News and Views

FISSEA — Federal Information Systems Security Educators' Association — AWARENESS • TRAINING • EDUCATION

Summer Issue   June 2008

Letter from the FISSEA Executive Board Chair

Dear FISSEA Members,

As the newly elected chairperson of the FISSEA Executive Board 2008-2010, I wish to welcome you to the latest edition of the FISSEA newsletter.

The first order of business is to express the board's gratitude for the dedicated service of our outgoing board members: *Mr. Arthur Chantker, Ms. Brenda Oldfield, Ms. Mary Ann Strawn,* and *Col Will Suchan, Ph.D., CISSP*. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome returning board members, *Susan Hansche, CISSP-ISSEP, John Ippolito, CISSP, Ms. Gretchen Ann Morris, CISSP, Louis Numkin, CISM, Loyce Best Pailen, DM, CISS,* and *Mark Wilson*, CISSP and NIST Liaison, as well as new board members *Maria Jones* from US Department of Labor OSHA, *Richard Kurak* from NASA IT, *Prof. V. L. Narasimhan* from Western Kentucky University, and *Captain Cheryl Seaman* from National Institutes of Health. I want to also thank *Ms. Diane Maier*, Newsletter Editor, *Ms. Mary Ann Strawn*, Communications, *Mr. Patrick O'Reilly,* NIST CSRC Webmaster, and *Ms. Peggy Himes,* NIST FISSEA Co-liaison. A special thanks to *Col Curt Carver* who missed the conference due to a deployment in Afghanistan--Curt raised an American Flag in Afghanistan and plans to raise it in Iraq before returning to West Point this summer and presenting the Flag to FISSEA. I really do not like mentioning names as I fear I will have missed someone--however, I feel duty bound to express a heartfelt thanks from the entire membership for a job well done!

For those of you who don't readily recognize my name, I invite you to read my bio and the bios of other Board members on the FISSEA Website (http://csrc.nist.gov/organizations/fissea/home/index.shtml). There you will also find a listing of the new board officers, their bios and email addresses.

I would like to thank those who elected me to the board and re-affirm my ongoing commitment to continue FISSEA's focus on federal information systems security awareness, training, and education and meeting computer security requirements. The board's goals and objectives support long-term strategic direction to preserve and strengthen our existing credentials, advancing our profession, and to serve a vital role in securing the digital world for national defense, critical business infrastructures, commerce, education, and privacy.

For the 173 individuals attending the 2008 FISSEA conference I needn't tell you it was a huge success and that was primarily due to the team efforts of *Louis Numkin, Will Suchan, Gretchen Morris, Mary Ann Strawn, Art Chantker, Susan Hansche, Mark Wilson, John Ippolito, Loyce Pailen, Mary Lou Norris, Teresa Vicente, Patrick O'Reilly* and *Peggy Himes.* Based on the surveys returned, the attendees suggested the conference return to NIST, be three days, and 89.5% of you were completely or very satisfied overall with the conference*.* That said, mark your calendars, the 2009 Conference is tentatively scheduled for **24, 25 and 26 March 2009,** at the NIST facility. Mr. Louis Numkin has agreed to remain the Conference Director for 2009 with Ms. Cheryl Seaman assisting. I ask each of you to provide input on topics; focus areas, speakers, or any other matters that you

think would improve the 2009 Conference. We need your input and feedback if we are to progress and improve. Ensure you place FISSEA as the first word on the subject line and your topic such as conference, training, certification, newsletter, workshop, etc. as the second word. My goal is to provide an initial response to you within 5 business days.

That brings me to another topic--the recent misuse of the FISSEA listserve, or sending messages pertaining to topics not related to awareness, training, and education. The impact was unbelievable, the unsolicited chit chat, resulted in 68 members unsubscribing before it shut down the list service for several days. While you are each free to communicate with the FISSEA membership by sending an e-mail to fissea@nist.gov after your e-mail address has been added to the list-serve and you are encouraged to send inquiries to the other participating members and your colleagues, vendors are asked not to use the entire list for advertising (unless it is free training). Please reply directly to the individual member when answering a specific question and ensure that the email address you're sending from is one that was entered into the list serve, otherwise your message will not go through. I am inquiring into the capability of establishing a discussion blog; however, in the interim limit use of the FISSEA list to awareness, training and education issues.

One of the many exciting initiatives coming your way in the next few months are the FISSEA workshops coordinated by Ms. Susan Hansche. If you missed the one held at GovSec in April, mark your calendar for the upcoming one tentatively scheduled for June 11th at the State Department, Diplomatic Security Training Center (DSTC) located in the Tyson's Corner area. Visit the FISSEA Website for specifics and monitor the website for information on the workshop to be held in September/October 2008.

I want to encourage you to provide both opinion and technical articles relating to information systems security awareness, training, and education to be published in the Newsletter--I would expect you to make a distinction between the two. To submit an article, write a brief abstract of your idea and send it to me along with your contact information. I would like to profile interesting initiatives members are working in the field and establish both a lessons learned and "sharing" section on the web-site. Send your information and ideas to me at Emmahn@comcast.net and to the newsletter editor, Diane Maier, diane.l.maier@nasa.gov --to leverage the incredible diverse wealth of knowledge contained by our membership, we must establish two-way communications.

I will make an honest effort to communicate with the members on a regular basis, not only with the Newsletter but also with email correspondence after each executive board meeting. I have no intention of "overloading" you with emails, but want to make every effort to improve communications among the members.

Emma A Hochgesang-Noffsinger
FISSEA Executive Board Chair

Public Debt's ISSR Program
David Kurtz
U. S. Bureau of the Public Debt

The Bureau of the Public Debt has a strong history of computer security. In the '90s, a program was begun which required each division within Public Debt to designate an employee to serve as (what would eventually be named) the Information System Security Representative (ISSR). This goes back to the days when ISSRs would roam their work areas, carrying a 5.25" floppy diskette from PC to PC, updating the early anti-virus software on each machine. ISSRs were also trained in virus cleanup, incident response, ACF2 access, etc.

In today's world, software updates are pushed over the network, negating the need for the old "sneaker network." We also rely more on specialized PC support personnel for virus cleanup (although ISSRs are routinely notified of virus infections in their area and some provide assistance or follow-up "counseling" to the victims). The responsibilities of an ISSR have become less technical, but no less important. An initial training class for newly appointed ISSRs is an essential component of this program. They still are responsible for access requests and monitoring for ACF2 (mainframe) and DB2 (client-server) applications. Most ISSRs are also responsible for submitting Network Service Requests (NSRs) for things like name changes, departing employees, etc. They now serve as local contacts on the use of our PointSec encryption software, for encrypting removable media such as CDs, USB drives, etc., generated in their areas. Many of these duties do not require a technical background—in some cases clerks or secretaries may serve as ISSRs. Indeed, the decentralized nature of this program allows local areas to customize their expectations for what they expect of an ISSR.

Perhaps the most visible duty of an ISSR is to serve as a local contact point for promoting computer security. For over a decade, Public Debt has utilized the Computer Security Institute's quarterly "FrontLine" security awareness newsletter (always with our own articles on the back page). About six years ago, we began our own monthly newsletter on security topics. The purpose was to increase knowledge and understanding of security topics, and provide more immediate feedback on issues of local concern. The solution was a simple e-mail newsletter (approximately 1000 words) written by our computer security branch. Rather than sending it from Security to all employees, it was decided to entitle it as the "ISSR News" and route the document through our network of ISSRs, allowing them to edit or modify the contents to better serve their work areas. Thus, once a month every employee receives an e-mail from their designated ISSR, with lots of useful tips, virus victim stories, news from other government agencies, Rules of Behavior reminders, etc. It has helped to make the ISSRs more visible to the employees in their areas.

As part of our orientation program for new employees, we make sure incoming employees are given the name and phone number of their particular ISSR (the ISSRs are also notified of these new employees, and are encouraged to welcome them and ensure they get enrolled in our required security class for new employees). We have also provided ISSRs with various awareness initiatives, such as colorful, humorous "tickets" to leave at workstations to either recognize good behavior or remind about poor practices (leaving PC unlocked, SBU information left on desktop, etc.).

Some ISSRs have even organized their own security awareness events/activities within their own areas. Examples include contests such as crossword puzzles, trivia questions, etc., all based on promoting security awareness. It all depends on the individuals involved and the "corporate culture" within their work area.

In some respects, the primary duty of our network of ISSRs is to serve as local "cheerleaders" for safe computing practices. Employees know that if they have any questions related to computer security, they can talk to a colleague in their work area, rather than contacting the experts who may work in another building and who they may not know well. Employees are more likely to ask questions or report suspicions to someone they trust, rather than expecting them to contact our security group. The ISSR program has truly been a success for Public Debt.

Congratulations to the 2008 FISSEA Contest Winners!

Gretchen Ann Morris, CISSP
Contest Coordinator, FISSEA

During the 2008 FISSEA conference we announced the winners of our Awareness, Training, and Education contest. We had 15 different entries from 9 different organizations, all of which were of the best quality.

Congratulations again to our winners!

Poster
Jane Moser – Service Canada

Motivational Item
Diane Maier – NASA IT Security Awareness and Training Center

Web Site
Jane Moser – Service Canada

Newsletter
Rian Campbell - Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

Training Exercise
Christina Painton – Carney, Inc

The winning entries are posted on the FISSEA website:
http://csrc.nist.gov/organizations/fissea/home/index.shtml

Thanks also to our three judges who worked very hard to ensure that the contest was a success!

After Action Report - GovSec 2008

Louis Numkin, CISM
Susan Hansche and Louis Numkin represented FISSEA at the 2008 GovSec Conference, held in the DC Convention Center on 23APR2008. The 1105 Government Information Group, that produced GovSec, deserves a pat on the back for prominently placing our session explanation right at the beginning of the Conference and Exposition Catalog. A quick headcount of attendees netted around 70 of which two

fellows arrived a half hour early to secure their seats. Susan provided her always insightful and interactive Training presentation first and Louis followed with a colorful session on Awareness. The audience seemed satisfied with FISSEA's presentations and our speakers each had around eight folks come up following the talk with questions or just to let us know we were appreciated. Louis had brought some awareness trinkets along and they disappeared quickly as did all the FISSEA tri-fold brochures.

FISSEA Executive Board 2008-2009

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* Term ends March 2009
** Term ends March 2010

FISSEA List Serve:

The NIST Computer Security Division is hosting the FISSEA membership e-mail list in support of FISSEA and the federal IT security community. The list is not moderated; any FISSEA member subscribed to the list can post a message directly to the list. This list will allow us to converse with other IT security professionals who have an interest in awareness, training, and education issues. Any issue related to federal IT security awareness, training, and education is fair game. It can be used to ask for help from the many veteran FISSEA members who have experience designing, developing, implementing, and maintaining awareness and training programs. Please refer to the FISSEA website for complete rules and guidance. To summarize the rules:

- No spam nor advertising unless it is for free training/workshops
- Respond to the sender rather than "reply to all"
- Avoid "me too" replies
- Do not send attachments

To post a message to the entire list, send it to fissea@nist.gov

If you want to be added or deleted send a message to fisseamembership@nist.gov

Please remember, that any FISSEA member may submit an article for publication to the FISSEA News and Views newsletter - as long as it related to awareness, training, and/or education. Or, contribute by submitting your ideas of what you'd like to see in the newsletter and we'll do the rest. Email your articles or ideas to the FISSEA Chair, Emma.Hochgesang@pentagon.af.mil and the newsletter editor Diane.L.Maier@nasa.gov with a subject line of "FISSEA NEWS&VIEWS".

**Federal Information Systems
Security Educators' Association**

**Building better Computer Security
through Awareness, Training, and Education**

-Artwork by K. Rudolph, John Orban, and Louis Numkin.

TRAINIA

This FISSEA News&Views Newsletter column's name is a contraction of the words "Training" and "Trivia." It usually includes information on upcoming conferences, book reviews, and even humor. The purpose is to provide readers with places to go and things to use in pursuing and/or providing Computer Security awareness, training, and education. However, FISSEA does not warrant nor determine the value of any inclusions. Readers are encouraged to do their own checking before utilizing any of this data. If readers have items to submit to this column, please forward them to Louis Numkin at LMN@JUNO.COM and Diane Maier Diane.L.Maier@NASA.Gov . Please place "FISSEA Trainia Submission" in the Subject line.

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FISSEA's Annual Conference
FISSEA's 2009 Annual Conference will again be held at The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, MD, on Tuesday through Thursday, **March 24, 25, 26, 2009**.

Please mark your calendar now and we will fill in the blanks via website postings and e-mails as we progress through our planning process. If you have any questions relating to our 2009 Conference, please address them to LMN@JUNO.COM See You There!

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April 28, 2008 – **West Point Takes First Place In Cyber Defense Exercise**
Congrats to US Military Academy at West Point {HOOACH!} for winning the recent service academy competition where students built a computer network and protected it against a simulated intrusion.

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SPAM Alerts
Chinese Earthquake Victims: The FBI is warning about spam e-mails, some of which even promise free vacation trips to the largest donors. They use fake logos of legitimate on-line payment services to lull you into believing they are genuine. It is such an urgent need; they even offer to send someone over to pick up your money. You really should validate the organization – ask for information, especially about how they can give aid to China? Since it is an international donation – what other groups are the requestor involved with? Usually, when you start asking questions they will cease communication.

Another scam has been perpetrated which arrives as an e-mail offering financial assistance to people who are sending children to college. A 29MAY2008 reported example was purportedly from the University of Wisconsin and stated that more information was "needed in order to complete the financial aid process." The recipient was asked to supply "a signed copy of your Federal Income Tax Return" and other personal information. {Of course, if your kids have not applied for admission to the University of Wisconsin… you might pause in replying… eh?} The report recommended contacting the University by their phone number (not the one on the solicitation) and validating the request before complying.

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Hackers in New York City   {Extracted from a C|Net post by Michael Horowitz on 29MAY2008}

If you are interested in computer hacking, then 2600 (http://www.2600.com) is for you. They publish a quarterly magazine, and have a weekly radio show on WBAI in New York City. Their "Last HOPE" conference will take place July 18-20 at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City (just across the street from Penn Station and Madison Square Garden).

The conference name of HOPE stands for Hackers On Planet Earth. The upcoming conference is dubbed The Last HOPE (http://www.thelasthope.org/) because the hotel where the conference is held may be demolished. The first speakers for The Last HOPE conference were just announced:

- Kevin Mitnick, "the world's most dangerous hacker" in the eyes of the government and mass media, imprisoned for over five years, and now a successful computer security consultant.
- Adam Savage, co-host of the TV show *Mythbusters* (http://news.cnet.com/8301-13772_3-9882698-52.html)
- Steven Rambam, private eye extraordinaire, who can find out anything about anybody and has always been willing to share his knowledge of privacy with the hacker community. {The FBI prevented Steven Rambam from speaking at the 2006 HOPE conference, arresting him moments before his lecture. The case against him was later found to have no merit.}
- Steven Levy, author of Hackers: Heroes of the American Revolution and chief technology writer for Newsweek.
- Jello Biafra, former lead singer of The Dead Kennedys and one of America's most interesting social activists.

Conference organizers expect to have over 100 presentations in four tracks.

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In-SITE-ful Info:

CSO Security Leader reported that Employees Find Ways to Skirt Enterprise Security. You can become aware of some known tactics used to circumvent IT controls by going to: http://cxolyris.cxomedia.com/t/1889715/1414060/21586/0/

NCPC.org (http://www.ncpc.org/) (has information about Cyber Bullying and ways to stop it.

Be the eyes and ears of our Nation's Capital and report suspicious activities to **Operation Tip** at (877)You-Watch because preventing terrorism is everybody's business.

IFoundYourCamera.net (http://www.ifoundyourcamera.blogspot.com/) is for those who lost their digital camera. A few shots are uploaded with info on how to contact the finder. USA TODAY reported that in three months the site has had 700,000 hits – of all those hits only eight people have actually claimed lost cameras. {We guess the other 699,992 hits were from folks who just enjoy looking through other people photographs.}

RottenNeighbor.com (http://www.rottenneighbor.com/) is where you can "rat out" your neighbors for having their grass too tall, an old rusted out car in their yard, etc.

We've all heard about/seen "Sex And The City." Well now there is **SuccessInTheCityTV.com** (http://www.successinthecitytv.com/), a YouTube type site with videos of how women in business should correctly do things.

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Transpo Info

- On June 1, 2008, major airlines ceased producing paper tickets.
- Fly through Airport Security: Reagan National and Dulles International airports have joined others throughout the US by having ClearCard lanes to speed passengers' movement through Security. These passes may only be used for domestic flights and can be requested by going to: **FlyClear.Com** (http://flyclear.com/)
- These two airports are also installing full body screening machines during June/July of 2008. These will improve security while speeding folks through the process. The hardware will also be able to better inspect packages and suitcases.

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Educational Opportunities

ISACA wants to let you know that it has numerous educational opportunities coming up. Here are a few:

JUNE

23 – 27	ISACA Training Week, Minneapolis, Minnesota
25	Early-bird registration deadline for the Information Security Management Conference and the Network Security Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada

JULY

2	Early-bird registration deadline for the Training Week in Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
16	Early-bird registration deadline for the Training Week in Washington DC
27- 30	International Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

For more info on ISACA's offerings, visit the ISACA web site at: http://www.isaca.org.

American Military University states that you should "push your mind and advance your career" by signing up for upcoming courses. On-line classes and respected degrees make AMU a smart choice for Government and civilian students. To learn more about their offerings go to: http://www.amuonline.com/dc

University of Maryland University College is encouraging IT Security professionals to check out their offerings by going to http://www.umuc.edu/index.shtml or phoning (800)888-UMUC.

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Extras...

Here are three for your "Incredulous but True" file:

- As reported on April 29, 2008, a Japanese Customs Official packed a bag of marihuana in an innocent flier's suitcase while trying to train a drug sniffing dog. The drugs are still missing and Tokyo officials have requested that anyone having info on this please call them.
- And, did you hear about the Missouri man who did not want to get caught by the Police for speeding, so he called 911 to report a phony robbery? The operator who received the 911 call could hear the siren in the background and the speeder received some additional text on his arrest statement.
- On April 14, 2008, Oregon Police had an easy job capturing a drunk driver… as she walked right into the Precinct House. It turned out she was the cleaning lady and staggered into the station after driving herself to work!

Educational stats: Some educational stats from the May, 2008, TIME Magazine "Top 100 Most Influential People In The World" issue: "64% (is the) percentage of US teenagers who use informal text-message slang in their written schoolwork, including abbreviations like 'LOL' (38%) and smiley-face emoticons (25%)." (Whereas,) 56% (is the) percentage of teens surveyed who consider good writing to be 'essential' later in life."   8-)

For MAC Users: Book Announcement: "*Take Control of Spam with Apple Mail*" for Leopard, and it goes far beyond the three pages of basic spam-zapping advice offered in "*Take Control of Apple Mail in Leopard*." Weighing in at 71 pages, "*Take Control of Spam with Apple Mail*" gives you background information so you understand more of what's going on with spam, detailed advice for configuring Mail to maximize its effectiveness at eliminating spam, and carefully researched coverage of utilities that can improve Mail's spam-slaying capabilities. "*Take Control of Spam with Apple Mail*" comes with a coupon for $5 off SpamSieve (normally $30), a top pick for a third-party spam-fighting utility. http://www.takecontrolbooks.com/spam-apple-mail.html?14@@!pt=TB929

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May 26, 2008 – **YouTube**
You might want to caution your YouTube users that there is a huge legal battle ongoing regarding the use of copyrighted info and thereby abusing the copyright law. According to a May 26th article, one billion dollars is what Viacom is suing YouTube and its parent, Google, for in the current copyright infringement case. Popular prime time programs and other material are illegally uploaded on YouTube. 150,000 clips have been seen 1.5 billion times. If the law suit is successful, Google said it will limit hundreds of millions of internet users to freely exchange information legitimately. The lawsuit may be resolved with YouTube promising to block users from uploading copyrighted material.

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June 23 – 27, 2008. Catalyst Conference, San Diego
Catalyst Conference: Transforming Enterprise IT. Six themes in Five days: Data Center -- Identity Management – Security Wireless -- SOA -- Collaboration/Communication. Learn More at: http://ct.enews.eweek.com/rd/cts?d=186-9618-2-79-369661-918280-0-0-0-1

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June 30, 2008 – (ISC)[2®] Review Seminars
CSO Security Leader reported that many training companies promise quality education towards earning (ISC)[2®] credentials but only (ISC)[2®] Authorized Instructors offer the latest content to strengthen the knowledge of your staff. Register for official (ISC)[2®] Review Seminars by June 30 and save 20%! http://cxolyris.cxomedia.com/t/1889715/1414060/21582/0/

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July 14, 2008 – Registration Deadline for the 8th Free FISSEA Workshop, "What's Happening?" Workshop will be held on July 16 at the U.S. Department of State, Diplomatic Security Training Center, Dunn Loring, VA., 8:45am – 12:00pm. Attendance is limited to a maximum of 50 people. Reservation contact: Jenny Culnen, culnenjm@state.gov or 571-226-9488. (Further details will be announced through the FISSEA listserve.)

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July 18, 2008 – March of Dimes "Heroines in Technology" Nomination Deadline
The March of Dimes has issued a call for nominations for the 2008 Heroines in Technology. The award will be presented Friday, November 14, at the Hyatt Regency Reston, Reston, VA at the annual event (more information regarding the event is listed below). Nominees will be considered from all segments of the technology industry. For more information, visit http://marchofdimes.com/metrodc or phone (703) 824-0111. The deadline for nominations is **July 18, 2008**.

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September 30 – October 1, 2008: Washington DC SecureWorld Conference at the Washington Convention Center. This is part of a regionally based program sponsored throughout the US. For more info go to www.secureworldexpo.com

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October 20 – 23, 2008. Catalyst Conference, Prague
Catalyst Conference: Transforming Enterprise IT. Six themes in Five days: Data Center -- Identity Management – Security Wireless -- SOA -- Collaboration/Communication. Learn more at: http://ct.enews.eweek.com/rd/cts?d=186-9618-2-79-369661-918280-0-0-0-1

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October 27 – 29, 2008. FIAC 2008 Conference
The FIAC 2008 Conference will be held Monday – Wednesday, October 27-29, 2008 at the Ronald Reagan Building/International Trade Center in Washington, DC.

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November 14, 2008 – Heroines in Technology
The March of Dimes and Women in Technology are proud to present "Heroines in Technology" on Friday, November 14, 2008, at the Hyatt Regency in Reston, VA. "Heroines in Technology" is an annual event that recognizes women who use their experience, knowledge, and skills to benefit the technology community. In addition, women-owned or women-run companies will be recognized for extraordinary commitment to local philanthropy and volunteer service. The March of Dimes will consider nominees from all segments of the technology industry. For more information, visit http://marchofdimes.com/metrodc/ or phone (703) 824-0111. The deadline for nominations is **July 18, 2008**. {If any of our FISSEA family receives this or any other award, please let our News&Views Editor know so we can herald it in our news.}