

The Fossil

Volume 119, No. 3, Whole No. 395 ♦ Sunnyvale, California ♦ April 2023

Delavan Gee: Colorado Newspaperman

by George Chapman

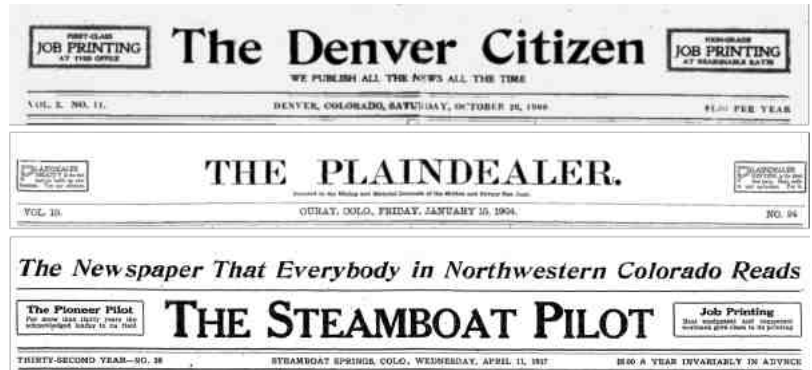
AS A FORMER Colorado newspaper publisher, my interest was piqued when I read Ken Faig's article "The Boys of 1876: An Overview" in the last issue of *THE FOSSIL*, particularly as he referred to then 17 year old Delavan Gee as having "edited and published newspapers in Colorado for the following three decades" after his move west.

Pulling the book *Colorado Newspapers* off a library shelf, I found a page titled: Longest-Term Editors, Publishers. Imagine my surprise when the first name on the two page list was that of Delavan W. Gee, credited with 69 years as a newspaper editor and/or publisher. Simple math will show that 69 years back from Gee's death in 1944 brings you to 1875 or the year before the 1876 Philadelphia convention. His role in the establishment of the National Amateur Press Association is mentioned several times over the years in the sources I checked.

The citation goes on to list four newspapers: *Granite Paystreak* (about 1897), *Denver Citizen* (1900 - ?), *Haxtun Harvest* (1919 - 1922) and *La Jara Gazette* (1926 - 1944). There are others not mentioned in this list. In another section of the book under "Youngest Newspaper Editors, Owners" Gee is listed at "19." The citation reads: "1883, Maryland or Washington, D. C. weekly. He began at 15 with a press in his home in 1879; then he became a full-fledged commercial-newspaper editor four years later. After that he migrated to Colorado."

Records indicate Gee was married to Emma Katie Knight on April 3 of 1880. The 1880 census lists the couple as living with his parents in Washington, D. C. At that time he was a "land office clerk." The title sounds like a federal position but we do not know for sure. At the same time his father was a clerk in the War Department.

The young Gees was busy. Although the 1890 census records were mostly destroyed in a 1921 fire at the Department of Commerce, we can tell by the 1900 census that the couple had three children by 1884 and we know from newspaper items that they were living in Colorado by 1886. In fact, Delavan Gee is listed as registered at a Denver hotel in June of 1884.



Three of the Colorado newspapers Delavan Gee published or edited.

Other news items from the time list Gee as Secretary of the National Bimetallic Association so it appears that he did not jump immediately into Colorado journalism. The Association offices were in Leadville, Colorado and by 1887 a news item indicates he was in charge of the Leadville paper, and another, three years later, lists him as editor of the *Rio Blanco News* in Meeker, Colorado. That position was held for only a few months.

Next up in 1894 we find Gee elected as temporary secretary of a local Republican convention. Nothing beyond this date ties him to the Republican Party. Just a few years later he accompanied Colorado Governor Charles Thomas, a Democrat, on a fact finding tour to the west coast. Throughout his subsequent career we find him tied to Democratic politics.

Volume 1, Number 1 of the *Denver South Side Citizen* is dated August 5, 1899 with Gee and Eugene Button listed as Editors and Publishers. Whether or not they ever got to Number 2 is not apparent from the files available. Somehow it morphed into the *Denver Citizen* and a limited number of copies are available on the Colorado Library website. Gee is listed as editor and the October 20, 1900 paper's masthead shows that it is a "continuation of the *South Side Citizen*." Just a month later, Gee's name no longer appears on the masthead.

As near as I can tell, during this period in the very early years of the 20th century, Delavan W. Gee's life was in a state of flux. We know he was dabbling in politics but as far as settling down to any long term

commitment to a particular newspaper, that is something still in his future.

In April of 1901 I found a citation in the *Idaho Springs Siftings* that said Delavan W. Gee and Herbert Belford are talking about starting a newspaper in Silverton. They didn't do it, which was probably a wise decision. By that time San Juan County, of which Silverton is and was the county seat, had 16 newspapers credited with being started there. By 1901 that number had settled into just two newspapers, *The Silverton Standard* and *The Silverton Weekly Miner*. They fought it out until 1920 when *The Standard* absorbed *The Miner*, becoming the *Silverton Standard and the Miner*. It is still in operation today, claiming to be the oldest continuously published newspaper on Colorado's Western Slope. Incidentally, the paper was published by yours truly from 1975 to 1990.

Three years later we find Gee and another partner buying the *Ouray County Plaindealer*, just over the hill (11,017 foot Red Mountain Pass) from Silverton. They were the third owners in three months according to a contemporary report. They lasted only a few weeks themselves.

In early 1908 it is noted that Gee had started a new "Democratic" paper in Leadville, called *The Press*. It did not last long as the November 18, 1908 *Steamboat Pilot* lists Gee as Associate Editor. This was the beginning of a decade in Steamboat Springs with Gee assuming a financial interest the following spring. *The Pilot* was purchased by Charles Leckenby in 1895 and 1896 and it remained in the Leckenby family until 1988 when it was sold to Jack Kent Cooke.

Other state papers frequently quoted *The Pilot* and complimented it on its style and for several very large annual issues. Gee was often noted for his design and Linotype and typesetting skills. Not long after Gee joined the paper, on May 6, 1909 the complete plant and all its equipment was destroyed by a fire. However through the efforts of Gee and Leckenby, they didn't miss a beat and bought new equipment, build a new building, and carried on.

Delavan W. Gee's newspaper duties did not keep him out of politics and in 1916 he was listed as town clerk and recorder for the town of Steamboat Springs. Tragedy also struck the family during the Steamboat years. They lost younger daughter Olive in 1912 at age 28.

In early 1919 it was reported that Gee had decided to quit the business for a time. The formal partnership with Leckenby had been officially dissolved in December of 1918. His wife Kate had health problems and in fact she returned to Washington, D. C. for a time in hopes that would aid in her recovery.

Kate's health did improve at least for a time and in March of 1919 Gee produced the initial issue of the

Haxtun Harvest. He sold the paper in the fall of 1921, only to repossess it the following summer. By fall of 1922 a new and apparently successful sale was concluded. However during the Haxtun years Kate, his wife for more than 40 years, passed away after suffering for several years from the effects of a stroke.

In the fall of 1922, about the same time he finally sold the Haxtun paper, Gee married Elizabeth DeWitt (15 years his junior) and they settled in Walden, Colorado where the wedding reports state they were operating the North Park Inn. Innkeeper was not enough and at least one paper reported that as of December, the *Jackson County Star* in Walden had been sold to Delavan W. Gee. That transaction failed to show in *Colorado Newspapers* so we are not sure how long it lasted.

Elizabeth Cunningham DeWitt had been married to George P. DeWitt who was operating a ranch in Hayden, about 25 miles west of Steamboat. She was reported as being a nurse and an experienced restaurant worker in different newspaper items.

One news report in 1925 indicates Gee and his wife had moved to Phoenix but in June of the following year

Grand Junction Sentinel Tribute

THIS TRIBUTE appeared in the Grand Junction Sentinel a week after Delavan W. Gee's death in 1944. The thoughts expressed reflect the general feelings found in other Colorado newspapers at the time. It appears as published.

The Grand Junction Sentinel pays this tribute to an able pioneer editor who died last week. News of the death of Delavan W. Gee at the Union Printers' Home in Colorado Springs last Tuesday occasioned widespread regret throughout our state, for "Del" Gee, as the oldest member of Colorado's newspaper fraternity and as private citizen, was widely known and highly respected. Mr. Gee's newspaper career began when, as a boy in Washington, D. C., he yielded to the writing and publishing urge and issued an "amateur paper" in our nation's capital. From that day in 1875 until his retirement in February of this year, Del Gee was a "newspaper man" tho he made his living in other fields at various times. It was in 1878 that he came to Colorado, and from then on was associated with the great and near great of our state as he also enjoyed the friendship of several presidents and other national figures. Because of his varied experience in the publishing field and his broad acquaintance and his knowledge of America's political machinery, when Del Gee spoke (in recent years through the columns of the *La Jara Gazette*), he gained statewide attention, not only for what he said but for the original "how" of his saying it. Colorado newspaper gatherings and the councils of the time to come, especially will be keenly aware of Del Gee's absence from their ranks. ♦

another notes they were back in Colorado. In May of 1926 *Colorado Newspapers* lists Gee as purchasing the *La Jara Gazette*, thus starting the final leg of his long and widespread newspaper career. La Jara, by the way, is 275 miles from Steamboat in the San Luis Valley and a small town of less than 1000 residents. Gee made many moves in his career but this one was physically the longest in the large state of Colorado.

Gee was in his late 60s when he purchased the Southern Colorado newspaper but he ran it for 18 years—his longest stint with a single paper. He was considered by his peers to be the senior Colorado journalist by this time and you can find him frequently quoted in other papers. However in the early 1940s health issues cropped up and by 1944 a buyer was sought. Once again the first buyer did not last and six weeks after the sale in February 1944 Gee repossessed.

On June 9, 1944 Delavan W. Gee died and Elizabeth Gee became owner of the *La Jara Gazette*. Two years later in March of 1946 Elizabeth sold the paper to long time employee Mary Cooper Mudd. *Colorado Newspapers* cites Mudd for being the longest serving woman editor/operator or owner of a Colorado paper, and as of the listing in the mid-1970s she was still going strong. Mary Mudd died in 1988 at age 90 but my limited resources do not tell me how long



What was originally called the Childs-Drexler Home for Union Printers was built in 1892 at a cost of \$70,000. Over the years the main building grew to 100,000 square feet and several other buildings were added to the 80 acre campus. Operation as a private nursing home in the early part of this century eventually failed and in 2021 the property was purchased by UPH Partners and extensive studies for the long term development of the property are currently underway.

Obituary From THE FOSSIL, June 1943

ONE OF our oldest and most famous members, and Colorado's oldest newspaper man, Delavan W. Gee, died June 20th at the age of 84. He was born in Cortland, New York, March 26, 1860, and moved to Washington, D. C., when a youth.

He entered amateur journalism at the age of fourteen, publishing in Washington the well-known *Southern Star*, a large well-printed paper, containing much fine literary work and valuable articles relating to the history of amateur journalism.

He attended the organization meeting of the National A. P. A. at Philadelphia in 1876. Fossil Du Hamel is now the only living delegate to that historic gathering. At the Chicago meeting Mr. Gee was unanimously elected Corresponding Secretary. He was Chairman of the Reception Committee for the Washington convention in 1879, and also Chairman of the Committee on Proxy Votes. As Secretary he presided over the opening session.

Fossil Gee came to Colorado in 1879, as secretary to James Buford, Colorado's first Congressman. ... Near the top of worthy traits in Fossil Gee's mind was that of community pride and loyalty. His own loyalty was best shown in the product which bore his and his community's name ...



she continued in her position with the *La Jara Gazette*.

Delavan W. Gee spent his final months in the Printers Home in Colorado Springs. He was buried in the Home's area in Evergreen Cemetery in Colorado Springs. Why he was not taken to Steamboat to be laid at rest by his first wife, Kate, is not known. Equally puzzling, his wife Elizabeth De Witt Gee died ten years later in 1954 and was buried next to her first husband, George DeWitt, who had passed in 1930, eight years after she married Gee.

Research like this is intriguing, often leading to more questions than it answers, but I hope what I have done helps shed some light on the journalistic career of one of the pioneers of Amateur Journalism.

Sources of Information

My first source of information was the extensive *Colorado Newspapers* publication of 1978. At just under 600 pages, this extensive resource of information was published by the late Walter and Elma Stewart. Walter was a journalism professor at the University of Northern Colorado. The hours it took to compile and type this information in pre-internet and computer days is mind boggling. Not only was the entire book prepared on a typewriter but the bulk of the information is arranged on three column pages.

My second source was the Historic Colorado Newspaper Collection of the Colorado State Library. This searchable asset contains thousands of early Colorado newspapers and is free to the general public.

Finally, the census results from 1870 to 1940 were consulted, also freely available online.



Amateur Journalism and the English Teacher

by Maurice W. Moe, Appleton High School, Appleton, Wisconsin

Address delivered at a meeting of the National Council of Teachers of English, at Chicago, November 27, 1914

Editor's note: Fossil David Goudsward recently came across this article, which was printed in The English Journal, Vol. 4, No. 2 (Feb. 1915), pp. 113-115 (published by National Council of Teachers of English)

THE ETERNAL quest of the English teacher is for methods to eliminate the exercise spirit from composition work. The born teacher is more or less successful in this quest through the choice of familiar theme subjects, through the opening up of these subjects in class to show their unsuspected content of theme material, and in general through the exercise of his personality in stimulating the pupils to an enthusiastic interest in what they are to write about. But all these things having been done, there remains a considerable vestige of the exercise idea. The pupil is still doing a piece of assigned work on theme paper to hand in at a stated time for the purpose of getting a passing-mark. Is there any stimulus which—to quote Madame Montessori—will lead the pupil “to explode into writing” and write things from a powerful personal incentive? While I have no panacea to offer, I wish to speak of something unknown to most teachers which will open up an entirely new field of interest to many pupils.

This is organized amateur journalism. Nearly everyone knows of ambitious young boys and girls who have been infected with the publishing bee and have blossomed out as editors of little papers or magazines. It is not generally known, however, that many of these young Franklins belong to an association that has members in nearly every state in the Union and that they issue their journals with more or less regularity and send them to all fellow-members. The association itself issues a bimonthly official organ containing reports from the officers, interesting notes about amateurs, and extensive criticisms of all papers published. Every endeavor is made to promote a friendly spirit and a love of writing among the members, through correspondence and mutual criticism and even through a

bureau of private criticism conducted by professionals, who give their services without charge. This brief synopsis of the scope of amateur journalism will suffice, as it is not the province of this article to advertise the United Amateur Press Association of America, but to show how the English-teacher can use it to advantage.

Naturally, to interest his pupils in the work the teacher must first become an active amateur journalist himself. The mechanical part of the process is simple. An application to the secretary, accompanied with an insignificant initiation fee and an original piece of writing to serve as a credential, enrolls one as a member. Getting into active touch with the amateurs at large takes more time, but a month or two of willing effort will accomplish it. The outlay of a few dollars on a four- or eight-page paper will bring the quickest results; but this is not absolutely necessary, as there is a manuscript bureau which will take the work of the new member and place it with amateur publishers, who are eager to get contributions for their journals. In this way a new member can easily get his work published and become known to the association. Once known, he is showered with periodicals of all sorts and sizes, containing his own articles, criticisms of them, and references to him. Before long the delight of the game begins to get into his system. The next thing is to pass it on to the pupils.

If the school has a paper, the staff and its contributors present the best point of attack. Of course the hardest part of the task is to secure the first few recruits and keep them at it long enough to show them the possibilities of the work. The thing to aim for is the publication as soon as possible of a little paper or two, either individually or by co-operation. If that is impossible, see that the pupils' manuscripts are placed in other papers without delay and that publishers do not forget them on mailing-day. Then introduce them by letter to other amateurs and get them to correspond. The United Amateur Press Association

contains some of the most delightful correspondents it has ever been my good fortune to know, and a letter or two from some of them will do much to awaken the interest of the recruit. As soon as several enthusiastic amateurs have been developed it will be found profitable to form a local amateur club as a branch of the national organization. This society will have most of the features of the average high school literary society, but in addition it will have the inimitable flavor of amateur journalism. As anything prepared for the programs can always be sent to the manuscript bureau, the idea of writing for publication will always be present. Then, too, there will be club letters from other locals throughout the country and from the

JOURNALISM HELP IN H.S. ENGLISH

CHICAGO, April 21.—Amateur journalism and its little known but widely influential exponent, the United Amateur Press Association, are urged on English teachers as a most helpful means of increasing interest in high school English courses by Maurice W. Moe of the high school at Appleton, Wis., in the current issue of the English Journal. This publication is the official organ of the National Council of Teachers of English.

The United Amateur Press Association has members in nearly every state and they issue their journals with more or less regularity and send them to all fellow members. This association itself issues a bimonthly official organ containing reports from all officers, interesting notes about amateurs, and extensive criticisms of all papers published. Every endeavor is made to promote a friendly spirit and a love of writing among the members through correspondence and mutual criticism and even through a bureau of private criticism conducted by professionals who give their services.

Maurice Moe's article was covered in the Whittier (CA) News of April 21, 1915.

national officers. These things will tend to broaden the pupils' vision and inspire them to write in return.

Enough has been said to show that we have here an entirely new and un-hackneyed set of incentives to write. What the pupils write in this way is not so important; that they are led to write often and on their own incentive is the main thing. But, someone may inquire, will this touch a large part of the student body? Will it not attract merely that group of students who write upon small provocation anyway and who are usually found contributing to the high-school paper? As a matter of fact, the school paper is a most valuable but lim-

ited field for amateur effort; and besides, as my experience has shown, this publication, being semiprofessional in character, has not such a strong appeal to the average student as a little paper that is a personal venture of his own or of several fellow-amateurs. I have found, too, that when the leaven of amateur journalism spreads through the school a lot of merely mediocre English students begin to be attracted by the lure of the game, students who have never before thought of writing except as an unmitigated bore, but who have that desire, more or less latent in everyone, of seeing themselves in print. Some will never write except under compul-

sion; for them no sugar-coated bait can be devised. But amateur journalism will do the work if anything will. Try it and see. Not only will you derive unlimited pleasure from the hobby yourself; some of your pupils will be stimulated to write prolifically and others will be given an interest in composition they would not otherwise have known.

The author will be glad to supply further information about amateur journalism to any who desire it. The president of the United Amateur Press Association for the current year, Miss Dora M. Hepner, R.F.D. No. 6, Columbus, Ohio, will also be glad to answer any questions. ♦

Maurice Winter Moe (1882-1940)

by Ken Faig, Jr.

WE WOULD probably not remember much about Maurice Winter Moe if it had not been for his friendship and correspondence with H. P. Lovecraft. The two met in person only twice, in 1923 and 1936, but had an extensive correspondence from 1915 onward. Moe was an Evangelical Christian and Lovecraft was an atheist, but this did not inhibit their long and fruitful association. Lovecraft had begun his career in the amateur journalism hobby in 1914 primarily as a poet, and he and Moe discussed Moe's planned textbook *Doorways to Poetry* at length. Alas, Moe's work did not attain publication, and no surviving manuscript has so far been traced.

Moe was born in Milwaukee in May 1882, the son of Civil War veteran James G. Moe (1847-1913) and Ella H. (Dane) Moe (1856-1931). His paternal grandparents were Enos Moe (1810-1878) and Jane (Slaght) Moe (1808-1900), who farmed in Green Lake County. Maurice spent most of his early years in Milwaukee, apart from attending the University of Wisconsin in Madison (B.A., 1904). He married Michigan-born Laura M. Ellis (1887-1981) in 1911. They had sons Robert Ellis Moe (1912-1992) and Donald James Moe (1914-1996).

Moe had succeeded his father in custodial work for the federal government and then worked in the money or-

der department of the post office, but by the time of his marriage he was an instructor at Appleton High School. Moe continued teaching for most of the rest of his life, although in 1918-20 he worked as secretary of a Bible society in Madison. By 1920, he was teaching at West Division High School in Milwaukee, where he continued for the remainder of his career. He was retired from teaching because of illness by the time of the 1940 census, and died later the same year.

Moe worked hard to interest his students in the amateur journalism hobby, and he even facilitated correspondence between some of his best prospects, including Alfred Galpin and Margaret Abraham, and his friend Lovecraft. He spent most of his own amateur career in the so-called Hoffman-Daas branch of the United, but like his friend Lovecraft was later active in the National as well. His career was far from continuous, since quarrels and perceived insults drove him out of the hobby for substantial periods.

The Hoffman-Daas United was known for its emphasis on serious literary endeavor and the cultivation of student members. However, some local clubs, like the Woodbees of Columbus, Ohio emphasized the social side of the hobby and even drove the Lovecraft faction out of United office in 1922-23.



*Lovecraft and Moe in Providence
July 18, 1936*

(As partial recompense for this reversal, James F. Morton recruited Lovecraft for the National presidency left open by the resignation of Bill Dowdell in November 1922.) Lovecraft and his wife-to-be Sonia H. Greene took back the helm of a weakened United in 1923, but the association fell into dormancy after the 1925-26 official year.

Two of the United's most notable student clubs were those sponsored by Moe in Appleton and Milwaukee and by Anne Tillery Renshaw in State College, Pennsylvania. In this article uncovered by Fossil board member David Goudsward, Moe outlines his own philosophy concerning the recruitment of students for the hobby.

References:

H. P. Lovecraft, *Letters to Maurice W. Moe and Others*, New York, New York: Hippocampus Press, 2018. Edited by David E. Schultz and S. T. Joshi. ♦

Alfreida Kimball Richards

Amateur Journalist, Dog Fancier, and Last Survivor of the Girls of Eighty-Five

by Ken Faig, Jr.

THE FIRST young women ever to attend a convention of the National Amateur Press Association (NAPA), in Boston in July 1885, were Bertha York Grant (married to Finlay Arnon Grant on the first day of the convention), Gracia A. Smith, Alfreida K. Richards, Viola F. Swift, and Edith May Dowe. They were all in the front row of the group photograph taken in front of Quincy House. I wrote about them ("The Girls of Eighty-Five") in *THE FOSSIL* for July 2003. At the time, all I knew about Miss Richards was that she was of New Bedford, Massachusetts and had published *Les Esprits*. (The file of *Les Esprits* at the American Antiquarian Society has date range 1884-1887.) Like Edith May Dowe, she was also a member of the New England Amateur Press Association (NEAPA), and attended its convention in Providence on July 14, 1885, the day before the NAPA convention convened in Boston. She was a member of the short-lived Young Women's Amateur Press Association (YWAPA) in 1885-86. On Dec. 28, 1885, she was elected Vice President for a six-month term at the NEAPA convention in Leominster, Massachusetts. And that was all that I knew of Miss Richards at the time

I wrote in 2003.

One of the pleasures of writing for the amateur press is getting occasional feedback. Soon after my article was published, I received the following postcard dated August 4, 2003 from Vic Moitoret:

Dear Ken:--Thanks for the splendid bit of a history in "The Girls of Eighty-Five" in *THE FOSSIL* for July. Excellent research and smooth writing. As far as I know, none of those Girls of '85 ever enjoyed the pleasure of meeting Vic Moitoret in person. Warm regards, Vic.

It didn't take much of a look at Ancestry in 2021 to produce more information concerning Alfreida K. Richards. She was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts on January 17, 1866, the daughter of William Dunham Richards (1840-1925) and Harriet Elizabeth Kimball (1843-1910), both born in New Bedford, who had married in New Bedford on September 8, 1862. Her paternal grandparents were Silas Richards (1811-1849) and Harriet B. Dunham (1804-1870). Her maternal grandparents were Moses Kimball (1803-1858) and Harriet P. Woodward (1801-1883). She qualified as a member of the Daughters of the

American Revolution through her Dunham line. According to a 1913 DAR Lineage Book, her ancestors leading back to the Revolution were 1. William Richards, 2. Silas Richards, 3. George Dunham, 4. Robert Dunham, 5. Daniel Dunham.

Alfreida's paternal grandfather Silas was a carriage maker who lived at 53 Elm Street in New Bedford as early as 1836. He died on April 28, 1849 in New Bedford and was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, where his widow later joined him. His widow Harriet B. (Dunham) Richards was still of 53 Elm Street in 1852. In the 1850 census, she was enumerated in New Bedford with her children Edward, age 12, William, age 10, Silas, age 8, John, age 4, Anna, age 3, and George, age 1. William, Alfreida's father, moved back into the family home at 53 Elm Street after his mother's death in 1870. He remained there for most of the years through 1893, with the exception of 45 North Street in 1885 and 291 Acushnet Avenue in 1887. He had returned to 53 Elm Street in 1889, and remained there until removing to 61 Fifth Street by 1893. By 1910, he had taken up residence at 77 Bradford Street, where he remained through his death in 1925.



Closeup of delegates at the 1885 NAPA Convention: 8 Bertha York Grant, 9 Finlay Arnon Grant, 10 Gracia A. Smith, 11 Clarence W. Small, 12 Alfreida K. Richards, 13 Brainerd P. Emery, 14 Viola F. Swift, 15 Edwin Booth Swift, and 16 Edith May Dowe.

Alfreida's father was a sail maker at the time of her birth. According to the 1900 and 1910 censuses, Alfreida was her mother's only child. William Richards still resided in New Bedford and worked as a sail maker when the 1870 census was enumerated. By 1880, however, he had become the proprietor of a livery stable, an occupation he continued to follow in 1900 and 1910. In 1880, William was prosperous enough to employ one female servant. His younger brother George D. Richards, 30, whose business was wooden ware, lived with the family in the same year. William apparently retired from managing his livery stable by 1916. By 1920 his occupation was real estate. Alfreida was single and a member of her father's household in all these years. In 1870, she had been recorded as a student. In all the other years, she was recorded with no occupation, except in 1920, when she was recorded as a private family housekeeper, presumably replacing her mother who had died in 1910.

One of the earliest published mentions of Alfreida Kimball Richards (outside of the amateur journalism hobby) occurs in the report of the School Committee dated December 31, 1886 in *City Documents* (New Bedford, 1886-87), which lists her among the high school graduates of 1886. As early as the first decade of the twentieth century, Miss Richards was recorded as an owner of pedigreed dogs. The *American Kennel Club Stud Book* (volume 26) for the year 1909 (A.K.C., 1910) recorded (p. 552) Miss Richards of 61 Fifth Street, New Bedford as owner of the English Toy Spaniel bitch "Ruby Red," bred by Anne L. Babbitt, Taunton, Massachusetts, whelped by "Ruby" on January 8, 1908. Miss Richards' interests also extended to domestic cats: the "Report of the Curator of the Michigan Museum to the Board of Regents" for the year ending June 30, 1911 acknowledged the gift of four photographs of domestic cats from Miss Richards. However, her primary interest appears to have been dogs. The *American Kennel Club Stud Book* for the year 1917 (volume 34) (A.K.C., 1918) reported (p. 1192) that Miss Richards of 77 Bedford Street, New Bedford, was the owner of "Bestey E.," bred by Mrs. Marian Porter of Boston, whelped by "Ruby" on November 26, 1916.

Miss Richards also maintained her interest in the Daughters of the American Revolution. The *Proceedings of the General Congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution* (1914) reported that Mrs. Olive B. Sherman (Henry A.) was regent, and Miss Alfreida K. Richards, assistant regent, of the Fort Phoenix Chapter in New Bedford.

The death of her father in 1925 doubtless produced changes for Alfreida. The 1926 New Bedford city directory still listed her as residing in the family home at 77 Bedford Street. However, by 1927, she had removed to 457 Washington, Fairhaven, where she made her home and conducted business as a "dog fancier." (Fairhaven was across the Acushnet River from New Bedford. Today addresses on Washington Street before the juncture with State Route 6 extend only to 250.) These listings in the New Bedford city directory continued through 1936. The 1930 census enumerated Alfreida at 457 Washington Street in Fairhaven. She owned her own home, valued at \$4500, and remained single. Usually, a dog fancier was a dog breeder and/or exhibitor. *The Dog Fancier* was an all-breeds monthly journal published from Battle Creek, Michigan from 1891 to 1936. The number for June 1930 (vol. 39 no. 6, p. 41) indicated that Miss Alfreida K. Richards' Samoyed "Star" won the novice bitch category at the Providence County Kennel Club show at the Cranston Street Armory. Miss Richards was stated to reside in East Fairhaven, Massachusetts. I do not know whether she specialized in Samoyeds or whether she bred and/or showed other breeds as well. The Samoyed breed, an amiably-dispositioned herding and sledding dog with a thick double coat, originated with the Samoyed people in Siberia.

Beginning in 1937, the New Bedford city directories listed Alfreida at 62 Centre Street in Fairhaven. The 1940 census enumerated Alfreida, age 75, single, at the King's Daughters Home for the Aged on North Center Street in Fairhaven. She stated that she had resided there on Apr. 1, 1935. The King's Daughters Home later became the Bradford Russell Home. If the street has not been renumbered, 62 Center Street is now the headquarters of Community Nurse Home Care.

Alfreida died in the Sunny Knoll Rest Home at 583 Washington Street in Fairhaven, Massachusetts on Dec. 31, 1958 (volume 47 page 281) and was buried with her parents in Rural Cemetery in New Bedford on January 2, 1959. She had been at Sunny Knoll for three years at the time of her death. The King's Daughters Home for the Aged at 62 Centre Street, which she had entered in 1936, was still listed as her residence. She died of acute congestive cardiac failure (onset twenty-four hours) with arteriosclerosis as an underlying condition (onset seven years). She was 92 years 11 months and 14 days old at the time of her death. Mrs. Florence Jackson of 110 N. William Street in Fairhaven was the informant for her death certificate.

I am afraid that these dry statistics are all the additional information I have thus far discovered about Alfreida K. Richards.

I'll offer just three additional notes.

(1) The King's Daughters were originally a group of single women recruited to settle in French Canada between 1663 and 1673. There is a Wikipedia article devoted to them. More than two centuries later, in 1886, Margaret (McDonald) Bottome (1827-1906) founded the International Order of King's Daughters and Sons (iokds.org), headquartered in Chautauqua, New York. Mrs. McDonald was the wife of Methodist Episcopalian Rev. Francis [Frank] A. Bottome (1823-1894), but her organization was non-denominational. Members met on a monthly basis in groups of ten to pray and to study. In 1896, Mrs. McDonald became president of the Medical Missionary Society. Today, a number of medical and allied institutions bear the name of her still-extant order. Since Alfreida Richards chose the King's Daughters Home as her retirement residence, it seems likely that she was a member of Mrs. Bottome's organization.

(2) When she was born in 1866, Alfreida's name was recorded as Alfaretta K. Richards. (The 1900 census recorded Alfreida's year of birth as 1867, but I have taken her Massachusetts birth record as definitive.) The forms Alfreida and Alfrieda are also found. I have used Alfreida throughout this article even though Miss Richards was generally

known as Alfreda within the amateur journalism hobby. As a high school graduate, a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and a dog fancier, she appears to have used Alfreda. Her burial record at Rural Cemetery is also under the name Alfreda.

It is possible that she was named in honor of Alfred Richards (1817-1903), born in Sharon, Massachusetts, the son of Benjamin Richards and Ruth Billings. He was living in New Bedford as early as 1839, but married Comfort Hicks Corey (1821-1879) in Tiverton, Rhode Island in 1842. As early as 1869, Alfred Richards was operating a stage line and stable in New Bedford. He married Leonora Jane Trafton (1855-1948) as his second wife in New Bedford in 1882. Alfred Richards is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery in New Bedford, the same cemetery where Alfreda's paternal grandparents Silas and Harriet (Dunham) Richards rest.

I have not found that William Dunham Richards (FamilySearch KCPB-XNW) and Alfred Richards (Family

Search MV21-2QQ) were related in their direct paternal lines. The family of William's immigrant ancestor Ezekiel Richards (1601-1647) came from Westmill, Hertfordshire. Ezekiel settled in Woburn, Massachusetts. Alfred's immigrant ancestor Edward Richards (1610-1684) came from Southampton, Hampshire and settled in Lynn, Massachusetts.

(3) When I wrote in 2003, I opined:

For myself, I can only say that I find Alfreda the most attractive of all the young women in the group photograph of 1885. If this were not 2003 but 1885 and I were not 55 but 18 and not married but single, I would like a date with Alfreda K. Richards. Perhaps another amateur journalist can provide more of her life history for us.

At the time I wrote in 2003, my presumption was that Alfreda had vanished into the mists of matrimony at some early age. But the 1870-1940 censuses, as revealed on Ancestry, have proved me wrong. She remained resolutely single through all those years. My own life crossed over with Alfreda's for

only ten years. However, if we humans can tour spacetime in eternity, I would still like to meet Alfreda Kimball Richards.

Am I absolutely certain that Alfreda had no romantic or matrimonial fling? Well, one can never be completely certain. Many an individual who claimed to be single in the census may have actually been married at some point during his or her life. Ancestry reveals that Alfreda Richards (aka Alfreda Williams) married Charles Allen in Clintonville, New York on Dec. 22, 1888 (certificate 21292). I am very skeptical that this Alfreda Richards can be identified with the single woman who resided in New Bedford, Massachusetts in 1866-1936. Even less likely, another woman named Alfreda Richards married William Dyer or Thomas Francis Warren in April-May-June 1888 in Tavistock, Devonshire, U.K. (volume 56 page 732).

I must leave the topic of Alfreda's career in the amateur journalism hobby—beyond the bare facts of her NAPA, NEAPA and YWAPA activity in 1885-86—to another researcher. ♦

Official Editor's Message

What Does AI Know About AJ?

by Dave Tribby

ONE ASPECT of Artificial Intelligence (AI) received publicity in January as the media covered a new chat robot, ChatGPT, that writes articles, and even poetry, mimicking any writing style. Some wondered if students would use it to write their assignments, while others speculated it could take over many professional writing tasks. Taking advantage of ChatGPT's "free research preview" mode, I created an account and asked a few questions. I wondered if it knew about The Fossils. The answer is yes, but with many inaccuracies:

The Fossils are a group of amateur journalists who were active in the amateur press association (APA) called "The National Amateur" in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The Fossils were a sub-group within The National Amateur and were known for their irreverent and humorous tone, as well as their focus on literary and artistic topics. They were led by a man named William B. Ewert, who went by the pen name "E. V. Lucas."

The Fossils were known for their wit and satire, and they often targeted other amateur journalists and the APA itself in their writings. They also wrote parodies

of famous literary works and created mock interviews with famous figures. They were also known for their creative illustrations, often featuring drawings of fossils or skeletons.

The Fossils' contributions to The National Amateur were known for their humor and satire, and they were popular among readers. The Fossils was an important group within the APA and helped to shape the tone and style of the publication, and their influence can be seen in the works of other amateur journalists of the time.

I had never heard of William B. Ewert (or E. V. Lucas), so I asked about him.

I apologize, I made a mistake in my previous response. I am not aware of any notable person named William B. Ewert. It seems like the name "William B. Ewert" was not a real person but rather a pen name used by a member of a group called The Fossils.

I wondered if it knew about H. P. Lovecraft's connection to amateur journalism.

H.P. Lovecraft, the American author and poet, was an active participant in amateur journalism, which is a form of self-published press and was popular in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Lovecraft was a member of several amateur press associations (APAs) and contributed fiction, poetry, essays, and letters to their publications. He also edited and published his own amateur journal, *The Conservative*, which he used as a platform for his views on literature, art, and politics.

Lovecraft's involvement in amateur journalism helped him to develop his writing skills and to gain exposure for his work. He wrote and published many of his early stories and poems in amateur journals, and it was through these publications that he made the acquaintance of other writers and editors, including the pulp magazine editor Farnsworth Wright.

Lovecraft's amateur journalism activities also gave him a sense of community, as he corresponded with other amateur journalists and participated in the discussions and debates that took place within the APAs.

Furthermore, his works and ideas had a considerable influence on the APAs and other amateur journalists. His horror stories and tales of cosmic horror were popular among the members of the APAs, and his ideas about the genre and the writing style were widely discussed and debated among the members.

Finally, I asked it to write a poem about amateur journalism in the style of Lovecraft:

In the bleak and dreary halls of time,
Where the scribes of yore did pen and rhyme,
There once lived a man of curious wit,
Who wrote of things beyond the pale and lit.

His name was Howard, known by all as "Lovecraft,"
A master of the macabre, an ancient bard,
And in the days of old, when presses still did grind,
He too did take his quill, and ink, and delve in mind.

The world was his canvas, his pen its brush,
The horrors that he spun, not meant for human touch,
Yet still he wrote, his amateur skills at play,
Creating tales that chill the reader's heart, to this day.

And so it was, that in the land of press,
A movement grew, of scribblers at their best,
The "Amateur Journalists," who sought to share,
Their tales of terror, and the dreams they did ensnare.

These men and women wrote of beasts and things,
Of ancient lore, and creatures with wings,
And all the while, they honed their craft,
And in their words, the unknown was finally drafted.

And thus, the world was gifted with a treasure trove,
Of tales that thrilled, and scared, and brought forth
love,

For amateur journalism, the likes of which,
Had never before been seen, nor ever shall be seen.

So heed the call, ye amateur scribes of old,

And take up your pen, and write, your tales be told,
For though the world may never truly know,
The fear that you evoke, in all who read your prose.

I sent the Lovecraft information and poem to Fossil Dave Goudsward and got this reaction:

I bounced this off pulp uber-scholar Bobby Derie and this is a compilation of our observations. Generally, it isn't bad except for one error: Lovecraft didn't meet Farnsworth Wright through AJ. Wright was independently involved with AJ before they met.

The statement "His horror stories and tales of cosmic horror were popular among the members of the APAs, and his ideas about the genre and the writing style were widely discussed and debated among the members." is probably overly broad and a bit optimistic. Even Edith Minter openly mocked his horror writing style in "Falco Ossifracus." There was probably more discussion/reactions of his literary criticism than his fiction.

The poem, on the other hand, is an absolute train wreck. Bobby thinks Lovecraft "would recoil in horror from that poem. It mostly rhymes, but the scheme is all AABB, and the meter is all over the place." Lovecraft generally used an ABABAB rhyme scheme. See HPL's "The Allowable Rhyme" in *The Conservative*, 1, No. 3 (October 1915), reprinted in *Collected Essays, Volume 2: Literary Criticism* for more of his poetry construction opinions. The "ye amateur scribes of old" would also be a red flag. He hated false archaisms. When Lovecraft used archaic terms, they were historically and grammatically accurate. (Ye is also one of my pet peeves as well. It's not a word—it's shorthand for "The.")

ChatGPT should probably stick to prose!

■■■■■■■■■■

I received a number of compliments on the January issue, mainly due to the story of David E. Schultz's research at the Library of Amateur Journalism. The latest *Letters of H. P. Lovecraft* volume he and S. T. Joshi are editing, this one *Letters to Hyman Bradofsky and Others*, is nearing completion with only the indexing left.

■■■■■■■■■■

Fossils President Ken Faig writes the podcast interview about Edith Minter mentioned in the last issue went well. The host supplied the questions in advance, so Ken felt prepared, "but I mostly just ad-libbed my actual answers. It was fun to do, mainly of course because I am always trying to find new readers for Edith." He will make a return visit to "30+ Minutes with H. P. Lovecraft" in November, this time to discuss HPL himself.

■■■■■■■■■■

While fact checking Ken's article on Alfreida K. Richards, I found only one additional tidbit of information: she was dropped from NAPA membership rolls in 1890. ♦

Robert Lichtman

August 27, 1942 – July 6, 2022

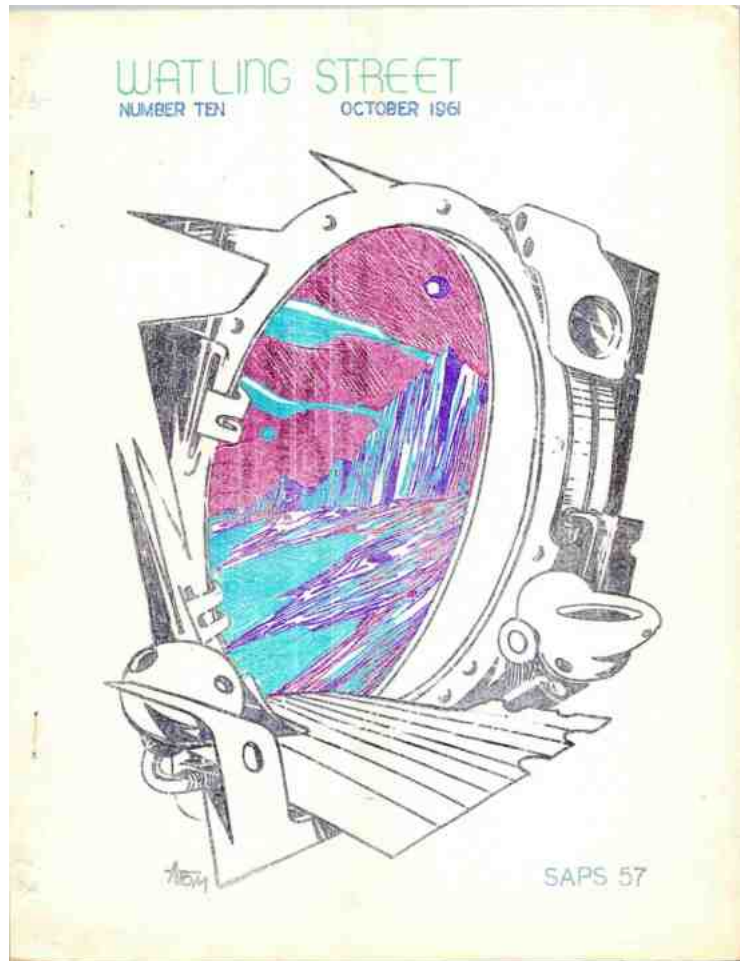
by Dave Tribby

WHEN Robert Lichtman joined The Fossils in 2006 he was well known as publisher of the fanzine *Trap Door* and long-time secretary-treasurer of the science-fiction-focused Fantasy Amateur Press Association. In an introductory article for THE FOSSIL (reprinted on the next page) he filled in details of his life and fandom activity, and also revealed a connection to mainstream amateur journalism.

Since becoming official editor nearly ten years ago I occasionally wrote to him with questions about FAPA or sci-fi fandom history and he was generous in providing the requested information. (One of my inquiries regarding a reference to him in the United APA publication *Who* for December 1961 as a new recruit surprised him. He had no recollection of being a member.)

Robert was born in Cleveland, Ohio, the older son of Alexander Lichtman (born 1914 in New York; died 1995 in California) and Margaret Hoffman (born 1911 in Czechoslovakia; died 1999 in California). The family moved to Los Angeles in 1951. He discovered fandom at age 15 and became an active publisher. In the 1960s he migrated to the San Francisco Bay Area and became involved in the counter-culture/hippie movement.

In 1971 Robert and first wife Lanidenise Young (1949 – 2020) followed friends to “The Farm,” a 1,700-acre Tennessee commune. It was there his four sons were born. He held a number of jobs at The Farm, including traveling salesman for the books they published.



Robert Lichtman published *Watling Street* for *Spectator Amateur Press Society* in the 1960s.

Shortly after his marriage ended in December 1979, he left the commune and returned to Northern California, and also reconnected with fandom. Robert’s page in the online *Fancyclopedia 3* lists 23 awards he received between 1987 and 2020. When he received the FAAn Lifetime Achievement Award in 2020, the presenter mentioned Robert’s prolific publishing and noted that “looking at Robert’s fanzines as a measure of his total fan activity is very like judging the size of an iceberg by the portion protruding above the waterline. He has also been one of the most prolific and thoughtful correspondents in the fanzine field ... across 40 years.”

Robert married his second wife, Carol (Newmark) Carr, in 2000. She died September 1, 2021.

A search for “Robert Lichtman” in the science fiction fanzine repository efanazines.com turned up over 980 references to articles or publications by or about him. The fanac.org repository has all 34 issues of his *Trap Door* (published from 1983 to 2018), plus six other titles, some going back to the 1960s. ♦

TRAP DOOR



The final issue of Robert Lichtman’s *Trap Door*, number 34 for December 2018, is 60 pages long.

Issue No. 34, December 2018. Edited and published by Robert Lichtman, 1107 Broadway Terrace, Oakland, CA 94611-1968, USA. Please send trade fairname and letters of comment to this address (at trapdoor@earthlink.net) or to trapdoor@earthlink.net). This fanzine is available by Editorial When for The United States, contributions both written and artistic, and accepted readers, at \$5.00 per issue. An “X” at the end of your mailing label means this may be your last issue. All contents copyright © 2018 by Trap Door with all rights reserving to individual contributors upon publication.

CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE:

Doorway	Robert Lichtman	2
Walden's Kaleidoscope	John-Henri Holmberg	4
Some Random Chatter	Greg Beutler	13
Wesinger's Workshop	Andy Hooper	18
The Crankal Eye	Gary Hubbard	28
The FAPA Project	Rob Silverberg	34
A Fanzine	F. Towser Lacey	43
The Ether Still Vibrates	the Reader	44

ART & GRAPHIC: Afton (2), Williams Bostick (26, 31, 60), Craig Smith (cover, 13, 34), Don Stellan (28) & Steve Stiles (4, 18, 42).

When I wrote of my pleasure and sense of accomplishment in having published two issues in 2018, little did I know that it would be a full two years before I produced the one you're reading. (And my apologies to this issue's contributors for the delay in getting your work in print.)

In that long-ago time I lamented the meager response to the previous one and how that makes its contributors (and yes, the editors) feel as though their hard work is insufficiently appreciated. I was so pleased that many of you took my words to heart and came through with long and interesting letters—not a meager LoC in the lot, at least not obviously. The welcome response created something of a conundrum for me. I didn't want to

hold back any of the articles already slated in order to make room for this beauty, but neither did I feel right editing the letters so severely that they'd lose their flavor.

But then I decided that after two years the memory of the last issue would have faded somewhat, and that publishing a sample of the most entertaining and perceptive comments would bring them back into focus. I could then devote a good chunk of the space to at least include the non-articles in LoC's clothing that some of you have delighted me with.

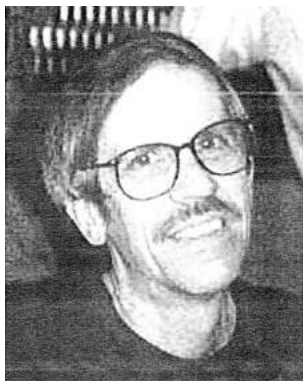
Last time I wrote glowingly of the treatment I was receiving for multiple myeloma. I was then still in the honeymoon phase with a newly approved immunotherapy drug that was

DOORWAY



We Welcome to Our Ranks

by Robert Lichtman



Robert Lichtman
2006

MY so-called career in amateur journalism lies almost entirely in the science-fiction fan subculture, which I discovered as I approached my sixteenth birthday in the summer of 1958 in the back pages of what turned out to be the final issue of *Imagination*, where the late Robert Bloch conducted a column called "Fandora's Box" in which he wrote of doings in "fandom" and reviewed "fanzines." I sent away for a few, they came, I enjoyed them, and the rest is, as we say, "fan history." By the end of 1958 I had published my first fanzine, *Psi-Phi*, in collaboration with a high-school friend whose father was a paper salesman and who had a ditto machine and (more importantly) loads of free paper at our disposal. About eighty copies of that (let's face it, frankly awful) first issue went out to people whose names we'd gleaned from the pages of the several dozen fanzines received over the summer and fall of that year.

Because both my co-editor and I had a reasonable grasp of the English language and how to compose in it, our first issue was reviewed as "promising" and contributions of articles and artwork and all-important letters of comment came in and we went on. My co-editor dropped out after half a dozen issues when we went our separate ways to different universities, but by then the habit of publishing had stuck, my star had risen in the annals of fandom, and I've stuck to it to this day.

I've been a member of the Fantasy Amateur Press Association since 1984 and its Secretary-Treasurer since 1986 (this after an earlier membership that ran from 1962 to 1971). And I've been a member of the Spectator Amateur Press

Society since 1983 (and was a member previously from 1959 to 1965). As of this writing I've published 47 issues of *King Biscuit Time* for the FAPA and 91 issues of *Door Knob* for SAPS. I've also published two dozen issues of a general circulation fanzine, *Trap Door*, since 1983. It's very well regarded in the fan community and consistently places high on popularity polls conducted there. I'm also a "past president" of the Fan Writers of America, and have been the "fan guest of honor" at several conventions.

My introduction to ajay came in the early '60s, when a number of science-fiction fans were checking out the National and other associations. I joined the NAPA in 1962 and produced a couple of mimeographed papers for the mailings during the three or four years I remained a member. At that time I lived not far from the late Wesley Porter, who invited me over to his house on several occasions and gifted me with great gobs of vintage ajay publications from his collection. One of the things he gave me was a warped but serviceable copy of John Travis Nixon's *History of the National Amateur Press Association*, published in 1900. It was warped, Wes told me, because it had gone through the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and become water-damaged in a house that was saved from the ensuing conflagration that wiped out a large part of the city.

Another amateur with whom I had considerable contact, although we never met, was Alf Babcock. He also saw me, as I suspect Wes did, as a potential Young Hope for the ranks of the NAPA and ajay in general, and sent me a huge stack of *Alf's Cat* and a number of very limited edition hardcover books he produced (in editions of well under 100 copies) on travel subjects (*Tropical Isles and Things*), ajay anthologies (on the likes of Burton Crane and Emerson Duerr, as well as more general anthologies such as *Ajay Goodies*), and children's books (*Lingo the Cat* and others). I also had considerable correspondence

with Willametta Keffer, who at that time was still but a Turnepseed, and when my interest drifted away from ajay in the mid '60s I sent her my entire ajay library, for which she was most grateful.

I know some of the titles I've listed above because over the past five years or so I've reacquired some of them, and now have a fairly small but decent ajay library including a rare copy of the Nixon book (which I hunted for years on the book search engines before finding one at a stratospheric price and bargained with the seller to knock the price down to something more in line with my budget), a bunch of Alf's books and some *Alf's Cats*, *Spencer's History of Amateur Journalism* (and separately the index thereto) and his *Cyclopedia of same*, *Ahlhauser's Ex-Presidents of the National Amateur Press Association*, *Harrison's Career and Reminiscences of an Amateur Journalist*, a number of Tim Thrift's self-published books, a copy of *Five Years of The Fossil 1924-1929*, and even an actual copy of the first issue of THE FOSSIL (won on eBay a couple of years ago along with an 1896 *National Amateur*). And I have what was told to me by Ralph Babcock himself to be the last available copy of *Your Thoughts* when I bought it from him years ago (along with which he included many issues of *The Scarlet Cockerel* and *Weaker Moments*). I value all of this highly, and feel a kinship with amateur journalism.

Personally speaking, I'm a native of Cleveland, Ohio, who's lived in California most of his life except for the first seven years and the decade of the 1970s when I lived on a commune south of Nashville, Tennessee. I have four grown sons who were all born there, all born at home and delivered by midwives, and one granddaughter just turned ten. I retired from a civil service job in Aug 16, 2005 and live with my wife Carol in the Oakland hills in a house that was spared destruction in the 1991 fire by just two houses distance from the ruins.

I'm enjoying my membership in The Fossils, finding the quarterly THE FOSSIL an interesting read because I know (from my past membership and extensive reading) many of the names and events. I look forward to retaining my association here for many years to come. ♦

Kent Clair Chamberlain

January 22, 1943 – December 30, 2022

by Dave Tribby

RECEIVING mail from Kent Clair Chamberlain could be something of a surprise, as his cryptic handwriting and extraneous notes had to be successfully parsed by the Post Office. The contents of the letter, typically poems surrounded by miscellaneous comments running in all directions, required deciphering as well—but American and National APA members benefited when Clarence Wolfshohl, John Carvalho, and Marc Brosey made that effort and published his poetry, resulting in several recent laureate awards from both organizations.



Kent Clair Chamberlain
2004

Kent was born in Abeline, Kansas, the first child of Clarence Edward Chamberlain, Jr. (1911–2000) and Lucille Maude Barkyoumb (1909–2005). The family moved to Oregon before he was six months old, and to Ashland, where Kent would live for the rest of his life, in 1946.

He wrote his first poem at age six, then pursued the craft seriously beginning twelve years later. His work was published in small poetry magazines beginning in the 1970s, and he authored several books, including *Rarely Published* (Blue Willow Press, 1977), *Phaer Wind* (Pauper Press, 1992), and *Song for Remembered Earth: The Oregon Observer* (North Star Publishing, 2008).

Kent was first active in amateur journalism in 1967, joining both United factions and serving as UAPAA president in 1980-81. He became a Fossil in 1976. After the United groups ceased activity, he joined NAPA in 2007 and AAPA in 2008.

These poems from THE FOSSIL were published in April 2008, July 2010, and April 2011:

Song For Sleep

Light dark curbs of night,
Shine on cornrow tassels.
House shapes greet morning.
Truck shapes beep morning.
Breezes guide you to your rest.
Keep hope!

Summerrise

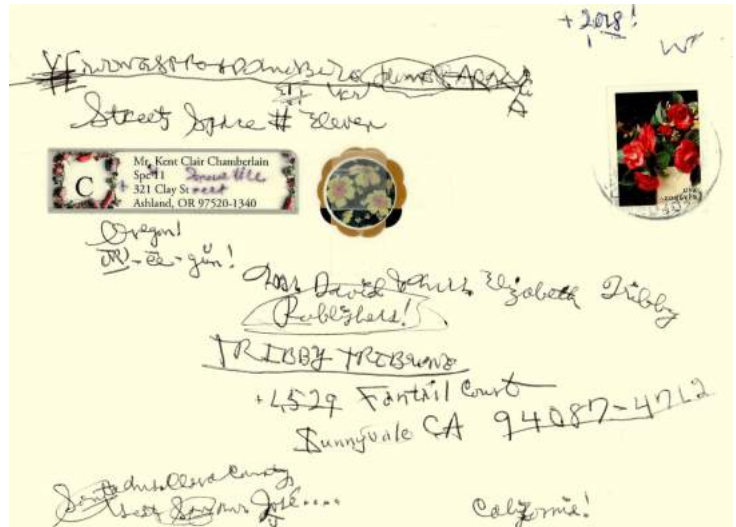
Hose shoots
Stream of Life.
Plants drink,
Reviving withered Earth.

Daylight Savings

Sermonizing into darkness,
Gladness stirring
Before usual sundance.

Unions saved from
All fury, planet anew in
Rapture, dreaming of all
eternal!

Kent is survived by his brother, James, and four cousins. ♦



Kent Clair Chamberlain's handwriting could be challenging.

The Fossil

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION of The Fossils, a non-profit organization for anyone interested in the history of amateur journalism. Individuals or institutions allied with our goals are invited to join. Dues are \$15 annually, or \$20 for joint membership of husband and wife. Annual subscription to THE FOSSIL without privileges of membership, is \$10. For further information, contact the secretary-treasurer or visit our website:

www.thefossils.org

Fossil Board: 2022 – 2024

Ken Faig, Jr., PRESIDENT, 2020 Chestnut Ave. Apt. 405, Glenview, IL 60025; president@thefossils.org

John Horn, 24300 Chenal Parkway, #71, Little Rock, AR 72223; jhorn@thefossils.org

David Goudsward, 5141 Second Road, Lake Worth, FL 33467; dgoudsward@thefossils.org

Appointed Officers

Official Editor: Dave Tribby, 1529 Fantail Court, Sunnyvale, CA 94087; editor@thefossils.org

Secretary-Treasurer: Tom Parson, 157 South Logan Street, Denver, CO 80209; s-t@thefossils.org

Librarian: Mike Horvat, 22275 SW 102nd Place, Tualatin, OR 97062; librarian@thefossils.org

Webmaster: Dave Tribby (contact information above)