

The National Amateur

The official organ of The National Amateur Press Association

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**Ron Young
1921 — 2004**



The National Amateur

The Journal of the National Amateur Press Association
Volume 127 Number 2 December 2004

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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.

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Ronald Young — Gentle Friend



The April 1970 *Denvaria* welcomed into the Columbine Amateur Press Club new member Ronald J. Young, “a new printer member,” who “read about us in a *Denver Post* article two years ago and has finally found time to join us.” The “us” refers to about 17 comrades in the Denver area (Elaine Peck, Ron’s NAPA sponsor among them) — live-wire ajay enthusiasts all who, with the help of other Colorado NAPA members, were about to host National’s 95th convention.

And a lively affair it was, with Ron and his wife Helen in the midst of it. Besides his mingling with such veteran members as Harold Segal, Tom Whitbread, Lee Hawes, Louise Lincoln, and Stan Oliner, Ron gave a lively performance as the convention’s auctioneer. Indeed, secretary pro-tem Bob

Dunlap states that “His chant approached the speed of a tobacco auctioneer.” In the meantime, to quote Tom Whitbread, wife Helen “was a most affable and efficient registrar.”

No materials are at hand regarding Ron’s printing record during this sojourn in Colorado. Possibly he produced something for the Columbine Club or some other group with which he was associated. But his publishing activity for the NAPA Bundle, the principal vehicle being *The Plumb Line*, did not appear until July 1993, two decades after the Youngs had taken up residence in Slidell LA. From then on the association has been favored with some two dozen issues of this excellent publication.

From the first issue appearing in the NAPA Bundle (#2) through Issue 24 for February 2004, our official critics have given good reviews to *The Plumb Line* for its lavish display of poetry of such outstanding versifiers as Laurence Estes and Helen Middleton Amos, the prose pieces of Betty Simmons and Ron’s daughter, Carolyn Rice Young, as well as for its overall thematic philosophy. For example our critic, commenting on the contents of *PL* #8, states that it “again does what few publishers dare: a full issue of poetry” (*NA*,

Cover Photo

The Cover photo was taken at Lexington, KY as Ron Young chatted with Harold Segal and Helen Wesson.

Dec '96). Regarding theme, Critic Merry Harris (*NA*, Dec '99), commenting on Carolyn Young's article in the June '99 issue of *PL* "Making Columbine Make a Difference," observes that "It isn't often that we see an A-J publication which tries to offer solutions to a social problem."

This view reflects the thrust of *The Plumb Line* in that it is among that genre of *ajay* journals which as a rule emphasizes the themes of general human affairs, in contrast to more hobby-focused publications, thereby widening its area of appeal.

Publication inactivity during those early years did not mean that Ron was aloof from affairs of NAPA. In fact during his 35-year affiliation, Ron (and often Helen, until her death in 2001) attended 16 conventions, at most of them performing one or another committee function (including another stint as auctioneer at the 1980 Denver meet). In addition, when approached, he was a most unreluctant candidate for office, serving over the years as recruiting chairman, recorder, executive judge, and four terms as official editor (Vol. 120, 121, 124, 125). In this respect, Harold Segal (*Campare* #231), spoke for many when he observed that Ron "never shunned a responsibility. He was happy to accept NAPA offices when others refused. A big help to presidents and convention sponsors, he was there when needed. . . ."

The only office that Ron did not want to be asked to fill was that of president. But even so, during a lunch

with this writer at the 1996 Canton convention, Ron agonized over the question of whether he should allow his name to be placed in nomination for the position, there being at that time no one willing to take over for outgoing Keith Larson. Happily for Ron, Vice President Susan Berstler stepped in. Finally, in his March 2003 issue of the *NA*, Ron put a period to any further approaches when he observed that "I have managed to steer clear of that conscription . . . Since I do not feel comfortable with, nor do I believe that I could handle the task, I keep turning it down." We would argue with him as to his ability.

Ron's final salute to his beloved hobby was his election at Lexington for a second tour of duty as Executive Judge. We will forever hold an image of him proudly accepting his post, his tall erect frame draped in his signature red jacket — this gentle friend to all



Here Ron is printing a keepsake at Lexington, KY

Letter from Carolyn Young

Dear Friends,

As some of you already know, shortly before sunrise on Sunday morning September 12th, Greg's dad quietly slipped away. In the two and a half weeks after his surgery he never recovered more than a small awareness of things around him. Within 12 hours of knowing that each of us supported him to do what he needed to do he quietly transitioned into what is to follow.

I think of my father-in-law as a rather wonderful man. He was an engineer who worked on the holding tanks for the space shuttle and also oversaw the initial building of Peaceful Valley scout ranch, which is where Greg learned to dig latrines during his summer jobs. He served during WWII and went to Japan after Hiroshima was bombed and help with the clean up. He enjoyed the Japanese people and felt welcomed during that confusing time.

He was an avid volunteer. He drove children 8 hours from New Orleans to Shreveport for medical treatment and then drove them 8 hours home the next day. He received the highest award given to a volunteer in the scouting program and received recognition for his work on behalf of the Friends of the Library. On several occasions he anonymously bought meals for people in restaurants. He saw two military men and their families out for dinner just prior to our entering in the war with Iraq. Upon leaving he told the waiter he wanted to cover their bill. His benevolence was always quiet.

Ron collected stamps from the time he was seven years old, was a short wave radio operator and had been a part of amateur printing groups for the past 60 years. He made the transition from setting type to using the computer more easily than most. He was an avid reader with very eclectic interests including everything from biographies to spiritual reading to Sue Grafton. His mind always stayed open and flexible and he had a beautiful capacity for acceptance that some people reach with age. With road map in hand he planned the route for his many road trips according to the location of a new bakery that had been brought to his attention. There was one quest he left unfinished. He has been searching for the perfect cheese cake recipe. He liked them light and fluffy and with his engineer mind he tested the difference between ricotta cheese, cottage cheese and cream cheese and the lightness he could achieve. He was close but didn't feel he quite had it yet but he always delighted in this process.

A service of memory and celebration was held on Thursday morning at Northglenn United Methodist Church. We thank each and everyone of you for all of your support during this time. It often felt as if it was your prayers and meditations that held us up during the roller coaster ride of the past 3 weeks. Our hearts feel tender but also filled with incredible gratitude; gratitude for this man and for each of you.

Love and Namaste,
Carolyn

Another Friend is Gone

The death of Ron Young is a real loss to NAPA. Ron joined NAPA in 1969 probably as a result of the famous Kelsey mailing. He was an active publisher and, beyond all else, a man who would step up when something needed doing. He volunteered to be Official Editor in a period when we were having difficulties in obtaining people to serve. He volunteered to host a convention when hosts were in short supply, and when a President refused to run for re-election unless there was an opposition candidate, he volunteered to run in an election which he knew he would lose. People like that are very scarce in any organization.

On a personal level his death is certainly a loss to his many friends in NAPA. Some of us have have been associated with Ron for thirty-five years



Ron Young July 4, 2001
at Wilmington, Delaware

in person at conventions and through his journals and correspondence. Many of us are at an age when friends are rapidly dwindling, and the loss of another one is deeply felt.

—Jake Warner

I wish the problem of finding copy for *The National Amateur* was not helped by the untimely deaths of long-time members. It amazes me how a person who seems perfectly healthy can just suddenly develop problems and die. Of course, none of us knows whether we'll be here tomorrow.

Ron Young, Official Editor of this publication four times, was the person who passed this job on to me at Chattanooga. He gently needled me at the time, saying, "You know you have to take two terms don't you? On the first one, you just start to get the hang of it and it is over. So, you need a second term just to enjoy it fully." Ron was present at Lexington and all enjoyed his company as evidenced by the cover picture. He was elected to a three year term as Executive Judge and now President McGrew has the task of appointing someone to fill this vacancy.

Ron will be missed by many in NAPA as well as family and friends. One thing is sure, the world is a better place because he was here and I count it a privilege to have known him —Ed.

The First McGrew Year

Highlights of the 2003-04 NAPA year, under the exhortatory stewardship of Prexy Jon McGrew:

Bundles featured creatively designed journals of entertaining and informative substance, by a good mix of new publishers and reliable stalwarts.

Official Editor Gary Bossler gave us an attractive, typographically clean, photo enhanced, fat volume of *The National Amateur*.

Other key officers performed admirably. Veep Hugh Singleton warmly welcomed new members; Secretary-Treasurer Bill Boys kept cool books; Harold Shive efficiently managed the Mailing Bureau; Critic Ken Faig appre-

ciatively assessed every bundle journal.

The Lexington, KY convention capped the year with comradeship and élan (Editor: Look it up, I had to). Nearly 40 attended. Lively octogenarians abounded, Vic Moitoret most prominently; Alice Warner bore the torch for enthusiastic youth. Bob Mills distributed beautiful NAPA seal lapel pins. The only Passionate debate focussed on how to view e-journals in relation to laureate contests. Perhaps this will be resolved in the second McGrew administration. Meanwhile, let us pray, write, publish, and wow at Carson, CA in '05!

—Thomas B. Whitbread
Historian, 2003-04

Recorder's Report

The following people have met the activity requirement to date and are eligible to vote in the 2005 election: * = new entry in the list

* Abell, Martha	Hedges, George	Shive, Harold
* Barto, Wilson L Sr.	Holt, Lisa B.	Strange, John
Bossler, Gary	Kapplin, Jim	Volkart, Bill
Calkins, Jean	Klosterman, Michell	Volkart, Gigi
Cheney, Harold	* Lincoln, Louise	* Vrooman, Ann (part of
* Clarke, David S. (part of	Liddle, Fred	Harold Segal's Oct
Harold Segal's Oct	McFarland, Mary	CAMPANE)
CAMPANE - Trial member)	* Miller, Guy	Warner, Alice M.
Coleman, Milton	Miller, Martin H.	Warner, Jake
Collins, Ruth E.	Nelson, Robert F.	Warner, Leah G.
Gage, Fred	Orbach, Robert	
Gray, Speed	Pool, Claire	
Green, Lin	Segal, Harold	Submitted by:
Groveman, William H.	* Shirley, Linda	Nancy Johnson, Recorder

Down Memory Lane

Those of you who were at Cincinnati in 1979 may remember that then member, Hal Sterne was kind enough to arrange a plant tour of the S. Rosenthal Company for us. I ran across this on the Letpress List and thought it might interest you. The picture at the right is Hal enlightening us, including myself, son, Todd Bossler, Alma and Al Fick and behind Al is Bernice Spink.



A Short Autobiography of Hal Sterne

by Hal Sterne

Like Bob Orbach I started in Letterpress when I was 14 years old but I have only been doing it for 61 years. I took letterpress as a freshman in high school and then bought a 7 x 11 C&P to put in the basement of my parents house. I couldn't find a used type cabinet so I bought a brand new wooden one, which cost more than the press. After doing small jobs for local businesses I soon graduated to a 10 x 15 C&P with a Miller Autofeeder.

After high school I went to West Virginia Institute of Technology and majored in Printing Management. During the summers I had jobs such as a linotype operator at a weekly newspaper. Each Wednesday night I would hand feed an old Babcock "Optimus" cylinder press to print the paper. One summer I worked in a shop that im-

printed Photo Finishing envelopes used in drug stores. All the runs were 500 and you had to lock up your own type changes plus keep 2 Kluges running the envelopes. If you had any time left over they expected you to feed a hand fed that was between the 2 Kluges. All for \$1.00 an hour plus time and one half on Saturdays.

After graduating from college I joined the Air Force and was fortunate enough to get a job as an offset platemaker at Scott Air Force Base. I decided to apply for Officer Candidate School and after getting my gold bars I was sent back to the same printing plant as officer in charge.


After my discharge four years later, I took a job as the Litho instructor at a vocational High School in Cincinnati.

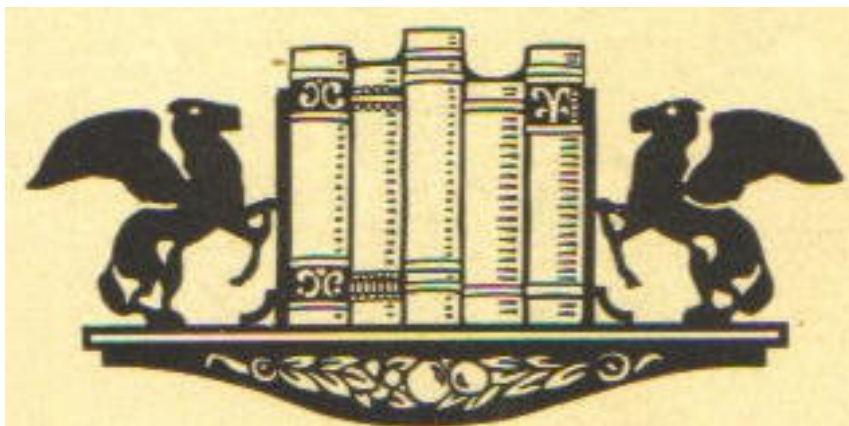
From there I took a job as assistant production manager in a large sheetfed

offset plant that was producing posters, billboards, greeting cards, labels, etc. on 52 x 76" Miehle Presses. When the company was sold 6 years later, I was transferred to sales. I wanted to get back into manufacturing so I took a job as plant manager for a magazine and catalog printer. At that time they had 13 Intertypes in the composing room and 42 x 56" Miehle Cylinder and Claybourn Rotary presses. It was my job to convert the plant to Web Offset. By the time I retired 28 years later, as Vice President of Manufacturing, we had six Web Offset presses some of which had eight printing units. One of the presses was capable of printing 128 pages of TV Guide at one time.

In the early 1970's I resumed my hobby of letterpress and got interested in antique printing equipment. In 1978 I published *Catalogue of Nineteenth Century Printing Presses* and *Catalogue of Nineteenth Century Bindery Equipment*. Upon retiring from commercial printing in 1990 I went into the printing consulting business.

In 1992 while I was looking for some type at a printing supply company, that was an ATF dealer, the owner asked me if I wanted to buy their inventory of letterpress supplies. A friend and I did and started NA Graphics. Later that year we purchased Cowan Pressroom Products, that manufactured the Morgan Expansion Trucks. The following year we bought the entire type inventory at the ATF auction. The next year we bought out Vandersons, the successors to Vandercook. Our final acquisition was the remainder of the Kelsey Company. By that time their entire inventory fit in the back of a station wagon and it was transferred to my station wagon in the parking lot of a Pittsburgh hotel. In October 1996 we sold NA Graphics to Fritz Klinke in Silverton, Colorado.

For the past seven years now, having moved to Florida, I am just thoroughly enjoying playing with my toys which now consists of about 500 fonts of type, an 8 x 12 OS C&P and a Vandercook SP-15. 



The Official Roster and Side notes

It is interesting from time to time, to look at this listing and remember those conventions that you attended or figure out who was President or Official editor when you joined or when you were born.

Year—City and Date	President	Official Editor
1876—Philadelphia, July 4	Richard Gerner (Chairman) John Winslow Snyder	William Pemberton Charles C. Heuman
<i>(Mr. Gerner was Chairman, Mr. Snyder the first elected President. The official organ was not established until 1878, until then official matters were printed in the paper of the elected editor.)</i>		
1877—Long Branch, NJ, July 16,17	Alexander W. Dingwall	Charles C. Heuman
1878—Chicago, July 17,18	William T. Hall	John Winslow Snyder Clement Chase (4 issues)
<i>(Mr. Snyder resigned at the convention. Mr. Chase elected and first issue published in September 1878.)</i>		
1879—Washington, DC, July 16,17,18	J. Edson Briggs	Clement Chase (4)
1880—Cincinnati, July 14, 15	Will L. Wright Thomas G. Harrison Thomas H. Parsons	Joseph P. Clossy (1)
<i>(Mr. Wright resigned at the convention. Mr. Harrison was elected, but because of inactivity, the presidency was assumed by first Vice President Parsons)</i>		
1881—Buffalo, July 18	Frank N. Reeve	Finlay A. Grant (4)
1882—Detroit, July 11	Finlay A. Grant	Charles G. Steele (4)
1883—New York, July 11, 12	Willard O. Wylie Henry E. Legler	Thomas G. Harrison (4)
<i>(Mr. Legler's name was placed on the presidential roll by action of the 1884 convention.)</i>		
1884—Milwaukee, July 9, 10	Edward E. Stowell Frederick F. Heath	Joseph Dana Miller (3)
<i>(Mr. Stowell resigned. Mr. Heath was appointed by the Judiciary Committee.)</i>		
1885—Boston, July 15,16,17	Dennis A. Sullivan	Brainerd P. Emery (4)
1886—San Francisco, July 28, 29	James H. Ives Munro	Earnest A. Edkins (1) W.B. Baldwin (2)
<i>(Mr. Edkins resigned. Mr. Baldwin appointed Official Editor by the Judiciary Committee.)</i>		
1887—Philadelphia, July 12, 13	Samuel S. Stinson William S. Moore	Frank D. Woolen (6)
<i>(Mr. Moore was declared President de jure by action of the 1888 convention.)</i>		
1888—Chicago, July 5, 6, 7	Albert E. Barker	Truman J. Spencer (4)
1889—Buffalo, July 4, 5	Louis Kempner	Howard M. Carter (4)
1890—Indianapolis, July 24, 25, 26	William S. Dunlop	Harriet C. Cox (5)
1891—Philadelphia, July 14, 15, 16	Edwin B. Swift Frank E. Shermerhorn	Walter C. Chiles (4)
<i>(Mr. Shermerhorn's name was placed on the Presidential roll by action of the 1893 convention.)</i>		
1892—Boston, July 4, 5, 6	Truman J. Spencer	Brainerd P. Emery (2)
1893—Chicago, July 4, 5	John L. Tomlinson Alson Brubaker	John T. Nixon (1) Will Hancock (1) Finlay A. Grant (2)
<i>(Mr. Tomlinson and Mr. Nixon resigned. Mr. Brubaker was appointed president by the Executive Judges. The Judiciary Committee tentatively named Corresponding Secretary Hancock Official Editor until Mr. Grant was appointed by president Brubaker.)</i>		
1894—Boston, July 17, 18	Charles R. Burger	Franklin C. Johnson (2) Albert Dennis (2)
<i>(Mr. Johnson resigned. Mr. Dennis appointed Official Editor by the President.)</i>		

Year—City and Date	President	Official Editor
1895—Chicago, July 16, 17, 18	Will Hancock	Albert W. Dennis Edith B. Minter (4)
<i>(Mr. Dennis resigned. Mrs Minter appointed Official Editor by the President.)</i>		
1896—Washington, July 7, 8	James F. Morton	Edwin Hadley Smith (2)
1897—San Francisco, July 7, 8	David L. Hollub	Edward A. Hering Walter C. Chiles (4)
<i>(Mr. Hering resigned. Mr. Chiles appointed Official Editor by the President.)</i>		
1898—New York, July 5, 6, 7	Horace Freeman	Samuel Steinberg (1) John G. Kugler (3)
<i>(Executive Judges declared Mr. Freeman's election illegal, but then appointed him President. Mr. Steinberg resigned. Mr. Kugler appointed Official Editor by the President.)</i>		
1899—Chicago, July 5, 6, 7	Theodore B. Thiele	Warren J. Brodie (6)
1900—Boston, July 3, 4, 5	Nelson G. Morton	John M. Acee (3) John T. Nixon (2)
<i>(Mr. Acee resigned. Mr. Nixon appointed Official Editor by the President.)</i>		
1901—Nashville, July 16, 17, 18	John T. Nixon	Samuel J. Steinberg (6)
1902—New York, July 3, 4, 5	Anthony E. Wills	George A. Alderman (6)
1903—Chicago, July 2, 3, 4	Albert E. Bernard Foster Gilroy	Walter S. Goff (3) John T. Nixon (3)
<i>(Mr. Bernard and Mr. Goff resigned. Mr. Gilroy appointed President by the Executive Judges. Mr. Nixon was appointed Official Editor by President Gilroy.)</i>		
1904—San Francisco, July 2, 3, 4, 5	Edward M. Lind	Timothy B. Thrift (6)
1905—Cleveland, July 17, 18, 19	Timothy B. Thrift	Paul J. Campbell (6)
1906—Philadelphia, July 2, 3, 4	William R. Murphy	Charles W. Heins (6)
1907—Boston, July 4, 5, 6	Charles W. Heins	William C. Alhauser (6)
1908—Milwaukee, July 2, 3, 4	William C. Alhauser	Frank A. Kendall (6)
1909—New York, July 5, 6, 7	Edith B. Minter	George J. Houtain (2) Charles A.A. Parker (5)
<i>(Mr. Houtain was removed by the President and Mr. Parker was appointed Official Editor.)</i>		
1910—Cleveland, July 4, 5, 6	Edward F. Suhre	Walter F. Zahn (6)
1911—Chicago, July 3, 4, 5	Walter F. Zahn	Edward H. Cole (6)
1912—Boston, July 3, 4, 5	Edward H. Cole	George Kilpatrick (6)
1913—Grand Rapids, MI, July 3, 4, 5	Frank A. Kendall Jennie M Kendall (Plaisier)	Leston M. Ayres (6)
<i>(Mr. Kendall died in office. Mrs. Kendall appointed President by Executive Judges.)</i>		
1914—Bridgeport, CT, July 9, 10, 11	Leston M. Ayres	Hubert A. Reading (2) Edna von der Heide (McDonald) (6)
<i>(Mr. Reading resigned. Miss Von der Heide appointed Official Editor by the President.)</i>		
1916—Boston, July 1, 2, 3, 4	George Julian Houtain	Edna von der Heide Ernest A. Dench (6)
<i>(Miss Von der Heide resigned. Mr. Dench appointed Official Editor by the President.)</i>		
1915—Brooklyn, July 2, 3, 4, 5	George Julian Houtain	Hazel Pratt Adams (6)
1917—New York, July 3, 4, 5	Harry E. Martin	F. Graeme Davis (4)
1918—Chicago, July 4, 5, 6	F. Graeme Davis	W. Paul Cook (6)
1919—Newark, NJ, July 3, 4, 5	W. Paul Cook	Anthony F. Moitoret (6)
1920—Cleveland, July 5, 6, 7,	Anthony F. Moitoret	Marjorie Outwater (Ellis) (6)
1921—Boston, July 2, 3, 4	E. Dorothy Houtain	John M. Heins (3) William B. Dowdell (4)
<i>(Mr. Heins resigned. Mr. Dowdell appointed Official Editor by the President.)</i>		
1922—New York, July 3, 4, 5	William B. Dowdell Howard P. Lovecraft	Harry E. Martin (5)
<i>(Mr. Dowdell resigned. Mr. Lovecraft appointed President by the Executive Judges.)</i>		

Year—City and Date	President	Official Editor
1923—Cleveland, July 2, 3, 4, 5	Hazel Pratt Adams	Clyde G. Townsend (6)
1924—Boston, July 3, 4, 5	Clyde G. Townsend	Harry R. Marlowe (6)
1925—Detroit, July 2, 3, 4	Clyde G. Townsend	Anne Kulique Kramer (6)
1926—Philadelphia, July 3, 4, 5	Anne Kulique Kramer	Jacob Moidel (6)
1927—Warren, Ohio, July 2, 3, 4	Jacob Moidel	William T. Harrington (5)
1928—Niagara Falls, NY, July 8, 9, 10	Vincent B. Haggerty	Damon S. Stanford Edward J. Hollahan (4)
<i>(Mr. Stanford resigned. Mr. Hollahan appointed Official Editor by the President.)</i>		
1929—Paterson, NJ, July 4, 5, 6	Harry R. Marlowe	Helm C. Spink (4)
1930—Boston, July 3, 4, 5	Victor E. Bacon	Helm C. Spink (4)
1931—St. Louis, July 3, 4, 5	Earl C. Kelly	George A. Thomson (4)
1932—Montpelier, VT, July 4, 5, 6	George A. Thomson	Harold Segal (4)
1933—New York, July 3, 4, 5	Edwin Hadley Smith Harold Segal	F. Earl Bonnell (4)
<i>(Mr. Smith resigned at the convention. Mr. Segal was elected.)</i>		
1934—Chicago, July 3, 4, 5	Ralph W. Babcock	Chester P. Bradley (4)
1935—Oakland, CA, July 4, 5, 6	Hyman Bradofsky	O.W. Hinrichs (1) Helm C. Spink (3)
<i>(Mr. Hinrichs resigned. Mr. Spink appointed Official Editor by the President.)</i>		
1936—Grand Rapids, MI, July 2, 3, 4	Margaret Nickerson Martin	Hyman Bradofsky Clyde G. Townsend
<i>(Mr. Bradofsky resigned. Mr. Townsend appointed Official Editor by the President.)</i>		
1937—Boston, July 3, 4, 5	George W. Macauley	Rhinehart Kleiner (4)
1938—Cincinnati, July 2, 3, 4	Felicitas C. Haggarty	Elaine Jorgensen (Peck)(4)
1939—Berkeley, CA, July 3, 4, 5	Elaine Jorgensen (Peck)	Ralph Babcock (3)
1940—Philadelphia, July 4, 5, 6	Robert Telschow	George W. Trainer (4)
1941—Cleveland, July 4, 5, 6	George W. Trainer	Robert Holman (4)
1942—New York, July 3, 4, 5	Charles A.A. Parker	Robert Holman (4)
1943—Columbus, Ohio, July 3, 4, 5	Robert Holman	Willametta Turnepseed (Keifer)(4)
1944—Boston, July 3, 4, 5	Willametta Turnepseed (Keifer)	Burton Crane (2) Edna Hyde McDonald (2)
<i>(By arrangement at the convention, Mrs. McDonald took over the Official Editorship when Mr. Crane was called for war service.)</i>		
1945—Cleveland, July 2, 3, 4	Willametta Turnepseed (Keifer)	William F. Haywood (4)
1946—Newark, NJ, July 4, 5, 6	William F. Haywood	Sesta T. Matheison (4)
1947—Detroit, July 3, 4, 5	Sesta T. Matheison	Charles A. Shattuck (4)
1948—Los Angeles, July 3, 4, 5	Charles A. Shattuck	Harold D. Ellis (4)
1949—Brooklyn, July 1, 2, 3, 4	Harold D. Ellis	Ralph W. Babcock (4)
1950—Cleveland, July 2, 3, 4	Thomas B. Whitbread	Victor A. Moitoret (4)
1951—Philadelphia, July 4, 5, 6	Victor A. Moitoret	Alfred P. Babcock (4)
1952—Roanoke, VA, July 3, 4, 5	Dora H. Moitoret	Robert E. Kunde (4)
1953—Jackson, MI, July 3, 4, 5	Robert E. Kunde	L. Verle Heljeson (4)
1954—Portland, ME, July 3, 4, 5	Viola A. Payne	Ralph W. Babcock (1) Russell L. Paxton (3)
<i>(Mr. Babcock resigned. Mr. Paxton appointed Official Editor by the President.)</i>		
1955—Denver, July 3, 4, 5	Alma Weixelbaum	Russell L. Paxton (4)
1956—Minneapolis, July 2, 3, 4	Russell L. Paxton	Emerson Duerr (4)
1957—Washington DC, July 4, 5, 6	Helm Spink Emerson Duerr	Kermit Schuman (4)
<i>(Mr. Spink resigned at the convention. Mr. Duerr was elected.)</i>		
1958—Chicago, July 3, 4, 5	L. Verle Heljeson	Kermit Schuman (4)
1959—Boston, July 3, 4, 5	Kermit Schuman	Willard B. Savary (4)

Year—City and Date	President	Official Editor
1960—Grand Rapids, MI, July 2, 3, 4	Brauner J. Ostergaard	Stanley Oliner (4)
1961—Tucson, AZ, July 1, 2, 3, 4	Sally O'Rear	J. Rolfe Castleman (4)
1962—Newark, NJ, July 4, 5, 6, 7	J. Rolfe Castleman	Milton R. Grady (4)
1963—Cleveland, July 4, 5, 6	Milton R. Grady	Guy G. Miller
1964—Des Moines, IA, July 2, 3, 4	Thomas B. Whitbread	Lawrence J. Notman
1965—Philadelphia, July 2, 3, 4	Lawrence J. Notman	Kermit Schuman (4)
1966—Frederick, MD, July 1, 2, 3	Victor A. Moitoret	Kermit Schuman (4)
1967—Salt Lake City, June 30, July 1, 2, 3, 4	J. Rolfe Castleman	Joseph F. Bradburn (4)
1968—Ann Arbor, MI, July 4, 5, 6	Stanley Oliner	J. Ed Newman (4)
1969—Columbus, OH, July 3, 4, 5	J. Ed Newman	Virginia Baker (4)
1970—Denver, July 2, 3, 4	John J. Gillick	Thomas Whitbread (4)
1971—Marietta, OH, July 3, 4, 5	William E. Boys	Ann Vrooman (4)
1972—Natural Bridge, VA, July 1, 2, 3	William E. Boys	Jacob L. Warner (4)
1973—St. Petersburg, FL, July 5, 6, 7	Jacob L. Warner	Ralph W. Babcock (4)
1974—San Diego, July 4, 5, 6	Ann Vrooman	Ralph Babcock
		Russell L. Paxton (4)

(Mr. Babcock resigned. Mr. Paxton appointed Official Editor by the President.)

1975—Cleveland, July 3, 4, 5	Harold Segal	William E. Boys (4)
1976—Philadelphia, July 3, 4, 5	David Warner	William E. Boys (4)
1977—Kansas City, MO, July 2, 3, 4	Keith Gray	Harold Segal (4)
1978—Kennewick, WA, July 2, 3, 4	Ernest Witte	Ralph Babcock (4)
1979—Cincinnati, July 1, 2, 3	Clarence Prowell	Ernest Witte (4)
1980—Denver, July 3, 4, 5	Rowena A Moitoret	Jack W. Bond (4)
1981—St. Petersburg, FL, July 4, 5, 6	Jack W. Bond	Leah G. Warner (4)
1982—Baltimore, July 3, 4, 5	Leah G. Warner	Martin M. Horvat (4)
1983—Knoxville, TN, July 2, 3, 4	Joseph W. Curren	Gale W. Sheldon (4)
1984—San Diego, July 4, 5, 6	Kenneth L. Monson	Matilda S. Haywood (4)
1985—Canton, OH, July 4, 5, 6	Matilda S. Haywood	Richard S. George (4)
1986—New Haven, CT, July 3, 4, 5	Martin M. Horvat	Richard S. George (4)
1987—Salt Lake City, July 3, 4, 5	Richard S. George	Kermit Schuman (1)
		Harold Segal (3)

(Mr. Schuman resigned. Mr. Segal appointed Official Editor by the President.)

1988—Macon, GA, July 1, 2, 3	Luauren R. Geringer	Joseph A. Diachenko (4)
1989—Wichita, KS, July 1, 2, 3	Gale W. Sheldon	Dick Fleming (4)
1990—Knoxville, TN, July 1, 2, 3	Joseph A. Diachenko	Robert Orbach (4)
1991—Oklahoma City, July 4, 5, 6	Robert Orbach	Frederick H. Gage (4)
1992—Canton, OH, July 3, 4, 5	Frederick H. Gage	Gary T. Bossler (4)
1993—Santa Fe, NM, July 3, 4, 5	Gary T. Bossler	Harold E. Davids (4)
1994—Greenbelt, MD, July 2, 3, 4	Harold E. Davids	Keith Larson (4)
1995—Denver, July 2, 3, 4	Keith Larson	William H. Groveman (4)
1996—Canton, OH, July 4, 5, 6	Susan (Berstler) Duffey	Harold Segal (4)
1997—Scottsdale, AZ, July 3, 4, 5	Donald Bauer	Ronald J. Young (4)
1998—Lansing, MI, July 2, 3, 4	Donald Bauer	Ronald J. Young (4)
1999—Macon, GA, July 2, 3, 4	Jack Hageman	Tom Parson (3)
2000—Las Vegas, July 2, 3, 4	Robert Mills	Gale W. Sheldon
		Melody Warner (4)

(Mr. Sheldon suffered a stroke Aug. 17 and died September 4. Mrs. Warner appointed Official Editor by the President.)

2001—Wilmington, DE, July 4, 5, 6, 7	Robert Mills	Ronald J. Young (4)
2002—Cincinnati, July	Frederick H. Gage	Ronald J. Young (4)
2003—Chattanooga, TN, July 3, 4, 5	Jon McGrew	Gary T. Bossler (4)
2004—Lexington, KY, July 2, 3,	Jon McGrew	Gary T. Bossler
2005—Carson, CA,		

Letters to the Editor

(via E-mail)

Dear Gary,

I just want to applaud you for the good looking and very interesting issue of *THE NATIONAL AMATEUR* for September 2004. I think the black cover and picture of Vic is great. He looks pleased as punch holding his trophy. He certainly deserves to win it. He has come through so much heartache and I don't mean that is the reason for his deserving it. He has always been a big part of AJ with his wife, Rowena. I used to enjoy their *CEMETERY RABBIT*. Can't remember if Rabbit was single or plural but who ever heard of a single rabbit?

I really enjoyed the great picture found by Gussie when searching for a picture of Ralph. I do miss the radical boy. He did great work for AJ for sure. And I'm glad he got out his Sampler of Weaker Moments before we lost him.

You managed to contain so much material in the issue — all of it necessary from the official minutes of the convention to the coverage of critique by Ken Faig and every page was so nicely set up. I'm no printer but I can admire something that looks so good. I particularly agree with THE LAST WORD offered by yourself. You're so flexible and also creative. That's what a good editor should be. Your asking if we're simply apathetic made me laugh. I remember at a Ladies Guild meeting I once asked a rather uninterested priest if he'd tell us what he

thought the story of Adam and Eve in the garden really meant. He said rather limply, "Well Ann, it's just a story of apathy." So there you have it, Gary.

The idea of a literary journal being produced by NAPA has been mentioned several times in the past. I think Ralph Babcock was the most interested. Then I remember that some folks thought just one issue each year of *THE NATIONAL AMATEUR* could be given over to contain just literary material. The closest we ever came to that was when some editor printed about three laureate winners in one edition and it was good. I do like the size of the NA and feel it is easy to keep protected and longer in a library than a smaller book.

I still like the idea of having a literary journal but wonder if we're literary enough in our writings. I used to think I was. I came across an old file last night and got out a copy of The California Writer's Magazine (now extinct unless that term is reserved for volcanoes), and found an essay of mine in an issue back in 1968. That wasn't a NAPA paper but it was a good magazine and I won first prize from it on another essay when entrants were asked to send in an article entitled "Why Do I Write?" I was full of passion and vinegar back then and dreamed I'd be a great writer and the article in the issue I found was called "Write it Down" meaning keep a journal. I proceeded to tell every writer what they should do and how to do it. Ha. I had to laugh at myself. What nerve! But apparently it was acceptable. I do know

that the winning article on "Why Do I Write" was published some years ago in a NAPA paper but can't remember whose or when. The judge had fun explaining that the author who won had taken him to the front of a barn, all the way through, around the barn, and somehow managed to get back to where they started. He said he was amazed that the author had somehow done this. I could've told him that's how I think and write all the time. I'm just chuck full of verbosity. I even pray each night that God will help me stop long enough to let the other person get a word in. I think I'm getting some help.

I do want to talk about electronic journals. I definitely agree with you that they should be included in AJ. Isn't amateur journalism all about sharing ideas and thoughts and papers with as many other printers as we can keep in the organization? I think Hugh Singleton's journals which he shares with me are great. They are not only informative, they are so easily readable, and they are very attractive in their presentation. I enjoy receiving Bill Boys' NAPA E-MAIL NEWS. We know he can't get it to everybody in NAPA since everybody doesn't have a computer but it is copied and presented later for all to see. Why can't an electronic journal have the same consideration? And why can't it be entered for a laureate? Through the years I remember how many times we couldn't have a fiction award or an art award and even sometimes a non-fiction award because we

couldn't find enough entries. I know although I'm no printer, how beautiful it was to read something of mine printed with little lead slivers with fancy font letters in front of certain paragraphs and beautiful titles. And I do realize how much energy and love went into printing such journals even for others more than themselves. But along came desktop publishing and computers and don't forget age. I'm among the real oldtimers. But beyond that there are the young newcomers who want to print and write. And the electronic age is upon us and they look to it. So do I. I had my novel printed by iuniverse.com three years ago.

I did write an article on the difficulty of writing it and not finding an agent whereas years ago I had a good one and another not that good before Ann Elmo. So they died. I sent out nearly 30 cover letters (actually contained in one sheet which was not easy for me) and all I got were nice notes back (some that went to anyone) and a few saying, "Sorry but we can't take on any more writers into our stable." I like that word. I felt like a darned horse. A good friend of mine who had written and published 3 novels before he wrote his last one, and he was a former copy editor at the San Francisco Chronicle, found it impossible to find an agent or a publisher. The old publishing firms want the named authors, the sure thing. They are a bunch of elitists, honestly.

So to the electronic field I went. And it was wonderful holding my novel in my hand with a great cover designed by

one of their artists. I'd worked on the book four hours late into the night and early morning after seeing my husband for four hours every day at a nursing home. It helped me to another dimension. I'd carried the idea around of course for years. I didn't even know enough about computers to type it on one but my youngest granddaughter set it all up for me. I didn't even know what a template was which they of course needed. She did at age 17 and I was glad to pay for the great job.

I think the world of Harold Segal. Always have. But I don't agree with him that AJ will be gone in ten years. Writers will always look for a place to publish and printers will always need to communicate. Those who worked in newspapers had to publish to please city editors. In AJ they publish to please themselves and what matter what form they use to send out their creative ideas from the pleasure of a room of their own? I remember when poor Ralph Babcock had to keep pulling out his print cases from under their bed just to get out another paper.

I want to add one more thought here and hope you won't hate me for it. But I learned in your article, "The Last Word." that if THAT person, meaning the one whose journal is electronic, travels to a convention he can actually VOTE? I understand that's how the constitution states it. I'm not meaning you just simply wrote that. But think how utterly rude that sounds.

Well I've taken your suggestion and spoken up. It's now 11:34 PM and I'm a

bit tired but then I am a night person as I've already confessed.

I will look forward to the next issue of *THE NATIONAL AMATEUR*. In the vernacular of what's said today (I still think), I would say it's really COOL, Gary. Thanks.

Best, Ann Vrooman

Fifty Years Ago

L. Verle Heljeson editorialized in the June, 1954 *National Amateur*:

"The National has survived numerous crises: A four-member convention, an empty treasury, missing minutes and proxy ballots, and various incidents in which the hobby stood aside and vaudeville took over.

Without its Vincent Haggertys and its Edwin Hadley Smiths, and Amateur Printers Club, it might not have survived these tumultuous years. At a final moment, however, it was always rescued, and today the National has a three-figure treasury balance, a Life Members Fund backlog, more than 300 members, and it is in greater danger than ever before. . . .

New members who can perpetuate and expand this cornerstone of the hobby are not being developed, nor can they can they be if they are encouraged to expect applause before achievement."

I wonder what Verle would think about our situation today, with a five-figure treasury balance and nearly half the members. —Editor

NAPA SECRETARY'S REPORT
Sep., Oct., & Nov, 2004

Renewals — Regular (20)

Botterill, Guy, exp. 11/30/05.
Killie, Jerry F., exp. 5/31/06 (sic).
Sheldon, D. J., exp. 7/31/05.
Sheldon, Ruth, exp. 7/31/05.
Belt, William C., Exp. 8/31/2005.
Chalmers, Peter G., Exp. 8/31/2005.
Cheney, Harold W., Exp. 8/31/2005.
Coleman, Milton, Exp. 9/30/2005.
Doolittle, James L., Exp. 9/30/2005.
Michael, Terry A., Exp. 10/31/2005.
Segal, Gussie, Exp. 8/31/2005.
Walczak, James E., Exp. 4/30/2005.
Walsh, J. Rick, Exp. 8/31/2005.
Young, Carolyn, Exp. 8/31/2005.
Chapman, George, Exp. 10/31/05.
Gordon, Edna D., Exp. 11/30/05.
Gordon, William A., Exp. 11/30/05.
Graham, Arthur, Exp. 11/30/05.
Liddle, Frederick J., Exp. 10/31/05.
Parson, Tom, Exp. 10/31/05.

Renewals — Family (0)

Reinstatements — Regular (1)

Curtis, Anthony R. (Tony), exp. 9/30/05.

Reinstatements — Family (1)

Curtis, Judith G., exp. 9/30/05.

New Life Members (0)

New Members — Regular (2)

Clarke, Dave,
471 Oakdale Ct., Jefferson OR 97352-9505; email clarked@open.org. Presently a Trial Member. Exp. 10/31/2005. Internet contact, sponsored by Bill Boys.

Stephenson, Carla,
P.O. Box 55091, Omaha NE 68155.

Exp. 10/31/2005. Sponsored by Jean Calkins.

New Members — Family (0)

New Members — Trial (2)

Duncan, Isaac, III,
135 Burnett Ave., Lexington KY 40505;
Mobile: (859) 420-4292; E-mail:
iduncan_iii@hotmail.com. Exp. 1/31/2005.

Sponsored by Bill Boys.

Hollingsworth, Betty,
1292 Maywood Park, Lexington KY 40507. Exp. 1/31/2005. Sponsored by Bill Boys.

Dropped — Regular (2)

Sment, David.
Tasseff, Audrey.

Dropped — Family (0)

Dropped — Trial (0)

Resignations (0)

Deceased (1)

Young, Ron, died Sep. 12, 2004.

Subscriptions (0)

Address Changes/Corrections/Additions

Clarke, Dave, extend Trial Membership exp. to 12/31/04.

Limon, Vivien, extend Trial Membership exp. to 12/31/04.

Vrooman, Ann, email
choreo68@aol.com.

Michael, Terry, new email:
bigguy2751@sbcglobal.net.

O'Connor, Michael J., email returned from MikeatFH@earthlink.com

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

Critics Report

by Ken Faig, Jr.
August 2004

Milt Coleman (Unquity Press), *Boston: The Red Sox: The Summer of '46*. Milt offers a wonderful reminiscence not only of the World Series-contending Red Sox of 1946 but also of Boston in the immediate postwar era. Boston still has its narrow streets, but I think it was a city of richer diversity fifty years ago than it is today. I've never been in Fenway Park, but nevertheless I hope that would-be renovators can be kept away. The architecture of Soldier Field in Chicago was destroyed by the renovators, and now falling concrete problems at Wrigley Field have begun to elicit commentary that Wrigley should be renovated or completely reconstructed.

George Hedges (The Camel Press), *Dust (From the Ego Trip) 22*. George's vignette "Bummy" deals with a young boy who witnesses the moving of a large building by workers imported from Chicago. But what the story is really about is the affection of Bummy's mother for the work crew supervisor. We never know if Bummy's mother is a widow but the narrator does tell us that Bummy had to help with the animals "because she [mother] couldn't do everything." The story ends with the departure of the crew and its supervisor after the completion of their work. The supervi-

sor leaves Bummy his leather gloves. The reader is left with the strong sense that the romance of Bummy's mother and the supervisor never developed because one of the two was already partnered, although we are never told so explicitly. Although the story is dated internally to the summer of 1909, a printed insert leads us to believe that the moving of Calvin Hall at the State University of Iowa in 1905 may have provided part of the inspiration. The economics of moving large buildings has changed and it seems to be seldom attempted today without special reason. But the human heart changes very little over the decades and this vignette presents a poignant portrayal of its affections.

Martin H. Miller, *Marty's Monthly Journal 20*. A handsome young woman in her forties helps Marty with his groceries shortly after his return from the Lexington convention and gives him a kiss when the mission is completed. I think this is a wonderful story...it leads the reader to reflect not only on the gifts which allow an 87-year-old to lead a busy life including publishing an amateur journal and traveling to distant conventions but also on the generosity which motivated his helper to do what she did. I can remember walking from work to the commuter train station in a rain storm, well equipped with a large umbrella, five or six years ago, already in the grips of middle age and the girth that often comes with it. I am not often

joined by attractive young ladies but one asked to join me for the walk to the train station to save herself a soaking. I like to tell myself I would not have been a gentleman to refuse her even though I took a bit of kidding from my colleagues. Marty's story also reminds me of my late father-in-law, who used regularly to misdial his youngest daughter's telephone number in Phoenix. It got to the point he formed a firm friendship with the lady who answered the "wrong number," and it even reached the point we thought he was going to travel to Phoenix to meet her. He had a standing invitation to drop by.

Gigi Volkart, *Scriptus 9*. Gigi thanks Bill Boys for all his hard work on the Lexington convention (a task made exceptionally difficult by his wife's illness just before the convention). Several members of the Brown County writers' group who were introduced to NAPA by Gigi participated in a presentation at the convention. I hope Gigi will be able to put her family genealogy into publishable form. The difficulty with self-publishing a genealogy is that all the helpers expect complimentary copies while buyers are few and far between. I think the biggest dividend from self-publishing a genealogy is the satisfaction of giving permanent expression to the fruits of one's work. There are firms (like Anundsen Press in Decorah, Iowa) which will produce hardbound genealogies from photo-ready text in print

runs as small as thirty-five. I used them for all three of my hardbound Moshassuck Press books.

Harold L. Shive, *impressions by hal... 22*. Harold has taken to printing short issues of his magazine on two sides of a single sheet of card stock and the quality of the contents and their presentation is just as high as his longer issues. This issue, he offers an object lesson on how we read (with an example of mangled text which is nevertheless quite readable) and the usual budget of humor.

Jean Calkins, *Humoresque 71*. The piranha is a rather grim creature, but this doesn't stop Katherine Brooks from finding inspiration for a lively (if somewhat gory) poem. I'm generally not much of a fan of word play but I couldn't resist the pithy saying about unpaid exorcists and repossession in this issue. The children's versions of religious instruction are also always a lot of fun.

Harold Cheney, *In-Between vol. 1 no. 4*. Harold devotes this issue to a discussion of leadership, and carefully distinguishes his subject from administration and management. His characterization of leaders might be summarized as follows: leaders set direction, managers and administrators work to assure the successful pursuit of the direction once set. A leader must be a risk-taker, but must also be willing to recognize errors and

make corrections. I think all of these things are true, but leaders still make me nervous. History has seen leaders who have worked both for good and for evil, and for all shades in between.

Robert Orbach, *The Flexible Voice* 279. Robert thanks Annabel and Guy Miller for their review of his book *Not All Hell*, which has now sold more than six hundred copies. Profits were originally donated to the recently-opened World War II Memorial in Washington DC, but are now going to an assistance fund for needy veterans in the Oklahoma City VA Hospital.

Robert F. Nelson, *Squawks of Whizdom* 34. Isn't it wonderful how totally unexpected requests for research assistance occasionally arrive in the mail? Robert narrates his own experience with one of these. He is unable to help the researcher locate the wreck of an airplane downed in 1944, but assures the researcher that he never called Great Britain "goat land." If Great Britain were to be named for an animal, I suppose you would have to call it "sheep land."

Harvin Figal, *Shampane* 119. Bill Groveman recalls for us how our current president Jon McGrew is carrying forward a nineteenth-century NAPA tradition begun by the likes of Thomas Harrison, Truman Spencer and David Hollub with his beard. I wish someone had done a centennial update of Ahlhauser's 1919 *Our Ex-*

Presidents book; of course, there is still time to accomplish such a task. Harvin also reflects on the joy of getting a genuine U.S. postal service 37-cent letter as opposed to an e-mail. E-journals were a hot topic of discussion at the recent convention; Harvin suggests that technology may soon resolve the problem of access to e-journals.

Jacob L. Warner, *The Boxwooder* 421. Jake devotes this issue to his own account of "Lexington: Convention 129." He begins by noting in his Foreword: "As usual, this is my biased view of the convention. If you don't like it, don't tell me; publish and tell everybody." I doubt, however, if there is much to disagree with in Jake's thorough account. He notes the sixtieth membership anniversaries celebrated by George Hamilton, Guy Miller and Tom Whitbread at the convention. Harold Segal and Vic Moitoret, among the attendees, have been having fun even longer. Each attendee was asked to say something about him or herself at the Saturday and Sunday sessions, which provided some of the information for Jake's convention report. The executive judges ruled 2-1 in advance of the convention that e-journals did not qualify as amateur journals, a ruling which stirred much discussion at the convention. Jake's own perspective is that we must embrace change or perish. Jake also devotes several pages to the presentations and field

trip which enriched the convention and provides a full list of the laureate winners.

Fred Liddle, *National Calamity* 160. What is it about blonde females and challenged mental capacity? The story of Maxine and her thermos as retold by Fred adds to the accumulated lore and legendry relating to the “dumb blonde.” One might ponder whether both natural and adoptive blonde females are similarly affected. The red neck tales related by Fred are equally fun and reminded me of Mildred Henderson’s bit in *Humoresque* about raising the drinking age to thirty-two to keep alcohol out of the high schools. I don’t know about trying on bras at yard sales but I did observe the same once at a sale in Goldblatt’s basement when that institution was still thriving in Chicago. Of course the decorous ladies in Goldblatt’s basement were trying on potential new acquisitions on top of existing installations. I remember Goldblatt’s basement because I was proud of acquiring a pair of shoes for \$5 there. The only hitch was that they didn’t last more than a few weeks before they began to crack.

Leah G. Warner, *The Rosewood Rambler* 25. Leah devotes most of this issue to her own recollections of “Lexington Convention.” The convention stirred many emotions for the Warners, since they met and spent the first year of their marriage in this city. Leah did not find many changes for the

good in Lexington, but she did enjoy the field trip to the King Library Press at the University of Kentucky. She reflects on anniversaries and relationships in amateur journalism. A *Rosewood Rambler* tradition continues with the inclusion of a recipe for cream of pimento soup in this issue. I haven’t even encountered the pimento outside stuffed green olives, but Leah’s recipe sounds good enough to make me want to widen my experience.

Harold and Gussie Segal, *Campane* 229. Harold and Gussie devote this issue to some extracts from Lynne Truss’s book *Eats, Shoots and Leaves*, relating to punctuation. These extracts raise too many issues to discuss in detail but I will try to comment on a few. I think G. V. Carey’s observation that punctuation is governed “two-thirds by rule and one-third by personal taste” is worth reflection--because like everything else, “correct” pronunciation is always in a fluid state. To cite a simple example, the colon-dash combination was once in very common usage in printed works but has now virtually disappeared. But I share Ms. Truss’s observation that certain barbarisms--like BOOK’S on a shop sign--should be resisted. For many years I had the typist’s habit of inserting two spaces, not one, after every full stop or period and I have only gradually abandoned my habit. On aesthetic grounds, I agree with George Bernard Shaw that the best way to refer to Shakespeare’s play is probably

simply as The Merchant of Venice. I don't find inverted double apostrophes ("quotes") very attractive and I have always found italic font interjected into non-italic text distracting and objectionable. One could also go on and on the question of whether periods should be preserved as part of acronyms; I had never before read the justification (preservation of first and last letters) for the British habit of omitting periods in some contractions (e.g., Mr). I think it is good and proper that particular presses maintain their own style sheets; but style sheets, if they are good ones, will inevitably change as popular usage changes. Ms. Truss makes some telling observations about differences between electronic text and printed text. For myself, I review electronic text for information but I do not read it for pleasure. I think that one accommodation which might win more readers for electronic medium would be "full page" viewing capability with the capacity to move forwards or backwards with a click of the mouse. I do not enjoy having to scroll through electronic text. On the other hand, I admit that well-designed hyper-text "links" and search capabilities are advantages enjoyed by electronic text. I see no reason that an amateur press association could not operate exclusively with electronic text; it is the attempt to accommodate both electronic text and printed text within a single association that poses challenges with the current state of

technology. Who knows what the future will bring? For the short term, I hope the traditional printed bundle association will remain viable even if it requires some consolidation of existing amateur press organizations.

Bob Mills, *Note: Save Those Shekels*. Bob invites us all to the 2005 Carson, California NAPA convention to be held at the International Printing Museum.

Bill Volkart, *The Hinterlands Press vol. 2 no. 3*. In "CatHate," Bill discusses how the family cats reacted to Gigi's enforced absence in St. Louis to assist their son's recuperation from shoulder replacement surgery. For myself, I have always felt that while humans and canines have a centuries-old alliance, humans and felines have a centuries-old truce. I know that puts me on the opposite side of the fence from H. P. Lovecraft in the old "Cats Versus Dogs" debate, but so be it. An interesting if simple view of an old-fashioned out house graces the cover of this issue.

September 2004

Gigi Volkart, *Scriptus 10*. Gigi writes with passion about canning; maybe a modernized text on this subject will be her path to professional publication. Like Linda Shirley, Gigi also offers us a sample from her recipe book. There is something about a job with the uniform--in part, I think a uniform helps to keep a profession's identity

before both the public and the wearer. **Bill Volkart**, *The Hinterlands Press* vol. 2 no. 4. Bill recounts a birthday dinner at Appleby's which resulted in far more food than expected. He writes about the situation with humor and candor.

Robert Orbach, *The Flexible Voice* 280. It's wonderful how Robert helped refresh memory of World War II hero Lt. Col. Joe A. Smalley. I don't think we will ever forget the men and women who fought to defeat Hitler and his allies in that war.

Martha Abell, *Marti's Mouser* vol. 2 no. 9. Breast cancer is one of the most frightening diagnoses a woman can receive, and we all wish Martha victory in her own personal fight against cancer. She writes with poignancy and candor of her treatment decisions in this issue of her amateur journal.

Bob Mills, *NAPA's 130th International Convention*. NAPA is fortunate to have had Bill Boys as such a generous host for its Chattanooga (2003) and Lexington (2004) conventions and to have Bob Mills as host for Carson CA in 2005 and Troy McQueen as host for New Orleans LA in 2006.

Harold and Gussie Segal, *Campane* 230. Make it something of worth, preaches Earle Cornwall in the lead-off reprint from *Divertisement* (1951). I would add to his words only the thought that each of us strives at his or

her own level. Frank Romano tells the fascinating story of the good which the codicil to Benjamin Franklin's will has done over a period of more than two hundred years since his death. Finally, Harold reflects on various amateur issues in "Musings and stray thoughts." I think a middle path of some kind may be best for NAPA as regards e-journals. They will surely find their own place whether the traditional press associations provide a niche for them or not. In the ideal, I agree with Harold that a principal mission of criticism should be to inspire the author or editor or printer or publisher to improve. In my own three years as NAPA critic I have mostly tried to engage the author or editor in his subject matter--to provide, if you will, some feedback and recognition to the brave souls who keep our bundle alive. If I have passed over faults, particularly faults of design or printing, it is because I realize that the editor or publisher or printer is probably more aware of such faults than any of the rest of us. Perhaps the next NAPA critic will find a better middle course.

Fred Gage, *The Gage Pin* 74. Fred devotes most of this issue to the fiftieth anniversary of the annual amateur printers' anthology *It's a Small World* founded by the late Bill Haywood. This anthology has grown from ten contributors in its original edition to forty-three in its fiftieth. The year 2004 also marks the fiftieth anniver-

sary of Fred's own *Gage Pin*--quite a remarkable run which we hope will continue for years to come as well.

Harold Cheney, *In-Between* vol. 1 no. 5. Harold recounts his family's generous acceptance of an abandoned cat and her offspring. We can't claim generosity equal to Harold's family, but my wife and I recently provided a temporary home for my daughter's pet cat. We've never had a pet in our house before, and it was an interesting experience to share our living quarters with another living creature. After ten days with "Special Favorite," I was a little bit sad when our daughter came to reclaim her pet.

Wilson L. Barto, Sr., *The Buck Creek Press* 44. Wilson provides front-page stories for bar-room political prophets and the classic "Dick and Jane" series of children's books. In his own "Impressions" he offers some solid practical advice on assuring that political differences do not disrupt personal friendships. The editor's spouse JSB offers whimsical verse in "A Pinball's Prayer" while Martha E. Shivers offers a beautiful vision of autumn in "The Dance of Fall." An insert card solicits offers for a century-old "Miles Nervine Proof Press."

Fred Liddle, *National Calamity* 161. Congratulations to Fred on his well-deserved editorial comment laureate for "Bitter Pill" in *Calamity* 150. Fred tells some interesting stories regard-

ing Office Depot give-aways and Epson Corporation product warranty practices.

Robert F. Nelson, *Evolution of Suds Press* 9. Der Sweet Ol' Buzzard is always ready with a snappy slogan or two like "A Mental Asset, a Monetary Deficit" in the current issue. Sometimes I don't follow all the technical discussions in *Suds*, despite the editor's best efforts to explain them to me, but I do often like the artwork. The depiction of "Expert" and "Expert Junior Grade" on page 34 of this issue is surely a classic and may well win the art category laureate for 2004.

Jake Warner, *The Boxwooder* 422. Science fiction and mysteries have once again been integrated into the general fiction collection at the Prince Georges County Memorial Library and in this issue Jake tells the story (via reprint) of his efforts to reverse the same decision taken forty years ago. Bookstores have similar issues relating to their shelving practices although I think science fiction and mystery (along with women's romance) are such well-entrenched categories that the major chains would not think of "desegregating" them. An example of a branch of "genre" or "category" fiction which often does not receive separate shelving in bookstores (and almost never in libraries) is horror/supernatural fiction. To some extent, I can sympathize with the view of the

librarians, since I think that exploring beyond genre categories can be broadening for readers, but there is no denying that as a practical matter almost all genre readers in science fiction and mystery prefer segregation. Since libraries exist as public services, it seems to me the views of the patrons should govern. Jake makes an interesting point regarding the relative bargain received by steady library patrons. Even so, cut-backs have hurt us. A decade ago, inter-library loan and journal article photocopy services were much more robust in our local library system than they are now.

Linda Shirley, *The Settler's Voice* no. 3. Linda's lovely narrative of her bringing-up by her grandparents in Saskatchewan, first on a farm and then in the city, offers poignant depictions of the best in human nature. W. P. Kinsella, another sometime amateur journalist, has offered us the same kinds of narratives of his growing up in rural Alberta two decades earlier (Kinsella was born in 1934). Linda includes the recipe for her grandfather's favorite fruit soup, which helps us identify with this man she loved so well. Her grandfather's childhood portrait on the cover also helps us connect with her subject. Linda concludes this issue with a poem, "The Empty Chair," which she marks with the copyright symbol and the word "Copyrighted." The truth is, Linda is a writer of professional caliber whom we are honored to have in

NAPA. She should mark her entire issue "Copyright 2004 Linda Shirley" to insure proper protection of her work. Inclusion of the copyright symbol between the word "copyright" and the year of publication is optional. In her portrayal of her grandfather in "How Great the Heart" I believe we have yet another strong laureate candidate.

Guy Miller, *Lamplighter* 14. Guy offers his own personal perspective on NAPA's 2004 Lexington convention. The Millers like best midwestern conventions which they can reach by traveling the "back roads," and whatever conventions they reach are surely graced by their presence. We surely enjoyed spending time with them at the Cincinnati NAPA convention in 2002. Included in Guy's report is an excellent account of the 100th annual Fossil luncheon--of course, we would expect nothing less from "Mr. Fossil."

Jim Kapplin, *A Showing of Cyrillic Type at the Ethnic Press for Russian and Ukranian*. I am unsure what Jim means when he says he has an exact match for a Cyrillic font in an English font. What I do know, just from the feel of this brochure, is that it was printed using metal type. Long live our letterpress printers!

Harold Shive, *impressions by hal...* no. 23. This issue is full of humor and wisdom. The definition of intelligence

reminds me of similar views held by my own grandfather, who always maintained that the wise man was not the man who knew the answer, but the man who knew where to find it. I never lived with my paternal grandparents, like Linda Shirley, but I knew them well enough to love them and to respect them for all that they stood for—hard work and living life to the fullest. One of the things I remember best is the magnificent vegetable garden they maintained for many years. They must have put hundreds of hours of work into it every summer. But oh what wonderful vegetables the entire family enjoyed as a result of their work. (Like Gigi, my grandmother was a canner.) She made a wonderful asparagus casserole with cheese sauce and hardboiled eggs which we still try to replicate from time to time. We still can't match the original results with asparagus from my grandmother's own garden.

Jean Calkins, *Humoresque* 72. Jean and her contributors offer us a healthy dose of much-needed humor. This issue, I think I liked steak-loving Judge Mitt the best.

Speed Gray, *Letterpress Green-Sheet* 10. Speed conducted a reader opinion survey several issues back, and in this bonus two-sheet issue we already see the implementation of some of the readers' suggestions. *Green-Sheet* will sponsor a fiction-writing contest for International Printing Week; entries

close December 1, 2004. Patrick Leary relates some further experiences as a linotype operator in South Dakota, while Bob Trogman discusses the firm of L.A. Type. There is a reprint from The Kelsey Co. Bulletin no. 313 (1958) on "slippage streaks on the printed impression." I think I liked best of all Robert W. Service's poem "Tramp Printers." Speed also offers a bibliography of "The Greatest Printing Books Ever Written." One was published by Schnellpressenfabrik AG Heidelberg. Now there's a name for you! If I remember enough German, I think it means "quick press manufacturer."

October 2004

Speed Gray, *Letterpress Green-Sheet* 11. Patrick Leary offers reflections on his experiences as a college student of printing and journalism while the editor reflects on the seasons of the printer's year.

Jake Warner, *The Boxwooder* 423. Jake features two essays by Betty Simmons, "Summer Memories" and "Parent Alert." In the former Betty recollects her family's retreat in the wilds of Montana. There is a pretty funny anecdote about an outhouse with chain marked "flush." In "Parent Alert" Betty reflects on the importance of the reading habit in the upbringing of children.

Louise Lincoln and A. Walrus, *The Kitchen Stove* 81. Guy Miller has

printed this issue for the editors. There are some humorous poems concerning travel but “The Slightly Profane Song of the Muddy Missouri as It Begins a Surge Toward Flood Stage” is an impressive reflection in verse on the power of nature.

Fred Liddle, *National Calamity* 162. I think I missed the “good old days” but I do recall when you could still buy a hamburger for considerably less than a quarter. Fred treats us to some good humor in this issue.

Harvin Figal, *Shampagne* 120. The editor is waxing scholarly with a bibliography of the first 120 numbers of *Shampagne* including details like place of publication. The careful reader will pick up details like (1) the issue not edited by Harvin and (2) the first use of the *Shampagne* flag. Prudent readers will keep information like this at hand for use in future *Shampagne* contests. Some of those early issues with headline articles like “Bare Backsides” might prove to be saleable items on e-bay.

Robert Orbach, *The Flexible Voice* 281. Wood engravings by Robin Orbach Starke adorn this issue; I wish she were a member so I could nominate her for the art laureate. The editor reflects on a tree which survived the bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building and offers a handsome printing on Joyce Kilmer’s “Trees” on the verso.

Leah Warner, *The Rosewood Rambler* 26. In “Stitches in Time,” Leah reflects on her Necchi sewing machine and how she finally discovered a missing spare part after she had searched high and low. The durability of the machines of yesteryear astounds us today when so many machines are thrown away after the first malfunction. I have to admit, I liked the old way of doing things better. An appetizing-sounding recipe for “Corn Spoon Bread” closes this issue. It sounds delicious, but it definitely isn’t part of a “low carb” diet.

Martha Abell, *Marti’s Mouser* vol. 2. no. 10. Martha is a courageous lady to offer us this account of her battle with breast cancer. Chemotherapy is an especially draining treatment. We all send our prayers for a full recovery for Martha.

Robert F. Nelson, *Squawks of Whizdom* 35. Robert reflects on when to buy, when to hold, when to sell, and like most of us finds it difficult to make the right decisions.

David S. Clarke, *The Vapours* 1. David offers some commentary on Lynn Truss’s book *Eats, Shoot and Leaves*. His commentary also appears in *Campane* this mailing. David comes to amateur journalism through his interest in the writings of H. P.

Lovecraft and promises and account of his discovery of the hobby in a future issue.

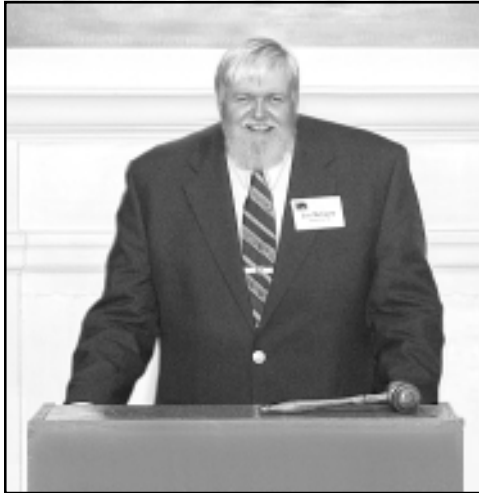
Harold Cheney, *In-Between* vol. 1 no. 6. Harold offers us some chastening reflections on how insurgencies can go on and on...in this case Moslem insurgencies in the Philippines—sound familiar? Except these were going on 1902-1913, not currently. Harold's discoveries about his grandfather Charles Cheney show that the genealogy hobby can sometimes offer surprises. Our ancestors' lives were certainly not as dull as we sometimes think. They surely had their share of difficulties just as we do today. I haven't pursued my own family background very far—so far, my ancestors have left me in peace and I wonder if I should do the same with them. However, I have no criticism for those who find satisfaction in learning more about their ancestors.

Harold and Gussie Segal, *Campana* 231. Harold and Gussie print some interesting commentary on Lynn Truss's book on punctuation. Most writers and printers seem to be aficionados of the rules of punctuation but Ann Vrooman offers a refreshing dissent. Then Frank Romano reflects upon ampersands (&s) and interrobangs (!?s). I wonder if Ms. Truss would approve of pluralization of those glyphs in parens; perhaps she would advocate interjected apostrophes because—well—a glyph is a glyph

not a thing like an egg. Both of these glyphs ultimately derive from ligatures in Latin manuscripts—though I believe “quaestio” is the Latin for question. Harold and Gussie close this issue with some recollections of Jack Bond and Ron Young, two fine gentlemen who are greatly missed.

Jean Calkins, *Humoresque* 73. Jean's contributors offer the usual (and welcome) budget of humor. This issue I liked best Ed Harler's “headlines” and Kae Jaworski's “hot dish.” I don't usually care much for puns but Lois Goltry's definition of a beauty parlor (“a place where women curl up and dye”) gave even this old sourpuss a chuckle. But I am going to pick a nit with one assertion in Denver Stull's “At Halloween.” He reflects on “spirits from Salem, Mass. who burned/and lay there in repose” but I believe the condemned witches of Salem were hanged, not burned. One gent who refused to plead (I think it was Giles Corey) was pressed to death.





**President's Message:
(Feeling Small)**

—Jon McGrew, President

Throughout each year, it is inevitable that we get the sad and often startling news of losing yet another friend from our beloved NAPA family. Some of those people have contributed so much, and done such fine work through NAPA. There have been so many giants in this group that thinking about some of the luminaries who have passed on can certainly make me feel very small indeed. Again this year, we have lost some very special friends.

There is, of course, no good spin that I can put on this. But the one consolation to me is that I have at least had a chance at some of our recent conventions to visit with several of these people. To have lost them without even a chance for a visit would be even worse. Now, at least we will always have memories of some very pleasant

conversations with our friends.

Our conventions are really all about togetherness and camaraderie. I have said it before: it's the *people* that get me to the conventions.

The conventions really are a great place to see old friends, share a meal, or sit in the hospitality suite and have a pleasant evening visit.

And yes, I realize that some of you are simply unable to get to the conventions, regardless of where they are held. I wish that we could all be there. I encourage those of you who can travel to join us.

Pretty much everyone who has come to our conventions has been very open to sharing tips and techniques about their approaches to printing and writing. The conventions have been a way for me to visit with the giants of NAPA.

•
Bob Mills tells me that everything is shaping up well and on-schedule for the next convention. Terrific!

The 2005 Convention will be held in Carson, California. I apologize for getting the dates slightly wrong in the previous issue. Here is the corrected information:

- Friday, July 1: Registration day and get-together.
- Saturday, July 2: International Printing museum tour and business sessions.
- Sunday, July 3: Special tour of the Huntington Library and Grounds.
- Monday, July 4: Final business

sessions, special programs by the Museum, and Banquet in the evening.

The convention will be held at the Holiday Inn in Torrance, California (adjacent to Carson, California, outside Los Angeles). I hope that you can join us. The convention will be co-hosted by Bob Mills and the International Printing Museum. Mark Barbour and his staff at the Museum will be quite instrumental in making this an outstanding convention.

This will be NAPA's 130th annual convention. As Bob Mills asked in a recent bundle-piece, how many organizations do you know that can boast of 130 continuous years of operation?

You can keep in touch with our ongoing convention plans by periodically checking our web site, "<http://www.amateurpress.org>" and clicking on "Annual Convention".

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Do you still have some last-minute holiday gift shopping to do? Consider giving a gift membership to a friend or relative, or perhaps to a neighbor. They may find the monthly bundles to be interesting reading. If you have a computer and Internet access, you can get a membership form from the NAPA web site: go to "<http://www.amateurpress.org>" and click on "Join NAPA". Or just send a note to our Secretary-Treasurer, Bill Boys. His address is inside the front cover of this issue. Include the name and address of the new member, and a check for \$20 (made out to "NAPA")

for a one-year membership. Members receiving mail outside the United States are assessed a surcharge of \$7.50 for postage. And adding the whole family to a regular membership is just \$2.00 more.

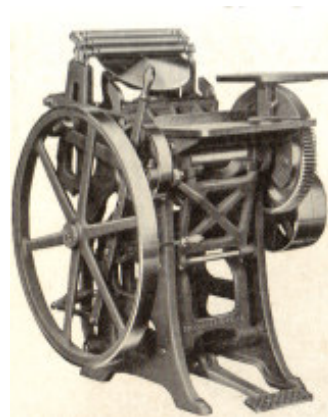
Members receive the monthly bundle and this quarterly *National Amateur* newsletter.

If you include an e-mail ID, Bill Boys will add the member to the list for receiving periodic e-mail news about NAPA in addition to getting the regular mailings. The e-mail doesn't ever replace any of the mailings.

Happy Holidays to you!

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Did you especially like one of the items that you saw in the bundle? By all means, say so! Call the member who created the piece, or drop them a note. It will certainly be appreciated. Or better— *publish* your comments in the next bundle, and tell everyone your thoughts. A compliment is good; a *public* compliment is great. If you appreciate someone's efforts, please *tell them*. You'll make their day!



Historian's Report

(By the editor until
new Historian is appointed)

August 2004

Boston, The Red Sox, The Summer of '46, Jul 2004, 5.5x8.5, 8pp + cov, Milt Coleman
Campane, #229, Aug 2004, 5x7, 12pp, Harold & Gussie Segal
Dust, #22, Jul 2004, 4.375x5.75, 14pp + cov, 2 inserts, George Hedges
Humoresque, #71, Aug 2004, 8.5x14, 2pp, Jean Calkins
impressions by hal, #22, Aug 2004, 5x7, 2pp, Harold Shive
In-Between, Vol.1, #4, Aug 2004, 8.5x5.5, 2pp, Harold Cheney
Insert, undated, 4.25x5.5, 1pp (Convention Reminder), Bob Mills
Marty's Monthly Journal, #20, Aug 2004, 5.5x8.5, 4pp, Martin H. Miller
National Calamity, #160, Aug 2004, 5x7, 2pp, Fred Liddle
Scriptus, #9, Jul 2004, 5.5x8.5, 4pp, Gigi Volkart
Shampane, #119, Aug 2004, 4.25x7, 4pp Harold Segal & Al Fick
Squawks of Whizdom, #36 Aug 2004, 5.5x8.5, 2pp Robert F. Nelson
The Boxwooder, #421, Aug 2004, 5x7, 8pp + cov, Jake Warner
The Flexible Voice, *279, Aug 2004, 5.5x8.5, 2pp, Robert Orbach
The Hinterlands Press, Vol.2 #3, 5.5x8.5, 4pp, Bill Volkart
The Rosewood Rambler, #25, Aug 2004, 5x7, 4pp + cov, Leah Warner

September 2004

Campane, #230, Oct 2004, 5x7, 12pp, Harold & Gussie Segal
Evolution of Suds Press, #9, Sep 2004, 5.125x7.5, 8pp, Robert F. Nelson
Humoresque, #72, Sep 2004, 8.5x14, 2pp, Jean Calkins
impressions by hal, #23, Sep 2004, 5x7, 2pp, Harold Shive
In-Between, Vol.1, #5, Sep 2004, 8.5x5.5, 2pp, Harold Cheney
Insert, undated, 4.25x5.5, 1pp (Convention Reminder), Bob Mills
Lamplighter, #14, Sep 2004, 5.5x8.5, 4pp, Guy Miller
Letterpress Greensheet, #10, Sep 2004, 11x17, 4pp, Speed Gray
Marti's Mouser, Vol. 2, #9, Oct 2004, 8.5x11, 2pp, Martha Abell
National Calamity, #161, Sep 2004, 5x7, 2pp, Fred Liddle
Scriptus, #10, Aug 2004, 5.5x8.5, 4pp, Gigi Volkart
The Boxwooder, #422, Sep 2004, 5x7, 8pp + cov, Jake Warner
The Buck Creek Press, #44, Sep 2004, 7x8.5, 4pp, Wilson L. Barto, Sr.
The Flexible Voice, *280, Sep 2004, 5.5x8.5, 2pp, Robert Orbach
The Gage Pin, #74, Summer 2004, 4.5x6, 4pp, Fred Gage
The Hinterlands Press, Vol.2 #4, 5.5x8.5, 4pp, Bill Volkart
The Settler's Voice, #3, Oct 2004, 5.5x8.5, 12pp + cov, Linda Shirley
To Russia with love, Und, Unnum, 4.25x5.5, 4pp, Jim Kapplin

October 2004

Campane, #231, Nov 2004, 5x7,
12pp, Harold & Gussie Segal

Humoresque, #73, Oct 2004, 8.5x14,
2pp, Jean Calkins

In-Between, Vol. 1, #6, Oct 2004,
8.5x5.5, 2pp, Harold Cheney

Letterpress Greensheet, #11, Oct
2004, 11x17, 2pp, Speed Gray

Marti's Mouser, Vol. 2, #10, Nov
2004, 8.5x11, 2pp, Martha Abell

National Calamity, #162, Oct 2004,
5x7, 2pp, Fred Liddle

Shampane, #120, Oct 2004, 4.25x7,
4pp Harold Segal & Al Fick

Squawks of Whizdom, #35 Oct 2004,
5.5x8.5, 2pp Robert F. Nelson

The Boxwooder, #423, Oct 2004,
5x7, 8pp + cov, Jake Warner

The Flexible Voice, #281, Oct 2004,
5.5x8.5, 2pp, Robert Orbach

The Kitchen Stove, #81, Oct 2004,
5x7, 4pp, Louise Lincoln

The Rosewood Rambler, #26, Oct
2004, 5x7, 8pp + cov, Leah Warner

The Vapours, #1, Oct 2004, 8.5x11,
2pp, David S. Clarke

130th NAPA Convention

July 2,3,4, 2005

Carson, California

Don't miss it!!

The Last Word . . .

My apologies to Louise Lincoln and Tom Whitbread. In the last issue, in the convention minutes, I failed to tell you that the beautiful Memorial Committee Report was done by Louise Lincoln and Tom Whitbread. The report was on page 11 of NA 127-1 and most members will know that the beautiful poetry was written by Louise and the flowing prose is the work of Tom.

Well, Ann Vrooman voiced her opinion. Where is yours? Maybe you are apathetic? I think that perhaps, down the road, we could include electronic journals in the laureate awards. But I do think they should be in a separate category. Even so, this probably will

require an amendment to either our constitution or by-laws.

Is there anyone out there who would like to take the bull by the horns and get our proposed "Writing and Publishing Contest" off the ground?

We need a shot in the arm to get something moving here. Who among you is ready to step up to the plate?

The November bundle just arrived and made me aware the the dates and hotel have been decided for the 2005 get-together. We'll be staying at the Holiday Inn, 19800 South Vermont Avenue, in Torrence, California. Their phone number is 310-619-2585 and the room rate is only \$69.00 + tax per day. It's hard to beat that! —Editor