

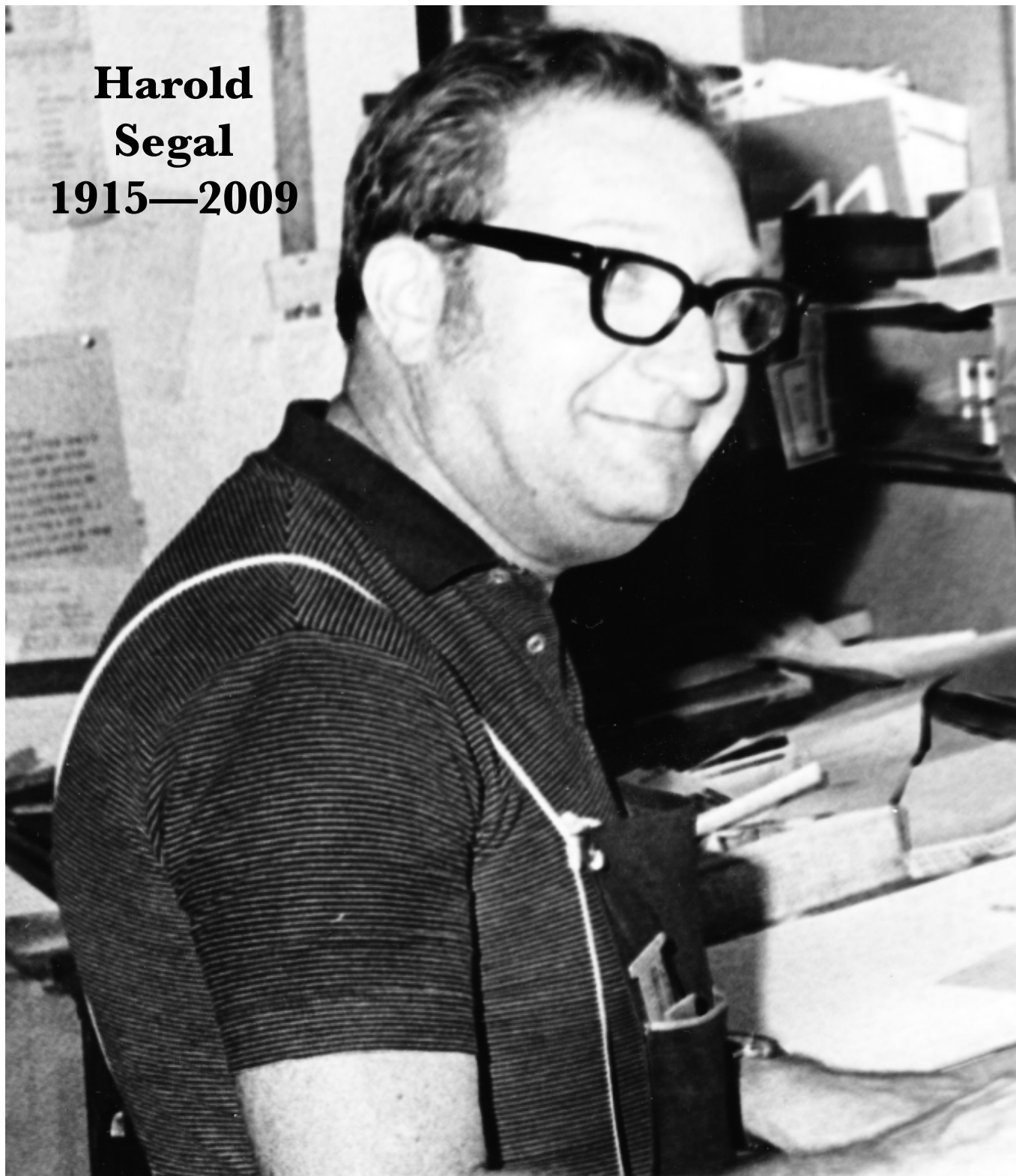
# *The* ***National Amateur***

September 2009

Volume 132, Number 1

*The Official Organ of The National Amateur Press Association*

**Harold  
Segal  
1915—2009**



## Officers

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RR 3, Box 3000-G, Rome, PA 18837-9431

**Executive Judges .. Leah Warner, chair**  
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<LGWarner@email.com>  
Judge: Guy Miller, Springfield, OH  
Judge: Arie Koelewyn, East Lansing, MI

**Bureau of Critics ..... Heath Row**  
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**Mailing Bureau Manager Harold Shive**  
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## The National Amateur

The Official Organ of the  
National Amateur Press Association  
Volume 132 Number 1 September 2009

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

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

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

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

Bill Boys,  
Secretary Treasurer  
6507 Westland Drive,  
Knoxville, TN  
Phone: 865-584-9222 or  
e-mail:  
wboys@bellsouth.net

## **President's Message**

In the wake of this year's Parkersburg/Mineral Wells convention ... one may find both ripples of delight and waves of discontent.

My own delight comes not only from the customary camaraderie and activity of our friends, but in particular from the prominence of letterpress. Austin and Jean Jones, with their demonstrations of old-time typesetting with a hand-held mould, printing on an antique English common letterpress, bookbinding and more; and Rich Hopkins, with his letterpressed keepsake, open in the center for handset paragraphs by attendees, and his well-illustrated banquet speech; reminded some of us of "how it used to be" and enlightened us on typesetting as it is still done.

My own discontent, on the other hand, shared by many, arises from our organizational frustrations: We lack the **WHO**-power to do the necessary work to keep our Association alive and well. And we struggle with **HOW** best to improve our structure in a way that will honor both the place of tradition and the need for simplification.

In order to relieve the discontent, I am looking for the right persons to do the right things in the right positions - "presidential pills" if you will.

In light of the convention's merging of the Recruitment and Publicity budgets, and until a replacement is named as Chair of Recruitment (or possibly the two positions merged by amendment?), Publicity Director Gigi Volkart will handle both of those closely

related functions and is co-opting assistance.

As of this writing, one important position unfilled as that of Chair of the Manuscript Bureau. We need a "proactive" (heard several times at the convention) person to put submitted manuscripts into the hands of willing publishers. In other words, the Bureau should be more than a repository for material, waiting passively for a publisher to call for it. Who would be willing to solicit pieces and then to find someone to get them into print? Although this service is not needed by many of our presently active writers, it can be a great attraction for prospective members. For the present, writers seeking publishers may ask Secretary-Treasurer Bill Boys to list their pieces on his NAPA Email News for possible matching.

When it comes to this and other vacant positions (include also Historian), I would rather not go blindly through the roster and hope that by wild chance my finger will fall on some unknown and unsuspecting but happily surprised individual (although, truth be told, I have done just that). You can either step up to a position yourself or recommend someone who you feel would be willing and happy to do it. Meantime I prefer to leave a position unfilled rather than unfulfilled.

As to the perennial discontent over how we function as an organization, I am proceeding to name a task force to review the constitution and by-laws, to look at it from all angles, and to bring

to the next convention (2010) an amendment in clear and concise form that can be either rejected by the convention or approved (with any revision) for placement on the following year's (2011) ballot for vote by the membership. Any of you willing to participate in the deliberations of this task force are asked to let me know.

May delightful ripples continue (with ripple effect!), and may upsetting waves be calmed. We are not a "sinking ship" (as declared for a long time by doomsayers) so long as we continue with good will to navigate the rewarding

sea of amateur journalism.

As I remarked in my brief report to the convention, each generation makes its own mark. With the growing absence of long-time members, there is talk of "the end of an era." Since 1876 – after several generational eras – what shall we, or posterity, call the one we see passing? What will the emerging one be called? Thanks to you faithful members who "continuously carry on" as H.P. Lovecraft said to an earlier generation. We can work together to further the cause.

—Jack Visser

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## **Minutes of the 134th Convention of NAPA July 16, 17, 18, 2009, Comfort Suites Mineral Wells/Parkersburg, WV**

### **Session 1 — July 16th, 2009**

9:00 am — President Jack Visser called the meeting to order. Bill Boys moved to recess until more members arrive. Seconded by Gary Bossler.

9:07 am-- The meeting was called back to order with 12 persons present. President Jack Visser thanked our good hosts, Harold Shive and Gary Bossler.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Harold who then welcomed everyone to the 134th Convention.

**Roll Call** followed, with each member stating their home residence and/or publication. Those present were Jake Warner, Leah Warner, Bill Boys, Dave Warner, Alice Warner, Gary Bossler, Arie Koelewyn, Jon McGrew, Tom Parsons, Marti Abell and Jack Visser.

### **Appointment of Pro tempore officers**

Tom Parsons was appointed both Vice President and also Chairman of Absentee Ballots to serve with Marti Abell, and Bill Boys.

Auditing Committee— chair, Jon McGrew and Alice Warner.

Amendments Committee— chair, Gary Bossler, Leah Warner and Arie Koelewyn.

Budget Committee — chair, Melody Warner and Dave Warner.

Resolutions Committee— chair, Jake Warner and Marti Abell.

Memorials — chair, Arie Koelewyn and Bill Boys.

### **Annual Report of Officers**

Jack submitted his president's report.

No report from the Vice President.

### **Secretaries Report**

Bill Boys made a motion to approve those who joined the association within past year. Those were:

Catherine Celani (family member)

A. Walrus, (Louise Lincoln's mascot-family member)(approved by a vote of the 2008 convention)

Nathalie Spiesser

Donald J. Allen

Eunice Probert

Floyd Hugh Palmer

Deborah J. Greenberg

Heath Row

Gerry Kleiman

Edwin C. (Chris) Clubb

Marc Brosey (family member)

Guy Abell (family member)

Tom Rozzell (reinstatement)

Gary seconded, and the motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**—Copies were distributed to those in attendance.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

#### **July 2008 through June 23, 2009**

<b>Bank Balance, June 30, 2008</b>	<b>\$3,674.25</b>
<b>Income</b>	
2008 Convention Income,	
Auction	\$ 457 .00
2008 Convention,	
Banquet & Photos	555.00
Total 2008	
Total Convention Income	1,012.00
Gifts Received	\$ 60.00
Interest Income	
Life Member Fund CD	252.43
Money Market Bank Account	1.69
Regions Bank CD's	1,228.08
Total Interest Income	1,482.20
Membership Dues	
Family, New Members	4.00
Family, Renewals	20.00

Regular, New Members	187.50
Regular, Reinstatements	20.00
Regular, Renewals	1,847.50
<b>Total Membership</b>	
<b>Dues Income</b>	2,079.00
Miscellaneous Income	200.00
Refunds Received	880.27
Weixelbaum	
Trust Fund Income	2,261.55
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 7,975 .02</b>

<b>Expenses</b>	
2008 Convention	\$ 1,012.00
2009 Convention Advance	200.00
Mailing Bureau	2,478.10
National Amateur	
Clearing House	388.38
National Amateur, The	1,711.17
Publicity	600.00
Secretary-Treasurer Expenses	140.29
Website Hosting	240.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 6,769.94</b>

**Net Increase (Decrease)** \$1,205.08

### **Transfers**

Regions Bank CD's	
interest automatically	
reinvested, as noted below	(\$1,228.08)

**Bank Balance,**  
**June 23, 2009** **\$ 3,651.25**

### **Other Assets**

Regions Bank CD *****2676	
Value on July 1, 2008	\$10,287.22
Accrued interest	
to June 23, 2009	507.17
Value on June 23, 2009	10,794.39
Regions Bank CD *****2684	
Value on July 1, 2008	\$10,000.00
Accrued interest	
to June 23, 2009	720.91
Value on June 23, 2009	10,720.91
WesBanco Bank CD	
(Life Member Fund)	8,376.37

**Total Equity** **\$ 32,263.24**

Respectfully submitted,  
William E. Boys, Secretary-Treasurer

### **Librarian's Report —**

Greetings to the NAPA Convention as I mark my 55th year of Membership.

The NAPA Librarian had a quiet year. The American Antiquarian Society collection of amateur journals at Worcester, MA continues to absorb the massive Moitoret Family Collection, 1870-1901. A few queries were answered from public libraries now eager to add holdings from past amateur journalists.

—Stan Oliner

### **Manuscript Bureau Report —**

Final Report

July 1, 2009

Manuscripts on hand:

5 Essays - short, 1 page,

personal experience.

contributed by G. Volkart

4 poems - each 4 lines

contributed by K. Camberlain.

Requests for MS to publish: ZERO

No requests have been received in the last five years.

Comment:

I have been the manager for the last nine years. In that time I've noticed that the items in the bundle have gone from mostly printed, and those mostly letterpress, to mostly computer produced. This should raise some questions about the direction that NAPA is going.

Even about the name of the organization. The "P" used to stand for "Press." It can't stand for "printers" or "publishers" unless you want to change the definitions of the words.

Since there has been comments about my not being on the internet, and no e-mail address, I feel it necessary to step down so that someone more "modern" could run the bureau. There fore in words of one syllable:

I QUIT!

Respectfully,

Phillip E. Lewis

P.S. Please send me the name and address of the new manager so that I may ship him the file case of the Bureau.

### **Recorder's Report—**

Marti Abell read the Activity Report. It was noted that Robert Bierman as well as Margaret Kuring are deceased.

Melody Warner moved to accept the Activity Report and Gary Bossler seconded. The motion carried.

### **Official Editor —**

Report of Official Editor Arie Koelewyn gave a report on his recent volume.

Four issues of the National Amateur were published, though the March number was a bit late and a bit thin. Still even that number exceeded the minimally required 8 pages of the constitution.

Using the option granted to the OE a couple of years ago, I opted to use first class postage for all issues of the National Amateur. This greatly simplified the task of mailing and the organization saved the cost of the \$250 for the second class permit. It also allowed the print run to approximate the number mailed out thus lowering that cost and also eliminated mailing out duplicates needed to reach the 200 minimum required by the Post Office. The additional postage cost of first class was pretty much covered by the savings of the mailing permit and printing and mailing of extra issues.

I've enjoyed the experience, but do not wish to repeat it as I find I'm not temperamentally suited to deadline work. Thanks to all who assisted, especially Guy Miler, Jack Visser, Bill Boys and Heath Row for providing copy on short notice and Jake Warner for timely mailing labels and membership lists.

—Arie Koelewyn

Bill Boys made a motion to accept the National Amateur report and Melody Warner seconded. Motion carried.

### **Mailer —**

Mailer Report by Alice Warner was given from July 2008 to Dec. 2009. The report was accepted.

Harold Shive gave the following report:

In January 2009 148 domestic and 6 foreign bundles were mailed. By July 2009 there were 137 domestic and 6 foreign were mailed. The total cost was \$1234.72.

Hal announced that beginning in the next bundle, the count will go down from 170 to 155 in each bundle.

A motion was made to accept the Mailers' reports by Bill Boys with Jon McGrew seconding. Motion carried

#### **Bureau of Critics —**

Jack remarked that he had asked Heath Row to chair the Bureau of Critics, and that he has been pleased to see his reviews.

#### **Executive Judges —**

Leah reported that she has had no communication with Troy McQueen, therefore, no report.

#### **Historian Report —**

Gary Bossler said that his report is printed in the National Amateur. The remaining part of his duty is to write a short history of the previous administration to be published in the December 2009 NA.

#### **New Business —**

Jack said that he received 20 absentee ballots from Bill Venrick, Custodian of Ballots, which were referred to the Absentee Ballots Committee.

There was a lengthy discussion on the Manuscript Bureau.

Jon McGrew gave a report on the status of the NAPA website.

Editor's note: Details of convention business, including the lengthy discussion on the Manuscript Bureau

are available on request. They are omitted here because of space limitations.

The meeting was recessed until 9:00 am tomorrow.

#### **Session 2 — July 17th, 2009**

9:02 am— Session called to order

**Roll Call**— Those present were Tom Parson, Rich Hopkins, Guy and Annabel Miller, Gary Bossler, Arie Koelewyn, Alice Warner, Dave Warner, Bill Boys, Harold Shive, Leah and Jake Warner, Melody Warner, Marti Abell, Jack Visser.

Gary Bossler announced that the Amendments Committee would meet at 7 pm so that is the deadline for proposed amendments.

Dave Warner was asked asked to preside over the election.

#### **Absentee Ballot Committee Report**

Of the 20 absentee ballots, six were rejected for failure to meet the activity requirement. They were

Coleman, Milton  
Crew, June  
Davis, Dwayne  
Harrigan, Francis  
Hoye, Charles  
Jackson, James

Dave Warner said that the chair will entertain a motion to accept the report of the Absentee Ballot Committee. Guy Miller made the motion which Melody Warner seconded, motion carried.

#### **Election —**

President-Jack Visser with 24 votes also nominated were Jake Warner,

Arie Koelewyn, and Gary Bossler  
Vice President-- Bill Volkart received 25 votes

Official Editor-- Gary Bossler had 23 votes with one each for Melody Warner and Jake Warner.

Recorder-- Marti Abell with 24 votes

Executive Judge-- Arie Koelewyn received 22 vote with one for Jake Warner.

Convention Site, 2010-- nominated were Chicago, Cincinnati, Ohio; Lexington, Kentucky, Maine

Bill Boys nominated the Chicago site saying that we have been invited by AAPA to share some activities. Barry Schrader, member of both organizations is willing to be a host for AAPA.

Convention Site 2010-- Chicago area with 12 votes

Convention Site 2011-- sites suggested were one person each for Chicago, Denver, Lansing, Michigan from absentee voters, extra nominations were: Milton Keynes in England, Pinch, WV and Nashville, Tennessee; also two for Ashtabula, Ohio. Nashville was the winner with 10 votes.

Leah made a speech in favor of a secret ballot and not cast a unanimous vote for any candidate.

#### **Miscellaneous/New Business —**

Rich Hopkins remarked that his memory of conventions is people not associating with each other but sitting in the corner setting type. He left two pages for others to set. You have to have text written and submitted to Rich before setting type. Hopefully we can

revive the tradition of actual type setting. Baskerville 11 point type is to be used. He offered any assistance needed. Spacing is variable, coming from monotype. There will be a tweezer which can be used for fine justification.

Tom wanted to have a word about the auction. Dave is to be the auctioneer, assisted by Jon McGrew. Please get your auction items out now; not 10 minutes beforehand.

Bill Boys moved to recess. The motion was seconded by Guy Miller, and the meeting was recessed until 9:00 am tomorrow.

#### **Session 3 — July 18th, 2009**

The session resumed at 9:10 am with 14 present.

**Roll Call —** Jack Visser, President, conducted the roll call by state starting with West Virginia having the most attendees.

#### **Report on auction —**

Marti Abell reported that we realized \$672, thanks to Dave Warner, our excellent auctioneer.

#### **Installation of Officers —**

Bill Boys was asked to do the installation of officers, which he did.

#### **Auditing Committee —**

The Auditing Committee headed by Jon McGrew found only a minor 51 cent error. Approval of the report was moved and seconded. The motion carried.

#### **Treasurer's Report —**

It was moved and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

### **Budget Committee —**

Dave Warner presented the following Budget for 2009-2010:

<b>Income</b>	
Dues	\$1900
Trust Fund	2000
Convention	1000
Interest	500
Donations	200
	\$5600
<b>Expenses</b>	
National Amateur	\$5000
Mailer	3000
Treasurer	300
Recruiting/Publicity	500
President	100
Recorder	25
Convention	1500
	\$10425
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>(\$4825)</b>

It was moved to hold Resolution and Memorial Committee reports to be given at the banquet. Motion seconded and carried.

### **Amendment Committee—**

Gary Bossler presented three amendments. Copies of the three proposed amendments were distributed. One was having officers serve for two years and make voting by mail replace the present voting system. (Editor's note: This was really to be presented as two amendments but in the rush to get the amendments in proper wording these were consolidated.) The second amendment was to do away with the activity requirement. A third one would remove the "three consecutive days in July." Jake Warner pointed out

some inconsistencies. After lengthy discussion, all the amendments were withdrawn by Gary, so that nothing more could be done with them. Bill Boys felt that numbers 2 and 3 looked okay. Jake remarked that he does not get the activity requirement not being kept. Arie said the meritless amendment could be set in proper form, as 2 and 3 are, but the originator has withdrawn it. Gary said that he was just trying to make things run smoother. Guy urged him not to throw it away, but keep working on it.

Bill said that he and Dave went thru the Constitution and feel that it is a waste of time to go into the amending at this time. Maybe a Constitutional Review Committee?

Rich Hopkins said he was recruited for the Convention Paper Committee. The job is done. Time to hand it out.

Motion to recess made by Guy Miller, seconded by Melody Warner, motion carried.

### **Banquet — July 18th, 2009**

Members attending the convention with some spouses added, assembled in the courtyard area where chairs had been brought for the traditional group picture. Four or five cameras with tripods and remote controls were aimed at the group and a number of pictures were taken. Dave Warner's shot was used for the official picture.

In the Gilbert room next to where we had met for other sessions was a display set up by Rich Hopkins, who gave an after-dinner presentation showing samples of the various kinds

of work he has done in relation to his typesetting and letterpress hobbies, which he calls "obsessions." He started with a visual showing himself as a kid with neighborhood kids producing a newspaper, taken in Charleston, WV, in 1953. This was presented to give evidence that Rich has been doing "amateur journalism" for a long time. He showed several visuals of his extensive collection of typesetting equipment and matrices, explaining that he has seven operational casters in the basement of his home. His wife Lynda was present to verify such banter. Rich said he is able to cast type from 4½ point up to and including 72 point. Among the items he showed was a bound compilation of his "first 43" pages for *It's a Small World* (among his pages were notation of the end of Linotype manufacture in 1971, the auctioning off of American Type Founders in 1992, and the end of Kelsey in 1993), a 150-page book he produced via letterpress last year titled *Chasing Monotypes*, and various issues of the American Typesetting Fellowship Newsletter, which he has printed and published for over 30 years. His most recent amateur journal told the story of how he closed down the Philadelphia Airport coming back from the AAPA convention last Summer. Commenting on the fate of NAPA, AAPA, APA, and perhaps others, he made a pitch for consolidating mailings to shorten the pressrun needs for people with multiple affiliations.

A brief recess allowed us all to check

out the many printing samples Rich had laid on the table.

The evening session was then called to order by President Visser.

Dave Warner made a motion that Jean and Austin Jones be presented with an honorary membership. Tom Parson seconded. Motion passed.

The Memorial Committee of Bill and Arie took turns reading the names and short comments about 7 members who left us since the last convention. Sadly, that included Harold Segal, who had just died that morning.

Resolutions Committee of Jake Warner and Marti Abell—First, be it resolved that our thanks be extended to Harold Shive and Gary Bossler, co-hosts of this convention. They have obviously worked hard to provide an excellent site for the convention and have provided entertaining extra-curricular activities as well as hauling us to these activities. Our special thanks for the model railroad experience.

Be it resolved that we thank Austin and Jean Jones for a full afternoon of interesting and very instructive demonstrations of type casting, printing, and bookbinding.

We thank Austin Jones for providing a 6x9 press and thank Rich Hopkins for providing new type and supervising of the printing of our convention journal—the first time it has been done in quite a few years.

We resolve to remember how much fun it is to actually set type.

Be it resolved that we thank the hotel for excellent facilities and service. Any

hotel that furnishes free martinis cannot be anything but good.

A presentation from the Fossils was made by Gary Bossler. *The Russ Paxton Memorial Award* is to be presented to the person who has given vast amounts of his own time and resources for the benefit of his fellow amateur journalists. It was started by J. Ed Newman. This year's worthy recipient is Jake Warner.

**Laureates—** Jack has returned copies for Laureate awards for anyone who would like them. These are the 2008 awards. Thanks to those who submitted nominations. We are thinking of Louise Lincoln and her remarks about laureates from *The Kitchen Stove*. Could those present take or send on awards to those not present?

The Laureate Awards were presented by President Visser and can be found elsewhere in this issue. Congratulations to all the award winners.

Harold Shive said, "I'd like to thank everyone who helped out and participated. He had directions to the picnic. Melody seconded the motion made by Gary to adjourn and at 9:40 pm we were adjourned *sine die*.

**Picnic—**The Post-Convention gathering was held at the City Park in Parkersburg. The announced time was 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and Harold supplied directions on how to get there. This was not his first choice, as he had planned to have it at Fort Borman Park which is perched on a hilltop which gives a breathtaking view of the Ohio River. Seventeen people attended.

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#### **NAPA SECRETARY'S REPORT**

AUG. 15, 2009

##### **Renewals -- Regular (2)**

Anthony, John, Exp. Aug. 31, 2010.

Griggs, Dorothy Brown, Feb. 28, 2010.

##### **Reinstatements -- Regular (2)**

Elliston, Michael F., 96 Sparrows Herne, Basildon, Essex SS16 5EX, UK  
Email: Mikell@blueyonder.co.uk.

Exp. Aug. 31, 2010.

Gough, Paul, 598 Route 148, Killingworth CT 06419-1107. Exp. Aug. 31, 2010.

##### **Addr. Changes/Corrections/Additions**

Warner, Alice, change to married name Brosey.

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



Austin Jones Demo

photo by Jon McGrew



## *The 2009 Laureate Awards*

**Art Laureate** Loy McWhirter, “redhanded: a song forre the loste,” part 2;  
Published in Boxwooder #471, HONORABLE MENTION: Lana Lambert for  
“Galleon” published in Pennant Bravo, May 2008.

**Editing Laureate:** Arie Koelewyn for Lake Effect, #15 & 16. HONORABLE  
MENTION: Jake Warner for Boxwooder #462-473

**Editorial Comment Laureate:** Loy McWhirter for “redhanded: a song  
forre the loste,” part 3; published in Boxwooder #473. HONORABLE  
MENTION: Bill Venrick for “Respect — Service,” published in  
Wordwright Press Journal February 2008.

**Fiction Laureate:** Robert Bierman for “Your Father’s Moustache,”  
published in Boxwoodeer #473. HONORABLE MENTION: Louise Lincoln  
for “The Yellow Gingham Dress” published in The Kitchen Stove #95.

**History of AJ Laureate:** Jake Warner for “Townsend Convention 133,”  
published in Boxwooder #470. HONORABLE MENTION: Guy Miller for  
“Our Final Salute,” Published in Lamplighter #17.

**Misc. Prose Laureate:** Loy McWhirter for “redhanded: a song forre the  
loste,” part 1, published in Boxwooder #469. HONORABLE MENTION:  
Fred Gage for “Hush Money,” published in The Gage Pin #81.

**Poetry Laureate:** Louise Lincoln for “After the Storm,” published in The  
Kitchen Stove #97. HONORABLE MENTION: Kent Clair Chamberlain for  
“Song for Sleep,” published in Oregon Outlook #IV

**Printing Laureate:** Bill Boys for Pennant Bravo April & May 2008.  
HONORABLE MENTION: Arie Koelewyn for Lake Effect #15 & 16.



## Historian's Report

by Gary Bossler

### June 2009 Bundle 12 items

2009 Absentee Ballot, 3½x8½, 1pp, Bill Boys

Convention Flyer, 5½x8½, 1pp, [Harold Shive]

*impressions by hal*, #77, Jun 2009, 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive

*Mambrino's Golden Helmet*, Vol VII, #3, Jun/Jul 2009, 5½x8½, 16pp, Harold W. Cheney Jr

*Marti's Mouser*, #59, Jun 2009, 8½x11, 2pp, Martha Babcock Abell

*Ohio Views*, #26, Jun 2009, 4¼x7, 4pp, Gary Bossler

*Pennant Bravo*, Jun 2009, 4¼x7, 16pp, Bill Boys

Return Envelope, Custodian of Ballots, Bill Boys

*The Boxwooder*, #479, Jun 2009, 5x7, 8pp & Cov, Jake Warner

*The Buck Creek Press*, #59, Jun 2009, 7x8½, 4pp, Willson L. Barto, Sr.

*The Kitchen Stove*, 100th Heating, Jun 2009, 5x7, 4pp, Louise Lincoln

*The Offshoot*, #38, Jun 2009, 5x7, 8pp, David L. Warner

### July 2009 Bundle 11 items

*Foci Coquinaris*, 2009, 8½x11, 1pp, Ken Faig

*impressions by hal*, #78, Jul 2009, 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive

*In-Between*, Vol 4, #2, Jul 2009, 8½x5½, 2pp, Harold Cheney

*Marti's Mouser*, #60, Jul 2009, 8½x11, 2pp, Martha Babcock Abell

*Minor Review*, Vol. 3, #1, Jul 2008, 8½x11, 2pp, Marsha Barrett

NAPA Membership List, 6/2/09, 8½x11, 3pp [Jake Warner]

*Ohio Views*, #27, Jul 2009, 4¼x7, 4pp, Gary Bossler

*Ohkee-Dockee*, #46, 2009, 4¼x5½, 4pp, Dave Schwartz

*Oregon Orations*, #1, Apr 14, 2009, 8½x11, 2pp, Kent Clair Chamberlain

*The Boxwooder*, #480, Jul 2009, 5x7, 12pp & Cov, Jake Warner

*The Flexible Voice*, #325, Jul 2009, 5½x7, 2pp, Robert Orbach

### August 2009 Bundle 9 items

Flyer, Notice to Members on quantity for bundle, 5½x8½, 1pp, Harold Shive

*impressions by hal*, #79, Aug 2009, 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive

*impressions by hal*, Special Edition, Aug 2009, 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive

*Mambrino's Golden Helmet*, Vol VII, #4, Aug/Sep 2009, 5½x8½, 16pp, Harold W. Cheney Jr.

*Marti's Mouser*, #61, Aug 2009, 8½x11, 2pp, Martha Babcock Abell

*NAPA Convention Special*, Jul 15-19, 2009, 5x7, 8pp & Cov, Rich Hopkins & Convention attendees

*Ohio Views*, #27, Aug 2009, 4¼x7, 4pp, Gary Bossler

*The Boxwooder*, #481, Aug 2009, 5x7, 12pp & Cov, Jake Warner

*The Kitchen Stove*, 101st Heating, Aug 2009, 5x7, 4pp, Louise Lincoln

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## Executive Judges Report

The Executive Judges met after the recess of the business session on 18 July. We approved unanimously the \$5000 budgeted for the National Amateur.

Leah G. Warner, Chairman

Guy Miller

Arie Koelewyn



**The 134th Annual NAPA Convention - July 16-18, 2009  
Mineral Wells/Parkersburg, WV**

Front Row (left to right) Gary Bossler, Guy Miller, Annabel Miller, Jean Jones,



Leah Warner, Jake Warner, Alice Warner, Jon McGrew, Arie Koelewyn, Ruth Boys. Back Row (left to right) Lynda Hopkins, Rich Hopkins, Marti Abell, Austin Jones, Melody Warner, Dave Warner, Tom Parson, Guy Abell, Jack Visser, Harold Shive, Bill Boys.

**Remembering  
Mr. NAPA — Harold Segal  
(1915-2009)**

*by Guy Miller*

When in October 1930, 15 year-old Harold Segal paid his \$1.50 for membership in NAPA, he didn't yet know how the Special Recruit Committee got his name. Actually, it was simple enough: the Committee spearheaded by Vincent B. Haggerty and Edwin Hadley Smith had contacted the Kelsey Company from whom Harold's parents had just ordered Kelsey's 3x5 "printing kit" for him. Messrs. Haggerty and Smith, alerted by the showing of a measely four members at the 1928 Niagara Falls convention, determined that NAPA would not expire, and invested \$276 in a recruiting campaign that eventually netted 23 printers. Harold was one. Ralph Babcock and F. Earl Bonnell were soon to follow. Thus, the 1933 New York convention, Harold's first, had over over 100 attendees. At this meeting Harold became president after duly elected Edwin Hadley Smith declined the honor. The year before he had served as official editor. All in all, before his death on July 18, the final day of the Parkersburg WV convention, Harold had been president a second time in 1975, official editor for three more turns ('77, '87, '96), and a prolific printer. In fact, before his affiliation, he was publisher of a pass-around (10 copies) titled Good Timers' Club News

which ran 10 issues (4 in NAPA) before he changed its name to *The Sea Gull*.

Harold's original "printing kit" included a font of 6 pt. Copperplate. Eventually he acquired enough 8 pt. to print 47 issues of *The Sea Gull* (12 pp.+cover) one page up on a 5x8 Kelsey. In 1948, with his acquisition of the 1890 7x11 treadle Pearl, originally owned by Will Bates Grant (*The Friendly Quill*), he could print 2 pages up. *Campane* 12 (Jan. 1949) was the first issue printed on this press. Concave platen notwithstanding (Harold had it smoothed "evenly as a plate of glass" in the '60's), Pearl gave unparalleled joy to its owner and fellow ajays until 2002 when it was moved to the Graphic Design Division of The University of the Arts in Philadelphia.

According to the Moitoret Index (courtesy of NAPA Librarian Stan Oliner), *The Sea Gull* appeared from 1931-1936. At the same time Harold published one issue each of of *The Times* and *The New Times*. Then in 1936 began a 17-issue run of *The New Times*. Harold liked to dub it "*TNT*," which suggests the flavor of its contents. In *Campane* 91, he admits, "*TNT* was fun, but much of the news was contrived-for correspondents were not often dependable." Harold joined AAPA in 1937 and circulated *TNT* No. 7 (as well as two No. 7 NAPA editions). He expressed an interest in AAPA gatherings and attended a few, the 1954 New Jersey meeting, for one, where he met forever-friend Alvin Fick.

Harold's initial meeting with "real live amateur journalists" was in 1931 when he was invited to attend the second meeting of the Amateur Printers Club, convening in New York on Nov. 22. As he recollects in *Campane* 142, "Awaiting me was an amateur journalist, the first of the specie I was ever to meet--George Trainer." Among the founding members besides Mr. Trainer was Vincent B. Haggerty who, along with Edwin Hadley Smith, had worked to rejuvenate the flagging NAPA. Six issues of the first official organ of APC, *The Amateur Pressman*, were printed at the editors' homes. Harold was editor of issue number one.



Vincent B. Haggerty, Walter Stevenson, Ralph Babcock George Anderson with Harold in front of the group.

The first issues of *APC News*, six 6x9, were printed on a 5x8 press at the 1933 New York convention (Harold's first). Vincent offered advance Linotype pages

for the inside, and four dedicated youths-- Harold Segal, Raph Babcock, George Andersen, and Walter Stevenson--pulled all-night sessions to see them through to completion.

Like other ajay undertakings, neither *APC News* nor APC meetings had an uninterrupted trip from its first issues in New York to its last at 8949 Turton Drive. The important fact is that those who made up the buoyant convivial sessions created an effervescent spirit which bubbled over beyond the sites of their several presses.

*APC News* and *Campane* were not the only business to occupy Harold's time. Again, a review of the Moitoret Index shows a whole range of publications including his quarterly APA offerings, the pre-centennial convention paper *Philadelphia Almanack*, hardbound books, among them *LVH--A Profile* by Thomas B. Whitbread, *Which Way's the War?*, *The First 100 Years....*, visiting fireman issues such as *BoxOffShandyPane*: Harold and Hazel Segal, Dave, Jake and Leah Warner, and *Shampane*--that never-to-be-forgotten flame of creativity sparked jointly by Harold Segal and Al Fick (or Harvin Figal?). Although the two first met in 1954, it as not until 1963 when, on a visit of the Segals to the Ficks' near Amsterdam NY, that they collaborate. The title suggests that initially it might have been a visiting fireman production (Al's paper for NAPA was *The Shambler*). The second *Shampane* came out almost 10 years later. Succeeding issues were composed

through personal visits, of course, but also by telephone and correspondence.

That second issue was more a loose gun affair with its "Guide for Convention Bird Watchers"—"Bill Boys will be carrying charts, graphs and news of population explosions in a.j."; Louise Lincoln will be swatting down cigar smokers in her presence." From there on we have pages filled with well-directed satire, unbridled hyperbole, zany off-the-wall observations, and preposterous puns. Al describes the experience: "Working with Mr. NAPA has been the most fun I ever had with my clothes on." Although it saw its final number 127 in 2006, one still loves to review issues. The copy we came across recently (May 8-9, 1976) contains one of our favorite groaners: "Jack Hageman says 'I Kennewick any man in the house.'" The pun refers to the upcoming Kennewick WA convention of 1978. The Garrett Grouch, Jack Hageman was to be the host. It was at that convention that Gussie was introduced to those who had not already met her at a meeting of the Virginia Amateur Press Club, or the New Year's APC gathering.

We have figured that over all, Harold had attended at least 61 conventions since his first in 1933. After the 1941 meet, his attendance was interrupted by World II service (1942-45). But he was present at Newark 1946 with British bride Hazel. We note that soon after his return Harold's *Campane* No. 13 appeared, eventually running to Number 255 in August 2007.

Harold gives Hazel credit for his having chosen to give up Kennerley for Baskerville. According to an account in the Summer 1965 issue of *The Fossil*, when Hazel "dumped" his case of Kennerley he switched to Baskerville. Probably his tales in No. 161 and 212 come closer to the facts. When Harold was finally able to print two up, his Kennerley was a little too limited. Rich Hopkins thereupon supplied him with enough Baskerville so that Harold could set 18 pages. Rich's matrices were originally cut for *Reader's Digest*.

Baskerville remained the house type even after Harold went offset with the August 1997 issue (184) and finally January 1988 when the computer and laser printer turned out the final numbers.

Take note for all time that "campane" is a word, and not some contrivance. In issue 161, Harold instructs us that "a campane is a bell, as the one the town crier tolls to attract attention to his messages."

After Kennewick '78, Harold and Gussie were front and center at consecutive conventions, sadly interrupted by illness which kept them from Chattanooga '03. But they were present at Lexington in 2004. Vic Moitoret had been visiting the Segals and helped to convey them to the convention (Harold could no longer see to drive; so, Gussie had to do all the chauffeuring). Vic died in 2005.

Harold and Gussie were able to attend Carson City and New Orleans,

but, again illness kept them from Massillon 2007. It was a joyous event, then, to greet them in Townsend the next year. From that time on, Harold's health so deteriorated that, when the Warners stopped by to visit on their way to Parkersburg, Harold was bedfast—but alert. When Gussie had to tell him that he was not well enough to go, his response was typical Harold: "Excuses, excuses."

Al Fick in his Spring *Shambler* observes that for Harold NAPA "is the polestar of his life." Official Editor Gary Bossler, in his March 2004 article, echoes Al's appellation: "Harold deserves the title of 'Mr. NAPA'." And, we know you agree that "Mr. NAPA" it shall always remain.

## **The Harold I Knew**

When I joined the National Amateur Press Association in 1972, Harold had already been a member for 42 years. It did not take me long to realize that Harold was one of the "movers and shakers" in the organization. Elsewhere in this issue there is a listing of all the amateur publications that Harold had a hand in, either completely or partially setting the type for the publication or book and printing it. You could not open a bundle without seeing something either printed by Harold or influenced by him.

You could tell by looking at the printed piece that Harold had a hand in it. First of all, the complete absence

of any words divided with a hyphen between lines. The other things might be that the quality of the printing was always excellent. The typography would always be outstanding. If you didn't know that this was an "amateur" paper, you might think it was done by a professional. —Ed.



## **Whitbread Remembers**

I met Harold Segal at Newark, NJ in 1946, and last saw him at Townsend, TN, in 2008. Between those years he set a record for convention attendance, having quietly become the stalwart heart and soul of NAPA.

Harold enjoyed the friendships he made and renewed at annual gatherings. Between conventions, he issued *Campane*, to whose pages he welcome articles on the hobby and poems by

Louise Lincoln. He encouraged me in many ways, drinking beers of welcome to the long-delayed final installment of my *L. V. Heljeson: Profile* at Des Moines in 1964, publishing ten of my pieces in all, and promoting my service in various offices.

In the old days when conventions had controversies, Harold was the calming voice of reason who fostered compromise.

More and more, over the years, the order of business was ignored and *Roberts Rules of Order* unknown. Sometimes the current President was absent. Year after year, Harold would take the chair and steer the ship of state safely through the agonies of agenda. At Wichita, KS, I asked him why he kept doing this? His reply: "Someone's got to do the job."

—Thomas B Whitbread

### **Harold Segal's Amateur Output**

The following was sent to Guy Miller and Ken Faig from Stan Oliner, NAPA Historian. As I understand it, this was taken from the card file kept by Anthony Moitoret and later by Vic Moitoret:

The card file for *The New Times* lists New Series No. 7 both an NAPA Edition for December 20, 1937 and No. 7 AAPA edition for December 1937. I am sending you below the complete file on Harold in the hope that Ken (or the NA) can run a sidebar listing

his total out put for the hobby.

*APC News* No. 155 February 1994. Harold participated in the setting and printing of virtually every issue of the *APC News* from 1941.

*BoxOffShandyPane*. September 1973 with Hazel Segal, Dave, Jake and Leah Warner.

*BoxOffWordShandyPane* November 17, 1973 with Hazel Segal, Jake, Leah and Dave Warner, Bob and Louise Williams.

*Campane* No. 0 February 1, 1941 to No. 255 Aug 2007.

*It's a Small World*. Harold contributed at least 44 times, 1960-2003.

*Cellar Orgy* with Alvin Fick and Sheldon C. Wesson.

*The Crumb*. April 12, 1975 with Tom and Maryann Rozzell, Dave and Jake Warner, Bob and Louise Williams.

*Diamond Jubilee* convention booklet for 1952 NAPA convention in Philadelphia.

*Eastern Conspiracy* with Al and Alma Fick and others.

*Entrada* with Victor A. and Rowena Moitoret.

*Flexible Pane* with Robert L. Orbach and Victor A. Moitoret.

*Giffgaff* with Gussie Segal, Jake and

Leah Warner.

*Glad Thai-dings* with Sheldon C. Wesson.

*Good Timers' Club News* 10 issues January 1930-February 1931. Title then changed to *The Sea Gull*.

*LVH-A Profile* September 1964. Hardbound book by Thomas B. Whitbread.

*The Mail-Bag* 1935.

*Mulligan Stew* with Hazel and Nancy Segal, Vic Moitoret.

*The National Amateur*.  
4 issues September 1932-June 1933,  
4 issues September 1977-June 1978,  
4 issues September 1987-June 1988,  
4 issues September 1996-June 1997.

*The New Times* 1 issue 1933, 20 issues May 1, 1934-August 1, 1940.

*Philadelphia Almanack & 101 Occurences*. Pre-convention issue May 1, 1976, 4 issues produced at centennial NAPA convention, 2 issues July-September 1976.

*The Red Rooster* 1 issue with Ralph W. Babcock.

*The Scrob* February 1974 with Hazel and David Segal, Tom and Maryann Rozzell, Jake, Leah and Dave Warner.

*The Sea Gull* (formerly *Good Timers' Club News*) 47 issues March 1931-

September 1936.

*Shampagne* with Alvin S. Fick to # 127 Dec 2006.

*The Tired Feeling* with Alvin and Alma Fick and others.

*Treasure Gems*. Contributed to 1987 and 1988.

*Trophee des Alpes* with Victor A. Moitoret.

*The Victory Party*. 2 issues March 2,5 1936-April 23, 1936.

*The Visiting Sexton* with Dick Fleming.

*The Wasafi Corbs* with Alvin Fick, Jacob L., Leah and David Warner.

*Weaker Rabbit* June 26, 1953 with Bill and Tilly Haywood, Vic Moitoret, Ralph Babcock.

*Welcome Mat* with Hazel, Nancy and David Segal, William F. Haywood and others.

*You're Invited* undated ca. 1965.  
(Date taken from The Moitoret Family Index of Amateur Journalism Publications, 1870-2004.)

National Amateur Presses Assembled. Contributed to 1976. My mailing address is: Stan Oliner, 1380 Detroit st., No. 411, Denver, Colorado USA 80206 soliner@yahoo.com

## HAROLD SEGAL

Died July 18, 2009, in Wyncote, PA. Husband of Gussie (nee Kofsky) Segal. Father of Nancy Segal (Steven Metzger), David Segal and Wendy Segal (Lynwood Fessler). Brother of Charlotte Harris. Grandfather of Alyssandra (Scott) Holmes and Brayden Fessler. Great grandfather of Kale Holmes. Contributions can be made to the NAPA, c/o William Boys, 6507 Westland Dr., Knoxville, TN 37919 or the International Printing Mus., c/o Mark Barbour, 315 W. Torrance Blvd., Carson, CA 90745.

Right Harold and Gussie dancing to the constant music in New Orleans.

Below Harold gives us a lesson on the Linotype machine in Carson, CA.



## **Annabel Miller 1920-2009**

We were saddened to hear that Guy Miller's wife, Annabel had passed away at home during the AAPA Convention on August 20, 2009. Her health had been slipping though she attended the NAPA convention with Guy a few weeks before. She was his constant companion at many, many Conventions. Guy did not like to go without her. Since the AAPA Convention was so close to Springfield, she had insisted that Guy attend. She assured him she would be okay and could take care of herself for a few days.

Guy was notified at 3:00 am in the morning by an officer of the Columbus Police Department. Since Jack Visser and I had traveled together to the convention, we decided to accompany Guy home to Springfield after he received the shocking news.

We learned from her obituary that she was 89 and had been born in Springfield, OH on June 3, 1920. She and Guy were married on May 29, 1969.

Annabel was a 1938 graduate of Springfield High School. She retired from Columbia Gas Company having served in their public relations department. She served on the Clark County Board of Zoning Appeals for eight years and the Clark County Victim Witness Program. Annabel was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Fortnightly Musical Club, and the Champaign County Historical Society. —Ed.

## **Al Fick Passes Away**

NAPA, AAPA and the whole sphere of amateur journalism has sustained another major loss with the death of Al Fick.

Alvin S. (Al) Fick, one of the hobby's most creative printers, died Mon. Aug 31, 2009, at his apartment in a senior-care facility near Lebanon, Pa. Alma, his wife for more than 60 years, had been looking after him on a round-the-clock basis.

By the time Al joined NAPA in June 1954 (sponsored by AAPA/NAPA member Clyde Noel) he was already a member of AAPA and attended his first AAPA meeting in Newark NJ that fall. His meeting with Harold Segal at that convention resulted in a close 55-year friendship. Al's credential for AAPA was Mohawk Smoke Signal No. 1 and for NAPA Mohawk Smoke Signal No. 2. Lee Hawes tells us that Al won his first AAPA laureate, an honorable mention in the essay category that year. His lifetime record was 24 laureates, in AAPA and NAPA. Through the years his journals were distinguished for their meticulous typography."

About 7-8 years ago, Al's eyesight began fading after several glaucoma operations failed. He was blind for the last 3-4 years and was in considerable pain after being diagnosed with leukemia.

His remains will be buried at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery. with a military service Sept. 18.

—Lee Hawes & Guy Miller

## **Posted at All the Avenues: The Critic's Report**

by Heath Row

To quote Oliver Goldsmith's "An Inquiry into the Present State of Polite Learning" as published in the 1867 collection *The Miscellaneous Works of Oliver Goldsmith*: "The critics ... like Cerberus, are posted at all the avenues of literature, and who settle the merits of every performance."

If you'd like to join the Bureau of Critics and contribute to this column, contact me at 101 Russell St. #4-R, Brooklyn, NY 11222 or kalel@well.com. I'm particularly interested in collaborating with members of the National Amateur Press Association who don't currently contribute items to the monthly bundles—but who'd like to share their insights and opinions on, as well as responses to other members' materials. Contributions can be made by mail, email, or fax to accommodate your preferences.

This installment addresses NAPA member materials and items published and distributed in the bundle in June, July, and August 2009.

May we now settle the merits.

### **June 2009**

Jake Warner's "This Old Earth," which makes up the whole of *The Boxwooder* #479 (June 2009) was a welcome opener to the bundle. His layman's explanation of the age of our planet was informative and well

organized. Even more interesting, however, was his roundup of the various methods used to measure the age of the Earth over history. Science made more simple! This issue reminded me of the early days of science, when it was supported in part by a republic of letters or correspondence network. Amateur journalism in some ways parallels that. Our work is more literary, and modern science takes place in businesses and universities rather than in the homes of amateurs and enthusiasts, but the parallels are there. And they're worth recognizing, exploring, and celebrating.

Despite the delay in mailing, *The Buck Creek Press* #59 (June 2009) is a timeless report on the whims and interests of Wilson L. Barto. His use of material from multiple contributors is refreshing, as was his reportage on the letterpress workshop. My favorite items, however, were the proprietor's wife's "Thinking Out Loud" and Merle Beckwirth's "Pearls." The latter was comprised of wonderful haiku-like statements, some of which were quite thought provoking. The former was a short commentary on the need to balance welcoming new immigrants with taking care of current citizens. Well done.

*Impressions by Hal...* #77 (June 2009) was a quick read printed in blue ink on cream-colored paper. It's a pleasant collection of brief motivational writing, jokes, and television dialogue. "The Three Words" was particularly humorous.

As a relative newcomer to the

NAPA, I enjoyed and appreciated *The Kitchen Stove* #100 (June 2009). Louise Lincoln's memoir of how she got involved in the organization, as well as her break down of the different kinds of members, is a helpful introduction to NAPA. As the most recent official critic, I also benefited from her remarks on the different approaches to that role. Please let me know what you think of my work thus far.

In *Mambrino's Golden Helmet* Vol. 7, No. 3 (June/July 2009), Harold Cheney, Jr., continues to serialize "A Mission into the Wilderness" and his Korean journal. I'm going to read several installments of his Golden Fur story in one sitting, so I'll reserve my comments for now. I did read and enjoy the shorter items, however. The description of Harold's neighborhood as a child in "Strewn Goods" sounds like an amazing place for a boy: dead end, town dump, railroad bridge. Reminds me of the gravel pit not far from where I lived as a boy, as well as the pedal-powered BMX trails we carved therein.

My wife and I are going to buy a digital camera for us to share—one better than one either of us would by individually. My Canon PowerShot SD400 recently stopped working, so I'm left using my mobile phone as a camera for now. *The Offshoot* #38 (June 2009) will surely come in handy as my wife and I research what camera to purchase. Like *The Boxwooder* above, this issue is a good enthusiast's guide to an interesting subject.

After reading *Ohio Views* #26 (June 2009) by Gary Bossler, I feel even worse that I neglected to vote by absentee ballot. I don't always open and peruse the bundles as soon as they arrive, and discovering the ballot—which was to be mailed in time for the convention, which was held in mid-July—upon starting my submission for this issue of *The National Amateur* was galling. I look forward to learning about the proceedings of the convention. And I pledge to read the bundles sooner!

### July 2009

Similar to Louise Lincoln's *The Kitchen Stove* above, the 480th issue of *The Boxwooder* (July 2009) recounts how Jake Warner got involved in NAPA 40 years ago. For those of us who missed #400, which covered related topics, it was interesting and inspiring. I've been making zines since 1988 and just joined NAPA last year. The histories many people have with this association are amazing.

Though short, *The Flexible Voice* #325 (July 2009) from Robert Orbach was a newsy update on his new abode and current activities. The texture of the violet paper was wonderful. While I support and advocate e-journals, you can't beat the feel of good paper. Welcome back!

Robert McArtor's brief piece on the Wayzgoose in *Impressions by Hal...* #78 (July 2009) piques my interest. When I first got into blogging in the mid-'90s, there were frequent dinners and gatherings for people participating

in that new media. I'll have to reach out to some fellow NAPA members in the New York area to see if a get-together is in order. I hope R. Grasso is able to find another host for his Web site, from which the Wayzgoose item was drawn. I also got a kick out of the paired items "Not Worth the Price" and "Many Happy Returns."

The juxtaposition of the two items in Harold Cheney's *In-Between* Vol. 4, No. 2 (July 2009), "It Has All Been Downhill Since" and "One Hundred Years Ago" indicates that in some ways, things have gone *uphill*, perhaps. Despite the challenges the advent of the Web has brought traditional media and newspapers, bringing the *New York Times* archives to the public in this way is a real service. Hopefully most major dailies will be able to preserve their past similarly.

"Why Do We Go to Reunions?" in *Marti's Mouser* #60 (July 2009) is nicely relevant given that the convention, a reunion of our own, took place in July. While interesting, the piece doesn't really answer the question posed by the title, though.

I think that Vol. 3, No. 1 (July 2009) is my first exposure to Marsha Barrett and her *Minor Review*. Initially, I'm impressed by the variety of material included, as well as its flexible layout. The sidebar on the left side of the first page might be better placed on the right of the main bar, but I like the idea of offering a glossary of key terms, relevant quotes, and other resources that run parallel to other text in the issue.

"What's in a Name?" while short, is provocative, and I welcome more political content from Barrett. Similarly, the DVD reviews are refreshing. While not a genre (science fiction or otherwise) apazine, I appreciate the media recommendations. Finally, the personal rant of sorts that closed off the issue is interesting. Overall, this is a spirited apazine—and I look forward to seeing more.

Gary Bossler continues to share ideas for improving the NAPA in *Ohio Views* #27 (July 2009). Many of them focus on the convention rather than improving the organization writ large, but his points are still well taken. Personally, I think his suggestions that the elections be held by mail (albeit with an activity requirement, not without, as he proposes), that the conventions be more easily and flexibly planned, and that the constitution and by-laws be simplified (read: consolidated and updated) have merit. Regardless, take a look at the picture on the last page of this issue. *That* is why we're in the NAPA. People, prose, and printing. I'd share time and table with those four folks any old day.

As with the previous issue, Dave Schwartz delights with *Ohkee-Doekee* #46 (Sometime in 2009). The clip art, the typeface, and the printing combine in a most effective way, almost making the actual content or text secondary. Regardless, Dave doesn't disappoint, and the two Lone Ranger-related items do bring a grin. The package is as

pleasing, if not more so, as its package.

Finally, we have Kent Clair Chamberlain's *Oregon Orations* #1 (March 4 and April 14, 2009). Of all the apans I've corresponded with since getting involved in this hobby, Kent—and his apazines—rank among the most intriguing and inspiring. There's heart and head behind that old typewriter, squirrely script, and occasionally disjointed prose and poetry, and it's a pleasure to try and sort it all out. Thanks for gracing the bundle!

### **August 2009**

A belated hello and thank you to everyone who participated in the 134th convention in Parkersburg, West Virginia. Jake Warner's report on the proceedings in *The Boxwooder* #481 (August 2009) was a solid recap of what happened. I would *love* a directory of the libraries that hold NAPA materials, as well as a rudimentary catalog of their holdings. I regularly donate zine and apa materials to library collections and would like some guidance as to where materials already reside. As the newly appointed chair of the Bureau of Critics, I'm not sure if I was on the hook for a report like the Executive Judges, but if I was remiss, I officially apologize. I am *also* tempted to officially volunteer as the manuscript bureau manager. As such, if accepted and appointed, I would provide a monthly report on items available for use—as long as their printing and distribution is handled as part of the official organ or related matter—and broker their publication as

requested by fellow members. That could also be done quarterly. Given that I might be moving from New York to California by the end of the year, however—and that I already volunteer—the timing might not be right, but please involve me in discussions of how that role could be maintained. I think the bureau adds value. Congratulations to all elected to their respective positions. Also, congrats to my former hometown of Chicago. The convention happening there might pull me to the 2011 gathering alone. Kudos to those who published the letterpress journal at the convention. All of the Laureate Award winners are entirely deserving. It's good to see the names of all of the recipients. Calloo!

Harold Shive contributed two items: *Impressions by Hal...* #79 (August 2009) and a Special Edition (August 2009). The former, printed in blue on a pleasing cream, featured a piece on the namesakes of Blennerhassett Island, as well as the Blennerhassett Museum visited as part of the convention. The role of the Blennerhassetts in self-publishing and apace, as well as their connection to Aaron Burr isn't made clear, but the historical background is appreciated. The latter item includes Harold's report on the convention, which addresses the elections, the demonstrations, the inclusion of model railroading, and other experiences. Two extraneous short items flesh out the issue.

In the 101st heating of *The Kitchen Stove*, Louise Lincoln mentions “the

Ann Rhyan type.” I wonder whether she means Ayn Rand, and given that the piece considers a higher calling versus the bottom line, my question might be apt. Regardless, Lincoln’s inspiration is our *aspirations*, and the source of those is up for debate.

In addition to Warner and Shive, Gary Bossler *also* reports on the convention in *Ohio Views* #28 (August 2009). Like Arie Koelewyn, I volunteer to help craft some changes to the constitution that can be better considered by the membership. I appreciate Bossler’s contributions to *ajay*. Your items continue to be read, pondered, and acted upon, even if your ideas haven’t been implemented yet. Keep them coming!

Martha Babcock Abell’s Marti’s Mouser #61 (August 2009) resonated with “Strewn Goods” in Harold Cheney, Jr.’s *Mambrino’s Golden Helmet* Vol. 7, No. 3 from the June

bundle. Her description of her attempts to amuse her grandson can be a lesson to us all.

As above, thank you to all involved in the production of the *NAPA Convention Special*. Framed by the contextual item “Here’s Some W. Va. History,” the paragraphs from 2009 convention deletates—similar to the photograph in Gary Bossler’s *Ohio Views* #27 mentioned above—epitomizes why I’m active in NAPA: people, prose, and printing. Some day, I’ll hold the stick mentioned by Marti Abell.

I encourage NAPA members to include mailing comments in their own items, to print letters of comment from other members, and to write essays and articles in response to other members.

Some of the most interesting *ajay* work happens between bundles, issues, and members—not in individual issues of our journals.

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## The Last Word . . .

I have said several times in the past, that the worst part of this job is gathering information on the passing of a long time friend and associate or their spouse. This issue was not to be much different.

Certainly I cannot ever hope match the abilities of Harold Segal in editing, typography and all that goes into putting a publication like *The National Amateur* together. I have always tried to emulate people like Harold and Russ Paxton in putting any publication together.

In honor of Harold I have used

Baskerville as the primary face in this issue and and hopefully you won’t find any hyphens dividing words. With a computer it is easy to turn off hyphenation but it is not always easy to avoid poor spacing when you do this.

I had one more column to fill and time was getting short for this September issue. Then my surprise item came in the form of an AAPA Alert. Al Fick, the co-editor with Harold Segal of *Shampane* had passed away. You’ll find that article on page 23 along side the story of the passing of Annabel Miller. —Editor