", FSPA's spring convention drew more than 1,000 attendees from around the state. Keynote Bobby Hawthorne captivated. Contests were full. Our first computer lab at a convention provided space for competition and hands-on workshops. Fundraisers for FSPA's Scholarships Foundation, the silent auction and pass-the-hat, raised \$1,500. For Spring 2009 Convention, April 16-18, we look forward to hearing our keynote speaker, Leonard Pitts, Pulitzer winning writer of the Miami Herald.

FSPA Foundation: As of Spring 2008, FSPA's Foundation became capable of funding: 6 Scholarships for member students to attend the Spring convention; 6 teacher of the year nominee awards; 1 Teacher of the Year finalist award; Student Journalist of the year and 2nd and 3rd place; and, the Webb-Stapler and Julie Dodd Scholarships for advisers. At 63 years old, FSPA is proud to have a foundation that has been built to support its members with more than \$4,000 in annual scholarships.

Concerns

In fall 2008 members were encouraged to write to legislators regarding the loss of practical arts credit for Journalism I – III courses. While broadcast courses are considered fine arts courses, which are required, journalism is not included in this designation.

In Spring 2008 (January for non-Florida residents) the legislature discussed changing dates for when the Florida Comprehensive Assessment tests (FCAT) would be administered. Although the exact changes have not been stated, concern over a change in established testing dates may cause FSPA to have to change its convention dates and hotel reservations. Schools are not permitted to travel during testing dates.

Economy and gas prices in Florida, as with many places, are causing a cuts in field trips and release time for teachers. The FSPA board will be discussing strategies at our Winter Board Meeting to be held at Poynter Institute on Nov. 21-22, 2008.

From Georgia State Director Joe Dennis



Joe Dennis

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No Report Submitted

From Mississippi State Director Beth Fitts, CJE



Beth Fitts

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Membership

JEA membership in Mississippi has nearly tripled over the last two-year period, so each year we are recruiting and adding new advisers who want to get into this friendly, helpful adviser-world we have.

At the summer workshop for advisers, several JEA members gave testimony of the mentoring program, the conventions, the publications, list-serve and others benefits to new advisers, many of whom have joined.

We also gave out membership brochures at the fall workshop Oct. 14 in Oxford and talked about the benefits of going to St. Louis this November. I have also contacted members whose memberships have expired to remind them to rejoin.

Teachers received information and the opportunity to join JEA when I sent the MSPA membership information to every teacher in the state in

August. This method has recruited some members who might not have heard of JEA benefits. I also have an extensive e-mail list that I use to promote JEA activities. Last spring, we included JEA information in the spring convention information for advisers.

As a JEA director, I have been directly involved with helping several new advisers this year. I have driven to schools to present, have taught classes and have shared my presentations/handouts with advisers to make it easier for them to make it through their first year.

From North Carolina State Director Monica Hill, CJE



Monica Hill

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Membership

N.C. Scholastic Media Association continues to include Journalism Education Association membership as an option on all membership forms. North Carolina Scholastic Media Association also offers an onsite JEA Bookstore during the N.C. Scholastic Media Institute in the summer and at regional workshops in the fall and spring.

Happenings

North Carolina's High School Journalist of the Year will now receive a \$2,000 scholarship, thanks to the North Carolina Press Foundation's vote to increase the amount from \$500. The two alternates will now receive \$500 each -- an increase from the \$200 previously awarded. NCPF will continue its commitment, through the Rachel Rivers-Coffey Scholarship funds, to the winners' journalism programs. The Journalist of the Year's high school journalism program will receive \$500. The two alternates' programs will receive \$200 each.

North Carolina has joined the states participating in JEA's Mentoring Program. N.C. Scholastic Media Association is grateful to the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Journalism and Mass Communication for providing to NCSMA the \$10,000 required to participate in the program for two years. Kay Phillips, former NCSMA director, and Martha Rothwell, former NCSMA board member, are currently serving as the state's two mentors. Both have already accompanied their mentees to NCSMA regional workshops.

The Daily Tar Heel, the campus newspaper at UNC-Chapel Hill, contributed a \$25,000 endowment to NCSMA in July 2007. This endowed scholarship has generated two \$625 summer Institute scholarships for two high school newspaper journalism students each year. We awarded the first two during our N.C. Scholastic Media Institute in June 2008. These two scholarships complement the two \$625 cash scholarships we have awarded since 2002 to two TV news students at the Institute. Don Curtis of Curtis Media Group endowed those scholarships.

NCSMA's fall regional workshops are currently being held in six cities across the state. These six October events are taking place in the following locations: Asheville at University of North Carolina at Asheville;

Boone at Appalachian State; Chapel Hill at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Greenville at East Carolina University; Charlotte in The Charlotte Observer building and Greensboro at North Carolina A&T State University.

Each year the summer Institute features four days of intense instruction in yearbook, newspaper, broadcast, literary magazine, design, advising and photography. Students and teachers from across the state participate in this residential workshop. The 2009 Institute will be June 15-18 on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus

NCSMA continues to offer summer graduate-level courses in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at UNC-Chapel Hill. The two 2008 courses were "Teaching Broadcast Journalism in the Secondary School" and "Desktop Publishing and Design in the Secondary School."

A self-paced study course, "Journalism Education in the Secondary School," is currently being offered online. Teachers may take up to nine months to complete this online course.

Awards & Honors

West Henderson (Hendersonville) High School journalist Keshia Hudson was named the 2008 Rachel Rivers-Coffey North Carolina High School Journalist of the Year.

Alternates were Mary Withers of Charles D. Owen High in Black Mountain and Zach Warhover of First Flight High in Kill Devil Hills. The N. C. Press Association established the annual scholarship award and named it in honor of professional journalist and former NCPA president Rachel Rivers-Coffey, who was killed in a horseback riding accident.

NCPA awarded a \$500 scholarship to Hudson, and \$200 to each alternate at the Institute's annual Awards Brunch. Each student's journalism teacher received matching funds for use in his or her journalism classrooms.

Robin Sawyer, adviser at First Flight High in Kill Devil Hills, and Bradley Wilson, student media adviser at N.C. State University, received the 2008 Kay Phillips Distinguished Service Award.

Elle Klein of T.C. Roberson High in Asheville and Maddalena DeBeni of Ravenscroft High in Raleigh won the 2008 Don Curtis scholarship in electronic communication. These competitive \$625 cash scholarships annually recognize up to two students in the TV News sequence of the Summer Institute.

Tyler Holbrook of Wake Forest-Rolesville High and Kimberly Hill of Providence (Charlotte) High won the 2008 Daily Tar Heel scholarship in newspaper journalism. These competitive \$625 cash scholarships annually recognize up to two students in the newspaper sequence of the Summer Institute.



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Membership

SCSPA continues to offer both a one-year membership for \$40 and a three-year membership for \$100. Our board voted to begin the three-year membership in 2000 because of the high turnover rate of publication advisers. Board members felt that if a staff had a three-year membership and an adviser left, the new adviser would have an automatic “connection” with our organization because they would receive the beginning-of-the-year mailings. Advisers also liked the idea of a three-year membership because they didn’t have to pay each year.

The beauty of this three-year membership for SCSPA is we begin each year (membership year is Sept. 1 – Aug. 31) with a core of about a half of our membership, up from about a third three years ago. With the high turnover rate of advisers, the multiple-year membership helps us keep communications with the schools during the transition from one adviser to another.

The downside continues to be in communicating to the advisers the membership fee does not include special services: publication evaluations, mini-evaluations for newspapers, Excellence in Scholastic Newspaper Awards for newspapers, and individual competitions for broadcast, magazines and yearbooks. So we often have to remind advisers whose staffs have three-year memberships to pay these additional fees.

If the scholastic journalism office did not have the great scholastic press manager we do in Leslie Dennis and did not have the competent undergraduate assistants we do (all former scholastic journalists in high school), we would not be able to handle all the logistics of the contests and types of memberships.

This fall we learned a costly lesson about communicating with our membership: make sure you don’t rely on one or two means of getting information out to them. We always have full-day workshops the Saturday before the fall conference on Monday. We usually offer InDesign, Photoshop, writing and reporting, design and either video journalism or Final Cut Pro. The deadline passed for registering for these workshops and no one was signed up for any of the sessions. I sent out reminders using group e-mail – the same group e-mail I had used to send fliers and registration material for the workshops. A few responded, all broadcast teachers. What I discovered less than a week before the Saturday workshops was that my group e-mails were going out but never any further than my Inbox! The broadcast teachers were not in the large e-mail group, so they were getting the messages about Final Cut Pro – the only workshop to make.

The tech folks still have not found the problem, but I have spent whole days trying to recreate the group e-mails to be sure they are working.

The lesson? Use a Rule of 7 (a public relations term) to communicate with members: (1) Web site, (2) letters, (3) postcards, (4) e-mail, (5) blogs, (6) Facebook and (7) phone. Of course, we can’t use all methods

for every event, but we need to be sure to use more of them than we did this fall.

Happenings

Since we do not have a separate association for advisers, SCSPA board members decided they needed a “retreat” just for scholastic journalism teachers. They needed a time away from the responsibilities of keeping up with students as they have to during workshops, conferences and conventions. They needed time together to ask questions, share ideas and learn from each other without interruptions. They wanted these teachers to be able to get some kind of credit – after all they were giving up precious summer vacation days right before school started. So we named the one and a half day event “SCSPA Adviser Staff Development,” and the participants received a certificate for 9.5 hours of staff development. We combined this staff development with our summer finance committee meeting and the summer board meeting so members involved in those semi-annual events would save time, gas and money.

Despite gas costs and shortages in the weeks leading up to the fall conference, we had more participation than we have had in years – over 650 advisers, students and special guests attended the 2008 Fall Conference at the University of South Carolina’s Russell House on Greene Street.

The spring SCSPA conference was April 28, 2008 and the fall conference was Sept. 29. We will have our spring awards conference April 27.

Those who were able to come attended classes taught by special guests Carrie Faust and Dean Hume as well as professionals from state and local media and veteran advisers.

Awards & Honors

Amy Medlock-Greene, newspaper and broadcast adviser at Dutch Fork HS in Irmo, S.C. was named the 2008 Reid H. Montgomery Adviser of the Year.

Lindsey Sydow, editor in chief of the Tribal Tribune newspaper at Wando HS in Mt. Pleasant, S.C. was named the 2008 S.C. Journalist of the Year. Sydow also was a \$2,000 runner up in the JEA National Journalist-of-the-Year contest, the first South Carolina student to place in the national contest.

Alysha Strother, co-producer of The Silver Screen Report at Dutch Fork HS in Irmo, S.C. received the 2008 SCSPA \$1,000 scholarship to attend the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of South Carolina in the fall.

Jessica Hardin, assistant editor of The Blue and Gold at Travelers Rest HS, received a \$500 scholarship from the S.C. Press Association to attend the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of South Carolina in the fall.

Lori Cox, editor in chief of the Kaleidoscope yearbook at Lugoff-Elgin HS in Lugoff, S.C., received the first yearbook scholarship, a \$500 scholarship sponsored by Jostens Yearbook to attend the University of South Carolina in the fall.

Sandra R. Woodcock, director of the Newspaper Association of America Foundation, was awarded the 2008 Albert T. Scroggins Award which is given to a non-adviser who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of scholastic journalism and journalism education in general.

Publications receiving awards for their 2007-2008 publications were:

Best Literary Magazine: Delphian, Christ Church Episcopal School, Greenville, S.C.

Best Newspaper: The Tribal Tribune, Wando High School, Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Best Yearbook: The Legacy, Dutch Fork High School, Irmo, S.C.

Best in Broadcast: REAL-TV, Stratford High School, Goose Creek, S.C.

From Tennessee State Director Denise Croker



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Membership

JEA membership in Tennessee continues to rise, from 58 last fall to 66 members now. Twenty-four of those members need to update their memberships, and I am reminding them of this through email.

Happenings

David Lipscomb University paired with THSPA to hold the 2-1/2-day Summer Journalism Workshop in early June. Dr. James McCollum, Department of Communication at David Lipscomb, served as director. Thirty-eight students from schools within a 100-mile radius attended. Both H.L. Hall and I presented sessions at this conference. I presented four hands-on computer sessions to learn In-Design.

Belmont University's New Century Journalism program, under the directorship of Bonnie Wagonfield, hosted a Summer Camp in late June. There were 23 campers from five states (TN, CA, AZ, MS, and NV) with 19 different high schools represented.

Workshop leaders were three Belmont professors: Thom Storey, Dorren Robinson and Stephan Foust. The camp finished with an awards presentation and a panel discussion by local media professionals: Colby Sledge with the Tennessean; Blake Farmer with WPLN Radio; Jenna McKee, reporter with WRCB-TV in Chattanooga; Lelan Statom, meteorologist with WRVF-TV in Nashville; and Forrest Sanders, writer, photographer & reporter with WBKO-TV in Bowling Green, KY.

THSPA hosted its annual workshop next week on Oct. 21. According to H.L. Hall, THSPA's Executive Director, there were 651 registered attendants, though he expected that number to rise slightly. Last year delegates reached into the 900s, but many school districts have had to cut back on trips because of the high cost of gasoline, so that has affected attendance. Forty-five sessions were offered, as well as a keynote speech by Chris Clark, former Nashville Ch. 5 anchor. His address was entitled "Changing Technology, Evolving News, and the First Amendment." I presented a session on InDesign, and on SJOY portfolios, I also spoke briefly at the advisers' luncheon to promote JEA.

Awards & Honors

No new awards to report since the March report. I will address the advisers at next week's THSPA luncheon to urge them to apply for JEA's various student and adviser contests listed in the orange booklet.

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Mid-Atlantic/Great Lakes Region 6 Director



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From Delaware State Director Monica D. T. Prouse

No Report Submitted

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From District of Columbia Director Reginald W. Ragland, CJE



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Membership

a.) Fluctuating numbers. Overall, membership numbers have dropped (by four) from last year, subject to several pending adds (3, thanks to our Prime Movers partnership) and several more (7) pending renewals. Membership focus will be on retention. We are continuing a push, unsuccessful from last year, of encouraging "Institutional" memberships with universities, media organizations and library systems.

b) One year memberships. The Prime Movers Program at George Washington University, a 2008 Diversity Award Winner and Friend of Scholastic Journalism recipient, has been a great asset in helping fund first-year memberships to teachers participating in its program. Through a research assistant, it will assist DCJEA in surveying teachers needs (and students' interests) and in identifying why local teachers do and do not re-new after their first membership year.

Happenings

Several "happenings" have begun or on tap for the 2008-09 schools calendar year:

a.) Newseum-Hosted Teacher Reception--Although to a less-than-stellar turnout, the Newseum's Education Department hosted the fall reception for DC media teachers, October 7, giving them an overview of its Teacher Orientation and Planning Session (TOPS) program which helps teachers utilize the Newseum's web-based curriculum offerings. Through a grant with the Washington Post, the Newseum has provided free tours for teachers since its re-opening in April through March 2009. DCJEA is working with Newseum to provide a heavy push to ensure DC teachers--public, parochial, private and charter schools--participate in the program.

b.) Bell Multicultural High School Project--Bell Multicultural High School, a predominantly Hispanic school, in coordination with DCJEA, has helped partner it with the National Assn. of Hispanic Journalists and Latina Magazine for journalists-in-classroom visits and layout and design assistance as it revitalizes its school newspaper and its new, but previously unused, broadcast production facilities. DCJEA is providing teacher training resources and handouts, and coordinating the journalists visits. The partnership has gained the blessings of its principal, a former professional journalist.

c.) National Convention Planning w/ Maryland & Virginia--Developing. We are hoping the pre- and post-convention excitement will generate into membership growth and of course, revenues to undertake some new programming. An active campaign of getting "current" members involved in the convention planning is underway; then, in January, a secondary campaign of getting "new" members interested in helping and joining will commence. We will evaluate its success and notate it for the Fall 2009 report.

d.) Initial proposal for "Free Student Journalism" Legislation for District--The initial stage of talks are ensuing with D.C. Delegate Holmes Norton to sponsor a free student press bill for District schools tailored to those in California, Washington State and others. DCJEA is soliciting support from local professional journalism organizations in this effort.

e.) Partnerships--Three former "Friends of Scholastic Journalism" recipients continue to support DCJEA and scholastic journalism with active, worthwhile partnerships. DCJEA has submitted a proposal to expand its partnership, began last year, with 1) the Washington Assn. of Black Journalists' high school journalism workshop to provide teacher training resources to the professional journalists who serve as mentors. The 8-Saturday workshop begins in February. The proposal is being reviewed by the WABJ board; 2) is initiating a new element of its partnership with Prime Movers at George Washington University to survey teacher needs and interests; and 3) DCJEA continues to support the fall membership campaign of WAMU, the NPR station in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 18-23. WAMU's student radio project, Youth Voices, utilizes JEA resources in its training program and identifies students participating in JEA-membership schools.

Awards & Honors

a.) David G. Thompson, selected as a 2008 Friend of Scholastic Media Recipient. David is a coordinator with the Career and Technical Education Office, D.C. Public Schools, and, over the past seven years has directed several million dollars in broadcast production equipment and facilities renovations to four DCPS schools, helping to elevate their media production courses. He has also helped spearhead development of a broadcast curriculum and is a valued resource for post-secondary scholarships for students in both academic and technical areas of journalism and new technology studies.

For the Board

a.) Two year-for-one membership for first-time teachers. Rationale: To

offset the trend of "one year and done" memberships, which is problematic in DC as well, consider a select study of 2 years for the price of one (or 2 for a discounted price). While it may initially deplete regular revenue streams from this line item, the study could identify why teachers do or do not renew and provide data on what services they find helpful, unhelpful or lacking.

b.) Jobs board for teachers listed on JEA Web site. Rationale: This could be beneficial to both graduating seniors and current teachers looking for new opportunities. Most professional membership organizations have such an offering on their sites.

c.) Updating JEA materials. Rationale: As we move towards the last two years of the first decade of the 21st Century, a study should be undertaken to identify which JEA materials need updating to reflect current trends, changes of the new millennium. For example, State Director's Guide is a good document but dated 2000; it and several other initiatives (Scholastic Press Week campaign, for instance) do not or may not reflect references or emphasis of JEA mission to diversity, new media terminology or newer initiatives).

From Indiana State Director Nancy Hastings, MJE



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As the temperatures take a nosedive with winter chills quickly approaching, spirits remain high and hot as fall activities kick in.

The year started on a positive note as 530 students and advisers gathered at Franklin College in October for the Indiana High School Press Association State Convention. Nearly 200 students competed in Thursday night Write Offs.

Friday highlights included recognizing Elizabeth Granger of Lawrence Central High School in Indianapolis as the Ella Sengenberger Adviser of the Year. Dorothy Winchester and Mary Andis from the Department of Education earned the Louis Ingelhart Friends of Journalism Award for the work with getting the Journalism Standards passed by the state. Principals from Bloomington North HS and Lawrence North HS shared the Administrator of the Year honors for their support of high school journalism in their respective schools.

Highlighting the convention news Indiana's Department of Education has created a Journalism Career Pathway to help guide high school students in course selection to lead to a career in journalism. While Indiana has passed Journalism Standards for course work, advisers are still fighting for Core 40 Academic status to help with course enrollment. The Career Path is intended to give validity to journalism study as part of the requirements for Core 40 and the Academic Honors Diploma. The Career Pathway brochure can be found on the IHSPA website: <http://ihspa.franklincollege.edu>.

A First Amendment license plate may be on its way in Indiana. Hoping to promote First Amendment awareness and in celebration of Constitu-

tion Day, Lake Central High School (St. John, IN) Publications students have collaborated with the Indiana Department of Transportation to design the plate. The students are in the process of gathering 600 signatures and fund raising for a required bond to cover the cost of the plates. Hopefully, once these two requirements are met, Indiana will add a First Amendment plate next spring to its list of specialty plates, available for an extra \$10 fee.

From Michigan State Director Brian Wilson



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Membership

Membership appears to be down slightly in the state. Among publications advisers, university programs, yearbook reps, and lifetime memberships, we have 71 current (paid) memberships as of 9/26/08, down from 82 at this point last year. It may be that some of those just haven't yet renewed, as there are 34 expired memberships, and I know that some of those will be renewing. This number seems higher than it has in the past. The overall trend is still upward, as the 2006 JEA directory listed 66 members from Michigan. That, in turn, was up from 57 in 2005, 59 in 2003, and 46 in 2001. From conversations I've had with Michigan advisers, I believe the state will once again be well-represented at the national convention in St. Louis.

Happenings

The biggest event so far this year has been our inaugural Student Press Rights conference held at the State Capitol on Constitution Day, September 17. More than 175 students from across Michigan came together to validate the importance of their First Amendment rights. Mary Beth Tinker was the featured speaker, and winners of the student free speech essay competition shared their winning entries. Here's a link to a story that ran in Michigan State University student newspaper, The State News:

http://www.statenews.com/index.php/article/2008/09/capitol_rally_celebrates_constitution_day

Part of the push in the Constitution Day event was to advance the student press rights bill that was introduced in the state House last year but has stalled. Essentially, it states that students, not administrators, are responsible for the content of their publications, and outlaws the practice of prior review. The same bill had been introduced in the Senate two years ago, but it never got out of committee talks. In the house, Rep Andy Coulouris is the primary sponsor, and seven other reps have signed on. MIPA has run a postcard campaign with students around the state, and has gotten some positive feedback from the representatives who signed on to the bill.

One goal that I've set as a state director is to increase the number of entries that we have in the Journalist of the Year competition. Although I've been really pleased that Michigan's candidate has finished in the top five nationally in each of the last two years, I also think that we can continue to improve the quality of our submissions. In Michigan

this year we are planning to connect our state-wide journalism student honors with JEA's Journalist of the Year. The goal is to get the strongest candidates for both competitions, and to eliminate the need for students to create two separate-but-identical portfolios; ideally, students who only entered one of the contests in the past would now be automatically entering both.

From Ohio State Director Georgia Dunn



Georgia Dunn

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Membership

Membership in Ohio has increased this year. Last year at this time, we had 45 members. Currently we are at 52 with a few more new memberships to be forwarded from OSMA, our state affiliate organization.

Happenings

Ohio Scholastic Media Association (OSMA)

After two years of work, the three scholastic journalism groups across the state have merged into one organization called the Ohio Scholastic Media Association (OSMA). The former groups included Journalism Association of Ohio Schools, Great Lakes Interscholastic Press Association, and Northeast Ohio Scholastic Press Association. Members chose a board of directors representing each of the five regions across the state.

Officers of the new group are Jim McGonnell, president; Wayne Dunn, vice president; Kelly Taylor, secretary, and Carol Hemmerly, treasurer.

Each of the five regions planned fall workshops. Region Three was at Sinclair Community College Oct. 1, Region Four at Findlay was Oct. Region One at Kent State will be Oct. 15, and Region Two at Ohio University was on Nov. 7. The Region Five event will be Dec. 5 at Otterbein College.

The group will hold its second state conference at Kent in April.

OSMA is also embarking on a partnership with the Ohio High School Athletic Association. We hope to work on improving the accessibility of high school journalists to area and state-wide tournaments. In addition, we want to educate high school journalists, including photographers, about the rules for obtaining press credentials as well as what is expected of them at athletic contests.

Mentoring

We have embarked on the second year of the JEA mentoring project, underwritten by the Ohio Newspaper Association. Last year mentors Wayne and Georgia Dunn mentored four advisers: three in the Columbus area and one in South Central Ohio. This year, they are adding one more in the Columbus area and one or two more in South Central Ohio. The Duns and two of the mentees will be presenting a session about mentoring in St. Louis.

Award & Honors

NSPA Individual Awards:

Congratulations to Katherine Cooney, of the Spark, Lakota East High School, for her honorable mention in Sports Story of the Year in the National Scholastic Press Association Story of the Year contest!

Congratulations to these two schools from Ohio who have been named finalists in the National Scholastic Press Association's Pacemaker Awards.

The Blue & Gold, Findlay HS, Findlay, Ohio; Ashley Lazar, editor; Jim McGonnell, adviser

The Chronicle, William Mason HS, Mason, Ohio; Shea Davidson, editor; Dale Conner, adviser

From Virginia State Director Fran Sharer, CJE



Fran Sharer

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Our membership remains almost constant, 100 JEA/VAJTA members, 2 Lifetime JEA members, and 10 VATJA only.

We have several initiatives this year...one compiling a state-wide EXCEL list of all journalism teachers and all advisers of publications. Chad Rummel, our Associate Director, came up with the idea, and he is continuing to work compiling the information.

Our second year of partnership with Virginia Tech continued with JCamp, and that program will continue this summer on the campus of Virginia Tech. The numbers grew last year, and we expect that to be the case again this year.

We have begun our own mentorship program after two days of training in Charlottesville in July. Each of the ten retired teachers has at least 2 protégées, and next year we will have four. The JEA State Director is not retired, but she is out of the classroom and does have two protégées.

We presented workshops at the Virginia High School League Championship Workshop in early October, and we had over 80 people participate in the Write Off Contests, and one school received the Championship Trophy for most participants and the highest rating of their publications.

The Virginia Beach journalism teachers have been asked to partner with the local newspaper, and plans are in the works to work together on various projects such as guest speakers, online newspaper storage, etc. The JEA State Director has been asked to be a part of their advisory committee and has accepted.

Of course, we are busy planning next fall's JEA Conference in Washington, DC. Valerie Penton, our VAJTA State Director is the general chair for the event. We have high hopes that this will be one of the finest

conferences ever! Maryland and DC are joining VAJTA in the work.

WriteOff entries were down last year so we are advertising much earlier this year.

From West Virginia State Director Ruby A. Dyer



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Membership

Membership in West Virginia is up slightly although we need more teachers and organizations to realize the benefits of JEA. Hopefully with distribution of materials at workshops, membership will increase even more in the future.

Happenings

The two major conventions in the state are scheduled for 2009 although official dates have not been announced yet. The United High School Media convention at Marshall University in Huntington, W.Va. will take place in February or March. The convention features workshops, a media challenge in a "Jeopardy!" like format, and a banquet featuring a guest speaker from the media and awards. The West Virginia University High School Journalism Competition usually takes place in March or April on the WVU campus in Morgantown, W.Va. After submitting samples of their work in various categories, finalists are invited to the campus for on-the-spot competitions. Awards are announced the following day at a banquet.

The W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Marshall University has also sent out forms for juniors and seniors to apply for the Scholastic Journalism Program. Sixteen students interested in pursuing journalism in college will spend three days on campus in November attending college classes and learning more about various journalism majors available to them.

Walsworth representative Jeff Brent is planning a digital camera workshop at the Clay Center in early November.

Awards & Honors

State JEA director Ruby Dyer was one of six finalists in the West Virginia Teacher of the Year competition. Dyer has taught journalism and English in Wayne County for 35 years. She has advised the award-winning school newspaper for 35 years and the award-winning yearbook for 27 years.

Ron Bonadonna, CJE
Northeast Region 7 Director



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• State Director Eileen Regen from New Hampshire reports that her attempts to start a newspaper program at Profile Middle/High School did not come to fruition. However, she reports a promise from the school officials to look further next year. Also, Eileen would be interested in the mentoring program coming to New Hampshire.

From New York State Director Sherri Taylor



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• Sherri Taylor, State Director from New York, reports that ESSPA (Empire State School Press Association) participates in the unified membership scheme with JEA and that membership in JEA has been “pretty consistent.” ESSPA held its annual fall conference on Oct. 17 at the Newhouse School at Syracuse University. Featured speakers were Gary Lundgren, Robert Greenman and Mike McLean “Our publications com-

petitions,” writes Sherri, “continue to draw healthy numbers of entrants.” The Association also hosted a summer five-day journalism workshop called School Press Institute. Sherri reminds us that CSPA (Columbia Scholastic Press Association) will hold a one-day fall conference in November at Columbia University. While New York did not have a JOY candidate for 2007, Sherri hopes more interest can be attracted for this year. Christina Semple, the adviser of The Courant newspaper at Com-mack H. S., was the Adviser of the Year. “In terms of initiatives for the First Amendment, the newly opened Newhouse Three building (on the campus of Syracuse University) has the words of the First Amendment etched into its glass walls. It’s a beautiful and very public display of these important words.”

From Rhode Island State Director Elizabeth Martin



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• Good news comes from Elizabeth Martin, State Director from Rhode Island: membership has doubled! (to 4!!!) Elizabeth intends to do a mailing to all Rhode Island schools to increase membership further and promote the idea of a state organization. Rhode Island had a JOY candidate last year and Elizabeth hopes that now, with four members, the competition will be keener.

From New Jersey State Director Susan Everett, MJE



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• As always, New Jersey is very active in JEA affairs, starting with the work Susan Everett (our State Director) does at the annual GSSPA (Garden State Scholastic Press Association) Student Press Day, this year on Oct. 27 at Busch Campus Student Center, Rutgers University. New Jersey has the unified membership scheme; Susan makes sure that JEA applications and bookstore catalogs are included in every adviser’s packet (over 100). Thanks to the New Jersey Press Foundation, our JOY candidate receives an impressive \$5,000 Bernard Kilgore Memorial Scholarship as, first, the New Jersey Scholastic Journalist of the Year, awarded in partnership with GSSPA, and then as the representative of New Jersey in the JEA JOY competition. Susan Everett and I will be receiving Lifetime Achievement awards at the JEA convention in St.

Louis this year. Susan reminds us that one visit to the GSSPA web site at www.gsspa.org will show you how active New Jersey is in scholastic journalism and First Amendment initiatives.

From Pennsylvania State Director Wanda Pletcher



Wanda Pletcher

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• Finally, from Pennsylvania, Wanda Pletcher, State Director and PSPA (Pennsylvania School Press Association) President, reports that she continues to send emails and promote JEA membership. PSPA also participates in the unified membership program. "We have also begun," writes Wanda, "to offer news feeds from national journalism organizations and the SPLC on the PSPA website." She is interested in creating a JEA website RSS feed. Wanda was at the Anaheim Convention and participated in the State Associations session. She reports that several Pennsylvania advisers will be at St. Louis to present sessions and offer discounts to advisers who attend the regional Meet 'n Greet, and that she will be in Phoenix to present a session and attend meetings. She hopes to take an active role in preparations for the Washington convention next fall. "We have also begun preparations to increase awareness of the PSPA mentoring program. Adviser Casey Henry has undertaken this project and hopes to get more details about the JEA program and perhaps coordinate our efforts with JEA efforts."

The remainder of Wanda's report is said best in its entirety: "PSPA has upgraded its website to include many more features which make it more user friendly. The site contains a wealth of information. A state convention is planned in State College, PA March 12-13. Regional director Ron Bonadona has volunteered to come to the convention. PSPA will provide him with table space to promote JEA. PSPA would also be willing to put any print materials JEA would like to provide into the bags at our state convention. PSPA has made a goal to stay involved with national organizations. The board will continue to send the president to one convention per year and also to provide up to \$500 for other board members to travel to these conventions.

The Primemovers program has continued to focus on creating journalism programs in PA. Warren Watson has provided free PSPA membership to those schools wishing to participate in PSPA.

I have remained active with PennCORD at the National Constitution Center. This program promotes first amendment education. They are currently focusing on helping student journalists cover the election and have sponsored a video contest. Their events are promoted on the PSPA Web site. I have also spoken to member schools about the benefits of joining journalism associations and attending conferences.

The partnership with the National Constitution Center has also allowed me to reach out to advisors within the state and across the country. Last spring I attended the Peter Jennings Project for Journalists and the Constitution. At this event I spoke with advisors about the value of belonging

to both the state and national journalism associations.

PennCORD provides me with an outlet to reach schools that are not necessarily already PSPA members. PennCORD employs regional representatives. I have made contact with those representatives and provided them with PSPA and JEA membership information.

I am continuing to promote the SJOY contest. I have appointed a PSPA awards chair and have begun sending out emails with tips for potential candidates. Although our state convention will come after the deadline, we will also offer a session on preparing your SJOY portfolio to help students prepare for next year.

I look forward to working with JEA in the coming year.

Sincerely,
Wanda Pletcher

From Connecticut State Director Alena Cybart



Alena Cybart

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No Report Submitted

From Maine State Director Dawn Pendergrass

No Report Submitted

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From Massachusetts State Director Brian Baron

No Report Submitted

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From Vermont State Director Nancy Olson



Nancy Olson

No Report Submitted

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Linda Barrington MJE and Julie Dodd MJE
JEA Mentoring Committee – co-chairs



Linda Barrington



Julie Dodd

Committee members – Candace Perkins Bowen MJE, Nick Ferentinos, Bill Flechtner MJE, Peggy Gregory CJE, Norma Kneese MJE and Steve O'Donoghue

The JEA Mentoring Program is entering its second school year – and second year in a three-year funding commitment from JEA. For 2007-2008, 10 mentors – representing Colorado (Katy Gray and Dianne Gum), Kansas (Linda Drake CJE and Mary Anne McCloud), Ohio (Georgia Dunn and Wayne Dunn CJE), Oregon (Bill Flechtner MJE and Carla Harris MJE) and Wisconsin (Nancy Becker and Sandy Jacoby) -- were trained at the Philadelphia and Anaheim conventions. Each was asked to mentor two new journalism teachers. For 2008-2009, 11 mentors – representing California (Rick Brown, Jolene Combs, Konnie Krislock, Jim Shuman and Katharine Swan), Illinois (Babs Erickson and Randy Swikle CJE), North Carolina (Kay Phillips MJE and Martha Rothwell CJE) and Oregon (Ellen Kersey CJE and Patty Turley) – were trained at a 3-day session held in July at UC/Berkeley. The returning 10 mentors continue to work with their two mentees from last year and add one to three additional mentees. The 11 new mentors are recruiting two mentees.

JEA is funding the program for \$30,000 a year to pay for mentor training. Yellow Chair Foundation has provided an additional \$25,000 a year for three years for programming support, which includes Mentor Forums that will be held at each convention for additional mentor training. In addition, Yellow Chair Foundation is paying the \$2,500 mentor stipend for each of five mentors from California.

Each participating state is responsible for paying the mentor stipends. Funding sources include state scholastic press associations and state

press associations. At the Anaheim convention, Sandy Woodcock, education director for NAAF, announced that NAAF would provide four \$2,500 stipends for mentors of minority advisers or advisers in minority majority schools. Three of those stipends were awarded for 2008-2009. Woodcock went through the mentor training at UC/Berkeley and also led sessions on "High School Journalism Matters," the NAAF report based on Jack Dvorak's research.

While in Berkeley, committee members met with Woodcock and the Yellow Chair Foundation to discuss the mentor program, data collection, funding and reporting. The funders recommended that stipend payment be linked to completion of mentor requirements, such as submitting monthly mentor reports. The committee adopted that recommendation and will be paying mentors twice during the year – at the end of each semester once all required materials are received. States are asked to send the stipend funds to JEA Headquarters for payment to the mentors.

The first Mentor Forum will be held all-day Thursday at the St. Louis convention with Nick Ferentinos, Peggy Gregory and Bill Flechtner planning the training. Judy Robinson will conduct a session on audio recording. The mentors will be asked to record interviews with their mentees and their students that can be used in documenting the mentoring program.

At the Anaheim convention, several of the mentors conducted sessions for new advisers that were well attended. Based on that success, the mentors are offering sessions at St. Louis that will be highlighted as sessions for New or Nearly New Advisers.

Linda Barrington is preparing an online newsletter to provide information about the program that will be shared with the JEA board, funders and other interested parties (i.e. the principals of mentees, potential funders, etc.). Judy Robinson is helping prepare promotional materials about the program.

Plans are beginning for recruiting new mentors for 2009-2010. The committee would like to hold the training next summer at Kansas State.

The Mentoring Committee and the mentors appreciate the JEA board's support of the program.

Julie Dodd, MJE
Scholastic Press Association Directors Liaison



Julie Dodd

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The Scholastic Press Association directors and board members held a roundtable at the Anaheim convention. Forty attended the session.

High School Journalism Matters – Sandy Woodcock discussed the NAAF-funded research project, conducted by Jack Dvorak. High school students who participate in school journalism programs earn significantly higher grade point averages, score better on college entrance exams

and demonstrate better writing and grammar skills in college compared with students who had no involvement with their school's newspaper or yearbook, according to a study of more than 31,000 students. Woodcock distributed a brochure she helped prepare of the study's results. This summary report and the full report can be found on the NAAF Web site. SPA directors gave Woodcock a round of applause for her involvement in this important project. They discussed how to distribute the information to their members.

JEA Mentoring Program – Linda Barrington and Julie Dodd discussed the progress of the program in its first year – with five states, 10 mentors and 25 mentees. New participants for 2008-2009 will be from California, Illinois, North Carolina and Oregon. Sandy Woodcock announced that NAAF was providing stipend funding for four mentors who had to be mentoring a minority adviser or an adviser in a minority-majority school.

Several SPA e-newsletters have been sent to share information about activities and events related to scholastic journalism or job announcements for scholastic journalism directors.

Candace Perkins Bowen, MJE

Listserv Liaison



Candace Bowen

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As of Oct. 11, 2008, the JEAHELP list, open to all members, had 943 members, 47 more than last fall. The JEATALK list, for officers, commission and committee chairs and regional and state directors has 81, two more than last fall.

Listserv Trivia:

- The word “help” appeared 2,124 times in the last year. Newspapers were referenced 3,121 times and yearbooks 2870.
- From somewhere in Chicago, Wayne posted 219 messages with Chad way back at 134. And even with weekly news quizzes, cpb only posted 126 times.
- Paul Kandell and Robert Greenman posted on July 4th...and then Mark Murray reminded the list that was Linda Puntney's birthday....so four more people who were apparently not watching live fireworks chimed in.
- Most responses? The plea for suggestions to use with the “Angry Mom” who threatened to bring a mob of disgruntled parents to open house and protest the ad policy brought the most -- 17 -- plus 11 more with the subject line “ads,” which really was addressing the same issue. Other topics that got lots of replies this fall: newspaper distribution (15), texting students (15) and yearbook indexes (15).
- Another favorite bore the simple subject line: “Sucks.” The teacher asked, “Do any of you allow the word “sucks” to be used in a direct quote? I never have....” This had 20 responses....and at least four school servers' spam filters rejected the message. One responded: “A banned

word or phrase was discovered. The file has been removed. See your system administrator for further information. Content Rule(s): ‘Profanity (English) > Severity – Medium.’”

I monitor the lists daily, offering on- and off-list advice related to postings, deleting those members who can't figure out how to do it themselves, changing addresses for those who switched ISPs, checking to see if those who ask to join are really JEA members and adding those Pam Boller at JEA Headquarters sends me. When someone asks to be on the list and isn't a member, Pam also e-mails them a nice invitation to join.

My periodic reminders of various functional and ethical matters – such as how to REALLY get off the list, the rationale for not promoting anything with financial gain, how to use the archives, etc. — have not been as frequent lately. The list “froze” several times since the beginning of the school year because postings exceeded the 50-message limit, a fail-safe to keep a spam-crazy computer from flooding the list.

It also write and post the Current Events Quiz each Tuesday night to both JEAHELP and the RTNDF broadcast teacher list.

Logan Aimone, MJE

National Scholastic Press Association Liaison



Logan Aimone

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Membership

Four NSPA Board members left at the end of their terms: Pamela Foster, Liz Keeling, Mead Loop and Cheryl Pell. Two new board members joined as of Oct. 1, 2008: Tim Dorway, principal at Mayo High School in Rochester, Minn., and Monica Hill, director of the North Carolina Scholastic Media Association at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Hired Kathy Huting as contest and critique coordinator and Emily Griesser as member services director.

Happenings

Updated and revised Yearbook Guidebook and Magazine Guidebook for use in 2008 critique cycle. Newspaper Guidebook revision in progress. Creating new Multimedia Guidebook for use in 2009 critique cycle. Continued distributing Blend magazine for 2008-09 school year.

Awards & Honors

Recognized seven educators as Pioneers: Jim Crook, retired from the University of Tennessee; Beth Fitts, Mississippi Scholastic Press Association; Kathleen Hansen, University of Minnesota; Sarah Nichols, Whitney High School, Rocklin, Calif.; Kathy Schrier, Washington Journalism Education Association; Alan Weintraut, Annandale (Va.) High School; and Sandy Woodcock, Newspaper Association of America Foundation.

For the Board

Through the Minnesota High School Press Association, a program of NSPA, the organization is interested in supporting additional outreach to journalism educators in Minnesota, particularly at a retreat or through

CJE/MJE certification.

Linda Barrington, MJE
NCTE Liaison



Linda Barrington

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Membership

All membership of JEA are automatically members of the NCTE Assembly for Advisors of Student Publications. Our group is the largest assembly in NCTE.

Happenings

The NCTE yearly convention will be held in San Antonio, Nov. 20-25. We will be sponsoring two concurrent sessions and one all-day workshop:

- Concurrent session called "Putting Sizzle in Your Writing with Journalism" will be presented by Sue Blackmon and Lori Oglesbee.
- Concurrent session called "Journalism: Effective Writing for Every Classroom" will be presented by Jane Blystone, Joy McCaleb and Eston Melton.
- All-day Workshop: Carol Lange, Ron Bennett, Linda Lane-Hamilton and Alan Weintraut will present "Intensive Journalistic Writing: Changing the Ways You Teach AP English Composition and Journalism."
- The booth includes information for advisers of literary magazines, yearbooks, and broadcast media. I also include information from the Illinois First Amendment Center and from ASNE about their summer program for advisers.

•I am also attending the convention for the Conference for English Leadership, which overlaps the NCTE convention in San Antonio. Its mission is to support the development of new and experienced leaders. This year's theme, "Leadership for Learning: Learning to Lead" is designed to highlight the many ways that leaders can improve learning for students and effect meaningful change and commitment within their communities. I am presenting a session on National Board certification which will include journalism as an avenue for strong English leadership.

Tom Gayda, MJE
Scholastic Journalism Week Chair



Tom Gayda

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This year Scholastic Journalism Week appeared to be a somewhat successful event. This year we had a contest as part of SJW, "10 Reasons to Be Involved with Scholastic Journalism." A new poster was created for staffs to hang in their classrooms, too. A series of JEAHELP messages were posted throughout the week to build excitement for the week.

The SJW committee is looking for members to help plan next year's activities. Interested advisers should contact Tom Gayda at tgayda@msdwt.k12.in.us.

Next year's Scholastic Journalism Week is Feb. 22-28.