

Minutes - Board of Directors  
 American Society of Newspaper Editors  
 JW Marriott Hotel, Washington, DC  
 April 7, 1992

Mr. Lawrence called the meeting to order. The following were present at various points during the daylong meeting:

Directors:

David Lawrence Jr., Miami Herald, president  
 Seymour Topping, New York Times Co., vice president  
 William Hilliard, Portland Oregonian, secretary  
 Larry Allison, Long Beach (Calif.) Press-Telegram  
 Jay Ambrose, Rocky Mountain News, Denver  
 N. Christian Anderson III, Orange County Register, Santa Ana, Calif.  
 Linda Grist Cunningham, Rockford (Ill.) Register Star  
 Albert E. Fitzpatrick, Knight-Ridder, Inc.  
 Robert H. Giles, Detroit News  
 Jane E. Healy, Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel  
 William B. Ketter, Quincy (Mass.) Patriot Ledger  
 Ron Martin, Atlanta Journal and Constitution  
 Acel Moore, Philadelphia Inquirer  
 Jean Otto, Rocky Mountain News, Denver  
 Geneva Overholser, Des Moines (Iowa) Register  
 Edward Seaton, Manhattan (Kan.) Mercury

Committee chairs:

Loren F. Ghiglione, The News, Southbridge, Mass.  
 Robert J. Haiman, The Poynter Institute, St. Petersburg, Fla.  
 David V. Hawpe, Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal  
 Alan M. Horton, Scripps Howard, Cincinnati  
 C.W. Johnson, Nashville Tennessean  
 Beverly Kees, Fresno (Calif.) Bee  
 Craig Klugman, Fort Wayne (Ind.) Journal-Gazette  
 Robert G. McGruder, Detroit Free Press  
 Tim J. McGuire, Minneapolis Star Tribune  
 Marcia McQuern, Riverside (Calif.) Press-Enterprise  
 John Seigenthaler, Nashville, Tennessee, *retired*

Vice chairs:

C. Shelby Coffey III, Los Angeles Times  
 Diane McFarlin, Sarasota (Fla.) Herald-Tribune  
 Ted M. Natt, Longview (Wash.) Daily News  
 John Simpson, USA Today International  
 William F. Woo, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

ASNE staff:

Lee Stinnett, executive director  
 Elise Burroughs, publications director  
 Cornelius F. Foote Jr., minority affairs director

Others:

Allan R. Adler, Cohn and Marks  
 Linda Edwards, executive director, National Association of Black Journalists

Sidmel Estes-Sumpter, president, National Association of Black Journalists  
Stacey Hawkins, ASNE Reporter  
Pat Murphy, Paradise Valley, Ariz., *retired*  
Peter Prichard, USA Today  
Richard M. Schmidt Jr., Cohn and Marks, ASNE legal counsel  
John Sturm, ANPA, luncheon guest

Mr. Lawrence noted the absence of Burl Osborne, Dallas Morning News; Gregory Favre, Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, who returned to his newspaper; Jack Driscoll, who was ill; and Irene Nolan, who has resigned her position on the board. She has left the Courier-Journal and is now writing for and editing a monthly newsmagazine, The Island Breeze.

He called upon Ms. Otto to let the board know about her plans. She said that she will retire from the Rocky Mountain News in mid-May, but will continue her First Amendment Congress presidency and chairmanship of the SDX Foundation. She announced her intention to resign from the board at the conclusion of the meeting.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to name to the board the eighth-place finisher in the current election.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the November meeting.

Reporting as president, Mr. Lawrence indicated that the officers had struggled with the 1992-93 budget proposal to be considered later in the meeting. He noted that the officers and executive director met the previous day with top executives of the Freedom Forum, to provide a view of ASNE's priorities and to help the Freedom Forum develop projects focusing on newspapers during the coming year.

Mr. Stinnett gave the executive director's report, indicating that the staff continues to work well together. Important changes are taking place at the Newspaper Center as a number of the organizations are being merged with ANPA.

He said that staff is beginning to see the need for a new computer network, which likely will cost several thousand dollars. This will enable more than one staff member to use the data base simultaneously, increasing the efficiency of headquarters operations.

Mr. Stinnett presented a report on three sites he was asked to explore for the 1999 convention. Following a discussion of the relative advantages of Anaheim, Los Angeles and San Francisco, the board voted to select San Francisco and the executive director was instructed to make a definite arrangement.

The matter of the 1996 convention site was discussed, including interest from Atlanta. The decision was made to make a firm contract with the J.W. Marriott in Washington for what will be another presidential election year.

Mr. Stinnett reported that John Carroll of the Baltimore Sun will attend the ASNE Foundation meeting later in the week as a new director. Foundation president Bill Burleigh supports the grants measures presented in the 1992-93 budget proposal, Stinnett said.

Vice president Seymour Topping noted that citizenship and newspapers will be an overriding theme of the ASNE committee work during 1992-93. Newspapers need to do a better job in promoting themselves, he noted, and the Future of Newspapers Committee will concentrate on one of the big challenges to newspaper reading — television viewing. The fall board meeting will be held Oct. 15-17 in New York City.

The board went into executive session, during which Mr. Topping was authorized to develop a consultative relationship with the newly formed Newspaper Association of America. ASNE will invite an NAA representative to attend the post-convention board meeting to learn about the committee work for the coming year.

The board amended its membership policy to enable Washington bureau and news service chiefs to join ASNE. To be considered for membership, these editors must have broad editing and managerial responsibilities, including hiring and firing decisions, and set policy. They should not be

primarily involved in the sales or marketing of the service.

Following the executive session, Mr. Stinnett called attention to the treasurer's report. With the newspaper sponsorship of various convention events, including the three luncheons, two receptions and ASNE University Day, the projected 1992-93 loss has been reduced to around \$37,000.

The board approved a \$771,000 budget for 1992-93. Dues and convention fees will not increase, and staff salaries and the legal counsel's retainer are frozen.

Mr. Ketter said the Membership Committee had taken numerous initiatives to bolster membership numbers during a very difficult economic year. The Patriot Ledger printed membership fliers to be used to bolster a recruitment campaign. Members of the committee called editors who had not renewed their memberships, generating a lot of good will if not many reinstatements, he said. Vice chair Cunningham said that the committee will make sure that new members are made to feel welcome at the convention.

The board approved the secretary's report, presented by Mr. Hilliard as follows:

Since the board met in November, there have been three deaths and 35 resignations and ineligibilities. Twelve members have requested transfer to the retired rolls. Twenty-nine new members have been elected. Membership now stands at 913, including 721 active and 192 retired.

The following new members have been accepted into ASNE:

Alejandro Aguirre, deputy editor, Diario Las Americas, Miami  
 Rob Austin, editor, Hamilton (Ontario) Spectator  
 Arthur Brisbane, editor, Kansas City Star  
 Phil Bronstein, executive editor, San Francisco Examiner  
 Cole Campbell, managing editor, Norfolk Virginian-Pilot and Ledger-Star  
 Crosbie Cotton, managing editor, Calgary (Alberta) Herald  
 William Dennis, editor and chairman of the board, Henderson (N.C.) Daily Dispatch  
 Sherida Dill, executive editor, Wichita (Kan.) Eagle  
 Helen Donovan, managing editor, Boston Globe  
 Barbara Mantz Drake, editorial page editor, Peoria (Ill.) Journal Star  
 Philip Gailey, editor of editorials, St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times  
 Stephen J. Geimann, executive editor, United Press International, Washington, DC  
 David Hoff, editor-in-chief, Wailuku (Hawaii) Maui News  
 Robert G. Kaiser, managing editor, Washington Post  
 Brian Laline, editor, Staten Island (N.Y.) Advance  
 Barry Lewis, editor, Port Jervis (N.Y.) Tri-State Gazette  
 Andrew Marsters, managing editor, Biddeford (Maine) Journal Tribune  
 Lawrence McConnell, managing editor, Tampa Tribune (reinstatement)  
 Mary Jo Meisner, managing editor, Fort Worth (Texas) Star-Telegram  
 William Millsaps Jr., managing editor, Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch  
 Jeff Phillips, executive editor, Harlan (Ky.) Daily Enterprise  
 Jane Scholz, editor, Knight-Ridder/Tribune Information Services, Washington, DC  
 Terry Schwadron, assistant managing editor, Los Angeles Times  
 Jon Stepleton, editor, Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph  
 R. James Travers, editor, Ottawa (Ontario) Citizen  
 Cynthia Tucker, editorial page editor, Atlanta Constitution  
 Howard Tyner, associate editor, Chicago Tribune  
 Karen Wada, assistant managing editor, Los Angeles Times  
 James Wooten, editorial page editor, Atlanta Journal

Membership applications of Lee Soble, editor-in-chief and publisher, Beverly Hills Today, and

William Zimmerman, special projects editor and editor, Student Briefing Page, Newsday, were declined.

There have been three deaths:

Marvin Garrette, Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch  
 Paul Poorman, retired, Stow, Ohio  
 Les Trautmann, Staten Island (N.Y.) Advance

The 35 resignations and ineligibilities include:

Stephen Auslander, editor, Tucson Arizona Daily Star; resigned, no reason given  
 Daniel Baumann, editor, Arlington Heights (Ill.) Daily Herald; resigned, no longer involved in editorial responsibilities  
 Benjamin J. Burns, former editor and publisher, Mt. Clemens (Mich.) Macomb Daily; dropped, left paper, no forwarding address  
 Ben Cason, former editor-in-chief, Journal Newspapers, Springfield, Va.; dropped, left papers and is now working for weeklies, no longer eligible  
 Glenn Dromgoole, editor, Abilene (Texas) Reporter-News; resigned, no reason given  
 Susan E. Hedling Evans, former editor, Rockville (Md.) Montgomery Journal; dropped, left paper and moved to Pa. where she's marketing a column, no longer eligible  
 Bruce Frassinelli, former managing editor, Easton (Pa.) Express; resigned, now general manager, no longer eligible  
 Kenneth W. Frizell, editor and publisher, DuBois (Pa.) Courier-Express; resigned, budget constraints  
 Larry W. Grooms, editor, Palmdale (Calif.) Antelope Valley Press; resigned, budget considerations, not convinced of benefit to his newspaper  
 William R. Handy, former managing editor, Wichita Eagle; dropped, new position as director of development, board voted no longer eligible in Nov.  
 Bob Haring, executive editor, Tulsa (Okla.) World; resigned, economic reasons  
 Mark Harrison, retired, Ottawa, Ontario; resigned, no reason given  
 Edward Higgins, editorial page editor, St. Louis Post-Dispatch; resigned, no reason given  
 Philip Hochstein, retired, Sarasota, Fla.; resigned, has suspended all activities  
 Peter Kaye, associate editor, San Diego Union; resigned, financial and other considerations  
 William J. Keating, chairman and publisher, Cincinnati Enquirer; resigned, is retiring and does not want to continue  
 Lawrence Kramer, former executive editor, San Francisco Examiner; resigned, left paper and is pursuing other opportunities, no longer eligible  
 Paul McAuliffe, executive editor, Evansville (Ind.) Courier; resigned, will not renew this year because of budget  
 William F. McIlwain, senior editor, New York Times Regional Group; resigned, has to retire, does not want to continue  
 Bruce McPherson, former director, editorial page, Santa Cruz (Calif.) Sentinel; dropped, left paper to manage family business, no longer eligible

John Molley, executive editor, Bristol (Va.) Herald-Courier and Virginia Tennessean,; resigned, personal

question of economics and whether or not the investment in membership might not be better utilized in

his newsroom budget

Michael Montgomery, editor, Alton (Ill.) Telegraph; resigned, cannot pay dues because of budget cuts

Charles Morris, publisher, Danville (Ill.) Commercial News; resigned, no reason given

Jack Moseley, editor, Fort Smith (Ark.) Southwest Times Record; resigned, unable to attend conventions

Robert Moyer, managing editor, Lincoln (Neb.) Journal; resigned, paper will not renew

Jennie L. Phipps, editor, Utica (N.Y.) Observer-Dispatch; resigned, elected to membership in Nov., never

paid dues/initiation, says she's a Gannett editor and can't come to the convention and doesn't see any

reason to continue

Jeffery Prugh, executive editor, Glendale (Calif.) News-Press; resigned, position has been abolished

James C. Raper Jr., former managing editor, Norfolk (Va.) Virginian-Pilot and Ledger-Star; dropped, left

paper to pursue "personal interests", replacement became a member

Dow Richardson, retired, Kokomo, Ind.; resigned, health reasons

Al Rossiter, former editor, United Press International; resigned, left UPI for position with Duke University

News Service, no longer eligible

Dennis Ryerson, editor of the editorial pages, Des Moines (Iowa) Register; resigned, budget reasons

David Stolberg, retired, Covington, Ky.; resigned, "a hard decision"

Tom Teepen, former editorial page editor, Atlanta Constitution; resigned, now an editorial writer for Cox

Newspapers, no longer eligible

Thomas Vail, president and chairman, Cleveland Plain Dealer; resigned, retiring and does not plan to

renew

Henry J. Waters III, editor and publisher, Columbia (Mo.) Daily Tribune; resigned, no reason given

Twelve editors transferred to retired membership:

Arnaud de Borchgrave, Washington Times

Leroy S. Clemens, Elgin (Ill.) Daily Courier-News

Jerry Dhonau, Little Rock (Ark.) Gazette

Howard H Hays, Riverside (Calif.) Press-Enterprise

Ray Jenkins, Baltimore Sun

Richard Maloy, Thomson News Service, Washington, D.C.

Sandy Oppenheimer, Calkins Newspapers

Robert Pittman, St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times

Lloyd Schermer, Lee Enterprises, Davenport, Iowa

John Seigenthaler, Nashville Tennessean

Wiley Spurgeon, Muncie (Ind.) Star

Joseph Ungaro, Gannett Co. Inc., Arlington, Va.

The following editors transferred to other papers or changed their titles:

Caesar Andrews, sabbatical, to executive editor, West Nyack (N.Y.) Rockland Journal-News

J. Michael Archer, Leesburg (Fla.) Daily Commercial, to editor, New York Times Regional Newspaper

Group News and Graphics Service, New York

William C. Barnard, assistant to the publisher to director of public affairs, Cleveland Plain Dealer

Jack Briggs, managing editor to publisher, Tri-Cities (Wash.) Herald

David Doucette, Salinas Californian, to editor, Leesburg (Fla.) Daily Commercial

John Greenman, managing editor/administration to associate publisher/Star County Edition, Akron (Ohio)

Beacon Journal

Michael Hengel, Pine Bluff (Ark.) Commercial, to editor-in-chief, Ontario (Calif.) Inland Valley Daily

Bulletin

Barbara Henry, Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat and Chronicle and Times-Union, to publisher, Great Falls

(Mont.) Tribune

Stanley Hojnacki, Port Jervis (N.Y.) Tri-State Gazette, to editor, Chapel Hill (N.C.) Newspaper

Alan Horton, Naples (Fla.) Daily News, to vice president/operations, Scripps Howard, Cincinnati

Paul McMasters, USA Today, to Freedom Forum First Amendment Center (DS membership)

J. Keith Moyer, Arkansas Gazette, to Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat and Chronicle and Times-Union

Rod Sandeen, Gannett Co. Inc., to The Freedom Forum (DS membership)

William Watson, Meriden (Conn.) Record-Journal, to editor, Ansonia (Conn.) Evening Sentinel

The following editors are currently unemployed or their status is unknown to ASNE at the present time:

Alex Beer, writing re eligibility

Roy Bode, paper closed

Gordon Britton, left paper

Nora Cooper, left paper, retired?

Lee Cullum, paper closed

Russell D'Oench, offered retired

Gordon Fisher, writing re eligibility

James Hoge, will offer retired

James Houck, left paper

Beverlee Kritz, left paper

Jack Lemmon, left paper

William McCulloch, left paper

Irene Nolan (resigns following this meeting)

William Lee Porter, offered retired

The board turned its attention to reports on committee projects during the past year.

Mr. Stinnett, reporting for the Convention Program Committee, said the expected attendance at the 1992 convention is 624, compared to 525 in Boston and about 900 in Washington in 1990. For the first time, an entire day will be focused on the future of newspapers.

Mr. Ghiglione, History and Newspapers, said the Isaiah Thomas Awards will be presented to the Palm Beach Post and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. A number of important reports have been published by the committee, including a brochure on "How to preserve your history," an oral history guide book printed by Poynter, and a Freedom Forum report on how the media are covered in college textbooks.

Mr. Johnson said plans for this year's Literacy projects fell short. Several meetings were proposed, but for several reasons didn't take place.

Ms. Burroughs said subscriptions for the Bulletin number about 1,100. The magazine has been published within the 32 pages allowed by the budget. A larger page size will be adopted in 1992-93, at no additional cost. The staff hopes to generate the 1992 Proceedings in a more timely manner. She noted that the staff had explored the feasibility of combining the Bulletin and Editors' Exchange, but recommended that the two publications maintain their separate identities. Various options were explored concerning publication of the Proceedings, with the recommendation that the publication of the book be continued in its present format. The book is being published in an economical way, she said, and the publication appears to be cost-effective in terms of membership benefits.

Every issue of the Bulletin during the past year has included a piece on diversity, Mr. Klugman noted. He lauded Ms. Burroughs for her help in producing the magazine.

Ms. Burroughs attended the Writing Awards Board meeting this year. The winners were Henry Allen, staff writer, Washington Post, commentary/column writing; Russell Eshleman Jr., writer, Harrisburg bureau, Philadelphia Inquirer, short news writing; John Fensterwald, editorial page editor, Concord (N.H.) Monitor, editorial writing; G. Wayne Miller, staff writer for the Providence (R.I.) Journal-Bulletin, non-deadline writing; and Colin Nickerson, staff writer for the Boston Globe, deadline writing.

The Education for Journalism group continued to support Standard 12, the diversity standard, in face of a federal challenge, Mr. McGruder noted. Mr. Giles, who represents ASNE on the accrediting council, urged editors to volunteer to serve on the accrediting teams. Ms. McFarlin, committee vice chair, said next year's committee will focus on high school journalism.

The Ethics Committee completed a number of projects, said Mr. Horton. They included a survey about newsroom involvement in community groups and the ethical considerations of newspapers selling space for obituaries and similar stories.

Ms. McQuern said the Human Resources Committee had completed a follow-up survey of the practice of newspapers to include sexual orientation in their fair employment practices statements. The update on the Newsroom Management Handbook will be completed within two months and turned over to the staff for publication. Mr. Seaton said the major project of the committee during the coming year will be the development of a report on crisis management.

During lunch, the directors and committee chairs heard a report from John Sturm, senior vice president/public policy of ANPA, regarding the publishers' battle with the Bell companies on the electronic distribution of information through the telephone system. During the luncheon, certificates were presented to retiring board members Jean Otto and Larry Allison.

At the resumption of the board meeting, discussion on the RBOC issue continued, with the focus being on the extent to which the First Amendment is involved and whether or not ASNE has a role to play. The consensus was that ASNE should weigh the pros and cons of specific legislation, which has not been reported out yet, before deciding whether to take a position. The Future of Newspapers, Freedom of Information and Press, Bar Committees were asked to monitor developments in this area.

Mr. Anderson said the Future of Newspapers Committee will present nine stories to the Bulletin on actions newspapers have taken as a result of last year's "At Risk" study. ASNE will cooperate with a number of meetings being organized by publishers and circulators, he said.

Mr. Foote, reporting on projects of the Minorities Committee, said 1,008 newspapers participated in the annual employment survey this year, compared to 1,004 in the previous year. Mr. Stinnett commended the minority affairs director for his extraordinary effort to maintain the level of participation in the survey, with the full disclosure requirement. The Rainbow Institute at the University of North Carolina will be a highly successful project, said Mr. Hawpe. Small newspapers

were well represented on the list of newspaper sponsors. He noted the need for newspaper participants in the core programs.

Ms. Kees said her committee hopes to launch the Minorities Advancement Program (MAP) to retain minorities at small newspapers. A proposal has been submitted to The Freedom Forum.

Attention turned to a diversity action plan for the industry that grew out of a January meeting called by ASNE, ANPA and the Newspaper Advertising Bureau. "It was the single best gathering of this sort that we could possibly hope for," Mr. Lawrence said. The CEOs of the major newspaper companies were well represented in the group. The action plan that grew out of the meeting calls for an escalation of newspaper commitment to diversity. Ms. Estes-Sumpter was invited to comment on the plan, and she said, "The proposed plan doesn't have all of the answers, but at least it is a start. NABJ is on board with this, and ASNE's endorsement would send a strong signal." Mr. Fitzpatrick said the publishers' statement on diversity is quite an accomplishment. The board voted unanimously to back the diversity plan.

Proposed military/press guidelines were presented by Press, Bar and Public Affairs chair McGuire. The board had endorsed an earlier version of the principles, which were developed by an ad hoc group of Washington bureau chiefs. While no agreement could be reached with the Pentagon on the question of security review, a statement on this issue accompanied the agreed-upon principles. Mr. McGuire said the guidelines and accompanying security review statement represented an improved standing for the press in negotiating future coverage of military combat. The board endorsed the guidelines.

A review of the Sixth Circuit project showed that usage by newspapers was not very high, indicating that ASNE should not commit future funding. We should lobby the courts to employ public information specialists to increase the flow of information to the press, Mr. McGuire stated. ASNE encounters continuing difficulty in getting newspapers to fund their staff members' attendance at training programs sponsored by the National Judicial College, he said.

Mr. Giles, reporting for Freedom of Information, noted that ASNE had distributed a Press Alert opposing the so-called Pornography Victims Compensation Act. An update on the model state law for access to electronic information has been prepared by Mr. Adler.

Mr. Schmidt thanked Ms. Healy for her success in lining up Congressman Jim Bacchus and Sen. Bob Graham to take a leading role on FOI matters in Congress.

The staff followed up on the suggestion made at the fall board meeting to expand the mailings of ASNE Press Alerts, according to Mr. Stinnett. The Press Alerts now are mailed to the main editor of every newspaper over 10,000 circulation, the editorial page editors of all newspapers represented in ASNE, plus all ASNE members.

John Seigenthaler, First Amendment chair, thanked the board for its help in programs to celebrate the bicentennial of the adoption of the First Amendment. He said the new First Amendment Center, funded by The Freedom Forum and located at Vanderbilt University, will address the lack of understanding of people about their rights and pursue other First Amendment projects.

Mr. Haiman, for the International Communication Committee, reported on the successful 1991 International Journalism Exchange and plans for the 1992 exchange, which will be broadened beyond Eastern Europe and former Soviet bloc countries. He said more work needs to be done with host editors to ensure good experiences. He reported that the Center for Foreign Journalists did a great job. There is now about \$100,000 in the ASNEF accounts for the 1992 exchange, which is budgeted at \$120,000, but the committee needs to raise \$108,000 for 1993.

There will be no trip this year to the former Soviet Union, although the Russians still support the exchanges. John Simpson will look for a successor to Wally Sims, who has coordinated such trips and is now retiring from that responsibility. On the recommendation of Mr. Haiman, the board

adopted the following resolution:

The ASNE Board of Directors expresses its profound gratitude to Watson Sims for his tireless, productive and diplomatic efforts in fostering understanding and goodwill among American editors and their colleagues in the former USSR, 1986-1992.

A highly successful trip was undertaken in November to Latin America. Mr. Simpson said the committee is exploring a trip to South Africa in January of 1993, possibly in cooperation with the National Conference of Editorial Writers.

Negotiations are under way to expand the number of U.S. journalists who can cover Cuba, and the number of Cubans who can report from the United States.

Nominations chair Kees said, "We came to Las Vegas, we nominated and we adjourned."

#### Meeting April 10, 1992

The newly constituted board met briefly to elect officers. Newly elected directors present included Robert J. Haiman, president, The Poynter Institute, St. Petersburg, Fla.; Al Johnson, executive editor, Columbus (Ga.) Ledger-Enquirer; Tim J. McGuire, executive editor, Minneapolis Star Tribune; Marcia McQuern, executive editor, Riverside (Calif.) Press-Enterprise; and Sandra Mims Rowe, executive editor, Norfolk (Va.) Virginian-Pilot and Ledger-Star.

The following officers were elected: Seymour Topping, director of editorial development for the New York Times Co. Regional Newspapers, president; William Hilliard, editor of the Portland Oregonian, vice president; Gregory Favre, executive editor of the Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, secretary; and William B. Ketter, editor of the Quincy (Mass.) Patriot Ledger, treasurer.

#### Meeting April 11, 1992

At the conclusion of the convention, the ASNE board met with the 1992-93 committee chairs. Those present were as follows.

#### Members attending:

Seymour Topping, New York Times Co., president  
 William Hilliard, Portland Oregonian, vice president  
 Gregory Favre, Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, secretary  
 William B. Ketter, Quincy (Mass.) Patriot Ledger, treasurer  
 N. Christian Anderson III, Orange County Register, Santa Ana, Calif.  
 Linda Grist Cunningham, Rockford (Ill.) Register Star  
 Albert E. Fitzpatrick, Knight-Ridder, Inc.  
 Robert H. Giles, Detroit News  
 Robert J. Haiman, The Poynter Institute, St. Petersburg, Fla.  
 Jane E. Healy, Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel  
 Al Johnson, Columbus (Ga.) Ledger-Enquirer  
 David Lawrence Jr., Miami Herald  
 Marcia A. McQuern, Riverside (Calif.) Press-Enterprise  
 Tim J. McGuire, Minneapolis Star Tribune  
 Acel Moore, Philadelphia Inquirer  
 Geneva Overholser, Des Moines (Iowa) Register  
 Sandra Mims Rowe, Norfolk (Va.) Virginian-Pilot and Ledger-Star  
 Edward Seaton, Manhattan (Kan.) Mercury

## Committee chairs:

Louis D. Boccardi, Associated Press  
 C. Shelby Coffey III, Los Angeles Times  
 Frank M. Denton, Wisconsin State Journal, Madison  
 Louis M. Heldman, Tallahassee (Fla.) Democrat  
 James P. Herman, Ottaway Newspapers  
 Beverly Kees, Fresno (Calif.) Bee  
 John Lee, New York Times  
 Ted M. Natt, Longview (Wash.) Daily News  
 Diane McFarlin, Sarasota (Fla.) Herald-Tribune  
 Pat Murphy, Paradise Valley, Ariz., retired  
 Peter Prichard, USA Today  
 Arnold Rosenfeld, Cox Newspapers  
 John M. Simpson, USA Today International  
 William F. Woo, St. Louis Post-Dispatch  
 David A. Zweifel, Madison (Wis.) Capital Times

## ASNE staff:

Lee Stinnett, executive director  
 Elise Burroughs, publications director  
 Neil Foote, minority affairs director

## Others:

Allan Adler, Cohn and Marks  
 Richard M. Schmidt Jr., Cohn and Marks, ASNE legal counsel

## Board members absent:

John S. Driscoll, Boston Globe  
 Ron Martin, Atlanta Journal and Constitution

These were the results of the board of directors election during the convention:

Elected to three-year terms were Sandra Mims Rowe, executive editor, Norfolk (Va.) Virginian-Pilot and Ledger-Star, 165 votes; Marcia A. McQuern, executive editor, Riverside (Calif.) Press-Enterprise, 146; Al Johnson, executive editor, Columbus (Ga.) Ledger-Enquirer, 144; Ron Martin, editor, Atlanta Journal and Constitution, 141; Robert J. Haiman, president, The Poynter Institute, St. Petersburg, Fla., 131.

Elected to a two-year term was Edward Seaton, editor-in-chief, Manhattan (Kan.) Mercury, 121. Elected to a one-year term was Tim J. McGuire, executive editor, Minneapolis Star Tribune, 119. Albert E. Fitzpatrick, assistant vice president of minority affairs, Knight-Ridder Inc., Miami, with 118 votes, was named to fill a one-year term created by the resignation of Jean Otto.

Other candidates for the election were Peter S. Prichard, editor, USA Today, 116; Craig Klugman, editor, Fort Wayne (Ind.) Journal-Gazette, 115; Larry Tarleton, executive editor, Charleston (S.C.) Post and Courier, 103; James P. Herman, associate director of newsroom services, Ottaway Newspapers, Campbell Hall, N.Y., 103; Jay Ambrose, executive editor, Rocky Mountain News, Denver, 93; Horacio Aguirre, editor, Diario Las Americas, Miami, 89.

There were 246 valid ballots cast, including 62 by absentee. Seven ballots were rejected as invalid. The election committee consisted of Thomas H. Greer, Cleveland Plain Dealer, chairman; Charles L. Cooper, Houston Post; Betty Wells Cox, Gary (Ind.) Post-Tribune; Henry M. Freeman, Wilmington (Del.) News-Journal; and Linda C. Lightfoot, Baton Rouge (La.) Morning Advocate.

The board approved the following banking resolution:

Resolved that Fidelity, Merrill Lynch, Scudder and Washington Bank are hereby designated as depositories for the funds of this Society and that the said banks are hereby authorized and directed to pay checks and other orders for the payment of money drawn in the name of this Society when signed by either Seymour Topping, president; William B. Ketter, treasurer; or Lee Stinnett, executive director. In addition, Washington Bank is authorized and directed to pay checks up to \$500 in the name of this Society when signed by Christine L. Schmitt. And that said banks shall not be required to make inquiry respecting the application of any instrument executed in virtue of this resolution or of the proceeds therefrom, nor be under any obligation to see to the application of such instrument or proceeds.

Mr. Topping noted that Mr. Favre will chair the membership review committee this year. Other committee members are Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Giles.

The ASNE president invited the committee chairs to outline their plans for the coming year.

Mr. Rosenfeld reported that the Convention Program Committee plans to schedule sessions at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, where he hopes the president will speak, and possibly the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Segments are also planned on health care and small newspapers. The committee will meet Oct. 14 in New York.

Ms. McFarlin reported that the Education for Journalism Committee will launch a rescue mission for high school journalism. A number of projects will encourage editors to get involved with their local schools. The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication has named four educators as official liaisons with ASNE.

She recommended the following resolution relating to Standard 12 of the accrediting procedures, which the board adopted:

Whereas the American Society of Newspaper Editors in 1978 set a goal that minority employment in newsrooms by the year 2000, or sooner, be equivalent to the percentage of minority persons within the national population;

And, whereas ASNE, through the commitment of its officers and members, through the activities of its committees and through the programs presented to its national conventions, has demonstrated its unwavering support for the ideals of the year 2000 goal;

And, whereas ASNE has long recognized that the most practical way to train minorities for careers in journalism is at the nation's schools and departments of journalism;

And, whereas ASNE wholeheartedly endorsed the creation of Standard 12 as a means by which the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications can measure the performance of journalism programs in the hiring and retention of minority students and faculty and, where appropriate, hold them accountable;

Therefore, be it resolved that ASNE endorses the strengthening of Standard 12 as proposed by the Accrediting Council in October 1991 and urges the Council to continue its unrelenting commitment to help bring all accredited journalism programs into compliance.

The Future of Newspapers Committee will review research on television and its effects on newspapers and also study ways to leverage the interest created by TV news, Mr. Heldman noted. The committee plans to do about one-dozen page-one prototypes. Mr. Topping urged the committee to include an emphasis on the strengths of newspapers. Mr. Heldman said the report will "be filled with self-esteem."

Mr. Woo said the Ethics Committee will undertake five projects, including newspapers' responses to pressure from advertisers, a study of the incidence of such pressure, a conference, videotape and

Bulletin articles. Special attention will be given to real estate and automotive sections.

Mr. Zweifel said the FOI Committee will conduct a comprehensive study of secrecy in the federal government.

Edward Seaton reported that the Human Resources Committee will do an analysis of crisis management, including buy-outs and layoffs stimulated by the recession. Also, the committee will assemble anecdotal evidence of the benefits of diversity in newsrooms. The committee plans to review personnel handbooks to see what they say about journalists' involvement in their communities, and a revision of the ASNE Newsroom Management Handbook will be published this summer.

Mr. Simpson, reporting for the International Communication Committee, proposed the following resolution, which the board adopted:

Whereas, the question of the `free press' is on the agenda of the spring 1992 Conference on Security and Cooperation Follow-up Meeting currently convened in Helsinki;

Whereas, the Charter for a Free Press articulates the principles of the free press as understood by this Society and expressed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution;

Whereas, the transition to a free press in Central and Eastern Europe and the nations of the former Soviet Union hangs in the balance;

Therefore, the board of directors of the American Society of Newspaper Editors resolves to:

- Request that the U.S. Secretary of State support the Charter for a Free Press.
- Urge the U.S. delegation at the 1992 CSCE meeting to support the introduction and the adoption of the charter.

He also conveyed the request of the committee that the board condemn the abuses against freedom of the press in Peru. The following resolution was adopted and sent to President Alberto K. Fujimori:

We strongly protest your imposition of censorship and the jailing of journalists. The Society was particularly shocked that armed soldiers were sent into the bureaus of international news organizations to harass and intimidate journalists and halt the free flow of information essential in a democratic society that is a member of the world community.

In view of the current political situation, it is essential that the public and the world be fully and impartially informed of what is going on. Only a free and unfettered press can do this.

We note that other groups dedicated to free expression, such as the Inter American Press Association, have `most vigorously' protested your actions. We call upon you to take immediate steps to ensure such gross violations cease immediately and are never repeated.

Plans are being developed for an ASNE study trip to South Africa, early in 1993. The estimated cost is \$5,000-\$6,000 per person. Responsibility for the committee's Russian initiatives will be assumed by Craig Klugman. The International Journalism Exchange this fall will concentrate on people at the directing editor level.

Mr. Denton reported that the Literacy Committee is proceeding with its study of aliteracy. The ASNE Foundation has funded \$5,000 toward the project, and the committee is halfway to its goal of raising \$20,000. The U.S. Department of Education may provide ASNE with an early look at its major study of illiteracy in America. The committee will continue to work with the Education Writers Association and with ANPA Foundation's literacy efforts.

The Membership Committee will concentrate on reaching out to people who have dropped out of ASNE due to financial constraints. The membership brochure will be revamped, Ms. Cunningham said. She indicated that her newspaper will reprint it.

In addition to managing ASNE's traditional programs, the Minorities Committee will pursue funding for the Minorities Advancement Program, according to Ms. Kees. Pam Johnson will be the liaison with The Bulletin, and a flying short course aimed at Hispanics is planned for the University of Texas-El Paso. At least eight job fairs will be held during the coming year, and there is interest in continuing the "flying short course" for colleges and universities with large minority student enrollments.

Mr. Natt announced he had resigned as chair of the Nominations Committee because he hopes to run for the board and Frank Caperton, Indianapolis Star, was named Nominations Chair.

According to Mr. Lee, the Press, Bar and Public Affairs Committee will continue a focus on press/military relations. Mr. Topping and Mr. Prichard will meet in April with officials of the National War College, in order to develop sessions for military leaders on press coverage of combat. Tim Gallagher, Albuquerque (N.M.) Tribune, will continue to round up editors for the Judicial College in Reno — and may ask ASNE to help pay for travel for editors from the East and Midwest. Mike McGough, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, is putting together a press segment at the judicial conference for the Third Circuit. The committee is also preparing a list of talking points to distribute to editors for use in their speeches and editorials on open meetings and open records. A suggestion was made that editors would be interested in a fact sheet as well as some of the philosophical points that can be made, and concern was expressed about sections of the document that might be taken out of context. Mr. Lee agreed to review the copy with the objective of making it sound less like an ASNE credo.

Mr. Coffey reported that the Readership Committee is planning a number of projects, including a survey of newspapers to learn their best practices in explaining issues and setting agendas for their communities. A number of newspaper prototypes will be developed. The committee also plans cooperative ventures with the Times-Mirror polling group assessing people's attitudes.

Ms. Cunningham noted that at the reception for women members of ASNE interest was expressed in information on what newspapers can do to attract more women readers.

The Resolutions Committee will serve as a public affairs arm for ASNE, getting editors' opinions on important issues into the public eye and giving the Society a higher profile, according to Mr. Prichard. There was discussion of changing the name of the group to Communications Committee. The matter was left to the discretion of Mr. Topping and Mr. Prichard.

The Retired Members Committee plans to survey retired members on their interests and channel their energies into the standing committees, according to Mr. Murphy.

Mr. Herman said the Small Newspapers Committee is planning a convention segment. He hopes it will be in the main part of the program, rather than an early-bird workshop.

Mr. Boccardi, on behalf of the Writing Awards Board, made two proposals which were adopted by the ASNE directors. The requirement that writers be full-time staff members to enter the competition was changed so that regular, part-time (as opposed to free lance) newspaper employees may be entered. The award in the rotating category for work done in 1992 will be headline writing.

Mr. Topping noted that the Council of Presidents of News-editorial Organizations met earlier during the week and that efforts are being made to coordinate the work of similar associations in the interest of greater efficiency and impact. He urged the ASNE committee chairs to work closely with

similar APME committees.

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned.

William Hilliard, Secretary