

POLAR BEAR



Spring 2002

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Get the latest update!

Hello everyone ...

It looks like the annual task of sorting and mailing the Journalism Week contest entries has been completed as efficiently as possible. I'd like to thank everyone who showed up at UAA to help, and I would especially extend thanks to Rosanne Pagano-Smith for organizing the procedure and for providing JPC students to assist.

We had a good response this year, although some news organizations did not get word of the deadline on time to enter the contest. According to Alaska Press Club treasurer Allen Baker, the total amount of revenue coming in from this year's contest is down from last year. This year, we took in just under \$13,000, about \$1,000 less than last year.

According to previous years' records, this downturn follows a trend. Every year we take in about \$1,000 less than the year before. And every year the cost of putting on Journalism Week goes up about \$1,000. This is just because of inflation, cost of living, etc. It cannot be helped. So we are constantly balancing the money we do have to pay for both J-Week and our monthly expenses.

So far, we are making it, but it looks like we are going to have to make some money decisions in the future. Am I beginning to sound like the state legislature vs. the state administration? Anyway, just so we are all on the same page. I have been harping on cutting back on spending since last fall. This is because I knew the \$#@%^&* was going to hit the proverbial fan at some point in spring. So we are attempting to cut costs by changing our teleconference procedure and by seeking a new printer for the Polar Bear.

Those two moves are aimed at keeping \$2,000 or a little more in our checking account after J-Week is paid for to pay our month to month expenses. So far, we have saved more than \$400 on teleconferences since November. This helps pay the printing expenses for the newsletter.

Also, the proposal to complete our nonprofit status, which lapsed some five years ago, is aimed at getting a little help in the finance department. As a nonprofit, we could join the

Foraker Group, which is an organization that exists to provide services to other nonprofits. Hopefully, this will all come about by the end of April.

We did miss the boat completely on the mail-out ballot. I know each year we complain about the chaos of the general election, but it looks like there will be a repeat of the process in April. We only got three nominations at our February board meeting and that's not enough.

Also, the board did not get the rewrite of the new by-laws in time to vote on them in January. The board passed the new by-laws in February, now they need to be approved by the general membership. Under the old by-laws, the general membership must vote on any change in the number of board members. Under the new by-laws, this issue is not addressed. So keep in mind that at least six board seats are being vacated in April.

Maybe it is a good time to put forward ideas on reducing the number of Alaska Press Club board members? This concept has kicked around all winter, although it was never formally discussed by the

board. It's up to the general membership. Right now, only about half the board members ever show up for board meetings anyway. It seems to me that nine board members could act more cohesively than the present 15.

But before we do anything, we have to pass the new by-laws, which appear in this issue of the Polar Bear. The general membership is asked to approve them, yea or nay.

So it's not all gloom and doom. Journalism Week is shaping up nicely. Look for the update in this issue. Also, I am working to update the Polar Bear mailing list using this year's new member applications. I have asked Edith McKinnon to work on getting the mailing list database in shape in time for printing this issue of the Polar Bear. At February's meeting, the board approved paying a fee for the work on the mailing list. Edith has accepted the job.

— Thanks all, Ellen Lockyer

Alaska Press Club Board

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J-Week schedule coming together

It's J-Week time again!

The Alaska Press Club would like to invite television, radio and print journalists to its 2002 journalism conference April 18-20 at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Anchorage. Journalism students also are encouraged to attend. The conference culminates in the annual Alaska Press Club Awards Banquet on Saturday, April 20.

Now in its 48th year, the Alaska Press Club is an independent professional organization that provides continuing education and recognition to reporters across the state.

Workshops or panel discussions have been scheduled on the following topics:

Digital Photography
Shooting for the Wire
Sports Writing
Nature Writing
Investigative Reporting
Interviewing
Free-lancing
Television Producers panel
Overview of Alaska's Fishing Industry
Overview of Alaska's Economy
ANCSA: 30 Years Later
9/11 Coverage

Workshops are still being scheduled. Some of this year's guest speakers include: Melanie Peeples, an independent reporter/producer who works for NPR and is part of Public Radio News Directors Inc.'s NewsWorks training team; John Dowling, deputy director of editorial training at the Associated Press' Chicago bureau; and Rachel Ambrose, television and radio broadcast supervisor for California and Nevada for the Associated Press.

The keynote speaker for the awards banquet is Jim Naughton, president of The Poynter Institute. Before joining Poynter in 1996, Naughton was executive editor of The Philadelphia Inquirer. From 1969 to 1977, he covered the White House, national politics and the impeachment of President Nixon for The New York Times. Naughton has won several awards during his journalism career, including the Sigma Delta Chi award for national correspondence in 1973. The Inquirer was awarded 10 Pulitzer Prizes for journalism done under Naughton's



Jim Naughton, president of The Poynter Institute, will be the keynote speaker for the awards banquet.

direction.

Tickets to the banquet are \$35 and will be available for purchase at the conference and at the door. All workshops are free to Alaska Press Club members who have paid their dues for 2002. If you have not paid your dues, you can do so at the registration desk. Memberships are \$25 for working journalists, \$10 for students and \$30 for others. The workshop fee for nonmembers is \$30 a day.

J-Week schedule

■ **Thurs., April 18:** Reception with a no-host bar, 6 to 9 p.m., Marriott.

■ **Fri., April 19:** Workshops, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Marriott.

■ **Sat., April 20:** Workshops, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Marriott; Awards Banquet, 6 to 11 p.m., Marriott.

The Marriott, at 820 West Seventh Ave., is offering a discounted room rate for Alaska Press Club participants if you make your reservation by March 18. The discounted rate is \$89 single, \$109 double and \$20 each additional person (hotel rooms rates are subject to state and local taxes). Call 1-800-228-9290 to make reservations. The "Mini Hotel Code" is AKP.

Please stay tuned for schedule changes or additions. If you have questions, feel free to contact this year's J-Week organizers: Ta Brant (tabrant@hotmail.com) and Diana Campbell (dc@gci.net or 459-7593).

Alaska Press Club By-laws

The Alaska Press Club board recently revised the bylaws, omitting several outdated items and updating the terminology to today's technological world.

The board asks that the general membership review the bylaws and vote for their approval. Please return the ballot as soon as possible.

Alaska Press Club
Established 1952

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purposes of the Alaska Press Club are:

1. To promote the advancement of journalism as a profession.
2. To provide a forum for continuing education and debate, thereby encouraging professional excellence among Alaska journalists.
3. To recognize excellence among Alaska journalists.
4. To promote open government and preserve freedom of the press as guaranteed by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

ARTICLE I

Membership

Applicants for membership to the Alaska Press Club must be individuals, not organizations. Each application is subject to approval by the Board, which also has the authority to suspend or expel a member for cause. The Board may also reclassify a member whose status has changed.

- A. General Members shall be persons

whose primary occupation is journalism in Alaska. This may include owners and employees of newspapers, radio stations, television stations, magazines, news service, cable and Internet companies that disseminate news about Alaska, as well as freelance writers whose main focus is news writing.

B. Associate Members, who will be nonvoting members, shall be those in media-related employment, such as public relations and information, as well as others approved by the board. Nonmedia persons who support the objectives of the Alaska Press Club can also be included in this category with the Board's approval.

C. Student Members shall be full-time students or part-time students in a journalism program who are considering a career in journalism.

D. Honorary Members shall be designated by the Board.

E. Life Members shall be designated by the Board.

ARTICLE II

Fiscal Year, Dues

A. The fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

B. Dues are set by the Board.

ARTICLE III

Alaska Press Club Board

A. All governing power rests in the Board. It shall be composed of an odd number of members.

B. The Board shall include a president,

vice president, secretary and treasurer elected for one-year terms, and such other officers as the Board may decide, to be elected by the Board.

C. Should the president resign or be removed during the term of office, a vice president shall succeed to the office if available. Should a vice president not be available or willing, the Board shall choose a new president from the board for the remainder of the term. Should any other officer resign or be removed during his or her term, the Board shall choose a replacement from the Board to fill out the term.

D. The Board shall set policy.

E. The Board shall meet regularly at such times and places as chosen by the president, or as called by a quorum of the Board. Such a quorum can be obtained through a telephone poll.

F. The president or a Board member designated by the president shall serve as presiding officer at all Board meetings, unless the president has left or been removed without a new president being designated, in which case the Board shall choose a moderator until a new president can be chosen. The presiding officer will be a voting member.

G. The Board has the authority to declare Board seats vacant and to appoint members to serve until the next general election.

ARTICLE IV

Membership Meetings

A. The general membership will meet annually to consider such business as may arise. The meeting time and place will be set by the president or the board

B. General membership meetings may also be called by a majority of the Board or by petition of 10 percent of the members. Actions taken at any general membership meeting shall have the same legal standing as actions taken by the Board.

ARTICLE V

Board and Officer Elections

A. Board members shall serve two-

Shall the general membership approve the revisions to the bylaws of the Alaska Press Club?

___ Yes

___ No

Please return to:
Alaska Press Club
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Anchorage, AK 99514-3426

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Kidnapped WSJ reporter known as tenacious and effective

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Daniel Pearl, the Wall Street Journal reporter who died after being kidnapped in Pakistan, was known as a quietly tenacious reporter with a passion for journalism and a relentless curiosity.

Pearl was “the kind of a reporter who always had another phone call to make,” said Lewis Cuyler, his one-time editor at The Berkshire Eagle, in Pittsfield, Mass. He called Pearl a “brilliant, gifted reporter.”

Nearly a month after his kidnapping by Islamic extremists, the U.S. State Department confirmed Thursday that Pearl had died. The Journal said it believed Pearl was killed by his captors.

Based in Bombay, India, for the past year as the Journal’s bureau chief for South Asia, the 38-year-old Pearl was on assignment in Pakistan as part of the newspaper’s coverage of the war on terrorism in neighboring Afghanistan.

Born on Oct. 10, 1963, in Princeton, N.J., Pearl worked for newspapers in western Massachusetts

after graduating from Stanford University in 1985.

He joined The Wall Street Journal in 1990. He spent three years in Atlanta; moved to Washington, D.C., in 1993, where he covered transportation; then moved to London in 1996 and to Paris in February 1998.

It was there that he met his wife, Mariane, a French free-lance journalist. His wife, who is seven months pregnant, lived and worked with Pearl in Pakistan.

Cuyler, who retired in 1995 as the Eagle’s business editor, recalled Pearl as “quiet, a very good listener. All of a sudden he’d have a zinger question — there wasn’t any bombast, like some reporters use.”

Pearl was 24 when he joined the Eagle, a 31,000-circulation daily. “He had written some good stories, and showed a lot of promise, and certainly made good on that promise,” Cuyler said.

But Pearl’s journalistic ambitions were clear.

“He did have aspirations to cover a larger territory than Berkshire

County in Massachusetts. He admired the Journal, The New York Times, the big newspapers, but there was never, ‘I have to go here,’” Cuyler said.

Dusty Bahlman, who worked with Pearl at the Eagle, told The Boston Globe that Pearl was unflappable.

“He would not give up on a story after just a couple of sources; he would hit every angle. That’s what I find very telling; he went off with people that he knew not at all or only slightly to meet with a source.”

In North Adams, Mass., which Pearl once covered for the North Adams Transcript, the flags was to be flown at half-staff for a few days, Mayor John Barrett III said.

“A mayor’s not supposed to like the reporter who covers him, but he had no hidden agenda,” Barrett said. “He wanted to do a good job as a reporter. He wanted to write the good story.

“It’s just a terrible, terrible thing that’s happened to a guy who probably would have done a good job in telling (his abductors’) story,” Barrett said.

Foundation in memory of Journal reporter Pearl

Slain Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl’s family is creating a foundation to support charities focused on causes to which Pearl dedicated his life, Wall Street Journal spokesman Steven Goldstein said. He did not specify the specific charities involved.

He said donations can be sent to:

The Daniel Pearl Family Foundation
c/o The Wall Street Journal
P.O. Box 300
Princeton, N.J. 08543

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Lyra J. Gordon • 277-5005

By-laws *from page 3*

year terms, except that Board members chosen to fill unexpired terms shall serve until the next general election.

B. A nominating committee shall be chosen by the president by the first meeting in January and shall solicit candidates for the Board and for Board officers. Nominations may also be made by the membership.

C. A ballot listing at least one candidate for each open board seat shall be mailed to members prior to March 1.

D. The deadline for ballots to be received at the Press Club’s post office box shall be April 1.

E. Board elections will be conducted at-large, with those receiving the most votes seated on the board for the general meeting. In the event of a tie for the final seat or seats, the winner will be chosen by drawing lots.

ARTICLE VI

Amendment of Bylaws

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board, followed by a mail ballot of the membership. Amendments must be approved by a two-thirds vote of members voting. If approved, those amendments shall be effective 45 days after ballots are mailed.

AP photo report winners

The Associated Press Alaska photo report Web site was created last fall to better showcase the fantastic photo-journalism produced every month by members and freelancers across the state.

Once a month, the AP Alaska staff chooses the best news and feature shots and grants modest cash awards to the member photographers. The pictures are then featured on a Web site along with other outstanding shots from that month.

The site is viewed not only



Anchorage Daily News, Bob Hallinen

Best News Photo, February

by the members in Alaska, but by newspapers and AP bureaus across the country and by AP headquarters in New York City.

Members without direct access to the State Photo Center in Washington, D.C., should arrange their contributions through the Anchorage office, (907) 272-7549. Ask for Al Grillo. Check the Web site at www.ap.org/alaska/photoreport.html.



Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, Eric Engman

Best Feature Photo, February



AP Photo/Anchorage Daily News, Stephen Nowers

Best Sports Photo, February

Web Site to Watch

Great commentary and advice on covering the world post Sept. 11 from the Poynter Institute.

<http://www.poynter.org/Terrorism/>

A summary of the Jan. 8, board meeting

Roll: Board president Ellen Lockyer, vice president Ta Brant, treasurer Allen Baker, secretary Sonya Senkowsky, and board members Sheila Balistreri, Alex DeMarban, Rosanne Pagano and Lynne Snifka.

- The treasurer reported that Press Club had \$308 in bank, and will have no more revenue until membership money comes in. The club owes Pip Printing \$615, Rhonda \$150.

- A standardized contest sheet was developed for judges to fill in and fax back to Press Club. Larry Campbell has volunteered to print out the awards this year, as he has done in the past.

- J-Week: Alaska Press Women asked if the Press Club could fold APW's Know-It-All Bowl into the club's program. Sheila agreed to call APW and investigate the group's plans.

- Web site: Board members who want something on the Web site concerning J-Week or anything else involving the club should get that information to Sonya as soon as possible so there is time to format it for the Web. The process can be time consuming, so it is especially important for J-Week schedules and contest rules. It is best to have the text to her before the printed versions are sent out, she said.

- Polar Bear/new editor/printer/layout person needed: Ellen said that the printed publication is expensive, and should would like to see the publication come out four or five times a year, at most. Alex has secured an inexpensive layout person if someone else will edit the publication. (Melissa Campbell later agreed to do this and was approved in the February meeting.)

- New business: Ellen said the board took money from the club's Merrill Lynch account to pay for J-Week expenses, but wants to ensure the money goes back into the account after membership funds come in.

Putting the fun in Fund-raiser

Help support the
Alaska Public Radio Network

May 15 at 7 p.m.
at the Fly By Night Club

• Advance purchase tickets only. • Mention APRN when purchasing.



J-Week 2002

April 18-20
Downtown Marriott in Anchorage

Check out www.alaskapressclub.org for updated info and schedule.

Questions?

Contact the organizers:

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