

POLAR BEAR



The Newsletter of the Alaska Press Club

December 2008

Club works to make contest and conference relevant and affordable

Greetings Alaska Press Club Members and Friends,

What a year 2008 has been for Alaska news hounds!

Last spring at the Alaska Press Club's annual J-Week conference, Ron Fournier, the AP's Washington bureau chief, predicted that John McCain would be the nation's next president. Fournier was quick to offer several reasons for his prediction, but none of them came close to McCain's choice of our governor as his vice presidential running mate.

That stunning Aug. 29 announcement, as we now know, catapulted Alaska into the national and international spotlight, for better or worse. Alaskans with Lower 48 ties became suddenly popular. Many of us began fielding phone calls and e-mails from people Outside, including some people we hadn't heard from in years. They wanted to learn all they could about Sarah Palin, and from regular folks who actually live here.

And as our governor became a hot commodity this fall, so did state media outlets, as Outside journalists on the hunt poured into Alaska from around the nation and the world. Conversely, Alaska journalists and others also appeared on the national and international stage like never before.

But even if our state's journalism profession exploded in 2008, what kind

of lasting impact might Alaska's and our governor's sudden fame carry into the future? No one knows for sure, of course, but Alaska is never at a loss for offering journalists remarkable stories to tell. Isn't that why we so dearly love this quirky northern land we call home?

Reflecting a changing profession

In an effort to embrace the changing face of journalism in Alaska (and everywhere else), this year the Alaska Press Club has added some new contest categories for bloggers, for other electronic media, and for magazines. This fall APC board members Philip Munger and Aliza Sherman from committee work proposed new blogger contest categories. The full board vetted the final categories. Club membership and our contest now better reflect Alaska's growing community of bloggers and online and citizen journalists. Welcome to everyone!

Kathleen McCoy and Dimitra Lavrakas also assisted with contest issues to this point, including researching journalism ethics questions and proposing new magazine categories. In addition, board member Johanna Eurich is overseeing the transition to electronic submissions for contest entries, beginning this year with electronic submissions for radio categories.

Paola Banchero is spearheading this year's overall contest.

As ex-officio officers and past presidents, Paola and Brian O'Donoghue provide continuity for our board. They also have teamed up over the years to shepherd our detail-rich contest through the entire process, start to finish. (The club often continues to field contest queries for months after J-Week is done.) The contest also requires the active participation of every board member. It is our primary revenue generator, fueling J-Week and other club activities.

The press club welcomes all member and non-member contest entries this year. Please send in your entries!

APC Board vice-presidents Rhonda McBride and Johanna Eurich are again coordinating the 2009 J-Week conference, joined this year by board member Dimitra Lavrakas. If it's possible to top our 2008 J-Week conference, these three dynamos will do it. Please contact them with ideas for panels, workshops, presenters, exhibits, and so forth.

For the second year in a row, our J-Week conference is scheduled for the Anchorage Senior Center at 1300 19th Ave. Again, it will take place March 26-28.

Many attendees remarked that last April's J-Week was the best in memory,

See Page 8

Press Club seeks nominations for annual First Amendment award

J-Week 2009 will mark the club's third annual First Amendment Award, our club's celebration of First Amendment values in Alaska. The club's first-ever award in 2007 went to John McKay, Alaska's premier First Amendment attorney. In 2008 the club honored Peter Dunlap-Shohl, political cartoonist for the Anchorage Daily News.

Do you have someone in mind for a First Amendment Award for 2009? Nominations close on the same day as our contest deadline in January. Please email nomination letters to board secretary Kathleen McCoy at kjmccoy@stanford.edu.

The award is being named for Tom Snapp, the late editor of the gritty All-Alaska Weekly and Howard Rock, the late editor of the Tundra Times.

Index

Page 2 Entry guidelines

Page 3 Print rules

Page 4 Entry form

Page 5 Membership form

Page 6 Radio rules

Page 6 Television rules

Page 7 Online media and all-media

Alaska Press Club adds categories for magazines, online newsgathering

Carefully read the following contest categories and rules.

They will help you determine what categories you want to enter and how to make sure they are sent to the correct out-of-state judges. When you fill out your entry forms, it's important that you fill out the top and bottom of the form. Without the bottom one correctly filled out, we have no solid receipt of what you sent in. Make sure you label your entry correctly, such as "L-9." We'll know your entry comes from a large publication and that you are entering the Best Education Reporting category.

J-Week: March 26-28, 2009 at the Anchorage Senior Center

ENTRY GUIDELINES

Print

The print competition is divided by size. Please note:

- Small newspapers can compete in large-newspaper categories if they so choose.
- Large newspapers cannot enter small-newspaper categories.
- No one can enter both categories — i.e., you cannot enter a feature story in "S-3," and enter the SAME story in "L-3." You must choose one.
- Confused about which division to enter? E-mail your question to paola@uaa.alaska.edu.

L: Large Newspapers & Publications :

• Alaska Business Monthly, Anchorage City Scene, Anchorage Daily News, Anchorage magazine, Anchorage Press, Alaska Magazine, Art Matters, Coast Magazine, Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, First Alaskans, Frontiersman, Juneau Empire, Ketchikan Daily News, Peninsula Clarion, Voice of the Times, Alaskan freelancers for these or Outside publications and any Alaskan who works for a wire service in Alaska.

S: Small Newspapers & Publications :

• All small publications including Alaska Journal of Commerce, Alaska Military Weekly, Alaska Post, Alaska Wellness, Arctic Sounder, Bristol Bay Times, Business News Alaska, Capital City Weekly, Catholic Anchor, Chilkat Valley News, Cordova Times, Cuisine Scene, Daily Sitka Sentinel, Delta

Discovery, Dutch Harbor Fisherman, Homer Alaska Tribune, Homer News, Insurgent 49, Kodiak Daily Mirror, Nome Nugget, Northern Light, Petersburg Pilot, Petroleum News Alaska, Senior Voice, Seward Phoenix Log, Skagway News, Sourdough Sentinel, Sun Star, Talkeetna Goodtimes, True North, Tundra Drums, Turnagain Times, Valdez Star, Valdez Vanguard, Whalesong, Wrangell St. Elias News and any Alaskan who freelances for these publications.

Please also see specific rules for each umbrella category, for example for photography and publication graphics.

All entries must also meet the "General Rules" stated to the right.

- Print submissions should be full-page tearsheets or photocopies of the relevant part of the page, showing the publication name and date, with the entry form attached.
- Please use staples — not paperclips — to attach entry forms.
- Print submissions from an online publication should be printouts of the relevant part of the Web page, showing the publication name, date and online address, with the entry form attached.
- A diagonal line should be drawn through all articles on the tearsheet that are not being entered.
- Entries consisting of more than one tearsheet should be stapled together and numbered in sequence "1 of 3," "2 of 3," with "End" on the final tearsheet.

GENERAL RULES

ETHICS & DISQUALIFICATION

The Alaska Press Club promotes ethical journalism and recognizes that contest rules cannot envision every potential breach of professional standards. The club reserves the right to disqualify any entry or withdraw any award based on ethical violations as noted in the rules. If an entry is disqualified, the prize will be awarded to the next place winner. Disqualified entrants will forfeit their entry fees.

ENTRY GUIDELINES THAT APPLY TO EVERYONE

- There is no limit on the number of times you can enter a given category.
- You cannot enter the same piece of work more than once, unless otherwise noted.
- The entrant is responsible for choosing the proper category, but the Contest Committee may reassign any entry.
- All entries must be submitted as they were published or broadcast.
- Institutions or companies that sponsor group entries must list the name of each person in the group.
- Each entry must be accompanied by an (enclosed) entry form (photocopies accepted).
- Each entry must be accompanied by an entry fee. Cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. The fee for the Best Weekly, Best News Program in Radio and Television is \$15. Make checks payable to The Alaska Press Club. Do not send cash. NOTE: If any person in a group entry is not a member, then the fee for that entry is \$15.
- Entry forms must be legible (please!).
- In all categories, entries shall consist of a single piece of work unless otherwise noted.
- Each entry must be submitted in the medium for which it was created.
- Entrants must meet eligibility requirements and deadlines, as outlined in previous sections.
- Entrants must meet any additional entry guidelines for their respective field.

DISCLAIMER

The Press Club takes great care handling and processing entries and is not responsible for lost or damaged entries. All entrants and sponsors agree to hold the Press Club harmless from liability for any decision made in connection with the awards competition. The club promises to do its best to correct any problems brought to its attention.

to exceed 30 minutes each.

67. BEST SPORTS STORY: A single broadcast on any sports-related topic.
68. BEST PROFILE: Includes obituaries.
69. BEST EDITING: Judged on continuity, pacing and storytelling.
70. BEST FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY
71. BEST SPOT NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY: A shot of an unscheduled event for which no advance planning was possible.
72. BEST SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY
73. BEST DAILY NEWSCAST: Submit three examples of a regularly-scheduled, locally produced news show that airs at least five times a week, 52 weeks a year. Submit one newscast from February, one from August and a third from a month of your choosing. Entry should be in the name of the station and the entry fee is \$15. No more than two entries per station.

Online media

List web page address in the "entry title" space on the entry form.

74. ONLINE BREAKING NEWS: Honors the best presentation on the Internet of a breaking news event.
75. BEST MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION OF STORY: Honors the best multimedia presentation of a single story.
76. ONLINE COVERAGE OF SINGLE TOPIC: Three representative examples of how the Web site covered a single topic.
77. ONLINE VIDEO JOURNALISM: Best video produced exclusively for Internet storytelling.
78. BEST BLOG: Entries must be submitted under a real name: Blogs posted anonymously or under a pseudonym are unacceptable unless the author is publicly identified elsewhere on the host website."
79. AUDIO SLIDESHOWS: A single audio slideshow broadcast on the Web in association with an online news report. If active URL is no longer available, submit in a play-ready format on CD. Judged for quality of photography and integration of audio to tell a story.

All Media

- One award will be given in each category. Each entry MUST include an entry form, the category name and number, i.e. "82 Humor."
80. BEST EDITORIAL OR COMMENTARY: Submit three opinion pieces by single writer or producer working in any format.

81. BEST ALASKA OUTDOOR STORY: From hunting and fishing stories to bear maulings, expeditions and adventure sports, this category honors individual stories that convey Alaska's wild side.
82. BEST ALASKA HISTORY STORY: This category celebrates Alaska's rich history. Articles, radio and television broadcasts submitted can be about people, places and events that shaped this state. Submissions may also include oral histories in all media.
83. HUMOR: Submit one piece per entry, one entry one person. Entries may have been entered in another category as long as separate entry fees and forms are submitted.
84. INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING: One or more pieces that are the result of extensive research and original investigation. Judged for quality of investigation, public importance, effectiveness in presentation and writing skill. Entrants may include a letter, up to 250 words in length, explaining the obstacles overcome in reporting the news. Open to online projects. Does not include explanatory journalism. Entries may have been entered in one other category as long as separate entry fees are submitted.
85. BEST MEDIA WEBSITE: List website address in the "entry title" space on the entry form.
86. PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD: Entries should be the result of a marshaling of resources above and beyond what is expected. The mere existence of a publication or a program is not sufficient grounds for entry in this category. Entrants may include a letter, up to 250 words in length, explaining the purpose for their reporting and the result. Entries may have been entered in one category as long as separate entry fees are submitted. Limit of two entries per media outlet. Entry should be made in the name of the sponsoring organization.
87. FIRST AMENDMENT AWARD: This award goes to Alaskans who have gone above and beyond in protecting these rights. Nominate yourself, your organization or a peer through a letter of recommendation. The winner will be

The Alaska Press Club is looking for new members. Come to the annual conference, get involved and nominate yourself to serve on the board. Elections will be held Saturday, March 28.

selected by a committee of three people appointed by the board and ratified by the board.

The Alaska Press Club is an independent professional organization that provides continuing education and recognition to reporters across the state. We have existed since 1953 and currently have about 300 members. The club is run by volunteers, all journalists elected by the membership. The board meets monthly via teleconference and once a year in an open meeting with the membership. The Press Club is a nonprofit entity. Most of its resources are spent organizing and financing two events each year: A three-day journalism conference held in the spring that includes workshops and panel discussions, and an awards contest and banquet, held during the conference.

Alaska Press Club Membership Form

Member's Name: _____
News Organization: _____
Your Title: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

ANNUAL DUES

Annual membership in the Alaska Press Club costs \$25, or \$10 for students. Membership expires every year on December 31. To qualify for the lower member rate for the Alaska Press Club Awards Contest this year, you need to renew your membership now. Make checks payable to the Alaska Press Club and mail to:

The Alaska Press Club
PO Box 143426
Anchorage, AK 99514

When enclosing payments that include annual dues and fees for entries, please include a brief breakdown of the payment total.

AMOUNT ENCLOSED (check one)

- \$25 for annual membership
 \$10 for student membership
 \$35 associate membership- for non-working press

TOTAL:

\$ _____ for membership dues and award entry fees

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

-Alaska Press Club members get in free to the annual journalism conference held in Anchorage in late April (conference cost to non-members is \$30 per day). This year's conference will be held April 17-19 at the Anchorage Senior Center. The conference features workshops by national-caliber journalists and usually includes a party or two to boot — a great opportunity to network or just catch up with journalists you haven't seen in a while. The awards banquet will be held during the conference, on Sat., April 19.

-Members also receive dispatches from us via e-mail, and a Polar Bear newsletter in the mail once a year in December (includes the contest entry forms)

-Members also get a discount on contest entries (\$10 for members; \$15 for non-members).

Alaska Press Club Awards Contest Entry Form

Instructions: Include one entry form for each entry and be sure they are securely attached. When submitting more than one entry, include a brief breakdown of entry fees covered by the check you are enclosing. Example for an individual: Four entries for Press Club member = \$40. Example for a group or organization: 12 entries, eight for Press Club members (\$80) and four for non-members (\$60) = \$140.

You must pay your annual Alaska Press Club dues with the entries or before the entry deadline to qualify for the lower member rate for award entries. If you are including annual dues with your entries, fill out a separate membership form for each member and include the dues in the brief breakdown of fees covered by the check you are enclosing. ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY Wednesday, Jan. 21. Mail entries to: The Alaska Press Club, PO Box 143426, Anchorage, AK 99514-3426.

Entrant(s): _____

Category Name (i.e. "Best Headline Writing"): _____

Category Number and Classification Letter (S/L) where needed: _____

Entry Title: _____

Publication or Air Date: _____

News Organization: _____

News Organization Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Your Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Entry Fee: \$10 for members; \$15 for non-members. (Checks for multiple entries must include a written breakdown of how total was calculated).

Total Enclosed: _____

You must fill out the following so we will have a record of your entry.

Entrant(s): _____

Category Number and Classification Letter (S/L) where needed: _____

Entry Title: _____

News Organization: _____

Your Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

- In all cases, the term “story” may include a main story and associated sidebars, all relating to the same event and all appearing together as a package in a single edition.
- A story submitted as part of a series, section or sustained coverage may be entered by itself in other categories.

REPORTING, WRITING and OPINING

- BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY:** A single story written in a single day about an unscheduled news event. Entrants may include a letter, up to 250 words in length, explaining the deadline circumstances. Stories submitted in this category can also be entered in other categories.
- BEST GENERAL NEWS STORY**
- BEST USE OF STORY & PHOTOS BY A JOURNALIST:** Entrant must be the person who wrote the story (no double-bylines) and took the picture(s). Large and small publications compete separately.
- BEST SHORT FEATURE:** A single feature story up to 1,500 words in length.
- BEST LONG FEATURE:** A single feature story more than 1,500 words in length. Large and small publications compete together on this one.
- BEST MAGAZINE FEATURE:** A new category to honor the best magazine feature story.
- BEST BUSINESS REPORTING:** A single story dealing with business, financial or consumer issues.
- BEST GOVERNMENT OR POLITICAL REPORTING:** A single story concerning local, state or federal government, politics or campaigns.
- BEST EDUCATION REPORTING:** A single story about education from pre-kindergarten through higher ed.
- BEST PROFILE:** Includes obituaries.
- BEST ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING:** A single story on issues concerning natural resources, growth and development and related topics.
- BEST REPORTING ON CRIME OR COURTS:** A single story on any aspect of law enforcement, courts, corrections and related areas.
- BEST REPORTING ON HEALTH OR SCIENCE:** A single story regarding health or science.
- BEST COLUMNIST:** Submit three examples. Sports columnists not eligible (see next category).
- BEST SPORTS COLUMNIST:**

- Submit three examples. Large and small newspapers compete together in this category.
- BEST SPORTS NEWS REPORTING:** A single story of excellence.
 - BEST SPORTS GAME / EVENT STORY:** A single story about a sports game or event.
 - BEST SPORTS FEATURE:** A single story about any sports topic.
 - BEST ARTS COVERAGE:** A single story about any arts-related topic, event or person. Includes critiques. Large and small publications compete together in this category.
 - BEST SUSTAINED COVERAGE:** Up to 10 stories, published over time, following developments in an ongoing news story.
 - BEST SERIES:** Stories, published in sequence, covering an event or issue in depth, conceived and presented as a series.
 - BEST HEADLINE WRITING:** Any five headlines, along with their sub-headlines, composed by the same person. Include stories the headlines accompany. Large and small publications compete together on this one.
 - BEST EDITORIAL CARTOON:** Submit three examples. Large and small publications compete together on this one.
 - BEST SECTION:** Submit three examples. Must be a regular section of the newspaper. Entrants may include a letter, up to 250 words in length, explaining how the section fits into the paper overall and why it was created.
 - BEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPER:** Open to all weekly newspapers, regardless of size. Includes newspapers published more than once a week but not five days a week. Each newspaper should submit one issue from February and one from August, plus a third issue from any month. Rubber band the issues and the entry form together. This entry should be in the name of the newspaper. Entry fee is \$15.

GRAPHICS

- Each entry MUST include an entry form and a classification letter and category number - i.e. “S-27.”
- S: Small newspapers and publications
L: Large newspapers and publications
- The only exception to this rule is when large and small publications compete together in a category. In those cases, your entry form need only list the category name and number - i.e. “26: Best Illustration.”
- BEST ILLUSTRATION:** Submit one

- example. Large and small papers compete together in this category.
- BEST PAGE LAYOUT & DESIGN:** A full-page or double truck from any section of a publication dealing with a single topic or packaging a variety of unrelated stories and art.
 - BEST GRAPHIC:** Any informational graphics, designed to tell a story or illustrate information in a story. Include story with graphics. Large and small publications compete together on this one.
 - BEST MAGAZINE COVER**
 - BEST MAGAZINE OVERALL DESIGN**

PHOTOGRAPHY

- A photo from a series may be entered by itself in another category. Color or black-and-white photos are eligible.
 - **DO NOT SEND SLIDES OR TEARSHEETS.**
- Entrees in all photo categories are to be submitted on a CD with scanned jpeg images. All photos should be scanned at a 200 dpi resolution, with the longest dimension not exceeding 10 inches.
- NAME FILES USING THIS FORMAT:** Category number + publication size (L or S) + photographer’s last name + descriptive slug. For example, “36sRobertson- Greenlights” would suffice as the file name for a small publication division feature photo of the northern lights by photographer Bob Robertson. File names consisting of more than one photo should be numbered in sequence. Properly named entries in multiple categories may be submitted by individuals or organizations on a single CD. Include caption information in the image or, in Photoshop, under the “file info” category.
- Each entry MUST include an entry form and a classification letter and category number - i.e. “L-29.” For multiple entries submitted on a single CD, wrap all entry forms around the CD.
- S: Small newspapers and publications
L: Large newspapers and publications
- Meet entry guidelines outlined in “General Rules.”
- BEST NEWS PHOTO:** A single photo of a breaking news event or a scheduled news event.
 - BEST PICTURE STORY:** A group or sequence of up to five photos used to reveal a single story line.
 - BEST SPORTS PHOTO:** A single photo from any sports event.
 - BEST SCENIC PHOTO:** A single

image that expresses the beauty and wonder of the Alaska landscape through composition and tonal and color relationships more than through human interaction.

35. **BEST PORTRAIT:** A single photo of a person or persons that reveals the essence of the subject's character.

36. **BEST FEATURE PHOTO:** A single image that falls outside straight news photography and may be of a light or serious nature.

Radio

All radio entries submitted electronically must be filed on the APRN FTP site.

Server address = ftp.aprn.org

Username = lastminute

Password = RightNow.

The folder for entries = AK Press Club

Anyone with this information on hand can upload pieces into the noted directory. But if you have problems, you can reach Johanna Eurich at 562-7776 or e-mail her your stories at jeurich@aprn.org.

In the AK Press club folder on the FTP site, you will find other folders labeled with the number and name of all the radio categories. Example = 37 breaking news. It is important you put your pieces in the right folders. Please submit wave files to assure the highest quality.

Proper labeling of your audio file is important:

Label the work with the number of the category followed by the first and last initial of the primary submitter (underscore) and a one word title for the story (a longer title can be included in the paper work).

"37je_fire" is an example of a label for a story in the radio best breaking story category.

You must still send us snail-mail the paper work and the check for your entries.

If you are having problems with the electronic submission process, you can also follow the old procedures and send us the entries in the mail on CD, with each CD labeled separately.

- Entry form should be folded around the CD with the information outside and secured with a rubber band. Each entry form MUST include the category name and number.

- Multiple entries for a single category can be entered on the same CD (but each entry must have its own entry form and fee; wrap all forms around

the CD). For example, you cannot put an entry for category No. 37 and category No. 38 on the same CD. But you or your station can put two entries for No. 37 on the same CD.

- Meet entry guidelines outlined in "General Rules" section.

37. **BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY:** A single broadcast reported in a single day about an unscheduled news event.

38. **BEST SINGLE STORY REPORTING:** Submit entire story.

39. **BEST COMPREHENSIVE REPORTING:** Does not have to be packaged as a series. Comprehensive coverage or series by one or more reporters. Submit up to three parts of the series, not to exceed 15 minutes total. Include anchor intro.

40. **BEST ONGOING PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM:** Must air at least monthly.

41. **BEST DOCUMENTARY:** Work that deals with a particular subject or theme in depth, generally constructed using scenes and a narrative arc. Submissions must be 15 minutes or longer; not to exceed two hours. Entry must include entire production as aired, not just a sampling.

42. **BEST GOVERNMENT OR POLITICAL REPORTING:** A single broadcast concerning local, state or federal government, politics or campaigns.

43. **BEST BUSINESS REPORTING:** A single broadcast dealing with business, financial or consumer issues.

44. **BEST ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING:** A single broadcast on issues concerning natural resources, growth and development and related topics.

45. **BEST REPORTING ON CRIME OR COURTS:** A single broadcast on any aspect of law enforcement, courts, corrections and related areas.

46. **BEST EDUCATION REPORTING:** A single report.

47. **BEST RADIO FEATURE:** A single broadcast limited to 10 minutes or less, emphasizing use of sound. Submit anchor intro.

48. **BEST PROFILE:** Includes obituaries.

49. **BEST SPORTS REPORTING:** A single broadcast, live or produced.

50. **BEST ARTS COVERAGE:** A single broadcast about any arts-related topic, event or person.

51. **BEST REPORTING ON HEALTH OR SCIENCE:** A single report.

52. **BEST DAILY NEWS PROGRAM:** Submit one example 10 minutes or longer. This entry should be in the name of the station. Entry fee is \$15.

Television

- Each television entry must be on a DVD or VHS tape.

- Anchor intros, either audio/video or print, are optional, except where noted.

- Multiple entries for a single category can be entered on the same tape/DVD (but each entry must have its own entry form and fee; wrap all forms around the tape/DVD). For example, you cannot put an entry for category No. 57 and category No. 58 on the same DVD. But you or your station can put two entries for No. 57 on the same DVD.

- The entry form should be folded around the tape/DVD with information outside and secured with a rubber band. Each entry form MUST include the category name and number.

Meet entry guidelines outlined in "General Rules" section.

53. **BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY:** Attach a one-paragraph note explaining deadline pressure and script of anchor intro.

54. **BEST SINGLE STORY REPORTING:** Attach anchor intro.

55. **BEST SERIES REPORTING:** Attach anchor intro. reporter's position, ability to capture the scene and photography.

56. **BEST LIVE SHOT:** Judged on reporter's position, ability to capture the scene and photography.

57. **BEST DOCUMENTARY:** 30 minutes or longer.

58. **BEST REPORTING ON HEALTH OR SCIENCE:** A single report.

59. **BEST EDUCATION REPORTING:** A single report.

60. **BEST ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING:** A single broadcast on issues concerning natural resources, growth and development and related topics.

61. **BEST REPORTING ON CRIME OR COURTS:** A single broadcast on any aspect of law enforcement, courts, corrections and related areas.

62. **BEST GOVERNMENT OR POLITICAL REPORTING:** A single broadcast concerning local, state or federal government, politics or campaigns.

63. **BEST BUSINESS REPORTING:** A single broadcast dealing with business, financial or consumer issues.

64. **BEST TELEVISION FEATURE**

65. **BEST ARTS COVERAGE:** A single broadcast about any arts-related topic, event or person.

66. **BEST ONGOING PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM:** Airs at least monthly. Submit three examples on one tape, not

Mark your calendars: J-Week is March 26-28

This year's annual conference, known as J-Week, is March 26-March 28. That's almost a full month earlier than last year's conference.

It will be held at the Anchorage Senior Center, 1300 East 19th Ave.,

Anchorage 99501. If coming from the Kenai, head north on the Seward Highway. Turn east (right) at 15th Avenue. Go south (right) at Karluk and follow the signs to the center. From the Mat-Su area and further north, take the Glenn Highway into

town. Turn south (left) on Gambell, which is the same as Highway 1, or the Seward Highway. Stay in the left lane. Turn east (left) on 15th Avenue. Follow the directions for northbound drivers from there.

Continued from Page 1

including an inspirational banquet, practical workshops in new media, insightful panels on contemporary Alaska issues, media critics from across the political spectrum, and extraordinary presenters.

Pulitzer Prize-winning Miami Herald columnist Leonard Pitts Jr., our keynote speaker, said that one major inspiration from his childhood, even as a political writer, was Erma Bombeck, the late syndicated humor columnist who wrote about ordinary life from the heart.

Club Activities

We have some fabulous folks on our board, all volunteers working on behalf of the membership and for the advancement of excellence in journalism in Alaska. It's a team effort.

The club has no office or support staff, so board members must rely on whatever it takes to get things done on limited funds, including at times assistance from the general membership and from former board members. For example, Sonya Senkowsky, who maintains our website, this fall hunted down our club by-laws, which had been haplessly floating around somewhere in cyberspace.

Club treasurer Rindi White this year sure has organized our finances. She also pitches in at every opportunity, including recording and distributing meeting minutes when necessary. Kathleen McCoy even continued her press club responsibilities over the Internet while traveling his fall while between jobs.

Bob Martinson, also a commercial fisherman, has recorded club history in photos for years now, although if Big Bob had a mean streak in him (luckily he doesn't), he could easily moonlight as a bouncer. Scott Jensen has generously contributed his video expertise by producing J-Week's annual banquet media presentation.

Be sure to enter your best work in our annual journalism contest. Please come and participate in J-Week this March. We look forward to connecting with journalists from throughout Alaska in 2009, including student journalists. See you then!

Best Wishes,

John Creed, president
Kotzebue

Alaska Press Club
PO Box 143426
Anchorage AK 99514-3426