

JEA Semi-Annual Report

Prepared for the Phoenix Convention, Board Meeting April 16, 2009



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Linda Puntney, MJE, Executive Director

MEMBERSHIP

Congratulations to Ron Bonadonna (Region 7 Northeast) and Betsy Rau (Region 6 Mid-Atlantic/Great Lakes) on increased membership in their regions. Region 7 is at 111% from fall and now boasts a JEA membership of 157. Region 6 is at 105% from fall and 352 JEA members. No doubt these increases are due to the work of the Ron and Betsy.

The membership news overall is not as good. Total member is at 97% of where we were in the fall. The 2,122 members as of April 7, 2009, is as low as we have been since spring of 2004. My hope is that we will be able to implement some recruiting plans to boost our overall membership so that by the Washington D.C. convention we will at least be at the 2,558 number we reached in Fall of 2006.

HAPPENINGS

Since St. Louis the executive director has made several trips on behalf of JEA.

- Jan. 8-11 — Poynter Institute for the winter meeting of AEJMC Secondary Journalism Division
- Jan 16 — Cottonwood Falls, Kan., to present the Yearbook Adviser of the Year award to Linda Drake. As always this was an incredible experience reaffirming the importance of what we do as educators.
- Jan. 31 — Kansas City, Mo., where I attended the Journalism Educators of Metropolitan Kansas City and spoke to the group about the 2010 convention in Kansas City
- Feb. 9-10 — Phoenix to meet with the hotel, convention center and the ASU Cronkite school personnel for clarification of Phoenix convention program planning
- Feb. 12 — Wichita, Kan., to speak at Quill and Scroll initiation for all Wichita high schools
- Feb. 13 -15 — Seattle, Wash., for site visit for convention
- Feb. 19 — hosted the KSPA Regional Write-off competition
- Feb. 20-22 — JEA Executive Committee meeting to plan budget and review organizational goals
- March 6-8 — Phoenix for month-out meeting with local committee
- March 27-28 — Portland, Ore. for year-out meeting with local committee

In addition to our routine activities of answering requests for information, filling bookstore orders and handling memberships, we planned the program for the Phoenix convention, sent confirmation letters to speakers, confirmed facility arrangements, ordered food, speaker and

local committee gifts, designed and had produced the awards to be presented in Phoenix, made room reservations for 72 people, worked with Student Journalism Education Association to write 11 of the Write-off contests and prepared board materials.

We have also sent promotional materials upon request to states with spring conferences and conventions.

Worked with the Campus Vote/Vote Now staff to conduct the first electronic election for JEA. Response to the process of online voting was overwhelmingly successful.

Wrote letters on behalf of seven advisers or groups seeking First Amendment protection, position support...

Coordinated and handled copying and shipping of entries for the Cornerstone, First Amendment Press Freedom Award and Journalist of the Year competitions.

AWARDS & HONORS

None during this time but we're really good people anyway.

FOR THE BOARD

The timeline for the executive director's retirement June 20, 2010 is:

- **Fall 2009** — write job description and determine process of advertising and search with JEA, Miller School of Journalism and Board of Student Publications input.
- **Spring 2010** — place ads and conduct search, interviews and hire
- **July 1, 2010** — new person works with current executive director to transition unless that is not desired by new executive director and board

Because of the economic times, the executive director would caution the board to spend conservatively and prioritize those programs or portions of programs which are most critical to our profession and our mission.

Our costs for activities and services continue to rise but our income is likely to be less because membership may decline — when budgets are tight membership in a national association may be the first thing to go, interest is down — no explanation needed for that one, and attendance at conventions may decline — as school's trim travel budgets and families have less discretionary income.

Having offered that cautionary message, this maybe the most exciting time to be part of JEA. We have wonderful initiatives in place with the Professional Learning Committee, New Technology Committee and Mentoring Committee. In addition many of the commissions are redefining themselves to better serve our membership in this time of change and opportunity.

More than ever before we can serve our members with exciting programs that help them in their classrooms everyday and support them professionally and by continuing to find new ways to fulfill JEA's mission for the last 85 years "Leading the way in scholastic journalism and media education."



Jack Kennedy

**Jack Kennedy, MJE
President**

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Jack Kennedy, MJE, President

JEA is looking at a near future that includes the same kind of budget challenges everyone else is facing. Times like these are great opportunities to examine our goals and our priorities and to find ways to zero in on what we value. They are also times of great stress and uncertainty.

The newly-elected board (which takes over on July 1) will also be overseeing our first executive director change in two decades, which will also be a challenge and an opportunity. Again, this can mean stress and uncertainty.

And we are in the midst of a revolution in journalism, in which print may (or may not) be diminishing quite rapidly. Newspapers are in trouble, but it is unclear as to whether high school papers are in trouble. I am proud of the very new Digital Media committee's efforts to help our membership, and scholastic journalism in general, in finding ways to inform, entertain and persuade students.

JEA has also continued this year with two related programs that we hope will not only advance the profession but help us spread the message of the importance of scholastic journalism in American education to an ever-widening base: the Mentoring Program and the National Journalism Professional Journalism Community (NJPLC). We have terrific leadership in place for both these initiatives, and have provided considerable financial support from the JEA budget.

As always, my thanks go to Linda Puntney, who labors unrelentingly on behalf of JEA every day. She continues to be our MVP.



Bob Bair

**Bob Bair, MJE
Vice President**

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Bob Bair, MJE, Vice President

I had the joy of representing JEA at winter retreats sponsored by the Iowa High School Press Association. Dave Schwartz and IHSPA do a fantastic job providing advisers in their state with strong support and

relevant workshops for young and experienced advisers alike.

Several emails were sent to state directors to make them aware of the requirements for receiving convention stipends. I also worked with regional directors to appoint several new state directors and contacted those individuals to thank them and encourage their support of JEA. Throughout the year I have judged for Ohio, New Jersey, Missouri, and Nebraska.

While the effort was genuine, few results reflect the New Adviser Outreach Committee's attempts to help identify potential members. The committee will continue to seek ways to boost membership and make JEA more visible to new advisers.



Susan Tantillo

**Susan Hathaway Tantillo, MJE
Secretary/Awards Committee**

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Susan Hathaway Tantillo, MJE, Secretary

Since Anaheim, I have represented and promoted JEA as I taught a NewsU course and the ASNE Institute at Kent State with Candace and John Bowen and H.L. Hall and as I helped with the day-long AEJMC Teach-In in Chicago, Aug. 5. I also promoted JEA as I presented student and adviser sessions at fall conferences for Illinois State High School Press Association, Kettle Moraine Press Association and Tennessee Scholastic Press Association. As Treasurer of Illinois JEA, I encourage members to join JEA also. I have judged formally for NSPA, Pennsylvania, the Kettle Moraine Press Association, Ohio, Nebraska, Florida, New Jersey, Missouri and North Dakota along with offering advice informally in Illinois. I have also continued to e-mentor new and soon-to-be advisers.

As Awards Committee Chair, I again worked with Headquarters in the summer to update the Scholarships, Awards and Contests booklet. I plan to oversee the update again in 2009 as I transition away from being Awards Chair. I have agreed to continue as a co-chair of the Awards Committee through the selection of those to be honored in Washington, D.C. Once we have the results of the 2009 JEA board election, at least one other co-chair will be named to work with me this summer and take over the process after the fall recipients are selected in August.

During 2008-09 I have overseen the Awards Committee's selection of those to be honored in St. Louis and Phoenix. As a part of that process, I have written letters to every award recipient, every nominator and everyone who submitted a letter of support. In addition, I have written and sent a press release to at least one local media outlet for each award recipient.

"Received by" dates for awards nominations to reach JEA HQ:

- Feb. 15: Journalist of the Year to state director
- March 1: Student Journalist Impact Award, Cornerstone
- March 15: Aspiring Young Journalist Award
- July 1: Carl Towley, Medal of Merit, Lifetime Achievement, Friend of Scholastic Journalism (formerly Media Citation), Administrator of the Year, Ryan White

• Oct. 15: Rising Star, Yearbook Adviser of the Year, Teacher Inspiration, Future Teacher Scholarships, Diversity Award

• Dec. 1: Round 1 for First Amendment Press Freedom Award

As I said in my Oct. 15 report, thank you to everyone who participated in the 2008-09 awards process by identifying worthy candidates, writing letters of nomination and writing letters of support. We have a terrific program in place and I know it will continue to flourish in the future.

In 2006-07 I invited the first class of JEA Rising Stars to join the committee for a one-year term. Because this was such a good experience for all, I have continued to invite each new Rising Star group to serve a one-year term on the committee. I will do this again following this convention. The committee term coincides with JEA's fiscal year: July 1-June 30.

The 2007-08 Awards Committee members are Kathy Schrier, MJE, representing Region 1; Carmen Wendt, CJE, representing Region 2; Stacy Haynes-Moore, CJE, representing Region 3; Wayna C. Polk, CJE, Region 4 director; Monica Hill, CJE, representing Region 5; Martha Akers, representing Region 6; Ron Bonadonna, CJE, Region 7 director; Liz Keeling, at-large member; Jeff Moffitt, CJE, at large-member. Rising Stars serving on the committee for 2008-09: Hillary Aerts, CJE; Courtney Archer, CJE; Kellie Doyle; Carrie Faust, MJE; Scott Foster; Glenn Morehouse Olson, CJE; Louis Plumley.

Awards subcommittee chairs with responsibility for carrying out specific award recognition programs include H.L. Hall, MJE, National Yearbook Adviser of the Year and Cornerstone Award; Candace Perkins Bowen, MJE, Future Teacher Scholarships; Wayna C. Polk, CJE, National High School Journalist of the Year; Carol Lange, CJE, Ryan White Award; Kenson Siver, MJE, Student Journalist Impact Award; John Bowen, MJE, First Amendment Press Freedom Award; Anita Wertz, CJE, Aspiring Young Journalist Award; Norma Kneese, MJE, Diversity Award.

In addition to those listed below, winners of the First Amendment Press Freedom Award, the Cornerstone Award, the Aspiring Young Journalist Award, the Student Journalist Impact Award and the High School Journalist of the Year scholarships will be announced in Phoenix.

JEA Awards Winners List, Spring 2009

Teacher Inspiration Award

Mary Pulliam, Duncanville (Texas) HS

Rising Star Award

Alyssa Armentrout, McKinney (Texas) High School

Jason Block, Prospect High School, Mt. Prospect, Ill.

Amanda Paola Casares, Coronado (Calif.) Middle School

Kristy Dekat, CJE, Topeka (Kan.) West High School

Yearbook Adviser of the Year

Linda Drake, CJE, Chase County HS, Cottonwood, Kan.

Distinguished Adviser

Kim Green, MJE, Columbus (Ind.) North HS

Special Recognition Adviser

Gary Bender, CJE, Westfield HS, Chantilly, Va.

Diversity Award

Don Bott, CJE, Amos Alonzo Stagg HS, Stockton, Calif.

Honorable Mention Diversity Award

Annandale (Va.) HS Annandale Antenna yearbook advised by Niki Holmes



Ann Visser

Past President Ann Visser, MJE

HAPPENINGS

It has been a relatively quiet four months since St. Louis. I attended the Iowa High School Press Association Winter Thaw in Des Moines on Feb. 14 where we had interesting dialogue and discussion with representatives from The Des Moines Register, a session with a graphic design instructor from Grandview University and a presentation by former Quill & Scroll Director Dick Johns. It was a good day of learning.

I also was a part of the executive board meeting in late February. It has been an honor and a privilege to work with Jack, Bob, Susan and Linda.

As my schedule allows, I hope to be a part of site visits in the upcoming months.

AWARDS & HONORS

I was honored in St. Louis as a Dow Jones Distinguished Adviser. As part of the selection process for the \$500 scholarship, students will be attending First Amendment Day at Iowa State University April 16. The event is truly a celebration of the First Amendment, and if I wasn't going to be in Phoenix, I'd be in Ames.

FOR THE BOARD

We need to continue to assist advisers as the increased demand for online journalism occurs across the nation. Aaron Manfull's committee has begun laying the groundwork for what may well be the most intense focus of the next five years.

We also need to congratulate Susan Tantillo for all she has contributed to JEA over the years. She has been a solid and driving force for scholastic journalism, and we are so fortunate that she has served this organization so well for so many years. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



Bradley Wilson

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Bradley Wilson, Publications Chair

Got four issues of C:JET done. Running a week late on last issue. This year has gone smoothly thanks especially to copy editor Howard Spanogle and Connie Fulkerson at the national office who helps edit every single issue. Pam Boller coordinated ad sales. Volume 42 included four issues for a total of 168 pages or an average of 44 pages/issue as well as a wrap containing news about JEA people and events.

Major contributors this year have included: Tyler Dukes, Aaron Manfull, Barbara Meagher, David Pates, Merrill Perlman, Carolyn Brown, Susan Fergusson Holihan, Tom Priddy, Becky Tate, Michele Weldon, Cynthia Mitchell, David Schwartz, Jim Streisel, John Bowen, Alison Hahn and Howard Spanogle.

Other contributors this year included: Rob Christensen, Paul Davidson, W. Gardner Selby, Ina Herlihy, Corey Lowenstein, Anthony Miller, Jordan Nicholas, Arthur Ng, Leslie Nicholas, Daniel Plassman, Kevin Scherer, Stephen Solorzano, Pete Souza, Tim O'Brien, Travis King, Nhat Meyer, Alicia Pope, Kyle Schermbeck, Annie Stone, Derek Byrne, Bryan Farley, Adam Harrell, Paige Hermreck, Emily Judd, Mark Murray, Weston Reynolds, Sarah Roberts, Jake Webb, Jessica Brown, Mark Newton and Mackenzie Wylie.

Advertisers this year and the number of issues in which they advertised included: Dow Jones Newspaper Fund (4), Goodheart-Wilcox (4), Friesens (4), The Graphic Edge (Art Smart Posters) (1), JS Printing (4), Multi-Media Technology Group (2), Point Park University (4), USA Today (4), Taylor Publishing (4), Ball State J-Ideas (1), Kent State University (3), Southern Interscholastic Press Association (1), South-Western/Cengage Learning (2), Carolina Journalism Institute (1), University of Kansas (2), Alabama Scholastic Press Assn. (1), Association of Texas Photography Instructors (1), Colorado High School Press Association (1), Indiana University (1), JEA of Northern California (1), Kansas State University (1), Missouri Interscholastic Press Association (1), South Dakota High School Press Association (1), University of Iowa (1), Washington Journalism Education Association (1), Western Kentucky University (1).

Web site now contains 16,391 items and a thousand or so pages. Users are averaging 2.52 pages/visit on site with an average time of 2:24 on the site. We're averaging some 282 visitors per day and have had 6,753 unique visitors between mid-February and mid-February.



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Mark Newton, MJE, Certification Commission Chair

The following projects are in progress:

- Eight of the nine members of the Commission met for two-and-a-half days in Las Vegas in February to evaluate the entire commission. An initiative to improve the Certification program was crafted that will...

(1) Create a new CJE exam, aligned with the current JEA teaching/advising standards, to include multiple choice questions, short answer

and essay. The plan is to pilot the revised exams to a test group of current CJE early this fall. The exam will be implemented at the Washington, DC fall convention next November.

(2) Revise the MJE exam to align to the current JEA teaching/advising standard. The plan is to pilot the revised exams to a test group of current MJE early this fall. The exam will be implemented at the Washington, DC fall convention next November.

(3) Revise the assessments (scoring guides, rubrics) of the CJE and MJE exams and the MJE project.

(4) Create and implement a comprehensive training program to encourage and support candidates. A focus of the program will involve commission members presenting standard-specific sessions at national conventions, participating in online study sessions and improving the study guides.

(5) Create a comprehensive marketing plan for certification, including promotion, recruitment and program growth. A focus of the initiative will include, among many, updating the logos, brochures, certification t-shirts, improved recognition of the program and of newly certified members, and more aggressive promotion of the process, projects and new CJE/MJEs.

(6) Update the application forms, brochures, study guides.

(7) Update the Certification Web site with information on the revised program. (For example, the fact that graduate credit from Kansas State can be earned for acquiring MJE status and post a database of all MJE projects.)

- The Commission urges the JEA board to uphold policy, as outlined in JEA job descriptions, in regards to Certification status of all positions: "All elected and appointed board members and state directors need to achieve CJE certification within their first two years on the Board, and must continue to work toward MJE status in any following term of office. If a board member has already achieved CJE certification at the time of becoming a board member, he/she must achieve CJE certification within their first two years on the Board. Testing fees will be waived for all elected and appointed board members."

Note-Second sentence should read: "If a board member has already achieved CJE certification at the time of becoming a board member, he/she must achieve CJE MJE certification within their first two years on the Board."

Short-term action items include:

- We surveyed members about the Certification program. We plan to report our initial findings in Phoenix. Then, we plan to create a two-year action plan to guide the commission. Results from this survey, which was closed March 31, will be used to create and prioritize action items. (Note: As of March 15, 230 people had responded.)
- We will request funds for the Commission to meet for two days in September to continue working on this new initiative.

Long-term action items include:

- Updating all applications that are in limbo. We will develop a plan to contact all candidates whose applications have been turned in but are not complete or on hold.

Information items:

- Our current (April 7, 2009) active files show 619 CJE and 142 MJEs. In Phoenix, we expect to honor 31 CJE and 14 CJE renewals and 4 MJEs and 3 MJE renewals. The total who have been certified is 1,018 — MJE, 174; CJE, 844.



Lori Oglesbee

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Story ideas
 Style
 Syllabuses
 Theme
 Travel
 UIL competitions
 Video
 Writing
 Yearbook

After the inauguration, I created slide shows of the front pages of newspapers from across the country. These PowerPoints were downloaded more than 450 times.

Lori Oglesbee, MJE, Development/Curriculum Commission Chair

HAPPENINGS

Inquiries for materials and lesson ideas primarily generate from the Listserv; however, the occasional request generates from someone conducting a search and finding our Web site. I answer all of those within 48 hours. For the Listserv, I respond directly to the person posting rather than to all to prevent an avalanche of "me, toos."

My concerns continue for teaching lesson plans in isolation without a systematic approach of providing meaningful learning in context with state objectives and proposed outcomes.

The Web site <http://homepage.mac.com/lao4/Education1.html> provides the links to resources I either created or have permission to post. This link is blocked at most schools, so unless a teacher accesses the site at home, the materials are not readily available.

Materials available include topics such as

Advertising
 Adviser tips
 Banquets
 Brainstorming
 Captions
 College essays
 Column writing
 Cool Web finds
 Coverage/packaging
 Design
 Desktop publishing
 Distribution
 Editorial cartoons
 Editorials
 Ethics
 Gradeable activities
 Grammar
 Group activities
 Headlines
 Interviews
 Journalism I
 Law
 Math in journalism
 Newspaper
 Photography
 Propaganda
 Review writing
 Revision
 Rubrics
 Spelling
 Sports writing
 Staff applications
 Staff manuals

MEMBERSHIP

Current commission members include Becky Tate, Liz Walsh, Alyssa Armentrout, Kent Smith and Margaret Sorrows. We would like to include more and seek volunteers, especially those interested in developing year-long curriculum guides and/or updates to current ones.

I would also like to extend thanks and appreciation to four yearbook companies – Herff-Jones, Jostens, Taylor and Walsworth – who have agreed to match the SPLC collection up to \$2,500 on Saturday afternoon at the convention.



Anita Wertz

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

AWARDS & HONORS

Portfolios are being judged for the JEA Aspiring Young Journalist Award to be presented at the Sunday awards ceremony at the spring convention. One winner and up to five runners-up will be announced. Applicants submitted a portfolio consisting of the official AYJ application, letter of introduction, resume, letters of recommendation, samples of work with self evaluations, and a writing sample about the importance of junior high/middle school journalism programs.

MEMBERSHIP

The number of junior high/middle school JEA members is up. Members are encouraged to present sessions at conventions, submit student work for the semi-annual mail-in contests and the annual AYJ Award.



Norma Kneese

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Norma Kneese, MJE, Multicultural Commission Chair

Mary Williams was the Outreach Academy Chair for the fall St. Louis convention 2008. There were 21 participants at the academy. Some of the feedback on the Outreach Academy were:

"I benefited most from Press Law Basics and the role of the Student Press."

"I received a wealth of info that I can take back to my school."

"Loved the roundtable. It's always interesting to hear the students' perspective on the process."

A meeting at the St. Louis convention with Phoenix Outreach Academy Chair Yvonne Johnson, Washington D.C. Outreach Academy Chair Zena Whitworth, the teacher cadre team and members of the Multicultural Commission helped all involved get organized and started for the upcoming conventions.

Appointed as chair to the fall Washington D.C. Outreach Academy 2009 is Zena Whitworth.

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 is in the process of being created by Steve O'Donoghue and Stan Zoller. It may be ready for the Phoenix convention, but definitely for the Washington, D.C. convention.

Norma Kneese and Reginald Ragland both submitted their names to run for Multicultural Commission Chair for the 2009-2011 election year.

There were two applicants for the Diversity Award. Don Bott, Stagg Line Adviser of Amos Alonza Stagg High School of Stockton, California will be honored as the recipient of the 2009 Diversity Award at the Phoenix Convention. The staff of the Annadale Antenna Yearbook with Adviser Nikki Holmes and Editor Parker Koppelman will be awarded Honorable Mention.

At the St. Louis convention, Nancy Freeman, St. Louis Chair, created a Diversity Seminar which included several members of the Multicultural Commission. Participants included Stan Zoller as moderator, Gilbert Bailon of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Sharon Stevens of KSDK News-channel 5, Vanessa Shelton of the University of Iowa, Sandy Woodcock of Newspaper Association of America Foundation, Steve O'Donoghue, and Norma Kneese.

Reginald Ragland, Multicultural Commission member, was appointed by President Jack Kennedy as Professional Media Liaison on the JEA Board.

John Bowen, MJE, Scholastic Press Rights Commission Chair

Spring 2009 has been busy for the commission, starting with planning for Scholastic Journalism Week. Commissioners created models of armbands for the 40th anniversary of the Tinker v. Des Moines decision and then put the models and instructions for creating them on Web sites and the commission's Facebook page. We also created materials for using the Tinker decision in class and urging administrators to encourage the wearing of the armbands.

Commissioners also created, and sold, more than 4,000 armbands to journalism programs all over the country, and another 3,500 more to be given away at the spring JEA/NSPA convention in Phoenix for Mary Beth Tinker's Friday keynote address.

We also planned, and will deliver (and hopefully record) a strand of Tinker-related sessions at the convention.

Additionally, the commission is revising and expanding its public position about prior review and working toward having a brochure supporting strategies against that practice. More on that process in the coming months. The process will include packaging our prior review statements into JEA's Tenets of Responsible Journalism to show not only that prior review is illogical and non-educational, but how following our six principles make it unnecessary.

While this was all in progress, commissioners continued to support teachers, advisers and administrators who had questions, concerns and censorship issues. Commission members have also been involved directly in numerous specific questions across the country.

--John Bowen

• Jane Blystone

At the St. Louis Convention, I had the wonderful opportunity to do podcasting for the Commission. I spent time in the exhibit hall interviewing students about what they knew about the five tenets of the First Amendment. It was alarming to see how many students actually had been censored, but thrilling to see what they knew about their First Amendment rights. I also participated in two sessions with Commission members at that convention.

Shortly after the convention, I was able to share with teachers at the NCTE convention that the JEA Scholastic Press Rights Commission is supportive of the NCTE policy on book censorship. It was exciting to work with Linda Barrington at the JEA booth at the NCTE convention invite people to join JEA and to see us out if they had issues with prior review or censorship at their schools.

At the state level, I have been working with an adviser on prior review and censorship at her school. This is ongoing at the time of this report. I did contact John Bowen about this. She is reticent to have the BIG GUNS involved just yet, but we will see how it goes.

At the PA School Press Convention on March 12, 2009, I had the wonderful opportunity to distribute Tinker v. Des Moines armbands that came as a result of the commission to convention attendees. It was very

exciting to talk to students who were so knowledgeable about the Tinker decision. To know that teachers are sharing that case with students in PA is very exciting.

At the collegiate level, I spend much time during our School Law unit in Foundations of Education, talking about censorship and prior review of such things as drama productions, student publications and classroom texts. This school year, some of my college students discussed how they had been censored as students in their high school days and how impassioned they were to know what they could do if someone in authority would attempt to censor them. I got to bring up the JEA Scholastic Press Rights site and the SPLC site to show them how to get help if they ever found themselves in such a situation as a teacher.

- Candace Perkins Bowen
- Developed two scholastic media-focused presentations for the summer college conference, AEJMC: a panel about the 40th anniversary of Tinker and a session for Boston-area teachers attending the preconvention Teach-in.
- I organized and moderated a panel at the AEJMC Scholastic Journalism Division midwinter meeting about legal and ethical issues in cyberspace. Many at the session are scholastic press association directors who will use the information for the high school teachers in their areas.
- Continued to co-author the law column in the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund's Adviser Update.
- As a member of the Certification Commission as well, my assignment was to improve the legal and ethical questions on the CJE and MJE tests. I am currently working on this.
- Participated in the First Amendment Press Freedom Awards (FAPFA) selection, rounds 1 and 2. I wrote the letters the committee sent back to all those who applied for first round and will do the same for those in round 2. I present sessions at JEA/NSPA conventions about plagiarism (an ethical issue) and copyright (a legal one).
- Worked with an ever-increasing number of advisers in Ohio who are facing censorship and prior review problems. I would estimate I have had contact with at least 10 in the state and some extended conversations with others as far away as New Mexico.

• Tom Eveslage

The Pennsylvania School Press Association web site has a column I wrote on the Tinker anniversary. Several schools asked for my permission to run this locally.

Other than that, I'm working with a Temple colleague and Philadelphia School District teachers trying to get started (and sustain) newspapers and radio stations in the school. During several sessions with the teachers and others scheduled, I discuss legal and ethical issues and lead discussions of how students can cover controversial issues and remain free of administrative interference.

• Carrie Faust

The Colorado High School Press Association continues to communicate with three Colorado districts regarding non-compliance with the Colorado Student Free Expression Law. In partnership with the ACLU, letters were sent to three districts informing them that their school board policies on student free expression were out of line with the Colorado statute and offering the assistance of both CHSPA and the ACLU to revise those policies so that the free expression rights of students would be upheld.

Letters have been exchanged between the lawyers of all three districts and our ACLU representation who continues to consult with us on next steps and replies.

In March, I met with the superintendent of schools for the largest district in our state to see if we could come to some conclusion on the discrepancies between her district's policy and the state law. At the

conclusion of that meeting, no middle ground had been reached and talks will continue.

• Karen Flowers

My work for the commission has been in relationship to my responsibilities as press association director:

- Answering questions from advisers and/or directing them to SPLC
- Having Frank Lomonte speak at SIPA – both through teaching sessions and making remarks at banquet
- Sending "six principles" a number of times
- Trying to help advisers with prior review problems
- Awarding a principal for her support of scholastic journalism (Dr. Kay Phillips Administrator of the Year Award)
- Awarding an adviser who fought for First Amendment Rights for her students (Joseph W. Shoquist Freedom of the Press Award)

• Tom Gayda

As Scholastic Journalism Week chair and a member of the SPRC, I was a busy guy this winter. I continued to work on our "Faces of the First" poster idea, securing a commitment from Ken Paulson, Senator Richard Lugar and Mary Beth Tinker. The posters for Lugar and Tinker have been created and will be presented to the commission in Phoenix.

• Deb Buttleman Malcolm

Completed Community Outreach- performances Tinker Opera. Did an eight page special edition on the state of First Amendment in the classrooms of our school and then did training sessions during Scholastic J Week. Will have students performing Tinker Opera at Iowa State First Amendment Day. Taught sessions several elementary schools.

• Glenn Morehouse Olson

I did present a session at the Minnesota High School Press Association State convention on overcoming censorship. It's a session I modified from the convention in Philly based on our newspaper's censorship and how we were able to stay free of prior review by working with the school board. I talk them through ways to avoid getting into the situation in the first place by establishing relationships in advance of a situation arising.

In St. Louis I presented a session on outreach with Riley Worth from Albert Lea where we highlighted our programs where we work with elementary school students, as well as our work with the Minnesota School Boards Association. The elementary outreach programs help us with our cause within our communities by 1) educating young kids about first amendment and 2) showing community members the mentoring capabilities of our high school journalists. It's also become a favorite program of our superIntendent - he gets to brag about it and show the little kids' newspapers off to people. He even did a press conference with our 4th graders.

We would like to see more programs partnering with their school board associations as we have. Having student reporters at those conventions and publishing a paper for the conventions give all of those school board members and superintendents the chance to see real high school journalists at work.

In January, Mr. Worth's Albert Lea reporters, my St. Francis reporters (and we added one more school this year - Columbia Heights) were invited to cover the MSBA convention again. In one day the students reported, photographed and designed an 8-page newspaper for the leadership convention. My students were able to get an interview with the Mayor of Minneapolis (last year they spoke with the Governor), cover awards ceremonies, report on a district that has gone to a 4-day school week, and interviewed the president of MSBA. GREAT publicity for our cause. My favorite moment came when one young woman was trying to interview a Superintendent about how he makes weather-related school

closing decisions (it was 25 below zero on this day and most of the schools were closed, including ours, but our journalists were there doing work!) The SI told her he was on his way to another meeting and didn't really have time and she just said, "How about if I walk with you?" In their brisk walk to his next session, she got the interview!

Each year our journalists are able to educate these SIs and School Board members simply by doing what they do well. In future, I would like to figure out a way to get booths at these events (every state has them) in order to talk about issues - maybe even get to the point where they'd have us in for some round table discussions.

I have more things to think about - I'd like to get that First Amendment Pizza session ready for Washington DC.

- Tracy Anne Sena

Held roundtable sessions at CSPA in Nov. and (will @) JEA/NSPA in April on Press Rights and Private Schools. Have been collaborating with San Francisco Bay Area independent school teachers informally through e-mail and monthly dinners.

Attended the Ball State Press Rights Workshop with my administrator and two students at Cal Berkeley in September. Was the only private/independent/Catholic school in attendance.

Many independent schools are being forced to move to the Web due to budget constraints, aren't allowed to advertise, and may only publish behind a password-protected firewall due to "privacy" issues. This just came to my attention in the last week when I met with teachers as part of a session panel at a day-long in-service sponsored by the California Association of Independent Schools.

- John Tagliareni

Spoke at the CSPA Spring Conference March 18-20, 2009. I will be a speaker at the Garden State Scholastic Press Association Spring Conference at Rutgers University May 1, 2009. Earlier this year, I spoke at Rutgers and also the CSPA Fall Conference. In terms of the commission, one of my sessions focuses on controversial and sensitive issues. I give advice and strategies on legal issues as well as ways to avoid prior review and censorship, and I offer to help to speak with administrators on behalf of advisers and students.

There have been numerous times when advisers have called me in school or at home or have e-mailed 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.

The GSSPA is planning to do another statewide survey of advisers which will focus on various adviser issues and concerns, including prior review, censorship and harassment problems. A number of years ago, the GSSPA used the results of the survey for informational purposes as well, such as adviser salaries, stipends, working conditions, etc. I had used the information in a presentation to the NJ State Department of Education and in an article that was published at the time. We plan to use the information as a way to assist advisers as well as to use the information in the press to advance our causes.

I have been active in representing many of the goals of the commission. As a past president of the Garden State Scholastic Press Association and officer, I work in NJ to network and promote a high profile with the press and others who are influential.

- Fern Valentine:

I continued to work with Puyallup advisers but there was not much more we could do there. We tried to get our bill passed which involved writing legislators, blogs, etc. It didn't get far either. I helped at the J-Ideas seminar at the TNT in Tacoma. I made armbands from Vince's

design for the Tinker anniversary for that and for our big conference which was Saturday, March 14.

We gave the Fern Valentine Freedom of Expression award to Susan Hohlihan from Mt. Si because she and her kids continued to write stories as required in a journalism class but refused to print a paper until a new policy of prior review was changed. I wish the Puyallup schools had done the same. Anyway, the principal worked with WJEA and a new policy which involves contacting the local paper for advice on "community standards" for language is used without the principal being involved at all.

We are also giving a "Special Recognition" to a boy who, when there was not paper at his school, developed a "independent" paper. We don't want to call it underground because it is openly distributed with no administrative restrictions at school. This boy doesn't qualify for any of our scholarships, etc. because he doesn't have an adviser but he attended our summer workshop and all of our conferences on his own and spent his own money on getting the paper printed.

The biggest worker for all of these is Kathy Schrier. She is a tireless supporter of press rights for students in Washington.

- Randy Swikle:

Advisers Cathy Wall of Harrisburg High School, Harrisburg, and Barb Thill of Stevenson High School, Lincolnshire, have run into difficulties with school officials regarding the status of their journalism programs and publications.

Cathy's school board and administration have been trying to dictate style decisions, such as policy for addressing adults. Also, the status of the student newspaper is now under prior review and has been moved from "public forum" to "classroom exercise."

Barb's school officials have instituted a policy of prior review and has publicly rebuked her skills as adviser of the Statesman. One district spokesperson has characterized some Statesman articles as "shoddy journalism."

Randy Swikle and Stan Zoller spoke at a Stevenson school board meeting, and Randy visited Barb's students at Stevenson HS on Feb. 25. IJEA needs to support Cathy and Barb and their students and help restore appreciation of the value a free and responsible student press holds for the school community.

Scholastic Press Rights Legislation

Randy Swikle has talked to several IJEA friends about the possibility of introducing anti-Hazelwood legislation in Illinois. David Bennett, executive director of the IPA, IPF, and IFAC, was not warm to the idea at this time. The Illinois Press Association is in the middle of its efforts to pass better legislation regarding freedom of information. Dave said the IPA would not have much time to help.



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HAPPENINGS

Scholastic Journalism Week was a success this year, in part because it coincided with the 40th Anniversary of the Tinker v. Des Moines Supreme Court decision. Many schools ordered JEA-produced black armbands while others made their own to wear on Tuesday, Feb. 24 to celebrate the case.

JEA members shared ideas for the week with each other via the Web and listserv.

I tried to build excitement for the week through the listserv as well. The week seemed to be a success.

Because of the close work with the Press Rights Commission, members of that group served as my de facto SJW committee this year.

FOR THE BOARD

I am not aware if other committee chairs share in this sentiment, but I feel like I am a ship floating around JEA Island that could drift away at any time. I know the board knows I am around doing my job, but as a chair I don't feel like good communication happens. I am never clear if I am doing everything I am supposed to do or neglecting any responsibilities.



Linda Barrington



Julie Dodd

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

The JEA Mentoring Program is in the process of getting ready to start its third year. Applications are being accepted now for states that would like to join the program. The next group of mentors will train at JEA Headquarters at Kansas State University, June 15-18.

The JEA board, at its meeting last November, voted to extend the program an additional three years (through 2013) and increased the yearly funding of the program. We are excited about what the program has accomplished since the board established the program in July 2007.

Twenty mentors are working in nine states and have worked with 58 new teachers. We have several new developments in the program this year.

Mentor Forums

Mentor Forums are a new addition to the training for the mentors. The forums are held at each of the two JEA/NSPA conventions and provide a full day of training for the mentors. Thanks to funding from the Yellow Chair Foundation, each mentor may attend one convention each year with airfare and hotel paid for. The forums provide the opportunity for the mentors to physically convene, as even the mentors in the same state often don't see each other. The forums provide a combination of planned activities and also time for open discussion.

The first Mentor Forum was held at the St. Louis convention with the session led by Peggy Gregory and Bill Fletcher. Ten of the 20 mentors attended, participating in discussions that included how to handle new adviser scenarios and how to mentor at a distance. Judy Robinson taught a special hands-on session on using audio recorders.

Sessions for new or nearly new advisers

Another benefit to having the mentors attend the conventions is that they can present sessions, which is part of their at-convention assignment. The first sessions were offered by mentors at the Anaheim convention. Last fall's convention included a special list in the program of sessions for New or Nearly New Advisers. Such sessions will be offered in Phoenix.

Semi-annual reports

A newsletter/PDF report is being prepared twice a year – fall and spring. The report includes information about the mentor training, funding and profiles of mentors, mentees and publication programs involved in the program. The report not only informs JEA members of the mentoring program activities but is a source of information for funders and potential funders.

Listserv

One of the suggestions from the first year of mentoring was to help promote discussion among the mentors and the mentoring committee. Julie Dodd, committee co-chair, set up a group listserv. The listserv also provides a way for mentoring committee members to share information, make announcements and swap suggestions.

Monthly reporting in Survey Monkey

A requirement for each mentor is to submit a monthly report during the school year. This year the mentors submit their reports online with Survey Monkey (surveymonkey.com). The mentors say they find this approach to reporting easier.

Gloria (Lori) Eastman

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Lori Eastman, Nominations Chair

HAPPENINGS

The slate of candidates for the 2009 elections included:

President: Jack Kennedy

Vice President: Bob Bair

Secretary: Linda Drake, Aaron Manfull, Betsy Rau

Certification Commission: Mark Newton

Development/Curriculum Commission: Lori Oglesbee, Becky Tate

Junior High/Middle School Commission: Anita Wertz

Multicultural Commission: Norma Kneese, Reginald Ragland

Scholastic Press Rights Commission: John Bowen

Region 1: Steve Matson

Region 2: Ellen Austin

Region 3: Gary Lindsey, Janet Levin

Region 4: Wayna Polk

Region 5: Brenda Gorsuch

Region 6: Martha Akers, Tom Gayda, Rod Satterthwaite

Region 7: Jane Blystone, Wanda Pletcher

Other members of the Nominations Committee was Sandy Woodcock, Ann Visser, and Susan Hathaway Tantillo.



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Julie Dodd, MJE

Scholastic Press Association Directors Liaison

The SPA roundtable at the St. Louis convention was attended by 30 scholastic press directors, advisers on state boards, and others involved in scholastic media organizations. A major topic was the JEA mentoring program, with information presented about the program and how states can get involved. Linda Barrington distributed copies of "JEA Mentoring Matters," the semi-annual report for the program. Representatives from Illinois talked about the mentoring program that had started that fall in their state and distributed their newsletter that discussed their state's program. Sandy Woodcock discussed the scholarships for mentor stipends being provided by NAAF to help encourage mentoring of advisers of color or advisers in minority majority schools. She stressed the importance of coordinating the efforts of outreach programs to reinforce and extend each other's efforts, such as with the partnership of NAAF and JEA in the mentoring program. Aaron Manfull discussed JEA's Digital Media Committee, explaining the sessions and Web development efforts and asking for ideas and input from the group. New scholastic press directors were welcomed, including Meredith Cummings (Alabama Scholastic Press Association) and Teresa White (HSJI at Indiana University). The SPA roundtable for the Phoenix convention will be on Saturday at 9 a.m.



Candace Bowen

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Candace Perkins Bowen, MJE, Listserv Liaison

As of March 14, 2009, the JEAHELP list, open to all members, had

913 members, 30 fewer than last fall. However, Pam Boller at Headquarters and I have been trying to periodically purge those who aren't members. Sometimes THAT gets them to renew far faster than a standard reminder. The JEATALK list, for officers, commission and committee chairs and regional and state directors has 84, three more than last fall.

Listserv trivia:

- The word "help" appeared 811 times since the last convention. Prior review was mentioned 87 times since then and censorship 56.
- Fifty-seven posts had questions about CSPA.
- And 18 were about long-time JEA member and friend JoAnne Graham, who lost her house and most belongings in a February tornado, but discovered she had lots of friends on the listserv as they came through with gift cards for restaurants and places like WalMart and other support.
- We had posts that were headed "not journalism." Their subjects ranged from Homecoming alternatives, English class project, fees for paper (not newspaper – paper for handouts and the like), privacy and photos and worksheets for writing dialogue.
- No one posted anything on Christmas this year, but Bob Greenman shared some great New York Times links with us at 6:59 p.m. on New Year's Eve, and Kelly Cook posted the first message in 2009 — a link to a YouTube spoof of news stories from 2008.
- Nobody published anything on Valentine's Day either, though it WAS a Saturday. However, longtime listservians might remember Feb. 14, 2001, when Lori Oglesbee started us down the road to Krispy Kremes. Her post:

On this sad day, Valentine's Day for a single, unattached woman, my heart has been touched.

My yearbook editors drove to the next town and stood in line for 20 minutes to get me

HOT KRISPY KREMES in the new store that opened yesterday. And, for those of you who know me, know that no other gift would have touched me more.

Isn't that just the best. Hope y'all have a great Valentine's as well.

— Lori "I need a life" Oglesbee

- The number of gmail accounts has grown quickly, especially as members decide to abandon their school accounts for this purpose. At this time, we have 113 using that service. Second to that is AOL with 49.
- 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.)
- From somewhere in Chicago, Wayne posted exactly 100 messages since the last convention. Others who post fairly often (and I'm not being critical because some of these are very useful posts): Logan Aimone (45), Tracy Anne Sena (41, and cpb (41), which includes current events quizzes.

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.



Logan Aimone

Logan Aimone, MJE

National Scholastic Press Association Liaison

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- All-day Workshop: Carol Lange, Ron Bennett, Cathy Colglazier and Alan Weintraut will again present "Intensive Journalistic Writing: Changing the Ways You Approach Reading and Writing AP English Composition and Journalism Classes."
- The booth includes information for advisers of literary magazines, newspapers, yearbooks, and broadcast media.
- Assembly Meeting for Advisers of Student Publications: I will hold a roundtable discussion of questions and concerns of advisers.



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Steve Matson, MJE, Northwest Region 1 Director

MEMBERSHIP

JEA's representatives in the Northwest Region underwent a significant change this year. This year's new state directors are: in Oregon, Steve Carrigg; in Washington, Vince DeMiero; in Idaho, Katy Shanafelt; and in Wyoming, Dawn Knudsvig.

HAPPENINGS

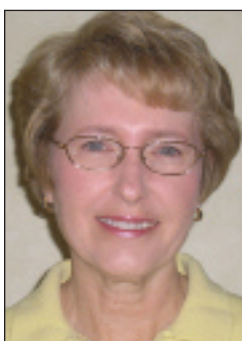
Advisers and students in Washington reintroduced a student press rights bill to the state legislature in January, and spoke on its behalf at a Senate Judiciary Hearing Feb. 18. It appears that the bill has again died in committee. WJEA intends to reintroduce the bill for the fourth time next year.

AWARDS & HONORS

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

- Annie Stone, who advises KLA-TA-WA, a Yearbook Pacemaker finalist
- Jeff Nusser, who advises WaWa, a Yearbook Pacemaker finalist
- Linda Ballew, who advises Roundup, a Yearbook Pacemaker finalist

As announced earlier this year, two Oregon advisers, Nancy Guiliani and Bill Fletchner, have received Lifetime Achievement Awards; they may be accepting those awards at the Phoenix spring convention.



Linda Barrington

Linda Barrington, MJE, NCTE Liaison

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MEMBERSHIP

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

HAPPENINGS

Our sessions at last fall's convention in San Antonio were well attended.

- Jane Blystone and Joy McCaleb presented a session on new ways of writing and publishing. Jane described how her AP class used podcasting to report on The Scarlet Letter. Joy described how her students wrote and created a book of their letters to and from organ recipients who had received organs from a deceased classmate.
- Lori Oglesbee, Sue Blackmon and Lynne Dozier presented a session on improved writing. Lori focused on revision of writing while Sue and Lynne talked about using journalism in the English classroom.
- Carol Lange, Ron Bennett, Linda Lane-Hamilton and Alan Weintraut presented an all-day workshop on intensive journalistic writing. It was such a good workshop that I'm proposing it again for Philadelphia this year.

Jane, Joy, and Lori all helped out in the booth, as well as Pat Gathright from San Antonio.

The next NCTE convention will be held in Philadelphia, Nov. 19-24. For that convention I have applied to host a number of events:

- Concurrent session called "Publishing Live! Using Technology Tools to Engage Learners" will be presented by Jane Blystone and me. We will create a podcast during the session and post it so participants can see it done from start to finish.



Gretchen Wehmhoff

Gretchen Wehmhoff-Stoltze, MJE

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From Alaska State Director Gretchen Wehmhoff, MJE

No Report Submitted



Katy Shanafelt

Katy Shanafelt

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From Idaho State Director Katy Shanafelt

MEMBERSHIP

Idaho membership is in flux due to attempts to rebuild the association. We currently have 22 schools in our membership. We anticipate an increase in numbers as we work towards establishing a more visible identity in Idaho.

Officers:

1. ISJA Co-Chairmen: Becky McGuyer, Courtney Morgan
2. Treasurer: Becky McGuyer
3. Contest Coordinator: Teresa Gallegos; Assistants: Ryan Hansen and Katy Shanafelt
4. Judging House Coordinator: Juli Stricklan
5. Secretary: Barb Thomas
6. JEA State Representative: Katy Shanafelt
8. AV Coordinator: Russ Wood; Assistant: Richard Davis
9. Web Master: Bob Foster
10. JEA Liason: Norma Kneese

HAPPENINGS

The name of our organization has been changed to Idaho Student Journalism Association. The former name, Idaho Journalism Advisers Association did not reflect the true student focus of our group. In the past the IJAA has had a larger membership base in Eastern Idaho and at the last conference it was suggested that the state convention be held at the Idaho State University in Pocatello instead of in Boise, the state capital. Meetings have taken place and attempts to move the conference to new accommodations is underway. With new officers and a focus on promot-

ing national standards for state contests, we expect to increase membership across the state.

Conferences and Workshops:

- Hill Photography Summer Workshop, July 27-30: Award-winning veteran advisers, journalism professors and yearbook publishers present sessions on a variety of topics including photography layout, writing, advising and publishing.
- Jostens Yearbook Workshop in Boise on June 22-24
- Scripps Howard Multicultural Journalism Workshop, University of Idaho, June 22-28, Moscow, Idaho.

MEETINGS

In addition to our annual meeting at the state conference the association has begun meetings in Eastern Idaho to orient the new board and to suggest changes that would benefit the majority of participants in the association. Updating judging rubrics and increasing state participation were topics of note.

AWARDS & HONORS

Eagle High School has placed First Place with the ASPA. They also have been honored with the Award of Excellence by Taylor Publishing for being featured in their publication, Yearbook Yearbook.

Boise High School has placed First Place with honors in the NSPA, First place in the ASPA and First Place in the CSPA. The Boise High School Courier also took first place in the 2008 IJAA state competition. The Skyline Behemoth yearbook placed second at the 2008 IJAA competition.

CONCERNS

The organization still struggles from the unfortunate loss of our treasury due to an embezzlement two years ago and is working to regain a strong financial base while attending to settling legal matters. With the threat of dissolution, the distribution of responsibilities fell to all advisers who would step up and contribute their time to make this organization work. All members value the association and are working to improve quality of the organization. We are hoping journalism teachers throughout the state will see the value in our work and increase our membership.



Linda Ballew

Linda Ballew

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From Montana State Director Linda Ballew

MEMBERSHIP

Montana has had an increasing interest in membership because of the Montana Journalism Education Association presence at the state teachers' convention in Missoula, MT, in October, 2008.

HAPPENINGS

Our association will be represented at the 2009 MEA-MFT Educators' Conference, 10/15/09, in Billings, joining other curricular groups at the convention. Award winning veteran advisers, journalism professors from the University of Montana's School of Journalism, and yearbook publishers will present sessions on a variety of topics including photography, layout, writing, advising, convergent media, ethics and publishing. Look for specifics in the state convention booklet that will be sent to every school and teacher in the state.

AWARDS & HONORS

The newspaper student journalist chosen as MJEA's High School Journalist of the Year will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the Montana Newspaper Association to the college of his or her choice and will be a guest at the MNA's annual awards banquet June 20 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Kalispell, MT. Last year's 2008 winner: Billie Loewen graduated from Big Sky High School in Missoula with plans to attend the University of Montana majoring in journalism.

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

The third annual Montana yearbook contest will feature a Yearbook Student of the Year. The 2008 Yearbook Journalist of the Year has been Cory Brester from Laurel, MT.

Great Falls High School Iniwa editor in chief Megan Gretch has been awarded JEA's Montana Journalist of the Year, and she will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

Scholarship monies have been graciously sponsored by the following yearbook publishing companies: Jostens, Taylor Publishing, Lifetouch, and Herff Jones.

Both Megan Gretch from Great Falls High School and Jeff Broere from CMR High School will travel to Washington D.C as the Montana representatives to the Freedom Forum. Both student editors are from Great Falls, MT.

• OJEA will be meeting with representatives from JEA and NSPA in Portland on Saturday, March 28 to tour the convention center and plan for the April 2010 convention. The theme for the convention will be chosen by March 28 and plans will be discussed.

• Frank Ragulsky, the director of student media at Oregon State University and the director of Northwest Scholastic Press, will be retiring in June after 27.5 years. He has worked in scholastic journalism for 40 years. Frank has been a tremendous force in promoting high school journalism in Oregon. At OSU he advises both The Barometer, The Beaver yearbook, the campus radio and TV station and PRISM Magazine. Several years ago his department took on operation of Northwest Scholastic Press, an organization that provides exceptional support to high school journalists and advisers. Frank and his crew have put on various yearbook camps in Corvallis for over 25 years. Last summer they collaborated with The Oregonian newspaper to host the Minority High School Journalism Institute. Fall Press Day, one of the mainstays of student journalism in Oregon, has been held at OSU for over 20 years. Upon retirement, Frank and his wife Jane will be splitting time between Corvallis and Homer, Alaska, where he hopes to perfect his fishing skills.



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 128. Historically, this is about the number of members we have had; however, we are continuing to work on ways to attract and retain more.

HAPPENINGS

Our WJEA State Conference was a huge success. Nearly 500 students and advisers from across the state attended the day-long convention at Lacey's (near the state capital) Timberline High School. The fact that Timberline was recently remodeled and is a stunning, state-of-the-art facility with a mountain lodge aesthetic, certainly added to the day's intrigue and enjoyment. Some 280+ individual students participated in on-site write-offs that closely mirror the JEA national competitions. Regional professional media personnel were on site to critique and judge student work. Our keynote presenter was Dave Ammons, the press secretary for the Washington secretary of state. Ammons is a former AP Bureau Chief in Olympia, our state capital, and journalist who covered everything from D.B. Cooper to Mt. St. Helens. A social experiment took place at lunch where students were given the opportunity to have free pizza and soda—all they had to do was give up their First Amendment rights. This event was produced by the SPJ chapter at Pacific Lutheran University and created quite a stir. Additionally, many of our annual



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Oregon State Director Steve Carrigg

• Oregon JEA board members have chosen the Journalist of the Year, Adviser of the Year and Rookie Adviser of the year. The winners will be announced at a later date.

• OJEA leadership sponsored a social on Feb. 16 at Kennedy School Pub. In addition to board members, a few new advisers, regular members, and retirees were there, along with a contingent from Oregon State University and Northwest Scholastic Press.

awards were presented, including adviser and journalist of the year. Timberline adviser Dan Hardebeck and his students from The Blazer were fantastic hosts.

WJEA teamed with J-Ideas at Ball State to produce a special seminar on the relationship between the student press and school administrators on Feb. 27. The Tacoma News Tribune co-sponsored and hosted the event. Ball State's Warren Watson hosted and coordinated the day-long session. Dozens of students, their advisers and a few administrators attended the conference at no charge. In fact, even their expenses were covered by J-Ideas. Watson presented along with the SPLC's Mike Heistand, former Dow Jones Adviser of the Year Randy Swikle and WJEA President Vincent DeMiero. The day concluded with all participants invited to attend the TNT's afternoon news meeting and observing their decision-making process.

On the Student Press Rights front, Washington is a hotbed of activity, as school boards attempt to establish prior review as the norm. In the Puyallup District, a longstanding open forum district with three highly respected student publications, a new policy revision actually mandates prior review. WJEA officers have spent many hours on the road attending school board meetings to speak out in protest of these flawed policies. Scholastic press rights legislation was once again introduced in the legislature 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.

Summer Workshop

WJEA's two summer workshops (advisers, Aug. 1-4; and students, Aug. 5-8) will welcome H.L. Hall as Expert in Residence. The camp is being promoted nationwide in hopes that H.L. fans will sign-up for a great time at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Wash.

AWARDS & HONORS

Mount Si adviser Susan Hollihan was named the Fern Valentine Freedom of Expression Award recipient. Underground/Independent newspaper publisher/editor Collin Moyer from Curtis High School was named the recipient of a special recognition award. Nicole Pinto from Peninsula High School was named the state's journalist of the year. Chris Grasseschi from Bishop Blanchet High School was named the WJEA adviser of the year.

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 even once again. Also, we are seriously considering implementing JEA's adviser mentoring program in our state.



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Wyoming State Director Dawn Knudsvig

MEMBERSHIP

Wyoming's JEA membership consists of 14 schools.

HAPPENINGS

250 students and advisers attended the Annual State Journalism Convention Sept. 29-Sept. 30th in Casper, WY. Bobby Hawthorne was the keynote speaker as he inspired student journalists to "Learn to Write."

Officer Activity

Executive Director Dawn Knudsvig of Arvada-Clearmont is organizing the fall convention and working to line up judges with the assistance of the other board members, while Vin Capiello of Cody is organizing speakers for the event. President Jason Reub is working under the leadership of past president Bev Fast, who wanted to help train someone to take her place on the board. Other officers are Web Master Bev Fast, Secretary Polly Burkett, and WHSAA Rep Diane Rodriguez. District Representative for the Southwest is Karen Leathers; for the Northwest is Vin Capiello. Northeast Representative Mandy Kolata resigned her position with the school and is no longer with us; there presently is not a Southeast Representative.

Board members have met twice since the convention and have begun organizing the state convention in the fall. The convention will maintain the two-day format. Bev Fast will send out note cards to all school journalism advisors reminding them of the event.



Kathy Gaber

Kathy Gaber

Southwest Region 2 Director

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



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From Arizona State Director Carmen Wendt, CJE

MEMBERSHIP

Since the Spring Convention is in Phoenix this April, we expect our membership to increase. As is typical our membership is steady and active.

HAPPENINGS

The local committee for the Phoenix convention has been lead by Peggy Gregory and Christine Brandell. The committee membership is about 24 people, from many aspects of journalist, professional and scholastic. It's the Arizona style to all pitch in and help, something like a barn raising!

The state organization, Arizona Interscholastic Press Association, will be having its spring convention in conjunction with the JEA convention. The spring contest awards will be presented on Saturday afternoon.

July 16-19 will be the AIPA Summer Workshop on the campus of Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ. The Workshop will be upgrading its curriculum to meet the needs of the new technology. It will be "A New Gig." Strands will include Photo Shop, In Design, Web Design, Coaching, Broadcast and an Adviser Workshop. Information is at www.azaipa.org.

In August, AIPA will sponsor their Adviser Jump Start. It is a one-day workshop for advisers, experienced and new, to meet, share ideas, receive training, and take home a notebook full of ideas. In addition to master advisers, university professors will be teaching at the Jump Start.

AWARDS & HONORS

At Sunrise Mountain High School senior Kate Bolnick was recognized as a finalist for the Al Neuharth Free Spirit Scholarship, which recognizes outstanding high school seniors who have demonstrated an interest in journalism and an abundance of free spirit. Kate was awarded a \$1,000 university scholarship and will travel to Washington D.C. in March to compete for the top prize of \$10,000, awarded to one female and one male in each state and the District of Columbia.

At Tucson High School received an All American from NSPA and a Gold Medalist with four marks of distinction from CSPA for their 2008 yearbook. Jose Estrada and Karina Reyna made the NSPA Honor Roll.

From Colorado State Director Kristi Rathbun

State conference is in October at Colorado State University
Colorado High School Press Association CHSPA is the state association
<http://chspa.colostate.edu>

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CHSPA's involvement with JEA

The Colorado High School Press Association is in its 38th year as a pro-student, pro-journalism organization serving Colorado's student-journalists and advisers at more than 132 member schools.

MEMBERSHIP

CHSPA is working to recruit members as the deadline for sweepstakes entries nears. Sweeps information will be mailed out soon with membership forms included. Deadline for membership is October 1, 2009.

HAPPENINGS

The annual Capitol Hill Press Conference took place Feb. 27 with featured speakers, Lt. Governor Barbara O'Brien and Rocky Mountain News reporters Sara Burnett and Nancy Mitchell. Topics for discussion included the future of journalism in Colorado and the metro area with the closing of the Rocky Mountain News.

The CHSPA Scholarship Gala is set for May 2. Friend of Scholastic Journalism Gary Wysocki and Medal of Merit winners Sheila Jones and Pam Bond-Simmons will be honored.

CHSPA is continuing its work with the ACLU to get school district journalism policies in compliance with the Colorado State Freedom of Expression Law. There are three school districts who have received letters that their policies are not in compliance.

CHSPA will also hold their annual adviser workshop July 8-10 at CSU

AWARDS & HONORS

The Colorado State Journalist of the Year is Kristen Sheirman of Rock Canyon High School. Runner-up is Christopher William Peters of Rocky Mountain High School.



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From Hawaii State Director Karin Swanson

The HPA contact is Jennifer Dang, jdang@honolulu.gannett.com
The UH journalism adviser is Jay Hartwell, hartwell@hawaii.edu

HAPPENINGS

Annual Journalism Day sponsored by the University of Hawaii on September 9 with about 24 high schools represented.

High school newspaper awards competition sponsored by the Hawaii Publishers Association in April.

Currently promoting JEA and scholastic journalism in the following ways:

- I am continuing to model and promote taking school publications online. I network informally with other advisers and frequently gain contacts through the University of Hawaii's journalism adviser. I'm still working on updating contacts.
- Entries have been submitted to the spring high school journalism competition, sponsored by the Hawaii Publishers Association. The gathering later this month will give me an opportunity to meet with other advisers and distribute JEA materials, as I did last year.

FOR THE BOARD

We have a patchwork of experience levels and varying degrees of administration support in Hawaii's many private schools. Our public school journalism programs are hampered by restrictive language in our state-wide Board of Education legislation.



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From Northern California Director Lynn McDaniel

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HAPPENINGS

JEANC is thriving, reaching out to and providing opportunities for scholastic journalists and their advisers.

This year, Dwight Evans, a long time newspaper adviser from Red Bluff who was a member of our board, retired from our board. A long time board member, Evans served a term as our president, first got our organization up and on the World Wide Web and maintained our site, and always contributed to board activities.

We welcomed new board members, Ellen Austin, Karl Grubaugh, and Diane Honda who were elected in December.

Board Member Michelle Balmeo completed a new JEANC website (JEANC.org). The site continues to provide valuable information for journalism advisers, teachers, students, and supporters of student journalists: workshops, conventions, local advisers and students in the news, membership and contact info. As well, there is a collection of student work from a variety of Northern California publications.

JEANC also has a Facebook group ("JEANC") and click "Join this Group) so as to stay in touch with other advisers and be kept up-to-date on JEANC news.

The next JEANC state convention has been scheduled for October 23-25, 2009 at the Sacramento Convention Center. The convention theme is "All of It." Our goal is to offer journalism students and advisers hands-on training and fundamentals required of today's journalists. We are currently in the process of recruiting featured speakers and organizing on-site competitions, photography opportunities, critiques, swap shop, and social activities. JEANC Board Member and JEA's 2008 Journalism Teacher of the Year Karl Grubaugh has agreed to be our keynote speaker.

AWARDS & HONORS

In January the winners of the JEANC Mail-in Contest were announced. Students from many schools in the Northern California area participated. A total list of winners can be accessed by visiting our website.

Northern California is proud to recognize several advisers this year who have been honored for their scholastic journalism work:

- Don Bott, the adviser of The Stag Line at Amos Alonzo Stagg High School in Stockton, is the JEA Diversity Award winner
- Karl Grubaugh, Granite Bay Gazette adviser, was honored at the St. Louis convention as the 2008 Newspaper Adviser of the Year and delivered an inspirational acceptance speech
- Whitney High School adviser and current JEANC President Sarah Nichols received JEA's Pioneer Award
- Rocklin High's Casey Nichols was awarded JEA's Medal of Merit.
- Also awarded the Friend of Scholastic Journalism award from JEA was California Newspaper Publishers Association's Jim Ewert.



Mitch Ziegler

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From Southern California Director Mitch Ziegler

HAPPENINGS

State conference is May 16, 2009. State write-off contest is in the spring and advisor fest in the fall. SCJEA is Southern California's state organizations. Mitch Ziegler is the contact www.scjea.com

AWARDS & HONORS

Jan Ewell received the Medal of Merit at the St. Louis convention for her work with the adviser protection bill.

FOR THE BOARD

Our biggest concern is the recruitment and retention of advisers. I am currently promoting JEA and scholastic journalism in the following ways:

- The SCJEA board has begun to plan to promote JOY entries. Very few ever apply in southern California.
- We have been very involved in the mentoring program.



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From Nevada State Director Susan Thornton

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

Due to growth, Nevada schools, particularly in Clark County, have experienced a tremendous turn over in journalism teachers and advisers. Clark County is home to 80+ percent of the state's population including 310,000 students and 48 high schools. The northern section of the state has seen tremendous growth in the Reno area. These two cities make up the majority of the state's population.

HAPPENINGS

Due to state education budget concerns, several journalism programs may be cut throughout the district. Some principals are considering cutting print newspaper programs and possibly broadcast programs on the middle school and high school levels as they are faced with staffing decisions. For the first time in Clark County School District's history, support staff and possibly licensed teachers are facing losing their jobs through a reduction of force due to state education fund shortfalls. Talks are being held regarding the possibility that program cuts may occur throughout several elective areas to keep district teachers employed.

We have raised the funds to apply for one place in the mentor program next year, but the challenge has been finding a mentor candidate.

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

Currently Clark County yearbook and newspaper advisers commu-

nicate through an email/listserv forum designed to address journalism questions and concerns.

With the constant turn over of teachers, the forum administrator has been plagued with knowing when a new advisor/teacher has been hired or has resigned.

CCSD donated sample textbook and teaching materials to JEA Nevada for distribution to interested teachers in the district.

In the works is a plan to provide information to school administrators regarding JEA and other available resources (national and local) for journalism advisers.

Liz Walsh, MJE, Reno, Nevada, is working on organizing members in the north, and raising funds to sponsor a mentor for northern Nevada. Liz is working on creating state standards to present to the state board of education for journalism licensing.

Even with budget cuts, Nevada advisers are planning to attend the Phoenix convention in large numbers.

AWARDS & HONORS

Congratulations to Carol Medcalf, Las Vegas Academy newspaper and yearbook adviser, who was inducted into the Education Hall of Fame this week. The prestigious honor is awarded to an outstanding Nevada educator every two years.



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From New Mexico State Director Albert Martinez

HAPPENINGS

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

FOR THE BOARD

Our biggest concern is the lack of involvement and difficulty of having a state which is spread out into sparsely populated areas.

New Mexico does not have a regional or state conference at all anymore. We do have a state organization, but I will have to find out where, if any money is in the treasury, etc. My major concern is to revamp and restart our state organization. When I first joined about 10 years ago, it was strong to semi-strong, but in the past four years has fallen apart completely. I don't see NM doing anything to improve scholastic journalism at all. It is each teacher doing his or her own thing. No unity.

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

I have tried to obtain information from both Pat Graff and Mary

Massey to no avail. We do not have any people, to my knowledge, submitting portfolios for Journalist of the Year either. The only news I can report that I do know. Our state's web site has been shut down. I have spoken to a teacher at Highland HS in Albuquerque who is interested in helping resurrect the NM Chapter.

However, a summer institute will once again be offered at New Mexico State University in conjunction with the Albuquerque Journal. It is a five-day workshop for juniors. They spend the entire time on campus and learn about how the newspaper is produced on a daily basis. They also work on an in-class newspaper and have it produced. It is a wonderful opportunity for up and coming students interested in a possible journalism career.



April Squires

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From Utah State Director April Squires

Utah does have a state conference in November with a mail-in and carry-in competition. Contact Jim Fisher, University of Utah, jnfisher@aol.com There is no state wide organization aside from JEA.

FOR THE BOARD

Our biggest concern is the unwillingness of advisers to work together because of low morale due to low state funding. We need help on how to organize summer workshops.

HAPPENINGS

I am hoping a new charter middle school adviser will help me develop a summer workshop in line with JEA/NSPA and hold on-site competitions. She is from Washington state and won awards in high school at the national JEA/NSPA convention, and is willing to help me organize an on-site event. Mark Newton volunteered to judge a couple of years ago when I started to work on this. Most professionals locally are not interested in on-site competitions and judging. I do have others I haven't yet contacted and hope I can get help from them. Most advisers are members thanks to a Scripps foundation that pays either part or all of membership dues. This comes through the University of Utah and the Salt Lake Tribune.

Utah Press Association also held a conference with mail-in contents and two cash awards. I held my 4th Sunshine Week celebration at Riverton High with guest speakers (County Mayor, Salt Lake City Communications Director who is heading an initiative for more transparency, and com. professor and SPJ advocate Joel Campbell), a First Amendment quiz and Sunshine Week T-shirt raffle.

I communicated new Herb Block cartoon scholarship contest and think there will be 4 entries.

AWARDS & HONORS

Riverton High awarded First Class and two Merits of Distinction in Content and Coverage from NSPA; Taylorsville High School awarded 1st Place (\$500) and Riverton High 2nd Place (\$250) in Better High School Newspaper 5A contest sponsored by the Utah Press Association. Judge Memorial Catholic High School took 1st in the smaller schools category. 2007-2008 Riverton High awarded Best Newspaper Design 1st Place in state by JEA/UofU/Salt Lake Tribune Annual Young Writers and Photographers contest. 2008-2009 should be awarded by May from the Nov. conference and contest.



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Randy Swikle

From Illinois State Director Randy Swikle, CJE

I look forward to seeing you in Anaheim. If you have any questions about this report, give me a call: (H) 847-497-3651; (C) 847-656-6735.

MEMBERSHIP

The IJEA membership is about 95 (71 lifetime memberships). The current JEA teacher/adviser membership in Illinois was 113. 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

Our statewide IHSA contest holds its fourth competition in April 2009. 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 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. Last fall the executive director of IPF, David Bennett, was honored with the Friend of Scholastic Journalism Award presented by the JEA at its national convention in Philadelphia. The IFAC continues to provide free First Amendment curriculum materials, posters, presentations and other support to schools in Illinois and around the nation.

The Illinois Press Foundation and the McCormick Freedom Museum have committed to working with the Illinois JEA director in creating a protocol for a free and responsible student press. The IJEA is celebrating its 20th anniversary during the 2008-09 school year.

AWARDS & HONORS

- Illinois Journalist of the Year: Tom Stanley-Becker, University of Chicago Lab School, editor in chief U-High Midway
- First Runner-up, Laura Kraegel, editorial board member, John Hersey High School, The Correspondent
- Second Runner-up: Joseph Buzzelli, Lake Zurich, editor in chief, Bear Facts

JEA's Mentoring Program

Babs Erickson and Randy Swikle have been working with their mentees in Illinois. Babs works with Brittany Glidden of Rockford East HS, Rockford, and Greg Reilly of Harlem HS, Machesney Park. Randy works with Alissa Calabrese of Elk Grove HS, Elk Grove, and Jennifer Reiser of Washington Community HS, Washington.

JEA Rising Star

Congratulations to Jason Block of Prospect High School in Mount Prospect. He has been named a Rising Star by JEA and will receive the honor in Phoenix along with Alyssa Armentrout, McKinney (Texas) High School; Amanda Paola Casares, Coronado (Calif.) Middle School; and Kristy Dekat, CJE, Topeka (Kan.) West High School.

JEA Lifetime Achievement Award

Congratulations to Charlotte Titcomb, Gurnee, Ill., who was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Special Thanks

A huge THANK YOU to JEA secretary Susan Hathaway Tantillo, MJE, of McHenry, Ill., who steps down from her long-time position as JEA secretary. Her service to JEA and scholastic journalism as a teacher and leader has been immeasurable. We all treasure her friendship and her contributions to our profession.

First Amendment Challenges

Advisers Cathy Wall of Harrisburg High School, Harrisburg, and Barb Thill of Stevenson High School, Lincolnshire, have run into difficulties with school officials regarding the status of their journalism programs and publications.

Cathy's school board and administration have been trying to dictate style decisions, such as policy for addressing adults. Also, the status of the student newspaper has been moved from "public forum" to "classroom exercise."

Barb's school officials have instituted a policy of prior review and

has publicly rebuked her skills as adviser of the Statesman. One district spokesperson has characterized some Statesman articles as "shoddy journalism."

Randy Swikle and Stan Zoller spoke at a Stevenson school board meeting, and Randy visited Barb's students at Stevenson HS on Feb. 25. IJEA needs to support Cathy and Barb and their students and help restore an appreciation of the value of a free and responsible student press to the decision-makers at their schools.

Randy Swikle has been working with Dave Bennett, executive director of the Illinois Press Association, and Shawn Healy, resident First Amendment Scholar of the McCormick Freedom Museum, about forming a partnership to create a protocol for a free and responsible student press. Both Dave and Shawn said funding for such a project might be available. The goal would be to use a protocol model to guide decision-makers toward responsible decisions regarding the status and welfare of the student press. The organizations Dave and Shawn represent would add great clout to our scholastic journalism cause toward nurturing a free and responsible student press in communities throughout Illinois.



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From Iowa State Director Leslie Shipp, MJE

MEMBERSHIP

- 21 JEA members have paid their dues through combined membership with IHSPA.
- 40 advisers are currently JEA members.
- 51 schools in Iowa are currently IHSPA members.

HAPPENINGS

IHSPA Election: Merle Dieleman, retired adviser, was re-elected VP for Operations. Leslie Shipp of Johnston HS was elected VP for Special Projects. Elected to the Board of Directors were Jo Ann Gage (Mt. Vernon), Stacy Haynes-Moore (CR Jefferson), Heather McKay (Atlantic), and Holly Soboroff (Washington).

IHSPA Winter Thaw: Grand View College in Des Moines was the site of the fifth annual IHSPA Adviser Winter Thaw held in February. Attendees were able to the college's new communications building. Professor Josh Ryther taught PhotoShop. Randy Brubaker, the Des Moines Register's discussed the newspaper industry and how schools can go online. Richard Johns presented on ethics. Friday's dinner was cancelled due to snow. Despite snowy travel, 19 advisers attended Saturday.

AWARDS & HONORS

The following people were honored at the IHSPA Fall Convention:

- Stratton Award for scholastic journalism supporters: John Beaudoin, publisher, Woodbine Twiner and Logan Herald-Observer

- Rod Vahl Teacher of the Year: Bonnie Neyens, yearbook adviser, Ford Madison HS (this is her 40th year advising yearbook)
- Administrator of the Year Award: Mary Wilcynski, principal, Cedar Rapids Kennedy HS
- Student Journalist of the year from Iowa was Alex Kuberski of Davis County Bloomfield. There were five entries judged.



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From Minnesota State Director Laurie Hansen, CJE

HAPPENINGS

We had three major events since the St. Louis convention:

1. The Minnesota Wild event:
 - Two out of the three MN Wild categories have been judged. The print winner is Elise Butler from St. Paul Academy and the photo winner is Sam Oldenburg from Owatonna High School. The broadcast entries are still being judged.
 - There were about 30 students that attended the event on Feb. 17. They were able to watch a practice and then interview Cal Clutterbuck, one of the players. They also met with a number of speakers from the MN Wild staff that work with media, as well as Mike Russo, MN Wild beat writer from the Star Tribune and John Shipley, MN Wild beat writer from the Pioneer Press.
 - The winners will attend a game later this month and sit in the press box. Their names are printed in the programs and the winning broadcast plays on the big screen. We also publish the winning entries on the MHSPA Web site.
2. Journalism Day at the Guthrie
 - Twenty eight students (the biggest number ever) participated in Journalism Day at the Guthrie. At this event, students gather in the morning to hear about the job of the public relations coordinator for the Guthrie, and then they have a talk by a professional reviewer/arts editor. This year unfortunately, the arts editor from the Star Tribune could not make it to the event, but he did still agree to judge and post the winning review. He ended up posting all three—1st, 2nd and 3rd place—on the Star Tribune Website.
 - The students still received some tips on reviewing from Public Relations Director Melodie Bahan and JEM Director Laurie Hansen. Students then saw a matinee of The Two Gentlemen of Verona. The day always ends with a nice tour of this magnificent theater.
2. Adviser's gathering
 - In early March, some members of MHSPA met with Logan Aimone at a social event where we talked about possible future programs, such as an event at the State Capitol and started getting excited about the Minneapolis Convention!



Marsha Kalkowski

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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.

HAPPENINGS

We took many delegates to the St. Louis Convention and a few plan to come to Phoenix. Thanks to all who have organized this year's conventions.

The 2008 NHSPA Fall Convention was held Oct. 13 at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. More than 600 students attended. The keynote presenter was Les Rose of CBS in Los Angeles. Scott Winter welcomed the attendees and sessions were presented by journalism professionals from the Omaha and Lincoln areas and from the College of Journalism.

The 2009 Fall Convention will be Oct. 19. Summer camp at the University of Nebraska will be held July 20-24. Camp directors are Courtney Archer and Cathy Davis. Contact them for more information at atnhspaworkshop@gmail.com. Tracks for Editorial Leadership, Broadcasting, Journalistic Writing, YB, NP and Photography are planned. Scholarships are available.

Nebraska's JEA Winter Contest had more 500 entries. Thanks to our JEA adviser friends who generously judged for us with proceeds from non-JEA member submissions going to the Student Press Law Center. Results are posted at: <http://marian.creighton.edu/~nhspa/jeaneb>

AWARDS & HONORS

Four fantastic Journalist of the Year portfolios were submitted and judged. Congratulations to Alexandria Hodge of Omaha Central who is the Nebraska winner and Hannah Langdon of Omaha Westside who is the Runner Up.

Nebraska is also quite proud to have JEA Vice President Bob Bair from among our ranks. We are proud of you, Bob.

Congratulations to all the newly elected board members.



Sue Skalicky

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From North Dakota State Director Susan Skalicky, CJE

MEMBERSHIP

I would love to see a significant increase in North Dakota JEA membership this in 2009-2010. I plan to have JEA materials to distribute at our state journalism competition (Northern Interscholastic Press Association) this April.

Six ND advisers have paid memberships. Two ND advisers have let their memberships lapse.

HAPPENINGS

We have five JEA High School Journalist of the Year entries. That is a significant increase from only one entry last year. I was able to find three outstanding judges to judge the portfolios: John Irby, Editor of the Bismarck Tribune, Tony Spilde, former Bismarck Tribune journalist and current Montana-Dakota Utilities Public Relations Representative, and Mike Chaussee, University of Mary communications professor.

We have a new broadcast journalism adviser at Bismarck High School - Andrew Fischer. His principal is paying for him to attend the spring convention in Phoenix.

AWARDS & HONORS

Right now, I have no awards and honors reports. Will have an update on awards after state competition, the Phoenix convention and Quill and Scroll results.



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From South Dakota State Director Deb Rothenberger, MJE

MEMBERSHIP

The state director presented information about JEA membership and the national conventions at the South Dakota High School Press Association's adviser luncheon. She will also provide membership information

at the 2009 Summer Journalism Institute sessions in June.

HAPPENINGS

The South Dakota High School Press Association conducted its Spring Writing Contest with the entries due March 5, 2009. Results will be announced in April.

The South Dakota High School Press Association will also be conducting its 2009 Summer Journalism Institute in June at South Dakota State University. The yearbook session and the desktop publishing sessions are June 8-11, and the newspaper session and the desktop publishing session are June 15-18. The photography session is offered June 8-11. Moviemaking, a new session, will be offered June 15-18. Advisers may earn graduate credit. For more information, contact Doris Giago, the director, at doris.giago@sdstate.edu or at (605) 688-6515 or Jessica Jensen, the coordinator, at jessica.jensen@sdstate.edu.

Awards and Honors:

The South Dakota High School Press Association is surveying South Dakota advisers about the number of years they have advised. This is in preparation for selecting the recipient of the Founder's Award. The selection will be determined at the South Dakota Journalism Advisory Committee's meeting this spring and announced at the fall press convention.



Sandy Jacoby

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From Wisconsin State Director Sandy Jacoby

MEMBERSHIP

Advisers Winter Seminar held at The Lodge at Geneva Ridge March 6-7 recruited new advisers to join both JEA and Kettle Moraine Press Association through direct appeals, member forms, JEA Bookstore catalogs, JEA Calendar of Events, Certification pamphlets and JEA convention information. With KEMPA membership at 110, up from last year's 103, only 50 percent of those are JEA-WI members. Winter Seminar and Fall Scholastic Journalism Conference offer time with 37 and 70 advisers respectively to talk about advantages of dual membership. VP Membership Linda Barrington worked this year to retain members through email making renewal easy.

HAPPENINGS

Summer Workshop for 2009 continues to reflect innovative programming as Director Linda Barrington and the KEMPA Board has partnered with Northern Illinois University to offer two KEMPA workshops at UW- Whitewater and NIU for June and July respectively. Both summer workshops and traveling day camp programs recognized the challenges of committing teens for four-day workshops. Traveling workshops will again take KEMPA instructors to Illinois and Wisconsin locations where advisers and yearbook representatives pair with KEMPA to focus

journalism instruction to target specific skills in shorter time limits. Not only do we reach more students, but also both KEMPA and sponsoring schools/companies benefit financially, greatly improving KEMPA's financial ability to continue to serve schools, advisers and students. Day camps were highly successful last summer while our premium program at UW-W and now NIU continue to survive financially to serve those with more time to commit to reap more skills. KEMPA now recognizes that we must continue to adapt and reinvent our workshop presence to evolve yearly.

Winter Retreat held at The Lodge at Geneva Ridge drew 37 advisers and featured presenter Steve O'Donoghue March 6-7. He focused on mentoring journalism advisers, censorship, and coverage. Other sessions expanded on camera technology led by Kevin Guernsey of Star Photo administrator/adviser relationships led by Randy Swikle, IJEA Director. Silent Auction earned over \$250 to support scholarships while donations for treats went to Student Press Law Center.

Fall Scholastic Journalism Conference Oct. 17 at held University of Wisconsin-Whitewater attracted 1,439, rebounding from last year's 1,258 due to a return to Friday format and completion of UW-W University Center construction. Students and 86 advisers, 16 non-members whom KEMPA will recruit, attended three sessions from 50 professional presenters representing newspapers, broadcast media, photography, communications and advertising as well as journalism educators. In the journalism evaluation/competition, five newspapers and six yearbooks achieved All-KEMPA rank, with 13 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. President John Culbertson and Executive Director Jan Kohls presented a commendation for the Wisconsin Photographers Bill of Rights to professional photojournalists Hank Koshollek and Doug Wojcik, co-authors. Contests in yearbook writing/design, newspaper writing, editorial and editorial cartoon drew 37 competitors. Awards followed the third session for publications and student competitors of the day. In spite of ever-increasing transportation costs, KEMPA Fall Conference is hugely successful.

AWARDS & HONORS

- JEA Lifetime Achievement-John Culbertson, Sun Prairie, Wis.
- JEA Friend of Scholastic Journalism-Rick Wood, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
- KEMPA Newspaper Adviser of the Year-Mike Doyle of Belvidere High School
- Yearbook Adviser of the Year-Tracy Brogelman of Grafton High School
- Outstanding Administrator Award-Nick Hughes, principal of Wauwatosa East
- Friend of KEMPA Award-Mara Lee Searing of UW-W
- Media Hall of Fame Award-Delia Chiapetta, operations manager of Kenosha News
- KEMPA Gebhardt summer workshop writing winner-Kaleigh K. Dunn of Lake Zurich's Bear Facts

FOR THE BOARD

JEA Wisconsin mentors Sandy Jacoby and Nancy Becker attended Wisconsin Newspaper Association Foundation meeting in Green Bay Jan. 29 to report on the mentor program. Each discussed mentees, their journalism programs and growth of adviser skills. WNAF funds mentor stipends.



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Wayna C. Polk

South Central Region 4 Director

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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 78 members in our state AJAA organization; 50 of those are in JEA. We have 152 different publication members in ASPA.

HAPPENINGS

The 2009 annual state convention will be held April 16 & 17, in Little Rock at the Arkansas State Convention Center. The Peabody will serve 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 2010 annual state convention will be held April 15 & 16, in Rogers at the John Q. Hammons convention center with Embassy Suites as the convention hotel. The convention is scheduled for Hot Springs in 2111.

Camp ASPA will held June 29-July 1, on the campus of Pulaski Tech in North Little Rock. See our website for more information.

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.arkansas-scholasticpress.org Several links are there for additional information.

AWARDS & HONORS

Stephanie Emerson, JEA State Director, and Allen Loibner, ASPA Director, both received their MJE. They will be recognized at the JEA/NSPA national convention in Phoenix in April.

Wynne High School's 2008 yearbook, the STINGER placed eighth (225-274 pg category), and Bryant High School's 2008 yearbook, the HORNET, placed ninth (325+ pg category) in Best in Show at the JEA/NSPA national convention in St. Louis in November.

NSPA named Bryant High School's 2008 yearbook the HORNET a Pacemaker Finalist—Alex Lankford, Veronica Grable, editors; Margaret Sorrows, adviser.



Susan Massy

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From Kansas State Director Susan Massy, CJE

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in both KSPA and JEA has dropped slightly over the past year. We will be working to address this in the coming months.

HAPPENINGS

Five regional journalism contests sponsored by the KSPA were held in Hays, Emporia, Wichita, Manhattan and Pittsburg in February. Students competed in more than 20 categories that covered many areas of journalistic endeavor. More than 1,100 entries from 118 high schools across the state have qualified for the state contest. On May 2, Kansas student journalists will meet in Lawrence to compete at the state level. The Kansas state contest is one of the few on-site competitions at the state level.

The Journalism Educators of Metropolitan Kansas City are a dual state organization of Kansas and Missouri advisers. This organization met recently for the annual adviser brunch which was held at Brio on the Plaza. This organization also sponsors an annual clips contest. Awards and scholarship winners will be announced in annual student clips contest in April: More than 20 schools from the metro area entered the contest, sending in clips from their current newspaper, yearbook and broadcasts. Awards and scholarship winners will be announced in late April.

Linda Puntney, JEA executive director, attended the JEMKC adviser brunch to kick-off the planning stages of the JEA Kansas City convention in November 2010. Kathy Hill Habiger of Mill Valley High School and Amy Morgan of Shawnee Mission West will be the co-chairs of the convention.

AWARDS & HONORS

We couldn't be prouder of these student journalists and advisers.

Congratulations to Linda Drake of Chase County High School who has been named the 2008 Yearbook Adviser of the Year. We can hardly

wait to be inspired by her speech at the Saturday luncheon in Phoenix!

Shawnee Mission East's newspaper editor, Stephen Nichols, has been named the Kansas High School Journalist of the Year. Harbinger assistant editors Paige Cornwell and Bernadette Meyers placed second and third in the competition. KSPA will award \$1,000 to Nichols. Cornwell and Meyers will receive \$500 and \$250 respectively. Shawnee Mission East's adviser is Dow Tate.

SM East is home to both Kansas Al Neuharth Free Spirit Scholars. Senior Stephen Nichols is editor of the Harbinger, SM East's student newspaper. Senior Paige Cornwell is the Harbinger's assistant editor. In March, Nichols and Cornwell will travel to the Newseum in Washington, D.C. to receive their awards, which include a scholarship, and to participate in a journalism conference. They are the third and fourth SM East journalists in three years to receive this honor.

Kansas scholastic publications continue to represent the state well at the national level.

Gold Crown:

- Hauberk yearbook, Shawnee Mission East, Dow Tate, adviser
- The Harbinger newspaper, Shawnee Mission East, Dow Tate, adviser

Silver Crown:

- Indian yearbook, Shawnee Mission North, Becky Tate, adviser
- ### Newspaper Pacemakers
- The Raven's Beak, Olathe Northwest H.S., Paul Restivo, adviser.
 - The Harbinger, Shawnee Mission East, Dow Tate, adviser

Yearbook Pacemaker Finalists

- The Indian, Shawnee Mission North, Becky Tate, adviser
- The JAG, Mill Valley High School, Kathy Habiger, adviser
- The Hauberk, Shawnee Mission East, Dow Tate, adviser
- The Lair, Shawnee Mission Northwest, Susan Massy, adviser
- The Eagle, Maize Middle School,

Digital Yearbook Pacemaker Finalists

- The Heritage, Shawnee Mission South
- The Lair, Shawnee Mission Northwest

Best of Show St. Louis

Newspapers 17+ pages:

2. The Harbinger, Shawnee Mission East, Dow Tate, adviser
- ### Newspaper Special Edition

1. The Northwest Passage, Shawnee Mission Northwest, Susan Massy, adviser

2. The Harbinger, Shawnee Mission East, C. Dow Tate, adviser
- ### Junior High Yearbook

1. Eagle, Maize South Middle School, Mary Patrick, adviser
- ### Yearbook 225-274

2. The JAG, Mill Valley HS, Kathy Hill Habiger, adviser
- ### Yearbook 325+

2. Hauberk, Shawnee Mission East, Dow Tate, adviser
3. Lair, Shawnee Mission Northwest, Susan Massy, adviser
7. Indian, Shawnee Mission North, Becky Tate, adviser

Literary Magazine

5. Penpoint, Shawnee Mission Northwest, Billy Dent, adviser
- ### Publication Website

5. The Harbinger, Shawnee Mission East, C. Dow Tate, adviser
- ### NSPA Story of the Year Competition

Editorial/Opinion

- Second Place – Adrienne Wood, The Harbinger, Shawnee Mission East
- ### JEA Write-off

- 36 Kansas student journalists placed

Special Announcement:

The Kansas Scholastic Press Association is pleased to welcome Jeff Browne, an adjunct professor at the Colorado State University Department of Journalism and Technical Communication, as the new director of the association. He also will serve as a lecturer in the School. Browne will assist with the University of Kansas School of Journalism's

nationally-known high school journalism summer camp, the Kansas Journalism Institute. He will begin his teaching duties in August. He has extensive experience in scholastic journalism, having served as executive director of the Colorado High School Press Association, director of student media and student media editorial adviser, all at Colorado State University. He also has worked as a sports reporter, columnist and copy editor at newspapers in Florida.

The current KSPA director for the School, John Hudnall, is stepping down this June from the position he has held for 19 years to continue teaching in the School of Journalism



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From Louisiana State Director Angela Watkins

No Report Submitted



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From Missouri State Director Nancy Freeman, MJE

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

MEMBERSHIP

JEA Membership—121 voting members as of March 9, 2008
Missouri Interscholastic Press Association—49 schools and 81 advisers (see attached sheet for officers)

JEMKC--67 teachers last year (see attached sheet for officers)
Sponsors of School Publications of Greater St. Louis—36 schools, 48 advisers (see attached sheet for officers)

HAPPENINGS

MIPA:

2008-09 has been a fairly good year for the Missouri Interscholastic Press Association.

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

Summer Media Workshop:

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

Missouri Urban Journalism Workshop formerly known as AHANA:

We continue to encourage MIPA member schools to have their best kids apply for MUJW. The 10-day intensive journalism like boot-camp is open to ALL high school students regardless of their ethnicity. It is open to all to apply. If selected, 16-20 students will work with students from around the country and journalists and educators on producing a publication for the daily Columbia Missourian. This year the focus will be the aftermath of the economy (bailout) and its effects on Boone County. Also, if an MIPA adviser wants to work side-by-side with our many national journalists, contact MUJW director, Anna Romero. MUJW 2009 is July 11-20.

OTHER MIPA STUFF:

Thanks to Aaron Manfull at Francis Howell North, we still have a 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.

JEMKC

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

SSP

We have 36 schools and 42 advisers as members. 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. We were the local committee for the JEA/NSPA St. Louis convention, and we felt as if we did a great job on everything in relation to that work. Because of the convention, we scaled back our local contests this year and only did overall newspaper and yearbook critiques and broadcast contests. We did, however still host our spring conference, which took place at Webster university on March 9. It featured 70 breakout sessions with local media professionals and senior write-off. Over 600 high school journalism students and 50 advisers attended. We presented our \$1000 Bruce Schneider scholarship at the end of the day along with our contest awards. It was quite a successful day.

We are getting ready to award scholarships for students and advisers

at our April meeting.

AWARDS & HONORS

2008 Yearbook Pacemaker Finalist:

Excalibur, Francis Howell North High School, St. Charles, MO

2008 Online Pacemaker Finalists:

FHNTODAY.com, Francis Howell North High School, St. Charles, MO

2009 Newspaper Crown Finalists:

Kirkwood Call, Kirkwood High School, Kirkwood, MO

North Star, Francis Howell North High School, St. Charles, MO

The Rock, Rock Bridge Senior High School, Columbia, MO

2008 Crown Finalist:

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



Joe Nations

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From Oklahoma State Director Joe Nations

No Report Submitted



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From Texas State Director Susan Duncan, MJE

MEMBERSHIP

The Texas Association of Journalism Educators is reaching out to new advisers through its regional workshops and convention, hoping to increase its membership both for state organizations and JEA. Our executive director sends out multiple membership reminders, and teachers can join several state and national organizations at once on the same

form. Because advisers must be members for students to compete in contests and for scholarships, some school districts are paying for teacher's memberships in these organizations. TAJE is also offering free first-year convention registration for new advisers.

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

HAPPENINGS

TAJE is hosting its state convention Oct. 25-27 at the Sheraton Gunter hotel in San Antonio. The convention will feature workshop sessions, write-off competitions, photography contests, carry-in contests, best of show contests and a keynote address on Monday.

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

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

The Texas JEA high school journalist of the year is Kendall D. Popelsky of Cypress Falls High School in Houston. Her adviser is Lisa Van Etta. After much deliberation, the judges chose Kendall Popelsky because her portfolio demonstrates a variety of skills which make her a multi-faceted journalist. She has compiled superior quality work over an extended period of time, and her JOY entry shows amazing depth for a high school journalist. Popelsky's ability to capture emotional moments in her photography shows an impressive eye for detail. In addition, the panel was impressed with her technical sophistication as a photographer, her engaging abilities as a writer, her cutting edge layout design and the depth of the work presented.

AWARDS & HONORS

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



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Brenda Gorsuch, MJE, Southeast Region 5 Director

In spite of the economic downturn, scholastic journalism remains strong in the Southeast. More than 500 students and advisers attended the Southern Interscholastic Press Association convention in early March, an increase from the previous year. Participants traveled from as far away as Texas and southern Florida. SIPA has initiated plans to help fund JEA mentors in Region 5 states. In the fall, North Carolina joined the JEA mentoring program with two mentors, Martha Rothwell and Kay Phillips. Rothwell's mentees attended the SIPA convention in March and plan to attend the JEA convention in Washington, D.C., in November.

We are very pleased that the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund recognized Susan Newell, MJE, from Northridge High School in Alabama and Renee Burke, MJE, from William Boone High School in Florida.

I recently attended the North Carolina Scholastic Media Association board meeting in Chapel Hill. I encouraged board members to renew their JEA memberships, and I detailed plans for a NCSMA bus trip to the November JEA/NSPA convention in Washington, D.C. I hope to fill a 55-passenger bus with N.C. scholastic journalists and advisers.

Those of us in Region 5 join Tennessee advisers in expressing our gratitude to HL Hall for his contributions to scholastic journalism across the Southeast.



Susan Goins Newell

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From Alabama State Director Susan Goins Newell, MJE

Alabama Scholastic Press Association (ASPA) has a new director: Meredith Cummings, who worked at The Tuscaloosa News before coming to ASPA. At the news, she wrote columns, editorials, news, and feature stories and was in charge of the teen section of the paper. Long time director Marie Parsons is serving as ASPA emeritus director. Jessie Patterson 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.

The Alabama Scholastic Press Association is now on Facebook. There's a new Alabama High School Media Facebook group open to all students who are interested in keeping in touch with other middle and high school journalists. 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.

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

The ASPA spring convention was held Feb. 13-14 in Tuscaloosa. Writers from The Tuscaloosa News, University of Alabama faculty members, and well-known national speakers (including Bruce Watterson and Beth Fitts) presented sessions. A number of hands-on computer sessions were taught including sessions on InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator and Web design.

Publication and individual awards were presented at the convention.

Four yearbooks received All Alabama, the highest rating: Bob Jones High School's Patriot, Northridge High School's blueprints, Oak Mountain High School's Paragon, and Pelham High School's Pinnacle.

Three newspapers won All Alabama: Oak Mountain Middle School's newspaper, Northridge High School's The Northridge Reporter, and Sparkman High School's Crimson Crier.

Five literary magazines won All Alabama: the Artisan from Briarwood Christian School, etc. from Clay-Chalkville H.S., Signatures from Florence High School, More than Words from Pelham High School, and Perspectives from Opelika High School.

A listing of all winners can be found at <http://www.aspa.ua.edu/>.

One teacher and four students won awards. Melissa Dixon of Oak Mountain High School was named Adviser of the Year.

Haley Herfurth of Sparkman High School won Alabama's Journalist of the Year award and a \$500 scholarship. She will compete in the JEA national contest. Erin Coggins is her adviser.

Aida Noriega-Toledo and Ciera Wade of Northridge High School won the Rick Bragg Award for Feature Writing and each won a \$500 scholarship. They were honored at a dinner with Rick Bragg and other journalists from the University of Alabama on March 5. Bragg is a Pulitzer Prize winning reporter who teaches at the University of Alabama. Wade also won the J.B. Stevenson Scholarship Award which included a \$2,500 scholarship. Susan Newell is Noreiga-Toledo's and Wade's adviser.

Olivia Christian of Huntsville High School won the Bailey Thomson Award for Editorial Writing and a \$500 scholarship. Neena Davis is her adviser.

The summer ASPA workshop (the long weekend) will be held June 12-14, 2009.

The U. of A. will hold a Multicultural Journalism Workshop June 12-21 that is by application only. It will be a 10-day intensive workshop that covers print, broadcast and Web journalism. Information can be found at <http://www.ccom.ua.edu:16080/mjw/workshop.html> or at The University of Alabama Journalism Department Box 870172 Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0172. The workshop is limited to 30 students.

ASPA Fall regionals will be held Sept. 14-16. Check the ASPA Web site <http://www.aspa.ua.edu/> to find out the exact date the fall workshop will be in your area and when spring convention will be held. The exact dates should be available in August.

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.

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

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

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

ASPA and the Southern Interscholastic Press Association (SIPA) are beginning to coordinate their conferences. Susan Newell is on the SIPA advisory board and ASPA director Meredith Cummings has become involved with the organization. Information about SIPA events can be found online at <http://www.sc.edu/cmciis/so/sipa/>. SIPA's spring convention is always in early March. Their summer workshop, CJI, will be June 10-14, 2009.

"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.



Judy Robinson

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From Florida State Director Judy Robinson, CJE

Florida, as with many states, is having struggles of economy this year. Currently the FSPA board is preparing for the 2009 State convention to be held in Tampa from April 16-18. Our numbers are down a little from the 1,000 attendees we had last year, and this is to be expected given the costs of travel for some of our schools.

FSPA's keynote speaker is Leonard Pitts, Pulitzer Prize winning columnist from the Miami Herald. We are pleased to have featured speaker Frank LoMonte, Esq., Executive Director from the Student Press Law Center, join us.

The organization will have elections for president and vice president this year. With continued attention on Florida Comprehensive Testing Dates and the impact these will have on future travel to conventions and workshops, Florida advisers are continuing to communicate across the state about concerns and strategies for the future.



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From Georgia State Director Joe Dennis

This report focuses on the activities of the Georgia Scholastic Press Association (GSPA), which I serve as director in my role as director of

diversity and high school outreach at the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication at The University of Georgia.

MEMBERSHIP

As of this writing, GSPA has 129 paid memberships, down from 144 memberships the previous year. This includes 10 broadcast news programs (decrease of five from last year), 18 literary magazines (decrease of two), 69 newspapers/newsmagazines (increase of one) and 32 yearbooks (decrease of nine).

PROGRAMS

- GSPA held a statewide conference in fall 2008. More than 500 students and advisers attended the conference. Frank Lomonte, director of the SPLC, served as the keynote speaker. Sixty workshop sessions were offered in newspaper, yearbook, broadcast and literary magazine. The conference kicked off with a live concert from a local R&B musician, followed by a live interview with a local entertainment journalist. Also at the conference: an on-the-spot photojournalism competition, a review writing contest, a first-issue carry-in competition and newspaper and literary magazine on-site critiques.

- GSPA held the Georgia Journalism Academy in summer 2008, a weeklong, residential journalism camp for high school students. Held at the University of Georgia, the Academy was attended by a record 73 students and offered courses in broadcasting, news writing, editorial writing, feature writing, photojournalism and graphic design. Journalism faculty and area media professionals taught the courses.

- GSPA is currently in the process of accepting entries for its 2008-09 Critique Service and General Excellence Competition. It is expected that we will receive more than 1,200 entries in 41 individual categories, as well as staff entries for broadcast, newspaper, literary magazine and yearbook. Awards will be distributed on May 1 at the GSPA Awards Ceremony, a luncheon banquet that last year was attended by roughly 500 students and teachers. The keynote speaker will be Julie Wolfe, a multi-platform reporter for WXIA-TV in Atlanta (11 Alive News).

JEA/NATIONAL INVOLVEMENT

- Due to budget constraints, I was unable to attend the fall convention in St. Louis. However, I did attend the Southern Interscholastic Press Association Conference in Columbia, S.C. and conducted a session on sports writing, served as an on-the-spot judge and moderated the Newspaper Writing, Editing and Design competition.

- We conducted the Georgia Champion Journalist Competition and received a record 11 entries. We will forward the top entry to JEA for the National Journalist of the Year Competition. Last year, the Georgia Champion Journalist (Caitlyn Van Orden) was named one of the national journalists of the year in JEA's competition.

- I presented my study, Prior Review in the High School Newspaper, at the AEJMC Conference in Chicago.



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From Mississippi State Director Beth Fitts, CJE

This reports details the activities of JEA as related to the activities of MSPA. JEA members are very involved in this local organization and serve as "key players" in state conventions, competition and workshops.

MEMBERSHIP

The Mississippi Scholastic Press Association continues to offer JEA with its MSPA membership application, encouraging advisers to become a part of this adviser-help group. This form and the promotion of JEA at state fall workshops and at spring conventions have helped to double membership in Mississippi JEA over the last two years.

PROGRAMS & PLANS

MSPA hosts the adviser workshop sponsored by the Mississippi Press Association. In that environment, advisers are introduced to JEA and learn the importance of a strong adviser base. Along with learning staff management, desktop publishing skills, design, writing and advertising information, the group forms a partnership with MPA and MSPA that will help them in their schools. MPA pays all expenses for these advisers to attend, especially seeking out new advisers who may lack knowledge and experience in the field of journalism.

MPA also provides scholarships from local newspapers that allow students to come to the student camp, run during the same time as the adviser camp. After the workshop, the newspapers then give the student(s) they sponsored two-week internships at their newspapers so that they many receive hands-on experience in the field.

In addition, MPA helps sponsor fall workshops and the spring convention, thereby helping to keep costs lower for the students to attend.

This MPA/MSPA partnership is one of the top strengths of Mississippi scholastic journalism. It is a constant source of encouragement to me, as the director, to know that we have such a strong alliance in our state.

Ole Miss is the site of the Dow Jones Student Workshop in Mississippi. This year's workshop will be June 21-16 at Ole Miss. Dow Jones offers scholarships to students who may not be financially able to pay the out-of-pocket cost for a summer workshop. Those students learn management, computer, writing and editing skills, and they publish a camp newspaper during the week.

MSPA sponsors two fall regional workshops that allow students and advisers to learn skills that will help their current publications. One workshop is in Oxford at The University of Mississippi. Students and advisers there are able to take a number of lab classes to strengthen their skills in photo editing and in desktop publishing/design. Of course, other classes in writing, advertising, design, broadcast, and editing are offered as well. The southern workshop was in Lucedale, Miss. near the coast. This year more than 400 students and advisers attended the events.

Competition and the spring convention bring participation from about 500, as we finish out the year with classes and labs to prepare students

for the coming year, to offer leadership information to seniors attending college next fall, and to present awards for competition. This year, MSPA has added carry-in competitions to the normal award base. Five general categories for entries are offered with multiple contests in each category. This type of competition should give yearbook and magazine staffs a chance to receive acclaim for their current publication, and extends newspapers, broadcast and on-line staff another month of editions past the normal February 15 competition deadline.

INVOLVEMENTS

As JEA director, I attended JEA sessions, critiqued, judged and presented sessions at the St. Louis convention. In addition, to teaching an advertising session, Buck Ryan from the University of Kentucky and I teamed to present an adviser session on using the Maestro Approach in the classroom.

I also attended the Southern Interscholastic Press Association convention in Columbia, SC. There Buck Ryan and I presented a pre-convention workshop on the Maestro to students and advisers. I also attend executive meetings and taught a two-day strand for new advisers.

I will also be attending the Phoenix convention, presenting (with Buck Ryan) an all-day Maestro session for advisers.



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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 and spring.

HAPPENINGS

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

North Carolina has joined the states participating in JEA's Mentoring Program. N.C. Scholastic Media Association is grateful to the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Journalism and Mass Communication for providing to NCSMA the \$10,000 required to participate in the program for two years. Kay Phillips, former NCSMA director, and Martha Rothwell,

former NCSMA board member, are currently serving as the state's two mentors. Both have already accompanied their mentees to NCSMA regional workshops.

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

NCSMA's fall regional workshops reached more than 1,200 students in six cities across the state. These six October events took place in the following cities: Asheville at University of North Carolina at Asheville; Boone at Appalachian State; Chapel Hill at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Greenville at East Carolina University; Charlotte in The Charlotte Observer building and Greensboro at North Carolina A&T State University.

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

NCSMA continues to offer summer graduate-level courses in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at UNC-Chapel Hill. The 2009 course will be "Desktop Publishing and Design in the Secondary School." Journalism fellowships funded by NCSMA and offered to in-state teachers are valued at \$1,230. These fellowships cover tuition, fees, books, lodging and parking.

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

AWARDS & HONORS

Nighthawk News newspaper of First Flight High in Kill Devil Hills was named a 2008 Pacemaker finalist by National Scholastic Press Association and a 2009 Crown finalist by Columbia Scholastic Press Association.

Westwind yearbook of West Henderson High in Hendersonville was named a 2009 Crown finalist by Columbia Scholastic Press Association.

West Henderson (Hendersonville) High School journalist Kesha Hudson was named the 2008 Rachel Rivers-Coffey North Carolina High School Journalist of the Year. Alternates were Mary Withers of Charles D. Owen High in Black Mountain and Zach Warhaver of First Flight High in Kill Devil Hills. The N. C. Press Association established the annual scholarship award and named it in honor of professional journalist and former NCPA president Rachel Rivers-Coffey, who was killed in a horseback riding accident. The 2009 winners will be announced March 26.

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

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

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

Brenda Gorsuch, adviser at West Henderson High, was re-elected to the board of Journalism Education Association. Monica Hill, director of N.C. Scholastic Media Association, was appointed to the board of National Scholastic Press Association and received the Distinguished Service Award from Southern Interscholastic Press Association.



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From South Carolina State Director Karen H. Flowers, CJE

MEMBERSHIP

Last year I reported "our membership seems to remain constant from year to year," but that is not true this year. We are down about 23. Some more will come in with the literary magazine and yearbook evaluations in June, but we will still be down.

The option of a three-year membership helps tremendously. When new advisers are hired/appointed, they often do not know about our organization, but they get information because the staff is still a member. Then they know to contact us and find out more.

Our SCSPA board decided to open membership to students, partly to raise money, and partly to give students a chance to benefit from our scholarships when an adviser does not want to join. We have 60 members this year. Students will benefit directly because when we lost the Journalist-of-the-Year funding, the board recommended these student membership fees fund our JOY award.

HAPPENINGS

CONFERENCES: Our fall conference was a big success, even though we were at the height of gasoline prices rising. Although the spring conference is always smaller, we hope the staffs that usually come can be there.

COMMUNICATION: Getting the word out about our services, activities, deadlines, etc. continues to be more of a challenge than ever before. We use our Web site, e-mail, snail mail, a printed calendar and even Facebook, but advisers continue to miss deadlines and don't follow directions. I think it all boils down to the fact that they are just overwhelmed.

CELEBRATIONS: We have formed a 75th anniversary committee to begin plans for the fall of 2011.

AWARDS & HONORS

These will be announced at our spring conference April 27 and results will be in the October report.



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At the fall National JEA convention in St. Louis, adviser/state director Denise Croker was awarded her CJE certificate at the Saturday luncheon.



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From Tennessee State Director Denise Croker

MEMBERSHIP

The number of Tennessee JEA members remains steady at 66.

HAPPENINGS

THSPA held its annual Awards Day March 2 at Vanderbilt University. Highlights:

- H.L. Hall stepped down as director, but not before offering himself as the keynote speaker (his presentation: "Make Every Word Count") and passing the torch to Dr. Jimmy McCollum, Director of Communications at David Lipscomb University.
- H.L. Hall was honored by Vanderbilt Communications and by area media advisers with gifts. Advisers who donated to the plaque, flowers, and gift certificates were the following: Deanne Carroll and Heather Yost of Christ Presbyterian Academy; Carolyn Woodward of Clark Range High School; Joy McCaleb of Upperman High School; Denise Croker and Katie Cowan of Harpeth Hall School; Teresa Lockhart of Coffee County High School; Jimmy McCollum of David Lipscomb University.
- Carolyn Woodward of Clark Range High School and Denise Croker of Harpeth Hall School presented speeches in HL's honor
- Several JEA friends of HL from across the nation contributed words in HL's honor, and their thoughts were compiled in packet for HL.
- Students from Harpeth Hall wore T-shirts with HL's image (see above) and the words "I'm an HL Hall Fan!" and "Be Alive, Awake, Alert, and Enthusiastic!"
- HL's grand finale of the awards ceremony included his rousing cheer "Shake a Pica, Shake a Pole."

Two Nashville universities will again offer their summer workshops in June: David Lipscomb University, which is affiliated with THSPA, and Belmont University.

AWARDS & HONORS

THSPA awarded hundreds of awards in 44 categories on Mar. 2.

Highlights of Awards

- Bonnie Hufford Outstanding Student Media Adviser
- Denise Croker, CJE, Harpeth Hall School (State Director)

Outstanding Student Journalist

- Cody Lewis, Unicoi County High School

Best Overall Newspaper: The Edge, Coffee County High School

Best Overall Yearbook: Lion's Roar, Christ Presbyterian Academy

Best Overall Literary Magazine: Engrava, Columbia Academy

Best Web Site: Panther Tales, Franklin Road Academy

Best Online Publication: Panther Tales, Franklin Road Academy

Mark Madison Best Television Station Award: Brentwood High School

Betsy Rau, CJE

Mid-Atlantic/Great Lakes Region 6 Director



Reginald Ragland

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From District of Columbia Director Reginald W. Ragland, CJE

Submitting the following semi-annual report in behalf of the Washington, D.C. chapter of JEA (DCJEA):

MEMBERSHIP

Membership outreach efforts have begun (March 1) using the fall 2009 D.C. Convention as an incentive and current members taking time from their schedules to chat up fellow media teachers and former members. Public and college libraries and local media organizations and local journalists are also being targeted for institutional and associate memberships, respectively, which are also being linked with encouraging their participation in the national convention. One new member has joined since last report; three memberships not renewed. Net total of -2 growth.

HAPPENINGS

UJW Partnership--DCJEA continued its annual partnership with the Urban Journalism Workshop, sponsored by the Washington Assn. of Black Journalists and the Washington Post, with in-kind sponsorship assistance provided by American University. This is the fifth official year of the partnership, which is gear towards helping professional journalists

who run the workshop relate their training with adolescents with educational standards, methodologies and resources used by local teachers.

Curriculum Development Plan--DCJEA is part of a new collaborative with DC Public Schools and the George Washington University to reconfigure the Districts Mass Media Program offerings, to include developing a broadcast television-specific curriculum through its Office of Career and Technical Education. This collaboration was spearheaded by Dorothy Gilliam a former Washington Post editor and columnist who has received JEA's 2007 Diversity Award and its Friend of Scholastic Media Award in 1998.

AWARDS & HONORS

None reported during this period.

FOR THE BOARD

Efforts toward promoting Scholastic Journalism Week should involve a national strategy that also includes the involvement of local/national media and other national/regional educational organizations such as NEA or AFT and NCTE and the like. A collection of successful outreach and project strategies should be updated and compiled for early dissemination to teachers with the start of a new elections term. Consider posting online the official national convention report following each convention or, at a minimum, adding the previous convention's report to the planning documents for the next planning committee.



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From Indiana State Director Nancy Hastings, MJE

Celebrating the First Amendment took over the Indiana State House in early March as Mary Beth Tinker urged students and advisers alike to take a stand for what they believe as the Indiana High School Press Association hosted its third First Amendment Symposium in Indianapolis. The once shy eighth grader who unknowingly gained fame through Tinker v Des Moines court case urged those in attendance to "speak up, shake things up and create change that makes the world a better place" as more than 300 attended the Celebrating Democracy Finding Voices celebration, coming on the heels of the 40th anniversary of the Tinker decision.

Hoping to bring students, administrators and advisers together to discuss the importance of the First Amendment and a free student press, the symposium also recognized several state winners. Indiana's Student Journalist of the Year Aliya Mood, a senior at Bloomington North High School, earned her peers' recognition and a scholarship from the Indiana High School Press Association. Aliya served in leadership roles in four publications at North. In addition, she has worked for WFIU public radio and the Association of College Unions

Lake Central High School in St. John, IN repeated as the David Adams First Amendment Project winner for their work in designing and promoting a First Amendment Awareness license plate. The students are finalizing gathering 600 signatures and fund raising for a required bond to cover the cost of the plates. Hopefully, once these two requirements are met, Indiana will add a First Amendment plate to its list of specialty plates.

Also in the "good news" category, the Indiana Department of Education is promoting a Journalism Career Pathway to help guide high school students in course selection to lead to a career in journalism. While Indiana has passed Journalism Standards for course work, advisers are still fighting for Core 40 Academic status to help with course enrollment. The Career Path is intended to give validity to journalism study as part of the requirements for Core 40 and the Academic Honors Diploma.

The Career Pathway brochure can be found on the IHSPA website: <http://ihspa.franklincollege.edu>.

The year started on a positive note at the fall state Indiana High School Press Association fall convention where Elizabeth Granger of Lawrence Central High School in Indianapolis earned the Ella Sengenberg Adviser of the Year recognition. Principals from Bloomington North HS and Lawrence North HS shared the Administrator of the Year honors for their support of high school journalism in their respective schools. Further work on journalism and mass media standards are on hold following the November election. The new Superintendent of Public Instruction cleaned house and our supporters were let go. Advisers and the IHSPA are unsure when attention will return to the push for Student Publication Standards.



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From Michigan State Director Brian Wilson

MEMBERSHIP

It seems as if Michigan's membership in JEA is holding fairly steady, despite current economic woes. And I believe that we will have several advisers and students at the Phoenix convention, which is good news. Typically Michigan schools focus almost entirely on the fall convention, so it'll be nice to see familiar in-state faces in a month.

HAPPENINGS

The inaugural Constitution Day seminar on the capitol steps was successful, and the MIPA board voted to hold it again in two years.

Advisers have been in discussions regarding how trimesters affect journalism programs, as more schools go to this scheduling format. Anecdotal evidence from Grand Haven and Dexter High Schools suggests that teachers are reacting positively. Both schools went to trimesters this year.

The student press rights bill introduced in the state House two years ago hasn't moved much, but Senator Switalski is planning to reintroduce it sometime soon. Essentially, the bill states that students, not administrators, are responsible for the content of their publications, and outlaws the practice of prior review. When the bill had been introduced in the Senate last year, but it never got out of committee talks.

MIPA will again be running a northern Michigan conference for advisers and students on May 14 in Traverse City. Response to this workshop last year was very positive, with many advisers asking for a return appearance. The original motivation for the conference was to reach more programs that aren't in the lower third of the state. Professional membership numbers suggest that many teachers north of, say, Mt. Pleasant, aren't being reached. Few journalism kids from the northern part of the state are able to make it south for workshops and conferences, and so MIPA is attempting to reach them instead.

AWARDS & HONORS

Three Michigan yearbooks were named Pacemaker finalists: Carlson High School, Fenton High School, and Inland Lakes High School.

Several Michigan schools are in the running for Gold Crowns: Cranbrook Kingswood for magazine; Utica, Portage Central, and H.H. Dow for newspaper; Fenton and Inland Lakes for yearbook.



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From Ohio State Director Georgia Dunn

MEMBERSHIP

JEA membership in Ohio remains the same; however, we hope to increase this fall when we will begin our new association with the Ohio High School Athletic Association.

HAPPENINGS

The Ohio Scholastic Media Association will hold its second statewide convention on April 3 and 4 at Kent State University. At that event, the state journalist of the year will be announced as well as the winners of individual contests and the overall ratings for newspapers and news-magazines. Individual contests include yearbook, newspaper, newsmagazine, and broadcast categories. In addition, day-of contest results will be announced.

Beginning in May, the Ohio High School Athletic Association will begin gathering the names of broadcast, yearbook, online, newsmagazine, and newspaper advisers from each of the high schools in the state. They will share that information with OSMA which will allow the state organization to have an accurate list of advisers for the very first time. We will use this information to disseminate information as well as recruitment of members for both OSMA and JEA. We are excited about

this new opportunity.

AWARDS & HONORS

Antoinette Taylor-Thomas of the Lancaster Eagle Gazette represented the Southwest Ohio region when she judged the journalist of the year portfolios for Ohio. The winner will be announced at the state convention in April.

FOR THE BOARD

I would like to suggest that the board consider creating a grant program that states could access to make major membership drives. When we receive the names of all of the advisers this fall, I would like to send a major mailing to each of them that would include brochures and information about JEA. This would be costly because it would require postage for over 1500 envelopes of information. We would only do this once; it would be a costly, but worthwhile, I believe, venture. Financial help from the national organization would help make this happen.



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From Kentucky State Director David Greer

MEMBERSHIP

The Kentucky High School Journalism Association has 103 member schools this year. That is down slightly from last year's 112 members. However, our contest entries — submitted by high school papers, yearbooks and broadcast programs — hit an all-time high this year with more than 2,600 entries. More than 70 percent of our member schools are sponsored in KHSJA by a local newspaper.

HAPPENINGS

KHSJA's annual convention is scheduled for April 14 and 15 in Louisville. Attendance typically runs from 700 to 800 students and advisers. At our upcoming convention, former AP Beirut bureau chief and longtime hostage Terry Anderson will be our keynote speaker. Maestro Concept creator Buck Ryan will be a convention presenter.

We did not have a candidate for JEA journalist of the year.

House Bill 43, known as the student journalist bill, was introduced in this year's state legislature. The bill's goal was to restore the rights of high school journalists to those prior to the Hazelwood court decision. It would have also protected high school journalism advisers from administrative retribution. However, several educational organizations in the state opposed the bill and convinced the chairman of the state House Education Committee not to give the bill a hearing. The bill was endorsed by the Kentucky Press Association, KHSJA's founding and parent organization. The bill's sponsor has said he will try again during the 2010 legislative session.

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From Maryland State Director Gary Clites, CJE
No Report Submitted



Fran Sharer

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From Virginia State Director Fran Sharer, CJE

MEMBERSHIP

In Virginia, probably as in most of the nation, our membership is down somewhat. At this time the numbers are not significant, so we hope this continues to be the case. In a number of instances, advisers are joining the state organization but not the national, and we are finding that principals are less likely to pay dues for their advisers.

HAPPENINGS

Our newsletter at some point in the near future will be on our website. This will save paper and the cost of postage. Several of our members are working on this project and updating the website itself.

A huge item on many of our plates is the Fall Conference in Washington, DC. A significant number of VAJTA members, as well as members from DC and Maryland, are working on various committees and meeting fairly often. We are looking forward to a very successful conference. Valerie Kibler, VAJTA State Director, is chairing the event and, we look forward to meeting advisers and students from all over the country. It is particularly exciting to be hosting in Washington, DC.

Ten of us are mentoring two each new advisers across the state. Next year we will continue to mentor these two, and we will add two more. All of the mentors are retired except for me, and I'm no longer in the classroom. I serve as the High School English Instructional Specialist for Virginia Beach City Public Schools. We are seeing many of these young people making wonderful strides with their publications.

AWARDS & HONORS

We had a number of excellent entrants in the Journalist of the Year Contest. The first place award went to Matthew Johnson from Oakton High School. Chad Rummel is his adviser; second place went to Katie Surratt from Harrisonburg High School. Valerie Kibler is her adviser.

And, third place went to Danny Yates from the Maggie H. Walker Magnet School in Richmond.

A number of our members have received national recognition including Sandy Woodcock and Alan Weintraut who received Pioneer Awards from NSPA.

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From Delaware State Director Monica D. T. Prouse
No Report Submitted



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From West Virginia State Director Ruby A. Dyer

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in JEA has remained steady though certainly less than we would like to see. Hopefully increased membership can be a goal we can attain in 2009-2010.

HAPPENINGS

Marshall University hosted the 82nd annual United High School Media (UHSM) convention Feb. 28. Approximately 100 area journalists attended. Students attended workshops on yearbook design, advertising sales and design, interviewing techniques, broadcasting, story ideas, photography and sports writing. Advisers met to discuss issues and concerns. They were given information about the Herb Block editorial cartoon contest and about a summer workshop for high school journalists at MU June 22-26. Students and advisers then participated in the Media Challenge, which was won by Cabell-Midland for the second straight year. Rebecca Tallent, journalism teacher at the University of Idaho, was the keynote speaker. The following publications, judged by Ben Winslow and the Deseret News staff won the following awards. The workshop was directed by journalism professor Sandy Savage York and graduate assistant Ryan Epling.

2009 United High School Media Award Winners

Best Newspaper Art

Division I

First- Shady Spring
Second- Wayne
Third- Braxton County

Division II

First- Parkersburg South
Second- Parkersburg
Third- Cabell Midland

Best Newspaper Design

Division I

First- Wayne
Second- Braxton County
Third- Shady Spring

Division II

First- Parkersburg South
Second- Cabell Midland
Third- Parkersburg

Best Feature/Special Events Pages

Division I

First- Shady Spring
Second- Braxton County
Third- Wayne

Division II

First- Parkersburg
Second- Parkersburg South
Third- Huntington

Best Editorial Pages

Division I

First- Braxton County
Second- Wayne
Third- Shady Spring

Division II

First- Parkersburg South
Second- Parkersburg

Best Sports Pages

Division I

First- Shady Spring
Second- Wayne
Third- Braxton County

Division II

First- Huntington
Second- Parkersburg
Third- Parkersburg South

Best News Pages

Division I

First- Shady Spring
Second- Wayne

Division II

First- Parkersburg South

Second- Parkersburg

Best In-depth Reporting

Division I

First- Wayne
Second- Braxton County
Third- Shady Spring

Division II

First- Cabell Midland

Best Original Newspaper Advertisements

Division I

First- Shady Spring
Second- Wayne
Third- Braxton County

Division II

First- Parkersburg South
Second- Huntington
Third- Cabell Midland

Best Newspaper Photography

Division I

First- Wayne
Second- Braxton County
Third- Shady Spring

Division II

First- Parkersburg South
Second- Cabell Midland

Best Overall Newspaper

Division I

First- "The Pioneer" Wayne
Second- "The Tiger Times" Shady Spring
Third- "The Braxton Banner" Braxton County

Division II

First- "Continental Clarion" Parkersburg South
Second- "Journal" Parkersburg
Third- "The Medieval Times" Cabell Midland

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Best Editorial Writing

First- Casey Shreve, Wayne
Second- Olivia Carroll-Hefner, Parkersburg
Third- Katie Hamer, Huntington

Best Feature Writing

First- Casey Shreve, Wayne
Second- Jenny Long, Shady Spring
Third- Emily Damron, Huntington

Best News Writing

First- Zack Waddell, Shady Spring
Second- Ashley Clemens, Shady Spring
Third- Jenny Long, Shady Spring

Best Sports Writing

First- Nikki Dotson, Wayne
Second- Brad Jenkins, Cabell Midland

Third- Tabytha Bills, Wayne

Best Column Writing

First- Drew Thomas, Shady Spring

Second- Alle Settle, Parkersburg

Third (tie)- Megan Russell, Wayne; Ryan Skidmore, Braxton County

Best Feature Photo

First- Olivia Carroll-Hefner, Parkersburg

Second- Casey Shreve, Wayne

Best Informational Graphic

First- Jenny Long, Shady Spring

Second- Casey Shreve, Wayne

Third- Joshua Paul Adams, Parkersburg

YEARBOOK

Best Yearbook Graphics

Division I

First- Parkersburg Catholic

Second- Wayne

Third- St. Marys

Division II

First- Parkersburg South

Second- Morgantown

Third- Parkersburg

Best Yearbook Cover

Division I

First- Wayne

Second- Braxton County

Third- Parkersburg Catholic

Division II

First- Huntington

Second- Parkersburg South

Third- Parkersburg

Best Yearbook Design

Division I

First- Shady Spring

Second- Wayne

Third- Braxton County

Division II

First- Parkersburg South

Second- Morgantown

Third- Cabell Midland

Best Yearbook Copywriting

Division I

First- Wayne

Second- Braxton County

Third- Shady Spring

Division II

First- Parkersburg South

Second- Huntington

Third- Morgantown

Best Yearbook Original Advertisements

Division I

First- Wayne

Second- Braxton County

Third- St. Marys

Division II

First- Cabell Midland

Second- Parkersburg South

Best Yearbook Theme

Division I

First- Wayne

Second- Shady Spring

Third- Braxton County

Division II

First- Huntington

Second- Parkersburg South

Third- Cabell Midland

Best Yearbook Photography

Division I

First- Shady Spring

Second- Braxton County

Third- Wayne

Division II

First- Parkersburg South

Second- Morgantown

Third- Cabell Midland

Best Yearbook Division Pages

Division I

First- Braxton County

Second- Shady Spring

Third- Wayne

Division II

First- Parkersburg South

Second- Parkersburg

Third- Huntington

Best Overall Yearbook

Division I

First- Wayne

Second- Braxton County

Third- Shady Spring

Division II

First- Parkersburg South

Second- Huntington

Third- Morgantown

Cash Contest

Wayne High School

SOJMC Alumni Association Scholarship

Casey Shreve, Wayne High School

West Virginia University hosted the West Virginia University Perley Isaac Reed School of Journalism High School Journalism Workshop

March 6. The format of the workshop changed from on-the-spot contests to informative, hands-on sessions. Workshops were offered in advertising, broadcast news, news writing, photojournalism, sports writing, feature writing, Final Cut Pro, newspaper layout and design, opinion writing, feature layout and design and feature writing. An awards banquet followed at the Hotel Morgan that evening where the following students were announced as winners. Journalism professor Gina Martino Dahlia served as workshop director.

HSJC 2009 WINNERS

Feature Writing

Division I

- 1st Place: Spencer Varadi – Greater Latrobe Senior H.S.
- 2nd Place: Lauren Redding – Middletown H.S.
- 3rd Place: Allegra Settle – Parkersburg H.S.

Division II

- 1st Place: Bryan Bumgardner – Bridgeport H.S.
- 2nd Place: Madison Bowles – Shady Spring H.S.
- 3rd Place: Dustin Shreve – Wayne H.S.

News Writing

Division I

- 1st Place: Lauren Redding - Middletown H.S.
- 2nd Place: Maegan Clearwood - Middletown H.S.
- 3rd Place: Nick Gyongyosi - Parkersburg H.S.

Division II

- 1st Place: Maryl Lambros – Wayne H.S.
- 2nd Place: Sarah Ferguson – Shady Spring H.S.
- 3rd Place: Lincoln Sklar – Bridgeport H.S.

Newspaper Layout & Design

Division I

- 1st Place: Joshua Adams – Parkersburg H.S.
- 2nd Place: Dylan Reeder – Parkersburg H.S.

Division II

- 1st Place: Casey Shreve – Wayne H.S.
- 2nd Place: Tabytha Bills – Wayne H.S.
- 3rd Place: Katie Rollins – Braxton County H.S.

Feature Layout & Design

Division I

- 1st Place: Olivia Hefner – Parkersburg H.S.

Division II

- 1st Place: Nathan Alexander Ward – Mingo Career & Tech Center
- 2nd Place: Maria Sellas – Bridgeport H.S.
- 3rd Place: Kristen Stephens – Wayne H.S.

Sports Writing

Division I

- 1st Place: Olivia Hefner – Parkersburg H.S.
- 2nd Place: Julia DeFabo - Greater Latrobe H.S.

Division II

- 1st Place: Tabytha Bills – Wayne H.S.
- 2nd Place: Stephen Stout – Bridgeport H.S.
- 3rd Place: Michael Carvelli – Robert C. Byrd H.S.

Advertising

Division I & II

- 1st Place: Sarah Rhodes – Mingo Career & Tech Center
- 2nd Place: Katie Warne – Robert C. Byrd H.S.
- 3rd Place: Maria Sellas – Bridgeport H.S.

Critical Review

Division I

- 1st Place: Olivia Hefner – Parkersburg H.S.
- 2nd Place: Sean Raleigh – Middletown H.S.
- 3rd Place: Chloe Wertz – Greater Latrobe Senior H.S.

Division II

- 1st Place: Brian Bumgardner – Bridgeport H.S.
- 2nd Place: Lincoln Sklar – Bridgeport H.S.
- 3rd Place: Kaylee Hall – St. Mary's H.S.

Opinion/Editorial Writing

Division I

- 1st Place: Maegan Clearwood – Middletown H.S.
- 2nd Place: Preston Frey – Middletown H.S.
- 3rd Place: Kevin Parker – Middletown H.S.

Division II

- 1st Place: Montana Goehring – Waynesburg Central H.S.
- 2nd Place: Casey Danielle Shreve – Wayne H.S.
- 3rd Place: Zach Waddell – Shady Spring H.S.

Broadcast News

Division I

- 1st Place: Kaitlin Zurawsky – Greater Latrobe H.S.

Division II

- 1st Place: Jeff Sim – Annville-Cleona H.S.
- 2nd Place: Michael Workman – Bridgeport H.S.
- 3rd Place: Katie Snyder – Webster County H.S.

Marshall University will sponsor a high school journalism workshop June 22-26. The application deadline is April 10. Those applying must have at least a "B" average, a letter of recommendation, parental permission, an essay explaining their interest in journalism and samples of their work. Participants will live on campus in a dormitory, work with top-of-the-line equipment and will study layout, design, copy editing, reporting and much more. The workshop is being funded by The Herald-Dispatch (Huntington, WV) and directed by journalism professor Burnis Morris. More information can be obtained from Morris at morrisb@marshall.edu.

AWARDS & HONORS

(See lists above for UHSM and WVU winners.)

Casey Shreve, a senior at Wayne High School, and Robbie Netz, a senior at East Fairmont High School, have been named Free Spirit scholarship winners. They will be in Washington, D.C. March 14-19, participating in a variety of journalistic activities.

Shreve was also named the Most Promising Student Journalist at the United High School Media convention and received a \$500 scholarship from the Journalism Alumni Association. She has also been named the JEA High School Journalist of the Year for West Virginia. She is editor-in-chief of The Pioneer newspaper.

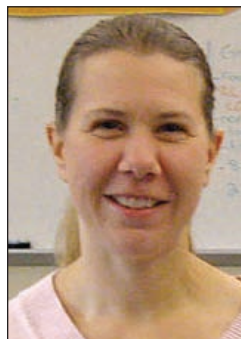


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state in scholastic journalism (GSSPA has over 100 members). Many of the 42 JEA members have been recruited from GSSPA via the scheme involving monies from JEA returning to GSSPA for dual membership. Susan provides JEA materials, including membership pamphlets and bookstore catalogs, each fall and spring conference. Also this past year, three GSSPA board members -- Stephen Chiger, Susan Everett and Ron Bonadonna — received recognition awards from JEA.



Wanda Pletcher

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New Hampshire State Director Eileen Regen, CJE
No Report Submitted

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 website. Membership forms were distributed to all attendees at the PSPA state convention. The benefits of JEA membership were discussed at the PSPA convention adviser's breakfast and also at the awards ceremonies.

HAPPENINGS

PSPA hosted the state annual convention in State College, PA March 12 and 13. PSPA also hosted a regional Philadelphia event. New PSPA officers were elected including Bob Hanks as president and Mike McVitty as Vice president. PA applied for a mentoring grant and has had two teachers apply for the mentor program. These two teachers are Kathy Zwiebel and Janice Hatfield. Wanda Pletcher will be in attendance at the JEA Phoenix convention. The PSPA website continues to grow. The editorial cartoon contest has been promoted on the website and also through member email.

AWARDS & HONORS

Henry Rome of Conestoga High School was named Pennsylvania Student Journalist of the Year on March 12. Aleah Goldin was second place and Taylor Bundy was third place. Six students prepared and submitted portfolios to be judged. All of the students at the awards banquet learned about the application process and were encouraged to submit portfolios during their senior year. This will be the first year in several years that PA has a candidate. The website promotion and email request seems to have been successful. Stacey Anderton was named Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year on March 12."



Susan Everett

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From New Jersey State Director Susan Everett, MJE

Susan Everett reports that New Jersey, once again, will have a JOY candidate. The young lady is from Communications High School in Wall Township, a student of Andi Mulshine, vice-president of the Garden State Scholastic Press Association. Our membership number is approximately 42, a fair representation from a small but very active



Stacey Wilkins

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From Connecticut State Director Stacey Wilkins, CJE

MEMBERSHIP

The Connecticut chapter is currently compiling a list of each school and journalism faculty contact person throughout the state to create a database to begin a recruitment drive to increase membership. There are currently five member schools located in Darien, Farmington, Kent, Ledyard, and Litchfield. A goal is to build membership and create a Connecticut chapter JEA Web site to link members and showcase student publications.

HAPPENINGS

Stacey Wilkins was named the Connecticut State Director in January. She succeeds Alena Cybart of Kennedy High School in Waterbury. Wilkins worked as a journalist for 17 years at leading news organizations including CNN and Fox News Channel both in the United States and throughout Asia. To read more about Wilkins's JEA director plans go to [HYPERLINK "http://darienps.org/neirad/0902stacey.php"](http://darienps.org/neirad/0902stacey.php) <http://darienps.org/neirad/0902stacey.php>

Wilkins attended the JEA St Louis convention in November where she presented a workshop on interviewing skills called "The Perfect Question."

AWARDS & HONORS

Connecticut is proud to have students once again participating in the SJOY contest. Kimberly Michels, Neirad Co-Editor-in-Chief from Darien High School was named 2009 SJOY for newspaper and Leah Pemberton, Horizons editor from Ledyard High School was named yearbook editor of the year for Connecticut. Another state goal is to have a Connecticut student for the first time in state history win the National High School Journalist of the Year award."

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From Maine State Director Dawn Pendergrass

No Report Submitted

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From Massachusetts State Director Brian Baron

No Report Submitted



Sherri Taylor

Sherri Taylor

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From New York State Director Sherri Taylor

No Report Submitted



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From Rhode Island State Director Elizabeth Martin

No Report Submitted



Nancy Olson

Nancy A. Olson, CJE

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From Vermont State Director Nancy Olson

No Report Submitted