

**Jim Stasiowski** is the writing coach for Dolan Media Co., which operates dozens of U.S. newspapers, dailies and weeklies, specializing in business, legal and government coverage. He was a reporter and columnist for The Breeze newspaper of Cape Coral, FL, from 1976 to 1982, and a reporter and columnist for The Columbian newspaper of Vancouver, WA, from 1982 to 1989. He has been a writing coach since 1989.

**Jackie L. Thompson** is a third generation publisher from one of the largest weekly newspapers in North Dakota. Her grandfather bought The Walsh County Record in 1923 and was publisher until 1959. Then her father was publisher until the mid 1980s, when Jackie was named publisher. Jackie's grandfather was president of the North Dakota Newspaper Association in 1922 as was her father in 1971. Jackie was elected president in April of 2000.

**Jerry Tidwell** has been publisher of the Hood County News in Granbury, TX, for 30 years. He is a past president of the National Newspaper Association, the Texas Press Association, the Texas Newspaper Foundation, North and East Press Association, Lake Granbury Chamber of Commerce and Granbury Kiwanis Club. He is currently chairman of Lake Granbury Medical Center board of directors. He is a member of the Texas Newspaper Foundation Hall of Fame.

**Greg Tock** has worked for two different newspaper groups during his 33 years in the business. He started out in the late 70s working at Star Newspapers in central Illinois. He worked for 16 of those years with his parents at their flagship office in Dwight, before leaving for the mountains of Arizona. Tock went to work for Kramer Publications as the publisher of the White Mountain Independent. During his tenure at White Mountain Publishing Co. he served on the board of directors at both the Arizona Newspapers Association and NNA.

**Gloria Trotter** is editor and publisher of The Tecumseh (OK) Countywide & Sun. Statewide, she is a board member and past president of Freedom of Information Oklahoma and president of the Oklahoma Press Association. Trotter has won numerous statewide writing awards, and the newspaper, which she and her husband, Wayne, purchased in 1983, has won the OPA Better Newspaper Sweepstakes Award 10 times in the past 25 years..

**Maureen Vander Sanden** is a community editor for Southern Lakes Newspapers in Wisconsin, where she oversees the production of three small weekly community newspapers in Walworth County. One of her papers, Elkhorn Independent, won a General Excellence award in the Wisconsin Newspaper Association competition in 2008 and 2009.

**Margaret Walter** joined the faculty at the University of Missouri Columbia in the fall of 2003. She is an associate professor and teaches newspaper editing courses. She also is a night news editor at the Missourian. Before that she was a features editor, Sunday editor, business editor, wire editor and government and business reporter at various newspapers in Maine, New Hampshire and Indiana.

**Shayna Watson** has been lead reporter with The Central Virginian since February 2008. She covers news and events throughout Fluvanna and Louisa counties as well as production of the community paper.

**Amy Wilson** is the former publisher of the St. James (MO) Leader-Journal (GateHouse Media). Her journalism career has spanned more than 12 years. She is currently the senior training and development specialist at Phelps County (MO) Regional Medical Center.

**Angela Wilson**, a former journalist, is an author, freelance writer and Web producer for Learfield InterAction, a division of Learfield Communications.

# Thank You

# Judges



## NNA thanks the following individuals for their time and talent in judging the 2010 Better Newspaper Contest, Better Newspaper Advertising Contest & Best of Newspaper In Education

**Les Anderson** is an associate professor of communication at Wichita State University, where he has taught writing and editing courses for 33 years. Anderson owned and operated an award-winning weekly newspaper in Valley Center, KS, for 28 years. He and his wife sold the newspaper to one of his former students, but he continues to write a weekly column for the paper. In addition, Anderson is a former president of the Kansas Press Association.

**Reed Anfinson** is treasurer and former Region 6 director of the National Newspaper Association. He is a past president of the Minnesota Newspaper Association and served on its board of directors for nine years. Anfinson is serving as vice president of the Minnesota News Council, the half-public half-media organization that hears complaints against the news media.

**David Arkin** is the executive director of the News & Interactive Division for GateHouse Media. He oversees all content direction for GateHouse Media newsrooms and runs the company's newsroom (print and online) incubator, development and training programs. Arkin has served as the top editor of four daily newspapers, including The Huntsville (TX) Item, The Porterville Recorder (CA), The Cullman Times (AL) and Greater Niagara Newspapers in New York.

**Roger Bailey** has been executive director of the North Dakota Newspaper Association since 2000. Before that, he was the editor and publisher of a North Dakota weekly newspaper for 24 years. His newspaper won a Best of States Award in NNA's Best of States competition.

**Jamie Baker-Nantz** has been editor of the Grant County News in Williamstown, KY, for 20 years. She is the co-chair of the Grant County Relay For Life and a 4-H photography leader. She has received numerous Kentucky Press Association and inter-company awards for writing, design and photography.

**Jerry Bellune** founded his newspaper, the Lexington County (SC) Chronicle, with his wife and son. He and his wife, MacLeod, have operated three award-winning community newspapers.

**Joni Berg** has more than 30 years of experience in newsrooms. She is currently employed as a graphic designer. Berg has worked as a reporter, editor, graphics artist, Visuals Editor and Art Director. Among her former employers: Affinity Media

Group, Maple Grove, MN; Southwest Suburban Publishing, Shakopee, MN; the Gainesville Sun, Gainesville, FL; the St. Cloud Times, St. Cloud, MN. She creates and designs pages, ads, news information graphics, maps and special sections for newspapers (for print or online) across the country in her freelance work. She is an adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota School of Journalism teaching a course on community journalism.

**Dave Berry** publisher/vice president of Neighbor Newspapers, the newspaper division of Community Publishers Inc., oversees eight community newspapers surrounding Springfield, MO. He is a past president of the Missouri Press Association and past Region 7 director of NNA.

**Wayne Braverman** is managing editor and internship coordinator at GateHouse Media's Metro unit. Braverman has been in the newspaper business for 31 years, winning numerous awards at the local, regional and national levels for his work in news and sports. Braverman also spent five years in the Internet world, including teaching Web building and directing an outreach program through the Boston Herald/Community Newspaper Company's Town Online.

**Bob Buckel** has been publisher of the Azle News and the Springtown Epigraph, two weekly newspapers about 10 miles apart in north Texas, just west of Fort Worth, since 1987. He has earned numerous state and national awards for column and editorial writing. His newspapers have won five Sweepstakes awards in the Texas Press Association's Better Newspaper Contests.

**Sheri Bury** is the composing director/graphic designer Thermopolis Independent (WY) Record. She has worked for the paper for 33 years. She has won awards for advertising design consistently throughout her years from the Wyoming Press Association. She played a major role in the Independent Record being awarded Overall Excellence for small weekly newspapers and winning advertising general excellence, typography general excellence awards consistently through the years. She wears many hats at the weekly.

**Mark K. Campbell** has been the sports editor for the Azle News and Springtown Epigraph in Texas since 1992. He has won scores of regional, state, and national awards, including two plaques for columns from the NNA in 2006.

**Donna Carman** joined the staff of The Casey County News in 1981 as a typesetter and circulation manager. She also held positions as the Newspaper In Education coordinator, staff writer and photographer before being named editor in 1998. She was named general manager in July 2008 and currently serves as editor/general manager. Carman has won numerous writing, design and photography awards from the Kentucky Press Association and the paper's parent company, Landmark Community Newspapers Inc.

**Rick Carpenter** is currently the District F executive director of the American Cancer Society, covering a territory across the southern part of Idaho and the far eastern area of Oregon. Carpenter had been vice president and publisher of the Idaho Business Review. He is the former editor and publisher of The La Veta (CO) Signature, where his newspaper won Colorado's top newspaper award, General Excellence, four years in a row from 1994 through 1997.

**Rusty Carter** has been a journalist for nearly 25 years, spending the last two decades at one of the nation's oldest newspapers, The Virginia Gazette in Williamsburg, VA. Carter went to Williamsburg in 1987 as the Gazette's sports editor. In 1996 he moved up to deputy editor, and in January 2004, was promoted to editor, where he directs the Gazette's award-winning news coverage. Carter has won nearly 50 Virginia Press Association and NNA awards.

**Rebecca Cassell** is editor of the Central Kentucky News-Journal in Campbellsville, KY. Cassell began her newspaper career 24 years ago as a receptionist at the News-Journal. She was promoted to news editor in March 2004 and to her current position in November 2004.

**Michael Daugherty** is currently the webmaster for Missouri Press Association. He also coordinates the Online Ad Network, the Big 12 Football Weekly and helps with the Better Newspaper Contest. Before coming to work for MPA, he was the editor of the Monroe County Appeal.

**Charles N. Davis** serves as executive director of the National Freedom of Information Coalition at the University of Missouri School of Journalism and is an associate professor in the News-Editorial Department. Davis teaches Controls of Information; Journalism and Democracy, a capstone graduate course for news-editorial students; and



### 2009-2010 Contests & Awards Committee

Jeff Farren

Chair, Contests and Awards Committee

President/Publisher, Kendall County Record-Newspapers Inc., Yorkville, IL

Larry See, Jr., Meade County Messenger, Brandenburg, KY

Greg Dorazio, The Central Virginian, Louisa, VA

Dodie Hook, The Akron (IA) Hometown

Amy Wilson, Phelps County Regional Medical Center, Rolla, MO

Karen Mitchell, Missouri School of Journalism, Columbia, MO

Carmel Perez Snyder, St. Petersburg, FL

the school's introductory course, Principles of American Journalism. Davis worked at newspapers, magazines and a news service in Georgia, Florida and Ireland for nearly 10 years as a journalist after his graduation from North Georgia College..

**Ron DeBrock** is night editor for The Dispatch in Moline, IL, and The Rock Island Argus. A reporter and editor for more than 30 years, his career has included editing, news writing and sports writing for award-winning daily and nondaily newspapers in Illinois and Arkansas. For 10 years, he also was communications director for the Illinois Press Association.

**Sharon DiMauro** started her newspaper career in 1981, working at the local weeklies The Fort Bragg Advocate-News and The Mendocino (CA) Beacon in the composing room. Donrey bought the papers in 1984, soon after she began working in the advertising department. She became ad manager, and in 1989, she was appointed operations manager and in 1993, publisher. She is currently serving on NNA's board of directors, representing Region 11.

**Greg Dorazio** is the editor of The Central Virginian, a weekly community paper based in Louisa, Virginia.

**D. Reed Eckhardt** is the executive editor of the Wyoming Tribune Eagle, where he has worked since 1999. He also was managing editor in Monroe, LA, and Gallup, NM, and served as editorial page editor in Alexandria, LA. He has won numerous editorial writing and editorial page awards. His paper was named NNA's general excellence winner for large dailies in 2008 and 2009.

**Laurie Ezzell Brown** is editor and publisher of The Canadian (TX) Record, a position she assumed upon the January 1993 death of her father, veteran journalist Ben R. Ezzell. In the 17 years of her tenure, The Record has been a consistent winner of top regional and state press awards, including four Texas Press Association Sweepstakes Awards, and numerous Panhandle Press Association General Excellence and Community Service Awards.

**Kathy (Seneker) Fairchild** has been in the newspaper business for more than 30 years. She is co-owner of the (Mt. Vernon) Lawrence County Record, where she has served as editor and co-publisher for the past 24 years. She has won numerous awards for writing and editing, including a first place in NNA for best feature story and won the sweepstakes award for total points in an annual Missouri Press Women competition.

**Kent Ford** is the editor for the Missouri Press Association, a position he's held since 1989. He has experience as a daily newspaper reporter, daily newspaper city editor and owner/editor/publisher of a community weekly in Northwest Missouri. Ford has assisted often with judging of the NNA contest and with other state association contests.

**Chris Geinosky** has been the sports editor for the last eight years of the award-winning Kearney (MO) Courier. He is also assistant sports editor for the Sun Tribune newspapers in North Kansas City. He spent short stints with the Dispatch-Tribune in North Kansas City and Smithville (MO) Herald, before that.

**David Green** is the third generation of his family to publish the Observer in Morenci, MI. He studied psychology at Michigan State University and after a period of serving as a bum, returned to earn a K-8 teaching degree, which he never used. He decided to take his turn running the paper because he knew

his brothers and sisters would never do it. That was 1,924 issues ago. He and his wife, Colleen Leddy, produce each weekly issue with a minimum strain on their relationship. David serves as chair of the Michigan Press Association contest rules committee.

**Jim Hamilton** is a senior writer for Neighbor Newspapers, Inc., publisher of eight community newspapers surrounding Springfield, MO. He covers agricultural events and issues, pens a weekly column and edits a quarterly rural living section for five publications. Hamilton is a graduate of Missouri State University and was editor of the Buffalo (MO) Reflex for 24 years. He has previously won NNA awards as a columnist and for agricultural coverage and is the recipient of multiple awards in the Missouri Better Newspaper Contest.

**Hank Hargrave** is the owner and publisher of The Normangee (TX) Star. He is a 1987 graduate of Sam Houston State University, and has also worked for the Sanger (TX) Courier, the McKinney (TX) Courier-Gazette, The Madisonville (TX) Meteor and The Examiner in Navasota, TX. He is a regional, state and national (NNA) award-winning writer and photographer.

**Nancy Hastings** is the editor and publisher, along with her husband Frederick, of the Downeast Coastal Press in Cutler, ME, coastal Washington County's largest-selling weekly newspaper. She and her husband have been reporting the news from the rural coast of Maine for more than 20 years.

**Edward F. Henninger** has been an independent newspaper consultant since 1989 and is the director of Henninger Consulting in Rock Hill, SC. The focus of Ed's work is on small dailies and weekly newspapers. His column on newspaper design appears regularly in Publishers' Auxiliary.

**Harry L. Hix Jr.** is retired from the University of Oklahoma, where he was the Engleman/Livermore professor of Community Journalism. During the first three years of retirement, he was a visiting professor of journalism at Oklahoma State University, teaching the reporting class. In addition to experience as a reporter and photographer, he has been managing editor of a 13,000-circulation daily newspaper and publisher for 16 years of an award-winning weekly newspaper.

**Dodie Hook** is owner/publisher of The Akron (IA) Hometowneer. She and her husband, Joe, began the newspaper in December 2001 and then bought out the competing newspaper, The Akron Register-Tribune, in June 2005, combining the two papers. She has been in the newspaper business for more than 25 years serving in various areas of the business. Currently, she serves on the Iowa Newspaper Foundation board of directors.

**Terri House** has been publisher of The Pagosa Springs (CO) SUN since 2003. Before that, she served in various positions in the advertising department of The SUN, beginning in 1982. Among other advertising awards over the years, House received the Colorado Press Association Best of Show award for advertising in 1996.

**Richard Jackoway** has been editor of Missouri Lawyers Media's weekly and daily newspapers since 2006. Before that he was metro editor of the Springfield (MO) News-Leader and the San Luis Obispo (CA) Tribune. His Missouri Lawyers Weekly newspaper won an NNA General Excellence award in 2009 and the Missouri Press Foundation Gold Cup in 2008.

**Bill Jacobs** is the president and owner of two publishing companies, which own newspapers and other publications serving a seven-county area in Southwest Mississippi. He is currently a director of the Mississippi Center for Freedom of Information. In 1992, he served as president of the Mississippi Press Association, and past president of the MPA Education Foundation. He is a past state chairman for NNA and is currently serving as NNA's Region 4 director.

**Jerry Jordan** is the news editor and lead investigative reporter for The Examiner Newspaper in Beaumont, TX, where he has worked since 1996. Before his employment at The Examiner, Jordan was a reporter/videographer for a local TV station and a writer for a national billiards magazine. At 17, he became a stringer for United Press International. Jordan has won multiple awards from NNA, including first place honors for investigative reporting, best breaking news coverage, best educational/literacy story and best business reporting.

**Gale Kaas** is the publisher of the Frazee-Vergas (ND) Forum, an independently-owned weekly newspaper in the heart of the lakes country of Minnesota. She worked on weekly newspapers in Beach, Medora, Garrison, Parshall and New Town, all in North Dakota, and was an advertising director for a twice-weekly publication and shopper in Wasilla, AK, before purchasing the Frazee Forum in 1995 with her husband, Delair. The newspaper has won several first-place state newspaper awards.

**William A. Klutts** has published and edited weekly newspapers for 60 years, served as regional correspondent for three metropolitan dailies and been nominated, by the editor of another metropolitan daily, for a Pulitzer Prize. His newspapers have won a record number of contest awards from his state newspaper association.

**Mary H. Lawrence** is a freelance writer and editor who lives in southeastern Ohio. Most recently, she taught copy editing at the University of Missouri School of Journalism and worked as a news editor at the Missourian. She was an award-winning editorial writer and columnist for The Indianapolis News before moving to Europe to work on the copy desk of The Stars and Stripes and then The Wall Street Journal Europe.

**R. George Le Masurier** is president and publisher of The Olympian, a McClatchy newspaper in Olympia, WA. He also oversees three weekly newspapers, The Peninsula Gateway in Gig Harbor, The Herald in Puyallup and the Northwest Guardian at Fort Lewis. He began his journalism career at his father's newspaper in a rural Minnesota town, which is being operated today by a fifth generation of the family. He was a founding member of the B.C. Press Council and of a steering committee that laid the groundwork for a four-year journalism degree program in British Columbia.

**Paul Lopes** has been editor and publisher of The Wanderer newspaper in South East Massachusetts for 17 years.

**Christine Lupella** is managing and special sections editor for Southern Lakes Newspapers LLC, based in Burlington, WI., where she also edits two weekly newspapers, the Muskego Chronicle and the Franklin/Hales Corners Citizen. Previously she edited the Westine Report (Union Grove, WI) and the Waterford Post (Waterford, WI). The Post received numerous state newspaper awards for General Excellence, local news coverage, design and more under her leadership. She created and currently

edits Panache, a quarterly women's magazine, which received first place honors from the Wisconsin Newspaper Association. Before moving to Wisconsin, she was editor of the Pine River (MN) Journal, for seven years. That paper also received numerous state and several NNA BNC awards.

**Bonnie Miller** has been the publisher of the Intermountain Commercial Record/Salt Lake Times since 1978. Miller served as president of the American Court and Commercial Newspapers and as an NNA board member.

**Karen Mitchell** worked for 25 years in photojournalism before joining the convergence journalism faculty at the University of Missouri in January 2008. A native of Des Moines, IA, Mitchell worked as a photojournalist at the Des Moines Register and Gannett Rochester Newspapers in Rochester, NY.

**Wanda Moeller** has been the publisher of the Hibbing (MN) Daily Tribune since 2005. Before that she was the publisher of a community weekly in Hayward, WI, where her newspaper won the Freedom of Information and Most Improved Newspaper awards in the state press competitions in 2004 and 2003 respectively. Moeller has won numerous news writing, photography, advertising and newspaper design awards from the Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa press associations as well.

**Bob Mudge** is the editor of the Venice (FL) Gondolier Sun. Before becoming editor in 2002, he was the paper's city reporter for 15 months, and before that he was the business and South Venice editor as well as a general assignment reporter. He has won numerous state and national awards for his work, and the Gondolier Sun has been named the best weekly in its circulation class 10 out of the last 11 years by the Florida Press Association.

**John Nelson** is the advertising sales manager for The Villages Media Group in central Florida. Nelson has almost three decades of media sales and marketing management experience with newspapers in California, Wisconsin, Kansas and Missouri.

**Bill Ostendorf**, president and founder of Creative Circle Media Solutions, has led the redesign of more than 400 newspapers and magazines along with more than 100 web sites. He has consulted with hundreds of media companies on three continents and has been a speaker at nearly 500 industry seminars on a wide range of topics, from making money on the web to improving headlines and photo content. Frustrated with the poor software available to his clients, Bill started a software arm dedicated to improving newspaper web sites in 2004. Creative Circle now hosts dozens of successful newspaper, niche and classified sites and offers a wide range of innovative software platforms. Bill spent 13 years at The Providence Journal, where he served as managing editor for visuals and new product development. He also worked in a variety of editing roles for papers ranging from The Plain Dealer in Cleveland to the Ogden (Utah) Standard-Examiner.

**Melissa Perner** has been editor and publisher of The Ozona (TX) Stockman since 2004. Before that, she was a reporter with the San Angelo Standard-Times in San Angelo, TX, for five years. Her newspaper won its first NNA awards in 2009, is a multiple-winner of the Texas Press Association Better Newspaper Contest and received the Sweepstakes award in the 2009 West Texas Press Association Better Newspaper Contest.

**Jennifer Plourde** has worked for the Missouri Press Association for more than ten years as the SCAN/2x2 Coordinator and serves as backup for placing national advertising. She also has 10 years experience working at the Monroe City (MO) News in various positions from typesetting, page layout, bookkeeping and selling ads for the Monroe City and Mark Twain Regional News (Shopper). She attended the University of Missouri from 1981–1986.

**Steve Ranson** has been editor for the Lahontan Valley News, a major newspaper in west-central Nevada, since March 2008. Before that, he was the sports editor for the newspaper. He also served as an educator in the local school district and taught journalism at the community college. In 2007, he won two first-place awards in NNA's Better Newspaper Contest and three awards - including first place for editorial writing in 2009.

**Jerry L. Reppert** is owner of Reppert Publications, which operates several weekly newspapers in Southern Illinois. He is a past president of the National Newspaper Association. Reppert is past president of the Southern Illinois Editorial Association and the Illinois Press Association. He is a graduate of the School of Journalism at Kansas State University.

**Marc A. Richard** is vice president/operations manager of Fackelman Newspapers Group in Panama City, FL. He served as editor and general manager of the Ruston (LA) Daily Leader, from 1986-1988. Richard has received awards for Best News Photo and Best Personal Column from The Associated Press, and served as publisher of the Jennings (LA) Daily News from 1988 to 1996. Among other activities, Richard served as Louisiana Press Association director of the board for three years.

**Roy Robinson** has been vice president of Graham Newspapers Inc., the Texas subsidiary of MediaNews Group, since 1998. He oversees 12 community newspapers, a regional shopper, a central printing plant and four radio stations in North Central Texas. He is a lifetime newspaperman who grew up in the backshop of his father's daily newspaper in northwest Kansas. He is a past president of the Colorado Press Association and the Texas Press Association and a member of the Texas Newspaper Foundation Board of Directors.

**Vicki Russell** is associate publisher of the Columbia (MO) Daily Tribune and the 2009 president of the Missouri Press Association. She was a founding board member and first president of the Missouri Society of Newspapers Editors.

**Brent Schacherer** has been editor and general manager of the Litchfield (MN) Independent Review since 1999. The Independent Review has won the General Excellence award for its circulation category seven of the last eight years in the Minnesota Newspaper Association's Better Newspaper Contest. The Independent Review also claimed the the Mills Trophy, given annually to Minnesota's Outstanding Weekly Newspaper, in 2003.

**C. Dennis Schick** retired in July 2004 after 25 years as executive director of the Arkansas Press Association. Before that position, he taught journalism, advertising and public relations for 15 years at the University of Texas, Oklahoma State University, Southern Illinois University and Texas Christian University.

**Larry See Jr.** is currently a reorter/photographer for the Meade County Messenger in Brandenburg, KY. He previously served as the general manager/editor for the Antrim County News in Bellaire, MI, a Journal Register newspaper.

**Jeri Seely** is now editor-in-chief at The Papers Inc. in Milford, IN, and had been editor since the late 1970s. She currently oversees eight weekly and monthly newspapers and works with 11 additional publications. She has been a staff member of The Papers for 47 years. She has received the national American Legion Auxiliary's Best Local Editorial in the interest of youth award.

**Carol A. Sisco** has worked for The Pawnee Republican in Pawnee City, NE, since 1992. Sisco spent three years as news editor before being named editor in July 2005. The Pawnee Republican has been an award winning newspaper in the state press competition since 1996.

**Russel Skiles** graduated from Angelo State University in San Angelo, TX, in 1979 with a degree in journalism, started work as reporter/photographer for the Lamesa Press-Reporter in 1980 and became news editor the following year. He was named publisher in 1991 and took over as president of both the Lamesa Press-Reporter and its companion printing company, South Plains Printing, in January 2004.

**Carmel Perez Snyder** is a native of Texas. She worked as a sports reporter before moving into the political beat at state capitals in Missouri and Oklahoma. She also had been the managing editor of the Mid-Missouri Business Journal. She is currently a media consultant and freelance writer in St. Petersburg, FL.

**Devon Hubbard Sorlie** is an assistant editor for the Suburban Team Bureau (Chesapeake and Suffolk) of The Virginian-Pilot, part of Landmark Media Enterprises LLC (formerly Landmark Communications, Inc.) in Norfolk, VA. She is also editor of the twice-weekly Chesapeake Clipper, one of five regionalized community tabloids zoned into The Pilot. Before that, she was managing editor of Military Newspapers of Virginia, a subsidiary of Virginian-Pilot Media Companies. Her first job in the newspaper business 36 years ago was a proofreader with the Elizabethtown (KY) News-Enterprise. Sorlie was the former owner, publisher and editor of the weekly High Country Independent Press in Belgrade, MT, where she was the Region 9 director for NNA before moving to Virginia.

**Gary Sosniecki** of Le Claire, IA, is general manager of creative services and a regional sales manager specializing in weekly newspapers for TownNews.com of Moline, IL. He and wife, Helen, owned three weekly newspapers and published a small daily in Missouri during a 34-year career in which they and their staffs earned nearly 300 awards for journalism excellence, including the 1998 NNA Community Development Award. Gary is a past president of the Missouri Press Association.

**Helen Sosniecki** of Le Claire, IA, is senior sales and marketing manager for Interlink of Berrien Springs, MI. She and husband, Gary, owned three weekly newspapers and published a small daily in Missouri during a 34-year career in which they and their staffs earned nearly 300 awards for journalism excellence, including the 1998 NNA Community Development Award. Helen is a past president of the Ozark Press Association and a former NNA state representative for Missouri.