

pers in Southern Illinois. He is a past president of the National Newspaper Association. Rupert 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. He has also served as Louisiana Press Association director of the board for three years.

**Roy Robinson** has been vice president of Graham Newspapers Inc., a subsidiary of MediaNews Group in Texas, 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 back shop 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.

**Brent Schacherer** has been editor and general manager of the Litchfield (MN) Independent Review since 1999. The Independent Review has been recognized as General Excellence winner in its circulation category in the Minnesota Newspaper Association's Better Newspaper Contest. The Independent Review also claimed the Mills Trophy, given annually to Minnesota's Outstanding Weekly Newspaper, in 2003, and was a General Excellence winner in NNA's Better Newspaper Contest in 2007. Schacherer has served on the Minnesota Newspaper Association's Journalism Education Committee for five years.

**C. Dennis Schick** retired in July 2004 after 25 years as executive director of the Arkansas Press Association. Before then, 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 reporter and photographer for the Meade County Messenger in Brandenburg, KY. He previously served as the general manager/editor for the Antrim County News in Belaire, MI, a Journal Register newspaper.

**Jeri Seely** is 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 49 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.

**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 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. Sorlie was the former owner, publisher and editor of the weekly High Country Independent Press in Belgrade, MT, where she had been the Region 9 director for NNA before moving to Virginia.

**Gary & Helen Sosniecki** of Le Claire, IA, 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 general manager of creative services and a regional sales manager specializing in weekly newspapers for TownNews.com of Moline, IL. He is a past president of the Missouri Press Association and currently serves on the board of the International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors. Helen is senior sales and marketing manager for Interlink of Berrien Springs, MI. Helen is a past president of the Ozark Press Association and a former NNA state representative for Missouri.

**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 was elected president of the North Dakota Newspaper Association in April 2000.

**Greg Tock** has worked for two different newspaper groups during his 35 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.

**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.

**Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia** is the editor of the Warrensburg Daily Star-Journal in Johnson County, MO. Before coming to the Kansas City area, he served as executive editor in Illinois for East Side Publications, a division of the Suburban Journals of Greater St. Louis. He is a Suburban Newspapers of America Journalist of the Year (1995), and SNA Editor of the Year 2007. During a 30-year career, he has amassed more than 90 first-place regional, state and national awards.

**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 ColumbiaMissourian.com and at the Missouriian. 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.

**Cesca Janece Waterfield** is an accomplished journalist, editor and media professional with seven years in traditional and non-traditional media, strategy and planning, Web development and website content. She is editor of a weekly newspaper in Richmond, VA, distributed by the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

**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.

# Thank You Judges

## NNA thanks the following individuals for their time and talent in judging the 2011 Better Newspaper Contest & Better Newspaper Advertising Contest

**Anne W. Anderson** has written for The St. Petersburg Times, Tampa Bay Newspapers, and The Anniston (AL) Star, among others, as a general assignment correspondent, feature writer, and review columnist. She earned her M.A. as a Knight Foundation Fellow in Community Journalism at the University of Alabama where she studied the relationship between news organizations and children in the communities they serve. Anne currently is a doctoral student and instructor at the University of South Florida, Tampa. She also is an author of children's magazine stories and of *Insiders' Guide to the Greater Tampa Bay Area*, published by Globe Pequot Press.

**Les Anderson** is a 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.

**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 publisher and editor of a North Dakota weekly newspaper for 24 years.

**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 a graphic designer. Berg has worked as a reporter, editor, graphics artist, visuals editor and art director. She creates and designs pages, ads, news information graphics, maps and special sections for newspapers (for print and online) in her freelance work. She is an adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota School of Journalism teaching a course on community journalism.

**Brenda Johnson Brandt** is publisher of The Holyoke (CO) Enterprise and co-owner of Johnson Publications Inc., which includes the Enterprise, as well as three Nebraska newspapers, The Imperial Republican, Grant Tribune-Sentinel and Wauneta Breeze. She has been at the Enterprise since 1979, serving first as news editor, then managing editor and publisher (including advertising manager). Before that she taught journalism and geometry at Aurora (NE) High School for two years.

**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.

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

**Rusty Carter** has been a journalist for more than 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 25 years ago at the News-Journal. She was promoted to news editor in March 2004 and to her current position in November 2004.

**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 (CA) 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.

**Jim Dyke** is the editorial cartoonist and art director for the News Tribune in Jefferson City, MO, where he has worked since 1991. He has a bachelor of science degree in commercial art from Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, MO. Jim is also a caricature artist and the owner of Cottonstone Gallery and Frame Shop in Jefferson City, MO.

**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 and small dailies in 2010.

**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 18 years of her tenure, The Record has been a consistent winner of top regional and state press awards for Sweepstakes, General Excellence and Community Service. As publishers of the Record, The Ezzell Family was the recipient of the 2007 Gish Award for courage, tenacity and integrity in rural community journalism.

**Kathy (Seneker) Fairchild** has been in the newspaper business for more than 30 years. She is co-owner of the Lawrence County Record in Mt. Vernon, MO, 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 Liberty Tribune (reigning Mo-Press general excellence award winner) this past

year. Before that, he spent 10 years at the award-winning Kearney (MO) Courier and was 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.

**Jennifer Greer** is chair of the Department of Journalism at the University of Alabama. She worked as a city government reporter, business reporter, special projects reporter and online managing editor at several newspapers before earning a doctorate from the University of Florida in 1996. She teaches news writing and reporting as well as introductory journalism classes in addition to graduate courses in research methods and media effects.

**Jeff Grimes** has been general manager of the Centralia (MO) Fireside Guard since 2007. Before that, he worked for the Missouri Press Association, served three additional years at the Fireside Guard as editor and worked for the New Braunfels Herald Zeitung and the Houston Post in various capacities. He also worked in the radio and TV industry for 12 years. He has won numerous awards in Missouri and Texas for his reporting.

**Jim Hamilton** is a senior writer for Neighbor Newspapers Inc., publisher of eight community newspapers surrounding Springfield, MO. 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.

**Doug Hanneman** has been editor of the Hutchinson (MN) Leader since 2001. He started his career in newspapers more than 30 years ago when he helped launch a monthly newspaper for older adults in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area. During his time as editor, the Hutchinson Leader has won more than 100 awards for its news coverage, including more than a dozen General Excellence awards at the state and national levels.

**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.

**John N. Harvey III** has been sports editor at The Virginia Gazette in Williamsburg, VA, since 2002. He covers four public high schools, three private high schools and the College of William & Mary, as well as a plethora of recreation sports. He has also served as sports

editor at the Page News & Courier in Luray, VA, as well as an assistant sports editor at the Potomac News and Manassas Journal Messenger. Harvey is a graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University with a degree in broadcasting. He has won numerous Virginia Press Association awards in writing, page design, headline writing and photography.

**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.

**Cynthia Haynes** is a registered pharmacist and a graduate of the University of Kansas. Haynes started in newspapers in 1980, when she and her husband, Steve, bought their first paper, The Mineral County Miner in Creede, CO. During the last 28 years she has learned to write, take pictures, sell advertising, make up pages and do the books for the newspaper. Haynes has been active in the Kansas Press Association, Colorado Press Association and National Newspaper Association. She has won many state and national awards for writing and photography. She is now publisher of The Oberlin Herald and co-owner and chief financial officer of Haynes Publishing, which publishes three weekly, two twice weekly and one daily paper in Northwest Kansas.

**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 his work is on small dailies and weekly newspapers. His column on newspaper design appears regularly in Publishers' Auxiliary.

**Katherine E. Hill** is the associate publisher and editor of The (Tahoe-Truckee) Weekly in the Lake Tahoe area. She was a columnist for Publisher's Auxiliary and managing editor of The Enterprise-Journal in McComb, MS. She also served as editor in chief of The Tahoe World in Tahoe City, CA.

**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 daily newspaper and publisher for 16 years of an award-winning weekly newspaper.

**Dodie Hook** is owner and publisher of The Akron (IA) Hometown. 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 almost 30 years serving in various areas of the business. Her newspaper won General Excellence in its category at the 2011 Iowa Newspaper Association Convention. Currently, Dodie serves on the Iowa Newspaper Foundation board of directors.

**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 managing editor 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 state and national newspaper awards.

**William A. Klutts**, after university years working in the Chicago bureau of The Associated Press, has published and edited weekly newspapers for 61 years; served as regional correspondent for three metropolitan dailies; and been nominated, by the editor of another metropolitan daily, for a Pulitzer Prize. His flagship weekly has won 25 state press awards, including a best single editorial award in 2010.

**Connie Korbel** is the editor of two Northern California weeklies, the Fort Bragg (CA) Advocate-News and The Mendocino (CA) Beacon. Korbel began her tenure at these newspapers in early 1999, primarily as the government reporter. She became the backup editor in 2004 and assumed her current position in January. She was the editor of The Santa Barbaran magazine in the early 1980s until she launched Korbel Enterprises,

a successful consulting firm in Santa Barbara, CA. from 1983 through 1996, and later the editor of a Mendocino A&E magazine.

**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 Missouriian. 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.

**Richard LeComte** worked for 11 years as a newspaper editor in the features department at the Reno Gazette-Journal in Nevada. Before that, he worked as a reporter and editor at newspapers in Missouri, Kansas and Florida. He now works as a communications specialist at the University of Alabama. He was born and raised on Long Island, earned a bachelor's degree in English from Wesleyan University in Connecticut and studied journalism at the University of Missouri.

**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 British Columbia Press Council and of a steering committee that laid the groundwork for a four-year journalism degree program in British Columbia.

**Ryan Lewis** is the editor of the weekly Allegan County News, where he got his start as a reporter in 2002. He is a 1998 graduate of Albion College. The Allegan County News won a first-place prize in General Excellence in the 2010 National Newspaper Association Better Newspaper Contest and helped the paper place well in general excellence and design categories in the 2009 Michigan Press Association Better Newspaper Contest.

**Paul Lopes** has been editor and publisher of The Wanderer newspaper in Southeast Massachusetts for 19 years.

**Stacey Manning** is the managing editor of The Brunswick Beacon in Shallotte, NC. A career journalist, Manning is a Kentucky native and graduate of Salem College in Winston-Salem, NC. Manning, an employee of Landmark Community Newspapers Inc. since 1998, has won 80 local, state, regional and national journalism awards recognizing achievements in writing, photography and design.

**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.

**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. 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.

**Bill Ostendorf**, president and founder of Creative Circle Media Solutions, has led the redesign of nearly 500 newspapers and magazines along with more than 150 websites. He has consulted with hundreds of media companies on three continents and has been a speaker at nearly 500 industry seminars in 43 countries on a wide range of topics. Frustrated with the poor software available to his clients, Bill started a software arm dedicated to improving newspaper web sites in 2004. Bill spent 13 years at The Providence Journal, where he served as managing editor for visuals and new product development.

**Melissa Perner** has been editor and publisher of The Ozona (TX) Stockman since 2004. Before that, she was a reporter with the San Angelo (TX) Standard-Times for five years. Her newspaper won its first NNA awards in 2009 and 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.

**Steve Ranson** has been editor for the Lahontan Valley News 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. Since 2007, he has won numerous awards from the NNA's Better Newspaper Contest, including first place honors for editorial writing, in-depth reporting and sports column writing.

**Jerry L. Reppert** is owner of Reppert Publications, which operates several weekly newspa-