

The National Amateur

The official organ of The National Amateur Press Association

Volume 127, Number 4

• June 2005

A Visit to the Wai-te-ata Press Down Under



The National Amateur

The Journal of the National Amateur Press Association

Volume 127 Number 4 June 2005

Published quarterly by the National Amateur Press Association, a non-profit organization established July 4, 1876 to promote amateur journalism as a hobby. Members write, print, publish and exchange journals by direct mail or through the association's mailing bureau which collects and distributes a "bundle" of journals every month. Membership is not restricted by age, sex, or race.

Anyone interested in the hobby, upon endorsement by a present member, will be considered for membership. This includes a subscription to The National Amateur, and entitles a member to participate in association affairs. Dues are \$20 for U.S. members. For members outside U.S., bundles sent surface mail, \$27.50 Europe air mail, \$50, Far East air mail, \$60.

Active members are qualified to vote in the annual election of officers held at the annual convention. Any active member may also participate in the annual laureate competition, use the mailing bureau and the manuscript bureau. Additional members in the same household may join for \$2 annually, but only one copy of the official organ and the bundle will be sent to this household.

Subscription only to the National Amateur is available to non-members for \$12 per year.

Periodical postage paid at Massillon, Oh 44646 (ISSN 0027-8521)

Postmaster: Send change of address to THE NATIONAL AMATEUR, 145 Genoa Ave. S.W., Massillon, OH 44646.

Please send any change of address or phone number or e-mail address to:

Bill Boys,
Secretary Treasurer
6507 Westland Drive,
Knoxville, TN 37919-8224
Phone: 865-584-9222 or
e-mail: wboys@compuserve.com

Custodian of Ballots

William A. Gordon
7540 West Ave. A
Lancaster, CA 93536-9539
661-949-0016

Officers

President **Jon McGrew**
239 City View Terrace, Kingston, NY 12401
845-338-5558

<McGrew@ACM.org>

Vice President **George W. Hamilton**
Obere Donaust. 47/5, A-1020 Vienna
AUSTRIA (011-432-2233)

<HamiltonVienna@Compuserve.com>

Secretary-Treasurer **William Boys**
6507 Westland Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919
865-584-9222

<wboys@compuserve.com>

Official Editor **Gary T. Bossler**
145 Genoa Ave SW, Massillon Ohio 44646
330-477-1711

<gary@bossler.com>

Recorder **Nancy Jane Johnson**
6902 Constance Dr., Springfield, VA 22150

Executive Judges **Bob Mills, chair**
2230 Lake Park Dr. #27, San Jacinto, CA
92583 (951-654-6147)

<bobmills21@hotmail.com>

Judge: Fred Gage, Auburne, ME

Judge: Rich Hopkins, Terra Alta, WV

Manuscript Manager **Philip Lewis**
1238 Alameda Ave., Glendale, CA 91201

Bur. of Critics....**Lisa Branstetter Holt**
14773 Lindsey Rd., Mt. Orab, OH 45154

<lisa@bcwg.org.com>

Mailing Bureau Manager..**Harold Shive**
PO Box 356, Sand Gap Rd,
Pennsboro, WV 26415
304-659-3320

<hshive@ruralnet.org>

Recruiting Chair **Wilson Barto**
P.O. Box 1265
Skippack, PA 19474-1265
610-222-0428

Librarian **Stan Oliner**
1278 Dexter St. Denver, CO 80220

303-355-9630

<soliner@yahoo.com>

Nominating Committee Chair
Gigi Volkart

Reception Committee
Bob Mills, Chair
Mark Barbour

A Visit to the Wai-te-ata Press, Wellington, New Zealand

by Bill Boys

The oldest press in New Zealand is this 1813 Stanhope, Serial No. 108, and signed "Walker," the craftsman who made it from the design invented by Charles, Third Earl Stanhope (1753-1816). It was the first printing press built entirely of iron, all previous presses being primarily wooden. There are only sixteen Stanhope presses left in the world, according to Dr. Sydney Shep, the manager of the Wai-te-ata Press, who keeps this and other presses operational and functional for teaching various print-related courses at the Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Dr. Shep is Senior Lecturer in Print & Book Culture and The Printer at Victoria University of Wellington.

It was my privilege to spend part of the afternoon of March 8th at Wai-te-ata Press as a guest of Dr. Shep. I was in New Zealand as part of a small group traveling under the auspices of Friendship Force International, and our group had just completed two weeks of homestay visits with Friendship Force members in the towns of Rotorua and Whangarei. Wellington was our two-night stopover south-bound on the train from those two towns in the northern parts of the North Island. I had arranged with Dr.



Dr. Sydney Shep, of the Wai-te-ata Press and their 1813 Stanhope Press

Shep well before our trip started that, schedule permitting, I would very much like to meet her and see Wai-te-ata Press. Happily, the schedule did indeed permit.

The Stanhope press is on indefinite loan from Cambridge University Press in England. There are other presses at Wai-te-ata as well. The floor-model presses include a Harrild & Sons Albion press, a Miller & Richard press (Edinburgh), a Perfected Prouty Press #2, "The Diadem" press by John Hay & Co., and an Arab press. The several table-top presses shown in the photo, aligned along a window ledge, are a



A few of the publications Bill purchased while visiting the Wai-te-ata Press

John Haddon press (London), an electric foil-stamping press, a “Model 2 Improved” press, and a Golding.

The Wai-te-ata Press reminded me somewhat of the King Library Press at the University of Kentucky, which our NAPA convention attendees visited last July, in that it preserves and continues the printing arts associated with older letterpress technology, and does so under the auspices of a university.

Dr. Shep offers several small-group courses in the Press for three categories of students. One group is those who are studying library science, for

whom a knowledge of the techniques of letterpress printing and all its associated crafts is helpful technical knowledge, and will be especially useful to those who may someday be curators of rare or special book collections. Another group is those who are English Literature students, for whom a familiarization with the techniques of publishing, say, Shakespeare’s plays, would be a natural extension of that field of study. The third group is those who are interested in contemporary book arts, desktop publishing, and graphics in general.

I purchased several of the publications issuing from the Press, which are also pictured in the accompanying photo. For most of these publications the inside pages are done by desktop publishing, the covers being done letterpress. The shortest one, which is actually a keepsake, is printed letter-

press throughout.

Wai-te-ata Press has a website: <http://www.vuw.ac.nz/wtapress/>. I am grateful to Dr. Shep for her hospitality in accommodating my interest in this valuable niche in the world of still-functional letterpress printing.

Excerpts from *Chattanooga Chat Chat* No. 5, July 8, 2003 — electronic Issue

Web-based amateur journals—some further thoughts

by Bill Boys

THERE'S more to web-based amateur journals the more I think about it. This discussion — and this first ever NAPA web-based amateur journal, as I believe it may be — is a direct outgrowth of the No. 4 issue of this journal, which was printed on paper at the 128th convention in Chattanooga, and will soon be distributed through the July bundle. [Editor's note: I didn't find it in either my July or August 2003 bundle]

What advantages are there to web-based amateur journals and to NAPA allowing them? Here are some that I can think of:

1. No printing costs.
2. No mailing costs.
3. No paper consumed.
4. No folding, stapling, and similar material production handling.
5. Faster distribution than via bundle or private mailing.
6. Availability of the end result to the entire world Wide Web, with publicity and recruiting potential that is unforeseeable at this time.

7. Use of a medium that many younger people are familiar with and enjoy using, hence a much simpler bridge to amateur journalism than older technologies such as letterpress and offset.

8. Offers intriguing possibility of using previously impossible enhancements, such as sound, video clips and animation.

9. Ability to easily correct omissions by novice member publishers who omit a title, a number or a date, or their name in their journals.

10. Adapting to this new publishing medium would give NAPA, the oldest surviving amateur journalism association, the distinction of being the first amateur journalism organization to embrace this medium in an official way. (At least as far as I know now, and assuming one of the others doesn't act before we can officially amend our constitution.)

11. Ability to provide active, clickable links to other NAPA journals on the web, and in fact to sources or other

documents anywhere on the web.

What disadvantages are there?

1. Not all members have computers, or access to the World Wide Web. (Reply: almost all our members would have access to the web through their local library if not through friends; and computer ownership will only increase in the years ahead.)
2. There is no paper tactile feeling to enjoy as one reads. (Reply: true, but while that may indeed deprive a reader of that sensation, that is not central to the hobby of amateur journalism; also, other senses such as sight and hearing can be involved in ways never before possible.)
3. Archiving back issues would Be difficult. (Reply: archiving would need to be accomplished on digital media such as CDs or whatever future technology may bring about, which actually may consume far less space than paper journals, but also be backed up more readily and thus available anywhere, not just where physical collections of papers might exist. Furthermore, electronic searching for names, words or phrases is possible in digitally archived media whereas it is impossible for print journals without extensive time-consuming indexing.)
4. What if NAPA were swamped with amateur web-based journals, so that the Recorder, the Historian, the Bureau of Critics and others might find their duties far too taxing? (Reply: that could conceivably be a problem which might arise, much as a couple of de-

cares ago it was thought burdensome to have a membership as high as 400 for the same reasons. Conceivably, most if not all of that administrative work could be subdivided and done by teamed individuals rather than by one individual working alone; for example, the *Bureau of Critics* used to be a group of people. But the desirability of recruiting new – and younger – members is growing more evident in recent years as opposed to such considerations.)

Your thoughts and responses would be most welcome, either to me (and I would report them), or you may wish to design your own web-based amateur journal that I would be glad to add to the space on the server I am using. Perhaps we could even start a monthly e-bundle to match the paper bundle. My current server provides 20 megabytes of free web storage for their customers, and when that becomes too small, we can either purchase more storage or look elsewhere.

Note that I assume that web-based amateur journals should meet our requirements for a title, a number and or a date, and an identified member as publisher.



The National Amateur

Taken from *Survivor's Notebook*, #32 Spring 2005 (an electronic journal)

A Salute and a Request

by Hugh Singleton

FIRST THE SALUTE to Bob Mills for his enthusiasm and willingness to go the extra mile for amateur journalism. Bob has been a force in three of the four conventions that I have attended in recent years. I feel that we need never fear for the survival of our hobby so long as people like Bob are with us.

Now for the request. This is specifically for those who will attend the NAPA convention in Carson, CA in July. I will be unable to attend in person, however in spirit I will be there.

NAPA holds a position of leadership in amateur journalism, and with such a position it also bears great responsibility. In my opinion, the responsibility includes the duty to promote and preserve the ideals that have long identified amateur journalism, and to seek means of advancing the hobby to include state of the art levels of technology as well as state of the art creativity. If NAPA is going to meet this responsibility it is going to have to change its philosophy. The bald truth is that unless the rigid adherence to one technology is expanded to recognize and accept modern trends and practices, the NAPA will cease to exist when the last letterpress printer ceases to print. **Can we not recognize that amateur journalism is more than a method of publica-**

tion?

My request is that convention attendees consider where NAPA is headed, and consider also the benefits of a change in direction. This is not to diminish the importance of letterpress printing—its rich heritage will always assure its survival. This request is that NAPA pull its head out of the sand and realize that the emphasis today is on using different technologies in addition to the traditional standards of the past. Furthermore, there should be greater balance between the various aspects of amateur journalism. More emphasis is due for writers; we need more members who are willing to print the work of others, and more writers who submit their work for others to print. This part of *ajay* seems to have fallen into disuse within NAPA. **Can we not encourage a more equal expression of journalistic talent?**

From my own year as VP, I am painfully aware that we have far more non-participants than active members. In effect, this means that the tail is wagging the dog; a few are running the show for all. Is that bad? Not necessarily, but should that few dictate the policy of our group to the exclusion of all other voices? Absolutely not. With all due respect to the *ajay* giants of the past, we need to look at alterna-

tives to a closed-mind type of government, and at least explore the possibilities of new thinking. **Can we not recognize that change is inevitable?**

As convention attendees gather for the 2005 business activities, I urge that discussion be opened to allow some of the ideas mentioned here to be heard rather than summarily dismissed as frivolous.

Taken from *My Cup of Tea* #5 (rec'd 4-22-05) an electronic journal

TODAY'S SUBJECT: Flaps du jour

by Hugh Singleton

SINCE WE have several flaps going on now there may not be sufficient space to cover the whole bouquet in one journal, so I will begin with a simple definition of flap: ***something that causes an uproar.***

One current flap that seems to have some members of one group agitated beyond all reason (in my opinion), and some members of the other group agitated to a lesser degree but still enough to generate regularly expressed slings and arrows, is ***electronic journals.***

Among the arguments that I have heard in opposition to e-journals is that acceptance of these journals will mean the end of the *ajay* bundle, and ultimately the end of *ajay* itself. Presumably, if e-journals become an acceptable means of publishing, ***everyone who publishes will abandon hardcopy and go electronic.*** If there is logic in that assumption, it has escaped me. It seems more logical to me that a publisher who does letterpress because he loves it will continue to do letterpress because he loves it. Those who feel that electronic pub-

lishing will doom amateur journalism have little faith in the hobby that has already survived the ups and downs of history for more than twelve decades.

Another argument (which astounds me) is that electronic journals do not fit the definition of "journal." My dictionary defines it as a record of something and does not specify a requirement as to how it is recorded. I find no fault with those who stress the importance of being able to "feel" and to "sense" the qualities of the printed word—I appreciate those same qualities, but not every publication will be worthy of preservation, and I would prefer to print only ones that I consider important, and to print those on quality paper. Electronic journals allow for this sort of discrimination. The fact that ***e-journals may be printed by anyone who so desires*** has not been addressed in any arguments that I have heard. Why not?

When I hear a remark to the effect that e-journals are not available to all members, and therefore are not ac-

ceptable, I wonder if anyone really believes that. I am certain that any ajayer who was sufficiently interested, could obtain a copy, therefore, it really is a matter of choice whether everyone reads e-journals or not. I suspect that among the silent majority of our groups, a lamentable percentage do not read the bundles, just as they do not publish, do not write, do not vote and do not attend conventions. Nor do they care a fig whether e-journals are accepted.

So where does that leave us? It leaves us like small children in a large sandbox where some want to play one game; some another game, and ***no one wants any new players nor any new games.*** Isn't it time we began acting like the adults we are?

The fact is that nothing remains the same forever—change occurs whether we're agreeable or not. If amateur journalism dies it will be because everyone lost interest—not because of computers or e-journals or the decline of

monthly bundles.

Instead of engaging in sarcastic remarks or doomsday predictions, why can't we be enthusiastic practitioners of a fun hobby—and do it the way that suits us without denying someone else the right to practice it as they see fit? Petty squabbles reveal petty people, and that is far beneath the standards of behavior that should accrue to every ajayer that I have met—we are a group of people unique in our interest in this marvelous hobby and to engage ourselves in childlike behavior over matters of no great importance is shameful.

I hope to meet friends in Scottsdale and to leave there having made new friends. My personal feeling is that the importance of a friend far exceeds the value of an argument over something that no one will remember in years to come. I believe that a gentleman can debate an issue without becoming less than a gentleman—don't you?

**It's Not Too Late
You Can still Join in the Fun
at the 130th NAPA Convention**

**July 2,3,4, 2005
Carson, California**

Message in a Bottle

By J. Hill Hamon

PUBLISHING a paper in the AAPA bundle is tantamount to writing a short note, sealing it in a bottle, and tossing it into the sea. The chances of someone responding to such an act seems to be about as probable as getting a response to a paper distributed in a monthly AJ bundle. One hears more from actively participating publishers than from the vast silent majority membership. Most of the few souls who responded to my printed papers did so by e-mail. I regularly send my thanks to active publishers by e-mail, an immediate and most efficient method of communication. Most publishers react to my electronic acknowledgements also by e-mail, providing a stimulating feedback.

The universe of AJ is a very small one that invites analogies to the larger whole. Cosmologists, astronomers, and physicists agree in the belief that matter only comprises about 5% of the Cosmos. Some 95% is an invisible dark matter that has mysterious properties – chief among which is the fact that it is undetectable. The majority of AJ membership is likewise undetectable. We do have some evidence that there are people out there – we have membership lists after all, so I have to assume that they may exist. Furthermore, most of them have listed e-mail addresses, and theoretically could be

contacted. With e-mail address one knows they have access to the internet, though virtually none use their readily accessible word processing tools to create an electronic journal, let alone a small journal that could easily be photocopied to produce copies for the monthly snail mail bundles. This borders on, if it is not actually, negligence. If these members do not have access to type and press, or cannot afford the expense of acquiring one, they must realize that they can easily create e-journals to share with others at no expense for paper, type, presses, or even postage.

AJ is potentially, theoretically, the greatest free press extant! Yet traditionally, publishers are urged not to write about the really important social issues we are all interested and immersed in. We are discouraged to write about religion or politics or the destructive course our leaders are taking our nation, often irrational philosophies that control our minds. We no longer write about our favorite typefaces, or recommended inks or presses or paper because so few members publish by letterpress. Old time members complain about the rapidly changing technological revolution in communication, especially their *need* to hold journals in their hands and experience the tactile “feel” of publications

reproduced on paper. This is strange to me because most bundle papers are reproduced on the same cheapest available 20-pound bond copy paper, with varying degrees of translucency. When I receive an e-journal, I print it out on my own printer on paper far more substantial than I encounter in the bundle. Such higher quality papers are readily available at only slightly greater expense from Office Depot, or Office Max. My growing collec-

tion of e-journals has a far greater chance of archival survival than regular bundle papers.

So I urge the large number of invisible, inactive potential publishers in AAPA to produce an e-journal and become active and share their lives with us. It's the name of the game!

[Editor's note: Though J. Hill refers only to AAPA, I feel the same applies to NAPA. J. Hill recently rejoined us.]

The Song of the Printer

by Thomas MacKellar

*Pick and click goes the type in the stick,
As the printer stands at his case;
His eyes glance quick and his fingers pick
The type at a rapid pace;
And one by one as the letters go,
Words are piled up steady and slow—
Steady and slow, but still they grow.
And words of fire they soon will glow;
Wonderful words that without a sound
Traverse the earth to its utmost bound;
Words that shall make the tyrant quake,
And the fetters of the oppressed shall break,
Words that can crumble an army's might,
Or treble its strength in a righteous fight,
Yet the type they look but leaden and dumb,
As he puts them in place with finger and thumb;
But the Printer smiles and his work beguiles
By chanting a song as the letters he piles,
 With pick and click,
Like the world's chronometer, tick! tick! tick!
O, where is the man with such simple tools
 Can govern the world as I?
With a printing press, an iron stick,
 And a little leaden die,
With paper of white, and ink of black,
I support the Right and the Wrong attack.
Say, where is he, or who may he be,
 That can rival the printer's power?
To no monarchs that live the wall doth he give,—
 Their sway lasts only an hour;
While the printer still grows, and God only knows
 When his might shall cease to tower.*

From a Barnhart Brothers & Spindler Type Catalog 1927



President's Message:
Diversity

—Jon McGrew, President

IN EACH OF SEVERAL companies where I have worked over the years, “diversity” has been a topic of high importance. The diversity being referred to there, of course, was generally related to hiring practices.

As I browsed through a recent bundle, it occurred to me that one of NAPA’s real strengths is diversity... not with regard to hiring practices, but in reference to the materials that this group produces and publishes.

In most publishing endeavors, there is a big push to ensure that all of the material comes out looking the same. Magazine editors, for instance, will automatically homogenize their material so that it all has a family appearance. Columnists carrying by-lines are usually given the leeway to show some individuality, but nearly all of the other aspects of their material get assimilated, so that the page layout, type-faces, general formatting, and even the

general tone are consistent across the publication. And generally, that’s a good thing. It makes a magazine a single coherent entity rather than a collection of separate pieces.

But a collection of separate pieces can have its own benefits. We see that every month with the bundle. Each piece in the bundle is unique and separate from all of the others. We each make our individual judgements as to which ones we gravitate toward, based upon writing style, content, layout, typography, or printing quality. But in doing so, let’s not overlook one of NAPA’s hidden resources: the diversity of the items is valuable in and of itself.

While each of us may look at some of the pieces and try to pick up some tips about what constitutes good layout or content, I don’t think that any of us would want all of the pieces to look the same. And of course, that’s not likely to occur. In the NAPA bundles, everyone has their own unique approach, as we do in life itself.

In my view, it’s this diversity, this constantly changing landscape, that keeps the NAPA material from being just another publication. Although the bundles typically carry some pieces which are very well done, it’s not the perfection of those pieces that makes the bundle constantly interesting to me; it’s the diversity of it.

So, to those of you who are contributing pieces to the bundles, you’re doing a great job, each and every one of you.

Critique

Dear NAPA Members:

Allow me, in this, my first “critique” column for NAPA, to introduce myself. Certainly, in consideration of the enormous body of work many of you have created, I would consider myself to be an amateur, especially in the art of the printing press. My first publications were copied or “xeroxed” as we used to call all photocopying. Now, though I wield an ancient laser printer, I am only acquainted with the use of the printing press. This is a process that I have been fascinated with my whole life, or at least since age 12 when I watched a web printer create a local newspaper.

Witnessing a foot powered press not only renewed my interest, but it began the love affair all over again. My thoughts drifted back in time to what we owe to the printing press. The social, religious, political and scientific revolutions that have shaped every aspect of our civilization were all borne of this simple, brilliant device. How could one not fall in love with such a beguiling invention?

However, I’m not a nostalgic. I’m an idealist and a romantic, which, I’m told, roughly translates into “naively bullheaded.” As a writer, the only “suffering” I’ve done for my art is consistent sneezing at the musty scent of my favorite volumes. I delight in the tactile sensation of running my fingers

over the texture or smoothness of fine editions, the reader and editor in me, relishing the words of the undiscovered author and artist. Thus, I automatically wince at the misspelled or omitted word, the cockeyed layout or rendered page, the misplaced fold and staple — and all of the other little sins that I, myself, have committed in the process of creating something new, something that expresses my own intention.

Most recently, I produced a series of booklet publications that were far too many pages to be included in the NAPA bundle. From these, Michelle Klosterman and I were able to submit a one page “sample,” though we found it necessary to share only a few of our own works, and not the plethora of fine writing we received from around the world.

Based on previous experience, it was my assumption that being an editor was more difficult than being a critic. That presumption was quickly abandoned when I realized the vast differences in content and presentation in the NAPA bundles. My skills have been “honed” on a variety of publications (from fiction editor of a glossy college magazine to work as a publicist for an advertising agency), so I have the heart of an editor. My tastes are simple: Presentation is important; content is essential. Should I be off the mark or omit comment regarding a work of significant difficulty, I invite all of you to contact me (yes, contact me) with your personal and profes-

sional advice. In fact, feel free to contact me about anything on your mind. I want to get to know all of you better. As a relative newcomer to NAPA, the many tributes to Victor Moitoret spoke as many volumes about the members as about the big man himself. Sitting next to him, his stern and booming voice rattled my chair as he said simply, "I love my enemies in NAPA more than my friends outside of NAPA." Although only having met Mr. Moitoret once, this initial juxtaposition of characteristics reminded me of all the best qualities of my late father, who, also a Navy man, he resembled in stature and disposition. NAPA's impressive collection of shared memories and insights made an arresting impact. "National Calamity" indeed (wistful irony intended).

The Letterpress Green Sheet is the first item I look for in the bundle. The tongue-in-cheek approach is endearing, but it doesn't overwhelm the publication. It looks professional and always contains informative articles. Issue No. 16 had a particularly fascinating sidebar, amusingly entitled "So, what's a dump?" With handy "Want Ads" on the back, Green Sheet is a public service!

Giving "props" to the "Prop", *The Buck Creek Press*, Whim No. 46, is packed with gold. The fine array of columns cover personal interest, local, and national items. "Poetry and Such" was especially good this issue, featuring a witty poem reprinted from 1475, a fine reflective poem, "Thoughts," by

MS, and insightful quotes "On Writing." (I confess, "Headlines to Contemplate" made me giggle.) The newspaper layout is classically organized, which gives the piece a clean, crisp look, especially considering all the goodies inside.

The Boxwooder, in issue Number 428, featured "Capitals for Text" by Arthur Graham. The text itself is very informative, if a bit text-book dry, but the combination of fine papers and exacting alignment is as unexpected as it is irresistible.

As I said, I am not a nostalgic. I like electronic work, too. I understand that it is an art form unto itself. For the "digital generation", pseudo-newsy blogs and private journal web addresses are slung around the world faster than gossip. I even subscribe to a few. I scan for items of interest, forwarding an occasional article or web address to a potentially interested party, and then that fine piece of work goes promptly into the electronic trash can. No, it doesn't take up that much computer space, yet I don't want the "clutter". I read for information only. I admit it; I have a limited appreciation for this "new" art form. I can't smell the ink or touch the paper, or walk around with it for days at a time, reperusing parts for clarity, inspiration or memory. The bare truth is this: like art deco art and dixieland band, it just doesn't turn me on. No, I am not a nostalgic, but I have personal tastes that in these modern times resembles one. I like Coke flavored Coke,

coffee flavored coffee and water flavored water. And, I like to cradle what I'm reading in my hands like I would anything that I loved.

In future articles, I will focus on the "critiques" more and indulge myself less. Besides offering my version of the

highlights of the bundle, I wanted to introduce myself. You are all welcome to contact me via U.S. Post (Lisa Brandstetter Holt, 14773 Lindsey Road, Mount Orab, Ohio 45154) or e-mail (lisa@bcwg.org).

—Lisa Brandstetter Holt

Treasurer's Report

Dec. 31, 2004 through Mar. 31, 2005

Opening Balance, Jan. 1, 2005
\$ 28,187.60

Income

Interest Income
AmSouth Bank Account 62.38
Membership Dues
Renewals, Regular 100.00
Renewals, Family 4.00

Total Income \$ 166.38

Expenses
(No expenses this period.) \$ 0

Total Expenses \$ 0

Net Gain (Loss) \$ 166.38

Closing Balance,
Mar. 31, 2005
\$ 28,353.98

Other Assets
Life Member Fund CD \$ 8,376.37

Respectfully submitted,
William E. Boys,
Secretary-Treasurer

Vol. 127 No. 4

Some Statistics

According to the latest membership list from Jake Warner (the one appearing in this issue), we now stand at 171 members. Of these, 94, or almost 55% have published e-mail addresses. I know of at least 2 more that have e-mail but are not listed.

The 171 members include 12 trial members whom we may or may not keep. There are six new members and one new family member. There are 10 life members and 25 ex-presidents, eight regular family members and only 109 regular dues-paying members. With over half of the membership having e-mail, you would think there would be more e-journals being published. To my knowledge we have only two people who publish e-journals with any regularity. They are Hugh Singleton and J. Hill Hamon. Bill Boys did publish #5 of his Chattanooga Chat Chat electronically. I'm not sure if it reached the bundles on paper or not. You could call The NAPA E-Mail News that Bill Boys put out an e-journal but it is really just an e-mail, with not much formatting. Change is painfully slow.

—Editor

Page 15

Recorder's Report

by Nancy Jane Johnson, Recorder

Below is the updated list of those who have published or contributed through the April bundle. We lost some files from our e-mail, but I believe this is an accurate reconstruction of the list through the April Bundle. [Editor's Note: Attendance at an NAPA convention will also qualify you to vote at that convention.]

* - new entry since December report.

Names were verified as in the March National Amateur Membership List

The following people have met the activity requirement to date and are eligible to vote in the 2005 election:

Abell, Martha	Hedges, Jim	Segal, Harold
*Barbour, Mark	Holt, Lisa B.	Shirley, Linda
*Barrett, Carolyn	*Hoye, Charles	Shive, Harold
Barto, Wilson L Sr.	Kapplin, Jim	Simmons, Betty
Bauer, Donald	*Killie, J. F.	*Stephenson, Carla
*Bierman, Robert	Klosterman, Michell	Strange, John
Bossler, Gary	Koelewyn, Arie C.	Visser, Jack
Boys, Bill	Lewis, Philip E	Volkart, Bill
Calkins, Jean	Liddle, Fred	Volkart, Gigi
Cheney, Harold	Lincoln, Louise	Vrooman, Ann
Clarke, David S.	*McGrew, Jon	Warner, Alice
Coleman, Milton	*Millar, Betty	*Warner, David
*Donnelly, Sean	Miller, Guy	Warner, Jacob
*Faig, Ken	Miller, Martin H.	Warner, Leah G
Fick, Al	Mills, Bob	Wesson, Helen V
Gage, Fred	*Moitoret, Victor A	*Whitbread, Thomas
*Graham, Arthur	Nelson, Robert F.	*Whitson, Leland
Gray, Speed	Orbach, Robert	*Young, Carolyn
Groveman, William H.	Orr, Richard	
*Harris, Eula Lee (Merry)	Segal, Gussie	

**NAPA SECRETARY'S REPORT,
May 16, 2005**

Renewals — Regular (28)

Abell, Martha B., Exp. Mar. 31, 2006.
Barto, Wilson L., Sr., Exp. Dec. 31, 2005.
Church, Harrison L., Exp. Oct. 31, 2006 (sic).
Faig, Kenneth W., Jr., Exp. Apr. 30, 2006.
Hamilton, George W., Exp. Apr. 30, 2006
(airmail).
Harrigan, Francis X., Exp. Oct. 31, 2005.
Harris, Eula Lee (Merry), Exp. Sep. 30, 2005.
Hinkle, John D., Exp. Apr. 30, 2006.
Hite, Charles E., Exp. Apr. 30, 2006.
Horn, John C., Exp. Feb. 28, 2006.
Hunley, William H., Exp. Dec. 31, 2005.
Kapplin, James L., Exp. Jan. 31, 2006.
Kingsboro, Yvette S., Exp. July 31, 2005.
Klosterman, Michelle J., Exp. Nov. 30, 2005.
Lewis, Belle J., Exp. Mar. 31, 2006.
Lewis, Philip E., Exp. Oct. 31, 2005.
McQueen, Troy M., Exp. Apr. 30, 2006.
Meyers, James L., Exp. Feb. 28, 2006.
O'Brien, Alfred L., Exp. Sep. 30, 2006 (sic).
O'Connor, Michael J., Exp. Apr. 30, 2006.
Patell, Veronica M., Exp. Oct. 31, 2005.
Shive, Harold L., Exp. Mar. 31, 2006.
Shivvers, Martha E., Exp. June 30, 2006.
Solomon, Mark, Exp. Dec. 31, 2005.
Soto, Raymond, Exp. Jan. 31, 2006.
Werner, Rhoda, Exp. May 31, 2006.
Wesson, Helen V., Exp. Oct. 31, 2005.
Whitson, Leland G., Exp. Apr. 30, 2006.

Renewals — Family (2)

Kapplin, Norma M., Exp. Jan. 31, 2006.
McQueen, Linda L., Exp. Apr. 30, 2006.

Reinstatements — Regular (1)

Hamon, J. Hill, 1515 Evergreen Rd., Frank-
fort KY 40601-9756. Phone:
(502) 223-3237. Email: KyHamon@aol.com.
Exp. Mar. 31, 2006.

Reinstatements — Family (0)

New Life Members (0)

New Members — Regular (1)

OFFICERS: NOTE THE CAUTION REQUEST
FOLLOWING.

Medina, Julie, 1417 Whipporwill Dr., Garland
TX 75040-8222. Exp.

June 30, 2006. Sponsored by Bill & Gigi
Volkart.

SPECIAL REQUEST: DO NOT COMMUNI-
CATE WITH THIS NEW MEMBER UNTIL

AFTER MAY 26. This is a birthday-gift
membership for that date, but her
information needs to appear in this
Secretary's report in order to get into
the database and onto the mailing labels for
the June bundle. THANK YOU.

New Members — Family (0)

New Members - Trial (1)

Johnson, Phil, 5402 W 300 N, Greenfield IN
46140-8310. Exp. Aug.
31, 2005. Internet application form; spon-
sored by Bill Boys.

Dropped — Regular (1)

Byron, Roger L.

Dropped — Family (0)

Dropped — Trial (2)

Kovach, Mable.

Schuerholz, Keith S.

Resignations (3)

Simmons, Betty.

Van Wyhe, Kate.

White, Paul.

Deceased (0)

Subscriptions (0)

**Address Changes/Corrections/
Additions**

Davids, Harold E., ZIP+4 = 06710-1742.

Davids, Sonya, ZIP+4 = 06710-1742.

Griggs, Dorothy Brown, ZIP+4 = 92227-1539.

Harris, Eula Lee (Merry), email:

bubblez513@juno.com.

Holt, Lisa Brandstetter, ZIP+4 = 45154-9111.

Horn, John C., ZIP+4 = 72222-7252.

Kapplin, James L., ZIP+4 = 21208-3510.

Kapplin, Norma M., ZIP+4 = 21208-3510.

Lincoln, Louise, 6651 E. Carondelet Dr.

#118, Tucson AZ 85710-2118.

Phone remains the same.

Medina, Rachel R., 1420 Isaacs Pl., Hemet
CA 92643-1323.

Meyers, James L., ZIP+4 = 08302-5868.

O'Connor, Michael J., ZIP+4 = 85269-8117.

Orr, Richard, ZIP+4 = 68132-1263.

Shirley, Linda, phone: (604) 854-1031.

Shive, Harold L., ZIP+4 for P.O. Box = 26415-
0356.

Solomon, Mark, ZIP+4 = 07663-4909.

Soto, Raymond, ZIP+4 = 90731-1605.

Stephenson, Carla, corrected ZIP+4 = 68155-
0091.

Respectfully submitted,
William E. Boys, Secy-Treas.

Historian's Report

(by the editor, until a new Historian
is appointed)

February - 2005

Caboose Chronicles, #12, Feb 2005,
5.5x8.5, 2pp, Donald Bauer
Campane, #233, Feb 2005, 5x7,
12pp, Harold & Gussie Segal
Humoresque, #77, Feb 2005, 8.5x14,
2pp, Jean Calkins
Impressions by hal, #27, Feb 2005,
5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive
In-Between, Vol 1, #8, Feb 2005,
8.5x5.5, 2pp, Harold Cheney
Letterpress Green Sheet, #15, Feb
2005, 11x17, 3pp, Speed Gray
Marti's Mouser, Vol. 2, #11, Jan
2005, 8.5x11, 2pp, Martha Abell
NAPA 2005, 8.5x11, 1pp, undated,
unnumbered, probably Bob Mills
National Calamity, #166, Feb 2005,
5x7, 2pp, Fred Liddle
The Boxwooder, #427, Feb 2005, 5x7,
8pp plus cov, Jake Warner
The Flexible Voice, #286, Dec 2005,
5.5x8.5, 2pp, Bob Orbach
The Vapours, #5, Feb MMV (2005),
8.5x11, 2pp, David S. Clarke

March - 2005

Break Time, Spring 2005, 8.5x11,
2pp, Harold Shive
Caboose Chronicles, #13, Mar 2005,
2pp, 5.5x8.5, Donald Bauer
Campane, #234, Mar 2005, 5x7,
12pp, Harold & Gussie Segal
Evolution of Suds Press, #10, Mar
2005, 8.5x11, 8pp, Robert F. Nelson
Humoresque, #78, Mar 2005, 8.5x14,
2pp, Jean Calkins
Impressions by hal, #28, Mar 2005,
5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive
Letterpress Green Sheet, #16, Mar
2005, 11x17, 3pp, Speed Gray
Mambrino's Golden Helmet, Vol III,
#1, Spring 2005, 12pp, Harold W.
Cheney

Marti's Mouser, Vol. 2, #12, Mar
2005, 8.5x11, 2pp, Martha Abell
National Calamity, #167, Mar 2005,
4.25x5.5 2pp, Fred Liddle
National Calamity, #168, Mar 17,
2005, 4.25x5.5 2pp, Fred Liddle
ORRiginal Thoughts, #112, Jan
2005, 4x5.5, 2pp, Richard Orr
Shampane, #122, Mar 2005, 4.25x7,
4pp, Al Fick and Harold Segal
The Boxwooder, #428, Mar 2005,
5x7, 12pp plus Cov, Jake Warner
The Buck Creek Press, #46, Mar
2005, 8.5x7, 4pp, Wilson Barto
The Flexible Voice, #287, Mar 2005,
Bob Orbach

April - 2005

Caboose Chronicles, #14, Apr 2005,
5.5x8.5, 2 pp, Donald Bauer
Campane, #235, Apr 2005, 5x7, 12
pp, Harold & Gussie Segal
Convention Flyer, undated &
unnumbered, 8.5x11, (Bob Mills)
Evolution of Suds Press, #10, Apr
2005, 8.5x11, 8 pp, Robert T. Nelson
From the Wild Hills, #3, Feb 2005,
5.5x8.5, 4 pp, Sean Donnelly
Humoresque, #79, Apr 2005, 8.5x14,
2pp, Jean Calkins
Impressions by hal, #29, Apr 2005,
5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive
In-Between, Vol 1, #9, Apr 2005,
5.5x8.5, 2 pp, Harold Cheney
Letterpress Green Sheet, #17, Apr
2005, 11x17, 3pp, Speed Gray
Marti's Mouser, Vol 2, #13, Apr 2005,
8.5x11, 2 pp, Martha Abell
National Calamity, # 169, Apr 2005,
5x7, 2pp, Fred Liddle
The Boxwooder, #429, Apr 2005, 5x7,
12pp plus Cov, Jake Warner
The Flexible Voice, #288, Apr 2005,
5.5x8.5, 1 pp, Robert Orbach
The Offshoot, #32, Apr 2005, 5x7, 8
pp, David L. Warner
The Vis-i-tor, # 13, Spring 2005,
5.5x8.5, 4 pp, Jack Visser

The Last Word . . .

Amateur Journalism is a hobby. And hobbies consume varying amounts of time in each participants life. I think that this in some way enters in to the question that has been popping up in some journals and communications about electronic journals.

I have included in this issue some articles published electronically that have addressed this question. Dig out your May bundle and read again Harold Segal's "E-Journal Quandry." I respectfully disagree that e- journals and printed papers cannot exist in the same association. In order for e-journals to qualify for awards, our constitution will need to be changed. That's not impossible! And in that same issue of *Campane* Harold reprints articles by Tim Thrift and Vincent Haggerty.

What exactly is Mr. Thrift espousing, albeit, over sixty years ago. It says, "*The National Amateur* should be more than a record of association activities. It should carry a literary supplement where writer members who have no publishing outlet could have their material published (if it passed and editorial board)."

The reprint of the Haggarty piece comes from a *Scarlet Cockerel*, in which Ralph Babcock says, "it is utterly typical of Haggertys joshing."

Then take a gander at Mike O'Connors piece from a year ago in the April 2004 issue of Harold's *Campane*.

It is called "Whither a.j.? A New Voice." I think Mike is saying that our brand of amateur journalism probably won't be around in another 10 years. He says amateur journalism is alive and well all over the internet. He says they're called "bloggers." I often wondered where the word "blog" came from. After checking out the web site he referred to, I think maybe it comes from the words "web log."

If we are to survive, we definitely need to make some changes. And we need to find a way to package a.j. so that it may interest some of these young people on the internet. Many have said "we pick up new members from the internet but we have a hard time keeping them."

Bill Boys is certainly "thinking outside of the box" when he suggests a monthly e-bundle. I know that will go over like a lead balloon with some people like Jack Visser. He seems to be on a campaign with his *Vis-i-tor*, to keep NAPA right where it is.

When the convention convenes in California, we need to have some serious discussions about where we expect to be in ten years. I believe if we rigidly stay as we are, then Harold Segals prediction will come true. We will be non-existent.

I also believe that my idea of a second publication, one that is literary and has another editor, with his/her own separate budget is kind of in line with Tim Thrifts idea.

Let's talk about some changes soon!
—Editor