

# The National Amateur

Vol. 140, No. 2



December 2017

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# The National Amateur

The official organ of the  
National Amateur Press Association  
Published quarterly.  
Volume 140, Number 2 December 2017

Established July 4, 1876, the Association supports and promotes the hobby of amateur journalism.

Members write, print, publish and exchange journals via the Mailing Bureau, which mails a 6 x 9" envelope each month containing a copy of each journal supplied by members that month.

Membership is open to all.

Annual dues are \$30 in the United States, \$37.50 elsewhere.

Membership includes the monthly mailings and a subscription to this official quarterly magazine, plus the right to use the services of the Mailing Bureau and the Manuscript Bureau, participate in the annual convention, and to vote.

Family members sharing the same mailing address may join for \$2 and are entitled to all benefits of Regular Members except for receiving the monthly mailings and this official magazine.

## Trial Memberships Available

A one-time free three-month Trial Membership is offered to anyone curious about the hobby and the amateur publications produced and shared by members. See the back cover for details.

Application for any type of membership may be made to:

William E. Boys, Secretary-Treasurer  
(address and email listed in the column to the right).

**Visit Our Website**  
**www.AmateurPress.org**

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## The Fourth Klosterman Term

Gary Bossler, Historian

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2016-2017 NAPA year; a record fourth consecutive term under the leadership of Michelle Klosterman:

Bundles were a little slim with only 72 publications if we discount ballots and envelopes by Bill Boys. Of the 72, only 18 members participated, a relatively small percentage of the membership which is hovering around the 100 mark.

As Official Editor, I was able to complete four issues with some color on the front and back. This was done with the help of my copy shop friend, Bob Kring. He gave us a significant discount and the covers only counted as one click to have color on front and back.

Vice-President Jim Hedges made sure that all new members, including trial members were warmly greeted. Secretary-Treasurer, Bill Boys, kept accurate records. Mailer Harold Shive efficiently managed the monthly bundles. George Hamilton critiqued nearly all of the submissions. Our Webmaster, Jon McGrew did a great job keeping our website up to date with information as it was shared with him.

The Carson, California convention concluded our year with Mark Barbour and Dr. Leland Whitson, co-convention chairs, doing an awesome job of providing an informative and interesting convention. Meetings and workshops were held at the International Printing Museum. The banquet dinner was held at the Alpine Village followed by keynote address by Mark Barbour, Museum Director & Founding Curator: "Lindner's Gold: The Collections of the International Printing Museum. Other interesting

outings included the Getty Museum, and the KaterCraft Bookbinders.

Michelle has done a commendable job of shepherding NAPA through another lean year.

Postscript: The convention was unable to find a willing Official Editor so Michelle took on the editing of the first issue. Bill Boys has agreed to handle the second issue. I have offered to get the printing done and mail it if that person would provide me with a PDF file for the printer. This gives you an opportunity to try your hand at editing the NA without committing to four issues.



### No Post-Hurricane-Maria News of Our Former Puerto Rican Member

William Boys, Secretary-Treasurer

After Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico in late September, I tried to make contact with former member Hector Laboy Alvarado, who lived in Caguas, by mailing him a letter and including several postage stamps for a reply. I also wrote on the outside of the envelope asking the U.S. Postal Service to return the letter if mail delivery to Caguas was impossible at the time.

To date, neither has the letter been returned nor have I had any contact from Hector.

## Review and Comment on Journals Published in September, October and November

by George W. Hamilton, Chair, Bureau of Critics

### September, 2017 Bundle

**Impressions by Hal.** September 2017, Number 166.

Wouldn't you know that editor/publisher Hal Shive would come up with a "gotcha!" tale – invention of car air conditioning – as leader in his regular publication? Two such hooker tales, if you include the second anecdote, the latter alas unnecessarily spoiled by typos which a quick pre-printing read by the publisher would have made immediately obvious. "Merle's Pearls" are rather personal in nature, but can have meaning for others as well. And on the subject of editing, Hal's three-liner on page four could also have used an editor's touch: the weekly poker game must have included Magellan if he held the straights. How 'bout that?

**Journeys.** Vol. 2, No. 10, Sep. 2017.

Nancy Heber in the September issue of her *Journeys* takes us into fair depth in addressing the autumn season, then whisking the reader into spring and passing over winter, even less Nancy's favorite time of year as she openly confesses. The seasonal rituals of going back to school, particularly for a teacher, as Nancy had been, along with autumn foliage, college football (Ohio State Buckeyes), marching bands and other markers bring the end of summer into focus. The brilliant full-color illustrations offered in *Journeys* are rare and thanks to printer

Bill Boys welcome in today's amateur journals. Good too that *Journeys* includes an e-mail address for those who would pass their comments on to the writer/editor/publisher, although it might be helpful for some were an old-fashioned postal address also offered.

**Marti's Mouser.** Number 152, September 2017.

A legitimate question for many: what will you write about? And Martha Babcock deals with the issue right off: what is it that you're doing? Tell us about it, and indeed she regularly does, in a concise and pleasantly readable, informative way in her *Marti's Mouser*. But why just tempt us with applesauce cake and not share the recipe? Marti's tight writing style leaves a few questions open – such as, in terms of the old house husband Guy is putting into shape, "one section had a great deal of tape": a house held together with duct tape (or as it's often openly and officially called over here in Europe, Duck 'Tape!). Your critic still wonders where Marti got the designation "Bookman Old Style" for the face used in *Marti's Mouser*; her dad, the late Alf Babcock, a close personal friend to your critic and more than just well known to any old-time amateur journalist, would shiver at the designation Bookman on a sans-serif face. Alf was a good typographer as well as a great hobby printer whose output (*Alf's Cat* among others) was staggering. Marti's uncle Ralph Babcock was a recog-

nized typographer with family ties to ATF -- and also a fine amateur journalist. Marti keeps up a splendid family line!

**Ohio Views.** No. 46, September 2017.

Gary Bossler does us (particularly us old-timers) a great favor by dusting off his "Prop Card" collection and bringing to mind some of the names of those who supported the hobbies of amateur journalism and printing a few decades back. Prop Cards were *de rigueur* if one joined the Amalgamated Printers' Association and sometimes found their way into the amateur journalism bundles as well. Some of the cards which Gary lists in his *Ohio Views* are famous indeed: George Kay was one of the AAPA founders and a controversial personality; many knew and admired Fred Liddle for his determined points of view; Dale Stedman was a fine photographer and a regular for the annual convention photo; Phil Metzger is still active in printing and away circles. And a laugh over young Paul Haywood as a top proof reader; the Haywoods were among the NAPA sparkplugs of their era and published early via mimeograph. Thanks Gary for showing us how to get a dramatic two-color effect on the title of Ohio Views -- very well done!

**Ohkee-Doekee.** No. 88, Sometime in 2017.

What a magnificent and beautiful story, the departure of a beloved dog from his household as told from his perspective. Your critic too was in tears over the final paragraph, not just as a dog-lover but one who understands what a pet can mean to a family. If you overlooked this, go back to the September bundle; it's an absolute standout among articles in other good journals. Editor

David Schwarz lightened the tone with the "how many dogs does it take to change a light bulb" but not enough to overcome the sadness reflected in the main story. David has obviously got his C&P press in far better working order, inking too, and the product -- *Ohkee-Doekee* -- is shaping up very well.

**Oliver's Twist.** September 2017.

Goodness! Is Jack Oliver really that impatient? What did he do as an air controller when aircraft were delayed due to storms or even to problems with on-time departure from the originating airport? Or an incident somewhere along the flight route? Throw in the towel and go home? I'd hope not! Your critic recently had an experience which Jack ought to consider. Booked for an optical operation at 11 a.m., when by 1:30 p.m. there was no sign of movement, I asked what was up; answer, a major accident that morning had overflowed the hospital's surgical department with emergencies. Ultimately my eye surgery -- done in 25 minutes -- took place at 3 p.m., the whole requiring a full day when it was to have been a simple outpatient affair. C'mon Jack! Now you're willing to wait in a medical facility since you think it might get you a \$10,000 bonus?

**Pennant Bravo.** No. 67, September 2017.

When did you last see an amateur journal with more than eight or ten pages? Stand back! Bill (with wife Ruth!) Boys' September *Pennant Bravo* offers 40 (forty!) pages packed with information and related photos detailing their Amtrak journey in July from central Ohio to the NAPA convention in Carson, California, a suburb of Los Angeles. The result is a magnificent and highly readable (and

useful!) travelogue, and what a trip it clearly was! Interesting points on transportation history as well, such as the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe and Burlington's track crossing in Gallup, New Mexico and touching base (as it were) with the famous U.S. highway Route 66. At this point they had crossed the Continental Divide and were only a few miles from the Arizona border. So much more fascinating than looking down at the light brown surface from a few thousand feet up! Bill's infectious enthusiasm is a logical "most assuredly" reply that he and Ruth indeed would consider taking the trip again and certainly his descriptions are a temptation for others to do the same.

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### October, 2017 Bundle

The October mailing with but three journals was the thinnest NAPA has had in quite some time and a sad indication of the direction the association is taking. Surely those who can spend hours a day gazing at a tiny screen bearing insignificant nonsense could express themselves (give, rather than take!) via an amateur journal? Or have we passed into a preliterate era when intelligent communication is no longer possible and no one, from the top down, has anything worth sharing?

**Journeys.** Volume 2, No. 11, October 2017.

Nancy Heber, a regular contributor to the monthly bundle, is a welcome antidote to the above judgment. She has things to say and thanks to Bill Boys' splendid reproduction of Nancy's photo-

graphs, can be counted on to offer a welcome and thoughtful journal. The October issue focuses on animals in nature, although a moose out in the garden stretches the concept of a natural environment close to the limit. Nancy's observations should give inspiration to anyone asking "but what should I write about?" Easy. Just do as Nancy does, keep your eyes open and there's your story. Which of course as she reveals can land on the Sunday dinner platter, or at least the object concerned! That possibility aside, Nancy takes time to stop, look and listen, and her life – and ours – is/are the richer for it.

**Oliver's Twist.** October, 2017.

Like many of his (our!) era, Jack Oliver wandered accidentally into stamp collecting as a lad, and an educational hobby it was indeed. Sad to hear that not enough interest remains to support a stamp auction, so Jack's right, of course, what these days to do with a collection? Sadly the legitimacy of the hobby was ruined by promoters who traveled the world and for a pittance got licenses to publish stamps for that country, the more obscure the better. These stamps weren't legitimate for postage but collectors grabbed them at a premium; sets were even better sellers. When dealers began to get stuck with unsalable inventory, the scam stopped, but not until unusual countries had "issued" stamps featuring for example commercial aircraft or bridges or Hollywood stars; curiously the same basic stamp design could appear as issued by half a dozen or more countries. As Jack says, failing any market value, nothing to do today but sit back and (still?) enjoy them.

**Pennant Bravo.** No. 68, October, 2017.

With this issue of *Pennant Bravo*, amateur journalism has entered a new dimension. For the first time known, the contents of a journal can be read or heard or both! The occasion which forms the text of the 16-page paper is a sermon marking the 60th anniversary of the Lutheran church in Columbus, Ohio attended by the Boys. Either version – text or audio – offers the message and its interpretation by Professor Mark Alan Powell; not all would or will agree with the welcomely liberal interpretation which Professor Powell puts to the Gospel, but all the better, since it opens the door for discussion and debate. Thanks, Bill. And Bill's choice of Monotype Baskerville as his “house” face results in a clean, highly readable page that's a decided pleasure to the eye.

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### **November, 2017 Bundle**

**Easy Journal in WordPerfect.** Number 1, November 2017.

We've waited a long time for this one! Congratulations and a thousand thanks to Bill Boys for walking us through production of a four-page journal. For years your critic had tried to fathom the procedure by which the late Guy Miller was able to turn out a professional quality journal in two-column/four page format but the instructions never quite seemed to work, at least not for me. Perhaps a second issue of *Easy Journal* might address how to set up fancier title “flag” (see the review of September *Ohio Views*, above) and how to deal with article headlines or

subheads or even a two-column page. In any case hats off to Bill for detailing the tools and methodology to get into print. Now let's see the results in the monthly bundle!

**Impressions by Hal.** November 2017, Number 167.

Reliable publisher Harold Shive is back with his familiar format, this issue giving us some curious angles on Mother Goose; that she's resting in a Boston cemetery is generally known, but that there were ties to early printer Isaiah Thomas is a surprising twist. The casual reader is likely to find one or two fitting aphorisms among Merle Beckwith's pearls. And Hal wraps up the issue with a couple of seasonal aphorisms -- and a smile!

**Journeys.** Volume 2, No. 12, November 2017.

Amazing! For someone as otherwise active as she obviously is, that publisher Nancy Heber has never cooked a turkey and only once attempted a pie! Obviously family and social affairs, as detailed in this issue, keep her more than occupied and there are lessons here for all of us oldsters -- stay busy helping others and make this your life; the rewards are abundant. And we give thanks too to Nancy's photographic enthusiasm and printer Bill Boys' splendid reproduction of same. Thanks for sharing!

**Marti's Mouser.** Number 153, October 2017.

Martha Abell ably capsules life in a small community, its activities and diversions; it's encouraging to know via her observation and reporting that there are (still) towns that retain their community spirit. Marti's comment on “still a remain-

ing J C Penny store” tells it all, granted not in their town, but nevertheless. Regular *Mouser* readers will be treated to resolution of the old house next door, and one hopes that Marti’s medical issues can be sorted out; these notwithstanding, thanks, Marti, for being among the most regular bundle contributors and keeping us updated. Would that others followed your splendid example!

#### **Oliver’s Twist** November 2017.

Jack’s right, of course, it is a small world and the older one gets presumably the more friends one has, thus the greater the likelihood one can run across mutual acquaintanceships or indeed the individuals themselves. No need to be astonished, like Jack just be happy at the occurrence! Alas in this era when faces are buried in cellular or other hand-held electronics, few pay attention to their surroundings and miss a lot, even perhaps a close friend who happens to be nearby. The two dimensional world is far smaller in a negative sense and far less exciting than the three-dimensional one to which Jack refers.

#### **Pennant Bravo.** No. 69, November 2017.

What an adventure Bill and Ruth Boys had in the mid 1960s and recounted in Bill’s detailed “Our Time in Africa.” First to learn a language – Efik – totally remote to English or any Latin-based language, to settle into Nigeria and then be assigned to carry on missionary work on a local level! (Your critic both understands and sympathizes with the challenge, having only a couple of years earlier dealt with struggles at simultaneously learning Arabic and German, in Jordan, no less!) Bill had a novel exercise with the semi-converted typewriter, not a very

speedy way to get something onto paper but at least resulting in a text presumably readable by others. Yes, learning to recognize, read and speak numbers takes priority, if only to deal with currency and the market. Not surprising that Bill is somewhat intolerant over how Hollywood can deal with such situations, not always so amusing when real life rather than a movie set is involved. We’ll look forward to the next chapter of the Boys’ African experiences; the tales generated in parts of the world somewhat exotic to North America can be fascinating indeed.

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#### **Treasurer’s Quarterly Report** **July 1, 2017 to Sep. 30, 2017**

Checking Acct. Balance July 1, 2017 ..... \$ 2,629.85

##### **Income**

Gifts Received ..... \$ 15.50

##### **Membership Dues**

Family, Renewals ..... \$ 10.00

Regular, Renewals ..... 637.50

Total Membership Dues ..... 647.50

Weixelbaum Trust Fund ..... 475.00

**Total Income** ..... **1,138.00**

##### **Expenses**

2017 Convention Expense ..... 681.38

Gifts Given (International Printing Museum) 1,000.00

PayPal Transaction Fees ..... 4.38

**Total Expenses** ..... **1,685.76**

Increase (decrease) in checking account ..... (\$ 547.76)

Checking Acct. Balance Sep. 30, 2017 ..... \$ 2,082.09

##### **EQUITY**

##### **Certificates of Deposit**

##### **Regions Bank CD \*\*\*\*9300**

Value on July 1, 2017 ..... \$ 4,245.89

Accrued interest ..... 1.61

Value on Sep. 30, 2017 ..... \$ 4,247.50

##### **Telhio Fed. Credit Union CD \*\*\*436116**

Value on July 1, 2017 ..... 11,186.30

Accrued interest ..... 18.40

Value on Sep. 30, 2017 ..... 11,204.70

##### **Telhio Fed. Credit Union Savings Account**

Value on July 1, 2017 ..... 5.00

Value on Sep. 30, 2017 ..... 5.00

##### **WesBanco CD \*\*\*\*0820 (Life Member Fund)**

Value on July 1, 2017 ..... 8,412.00

Accrued interest ..... 4.22

Value on Sep. 30, 2017 ..... 8,416.22

**Total CD’s & Savings Acct., Sep. 30, 2017** ..... **\$ 23,873.42**

**Checking Acct. Balance, Sep. 30, 2017** ..... **2,082.09**

**TOTAL EQUITY Sep. 30, 2017** ..... **\$ 25,955.51**

*William E. Boys, Secretary-Treasurer*



## President's Message



*Michelle Klosterman*

**I**T'S UNBELIEVABLE that Thanksgiving is coming up next week. It seems like we just ended our NAPA year at the Carson, California Convention. Where does the time go?

I'm sure you're all wondering why time seems to fly by quicker as we age. My (now passed) friend Dr. Bruce Ashley always said it was because as children we only had a few events a year we looked forward to. Things like the major holidays, mostly Thanksgiving and Christmas, birthdays and the starting and ending of our school year. As adults we have so many deadlines, goals and events to get ready for that they seem to approach faster and faster. I think he's at least partially right if not 100% right about that analogy. NAPA years going by so quickly is just one of these aspects in my life.

### Director of Publicity & Recruitment

I was happy to be able to fill the Director of Publicity and Recruitment position this year.

### The Official Editor Vacancy

But I have not yet been able to find someone to take over the Official Editor position. Bill Boys has agreed to do this issue of THE NATIONAL AMATEUR, leaving me to find someone for the March and June 2018 issues. So if you have always wanted to try your hand at being the Official Editor you can get your feet wet with just a one issue commitment.

### Bureau of Critics Chair Needed Soon

I am also looking for someone to help out with Critics Bureau. George Hamilton is currently fulfilling that office but his reign will end at the end of December. At conventions we entertained the idea of people taking a month or a quarter of critiquing the bundle. Or even just critiquing certain aspects as in poetry, fiction, miscellaneous prose, printing, etc. So that is certainly a possibility. If you are interested, please contact me.

### Laureate Nominations Open Soon

I would like to remind everyone that the time for nominations for the Laureates is coming up soon. Please make your selections from the January to December 2017 bundles and send them to Arie Koelewyn along with a copy of the work you are nominating.

### Help! – Nominating Committee

Another needed committee is the Nominating Committee. This is getting difficult to fill as well. I have helped out with it for past several years. As our group ages, so do our members. Therefore, not too many are willing to fulfill the groups administrative needs. If you have an interest in either being on the committee or running for an office next year, please contact me.

### Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the NAPA officers and committee members for their service the past year. Thanks to Bill Boys for stepping up to do this quarter's NATIONAL AMATEUR. I appreciate each and every one of you and your help over the past few years.

Happy Holidays to all!

Michelle

*President@AmateurPress.org*

## A Modest Proposal: Publish a Modest Journal

William E. Boys

OUR DIGITAL DEVICES are great! Wouldn't do without them.

But I imagine you have heard predictions that offices will be paperless, email will eclipse letters, handwriting will go the way of goose quills, e-books will finish off print books, and, I suppose, that blogs will supplant the last of the amateur journals. Any day now.

So, is amateur journalism doomed to obsolescence?

I don't think so.

David Sax, in an opinion piece in *The Sunday Review* section of the *New York Times*, on Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> writes:

"Thankfully, the analog world is still here, and not only is it surviving but, in many cases, it is thriving. Sales of old-fashioned print books are up for the third year in a row, according to the Association of American Publishers, while ebook sales have been declining. Independent bookstores have been steadily expanding for several years. Vinyl records have witnessed a decade-long boom in popularity (more than 200,000 newly pressed records are sold each week in the United States), while sales of instant-film cameras, paper notebooks, board games and Broadway tickets are all growing again."

Amateur journalism, especially in its longest-running organized form (yes, that's us), is definitely an analog world. Our journals are all on paper of one kind or another, and have been for 141 years.

So when will that resurgent tide reach our shores and lift a few boats?

I've been thinking about this.

Could it be that some of our members and other readers have no idea how easy

it is to create and publish a modest, but real, amateur journal? They don't even have to have a computer and printer, handy as those may be. And if they do, do they know how easy it is to create an "entry-level" amateur journal with what they have staring at them from their desk?

Would a step by step model nudge a few more journals into the bundles?

So I have published three "Easy Journal" pieces in the November and December bundles, designed to show non-expert folks how to create a simple four-page journal using WordPerfect, or PagePlus, or with nothing more than handwriting or hand lettering. I chose these three only because they are what I have at hand and use often.

My premise is that members who have any of these platforms (and how hard is *handwriting*?) may not fully appreciate how very simple it is to publish a basic four-page journal.

And I know I don't use the commonest of such programs. I hope one or two of you out there who know other platforms might grab the baton and use your explanatory knowledge to publish similar "Easy Journal" pieces. How about Microsoft Word? How about Apple's Pages? How about Open Office? How about a plain old typewriter? What else? Go to it, my friends.

By simple extension we can see how such "Easy Journal" pieces could with minimal revision also make recruiting pieces, couldn't they? How many folks in creative writing classes, in senior writing groups, or alone at home, and the like, must there be in the burgeoning demo-

graphic of retirees? Not to mention younger adults and even teens. Even men and women who work in graphic arts may not be tuned in to how especially easy they could produce something much finer than an “entry-level” journal.

And what will we, or they, write about? Our own George Hamilton, writing as Chair of the Bureau of Critics, noted in the previous NATIONAL AMATEUR that Nancy Heber’s *Journeys*: “... is consistently one of the best examples of what to respond to anyone who asks ‘but what could I write about?’ in an amateur journal. She finds a succession of fine tales to tell and although personal, in sharing her experiences deals with them such that they are both informational and good reading.” And he says, too, of Marti Abell’s *Marti’s Mouser*, “... another fine example of ‘what could I write about?’” Jake Warner’s long series of *The Boxwooder* also comes to mind as a rich trove of suggestions.

Amateur journals do not aspire to be “great literature” destined to be studied in future college-level classes.

William Zinsser, in his best-seller, *On Writing Well*, describes “one of the all-time lousy talk shows” in which the show’s host couldn’t grasp that the women writers who had arranged with him for a phone interview with Mr. Zinsser didn’t “want to write anything literary.” They were “trying to write well about the world [they] live in.”

Just as George Hamilton noted above.

This is not in any way to disparage fiction or poetry or any other genre in amateur journals – and certainly not to discourage learning to write well in *any* genre. It is only to say that whatever genre amateur journalists are working in, it is not presumed that they be a Shakespeare,

Austen, Hemingway, Stephen King, or any other “big gun.”

So, that said, you are free – and encouraged – to publish *your own* amateur journal in *your* way, with *your* preferred content.

If it’s any help, some of the books I’ve used to get writing ideas flowing are:

*On Writing Well*, by William Zinsser.

*To Our Children’s Children*, by Bob Greene and D. G. Fulford.

*Writing Down the Bones*, by Natalie Goldberg.

*Families Writing*, by Peter R. Stillman.

Your public library would have these and many more, or could get them for you by interlibrary loan. Have a computer? Your browser could tell you where you might buy new or used copies. The series of online TED Talks has dozens of talks about writing and writers. YouTube has hundreds.

So here is the modest proposal: if you are not publishing a journal now, why not try out a modest four-page amateur journal?

It’ll get your toes in the water, and we’d love to read about “the world you live in.”



### Not a member of NAPA?

If you’d like to have complimentary copies of any of the “Easy Journal” papers mentioned above, kindly send your name and postal address to:

Secretary-Treasurer@AmateurPress.org

You might also be interested in our free, no-obligation three-month Trial Membership. You are eligible during that period to circulate your own journal using our Mailing Bureau.

So you, too, could accept the modest proposal in this article to create and publish your own amateur journal.

**For Trial Membership details, see the back cover.**

## Ashtabula, Ohio – 2018 Convention Site

Bill Boys

**H**OW DID ASHTABULA, Ohio, ever become our 2018 convention site?

Do we have any members there? No, we do not.

The answer to that question goes back at least forty-five years.

Did we have any members there back then? No, we did not.

As far as our research reveals so far (and by “our research” I really credit Gary Bossler’s research), Ashtabula first appeared on an absentee ballot in 1970 with one solitary vote. Ballots don’t have to be kept, so we do not have documentary proof as to who cast that first single vote back then.

In many years’ Minutes, not every site that was voted for was named – often they were lumped as “Scattered” – so now it’s impossible to track the complete trail.

Gary’s recollection, however, is that the person behind the Ashtabula nomination was none other than the indomitable Captain Victor A. Moitoret, USN. Gary recalls Vic mentioning at some time or other that he “just liked the name.” And Vic was not at the 1970 Convention, so he certainly would have cast an absentee ballot. Is that circumstantial evidence enough for you?

The Ashtabula nomination thus became a light-hearted, tongue-in-cheek tradition in the ensuing years.

Then in 2016 at the Madison, Wisconsin convention, as we pondered a 2018 site with an identified willing host, I decided to put the nomination of Ashtabula on the floor and offered to make the arrangements. Arie Koelewyn pitched in his support, so there you have it.

Since then, serious effort has gone into scouting out a specific site and pondering which dates in next July to propose to President Klosterman for our 142<sup>nd</sup> convention.

Arie and his wife, Kate Corby, plus my wife, Ruth, and I met in Ashtabula for a weekend to look over the options.

Ashtabula itself is a small city of 18,000 inhabitants on the shore of Lake Erie in northeastern Ohio, in the county with the same name, though Ashtabula is not the county seat. We were not expecting a surfeit of hotels right in town, but I-90 runs through the area and nearby is the resort town of Geneva on the Lake, so we anticipated a sufficient number of suitable sites would exist in the vicinity.

We visited or inquired about 17 hotels, motels, a university campus, two wineries with lodging facilities, a couple of B&Bs and even a hypothetical future hotel. We covered a 160 square mile area of the county.

We’ve given our own observations on what sites to consider, and circulated a copy of our scouting report to all the members in Ohio and nearby states of Pennsylvania and West Virginia for their remarks, which about half of them did offer. A final recommendation has not been hammered out yet, but it shouldn’t be too long.

We also asked for opinions about favorable dates next July in which to hold the convention, and we can say that the first week and a half are definitely out of consideration, but again a final recommendation is still pending.

As soon as these are firmed up and approved by the President, we’ll pass the word in the bundle, in NAPA Email News, and in the March issue of THE NATIONAL AMATEUR.



# Convention Reports Accidentally Omitted in the Minutes

## Treasurer's Annual Report – July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

Checking Acct. Balance July 1, 2016 ..... \$ 6,389.45  
**Income**  
 2016 Convention income (auction) ..... \$ 73.00  
**Gifts Received**  
   General gifts ..... \$ 35.50  
   Life Member gifts ..... 200.00  
     Total Gifts Received ..... 235.50  
**Membership Dues**  
   Family, Renewals ..... 22.00  
   Regular, New Members ..... 127.50  
   Regular, Reinstatements ..... 30.00  
   Regular, Renewals ..... 1,602.50  
     Total Membership Dues ..... 1,782.00  
 Weixelbaum Trust Fund ..... 1,900.00  
**Total Income** ..... **\$3,990.50**

### Expenses

2016 Convention, Madison, Wis.  
   Convention expense ..... \$ 396.00  
   Registration fee refunds ..... 120.00  
     Total 2016 Convention Expense ..... 516.00  
 Bank Charge ..... 5.00  
 Gifts Given (Library of Amateur Journalism) .. 5,000.00  
 Mailing Bureau ..... 1,300.00  
*The National Amateur* ..... 893.19  
 PayPal transaction fees ..... 21.41  
 Secretary-Treasurer ..... 14.50  
**Total Expenses** ..... **\$ 7,750.10**  
 Increase (decrease) in checking account ..... (3,759.60)  
 Checking Acct. Balance June 30, 2017 ..... **\$ 2,629.85**

### EQUITY

#### Certificates of Deposit

##### Regions Bank CD \*\*\*9300

Value on July 1, 2016 ..... \$ 4,235.18  
 Accrued interest ..... 10.71  
 Value on June 30, 2017 ..... 4,245.89

##### Regions Bank CD \*\*\*9017

Value on July 1, 2016 ..... 11,145.42  
 Accrued interest ..... 8.41  
 Value on Sep. 14, 2016 ..... 11,153.83  
 Redeemed Sep. 14, 2016 ..... (11,153.83)  
 Value on June 30, 2017 ..... 0

##### Telhio Fed. Credit Union CD \*\*\*436116

Opened Sep. 14, 2016 ..... 11,153.83  
 Savings account transfer ..... (5.00)  
 Accrued interest ..... 37.47  
 Value on June 30, 2017 ..... 11,186.30

##### Telhio Fed. Credit Union Savings Account<sup>1</sup>

Opened Sep. 14, 2016 ..... 5.00  
 Value on June 30, 2017 ..... 5.00

##### WesBanco CD \*\*\*0820 (Life Member Fund)

Value on July 1, 2016 ..... 8,403.62  
 Accrued interest ..... 8.38  
 Value on June 30, 2017 ..... 8,412.00

**Total CD's & Savings Acct., June 30, 2017** ..... **\$ 23,849.19**

**Checking Acct. Balance, June 30, 2017** ..... **2,629.85**

**TOTAL EQUITY June 30, 2017** ..... **\$ 26,479.04**

*William E. Boys, Secretary-Treasurer*

<sup>1</sup> \$5 minimum Savings Account required for Telhio membership.

## Secretary's Annual Report July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

In compliance with Art. VIII, Sec. 5, Subsection (b), of our Constitution and By-Laws, I submit this list of four accepted applicants for membership from the past year.

New: Susanna Battin, sponsored by Joe Parmer.  
 Joe Parmer, sponsored by Secy-Treas. Bill Boys.  
 Sean Wilmut, sponsored by Secy-Treas. Bill Boys.  
 Keating Floyd, sponsored by Secy-Treas. Bill Boys.

Six members died in the past year.

William C. Belt, March 13, 2016. (First learned of in Sep.)  
 Dr. Thomas Whitbread, Oct. 1, 2016.

Hazel Cuadrado, Dec. 6, 2016.

James M. Jackson, Jan. 14, 2017.

Martha E. Shivers, Jan. 31, 2017.

David M. Griffin, Sr., April 22, 2017.

Six Trial Members were received and/or dropped in the past year.

Jaime Groetsema, Nov. 2016, dropped Apr. 2017.

Melody Hill, Sep. 2016, resigned Sep. 2016.

Sara Jensen, Apr. 2016, dropped Nov. 2016.

Carrie Mercer, Apr. 2016, dropped Nov. 2016.

Nichole Patrlja, Mar. 2016, dropped Sep. 2016.

Wesley Sonheim, Nov. 2016, dropped May 2017.

I regret to say that one Trial Member from California, as I recall, is omitted from this list because I accidentally deleted his email requesting a Trial Membership, and neither I nor Jon McGrew, our webmaster, could recover it, nor has that person inquired why he is not receiving anything from NAPA.

There are 90 members as of July 22.

59 Regular Members

12 Family Members

19 Life Members

0 Trial Members

A significant note that bears on recruiting and publicity is that this is the first time since I've been Secretary-Treasurer that we have no Trial Members in our current membership.

This is a decline of 10 members since last Convention.

Fifteen libraries are on our mailing list:

10 requested only *The National Amateur*;

5 requested the bundles and *The National Amateur*.

On July 8th I wrote to the New York Public Library, which has a number of historical works about NAPA in their Rare Book section, and which was once, I believe, home to the Library of Amateur Journalism\*, to see if they knew we were still in existence and to ask if they would like to receive any of our mailings. So far, no reply.

*William E. Boys, Secretary-Treasurer*

\* Correction: Later someone corrected that information – it was the New York University Library, not the New York Public Library, which was once home to the Library of Amateur Journalism.



## Journals Published from July to November

Gary Bossler, Historian

### June 2017 Bundle 7 items

*Impressions by Hal*, Jun 2017, #163, 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive.  
*Journeys*, Vol. 2, #7, Jun 2017, 5½x8½, 12pp, Nancy A. Heber.  
*Marti's Mouser*, #149, Jun 2017, Martha Babcock Abell.  
*Merle's Pearls*, Summer 2017, 5x7, 4pp, Merle Beckwith.  
*Oliver's Twist*, Jun 2017, 5½x8½, 2pp, Jack Oliver.  
*The Oregoner* 3, Jun 2017, 4x5½, 7 pp, Kent Clair Chamberlain.  
*TRIBulations*, #5, June 2017, 4½x6, 4pp, Dave Tribby.

Official items:

Absentee Ballot and Envelope, Bill Boys, Secretary-Treasurer.  
Absentee Ballot Memo, Jun 2017, 5½x8½, Bill Boys, Secy-Treas.

### July 2017 Bundle 7 items

*Correction*, undated, unnumbered, 5x7 1pp, Harold Shive.  
*Impressions by Hal*, Jul 2017, #164, 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive.  
*Journeys*, Vol. 2, #8, Jul 2017, 5½x8½, 12pp, Nancy A. Heber.  
*Marti's Mouser*, #150, Jun[July] 2017, Martha Babcock Abell.  
*Ohio Views*, #44, Jul 2017, 4¼x7, 4pp, Gary Bossler.  
*Oliver's Twist*, Jun 2017, 5½x8½, 2pp, Jack Oliver.  
*Psst...Bertha, Watch for Guards*, May 2017, 4¼x5½, 4pp + cov, Gerald Jenny.

### August 2017 Bundle 8 items

*Aardvark Agog*, #2, 2017, 3¼x8½, 6pp (tri-fold), Lisa Brandstetter Holt.  
*Impressions by Hal*, Aug 2017, #165, 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive.  
*Journeys*, Vol. 2, #9, Aug 2017, 5½x8½, 12pp, Nancy A. Heber.  
*Marti's Mouser*, #151, July 2017, Martha Babcock Abell.  
*Notice*, [Aug] Sep 2017, 5½x8½, 1pp, Harold Shive.  
*Ohkee-Doekee*, # 87, Sometime in 2017, 4¼x5½, 4pp, Dave Schwartz.  
*Remembrances*, #1, 5½x8½, 2pp, Milt Coleman.  
*Tribulations*, #6, Aug 2017, 5½x8½, 4pp, Dave Tribby.

### September 2017 Bundle 7 items

*Impressions by Hal*, Sep. 2017, #166, 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive.  
*Journeys*, Vol. 2, #10, Sep. 2017, 5½x8½, 12pp, Nancy A. Heber.  
*Marti's Mouser*, #152, Sep. 2017, Martha Babcock Abell.  
*OhioViews*, #46, Sep. 2017, 4¼x7, 4pp, Gary Bossler.  
*Ohkee-Doekee*, # 88, Sometime in 2017, 4¼x5½, 4pp, Dave Schwartz.  
*Oliver's Twist*, Sep. 2017, 5½x8½, 2pp, Jack Oliver.  
*Pennant Bravo*, Sep 2017, 4¼x7, 40pp + cov, Bill Boys

### October 2017 Bundle 3 items

*Journeys*, Vol. 2, #11, Oct 2017, 5½x8½, 12pp, Nancy A. Heber.  
*Oliver's Twist*, Oct. 2017, 8½x11, 1pp, Jack Oliver.  
*Pennant Bravo*, Oct. 2017, 4¼x7, 16pp + cov, Bill Boys.

### November 2017 Bundle 6 items

*Easy Journal in WordPerfect*, #1 Nov. 2017, 5½x8½, 4pp, Bill Boys.  
*Impressions by Hal*, Nov. 2017, #167, 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive.  
*Journeys*, Vol. 2, #12, No.v 2017, 5½x8½, 8pp, Nancy A. Heber.  
*Marti's Mouser*, #153, Oct. 2017, 8½x11, 2pp, Martha Babcock Abell.  
*Oliver's Twist*, Nov. 2017, 8½x11, 2pp, Jack Oliver.  
*Pennant Bravo*, Nov. 2017, 4¼x7, 32pp + cov, Bill Boys.

The membership list has

*been intentionally removed from the website version of this issue.*

Typefaces used in this edition of THE NATIONAL AMATEUR are digital Garamond and Garamond Condensed, except for the cover title, which is Excalibur SF. Composed in Serif PagePlus X9.

# FREE 3-Month Trial Membership

See for yourself what amateur journalism is like,  
and what it offers you.

Think you might like to exhibit your writing, graphic design, and/or art in a serial publication of your own design, giving you complete control over format and frequency of publication? Just for the fun, the skill-building, and the creative challenge of it? To share with others who enjoy this hobby?

**That's what amateur journalism is. People have been doing it for 141 years in the National Amateur Press Association.**

We'd like to give you a free opportunity to see how NAPA supports and encourages the hobby. Try us out for three months. No obligation. At the end of three months, if you don't want to join, we just thank you for your interest and take your name off the list.

How about giving it a try?

## Here's what you get during that three-month period:

- Each month, the monthly 6 x 9" envelope containing one copy of each amateur journal submitted for publication that month. You can see what others publish as their amateur journals.
- The privilege of submitting your own journal, if you'd like to create one, during that period. You can use the services of our Mailing Bureau at no charge, just like Regular Members. About a hundred people and a few libraries thus get a chance to see your journal.
- The quarterly issue of this magazine, *The National Amateur*, that comes out during your three-month trial period.
- The option of submitting a manuscript to our Manuscript Bureau, which will try to place it with a publishing member who might like it enough to include it in his or her own journal.

## Here's all you have to do to get your Trial Membership started

Send your request to [Secretary-Treasurer@AmateurPress.org](mailto:Secretary-Treasurer@AmateurPress.org), giving your name and the mailing address where you'd like to receive your monthly bundle of publications and your issue of *The National Amateur*.

**Don't have email?** No problem. Just mail the same information on a card or in a letter to the Secretary-Treasurer. (Address on page 2.)