JEA Semi-Annual Report

Prepared for the Washington, DC Convention Board Meeting - Nov. 12, 2009

Mary Beth Tinker Presents Phoenix Keynote Speech

Marking the 40th anniversary of the Supreme Court's landmark decision in favor of student rights, Mary Beth Tinker presented the keynote speech at the spring convention in Phoenix.

Tinker, her brothers and sister, and other students in Des Moines, wore black armbands to school in December of 1965 to protest the war in Vietnam. The lawsuit over the suspension of students (*Tinker v. Des Moines*) went to the Supreme Court. On Feb. 24, 1969 the Court ruled in favor of the students. Justice Abe Fortas wrote for the majority that students do not "shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate."

Mary Beth Tinker holds a commemorative black armband while talking with students following her keynote address. (photo by John Bowen)





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The next two years promise to be "interesting times," as the Chinese curse mentions. The recession has slowed down our search for a new executive director, and has made everyone involved in the leadership of the organization a bit paranoid about conventions and membership. On the other hand, JEA has smashed into a new age in terms of using jea.org for Write-Offs and on-line voting, with much more to come. Our Digital Media Committee is busy helping advisers with varying levels of technology expertise edge closer to adding something to our students' experience beyond printed publications. Adviser Outreach has become one of our best ways to help educate advisers throughout the country. And the

Mentor program continues to match experienced, trained advisers with new advisers across the nation. C:JET magazine continues to set the pace among all scholastic journalism publications, and JEAHELP continues to grow as a forum as well as an important source of inspiration and curriculum. As the recession stretches out, we see more and more issues arising in terms of journalism programs being dropped or curtailed, and more and more attempts to censor valid student speech. When a nation becomes fearful and angry, as the United States has, those with less power tend to get hit hardest. Studetns and schools are experiencing trying times. JEA, along with our partners at NSPA and SPLC, among other essential organizations, must provide support for advisers and student journalists, while taking care of our our own balance sheets and personnel. We are in this thing for the long term, and as my father would say, "This too shall pass." What shall not pass is the importance of scholastic journalism in growing a strong, thoughtful and courageous citizenry. Never forget that we are doing good work. As I begin my second, and final, term as president, I continue to be excited about our profession and about our students. All the other stuff will get worked out.



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Emails were sent to state directors to make them aware of the requirements for receiving convention stipend and to remind them of the report deadlines. Throughout the year I have judged for Ohio, South Dakota, New Jersey, Missouri, and Nebraska.

I attended the fall convention of the Nebraska High School Press Association where I spoke to Nebraska advisers about the importance of involvement at both the state and national levels. I also encouraged JEA membership, JEA certification, and pointed out the future convention sites.



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Linda Drake, CJE Secretary

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Susan Hathaway Tantillo, MJE Past Secretary, Past Awards Committee Chair

Since Phoenix, even though my official board position ended July 1, I have represented and promoted JEA as past secretary as I taught a NewsU course and the Kent State ASNE Institute with Candace and John Bowen and H.L. I also promoted JEA as I taught student and adviser sessions for the Illinois State High School Press Association conference Sept. 25. As Treasurer of Illinois JEA, I encourage members to join JEA also. I will promote JEA again as I present student and adviser sessions at the Kettle Moraine Press Association Oct. 16. I have judged formally for Pennsylvania and the Kettle Moraine Press Association and New Jersey along with offering advice informally in Illinois. I have also ementored new and soon-to-be advisers.

I have handed off JEA secretary files and records to Linda Drake, CJE, my successor on the board and wish Linda all the best. I know she will be a great board and Executive Committee member as she brings not only a new voice to these groups but also a wealth of experience and enthusiasm.

As a transition to a new Awards Committee Chair, I oversaw the 2009-10 Awards Committee as members selected those to be honored in Washington, D.C. As my part of that process, I received the votes from committee members and notified winners and all nominators of the outcome of the selections. I also notified the principals of those honorees who are classroom teahers. Then turned all the Awards Committee records and files over to Linda Drake, CJE, new Awards Committee chair as appointed by Jack Kennedy, JEA president. Again, I wish Linda all the best in this position and know she will do a wonderful job.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2009 awards process by identifying worthy candidates, writing letters of nomination and writing letters of support and to the committee members who gave so much time to thoughtful analysis of the nominees.

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

The 2009-10 Awards Committee, including a representative from each JEA region and the 2009 Rising Star winners along with at-large members, will meet during the convention to discuss the Teacher Inspiration Award and Rising Star nominees and the selection process.

JEA Awards Winners List, Fall 2009

Carl Towley Award

John Hudnall, Former Executive Director Kansas Scholastic Press Association, Lawrence, Kan.

Administrator of the Year

Dr. Richard Allen Leonard II, Principal, South Pointe HS, Rock Hill, S.C.

Medal of Merit

Michele M. Dunaway, MJE, Francis Howell HS, St. Charles, Mo. Tom Gayda, MJE, North Central HS, Indianapolis, Ind. Charla A. Harris, Pleasant Grove HS, Texarkana, Texas Janet B. Levin, MJE, John Hersey HS, Arlington Heights, Ill.

Friend of Scholastic Journalism

Marion E. Best, Editor, Moultrie County News-Progress, Sullivan, Ill. John Cutsinger, Senior Creative Accounts Manager, Jostens, Ocoee, Fla. Carol Knopes, Director of Education Programs, Radio and Television News Directors Foundation, Washington, D.C. Sen. Leland Yee, San Francisco, Calif.

Bill Lord, Vice President for News, WJLA-TV, Washington, D.C. Cheryl L. Smith, Executive Editor, The Dallas (Texas) Weekly

Lifetime Achievement Award
Herman Albers, Red Bud, Ill.
Laurie Erdmann, DeKalb, Ill.
Nick Ferentinos, Saratoga, Calif.
Terry M. Nelson, Muncie, Ind.
Steve O'Donoghue, Sacramento, Calif.
James Starnes, Herrin, Ill.
Gretchen Wehmhoff-Stoltze, Chugiak, Alaska

The 2009-10 Awards Committee includes Linda Drake, CJE, chair; Kathy Schrier, MJE, Representing Northwest Region; Carmen Wendt, CJE, Representing Southwest Region; Stacy Haynes-Moore, CJE, Representing North Central Region; Wayna C. Polk, CJE, South Central Director; Monica Hill, CJE, Representing Southeast Region; Martha Akers, Representing Mid-Atlantic/Great Lakes Region; Jane Blystone, MJE, Northeast Director. At-large members are Hillary Aerts, CJE; Courtney Archer, CJE; Alyssa Armentrout, 2009 Rising Star; Jason Block, 2009 Rising Star; Ron Bonadonna, CJE; Amanda Paola Casares, 2009 Rising Star; Kristy Dekat, CJE, 2009 Rising Star; Kellie Doyle; Liz Keeling; Jeff Moffitt, CJE; Louis Plumley.

On a personal note, I will miss my direct involvement with JEA in various board positions – appointed and elected – going back to 1978. I tried to "retire" from JEA in 2001 when I retired from full-time teaching, but I found I wasn't ready. I'm not sure I'm ready now either, but it is time... time for a new voice on the JEA board and time for me to get on with my "bucket list." My JEA friends across the country are the best and closest friends I will ever have – we share a calling and a vision — and I will miss the certainty of seeing you twice a year at conventions. But I will continue to "see" you on JEAHELP and Twitter and Facebook and through e-mail. I'm not falling off the face of the scholastic journalism earth. Have a wonderful convention in D.C. I'm certain you will!



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Past President Ann Visser, MJE

HAPPENINGS

I was able to attend the month out meeting in Washington, D.C. The convention promises to be a huge success, and the local committee has done an incredible job of organizing and promoting the event. At the year out meeting last fall, we were concerned about the economy's possible effect on attendance. It appears that those fears have been set to rest as the hotel block at the Marriott Wardman Park is full, and overflow hotels are also filling.

Additionally, I attended the Iowa High School Press Association Fall Regional Conference held in early October at Southeast Polk High School near Des Moines. At that meeting, I talked with several members about JEA and the upcoming Fall 2011 convention in Kansas City, which affords many who cannot travel long distances the chance to attend the national convention.



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Mark Newton, MJE, Certification Commission Chair

We completed the following projects:

- New CJE exam 50 multiple-choice questions, 20 short-answer questions and eight demonstration activities, one of which involves a writing exercise — evaluation rubric and study guide. The exam is now aligned with JEA's Standards for Journalism Educators.
- Added a level to the CJE exam requiring candidates to pass the law/ ethics section in order the pass the exam.
- Developed "Get Certified" convention sessions around key areas of journalism education, all aligned with the teaching standards and assessed in the exams.
- Revised the Certification portion of the JEA Web site to reflect new and revised content according to changes in the CJE exam.
- Created Facebook (I'm Certified) and Twitter (jeacertified) accounts as way to reach membership, including #ysfriday (Twitter) for Yellow Shirt Friday.

The following projects are in progress and will be ready by the Portland

- Update the MJE exam, application, project guide/rubric and study guides.
- Develop additional version(s) of the CJE exam.
- Use social media to market and educate about the Certification process and exam content

Our next action items are:

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

We are exploring the following and welcome all comments:

- Post on the JEA Web site the fact that graduate credit from Kansas State can be earned for acquiring MJE status (project, exam, etc.).
- Post on the JEA Web site a database of all MJE projects.

Information items:

• Our current active files show 410 CJEs and 123 MJEs. In Washington, DC we expect to honor 27 CJEs and 7 MJEs.



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Lori Oglesbee, MJE, Development/Curriculum Commission Chair

The Curriculum and Development Commission strives to provide meaningful, connected curriculum to enrich and infuse classrooms with innovative lesson plans.

Our largest undertaking is developing national standards for the journalism classroom. Less than half the states have journalism-specific benchmarks/objectives/standards. We have collected the information from 32 states through Language Arts and Journalism standards. We will spend some time at the convention examining and comparing the results.

Through the Listserv and the JEA Curriculum Web site (http://me.com/ lao4), teachers have access to tried and true plans as well as new lesson plans and PowerPoints. Course outlines are also located there.

We continue to support the mentoring plan with curriculum support.

Also, SPLC approached me prior to the Phoenix convention to brainstorm ideas to involve the yearbook companies in the 40th anniversary of the Tinker Decision. A quick contact with David Massy from Walsworth, Mike Taylor from Taylor, Ann Akers from Herff Jones and Gary Lundgren from Jostens generated matching funds up to \$2,500 each for the Saturday afternoon collection. The student donation was the largest to date, and the matching funds generated \$10,000 for SPLC.



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

The adviser members of the Junior High/Middle School Commission discussed making a change to the time the Middle Madness session is scheduled at convention. Advisers and students expressed that it's hard to choose between the Middle Madness session and other sessions offered at the same time. The commission wanted to explore the idea of holding the session on Thursday evening. The thought was that the students would meet others their age, discuss what sessions were available on Friday and Saturday, and then go together as a group to the opening ceremonies.

The quality of portfolios for the Aspiring Young Journalists Award continue to impress the committee.

The commission encourages the Board to explore ways to continue the Write-offs for junior high/middle school students at convention. Advisers expressed concern that it is difficult to enter students with the limited categories. They also expressed concerns about having junior high/middle school students judged against older, more experienced high school students.

Members of the commission pledge to spread the word to let more advisers know about the benefits of JEA membership and attendance at national conventions.



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Norma Kneese

Norma Kneese, MJE, Multicultural Commission Chair

Yvonne Johnson was the Outreach Academy Chair for the spring convention 2009. There were many compliments on Yvonne's organization and treats she handed out. There were 23 participants at the academy. Some of the feedback on the Outreach Academy were:

"There was a great array of knowledgeable professionals."

"Enjoyed the law session. I thought more advisers needed that knowledge base."

"The diversity and resources for student needs and building better programs was phenomenal."

"Talking with the high school students was interesting as well."

"The Academy gave me huge insights into scholastic journalism."

Washington D.C. Outreach Academy Chair is Zena Whitworth.

Kate Moore has been appointed the 2010 Portland Convention Outreach Academy Chair.

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. An Outreach Academy brochure created by Steve O'Donoghue and Stan Zoller has been produced for the Washington, D.C. convention.

The Diversity Award was given to Don Bott, Stagg Line Adviser at Amos Alonzo Stagg High School. Honorable Mention was awarded to Annandale High School's Annandale Antenna Yearbook with Niki Holmes as advisers. The Diversity Award is open for applications. The due date for these applications is October 15.

At the Phoenix convention, several workshops were presented. Rick Rodriguez of the ASU Cronkite School in Phoenix, Arizona presented "Diversity--A Key to Journalism's Future." An Issue Seminar: Immigration and Border Issues was presented by several members of the professional press in Arizona. Don Bott, 2009 Diversity Award recipient, presented a workshop on "Diversity: Yes We Can and Yes It Still Matters."

One of the points brought up in the Commission meeting was that scheduling of diversity workshops and seminars overlapped each other. It was suggested that diversity workshops and seminars should be identified clearly so they could be scheduled alternately for better attendance.



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John Bowen, MJE, Scholastic Press Rights Commission Chair

Besides handling its usual array of individual requests for advice and assistance, the commission has been active in several major tasks:

• The Adviser Assistance Program (AAP)

Commission chairs worked on this proposal over the summer will present it as a motion to the board in DC. The motion will outline how all commissions can work together to help advisers who request assistance before, during and after situations affecting their ability to teach and advise their journalism students. JEA state and regional director knowledge or and attention to such situations will be a major part in the AAP program.

• A motion for JEA to support state legislation

The commission will introduce a resolution that JEA go on record as supporting state legislation that will protect student expression and adviser rights as well as administrators who encourage student decision making and responsibility.

• Development and presentation of its blog, Facebook page and Twitter site

Since its start in September, commission members Fern Valentine, Matt Schott, Carrie Faust, Candace Bowen and John Bowen have posted to the commission blog, www.jeasprc.org, We would like to continue to post daily and encourage more commission members to participate. The number of people visiting and commenting on the blog has increased, but we need to draw more attention to it. The commission also has a

presence on the Five Freedoms site, www.fivefreedoms.org.

Commission members continue to work with NEOLA on their new policy choices. At least one of the new policy recommendations has some promise, but we still have concerns about the wording and the way the updated policies are presented.

As usual, commission members have been involved nationwide talking to students and advisers about legal issues and how to handle them. The number of requests, if anything, has increased. Commission members have also posted comments to newspaper articles and blogs about scholastic censorship issues.

Still in its sights are creation and revision of materials to support the AAP; updating its Web presence and Web materials and expansion of its efforts to assist advisers or students requesting such intervention.

Individual reports:

• Karen Barrett

I have been busy working with my district's administration on getting our publications online. The admins are concerned about legal issues with students photos and names both published online. I have met with admins twice now in conjunction with Jason Block, adviser at Prospect High School.

I'm also still working on getting the JEA Press Rights web site evaluated by PositionTechnologies, the company my husband works for. Unfortunately, the recent agreement between Yahoo and Microsoft has put undue stress on the company. So what would have been easy a year ago, is now a little more difficult. I'm still hoping to have this done by D.C.

Finally, I did finish my MJE project this past spring. My project is a teaching unit for Law and Ethics. I am happy to share this with the commission on its Web site are in any other manner that might be helpful to our work.

• Jane Blystone

My work with/for the JEA SPRC has been varied and sometimes, intense in the past months. During this past school year, I have the privilege of connecting with two advisers in PA who were battling censorship issues. One adviser, in southwestern PA, who wishes to remain unnamed was given the choice to resign or lose her advising job. She chose to reign as newspaper advisers, but still serves as the yearbook adviser and has been assigned to teach AP English.

The other adviser, Susan Houseman, adviser of our current national Student Journalist of the Year, Henry Rome, has been through some rough waters with the school board discussing her role as adviser. That situation is still ongoing.

I also personally distributed over 200 Tinker armbands at the PA state convention and to other individuals this past spring. This fall, I shared the Tinker and Hazelwood cases with pre-service teachers in a college education class. To my surprise and delight, my students made black armbands, without my knowledge, to distribute to classmates, to remind themselves that they, as new teachers, do not shed their "Constitutional rights at the school house gates."

Thus, I know that the next generation of teachers is on the right track with the First Amendment.

• Candace Perkins Bowen

I have worked with several individual advisers, with teachers in five workshops and with the NEOLA school policy company to further scholastic press rights since last spring's semi-annual report. As a member of JEA's Certification Commission, I also was responsible for writing the law and ethics questions on the new CJE exams and helped push for a strong requirement for passing those sections to certification.

The first adviser included an ongoing dialogue with a recent Kent State graduate who took a journalism teaching/advising job in southern Ohio and has run into prior review issues. Although she clearly is in an insecure position as a brand new teacher, we have developed some steps for her to follow to help her situation – caused by her very untrained predecessor – and to improve it in the future. This includes teaching her students law and ethics in their beginning journalism class and taking students to a regional press day. I also made sure she has Wayne and Georgia Dunn as her JEA mentors.

A second situation was helping a Columbus-area teacher who had been operating under a forum for student expression but was told this year students would have prior review, a policy that was on the books already but ignored. I worked with the students and teacher, attended a three-hour board executive session where we discussed the issues, and have worked to move the board to select a more open policy. (NOTE: To me, this was a very frustrating evening with board members agreeing education is important but reiterating how important it was for them to have control. Sigh.)

Workshops included the three-week online NewsU Boot Camp, with a week of law and ethics; the two-week ASNE-Reynolds High School Journalism Institute at Kent State, with a heavy emphasis on law and ethics; and the South Dakota High School Press Association press day, Ohio Scholastic Press Association regional workshops and the Indiana High School Press Association fall convention, all with sessions I presented alone or with John Bowen, covering law and ethics.

Also, John and I will be meeting Oct. 20 with the president and chief operating officer of NEOLA to discuss their new student media policies. While now including options that are student forums, other portions of the policies have some issues that we will discuss with them. The good news: The policies ARE better and the president of NEOLA wants to encourage his clients to be sure their advisers have the right training.

Finally, the Certification Commission decided the law and ethics portion of the CJE test should be pass/fail. In other words, just knowing writing or design or media technology isn't enough. Those who don't pass that portion may retake it within six months without retaking the whole test. We believe this emphasizes how important this part of teaching and advising is and aligns the two commissions in a very positive way.

• Tom Eveslage:

I took an active role in battle at Conestoga High School outside Philly. Students working for The Spoke, Conestoga's award-winning newspaper, were battling a change in school policy and the introduction of prior review. Thanks to the students' campaign for support, prior review went away and the policy (still being tweaked) is much better than when initially proposed. Spoke adviser Susan Houseman is in my Comm Law course this semester. She will have completed her Master of Journalism degree in December. She, the co-adviser and a couple of her students are on a law/ethics panel I proposed and am moderating at the JEA convention. The staff is excited about that.

I wrote a piece for the Pennsylvania School Press Association Web site in February on the significance of the Tinker case on this, its 40th anniversary year.

I continue to work with the Prime Movers program helping Philadel-phia city teachers get student newspapers and radio programs started. The program has been based at Temple for the past two years and I've provide the law/ethics/strategies component during workshops and meetings with teachers and students. That continues. (And we hope to find money to bring some of the Philadelphia students to DC in November for the convention.)

• Carrie Faust

Colorado is knee-deep in the FA battle partnering with the ACLU to "serve notice" to three school districts that their publications policies are non-compliant with our Colorado Student Free Expression Law. We have been in contact with those districts, Jefferson County in Denver, Douglas County in southeast Denver, and District 11 in Colorado Springs, throughout the year.

Our biggest success has come from our work with Douglas County, who has completely written its policy and will vote on it this month. Of course there are still nuances we'd like to see changed, but our work there has changed the policy for the better.

Our work with Jefferson County has led to a stalemate of sorts. They have made it very clear that they will not change their policy - which is very obviously in direct contrast to what we'd like to see. So, now CHSPA is trying to decide whether to go on the offense with them.

District 11 reviewed their policy and came back with a worse policy. The words, "this is in no way meant to establish and open forum" are actually in their policy. It's shocking. I'm currently drafting a response to that policy, but it is so off base it's taking a while.

As a side note: I am being honored at the NCTE convention this year as one of their Intellectual Freedom Award winners - honorable mention - for the work we're doing to ensure scholastic press rights for our students.

Other than that, I continue to be the "go to" person in our state for question of "can" and "should."

I spoke at 9 camps this summer and spread our love of scholastic press rights throughout the unsuspecting yearbook community. And, just got back from judging for and speaking at the Wyoming press association. It was a lot of fun to talk to those kids about what they can do without legislation and how they might start to work toward it.

• Tom Gayda

My main task with SPRC was the co-promotion I did with my Scholastic Journalism Week activities, celebrating 40 years of the Tinker decision. This led to me having the honor of introducing Mary Beth Tinker at the spring convention in Phoenix and presenting her with an honorary SPRC membership. A month earlier, Tinker was special speaker at our state organization's First Amendment Symposium.

• Lori Keekley

I traveled to Faribault (MN) with Logan Aimone when the board discussed the censorship of the paper. The students who spoke were eloquent and informed. I knew several from teaching at the NSPA summer workshop. They appreciated both Logan and I attending. I also asked the

adviser (Kelly Zwaggerman) if she needed anything.

Lately, I've been working on starting a MNtor program for Minnesota. I am working on publicity currently and soon will start pairing new advisers with both existing and retired teachers as mentors. I will be prompting the mentor with a monthly discussion topic as well (at least one of which will concern press law). I'm hoping this program will help those beginning advisers as well as build membership in NSPA, JEA and the Minnesota High School Press Association.

• Deb Buttleman Malcolm

I did a presentation sponsored by The American Civil Liberties Union-Quad City Chapter as part of their series The First Amendment: Is Speech Absolute or Limited? How does the Speech Clause apply to students? Dr William Buss, Professor of Constitutional Law, College of Law, University of Iowa speaks Sept.24 on student speech case law. My part was Oct. 6, How the speech clause fits into teaching and the importance to faculty and students.

Sam Hayes (wrote the Tinker opera) and Sebastian Pena was on a panel with three students from Illinois Oct. 7. The topic was the impact of our court decisions on speech liberties of students.

All three Davenport schools are fighting the district dealing over funds and technology - which the kids feel is another way to censor. Will keep you posted.

We held Constitution Day Outreach, performing to a large audience about First Amendment, Sept. 15 (two days before because of schedule issues)

An elementary press law unit was again taught at ACAP. Children from the elementary schools learned the First Amendment and the nine areas of unprotected speech. They received patriotic tattoos for reciting and explaining.

• Janet McKinney

I organized, collected orders and distributed more than 3,000 armbands to 28 advisers representing 18 different states. Quill and Scroll members at Fishers High School assisted with the mailings.

Taught law session at three summer journalism workshops in Indiana and one adviser workshop in North Carolina.

Revised class curriculum and assignments for Journalism 1 class at Fishers High School. I am mentoring two future advisers, one from Indiana University and one from Ball State University, with an emphasis in two separate units on law and ethics. I am compiling current case studies for them to use in their respective student teaching units.

I will remind advisers who attend the Indiana state convention at Frank-lin College Oct. 23 regional director Tom Gayda and I are "on call" to assist them throughout the year. I will present brief information about our commission and encourage their participation and usage of our services. We usually have more than 60 advisers at the business meeting.

Sarah Nichols

1. Continued collaboration with California Journalism Education Coalition (Cal-JEC)- worked with other delegates from Cal-JEC regarding support for high school and college programs under fire- provided support for Konnie Krislock and her students during recent newspaper situation in Orange County- reinforced plan of communication and

"alerts" with Jim Ewert of California Newspaper Publishers Associationcontinued research on the state of scholastic journalism in California for upcoming December report to CalPress

2. Alignment with JEA Certification Commission

- attended fall work weekend to finish new CJE exam, during which time I proposed a new policy that would require mastery of the law and ethics questions on the test; in order to earn Certification, a candidate must pass this portion of the test regardless of the total score earned
- helped create study guide questions to prepare candidates and better educate advisers on media law and ethics
- provided feedback on AAP and suggestions for better alignment and collaboration among JEA commissions
- working toward monthly JEAHELP posts from Certification Commission with law/ethics questions as a way to prepare for Certification, raise awareness, generate interest, encourage ongoing dialogue (also want to do the same as a recurring feature in C:JET but I have gotten no response from BW)
- 3. programming for upcoming state convention, Journalism Education Association of Northern California
- secured speakers from local media pros, veteran advisers, etc
- program includes speakers from/sessions about the following relevant areas:
- Creative Commons: copyright and licensing, researching through social media, the "at-risk" adviser
- "You've Got the Power" (First Amendment awareness, presented by a student journalist)
- working with Steve O'Donoghue to secure a speaker from the California First Amendment Coalition
- 4. Sierra Foothills League Journalism Advisers (local group organized by Rick Brown
- shared activity ideas for Constitution Day with local adviser
- shared publications policies with local advisers

5. Upcoming projects

Because I am not usually able to attend the SPRC meetings at national conventions (due to another meeting at the same time) I always feel a bit out of the loop on projects underway. I have a vague understanding of some possible projects regarding brochure or wallet card design? If this is a project underway I would love to get involved with others working on it if they want/need help. I've been unable to commit to much due to other responsibilities with the organizations mentioned above, but those commitments are all easing up in the next month and I would be glad to take a more active role.

• Kathy Schrier

In July, Vince Demiero and I invited the executive director of the Washington Newspaper Publishers Association, Bill Will, to lunch. We asked his organization for a higher level of involvement in promoting student press rights in Washington State. Will testified on behalf of the our student press rights legislation at the last hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee. His organization is committed to support this cause. He agreed to step up his efforts to encourage his membership to editorialize on behalf of student press rights leading up to a legislative hearing.

In August, Chris Carter (summer intern at SPLC) and I met with Sen. Joe McDermott to strategize about how to approach the coming legislative session with the Student Press Rights bill. The current bill, SB 5946, is now in its second year of a two-year life span. If it doesn't make it this

year, it will need to be reintroduced next year under a new bill number. Senator McDermott agreed to set up a meeting with Senate Judiciary Committee chair, Adam Kline, with the goal being to press him to grant another hearing for our bill. Although Kline favors the bill, we know that he won't hold a hearing if he feels that there is no chance of passage. We are waiting now to learn when that meeting will take place, sometime in October. Without Kline's commitment to grant SB 5946 a hearing... we may be dead in the water this session.

• Becky Sipos

I have been active on the DC convention local committee adding my weight to ensuring a First Amendment strand of sessions. Also, I mentored two new newspaper advisers last year, and I'm helping a former student who is teaching journalism for the first time and trying to establish a newspaper at a high school in DC. She has quite a challenge ahead of her.

• Randy Swikle

In Illinois we have been planning strategies in response to censorship issues at Harrisburg and Stevenson High Schools.

The IJEA is exploring the possibility of working with state legislators to introduce student press rights legislation in the Illinois General Assembly.

In February 2010, the McCormick Foundation is sponsoring a 3-day conference at Cantigny, the estate of the Chicago Tribune's Col. Robert McCormick, on creating protocol for free and responsible student news media.

MISSION: To create protocol for nurturing free and responsible student news media. The protocol will include (a) proactive strategies for building and maintaining exemplary educational relationships among student journalists, faculty news media advisers and school administrators; (b) problem-solving framework for dealing with journalism issues and controversies without jeopardizing student rights, adviser job security and administrator pedagogical responsibilities; (c) principles of democratic education, journalism ethics, educator ethics and skillful leadership that the school should inculcate and learners and educators engage in; (d) procedures for evaluating application and effectiveness of protocol; (e) strategies to inspire rehabilitation if protocol is breached or needs to be revised.

Overview of Conference: The conference will take place in two parts. The first convening will occur Wednesday, Oct. 14, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., when a small group of key stakeholders (15-20 attendees) will meet in order to secure buy-in to the protocol from potential adversaries and to provide input regarding initial conference plans. From here, a draft protocol will emerge, serving as the primary focus at a larger convening (40-50 attendees) on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Feb. 7, 8, 9, 2010.

• John Tagliareni

I was again a speaker at the Garden State Scholastic Press Association Conference at Rutgers University in October and will be at the GSSPA Spring Conference in May, 2010.

I spoke at the Columbia Scholastic Press Association Nov. 2, 2009, and I will speak at the CSPA Spring Convention in New York also. I usually do sessions on how to deal with controversial and sensitive issues as well as other sessions.

I will present that session in Washington, D.C. at the JEA Fall Conference in November. I always cover the legal aspects of Tinker and Hazelwood, and I give students and advisers strategies for working with administrators. I discuss their rights and responsibilities and assist them if they are having any censorship issues.

I always provide my contact information, and there have been numerous times when advisers have called me in school or at home or have emailed me to ask for advice related to censorship issues. I have attempted to help them as much as possible, and have offered to speak to their principal or central administrators if they would like. I have also referred them to JEA and the Student Press Law Center for further assistance.

I also focus on strategies such as getting legislation passed in each state or help them to use their state constitution, if strong enough, which may protect student journalists. I also provide handouts and reprints of articles related to the topic.

I have continued to work to support many of the commission's goals. As a past president of the Garden State Scholastic Press Association and officer, I am able to work in NJ using that platform to help with networking and promoting a high profile with the press.

• HL Hall

Since I'm not working with THSPA any longer, I'm not working directly with schools on their rights. I taught a session on Press Rights at the WJEA summer camp in August. It's also a part of the Kent State online master's class and a larger part of the Poynter online class.

I also served on a panel at the Wyoming fall conference where we talked about some legal responsibilities. I also have evaluated a lot of newspapers and yearbooks where I cautioned people about using photos off the Internet without getting permission, or if they received permission, they didn't indicate they did.







Julie Dodd

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

Committee members: Candace Perkins Bowen, Nick Ferentinos, Bill Fletchner, Peggy Gregory, Norma Kneese and Steve O'Donoghue To start its third year, the JEA Mentoring Program provided training for 10 new mentors in June at Kansas State University. We appreciated Linda Puntney's help in coordinating the arrangements. The new mentors represent the new states of Alabama, Arizona, Iowa, New Jersey, and Washington, as well as an already participating state, Wisconsin. The trainers were Linda Barrington, Nick Ferentinos and Peggy Gregory. Because of increased funding from JEA and the Yellow Chair Founda-

tion, we are able to provide training for new mentors, Mentor Forums twice a year at the JEA/NSPA conventions for on-going mentor support, and scholarships for mentee stipends to help states join the program. Nine of the 10 mentors trained this summer are recipients of scholarships from JEA, NAAF, Yellow Chair or SIPA. Peggy, Nick and Bill Fletchner are the leaders of the Mentor Forums.

Thirty mentors are working in 13 states with about 90 new teachers. In addition to the new states are continuing states – California, Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Wisconsin. (See p. 2 of the Mentoring Matters report for details.) Of the first 21 mentees who started in the 2007-2008 school year, 16 are completing the two-year mentoring program; the other five are no longer teaching or advising journalism.

Mentors bring a lifetime of journalism experience not only to their mentees, but to JEA as well. Their sessions for "new or nearly new advisers" grow in number and breadth of topic at each convention. At Washington, D.C., they will offer 18 sessions. (See the list of sessions on p. 4 of Mentoring Matters.) They are also beginning to create a library of podcasts about teaching and advising journalism, which eventually will be available online.

We appreciate the support of funders in all the participating states, particularly those who have been with the program since its inception. We also realize that some of these organizations are finding it difficult to sustain their level of funding. We are looking for other sources of funding on a national level that will be able to sustain mentor stipends on more than a year-to-year basis.



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Julie Dodd, MJE, Scholastic Press Associations Liaison

SPA Roundtables held at each JEA/NSPA convention:

Phoenix A focus at this roundtable was how the econo

Phoenix - A focus at this roundtable was how the economy is affecting scholastic journalism organizations. Discussion included: reducing print publications and relying more on the Web, using social networking (especially Facebook) to promote offerings and recruit new members.

Washington, D.C. - The focus of this roundtable will be on how organizations can implement strategic planning and/or incorporate new programming. Speakers will be Frank LoMonte (SPLC), Cheryl Pell (MIPA) and Sandy Woodcock (NAAF).

SPA updates

- Florida - Judy Robinson has been cut as a UF faculty member and as FSPA director. No announcement regarding the College of Journalism and Communication's plans for the association.

- Kansas John Hudnall retired as KHSPA. Jeff Browne will be the new director.
- New Mexico Rebecca Zimmerman has restarted the state association.
- Tennessee HL Hall retired as THSPA director. Jimmy McCollum (Vanderbilt) is the new director.

Information shared at SPA Roundtables and/or through the SPA enewsletters:

Dow Jones Newspaper Fund - Linda Shockley National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year The Journalist's Road to Success Adviser Update

RTNDF - Carol Knopes

Teaching materials and broadcast examples Importance of page views for funders of the High School Broadcast Journalism Project (http://hsbj.org) and ASNE's highschooljournalism. org. So important for advisers and students to visit the sites.

JEA Digital Media Committee - Aaron Manfull Web site provides teaching tips and technology information for use by advisers and students.

JEA Mentoring Program

JEA commitment – and Yellow Chair funding – through 2013. Additional funding from NAAF and state-level funders. Thirteen states in program: Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Washington and Wisconsin.



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Candace Bowen

Candace Perkins Bowen, MJE, Listserv Liaison

As of Oct. 12, 2009, the JEAHELP list, open to all members, had 1,025, the first time it has gone over the magic one thousand number and over a hundred ahead of last spring. The JEATALK list, for officers, commission and committee chairs and regional and state directors has 84, exactly the same as last spring.

Listserv trivia:

- Twenty-three people responded to the correct style for the abbreviated form of "microphone," though, of course, they didn't all agree. And three more had the subject line, "WHO CARES?"
- Seventy posts contained the word "hotel" from August until this report was filed. As space got tighter, 27 included the words "Room With a View"
- The number of posts including the word "censorship" increased with 83 mentions, up from last fall's 27, in the time since the spring convention.
- Wayne Brasler was down almost a hundred posts from the same time last year 122 compared to 219 and Chad Rummel, second highest

last year with 134, was down to 56. But cpb was also down – 126 down to 75, and that includes 15 current events quizzes. Apparently, with so many total listservians, there's room for everyone.

- No one posted anything on July 4th and thus no one wished JEA Executive Director Linda Puntney a happy birthday as they had in 2008.
- The number of gmail accounts continues to grow, especially as members decide to abandon their school accounts for this purpose. At this time, we have 142 using that service.
- The most common reason someone gets booted from the list is undeliverable messages, often because of a full mailbox. After a certain number of those, the server deletes the address automatically. (IF that happens to you, simply send a message to cbowen@kent.edu, and we'll get you back on....IF you are still a member in good standing.)

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.



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Linda Barrington

Linda Barrington, MJE, NCTE Liaison

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 Philadelphia, Nov. 19-24. We will be sponsoring two concurrent sessions and one all-day workshop:

- Concurrent session called "Publishing Live! Using Technology Tools to Engage Learners" will be presented by Jane Blystone and Linda Barrington. Jane will focus on the use of audio equipment to make sound recordings (podcasts). She will make a podcast of Linda's presentation and launch it on iTunes by the end of the session. Linda will take video of some participants, upload it to YouTube, and then demonstrate how to make documents and presentations with embedded links to that video as well as interactive maps and websites.
- All-day Workshop: Carol Lange, Ron Bennett, Cathy Colglazier and Alan Weintraut will present "Intensive Journalistic Writing: Changing the Ways You Approach Reading and Writing in AP English Composition and Journalism Classes"
- 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.

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Aaron Manfull

Aaron Manfull, MJEDigital Media Committee Chair

In its first year of existence, the JEA Digital Media Committee has been busy. The committee met for the first time in Phoenix and again in April with more than a dozen members attending each convention. In all, there are currently 20 Digital Media Committee members, including the committee chair, Aaron Manfull. The committee has worked to increase digital media related offerings at the last two national conventions and works to populate jeadigitalmedia.org http://jeadigitalmedia.org with content.

The committee has worked with RTNDF and HSBJ to substantially increase digital media session offerings in St. Louis, Phoenix and D.C. over past conventions. Committee members have committed to speak on a variety of topics and they have worked to enlist others to help speak in this area.

JEADigitalMedia.org is a product of the digital media committee. There are more than 100 posts on the site covering a variety of areas from writing for the Web and staff structure to Web design and social networking.

To assist with the site promotion, the committee created a Twitter account and facebook fan page.

Members have also worked to promote the site and JEA in their regions of the country.



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Wayna Polk, Scholarship Committee Chair

Twenty members of the Scholarship [JOY] Committee met in Phoenix to judge the 30 state winners in the Journalist of the Year contest.

Henry Rome of Pennsylvania [Conestoga High School] was chosen as the new Journalist of the Year. Henry's adviser is Susan Houseman. Henry received a \$5,000 scholarship for his outstanding work as a high school journalist.

Others who received recognition as scholarship winners and who received a \$2,000 scholarship were:

Joseph Dalton Person of Arkansas [adviser - Susan Colyer] Lauren Grubaugh of California [adviser - Karl Grubaugh] Nicole M. Pinto of Washington [adviser - McCall Cowley] Stephen E. Nichols of Kansas [adviser - Dow Tate] Kendall Popelsky of Texas [adviser - Lisa Van Etta] Aliya Mood of Indiana [adviser - Ryan Gunterman]

Congratulations to the 30 state winners. The committee agreed the portfolios were some of the strongest broadcast examples and best writing and photography we have seen in the entries.

The next meeting of the Scholarship Committee will be in April 2010 in Portland when the new JOY will be selected.



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Steve Matson

Steve Matson, MJE, Northwest Region 1 Director

HAPPENINGS

Here are headlines for some of the activity occurring the Nothwest Region. For details, see the state reports below.

- Alaska school publications migrate online
- Idaho adviser organization receives new name, new location for state conference
- Robust growth and activity in Montana
- Portland prepares for national convention
- Censorship case takes ironic turn in Washington
- · Board reorganizes in Wyoming

AWARDS

Hearty congratulations to the following Northwest advisers being recognized in D.C.!

- Beth Britton, whose newspaper is an NSPA Pacemaker finalist
- Dan Hardebeck, whose newspaper is an NSPA Pacemaker finalist
- Mike Hiestand, who receives an NSPA Pioneer Award
- Gretchen Wemhoff-Stoltze, who receives a JEA Lifetime Achievement Award



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Gretchen Wemhoff

From Alaska State Director Gretchen Wehmhoff, MJE

The Anchorage School District (ASD) finalized the Language Arts curriculum in their regular ten-year cycle. In the process, nearly half of the courses were dropped or combined. Once again journalism teachers in the district stepped forward to protect and create the journalism curriculum. Thanks to BethAnn Brogan, Regina Dietrich and Gretchen Wehmhoff-Stoltze for their work.

The push to produce the school newspaper online continued. With resistance from mid-level administration, the ASD journalism teachers came together with District officials and created a thorough process for online papers, attempting to work with the administrators' concerns. The process was shot down at the meeting of secondary principals. Fortunately, one by one, high school principals are working with the advisers to come to agreement. Three schools are now online. Prior review is still an issue, but communication is improving. The resistance is not at the top levels. The current superintendent's office has historically been supportive of high school journalism. New advisers to the District have been encourage to join JEA with success. Hopefully increasing the numbers and strength in Alaska.

Gretchen Wehmhoff-Stoltze, recently retired newspaper and yearbook adviser and state director for Alaska, will receive the JEA Lifetime Achievement award at the Portland JEA/NSPA Convention. She is currently visiting schools and offering "mini-lessons" in journalistic writing and ethics in an attempt to further support newspaper and yearbook advisers in the state. Hopefully, she will be able to visit other Alaska communities as time and funding permits.

More and more yearbooks are converting to the online composition software offered by various yearbook companies. This is assisting the advisors in both urban and rural Alaska to bridge the distance gap with the publishers.



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Katy Shanafelt

From Idaho State Director Katy Shanafelt

As another busy year started, the dedicated advisers of school publications across the state of Idaho prepared for ensuring complete coverage of school events and the ever-difficult job of meeting production deadlines. Instructors did their best to prepare their journalism students for state and national competitions while instilling good journalistic ethics and an appreciation for a well-crafted story.

Some big changes in Idaho were the relocation of the state conference to Pocatello, Idaho. The annual gathering of Newspaper and Yearbook staffs from across the state had been held in the state capital of Boise, Idaho for over 10 years. It became increasingly obvious that the largest group of participants in the conference was made up of schools from the Eastern part of the state. In order to lessen expenses and provide more modern facilities, the board of directors made the decision to move the conference eastward to Idaho State University in Pocatello. This year's theme was "I Speak Up, 40 Years of Student voice." The conference was held Oct. 23-25.

The new name, Idaho Student Journalism Association, was adopted for the Idaho JEA chapter. The board voted to adopt a new design for the association and a contest was held for students across the state to come up with a new logo. Boise High School senior, Edin Jahic, submitted the winning design.

State contests were updated to reflect contemporary design standards and the use of technology in yearbook production.

The Ron Hayes scholarship was approved for five scholarships of \$100 each to be awarded.

Tayson Webb of Bell Phototgraphy and Jon Riggs of Taylor Publishing will receive awards of appreciation for their years of support at the state convention.



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Linda Ballew

Linda Ballew

From Montana State Director Linda Ballew

MEMBERSHIP

Montana has had an increasing interest in membership because of the strong showing of the Montana Journalism Education Association at the state teachers' convention in Missoula, MT, in October of 2008. So too, interest has increased because of the spring MJEA newspaper and yearbook critiques and contests.

HAPPENINGS

In an update from MJEA president Judie Woodhouse, she has indicated that MEA-MFT has again welcomed our journalism group's participation in the 2009 Educators' Conference Oct. 15-16, 2009, in Billings. We will be allowed to join other curricular groups at the convention and will be supported by MEA-MFT during this startup period for our group.

Shauna Kerr from Billings has been the conference chair.

Greg LaMotte will be the keynote speaker. He comes to the Billings station, KULR-8 from Cairo, Egypt, where he worked as the bureau chief and Middle East regional news correspondent for Voice of America radio and television. Over the past three years Greg spent most of his time covering news events in Iraq following the fall of Baghdad to U.S. led troops. Prior to his assignment in the Middle East Greg was a long-time national news correspondent for CNN.

One final happening: The Pulitzer Prize Photography exhibit, "Capture the Moment," has been featured at the Montana Museum of Art and Culture and the Gallery of Visual Arts at the University of Montana. This field trip opportunity has given many Montana high school students a

chance to experience this largest display of Pulitzer Prize-winning photographs ever shown. So too, they have had the chance to tour the school of journalism attending classes and speaking with many of the journalism school's professors and guest lecturers.

AWARDS

The Montana Newspaper Association once again sponsored the MJEA newspaper scholarship of \$1,000. Professor Carol Van Van Valkenburg, who heads the department of print journalism at the University of Montana, will coordinate judging.

Great Falls High School Iniwa editor in chief Megan Gretch has been awarded as both JEA's Montana Journalist of the Year and as the Montana Journalism Education Association's student journalist of the year She has received \$2,000 in scholarship. She has traveled to Washington D.C as the Montana representative to the Freedom Forum where she was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship.

The third annual Yearbook Student of the Year contest provided Great Falls High School Roundup editor in chief, Brenna Howard, with a \$1,000 scholarship. The contest was graciously sponsored by Gary Lundgren, Senior Program Manager/Education, Jostens; Taylor Publishing, Yearbook Marketing Manager, Mike Taylor; and Herff Jones, Doug Williams, Regional Manager.



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Steve Carrigg

Oregon State Director Steve Carrigg

Oregon Journalism Education Association board members have been laying the groundwork for the Portland spring convention set for April at the Portland Convention Center. Co-chairs Erin Simonsen (OJEA president) of Lakeridge H.S. and J.D. McIntire (OJEA past president) of Sandy High School have been recruiting advisers and professional journalists from around the state and region to help with this event. Speaking to a luncheon gathering of advisers and journalists at the annual Fall Press Day at Oregon State University, Simonsen emphasized the need for volunteers in several areas of the convention.

For a less populated state, Oregon is making a big contribution to JEA's new mentoring program. Four retired advisers from Oregon have stepped forward to volunteer their time with new advisers around the state as part of the program. Bill Flechtner, formerly adviser at Milwaukie High School and currently a supervisor of student teachers at Warner Pacific College, has taken the lead in mentor both in Oregon and nationally. Joining Bill in Oregon are former advisers Patti Turley, Carla Harris and Ellen Kersey.



Vince DeMiero

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Washington State Director Vince DeMiero

MEMBERSHIP

The Washington Journalism Education Association continues to attract new members and re-enlist former members, with our current number at 142. Historically, this is a little more than the number of members we have had, however we are continuing to work on ways to attract and retain even more.

HAPPENINGS

Our WJEA Summer Workshops were a huge success. Nearly 280 students and advisers from throughout the state (and neighboring states) attended the camps held at Central Washington University. The highlight of the two sessions was clearly our expert-in-residence - H.L. Hall. It was an incredible honor to have H.L. with us for the full week, and such an amazing opportunity for our participants to spend time with such an amazing person and exemplary educator.

WJEA held its annual Western Washington J-Day in mid-September at the University of Washington. Roughly 650 students and advisers were in attendance for the day of sessions and symposia presented by members of the working press in the Seattle area. WJEA Executive Director Kathy Schrier once again coordinated the event and did an amazing job. Our keynote presenter was David Domke who is the chair of the UW School of Communication and one of the premier educators at the university. Following the keynote, an optional "after workshop session" focusing on student press rights was held and was well attended. SPLC lawyer Mike Heistand, SPLC intern Chris Carter, Schrier and I moderated the discussion.

WJEA's Board held its annual planning retreat in late June at the Mercer Island Community Center. The day-long session was well attended and served to set the agenda for the 2009-2010 school year. WJEA is very pleased to be participating in JEA's mentorship program. Executive Director Kathy Schrier is our mentor and she is mentoring two educators in the Seattle area who are new to advising - one at Cleveland High School and the other at West Seattle High School. Kathy attended the mentoring session in Kansas last summer in preparation for this year.

On the student press rights front, Washington continues to be a hotbed of activity. Most notably, the Puyallup School District is facing a lawsuit from four students who claim that the district was negligent in supervising the student editors of the Emerald Ridge H.S. JagWire, which published the students' names (with their consent) in a story about oral sex. Ironically, the district's legal team apparently is going to use as its defense the fact that at the time the JagWire was an "open forum" publication. However, last fall, the district enacted one of the most stringent

prior review policies in the state despite the fact that Puyallup had never had prior review in its long, storied history of producing exemplary student publications. Scholastic press rights legislation was again introduced and sponsored by Sen. Joe McDermott (D-West Seattle), but the measure stalled in committee. This is the third straight year we have seen legislation introduced, however, and we remain hopeful that persistence will pay off and plan to support the legislation again this coming session.

AWARDS & HONORS

We are very pleased that Washington resident and SPLC lawyer Mike Heistand has been named a recipient of the NSPA Pioneer Award. Mike has been tireless in his support of student press rights throughout the Pacific Northwest.

FOR THE BOARD

WJEA is exceedingly pleased that JEA and NSPA have selected Seattle for the 2012 spring national convention. We are eagerly anticipating hosting this amazing event once again.



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Dawn Kundsvig

Wyoming State Director Dawn Knudsvig

MEMBERSHIP

Wyoming's JEA membership consists of 17 schools.

HAPPENINGS

The Annual State Journalism Convention Sept. 28-Sept. 29th in Casper was attended by 210 students and advisers. It was a two-day event, beginning with workshops on Monday afternoon, with dinner and awards banquet that evening. Tuesday morning, Vin Cappiello moderated a round table discussion featuring four of the presenters. Bobby Hawthorne, HL Hall, Carrie Faust and Mark Murray presented their ideas on prior review, copyright, and incorporating technology into the interview process. The convention wrapped up Tuesday after two more workshops.

Board Members were decided at the Adviser meeting Monday, September 28th. A changing of the board is underway as the board examines the needs of the organization and the direction it wants the organization to move. Positions added to the board were Vice-President, Treasurer, Public Relations, and three at-large Positions. Dawn Knudsvig stayed on as The Executive Director and Polly Burkett remained as Secretary. Vin Cappiello of Cody, accepted a new assignment taking on public relations. Walter Farwell from Buffalo will take on the office of president as Jason Reub resigned his position and no longer teaches journalism. Aaron Dalton of Evanston will be the Vice-President. Greg Rohrer of Arvada-Clearmont took on the office of Treasurer. Other officers will include three at large board members Mark Collins, of Green River,

Steve Heil of Buffalo, and Kathrine Patrick of Torrington and WHSAA Representative, Diane Rodriguez.

Board members are making plans to meet in November as it begins to reorganize WHSSPA, develop a financial plan, and work on promoting the organization. The board will also begin to look at ideas for the next convention to be held the fall of 2010.

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Ellen Austin

Southwest Region 2 Director

Ellen Austin

Strong scholastic journalism initiatives continue to move forward in the region, notably in Arizona, Colorado, and California. These statewide initiatives have great potential to be exported regionally and nationally.

Arizona is using state athletic organizations to help collect data on journalism advisers in each school throughout the state, with the anticipated result of a much-updated snapshot of current advisers (and their contact information) in the state.

Colorado has partnered with the ACLU in an advocacy initiative to push back on Colorado school districts with restrictive policies regarding press rights. CHSPA has been working with the ACLU to notify school districts whose publications policies are not in alignment with the state freedom of expression law.

In northern California, several JEA advisers are working with Creative Commons, a non-profit organization which has piloted innovations around online licenses to provide a flexible range of protections and freedoms for authors, artists, and educators, on a project which may have national potential in the next year.

An ongoing concern is how to encourage and support more participation from all constituent states in the southwest region. Currently, a special area of focus is Hawaii. Discussion has started among several advisers – in conjunction with ideas put forward in Phoenix by Norma Kneese [JEA Multicultural Commission chair] – about a regionally-based initiative to help raise awareness among Hawaiian educators about scholastic journalism overall and to provide some tools (and resources) to overcome hurdles which potential advisers in Hawaii might be facing.

One area in which the region looks to see upticks is in submissions to the Journalist of the Year program. Members in the region have mentioned several obstacles to submissions, and we are talking at the state and regional level about ways to clear those obstacles and encourage students to submit their work.

Ellen Austin was elected as the area's new regional director in March. She is new to the regional director's position and new to the JEA board. Ellen is planning several strategies to harness the organizational strands of states (and state directors) that have already built strong member constituencies – and strong communication strategies – in their states, with the hope of replicating those successes throughout the region. As part of this initiative, Ellen will be contacting state directors and arrange in-state visits over the next 12 months that coincide with state conventions or workshops.



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Carmen Wendt, CJE

Carmen Wendt

From Arizona State Director Carmen Wendt, CJE

EVENTS

The state membership was proud to host the Spring 2009 JEA/NSPA National Convention (April 16-19) in Phoenix, chaired by Peggy Gregory and new AIPA President Christine Brandell.

The state organization, AIPA, held its annual Summer Journalism Workshop at NAU in July. The Workshop newspaper was posted online, for the first time, with 13 pages – can't do that in print! It may be viewed at http://issuu.com/workshopper/docs/2009workshoppernewspaper. Kris Urban was the Workshop director.

The Arizona Fall Convention on Sept. 30 was attended by 577 students and 57 advisers. Lori Oglesbee was the keynote speaker and presented three breakout sessions as well. The convention chair was Melanie Allen. Congratulations on a successful convention.

The organization passed constitutional revisions at the convention. Besides cleaning up the language of constitution, the corresponding secretary was changed to the communication director (Jill Jones), the area coordinators were dropped, and board members at large were added. Board members will then chair major committees, such at First Amendment Rights, Partnerships, Education and Communication.

AIPA came to an agreement with the state athletic associate that they ask for the names of the yearbook and newspaper advisers when they collect the names of the schools' coaches.

This year is the first time we will have a reliable list of the advisers in the state. We look forward to better communications with the adviser community and increasing membership for both JEA and AIPA.

We are beginning to discuss arrangements with the athletic association and with the Phoenix Suns to involve student journalists in sports reporting with the two organizations.

AWARDS

- One newspaper/newsmagazine 2009 NSPA Pacemaker Finalist in Arizona: *Round Up*, Brophy College Preparatory School [Phoenix]
- NSPA Finalist for Design of the Year: Michael Bryce, Robert Ranes *Pinnacle*, Red Mountain HS [Mesa]
- NSPA Finalist for Story of the Year [sports]: Matt Stanley, *Round Up*, Brophy College Preparatory School [Phoenix]

MENTORS

In June, two retired advisers, Joe Pfieff and Carmen Wendt, became trained mentors for the state. They each have mentees, who are new advisers. Joe and Carment help mentor and support them through their first and/or second year(s) of advising.

FIRST AMENDMENT CHALLENGES AND RELATED CONCERNS

Last spring the Thunderbird High School newspaper, advised by Sherry Siwek, faced administrative censorship over an article about an evaluation piece used by the district. The students are continuing to pursue the situation. An article is posted on the SPLC web site at http://www.splc.org/newsflash.asp?id=1957.



Kristi Rathbun

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Kristi Rathbun

From Colorado State Director Kristi Rathbun

MEMBERSHIP

Colorado currently has 132 JEA members.

HAPPENINGS

J-Day was Oct. 15, 2009, at Colorado State University. Over 1200 students and 120 advisers from 80+ schools attended a variety of sessions from both local and national scholastic journalism experts and local media professionals.

Among presenters were Linda Drake [JEA/NSPA Adviser of the Year] and Bradley Wilson [JEA Publications Editor and NCSU student media coordinator]. State championship sweepstakes winners were awarded for newspaper, yearbook and broadcast publications.

A new scholarship was also announced at J-Day; the Craig Benson Memorial Scholarship will be given to the runner-up in the Colorado Journalist of the Year competition.

CHSPA hosted a Fright Fest press conference at Elitch Gardens amusement park Sept. 12. Students learned of new attractions for the Hal-

loween, seasonal event at the park. Students competed in news writing and photography; winners from Eaton High School and Palisade High School received tickets to Elitch's Fright Fest.

AWARDS & HONORS

- Mark Newton [Mountain Vista High School] will receive a JEA Pioneer award at the November JEA/NSPA convention in Washington D.C..
- Three 2009 Pacemaker finalists from Colorado: *The Arapahoe Herald*, Arapahoe High School; *The Surveyor*, George Washington High School; *The Highlighter*, Rocky Mountain High School
- NSPA finalists for Individual Awards:

<u>Design of the year</u>, Mattie Nobles, Rock Canyon High School <u>Photo of the year</u>, Taylor Kene, *Eagle Eye View*, Sierra Middle School <u>Photo of the year</u>, Garrett Lewis, *Eagle Eye View*, Sierra Middle School

FIRST AMENDMENT CHALLENGES AND RELATED CONCERNS

CHSPA has been working with the ACLU to notify school districts whose publications policies are not in alignment with the state freedom of expression law. Most districts have been amenable to changes favoring student press rights. There are at least two districts that are blatantly disregarding the law with policy. An action plan is being discussed by the CHSPA board regarding the next step.



Karin Swanson

Karin Swanson

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From Hawaii State Director Karin Swanson

MEMBERSHIP

JEA membership numbers in Hawaii are unknown. Hawaii does not have a JEA-affiliated state organization.

Hawaii's unaffiliated high school journalism organization, which had been inactive for several years, officially disbanded last spring. The group's funds were turned over to Jay Hartwell, journalism adviser for the University of Hawaii-Manoa, to establish a fund to promote high school journalism.

Mr. Hartwell has been the driving force behind improving high school journalism in the state. Karin serves on an informal committee that helps him plan an annual gathering for student journalists each fall.

HAPPENINGS

More than 200 students and two dozen advisers attended this year's annual Journalism Day sponsored by the University of Hawaii-Manoa on Sept. 8.

Students worked with media professionals to set forth strategies for covering news, feature, and profile stories. At the day's second session, students attended press conferences with UH student athletes, musicians from the beleaguered Honolulu Symphony, and alternative energy entrepreneurs. Students met again with media professionals to plan how to construct stories for print, online, and broadcast. Several former UH students, now journalism professionals, addressed the high schoolers at lunch to talk about finding industry jobs in the current economic environment.

Attendance at this annual event has grown every year. Hawaii high school journalism enjoys strong support from both the University of Hawaii and the mainstream media organizations in Hawaii. Several schools from outer islands sent delegations to the fall gathering.

The Hawaii Publishers Association will once again sponsor a high school journalism competition this spring. Organizers sent out a survey to gauge support for competition in broadcast and online publications. The contest, now in its 42nd year, recognizes excellence in various print categories as well as overall winners for beginning, intermediate, and established journalism programs. Contest entries are submitted in March, and prizes are awarded at a recognition luncheon in late April or early May.

AWARDS & HONORS

HPA recognized Mililani High School for the best overall print journalism program in the state for 2009.

FOR THE BOARD

I have spoken on behalf of JEA each spring at the publishers' association recognition, and I have distributed JEA materials.

My perception is that state advisers see no benefit in joining JEA. Attending mainland conventions entails thousands of dollars in travel costs. Our public schools have completed 2 of 17 scheduled "Furlough Fridays," so named because our governor mandated fewer school days to save money due to a budget shortfall. While the state's many private schools have been less affected, private school endowments have fallen with the market crises: travel budgets are among the first items to be cut.

Private school advisers face challenges to student press freedom. These challenges are not typically of interest to SPLC as private school students' vaguely defined rights fall under contract law, not the First Amendment.

Our public high school advisers also face a prior review provision in the code of our single-district education system.



Lynn McDaniel

Lynn McDaniel

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<u>From Northern California Director Lynn McDaniel</u>

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submitted by Sarah Nichols, Northern California State Director [email: snichols@rocklin.k12.ca.us] and Lynn Mc Daniel, Northern California Regional Director [email: l.mcdaniel@cebridge.net]

MEMBERSHIP

Journalism Education Association of Northern California (JEANC) counts 150 JEA members (as of 8 October 2009)

HAPPENINGS

The California State Convention was held Oct. 23-25 in Sacramento, with the theme, "all of it: training journalists for the future."

The convention program included a keynote address from outgoing 2008 Dow Jones Newspaper Fund Journalism Teacher of the Year Karl Grubaugh, on-site contests, Best of the West competition, photography excursion, convergence excursion, Web consultations, publications critiques, swap shops, and more than 50 breakout sessions on multimedia storytelling and important topics for today's journalists.

Another first time featured session was entitled "Learn to Converge," a hands-on workshop which allowed up to three members from each staff to work together to create a newspaper page, yearbook spread, or multimedia project. The session, on Friday afternoon of the convention, began with the teams meeting a guest speaker who got the groups started. Teams were then escorted off-site where they worked together to complete a project.

The keynote speaker for the convention was JEA's 2008 Journalism Teacher of the Year, Karl Grubaugh.

Journalism students are encouraged to participate in JEANC's Annual Mail-in Contest for newspaper and yearbook. Entries are due Nov. 15.

AWARDS & HONORS

• Nine newspaper/newsmagazine 2009 Pacemaker Finalists in Northern California: *The Free Press*, Gilroy HS [Gilroy]; *Explorer*, Moreau Catholic HS [Hayward]; *The Octagon*, Sacramento Country Day School [Sacramento]; *Urban Legend*, The Urban School of San Francisco [San Francisco]; *The Epic*, Lynbrook HS, [San Jose]; *El Estoque*, Monta Vista HS [Cupertino]; *Redwood Bark*, Redwood HS [Larkspur]; *The Stagg Line*, Amos Alonzo Stagg HS [Stockton]; *Verde*, Palo Alto HS, [Palo Alto]

• NSPA finalists for Individual Awards:

Design of the Year:

Lauren Cox, *Redwood Bark*, Redwood HS [Larkspur]; Noah Sneider, *The Viking*, Palo Alto HS [Palo Alto]; Alice Lee, *El Estoque*, Monta Vista HS[Cupertino]; Erin Schrode, *The Voice*, Marin Academy [San Rafael]; Lauren Jung, Sara Kloepfer, *The Broadview*, Convent of the Sacred Heart HS [San Francisco]; Kaylin Garcia, Robin Rivera, *Shield*, Thomas Downey HS, [Modesto]

Picture of the Year:

Courtney Hanson, *The Gazette*, Granite Bay HS [Granite Bay]; Lauren Daniels, Shield, Thomas Downey HS [Modesto]; Michael Shaw, Wings, Arrowhead Christian Academy [Redlands]

Cartoon of the Year:

Emily Kim, The Mirada, Rio Americano HS [Sacramento]

Story of the Year (editorial):

Adam Zernik, *The Viking*, Palo Alto HS [Palo Alto]; Roy Lee, Karyn Smoot, *The Lowell*, Lowell HS [San Francisco]

Story of the Year (feature):

Mac Douglass, Max Schieble, Sam Mandell, *The Tam News*, Tamalpais HS [Mill Valley]; Malaika Drebin, *The Viking*, Palo Alto HS [Palo Alto]

Story of the Year (news):

Lauren Parcel, Brittany Hopkins, *El Estoque*, Monta Vista HS [Cupertino]

Story of the Year (diversity):

Thanh Lu, Herb Wade, *The Tam News*, Tamalpais HS [Mill Valley]; Hana Kajimura, *The Viking*, Palo Alto HS [Palo Alto]; Natty Hawley, Amy Rosenberg, *Ink*, Georgiana Bruce Kirby Preparatory School [Santa Cruz]

• 2009 Ryan White Excellence in Journalism Awards

First place feature

Paul Guliani, "Long misdiagnosed, Lyme plagues freshman", Sacramento Country Day [Sacramento]

Honorable mention feature

Lauren Hammerson & Hanna Brody, "There and Back", Palo Alto High School (VIKING), [Palo Alto]

- California High School Journalist of the Year: Lauren Grubaugh, Granite Bay High School [Granite Bay]
- The Dow Jones Newspaper Fund named Paul Kandell (Palo Alto High School) as the 2009 Journalism Teacher of the Year.
- The NSPA Pioneer Award was awarded to Tracy Anne Sena (Convent of the Sacred Heart, San Francisco)
- The JEA Lifetime Achievement Award was awarded to Steve O'Donoghue (California Scholastic Journalism Initiative)

INITIATIVES & VISION

The regional website has been re-designed and features many cool new enhancements, such as a Twitter feed. View the updated website at JEANC.org

Speaking of Twitter, JEANC now has a Twitter presence: twitter.com/jeaNorCal

Several JEA advisers (Paul Kandell, Michelle Balmeo, Tracy Sena, Ellen Austin, and Esther Wojcicki) are working with Creative Commons on a project which may have national potential for online publications in the next year. Creative Commons is a non profit organization which has piloted innovations around online licenses to provide a flexible range of protections and freedoms for authors, artists, and educators. In the 2009-2010 academic year, several Bay area journalism programs are part of a one-year project, funded by the MacArthur Foundation, to conduct research around the way CC licenses can be used in journalism contexts. Palo Alto's online publication, Voice, went 'live' with the first test of CC licenses in its uploads this fall, and other schools are following suit.

Steve O'Donoghue and Sarah Nichols are working with Gerry Seppos and Zanny Marsh of University of Nevada-Reno's Reynolds School of Journalism to host a summer journalism workshop for students in our region. Tentative date is late June 2009 with on-campus housing and topnotch technology facility for a four-day journalism program designed for high school students in online and/or print journalism.

Schools in our region also are working on obtaining UC approvals and operating as PLCs (professional learning communities). Both topics were discussed at the state convention.

In partnership with JEA's Certification Commission, Sarah Nichols plans to host a NorCal test option for advisers to take the CJE or MJE exam locally instead of doing so at a national convention.

The two California regions are invested in promoting more California participation in Journalist of the Year scholarship. To that end, we are starting a discussion about raising the regional scholarship amount (for both northern and southern California regions).



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From Southern California Director Mitch Ziegler

MEMBERSHIP

There are 111 JEA members in southern California.

HAPPENINGS

Southern California Scholastic Press Association (SCJEA) sponsored the annual write-off at Fullerton College in May. Twenty-seven schools participated.

SCJEA President Mitch Ziegler attended the California State Convention, sponsored by Journalism Education Association of Northern California (JEANC) Oct. 23-25 in Sacramento. The convention drew approximately 300 students. It provided a strong emphasis on cutting-

edge journalism, and provided many ideas and strategies for journalism teachers and students everywhere. It was an excellent convention.

AWARDS & HONORS

• Rising Star:

Amanda Paola Casares, Coronado (Calif.) Middle School

• 2008 Ryan White Awards

Second place feature

Andrew Lee, "Battling the Bacteria" Harvard-Westlake School [N. Hollywood]

Third place feature

Andrew Lee and Cody Schott, "Swimmers Soak Up Too Much Sun," Harvard-Westlake School [[N. Hollywood]

Honorable mention editorial/commentary

Michael Kaplan, "Sleep Week Just a Wakeup Call," Harvard-Westlake School [N. Hollywood]

• 2009 Ryan White Awards

Honorable mention feature

Jamie Kim, Lauren Seo, "Pressed for Time" [students with learning disabilities], Harvard-Westlake School [N. Hollywood]

• Six 2009 NSPA Newspaper Pacemaker Finalists

Patricia Lee, Accolade, Sunny Hills HS, [Fullerton]; Tamara Philips, Jenna Murrell, The Bulletin, El Toro HS [Lake Forest]; Cassidy Strawn, High Tide, Redondo Union HS [Redondo Beach]; Candice Aman, Jack Blackwood, Pen, Palos Verdes Peninsula HS [Rolling Hills Estates]; Michelle Marshall, Jolene Xie, The Nexus, Westview HS [San Diego]; Lucy Jackson, Andrew Lee, The Chronicle, Harvard-Westlake

• 2009 NSPA Finalists for Individual Awards

Story of the Year (sports)

Nadia Farjood, The Falconer, Torrey Pines HS, San Diego, Calif.

• Picture of the Year Finalists

Feature

Sam Rodriguez, Volsung, Downey HS, Downey, Calif.

Junior High/Middle School (photo):

Jamie Chang, Tenth Muse, Harvard Westlake MS, Los Angeles, Calif.

Sports action photo

Michael Shaw, Wings, Arrowhead Christian Academy, Redlands, Calif.

• Design of the Year Finalists

Illustration

Jolene Xie, The Nexus, Westview HS, San Diego, Calif.

Yearbook page/spread

Christine Smith, *Wings*, Arrowhead Christian Academy, Redlands, Calif. Lara Brill, *Freeflight*, Torrey Pines HS, San Diego, Calif.

• Cartooning Finalists:

Comic panel/strip

Jolene Xie, The Nexus, Westview HS, San Diego, Calif.

• Broadcast Story of the Year Finalists

Broadcast feature

Staff, Mustang Morning News, Mira Costa HS, Manhattan Beach, Calif.

FOR THE BOARD

Charter schools, a growing movement, provide a challenge for student press rights, since they currently do not operate under the provisions of the California Education Code.

There have been incidents at two schools in southern California where principals have censored newspapers; our analysis indicates that currently charter schools are exempt from 48907 of the Ed. Code. We are working to add the provisions of 48907 to apply to charter schools.



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Susan Thornton

From Nevada State Director Susan Thornton

For the first time in over 20 years, Nevada's population particularly in Clark County declines. Clark County School District, the fifth largest school district in the nation, is home to 80+ percent of the state's population including 302,000 students and 51 high schools. The Reno area saw a decline, but not as great as the Las Vegas area. These two cities make up the majority of the state's population.

AWARDS & HONORS

- Congratulations to Carol Medcalf, Las Vegas Academy newspaper and yearbook advisor, who was inducted into the Education Hall of Fame. The prestigious honor is awarded to an outstanding Nevada educator every two years.
- One 2009 Pacemaker newspaper finalist from Nevada: The Excalibur, McQueen HS [Reno]

OTHER COMMENTS

Due to state education budget concerns, several journalism programs are in danger due to lack of funding. Some principals had to make decisions to cut funding for arts and elective programs. For the first time in Clark County School District's history, support staff and licensed teachers are facing losing their jobs through a reduction of force due state education fund shortfalls.

Funds are in place to apply for a teacher to participate in the mentor program next year, but the challenge has been finding a mentor candidate who is willing to commit the time/has the time.

Three new public high schools opened in Clark County. One a comprehensive high school and two career and technical schools. First of its kind in the state, Veterans Tribute CTA specializes in training students to enter the fields of law enforcement, emergency medicine (EMT), cyber forensics, 911 emergency dispatch, and crime scene investigation. The

school will only offer four electives, broadcast, yearbook, newspaper (2010) and student council. The philosophy being that communication is a vital part of the school and these public service careers.

The state did not have a candidate for JOY this year.

A large contention of students from Nevada attended CSPA in the spring of 2009.

Currently Clark County yearbook and newspaper advisers communicate through an email/listserv forum designed to address journalism questions and concerns. With the turnover of teachers, the forum administrator has been plagued with knowing when a new adviser/teacher has been hired or has resigned.

Yearbook representatives reported over 25 new yearbook advisers in the southern part of the state.

Liz Walsh, MJE, Reno, Nevada, is working on organizing members in the north, and raising funds to sponsor a mentor for northern Nevada.

Liz Walsh is working on creating state standards to present to the state board of education for journalism licensing.

Even with budget cuts and H1N1, Nevada advisers are planning to attend the Washington DC convention in large numbers.

Albert Martinez

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From New Mexico State Director Albert Martinez



April Squires

From Utah State Director April Squires

HAPPENINGS

As usual, the University of Utah and The Salt Lake Tribune will sponsor the annual Young Writers and Photographers Clinic at the U of U, an allday series of workshops for students and an all day session for advisors. Advisers discuss problems and solutions and professionals give presentations on all aspects of student newspaper.

A mail-in competition is part of the event and submissions were greater than in past years. For the fourth year April Squires hosted a "Sunshine Week" event at Riverton High School and invited other district high schools for the second year. One other school did attend, a small improvement.

Students helped give First Amendment quizzes at lunch time and conducted a poster contest. Sunshine Week T-shirts were raffled off to students who passed the quiz and the artist whose poster was selected was given a T-shirt.

Guest speakers addressing citizen and journalists' rights of access to government information were: Peter Corroon, Salt Lake County Mayor; Karen Hale, Salt Lake City Communications Director, who heads a transparency in government initiative; and, as always, Joel Campbell of the Mass Communications department at Brigham Young University and SPJ advocate.

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Randy Swikle

From Illinois State Director Randy Swikle, CJE

MEMBERSHIP

- The current IJEA membership is 135 (76 lifetime memberships).
- The current JEA teacher/adviser membership in Illinois is 111.
- We believe many of our new activities, our partnership with the Illinois Press Foundation, our involvement with the Illinois High School Association journalism competition, and our excellent rapport with regional student press organizations will help inspire more advisers to join IJEA and JEA.

HAPPENINGS

- The McCormick Freedom Project with the Illinois Press Foundation serving as executive agent are funding and organizing a conference on Feb. 7-9, 2010, to create protocol for cultivating free and responsible student news media.
 - °About 50 participants—including school administrators, student journalists, news media advisers, professional journalists and other stakeholders—will be at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, the estate of Col. Robert McCormick, late publisher of the Chicago Tribune.
 - ° The protocol will include (a) proactive strategies for building and maintaining exemplary educational relationships among student journalists, faculty news media advisers and school administrators; (b) problem-solving framework for dealing with journalism issues and controversies without jeopardizing student rights, adviser job security and administrator pedagogical responsibilities; (c) principles of democratic education, journalism ethics, educator ethics and skillful leadership that the school should inculcate and learners and educators engage in; (d) procedures for evaluating application and effectiveness of protocol; (e) strategies to inspire rehabilitation if protocol is breached or needs to be revised.
- In other news, our statewide IHSA contest continues to grow in popularity and participation in its fourth year. In addition to providing exciting opportunities for students to compete in various journalism categories, the IHSA also provides important information and resources that have assisted several IJEA projects.
- The top 10 winners of the 2009 competition (number of awards):
 - 1. Urbana (University) (23)
 - 2. Prospect (20)
 - 3. Rolling Meadows (20)
 - 4. Edwardsville (19)
 - 5. Huntley (17)
 - 6. Naperville Central (13)
 - 7. Glenbrook South (13)
 - 8. Fithian (Oakwood) (13)
 - 9. Mattoon (13)
 - 10. O'Fallon (11), Wheeling (11), Fremd (11)

The IJEA appreciates the support of the Illinois Press Foundation and its Illinois First Amendment Center. The IPF has sponsored our state awards luncheon and has supported IJEA in countless ways. During the summer, the executive director of the IPF, David Bennett, past winner of JEA's Friend of Scholastic Journalism Award, retired. We will miss him. Don Craven, the attorney who represents the Illinois Press Association and the IPF, is serving as interim director. The IFAC continues to provide free First Amendment curriculum materials, posters, presentations and other support to schools in Illinois and around the nation. The IFAC also conducts workshops and conferences around the state.

IJEA honored Susan Hathaway Tantillo, MJE, who retired as JEA's longtime secretary. Susan continues to serve as treasurer on the IJEA board.

AWARDS & HONORS

- 2009 Illinois High School Journalist of the Year: Thomas Stanley-Becker, editor of the U-High Midway, student newspaper at the University of Chicago Laboratory High School, Chicago, Ill. (Wayne Brasler, adviser). First Runner-up: Laura Kraegel, editor of The Correspondent, student newspaper at John Hersey High School, Arlington Heights, Ill. (Janet B. Levin, adviser). Second Runner-up: Joseph Buzzelli, editor of the Bear Facts, student newspaper at Lake Zurich High School, Lake Zurich, Ill. (Carolyn Wagner, adviser).
- 2009 All-State Journalism Team: Daniel Bolsen, editor of the Panther Prints, Lovington HS; Gabriel Bump, coeditor of the U-High Midway, University of Chicago Laboratory HS; Mandy Facer, The Echo, Urbana HS; Margaux Henquinel, copy editor of The Prospector, Prospect HS; Jimmy Hibsch, coeditor of The Pacer, Rolling Meadows HS; Laura Kraegel, editor of the Correspondent, John Hersey HS; Jordy Mc-Namara, managing editor of The Statesman, Stevenson HS; Danielle Schuck, editor of The Guardian, Elk Grove HS; Marina Shawd, editor of the Equus yearbook, Belvidere North H; Molly Williams, sports editor of the Purple Clarion, Harrisburg HS.
- 2009 Illinois Administrator of the Year: Richard Kirchner, principal, Belvidere North High School, Belvidere, Ill.
- 2009 IJEA Friend of Scholastic Journalism: Dr. Manion Rice, retired professor at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.
- 2009 JEA Friend of Scholastic Journalism: Marion E. Best, editor, Moultrie County News-Progress, Sullivan, Ill.
- 2009 JEA Lifetime Achievement Award: Herman Albers, Red Bud, Ill.; Laurie Erdmann, DeKalb, Ill.; James Starnes, Herrin, Ill.
- 2008 JEA Lifetime Achievement Award: Charlotte Titcomb, Gurnee, Ill.
- 2009 JEA Medal of Merit: Janet B. Levin, John Hersey HS, Arlington Heights, Ill.
- 2009 JEA Rising Star Award: Jason Block, Prospect HS, Mt. Prospect,
- 2008 JEA Rising Star Award: Kelly Doyle, Lakes Community HS, Lake Villa, Ill.
- Dow Jones Newspaper Fund Journalism Teacher of the Year: Special Recognition Advisers are Barb Thill, Lincolnshire, Ill.; Dennis Brown, Huntley, Ill.
- 2008 NSPA Yearbook Pacemakers from Illinois:
- Etruscan, Glenbrook South High School, Glenview, Ill.
- 2008 NSPA Newspaper Pacemakers from Illinois:
- The Central Times, Naperville Central High School, Naperville, Ill.
- 2008 NSPA Online Pacemaker Winner
- Gargoyle, University Laboratory High School, Urbana, Ill. Isaac Chambers, Gordon Ruan, Lizzy Warner, Lauren Plester, Elaine Gu, Rachel Skoza, Jason He, editors: David Porreca, adviser

FOR THE BOARD

The IJEA appreciates the work you do, and we congratulate the JEA board of directors for its significant achievements in advancing the causes of scholastic journalism.



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Leslie Shipp

From Iowa State Director Leslie Shipp, MJE

MEMBERSHIP

- 44 people are currently JEA members.
- 55 schools in Iowa are currently IHSPA members, down three from last year

HAPPENINGS

IHSPA Annual Board Meeting: The board met in Iowa City July 2009. Members discussed the following items:

- Executive Director David Schwartz reviewed the budget.
- Nominations for annuals awards were discussed.
- The JEA Mentoring program was discussed.
- Planning for the Fall Conferences and Winter Thaw were discussed.
- There was a lengthy discussion about the fourth revision of the newspaper and yearbook contests. More categories were added to the individual student yearbook contest. Schools can now enter one category three times instead of just once. This brings it in line with the newspaper contest. The Sweepstakes part of the contest was eliminated as a way of deciding state placings. The whole book contest will now serve that role. More categories were added to the individual student newspaper contest. A whole newspaper contest was added to bring it in line with the yearbook contest. PDF submissions will be used for both contests. The Board decided to implement the changes this fall.
- President Timm Pilcher presented the idea of having the Board go on a "World Tour" around that state to meet other advisers as a way of trying to connect with people not active or members of IHSPA/JEA.

Fall Conferences:

- The Regional Conference was held Oct. 2 at S.E. Polk High School. Marcus McIntosh, the CBS affiliate morning anchor was the keynote speaker.
- The Regional Conference will be held Oct. 29 at Iowa City. Chris Krug, executive editor and vice president of Shaw Suburban Media, was the keynote.
- Students attended breakout sessions. An emphasis was placed on advertising the conferences as a state competition and an opportunity to network with professionals and college instructors instead of as a field trip. This was because budget cuts made it difficult for some schools to attend.

- Students participated in On-the-Spot contests in writing, photography, and design.
- Discussion at the SE Polk membership meeting included Gary Lindsay highlighting the JEA mentoring program. Lindsay is mentoring the new adviser at Valley High School, Diane Hicks. Also discussed was the Adviser Winter Thaw moving to the weekend after Valentines' Day to avoid conflicts for the romantics.

AWARDS & HONORS

Awards will be announced at the state convention later this month and included in the March report.



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Laurie Hansen

From Minnesota State Director Laurie Hansen, CJE

HAPPENINGS

On Feb. 17, about 30 print, photo and broadcast student journalists attended a Minnesota Wild team practice at the Xcel Energy Center. Students met with the MN Wild staff, local professional journalists and player Cal Clutterbuck. Students produced photos, stories and broadcasts and competed for the top spot in each category.

On Feb. 10, 27 students attended the Journalism Day at the Guthrie. Students viewed the matinee of The Two Gentlemen of Verona, received a tour of the theater and tips on writing reviews. Students were then given a deadline to submit a review of the play. The Star Tribune Fine Arts editor chose three winning reviews which were posted to the Star Tribune website.

A small group of Twin Cities Metro Area advisers met with Logan Aimone in early June to brainstorm ideas to increase membership in Minnesota in preparation for the upcoming 2011 national convention. Ideas were discussed to develop programs that would get more advisers involved at the state level. We also came up with a proposal to increase membership which involved a \$250 commitment from JEA and NSPA and a \$125 commitment from JEM. With approval we went forward and held a second meeting on July 10 where 16 advisers met and brainstormed further ideas to increase involvement. Our hope is to get more advisers that have never joined or have let their memberships drop to rejoin at a \$25 rate. At our upcoming state convention, we will make another push to reach our goal of 25 advisers signed up. We will assess our progress and set new goals to work towards.

The Minnesota State High School Journalism Convention was Oct. 20 on the University of Minnesota campus. The keynote speaker this year is WCCO-TV reporter Jason DeRusha. Gold Medallion, Best of Show and

JEM All-State awards are presented at the closing ceremony.

The Minnesota High School Press Association honor Nick Fornicoia of Eastview High School in Apple Valley as the 2009 Journalism Educator of the Year. Fornicoia is adviser to the Flash and 4Cast broadcast programs. The Eastview program has been among the most recognized programs in Minnesota and the nation. Their many awards include 17 regional Emmys and the winning entry in the Minnesota Wild contest. More than 250 students participated in the program this year.



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Marsha Kalkowski

From Nebraska State Director Marsha Kalkowski, MJE

MEMBERSHIP

Continues to be strong. Membership renewals are suggested through combined Nebraska High School Press Association membership opportunities. It is always difficult to keep tabs on who is new and who has left the ranks. We are working with the Nebraska School Activities Association to keep more accurate records to provide better support to all advisers.

HAPPENINGS

We are bringing a few delegates to the Washington, D.C. Convention. But, many are excited for next fall (2010) in Kansas City! Thanks to all who have organized the latest convention.

The NHSPA Fall Convention was held Oct. 19 at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. More than 500 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 as well as from Jostens and Walsworth Publishing Companies.

Summer camp was held July 20-23 at UNL. Camp directors are Courtney Archer and Cathy Davis. Contact them for more information at nhspaworkshop@gmail.com. The 2010 summer dates are July 29-Aug 1. Tracks for Editorial Leadership, Broadcasting/Convergence, 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. 30. 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. Results from last winter's contest can be found at: http://marian.creighton.edu/~nhspa/jeaneb/JEA09final.htm

The NHSPA/NSAA Spring State Contest entry submission is going

electronic this spring and we are excited to be one of the first to try a new system. From surveying state directors this summer, it sounds like quite a few organizations are interested in pursuing this opportunity. So, we'll be

sure to share our struggles and successes.

AWARDS & HONORS

The Distinguished Adviser for 2009 is Janelle Schultz of Gering, Nebraska. Janelle currently serves as president of the NHSPA. The 2010 Distinguished Adviser was just voted on this month and we congratulate Joanne Chapuran of Millard South High School, who also serves on the NHSPA Board.

Nebraska was pleased to have four editorial cartooning entries in the JEA/Herb Block Foundation contest. Rachel Swanson from Bellevue East High School (adviser, Stephenie Conley), Jayk Betsun from Grand Island Senior High (adviser Judy Lorenzen), Colter Burkey from Scottsbluff High School (adviser Terry Pitkin), Ann Brudney from Omaha Marian High School (adviser Marsha Kalkowski).

The 2009 Cornhusker Awards (highest critique award for the state of Nebraska) were given at our fall convention. Congratulations to the following Newspapers: Omaha Westside High School, Papillion-LaVista South High School, Millard West High School, Gering High School, Fairbury High School, Omaha Gross Catholic, David City High School, and Clay Center High School. Congratulations to the following year-books: Millard West High School, Papillion-LaVista South High School, Elkhorn High School, Scottsbluff High School, Gretna High School, Omaha Gross Catholic High School, Centennial High School, Wayne High School, Bertrand High School and Dorchester High School.



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Sue Skalicky

From North Dakota State Director Susan Skalicky, C.J.E.

MEMBERSHIP

I would still love to see a significant increase in North Dakota JEA membership during the 2009-2010 school year. I had planned to distribute JEA materials at our state journalism competition (Northern Interscholastic Press Association) in April, but the flood and blizzard of the century led to the cancelation of the event. Although no on-site competition took place, all send-in entries were judged and mailed out (results are below).

October 5 I attended the NIPA fall workshop at University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. I talked about JEA during the adviser meeting as well as emailed requested JEA information prior to the workshop to two

North Dakota advisers that were unable to attend.

Current North Dakota JEA members:

Sue Skalicky, Century High School - 9/13/2010 Keith Henderson, Bismarck High School - 12/01/2009 Annie McKenzie, Bismarck High School - 8/19/2010 Brenda Werner, Bismarck High School - 10/28/2009 Jeremy Murphy, West Fargo High School - 2/18/2010

Recent membership expirations:

Toni Nelson, West Fargo High School - 3/31/09 Elizabeth Anderson, New Town High School 8/29/2009 Becky Mohr, Marion School District - 9/1/2009

Advisers considering membership:

Angela Cassidy, West Fargo High School Lara Prozinski, Devils Lake High School Carol Foth, Valley City High School

HAPPENINGS

What's been happening in North Dakota:

- At the fall workshop I visited with NIPA director Jeremy Murphy who was released from his position as newspaper adviser at West Fargo High School in West Fargo, ND at the end of last school year. Murphy is waiting for co-curricular contracts to be disbursed before pursuing legal action. Roger Bailey, executive director of the board of directors for the North Dakota Newspaper Association, wrote a letter to Tom Gentzhow, president of the West Fargo Board of Education, in Murphy's defense. I have attached that letter. John Irby, editor of the Bismarck Tribune, has also written an editorial about the issue of Murphy's release.
- Jeremy Murphy and I are planning a two-day trip around the state in January (weather permitting) to talk to advisers and students about JEA and NIPA to try to increase membership in both. In the past JEA and NIPA have operated as very separate entities, but we are working hard to work more closely together. NIPA currently has a membership of 19 advisers and we would like to see all 19 also be JEA members.

AWARDS & HONORS

- Century High School, adviser, Sue Skalicky
- NIPA (Northern Interscholastic Press Association) April 2009:
 - ° STAR newspaper staff 2nd place overall newspaper

1st place coverage

1st place business operations

2nd place inside page design

Jack Golden – 3rd place news writing

Kate Klootwyk – 3rd place feature writing; 3rd place photo essay

Paul Murphy – 3rd place general column

Macy Egeland - honorable mention general column

Greg Hilzendeger – 1st place sports column; 2nd place sports column

Norah Kolberg – 1st place sports writing

Greg Hilzendeger – 2nd place sports writing

Breanne Skalicky – 2nd place news photo; 2nd place feature photo; 1st place use of graphics; 3rd place infographics; honorable mention front page design

Cherisa Ryberg – honorable mention sports photo

Kristin Canham -1st place photo essay

Amanda Littrell - 1st place use of graphics

Hayley Hemingway – 2nd place front page design

Nathan Hollatz - 2nd place front page design; honorable mention front page design

° **Spirit yearbook staff** – 2nd place overall yearbook

2nd place sports writing

2nd place personality profile

2nd place division page design

3rd place division page design

3rd place student life spread

2nd place people spread

2nd place index

3rd place academic photography

Lainey Fallgatter - 1st place cover and endsheet design

Brittney Aubol – 1st place sports spread

Cherisa Ryberg – 2nd place advertising spread; 1st place feature photography

Stacie Ueckert – 2 nd place use of graphics

Kaylyn Kuntz - 2 nd place use of graphics

Holly Shipman - 1st place sports photography

JEA/NSPA spring national convention awards:

Nathan Hollatz – honorable mention advertising design

Jordan Kalk – honorable mention editorial writing

Jenny Morrow – excellent yearbook copy/caption sports

Quill and Scroll journalism honor roll:

Allie Curry

Greg Hilzendeger

Kristin Canham

Taylor Muggerud

Quill and Scroll/ASNE 2009 international writing award:

Greg Hilzendeger – 1st place sports story

• West Fargo High School, Adviser: Jeremy Murphy

North Dakota state photographer of the year – Abby Paul

North Dakota state journalist of the year – Molly English

Packer newspaper staff – 1st place overall newspaper; 1st place single topic/multiple story

NIPA (Northern Interscholastic Press Association):

Packer newspaper staff

Mary DeJong - 1st place feature writing

Sam Forsey – 1st place General column

Eric Halvorson – 1st place entertainment review

Bre Gregory – 1st place news photo

Molly English – 1st place feature photo; 1st place sports photo

Meagan McDougall – 1st place front page design

Abby Hammes - 1st place inside page design

Yearling yearbook staff -1st place overall yearbook; 1st place index;

1st place writing and editing; 1st place content and coverage;

1st place photography; 1st place theme and design

Abby Paul - 1st place feature writing

Jill Utter – 1st place sports writing

Kelcee Prashek - 1st place academic writing

Miranda Mars – 1st place organization writing

Jamie Green – 1st place personality profile

Jenna Olson – 1st place headline writing

Jayme Noel – 1st place caption writing

Emily Hartley – 1st place theme and concept

Maggi Nichols - 1st place theme and concept

Emily Hartley - 1st place division page design; 1st place opening and closing design

Jaclyn Rankin – 1st place organization spread

Maggi Nichols - 1st place student life spread

Shelby Foltz – 1st place people spread

Nathan Kuik – 1st place use of graphics; 1st place academic photography

JEA/NSPA spring national convention awards:

Yearling yearbook staff:

Cristina Martinez – honorable mention yearbook copy/caption: Sports

Victoria Hackett - honorable mention yearbook sports photography

Columbia Scholastic Press Association:

Packer newspaper staff:

Breanne Gregory 2nd place Black and white sports photography Emily Vrem - honorable mention Black and white sports photography

Breezy Lies - 2nd place cartooning

NIPA (Northern Interscholastic Press Association):

Hi-Herald newspaper staff - 3rd place in Overall Newspaper

Kay Kemmet - 1st place in Division I News writing

Casie Beck - 2nd place in Division I Feature writing

Alex Stavig - 3rd place in Division I Sports column

Hi-Herald staff - 3rd place in Division I Entertainment Review

Jon Feist - HM in Division I Sports writing

Caity Skalicky - HM in Division I Photo essay

Emma Lorz - 1st place in Division I Advertising

Emma Lorz - HM in Division I Advertising

Emma Lorz - 3rd place in Use of Graphics

Kay Kemmet - HM in Division I Infographics

Grace Dickson - HM in Division I Student Gov., School Board, Community Coverage

Hi-Herald staff - 3rd place in Division I Single Topic, multiple story Emma Lorz - 3rd place in Division I Front Page Design

Annie McKenzie - Adrian Dunn Adviser of the Year

Kay Kemmet - The Anderson Scholarship Award for Journalism – (University of Nebraska)

JEA/NSPA spring national convention awards:

Pen Soul, BHS Literary Magazine - 4th Place - Best of Show



Deb Rothenberger

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From South Dakota State Director Deb Rothenberger, M.JE MEMBERSHIP

State director Debra Rothenberger, MJE, presented information about JEA membership, certification and the national conventions at the South Dakota High School Press Association Press Convention in September.

HAPPENINGS

- The South Dakota High School Press Convention was Monday, Sept. 26, 2009, at the South Dakota State University in Brookings. Candace Perkins Bowen, an assistant professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio, was the keynote presenter. She also conducted a break out session on student speech.
- Jael Trieb, owner of Jael Photography, presented information about photography.
- In the afternoon during the general session, director Doris Giago and coordinator Jessica Jensen presented the awards including the Founders Award, the on-the-spot contest awards and the newspaper/yearbook awards.



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Sandy Jacoby

From Wisconsin State Director Sandy Jacoby

MEMBERSHIP

Kettle Moraine Press Association has sustained membership at 96, only 56 of those are WI members. However, KEMPA does serve both Wisconsin and Illinois in its membership, offering a dual membership option upon joining KEMPA. We continue to promote dual membership, specifically targeting JEA, at every event offered by KEMPA. VP Membership Linda Barrington worked again this year to retain members through email making renewal easy. With a record 90 advisers of newspapers and yearbooks who attended Fall Scholastic Journalism Conference, we also are identifying 25 non-members to recruit those advisers.

HAPPENINGS

- Winter Adviser Seminar, held at The Lodge at Geneva Ridge near Lake Geneva, WI, drew 39 advisers and featured presenter Steve O'Donoghue March 6-7. He focused on mentoring journalism teachers, managing censorship threats, improving coverage and addressing Gen Y attitudes. Other sessions explored cultivating administrators led by Randy Swikle and camera technology led by Kevin Guernsey of Star Photo. Silent Auction supported scholarships and the Student Press Law Center with \$351 raised.
- Summer Workshop continues to evolve and reflect innovative programming as Director Linda Barrington reinvented KEMPA's workshop both in programming and location. The challenge of attracting teens for four-day workshops led KEMPA to reorganize our University of

[°] Bismarck High School, Adviser, Annie McKenzie

Wisconsin-Whitewater workshop in June and to offer an additional four-day workshop in cooperation with Northern Illinois University in July. NIU had sought a collaborative experience with KEMPA with hopes of building a successful journalism summer workshop to serve Illinois programs. These recognized the increasing emphasis on convergence journalism with professional presenters who shared multi-media work with teens. The Wisconsin Press Association provided funds for two full scholarships to attend at University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and the Illinois Press Foundation funded seven full scholarships to attend the July workshop at NIU.

- In addition, **five traveling workshops** took KEMPA instructors to three Illinois and two Wisconsin high school locations where advisers paired with KEMPA to focus journalism instruction, targeting specific skills in shorter time limits. Not only did we reach more students with expert instructors, but also both KEMPA and sponsoring schools benefited financially, greatly improving KEMPA's financial ability to continue to serve schools, advisers and students.
- Day camps in its second year were highly successful while our premium program at UW-W continues to survive to serve those with more time to commit to reap more skills. KEMPA recognizes that we must continue to adapt and reinvent our workshop presence to evolve yearly.
- Fall Scholastic Journalism Conference Oct. 16 held at University of Wisconsin-Whitewater attracted 1,441 with a record 90 advisers for 106 total sessions from which to choose. Students and advisers, including 25 non-members whom JEA/KEMPA will recruit, attended three sessions from 49 professional presenters representing newspapers, broadcast media, photography, communications and advertising as well as journalism educators. In the journalism evaluation/competition, nine newspapers and seven yearbooks achieved All-KEMPA rank, with eight fall-delivery yearbooks yet to be returned for evaluation and rank. Our advisers' luncheon/annual meeting offers a chance to channel JEA promotion through brochures lining tables and from the podium. Contests in yearbook writing, newspaper writing, editorial writing and editorial cartoon drew 23 competitors. Awards followed the third session for publications and student competitors of the day. In spite of economic gloom for school budgets, KEMPA Fall Conference continues to be hugely successful.

• SJC Competition Winners

- ° EDITORIAL WRITE-OFF Danya Sherbini, Grayslake Central High School
- ° EDITORIAL CARTOON-OFF Kelley Byrne, Grayslake Central High School
- ° NEWSPAPER WRITE-OFF Amish Shah, Grayslake Central High School
- ° YEARBOOK WRITE-OFF Megan Buja, Jefferson High School Rockford

AWARDS & HONORS

- Outstanding Administrator Award-Brian Kersten, principal of Waunakee HS
- Friend of KEMPA Award-Eric Fields of UW-W
- Media Award Danielle Guerra, Multi-media editor and reporter, Northwest Herald
- Hall of Fame Award- Stan Zoller, Rolling Meadows HS
- KEMPA Gebhardt summer workshop writing winner Abbie Reetz, D.C. Everest HS
- 2009 College Scholarship Recipients:
 - ° Joseph Buzzelli, Lake Zurich High School
- ° Jessica Loveless, Rolling Meadows High School
- ° Jordan Palmer, Antioch Community High School
- ° Zuzanna Skwiot, Grayslake Central High School



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Stephanie Emerson

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From Arkansas State Director Stephanie Emerson, MJE

MEMBERSHIP

ASPA continues to work to increase membership. We continue to encourage our members to enroll in JEA when they join the state organization. Several JEA members continue to be active at the national level. There are approximately 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, MJE, of Pulaski Tech. Our organization's website: www.arkansasscholasticpress.org Several links are there for additional information.

HAPPENINGS

The 2009 annual state convention was 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. 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.

This past June, our organization's annual Camp ASPA was held on the

campus of Pulaski Tech in North Little Rock with a record attendance. See our website for more information.

The State Convention will be held in Rogers on April 15 & 16, 2010 at the new John Q. Hammons Center adjacent to the Embassy Suites Northwest Arkansas that served as the convention hotel. On-site contests will include 10 in newspaper; 9 in yearbook; 5 in literary magazine; 2 in photography; 8 in broadcast. We usually average about 30 entries in each category. Twenty workshops will be held in different areas for students and advisers to attend.

The 2011 convention is scheduled for Hot Springs.

AWARDS & HONORS

Susan Coyler, MJE, adviser at Fort Smith Southside, Fort Smith, Arkansas, was recognized by the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund as a Special Recognition Adviser.

Bryant High School, Bryant, Arkanas—Margaret Sorrow, CJE, adviser Yearbook:

Silver Crown, CSPA - March 2009 Pacemaker Finalist, NSPA - April 2009 Pacemaker, NSPA - April 2009

NSPA All-American Hall of Fame for achieving the top rating 10 years in a row.



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Susan Massy, CJE

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Susan Massy

From Kansas State Director Susan Massy, CJE

MEMBERSHIP

Membership numbers are down slightly for both KSPA and JEA as a result of continuing financial difficulties being faced by school districts across the state.

HAPPENINGS

Advisers across the state bid farewell to outgoing KSPA executive director John Hudnall in May. KSPA experienced tremendous change, growth and increased financial security during Hudnall's 19 years at the helm of the organization. He will be missed.

But as we said goodbye to John, we were almost immediately welcoming Jeff Browne, our new KSPA director. Jeff is most recently from Colorado State University, where he served as Director of Student Media, the Executive Director of the Colorado High School Press Association, and as an adjunct professor in the journalism department. He was named the new executive director of KSPA last spring and has been busy since he took over. Kansas advisers have been particularly impressed with the growth of KSPA's Web site since Jeff took over. We look forward to working

closely with him.

The issue of greatest concern for Kansas journalism advisers is vocational education – or VE-2 – funding. The state recently decided that journalism is not a high-growth industry and will cease to provide technology funding for journalism after the 2011-2012 academic year, according to the most recent plan.

As a result, KSPA has formed a curriculum committee and hopes that it can help distressed advisers and journalism programs find ways to work around decreased funding.

The three KSPA-sponsored fall conferences drew nearly 1,200 students and advisers from 76 Kansas high schools the week of September 20. Conferences were held in Lawrence, Manhattan and Hays. Logan Aimone, NSPA director, was the featured speaker at the Fort Hays and Manhattan conferences, and Sports Illustrated photographer Bill Frakes highlighted the Lawrence conference.

Join us in a big round of applause for F.L. Schlagle High School, Kansas City, the staff of the Stallionaire, and adviser Keith Jones. After four years of dormancy, Jones and the newspaper staff published their first issue in September. This is Jones' second year at the school.

KSPA added Photo of the Month to its Story of the Month contest. The September winners of both contests were named in early October. The winning photographs can be seen at http://www.kspaonline.org/category/competitions/.

AWARDS & HONORS

We are so proud of the following students and staffs:

Six Kansas high schools were awarded Sweepstakes trophies on May 2, 2009, at the KSPA state championships, held at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. The winners were Troy High School, Class 1A; Humboldt High School, Class 2A; Phillipsburg High School, Class 3A; Andover High School, Class 4A; Mill Valley High School, Class 5A; and Shawnee Mission East High School, Class 6A.

Four Kansas schools have been named newspaper Pacemaker Finalists by the National Scholastic Press Association: Guidon, Hays HS, Hays, Kan.; Thayne Griffin, editor; Bill Gasper, adviser; The Harbinger, Shawnee Mission East, Prairie Village, Kan., Stephen Nichols, editor; Dow Tate, adviser; Tiger Print, Blue Valley H.S., Still well, Kan., Mitchell Smith, editor, Jill Chittum, adviser; Paladin, Kapaun Mt. Carmel H.S., Wichita, Kansas.

The Gold Circle Awards for newspaper were announced recently by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association and 46 Kansas student journalists from five schools have been named winners. Congratulations to student journalists from The Tiger Print, Blue Valley H.S.; The Spotlight, Blue Valley West H.S.; The Harbinger, Shawnee Mission East H.S.; The Mission, Shawnee Mission North H.S.; and The Northwest Passage, Shawnee Mission Northwest H.S.

In the Story of the Year contests sponsored by the National Scholastic Press Association, the following Kansas schools have been named finalists:

BVTV Student News Team, Blue Valley USD 229, Overland Park, Kan., for Broadcast Feature and for Broadcast News

Kirsten Robinson

The Express, Blue Valley Northwest HS, Overland Park, Kan., for News-

paper Page One Design

Kayla Mitchell

Paladin, Kapaun Mount Carmel HS, Wichita, Kan., for Newspaper Spread Design

Andrew Dickinson

Indian, Shawnee Mission North HS, Overland Park, Kan., for Yearbook Page/Spread

Sam Kovzan

The Harbinger, Shawnee Mission East HS, Prairie Village, Kan., for Sports Story

A final note: We have begun preparing to welcome journalism students and teachers from across the country as you converge in Kansas City in November of 2010. The Journalism Educators of Metropolitan Kansas City will host the convention. Kathy Habiger, Mill Valley H.S., and Amy Morgan, Shawnee Mission West H.S., will serve as the local chairs. A theme has been selected: KConverge. A majority of the local committee meeting with Logan and Linda at our "year out" meeting in September to get the ball rolling officially. We toured the convention center facilities and planned where critiques, a photo display of student work and performances by local jazz bands would be during the convention. We solidified chairs for each convention committee as well as generated a lengthy list of possible keynote speakers for Logan and Linda to contact on our behalf. Can't wait to see everyone in KC.

FOR THE BOARD

The only concerns we have for the board are in regard to view of the field of journalism, both professional and scholastic. With our state education organizations telling us that ours is a dying field and that we are not technologically progressive, we are frustrated and a little frightened. We are also sure that we are not the only ones facing this issue. We would appreciate any support that JEA can provide.



Angela Watkins

From Louisiana State Director Angela Watkins

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From Missouri State Director Nancy Freeman, MJE

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. 6, 2009
The following include memberships from last year. Members are still joining this year:

Missouri Interscholastic Press Association — During the 2008-2009 School Year we had 52 schools with 72 advisers. Of that number, 11 were new schools.

JEMKC-- In 2008-2009, we had 71 members, including 60 returning members and 11 new members. We have 35 high schools represented in our membership from both sides of the state line.

Sponsors of School Publications of Greater St. Louis — In 2008-09, we had 37 schools, 52 advisers.

MIPA CONTACT:

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SSP

http://www.ssp-stl.org

Members: Junior and senior high school journalism advisers in the St. Lous area

Conference: Spring conference in mid-March at a St. Louis university Scholarships: Curtis Kenner Memorial Summer Conference Scholarships; H.L. Hall Adviser scholarship, Bruce Schneider Adviser Scholarship

Contests: Individual and overall contests of newspaper, yearbook and broadcast, January deadline

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HAPPENINGS

MIPA

Scholastic Journalism Day was April 9, 2009, and continues to evolve with more sessions every year, including a write-off and photo shoot-off competition. 2009 Journalism Day was stronger than ever. We worked with the new Reynolds Journalism Institute at the Missouri School of Journalism to provide our main speaker and produce sessions for students and a session for advisers. Technology is a BIG part of RJI and new labs are just one of the features of the new facility. A total of 732 attended J-Day. I do not have the breakdown of students and advisers. The date for J-Day 2010 is April 7, 2010.

Summer Media Workshop:

Summer Media Workshop 2009 was a success. Seven sessions were offered. Attendance per section:

- 15 Editor-in-Chief
- 11 New Media Convergence
- 10 Redesigning and Reinventing Your Publication
- 04 Digital Photography and Photo Editing
- 06 Journalism Bootcamp
- 06 Sports Reporting
- 02 Teaching Scholastic Publications (Advisers Only)
- 54 Total attending

Dates for the 2010 Summer Media Workshop are July 6-8.

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. The 39th Annual Missouri Urban Journalism Workshop was held July 11-21. A total of 16 students were selected to attend.

From Missouri

Brooke M. Bishop, Hazelwood Central High School

Out-of-state

Johanna Henao, Klein Collins High School, Spring, TX Kristin Herhold, Cherry Creek High School, Englewood, CO Briana J. Hopes, Houston Christian High School, Cypress, TX Savannah Kannberg, Solon High School, Solon, OH Elizabeth Maluta, Nequa Valley High School, Naperville, IL Scott MacDonald, Ames (IA) High School Mallory J. Price, Naperville North High School, Naperville, IL Jack Warme, Woodrow Wilson High School, Dallas, TX Chelsea White, Waubonsie Valley High School, Aurora, IL Dates for 2010: July 10-18.

OTHER MIPA STUFF:

Thanks to Aaron Manfull at Francis Howell North, is revising our website. 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.

University of Missouri Journalism School also hosted ASNE Missouri ASNE HSJ Institute at the University of Missouri Columbia, MO from July 12-24, 2009

JEMKO

Spring activity: We held our annual contest at Johnson County Community College. Over 1,000 entries from 23 high schools in the metro had their entries critiqued by over 20 local and national journalism professionals. We gave out 240 certificates in 54 categories on Wednesday, April 29 and as well as 9 scholarships and other awards. The journalism department at Johnson County Community College hosted the event, with director Anne Christian-Bullers helping to secure the venue and coordinate the food and set up. The Kansas City Star continues to support high school journalism by donating \$1,000 for 3 scholarships and JEMKC paid \$650 for the remaining awards. Entries in the contest continue to remain steady, although finding judges is increasingly difficult.

Most of our summer was spent brainstorming a theme and keynote speaker ideas for the convention. We sponsored three contests for students to help create our promotional materials for the convention. One contest asked students to take photos of the convention area and interesting Kansas City landmarks, and three students and their photos were selected as winners. The second contest was for an official contest logo, and a student from Lee's Summit High School won that contest. The final contest is a promotional video to be played for the convention attendees at the closing session of the conventions in DC and Portland. Winners of that will be announced in late October. The theme for the convention will be KConverge (KC + Converge) and we plan to focus our featured speakers and sessions on how to combine print, broadcast and web journalism to keep pace with the changing nature of the profession.

Fall begin with a majority of the local committee meeting with Logan and Linda at our "year out" meeting in September to get the ball rolling officially. We toured the convention center facilities and planned where critiques, a photo display of student work and performances by local jazz bands would be during the convention. We solidified chairs for each convention committee as well as generated a lengthy list of possible keynote speakers for Logan and Linda to contact on our behalf.

On Oct. 8, we also sponsored our sometimes-annual "Fall Fling," an event for advisers to attend to get to know one another and to plan for upcoming events. This year's event was held at a local eatery in Missouri and 24 advisers attended. We signed up five new volunteers for various convention committees and gave away door prizes and goody bags to everyone who attended. Free food and cash bar were available.

In the coming months, we will meet regularly with the convention committee to work on various duties in getting ready for November 2010.

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 \$2400 in scholarships for students and teachers to go to summer workshops or take classes. We also awarded a \$1000 leadership scholarship to a local journalism senior.

AWARDS & HONORS

Aaron Manfull and Christina Geabhart were recently named Dow Jones Newspaper Fund Distinguished Advisers for 2009. The awards will be presented at the JEA/NSPA Adviser Awards Luncheon in Washington D.C. on Saturday, Nov. 14.

Fall 2009

Broadcast Pacemaker Finalists: KLHS/KLPS Channel 18, Liberty HS, Liberty, Mo. Ann Bertoldie, adviser

Central Intelligence, Central HS, Springfield, Mo. Nichole Lemmon, adviser

HTV Magazine, Hillcrest HS, Springfield, Mo. Dave Davis, adviser

Newspaper Pacemaker Finalist: Kirkwood Call, Kirkwood HS, Kirkwood, Mo. Mitch Eden, adviser

Newsmagazine Pacemaker Finalist: North Star, Francis Howell North HS, St. Charles, Mo. Jordyn Klackner, editor; Aaron Manfull, adviser

Cartoon of the Year: Timothy J. Luecke (student) Mirror, DeSmet Jesuit HS, Creve Coeur, Mo.

Design of the Year: Cami Wade (student) North Star, Francis Howell North HS, St. Charles, Mo. Dean Kelly (student)
The Wolf's Howl, Timberland HS, Wentzville, Mo.

Photography:

Tricia McDonough (student)
Pinnacle, Rockwood Summit HS, Fenton, Mo.

Tracy Burns-Yocum (student)
Dart, St. Teresa's Academy, Kansas City, Mo.

Cami Wade (student)

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

Elle Rauch (student)

Teresian, St. Teresa's Academy, Kansas City, Mo.

Lillie Schenk (student) Odyssey, Winnetonka HS, Kansas City, Mo

Story of the Year: Feature Story Nikki McGee (student) The Wolf's Howl, Timberland HS, Wentzville, Mo.

Diversity
Jeremy Bleeke, Nina Oberman (students)
Globe, Clayton HS, Clayton, Mo.

Multimedia Package FareehaAmir (student) FHNtoday.com, Francis Howell North HS, St. Charles, Mo.

Broadcast Story of the Year:

Staff

HTV Magazine, Hillcrest HS, Springfield, Mo.



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Joe Nations

ooe nations

From Oklahoma State Director Joe Nations

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in Oklahoma is staying consistent at about 20-25 members although there is concern that due to deep budget cuts several schools in the state may loose their programs if State money is cut more.

HAPPENINGS

Fall Media Day will be held Nov. 16 at the University of Oklahoma. Workshops in photography, Photoshop, and InDesign will be featured for students to participate.

Lisa Van Etta

Cypress Falls High School 9811 Huffmeister Road Houston, TX 77095 W: 281-856-1071 Lisa.yanetta@cfisd.net

From Texas State Director Lisa Van Etta

MEMBERSHIP

TAJE currently has 235 members; 231 Texas advisers are members of JEA. Following the state convention. The Fall Fiesta, TAJE's executive director Rhonda Moore will execute a follow-up, contacting members from last year who have not rejoined.

HAPPENINGS

TAJE held its state convention in San Antonio, Oct. 16-19, with 806 students and advisers attending. JEA attendees included JEA Executive Director Linda Puntney and President Jack Kennedy. Out-of-state speakers included David Knight and Scott Winter. In addition to the out-of-state speakers, sessions were also given by Pulitzer Prize winning photographer Skeeter Hagler, ILPC Director Jeanne Acton and ATPI Executive Director Mark Murray. Out of 643 entries, more than 200 students and publications won awards in on-site, carry-in, and best-of-show competitions.

At both the executive board and membership business meetings, the national JEA/NSPA convention was a major topic of discussion. An ongoing contest is being conducted to design a logo for the convention. The deadline for entries will be early December.

Pat Gathright and Rhonda Moore agreed to be co-chairmen for the event to be held in San Antonio 1212.

Currently journalism teachers throughout the state are rallying to address the journalism state TEKS/standards which drive the journalism courses and textbooks. The teachers found out very late that these standards were being revised without consideration for convergent media, etc. A online petition is being circulated for signatures.

TAJE awards \$5,500 in scholarships annually.

TAJE operates its own Web site and listserv. The site recently redesigned by TAJE's webmaster Dianne Smith-Harper features current curriculum and instructional materials including PowerPoint lessons that educators can download. The site is found at www.taje.org.

TAJE is proud to recognize the Texas Journalist of the Year from Cypress Falls High School. This is the third Texas Journalist of the Year from Cy Falls High School in the last four years. Kendall Popelsky was a writer and co-editor for the newspaper Wingspan. In addition, she had also worked on the online newspaper and yearbook staff and as a writer/photographer. She also wrote sports stories for HS GameTime.com. Kendall went on to place in the top five finalists.

ILPC is planning its spring convention at the University of Texas at Austin April 10-11 2010 with over 100 sessions. In addition, ILPC coordinates and sponsors academic contests for journalists in editorial, feature, news and headline writing in May.

AWARDS & HONORS

At TAJE convention, the following were recognized for their outstanding work in school publications:

- Friends of Journalism: Julie Marshall (Walsworth) and Jeanne Acton
- Trailblazer: Linda Puntney and Jack Kennedy.



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Brenda Gorsuch

Brenda Gorsuch, MJE, Southeast Region 5 Director

While the recession has definitely impacted journalism programs in the Southeast, scholastic journalists and their advisers continue to do outstanding work. Attendance at regional and state workshops has been strong in many states. North Carolina is in its second year of supporting the JEA mentoring program with two mentors, Martha Rothwell and Kay Phillips, and the Southern Interscholastic Press Association is providing \$1,000 to Alabama (ASPA), a Region 5 state, for the next two years to help sponsor a JEA mentor.

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 Denise Croker, The Harpeth Hall School, Nashville, Tenn. and Coni Grebel, Lee County High School and Lee County Ninth Grade Campus, Leesburg, Ga. as special recognition advisers in the DJNF National High School Journalism Teacher awards program.

We are sad that budget cuts at the University of Florida have meant that Dr. Judy Robinson is no longer serving as executive director of the Florida Scholastic Press Association. The thoughts and prayers of Region 5 advisers have been with Mississippi state director Beth Fitts and her husband as he undergoes treatments for cancer.



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Susan Goins Newell

From Alabama State Director Susan Goins Newell, MJE

Most of the information for this report was furnished by Alabama Scholastic Press Association's (ASPA) director Meredith Cummings. Cummings worked at The Tuscaloosa News before becoming director last year. At the news, she wrote columns, editorials, news, and feature stories and was in charge of the teen section of the paper.

Jessie Patterson Jones, 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.

HAPPENINGS

The Alabama Scholastic Press Association is on Facebook. The Facebook group will keep students and advisers updated on ASPA upcoming events, as well as what's going on in the University of Alabama journalism department, such as guest speakers that might be of interest to up-and-coming young journalists according to the ASPA Web site.

JEA Mentoring Program

Long time ASPA director Marie Parsons is serving as ASPA emeritus director and has become a JEA mentor. ASPA was accepted into a Journalism Education Association mentoring program. JEA committed to three scholarships for Alabama. This is a huge step in training new publications and broadcast advisers in our state. Mentor training for our three mentors -- Marie Parsons, JoAnn Hagood and Nora Stephens -- took place in Kansas City in summer 2009. By providing an ongoing support system to improve the retention rate of new journalism teachers, we hope that new advisers in this program will stay with their publications and build them into strong, effective programs.

The Long Weekend

The Long Weekend Summer Camp was held June 12-14 and attracted 55 students from around the state. After training in journalism fundamentals, students dove into a project and each student left with a product they could either publish or use for their personal portfolio.

Fall Regional Workshop

ASPA offered its annual Fall Regional Workshops Sept. 14-16 in Auburn, Huntsville and Tuscaloosa. ASPA had 350 middle and high school students and their advisers from 20 schools attend the workshop sessions. Local experts and keynote speakers rounded out the sessions at each stop around the state, from broadcast to print journalists, poets and magazine editors.

Multicultural Journalism Program

The Multicultural Journalism Workshop is a residential camp lasting

10 days offered at the University of Alabama campus in Tuscaloosa. It is designed to give high school students – especially those who come from underserved populations – a basic journalism learning experience to help them consider a career in journalism: Writing, reporting, editing, layout and photography for newspaper, online and broadcast. This year the program allowed 15 students to fan out across the Black Belt and do reporting, which resulted in the 20-page newspaper they produced, as well as online video, broadcast work and photography. Alabama media professionals worked with students on their stories and projects. Students also learned about social media, how to protect their online identity, media law and ethics. Through MJW's Twitter and Facebook accounts, students learned about reporting through the filter of social media.

For the past 11 years, the workshop has been a multicultural workshop, welcoming students of all races and ethnic groups who have a desire to practice journalism in an increasingly diverse society. Students applied and wrote an essay about what multicultural journalism means to them. Our faculty, counselors and volunteer mentors also have been highly diverse.

MJW recruits high school students who, in short order, learn what it means to be a working journalist. It introduces students to many distinguished Alabama journalists, people who may be in a position to hire them someday. By working with many Alabama professional journalists, students get a good idea of the importance, of journalism and its public service mission. In addition, the program encourages diversity in the state's newsrooms by actively recruiting people from groups that have been underrepresented in the media workplace; however, the program welcomes students of all backgrounds with an interested in being journalists in an increasingly multicultural society.

The summer class will have a reunion in January.

Spring Convention

The ASPA spring convention will be held Feb. 26-27 in Tuscaloosa. Additional information about ASPA can be found at http://www.aspa.ua.edu/.

Erin Coggins, newspaper and yearbook advisor at Sparkman High School, is president of the advisor group for Alabama Scholastic Press Association. Her email address is ecoggins@madison.k12.al.us. ASPA and the Southern Interscholastic Press Association (SIPA) are beginning to coordinate their conferences. Susan Newell and ASPA director Meredith Cummings are on the SIPA advisory board. SIPA's spring convention is March 5-7. Their summer workshop, CJI, will be June 9-13. Information about SIPA events can be found online at http://www.sc.edu/cmcis/so/sipa/.

"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.



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From Georgia State Director Joe Dennis

Headquartered in the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Georgia, GSPA is organized by the GSPA Director (funded by the Grady College as 40 percent of his job duties) and advised by the GSPA Advisory Board, consisting of eight volunteer high school media advisers from across the state.

MEMBERSHIP

GSPA ended the 2008-09 school year with exactly 129 members, a 14 percent decrease over the previous year. As of Oct. 26, GSPA has 69 members and is still in the midst of its fall membership drive.

HAPPENINGS

The Georgia Journalism Academy, a weeklong summer camp held at the Grady College June 7-13, was over capacity with a record 86 students attending. Students selected one core area of study news writing, editorial writing, feature writing, graphic design, photojournalism, broadcast production or broadcast writing – and produced an Academy newspaper and a TV broadcast news program. Area media professionals and Grady College faculty and staff taught classes during the day, and activities were planned for the evening. Registration fees (including room, board, supplies and tuition) was \$525, with several students receiving either full or partial scholarships through an \$8,000 grant given by CNN and a \$4,000 grant from the Hispanic Scholarship Fund.

The GSPA Adviser's Workshop, a two-day training workshop for high school newspaper or yearbook advisers, was attended by 14 advisers on July 23-24 at the University of Georgia. Hands-on sessions included an adviser roundtable, photojournalism, InDesign, high school media rights, principal-adviser relations and better newspapers or yearbooks. Sessions were taught by experienced high school advisers, Grady faculty and area professionals. Participants earned one professional learning unit (PLU) from the Georgia Department of Education. Registration was \$199 per person, and included one night hotel room, three meals, tuition and supplies.

The 2009 GSPA Conference was held Sept. 23-24 at the University of Georgia and was attended by roughly 450 students, advisers and chaperones from 31 different programs. Sixty sessions were held for newspaper, yearbook, broadcast and/or literary magazine students. Sessions were led by area media professionals, experienced high school advisers, and Grady College faculty, staff and graduate students. The opening session included a live performance from a local band and an on-stage interview with an entertainment reporter. On-site newspaper critiques, a first-issue competition and a curriculum exchange were also offered. Registration costs were \$20 for a two-day registration, \$15 for a one-day registration.

From Florida State Director Judy Robinson, CJE

MEMBERSHIP

An active group of Florida teachers are members of both JEA and FSPA. Of the 231 FSPA member publications in 2009, 83 were newspapers, 76 yearbook, 40 broadcast, 18 magazine and 7 newsmagazine.

The 2009 FSPA Convention in Tampa (unfortunately, held during the same time as the JEA Spring convention) had more than 1,000 delegates in attendance. This is the second year in a row of convention attendance of more than 1000.

The 2010 FSPA Convention will be held in Tampa from April 29 to May 1-a change in the time of year. This will enable members to attend both FSPA and JEA conventions in April should they wish. For the past several years, the conventions had been at the exact same time, making it difficult for members of both organizations to attend both conventions.

For encouraging and increasing JEA membership in Florida, the state director has sent emails and membership materials to both new teachers in the state and advisers who have asked for coaching or resources for scholastic journalism. The new advisers have asked for information and assistance as a result of their finding information on the FSPA Web site. I am contemplating designing a state-specific web site that would speak specifically to advisers in the state on the value of joining JEA.

HAPPENINGS

Executive Director Judy Robinson has been cut by the university and is not serving as FSPA Executive Director. As of the writing on this report, no word as to what the college was doing about FSPA had been given.

Fall workshops are held by 6 of the 7 districts in Florida where the FSPA District Directors set up contests and speakers for their region. For example, Mary K Sullivan, FSPA District Director and JEA member, runs a well-attended workshop of more than 800 delegates in the Miami-Dade area and typically raises several thousand for FSPA.

AWARDS & HONORS

JEA member Linda Evanchyk of Choctawhatchee H. S. became one of the few advisers to earn the Florida Teacher of the Year award for a second time. She won in 2009 and 1995. Linda also won the 2009 Julie E. Dodd Scholarship Award, an award given in honor of former FSPA's longest serving Executive Director. The award goes to support endeavors or courses for the adviser. Congratulations to Linda, for her accomplishments and her continued involvement at the state and national level in scholastic journalism.

AWARDS & HONORS

GSPA had 48 newspaper, 29 yearbook, 15 literary magazine and three broadcast news entries in its 2008-09 General Excellence Competition. In addition, we had 1,130 individual entries in 41 different categories.

Nationally, Clarke Central High School (Athens) is a NSPA Pacemaker finalist for its newsmagazine Odyssey.



Beth Fitts, CJE

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Beth Fitts

From Mississippi State Director Beth Fitts, CJE

MEMBERSHIP

The Mississippi Scholastic Press Association includes Journalism Education Association membership on its state membership forms. JEA membership forms are available for advisers at regional and state workshops and conventions.

HAPPENINGS

The Dow Jones/ MPA Summer Journalism Workshop features five days of intense instruction in yearbook, newspaper, broadcast, desktop publishing, advising and photography as a way to improve the publications in the state. Form 75-60 students and teachers from across the state participate in this workshop. The last week in June is the standard date for the summer workshop.

Fall regional workshops also help state involvement in journalism. The University of Mississippi hosted the North Mississippi workshop on Sept. 24 with about 330 attending. The South Mississippi Workshop was Sept. 29 in Pascagoula, with about 100 attending. Also, MSPA offered an Adviser-only Technology Workshop at the end of August to help train advisers in desktop publishing so they can better teach their staffs.

The University of Mississippi is working with MSPA to offer a course for advisers and others interested in teaching/advising journalism. The course is iSchool Publicationsî and is offered throughout the year as an independent study class.

Teacher resources are also available with several teaching videos on interviewing, ad sales and ad design online. The MSPA blog and website also help keep advisers involved with regional and national conventions.

JEA materials are distributed and/or are available at the Spring MSPA Convention, as well as at the first of the school year to increase JEA participation. Announcements go out to all MSPA members announcing the JEA Journalist of the Year competition (and others) to promote JEA membership and involvement.



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Monica Hill

From North Carolina State Director Monica Hill, CJE

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.

HAPPENINGS

NCSMA's fall regional workshops are currently being held in six cities across the state. These six October and November 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. Last year some 1,200 student journalists participated in these workshops. This year 750 have attended or preregistered for three workshops, with three more to go.

North Carolina's High School Journalist of the Year was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship this summer, thanks to the North Carolina Press Foundation's vote to increase the amount from \$500. The two alternates each received \$500 each ¬— an increase from the \$200 previously awarded.

Each summer the N.C. Scholastic Media Institute 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.

NCSMA continues to offer summer graduate-level courses in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at UNC-Chapel Hill. The 2009 course was "Desktop Publishing and Design in the Secondary School." The class offers instruction in Illustrator, Photoshop and InDesign, plus design principles and teaching methods. A self-paced study course, "Journalism Education in the Secondary School," is currently being offered online for N.C. high school journalism teachers. Teachers may take up to nine months to complete this online course.

North Carolina is now in year two of JEA's Mentoring Program. N.C. Scholastic Media Association remains 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 these two years. Kay Phillips, former NCSMA director, and Martha Rothwell,

former NCSMA board member, are currently serving as the state's two mentors.

NCSMA is now home to the N.C. College Media Association. The office coordinates an annual one-day conference for N.C. college media advisers and staffs. Now entering its third year, the association offers these conferences on a different college campus each year. Elon University will host the Feb. 20, 2010, conference. This year the association launched a statewide contest service for the student media.

AWARDS & HONORS

National Scholastic Press Association has named Providence Senior High's literary magazine, Roars & Whispers, a finalist in the Design of the Year competition's Magazine Page/Spread category.

Ravenscroft (Raleigh) School journalist Nicole Mortimer was named the 2009 Rachel Rivers-Coffey North Carolina High School Journalist of the Year. Alternates were Alice Keyes of A.C. Reynolds High in Asheville and Tyler Holbrook of Wake Forest-Rolesville High in Raleigh. 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.

Geoff Belcher, adviser at Wake Forest-Rolesville High in Raleigh, and Mark Harrison, adviser at T.C. Roberson High in Asheville, received NCSMA's 2009 Kay Phillips Distinguished Service Award.

Erica Mesnard of T.C. Roberson High in Asheville won the 2009 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.

Taylor Swankie of First Flight High in Kill Devil Hills won the 2009 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.

N.C. Scholastic Media Advisers Association board member Brenda Gorsuch has been re-elected regional director for Journalism Education Association. NCSMA Director Monica Hill has been elected secretary of the N.C. Open Government Coalition.



Karen Flowers

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From South Carolina State Director Karen H. Flowers, CJE

MEMBERSHIP

SCSPA continues to offer both a one-year membership for \$40 and a three-year membership for \$100. It's nice to begin each year with members and not have to start at square one. Our membership year runs from Sept. 1 – Aug. 31. The number of staffs that choose the multiple-year membership has grown from one-third to one-half of our total.

We have had the three-year membership since 2000. Because of the high rate of turnover of advisers, board members said if a staff had a three-year membership and an adviser left, the new adviser would have an automatic "connection" with our organization.

Advisers also liked the idea of a three-year membership because they didn't have to pay membership each year, only evaluation and contest fees.

And, of course, those extra fees do cause some logistical problems. 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 evaluations, contests and types of memberships.

We continue to use a "Rule of 7" to communicate with members, and the process seems to be helping: (1) Web site, (2) letters, (3) postcards, (4) e-mail, (5) Facebook (6) schopress listserv and (7) phone. We are beginning to experiment with Google calendar in getting messages out too. Of course, we can't use all methods for every event/deadline, but we try to use several with each message we need to get out.

An interesting, although not surprising, fact we have found out about our membership by adding a "years of experience" blank on the membership – half of our advisers have five or fewer years of experience. That's scarey!

HAPPENINGS

Much to our surprise (because of the economic situation and cuts in school budgets), the fall conference Sept. 28 was a huge success. We had almost 700 attendees. Our fall conferences have averaged 500-600 in the past five years. We aren't sure what happened – other than using our Rule of 7 and lots of individual attention and our adviser network (SPAN – Student Publication Advisers Network) – , but we are glad it did.

We also had 40 participants in three all-day workshops Saturday, Sept. 26. The three workshops were InDesign, Journalistic Writing and Taking your Newspaper Online – a first attempt at helping our newspaper staffs work with online publishing.

AWARDS & HONORS

GINGER DUNKER was named the 2009 Reid H. Montgomery Adviser of the Year. Dunker is literary magazine (Calliope) adviser at South Aiken HS, Aiken, S.C.

ASHLEY BROWN, was named the 2009 S.C. Journalist of the Year. Brown was editor-in-chief of the J. L. Mann HS, Greenville, S.C., newspaper, Mannuscript.

ZAC BAKER, 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.

TAYLOR CHENEY received the second annual yearbook scholarship, a \$500 scholarship sponsored by Jostens Yearbook. to attend the University of South Carolina the fall.

Cheney was editor-in-chief of the Imagine yearbook at Charleston County School of the Arts in Charleston, S.C

SUSAN HUGHES, principal at J.L. Mann HS in Greenville, S.C., was awarded the 2009 Albert T. Scroggins Award. This award is presented 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 2008-2009 publications were Best Literary Magazine: Calliope, South Aiken HS, Aiken, S.C. Best Newspaper: Error! Contact not defined., Wando High School, Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Best Yearbook: Souvenirs, James F. Byrnes HS, Duncan, S.C. Best in Broadcast: Silver Screen Report, Dutch Fork HS, Irmo, S.C.



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Denise Croker

From Tennessee State Director Denise Croker

MEMBERSHIP

JEA Membership in Tennessee is steady, with numbers in the low 60s. **HAPPENINGS**

The state THSPA workshop was held Oct. 17 at David Lipscomb University, its new home. Numbers were down at this workshop one year ago because of the gas crisis and the economy, with about 400 students attending (our highest attendance was in the 800s three years ago). Sadly, this year's numbers were down further, to fewer than 200. There were a number of reasons for low attendance:

- The continuing economic problems. Some schools have canceled all field trips as a result of their budget crunch.
- Prohibitions on travel because of fear of catching or spreading swine flu.
- This date fell on the fall break of many of the schools that attend, so even if students would have wanted to attend, their district would not have provided bus transportation.
- It fell in Homecoming week of the largest school that attends, Brentwood High School. They typically bring 80 students, and none could come because of Homecoming activities and the football game that night.

• It was on a Friday, which, for schools who broadcast their football games, is a real challenge.

It is a challenge to find just the right date. David Lipscomb University has only one day for fall break, and there are not enough classrooms available when school is in session. We talked at the advisers' lunch of moving the workshop before school begins or as late as the Thanksgiving week.

Nonetheless, Dr. Jimmy McCollum, director of THSPA, put together a terrific collection of presenters – a wider variety than we have had in the past, with representation from area universities, television and radio broadcast stations, freelancers, and high school advisers. The keynote speech was given by Mike Keith, "The Voice of the Titans." It was well organized and enjoyed by those who attended. (I presented two sessions.)

I again talked up the benefits of JEA membership, and a few advisers took the brochures on getting certification through JEA. I hope they will follow through and take the test!

In the Summer:

THSPA at David Lispcomb University once again held a 3-day Summer Journalism Workshop in early June. (I presented 5 sessions.)

Belmont University's New Century Journalism program, under the directorship of Bonnie Wagonfield, hosted a Summer Camp in late June.

AWARDS & HONORS

Donna Emmons of DeKalb County High School earned her CJE and was presented with her award at the spring JEA/NSPA convention in Phoenix. As far as Sharon Tally can tell, Donna and I are the only two in Tennessee with CJE status.

After winning the State Media Adviser of the Year Award in March, I had the opportunity to apply for a Dow Jones Newspaper Fund award. They announced in September that I am a DJNF Special Recognition Adviser. I feel so honored, and I can't wait to go to the awards ceremony at the national convention in Washington, DC!



Tom Gayda

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Tom Gayda, CJEMid-Atlantic/Great Lakes Region 6 Director

The Mid-Atlantic/Great Lake states have been a hub of scholastic journalism activity. The region is excited to host the 2009 fall convention,

and hopes to have further opportunities in other regional locations in the near future. Region 6 is a hotbed of scholastic journalism, ready to show the country the great things we have cooking!



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Reginald Ragland

From District of Columbia Director Reginald W. Ragland, CJE

The following report addresses the District of Columbia chapter of the Journalism Education Assn. (DCJEA). (This report is not inclusive of events relative to the D.C. professional media liaison activities.)

HAPPENINGS

- 1. WABJ Urban Journalism Workshop--members support the planning and student recruitment and instructional aspects of this annual activity.
- 2. Co-sponsored three competitive and merit-based summer workshop grants to three students of \$100 stipends each;
- 3. Four members continue to be part of the planning committee for the national convention;
- 4. Held fall reception/"non-meeting" allowing for DCJEA members to meet, relax, pick up 2009-10 materials, held at 2006 JEA Friend of Scholastic Media recipient WAMU, FM 88.5;
- 5. DCJEA will support its Friend of Scholastic Journalism recipient WAMU FM 88.5, during its upcoming fall pledge drive with four representatives:
- 6. Two DCJEA nominees for Friend of Scholastic Media recipients were selected and will be recognized at the fall convention in D.C.

MEMBERSHIP

- 1. Membership continues to flux, but membership outreach stays robust and active utilizing the national convention as a publicity banner. Several new advisers in District schools have been encouraged to participate in the JEA Outreach Academy and will be likely candidates for membership.
- 2. JEA continues to partner with Prime Movers Media to train new journalism teachers and assist with enhancing the growth of their media programs. Due to budget cuts, however, it has discontinued paying the annual membership dues of it teacher partners.
- 3. An assessment of the impact of the D.C. convention (growth of membership) will be performed following the convention and submitted to the board;
- 4. An assessment of the impact of the D.C. convention (value of activities, responses from students) will be performed following the convention and submitted to the board;
- 5. DCJEA will be part of the overall convention report submitted.



Nancy Hastings

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From Indiana State Director Nancy Hastings, MJE

While Indiana weather reports reveal unseasonably cold and rainy October days, scholastic journalism continues to shine bright despite the gray skies.

More than 400 students and advisers celebrated achievements and honed skills at the Indiana High School Press Association convention Oct. 22 and 23 in Franklin, IN. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Thomas French opened the Friday activities as he inspired student journalists to move beyond the usual "our school is boring, nothing ever happens here" complaints, to cover the real people stories lurking in every school.

Along with attending a variety on intensive workshops and sessions, students and advisers also honored their best as Ryan Gunterman from Bloomington North High School was recognized as the Ella Sengenberger Adviser of the Year. Recognized for his newspaper and yearbook staffs' achievements, IHSPA also recognized Gunterman for his work in planning the last three state conventions.

Steve Tripenfeldas from Munster High School earned the Administrator of the Year honors for his hands-off approach in supporting student journalists. He spoke of the importance of building a responsible journalism program, where students accurately report the truth.

Dan Waechter, Ball State University assistant professor of journalism, and Stephen Key and Karen Braeckel from the Hoosier Press Association, earned recognition as Friends of Journalism for their continued support of student journalists and advisers. Lifetime Achievement awards recognized recently retired Terry Nelson, formerly at Muncie Central HS, and Mike Frazier, formerly at Hanover Central HS, for their service to IHSPA and scholastic journalism.

Awards recognized the best in Indiana student journalism as eight yearbooks and seven newspapers earned Hoosier Stars. NorthWood HS in Nappanee, Hanover Central HS in Cedar Lake, Muncie Central HS, Carmel HS, Columbus North HS, and Warren Central HS in Indianapolis earn yearbook recognition, while Scottsburg HS, Munster HS, Lawrence Central and Lawrence North HS, both from Indianapolis, earned newspaper Stars. Bloomington North HS, Carmel HS and Muncie Central were recognized for both their yearbook and newspaper.

Positive news continues as Tom Gayda from North Central HS in Indianapolis is recognized as a JEA Medal of Merit honoree. Gayda will accept his award at the Washington, DC convention.



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Brian Wilson

Brian Wilson

From Michigan State Director Brian Wilson

MEMBERSHIP

In order to try to increase membership, we have continued to include an option to join JEA on the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association's membership form. This seems to have been successful.

One suggestion that I have regarding trying to track membership would be to include a 'state' option on the JEA Web site's membership directory search. I'm not sure if this is difficult to do, but it would certainly help state directors keep better track of members in their states. I can search by region, but I really have no way of easily finding out how many state members we have.

HAPPENINGS

Last spring was the first year that we coordinated the student journalist of the year competition between JEA and MIPA, announcing the state JOY at our spring state convention. We definitely were able to increase the number of students applying for JOY, so that was a definite positive. We will be continuing this process this year. One unforeseen benefit was giving more advisers a chance to look at and discuss the portfolios. Rather than just one person looking at them, we spent time at a board meeting going through them. I think this will improve the quality of the submissions as well.

MIPA has appointed an online journalism chair, which should help advisers in our state continue to promote their online publications. We have revamped the publication Web site critique manual, in part basing it on some of the changes that NSPA made with theirs.

AWARDS & HONORS

Pacemaker finalists for newspaper include The Squall (Dexter High School), North Pointe (Grosse Pointe North High School), and The Source (Stoney Creek High School. In news magazine, The Communicator (Community High School).



Georgia Dunn

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From Ohio State Director Georgia Dunn

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in Ohio has increased this year. Last year at this time, we had 52 members. Currently we are at 65 with a few more new memberships to be forwarded from OSMA, our state affiliate organization.

One of the ways that we are attempting to find new JEA members is through our partnership with the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). OHSAA asked each of its member schools to list its newspaper, yearbook, and broadcast adviser's name on their directory. From this, we have contacted each of the advisers about our fall activities.

HAPPENINGS

Ohio Scholastic Media Association (OSMA)

After two years of work, the three scholastic journalism groups across the state 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.

Each of the five regions planned fall workshops. Region Four at Findlay was Oct. 8, Region Three was at Miami University's Voice of American Learning Center on Oct. 16, and Region One at Kent State was Oct. 23. Region Two at Ohio University is scheduled for November. The Region Five event will be Dec. 4 at Otterbein College.

The group will hold its third state conference at Kent on April 9 & 10, 2010.

Partnership

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

Mentoring

We have begun the third year of the JEA mentoring project, underwritten by the Ohio Newspaper Association. The first year mentors Wayne and Georgia Dunn mentored four advisers: three in the Columbus area and one in South Central Ohio. Last year, they added one more in the Columbus area. This year they will have three in Southwest Ohio and three in the Columbus area.

AWARDS & HONORS

NSPA Individual Awards - Finalists

For the first time, NSPA will be announcing the Story of the Year winners at the fall convention. Congratulations to these finalists:

<u>Feature Story</u> – Billy Lawton, Spark, Lakota East High School, Liberty Twp., Ohio

Sports Story – Kaitlynn Kerley, Spark, Lakota East High School, Liberty Twp., Ohio

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

Newsmagazine

The Spark, Lakota East High School, Liberty Twp., OH

Broadcast

2A Today, Findlay High School, Findlay, OH

Congratulations to this school which was a finalist in the 2009 NSPA Online award

Edsman, St. Edward H.S., Lakewood, Ohio



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David Greer

From Kentucky State Director David Greer

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From Maryland State Director Gary Clites, CJE



Fran Sharer

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From Virginia State Director Fran Sharer, CJE

Red, White, and True!

We'll expect to see you in Washington, DC this fall. Our local committee under Valerie Penton's leadership has been working diligently to make this an event to remember. No doubt, all the hard work and preparation will equal a great conference for everyone who attends.

Though our membership is down a bit, we continue to seek new members and remind those who may "forget" to get that check in the mail. I try to stay ahead of JEA's reminder, but that is not always easy.

Ten of our members served as mentors last year to at least two new teachers and advisers. All of the mentors were retired except for me. As an Instructional Specialist, my schedule is rather flexible, and I do observe all new teachers. This year we will each have four protégés. It's been a particularly rewarding experience for all of us.

Our newsletter is online thanks to Chris Wagaman, and our Web site is up thanks to Eston Melton.

See you in Washington, DC!

Monica D.T. Prouse

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From Delaware State Director Monica D. T. Prouse



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Ruby Dyer

From West Virginia State Director Ruby A. Dyer

MEMBERSHIP

Membership seems to be constant. There have been few workshops or meetings of journalism teachers so far this school year although I plan to use databases from both of the scholastic journalism organizations in the state to contact teachers about joining JEA.

HAPPENINGS

Annual workshops and competitions are planned for early 2010. The United High School Media convention, sponsored by the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism at Marshall University, will take place in February or March, and the High School Journalism Competition, sponsored by the Perley Reed School of Journalism at West Virginia University, is slated for March 12, 2010.

AWARDS & HONORS

Casey Shreve, now a freshman at Marshall University, was the JEA High School Journalist of the Year. She is a 2009 graduate of Wayne High School and served as editor-in-chief of The Pioneer.

FOR THE BOARD

If I have two degrees in journalism, 35 years' experience of teaching journalism and advising an award-winning newspaper and yearbook, and professional experience but do not have CJE or MJE certification, do I need to be replaced as a state director? I've also served as state director for 20-plus years.



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Jane Blystone, MJE

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Jane Blystone

Jane Blystone, MJENortheast Region 7 Director

During this spring, we said good bye to New Hampshire state director Eileen Regan, who has retired. We are still looking for a JEA member in New Hampshire to take over her duties. Also, we salute Ron Bonadonna for his work at the previous Region #7 director upon his retirement.

Since starting my job as the JEA region director, July 1, I have had the great opportunity to work with the Scholastic Press Rights Commission and the Awards Committee.

During August, I spent two days in Massachusetts. On the first day, I was able to connect with JEA members at the great Boston Teach-in sponsored by AEJMC and Quill and Scroll. State directors Stacey Wilkins (CT) and Brian Baron (MA) also attended. After the workshop, I had the great opportunity to spend some time with Stacey Wilkins to discuss ways she could begin a state organization n Connecticut. She shares more in her report below. Brian Baron maintains a great NING for teachers in New England called New England Journalism Advisers. Check it out.

In PA I have been working on a communications teacher certification program for the college where I work though the PA Department of education. Hopefully, we can open up one more door for future journalism teachers.

I also spent a great week teaching high school journalism students at CSPA during June. Several of the students were from Connecticut, so I was able to connect with that state through students at Danbury.

Additionally, I have been busy helping PA School Press Association conduct student publications evaluations. This was a very exciting time to work with yearbook and literary magazine advisers. I commandeered some great judges through the CJE and MJE members of JEA who did a stellar job for us. We tried to start several regional workshops, but they are in limbo right now. At our spring state convention, it was great to have the opportunity to distribute the Tinker armbands to convention attendees who could not go to the national convention.

My goal is to visit all of the states in my region at their various events during the next two years. I will be attending the New Jersey event in May.

One issue we are having in our region is the few number of states with state organizations. Our state directors have made considerable effort and have sent winners for SJOY, but they agonize over the lack of interest in developing state organizations. I will be meeting with these directors at the DC convention to see what else we can initiate in the Northeast Region.

Below are reports from state directors in this region.



Stacey Wilkins

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Eileen Regen

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From Connecticut State Director Stacey Wilkins, CJE

MEMBERSHIP

The Connecticut chapter is moving forward with plans to create a Connecticut Academic Press Association. (CAPA) Schools from Ridgefield, Westport, Weston, Stamford, Darien, Norwalk, New Canaan, Danbury and Fairfield along with private schools Hotchkiss and Greens Farms have signed on to join the first ever Connecticut student press organization.

HAPPENINGS

The schools were recruited to join CAPA at the Fairfield County Journalism Symposium on Sept. 25, 2009. Stacey Wilkins presented two Web site workshops to students and advisers at this event. She gave them strategies to become multi-platform journalists on their student publications.

Wilkins will attend the JEA convention in Washington DC in November. Staples High School from Westport, Connecticut will also attend the convention with 22 students and adviser Steve Rexford.

Wilkins also taught journalism in the five-week journalism program at the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. She was an instructor in television broadcasting with a emphasis on international coverage. Wilkins worked with 83 students hailing from Asia and the United States. Wilkins was joined by top journalists from Newsweek, ESPN, the Chicago Tribune, Chicago Sun-Times, Detroit Free Press and ABC News who also worked as instructors in the intensive program. Wilkins will return to join the Northwestern staff in the summer of 2010.

AWARDS & HONORS

Connecticut Student Journalist of the Year Kimberly Michels is now a freshman at Brigham Young University in Utah where she is majoring in journalism.

Connecticut Yearbook Editor of the Year Leah Pemberton is a freshman at the University of Connecticut.

New Hampshire State Director Eileen Regen, CJE



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Susan V. Everett, MJE

Susan Everett

From New Jersey State Director Susan Everett, MJE

JEA membership has been added to the registration/membership form for the Garden State SPA for the last 3 years. Results have been good in the past. This years event is Oct. 26, so registrations are still coming in numbers will not be final till later this month.

JEA materials were distributed to advisers attending the GSSPA spring workshop in May and summer workshop in August. Materials are included in the packet to be given to advisers at Fall Press Day on Oct.26. This event generally draws between 75 - 100 advisers.

Two retired New Jersey advisers - Ron Bonadonna and Susan V. Everett participated in JEA Mentor training at JEA headquarters at Kansas State in June and are beginning their first year as mentors for new advisers.



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Wanda Pletcher

From Pennsylvania State Director Wanda Pletcher

MEMBERSHIP

I continue to encourage all Pennsylvania schools to join JEA. A joint membership form for PSPA and JEA is available on the PSPA website. Membership forms were distributed to all attendees at the PSPA state convention last spring. The benefits of JEA membership were discussed at the PSPA convention adviser's breakfast and also at the awards ceremonies. I will continue to email reminders and to send reminders to non-renewing schools. I will begin that process again for the year when I receive the report. With enough notice I can attend regional or state events; however, I need at least 2 months notice at this point to get permission from my district. I am now only allowed out of school 3 days per year and I must miss 2 days to attend the national convention. I can get around this by taking kids because field trips do not count toward my three days so it is helpful for me to have advance notice. I can also take personal days if needed.

HAPPENINGS

Although PSPA had planned several regional events for the Fall, registration numbers were so low they were cancelled. There is one regional event planned in Erie later in the school year. Pennsylvania is struggling to find out how to serve its members. Pennsylvania schools are having difficulty finding funds and permission to attend events.

On a good note the Pennsylvania critique service was very well received and had great feedback. Pennsylvania also submitted entries to the Herb Block cartoon contest. We did only receive one entry however. The PSPA website has been revised and is up and running. JEA is featured as one of the journalism links from the site.

Seven Pennsylvania teachers attended the ASNE Reynolds High School Journalism Institute, and I will be making contact with them to offer assistance and to make sure they received their JEA membership materials.

I attended the Phoenix convention and plan to attend the Washington convention where I will present sessions and help with judging and critiques. Several other PA representatives will also attend the convention and present sessions. I have recruited many speakers that I think will be tremendous including Christopher Wink from the Philadelphia area.

Although PA had two teachers signed up to participate in the mentoring program and had received a grant, that program had to be delayed for one more year. Health issues prevented both participants from attending the mandatory training. Janice Hatfield has successfully recruited mentorees and plans to work with them this year. Hopefully, both applicants will be able to attend the summer training next year.

AWARDS & HONORS

Henry Rome of Conestoga High School was named SJOY at the JEA convention. Pennsylvania is proud to have submitted his portfolio. This has been a highlight, and I have already started to get emails with questions for this year's contest. I will continue to promote this and plan to submit another portfolio this year.

Dawn Pendergrass

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From Maine State Director Dawn Pendergrass

Brian Baron

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From Massachusetts State Director Brian Baron

MEMBERSHIP

Activities To Promote JEA, Membership, and Journalism Education
• Ning Site

In the fall of 2007, I tried starting a web site for New England high school journalism advisers, and got precisely zero response. In the fall of 2008, I tried again using a more convenient and powerful tool – Ning, a site that essentially allows you to create your own social network. This proved more successful, as we now have close to 60 members on the site from around the region. The site has lists of upcoming events, a place to post student work (not used all that often), a blog that I occasionally update, a section that's linked to my Google Reader account with interesting journalism links, and, my favorite part, automatically updated links to online publications from around the region.

The site has not had as much traffic as I would like yet, and I'm exploring ways to increase it, but people are there, which is a step forward. I think it has the potential to be a powerful tool, if its powers can be harnessed.

HAPPENINGS

Conferences

I have presented at the New England Scholastic Press Association's spring conference and the recent Media Matters conventions sponsored by the Boston Globe (the latter along with Carol Lange). We distributed JEA materials and talked up JEA membership at both.

• JOY

Despite numerous email reminders and browbeating, I have been unsuccessful in my attempts to get state members to enter the Journalist of the

Year contest. My own students have entered two of the last three years, and one was a national runner up in 2008, but beyond Newton South no one in Massachusetts has entered in recent memory. I visited Michael Viera, former head of the Yankee PEN group, over the summer, and we discussed ways to find scholarship money to accompany the JOY state award. He awards a \$500 scholarship to a high school journalist every year, and we agreed that the state JOY winner (should such a person exist) would automatically enter that contest.

Survey

I've spend a lot of time building an email list of advisers throughout the region over the last couple of years, and I used it this summer to get advisers to take a survey about how we could generate more activity in the region, and what sorts of activities people would enjoy. Forty-one advisers have taken the survey so far. I just put out a final plea to take it, and I will bring the results with me to Washington.

Future Plans

- LiveChat I have been hoping to try out an online chat as a way to generate both some collegial talk and some traffic for the Ning site. The original idea was to do something in the first weeks of school, but other duties got in the way of those plans. I am planning a chat session from the convention Thursday, Nov. 12, from 3-4, on the ning site (nejournalismadvisers.ning.com). The idea is to find out how the year is going for people, while promoting both JEA and the convention at the same time. If it is at all successful, I will try another sometime later in the year.
- Analyze Survey Results I would like to share the results of the survey I have taken, and begin to work with other state directors and advisers in the region to plan activities in response to the data.
- NESPA I would like to explore ways to promote JEA more effectively at the New England Scholastic Press Association's annual convention in April. Helen Smith generally runs a tight ship with the event, and I would like to figure out ways to bring JEA more into the conversation.
- Planning for Boston 2013 Four years seems like a long time. On the other hand, not many of the people who formed the local committee in 2001 are still in the game, and given the low membership numbers in the region the prospect of holding a convention here seems somewhat daunting. I visited with Colleen Gacic of Scituate and Peter B-G of South Hadley over the summer, and I have high hopes for their energy and activism.



Sherri Taylor

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From New York State Director Sherri Taylor



Elizabeth Martin

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From Rhode Island State Director Elizabeth Martin

Rhode Island does not have a statewide association. Elizabeth Martin did submit a student to enter the Journalist of the Year contest. The Providence Journal stopped holding its scholastic journalism contest, and stopped offering its NIE subscription rate. No other business in the state at this point.



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Nancy Olson

From Vermont State Director Nancy Olson

Vermont Independent Media, which has as its mission "to promote local, independent journalism in Windham County and to create a forum for community participation through publication of The Commons; and to promote civic engagement by building media skills among Windham County residents through the media mentoring project," is developing a K-12 curriculum divided into three parts of 10 lessons each--elementary, middle school, and high school--and is publishing teen writers in a special section three times a year. I worked on the development of the high school curriculum portion. Eventually, the finished curriculum with be available to schools in Windham County. Down the line, VIM may also sponsor workshops for teachers to support the implementation of the curriculum.