

# A Seeker's Journal

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*An Electronic Journal*



**O**N OUR JOURNEY through this quagmire we call Life we come into contact with a variety of people, most of whom leave only a fleeting impression on us before they vanish from our memory. Now and then, however, we meet someone who stands out from the crowd and for some reason that person becomes special. In my life, one such person was Ron Young when I first met him at the AAPA convention in Tampa, FL in 2003. I cannot say that Ron and I were close friends, because we had little contact with each other, but when we met at subsequent conventions or ajay gatherings we always exchanged a few pleasant words and my respect for him continued to grow. He was only ten years my senior, but his carriage and dignity put him far beyond that minor difference in our ages. Today I learned that Ron has left this life and suddenly there is another hole in the fabric of my own existence. I will miss him. #

## *EVACUATION IS A DIRTY WORD!*

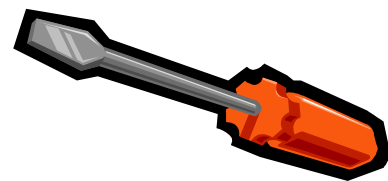
Hurricane Frances, a killer storm of unbelievable size was approaching Florida on a projected path which led directly over my house. My daughter called and in an agitated voice announced that James (her husband) had insisted that she and Courtney (daughter) get out of Florida before the hurricane hit. James is a fireman, likely to be kept on duty for several consecutive days in the event a hurricane strikes. She further pointed out that she was not leaving unless we went with her—so pack immediately! We packed immediately and with our daughter, granddaughter, two dogs and a cat following us, we plunged into the outbound traffic on Florida's Turnpike, heading northwest to safety at a steady speed of one and one-half miles per hour. As we continued our dash to safety, the speed steadily increased so that by the time we reached our motel on the north side of Atlanta, GA fourteen hours later, we had averaged almost thirty-nine miles per hour. The motel where we sheltered for the next week was filled to capacity with Florida evacuees—mostly grandpas, grandmas, daughters and granddaughters with all the family pets. To restore perspective, our floor housed one grandpa who groused loudly about there being pets in the motel when the sign on the door clearly stated "No Pets." I'm glad to have completed these two evacuations: first and last. #

## E-Journals: Another Consideration

**THOSE WHO** are so adamantly opposed to the acceptance and recognition of electronic journals in AAPA or any other group, for that matter, should consider the possible ramifications of continued rejection of such journals. One of the frequently voiced objections has to do with the question of how electronic journals can be included in the judging of laureate awards—the problem being that the entire membership does not see electronic journals; and if a journal is not in the bundle, how can it be judged? My answer to that objection is that the entire membership does have access to e-journals either thru viewing them on the web, receiving them via e-mail, or by requesting a hard copy from the publisher. If a member does not choose to view e-journals then the matter is one of personal choice and should in no way disqualify electronic journals from consideration for laureate awards.

Another frequently heard objection is that if e-journals are accepted as valid journals, then everyone will abandon letterpress and other methods of printing in favor of electronic journals. I have repeatedly argued that those who are dedicated letterpress printers will not forsake the press *just because e-journals are acceptable*. I am certain that anyone who switches from hard copy to electronics does so for reasons other than the fact that electronics have been accepted. Factors such as excessive expense and a change in physical ability are often decisive in the switch from one printing method to another ... or even worse, from printing by any method. *The truth is that e-journals can allow a publisher to continue publishing whereas he might otherwise be unable to do so.*

I do not understand how anyone can justifiably condemn any method of practicing amateur journalism. Surely there is room for the purist, the modernist, the traditionalist, and every other preference as well. What is the REAL reason for not embracing electronic journals?



Is this obsolete because of electricity?

I had planned to attend the convention in Montrose, CO where my good friend J. Hill Hamon and I would present arguments for the full recognition and acceptance by AAPA of electronic journals. My plans were blown away by Hurricane Frances, however J. Hill will be there and can handily present our case without any help from me. His voice, which is backed by years of experience in excellent letterpress printing deserves to be heard and to be given serious consideration by all amateur journalists. #

THE STATIONARY CONDITION IS THE BEGINNING OF THE END  
--Henri Amiel (1821-1881)