



# Intelligencer

Newsletter of the American Journalism Historians Association

ajhaonline.org

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## President's Column

## Intelligencer revival provides opportunity for reminiscence



**Erika J. Pribanic-Smith**  
University of Texas at Arlington

As I designed the pages for the new *Intelligencer*—the first issue in more than a year—I found myself wondering about the newsletter's origins. Though I've been around for the past 17 years, I know woefully little about the first 16 years of the organization's history.

In my quest for knowledge, I contacted my former advisor David Sloan. He directed me to the first newsletter editor, Alf Pratte.

Sloan said Pratte was one of the first professors to respond to his original announcement of a plan to start AJHA and became one of the organization's most energetic members. Pratte attended every convention until 2003 and returned for the 25th anniversary convention in 2006; I last saw him dancing on the Wichita

party bus.

Pratte said that he called the first newsletter S.O.N., "a crude reminder of one of the first penny press newspapers, the *New York Sun*."

S.O.N. stood for "Something Old/New," and Sloan said he believed the first issue was mimeographed.

Michael Murray said that the late Barbara Cloud requested a name change.

"Barbara was always re-thinking what we had done initially, since we did it so quickly in founding the organization, and, in this case, insisting that we provide 'intelligence' as opposed to some old things and some new," Murray said.

Sloan added that *Intelligencer* was reminiscent of early American newspapers and thus fitting for a journalism history organization. The Board of Directors approved the new moniker at the 1986 convention in St. Louis; volume 4, number 1 was the first to bear the title.

Originally, the newsletter provided detailed summaries of conference papers and guest speakers. Pratte said he crafted the items using skills he picked up as a newspaper reporter in Canada, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, and Utah.

Pratte edited the *Intelligencer* from 1983 until 1987, when Cloud took over the helm.

"The *Intelligencer* became much shorter and more sophisticated than the one I started at Shippensburg University and published later at BYU," Pratte said.

Over the next 20 years, AJHA members received their paper newsletter by mail. As times changed, so did the *Intelligencer*. Under the editorship of James Aucoin, the newsletter became a PDF document distributed to members electronically, starting with a test run in fall 2009.

In 2013, the Public Relations Committee conducted a survey on communications within the organization, including several questions related to the *Intelligencer*. Open-ended responses related to the publication's distribution spurred the Board of Directors to vote, at the 2013 convention in New Orleans, to move the newsletter to an entirely online format that would be dynamic and constantly updated. As part of that transition, the board tasked the

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recap, new book

Journalism historians and their students need to spend more time and energy studying the writing styles of publications of historical significance. "It's important to study the writing styles of publications of historical significance," he said. "That's what makes our field unique."

Historians of the media need to challenge more of the popular myth and focus more emphasis on the famous offices and large newspapers, and regional news media perspectives and regional newspapers.

There were a few of the recommendations and challenges evolving from more than 20 years of AJHA history that I wanted to add:

1. "That one of the beautiful and frustrating parts of our field is that there are no areas for additional emphasis and exploration in a meaningful way."

Included among the panels established by the AJHA in 1986 were the following: "History of News Media," "Women in the News Media," "Writing Styles of Publications of Historical Significance," "Journalism Education," "Journalism Criticism," "Undergraduate Instruction," "Teaching Journalism," "Teaching History of South and Legal matters."

With the exception of the last panel, which was formed in 1990, all of these areas for additional emphasis and exploration in a meaningful way have been addressed.

Included among the panels established by the AJHA in 1986 were the following: "History of News Media," "Women in the News Media," "Writing Styles of Publications of Historical Significance," "Journalism Education," "Journalism Criticism," "Undergraduate Instruction," "Teaching Journalism," "Teaching History of South and Legal matters."

"To our field, it is rich in tradition, but it is also in need of new areas for additional emphasis and exploration in a meaningful way," Sloan said.

The second panel, "Writing Styles of Publications of Historical Significance," was established in 1986. "That one of the beautiful and frustrating parts of our field is that there are no areas for additional emphasis and exploration in a meaningful way," Sloan said.

Speaking on the same panel, Gary Whiting of Stephen Illinois University was writing about the importance of writing styles in American journalism.

"To our field, it is rich in tradition, but it is also in need of new areas for additional emphasis and exploration in a meaningful way," Sloan said.

The third panel, "Journalism Education," was established in 1986. "That one of the beautiful and frustrating parts of our field is that there are no areas for additional emphasis and exploration in a meaningful way," Sloan said.

The fourth panel, "Journalism Criticism," was established in 1986. "That one of the beautiful and frustrating parts of our field is that there are no areas for additional emphasis and exploration in a meaningful way," Sloan said.

The fifth panel, "Undergraduate Instruction," was established in 1986. "That one of the beautiful and frustrating parts of our field is that there are no areas for additional emphasis and exploration in a meaningful way," Sloan said.

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# AJHA Officers

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*Intelligencer* is a quarterly newsletter produced by the Public Relations Committee of American Journalism Historians Association. Volume 31 issues will publish in December, March, June, and September.

Your fellow members would love to hear about your accolades, awards, publications, and promotions. Send your information for the next issue by March 5 to Jodi Rightler-McDaniels, [jrightler@southcollegetn.edu](mailto:jrightler@southcollegetn.edu).

If you are interested in writing a teaching or research essay, contact Erika Pribanic-Smith, [epsmith@uta.edu](mailto:epsmith@uta.edu).

# *Research Essay*

# **How social media helps my history**



Will Mai

University of  
Washington

showcasing a new piece of technology, such as a radiophone, I can't resist sharing it on social media.

I do so for several reasons.

First, it's fun. Keeping nuggets of history to myself makes no sense. Part of why we do history is to tell stories about other people, to other people. The piece of software I'm using at the moment to do that matters far less than the act itself. I find it immensely satisfying when someone "likes" a link I share to the AJHA or AEJMC Facebook page or retweets something I posted to @willthewordguy on Twitter. For a moment or two, my research is being experienced in circles beyond my dissertation's reading committee, which, while a wonderful audience, is not ultimately who

I'll be speaking to. I'll instead be speaking to students, to peers, and, perhaps, to the public (or at least the parts of the public that engage with history).

Who, for example, could resist reading (and then posting) some doggerel poetry in praise of copy boys, as Irving Fang wrote in the Jan. 1, 1955 issue of *Editor & Publisher*?

Blessings on thee, copyboy,  
Editorial pride and joy,  
With thy wondrous leaden feet  
And thy matching leaden seat,  
Taking copy to and fro  
You should have moved an hour ago.

Prince though art. The rewrite man  
Only is pedestrian.  
Though you want so longingly  
To be, some day, just like he.  
From my heart I give thee joy,  
I was once a copyboy.

Second, it's good for me, as a budding media historian, to have the extra interaction with colleagues that sharing my research brings. I've gotten encouragement

**Continued on page 3**



Will Mari on Twitter: "fun image showing a cub getting a spooky assignment from the Sept. 27,...

fun image showing a cub getting a spooky assignment from the Sept. 27, 1947 issue of 'E&P' #1wcomm.pic.twitter.com/A8lVWsXvdS

TWITTER.COM | BY WILL MARI

and support as well as ideas via Twitter, Facebook and other online spaces. As I enter the academic job market, these provide exposure to my work and the opportunities to network in ways that actively show what I'm up to.

Third, I hope sharing my research-in-progress can help others. I tag my images and text with time stamps and source markers so others can look at and look up what I've found. I'm not worried about giving up any secrets or insights—after all, I'm posting my findings as I find them, and not as a part of a formal argument. That'll come later.

My postings tend to be serendipitous discoveries. I love juxtapositions to the present, especially when I find past worries about the state of the news industry (during a past “golden age”), or pick up on excitement about a faster, more portable way of calling

the newsroom (one editor hoped for phones for his reporters, so they could call each other while reporting a disaster from different parts of a city). Whenever I encounter the unknown, forgotten or marginalized, I like to call that out, too, from copy boys to women reporters pioneering their way into formerly “men-only” beats.

In terms of how I go about it, I try to keep Twitter open on my desktop, if I'm working from an office or the library, or keep the app open on my phone, if I'm working from home or a coffee shop. I try to tweet or post something at least twice a week, and ideally one small thing every day or so. I also try to have a nice mix of images and excerpts, when possible.

To borrow from Sam Wineburg, this act hones my own “historical thinking” and is my reminder that doing history is a wonder and a joy. It's a habit and a practice I hope you take up. Go ahead. Post that snatch of the past. We'll like it.

fulfilled, and we're on the lookout for future stories to satisfy the other requests. You'll also find news and photos from our most recent convention and a recap of the Symposium on the 19th Century Press, Civil War, and Free Expression, which many of our members participated in last month.

I hope you like what you see here. If you have any suggestions for future items, if there's something you want to write, or if you have personal or professional news you want to share, please contact me or PR Chair Jodi Rightler-McDaniels.

## Intelligencer

## Continued from page 1

Public Relations and Web committees with producing the content. Since the summer 2013 *Intelligencer*, news on the organization and its members has been distributed on the website, listserv, and Facebook group.

As I spoke to members at the St. Paul convention in October, I heard time and again how much people missed the PDF *Intelligencer*, and in fact, some would like to see the paper newsletter return.

Although our current budget will not support mailing out print copies, I'm pleased to breathe new life into the PDF version, with the help of the Public Relations Committee.

Respondents to the 2013 survey asked for teaching and research tips, book excerpts and reviews, discussions of unusual interdisciplinary studies and collaborations, relevant research published in places that might be overlooked by members, and items on behind-the-scenes work AJHA does throughout the year. On the pages of this issue, you will see many of these wishes

## Member News & Notes

In October, the Texas State Alumni Association named **Patrick Cox** as one of five 2014 Distinguished Alumni among University graduates. The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes alumni who have achieved prominence and made a significant impact on the lives of others through their profession, accomplishments, affiliations, and service to the Association and the University.

**Giovanna Dell'Orto** is the author/editor of two books recently released in paperback form: “American Journalism and International Relations: Foreign Correspondence from the Early Republic to the Digital Era” and “Reporting at the Southern Borders: Journalism and Public Debates on Immigration in the U.S. and the E.U.”

**Dean Jobb**'s new book, “Empire of Deception: The Incredible Story of a Master Swindler Who Seduced a City and Captivated the Nation,” will be published in May 2015 by Algonquin Books in the U.S. and HarperCollins Canada. It's the true story of a brazen con man who hoodwinked the elite of 1920s Chicago before escaping to a new life of luxury and excess on Canada's east coast.

**Owen Johnson** retired from teaching in May and is now associate professor emeritus in the Journalism in the Media School at Indiana University.

Kappa Tau Alpha awarded Chapter Adviser Research Grants of \$1000 each to **David Mindich** and **Erika Pribanic-Smith**. Mindich will study how James Gordon Bennett Sr. influenced the evolution from party-supported newspapers toward independent journals and how that affected the culture of the times. Pribanic-Smith will study the 1844 presidential campaign of third-party candidate James Birney and the coverage of that campaign in the partisan and abolitionist press.

In August, the West Tennessee Historical Society named **Dale Zacher** the winner of the Marshall Wingfield Award for best research article published in *The West Tennessee Historical Society Papers* in 2013. Zacher's article, “Our Forest Home: Editor Edward Meeman's Crusade for Shelby Forest, 1933-35,” documents the newspaper editor and conservationist's unconventional efforts to establish a 10,000-acre forest park north of Memphis. Zacher also became chair of the Mass Communications Department at St. Cloud State University in August.

### Intelligencer Editors

- Alf Pratte, 1983-1987
- Barbara Cloud, 1987-1990
- Michael Buchholz, 1990-1997
- Carol Sue Humphrey, 1997-1998
- Fred Blevens, 1998-2001
- James McPherson, 2001-2007
- James Aucoin, 2007-2010
- Kimberly Wilmot Voss, 2010-2012
- David Schreindl, 2012-2013

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## Teaching Essay

# Unusual tactics engage class



**Michael Fuhlhage**  
Wayne State  
University

Rather than rejecting the premise outright, I asked, "What do you have in mind?"

The question followed an in-class exercise in which I had them apply their newly acquired understanding of uses-and-gratifications theory to 11x17 photocopies I had made of sections of the June 1877 issue of *Godey's Lady's Book*. "What needs do you think the readers fulfilled by reading this material?" was one of the questions assigned. Well, this student needed extra credit, and she was fascinated by the recipes.

"Could I make one of the recipes and share it with the class?" she asked.

My reply, after thinking a few seconds: "Yes, with conditions: You must follow the recipe to the letter. You must use only the ingredients listed in the recipe. Bring enough for everyone. Be ready to talk with us all about what was unusual about the recipe, what you would have had available to you to make it that people from that time period would not have had, and how and why you think that recipe differs from anything you would find in a magazine now."

A couple of weeks later, the student showed up in class with two pie tins containing a thick, yellow custardy confection that purported to be sponge cake. It was gooey, but good, to paraphrase Carl Sagan. But this was not sponge cake in any form my students recognized.

"It's more like a lemon bar," our chef/discussion leader said. "Why would they even call that 'sponge cake?' I tried

it three times, and it never rose. It was really hard! It doesn't say how hot the oven should be or anything, or how long it should stay in!"

We were left to speculate on why *Godey's* would call lemon bars "sponge cake." Maybe the editors omitted a key ingredient. Maybe they left out a step everybody just knew you were supposed to do back then. Or maybe they just had a different conception of "sponge cake." As for the difficult instructions, I asked, "What kitchen appliances do you imagine a subscriber homesteading in a Nebraska sod house had available? Would they have had cooktop ranges with temperature dials? How about microwave ovens?" Of course not, the students answered. "What kind of people was this written for?" I asked, to which our student chef replied, "Homemakers. They would have used a brick oven or a hearth."

The more intriguing question, another student thought, was why did the recipe have ten egg yolks?

One student, from a rural county, countered, "Maybe they used all those eggs because they lived on farms and that's just what they had."

"We'd have to look into the circulation records, but that's a good hunch to start with," I said. Regardless of the answers, the exercise brought the past out from between musty covers and gave us food for body and mind. It fired everybody's historical imagination and achieved something that can be a challenge: bringing students out of their own experience and putting them into other people's shoes.

That whole episode wouldn't have happened if I hadn't been following a few guidelines for teaching journalism history. Here they are:

Play to your particular classroom environment: I cut my teeth on journal-

**Continued on page 5**

## Teaching

**Continued from page 4**

ism history as an undergraduate in journalism at the University of Kansas in the late 1980s. My professor, the legendary Calder Pickett, was nearing the end of his teaching career. His course in journalism history met in a huge auditorium, and he seemed well aware that one-to-one communication with students was nearly impossible in a 400-seat lecture hall. So he treated the space like a theater, filling the room at the beginning of class with period music and leaning heavily on clips from documentaries and Hollywood portrayals of journalists for whatever period we covered in a given session. But auditorium tactics don't work so well in small seminar rooms. So if you find yourself in a standard classroom with student desks, the first thing you need to do is break them out of their rows and get them into small groups and give them a prompt to discuss that relates to the week's readings.

Put artifacts into students' hands: It's not all about using the right teaching tactics for a given setting. You have to engage their historical imaginations, too. During a week when the readings covered journalism in the American Revolution, I handed out copies of an account of the tar-and-feathering of an English Loyalist in the Colonies and assigned four groups: Loyalists, Patriots, Native Americans and English subjects back in the British Isles reading about the incident. Then I asked them to discuss how each of those groups of readers would have reacted to the news, play-acting the reaction in the first person. Next, I asked them to explain what evidence they had seen that made them think they would have reacted as they did.

Do the unusual thing: As I planned my first semester teaching the course, I remembered how Pickett showed lots of film clips from documentaries and dramatic portrayals of life in the newsroom. I really felt like that brought history to life, and I took the same approach the first time I taught the class. Much to my chagrin, the students were underwhelmed. We have to remember that the students we teach are from a generation that takes it for granted that they can find virtually everything immediately on YouTube. They are not impressed by video the way we were when we were their age. But they tend to be fascinated by ancient versions of things they know about, like copies of *Sports Illustrated* from the 1960s and copies of *Time* from the 1930s. Nearly all have read fiction by Mark Twain, but they are astonished to learn he was once a frontier editor for the *Alta California*. And to a one, they had no idea he was quite the socialist until I led the class in a sing-along of Spanish-American War protest song, the 1901 "Battle Hymn of the Republic (Brought Down to Date)." When students come to expect the unexpected from their professor, they often will surprise us with marvelous, unexpected ideas of their own.

Make them responsible for one another's learning, and find a way to make that fun: Every four weeks, I asked each student

to write a multiple-choice trivia question for each period covered. As an incentive to make them test-difficult, the questions are used not just on the midterm but also in a midterm review I call "Journalism History Trivia Smackdown." The game works in two rounds. Class breaks into teams. Each team takes a turn picking a category from which to hear a question. Once per round they may decline to answer the question just read and dump it on another team. Winning team members get a piece of journalism history swag, perhaps a vintage magazine, maybe a promotional item from a newspaper, possibly a secondhand Hunter S. Thompson paperback. Doing this every four weeks or so kept students engaged, fired their competitive spirits, and helped them retain the facts. I have a blast playing emcee.

To these, I will add one overarching rule: Life is too short for drudgery, for both you and your students. So get over your fear of embarrassment and ham it up. It'll help make your class and the ideas shared in it memorable.

### CONTRIBUTED.

**Ginger Cake.**—Take two eggs, one cup of sugar, half a cup of butter, half a cup of buttermilk, three tablespoonfuls of molasses, one tablespoonful of ginger, a teaspoonful of soda, two and a half cups of flour. This is an excellent receipt. F. M. McC.

**Sponge Cake.**—The yolks of ten good-sized eggs and a pint of powdered sugar, a little salt, and the grated peel of a lemon. Beat this well together with a silver or wooden spoon. Then add the whites, beaten to a stiff froth; then very lightly stir in a pint of sifted flour, and bake at once, either in flat buttered tins, cups, or two round tins about three inches deep. The mixture must not be stirred much after the flour is in. This will make a nice sandwich cake, by baking it thin on round tin pie plates, and putting preserve or marmalade of any kind between each layer; sift white sugar over the top. D. R.

**Stewed Fish.**—For a rock that weighs five or six pounds, put a pint of water in a stewpan with six large onions sliced, let it stew about a quarter of an hour, rub your fish well with Cayenne pepper and salt; when half done, add half a pound of butter rubbed with flour, some cloves, mace, sweet marjoram, one pint of Madeira or claret wine, and fifty oysters.

HOUSEKEEPER.

**Arrowroot Pudding.**—Mix four tablespoonfuls of arrowroot to a smooth batter with half a pint of milk; put a pint of milk on the fire with a few lumps of sugar, and when it boils, add the batter, and keep stirring it till sufficiently thick to leave the saucepan. Pour it into a mould previously soaked in cold water, and when cold, it will turn out easily. A tablespoonful of brandy poured in just before the blanc-mange is moulded much improves the flavor. S.

The sponge cake recipe Michael Fuhlhage's student made appeared under "Contributed" in the June 1877 *Godey's Lady's Book*, along with reader-submitted recipes for ginger cake, stewed fish, and arrowroot pudding.

## Committee Chairs

### Awards

Mike Conway, Indiana

### Dissertation Awards

David Abrahamson,  
Northwestern

### Book Award

Aimee Edmondson, Ohio

### Convention Sites

Caryl Cooper, Alabama

### Education

Giovanna Dell'Orto,  
Minnesota

### Graduate Students

Katie Beardsley, Temple  
Ken Ward, Wichita State

### History in the Curriculum

Gerry Lanosga, Indiana

### Long-Range Planning

Amy Mattson Lauters,  
Minnesota State-Mankato

### Membership

Kate Edenborg,  
Wisconsin-Stout

### Nominations and Elections

Amber Roessner, Tennessee

### Publications

Paulette Kilmer, Toledo

### Public Relations

Jodi Rightler-McDaniels,  
South College

### Research

Michael Fuhlhage,  
Wayne State

## Committee Spotlight

# PR committee expands role

AJHA has 13 committees that work throughout the year to keep the organization running. In each issue of this volume of the *Intelligencer*, we'll be highlighting a committee, letting members know who is on the committee and what the committee is doing. The goals are to keep members informed about what's going on in the organization and to offer more information on ways that members can get involved.

The AJHA Constitution charges the **Public Relations Committee** with disseminating information about the Association and its activities to other organizations, to appropriate publications and to the public. In the past, that charge primarily involved writing press releases, but the committee's duties are expanding. The Board of Directors voted to assign the PR Committee production of the *Intelligencer*, and the officers have asked Public Relations to work closely with other committees, particularly Membership and Graduate Students, to achieve some of the organization's aims for the coming year.

With that in mind, the Public Relations Committee has established the following goals: 1) to publicize what individual AJHA members do, both personally and professionally; 2) to aid in recruiting members, especially graduate students; 3) to increase the social media presence of AJHA.

A new committee chair, Jodi Rightler-McDaniels, is leading the committee's efforts. Rightler-McDaniels graduated with her Ph.D. in Communication and Information from the University of Tennessee in May. She is chair of the General Studies Department and an assistant professor of Communication at South College in Knoxville. At her first AJHA conference last year, Rightler-McDaniels, along with co-author Amber Roessner, won the J. William Snograss Award for the Outstanding Paper on a Minorities Topic. At this year's conference, her paper co-authored with Roessner and Sheila Hawkins received honorable mention for the Maurine Beasley Award for the

Outstanding Paper on Women's History. Rightler-McDaniels served as the Graduate Student Chair from 2013-2014. She is looking forward to publicizing all the accomplishments of AJHA members and helping lead recruiting initiatives for new members.

Chandra D. Clark is serving on the PR Committee for her third year. An assistant professor of Speech in the Department of English & Modern Languages at Florida A&M University, Clark teaches public speaking and journalism. A paper based on her dissertation received honorable mention for the Maurine Beasley Award at the 2012 AJHA convention. Clark would like AJHA's Public Relations Committee to seek new and innovative ways to share AJHA's scholarship with a wider audience.

Serving his first year on the committee, Willie Tubbs is a second-year doctoral student in the School of Mass Communication and Journalism at the University of Southern Mississippi. At his first AJHA convention this year, he received honorable mentions for both the Robert Lance Award for Best Student Paper and the J. William Snograss Award. Tubbs hopes to help more graduate students learn of the excellent opportunities available through AJHA.

Also new to the PR Committee is Scott Morton, a third-year doctoral student specializing in mass communication history with an emphasis in film and propaganda at the University of Alabama. His paper this year received honorable mention for the Wallace Eberhard Award for Outstanding Paper on Media and War. After attending his first AJHA convention this year, Morton is eager to network and be involved more in AJHA activities.

Although a strong committee, Public Relations is receptive to anyone who wishes to become a member and help with various initiatives. Anyone who is interested in becoming a PR Committee member is encouraged to contact Rightler-McDaniels at jrightler@southcollegetn.edu.

**Subscribe to our new YouTube channel**  
<http://tinyURL.com/AJHAYouTube>

## Graduate Student chairs seek improved student retention

**Ken Ward**

Wichita State University

**Katie Beardsley**

Temple University

newspaper editors in the American West, and Katie Beardsley is a Ph.D. student at Temple University whose current research interests include historical representations of human difference and the role of myth in journalistic storytelling.

We each joined AJHA as graduate students and found the organization to be extremely welcoming. Now, in our new service roles, we are excited to contribute to the growth of the AJHA community and to find new ways of encouraging graduate student involvement.

One way we are already working to this end is by reaching out to students who, after presenting a paper in the past few years, decided to let their participation in AJHA fizzle. These are individuals who have

Greetings from AJHA's new Graduate Student Committee co-chairs. Ken Ward is a lecturer at Wichita State University whose main research interests are the journalism history of Colorado and the influence of political causes on

already expressed clear interest in what we do but who, for one reason or another, have discontinued their membership. We hope to have many of those students renew their membership and submit papers for next fall.

We also want to make it as easy as possible for graduate students to find a home for themselves in our organization. While standing members of AJHA are aware of the welcoming and inclusive nature of our organization, we know from experience that attending a conference as first-time presenters can be extremely intimidating. That's why, beginning with the Oklahoma City conference next year, we hope to have someone personally greeting each new graduate student member when they get to the conference. This will provide newcomers with a lifeline —someone to give them initial introductions and get them involved in everything our organization has to offer.

While this is what we have in mind, we are also very excited to hear your ideas for getting and keeping our graduate student members active. Do not hesitate to reach out to Ken at ken.ward@wichita.edu or Katie at kathryn.beardsley@temple.edu.

## Board update: New membership site, budget revisions

The Board of Directors and officers of AJHA have been busy since our convention in St. Paul. Our primary concerns have been the 2014-2015 budget and how to move our member management online.

In St. Paul, we received a finance report that indicated our projected expenses would exceed our projected income for the coming year. Although our spending isn't exorbitant by any means, costs have risen disproportionately to our income. We have reconsidered our projected expenses and reduced them significantly to minimize impact on our reserves. Our next step will be to determine how we can increase our revenue.

The board also has approved the use of a service called Wild Apricot for member management. Beginning early in 2015, prospective and existing members will go to the new site to join or renew. Our association's full web presence will move to Wild Apricot, which will enable us to build an attractive and dynamic site with both a public main page and secured, members-only content. Watch your email for additional information after the start of the year.

If you have any questions or concerns about our activities, please feel free to contact President Erika Pribanic-Smith at [epsmith@uta.edu](mailto:epsmith@uta.edu).

## Blanchard Prize submissions due Feb. 1

The AJHA Margaret A. Blanchard Doctoral Dissertation Prize, given for the first time in 1997, is awarded annually for the best doctoral dissertation dealing with mass communication history. An honorarium of \$500 accompanies the prize, and a \$200 honorarium is awarded to each honorable mention.

Eligible works shall include both quantitative and qualitative historical dissertations, written in English, which have been completed between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2014. For the purposes of this award, a "completed" work is defined as one which has not only been submitted and defended but also revised and filed in final form at the applicable doctoral-degree-granting university by Dec. 31, 2014.

To be considered, nomination packets must include:

- (a) One copy of the complete dissertation in hard copy;
- (b) One digital copy of the complete dissertation on a CD;
- (c) Four copies each of the following items, with all author, school, and dissertation committee identification of any kind whited-out:

(i.) a single chapter from the dissertation [preferably not to exceed 50 manuscript pages, not including notes, charts or photographs],

(ii.) a 200-word dissertation abstract,

(iii.) the dissertation table of contents;

(d) a letter of nomination from the dissertation chair/director or the chair of the university department in which the dissertation was written;

(e) a cover letter from the nominee:

(i.) containing complete (home and work) contact information including postal addresses, phone numbers and email addresses,

(ii.) indicating a willingness, should the dissertation be selected for a prize, both to attend the award ceremony and to deliver a public presentation based on the dissertation at the 2015 American Journalism Historians Association Annual Convention Oct. 8-10 in Oklahoma City, OK.

Note: Regarding Paragraph (c.)(i.) above, as a guide to selecting a chapter for submission, the Award Committee has in the past expressed a preference for a chapter which, if possible, highlights the work's strengths as a piece of primary-sourced original research.

Nominations, along with all the supporting materials, should be sent to: Prof. David Abrahamson, Chair, AJHA Margaret A. Blanchard Doctoral Dissertation Prize Committee, Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University, 1845 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60208. The deadline for entries is a postmark date of Feb. 1, 2015.

## Faculty Testimonials

# Award winners Teel, Tripp explain value of AJHA

At the 2014 convention in St. Paul, Patrick Cox conducted interviews with several long-time AJHA members, which students from the University of Minnesota School of Journalism and Mass Communication recorded.

Each issue of this volume of the *Intelligencer* will feature excerpts from these interviews, which will be posted in installments on the new AJHA YouTube Channel: <http://tinyURL.com/AJHAYouTube>.

Kicking off this series of testimonials are Leonard Teel, winner of the 2014 Sidney Kobre Award for Lifetime Achievement, and Bernell Tripp, this year's recipient of the National Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Cox asked, "As a long-time member of AJHA, what has the organization meant to you?"

Teel responded as follows:

*I wouldn't have succeeded in journalism education if it weren't for AJHA. I was told*

*that I needed to be a member of this organization by my mentor at Georgia State University, Harold Davis. He dragged me to the first convention and told me, "You've got to go." It was in Tallahassee in 1984. It was there that I met Joseph McKerns, and Joe McKerns was doing the biographical dictionary of American journalism and recruiting authors to do individual biographies. I was told it would be a good idea if I did that and started working on something.*

To hear about how this project spun into further research and contributed to Teel's tenure, view his full testimonial on YouTube.

Cox asked Tripp, "What does the organization bring to you as an educator?"

Tripp responded as follows:  
*It's excellent particularly as far as the students are concerned. I started in the program here at AJHA as a master's student, and the very first conference*



Photo courtesy of the UM School of Journalism and Mass Communication

Bernell Tripp and Patrick Cox record a video testimonial in the Promenade Foyer of the St. Paul Hotel during the 2014 AJHA convention.

*I went to, there were only two of us. It was one of those things where everybody made you feel welcome. They encouraged you. They were willing to answer questions, to offer you feedback, to give you additional information, to share resources, and that made you just keep coming back. You bring your students back when you become a professor, and then there's*

*always a chance that you will be able to talk to other people and give them information that they can take back with them. It's a pay-it-forward kind of a situation.*

To hear about how Tripp's students have responded to her involvement in AJHA and become "David Sloan's grandchildren," view her full testimonial on YouTube.



Photo courtesy of Amber Roessner  
Roessner interviewed Jimmy Carter in October.

## Roessner named first Rising Scholar

### Jodi Rightler-McDaniels

South College

*American Journalism* presented Amber Roessner with the inaugural Rising Scholar Award at the 33rd annual AJHA convention.

Roessner, assistant professor at the University of Tennessee's School of Journalism and Electronic Media, received the award for her proposed study of the post-Watergate press and politics.

The award was accompanied by \$2,000 in research funding, which Roessner plans to use for archival and oral history research for her second book on President Jimmy Carter's historic run for office in 1976.

"I was humbled to receive this recognition, and I am grateful to *American Journalism* for

its support of my scholarship," Roessner said.

"Thanks to the research award, I will be able to continue mining the archives and engaging in long-form interviews with individuals such as President Carter, who was gracious enough to chat with me about the election recently," she said.

Earlier this year, LSU Press published Roessner's first book, "Inventing Baseball Heroes: Ty Cobb, Christy Mathewson, and the Sporting Press in America."

Sponsored by AJHA's academic journal *American Journalism*, the Rising Scholar Award recognizes the achievements and potential of an untenured scholar.

The deadline to apply for the 2015 Rising Scholar Award is June 1; application details are forthcoming.



Photo by Erika Pribanic-Smith

Carol Sue Humphrey discusses her book at the Scholars' Breakfast in St. Paul.

## Lifelong project earns Humphrey AJHA Book Award

Carol Sue Humphrey received the AJHA Book of the Year Award for "The American Revolution and the Press: The Promise of Independence" at the 2014 convention.

During the Scholars' Breakfast in St. Paul, Humphrey spoke about her book and the process of researching it.

Humphrey said her book demonstrates the importance of the press during the Revolution because newspapers kept Americans engaged in the war even when the fighting occurred in distant locales. Without the press, she argued, many Americans would have known nothing about what was happening.

"In the age of television, we don't understand how different that can be, and I think it's important," Humphrey said.

Although some writers used newspapers to stir people's passions, the primary purpose was to keep Americans informed about the progress of the fight against Great Britain.

To accomplish this, the printer closest to the action wrote up a summary of events, which other newspapers throughout the colonies copied. Humphrey said that despite the obstacles, news traveled rather quickly this way; she found items from Massachusetts that appeared in South Carolina and Georgia

**Continued on page 11**

## Convention Recap

# AJHA honors local journalists who give voices to voiceless

During the 2014 AJHA convention, the organization recognized two journalists local to the Twin Cities who have brought attention to stories that needed to be told.

Paul McEnroe (Minneapolis *Star Tribune*) received the Local Journalist Award for Substantial Contribution to the Public Interest, while Round Earth Media co-founder Mary Stucky spoke at the annual Donna Allen Luncheon.

As an investigative journalist, McEnroe specializes in coverage of social justice issues, human services and law enforcement.

On the day that McEnroe accepted his award from AJHA, he was working on two stories. One was about a 28-year-old woman who hung herself at a local prison; no one had checked on her for two hours even though her file noted she was suicidal. The other was about a man who'd been held at a federal prison in Rochester for 13 months longer than he was supposed to be incarcerated.

"Those kinds of events in my life day-to-day make me realize what I'm doing is a calling," McEnroe said.

He likened the work of historians to what he does and said he believes in

understanding the history of why journalists cover things the way they do.

"You are the people who have the ability to really evaluate what was covered, what was covered right, what was not covered correctly, what was shown bias; that's your job," McEnroe said.

On the convention agenda, McEnroe discovered a paper on a South Carolina insane asylum for African Americans, and the topic excited him.

It also made him think back to a similar fall day 12 years ago, when he traveled to a facility where children with mental retardation had been warehoused and stumbled upon a cemetery where those children had been buried, their graves marked only with numbers.

"I was writing about people whom I would call voiceless and vulnerable, people you give voice to when you go evaluate what was covered or not covered," McEnroe said.

"These people weren't considered people," he said. "It's your job to dig into those documents and understand who that is in the ground."

Because of the importance of historians' **Continued on page 10**



Photo by Don Bishop

Paul McEnroe mingles with convention attendees at the Thursday evening reception.



Photo by Don Bishop

Mary Stucky receives her plaque from Amy Lauters at the Donna Allen Luncheon.

## Voiceless

**Continued from page 9**

work, McEnroe said he felt humbled that such a group recognized him. McEnroe's speech can be seen in its entirety at the new AJHA YouTube channel: <http://tinyURL.com/AJHAYouTube>.

Stucky's organization gives voice to the voiceless around the world while also empowering female journalists. Round Earth Media ([www.RoundEarthMedia.org](http://www.RoundEarthMedia.org)) trains and supports the next generation of global reporters, photographers and filmmakers to produce under-reported stories for top-tier media outlets around the world.

Stucky said that women journalists have come a long way since she graduated from college in 1977, but things have not changed as much as some would like.

"We're looking at and trying to understand the world mostly through men's eyes when it comes to foreign affairs, justice and politics, and my field, which is international journalism, remains firmly dominated by men," Stucky said.

"But despite this gender bias, there are hundreds of female journalists—great ones—covering the world, and some are dying, especially this year," she said.

Stucky also noted that female foreign correspondents face sexual harassment and rape, often without reporting incidents to their bosses or law enforcement because

they don't want to be seen as vulnerable.

"Groping hands and lewd come-ons are stoically accepted as part of the job, especially in areas where western women are viewed as promiscuous," she said.

Round Earth provides its reporters with hazard training and sexual assault training. Furthermore, the partnership

model that the organization employs provides a measure of safety for women correspondents.

Stucky explained that Round Earth looks for stories that need attention from regions of the world that are being neglected and pairs an American journalist under the age of 35 with a counterpart in the country where the story is occurring.

Many of these stories are ignored because media outlets are closing their foreign bureaus, leaving freelancers to pick up the slack.

"Freelancers are paying for the privilege of working while risking their lives, working in challenging areas of the world often without health insurance because they can't afford it, many times without enough money for a ticket home," Stucky said.

Funded by charitable foundations and individual donors, Round Earth pays freelancers' expenses, finds stories for them to report, and places the stories in media outlets such as the *New York Times*, National Public Radio, and others around the world. Knowing that many freelancers have families to support, Round Earth gives the journalists all the fees from the media outlets that run the stories and supplements with stipends if necessary. — EPS

## Dissertation Award Winners



Photo by Don Bishop

Beth Kaszuba received the 2014 Margaret A. Blanchard Prize for her dissertation completed at Penn State with director Ford Risley. Runners up were Kaylene Armstrong (Southern Mississippi; David Davies), Jessica L. Ghilani (Pittsburgh; Ronald Zboray), and Patrick C. File (Minnesota; Susanna Blumenthal and Jane Kirtley).

## Humphrey

**Continued from page 9**

newspapers within weeks.

Reports were not without bias. Because printers sought to keep readers encouraged, they often put a positive spin on the reports they published, downplaying defeats while emphasizing victories.

They also were selective about what they included in their newspapers in order to support the cause they were working for, which Humphrey said moved printers closer to the position of editors.

"They moved away from the previously held standard of trying to present both sides because it could lead to the spread of erroneous ideas," she said.

As such, newspapers shaped colonists' beliefs. Furthermore, newspapers helped shape the ideological basis for the revolt by extending the reach of the pamphlets where revolutionary ideas originated.

Because readers counted on newspapers for information, readership of newspapers increased during the war, but many newspapers still struggled. Humphrey noted that some had to move offices to escape the enemy, and American manufacturers could not keep up with the demand for supplies that previously had come from Great Britain.

Despite the obstacles, Humphrey said her research leaves no doubt that newspapers had an enormous impact.

"I was really struck by the fact that Benjamin Franklin, a Patriot, and Ambrose Serle, a Loyalist, both described the press as the engine that should be used to advance the cause they were fighting for," she said.

The book is a lifelong project for Humphrey, who has been fascinated with the American Revolution since childhood.

"I sometimes think I was trying to get back at my family who were primarily Civil War buffs, so I decided to be weird," Humphrey said.

She wrote an undergraduate honors thesis and master's thesis on topics related to the Revolution, and she knew she wanted to write something on the Revolution when she got to the University of North Carolina for her Ph.D. She approached Colonial and Revolutionary War

historian Don Higginbotham, who pulled a stack of index cards from his desk drawer that held research ideas he had thought of but didn't want to do himself.

In that stack, Humphrey found the idea to research the role of the press during the Revolution, and she's been at it off and on for the past 30 years.

Humphrey said that materials have been relatively easy to find because many newspapers from the era have been preserved on microfilm, microfiche, and microcards. She has made ample use of a set of early American newspapers at The University of Oklahoma.

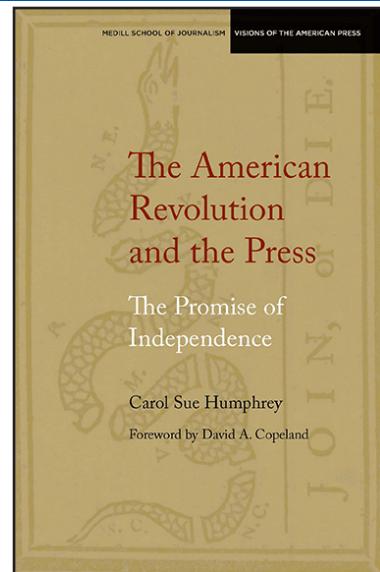
She also described traipsing to various libraries to peruse the materials in their archives. One of her fondest memories occurred during her dissertation research, when she spent a semester traveling to historical societies around New England looking at newspapers as well as the records of printers.

A highlight was a month spent at the American Antiquarian Society, where she was able to read the actual 200-year-old newspapers.

"There's something special and awe-inspiring about being able to read a historical document in its original form, no matter what it is," Humphrey said. "To actually have the document in your hands produces an amazing high for an historian."

Humphrey admitted that she hasn't had to travel as much in recent years because of the materials available online.

"It makes the process easier, but I miss the thrill of working with the actual newspapers," she said. — EPS



## Aronson, Vos win American Journalism Best Article Award

### Scott Morton

University of Alabama

### Willie Tubbs

University of Southern Mississippi

The editors of *American Journalism* presented the award for Best Article to two authors at the 2014 AJHA convention.

Amy Aronson of Fordham University and Tim Vos of the University of Missouri shared the award, which honors research published in *American Journalism* within the last year that is original, rigorous, and makes an outstanding contribution to developing scholarship in the field of journalism and mass communication history.

Aronson's article, "Everything Old is New Again: How the 'New' User-Generated Wom-

en's Magazine Takes Us Back to the Future," appears in the current issue of *American Journalism* and examines the ways in which magazines such as *Cosmopolitan* have been viewed by some as odd for their coverage of issues of both beauty and world politics, what some have called serious versus "un-serious" news.

"Even if we don't interrogate the construction of those categories, why is it so hard for people to accept that women's magazines are interested in both 'mascara and the Middle East?' as (*Cosmopolitan* Editor Joanna) Coles put it," Aronson asked.

"While women's magazines may not have entertained as wide a spectrum of issues and ideas as many of us might like, they have always offered a mix of voices and views. They have always invited readers to participate and to construct their own narratives—to make

their own way—in the midst of that mix," she said.

Vos' Fall 2013 article, "Explaining the Origins of the Ad Agency," was one of the top 10 most downloaded articles via the Taylor and Francis website and was a spotlight article for the "Teaching the Journal" feature on the *American Journalism* website. Vos explored the ways in which the origins of the ad agency were conceptualized in existing literature.

"The logic of the existing histories of the ad agency just seemed to include some big holes," Vos said.

"Since I think about explanation through an institutionalist framework, I had a bunch of questions the existing histories didn't answer. When I started digging into those questions, a lot of the settled questions didn't seem so settled anymore," he said.

# Nineteen scholars earn AJHA top paper awards

**Sheryl Kennedy Haydel**

Xavier University of Louisiana

AJHA honored 19 scholars for their research during the 2014 convention.

Research Chair Linda Lumsden said that she received a batch of outstanding papers this year.

"The quality of the research presented in St. Paul once again inspires me," she said.

Lumsden said she was pleased to see Tracy Lucht and Chunyu Zhang of Iowa State University win the W. David Sloan Award for Top Faculty Paper because Chunyu is a graduate student.

"It's rewarding to see faculty working so productively with students," she said.

Lucht and Zhang also won the Maurine Beasley Award for Outstanding Paper on Women's History.

Runners up for the Sloan Award were Jon Marshall and Matthew Connor, Northwestern University; Thomas A. Schwartz, The Ohio State University; and Cayce Myers, Virginia Tech.

Runners up for the Beasley Award were Candi Carter Olson, Utah State University; Raymond McCaffrey, University of Arkansas; and Amber Roessner, University of Tennessee-Knoxville; Jodi Rightler-McDaniels, South College, and Shiela Hawkins, University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

Lumsden called the J. William Snorgrass Award for Outstanding Paper on a Minorities Topic one of the most competitive categories. She said it was enlightening to see a paper on the Central Park jogger story win in that category because it seems like it happened so recently (1989).

"It's hard to believe it's now history," Lumsden said.

Katie Beardsley (Temple University) and Carrie Teresa (Niagara University) wrote that paper and also received the Robert Lance Memo-



Photo by Don Bishop

Katie Beardsley and Carrie Teresa present their award-winning paper.

rial Award for Top Student Paper.

Runners up for the Lance Award were Laura H. Marshall, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill; Willie R. Tubbs, University of Southern Mississippi; and Ian Punnett, Arizona State University.

Runners up for the Snorgrass Award were Tubbs; Jon Marshall and Connor; and Ali N. Mohamed, United Arab Emirates University.

Laura Marshall received the Wallace Eberhard Award for Outstanding Paper on Media and War. Runners up were Scott Morton, University of Alabama; Carter Olson; and Jeff Nichols, University of Illinois-Chicago.

Lumsden announced that next year, cash prizes will be awarded for top faculty and top student paper submissions. Further details will be provided in next year's call for papers.

## Martinez, Mellen win McKerns grants

**Chandra D. Clark**

Florida A&M University

AJHA recognized Michael Martinez and Roger Mellen with Joseph McKerns Research Grants during its 33rd Annual Convention in St. Paul.

Martinez, assistant professor at the University of Tennessee's School of Journalism and Electronic Media, received funding for his project, "Eyewitness to History: The Image and Public Memory of President Lyndon Baines Johnson Through the Eyes of Yoichi Okamoto."

"The \$1,250 award will fund travel to conduct archival research at the LBJ Presidential Library in Austin, Texas, to study Yoichi 'Okie' Okamoto, President Lyndon Baines Johnson's presidential photographer," said Martinez. "This research is one

part of a much larger project to study the photographers responsible for the image and memory of all the presidents from President John F. Kennedy to the present and the photographs they produced."

Mellen, associate professor in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications at New Mexico State University, earned the research grant for his work, "History of the Lee Family and Freedom of the Press in Virginia."

"I have been exploring for many years the origins of the free press clause in the First Amendment. There have been many fallacies about the genesis of this constitutional protection so important for journalists," Mellen said. "I hope to learn more about how—and why—a free press has earned this protection, and what it meant to those who originated the concept."

## AHA accepts 2016 proposals

The American Historical Association is accepting panel proposals for its conference in Atlanta Jan. 7-10, 2016. Deadline is Feb. 15, 2015.

With its theme "Global Migrations: Empires, Nations, and Neighbors," the conference would be an ideal opportunity for AJHA members to interact with scholars from a sister organization and publicize the benefits of our own conference.

I encourage the submission of panel proposals that not only fit the 2016 AHA conference theme but will encourage and promote the study of media history as well.

For more information, see the call for proposals: <http://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/september-2014/call-for-proposals-for-the-130th-annual-meeting-of-the-aha>

Submission guidelines are available at <http://www.historians.org/annual-meeting/future-meetings/submit-a-proposal>

— Pete Smith

# AJHA President: Turn your convention energy into action

**Erika J. Pribanic-Smith**

*University of Texas at Arlington*

*The following message from the new AJHA president appeared on the association's website on Oct. 29, 2014.*

A few weeks ago, more than 150 journalism historians converged upon St. Paul, Minn., to share their research and network with like-minded individuals. Like a holiday or family reunion, the annual American Journalism Historians Association national convention ranks among my favorite times of year.

Of course, AJHA offers an opportunity for people to formally present their research, field questions and comments, and glean new insights and angles they may not have thought of themselves. Hearing others express how relevant and interesting your research is can be invigorating, and I personally left my paper session eager to not only massage my paper into a journal article but also pursue the line of research toward other papers.

AJHA also provides a venue for people to make connections with others who share the same interests. Often historians think of themselves as academic loners, but as a panel assembled by Jane Marcellus demonstrated, collaborations can be beneficial to the historical researcher. During one paper session, I witnessed two scholars who represent universities from different countries exchange contact information after realizing how much their work overlaps. Others left the convention with ideas for panels that may allow them to generate discussion on their shared interests at future conventions.

Occasionally, attending the panels and paper sessions at AJHA makes people think about history in a new way. At the gala dinner to close the convention, as we cruised down the Mississippi River on a sternwheeler, one conference-goer expressed how the American Journalism panel on materiality reshaped how he thought about journalism history. Another expressed an interest in pursuing research on how weather has affected historical events, inspired by an anecdote in then-President Amy Lauters' welcome address on storytelling.

Witnessing the excitement with which scholars discuss their work also can serve as an inspiration. Those who attended the Watergate panel assembled by Mark Feldstein were awestruck by the passion that Tim Neftali, head of the NYU Tamiment Library and Robert F. Wagner Archives, demonstrated while talking about the need to protect and provide access to archival documents. I received emails after the convention from several people who attended that panel and the President's Panel on archival practices, urging AJHA to be a vanguard in the movement to rescue the vanishing archive.

Even informal conversations between sessions and at the many special events can stir the convention attendee. During a conversation with David Sloan, he expressed how nice it was to just sit and talk about history. At our own universities, few of us encounter kindred spirits who get excited about the personalities, practices, events, and institutions of bygone eras. Those conversations at AJHA can be energizing for all involved.

For these reasons and many others, AJHA provides a place for journalism history scholars to call home. Three different graduate students whose first AJHA convention was in St. Paul emailed me afterwards to thank me for the experience and express that they felt like they'd found a family. Best of all, they so enjoyed their time at the convention that they want to get involved.

I hope that everyone left St. Paul invigorated, both for their research and for AJHA. If you did, please consider putting your energy to work on one of our committees. Every one of them could use motivated individuals who care about history and our organization; the other officers and I would be pleased to find a committee where your particular talents and interests can best be utilized. You also can peruse our list of committees and directly contact the chair of whichever one interests you.

At the very least, please help us spread the word—especially to your graduate students—about what a nurturing, supportive, and energizing experience AJHA can be. Encourage historians you know who aren't members to join and to submit papers for our next convention in Oklahoma City.



## See Lauters on YouTube

Past President Amy Mattson Lauters' welcome address at the St. Paul convention can be seen in its entirety on the new AJHA YouTube channel: <http://tinyURL.com/AJHAYouTube>.

## JJCHC abstracts due Jan. 7

You are invited to submit a 500- to 600-word proposal for completed papers, panel discussions or research in progress for presentation at the Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference—the AJHA and AEJMC History Division joint spring meeting, to take place March 21 at the Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute at New York University.

Innovative research from all areas of journalism and communication history and from all time periods are welcome. Scholars from all academic disciplines and stages of their academic careers are encouraged to participate. Your proposal should include a brief abstract detailing your presentation topic and a compelling rationale as to why your research would interest an interdisciplinary community of scholars.

After requesting a free membership at <http://www.mediahistoryexchange.org>, you will see step-by-step instructions to upload your proposal. Deadline is Jan. 7. Authors of accepted proposals will be notified Feb. 4.

Questions? Contact conference co-coordinators Carolyn Edy, Appalachian State University, of the AEJMC History Division ([edycm@appstate.edu](mailto:edycm@appstate.edu)) or Jennifer E. Moore, University of Maine, of AJHA ([jennifer.e.moore@maine.edu](mailto:jennifer.e.moore@maine.edu)).

# Symposium provides forum for 19th century scholars

**Erika J. Pribanic-Smith**

University of Texas at Arlington

Each fall since 1993, the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga has been hosting a specialized group of media history scholars—including several members of AJHA—for the Symposium on the 19th Century Press, Civil War, and Free Expression.

The most recent conference was Nov. 6-8. The event is organized annually by David Sachsman, West Chair of Excellence in Communication and Public Affairs at UTC, and is sponsored by UTC, UT-Knoxville, the Walter and Leona Schmitt Family Foundation Research Fund and the Hazel Dicken-Garcia Fund for the Symposium.

Bill Huntzicker began attending the symposium in its second year and has been many times since then. This year he presented research on “Cartoonists and America’s Most Corrupt Election, 1876-1877,” on a panel that also included Ford Risley.

Huntzicker said he attends because he loves the subject.

“This meeting is the state of the art of research in the 19th century, especially the Civil War, which is what I’m interested in,” he said.

David Bulla began attending the symposium in 2001 at the urging of Bernell Tripp, and he said the conference changed his life.

“I had a place to share ideas with fellow Civil War journalism historians,” Bulla said. “I realized I was not on an island.”

Bulla returns to Chattanooga every year from Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, because he sees the symposium as the proper home for his research. He said he is changing his research emphasis to take a more international perspective of the Civil War and Abraham Lincoln, but his work remains firmly rooted in the 19th century.

At the symposium last month, Bulla presented research on international coverage of America’s Civil War president and Ghandi’s 1896 “Green Pamphlet” as a prelude to advocacy journalism.

Paulette Kilmer, who has been attending the symposium since 2008, emphasized that the diverse program does contain a lot of discussion of the Civil War, but it goes beyond that.

“We cover a lot of different topics, but it’s all within the same time period,” said Dianne Bragg, who also has been attending since 2008. “I always learn a lot and come away with a lot of ideas for my own research.”

Bragg said the schedule is intense and jam-packed. Research sessions begin in the afternoon on Thursday and in the morning on Friday, and both days they extend well into the evening. Huntzicker said that attendees typically gather after the formal sessions to continue discussions.

On Saturday, research sessions last until lunch time, and then the group visits a Civil War site. Attendees count the tour among their top reasons for attending the convention.

James Ogden, historian and park ranger from the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, has been attending the



Photo by Dianne Bragg

David Bulla and Greg Borchard discussed their work on Lincoln at the 2014 symposium (and posed with Elvis afterward).

symposium since it started and takes attendees on an informative journey every year.

Kilmer said that this year, the group went to a new area that has just opened to the public, where troops crossed at the Brown’s Ferry landing to get to the Battle of Lookout Mountain. She was impressed by Ogden’s stories about engineers building a floating bridge to get troops to the battle.

Huntzicker said this year’s tour was among his favorites because the group followed in the footsteps of Theodore Davis, an illustrator for *Harper’s Weekly*.

In general, attendees said the Chattanooga area is a great place to visit, especially for historians, but they most enjoy the people.

Bragg said that several scholars go from AJHA, so the symposium provides another chance to see them. Kilmer added that the symposium provides a great opportunity to talk about research in an intimate setting.

“Like at AJHA, it provides more of an opportunity to meet each other than at the really big conventions like AEJMC,” Kilmer said.

Huntzicker said a core group always comes back, whom he described as delightful, fun people to be around, but he said that he also enjoys meeting new people as younger scholars come in. He said the symposium offers a unique opportunity for students to network



Photo by Bill Huntzicker

James Ogden explains troop movements at the Brown’s Ferry landing.

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## Symposium

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with scholars in a very specialized field.

Huntzicker pointed out that some students begin coming to the conference as undergraduates, continue presenting there as graduate students, and return with their own students as faculty. He cited Giovanna Dell'Orto as an example.

Leonard Teel has attended since the year the symposium began, and he always brings several students to the event.

He said his involvement intensified after the Georgia State University Journalism History Society won a one-year trial of the Thomson-Gale 19th century digital newspaper archive at the 2006 AJHA convention in Wichita. So many GSU scholars used the database during the trial year that his university purchased a subscription.

Since then, all the students in his undergraduate and graduate media history courses have written their research papers exclusively on aspects of the 19th century press. This year, two of his students—one a graduate student and one an undergrad—presented papers on 19th century professional baseball.

Teel said that over the years, more than 20 of his students have had papers accepted; some have won top prizes and subsequently had their work published.

Kilmer said that she appreciates the opportunities for publication that come out of the symposium.

"One of David Sachzman's goals is to help scholars publish their works in books," she said.

Six books have been published comprised of works that have been presented at the symposium. Huntzicker said that he has had work in nearly all of them. Bulla also has had several chapters in Sachzman's books, and he co-edited one on sensationalism that Transaction published last summer.

Kilmer has a chapter in one of Sachzman's books. Furthermore, because of Kilmer's attendance at the symposium, Mary (Lamonica) Cronin invited her to submit a chapter to a book on freedom of expression in the 19th century. At the symposium last month, Kilmer presented on a panel consisting of some of that book's authors.

To see the full 2014 program and abstracts, visit <http://www.utc.edu/west-chair-communication/symposium/index.php>



Photo by Dianne Bragg

Dianne Bragg received top honors among faculty papers presented this year.

## Latest Symposium book explores political divisions via newspapers

In September, Transaction published the most recent book to come from work presented at the Symposium on the 19th Century Press, the Civil War, and Free Expression, "A Press Divided: Newspaper Coverage of the Civil War."

Editor David Sachzman said that the more one examines the role of the press in the American Civil War, the more complicated it gets.

"The press was not only divided between the North and the South, but it was also sharply divided within the North and the South," Sachzman said.

"The partisan divisions within regions existed both before the war and during the war," he said.

Sachzman said that in the North, dissenting newspapers so alarmed the Lincoln administration that drastic measures were sometimes taken to suppress press freedom, while in the South, the Confederate government was more tolerant of its critics.

"Lincoln's personal feelings regarding freedom of the press are a hot topic among historians, and 'A Press Divided' provides a much needed perspective on this controversial issue through its exploration of the bitter divisions among newspapers," Sachzman said.

In the book's preface, Sachzman wrote that the annual symposium at UT-Chattanooga has grappled with the question of whether divisions among the press set the agenda for civil war for more than 20 years.

"A Press Divided" has 18 chapters in three parts. Part I, "Splitting a Nation," covers the election of 1860 and secession. Part II, "Covering the Conflict," includes a variety of perspectives on war coverage. Eight chapters appear in Part III, "Dissension and Suppression North and South."

Authors include several educators and graduate students in journalism, history and English, as well as historians from the LDS Church History Museum, Hampton Roads Naval Museum and the Kentucky Historical Society.

David Bulla and Debra Reddin van Tuyl each have three chapters in "A Press Divided." Bulla and van Tuyl each provide a different perspective on newspaper coverage of Lincoln during the 1860 election. Bulla explored coverage of Lincoln's Cooper Union speech and the Republican convention, whereas van Tuyl examined election coverage in the southern press.

Bulla also contributed chapters about suppression of the Mid-Atlantic Copperhead press and the 1863 New York editors' resolutions, while van Tuyl wrote on Confederate women war correspondents and dissent among the Confederate press.

AJHA members Dianne Bragg, Erika Pribanic-Smith, and Wendy Swanberg also have chapters in the book. Bragg contributed a chapter on Tennessee's Civil War press. Pribanic-Smith's chapter discusses the role of newspapers in Missouri's secession crisis. Swanberg wrote on *Ex Parte McCardle* and the First Amendment during Reconstruction. — EPS

