Head First CAR

Cincinnati 2004

Annual Computer-Assisted Reporting Conference

WELCOME

Welcome to Cincinnati!

Thanks for joining us in this newsy river city for what should be a weekend of learning new skills, sharing ideas and resources and networking with those on the cutting edge of journalism.

Whether you are just getting started or have been dealing with bits and bytes for decades, this Annual Computer-Assisted Reporting Conference will offer in-depth panels and hands-on training for your level.

From the latest on tracking the pharmaceutical industry with data and unraveling election-year campaign filings to investigating school test scores and contracts, we have panels addressing dozens of current topics and newsroom beats. We also have special tracks for beginners, broadcasters and educators for whom we recommend specific panels, related hands-on classes, Demo Room presentations and informal gatherings.

Our hands-on classes range from the always-popular basic courses on searching the Internet, working with spreadsheets and utilizing database managers to advanced classes in the newest techniques of mapping, statistics, programming and social network analysis – all skills to help us become better journalists in the 21st century.

Among the hands-on classes this year:

- Downloading and analyzing census demographics to help cover your community
- Introduction to social network software
- Downloading and analyzing campaign finance data
- SQL server: Using SQL Server to supply your newsroom with a dynamic intranet
- Database building: Using simple programming tools to collect information on the beat
- Advanced scripting: Using more sophisticated programs to grab data from searchable Web pages
- Visual Basic: Plucking information out of text files, running queries and automating data cleanup

Please take advantage of this tremendous opportunity to learn new techniques, find fresh story ideas and renew your energy and enthusiasm. As Jim Borgman, designer of our conference logo, suggests, be aggressive and slide right in headfirst!

Brant Houston
Executive Director, IRE and NICAR

Len Bruzzese
Deputy Director, IRE and NICAR

HIGHLIGHTS

CAR Conference

Conference Sponsors

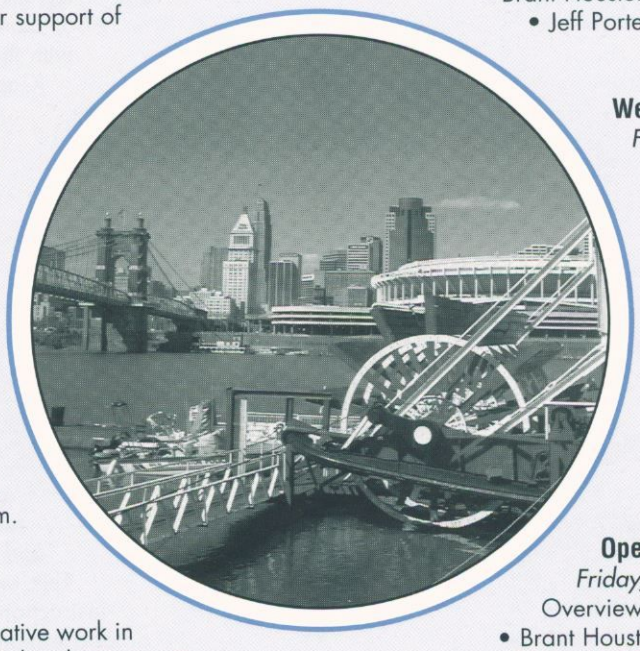
IRE and NICAR would like to thank the news organizations and foundations contributing to this conference and the programs related to the conference:

- **The Cincinnati Enquirer**, for serving as our local host
- **Gannett Foundation**, for support of the conference and providing funds for training and computers
- **The Cincinnati Post/The Kentucky Post**, for general support of the conference
- **WCPO-Cincinnati**, for general support of the conference
- **Chicago Tribune Foundation**, for support of fellowships to the conference

Registration and Sales

The registration and sales counters are located in the fourth-floor foyer. IRE books, T-shirts, hats and other materials are on sale here. Staff members can answer questions or offer information on future training.

Registration desk times:
Thursday . . . . . noon - 6 p.m.
Friday . . . . 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday . . . . . 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday . . . . . 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.



Reprints

Copies of some of the top investigative work in the country using computer-assisted techniques are available in the fourth floor's Hall of Nations. If you have copies of stories you would like to make available, please leave them with a reprint area staff member. Extra tipsheets and handouts from the panels also will be on these tables.

Exhibitors/Recruiters

Exhibitors are located near registration. They offer special products and services of interest to journalists. They include:

- LexisNexis, Miamisburg, Ohio
  www.lexisnexis.com
- PR Newswire, New York, N.Y.
  www.prnewswire.com
- ESRI, Redlands, Calif.
  www.esri.com
- U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, D.C.
  www.census.gov

Recruiters from various news organizations are interviewing throughout the conference. At time of printing, recruiters were planning to attend from these organizations:

- The Cincinnati Enquirer, Cincinnati, Ohio
- Gannett Co., Inc., McLean, Va.

Special Presentations

Welcome Session

(For early birds)
Thursday, 8 p.m., in the Hall of Mirrors

Welcome and suggestions for making the best use of the conference. Includes question-and-answer period.
- Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR
- Jeff Porter, IRE and NICAR

Welcome Session

Friday, 8:30 a.m., in the Hall of Mirrors

Welcome and suggestions for making the best use of the conference. Includes question-and-answer period.
- Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR
- Jeff Porter, IRE and NICAR
- Duane Pohlman, WEWS-Cleveland and IRE Board of Directors

Opening Session

Friday, 9 a.m., in the Hall of Mirrors

Overview of computer-assisted reporting
- Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR
- David Donald, IRE and NICAR

Reception

Saturday, 7:30-9 p.m., Continental Room (Mezzanine Level)

Before heading off to dinner Saturday night, be sure to stop by the Continental Room of the hotel. *The Cincinnati Enquirer* will be hosting a reception for conference attendees. The Continental Room is located on the hotel's Mezzanine level. There will be appetizers and an open bar, so take the opportunity to thank our hosts.

While in this beautiful room, look for murals representing the four seasons, imposing marble urns marking the floor elevation on the room's east end, original wall sconces and chandeliers and beautiful nickel-silver doors with French mirror backing.

HIGHLIGHTS

Special Thanks

Thanks for Support

Thanks to the Missouri School of Journalism, which provides space and resources to IRE and the National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting. NICAR is a joint program of IRE and the school.

Local Support

Thanks to the outstanding efforts of our Local Committee:

- Ken Alltucker, *The Cincinnati Enquirer*
- Cindi Andrews, *The Cincinnati Enquirer*
- John Byczkowski, *The Cincinnati Enquirer*
- Andy Crain, freelancer
- Marc Emral, *The Community Press*
- John Erickson, *Dayton Daily News*
- Dianne Gebhardt-French, *The Cincinnati Enquirer*
- Kristina Goetz, *The Cincinnati Enquirer*
- Rod Griola, WCPO-Cincinnati
- Doug Haddix, *The Columbus Dispatch*
- Cheryl Heckler-Feltz, Miami University
- Jeff Hirsh, WKRC-Cincinnati
- Linda Johnson, *Lexington Herald-Leader*
- Jesse Jones, WLWT-Cincinnati
- Hagit Limor, WCPO-Cincinnati
- Ken McCall, *Dayton Daily News*
- Bob Morford, WCPO-Cincinnati
- Jen Mrozowski, *The Cincinnati Enquirer*
- Mark Nichols, *The Indianapolis Star*
- James Pilcher, *The Cincinnati Enquirer*
- Jane Prendergast, *The Cincinnati Enquirer*
- Brad Scharlott, Northern Kentucky University

Fellowships

Recipients of minority and small news organization fellowship assistance to this year's CAR conference include:

- Minority fellowship
  - Michelle Johnson, Boston University
  - Erik Rodriguez, *Austin American-Statesman*
- Small news organization fellowship
  - Mary Lou Brink, *Fort Wayne News-Sentinel*

Reminders

- Make sure you wear your nametag to all IRE events.
- Please set cell phones and pagers to silent or vibrate while in the sessions. The speakers – and others – will appreciate it.
- Before you leave the conference, if you could drop off your nametag holder at the registration counter or in other deposit boxes in the main hall, we will recycle them for other events.

Fill Out an Evaluation Form

By filling out and returning a conference evaluation form, you are entered into a drawing for free registration at next year's CAR conference.

Mariely Valentin of Florida International University won complimentary registration to the Cincinnati conference by filling out an evaluation of last year's CAR Conference.

Don't miss out! Complete your evaluation form online at *www.ire.org/training/cincy04/eval*

Hands-On Classes

Most attendees pre-registered for hands-on classes, but seats may still be available for various topics. Also, more classes may be added. Check with the sign-up desk at the Demo Room (Caprice 2 & 3) for availability.

Beginners

For CAR beginners, special morning panels will be coordinated with hands-on classes in the afternoon. The combination will give participants a mini-boot camp experience with plenty of opportunity to apply what they learn to reporting and writing news stories. Participants are automatically signed up for the related classes, following the IRE and NICAR boot camp curriculum. This will offer 10 hours of hands-on instruction in Internet, spreadsheets and database management.

The 38 participants will be divided into two teams: Red Team and Green Team. The Red Team will usually use Salon D-E and the Green Team will usually use Salon B-C.

Broadcasters

For broadcasters, a special "Start to Finish" track will focus on broadcast needs and issues in doing CAR and will feature three tailored panels on Friday:

- Strategies for broadcasters: Getting started, the basics, how to deal with the challenges of less time and fewer resources.
- How to use the Web for deadline and stories. The best sites and best tools for data.
- Doing the story. A plan and methods for accomplishing the CAR broadcast story no matter what size market you are in.

Don't miss the Demo Room presentation, "How IRE and NICAR can help with sweeps." Saturday, 2 p.m., Caprice 2 & 3

HIGHLIGHTS

Educators
For educators, special Sunday workshops will focus on teaching CAR:
- Materials, syllabi and skills
- How to teach CAR

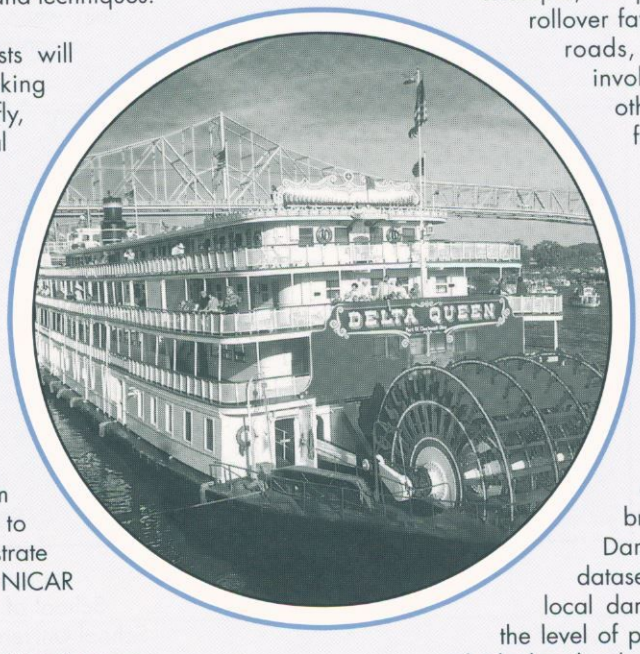
An informal gathering of full-time and part-time journalism educators will be held Saturday, 6 p.m., in Salon M.

Computer Demo Room

Caprice 2 & 3, fourth floor

Check out the IRE and NICAR Computer Demo Room, where there will be numerous demonstrations on the latest in computer-assisted reporting tools and techniques.

Some of the best CAR journalists will show their techniques on making intranet search pages on the fly, tracking connections with social network software, putting maps online, automating tedious tasks and more.



To learn more about the array of services IRE and NICAR provide to members, check out the schedule for sessions led by our staff members. In addition to these sessions, NICAR database library staff will be available in the Demo Room throughout the conference to answer questions and demonstrate any of the many datasets IRE and NICAR make available to journalists.

See the schedule on the main panel grid pages.

Data Available

Data from the database library collection will be available for purchase during the conference. Stop by the Demo Room for further details and to place an order.

Datasets include:

Securities and Exchange Commission administrative proceedings – Cases before the SEC administrative judges, who can issue cease-and-desist orders, hand out civil penalties, and bar parties from associating with investment advisers, brokers or dealers. The database also tracks administrative proceedings that parallel criminal or civil proceedings. The database, structured like a judge's docket sheet, covers such proceedings from 1989 forward.

Federal contractors – Although the federal government is based in Washington, D.C., this database quickly shows that federal agencies spend money in every state and many foreign countries. This database is a great place to start when looking at the contracts awarded to companies in your area or the work that is being performed there. It is also possible to analyze the government's contracting procedures. Are the contracts being awarded fairly? Are women-owned or other small businesses getting their share? You could also focus on a particular type of product or service – such as military equipment, janitorial services, etc. – or a particular federal agency. The data is also useful for business reporters in tracking local companies' activities.

Fatal traffic accidents – This database contains a wealth of detail, making it useful for a wide variety of stories. For example, a journalist could examine SUV rollover fatalities, the dangers of particular roads, how many big trucks are involved in fatal accidents versus other types of vehicles, how many fatal accidents involved alcohol, fatal accidents resulting from police chases or those that involved emergency vehicles.

Dams and bridges – The National Bridge Inventory database has been used by many news organizations to reveal problems with bridges in local areas, and it's useful in case of breaking news involving a bridge. The National Inventory of Dams database is a great basic dataset. A journalist could find whether local dams have been inspected recently, the level of potential losses in case of disaster, and whether the dams' owners have disaster plans.

Health-care practitioners – With the political battles of tort reform and increasing cost of malpractice insurance, this database could sort out such problems. The National Practitioner Databank contains information about doctors and other health-care practitioners who have had medical malpractice suits filed or adverse action taken against them. Although names are not included, some news organizations have been able to use this database with other public records to determine the identity of individual practitioners.

Workplace safety – This Occupational Safety and Health Administration database consists of workplace inspections in all states and U.S. territories from 1972 through August 2002. The data includes penalties for violations, details on workplace accidents and hazardous materials.

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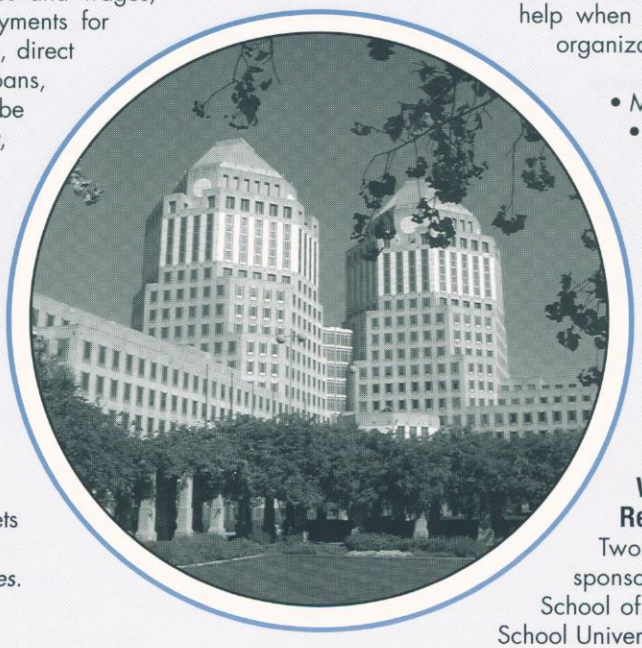
Crime – The Uniform Crime Reports, composed of six databases, includes crime information reported to the FBI by law enforcement agencies around the country. Most of the data consist of the "index" crimes: murder, nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor-vehicle theft and arson. It includes details of every homicide reported to the FBI since 1980.

Get the most out of this data by buying a copy of the IRE beat book Understanding Crime Statistics: A Reporter's Guide. The handy guidebook walks you through the history and uses of the data and will help you write the crime report story. The book is available at the IRE sales table.

Federal spending – The Consolidated Federal Funds database shows how much money the federal government has committed through grants, salaries and wages, procurement contracts, direct payments for individuals, other direct payments, direct loans, guaranteed or insured loans, and insurance. The data can be analyzed by the state, county, congressional district, city, or the federal program involved. Its companion database, the Federal Award Assistance Data System, includes all federal financial assistance award transactions, and lists the name and location of the recipient, the amount of the awarded or amended federal assistance, and the project description.

More information about the datasets is available at *www.ire.org/datalibrary/databases.*



Upcoming Events

Some of the IRE and NICAR opportunities planned this year:

IRE Annual Conference

Atlanta – June 17-20

- Panels touching every beat, including computer-assisted reporting angles
- Special emphasis on civil rights, public health, military, business, national security, FOI, editing and other topics
- Special broadcast topic and skills panels
- Broadcast Show & Tell Room
- Fast-track panels – In less than an hour, pick up the basics of covering a new beat or gain a skill you can use every day
- Presentation of the IRE Awards
- Annual IRE membership meeting and elections

Keep checking for updates and new offerings at *www.ire.org/training/atlanta04/*

Better Watchdog Workshops

Learn investigative skills and how to produce enterprising and informative stories while covering a beat. Panels include finding and cultivating sources, interviewing, using the Internet and electronic data, using FOI and open records requests, overview of computer-assisted reporting and how to juggle a beat and produce investigative stories. Watch *www.ire.org/training/betterwatchdog* for the latest sites where training is planned. Send an e-mail to watchdog@ire.org if you are interested in helping bring a Better Watchdog Workshop to your area.

Computer-Assisted Reporting Boot Camps

These unique seminars train journalists to acquire electronic information, use spreadsheets and databases to analyze the information and to translate that information into high-impact stories. In addition, the institute provides follow-up help when participants return to their news organizations.

- March 21-26 – Columbia, Mo.
- May 16-21 – Columbia, Mo.
- Aug. 1-6 – Columbia, Mo.

Special Editor's Boot Camp, designed for the needs of newsroom managers

- April 23-25 – Columbia, Mo.

Register and find out more at *www.ire.org/training/bootcamps.html*

Workshop on Television Reporting for Professionals

Two workshops on TV reporting, sponsored by IRE and the Missouri School of Journalism, will be held at New School University in New York City. The hands-on workshops are aimed at younger journalists and print journalists who want on-camera experience.

We encourage veteran journalists to share information about this opportunity with anyone they are mentoring. Make the jump from writer/producer to on-camera reporter. Learn in-depth reporting and storytelling techniques from some of the best in the TV-news business.

A limited enrollment of 12 ensures everyone will receive individual attention. Under the direction of veteran broadcasters and educators Greeley Kyle and Stacey Woelfel, you will go onto the streets of New York to produce a story for use on your resumé tape complete with interviews, reporter standup and natural sound.

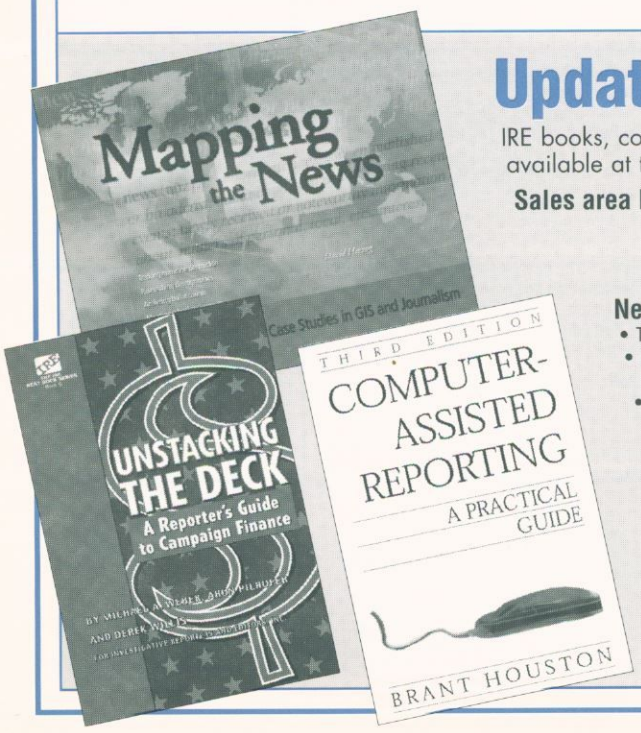
Choose from the March 31-April 4 or July 7-11 sessions.

For more information and to register, visit *www.ire.org/training/broadcastReporting.html.*

THURSDAY PANELS

(for advanced attendees)

	Hall of Mirrors	Salon F-G	Salon H-I
1 – 1:50 p.m.	**General session on the latest trends and developments** • David Donald, IRE and NICAR • David Herzog, NICAR and Missouri School of Journalism • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR • Jeff Porter, IRE and NICAR **1 - 1:50 p.m.**		
2 – 2:50 p.m.		**Developments in GIS and journalism** • David Herzog, NICAR and Missouri School of Journalism **2 - 2:50 p.m.**	**Getting data to the newsroom** • Tom Torok, *The New York Times* **2 - 2:50 p.m.**
3 – 3:50 p.m.		**Importing and exporting XML files** • Matthew Ericson, *The New York Times* • Dan Keating, *The Washington Post* **3 - 3:50 p.m.**	**The latest in open-source and .NET programming** • Aron Pilhofer, The Center for Public Integrity • Maurice Tamman, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* **3 - 3:50 p.m.**
4 – 4:50 p.m.		**Being more precise – and often less precise – with advanced statistics** • David Donald, IRE and NICAR • Jennifer LaFleur, *The Dallas Morning News* **4 - 4:50 p.m.**	**Social network analysis** • Sarah Cohen, *The Washington Post* • Jaimi Dowdell, IRE and NICAR • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR • Paul Walmsley, IRE and NICAR **4 - 4:50 p.m.**
8 – 8:30 p.m.	**Welcome! Making the best use of the conference. Especially for first-time attendees** • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR • Jeff Porter, IRE and NICAR **8 – 8:30 p.m.**		



Update your bookshelf!

IRE books, conference T-shirts, hats and other materials are available at the sales area in the fourth-floor foyer.

Sales area hours:

Thursday . . . . . noon - 6 p.m.
Friday . . . . . 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday . . . . . 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday . . . . . 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

New additions to the IRE bookshelf:

- The latest edition of Computer-Assisted Reporting: A Practical Guide, *by Brant Houston*
- IRE's latest Beat Book – Unstacking the Deck: A Reporter's Guide To Campaign Finance, *by Michael A. Weber, Aron Pilhofer and Derek Willis*
- Mapping the News: Case Studies in GIS and Journalism, *by David Herzog*

Classics from IRE

- Investigative Reporter's Handbook, *by Brant Houston, Len Bruzzese and Steve Weinberg*
- Numbers in the Newsroom: Using Math and Statistics in News, *by Sarah Cohen*
- Covering Aviation Safety: An Investigator's Guide, *by Marie Tessier*
- Home Mortgage Lending: How to detect disparities, *by Jo Craven McGinty*
- Understanding Crime Statistics: A Reporter's Guide, *by Kurt Silver*

The Cincinnati Enquirer's Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Jim Borgman offers his take on the hustling nature of computer-assisted reporters in this year's logo, featured on the conference T-shirts.

FRIDAY PANELS

	Hall of Mirrors	Rookwood	Pavillon	Demo Room Caprice 2 & 3
8:30 – 8:50 a.m.	**Welcome! Making the best use of the conference** (especially for first-time attendees) • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR • Duane Pohlman, WEWS-Cleveland and IRE Board of Directors • Jeff Porter, IRE and NICAR **8:30 - 8:50 a.m.**			**Sign up for up to three hands-on classes** (continues all day Friday and Saturday)
9 – 10:10 a.m.	**Overview of computer-assisted reporting** • David Donald, IRE and NICAR • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR **9 - 10:10 a.m.**			
10:20 – 11:30 a.m.	**The Internet for everyone: The best indexes, the best sites and where to find the best data** • Carolyn Edds, IRE and NICAR • Margot Williams, *The Washington Post* **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**Driving CAR on the transportation beat: Accidents, fatalities and general safety issues whether it's roads, air or rail** • Rich Exner, *The Plain Dealer* • Ted Mellnik, *The Charlotte Observer* • Paul Overberg, *USA Today* **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**Broadcast track - Strategies for broadcasters: Getting started, the basics, how to deal with the special challenges of less time and fewer resources** • Nancy Amons, WSMV-Nashville • Andy Lehren, Dateline NBC • Stuart Watson, Jr., WCNC-Charlotte **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**Risks of electronic voting in this election year** • Paul Walmsley, IRE and NICAR **10:20 a.m.**
11:40 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.	**Using data to expose abuse by caregivers** • Sarah Cohen, *The Washington Post* • Geoff Dutton, *The Columbus Dispatch* **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**Census track: The basics of Census data and stories from the data** • Paul Overberg, *USA Today* • John Perry, *The Daily Oklahoman* • Matthew Waite, *St. Petersburg Times* **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**Broadcast track - How to use the Web for deadline and stories. The best sites and best tools for data.** • Larry Gillick, Jr., East Carolina University • Stephen Miller, *The New York Times* • Randy Reddick, Texas Technical University **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**What IRE and NICAR can do for you: Training and data analysis** • IRE and NICAR staff **11:40 a.m.**
12:50 – 2 p.m.	**Lunch on your own**			
2 – 3:10 p.m.	**Investigating the pharmaceutical industry: Pills, money and politics** • Mark Houser, *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* • Linda Johnson, *Lexington Herald-Leader* • Ron Nixon, (Minneapolis) *Star Tribune* **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**Census track: Unexpected uses and stories** • Frank Bass, The Associated Press • Janet Roberts, *St. Paul Pioneer Press* • Dave Sheingold, *The* (Bergen County, N.J.) *Record* **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**Broadcast track - Doing the story. A plan and methods for accomplishing the CAR broadcast story no matter what size market you are in.** • Mark Greenblatt, WBBH-Fort Myers, Fla. • Laure Quinlivan, WCPO-Cincinnati • Adam Symson, E.W. Scripps Broadcast Group **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**Be all the geek that you can be: Linux and open source in the newsroom** • Aron Pilhofer, The Center for Public Integrity • Derek Willis, The Center for Public Integrity **2 p.m.**
3:20 – 4:30 p.m.	**The war on terror: From contracts to security** • Frank Bass, The Associated Press • David Burnham, Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse/Syracuse University **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**Race and data: Profiling and finding disparities in traffic stops, loans and justice** • Andy Alford, *Austin American-Statesman* • Dave Moore, *Columbia Daily Tribune* • Doug Stanley, *The Tampa Tribune* **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**Doing CAR at small- to medium-sized newspapers** • Laura Ayo, *The Knoxville News-Sentinel* • Jennie Coughlin, *The* (Staunton, Va.) *Daily News Leader* • David Donald, IRE and NICAR **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**Social network software: Visualizing influence and power** • Sarah Cohen, *The Washington Post* • Brant Houston, IRE/NICAR • Paul Walmsley, IRE/NICAR **3:20 p.m.**
4:40 – 5:50 p.m.	**Diagnosing health care: Reporting on hospitals, nursing homes and other institutions** • Robert Benincasa, *Gannett News Service* • Michael Berens, *Chicago Tribune* • Ben Lesser, *The* (Bergen County, N.J.) *Record* **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**Fighting innumeracy: Basic math and understanding numbers to prevent the big correction** • Neill A. Borowski, *The Indianapolis Star* • Scott Maier, University of Oregon **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**Uncovering the predators: Payday loans and other abuses of the poor** • Ken Alltucker, *The Cincinnati Enquirer* • Holly Hacker, IRE and NICAR **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**The power of SAS macros: Automating complex tasks** • Richard O'Reilly, *Los Angeles Times* **4:40 p.m.**
6 – 7:10 p.m.				

FRIDAY HANDS-ON

A = Advanced classes; **B** = Basic classes; **I** = Intermediate classes; **(MBC)** = Mini-Boot Camp

Salon B-C	Salon D-E	Salon F-G	Salon H-I	Salon M
B: Access 1: The purifying experience of filtering your data. Learn to select and sort data you choose **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**B:** Excel 1: Performing simple calculations and sorting **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**A:** An introduction to SQL Server. What does it have that desktop apps don't? How to import, view and query the data **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**New for this year** **A:** Accessing and using Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) data from the Census Bureau **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**A:** Mapping 1: Displaying data geographically with ArcView 8.2 **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**
I: Access 2: Summarizing databases with counting and summing **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**A:** Excel 2: Calculating ratios and rates in Excel **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**A:** One-stop analysis with SQL Server: Save time (and money) by learning stored procedures and cursors to compute statistics, analyze content with no additional software **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**B:** Web sites and search techniques for reporters **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**A:** Mapping 2: Importing and selecting data by attribute (ArcView 8.2) **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**
Lunch on your own				
B: Excel 1: Performing simple calculations and sorting **(MBC – Green Team)** **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**B:** Excel 1: Performing simple calculations and sorting **(MBC – Red Team)** **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**A:** SQL automation: How to spend zero time on those tedious, recurrent tasks of importing, manipulating, analyzing and publishing data with data transformation service **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**B:** Backgrounding people on the Internet **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**A:** Mapping 3: Geocoding to merge databases with street addresses into maps (ArcView 8.2) **2 - 3:10 p.m.**
B: Excel 2: Calculating ratios and rates in Excel **(MBC – Green Team)** **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**B:** Excel 2: Calculating ratios and rates in Excel **(MBC – Red Team)** **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**A:** UltraEdit and others: Using text editors to clean your data and text manipulation **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**B:** Backgrounding businesses on the Internet **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**A:** Mapping 4: How Spatial Analyst can pinpoint places and improve stories (ArcView 8.2) **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**
B: Importing data into Excel **(MBC – Green Team)** **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**B:** Importing data into Excel **(MBC – Red Team)** **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**A:** Perl: An introduction to Perl and regular expressions **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**New for this year** **I:** Making the most of using the U.S. Census Bureau's FactFinder **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**New for this year** **A:** Beyond basic Excel: Using advanced functions **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**
If you have a willing teacher and students, we can add a session in this time slot! Come see us in the Demo Room for scheduling! **6 - 7:10 p.m.**	If you have a willing teacher and students, we can add a session in this time slot! Come see us in the Demo Room for scheduling! **6 - 7:10 p.m.**	If you have a willing teacher and students, we can add a session in this time slot! Come see us in the Demo Room for scheduling! **6 - 7:10 p.m.**	**Open Lab**; review today's exercises, Q&A, Web sites and search techniques **(MBC – RED TEAM)** **6 - 7:10 p.m.**	Discussion session – CAR and the Macintosh **6 - 7:10 p.m.**

SATURDAY PANELS

	Hall of Mirrors	Rookwood	Pavillon	Demo Room Caprice 2 & 3
9 – 10:10 a.m.	**The crime beat: Uncovering the big story with meaningful statistics** • John Eck, University of Cincinnati • Doug Smith, *Los Angeles Times* • Maurice Tamman, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* **9 - 10:10 a.m.**	**Investigations on the environment beat** • James Bruggers, *The Courier-Journal* • Megan Christensen, *Detroit Free Press* • David Gulliver, *The Virginian-Pilot* **9 - 10:10 a.m.**	**Schools - Part one: Deciphering test scores** • Jason Method, *Asbury Park Press* • Matthew Waite, *St. Petersburg Times* **9 - 10:10 a.m.**	**Turning data into interactive maps: ArcIMS** • Ted Mellnik, *The Charlotte Observer* **9 a.m.**
10:20 – 11:30 a.m.	**Covering local and state government: Using databases to dissect the performance of your public officials** • David Herzog, NICAR and Missouri School of Journalism • Spencer Hunt, *The Cincinnati Enquirer* • Jodi Nirode, *The Columbus Dispatch* **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**Failures in the justice system: Unequal treatment and unpunished felons** • John Archibald, *The Birmingham News* • Jason Grotto, *The Miami Herald* • Mark Schaver, *The* (Louisville, Ky.) *Courier-Journal* **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**Schools - Part two: Teachers, contracts and discipline** • John Byczkowski, *The Cincinnati Enquirer* • Brad Heath, *The Detroit News* **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**Tracking around TRAC** • David Burnham, Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse/ Syracuse University **10:20 a.m.**
11:40 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.	**Measuring change in our communities: Profiling, poverty, race, immigration and economics** • Paula Lavigne, *The Dallas Morning News* • Regina McEnery, *The Plain Dealer* • David Milliron, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**Freeing the data: Open records laws, national security and privacy issues** • Richard Goehler, Esq., Frost Brown Todd, LLC • Jennifer LaFleur, *The Dallas Morning News* • David Smallman, Esq., Piper Rudnick LLP **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**Keeping business and corporations accountable: Dealing with business data for investigations** • Barbara Hansen, *USA Today* • Amy Joyner, (Greensboro, N.C.) *News & Record* • Neil Reisner, (Miami) Daily *Business Review* **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**Shboom and stats: New intranet tools combining SQL Server and ASP** • Tom Torok, *The New York Times* **11:40 a.m.**
12:50 – 2 p.m.	**Lunch on your own**			
2 – 3:10 p.m.	**Election year investigations: Following the money and influence** • Ken McCall, *Dayton Daily News* • Aron Pilhofer, The Center for Public Integrity • Derek Willis, The Center for Public Integrity **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**The boom in sports reporting with CAR: Finding and using data for better stories** • Justin Mayo, *The Seattle Times* • MaryJo Sylwester, *USA Today* • Tom Witosky, *The Des Moines Register* **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**The power of maps: How they are taking journalism further** • David Herzog, NICAR and Missouri School of Journalism • Jennifer LaFleur, *The Dallas Morning News* • Andy Lehren, Dateline NBC **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**Broadcast: How IRE and NICAR can help with sweeps** • IRE and NICAR staff **2 p.m.**
3:20 – 4:30 p.m.	**Writing and editing the data-heavy story: Tips and methods to make the numbers shine** • Alan Achkar, *The Plain Dealer* • John Erickson, *Dayton Daily News* **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**Bridges, dams, roads and public safety: How to find problems before the collapse** • James Pilcher, *The Cincinnati Enquirer* • Jeff Porter, IRE and NICAR • Greg Reeves, *The Kansas City Star* **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**Roundtable – Visualizing relationships: The potential of social network analysis to track influence and power** • Moderator: Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR • Jaimi Dowdell, IRE and NICAR • Kaare Gotfredsen, *Danske Kommuner* • Paul Walmsley, IRE and NICAR **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**Smorgasbord of tools to put data on your intranet – fast!** • David Milliron and Maurice Tamman, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* • John Perry, *The Oklahoman* • Robert Benincasa, GNS • Aron Pilhofer, The Center for Public Integrity
4:40 – 5:50 p.m.	**Making CAR stories bulletproof: Avoiding the pitfalls and how to edit for accuracy** • Doug Haddix, *The Columbus Dispatch* • Mark Nichols, *The Indianapolis Star* • Richard O'Reilly, *Los Angeles Times* **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**Keeping government accountable: Looking into public contract abuses and public employee misdeeds** • Dan Keating, *The Washington Post* • Jason Method, *Asbury Park Press* • Darrel Rowland, *The Columbus Dispatch* **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**International CAR: Data and stories crossing borders** • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR • Nils Mulvad, Danish Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**Taking maps from desktop to the Web on deadline: HTML ImageMapper** • Matthew Waite, *St. Petersburg Times* **4:40 p.m.**
6 – 7:10 p.m.				
7:30 p.m.	**RECEPTION:** Hosted by *The Cincinnati Enquirer* **LOCATION: The Continental Room**, Mezzanine Level, Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza Hotel			

SATURDAY HANDS-ON

A = Advanced classes; **B** = Basic classes; **I** = Intermediate classes; **(MBC)** = Mini-Boot Camp

Salon B-C	Salon D-E	Salon F-G	Salon H-I	Salon M
New for this year **A:** An introduction to string functions in Access and Excel **9 - 10:10 a.m.**	**A:** Excel 3: Learn pivot tables, filtering and more **9 - 10:10 a.m.**	**New for this year** **A:** SQL Server: Using SQL Server, full-text indexing, Soundex and Active Server Pages to control non-standardized names **9 - 10:10 a.m.**	**B:** Web sites and search techniques for reporters **9 - 10:10 a.m.**	**A:** SPSS 1: Navigate SPSS, using descriptive statistics and frequencies. Create basic counts and percentages to help you understand your data **9 - 10:10 a.m.**
A: Access 3: How to join tables, matching information from one file to another **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**B:** Excel 1: Performing simple calculations and sorting **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**New for this year** **A:** Database building I: Using Access forms to ease the process **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**A:** Advanced scripting I: Mining the Web for data **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**A:** SPSS 2: Doing crosstabs to show the data in different ways, and statistical tests **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**
B: Access 1: The purifying experience of filtering your data. Learn to select and sort data items you choose **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**New for this year** **A:** Visual FoxPro as a text editor, data downloader and cleanup tool **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**New for this year** **A:** Database building II: Fine-tuning your Access database with programming tools **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**New for this year** **A:** Advanced scripting II: Using Perl to grab data from searchable Web pages **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**	**A:** SPSS 3: Basic linear regression techniques and diagnostics **11:40 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**
Lunch on your own				
A: Moving into Access: Learn filtering with Excel, an introduction to filtering with Access **(MBC – Green Team)** **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**A:** Moving into Access: Learn filtering with Excel, an introduction to filtering with Access **(MBC – Red Team)** **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**New for this year** **A:** Using VBA to take control of text files, running queries and automating data cleanup **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**B:** Excel and Internet: Importing data from the Web into spreadsheets **2 - 3:10 p.m.**	**A:** Mapping 1: Displaying data geographically with ArcView 8.2 **2 - 3:10 p.m.**
I: Access 2: Summarizing databases with counting and summing **(MBC – Green Team)** **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**I:** Access 2: Summarizing databases with counting and summing **(MBC – Red Team)** **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**A:** MySQL: Introduction to a low-cost alternative to SQL Server **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**New for this year** **I:** Downloading and analyzing census demographics to help cover your community **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**	**A:** Mapping 2: Importing and selecting data by attribute (ArcView 8.2) **3:20 - 4:30 p.m.**
A: Access 3: How to join tables, matching information from one file to another **(MBC – Green Team)** **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**A:** Access 3: How to join tables, matching information from one file to another **(MBC – Red Team)** **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**New for this year** **A:** Introduction to social network software **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**New for this year** **I:** Downloading and analyzing campaign finance data **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**	**A:** Mapping 3: Geocoding to merge databases with street addresses into maps (ArcView 8.2) **4:40 - 5:50 p.m.**
If you have a willing teacher and students, we can add a session in this time slot! Come see us in the Demo Room for scheduling! **6 - 7:10 p.m.**	If you have a willing teacher and students, we can add a session in this time slot! Come see us in the Demo Room for scheduling! **6 - 7:10 p.m.**	If you have a willing teacher and students, we can add a session in this time slot! Come see us in the Demo Room for scheduling! **6 - 7:10 p.m.**	**Open Lab**; review today's exercises, Q&A, Web sites and search techniques **(MBC – GREEN TEAM)** **6 - 7:10 p.m.**	**Journalism educators discussion group** **6 - 7:10 p.m.**

SUNDAY PANELS

	Hall of Mirrors	Rookwood	Pavillon
9 – 10:10 a.m.	**What to do next: Follow-up training and networking** • David Donald, IRE and NICAR • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR • Debbie Wolfe, *St. Petersburg Times* **9 - 10:10 a.m.**	**The Internet redux: A second round of making effective use of the Internet** • Carolyn Edds, IRE and NICAR • Stephen Miller, *The New York Times* **9 - 10:10 a.m.**	**Educators workshop: Materials, syllabi & skills** • Moderator: David Herzog, NICAR and Missouri School of Journalism • Wendell Cochran, American University • Larry Gillick Jr., East Carolina University • Jeff South, Virginia Commonwealth University **9 - 10:10 a.m.**
10:20 – 11:30 a.m.	**Equip your newsroom: Recommendations on commercial hardware and software to open sourcing** • David Milliron, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* • Aron Pilhofer, The Center for Public Integrity **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**A statistical primer: Going past addition and subtraction** • Neill A. Borowski, *The Indianapolis Star* • Jennifer LaFleur, *The Dallas Morning News* **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**Educators workshop: How to teach CAR** • Moderator: David Herzog, NICAR and Missouri School of Journalism • Larry Gillick Jr., East Carolina University • Jeff South, Virginia Commonwealth University **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**

SUNDAY HANDS-ON

A = Advanced classes; **B** = Basic classes; **(MBC)** = Mini-Boot Camp

	Salon B-C	Salon D-E	Salon H-I
9 – 10:10 a.m.	**B:** Build your own database: The ins and outs of how to structure and maintain a database you create **(MBC – Green Team)** **9 - 10:10 a.m.**	**B:** Build your own database: The ins and outs of how to structure and maintain a database you create **(MBC – Red Team)** **9 - 10:10 a.m.**	**B:** Backgrounding people on the Internet **9 - 10:10 a.m.**
10:20 – 11:30 a.m.	Final Q&A session, exercise, and how to take it all home **(MBC – Green Team)** **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	Final Q&A session, exercise, and how to take it all home **(MBC – Red Team)** **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**	**B:** Backgrounding businesses on the Internet **10:20 - 11:30 a.m.**

BREAKTHROUGHS

FUNDING **IRE**'s FUTURE

Have you pledged to IRE's Endowment Fund yet? Join the hundreds of IRE members who have pledged to help ensure the future of the organization's training programs, services, resources and new initiatives for investigative journalism.

And remember, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation will give $1 for every $2 that you donate or pledge to IRE's endowment. Now is definitely the time to support IRE.

To Make a Pledge:

...during the conference, please drop by the sales desk and fill out a pledge form and/or make a payment to the Breakthroughs drive.

...when you get home, please visit the Breakthroughs page on the IRE Web site: *www.ire.org/endowment/*

Questions? Please call or e-mail IRE's development officer, Jennifer Erickson, at jennifer@ire.org or 573-884-2222.

Getting Around

Downtown Cincinnati is laid out on a simple grid. East-West streets are numbered consecutively, north from the river, and are divided east-west at Vine Street. The north-south streets, from the east, are Broadway, Sycamore, Main, Walnut, Vine, Race, Elm, Plum and Central Avenue (remember: Big strong men will very rarely eat pork chops). Buildings are numbered by blocks. So, Nicholson's Scottish pub, 625 Walnut, is north of Sixth Street. Arnold's Bar and Grill, 210 E. Eighth St., is two blocks east of Vine.

When to Walk, When to Cab

Downtown Cincinnati is generally safe. Random acts of violence are rare but well-publicized, so if you aren't careful, you'll end up in the paper. The closer to midnight, the less safe it is, and if it looks iffy, it probably is.

Daytime is generally safe. In the evening, you are generally safe from Seventh Street south to Third. Streets get more deserted north of Seventh to Central Parkway, where the central business district meets Over-the-Rhine.

You'd be advised to take a cab into Over-the-Rhine and the Main Street bar district. Cab it, also, to Mount Adams, which is too far to walk. You also can take a cab across the river to Covington and Newport, but there's a better deal. The Southbank Shuttle costs $1 and runs every 20 minutes until 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday nights. You can catch it at various points along Fourth and Fifth Streets in downtown Cincinnati.

Key Points of Interest

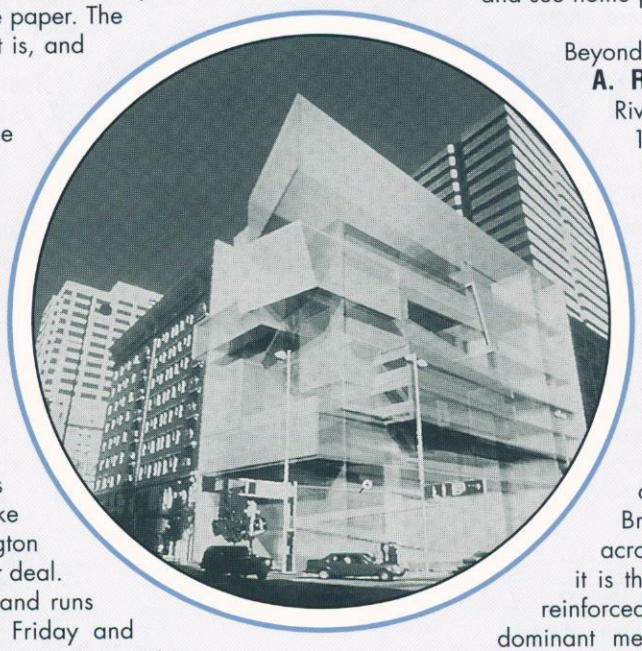
Sights around and near downtown, in no particular order (for an updated schedule of music, arts and other events, pick up a Thursday *Cincinnati Post*, a Friday *Cincinnati Enquirer*, or the free weeklies *Cin* and *CityBeat*):

Plum Street Temple, 726 Plum St., founded in 1838 (the first Reform Jewish congregation west of the Alleghenies) and built in 1866. A spectacular building recently restored.

The Cesar Pelli-designed Aronoff Center for the Arts, 650 Walnut St., opened in 1995 and is a collection of theaters large and small. There's always something going on. Ticket office is 513-721-3344, *www.cincinnatiarts.org/venues/aronoff.*

Guess where the **Tyler Davidson Fountain** is? Fountain Square, Fifth and Vine. It's the most recognizable symbol of the city to anyone who's ever seen WKRP in Cincinnati. It was given to the city in 1871 by businessman Henry Probasco in memory of his business partner. The female figure in the center is called the "Genius of the Water."

On Second Street are three jewels of Cincinnati's unfinished waterfront. To the west is **Paul Brown Stadium**, where the NFL Bengals play, which if we forget for a minute will cost taxpayers $1 billion by the time it's paid for, is very pretty for a football stadium. Because Cincinnati was the place where slaves came to seek freedom, it is the site of **National Underground Railroad Freedom Center** museum, at Second and Vine, which opens this summer. At Third and Main is **Great American Ball Park**, home of the Reds. If you walk to the southeast corner, you can peek across center field and see home plate.



Beyond the Freedom Center is the **John A. Roebling Bridge** over the Ohio River to Covington, Ky. It opened in 1866, and served as a model for Roebling's later, more-famous project, the Brooklyn Bridge. Joggers love to cross it, then circle Covington's Riverside neighborhood of brick mansions, most dating from before the Civil War.

One of the most significant buildings downtown is the **Ingalls Building** on the northeast corner of Fourth and Vine (with Bruegger's Bagels at its base, across from Starbuck's). Built in 1902, it is the world's first skyscraper built of reinforced concrete, which today is the dominant method of building tall structures. Word is a newspaperman, hoping to scoop his competition, stayed up all night, waiting to see it fall.

The new **Rosenthal Center for Contemporary Art** at Sixth and Walnut has been hailed as one of the most important new buildings in the nation, the first American commission of Iraqi-born architect Zaha Hadid. In previous quarters, the Contemporary Arts Center housed the famous/infamous Mapplethorpe photography exhibit in 1990, and has a reputation for featuring artists 10 years before the major galleries discover them. Check on admission. 513-345-8400, *www.contemporaryartscenter.org.*

The Cincinnati Art Museum, 953 Eden Park Drive, another of our "oldest whatever west of the Alleghenies," was founded in 1881, and its collection covers 6,000 years of history, from Mesopotamia to Matisse, from Rome to Rothko. The best part is admission is free, always and forever. More info at 513-639-2995, *www.cincinnatiartmuseum.org.*

DINING GUIDE

By Jim Knippenberg, *The Cincinnati Enquirer*

Breakfast and Lunch (walking distance)

First, the **Starbucks**: The one nearest the hotel is at Fourth and Vine streets. Lines can be long.

Many downtown lunch spots are only open until 2 p.m., and some of the best – like **Fred and Gari's** (629 Vine St., 513-784-9000) for pizza, sandwiches and soup, and the Bagel Stop (621 Walnut St., 513-723-1903) – are takeout only. Many of the dinner restaurants listed below are also open for lunch.

@the Kafe in Tower Place Mall (28 W. Fourth St., 513-241-1343) is a cross between coffee shop and Internet café. The three computers are always busy, but the coffee's good and the pastry is sinful. Deli sandwiches for lunch.

Tower Place, a shopping arcade attached to the Hilton Netherland, has what *Enquirer* staffers affectionately call "the food pit," a food court with a dozen or so vendors, including Sbarro, Chik-fil-a, Gold Star Chili, Subway, and more. Open for lunch and dinner.

The reason the entire office tower at 525 Vine St. smells like bacon is **Paula's**, on the Skywalk level (513-381-3354). Get coffee and muffins in the morning, soup and sandwiches at lunch.

Atlanta Bread Co. (100 E. Fourth St., 513-621-2410) opens at 6:30 a.m. with freshly baked pastries, an assortment of coffees and deli sandwiches.

B/G Restaurant (900 Main St., 513-421-0835) is one of the last of the old-time diners. It opens at 6:30 a.m. with huge platter breakfasts. The fried eggs are legendary. So are the burgers at lunch.

Bruegger's (Fourth and Vine streets, 513-421-2320), across from Starbucks, has fresh bagels in the morning and good sandwiches at lunch.

Frisch's Big Boy (132 E. Sixth St., 513-721-7700), if you haven't had a Brawny Lad in a while. Also has a breakfast bar, salad bar at lunch and good fried cod sandwiches.

Café d'Vine (312 Vine St.) opens at 6:30 a.m. and specializes in blue plate specials both for breakfast and lunch. They do carryout, but most people here go for the full breakfast platter. If you're going to do lunch, the meatloaf is a must.

Hathaway's, in the Carew Tower Arcade (connected to Tower Place Mall, 513-621-1332), is great for carryout, but better for sitting and dining on one of the breakfast platters (the corned beef hash is a specialty) or blue plate lunches. Different lunch specials daily, including its famous fried chicken platter. Great milk shakes.

Red Fox Grill (232 E. 6th St., 513-621-7924) is for the early risers. They fire up the griddle at 5 a.m. and keep serving 'til 3 p.m. Traditional "mom" breakfasts but it's known mostly for double deckers, some of them six-inches high. Good luck.

Sophia's Deli (811 Main St., 513-723-1055) has traditional breakfasts (it opens at 7:30 a.m.) but it's mostly known for lunches, including an incredible Catholic grade school cafeteria lunch on Friday. The fish with mac and cheese is so good that there's often a line at peak hours.

A couple doors down, the **Sports Page** (821 Main St., 513-241-9176) serves the same diner-style fare starting at 6 a.m. Breakfast platters attract a devoted following, as do the justly famous burger platters at lunch. A sister location is at 626 Vine St., (513-241-9176).

Temple Restaurant (122 W. 6th St., 513-241-2701) opens for breakfast at 7 a.m. with a full line of traditional platters. Lunches are better-than-average diner fare with chili and burgers leading the way.

First Watch (700 Walnut St. but facing Seventh Street, 513-721-4744) is downtown's power breakfast spot, where politicians and businesspeople with their Blackberries eat strawberries from the yogurt parfait. Good pancakes and skillets.

House of Sun (35 E. Seventh St., 513-721-3600), as Chinese buffets go, is good – not too many dishes, and with a busy lunch crowd, the food is replenished often, so it's hot and fresh. Ask your waiter for the soup.

Dinner (walking distance)

Nicholson's (625 Walnut St., 513-564-9111) is a Scottish restaurant with a wide variety of authentic dishes, including fish 'n' chips, oatmeal encrusted seafoods and scotch eggs. Entrees are in the $20 range. Also has a huge selection of single-malt Scotch.

The Phoenix (812 Race St., 513-721-8901) calls its fare "fine dining with an affordable twist" with most entrees in the $20 range. Known for its steaks.

Mullane's (723 Race St., 513-381-1331) is a favorite, known for an eclectic menu and being one of the few downtown restaurants with several vegetarian entrees. You can get out of here for $10 or $15.

DINING GUIDE

Ko-Sho doesn't look like much, but it's well known for its traditional Japanese fare and fresh – really fresh – sushi. It's at 215 E. Ninth St. (513-665-4950)

Aioli (700 Elm St., 513-929-0525) is contemporary cuisine with a classic flare – such as the duck breast tamale or the yellowfin tuna club sandwich. Extensive wine list, too.

Arnold's Bar and Grill (210 E. Eighth St., 513-421-6234) is Cincinnati's oldest restaurant, in operation since the mid-1800s. It serves up classic American fare – people rave about the turkey sandwich – and Americanized European fare. The marinara sauce over pasta is a local favorite.

Bella (600 Walnut St., 513-721-7100) dishes up Italian and Mediterranean fusion fare in hearty portions. Especially well known for meat dishes. Expect to pay about $25 a person

Cincinnati Style Chili

Campanello's (414 Central Ave., 513-721-9833) is a funky old restaurant serving classic Italian comfort food – meatballs and spaghetti, chicken dishes, rolled beef, most everything topped with tomato sauce. About $15 a person.

Akash India (24 E. Sixth St., 513-721-1300) is authentic Indian cuisine. At dinner, order off the menu. For lunch, the very generous buffet is a must.

Mejana (214 E. Sixth St., 513-333-0660) uses centuries-old Mediterranean recipes for soups and entrees, including several vegetarian selections and a decent assortment of seafoods.

Palomino (505 Vine St., Skywalk level, 513-381-1300) dishes up regional American cuisine with a European touch. Wafer thin wood-fired pizzas are great during happy hour. Entrees include pasta selections, a lot of seafood and some nicely done steaks. Get a table by the window.

Redfish (700 Race St., 513-929-4700) serves Cajun and Creole specialties that you can order as spicy as you like. The classics – blackened redfish, gumbo – are all there, as is a nice selection of seafood and steaks.

Pizzeria Uno (627 Walnut St., 513-621-8667) is a chain, but you still can't beat the pizza. Coldest beer you'll find downtown, too.

Shanghai Mama's (216 E. Sixth St., 513-241-7777) is a Shanghai noodle shop – heaping bowls of noodles with a large selection of toppings. It's open 'til 3 a.m. on Friday and Saturday for the night owls.

Washington Platform (1000 Elm St., 513-421-0110) is a restored turn-of-the century saloon with casual dining on American food. Several oyster dishes are local favorites, but try chili, the pork chops or the grilled fish.

Local Icons

There are a few things you have to try while here. They're the foods that made Cincinnati famous.

Skyline Chili is Greek-inspired and unique to the area. A bed of pasta topped with a fine-grain chili topped with shredded cheese (called a three-way). Onions and kidney beans optional (four-way if you have one, five-way with both). Or try a Coney: Hot dog topped with mustard topped with chili topped with onions topped with shredded cheese. And when they ask if you want a bib, the answer is yes. Downtown locations at 254 E. 4th St., 643 Vine St., 1001 Vine St., and 580 Walnut St. are open till about 7 p.m. For a late-night five-way, cab it to 617 W. Third St. in Covington.

Montgomery Inn at the Boathouse is known nationally for its ribs (the late Bob Hope had a standing once-a-month order). They're tangy sweet and fall off the bone. The same sauce is used on the barbecued chicken, but it's the ribs that made the place famous. It's a five-minute cab ride away at 925 Eastern Ave. (513-721-7427). The wait can be up to two hours.

Graeter's Ice Cream is Oprah's favorite (she has a standing order for butter pecan). Handmade by the French dip method, it has a full line of flavors and specialty frozen treats. But try the ice cream plain. No one's ever sorry. It's at 41 E. Fourth St. (513-381-0653).

Izzy's is known for corned beef, crispy potato pancakes and quirky servers. Long tables – you never know who you might be sitting with – are equipped with crocks of kosher pickles and sauerkraut for spicing up sandwiches. The other quirk here is no one ever gets a bill. The cashier just asks what you had and charges accordingly. Two downtown locations: Elm Street and Garfield Place (513-721-4241) and 610 Main Street (513-241-6246).

DINING GUIDE

Trattoria Roma (609 Walnut St., 513-723-0220) offers northern and southern Italian dishes. People seem to like the southern Italian better, but the place is also known for its creamy alfredo sauce.

Wah Mee (435 Elm St., 513-579-0544) has classic Szechwan cuisine and some great combo plates. Beware when the menu says "hot." They're not kidding.

Margarita's at Tower Place Mall (enter off Fourth Street, or through the food pit, 513-241-2313) is Mexican dine-in or carry out. Most people dine in after a visit to the bar and one of their generous margaritas.

Scotti's (919 Vine St., 513-721-9484) is family owned and quaint. Mostly southern Italian, with candles melting over wine bottles and mosaics all over the walls.

Dinner (take a cab)

Behle Street Café (50 E. Rivercenter Blvd., Covington, 859-291-4100) has something for everyone – big burgers and deli sandwiches, full dinners (meatloaf is a must) plus dinner salads and daily specials. It's a five-minute cab ride.

Mount Adams Bar and Grille (938 Hatch St., Mount Adams, 513-621-3666) is more bar than grill, but the food is consistently good. Five minutes by cab.

Jack Quinn's Irish Pub (112 E. Fourth St., 859-491-6699) Authentic Irish food, including some of the best corned beef and cabbage around. Shepherd's pie is not too shabby either. There's a long list of imported beers and scotches to choose from. Five minutes by cab.

Mike Fink on the Covington riverfront (1 Ben Bernstein Place, 859-261-4212) is an old riverboat converted to a floating restaurant. A little pricey, but it's a drop-dead view. The restaurant is known for its raw bar and tableside preparations. Five minutes by cab.

The Waterfront, (14 Pete Rose Pier, 859-581-1414) about half a mile downriver from the Fink, is a little pricey ($60-$70 a person), but it's one of the city's best. Usually crowded with the beautiful people, Bengals and Cincinnati Reds hanging around the piano bar. Five minutes by cab.

Nicola's Italian Ristorante (1420 Sycamore, 513-721-6200 on the fringe of the Main Street Entertainment district is best known for veal and seafood preparations. Five minutes by cab.

Pompilio's (600 Washington, Newport, 513-581-3065) is classic southern Italian food cooked by genuine Italian grandmothers. There's also a busy happy hour in the bar. Five to ten minutes by cab.

Wertheim's Gasthaus Zur Linde (514 West Sixth St., Covington, 859-261-1233, in the MainStrasse district). Reflecting Cincinnati's German heritage, Wertheim's dishes up dozens of sausage dishes, 'kraut, goulash and American fare as well. Five minutes by cab.

Top Dollar

Suggestions if you have a really generous expense account:

Maisonette (114 E. Sixth St.) is Cincinnati's only Mobil Five-Star restaurant. It's classic French food. Open lunch and dinner, but jackets are required and reservations are almost always necessary (513-721-2260). With cocktails and wine, figure $100 a person, and worth every penny. La Normandie, same owners, is right downstairs and somewhat cheaper. It's an English-themed steak and chop house, and serves the same incredible chocolate mousse as the Maisonette.

Jean-Robert at Pigall's (127 W. Fourth St., 513-721-1345) (JR is former head chef at the Maisonette) is only a year old but has made a major dent in the local dining scene. The prix-fixe ($75) dinner is five French courses. Wines are extra.

Jeff Ruby's Steakhouse (700 Walnut St., 513-784-1200) might also require an expense account. It's a New York-style steakhouse with gigantic portions that almost no one ever finishes. Great and lively bar area, too. Dinner only and figure $100 a person.

Morton's of Chicago (28 W. Fourth St., 513-241-4104) is similar to Ruby's. Big steaks, generous drinks. The atmosphere is much quieter here, though. About $100 a person.

NIGHT LIFE

Cocktails (walking distance)

Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza: It's right downstairs from your room and you really do need to make the trip. The spectacular Art Deco bar has an especially lively happy hour, frequently with a pianist tucked off to the side. Plus the food's a cut way above usual "hotel food." Breakfast (buffet or off the menu) runs 6:30-10:30 a.m. Lunch (also buffet or menu) goes 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and dinner goes 'til 11 p.m. The bar is open 'til midnight on weekdays, 1 a.m. Fridays and 2 a.m. Saturdays.

Rock Bottom Brewery on Fountain Square (513-621-1588) is a major happy hour hangout for downtown workers. Try one of the many specialty beers, all brewed on site, and the better-than-average bar food.

Federal Reserve (it really was a Federal Reserve Branch in the early 1900s) is all opulent woods and brass detailing. Upscale, and a favorite with the Beautiful People. It's at Fourth and Race Streets (513-784-1999).

O'Malley's in the Alley: For a touch of downtown Cincinnati the way it used to be, you can't beat this Irish bar. You can eat and drink here for less than $10. The catch: It's hard to find. It's located in an Ogden alley running between Race and Vine Streets, south of Fourth. (513-381-3114)

To kick back and watch a game, head for **Champs Sports** bar at the Hyatt (151 W. 5th St., 513-579-1234). For people watching, try the **Albee's** bird's eye view of Fountain Square from the second level of the Westin. Fifth and Vine (513-852-2729) on the ground level attracts a more boisterous crowd. Something about that free popcorn.

Plum Street Café, half a block from the Convention Center at 423 Plum (513-651-4341), is a downtown neighborhood bar, a great favorite with restaurant workers and banquet servers. Happy hour is quiet but the place heats up about 11 p.m.

Spy Club (513-684-0123), directly across from the Convention Center at Fifth and Plum, has plush sofas, easy chairs and a standard bar. Busy happy hour gives way to late-night dancing.

Blue Wisp (318 Eighth St., 513-241-WISP) is a shrine for jazz lovers. The Blue Wisp Big Band (Wednesdays only) is an award-winning, nationally known band with anywhere from 15 to 20 players, depending on who shows up. Other nights you get smaller groups usually fronted by a female singer. Entertainment starts at 9 p.m. Warning for nonsmokers: Most everyone here does, so if it bothers you, skip it. There's almost always a cover charge, usually $3, but sometimes up to $8.

Other nearby places worth a try include the **Havana Martini Club** for a cigar with your cocktail (580 Walnut St., 513-651-2800), **Barleycorn's** for happy hour and light appetizers (124 E. Sixth St., 513-621-5511), **Madonna's Bar** for happy hour and pool tables (11 E. Seventh St., 513-621-8838), and **Tina's** for beer and a chili recipe guaranteed to make you break a sweat (350 W. 4th St., 513-621-3567).

Carol's on Main (825 Main St., 513-651-2667) is a mix of young/old, straight/gay, all there for cocktails or dinner. Happy hour goes all day until 7 p.m. with what are reported to be the strongest drinks in town. Decent enough bar food, too, and great burgers at lunchtime.

Cocktails (take a cab)

Incline Lounge: It's the best view in town with generous drinks and frequently a pianist (dance music begins 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday). Dinner's good too, but you'll need your gold card. It's in the Celestial restaurant, 1071 Celestial St., Mount Adams (513-241-4455).

Newport on the Levee, just across the river in, obviously, Newport, Ky.: It's the happening hub with a whole lineup of bars and restaurants. Everything's right there, so once you arrive there's no need for transportation. The Southbank Shuttle at Fountain Square will drop you at the door for $1.

In the Levee:

Brio's Tuscan Pub (859-431-0900) delivers a Northern Italian touch at an extremely lively happy hour. Known for its designer pizzas and stiff drinks.

Bamboo Social Club (859-261-2921) is all about the Pacific Rim. The big practice here is for a table to order four or five appetizers and pretend it's dinner. Known also for a wide lineup of exotic cocktails.

Claddagh Irish Pub (859-581-8888) has Bass on tap and sheppard's pie. And Bass, on tap.

Tropicana (859-491-8900) is for high-glitz and a touch of what Newport was like when it was Sin City – wide open and controlled by the Cleveland mob. Pricey.

Across the street from the Levee:

Hofbrau Haus (Third and Saratoga, 859-491-7200): The only one outside Munich, try it for hearty beers – brewed on site – and even heartier food.

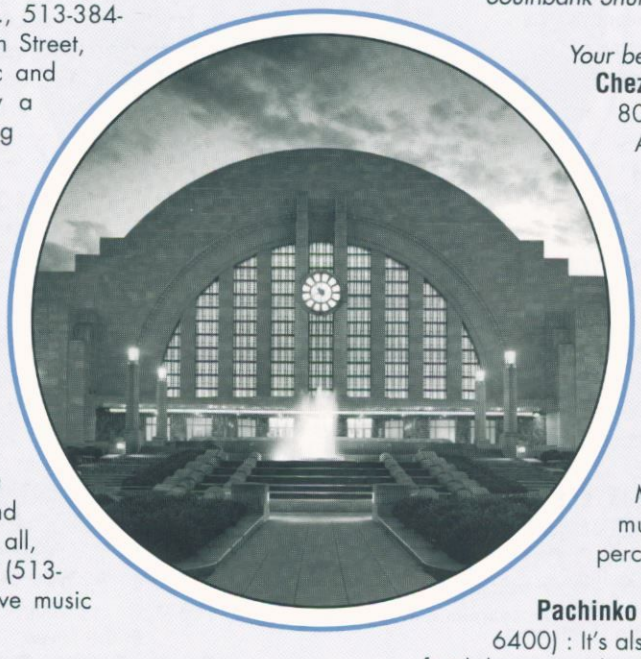
Main Street Entertainment District

Yeah, you can walk there, but we don't recommend doing it alone. Especially late at night. But once you're there, it's perfectly safe to walk among the ten or 12 bars and restaurants.

Courtyard Café (1211 Main St., 513-723-1119) is known for its excellent bar food as well as a lively mix of neighborhood types and downtowners. It gets crowded, but with two levels there's still room to spread out.

Jekyll & Hyde's (1140 Main St., 513-929-4400) is actually two bars. Jekyll is a billiard club; Hyde's is a nightclub and lounge with a revolving cast of entertainers.

Moose on Main (1345 Main St., 513-384-0400) is all the way up at 14th Street, but its casual dining, live music and honest drinks consistently draw a crowd. Huge with the young professional set.



Rhino's Watering Hole is another strange mix of neighborhood types and happy hour downtowners. Mainly for beer drinkers, but they still have a full bar and frequently a band on weekends. It's at 119 E. 12th Street. (513-241-8545).

You'll find a few **BarrelHouse Brewing Co.** beers on tap around town, but if you want to try them all, go to the source, at 22 East 12th (513-421-2337). There's food, and live music starts at 10.

Jefferson Hall (1150 Main St.) has a wall down the middle – one side is a busy and smoky bar. The other side is live music from some of the city's top bands.

Neon's, right around the corner on 12th Street (513-721-2919), is a cigar bar and the first of the Main Street hangouts. (Neon's has no sign out front, but you'll know it when you see it.)

Club Clau, just down from Neon's at 12th and Sycamore (513-352-0352), is the newest and flashiest in the entertainment district. Good drinks and a fun, young crowd. But be prepared to wait behind the velvet rope. The crowd builds quickly.

Have a Nice Day Café (1130 Main St., 513-381-4210) is all '70s all the time. Retro and frequently loud.

The Cavern's (1120 Walnut St., 513-361-0036) claim to fame is the management's uncanny ability to find the brightest and best of the new Cincinnati bands.

Almost on the fringe of the entertainment district, check out **Mr. Pitiful's** (1323 Main St., 513-369-0202). This place is actually two rooms, one for drinks, one for drinks and music. So if you're there to talk, you can actually do it without the music drowning you out.

If, after the clubbing, you want a cup of coffee, **Kaldi's** (1204 Main St., 513-241-3070), is one of the best coffee houses in the city, a hippie hangout with live acoustic music most nights.

MainStrasse

The quaint German-themed promenade is packed with about 15 bars and restaurants within walking distance, so just ask your cab driver to drop you at Sixth and Main and go for it. Southbank Shuttle stops there, too.

Your best bets:

Chez Nora (530 Main St., 859-491-8027): The first floor is an elbow-to-Adam's apple happy hour starting about 5 p.m. The third floor gets started a little later, about 7 p.m., with music kicking in at 8 p.m. Good and moderately priced bar food.

Dee Felice (across from Chez Nora, 529 Main St., 859-261-2365): It's a taste of N'awlins here in Cincinnati. The classiest and the most upscale of the MainStrasse bars, it usually has music, too, from a band that perches atop the bar.

Pachinko (424 W. Sixth St, 859-431-6400) : It's also big with the college crowd. No food, but a couple of highly competitive pool tables.

Footloose

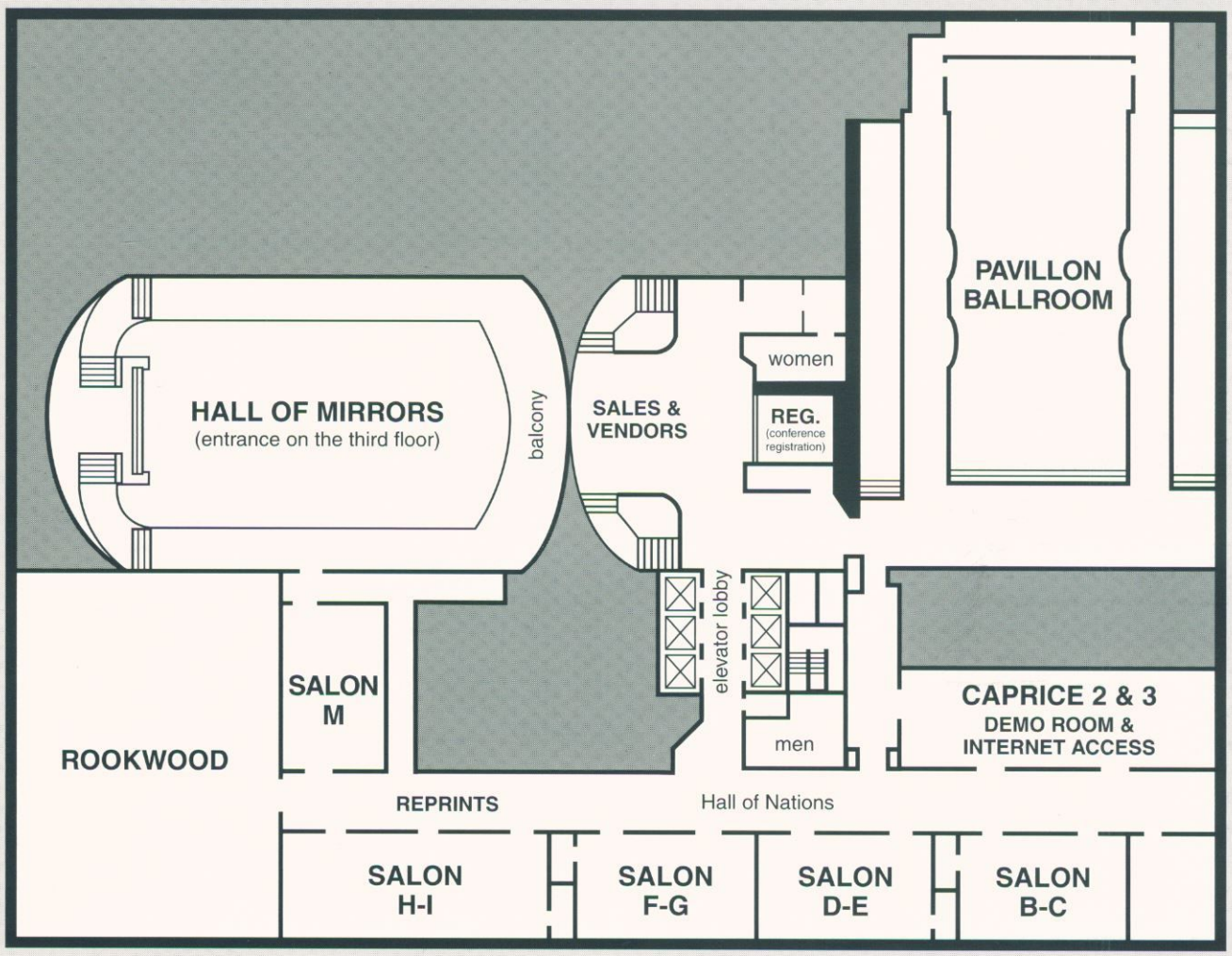
Need to shake your body loose after sitting in panels all day? That's simple, head back to the Main Street Entertainment District, MainStrasse or Newport on the Levee.

If you're doing Main Street, wander over to the **Warehouse** (1313 Vine St.) for some after-hours dancing. It opens at 10 p.m. (Friday and Saturday only), but the music keeps pumping 'til 4 a.m.

Or, haul your dancing feet down to the **Dock** at 603 Pete Rose Way (you'll need a cab). Last call is 2:15 a.m., but it stays open until 4 a.m. on weekends. Cab drivers will tell you it's the most frequently requested destination for out-of-town visitors.

HOTEL FLOOR PLANS

HILTON CINCINNATI NETHERLAND PLAZA – FOURTH FLOOR



Map courtesy of the Greater Cincinnati Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Regional Map Partnership.

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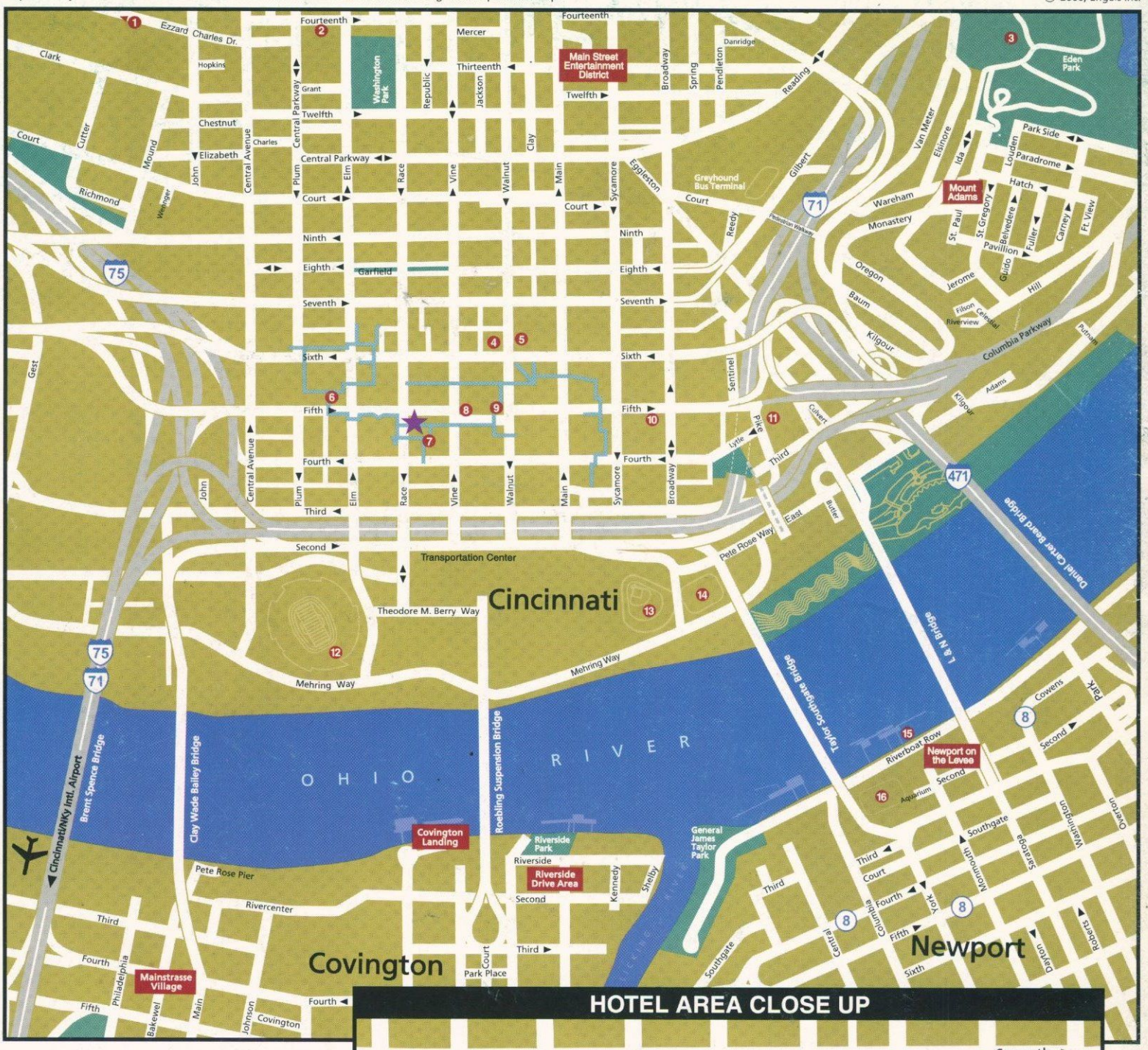
Cincinnati
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Newport
OHIO RIVER
Transportation Center
Main Street Entertainment District
Mount Adams
Greyhound Bus Terminal
Mainstrasse Village
Covington Landing
Riverside Park
Riverside Drive Area
Newport on the Levee
General James Taylor Park
Eden Park
Washington Park
Garfield
Fourteenth
Thirteenth
Twelfth
Eighth
Seventh
Sixth
Fifth
Fourth
Third
Second
Ninth
Court
Central Parkway
Grant
Mercer
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Van Meter
Elsinore
Ida
Park Side
Louden
Paradrome
Hatch
Wareham
Monastery
St. Paul
St. Gregory
Belvedere
Pavillion
Guido
Fuller
Carney
Ft. View
Oregon
Jerome
Hill
Baum
Kilgour
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Theodore M. Berry Way
Mehring Way
Daniel Carter Beard Bridge
L & N Bridge
Taylor Southgate Bridge
Roebling Suspension Bridge
Clay Wade Bailey Bridge
Brent Spence Bridge
Cincinnati/NKy Intl. Airport
Pete Rose Pier
Rivercenter
Park Place
Riverboat Row
Aquarium
Cowens
Park
Southgate
Monmouth
Saratoga
Washington
Overton
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Richmond
Court
Weehner
Reedy
Gilbert
Sentinel
Lytle
Pike
Culvert
Butler
East

SPEAKER BIOS

ALAN ACHKAR is an assistant metro editor at *The Plain Dealer*. He oversees coverage of city hall, county government, local politics and economic development. Last year, he oversaw a series examining the state of Cleveland's children. As a metro reporter, he led the paper's census coverage, an in-depth look at the state of the local economy and a series on the problems facing Cleveland's airport.

ANDY ALFORD is a writer on the *Austin American-Statesman*'s special projects team, where she specializes in CAR. She has worked for the *Statesman* since 1997 and covered demographic issues related to the census, education and urban affairs. She was recently honored with an award from the Texas Headliners Foundation.

KEN ALLTUCKER covers growth and development and the census for *The Cincinnati Enquirer*. He joined the *Enquirer* in 2000 and previously worked as a reporter for the *Reno Gazette-Journal* and *The Sun* in Bremerton, Wash.

NANCY AMONS oversees the investigative team and specializes in CAR at WSMV-Nashville. Among her honors are two National Headliner awards, a Green Eyeshade award, nine Associated Press awards, a Silver Gavel, an Iris and four Emmy awards. In 1995, she was named broadcast journalist of the year by the Tennessee AP and by the national chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

JODI ANDES NIRODE is a police reporter at *The Columbus Dispatch*. She has done several CAR pieces, including analyzing data from 911 records, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, Columbus' take-home fleet, police complaints and gubernatorial pardons and commutations. She previously worked at the Mansfield, Ohio, *News Journal* and served as a stringer for the *Akron Beacon Journal*.

JOHN ARCHIBALD is database editor and investigative team leader at *The Birmingham News*, where he has worked for 16 years. He has written extensively about problems in courts and the justice system, though he doesn't consider it to be his specialty.

LAURA AYO is the computer-assisted reporter for *The Knoxville News-Sentinel*. She previously covered federal and state courts, federal agencies and education for the *News-Sentinel* and papers in Louisiana. She is the recipient of the Malcolm Law Memorial Award for Best Investigative Reporting.

FRANK BASS is director of CAR at The Associated Press. He has worked at *The Wall Street Journal/Texas Journal*, *Houston Post*, and *Alabama Journal*, where he shared the 1988 Pulitzer Prize for general news reporting. He is the author of The AP Guide to Internet Research and Reporting and is an adjunct journalism professor at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.

ROBERT BENINCASA is database/special projects editor at Gannett News Service in Washington, D.C., the Washington bureau for 101 daily newspapers. He collaborates with other journalists on enterprise and breaking-news stories involving CAR, and assists Gannett journalists around the nation in their CAR efforts. Prior to joining GNS, he was a reporter for *The Burlington* (Vt.) *Free Press*.

MICHAEL J. BERENS is a projects reporter for the *Chicago Tribune*. His series, "Unhealthy Hospitals," used computer files and records to focus on the rise of hospital infections nationally. Another series examined how harried and inadequately trained nurses contribute to patient deaths. Other award-winning works focused on mental health and criminal justice issues. He also teaches at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism.

NEILL BOROWSKI recently joined *The Indianapolis Star* as assistant managing editor/local news after 20 years at *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. A series on nonprofits he co-authored won the Goldsmith Prize, an IRE Award and was a Pulitzer finalist. *The Inquirer*'s "Report Card on the Schools," which he helped develop and direct, won an award from the Education Writers Association.

JAMES BRUGGERS covers the environment for *The Courier-Journal* in Louisville, Ky., and is a board member of the Society of Environmental Journalists. He has been a Michigan Journalism Fellow and previously worked in California, Alaska and Montana.

DAVID BURNHAM is the co-founder and co-director of the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse and an associate research professor at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. Previously, he was an investigative reporter with *The New York Times* where he covered large bureaucracies such as the New York Police Department, the IRS, the Justice Department and the FBI.

JOHN BYCZKOWSKI is a business reporter at *The Cincinnati Enquirer*. He covers the economy and economic policy, and has assisted on CAR projects including the census, sports, education and business.

MEGAN CHRISTENSEN is a public health reporter for the *Detroit Free Press*. She worked as a data analyst in the IRE and NICAR Database Library while a graduate student at the University of Missouri, 2001-03. With undergraduate de-

grees in journalism and biology, she has an active interest in integrating CAR with science and health reporting.

WENDELL COCHRAN is journalism division director at American University. Previously, he was special projects editor at Gannett News Service, where he reported and directed award-winning projects. He also was a business reporter at *The Kansas City Star* and *The Des Moines Register*. He is co-author of Inside the Beltway: A Guide to Washington Reporting.

SARAH COHEN is a database editor for *The Washington Post*. Recent stories have included an investigation of Washington, D.C.'s guardianship system and the region's homeland security spending. She shared in the 2002 Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting, an IRE medal and other awards for "The District's Lost Children," which documented official neglect of children. She has been a training director for IRE and NICAR and a reporter in Florida.

JENNIE COUGHLIN is an assistant city editor and lead editor for CAR at *The Daily News Leader* in Staunton, Va. She previously covered several towns in Massachusetts for Herald Media papers. She has won awards from the New England Press Association and the Virginia Press Association.

DAVID DONALD is training director for IRE and NICAR. He conducts workshops on investigative reporting and CAR for print and broadcast journalists around the country. He worked 12 years at newspapers, most recently at the *Savannah Morning News* where he oversaw the CAR and research programs. He also worked on the education beat, projects team and has taught high school and college.

JAIMI DOWDELL is a data analyst in the IRE and NICAR Database Library. She is completing her master's degree research in social network analysis and investigative reporting at the Missouri School of Journalism.

GEOFF DUTTON is a general assignment reporter for *The Columbus Dispatch*. Dutton previously worked for *The Tampa Tribune*, *Akron Beacon Journal* and the *Daytona Beach News-Journal*.

JOHN ECK is a professor in the Division of Criminal Justice at the University of Cincinnati. He received his doctorate in criminology from the University of Maryland in 1994. He has written extensively on police effectiveness, crime prevention and drug control. He was a member of the National Research Council's Committee to Review Research on Police Policy and Practices, whose report will be published this year.

CAROLYN EDDS is the Eugene S. Pulliam research director for IRE and NICAR. She directs IRE's Resource Center, assisting members with research needs, maintaining Web resources and managing the annual IRE Awards. She has been a news researcher with the *San Antonio Express-News* and the news research manager at the *Herald-Journal* in Spartanburg, S.C.

JOHN ERICKSON is the assistant managing editor for news and projects at the *Dayton Daily News*. He has managed a Pulitzer Prize-winning series about medical malpractice in the U.S. military, and two projects that were Pulitzer finalists. Previously he was projects editor at the *Chicago Sun-Times*.

MATTHEW ERICSON is a graphics editor at *The New York Times*, where he works primarily with the national desk. Before joining the *Times* last year, he was senior editor/Web technology at *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

RICH EXNER is the transportation reporter for *The Plain Dealer*. He used a state bridge database to identify the poor condition of railroad-maintained bridges in Ohio. Computer-assisted methods were used extensively for a package on ticket-writing by small-town police, identifying which towns write the most tickets per capita and per mile. Exner previously worked at United Press International in Cleveland.

LARRY GILLICK is a veteran Army journalist and teacher of journalism and visual communication at East Carolina University. He's also a Linux geek. He first encountered CAR while studying for his master's degree in broadcast journalism at Syracuse University. He now teaches advanced journalism and CAR courses.

RICHARD M. GOEHLER is a partner and a member of the executive committee at Frost Brown Todd LLC. He practices media law, advertising law, and general commercial and business litigation. He is co-chair of the ABA First Amendment & Media Litigation Committee, co-editor of that committee's newsletter, a member of the governing board of the ABA's Forum Committee on Communications Law and a member of the Ohio State Bar Association Media Law & Communications Committee.

KAARE GOTFREDSEN is a reporter at *Danske Kommuner*, a weekly magazine in Denmark. Gotfredsen has done a number of CAR and investigative stories on subjects such as faulty housing data, playground safety and plastic water pipes. Gotfredsen is a book author and has received the Anders Bording Award and the Kristian Dahl Award.

MARK GREENBLATT leads the investigative unit for WBBH-Fort Myers, Fla. His reports have inspired state and federal laws and he has won awards from the Florida Associated Press, RTNDA, Colorado AP, Southern Colorado Press Club, Colorado Broadcasters Association and the Missouri Broadcasters Association. He won an IRE Award for his report on "Troubled Bridges."

JASON GROTTO is the CAR editor for *The Miami Herald*'s investigative team. Prior to joining *The Herald*, he worked as the NICAR database administrator while earning a master's degree from the Missouri School of Journalism.

DAVID GULLIVER is database projects reporter at *The Virginian-Pilot* in Norfolk, Va. His recent work includes stories investigating a judge's handling of DUI cases, lax enforcement of fisheries laws and racial disparities in school disci-

SPEAKER BIOS

pline. He won state and national awards while with the *Dayton Daily News* for a series examining interstate gun running and dangerous cost-cutting in nursing homes.

HOLLY HACKER is a data analyst in the IRE and NICAR Database Library. She covered education and was the CAR specialist for the education team at the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. She helped produce an annual school guide that analyzes test scores and other data. She has reported for the *Ventura County* (Calif.) *Star*, the *Antioch* (Calif.) *Ledger-Dispatch* and the Gazette Newspapers in Maryland.

DOUG HADDIX is projects editor at *The Columbus Dispatch*. He co-wrote "Global Swarming," a series about the threats from destructive foreign animals and plants. Previous projects include investigations of the Ohio Department of Transportation, racial disparities in mortgage lending, the big-money influence on high school sports, and racial dividing lines in Columbus schools. He has worked at *The Scranton* (Pa.) *Times, The Commercial-News* in Danville, Ill., United Press International in Indianapolis and *The Springfield* (Ohio) *News-Sun*.

BARBARA HANSEN is the database editor for *USA Today*'s Money section. She joined *USA Today* in 1990 and has worked for the Money section since 1999.

BRAD HEATH is an enterprise reporter and CAR specialist at *The Detroit News*, where he has covered subjects ranging from public education and demographics to transportation and national security. Before joining the *News*, he was an investigative reporter for the *Press & Sun-Bulletin* in Binghamton, N.Y.

DAVID HERZOG is an assistant professor at the Missouri School of Journalism, where he teaches CAR. He also serves as the academic adviser to NICAR, and is managing editor of *Uplink*, the institute's newsletter. He is the author of Mapping the News: Case Studies in GIS and Journalism. He has been an investigative reporter for *The Providence* (R.I.) *Journal* and the editor for CAR at *The Morning Call* in Allentown, Pa.

MARK HOUSER is a projects reporter for the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* and has written on the courts, education, demographics, the lottery and drug use. His story, "A Jury of Peers?", showed how blacks are underrepresented in jury pools and triggered reforms and a statewide study. The story won national prizes and was a finalist for the Livingston and APME Public Service awards.

BRANT HOUSTON is executive director of IRE and NICAR and an associate professor at the Missouri School of Journalism. He is author of Computer-Assisted Reporting: A Practical Guide and co-author of the fourth edition of The Investigative Reporter's Handbook. He has worked at *The Hartford Courant*, *The Kansas City Star* and news organizations in the Boston area.

SPENCER HUNT is a statehouse reporter for *The Cincinnati Enquirer*. He has used databases and spreadsheets to produce stories on government-funded health care, programs for the mentally retarded, state hiring practices, legislative redistricting and the Ohio Lottery. He previously was statehouse bureau chief for Gannett News Service in Illinois and city hall reporter for the *Rockford* (Ill.) *Register Star*.

LINDA J. JOHNSON is CAR coordinator for the *Lexington* (Ky.) *Herald-Leader*. She started in Lexington as an education reporter in 1997 and has worked as a reporter or editor at several other newspapers and magazines in Ohio, Virginia, Texas and Denver in almost 20 years as a daily journalist.

AMY JOYNER covers work and money issues for the *News & Record* in Greensboro, N.C. She is the co-author of Making Dough: The 12 Secret Ingredients of Krispy Kreme's Sweet Success, released in October 2003. She is working on a second business book. Joyner previously worked for *The Augusta* (Ga.) *Chronicle* and *The Lancaster* (S.C.) *News*. She has won numerous press association reporting and writing awards.

DAN KEATING is a database editor at *The Washington Post*. While at *The Miami Herald*, he was part of the team that won the Pulitzer Prize in 1999 for exposing vote fraud, and part of the team that was a finalist for the Pulitzer in 1998 for revealing illegal police overtime. He has written about Ford Explorers, Florida ballots, the 2000 Census, the impact of poverty on student performance, electronic voting and government spending. He has worked at *The Berkshire Eagle* in Pittsfield, Mass., and taught at the University of Maryland.

JENNIFER LAFLEUR is the CAR editor for *The Dallas Morning News*. She went to Dallas following a one-year fellowship with The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press. She has been the CAR editor for the *San Jose Mercury News* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. She has won awards for reporting on disability issues and public records. She was the first training director for IRE and NICAR and she serves on IRE's First Amendment Task Force.

PAULA LAVIGNE is a reporter for *The Dallas Morning News* where she covers issues related to growth and development. She uses CAR skills for her own stories, and works with other reporters on a variety of beats and projects from measuring demographic change to analyzing business trends. She worked previously at *The News Tribune* in Tacoma, Wash., and the *St. Joseph* (Mo.) *News-Press*.

ANDY LEHREN is a Dateline NBC investigative producer specializing in CAR. He has covered stories ranging from terrorism to insurance and his awards include the Peabody, Polk, duPont and IRE. Before joining NBC, he was NICAR's database administrator. He has written for the *Philadelphia Daily News*, Reuters, the *Philadelphia Business Journal* and two deceased dailies.

SPEAKER BIOS

BENJAMIN LESSER came to *The* (Bergen County, N.J.) *Record* from the Albany, N.Y., *Times Union*. He has won a handful of journalism awards since his graduation from the Missouri School of Journalism, including a Scripps Howard Foundation National Journalism Award and an IRE special citation. He also has taught classes at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism.

SCOTT MAIER is an associate professor at the University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communication. A 20-year newspaper and wire-service veteran, he has covered city hall, the state legislature, Latin America, and other beats. He was founder of CAR Northwest, an industry-academic partnership providing training in CAR to newsrooms and journalism classrooms. He leads workshops on newsroom math and statistics.

JUSTIN MAYO is the CAR specialist with *The Seattle Times*. He works with the investigative team, focusing on database and spatial analysis. He handles quantitative research for daily coverage, including elections, demographics, crime, real-estate, education and maintains the *Times*' intranet databases. Previously he was database administrator for NICAR, where he directed data acquisition, processing and analysis.

KEN MCCALL is the database reporter for the *Dayton Daily News*. He worked on the "Down on the Factory" series that was a finalist for the Goldsmith Prize. He has covered government and politics. A former Kiplinger Fellow, he has worked as a columnist and special projects writer at the *Las Vegas Sun*, and as an assistant city editor, reporter and columnist at the *San Luis Obispo* (Calif.) *Tribune*.

REGINA MCENERY covers medicine for *The Plain Dealer*. She was part of a reporting team that produced last year's "Children at Risk" series. The project looked at death rates, housing and environment, teen pregnancy, juvenile crime rates and other indicators that impact the health and welfare of children.

TED MELLNIK is database editor at *The Charlotte Observer*. He has contributed to "Are Places We Fly More at Risk?" a 2003 series on airline maintenance; "Death at The Track," a 2002 special section that cataloged auto racing deaths; "Grave Secrets," a 2001 series about failings of the N.C. medical examiner system; and "Doing the Crime But Not the Time," a 2000 study of crime and punishment.

JASON METHOD is an investigative projects reporter for the *Asbury* (N.J.) *Park Press*. He was a member of the team that wrote last year's "Profiting from Public Service," winner of the Selden Ring Award. He has worked on award-winning projects about foster care and public access. Previously, he covered politics and transportation issues for the Gannett State Bureau in Trenton and was a reporter at the *Asbury Park Press*.

STEPHEN C. MILLER is assistant to the technology editor at *The New York Times*, where he oversees the training of reporters and editors in new technologies. He also writes about computers and consumer electronics for the paper. He has been a consultant and writer, a contributing editor for *Seybold's Outlook on Professional Computing* and *Home Office Computing*, and spent 17 years at CBS News. He is a member of IRE's Board of Directors and past-president of the New York Association of Black Journalists.

DAVID MILLIRON is director of CAR and analysis for *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and author of The Ultimate Atlanta School Guide. He performs data analysis and research for projects and teaches reporters to integrate research and analysis techniques into their newsgathering. When he worked for Gannett News Service, he built and managed the Gannett Reference Network. He teaches journalism part time at Emory University.

DAVE MOORE is the city government reporter for the *Columbia* (Mo.) *Daily Tribune*. He cut his reporting teeth in Decatur, Ill., ground zero for tornadoes, street gang battles and labor turmoil. While writing and editing his hometown *Toledo* (Ohio) *City Paper*, he traveled to Bosnia to cover the country's recovery from war, and explored the lives of those wrestling with the de-institutionalization of the mentally ill. He just completed a story examining the racial imbalance of juvenile arrests in Columbia, Mo.

NILS MULVAD is executive director of the Danish Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting. He's a trainer in investigative journalism, CAR and interview techniques. He participates in research on electronic access in Denmark and is co-author of four reports on that issue. He is the co-author of two Danish textbooks about CAR. When he worked at *Jyllands-Posten* newspaper, he did several investigative projects using CAR.

MARK NICHOLS is the *The Indianapolis Star's* CAR coordinator and a member of the projects team. Most recently, he worked on several computer-assisted projects, including the paper's investigations into industrial air pollution, the state's education system, state lottery sales, antiquated voter registration rolls and the county's treatment of drunken driving cases.

RON NIXON is the CAR projects editor at the Minneapolis *Star Tribune*. Prior to joining the *Star Tribune*, he was training director for IRE and NICAR. Formerly an investigative reporter with *The Roanoke* (Va.) *Times*, his work has documented the environmental effects of coal mining on Appalachian communities in Virginia, problems with the federal black lung program and the state of Virginia's attempt to withhold crucial environmental data from the EPA.

RICHARD O'REILLY is the computer journalism editor at the *Los Angeles Times*. He has contributed to series that have won a Pulitzer Prize, twice been Pulitzer finalists, won an IRE Certificate and a Sigma Delta Chi Award. He joined the *Times* as an investigative reporter in 1974, after a career in beat and investigative reporting, split between the *Rocky Mountain News* and *The Denver Post*.

SPEAKER BIOS

PAUL OVERBERG is a database editor at *USA Today*, where he analyzes demographic trends and subjects ranging from stream flows to campaign money flows. He helps train the paper's journalists, has helped teach a series of IRE workshops about using Census 2000 data and has taught CAR at George Washington University. He has been a reporter and editor at Gannett News Service and at *The Courier-News* in Bridgewater, N.J.

JOHN PERRY is database editor at *The Oklahoman*, where he has worked 15 years. Before census data became his life, he worked as an assistant city editor, senior economics writer and metro projects writer.

JAMES PILCHER is the transportation reporter for *The Cincinnati Enquirer*. He has worked extensively with transportation data, including the national bridge inventory, the FAA's airman database, the national fatal accident report survey and local airport police response records. He previously worked for The Associated Press, Copley Chicago Newspapers and the *Savannah Morning News*.

ARON PILHOFER is database editor at The Center for Public Integrity. He joined the center after working on IRE's national training staff and as director of IRE's Campaign Finance Information Center. Prior to that, he was a project reporter at *The News Journal* in Wilmington, Del., *The Courier-News* in Bridgewater, N.J., and covered politics and state government for the Gannett New Jersey State Bureau.

DUANE POHLMAN is the chief investigative reporter for WEWS-Cleveland. His stories have changed the way Social Security handles disability requirements, triggered a change in Ohio's sex offender law and new security measures at Hopkins International Airport. Recent investigations have included questionable real estate practices by a city councilman and out-of-control spending by managers at a drug rehab clinic. He has won more than three dozen national, regional and state awards. He is treasurer of IRE's Board of Directors.

JEFF PORTER is director of the IRE and NICAR database library. He conducts CAR boot camps for print and broadcast journalists. He worked in newspapers for 20 years, most recently as the CAR specialist at the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*.

LAURE QUINLIVAN is an investigative reporter at WCPO-Cincinnati. She has been awarded two George Foster Peabody Awards, along with the Alfred I. duPont, Sigma Delta Chi Award, IRE Award, Walter Cronkite Award and regional Murrow Award. She used CAR for a school spending story that won a National Education Writer's Award in 2003.

RANDY REDDICK is the journalism chair at Texas Tech University. He has been managing editor of *The* (Paso Robles, Calif.) *Daily Press* and earned a Ph.D. in journalism from Ohio University. He has written several articles and books on new information technologies including The Online Journalist. He researches the effectiveness of delivering CAR instruction online and Web site usability.

GREG REEVES is database editor at *The Kansas City Star*. He spoke at the founding meeting of the German IRE, Netzwerk Recherche, in 2001. He has provided database work for many projects at the *Star* since becoming involved in CAR in 1989, including the Polk Award-winning series on the NCAA in 1997, and on the Pulitzer Prize-winning series on the Department of Agriculture in 1992.

NEIL REISNER is director of new editorial products development at the *Daily Business Review*, a South Florida paper covering law, real estate and finance. He has used CAR tools to cover New Jersey voters, to ferret out corrupt politicians and double-dipping cops, to grade schools, analyze school spending and, for Valentine's Day, map where South Florida singles live. He is a former IRE and NICAR training director and has worked at *The Miami Herald*, *The* (Bergen County, N.J.) *Record* and *The Home News* in New Jersey. He has taught journalism at Florida International, Columbia and Rutgers universities and has won numerous awards.

JANET ROBERTS is the CAR editor at the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*. In addition to enterprise and project reporting, she oversees CAR training and the newsroom intranet. In the past year she has worked on an investigation into telecommunications fraud committed by companies with ties to high-level state politicians and a special section that examined quality-of-life changes in Minnesota over the past three decades.

DARREL ROWLAND is public affairs editor of *The Columbus Dispatch*. He recently worked on packages that revealed bidding irregularities at an Ohio agency spending $2 million a day to build schools, helped expose the improper conviction of two men wrongly imprisoned for murder and uncovered the state's improper withholding of child support from welfare recipients.

MARK SCHAVER is the CAR director for *The Courier-Journal* in Louisville, Ky. He has worked for *The Courier-Journal* for 12 years and previously covered Western Kentucky, education, state government, police and the federal courts. He also worked for the Wilmington, N.C., *Morning Star*, the *Chapel Hill Herald* and *The* (Raleigh, N.C.) *News & Observer*.

DAVE SHEINGOLD is a reporter with *The* (Bergen County, N.J.) *Record*. His projects have included analyses of baseball player worth, student athlete graduation rates, bias in suburban property tax systems, development around flood plains and the gender gap as revealed in personal ads. He has won awards from the New York and New Jersey Press Associations. He previously worked for Gannett newspapers in Westchester County, N.Y.

DAVID B. SMALLMAN is a partner in the New York office of the law firm Piper Rudnick LLP. He advises IRE

and NICAR on media law-related matters, including freedom of information, intellectual property and First Amendment issues. He is contributing legal editor of *The IRE Journal* and serves on IRE's First Amendment Task Force.

DOUG SMITH is a *Los Angeles Times* staff writer specializing in data analysis. His work includes a project showing the disruption that would result from a proposed breakup of the L.A. Unified School District and a map-based breakdown of inequitable school construction funding. His most recent project was a block-by-block portrayal of unsolved homicides. He did the mainbar rewrite in the *Times*' Pulitzer Prize-winning coverage of the North Hollywood shootout.

JEFF SOUTH is an associate professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, where he teaches media ethics, news writing, communications technology, legislative reporting and other subjects. He was state editor and database editor at the *Austin American-Statesman* before heading to academia. He has worked at newspapers in Dallas, Norfolk and Phoenix and was the world's oldest intern last summer at *The Charlotte Observer*.

DOUG STANLEY is the *Tampa Tribune*'s CAR specialist. His database projects have included investigations into racial disparities in sentencing, socioeconomic bias in school financing, and abuses in nursing home and health care. He has nearly recovered from Census 2000.

MARYJO SYLWESTER is the database editor for the *USA Today* Sports section. Prior to joining the paper, she worked at The Center for Public Integrity as the database editor and project manager for a nationwide study of state political party campaign finance activity. Previous jobs include database library administrator at IRE and NICAR, and editing and reporting positions at daily newspapers in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

ADAM SYMSON is the director of investigations and special projects for the E.W. Scripps Broadcast Group. He was previously the executive producer for investigations and special projects at KNXV-Phoenix. He worked as an investigative producer for WBBM-Chicago and at KCBS-Los Angeles. He has received many local, regional and national awards. He has worked at KNBC, KCAL and other news organizations in Los Angeles.

MAURICE TAMMAN is a staff writer with *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. He works as database reporter on the paper's special projects team, leads census coverage and worked on the post-9/11 terror team. He previously worked for *Florida Today* in Melbourne, Fla., and the *Courier-Post* in Cherry Hill, N.J.

TOM TOROK is the database editor at *The New York Times*. He has used his CAR skills at *The Times* and, earlier, at *The Philadelphia Inquirer* in scores of major projects, including "A Nation Challenged," which won the Pulitzer Prize for public service, and three other projects that were Pulitzer finalists. He teaches CAR as an adjunct professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

MATTHEW WAITE is a general assignment reporter at the *St. Petersburg Times*, with a focus on using CAR for news. Before coming to the metro staff, he was a reporter for the *Times* in a suburban county covering government, crime, demographics and utilities. He has used CAR for stories on home prices, census trends, test scores, traffic patterns and pedestrian deaths. He previously worked at the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*.

PAUL WALMSLEY has consulted on system analysis and software development since 1992 for a range of clients, including Whole Foods Market, Churchill Downs, and a major New York private investment firm. He has worked with IRE since 1994. Recently he has been active in assessing the risks of electronic voting systems to be used in the 2004 election.

STUART WATSON is an investigative specialist at WCNC-Charlotte. He is a two-time winner of the George Foster Peabody Award, a two-time winner of the IRE Award and winner of three Emmys for investigative reporting. He was previously an investigative reporter at WRAL-Raleigh and WKRN-Nashville. He is a member of IRE's Board of Directors.

MARGOT WILLIAMS is research editor at *The Washington Post*. She was researcher on the *Post*'s 2002 Pulitzer Prize-winning coverage of terrorism and on Deadlock, the *Post*'s instant book on post-election 2000 events. Now she is keeping track of snipers, hijackers, suspects and detainees. She is the co-author of Great Scouts! CyberGuides for Subject Searching on the Web.

DEREK WILLIS is a writer and data specialist with The Center for Public Integrity. He previously worked at *Congressional Quarterly*, where he covered the House of Representatives, elections and campaign finance and produced annual vote studies. He began his journalism career at *The Palm Beach Post* in Florida, covering local government and working on special projects. He maintains thescoop.org and contributes to IRE's Extra! Extra! Web feature.

TOM WITOSKY is the sports projects reporter for *The Des Moines Register*. He has written extensively about national intercollegiate athletics and the sports industry. In April 2003, he broke the story about Iowa State basketball coach Larry Eustachy's behavior on road trips which included heavy drinking and partying with college students. Eustachy resigned a week later and acknowledged he was an alcoholic.

DEBBIE WOLFE is the technology training editor for the *St. Petersburg Times*. She teaches classes involving computers and electronic information and helps supervise beat projects related to technology and public records. She has been a reporter, managing editor, photojournalist, college-level journalism educator and news researcher. She frequently speaks and teaches at conferences and seminars.