

June 2012

Volume 134, Number 4

The National A^{★ ★ ★}mateur

The graphic features a large, ornate, black letter 'A' on the left. To its right are three blue stars with white centers, arranged in a slight arc. Below the stars, the word 'ateur' is written in a black serif font. To the right of the word 'ateur' is a red and white striped banner, resembling the stripes of the American flag, which is curved and appears to be waving.

The Official Organ of the National Amateur Press Association
Published Continuously Since 1878

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The National Amateur

The Official Organ of the National Amateur Press Association

Volume 134 Number 4

June 2012

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 direct 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 \$30 for U.S. members. For members outside U.S., \$37.50. Europe air mail, \$50. Far East air mail, \$60. Life memberships remain complimentary for those completing a term as president.

Active members are qualified to vote in the annual convention. Any active member may also participate in the annual laureate competition, use the mailing bureau and the manuscript bureau. Additional member 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

2012 Convention - Dayton, Ohio Host - Michele Klosterman, & Co-Hosts Gary Bossler and Lisa Brandstetter Holt

2013 Convention - Savannah, GA Hosts-Troy McQueen and Steve Powell

Send address, phone number or e-mail address changes to: Bill Boys, Secretary Treasurer, 6507 Westland Drive, Knoxville, TN Phone: 865-584-9222 or email Secretary-Treasurer@AmateurPress.org



President's Report

It is hard to believe that it is already that time of the year - and that in a little over 2 months from the writing of this report, that I will be with many of you at our annual convention. This year we meet in Dayton, Ohio in a joint meeting with the AAPA, which promises to be a great meeting. I urge everyone to attend, especially if you are considering a first convention but are concerned about not knowing anyone. I have never been to a convention where members were not warmly embraced and included in activities as if they were long lost friends, even without knowing anyone at all. To those who have attended conventions, I strongly encourage you to return - a lively convention is the best convention, and we already will combine with AAPA to have a lively arrangement.

It is also hard to realize that my term as President is nearly over. I hoped to accomplish more with my presidency, but perhaps I was being too optimistic of the opportunities available. One glaring fact which I realize more and more by watching or assisting my husband and our Official Mailer with the bundles, is how the organization has lost members over the past couple of years, something which did not slow down in my presidential term.

I believe that one of the best ways to grow the organization is to have a local meetup or

wayzgoose which area members and prospective members could attend, without having the travel costs of a convention.

I have previously pushed for this sort of activity, and I'm sorry to say that no one has told me of an event held this year, and I also have failed to hold this sort of event in my area. Having social situations where non-members can view bundle items and get to understand our multifaceted hobby, are very important to the future growth of NAPA. I hope in the coming year, these social events can bring a cohesive growth to our organization.

I look forward to seeing you all in Dayton.

Alice Brosey

NAPA 137th Convention Dayton, Ohio – July 26 - 28

The NAPA Convention is fast approaching and our committee is doing a fine job to see that every little detail is accomplished.

Inasmuch as this is a dual meeting with the NAPA and the AAPA, the committee has a much larger task than usual. I have seen the proposed itinerary and I am pleased to say that it looks to be an excellent program.

Events – The Annual Charlie Bush Chinese Dinner on Thursday evening, followed by Unique Book Binding by Bob Tauber on Friday, plus the Field trip to US Air Force Museum, and Letter M Press Demo for iPad & Mac on Saturday, and the Field trip to Carillon Park Printing Press Shop on Sunday morning would seem to make this an exciting part of the convention.

I am sure those of you who have never attended a convention would be impressed with the camaraderie between the two groups. The dual convention in Chicago had some faults, but I am sure whatever went amiss then will be corrected at this time.

The deadline for reservations to insure that you get the group rate is June 25th. It is important that you inform the Hotel that you are with the NAPA or AAPA to get the special room rate.

Hope to see you there.

**The 100th Heating of
The Kitchen Stove
Which Presents a Memoir**
June 2009

[Cora Louise Lincoln died in her 100th year on March 3, 2012. A service in celebration of her life was held at the New Spirit Lutheran Church in Tucson AZ. Interment was in the family plot in Columbus OH. – GGM]

When I am asked what year I joined NAPA I hesitate. It was in the early 1940's, after World War II had ended the great depression. It was also the year so many reservations were received for the Springfield, Ohio, convention, no place was large enough to accommodate it; so, it was moved to Columbus, Ohio. At the time I was a member of the Ohio Verse Writers Guild, and we were invited to attend the sessions. That was when I joined, sponsored by Wilametta Turnepseed.

For the next two years I was just a bundle reader. Then Alf Babcock wrote, urging me to start a journal of my own if wanted to get the most out of the hobby, and *The Kitchen Stove* was born. I paid a local printer to produce the first few issues. Then Alf offered to do the job for a small fee and that agreement went on for years. The logo was not on the first issues; it was a gift given to me later by Vic Moitoret.

A second later edition was the Walrus. I met him at the corner drugstore. His expression which impressed me as a mixture of wistfulness and mild stupidity, appealed to me. I bought him and named him A. Walrus. The "A" stands for "Another" to differentiate him from *The Walrus* of Lewis Carroll fame. My Walrus soon became my alter ego. His official title was Editor of the Department of Utter Nonsense. Anything I wrote on the silly side was credited to his column.

Inspiration for what I wrote often came from a newspaper article that contained a

point I wished to discuss. Whatever the source, the material I wrote took different forms: a fable, a Cat and Mouse dialogue, a poem, straight essay.

I never have been a prolific writer. It has taken me 70 years of membership to produce 100 issues of *The Kitchen Stove*. What I did write was of necessity rather than desire – assigned topics, term papers, letters. But the heart of my love affair with NAPA is the opportunity it gave me to do creative writing.

NAPA membership, like that of many organizations, contains three types – four if you want to make a separate division of those who belong to more than one. One category simply reads the bundles, which is no reason to castigate them. If printers and publishers had no one to read their output, they would have no reason for putting it out. Publishers are a second group. The third is office-holders.

I have held a number of offices. When some Ohio members were trying to put together a slate for the July convention, they asked me if I would run for Recorder. I replied that I had been considering Secretary-Treasurer. I was elected, probably because I was unopposed, and served two terms. As a Secretary I think I was efficient; as a Treasurer, honest but merely adequate. I was elected an Executive Judge several times before the present system began. I served as Recorder a number of times. As Secretary-Treasurer, taking the convention minutes was part of the job. When NAPA made that the Recorder's chore, I continued doing it both officially and pro tem. No, I don't regret losing that job since Marti Abell is such an able successor.

Appointed offices are also in my resume. One was Historian. Another was judge of the best writer on the current history of Amateur Journalism. The one I really screwed up was Official Critic. I chose to review only those journals I deemed worthy

of Laureate Awards. That made my life easy, but was a major disservice to the journals I ignored.

My self-appointed job is beefing up the number of Laureate entries. Few members are willing to submit their own material but they are happy if someone else does. As I read each bundle I put a Laureate category on any paper I think is worthy of consideration. At the end of the year I take out those papers, stack them under the seven categories, make a master list ala Jake Warner, and send them to the Recorder. The first time I did this the President thanked me for my effort, but assured me it had been unnecessary since there were already sufficient entries in each category. He missed my point. A Laureate that is judged the best of a dozen entries is more valuable than one which comes in ahead of the minimum scrawny three.

Attending the July convention is an anticipated event. To me a convention is a combination of vacation and family reunion. My NAPA family is composed of intelligent, witty persons who can make even a business session fun. Then there are presentations on various hobby related themes, excursions to places of interest in the area, the auction.

This year I won't be seeing you. Have fun! — Louise Lincoln

P.S. 3/05/09: Dear Guy and Annabel -- When it comes to #101, I don't even have much of an idea for it. Having done #100, I had the notion I could quit writing The Kitchen Stove. Since that would be equivalent to resigning from NAPA, I think it's a stupid idea, one better abandoned. -- LL

Poetry—Honorable Mention Award 1979

REQUIEM

— Louise Lincoln

Yes, those there are who mourn, for you are dead.

But I cannot weep for you for who knew
Within your heart a flame of joy that threw
Its glow across each thing you did and said.
You loved this life. You lived a flow'r out-
spread

To meet alike the sun, the rain, the dew,
And make of them the beauty that was you,
Remembered beauty when the bloom is
shed.

I cannot weep for you. My tears are spent
For narrow souls that shrink from passers-
by,

And fear to live, and so must fear to die.
You lived so joyously, I know you went
Across the little space to Heaven's door
And opened it to joy forevermore.

The Clock of Time

The clock of time is wound but once,
And no man has the power to tell
Just where the hands will stop,
At late or early hour.

To lose one's wealth is sad indeed,
To lose one's health is more,
To lose one's soul is such a loss
As no man can restore.

The present only is our own;
Live, love, toil with a will.
Place no faith in to-morrow,
For the clock may then be still.

Author Unknown

National Amateur Press Association
TREASURER'S REPORT
Jan. 25, 2012 – Apr. 23, 2012

Checking Acct. Balance Jan. 24, 2012 \$ 1,323.97

Income

Gifts Received
 General Gifts \$ 182.50
 Total Gifts \$ 182.50
 Interest Income
 Life Member Fund CD 9.69
 Membership Dues
 Family, Renewals 10.00
 Regular, New Members 30.00
 Regular, Renewals 700.74
 Total Membership Dues 740.74
 Miscellaneous14
 Weixelbaum Trust Fund 465.76
Total Income \$ 1,398.83

Expenses

Mailing Bureau \$ 800.00
 National Amateur, The (Mar. 2012) 728.68
Total Expenses \$ 1,528.68

Checking Acct. Balance Apr. 23, 2012..... \$ 1,194.12

Net Checking Increase (Decrease) (\$ 129.85)

EQUITY

Certificates of Deposit

Regions Bank CD ****9300
 Value on Jan. 24, 2012 \$ 5,983.51
 Accrued Interest 48.40
 Value on Apr. 23, 2012 \$ 6,031.91
 Regions Bank CD ****9017
 Value on Jan. 24, 2012 \$ 10,605.58
 Accrued Interest 84.77
 Value on Apr. 23, 2012 \$ 10,690.35
 WesBanco CD (Life Members' Fund) 8,376.37
Total Certificates of Deposit..... \$ 25,098.63
Checking Acct. Balance Apr. 23, 2012..... \$ 1,194.12

=====

Total Equity Apr. 23, 2012 \$ 26,292.75

Respectfully submitted,
 William E. Boys, Secretary-Treasurer

Secretary's Report
Feb. to May 4, 2012

Renewals -- Regular (17)
 Ambrosi, Phil. Exp. Mar. 31, 2013.
 Brosey, Wilfred, Exp. Dec. 31, 2012.
 Cuadrado, Hazel, Exp. Feb. 28, 2013.
 Fick, Alma L., Exp. Nov. 30, 2012.
 Graham, Arthur, Exp. Nov. 30, 2012.
 Hamilton, George Wm. Exp. Apr. 30, 2013.

Hawes, Leland M., Jr. Exp. Nov. 30, 2012.
 Holt, Lisa Brandstetter, Exp. Nov. 30, 2012.
 Hunley, William H., Exp. Dec. 31, 2012.
 Kapplin, James L., Exp. Jan. 31, 2014 (sic).
 McWherter, Kore Loy, Exp. Dec. 31, 2012.
 Meyers, James L., Exp. Feb. 28, 2013.
 Nelson, R. Stanley, Exp. Oct. 31, 2012.
 Nelson, Robert F., Exp. Mar. 31, 2013.
 Shive, Harold L., Exp. Mar. 31, 2013.
 Sparks, Beverly, Exp. Dec. 31, 2012.
 Stickler, Alice M., Exp. Jan. 31, 2013.

Renewals -- Family (5)

Brosey, Valaire, Exp. Dec. 31, 2012.
 Greene, Bruce, Exp. Dec. 31, 2012.
 Kapplin, Norma M., Exp. Feb. 28, 2014 (sic).
 Shive, Gloria, Exp. Mar. 31, 2013.
 Sparks, Jim, Exp. Dec. 31, 2012.

New Members -- Regular (1)

Rogers, Brian, 700 Wendan Dr., Decatur GA 30033-5532. Email: brian-hrogers@gmail.com. Exp. Nov. 30, 2012. (Conversion from Trial Membership. Sponsored by Bill Boys.)

New Members -- Trial (2)

Martin, David, 8937 Maple Ridge Lane, Knoxville TN 37923-1141. Email address: david@hamsterlabs.com. Exp. July 31, 2012. Sponsored by Bill Boys.
 Palmer, Anna; Skilleby; Mellangarden 1; 153 91 JARNA; SWEDEN. Email address: anna-palmer@hotmail.com. Exp. June 30, 2012. Sponsored by Bill Boys.

Dropped -- Regular (1)

Row, Heath.

Resignations (4)

Johnson, Nancy Jane (Regular Member).
 Johnson, John R. (Family Member).
 Orr, Richard.
 Schowalter, Nancy.

Deceased (3)

Lee, Al, Nov. 18, 2011.
 Lincoln, Louise, Mar. 3, 2012.
 Orbach, Robert L., Feb. 18, 2012.

Secretary's Report Continued

Address Changes/Corrections/Additions
Atkisson, Victor. Use address: 1121 Shire
Dr., Antioch TN 37013-4570.
Cuadrado, Hazel, new phone 609-261-2841.
Holt, Lisa Brandstetter. Yahoo email ac-
count problems; use Lisaat-
celtic@gmail.com.
Maguire, Cara, 7013 Hunts Corner St., Las
Vegas NV 89166-6014.

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

Critics Report Guy Miller

January thru April Bundle Treats

JAMES DAWSON did not disappoint us. Nor, indeed, did Frederick Moe nor Stephen Powell's Six Mile Press nor *The Curmudgeon* Tom Owen. Moreover, *The Druckarnia*, Stanislaus Pekala's, hobby printery, presents us with another frameable piece, this one a familiar Shakespearian quotation (note the embossed figure) plus Stan's pop. card.

Because it is printed in 6 pt., *D.I.Y. Printer Wannabe* (Feb.) might be a bit too small for some eyes, but it is worth one's time to examine it through a magnifying glass. As is true with his earlier issues, Mr. Dawson is still on the search for an ideal printing forum, and receives valuable aid from two responses, one from NAPA vice-president and two-time Laureate recipient (Printing and Art) James Hedges, and the other from Fred Woodworth. We personally enjoyed Jim Hedges's letter and am sorry that he hasn't published for NAPA lately. His remark: "A critic's column that doesn't draw blood is useless," is good old vintage Hedges.

Mr. Woodworth's reservations about "word processors" and computers in general come from a certified purist. Nevertheless, without the aid of the computer, welcome journals such as Frederick Moe's *Mail Train to Melvin Station* could not be

coming our way. A dedicated advocate for the preservation of our postal service, Mr. Moe makes some suggestions in his spring issue No. 4. As one who himself campaigned for maintaining a small local post office back in the '70's, we say "full speed ahead" -- and we wish that it could be by train! Incidentally, Mr. Moe, if you haven't already done so, take a look at the "Write Letters!" cut in Dave Schwartz's April *Oh-kee-Doekee*. See, you're not alone fighting the good fight.

Oh, yes -- if Jim Hedges wants to see blood drawn, let him read the "going-to-the-dogs" issue of *The Curmudgeon* for April. But then take time to relax for a moment over the pleasant photograph and essay on page 2. Meanwhile, publisher Tom Owen might want to examine "Class Warfare, Bad Times, and Debt" in Harold Cheney's Feb/Mar issue of *Mambrino's Golden Helmet* as well as his commentary "Labor" in his interim sheet *In-Between*, Vol. 5, No. 5. Next take another look at the go-to-Hades-in-a-hand basket article "What lies Ahead for America?" by Dave Schwartz in his letterpress-printed *Oh-kee-Doekee* (April). We believe that there is enough pro and con material in these pieces for the three gentlemen to discover some ideas to exchange, hopefully through their respective journals.

In the meantime, we continue to receive inspiration from Stephen Powell's attractive monthly selections of short glimpses on a variety of subjects. Most informative to us is his March endeavor regarding the 1943 steel cent. Those pennies were rather ugly, as we remember, and we didn't save any as we have other coins.

Since 1943, however, we have saved our journals, an act which you can understand has gradually presented a storage problem. It also can present another problem for the critic who is responsible for making entries for the Laureate nominations and is reluctant to part with any of his own collection the journals required with each entry. Enter the ready cooperation of Mailer Marc Brosey (*Manuscript Monthly*) who sees that we receive two Bundles each

month. By the way, if standing in the wings happens to be a future critic or president (see *President's Note* for March), beware: For several years past, the Critic could ignore the selection requirement because our devoted Louise Lincoln covered that area. But, with her passing, Number 4 of the *Kitchenette* will be the last; and we who are constitutionally charged with the task of submitting nominations (*i.e.*, the critic) must tend to our task.

On the subject of awards we see that the Brown County Writers Group has announced its 12th annual poetry contest in its Spring Issue of *The Twig* which is edited by Lisa Brandstetter Holt and published by Michelle Klosterman both of whom are on the committee planning our upcoming convention. And congratulations to Lisa who has been named to the winners list in the 74th annual Poetry Day contest. For those of us who are not familiar with this organization, Ohio Poetry Day is a non-profit privately funded corporation. Out of 2,125 entries in 30 categories, Lisa's poem "There Were Murmurs" was a winner in the "Journeys" category and her poem "Our Place" gained top honors in the "Welcome Aboard" category. We are indeed fortunate to have both Lisa and Michelle as active members of NAPA.

Then, let us return to the issues of *Manuscript Monthly* for the verses from Laureate recipient Kent Chamberlain. Among them, we detect other possible future poet laureate nominations -- for starters "Mortal Questions," and "Februarial Nocturne," both found in *MM* for Feb. 12. We also welcome Mr. Chamberlain's nostalgic essays such as "Contented at Conventions" (March) in which he recalls long ago UAPAA events (Most of us don't know that Kent was very active both as publisher and as office holder in the old United). Our interest is extended to the two articles by Marc Brosey himself. The first describes two paper-and-pen "Party Games," one called Scribblish, a spin off of Telephone but which requires a bit more creative input, and the other known as Mafia, a more cerebral activity but which sounds like it would a lot of fun to play.

The other essay is entitled "An Introduction to Digital Rights Management" (Feb.) which we had some difficulty following -- possibly because of our own shortcomings. Nevertheless, we did a close a study of the dissertation so that we might understand the extent to which things have changed since the simpler days of the VHS and paper-published copyright laws. As a "Media Specialist" (read: Librarian) we had our chores, for example, in trying to explain to rebellious youth why they could not have a drawing of Snoopy on the cover of their yearbook. Our compliments to Marc Brosey for his facility in so clearly conveying to the uninitiated this involved subject of DRM.

Of course, a master of the art of clarification is Jacob Warner; and proof of this assertion is found in Jake's discussions of *Dark Stuff* (*The Boxwooder* No. 510) and *The Higgs Particle* (*BW* No. 513). Regarding the Higgs (or "God") Particle, we admire his patience in dissecting for the unwashed the concept of a "message carrier" that is "so crucial to our final understanding of the structure of matter" but that has not yet been actually identified. And then there is the *neutrino* which in pursuit of its mission just might one day be proved to travel faster than light. Jake discusses the neutrino as well as the String Theory, and "Primordial Black Holes" in *Dark Stuff*.

Jake does provide lighter fare in *BW* 511, *The First Americans*, and *BW* 512, *Amateur Radio and Letterpress*. Jake's report that migrations to the New World might have arrived by way of more than one route as well as years earlier than originally thought comes as no surprise; in fact we fully expect that future archaeologists will discover even more ancient civilizations and entries than we now imagine. What we were not prepared for came with *BW* 512 in which Gary Johanson in his engaging article draws parallels between letterpress and amateur radio. We have known several Ham operators and have actually been witness to their contributions in times of national and international emergencies, but have never thought of

any kind of association between the two hobbies. Well done, Mr. Johanson.

A “well done” to Bill Boys for his *Pennant Bravo*. Of course, that accolade could apply to the entirety of his output; but we are referring here to the January through April issues. Of these we were eager to catch up on events in “2011, The Year of the Kidney.” All of us, we are sure, would like to bestow upon Jessica Fox a big warm hug for her brave act on behalf of our friend. We were, and still are, disturbed in reading about the complicated road to recovery which does not seem to be at an end yet. But we do know that if faith and determination have any roles in the healing process, Bill will be bringing us developing news of success.

We move along to the February issue of *Pennant Bravo* pausing to “reflect” on the various images suggested by the title “Through a Looking Glass,” a collection of concrete-hard imagery by one of Bill’s church acquaintances, Ruth Faulkner Grubbs. We were stopped momentarily to find, among her glimpses of the people and the Tennessee hill country they populated, a commentary on the “Last Lap” of Dale Earnhardt, Sr. We’ll let you decide whether the poem is in context in this particular offering; but it does its job, you will agree.

And you might agree as you follow the selections Bill has made from a memoir centering on the life of Charles “Chebel” Brox, written by his son Charles A. Brox, Jr., that, in face of the fact that the attention is focused on Father Brox, the dominance of Mother Brox comes trumpeting forth as more than a background figure. In any case, “Growing up in Chebel’s World” is an entertaining read.

Not so entertaining but certainly thought-demanding is *Pennant Bravo*’s April offering, “Theologians on Science and Reductionism.” It is an area which many – maybe most – individuals surely now and then ponder as more and more scientific findings bearing on the human condition come to light. Can one deduce a human being’s behavioral motivations from examining its parts? If we are reading

correctly, we find a reassuring message emerging that, although we can define the parts and see how they fit together, yet along the way, “there’s many a slip ‘twixt the cup and the lip” – too many, in fact – for us to claim that the parts can ever fully explain the whole.

Time to return to *Mambrino’s Golden Helmet* and slip into Harold Cheney’s world of pretend. Whole Numbers 47 and 48 continue with the story of *Cat of the Shadowed Eye*, at the point where Lord Jack has made a fortuitous friendship with Old Sarge who is able to smuggle Jack into the castle right under the watchful eyes of the minions of the Lord Chamberlain while at the same time Miss Janice learns from the sympathetic Princess Agatha that she is of royal blood. What’s next? Well, the author reveals that the tale will be concluded in the next episode when “all is brought to a satisfactory conclusion,” and “that includes the Lord Chamberlain,” the villain of the story. H-m-m. What we have to look forward to next in the way of a new story is still fermenting in the fertile mind of the Twin Star Press prop. Harold W. Cheney, Jr.

Honestly, quite by happenstance, we come to the other Harold – Harold Shive – to discover what is on *his* fertile mind. An unanticipated five issues of *Impressions by Hal*, rather than the expected four, reveals all that and maybe more. The “Special Edition,” rewards us with a collection of “Merle’s Pearls,” created by Merle Beckwith, and about which, Harold avers, “I can tell comes from his heart, and I have no trouble with that.” Another versifier whom Harold has regularly featured is Jean Calkins. We remember Ms. Calkins from UAPAA days. At that time she published *Humoresque*, a regularly appearing publication which caused UAPAA Critic Joe W. Johnson – an accomplished publisher in his own right – in his Feb. 2000 review to comment: “As usual you make me laugh which is a noble thing.” An enquiry to Harold reveals that in the period in which Jean Calkins was a member of NAPA, he printed her issues of *Humoresque*. Said

Harold, "She is a very good poet." Well, good enough to have been awarded NAPA's 2005 Laureate in poetry and, as we learn from Harold, to have been named Senior Poet Laureate of North Carolina twice in the past three years. According to AAPA member Jim Lamanna in a recent on-line issuing of *Post Haste Notes*, Jean Calkins is currently posting an e-mail presentation of *The Jokester* which Jim assures us "provides a good laugh at a time it is hard to come by." This time she has but one verse in *Impressions* No. 110 for April: "Love is a Rainbow." Besides an inspirational commentary on the meaning of Easter (March), the remainder of the four regular issues of *Impressions* consists of "Olde" Harold's usual collection of chuckle-bait material, such as this gardening tip (March): "When planting beets, always dump bourbon in the hole so you grow pickled beets." The highlight of Mr. Shive's output is the follow-up on a -- uh -- "colloquy" titled "What is this Golf?" Some of you know that Harold Shive at 82 still walks the course, rather than rides; but in summing up his own golfing experiences, he expresses his doubt about how much longer it will be before he must join the cart crowd. Well, one thing, we do know is that he will discover that most of the crowd will be younger than and not so agile as he.

Marti's Mouser is another paper we just expect to see in every Bundle, and Marti Abell never disappoints with newsy interest about the activities of her bustling family. As we follow along the familiar themes, we come upon one which touches us right here in our town. We are referring to Guy Abell's "A Day of Destruction" (#92), a blow-by-blow account of the razing of a decrepit barn, beyond repair or any practical use, but yet psychologically hard to part with. Like Mr. Abell, we wonder what will take the place of our once magnificent Arcue Building; and, like him, we know that whatever the replacement, it will not look as good as the one it replaced. "Such is progress," quoth he. Well, okay.

Anyway, we learn from Gary Bossler through his *Ohio Views* (Feb.) that pro-

gress is going forth in our plans for a fine AAPA/NAPA dual Convention. In his rummaging around for a "catchy name," Gary casually submits "**Duel** in Dayton." We are confident that someone (probably Gary) will come up with a good one before too long. We read that there are still some ajays talking merger. We despair that so many of us neither possess nor have any interest in the past history of amateur journalism. If they had, they would know that mergers have been talked about and tried with zero success: There is no such critter as a "merger." Hobby groups exist or not in direct relation to the desire of its members to take charge and run things. The size of the group doesn't matter. If a cadre of 1,000 finds itself leaderless, it disperses and members go elsewhere. And this will be our final word on the subject of mergers.

But, one more word on the subject of taking charge. This June issue of *The National Amateur* will be the final one for Official Editor Harold Shive. We all owe him our appreciation for a task well done, just as we owe him our gratitude for past services as Mailing Manager and other jobs which he has performed in our behalf in the cause of our beloved hobby and NAPA in particular. If the NAPA is to survive, it will be due to people like Harold Shive who have stepped up to take charge and run things. Thank you, Harold.

And thanks to all of you for sharing these Bundle treats.

The Paths We Walk

The wide road through this trek called life is filled with selfishness and strife.
Excess in food, in drink and "play"
we think brings happiness our way,
but these are shallow, senseless things
that recognize no gift, no wings
to ease the lives of those in need.
It's discontent and greed we breed,
ignoring those who are not blessed,
forgetting there will be a test
when graduation time draws near.
Are we prepared, or do we fear
the retribution that awaits

when we approach those Pearly Gates?
 There is another road, we find,
 when we determine to be kind.
 It is a narrow path, but strewn
 with fragrant flowers in full bloom.
 This path directs well-meaning feet
 to love our neighbor, stop and greet
 each struggling soul we come upon
 along the road. The urge is strong
 to be a Good Samaritan,
 to take that lonely brother in
 and share all that we have to give.
 It is the chosen way to live
 if peace is what we're searching for,
 and harmony forevermore.
 Wide roads are easy, narrow hard,
 but therein lies the just reward
 for having walked a straight, true line,
 anticipating the Divine.

By Jean Calkins from her recent publica-
 tion *The Paths We Walk*

Historian's Report Gary Bossler

February 2012 Bundle 11 items
Boxwooder, The, #511, Feb 2012, 5x7, 4pp
 + cov, Jake Warner
D.I.Y. Printer Wanabe, #3, Feb 2012,
 8½x11, 3pp, James N. Dawson
impressions by hal..., #108, Feb 2012, 5x7,
 4pp, Harold Shive
impressions by hal..., Special Edition, Feb
 2012, 4pp, Harold Shive
Mambrino's Golden Helmet, Whole # 47,
 Feb/Mar 2012, 5½x8½, 16pp, Harold
 Cheney
Manuscript Monthly, Feb 2012, 5x7½,
 20pp + cov, Marc Brosey
Marti's Mouser, #91, Feb 2012, 8½x11,
 2pp, Martha Babcock Abell
Ohio Views, #32, Feb 2012, 4pp, 4¼x7,
 Gary Bossler
Pennant Bravo, Feb 2012, 40pp + cov,
 4¼x7, Bill Boys
Six Mile Press, Feb 2012, 5½x8½, 2pp,
 Stephen T. Powell
Ohio Views, Feb 2012, #32, 4¼x7, 4pp,
 Gary Bossler
March 2012 Bundle 9 items

Boxwooder, The, #512, Mar 2012, 5x7,
 8pp + cov, Jake Warner
impressions by hal..., #109, Mar 2012,
 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive
In-Between, Vol 5, #6, Mar 2012, 8½x5½,
 2pp, Harold Cheney
Kitchenette, The, #4, Mar 2012, 2pp, 5x7,
 Louise Lincoln
Manuscript Monthly, Mar 2012, 5x7½, 4pp
 + cov, Marc Brosey
Marti's Mouser, #92, Mar 2012, 8½x11,
 2pp, Martha Babcock Abell
Pennant Bravo, Mar 2012, 24pp + cov,
 4¼x7, Bill Boys
President's Note, Mar 2012, 2pp, 5x7, Al-
 ice Brosey
Six Mile Press, Mar 2012, 5½x8½, 2pp,
 Stephen T. Powell
April 2012 Bundle 13 items
Boxwooder, The, #513, Apr 2012, 5x7, 8pp
 + cov, Jake Warner
Curmudgeon, The, Vol. 2, #1, Apr 2012,
 2pp, 5½x8½, Tom Owen
Druckarnia, Apr 2012, 2pp, 3x5, Stanis-
 laus W. Pekala
Impressions by Hal..., #110, Apr 2012,
 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive
Mail Train to Melvin Station, #4, Spring
 2012, 5½x8½, 4pp, Frederick Moe
Mambrino's Golden Helmet, Whole # 48,
 Apr/May 2012, 5½x8½, 16pp, Harold
 Cheney
Manuscript Monthly, Apr 2012, 5x7½, 4pp
 + cov, Marc Brosey
Marti's Mouser, #93, Apr 2012, 8½x11,
 2pp, Martha Babcock Abell
#16 of a Series, Apr 2012, 5x8, 2pp,
 Stanislaus W. Pekala
Pennant Bravo, Apr 2012, 4¼x7,
 16pp+cov, Bill Boys
Six Mile Press, Apr 2012, 5½x8½, 2pp,
 Stephen T. Powell
Submission Invitation for Pennant Bravo,
 Apr 2012, 4¼x7, 2pp, Bill Boys
The Twig, Spring 2012, 5½x8½, 4pp,

Welcome New Trial Members

Anna Palmer; Skilleby; Mellangarden 1; 153 91 JARNA; SWEDEN. Email address: anna-palmer@hotmail.com. Sponsored by Bill Boys.

You may recall that she is the young lady featured in a video I mentioned in the latest NAPA Email News. She's hand-setting, printing and binding her own book. I invited her to try our Trial Membership offer, and I'm glad to say she accepted the offer.

David Martin; 8937 Maple Ridge Ln.; Knoxville TN 37923-1141 Email: david@hamsterlabs.com Sponsored by Bill Boys

David is a member of one of the churches I attend. I am publishing an article of his about his martial arts experiences in the May issue of *Pennant Bravo*. David is a Lifetime Member of the USNMAT, a martial arts association. He is also into mountain biking, even drawing a comic strip, "Icarus Twist," for the Appalachian Mountain Bike Club's newsletter for a couple of years, which featured comics about trail building, kilted creek crossings, and the search for Neil Armstrong's golf ball on the moon. David has a WordPress blog at <http://www.hamsterlabs.com> as well as several short stories stashed on his hard drive, and the rudiments of a maniac killer robot novel. In high school and college he was told, "You should write more." Today, he is also active as a Cub Scout Leader, Crossfit athlete, and freelance computer programmer.

National Poetry Month

It would seem that most everything has a day, week, or month for some sort of celebration. This one I would deem pertinent to our organization.

April is National Poetry Month, a month-long celebration of poets, poetry and the art of writing. Even though that may make poetry seem like something best reserved for experts, poetry is something open to everyone.

There also are dozens of different forms of poetry, from rhyming to haiku to sonnets. Sometimes the simplest, silliest poems are the most fun to read, and through poetry we also can talk about serious topics or explore worlds which never existed except in our imaginations.

National Poetry Month is a month-long national celebration of poetry established by the Academy of American Poets. The concept is to widen the attention of individuals and the media — to the art of poetry, to living poets, to our complex poetic heritage, and to poetry books and journals of wide aesthetic range and concern. Its hope is to increase the visibility and availability of poetry in popular culture while acknowledging and celebrating poetry's ability to sustain itself in the many places where it is practiced and appreciated.

Since April 1996 April was chosen for National Poetry Month. The main goal is to highlight the extraordinary legacy and ongoing achievement of American poets, introduce more Americans to the pleasures of reading poetry, and bring poets and poetry to the public in immediate and innovative ways. To make poetry a more important part of school curriculum, increase the attention paid to poetry by the national and local media and encourage increased publication, distribution, and sales of poetry books.

It should go without saying that poetry month should be celebrated all year long. National Poetry Month is just one of the many programs of the Academy of American Poets.

By Michael Erb

An Education Not Acquired in School

By Helm Spink

Amateur journalism is not a school. It is and education. The new member will be taught nothing that he could not get more readily from other instructors. If he persists, however, he will learn some of the fundamentals of living that are not taught in any school. He will learn about politics, if he is

interested—about democracy, oligarchy, monarchy, and anarchy. He will see them all in action, if he stays around a while. He will see their good points and the bad, of which they all have some. He may even find himself among the oligarchs and even among the anarchists, which will be enlightening.

He will learn to discriminate between good work and poor, but to be tolerant of some irreparable faults. He will learn to respect admire some members of the group who are older and some who are younger than he, some who are less and some who are more fortunate. He will find himself liking people he never expected to like.

If he is observing, he will learn how Jew and Gentile, Protestant and Catholic, heretic and puritan, imbecile and scholar, get along together (admirably by the way) when they have common interest (though many differences of opinion) and no pecuniary rivalry.

He will discover, if he becomes a philosopher (and in no other way can he be educated) that creative work is at once the most gratifying and the most disheartening of all activities. He will learn that the reward for doing good work is in doing it—not in the recognition he may receive.

The hypothetical amateur journalist will be educated painlessly. Though he may be unaware of the process, he will feel the heat and the cold that temper and test his mettle. He will learn the vanity of renown, which no one can ever teach him. He will learn that indifferences and ingritudes are as common as the sunrise.

Then, in one of the really important moments of his life, he will learn to discard youthful standards of value. He will discover a mature and realistic standard, and though he is likely ever after to be dissatisfied with his own work, he will never again be puffed up by a small achievement nor deceived by comforting illusions.

These things he will learn if he stays with amateur journalism and takes part in its ac-

tivities. He doesn't have to be an amateur journalist to learn them, of course. He can accumulate such knowledge by much travel, reading, listening, working and living. One thing he must do, however, in or out of amateur journalism, if he is to attain the stature of an educated man: he must love some inanimate thing (an idea or a dozen will do) so truly, with such tenacity, as to lose all thought of what it may do for him.

This article Huggeermugger was published in the May 1947 NA, and reprinted in the March 1988 National Amateur

From the Editor . . .

This issue will complete my tenure as your editor. I hope that I have fulfilled the requirements that the constitution demands. The many years that I have been associated with printing and presswork did not prepare me for this undertaking.

My daughter-in-law, Susan, was responsible for formatting the text and designing the covers. Without her expertise I could not have accomplished this monumental task, and I wholeheartedly thank her for this. I also would like to thank those of you for your reports and material that are needed to make everything official.

I realize that I have fallen far short of my goals as your Editor, but it was a learning experience, and even though I have opted not to continue this venture I will always know that I gave it my best.

The only item left is the upcoming convention in Dayton. My wife Gloria is not doing well, and although she will not need surgery on her back the recovery period is three to four months for the fractured vertebrae to heal properly. As for now I plan to be in Dayton, and I will bring the Volumes of NA Journals with me for the next Editor's use.

Hope to see you all there.

Harold L. Shive

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The Old Foreman's Lament

“Get the lead out! — We’ve a press to run
A paper to print before the morning sun!”
The old foreman barked at the young apprentice.
“That lazy boy . . .” he didn’t finish his sentence.
He sat at his desk and pushed shut the door.
Trying to block out the pressroom roar.
Then he reflected backward to a time before,
When it was he who worked the pressroom floor.
Lifting bundles, and cleaning the press,
Dipping ink, and never a mess.
“And it’s easier now with the new automation,
But it gives ‘em time for their imagination.
To day dream, sit around, and not to work it
If it’s a duty then he’ll surly shirk it.
Thinking of cars, sports and last night’s date
What a kid! — And he’s always late!”
Still, he could remember the days of old.
Of lead plates, before offset took hold.
There was something romantic about that time.
It was hard work, but we all towed the line.
“No sluggards at all in our chapel room.
If you weren’t printing, you pushed a broom.”
He pondered and thought about today’s wayward youth,
An’ how ol’ fashioned values would show ‘em the truth.
But his thoughts were broken by the return of the roar.
And there was his publisher standing at his door.
“What’s the matter Jones? You off the clock?
We’re not on schedule and out of stock!
Get the lead out! — We’ve a press to run!
And a paper to print before the morning sun!”

Frank Granger

