



Forward

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New INF Heritage Club members announced at convention

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Three new Individual Heritage Club memberships were announced at the 2015 INA Convention in Des Moines on February 6.

Steve Delaney has been editor-publisher of The Hawk Eye in Burlington since 2004; prior to that he was editor-publisher of the Garden City (Ks.) Telegram. He began his newspaper career in Emmetsburg, moved on to the Carroll Daily Times Herald and became business editor of The Hawk Eye in 1986. He was INA president in 2014 and is currently the INA representative on the INF board.

Delaney has served several years on the INA's government relations and convention committees and has served six years on the Iowa Freedom of Information Council as the INA's representative, including two years as the organization's president. He is actively involved in many charitable organizations in the Burlington area and is a member of the board of directors of



Steve Delaney

Gene Hall

Connie and Peter Wagner

the Dubuque Colts Drum and Bugle Corps, an organization for which he marched in the drum line and instructed for more than 30 years. He is married to Beth Delaney and they have two high-school children, Hannah and Connor.

For Gene Hall, a career of more than 40 years in the newspaper publishing business as owner/operator and executive with several major newspaper companies has come full circle. Starting in the family publishing business in Spencer in 1969, his career has lead him to manage more than 60

different newspapers and press plants in 17 states. Having sold the daily newspaper he owned with his wife, Cathy, in Charles City in 1988, Hall repurchased it—along with the New Hampton Tribune—in 2009 and left corporate newspaper hierarchy for the familiar confines of hometown community journalism. They sold the New Hampton Tribune in 2010 and purchased the Algona Upper Des Moines newspaper in 2011.

Hall cherishes the responsibility as, essentially, the private owner of
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Leo Mores Newspaper Leadership Institute applications now being accepted

The Iowa Newspaper Foundation encourages publishers to identify applicants for the next class of the Leo Mores Newspaper Leadership Institute. The Institute is designed to enhance the leadership, organizational and performance skills of emerging leaders in Iowa journalism. It will establish a network of leaders who understand and can respond to local and national issues impacting the newspaper industry in Iowa and the nation.

The Institute is comprised of five one-day seminars held on one

Friday of each month, beginning in May. The program is centered on developing skills through creative instruction and active participation. Each session will explore an area of professional interest.

Learning will focus on developing a solid understanding of the skills necessary for leadership, which participants can immediately put into practice. In order to maintain the effectiveness of small-group instruction, the number of participants is limited to eight newspaper professionals.

The Leo Mores Newspaper Leadership Institute has become a program recognized for building the talents and advancing the careers of Iowa's newspaper leaders. It is an exciting opportunity for any newspaper employee seeking a leadership role at his or her newspaper and in his or her community. It will provide support and assistance to newspaper professionals at any size operation as they build newspaper operations relevant to their communities.

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The mission of the Iowa Newspaper Foundation is to champion and improve the quality and future of Iowa's newspaper enterprises and the communities they serve and to raise funds to fulfill this mission.

INF continues summer media experience for high school students

The Iowa Newspaper Foundation is excited for the continuation of a program specifically targeting the next generation of Iowa newspaper professionals. The INF has again partnered with the Iowa Association of Business and Industry Foundation's Business Horizons program to offer an in-depth media experience for Iowa high school students (9-12 graders). The Business Horizons (BH) program is a one-of-a-kind, hands-on, action-oriented weeklong summer program for high school students who want to learn about the world of business and what the future holds for them. For the fourth year, Business Horizons will offer a media track for students interested in a career in the newspaper industry.

The goal of the media track is to develop the next generation of Iowa newspaper professionals. The program has been designed to spark students' understanding of the media industry as a viable career opportunity in Iowa.

The camp will be held June 28 - July 2 on the campus of Central College in Pella. High school students who participate in Business Horizons and then go on to attend Central College will be guaranteed a minimum of \$14,000 in Central College scholarship assistance. An option to earn college credit will also be available.

Registration materials will be sent out to member newspapers soon. If you are interested in getting involved with the program or know a student who would like to attend, please contact Jana Shepherd at jshpherd@inanews.com or 515-422-9051.

HERITAGE CLUB...Continued from page 1

the public trust. He believes that readers will continue to consider their community newspaper indispensable if the newspaper industry serves advertisers well in both print and digital platforms; reinvests in talent and technology; and remains the social and historical register of life in our communities.

Peter W. and Connie Wagner began their journey in the publishing world in 1962 when they started The Golden Shopper, based in Sibley. Ten years later they started The Sheldon N' West Iowa REVIEW, a regional newspaper covering the four counties in the northwest corner of the state. Working side

INA records another successful convention and trade show

Hundreds of newspaper staffers and students turned out for the 2015 INA Convention and Trade Show Feb. 5-6 at the Des Moines Downtown Marriott to learn new ways to operate, expand digital offerings and maintain and build revenue. A total of 704 people registered for the convention, representing 76 weekly newspapers and 25 daily newspapers. INA again partnered with the Iowa College Media Association to encourage interaction between college students interested in journalism careers and journalism professionals.

A luncheon Thursday allowed students and professionals from a variety of journalism disciplines to "speed network" at the exciting Iowa Hall of Pride. Thursday afternoon also offered convention-goers practical sessions full of useful, forward-thinking information.

Friday morning kicked off with a moving presentation by former newspaper executive and World War II veteran, Morley Piper. Piper, a member of the 29th Infantry as a 19-year-old soldier, was in the first wave of boats that landed on Omaha Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944. His harrowing story brought tears to many and a standing ovation in sincere thanks for sharing his memories and for his remarkable service to our country.

Other Friday highlights included:

- A timely and relevant presentation by Penny Muse Abernathy, author of Saving Community Journalism: The path to profitability," during the Past Presidents' Luncheon.
- Advertising, circulation and editorial roundtable sessions and the display of Better Newspaper Contest winners allowing newspapers to share winning ideas.
- Well-received educational sessions led by Russell Viers, Jason Maly and Jim

by side, Peter and Connie grew the company and added other publications, including The Sheldon Mail-Sun, OKOBOJI Magazine, Discover and a variety of specialty products. A focus on excellence has been a driving force for the Wagners, and The REVIEW has been named Iowa's Newspaper of the Year 17 times.

The INF's Individual Heritage Club, created in 1985 to help build the Foundation's endowment fund, recognizes gifts of \$5,000 given as a single gift or over a period of time. The Individual Heritage Club now represents more than \$410,000 in contributions.

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INF fundraising activities brought in \$3725 to help support the Foundation's educational programs. A new Wall of Wine & Beer was a huge success, with more than 200 bottles being sold. Baskets featuring goods from local communities across the state contributed by board members were again raffled off to raise additional funds.

A total of 714 awards were presented during the event, including the annual Better Newspaper Contest, Master Editor-Publisher, Distinguished Service, Outstanding Young Journalist and Investigative Reporting awards.

LEADERSHIP...Continued from page 1

Here is what previous Leadership students are saying about the experience:

"I thought the Mores Institute program was outstanding. Along with networking with classmates and learning about how newspapers large and small have similar challenges, the program also helped to define what leadership really is and how to become a leader in the industry and in your community. I really came to understand myself and my role much better. The time commitment is minimal compared with the knowledge you take from the program."

--Ken Brown, city editor, Dubuque Telegraph Herald

"It's easy to seal ourselves off in our own little portion of the media world. We think of our neighboring newspapers as the competition and believe the way we are doing things is the right way, the ONLY way. This class allowed me to venture outside my comfort zone and realize my interest in the industry ran much deeper than the sports page I edited at the time. We didn't solve all the problems the newspaper industry faces, but opportunities to discuss those issues are too few in our business. The Leo Mores Leadership Institute was one of the most productive experiences of my journalism career."

--Tony Baranowski, director of local media, Times Citizen Communications, Iowa Falls

Applications can be found at www.inanews.com. The deadline is a postmark or delivery prior to March 27. Contact INF Program Director Jana Shepherd at 515-422-9051 or jshpherd@inanews.com with questions.