
Chapter News

- Yakima Herald-Republic reporter Eloisa Gonzalez was elected to the WOD board on Sept. 21. Welcome, Eloisa!
- WOD's three baskets of delectable local wine and goodies fetched a grand total of \$275 in the Legal Defense Fund auction. William O. Douglas donated three baskets to the Legal Defense Fund Auction held during the national convention. The silent and live auction raised about \$19,000 that will help support various legal causes across the country. A basket filled with three bottles of Kiona wines, a tote bag, wine glasses and locally produced food fetched \$175 in the live auction. The other baskets, one filled with Pendleton Round-Up whiskey, coffee, a coffee mug and shot glass and the other with Bonair wines, a cook book and Chukar cherries items brought in \$50 each in the silent auction. Thanks to Jeannine, Kristin and board member Adriana Janovich for assembling our three donated baskets.
- SPJ sponsored a brown bag on the laws governing health care privacy at the Tri-City Herald on Sept. 19. Speakers included Kadlec Medical Center's public information officer and HIPAA compliance officer, and Kennewick Fire Department's EMS officer. About a dozen people attended, including several Tri-City Herald staffers and editors, a TV reporter, a freelance writer, and a reporter and an editor from Prosser. SPJ members interested in obtaining copies of handouts can contact WOD Secretary Michelle Dupler at mdupler@tricityherald.com or (509) 582-1543.

In the Region

- Tom Henderson, editorial writer and columnist for the Lewiston Tribune in Idaho and founding member for the Snake River Pro Chapter, is the new Region 10 Director. Chapter representatives voted for Henderson during the recent SPJ National Convention in Washington D.C.

Henderson stepped in as interim directors when former director Nathan Isaacs of the Tri-City Herald left to peruse a M.B.A. at Willamette University.

As part of his position, Henderson blogs about the region in the X Factor, which is available at <http://spj.org/blog/blogs/region10/>

Henderson announced following the convention that former Region 10 Director and UW journalism instructor Oren Campbell has expressed an interest in filling a newly-

created Deputy Regional Director position acting as a formal liaison between student and professional chapters.

National News

From SPJ Leads:

- The U.S. House of Representatives on Tuesday passed the Free Flow of Information Act of 2007. The bill would create a federal media shield law to protect reporters from being compelled to reveal their sources during federal court proceedings. During the past few years, more than 30 reporters have been subpoenaed or questioned in federal court proceedings about confidential sources, and several have been incarcerated or threatened with jail sentences. SPJ's attention now moves to the Senate, where the Judiciary Committee recently passed a similar bill. This legislation has yet to come up for a full vote on the Senate floor.
- Chapter delegates from across the country approved two amendments to SPJ's bylaws at the recent convention.

The first change reintroduced the option of lifetime memberships, which had been discontinued in the late 1960s. The cost for a lifetime membership has not yet been set.

The second change gives student SPJ members an additional year to join at the student rate. Before students could join at the lower rate for up to two years after leaving school, now they are eligible for the rate for three years.

Chapter delegates also voted in the new national board at the recent national convention.

The national board is as follows:

- ✚ President Clint Brewer, executive editor, *The City Paper*, Nashville, Tenn.
- ✚ President-Elect Dave Aeikens, reporter, *St. Cloud Times*, St. Cloud, Minn.
- ✚ Secretary-treasurer Kevin Smith, assistant professor of journalism, Fairmont State University, Fairmont, W. Va.
- ✚ Vice president, campus chapter affairs Neil Ralston, assistant professor, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Ky.
- ✚ Director at-large Bill McCloskey, retired from Bell South and the AP
- ✚ Campus Advisor at-large Mead Loop, associate professor Ithaca College, Ithaca, N.Y.
- ✚ Campus Representatives Melissa Patterson, University of Central Florida, Orlando, Fla.; Taylor Rausch, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, Mo.

If you have questions about any issues from the national convention please contact William O. Douglas President Jeannine Koranda at jkoranda@tricityherald.com.

Upcoming Events

Keep your eyes out for details on a program about Washington's shield law sometime in November.

What: SPJ Board Meeting
When: Noon, Friday, Nov. 9
Where: Tri-City Herald

Do you have a suggestion for a program or SPJ social event? Get in touch with Jeannine Koranda at jkoranda@tricityherald.com or 541.567.4459 and we'll look at putting your idea into action.

Call for Help

A group of students at Mabton High School are restarting a student newspaper after a 14-year journalistic dry spell. But their budget is limited and the young reporters are in need of "just about anything you can imagine" to get them going.

Anyone who might be willing to help the students out with materials or equipment to start their paper, please get in touch with Jeannine Koranda at jkoranda@tricityherald.com or 541.567.4459 and she'll coordinate the chapter's efforts to give these youngsters a leg up.

Training Opportunities

- William O. Douglas is helping sponsor a two-day workshop on video for print journalists hosted by the Yakima Herald-Republic and Canon. The workshop will take place Dec. 15 & 16 in Yakima. More information is available at www.yakimaherald.com/videoworkshop
- If you don't want to travel, training opportunities are at your fingertips through NewsU's online classes and webinars. Many of the work-at-your-own pace classes are free. Others charge a fee, but give you a chance to work with Poynter writing gurus Chip Scanlan and Roy Peter Clark.

For more information, visit www.newsu.org

Comings & Goings

- Harris Meyer has joined the Yakima Herald-Republic as city editor. Meyer, a Chicago native who graduated from Northwestern University, previously was the

law editor of the Daily Business Review in Miami, part of the American Lawyer Media chain. Before that, he worked as a reporter and editor for alternative newsweeklies, and covered health care for many years for trade publications based in Chicago. He has won many local and national journalism awards, including the Gerald Loeb Award for business journalism. In Chicago and South Florida, he served as coordinator for the local SPJ journalism awards.

- Ingrid Stegemoeller became the Tri-City Herald's newest business reporter on Sept. 4. Ingrid is a native of Aberdeen, Wash., and a 2007 graduate of Pacific Lutheran University in journalism and mathematics. She came to the Herald as an intern in July before being hired on full-time. Ingrid became involved with SPJ as a PLU sophomore, and was secretary for the campus chapter her junior and senior years. The PLU chapter recently won its third consecutive campus chapter of the year award from Region 10.
- The Herald also has a new face on its sports desk. Kevin Anthony started Sept. 6. Kevin spent seven years covering prep sports across Eastern Washington for the *Wenatchee World*. Prior to Wenatchee, he was a sports writer for the *Coeur d'Alene Press* and sports editor for the *Raton Range*, a 2,000-circulation, twice-weekly in Raton, N.M.
- Northwest Public Radio reporter, and former Tri-City Herald staffer, Anna King became an SPJ member in September. Welcome to WOD, Anna!

If you'd like to give a nice big welcome to someone new to your newsroom, or offer your congratulations to a co-worker moving on to bigger and better things, shoot an e-mail to Michelle Dupler at mdupler@tricityherald.com and we'll include it in the next issue. Remember, a new co-worker could also be a prospective SPJer.