



Journalism Education Association

Semiannual Report | Spring 2012

Winter/Spring Highlights



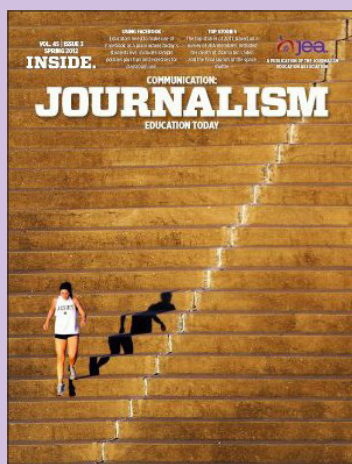
new look online at www.jea.org



#SJW2012 "Do something!"



j Scholarship



Spring 2012 C:JET



JEA-SPRC Panic Button
for reporting censorship



<http://www.facebook.com/journalismeducation>



Kelly Furnas

Kelly Furnas, CJE

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Membership: As promotional memberships have begun to expire, we have seen a drop in membership across all regions, with the exception of a small increase from non-U.S. members. Voting membership now stands at 2,356, down from 2,570 at this point last year. Of the 370 promotional members whose membership has come due, 62 (17 percent) have renewed at the second-year discount rate of \$25. Overall, our highest concentration of members are in the South Central region (541 members) and Southwest region (429 members). Texas (239 members) and California (231 members) boast the highest number of members among individual states.

Happenings:

- Dec. 14-16: Association Forum of Chicagoland Holiday Showcase, Chicago
- Jan. 8-10: Yearbook Adviser of the Year presentation, Columbus, Ind.
- Jan. 20-22: Planning meeting for 2012 Spring National JEA NSPA Convention, Seattle
- Feb. 3-5: Planning meeting for 2013 Spring National JEA/NSPA Convention, San Francisco
- Feb. 16-19: Executive committee meeting, Denver

For the board: The most visible transition to come from headquarters has been the launch of our new website. While it is perpetually a work in progress, the new content management system does allow changes to be made faster than our previous system. Headquarters would like to thank Aaron Manfull, Mark Murray, Mark Newton, Sarah Nichols and Bradley Wilson for their advice, guidance and insight during the relaunch process.

Financially near the end of the third quarter we have fiscal year-to-date income of \$549,177 (50 percent of our budget) and expenses of \$556,932 (51 percent of our budget), for a net loss to date of -\$7,754.



Mark Newton

Mark Newton, MJE

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Thanks for all you do to support our members! During the past few months I've been able to connect with many of you while working on a variety of projects, including research and progress on items such as Common Core and P21, Advisers Institute, Cover It Live chats for our members, working with Kelly and the Executive Committee on the budget and sharing ideas about conventions and outreach with NSPA. I also had a chance to connect with advisers March 2-3 for the KEMPA Winter Retreat at Grand Geneva.



Sarah Nichols

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Vice President

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The past few months have been filled with exciting developments. Since my last report, I've had the opportunity to support JEA in a variety of ways, some of which include

- Working with Georgia Dunn, Beth Fitts and Linda Ballew to create a state director guide, which outlines all aspects of the state director role and provides strategies and suggestions for how state directors can serve JEA. I'd like to thank Cheryl Pell for volunteering to serve as the guidebook's designer.
- Attending the SPRC retreat and working with a small team to create a series of steps for reporting censorship through the Panic Button feature, including a plan for the role of state directors.
- Studying materials about Common Core State Standards and Partnership for 21st Century Skills and meeting with educational leaders to document how journalism education aligns to these
- Conducting a Cover It Live session with regional directors about membership and JEA programming.
- Expanding JEA's online presence with a new Facebook page.
- Connecting state directors to information about the Journalist of the Year content and helping coordinate entries
- Serving on committees (magazine, website, Advisers Institute) to share ideas and enhance JEA programs.
- Working with other Executive Committee members to review and revise the budget, plan for the Advisers Institute and complete other tasks.

For the board: I appreciate each of you and all you do.



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Lori Oglesbee-Petter, MJE

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JEA Awards Committee update from Connie Fulkerson:

JEA headquarters is using a new vendor for awards since the previous one didn't have the equipment to do the color we needed for the new logo. Our Web designer is working to update the award applications to include the new logo.

We're trying to save money in copying and postage by scanning the awards and emailing them or sending a disk with the awards entries on them to the judges. For the Impact Award, we posted students' video and audio files on a password-protected area of the JEA website. This seemed to work well for the judges. We will continue to streamline this process.

Spring 2012 Awards (to be presented in Seattle):

2011 National Yearbook Adviser of the Year

Kim Green, MJE, Columbus (Ind.) North High School

2011 Distinguished Yearbook Advisers

Lizabeth Walsh, MJE, Reno (Nev.) High School

Brian Wilson, CJE, Waterford (Mich.) Kettering High School

2011 Special Recognition Yearbook Advisers

Michael Simons, CJE, West High School, Painted Post, N.Y.

Eric Thomas, MJE, St. Teresa's Academy, Kansas City, Mo.

Linda S. Puntney Teacher Inspiration Award

Brian Hayes, MJE, Ball State University, Muncie, Ind.

Rising Stars

Jody Evans, Hillcrest High School, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Heather Hanks, CJE, Bloomingdale High School, Valrico, Fla.

Stephanie Keagle, CJE, Auburn (Wash.) Mountainview High School

Evelyn Lauer, CJE, Niles West High School, Skokie, Ill.

Beth Phillips, Francis Howell North High School, St. Charles, Mo.

Mary Seal, Taylorsville (Utah) High School

Timothy Yorke, Heritage High School, Leesburg, Va.

Jessica Young, CJE, Orange Glen High School, Escondido, Calif

Diversity Award

Arrow newsmagazine, Queenelle Gazmen, editor; Derek Smith, adviser, Renton (Wash.) High School

Diversity Award Runner-up

J Camp sponsored by Asian American Journalists Association

To be announced in Seattle (not yet decided at the spring report deadline): First Amendment Press Freedom Award, National High School Journalist of the Year/Sister Rita Jeanne Scholarships, Aspiring Young Journalist, Student Journalist Impact Award. There were no Cornerstone applicants so that award will not be presented this year.

JEA Commission Chairs



Kim Green

Kim Green, MJE

Certification Commission Chair

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We completed the following projects:

- Create and present in Seattle a “Get Certified” session for MJE

The following projects are in progress:

- Create three versions of the MJE exam, update the application, finalize project guide/rubric.
- Develop additional version(s) of the CJE exam.
- Write and publish a series of articles for C:JET on “What’s Next” initiative.
- A partnership with the Poynter Institute and NewsU to develop future online courses for CJE and MJE certification options. First meeting with Wendy Wallace took place in Minneapolis.

Our next action items are:

- Aligning Certification initiatives with other JEA commissions, committees, initiatives.
- Identifying more coursework/professional development that will help members complete the three required courses for CJE-Option A (news writing/reporting, media law and advising student media).
- Exploring using JEA Certification for state-approved certification in journalism. UPDATE: Keeping tabs on a letter sent to the state department of education in Kansas asking that CJE and MJE certification fulfill the state’s journalism teaching certification as there is no PRAXIS test teachers may take.
- Post on the JEA website the fact that graduate credit from Kansas State can be earned for acquiring MJE status (project, exam, etc.).

We are exploring the following and welcome all comments:

- Post on the JEA website a database of all MJE projects.

Nearly all JEA board members are in the MJE pipeline. We will once again offer a special testing session for board members on Wednesday evening in Seattle.



Tom Gayda

Tom Gayda, MJE

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Since my last report I am happy to share some successes and some areas that need continued attention on my part as a commission chair.

Successes include sharing materials with several advisers who made requests for different curriculum needs. I also had what I considered a productive commission meeting in Minneapolis.

Continued attention needs to be paid to how I can engage better with the commission and how to get a back-and-forth discussion going among members when we are not face-to-face. With a commission full of hardworking, dedicated folks it can be hard to add one more thing to their plate, so I am working on what can happen as to not overwhelm anyone.

This summer I look to roll out several new curriculum pieces for the JEA website. I think that soon we can offer even more content online for advisers to use in their daily lessons.

Outside of the commission I have actively engaged in promoting j so it becomes an exciting, unique opportunity for student journalists. Seattle will launch what I consider phase two of the promotion, so hopefully we continue to see membership grow and find ways to offer j members cool opportunities for their \$10.

I am very excited about where both of these projects can be headed once we have everyone on the same page. I enjoy the curriculum side because I love to share, and the j side because I think we all need to remember from time to time that this is about the kids.



Anita Wertz

Anita Wertz, MJE

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Membership: Junior high and middle school adviser membership shows an increase. Multiple queries through the member directory on-line yields 80 email addresses for middle level advisers. Exact numbers are difficult to determine, as not all junior high/middle schools contain the words junior high or middle school in the name. A box for members to check grade level might help this query.

Happenings: A live chat using Cover It Live took place Feb. 20. Participation was small, although an email reminder was sent to members. Future chats will be planned. One question from the chat was about support from JEA for curriculum. Members were directed to the Curriculum Commission and the JEA website.

For the board: The commission continues to explore with the Write-off Committee ways to increase the involvement of junior high/middle school students in the Write-off contests. The JEA Junior High/Middle School Mail-in Contest contest continues to showcase great work from junior high/middle school students across the country. The Mail-in contest is held twice a year. All information is available at www.jea.org.

Aspiring Young Journalist Award: Portfolios for the annual Aspiring Young Journalist Award are arriving in time for the March 15 deadline. The winners will be announced at the Sunday JEA Awards ceremony in Seattle.



Norma Kneese

Norma Kneese, MJE
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Mary Barron-Traut was the Outreach Academy Chair for the Minneapolis Outreach Academy. There were 10 participants. A new model was implemented to hold the Outreach Academies during the summer before the fall and spring conventions. During the Minneapolis convention, a final wrap was held for those who attended during the summer.

Kathy Schrier was the Outreach Academy Chair for the Seattle Outreach Academy. There were 11 participants at the Seattle Academy. A final wrap for the Seattle Outreach Academy will be held at the Seattle convention.

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

Ben Rosales is the Outreach Academy Chair for the San Antonio Outreach Academy. The summer Outreach Academy for San Antonio is scheduled for June 14-16. Steve O'Donoghue will chair the San Francisco Outreach Academy. The San Francisco Outreach Academy is scheduled for June 18-20.

The JEA Executive Board, Multicultural Commission Chair, and the Outreach Teacher Cadre have discussed revamping of the Outreach Academy. Due to budget constraints, the restructuring of the Outreach Academy will be discussed at the board meeting in Seattle.

There were two applicants for the Diversity Award. The Arrow Newsmagazine of Renton High School, Renton, Washington was chosen to receive the Diversity Award. J Camp sponsored by AAJA of San Francisco, California was given Honorable Mention. Both groups will be presented their awards at the Saturday luncheon at the JEA Convention in Seattle.

At the Multicultural Commission meeting at the Minneapolis convention, Scott Winter, Assistant Professor, College of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln presented the Native Daughters publication and curriculum developed by the University of Nebraska. This publication featured prominent Native American women.

Kate Klonowski gave an update on the Urban Scholastic Media

Initiative she is piloting in the Cleveland, Ohio area. This initiative attempts to offer a scholastic media course an elective, design and create school media (ex. newspaper, news magazine, yearbook, online, broadcast, etc.), and partner with another scholastic media program outside of the city (partner school) which has a current scholastic media program to create a joint online publication.

Two issue seminars at the Minneapolis Convention focused on diversity issues. "The changing face of your community" focused on the diversity of school populations and communities, and how staffs need to tell their stories. Another issue seminar was "Giving serious attention to GSAs." This seminar discussed the Gay-Straight Alliances and how this social issue can be covered in the school media.

Two other sessions on the topic of diversity were given by Anthony Whitten and Stan Zoller. These sessions focused on staff diversity and diversity coverage in the media.



John Bowen

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Our mission and goals – a work in progress

Journalism education seems to be shifting, or at least many people's impressions of it are. We may have new technologies, but the legal and ethical processes we work with and teach have not really changed. What new issues have developed need our attention as much as the legacy materials we will always teach.

We decided we needed to establish long-term goals to fit the commission's mission. These long-term goals will provide the framework for short-term goals and projects we have traditionally worked on. We are making a special outreach to include scholastic journalism's use of new media tools under our umbrella and news ways to educate students and advisers about them. We will try to remember, though, that many of the developing ideas involve changes in tools, not in philosophical, legal or ethical principles.

Our projects have, and will, fit into our mission – educate, advocate and empower. Here are our updated Mission, Vision and Values statements:

SPRC Mission statement

Our mission is threefold:

- To educate school and non-school communities about how the substance and spirit of First Amendment protections support free and journalistically responsible student news media in their role in 21st-century learning and civic engagement.
- To advocate for student news media that demonstrate free expression and journalistic responsibility, enhance student decision-making and protect proponents of a free student media in their pursuit of high standards of journalism.
- To empower student journalists to exercise First Amendment rights and responsibilities and engage in ethical decision making

through accurate, credible, verifiable and thorough journalism. Student journalists and the communities they serve thus benefit.

- **SPRC Vision statement:**

JEA's Scholastic Press Rights Commission envisions school communities – those who participate in student media and those who do not – who understand and produce free and journalistically responsible student media that demonstrate the strength of our democratic heritage and its future.

- **SPRC Values statement:**

The Scholastic Press Rights commission values the First Amendment as a pillar of democracy. We commit our efforts to support educators who work with student journalists and help them engage in exemplary journalistic ethics, demonstrate critical thinking and decision-making skills and protect diverse viewpoints as they produce free and responsible news media.

To do that, we sought ideas for long- and short-term goals and projects to implement them. Soon, we will vote as a commission on which ones are a priority and begin to develop teams to create materials to complete the goals. The discussion process has been a lively one considering the range of views and approaches that exist among our members. Some issues raised simply are outside our ability to accomplish without a long period of time and significant funding. Our goal will be to accomplish as many as we can and possibly expand our vision to find funding for the larger, philosophical goals.

Under discussion: Mission and goals

Educate:

Long-term goals

- To demonstrate that the designated public forum approach to student media is the best educational model for overall improved student critical thinking, analytical thinking and civic engagement.
- To replicate national studies like Captive Voices and Death by Cheeseburger to identify the State of Scholastic Journalism and the State of Scholastic Journalism's Press Rights.
- To promote and expand the appreciation of the substance and spirit of the First Amendment in American's schools, especially as it applies to student media.
- Creation of a series of two-minute (roughly) pieces (video or multimedia) on legal and ethical issues to build a library teachers can use to supplement longer and more thorough print pieces. Focus could be on how to teach.
- Creative ways to explain important legal and ethical issues using multimedia. Example: visual piece on copyright to go with detailed, more lengthy explanations.

Short-term goals

- Provide advisers with updated and comprehensive legal and ethical teaching materials so they can better educate their students and communities.
- Conduct research on the status of scholastic journalism in these areas:
 - Forum status of student media
 - Prior review and restraint
 - Needs of advisers to enhance their programs
 - The attitudes, awareness and alignment of journalism stakeholders

on First Amendment issues in scholastic journalism.

- Content of scholastic media programs around the country

- To showcase Best Practices where prior review and restraint are replaced by student decision making of all content decisions and implementation of designated public forums.
- To publish a series of Talking Points examining Best Practices and issues facing the educational community in any particular time period (year or month). This could go beyond scholastic press rights.
- To prepare a series of webinars/Cover It Live sessions on law/ethics and other commission-associated issues.
- To prepare information and activities that are easily accessible to stakeholders using new media formats.
- To prepare a Talking Points/White Paper to help commercial journalists better understand the diversity that is scholastic journalism and the issues it faces.

Advocate:

Long-term goals

- To showcase scholastic journalism and free and responsible student media as Best Practices and models of 21st century learning as well as the best predictors of the civic engagement and mission of public education.
- To market a program to demonstrate to school and community officials that their educational system is enhanced by having a free and responsible student journalism curriculum and production programs free of prior review and restraint.
- To seek consensus among stakeholders of the importance of a free and responsible student media in America's educational system.
- To enlist stakeholders to empower journalism education as a preserver and enhancer of democracy.
- Create and maintain more outreach with national organizations to support free press laws, etc.
- Selection of high profile spokesperson(s) to do two minute spots on a variety of journalistic issues

Short-term goals

- To update and expand Quill and Scroll's Principal's Guide perhaps creating parallels with McCormick's Protocol.
- To maintain an active blog, web and social media presence with timely articles, posts and learning materials by a majority of the commissioners.
- To develop a principal's training program (that could be accessible online) to build relationships with administrators and to show them the potential and importance of scholastic journalism.
- To develop a plan to model the McCormick Foundation's Protocol for Free & Responsible Student News Media, and thus inspire school media programs to adapt it to suit their needs.
- Promote and market recently created (and soon-to-be created) ethical guidelines on yearbook, online and visual journalism

Empower:

Long-term goals

- To develop and update curriculum and other educational materials to improve the state of scholastic journalism and press rights and responsibilities.
- To expand awareness about the importance of state legislation to protect student expression, and assemble support materials for those desiring to pass free expression legislation in states

- To create methods for preserving and protecting journalism programs and assisting those facing censorship through which they can receive information and support.
- To empower students, teachers, parents and others to make a difference when working to improve scholastic journalism and its impact.

Short-term goals

- To enhance the use of ethical guidelines in all forms of scholastic media and provide teaching and advising materials to enable these guidelines.
- To publish a Talking Points package of information about scholastic media so commercial journalists better understand, and can better report, its roles, issues and successes.
- To regularly meet in retreats, or in small teams, to complete commission goals or plan activities.
- To maintain and expand the commission's involvement with 45words as examples of involved and caring student journalism.

It is – and has been – a democratic process with many expressing a real diverse range of views and ideas being discarded, clarified or amended. I like to think JEA is better off for this process. Find our long- and short-term goals, and mission, here.

Short-term goal accomplishments:

- Assisted members with legal and ethical issues and teaching activities as needed
- Development of Online Ethical Guidelines.
- Development of Ethical Guidelines for Yearbooks.
- Development of Guidelines for Visual Ethics (March 23). The three Guidelines will be combined as a general ethics package.
- Presentation of a Cover It Live forum on press rights, law and ethics.
- Preparation of lessons, activities, and articles for Scholastic Journalism Week, including a successful TAO signup.
- Development of a consistent process of reporting censorship and made this “Panic Button” available on the commission website to state and regional directors as well as SPA directors. We notified the general membership of this process.
- Development of a Blueprint for Passing State Legislation that should be in final processing at the time of the Seattle convention.
- Development of a plan to examine the use and misuse of Internet filters how we could unlock the Internet for journalism programs.
- Evaluated submissions for the Making a Difference project, highlighting student reporting that made a significant difference in the school's communities. This finalized report will be available soon. All this and more is on our website at <http://www.jeasprc.org>.

Reports from individual commissioners:

Jane Blystone, MJE (jane.blystone@gmail.com)

- We have been working to evaluate all pieces of the Making a Difference project. We are just waiting for one school to reformat the video entry and then our judges will complete the Making a Difference project and send selected entries to production. Judges hailed from across the country: H.L. Hall (Tennessee), John Tagliareni (New Jersey) Susan Tantillo (Illinois), Fern Valentine (Washington).

- I glean First Amendment issues from the National School Board Association's weekly newsletter Legal Clips to post to the JEA-SPRC blog that pertain to scholastic journalism.
- I invited Laura Weiss and Mary Turocy, 45word Student Partners to present a session at the Pennsylvania state convention to share their work with other peers on censorship issues. It was well received and Laura tweeted from the convention using PSPA's account.

Candace Perkins Bowen, MJE (cbowen@kent.edu)

- I updated three 5-for-the-First lesson plans and used those and two more I wrote for a post during Scholastic Journalism Week;
- Participated in the three-day commission retreat, working with the group that developed the Panic Button concept, process and materials so advisers will know what to do when they have censorship issues, what responders will do to help them and how the whole process can be tracked;
- Continued to co-author the DJNF's Adviser Update law column, including the next issue's topic: the Panic Button;
- Participated in both the first and second round selection of First Amendment Press Freedom Award winners; sent the congratulations letters and the first-round materials and explanation of process.

Jan Ewell

Jan completed a summary of instances in the first three months of 2012 that indicated censorship or some form of legal/ethical issues. Jan documented 26 instances using the JEA listserv as her source. Calling them Challenges to the Student Press, Jan broke them into categories like issues with administration, source anonymity, digital access by students, punishing advisers and more.

Jan will continue her work, looking back to discussions in 2011, focusing on policies that affect journalism enrollment, punishing advisers, state and district policies and other topics.

Karen Flowers

The SCSPA board revised our First Amendment Liaison position that we created last year. It didn't work having a J-school student. I didn't think it would but wanted to let the board realize that.

We have revised the responsibilities – attached – and we have asked a former adviser to accept the position. Waiting on his response. I am much more excited about this position this year than I was last!

SCSPA First Amendment liaison:

SCSPA set a goal for the 75th anniversary year to promote the First Amendment rights of all student media in the state. To help facilitate this goal, the executive board established a non-member liaison at the Jan. 29, 2011 board meeting and revised the position's responsibilities at the Feb. 4, 2012 meeting.

The liaison will monitor cases of First Amendment abuse in high schools and serve as a communicator among advisers, students, administrators, and the SCSPA board.

To accomplish the goal the liaison will assist the director in meeting with publication staffs and/or principals to discuss problems. This person will act as a mediator.

Responsibilities of the liaison will include, but are not limited to:

1. Being available to all South Carolina publications – not just SCSPA members – through a network that the liaison and director will build;

2. Having a working knowledge of past and current First Amendment legislation regarding scholastic journalism, and informing the SCSPA board of changes and pertinent current events;
3. Maintaining communication with the Student Press Law Center if necessary action is required;
4. Working through various types of communication – newsletters, email, schopress listserv, Facebook & Twitter – to inform advisers and students of their rights under law and give them outlets to protect those rights;
5. Maintaining a map to show the various levels of freedom in scholastic media in South Carolina schools;
6. Communicating as necessary with administrators about their students' First Amendment rights and making proactive suggestions for improving relations with school media staffs;
7. Contacting local media outlets to protect student journalists;
8. Working with the SCSPA Executive board to establish a plan of action for proposing a Student Freedom of Expression bill to the S.C. state legislature;
9. teaching an introductory First Amendment session at each SCSPA conference;
10. Attending each board meeting to make a report.

The chair and the executive director will appoint the First Amendment liaison. The appointment will be for a one-year term. Terms may be renewable.

Megan Fromm (megfromm@gmail.com)

My activity:

- Five posts for SPRC, including four lessons (satire, music and free speech, truth and the marketplace of ideas, and op/ed writing)
- Internet filtering work (admittedly, this is going slower than I hope, but we're working on it)
- Helped with the Sisley ruling PowerPoint/materials in September for fall convention.

Marina Hendricks (marinahendricks@aol.com)

I developed a "Social Media Toolbox" for use by student journalists and their advisers.

The toolbox, available at hendricksproject.wordpress.com, features 16 lessons on social media plus related resources. Lessons can be used as a unit or individually.

As a unit, the lessons are designed to help student journalists and their advisers navigate the transition into using social media as part of their publication programs. The unit starts with ethical decision-making to help guide students through the process. It continues with exploration of reasons for using social media, consideration of how social media tools are employed by journalists, and evaluation of the school community's use of social media through a survey.

Other lessons focus on legal issues, social media policies and roles, cyberbullying, reporting using social media, and tutorials for implementing popular tools such as Facebook and Twitter. The unit concludes by challenging students to design an educational program on social media for the school community.

In addition, I assisted with development of the model online ethics policy, served as a panelist in Minneapolis during the open forum on legal and ethical issues, and helped coordinate activities of the SPRC's Student Partners in Minneapolis.

Lori Keekley

I have worked to forward the mission of SPRC by facilitating the coordination of materials for Constitution Day curriculum. Additionally, I attended the SPRC retreat and assisted in developing

the procedure and communications after someone reports an issue.

Sarah Nichols, MJE (sarahjnichols.sjn@gmail.com)

Since my last report I have been involved in the following projects and ongoing efforts:

- Coordinated 45words sessions for Student Partners for the Seattle convention
- Conducted research about how advisers report censorship
- Posted on the SPRC blog
- Maintained communication with Student Partners, including programming for Scholastic Journalism Week
- Conducted middle school outreach to spread awareness about the five freedoms
- Worked with Matthew Schott, Marina Hendricks, John Bowen and Candace Bowen to evaluate and improve Student Partners program
- Ceated materials and how-to guides for reporting censorship with H.L. Hall, Lori Keekley, Candace Bowen and John Bowen.

Randy Swikle, MJE (randyswikle@comcast.net)

- Alliance with Illinois Civic Mission Coalition: On March 8-9, I attended the 2012 convening of the Illinois Civic Mission Coalition, which is sponsored by the Robert R. McCormick Foundation (our same benefactor for Protocol for Free & Responsible Student News Media). Seventy-five stakeholders, including educators, students, school board members, legislators, journalists, attorneys, representatives of civic organizations and others gathered in Chicago to share, inspire, plan and in other ways engage as advocates for protecting and enhancing the civic mission of schools. (Kind of familiar to what the SPRC is doing in the arena of scholastic journalism, don't you think?)

Here's a quote from one of the speakers: "As educators we share responsibilities for the civic empowerment gap, just as we share responsibility for the academic achievement gap." The parallels between the state of civic education and the state of scholastic journalism are profound. What vehicle is a better than student news media to serve as a conduit for the civic engagement of students?

Let's make sure our 3-Year Plan includes strategy for aligning our efforts with the work of civic education proponents. In both arenas, we need to guard against an erosion of opportunities for students to engage in civic participation and authentic American journalism. We need to be aware of some dangerous trends in American education.

- I suggest we articulate the mission of the SPRC in a single sentence or in a very short paragraph. If we do this, it will provide an effective perspective of what the SPRC is all about and the value it holds for scholastic journalism and school communities. It is important for all JEA and SPRC members, all scholastic journalism stakeholders and the public in general to have a simple, clear definition of the SPRC mission in a memorable statement. I also suggest we consider writing a vision statement.
- I suggest we make sure to articulate our mission and goals in language that is easily understood by the great majority of stakeholders in scholastic journalism. Our success in implementing our mission and goals depends upon the support we garner from stakeholders, so it is essential they understand what we are all about. If we want their support, we must communicate our goals, rationale and values to them in language they understand.

John Tagliareni (bearfacts1@aol.com)

I have continued to work to support many of the commission's goals. I served as a judge for the Making Difference Project. I am still active in the Garden State Press Association as a past president and member of the executive board.

I will again speak at the CSPA Spring Convention in New York, March 14-16 2012, and will do multiple sessions. I will again be a speaker at The Garden State Scholastic Press Association Conference at Rutgers University the GSSPA Spring Conference on May 4, 2012. I spoke at the Fall Conference at Rutgers on Oct. 24, 2011, and I did sessions at the CSPA Fall Conference on Nov. 7, 2011. I presented sessions on how to deal with controversial and sensitive issues, as well as other sessions. I always cover the legal aspects of Tinker and Hazelwood, and state constitution rights regarding the First Amendment. I give students and advisers strategies for working with administrators. I discuss their rights and responsibilities and assist them if they are having any censorship issues.

I am serving as an unofficial mentor to the new adviser of Bear Facts at Bergenfield High School. In January, I had to speak to administrators in order to prevent a censorship issue. When I had difficulty with an administrator over a controversial article a number of years ago, Mark Goodman, who served as the SPLC Executive Director at the time, sent a letter, which gave many legal reasons why Bear Facts was protected from censorship. I went into to the high school to meet with administrators and gave them the documents, which included my letter to the superintendent of schools at the time. They have since backed off on any concerns that they had. I can be more specific, but rather than elaborate, I just wanted to explain that I am helping to maintain the same climate at the high school for free speech with no prior review.

JEA Committee Chairs and Liaisons



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Bradley Wilson

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

Ultimately this year, we produced four issues on time: fall, 40 pages; winter, 40 pages; spring, 32 pages; summer: 48 pages — for an average of 40 pages/issue this year.

Design: Thanks to input from several professional designers including Kyle Ellis of CNN.com and Susannah Brinkley of Kelly MarCom marketing, in the spring, the magazine underwent a minor redesign, including changing the nameplate for the first time since 1997.

Income: Pam Boller in the national office coordinates the

advertising sales which surpassed expectations by 213 percent this year. That means that 53 percent of the magazine's budget was paid for by ads. It also means that members only paid \$1.47/issue for the magazine.

Authors: One of our goals is to have a variety of authors. Of our 18 major contributors to the magazine this year, 11 (61 percent) had never written for the publication before. The magazine continues to be an incredible recruitment, retention and awareness tool for the association.

Of the 520 authors of which I've tracked addresses, 39 states are represented as are all regions. More information on our contributors is online at <http://issuu.com/wilsonbrad/docs/cjetsp12report/1>.

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



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Aaron Manfull, MJE

Digital Media Committee Chair

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JEADigitalMedia.org completed three years in existence. The site has continued to grow and we have continually worked to reassess the most pressing needs of students and advisers. We have been tracking data so we can get a gauge of how we are doing with this. I will only touch on part of it here, please let me know if you'd like to have any other data and I will make sure to get it to you.

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

In our three years, we had more than 400 posts published (roughly 3 per week), 57,158 visits, and 138,803 pageviews. Including myself, there are more than 25 members of the committee who are on an email list. Nine committee members are considered contributors for posting at least three times over the past 6 months or because they work with other parts of the site. We also have a presence on Twitter and Facebook (links below). With the efforts focused on creating posts and content for the site, those social accounts have not been as socially active as we would like. However, we did add a Wordpress plugin to the site that posts an archived article to Twitter each day and we have seen dramatic results with that.

Aside from keeping up with the site and encourage others to present digital media sessions offered at national conventions, most of the energies since Minneapolis have been focused on strengthening the broadcast presence on JEADigitalMedia.org. This has been headed by Michael Hernandez and Matt Rasgorshek. Both worked hard to get this off the ground and running. Michael

has worked to take the lead on this and worked to keep their work going. While they both have contributed articles and much time and planning to the backend and a new menu system, Don Goble has also been a frequent contributor who has helped immensely.

We will discuss our goals at our committee meeting in Seattle, but I have a feeling we will work to continue some of our current areas of focus:

- Work to get posts from pro-Web administrators on the site
- Continue to build a deeper broadcast presence on the site
- Continue to post relevant articles for those wanting help with their online journey
- Work to publicize the site more on the Listserv and elsewhere

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

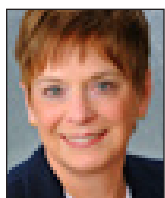
Here are the links I said I would make available:

Visitor data for JEA Digital Media.org: <http://bit.ly/9fEoUf>

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

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

Guide to Moving Online: <http://www.jeadigitalmedia.org/guide-to-moving-online/>



Candace Perkins
Bowen

Candace Perkins Bowen, MJE

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As of March 4, 2012, the JEAHELP list, open to all members, had 1,111. After several weeks of Pam Boller at headquarters and me comparing lists, we gradually began to purge those who were no longer JEA members – an action that sent more than one adviser quickly calling the K-State office with a credit card number. We now have 148 fewer than last fall. The JEATALK list, for officers, commission and committee chairs and regional and state directors, has 82 three fewer than last fall.

Listserv update and trivia:

I will once again try to capture some of the special moments since last fall's convention and some of the trivia since JEAHELP began Aug. 24, 1998. While every report has some new and amazing data, some topics come up every year!

• One of the most popular discussion threads (or one of the most annoying, depending on your view) was “lady’s, ladies’, ladies” from late February. We had 43 posts on the subject and a total of 27,865 lines devoted to the topic.

• To share Christmas beauty with listservians, Bob Greenman posted a YouTube video of Nancy LaMott singing, “Just in Time for Christmas” Dec. 24. Christmas Day saw only two posts – one thanking Bob and one person with the panicked subject line, “Help! Deleted two years of photos accidentally!” Although she had to wait

a day or two, three different members sent her suggestions.

• Bob has been a frequent – and much appreciated – voice on JEAHELP, posting 55,977 times since the list began, including his great heads-up on articles in the New York Times.

• As THE listserv for journalism teachers/media advisers, it’s not surprising we have some non-JEA posts. Since last fall’s convention we had 35 posts with CSPA in the subject line – from questions about everything from hotels in NYC to the health challenges of street vendor food to where to find a bakery that would deliver a birthday cake to a hotel.

• Of course we had posts with “Seattle” in the subject line were there, too – 47 of them covering, among other things, using a City Pass, transportation to the hotel and the EMP Dance Party. Actually there were probably even more about both conventions....because I only searched for those words in the subject line, not in the body of all messages.

• And, that brings up a good point. Often you can find answers to your questions by searching the archives:

• Go to <http://listserv.kent.edu>

• Select List Subscriber Login

• Input your email address as it is on the listserv. You probably don’t have a password, so you may have to click on the link above the fields to “get a new listserv password.”

• Once you have logged in, click on “Subscriber’s Corner” below the top blue bar. JEAHELP should be listed below. Click on that and you’ll see each week and also, to the right, “search archives.” You can use Author’s Address, String, subject, dates, etc. for retrieving messages.



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

Program overview: The JEA Mentoring Program is concluding its fifth year. To date, we’ve trained 39 mentors who have worked with

more than 300 mentees in 17 states. The program for 2011-2012 has 33 active mentors.

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

The mentor blog (<http://jeamentoring.org>), launched two years ago, has been a useful tool not only for publicizing the ongoing work of the program but as a way for mentors to share ideas and happenings with the rest of the group. Committee members, mentors and mentees contribute to the blog. The new JEA website provides a link to the mentor blog as well as several articles, the most recent newsletter and an application form. The mentoring program also uses a listserv for internal communication.

Mentor forums: Fourteen mentors attended the Mentor Forum in Minneapolis. Topics included communicating with mentees through technology and using community resources for special assignments. In addition to attending the forum, mentors who receive funding to attend a JEA/NSPA convention must present a session and assist with judging. In addition to the mentor sessions, five JEA mentees presented a session on the value of the mentoring program from a mentee perspective. The Mentor Forum for Seattle includes training on the Common Core Standards and 21st century skills, a special session by two mentees (Evelyn Lauer and Jessica Young), sharing what works for them: Community and Collaborative Learning. The Mentor Forum will be held Thursday before the start of the convention.

Mentor training: Three new mentors will receive training in Seattle on Thursday at the same time as the Forum and continuing on Friday afternoon. They are Harry Proudfoot and Helen Smith from Massachusetts and Carol Strauss from California.

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

At the Minneapolis JEA board meeting, we recognized Scott Brown and his family who are handling the bequest of their late father with a \$50,000 donation over 10 years to the Wisconsin Newspaper Association to pay for two mentor stipends per year.

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



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Brian Wilson, CJE

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JEA has the largest assembly in all of NCTE, which a fact that no one knows, and one that I think we should play up more. Because of this, we are given a furnished booth in the exhibit hall (which typically costs about a billion dollars, according to my convention neighbors) and the opportunity to present a few sessions. Just as he did last year, SPLC Director Frank LoMonte spent considerable hours in the booth with me; we spoke to a slew of new advisers, and also met with teachers who are interested in incorporating journalism into their English classrooms. Being able to promote JEA's free membership campaign helped immensely, as did having reporter's notebooks with which to impress the masses (side note: I'm wondering if JEA could partner with, say, the New York Times, to get our info on the front of a reporter's notebook to give away? These things go like hotcakes). At any rate, I have a list of the email addresses of about 40 potential new members. Many of them were eager to join. And even when people with NO journalism ties stopped by, I was still able to provide them with materials to take back to their schools. I found that just about every person at the convention at least KNOWS an adviser, and they were happy to promise to bring our materials back to share. As for those who actually ARE advisers, I will be sending a follow-up email to them, and I'd like to carbon-copy their state and regional director on that email, unless someone has a better idea. I also spoke to several education professors, who agreed to bring back JEA material for their teaching-candidate students.

As for our sessions, Frank and I tag-team presented one called "I'm the new adviser to WHAT?" on Friday morning. We also held an entertaining adviser roundtable Saturday night. Both of these went well; we had good questions and participation, from a group who was relatively unfamiliar with JEA. Kathy Zwiebel and Mary Kay Downes presented a day-long workshop on literary magazines on Monday, and I had a chance to promote JEA to this group as well. I spent the last half-hour of the session showing them



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posters and
buttons:

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

some online/digital tools that they could use in conjunction with their publications. Kathy and Mary Kay also did a really nice job of explaining how JEA would benefit them, too. All told, we saw another 50-or-so people during these sessions.

Thankfully, Linda Barrington stopped by Sunday morning and was able to help me with some of my logistical questions. This was the first NCTE convention I was able to run (mostly) on my own, and I am convinced that there is great potential benefit from being involved in it; I still really feel as if I am scratching the surface here.

Frank is committed to NCTE as well, and we've spent some time talking about bigger-draw sessions for next year; we think, for example, that presenting on media literacy might be enticing. Frank would also be willing to be part of the Monday daylong workshop as well and, it should be noted, he pays all of his own expenses. Next year's convention is, again, during the same week as JEA, which limits our pool of presenters somewhat. It is, however, in Las Vegas, which might expand that same pool. If you have ideas on presenters, on sessions, or on promotional ideas, by all means let me know!

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Leadership update: In accordance with the new JEA board/commission/committee chair requirements, Patty Turley is stepping down as National Write-off Co-chair and will serve as the Assistant Write-off Chair. Nancy Smith will stay on as Write-off Chair.

Nancy and Patty met during the summer of 2011 in Eugene, Ore. and made revisions to much of the contest material. The goal was to streamline instructions to local committees and reduce paper and reproduction costs. In addition, the new Online News Package Contest was developed and piloted in Minneapolis this fall.

We are always looking at ways to reduce our costs. We have been able to cut way down on supply costs and shipping costs over the past two years.

Contest updates: The Online News Package pilot in Minneapolis went very well. We had 48 students entered in 15 teams. All seemed to go smoothly and we got great feedback from the contestants and judges.

We have continued to make revisions to the contest and critique sheets. We really pushed for specific judge feedback in Minneapolis and Nancy and Patty worked through each request/concern/idea to try to improve the competition and judging experience.

Obviously, there are still concerns that we are working to address. Specifically, we are going to look at revamping the Computer Design contests to make them more of a real-world experience for the students. We are also going to look closely at the Broadcast contests and make some changes in areas with low numbers. We have moved to a different judging format for the Newspaper Design

contest and if that works well in Seattle we will move in that direction for all of the design carry-in contests. We also need to look at space issues for many of the contests. It is becoming challenging to get enough space for the numbers of students entering.

We will be meeting with members of the Jr. High/Middle School Commission in Seattle to address their request to create a separate category for our younger competitors to enter contests but be judged for awards separately.

As far as participation goes, the Write-off Committee is thrilled that our numbers of participants is so high. We are averaging participation by about 40 percent of all registered convention delegates. Also in the carry-in contests, our percentage of actual participation is about the same as those who upload photos for those contests. It is a concern that not all those who register actually participate.

Recent numbers:

Spring 2011 (Anaheim): 1,454 in 46 contests
Fall 2011 (Minneapolis): 1,678 in 47 contests
Spring 2012 (Seattle): 1,381 in 48 contests (as of March 23)



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SPA Roundtables held at each JEA/NSPA convention:

Minneapolis – Nov. 19, 2011

Representatives of 24 different scholastic press organizations met to discuss issues of concern to scholastic press association directors and board members. Speakers included:

- Karen Flowers discussed the 75th anniversary celebration of the South Carolina Scholastic Press Association and offered advice about planning for association anniversaries. She also shared copies of the history book that was compiled for the SCSA anniversary.
- Vanessa Shelton talked about progress on Quill & Scroll's online judging service. At the Anaheim SPA Roundtable, Vanessa talked about setting up the process. At the Minneapolis Roundtable, she explained the positive reaction of advisers and judges and discussed a few glitches to be worked out.
- Candace Bowen talked about the 2011 Scholastic Journalism Census, which she helped conduct with the Center for Scholastic

Journalism at Kent state. She also discussed the Scholastic Press Rights Commission's 45words program that recruits students to promote student-to-student awareness of the First Amendment.

- Carol Knopes discussed the REALLY?, a media literacy program funded by the McCormick Foundation. When students read or hear news, they should ask, "Really?" – Who said it? Can I trust the source? Is that person biased on the subject? Am I biased on this subject? Where can I get reliable information to help me frame my opinion?

- Linda Barrington provided an update on the JEA Mentor Program and encouraged any state interested in the program to talk with her.

Seattle – Saturday, April 14, 2012, 9 to 10:50 a.m.

We'll discuss how SPA groups are helping advisers in teaching broadcasting or video and how state media literacy guidelines are affecting media programs. Candace Bowen will talk about the JEA SPRC efforts to help advisers with censorship emergencies.

I have list of SPA directors and board members that I email to share JEA information, such as encouraging directors to make nominations for JEA awards or reminding them to order JEA materials for their workshops. I also forward information to the list from SPA directors. I appreciate Connie Fulkerson providing updates on names and email addresses of new SPA directors.

JEA Regional and State Directors

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Happenings: This year's State Fall Conference was held February 1-2, 2012 — rather than in October as in years past

— on the campus of Idaho State University, in Pocatello, Idaho. Keynote speaker was Dr. Tom Terry, a member of the ISU Mass Communications Dept., and his keynote address was "Ethics in Contemporary Journalism."

The conference date had been changed for 2012-2013 due to ongoing conflicts with state teacher in-service, PTC meetings, and sporting events such as districts, regionals, and homecoming activities. The western part of the state had not been represented with as many schools as in past years, so the board is hoping with the date change, there would be an increase in attendance at the conference.

ISU is continuing its support of the ISJA convention and state journalism programs on its campus by offering even more support through its classified staff and the number of seminars being taught by professors during the state conference.

At the October 2011 board meeting, Juli Stricklan stepped down as president. No one volunteered to take her place, so at the March 2012 board meeting, it was decided to change the title and direction of the presidency to ISU Liaison. The board will ask members to amend the constitution and will call for nominations for those interested in the position. With contests and rubrics now in place, the change in the president's role seemed appropriate.

Once again, the board is asking for nominations from membership for The Idaho Teacher of the Year. Criteria includes: professionalism, leadership qualities, achievements, awards, experience, additional responsibilities, participation in state and national conferences, member of the ISJA, and adviser for at least five (5) years, and membership in other professional organizations. At the Saturday luncheon, the members will vote on the list of nominees. A check for \$100 for classroom supplies/needs will be awarded the winner.

Awards: This year's JOY Award went to Justin Kirkahm, from Borah High School in Boise, Idaho. Michelle Harmon is his adviser.

The Ron Hayes Scholarship will be awarded to five students from ISJA member schools. The scholarships are \$100 each to help with the costs of attending the 2013 state convention. Applicants will submit a 300-word essay.

Information on the association and next year's conference may be found at the ISJA website idahostudentjournalism.com



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Linda Ballew

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Membership: Numbers in JEA and MJEA have remained relatively static since the fall report.

Montana will not have a MT Journalist of the Year to compete in the JEA scholarship competition for the first time in many years.

Happenings: Scholastic journalism staffs from all high school levels will enter the MJEA newspaper contest and yearbook critique by

March 22, 2012. They may enter the Newspaper Pacesetter, Best Web Site, Impact Award, and Overall Best Design Award as a staff along with entering as individuals in writing and photography categories. No results or number of competitors in a variety of overall and individual categories are available at this time. Journalism professors and professional journalists will judge the contest. Membership renewal is tied to both the competition and/or the state convention.

MJEA will participate in the 2012 Educators' Conference Oct. 18-19, 2012, in Billings, MT. The organization will be allowed to join other curricular groups at the convention and will be supported by MEA-MFT.

Jennifer Keintz, MJEA's new president, and adviser to the publications at Sentinel High School in Missoula, MT, with both Linda Ballew and Dean Peggy Kuhr from the University of Montana's School of Journalism are working to schedule workshop sessions for the convention. Advisers, teachers and professional journalists will present a variety of workshops.

Please consider sharing your experience, knowledge and talent with other educators by offering a session for the Montana Journalism Education Association at this year's Educators Conference in Billings on Thursday and/or Friday, Oct. 18-19.

The deadline for applications to present at the 2012 MEA-MFT Educators' Conference is May, 2012.

As in past years, the application is on line at HYPERLINK "https://ex.gfps.k12.mt.us/owa/redir.aspx?C=2874095c4eef4ab7be20e2ebc8b5513b&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.mea-mft.org%2f%5c_blankhttp://www.mea-mft.org" Please go to the far right hand drop down box entitled Educators' Conference and follow the directions.

For the board: Please consider moving the deadline of the state report. The value of updating two times per year has been noted, but March is really an awkward timeframe as few events occur until April or later in the year.



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Membership: Membership for OJEA for 2011-2012 is at 35 members. This is down slightly from 2010-11. The Board was expecting this somewhat as our major recruitment tool – Fall Press Day – took a one year hiatus. It was held again this year and we hope that its continued and consistent existence will aid in raising our membership numbers. Oregon JEA membership is slightly higher than our state membership and stands at 47.

Happenings: One of the highlights of the year was the resurrection of Oregon Fall Press Day, the state meeting for high school journalists which is sponsored by our sister organization, Northwest Scholastic Press. During the recent reorganization of NWSP the program took a one-year hiatus. The reorganization of NWSP

has had significant benefits to the OJEA. The interim director Rob Melton – a former high school journalism adviser and JEA board member – did a tremendous job keeping the organization afloat and aided the OJEA board in countless ways. NWSP is now affiliated with the University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communications. The organization is currently under the directorship of Karla Kennedy who will devote half of her time to fostering scholastic journalism in the state and half of her time with other duties within the U of O journalism school. This connection with the largest college J-school in the state will be invaluable as we move forward.

Awards: J.D. McIntire, the yearbook and newspaper adviser at Sandy High School, was chosen as the Oregon Journalism Adviser of the Year. McIntire is a past-president of the state association and the current Oregon State JEA Director. He has been teaching journalism and advising publications for 14 years. In his tenure he has instructed three state journalists of the year and three runners-up. His newspaper staffs have won over 300 state awards.

Mentoring: Oregon still has a strong mentoring program with three mentors and approximately 8-10 mentees. The OJEA board agreed to endow one of these mentorships for the upcoming year.



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Membership: The Washington Journalism Education Association continues to attract new members and re-enlist former members. We published our annual membership directory and have been continuing to work on ways to attract and retain even more members. One of our approaches includes offering reduced fees to WJEA events when people become members at the time of registration. Right now we have roughly 110 members, but that has been increasing as registrations for the national convention come in. We are continuing to work on ways to attract and retain even more members and have introduced several new membership categories and levels.

Happenings: WJEA's focus has been on preparing for the spring national convention in Seattle. Longtime adviser and former JEA Northwest Regional Director Steve Matson is again serving as the local organizing chair for the convention and is doing a phenomenal job. Steve has assembled a great team to work on all aspects of the conference. Under Matson's leadership (he also served as the local chair in 2005) we are confident that this will be a great convention.

Mentors: WJEA continues to be very pleased to be participating in JEA's mentorship program. Executive Director Kathy Schrier is in her third year as a mentor and is doing a wonderful job. Veteran educator and adviser Kay Locey is in her second year. We're proud to have two excellent mentors working with advisers in our state.

We had hoped that scholastic press rights legislation would again be introduced in the current legislative session. However, our legislators are exceedingly preoccupied with the fiscal crisis facing the state and there appears to be little interest in revisiting this press rights proposal in the near term. However, WJEA is committed to seeing that such legislation is introduced and eventually passed. To that end, our executive director, Kathy Schrier, attended a strategic planning session this winter with other representatives from across the country who are also working on getting similar legislation passed.

Additionally, the Adviser Outreach Academy worked cooperatively with our summer adviser workshop and 10 attendees participated. Steve O'Donoghue joined us to talk about the program and online journalism. These 10 participants will reconnect in Seattle at the national convention in April.

For the board: Members of our local organizing committee met with JEA and NSPA officials in January in order to confirm plans and put into place the finishing touches to ensure a successful convention. As you know, our theme for the 2012 convention is "Journalism on the Edge" and we have special strands focusing on the rich traditions that are unique to the Seattle area – including our edgy music, our edgy technology, and the fact that we live way out on the upper left-hand corner – the edge – of the country. It'll be a lot of fun! Hope to see you there.

Dawn Knudsvig

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Membership: Wyoming's JEA membership has nine members.

Happenings: Board members have been meeting regularly to plan for next years fall conference. We have found that using Skype has greatly improved our ability to meet as a board on a more regular basis. The board is currently looking at possible presenters and judges to contact for the conference in October. President Katherine Patrick of Torrington has initiated board meetings via Skype. Secretary Polly Burkett has been contacting advisors over the email about current issues and the conference information. The WHSSPA has achieved non-profit status.

Awards and honors: The Student Journalist of the Year Award for Wyoming went to Acadia DeAtley of Cody.

The Wyoming Journalism Scholarship competition was judged by Jim Angell. "I've got to tell you, I've been judging contests for more than 13 years and this was, without a doubt, the toughest I've ever faced," Angell said. Angell is the Executive Director of the Wyoming Press Association.

Region 2: Southwest

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Region 2 Director

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Carmen Wendt

Carmen Wendt, MJE

Arizona State Director

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Membership: Currently there are 65 JEA members in Arizona.

Events: The Arizona Interscholastic Press Association will have its Spring Reception May 3. Spring contest winners and outstanding advisers will be recognized. The coordinator is Melanie Allen.

The AIPA/ASU Walter Cronkite School of Journalism Summer Workshop is scheduled for July 19-21. The adviser session will be taught by JEA President Mark Newton and the keynoter will be Joe Dana, Phoenix 12 News Today anchor. The director is Sheri Siwek.

Initiatives and vision: The organization is working to develop contacts in the northern and southern parts of the state. Currently Stan Bindell is the Northern Arizona contact.



Mitch Ziegler

Mitch Ziegler

California State Director

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Membership:

California currently has 261 JEA members, down 19 from the fall.

Events:

- SCJEA will host its annual write-off competition April 28 at its new home, California State University, Long Beach (CSULB). Four sub-regions have sponsored write-off competitions: Southwest, Northwest, East, and Orange County.
- JEANC will host Digital RENOVation at University of Nevada, Reno, June 17-20. There will be a print strand that focuses on writing and design for print publications, and an online/multimedia strand that focuses on reporting, writing and producing for the web: <http://jeanc.org/digital-renovation-2012/>
- Newspapers2 will run three workshops: Sacramento Bee (Sacramento), July 9-12; Pierce College (San Fernando Valley),

July 30-Aug. 2; CSU Long Beach (Long Beach), Aug. 6-9. www.newspapers2.com

• Newsroom by the Bay, Stanford University, : <http://newsroombythebay.com/>

Initiatives and vision: California continues to be hit with budget cuts. The June 5 election will contain ballot initiatives that, if passed, will raise taxes for education in the state. Journalism programs throughout the state have been victims of budget cuts.

Awards: The California Journalism Educators Coalition named Beatrice Motamedi of the Urban School as California Journalism Adviser of the Year in its high school division. Steve Slagle received the Lifetime Achievement Award.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: The principal at Ambassador Global High School in Los Angeles confiscated the newspapers featuring a story about an 18-year-old student who used medical marijuana, claiming the story was “too adult for junior high readers” on an adjoining campus. According to Konnie Krislock, “Alexandra Lau was able to support her students, and they wrote an editorial affirming Ed Code 48907 in the next issue of the newspaper.

John Rodriguez, newspaper adviser from Banning High School in Los Angeles, was given one year last June to prove the worth of the newspaper. Administrators have threatened to shut down the 100-year-old newspaper.



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Membership: Numbers are consistent, no major shifts (65, down from 70 last fall.) Credit card payments are an option again, however, which may actually make it easier for schools to join.)

Happenings: Colorado students have an opportunity to attend a media preview at the Denver Art Museum March 22. Student journalists will have access to the Yves Saint Laurent exhibit complete with interviews of staff.

Overland High School editors and their adviser were honored by the Colorado Press Association with its Service to the First Award Feb. 24. Overland Scout newspaper editors Lori Shaffer and Jacklyn Gutierrez, and adviser Laura Sudik received the award after their fight with administrators over first amendment rights last spring when they wrote a feature about a student who had died after a wrestling match. The cause of death was disputed by administration. With their courage and the help of CHSPA and the ACLU, the matter was resolved in favor of the publication – and the deceased student and his family.

The annual Capitol Hill Press Conference was Feb. 10. The event included a press conference and on-site competition for writers,

photographers and broadcasters. 67 students from 19 schools attended the event, producing 28 news features for evaluation. CHSPA individual contest entries are due March 31 and include the debut of categories for online publications. Individual awards will be given to students for their writing, photography, design and coverage this spring.

School publications will also compete for All-Colorado status by submitting their publications over the summer. Deadline is in June. Winners will be announced at fall J-Day Oct. 11.

First Amendment issues and related concerns: Colorado has had a number of First Amendment issues this spring. At Standley Lake H.S. in Arvada, a student columnist for the Insight newspaper is under fire for printing a ‘racist’ headline on her column. According to adviser Ben Reed in an email to the CHSPA Listserv, the staff “ran a headline for a column about racism at our school that read, “N*****, please,” except they printed the real word instead of stars. This has, of course, inflamed many people in the school. The principal says it violates District Policy regarding student publications because it is obscene. The author of the opinion story is African-American, by the way, and her picture is printed next to her story.” The paper is now operating under prior review, despite Colorado’s Free Expression law. The Jefferson County School District continues to operate under a policy in direct violation of the law.

More recently, George Washington High School’s newspaper The Surveyor, is fighting a First- Amendment fight. The athletic director at the school attempted to confiscate all the newspapers before distribution but was stopped by an assistant principal aware of Colorado law. (Adviser, Sara Morrow had taken this administrator to JEA convention which has helped during this issue.) Surveyor staff members have also been in touch with SPLC and ACLU in addition to the Denver Public School Board. Morrow was sent home on administrative leave and is awaiting a “due process” meeting with representatives from the district.

Awards: Colorado’s Journalist of the Year is Cassa Niedringhaus from the Highlighter newspaper at Rocky Mountain High School in Ft. Collins. Niedringhaus was awarded the Dorothy Greer Scholarship as the top journalist in the state.

Workshops: I-News’ Investigative Journalism Institute gives high school students and advisers an opportunity to spend the week learning how to take your research, reporting and storytelling to a new level with instruction and guidance from the award-winning journalists of I-News. This year’s institute will be the week of July 9 at the University of Colorado – Boulder. Deadline to apply is May 1. The \$1,000 tuition covers room and board at CU. Some tuition assistance is available.



JEA Advisers Institute
July 9-12, 2012

Flamingo Las Vegas

... training, networking and more!

Save the date!

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

Colorado's Rethink workshop runs June 11-15 at Rock Canyon High School in Highlands Ranch, CO. Jack Kennedy, Mark Newton, Carrie Faust and Kristi Rathbun will be leading sessions for newspaper and yearbook staffs wanting to revitalize their publications. Sessions for all levels of staff members and their advisers will be offered throughout the week. Contact Jack Kennedy (jpkjournalism@gmail.com) or Kristi Rathbun (Kristi.rathbun@comcast.net) for more information.

CHSPA also offers an Adviser Institute on the CSU campus for both new and experienced advisers. More information will post to the CHSPA website – chspaonline.org – as the details finalize.



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Membership: Current count is 16 members, down from 22 according to the fall report.

For the board: Karin Swanson is leaving Hawaii and we will be looking to fill her state director position.



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Membership: Current count is 20 members, which is an increase of three members since the fall. For the 2011-2012 school year, the governor cut the state education budget including \$411 million dollar cut in Clark County School District's budget. Next school year will start \$80 over budget so more cuts are expected. Update on the budget cuts: the focus of school budgets is on implementing Common Core State Standards and making NCLB Annual Yearly Progress. While there have been no reports of additional cuts of journalism programs, resources have been limited for teachers and programs.

Initiatives and vision: Clark County School District: New this year is the move of broadcast courses to Career and Technical Education. Courses have been renamed to Video Production I, II, III and Advanced Study Video Production. Scope and goals for the courses have been updated. The move to Career and Technical Education will permit additional funding opportunities for equipment under CTE grant funds and other CTE opportunities.

Other curriculum changes in the Clark County schools includes the removal of Journalism I and the addition of Journalism Foundations. While still attached to newspaper production,

the ultimate idea is for all media production students to take this course. As of this time, there is no state communications or journalism teaching certification attached to any media courses. One concern is providing qualified teachers for these courses

Discussed on the Southern Nevada adviser's forum has included working together to create a district wide yearbook competition. The Las Vegas Review Journal hosts and runs a annual newspaper competition and broadcast will now fall under CTE competitive opportunities.



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Membership: I have been trying to include more advisers in our state association, so we've added about three-four members in the area, and at least three have taken advantage of the free JEA memberships for new/new to JEA advisers. This isn't much, but signifies an increase for New Mexico, which is geographically large but population-wise still rather small (especially in terms of schools with any kind of journalism).

Happenings: Our third consecutive State Journalism Competition is March 31 at Rio Grande High School, hosted by adviser Albert Martinez ("Coach Bert"). Registration is due later this week, so I don't have attendance numbers yet. The guest speaker Saturday was Eric Draper, former White House photo director.

Also the State High School Journalism Workshop is this June at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. The New Mexico Press Association hosts this camp for high school journalism students from all over the state. (It's a lot of fun! I helped teach in 2011 and 2010.) Here's the link for the 2011 camp: <http://www.nmpress.org/stories/2011-NEW-MEXICO-HIGH-SCHOOL-JOURNALISMWORKSHOP>;47 No registration information or dates for 2012 yet.

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Membership: There are currently 13 JEA members in Utah, which includes two new members that have added since the fall report. One member did not renew this year. At the two state conventions this year sponsored by the local colleges I have been networking and trying to recruit new members. I was successful with two members and will try to continue this process. Most high school teachers seemed very ambivalent about teaching journalism and could not see a benefit in joining. Many voiced the thought that journalism

class is not something they want to take to a higher level. They are happy with their textbook based program.

Events: Nov. 18 was the University of Utah's Writers and Photographers Workshop with 250 students and advisers present. In February there was a conference sponsored by UVU and the Deseret News at UVU where over 300 students and advisers attended.

There is nothing in the works until next fall. I have been networking with a few other high school teachers and looking into creating a summer workshop as well. I am also trying to get an advisers round table discussion slated for both conferences to facilitate a better discussion of state issues in journalism education.

Initiatives and vision: There is a general reluctance on the part of most journalism teachers to do any more than the minimum. I am putting together a state committee to try to foster more enthusiasm and support for high school journalism. There are four other teachers who have shown interest in working on this with me.

Journalism still experiences heavy censorship in Utah. At the UVU Conference in the advisers' meeting, most teachers reported that their publication existed under some form of prior review if not complete editing by the principal.

Awards: The state JOY winner was Kyrie Hulick from Taylorsville High School. There were four entries in the competition this year. Mary Seal was selected as a Rising Star.

Mentors: I am not aware of any mentors in Utah. I have been acting as a mentor for a brand new newspaper that just started printing at Juan Diego High School – the editors come for a visit with me and my staff three times per month and we have been helping them with their fledgling publication. They are in their second edition and receiving a very positive response from their school community.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: Most school newspapers in Utah are not doing much that would bring about a strong reaction due to the systems of prior review. We had a brief discussion about this in the advisers' meeting at the UVU conference. Many journalism teachers in Utah are completely unaware that their students have any First Amendment rights and are afraid to challenge the prior review status quo. I did mention the SPLC at the meeting and let them all know that I am also a resource that can get them help right away if they should have any problems where they feel the First Amendment should come into play.

Region 3: North Central



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Gary Lindsay

My activities as North Central Regional director have consisted of monitoring JEAHELP, communicating with state

directors, attending the Minneapolis convention, and the Iowa Winter Thaw Seminar. I had to cancel plans to attend the KEMPA Winter Seminar because of some family illness issues and the fact that it was scheduled at the same date as the Iowa event.

In addition to work as the North Central Director, I am the JEA Mentor for Iowa, and you can see a summation of those activities in the Iowa report.

I have also been working on JEA's behalf as the co-chair of the Common Core / P21 Committee. I will be giving a report on the activities of that committee at the board meeting in Seattle. In quick summary, the committee's primary work has been with Brian Wilson and Rod Satterthwaite in development of curriculum aligned with the Michigan CCSS, my inquiry of the Partnership for 21st Century Skills, monitoring JEAHELP and responding to inquiries and concerns. I have provided a number of the materials our group has collected to JEA members involved in curriculum development. Our committee did hold a meeting open to JEA members via Cover It Live earlier this month.



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Membership: Our current JEA membership is 127, a slight decrease from the fall conference when I reported 136 members. I am working with JEA HQ to see if this trend shows up in other states and what seems to be the reason why people are not joining and/or renewing.

I would like to buy a mailing list from the Illinois High School Association (I.H.S.A.) and mail an introductory letter and JEA membership form to the contact person. Generally, the I.H.S.A. sends materials to the principal at each of its 867 member schools. My thinking is to flaunt the JEA's resources that are available to their journalism advisers and teachers. I would also suggest including information about the Outreach Academy program as an effort to reach out to a greater audience with hopes of building the program. In addition to JEA materials, I would suggest including information about Illinois JEA so advisers could join the state group as well. The largest hurdle in this plan is cost. Materials, production and postage are the three largest costs associated with this effort.

Events: Two major scholastic press association events were held in Illinois since the November conference. The Southern Illinois Scholastic Press Association (SISPA) was Feb. 29. Two hundred sixty two students and advisers, representing 19 schools, attended. SISPA, operated by the journalism school at Southern Illinois University, honored two advisers, Jamey VanZandt, Mount Vernon HS, Newspaper Adviser of the Year Hillary Gee, Carmi-White HS, and the Yearbook Adviser of the Year. Neither are JEA members, but will be invited to join via a letter of congratulations. In addition to

adviser awards, SISPEA awards its “Golden Dozen” awards with numerous categories. There are newspaper and yearbook divisions with “Golden Dozen” presented in each. SISPA also presents awards to students for individual work. The contest has 18 categories for students to enter.

The Scholastic Press Association of Chicago’s (SPAC) annual conference was March 16. The event attracted more than 200 students from schools in Chicago. In addition to breakout sessions, there is a write-off competition for students and awards presented for excellence in high school media. I did attend this conference and spoke with advisers about issues facing scholastic journalism and the importance and benefits of JEA membership as well as IJEA membership.

Upcoming workshops:

- March 2012: Digital Media Workshop, Eastern Illinois University, sponsored by the Illinois Press Foundation.
- April 13: Northern Illinois School Press Assn. Spring Conference, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, Illinois.
- April 21: Sectionals, Illinois High School Association Tournament.
- April 27: Finals.

Initiatives and vision:

- Discussions continue on several initiatives identified by the IJEA Board as ways of enhancing scholastic journalism. They include
- Working toward some type of certification requirements for journalism teachers with the Illinois State Board of Education. The ISBE used to offer certification for journalism teachers, but dropped several years ago.
- Promoting and helping middle/junior high school journalism programs in the future by working cooperatively with the Illinois Elementary School Association, which offers a full slate of activities for junior and middle school students. I am hoping to present a plan to the IJEA Board at its June meeting.
- Increasing the number of CJs and MJEs. Two articles addressed certification in the IJEA’s most recent newsletter. Having Cathy Wall, MJE, a member of JEA’s Certification Commission, is an invaluable resource. I plan on working with her on increasing certification among JEA members in Illinois.

Awards: The biggest award is, of course, the Illinois Journalist of the Year. The 2012 JOY from the Land of Lincoln is Sydney Scarlata, editor of the “U-High Midway” at The University of Chicago Laboratory Schools. Her adviser is Wayne Brasler. Runner-up was Daniel Brout, of Wheeling High School. He is editor of The Spokesman and has been advised by John Uhrick and Karen Barrett, MJE. Receiving honorable mention was Madeline Conway of Prospect High School in Mt. Prospect. She is editor of The Prospector and is advised by Jason Block, CJE.

Evelyn Lauer, CJE, Niles West High School, Skokie, Ill. was named a Rising Star from JEA.

Mentors: Illinois has three mentors who are mentoring nine advisers. Babs Erickson is mentoring Kendra Stone of Durand High School, Durand, Sara Paulson, Guilford High School, Rockford, Kelly Engler of Harlem High School, Machesney Park and Rachel Rice of Lutheran High School, Rockford. Carol Smith is mentoring Sue Fuller, Heritage High School, Broadlands, James

Cadle, Arthur-Lovington High School, Lovington and Stephanie Mitchell, of Lovington High School, Lovington. Randy Swikle is mentoring Kathleen Beckman of Antioch Comm. High School, Antioch and Evelyn Lauer of Niles West High School, Skokie.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: The most significant challenge is at Peoria Ridgewood High School where the principal has instituted prior review of student publications, especially the newspaper, as the result of an editorial asking for stricter enforcement of school rules. The principal also reportedly took exception to some of the editorial cartoons.

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Membership: Iowa has 56 JEA members, which is up 13 from last year. All 15 promotional members have been contacted at least once. There has been more engagement with two. One has reported several times her year is going well. She encouraged a student to enter the Iowa Journalist of the Year competition. Another is trying to restart his school’s newspaper, which became defunct about a decade ago. The idea came from his principal and the principal has been supportive through paying for his attendance at the Iowa High School Press Association’s Winter Thaw. The adviser felt the retreat was helpful. Currently, contact is being attempted with the principal and the town newspaper to encourage their support of the adviser.

Happenings: Pella High School was the site of the annual Advisers’ Winter Thaw for the second year. Three people presented. Nineteen attended. Liz Martin, one of the top photographers in the state, from The Gazette in Cedar Rapids talked about photo techniques, a little Photoshop, and getting the best out of any camera, whether it’s a point-and-shoot, DSLR, or even a camera phone. Matt Baltes, Jostens yearbook rep in Central Iowa, lead a discussion about how to make yearbooks survive and the latest trends. Jon Rogers, MJE and IHSPA board president, newspaper and online news adviser at City High in Iowa City, lead a session on getting your publication online and helping it thrive once it gets there.

In the Iowa High School Press Association Scholar program, IHSPA will honor its first class of scholars this spring. The requirements include three semesters in a journalism program, a 3.0 GPA, five hours of community service, and an essay. Application deadline was March 16.

Awards and honors: Lisa Friesth of Johnston High School was named Iowa Journalist of the Year.

Mentoring: Gary Lindsay is in his third year as JEA Mentor for Iowa. Having retired from teaching, he can now schedule his mentoring visits with more flexibility. Lindsay is working with two teachers in their second year in the program. Alissa Hansen teaches yearbook and language arts at Clear Creek Amana High School in

Tiffin, and Kyle Phillips teaches language arts and journalism at Washington High in Cedar Rapids, and advises the monthly news magazine. Natalie Niemeyer teaches language arts and journalism at East High School in Des Moines and advises the yearbook. This is her first year of mentoring with Lindsay. The program at East is growing under the leadership of Ben Graeber, who teaches beginning journalism and advises the newspaper. A fourth participant in the mentoring program is Deb Siebenga, of Franklin Middle School in Cedar Rapids. Deb, the school gifted and talented facilitator, is working with a former student, Bailey Zaputil, now on the Torch staff at Kennedy High School, and they have started a new student publication. The Franklin Storm published its premier edition Feb. 17. The staff of students in grades six through eight meets weekly after school to discuss story ideas, and they send their stories to Bailey for revision and editing. The Storm plans to produce monthly issues for the rest of the year. Deb hopes to introduce a beginning journalism class as an elective this spring.



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Membership: Our membership in Minnesota currently is 44, maybe not an all-time high for Minnesota, but at least since I've been state director.

Happenings: On Feb. 15, 30 print, photo and broadcast student journalists attended a Minnesota Wild team practice at the Xcel Energy Center. Students met with the MN Wild staff, local professional journalists. They also interviewed forward Matt Kassian. Students produced photos, stories and broadcasts and competed for the top spot in each category. Winners were Aditi Kulkarni of St. Paul Academy (story winner); Cara Thompson of St. Francis High School (photo winner); Britt Telshaw and Connor Twomey of Eastview High School (Broadcast winners).

Twenty-five students attended the Journalism Day at the Guthrie on Feb. 1. Students viewed the matinee of *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, received a tour of the theater and tips on writing reviews from Quinton Skinner, author and director of communications for the Guthrie Theater. Students were then given a deadline to submit a review of the play. Mr. Skinner chose three winning reviews which were posted to the theater's website. Two writers were Kayla Goldfarb and Elana Vlodaver, both staff members of Lori Keekley's award-winning *Echo* newspaper in St. Louis Park, Minn. The third winner was Ibad Jafri of St. Paul Academy and Summit School.

The local committee for the Minneapolis fall convention had a final closure meeting/celebration (honestly more of a celebration) on Feb. 11 at the residence of Lori Keekley, committee co-chair. The original intent was to discuss ideas on what to do with the convention money, but this will be shifted to a later date.

Minnesota High School Press Association did not host a state convention, but MHSPA still sponsored the Gold Medallion competition, which honors individual excellence in categories such

as newswriting, cartooning, design, etc. Ninety Gold Medallions were awarded this past fall. The JEM organization also sponsored the "All-State" competition in which participating publications receive a mini-critique and a certificate in either Gold, Silver or Bronze categories. Twenty-nine schools participated in the All-State contest. The contest fee goes toward the JOY scholarship.

A board meeting of JEM (which gained non-profit status this past summer) will be held sometime in early summer to mainly brainstorm and discuss student program offerings for the future.

Awards: Minnesota JOY winner is Anna Morris of Stillwater Area High School. She is the co-editor for the school newspaper *Pony Express* advised by Rachel Steil.

Congratulations to Ryan McCallum of Buffalo High School and Jason Wallestad of Benilde St. Margaret's for their online newspaper *Pacemaker* nominations. McCallum is also the Minnesota State Adviser of the year for 2011, which I failed to mention in the fall report. Logan Aimone presented him with his award in May of 2011. McCallum is adviser to the *Tatanka* yearbook, *Hoofprint* newspaper and *Hoofprint.net* website. He also teaches English and is the technology integration specialist at the school. McCallum's experience in scholastic journalism began in 1994 as a student journalist at Buffalo High School, and continued at Concordia College in Moorhead, where he graduated in 2001. He has been teaching at Buffalo High School since 2001 and began advising the yearbook in 2002, the newspaper in 2003 and the website in 2004. McCallum's accomplishments at Buffalo High School include restarting the *Hoofprint* newspaper, which had been dormant for three years. In 2003, just 24 students were enrolled in journalism classes. In 2010, 270 students took journalism. The student publications have earned top state honors, and the website was named a national *Pacemaker* Award winner in the spring of 2011 as well as being a nominee this spring.



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Marsha Kalkowski

Membership: Nebraska is 55 members strong.

Happenings: NHSPA/NSAA State Contest will be May 7 at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. Entries were submitted electronically for the third year. We're working out the kinks in that system. The NHSPA Summer Workshop will take place July 23-26. Students from other states are welcome! See <http://nhspaonline.org/wordpress/> for details.

Awards and honors: Nebraska Distinguished Adviser: Matt Rasgorshek, Westside High School. Nebraska Friend of Journalism: to be named soon.

Mentoring: Nebraska does not have a formal mentoring program, but yearbook companies are working diligently to connect new yearbook advisers to experienced advisers in the area.

For the board: Thanks for all you do for us! Hope the spring convention in Seattle is Edgy!



Sue Skalicky

Sue Skalicky, MJE

North Dakota State Director

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Membership: Current North Dakota JEA members:

- Sue Skalicky, Century High School
- Annie McKenzie, Bismarck High School
- Keith Henderson, Bismarck High School
- Jeremy Murphy, West Fargo High School
- Andrew Pritchard, North Dakota State University
- University of North Dakota
- Brenda Werner, Bismarck High School
- Angie Babcock, Jostens
- Hannah Sagaser, Mandan High School

Memberships that have recently expired (I have been in contact with them and are encouraging them to renew their memberships):

- David Woods, Wahpeton High School
- Karen Bauer, Bismarck State College
- Mike Chausee, University of Mary (2011 promotional)
- Kelly Larson, Fort Yates High School (2011 promotional)

Happenings:

- Northern Interscholastic Press Association (NIPA) state competition April 1, 2012, Bismarck State College, Bismarck, N.D.
- Jostens regional yearbook workshop, Bismarck, Aug. 4-6, 2012
- Northern Interscholastic Press Association (NIPA) fall workshop Oct. 1, 2012, Bismarck State College, Bismarck, N.D.

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

Awards: State awards will be announced April 1, 2012 at the NIPA state journalism competition in Bismarck, N.D.



Debra
Rothenberger

Debra Rothenberger, MJE

South Dakota State Director

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Membership: The state director presented information about JEA membership at the fall national convention in Minneapolis. Several advisers planned to apply for membership.

Happenings: The South Dakota High School Press Association conducted its Spring Writing Contest with the entries due March 5. For the first time, it required a \$5 entry fee per submission. The fee is to cover the cost of judging, awards, and mailings. Results will be announced in early May.

South Dakota State University Journalism Department is offering an Institute Online Adviser Workshop June 4-7. It teaches advisers layout and design as well as creating better publications, selecting staff, meeting deadlines, holding students accountable, taking photographs and developing writing skills. This workshop is completely online and for advisers only. Advisers should register through the SDSU graduate school at 605-688-4181 or <http://www.sdstate.edu/graduate>. Cost is 1 graduate credit - \$368 for self-support tuition.

The South Dakota High School Press Association's 2012 Institute Newspaper Workshop at South Dakota State University is June 11-14. Students and advisers gain hands-on experience in newswriting, editing, layout and design. Participants write stories, take photographs and create an actual newspaper during the workshop. Registration is available at www.sdhspa.org. Workshop is \$275 for entire week and includes all workshop activities, room and board (all meals), and awards banquet. For more information, contact Jessica Jensen, the coordinator, at jessica.jensen@sdstate.edu.



Sandy Jacoby

Sandy Jacoby

Wisconsin State Director

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Membership: Advisers Winter Seminar held at Grand Geneva March 2-3 recruited new advisers to join both JEA and Kettle Moraine Press Association through direct appeals, member forms, JEA Bookstore updates, JEA Calendar of Events, Certification pamphlets and JEA convention information. JEA President Mark Newton signed up a new adviser as he offered a free membership to promote JEA with my match of the first renewal year. Wisconsin membership is at 40 currently while KEMPA membership stands at 111 for both Wisconsin and Illinois. KEMPA Winter Advisers Seminar and Fall Scholastic Journalism Conference offered time with 32 and 74 advisers respectively to talk about advantages of dual membership.

Happenings: KEMPA President Stan Zoller directed Winter Retreat at Grand Geneva, conveniently located and offering family amenities like a water park, drew 32 advisers and featured JEA President Mark Newton March 2-3. He focused on an EPIC theme, the future of scholastic journalism, tips to share to network advisers and motivation for adviser leadership. Other sessions expanded on photography skills led by Rick Wood, Milwaukee JournalSentinel, and protocol relationships through discussion led by Bill Dussling, Illinois District 214 Board member, and Alexandria Johnson, 2011 Illinois Journalist of the Year and JEA JOY finalist. Silent Auction earned money for scholarships while treat donations went to Student Press Law Center. Advisers' roundtable and Friday dinner encouraged adviser connections.

For Summer Workshop programming July 22-25, Director Kellie Doyle has designed curriculum to attract high school journalists. Summer again will offer Adviser Day free to advisers of workshop students. An added Photoshop training class is also available on July 22.

Awards & honors:

Dow Jones Newspaper Fund Distinguished Adviser: Stan Zoller, Rolling Meadows H.S.

Administrator of the Year: Dr. Matt Gibson, Elmbrook School District

Media Award: Rick Wood, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Newspaper Adviser of the Year: Jill Cook, Brookfield Central H.S.

Yearbook Adviser of the Year: Karen Frank, Stillman Valley H.S.

Friend of KEMPA: Randy Swikle, Johnsbury, Ill.

Hall of Fame: Kathleen Burke, Mike Gordy, Audrey Kemp and Dave Wallner

Gebhardt Writing Award: Krystyna Keema, Lake Zurich H.S.

Region 4: South Central

Wayna Polk, CJE

Region 4 Director

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Membership in our region is at 556 according to the Feb. 14, 2012 JEA report.

Our region continues to produce some of the best publications in the country and we are so proud of the advisers, students and programs from which these winners originate.

One of the primary areas of concern for educators in our region is funding by the state legislatures. As budgets are cut in financially strapped districts across the region, advisers are concerned for their programs, publications and their students.

The Texas Association of Journalism Educators will help host the JEA/NSPA Fall 2012 Convention in San Antonio and we hope each of you will make plans to attend. San Antonio is a beautiful city with cultural diversity and educational opportunities for everyone. Plan to attend and enjoy our southwestern hospitality.



Stephanie Emerson

Stephanie Emerson, MJE

Arkansas State Director

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Membership: ASPA continues to work to increase membership. We continue to encourage our members to enroll in JEA when they join the state organization. Several JEA members continue to be active at the national level. There are approximately 73 members in our state AJAA organization; 53 of those are in JEA. We have 116 different publication members in ASPA.

The Arkansas Scholastic Press Association is housed on the campus of Pulaski Tech in North Little Rock under the direction of Allen Loibner, MJE, of Pulaski Tech. Our organization's website: www.arkansasscholasticpress.org. Several links are there for additional information. Our email address is arkansasscholasticpress@gmail.com

Happenings: The state convention will be held in Rogers on April 12-13, 2012, at the John Q. Hammons Center adjacent to the Embassy Suites Northwest Arkansas that served as the convention hotel. Approximately 800 are registered at this time. On-site contests will be held: 10 in newspaper; 9 in yearbook; 5 in literary magazine; 2 in photography; 8 in broadcast. We are averaging about 30 entries in each category. Twenty workshops will be held in different areas for students and advisers to attend. Approximately 1300 awards will be presented.

On June 25-27, 2012, our organization's annual Camp ASPA will be held on the campus of Pulaski Tech in North Little Rock. See our website for more information.



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Michele
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Membership: 118 members

Happenings: The Missouri Interscholastic Press Association held its annual J-Day April 4 at the University of Missouri. SSP (St. Louis) held its convention on March 12.

Awards and honors: JEA named Eric Thomas, adviser at St. Teresa's Academy, a Special Recognition Yearbook Adviser of the Year. Kelsey Bell, Francis Howell North, was named Missouri's Journalist of the Year. Runner-ups were Alison Dunaway, Francis Howell High, and Stefani Bradley, Winnetonka High.

Mentoring: Missouri is pursuing its first mentors at this time and is investigating funding.

First Amendment concerns: Kudos to Matt Schott, Francis Howell Central, for his C/JET article on model social media policies. The Facebook law in Missouri was modified so that districts can create their own policies.



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Margie Watters, CJE

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Membership: Both the FMM and SMM (Fall and Spring Media Mondays) continue to be times when the state organization OSM/OIPA (Oklahoma Scholastic Media / Oklahoma Interscholastic Press Association) works to increase membership from both middle and high school publications. At these state events, held at the University of Oklahoma (Norman, Oklahoma) membership enrollment in JEA is encouraged as well as maintaining membership in the state organization.

- The OSM/OIPA is housed on the campus of the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma.
- OSM/OIPA Executive Director Kathryn Jensen-White has returned from a European sabbatical.
- The organization's website is: <http://jmc.ou.edu/osm-oipa/>

Happenings: The Spring Media Monday (State Convention) will be held at the University of Oklahoma on April 3, 2012 at the Oklahoma Memorial Union and the Gaylord Journalism School. The day will be dedicated to sessions covering various journalism aspects as well as a morning of write-off competitions for journalism students. The afternoon will be highlighted with an awards assembly where winners from the morning write-offs will be announced along

with ratings and awards for publications including newspapers, newsmagazines and online publications that were submitted in March.

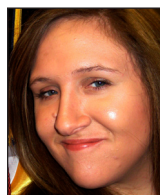
- The SMM will be the last day of duties for the 2011-2012 OSM officers including: Katelynn McCarley, President, Bartlesville Senior H.S.; Lauren Long, First Vice President, Deer Creek H.S.; Kelsey Saunders, Second Vice President, Westmoore H.S.

Summer plans:

- Plans are underway for the Oklahoma Institute for Diversity in Journalism Annual Summer Journalism Workshop which will be offered in June.
- The OIDJ offers an annual workshop for promising high school students and is funded by several organizations including the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation, the Daily Oklahoman, and the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication at OU. Its goal is to expose youth to careers in the world of daily journalism. OIDJ's mission is to provide opportunities for students who would otherwise lack access to journalism training or who face other barriers to pursuing careers in journalism.
- Students are selected by application and participate on scholarship. During their time on campus, they have the opportunity to work one-on-one with professional journalists. The culmination of their work is presented in their edition of the Red Dirt Journal, the OIDJ newspaper, and its companion website and newscast.

Awards & honors:

- During the FMM in November 2011, adviser Eric Jackson from Yukon H.S. was named Yearbook Adviser of the Year.
- The recipient of the Lois A. Thomas Distinguished Service in Journalism Award will be announced at the SMM April 4. Lois Thomas was the former adviser of the Pirate Publications at Putnam City H.S. in Oklahoma City.
- The Oklahoma state winner for the JEA Journalist of the Year is Alex Canoy from Bartlesville H.S.



Alyssa
Boehringer

Alyssa Boehringer

Texas State Director

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Membership: Texas JEA membership is at 246. TAJE's membership is at 242, up by almost 50 from the fall.

Happenings: Here in Texas, it's all about the San Antonio convention. Committees are working hard to bring the biggest and best convention to date – true to Texas style.

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

Boehringer, Rhonda Moore or Pat Gathright to make a donation.

The ILPC convention is April 28 and will not conflict with the national convention in Seattle.

Regional reps for TAJE have hosted numerous summer workshops to great success in Texas.

The next TAJE board meeting is Oct. 21 leading up to the TAJE Fall Fiesta in San Antonio Oct. 22-24, 2013. TAJE operates its own website and listserv at www.taje.org.

The state's educational budget is still the biggest concern for Texas journalism teachers. We will know more about where we stand in the spring.

Awards: Dozens of Texas high school publications have been honored by CSPA with the Crown Awards and by NSPA with the Pacemaker nominations. State awards will be announced at ILPC April 28.

Texas is proud of our state JOY, Christian Rumscheidt, who produced his winning entry on an Apple iPad for entry in the JEA JOY competition.

Region 5: Southeast



Brenda Gorsuch

Brenda Gorsuch, MJE

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I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the scholastic journalists and advisers who make up the Alabama Scholastic Press Association on the organization's 75th anniversary. The anniversary was marked with a celebration at the Alabama state convention in February. JEA Alabama State Director Susan Newell (Northridge High School) was named the Susie DeMent Adviser of the Year.

In early March, more than 500 journalism students and advisers gathered at the University of South Carolina for the Southern Interscholastic Press Association's annual convention. The weekend convention featured the Southeast Region Journalism Quiz Bowl and on-site team maestro competitions. Hundreds of awards were presented to the top journalistic work in newspaper, yearbook, literary magazine and broadcast.

Since the Minneapolis convention last November, the Region 5 state directors and I have focused our attention on encouraging our promotional members to renew their memberships. Scholastic journalism remains strong in the Southeast. SIPA, the North Carolina Scholastic Media Association, and the Alabama Scholastic Press Association continue to support JEA mentors in Region 5 states. We currently have mentors in North Carolina (3), South Carolina (1) and Alabama (3).

We were very pleased that the Dow Jones News Fund recently recognized Erin Coggins of Sparkman High School, Harvest, Ala., with a Distinguished Adviser Award in the National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year awards program. North Carolina

adviser Robin Sawyer of First Flight High School in Kill Devil Hills, N.C., a former DJNF Journalism Teacher of the Year, received a Pioneer Award from NSPA in Minneapolis. We congratulate her on her numerous contributions to scholastic journalism.

Since the new JEA board took office last July, I have been working with Tom Gayda, JEA Development/Curriculum Commission chair, and a committee of JEA members to consider the future of JEA's publication, *Communication: Journalism Education Today*. I have also worked with a committee to explore the possibility of a national journalism quiz bowl. Motions from both of these committees will be introduced at the April board meeting in Seattle.



Susan Newell

Susan Newell, MJE

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Membership: There are 29 JEA members from Alabama. I have given a free membership and have promoted membership at the Alabama Scholastic Press Association (ASPA) fall workshop and spring convention. I communicate with some local advisers on Facebook and by email and encourage their participation in JEA.

Happenings: Celebrated ASPA's 75th Anniversary at the state convention on Feb. 17-18, 2012.

Upcoming ASPA events:

- The Long Weekend, University of Alabama, June 15-17.
- The University of Alabama's 29th annual Multicultural Journalism Workshop will be June 15-24. Application deadline is April 1. The purpose of the workshop is to give high school students experience that teaches them more about college life and a career in media.
- Sept. 17-21: Fall Regional Workshops
- Sept. 17: Mobile
- Sept. 18: Montgomery (Renaissance Montgomery Hotel Convention Center)
- Sept. 19: Tuscaloosa (University of Alabama)
- Sept. 21: Huntsville (University of Alabama – Huntsville)
- Feb. 22-23, 2013: ASPA State Convention

Awards and honors:

- Susie DeMent Adviser of the Year Award: Susan Newell, Northridge High School
- Larry Haynes Administrator of the Year Award: Larry Haynes, Oak Mountain Middle School. This award was named for Larry this year. Larry was an adviser for years before he became an administrator. Now as an administrator he advises the broadcast at his high school.
- Marie Parsons, mentor and past ASPA Director who still assists with ASPA functions, won the SIPA Outstanding Service Award.
- Student awards are listed here:
<http://aspa1.ua.edu/2012/02/2012-aspa-award-winners/>

Mentoring: JoAnn Hagood, Marie Parsons and Nora Stephens serve as mentors. New mentors are welcomed.

For the board: There is an interest in AP Journalism in Alabama. Is someone still studying this?

Could we please move the greet and meet back to early morning, so it is easier for advisers to attend sessions with their students and to present sessions.



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Renee Burke

Membership: We have 100 members in Florida; 37 of those are from the promotion event. We have been promoting membership through email blasts by FSPA President Joe Humphrey, at our state convention, summer workshops and regional workshops.

Events: State convention is planned for May 3-5 at the Wyndham Resort Orlando. Last year over 1000 students attended. Working with Walt Disney World, we had an FSPA-exclusive media day at the resort. Students learned about photography and social media and took a behind-the-scenes look at Disney. We're hoping to continue building that partnership in anticipation of the fall 2015 national convention in Orlando.

Initiatives and vision: FSPA will offer the JEA Certification Exams at our state convention in May. Several people took us up on that offer last spring, resulting in more CJs in Florida. We've begun offering free FSPA memberships to new publications, similar to the initiative stated by JEA.

Awards: Our state Journalist of the Year and Journalism Teacher of the Year will be announced at our state convention. Our JOY received such a glowing review from the evaluator, we are excited to have her represent our state.

Our three finalists are (in alpha order):

- Anna Beatty, Pine View School (Osprey)
- Rachel Wise, Zephyrhills High School (Zephyrhills)
- Aiste Zalepuga, Saint Stephen's Episcopal School (Bradenton)



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Joe Dennis

Membership: There are currently 68 members of JEA from Georgia. This includes five lifetime members, 40 promotional

members and 28 regular teacher/adviser members. We really made a push with complimentary membership for new advisers this fall, submitting 31 applications. Additionally, we have contacted the nine advisers whose previous promotional membership expired encouraging them to renew at the \$25 reduced rate.

Events: No formal GSPA events have been held since the last report. We are hosting the GSPA Awards Ceremony on April 26 and the Georgia Journalism Academy June 10-16.

I attended the 2011 Fall JEA/NSPA Conference in Minneapolis and presented three sessions: Whom can you trust?, Learn to Lead and Brainstorming: Finding the Story. I also worked in the JEA Bookstore, judged Write-offs and served as a write-off judge. I attended the state press association directors meeting as well.

I attended the 2012 SIPA Conference in Columbia, S.C. and co-presented the session Judging with Joe and Jane. I also moderated the Team-Oriented Production newspaper competition and served as a carry-in competition judge.

Initiatives and vision: We are planning an adviser's workshop in June 2012, the first time we have held such an event since 2009. Also, we are expanding our social media ventures, hoping to directly reach more students through Facebook and Twitter.

Awards: We are currently in the submission process for our 2012 General Excellence Competition. Georgia schools have fared well in 2011-12 national and regional competitions. Clarke Central High School's "Odyssey" and Henry W. Grady High School's "The Southerner" earned Pacemakers from NSPA. Additionally, Clarke Central's literary magazine, "Odyssey," earned the Scroggins Award from SIPA.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: Starr's Mill High School adviser Debbie Smelley reported that her principal is considering cutting her journalism class and making the newspaper — which has won several awards from GSPA — an extracurricular activity. I am drafting a letter on behalf of the Grady College and the University of Georgia to her principal and superintendent discouraging the practice.



Beth Fitts

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Membership: The Mississippi membership is currently 40. The JEA free membership initiative has been helpful in getting many who have never heard of JEA as a part of what we love. We have given away multiple free JEA and have contacted those who need to renew. We plan to have a new JEA members' session at the MSPA spring convention to help get advisers involved and interested in coming to JEA events.

Events: The MSPA Spring Convention at The University of Mississippi will be March 30. We expect about 475 students and advisers to participate in more than 60 teaching sessions, a carry-in competition, and an award ceremony for the annual mail-in competition. Advisers will be part of a MSPA state meeting in which JEA membership was promoted and membership applications were distributed. Current MSPA/JEA members will speak to the group about benefits of JEA and JEA/NSPA conventions.

The Mississippi Journalism Summer Institute in June will offer advisers a boot camp experience from which they carried home teaching and topic ideas for their staffs. Students chose sessions from several tracks: yearbook, writing, photography, desktop publishing and broadcast. Instructors will include Bruce Watterson, Bill Rose, John McCushion, and Brad Shultz in addition to others.

The MSPA Fall Regional Workshop at The University of Mississippi gained the highest recorded attendance in MSPA history: 520 students and advisers. All-days tracts included yearbook, newspaper, photography, new media, broadcast, on-line, sports reporting and desktop publishing. This year was the first for on-site contests where students competed in news feature writing, sports writing, design, broadcast and photography.

The MSPA Fall Regional Workshop in South Mississippi was Oct. 17 in Oak Grove, Mississippi. Sessions offered include newspaper, yearbook, photography and desktop publishing. Around 100 attended the late afternoon-night meeting as we continue to pull in more of the southern part of the state.



Monica Hill

Monica Hill, CJE

North Carolina State Director

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Membership: Current JEA membership total for North Carolina as of March is 158. Again this academic year, we used the free membership offer to extend free memberships to advisers who accompanied students to our N.C. fall regional workshops.

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

Happenings: The summer N.C. Scholastic Media Institute will again provide four days of instruction in yearbook, newspaper, broadcast, literary magazine, design, online news, advising and photography for students and teachers from across the state. Sessions are taught in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at UNC-Chapel Hill; instructors include faculty from across the state and several from out of state as well. Dates for summer 2012 are June 18-21. Registration fee remains only \$200 per person. That fee covers overnight lodging, instruction, pizza party and awards brunch. Results from the statewide media contests are announced during the closing awards brunch.

NCSMA houses the N.C. College Media Association, serving college media advisers and staffs. The association celebrated its fifth

anniversary with a well-attended conference at Winston-Salem State University. Nineteen campuses were represented. The NCSMA office coordinates this annual one-day conference in February on a different college campus each year. N.C. A&T will host the 2013 event. The association also offers an annual statewide media contest with a Dec. 1 deadline each year. Student media advisers from across the state judge the contest and serve as conference workshop instructors.

NCSMA continues to offer summer graduate-level courses in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at UNC-Chapel Hill. The 2012 course will be "Teaching Online News in the Secondary School." This short-term course will be offered July 8-14, allowing teachers to complete three hours of graduate coursework in a week. Class will meet all day each day. North Carolina scholastic journalism teachers and student media advisers are invited to apply for this Journalism Teaching Fellowship course. Fellowships covering tuition, lodging and books are valued at \$1,230 each. NCSMA pays all of those expenses.

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

The UNC-Chapel Hill School of Journalism and Mass Communication will celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Chuck Stone Program with a special event on April 21. All former participants, dorm counselors and sponsors will be invited to Chapel Hill for a celebration brunch. The 2012 event will be July 8-13. Rising high school seniors may apply online at jomc.unc.edu/stoneprogram. The one-week program covers airfare, lodging, meals and more. Twelve students will be selected to participate. NCSMA again this year supported the Minority High School Journalism Program sponsored by Carolina Association for Black Journalists. The one-day workshop on Feb. 25 featured sessions taught by current UNC-Chapel Hill students. Elon University's Sunshine Center, part of the N.C. Open Government Coalition, continues to invite and involve high school teachers and students in its activities.

NCSMA's fall regional workshops concluded Nov. 10 in Charlotte. These co-hosted workshops were offered in six cities across the state. They continue to represent the true outreach mission of the scholastic media association. Registration fees are only \$10 per person, and that fee includes lunch. These October and November events were scheduled in the following locations: Asheville at University of North Carolina at Asheville; Boone at Appalachian State; Chapel Hill at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Greenville at East Carolina University; Charlotte in The Charlotte Observer building and Greensboro at North Carolina A&T State University.

Mentoring: North Carolina continues to participate in the JEA Mentor Program. Kay Windsor and Cornelia Harris have joined Martha Rothwell as mentors. Two recent retirees have also already requested that they be considered as mentors.

For the board: Please consider establishing a Sept. 1 deadline for any updates or changes to the Journalist of the Year application materials to ensure that those of us distributing our respective state applications can do so in a timely and consistent manner.



Karen Flowers

Karen Flowers, CJE

South Carolina State Director

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Membership: Currently our JEA membership in South Carolina is at 55: 31 promotional, 2 lifetime, 22 adviser memberships. Four promotional are no longer advising and one of the promotional has moved to another state. Each month, I try to email JEA members who have not renewed membership and remind them that it's time to renew. Am working on promotional membership renewals. Additionally to promote membership in JEA, we have the JEA membership on all our membership brochures and online membership and we always ask our regional director, Brenda Gorsuch, to speak about JEA at our SIPA Advisers luncheon.

Happenings: The 75th anniversary of SCSPA Oct. 16 and the fall conference Oct. 17 were a huge success. I reported in the fall about our new adviser award, the Bruce E. Konkle Rising Star award.

Our SCSPA spring conference is April 23.

Although I am JEA state director of South Carolina and have only reported on South Carolina events, I also direct the regional organization, the Southern Interscholastic Press Association, and many of the schools that come to the SIPA spring convention are from South Carolina and win awards.

At our winter meeting the SCSPA board revised the First Amendment liaison position changing from a college student who had worked in scholastic journalism to an adviser/former adviser. We realize because of the time this position will take, the adviser will probably have to be "former." This person is supposed to help the office identify and work with staffs/advisers who find themselves operating in less than ideal conditions – most often under prior review and/or censorship. Our goal for the end of the school year is to survey current members to see what is really going on in our state. In general conversations with our advisers at conferences, through email, etc. we find that so many of our advisers do not know the differences among prior review, prior restraint and censorship. That's a beginning point for us.

Awards: In the fall I reported that J.L. Mann High School's newspaper staff (Greenville, S.C.) had successfully upheld their First Amendment rights by "taking on the principal" when he tried to take part of the money raised for charity for an after school program he wanted. They published a four-page special issue covering the issue. The Manuscript staff received the Joseph W. Shoquist Freedom of the Press Award at the SIPA convention March 3 for their coverage of the issue.

All of the South Carolina awards will be presented at the spring conference April 23.

Mentors: South Carolina has one mentor, Marilyn Chapman. However, SIPA supports mentors in South Carolina, North Carolina and Alabama through \$1,000 grants to each state.

Heather Nagel

Tennessee State Director

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Membership: We have 38 active JEA members in Tennessee. That is up from the 33 we had last fall.

Events: On March 5, the Tennessee High School Press Association, directed by Jimmy McCollum, hosted an awards ceremony on the Lipscomb University campus, and students were presented with awards ranging from best copy to best design. We had 497 students in attendance from 18 different high schools.

Awards:

H. L. Hall Student Journalist of the Year

Tina Qian, Harpeth Hall School

Bonnie Hufford Award for Adviser of the Year

Stephanie Crichton, Hardin Valley Academy

Administrator of the Year

Elizabeth Miller, Hutchison School

Best Overall Newspaper

First Place: Knightly News, Hume-Fogg Academic

Second Place: Logos, Harpeth Hall

Third Place: Trojan Torch, Dyersburg High School

Honorable Mention: The Edge, Coffee County High School; The Eagle's Eye, St. Benedict at Auburndale

Best Overall Yearbook

First Place: Lion's Roar, Christ Presbyterian Academy

Second Place: Flight, Hardin Valley Academy

Third Place: Princeps, Webb School of Knoxville

Honorable Mention: The Lantern, Hutchison School

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

Region 6: Mid-atlantic/Great Lakes



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Rod Satterthwaite, CJE

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Region 7: Northeast



Jane Blystone

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This has been an exciting season for our region. We have increased membership dramatically in this region from a total of 174 in November 2010 to a total of 247 members just 18 months later. This is directly due to the great work of our state directors who are enrolling members one at a time.

We have added several new state directors: Susan Houseman (Pennsylvania) who replaces Wanda Pletcher, and Doreen Picozzi (Rhode Island), who is the first director there since the 90s. We also say goodbye to Stacey Wilkins (Connecticut) who will be relocating to East Africa (Nairobi) where her husband has been transferred. She will be teaching in an international school, so we hope to see more student journalism rising there. A search for state directors in Connecticut, New Hampshire and Maine continues. Five of six state directors were in attendance at the Minneapolis convention and we had a huge gathering at our Meet, Greet and Eat session directly due to enthusiastic recruiting by our state directors.

Brian Baron is gearing up for the Boston convention as he builds checklists of great media speakers for attendees in 2013. He is also working to build a local committee.

I have started a Facebook Page (<http://tinyurl.com/8yrj4h6>) for this region and one state director, Starr Stackstein, has also made one for her state to keep members abreast of happenings in their state and to provide an additional place for local conversation about scholastic journalism.

Awards: Since our last report several advisers have earned state and national recognition:

- Michael Simmons: CJE, JEA Special Recognition Adviser
- Scott Menscher: Dow Jones Special Recognition Adviser
- Doreen Picozzi: CJE, Dow Jones Special Recognition Adviser

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- Starr Stackstein: new Certification Commission member, Dow Jones Special Recognition Adviser
- Cindy Carey: MJE
- Jane Blystone: Pennsylvania Scholastic Press Association named their annual Student Journalist of the Year Scholarship after her in December. The first winner is Laura Weiss, Conestoga High School, one of JEA's 45 words Student Partners.

For the board: In this region, student publications, often done after school, are being cut at an alarming rate. We did have a potential state director for one of our open states, but the individual declined after the journalism program was cut at that school.



Stacey Wilkins

Stacey Wilkins, CJE

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Membership: Connecticut has 10 teacher adviser members.

Events: JEA teacher faculty advisers from Westport and Norwalk are beginning to plan the sixth annual Fairfield County High School Journalism Symposium to be held on the campus of Norwalk Community College in the fall of 2012.

Initiatives: The Connecticut chapter is seeking a new state director to replace Stacey Wilkins who is moving to Nairobi, Kenya. Wilkins is in the process of replacing this position before she leaves in April.

Awards: The Connecticut Student Journalist of the Year is Julian Clarke from Staples High School in Westport. Julian is the managing editor of Inklings News. Julian plans to enroll in a university journalism degree program in the fall of 2012.

First Amendment challenges and related concerns: Darien High School in Darien ended a one-year censorship battle over a story that examined the cut of untenured teachers. The article was published in the February 2012 print edition.

Colleen Gacic, CJE

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Membership: Massachusetts has 26 members in JEA.

Events: New England Scholastic Press Association's 64th Annual Conference at Boston University's College of Communication will take place May 4, 2012.

NESPA will again offer a week long adviser workshop: How to Advise a Scholastic News Publication, July 2, 3, 5 and 6 at Boston University in the College of Communication. For more information: <http://blogs.bu.edu/nespa/files/2012/02/workshop2012.pdf>

This year the Intensive Journalistic Writing Institute will be hosted at the Boston Globe. Carol Lange and Ron Bennett, will serve as faculty for the institute. New England AP Language teachers, Brian Baron of Newton South HS, Colleen Gacic of Scituate HS, and Will Higgins of Dartmouth HS, who use the IJW model in their classrooms will also take part in the institute sharing some of their own lesson plans.



Susan Everett

Susan V. Everett, MJE

New Jersey State Director
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Membership: Membership: Current membership 73 (from JEA directory on 3/10) up from 56 at Minneapolis convention. Of those, 37 were renewed or added through registration at the GSSPA fall conference. Using charts distributed in Minneapolis, New Jersey seems to show a steady climb in membership.

Happenings: JEA membership materials were handed out in the adviser packets at the GSSPA Fall Press Day in October, and materials will be distributed in the same way at the spring Adviser Conference, May 4.

The New Jersey Journalist of the year was selected in conjunction with the NJ Press Foundation, and will receive the \$5000 Bernard Kilgore Scholarship, presented by the NJPF and the Kilgore family in memory of the Bernard Kilgore of the Wall Street Journal.

Mentoring: New Jersey has two mentors, Ron Bonadonna and Sue Everett. We are struggling to find mentees, as budget cut have made some programs extra curricular, and as it is sometimes difficult to contact new advisers. Currently, Sue is beginning a relationship with one mentee, and Ron has none. We are also unsure of funding for next school year.



Starr Sackstein

Starr Sackstein, MJE

New York State Director
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Membership: We currently have 62 active members through our free membership giveaways. Efforts to connect with members to renew have been sent via email and on the Facebook page. I'm actively encouraging journalism educators through my connections with the city scholastic press association to get involved.

Happenings:

- Hofstra University Student Press Day was held on Dec. 12
- Baruch hosted an adviser workshop Jan. 30
- Baruch's high school collaborative hosted a workshop for NYC schools editors on Feb. 8
- CSPA spring conference at Columbia University March 14-16
- Cortney Weisman, Michael Simons and myself have started discussing ways to change journalism licensing in NY as well as ways to work together via technology. These conversations started on our Facebook group page and continued at the Minneapolis convention.
- I'm actively trying to offer a certification exam day for advisers who can't make it to a convention. We tried for March of this year but were unsuccessful. We will try again in the fall.

Awards and honors:

- Katina Peron earned her CJE at the fall convention
- Michael Simons was a Special Recognition Adviser for 2011
- Christina Semple of Commack High School had her student, Marissa Ditkowsky, selected as NY's Journalist of the Year (my first actual submission as state director)

Mentoring: Right now we are at a standstill with mentoring in New York. I have been talking to Linda Barrington about how we can raise money in the state. I have reached out to Sherri Taylor of ESSPA (our state organization) and also CSPA, but have failed to gain funding from either group. The next step to shoot for next year, reaching out to professional journalism organizations as well as possibly Baruch College's high school collaborative.

First Amendment concerns: New York City schools sees a lot of censorship. There is a real need for better first amendment protection of students and teachers here. Katina Peron wrote an article for the NY Times' schoolbook about this problem. <http://www.nytimes.com/schoolbook/2011/11/04/for-student-journalists-challenges-in-putting-out-the-school-newspaper/>

Susan Houseman**Pennsylvania State Director**

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Membership: Since I became state director in December, I have secured one new (promotional) membership: Lisa Yinger from Big Spring High School. I contacted 12 newspaper advisers whose students won Keystone Awards in the annual Pennsylvania Newspaper Association contest. I invited them to join JEA but have not received any word back.

Happenings: Conestoga High School produced a public service announcement about our state school press association that aired on the district community channel during Scholastic Journalism Week.

Mentoring: Janice Hatfield is mentoring advisers at Thomas Jefferson, Lower Dauphin, Spring Grove, and Greater Latrobe.

Kathy Zweibel is mentoring advisers at Wyoming Valley West, Pottsville, and Pine Grove.

For the board: I'm new at this and am fervently trying to connect with advisers in the state. I'm finding them particularly quiet. I've only heard from one who had a question about curriculum. I've sent several emails, one of them requesting SJOY nominations, and have heard nothing. We only had three students apply for SJOY this year: two from my school and one from the PSPA student board that I advise. I'd appreciate any advice!

PSPA is investigating ways to bring advisers into both PSPA and JEA. One method under consideration is having PSPA individual entries judged through JEA's electronic judging system. That would mean that schools wishing for individual critiques would need to be members of both PSPA and JEA. Again, this is still being investigated.

Doreen Picozzi, CJE**Rhode Island State Director**

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Membership: Rhode Island's JEA membership has grown to include Journalism adviser Michael Gianfrancesco of North Providence High School in North Providence. We are happy to welcome Mr. Gianfrancesco, and congratulate him on the achievements of his student Emily Corsini, the 2012 SJOY state winner.

Expanding our Rhode Island membership is a top priority. We may be the smallest state in the Union, but hopefully by fall, our state will have more new members than we do Congressional representatives (2). Having just assumed the role of Director in January, I am currently developing a mailing list of our state's journalism advisers so that I may effectively reach them with a letter of introduction and materials about JEA.

Happenings: At Lincoln High School, our Journalism-Broadcast Academy hosted its sixth annual "My Story" Forum, which brought in 12 professionals representing print, radio, television and higher education to meet with over 60 of our high school students. The day offered whole group lectures as well as small group discussions during which reporters, editors, operations managers, radio personalities, anchors, sports directors and one meteorologist shared their most powerful personal experiences as journalists. The forum was held in observance of Scholastic Journalism Week.

One of the most extraordinary outgrowths of this year's forum is the forging of a new partnership with the University of Rhode Island's Journalism Department. We are now in the planning stages of establishing an annual fall "High School Journalism Day" on the URI Campus in Kingston, as Rhode Island has no local high school conference or competition currently in place. In addition, we are developing an initiative that will result in a useful online scholastic journalism resource for both high school teachers and their students. I expect to have more to report on these initiatives soon.

Our school's academy also enjoys a long-held partnership with Bryant University in Smithfield, Rhode Island. We work with

Bryant and some of their key media and communications students on collaborative projects each year, pairing students with high school journalists. This semester, Lincoln High School students are developing a documentary about local young men and women in the military. They hope to tell their subjects' coming of age stories against the backdrop of war. Our students will benefit from their college mentors during the editing processes. It is our goal to share the resulting short documentary film with high schools and their librarians across the state.

Also this past month, the JEA secured the participation of a JOY panel of judges that is exemplary in every way. The panel truly reflects a spirited commitment to secondary education and to our future journalists. We are grateful to:

Tony Bristol, Station Operations Manager, Cumulus Media;

Marcia Green, Editor, the Valley Breeze

John Pantalone, former newspaper and magazine editor, Journalism Department Chair, University of Rhode Island;

Alan Rosenberg, Assistant Managing Editor, the Providence Journal,

Awards and honors: I was named a Special Recognition adviser by the Dow Jones News Fund in Minneapolis last November. I also earned CJE certification during the convention.

For the board: Is there any advice you can offer to me in my quest to expand our membership? Are there any JEA materials that I might be able to send to advisers as a means of introducing the organization to them? I am currently developing a current mailing list of advisers and/or ELA chairs for this purpose.



Nancy Olson

Nancy Olson, CJE

Vermont State Director
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Membership: Vermont has seven members.

Happenings: State Senator Jeanette White has introduced a bill, S. 120, modeled on the Massachusetts one, to establish freedom of expression for students. It's not at the top of legislators' list, however, given the damage remaining from Hurricane Irene.

About this report:

Per JEA job descriptions and bylaws, board members and state directors are required to submit reports by March 15. JEA Vice President Sarah Nichols compiled this document based on information provided from regional directors, who collected and edited reports for their regions. This report reflects reports submitted between March 15-April 15, 2012. Calendar clip art by OCAL, used with permission from Clker.com. Twitter bird by Matt Hamm from Flickr with Creative Commons licensing. Advisers Institute promotion provided by Kelly Furnas. For the latest news and information about all JEA programs, visit www.jea.org.



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Registration Fees

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

Hotel Information

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

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

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