2007
CAR
CONFERENCE IN CLEVELAND

DON'T MISS A BEAT!
March 8-11

IRE Presented by Investigative Reporters and Editors and the National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting NICAR

WELCOME TO CLEVELAND!

Thanks for coming to IRE's 13th Annual Computer-Assisted Reporting Conference to experience four days of teaching, learning and sharing among some of the most creative and energetic journalists in the world.

When IRE held its first CAR conference in Raleigh, N.C., in 1993, we offered panels with titles such as "Databases vs. Spreadsheet" and taught many classes in software that has mostly disappeared: XDB, Paradox and Lotus 123.

At the same time, most attendees who took the classes had to return to newsrooms that had no personal computers or Macs and no connection to the Internet. Actually, the Web as we know it had not even appeared, and many of our colleagues questioned why we would ever bother analyzing data or using social science research methods.

Now, in our second trip to Cleveland for this conference (the first trip was in 1995), it's essential for journalists to be savvy Internet users, analyze data and make our stories fit in the world of the Web. What was the dubious future of journalism is the here and now.

Throughout this conference we will provide hands-on classes in the basics of CAR – spreadsheets and database managers – and we will provide advanced courses – mapping, statistics, and social network analysis. And our top-notch trainers will show you how to get your stories and data on the Web in a way that will amaze and engage your audience.

In what has become a conference tradition, we will offer a special Mini-boot Camp. This series of classes, designed for journalists just getting into CAR, creates an experience similar to the week-long boot camps at the IRE and NICAR headquarters at the Missouri School of Journalism.

We also will have panels dealing with how to use CAR for investigations on nearly every beat and topic, how to find and negotiate for data, and how to avoid critical mistakes that undercut any story's credibility.

The popular Demo Room will be filled with special-interest sessions about new software and CAR techniques. These sessions are informal and invite questions, answers and comments among the participants. Demo Room visitors also can try out the data from our wide range of government databases; many can be sliced down to local levels. In addition, IRE staffers will be available in the Demo Room to answer questions or discuss the story potential in data.

Late Friday afternoon, we will present the Philip Meyer Awards, which honor those journalists who intelligently and effectively employed social science methodology in their stories during the past year. Please join us to applaud their work.

We promise that this conference will help attendees at every CAR level become better journalists and leaders in the use of new technology and reporting methods in their work. Please enjoy meeting and talking with this vibrant and generous group of colleagues. And please don't worry if you have to choose between competing sessions. We will compile all of the 2006 CAR Conference Tipsheets on a CD within two weeks, and we will post them on the Web, too.

Thanks for joining us and many thanks to our host, *The Plain Dealer*, and to all our sponsors who have helped make an invaluable (and affordable) conference.

Brant Houston
Executive Director
Investigative Reporters and Editors

CONFERENCE SPONSORS

IRE and NICAR would like to thank these organizations for their contributions and support for this conference:

- **The Plain Dealer**,
  for serving as host

- **Gannett Foundation**,
  for general support of the conference

- **Sunbelt Communications Company and Jim and Beverly Rogers**,
  for general support of the conference

- **Los Angeles Times**,
  for general support of the conference

- **The Columbus Dispatch**,
  for general support of the conference

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:
- Dave Davis, *The Plain Dealer*
- Gabe Baird, *The Plain Dealer*
- Christine Jindra, *The Plain Dealer*
- Ellen Burbach, *The Plain Dealer*
- Tom Gaumer, Freelancer

Volunteers are journalism students from:
- Kent State University
- John Carroll University
- Cleveland State University

Fellowships

Recipients of fellowship assistance to this year's CAR Conference include:

Philip L. Graham Diversity Fellowships

This minority fellowship program was established by the Philip L. Graham Fund and IRE to allow a limited number of professional journalists to attend IRE's conferences.
- Joy Brewington, *Catalyst Cleveland*

Jennifer Leonard Scholarships

These scholarships for women who are college students studying journalism or professional journalists with three or fewer years of working experience were established by IRE member David Cay Johnston to honor his wife, the president of the Rochester Area Community Foundation and a national leader in promoting ethical standards for endowments.
- Dana Oppenheim, *St. Petersburg* (Fla.) *Times*

Registration and Sales

The registration desk and the sales counter are on the Ballroom Level.

	Registration desk:	Sales counter:
Wednesday	4-6 p.m.	Closed
Thursday	7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.	7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Friday	7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.	7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday	8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sunday	Closed	8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

UPDATE YOUR BOOKSHELF!

Take home IRE Beat Books, investigative reporting titles, tote bags, hats and more. Visit the sales counter on the Ballroom Level (see hours above).
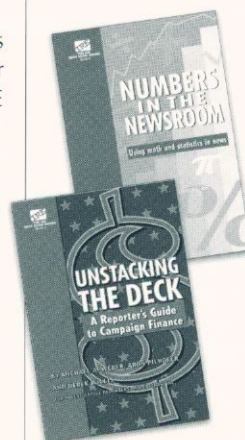
- Mapping for Stories: A Computer-Assisted Reporting Guide, by Jennifer LaFleur and Andy Lehren
- Covering Pollution: An Investigative Reporter's Guide, by Lori Luechtefeld
- Interviewing the Interviewers, By Lori Luechtefeld
- Computer-Assisted Reporting: A Practical Guide, by Brant Houston
- Unstacking the Deck: A Reporter's Guide to Campaign Finance, by Michael A. Weber, Aron Pilhofer and Derek Willis
- 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
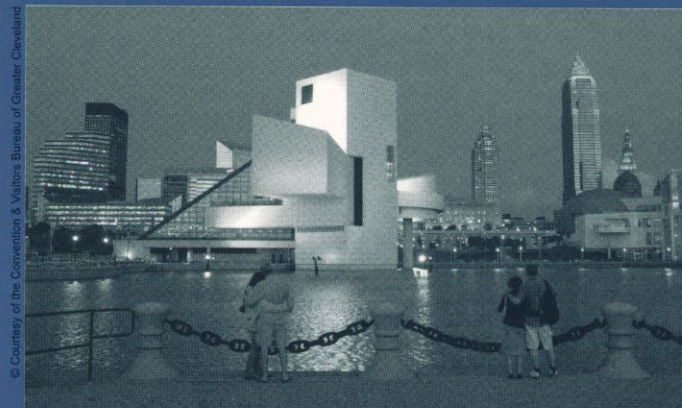
Cleveland landmarks, inluding The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, the Great Lakes Science Center, the Steamship William G. Mather Maritime Museum, the U.S.S. Cod and Cleveland Browns Stadium, as viewed from the North Coast Harbor.

HIGHLIGHTS

Conference Welcome
The year in review, and how to best use this conference.
8:30 a.m., Friday, Gold Room
• David Donald, IRE and NICAR
• Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR

Philip Meyer Awards Presentation
6 p.m. Friday, Ambassador Ballroom (Second Floor)
The 2006 awards will be presented at a reception with a cash bar. For more on the 2006 winners, see p. 3

Broadcasters
CAR and broadcast (Saturday, 2 p.m. Ballroom B) will feature
• Nancy Amons, WSMV-Nashville
• Mark Greenblatt, KHOU-Houston
• Jeff Porter, IRE and NICAR

Educators
Teaching CAR in journalism schools and newsrooms (9 a.m. Sunday, Ballroom A) will feature
• David Herzog, Missouri School of Journalism
• Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR
• Larry Gillick, American University

Mini-boot Camp
For CAR beginners, morning panels will be coordinated with hands-on classes in the afternoon. Participants are automatically signed up for classes that follow the IRE and NICAR Boot Camp curriculum. This provides 10 hours of hands-on instruction in Internet skills, Microsoft Excel spreadsheets Access database manager, plus insights on how to apply CAR in news stories and beats, opportunities to practice in open lab and ask questions of veteran instructors. This track is limited to 36 pre-registered participants.

Reprints
Copies of some of the top investigative work in the country using computer-assisted techniques are available in the Outer Foyer on the Lobby Level. If you have copies of stories you'd like to make available, please leave them with a reprint area staff member. Extra tipsheets and handouts from the panels will also be available on the tables here. If you're searching for a Tipsheet, don't forget that IRE members can download free PDF copies from the Resource Center after the conference, or purchase all 2007 CAR Conference Tipsheets on a CD.

Exhibitors & Recruiters
Gold Room Foyer
Take this opportunity to meet exhibitors and learn about products and services of interest to journalists. This year's exhibitors include:
• Bureau of Justice Statistics, www.bjs.gov
• Caspio, Inc., www.caspio.com
• PR Newswire, www.prnewswire.com

Meet recruiters, including:
• Gannett Co., Inc., www.gannett.com
• Kiplinger Program in Public Affairs Journalism, www.kiplingerprogram.org
• *The Plain Dealer*, www.cleveland.com/plaindealer

Demo Room
Check the future of CAR... and your e-mail.
Severance Room on the Meeting Room Level
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:50 p.m., Friday and Saturday.

Don't miss these demonstrations and discussion sessions on the latest CAR developments. Demo Room topics have a way of becoming essential CAR tools in the near future.

Contact IRE staff about Demo Room availability to schedule presentations.

To learn more about the array of services IRE and NICAR provide to journalists, stop by during Demo Room sessions led by our staff members. In addition to these sessions, NICAR Database Library staff will be available throughout the conference to answer questions and demonstrate the many datasets IRE and NICAR make available to journalists.

The Demo Room also serves as the Cyber café with 10 computers available to check your e-mail.

Sign Up for Hands-on Classes
Attendees may register for up to four hands-on classes. If you have not already signed up for hands-on classes, you can reserve remaining seats at the sign-up desk near the Demo Room (Severance, Meeting Room Level).

• If you are registered for a class, please arrive on time.

• If there are unclaimed seats when the instructor is ready to begin, conference attendees who are not pre-registered may join the class at the instructor's discretion, on a first-come, first-served basis. This does not apply to hands-on classes reserved for Mini-boot Camp participants.

Reminders
• Make sure you wear your nametag to all IRE events. Before you leave the conference, please drop off your nametag holder at the registration desk so we can recycle them.

• Please set cell phones, pagers and PDAs to silent or vibrate while in the sessions. The speakers and fellow attendees will appreciate it.

• A conference message board is available near the registration and sales desks. You're welcome to use it to leave notes for attendees, arrange dinners or group plans, etc.

Don't forget your evaluation forms
Your feedback helps us plan future events that meet members' needs. By filling out and returning a conference evaluation form, you are entered into a drawing for free registration for the 2008 CAR Conference. Kelly Guckian of the *San Antonio Express-News* won free registration in Cleveland by completing an evaluation in Newark, N.J., last year. Complete your evaluation form online at www.ire.org/training/cleveland07/eval.

PHILIP MEYER AWARDS

Join us for the official presentation of the 2006 Philip Meyer Awards, recognizing the best uses of social science research methods in journalism.

The awards are named for Philip Meyer, the Knight Chair in Journalism at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and the author of "Precision Journalism." Entries in this year's contest employed a wide variety of methods, ranging from statistical and geographic analysis to demographic studies. Launched in 2005, the Meyer Awards are administered by NICAR and the Knight Chair in Journalism at Arizona State University. This year's judges included journalism professors with extensive CAR experience and social scientists who are experienced in working with journalists.

"The judges were impressed again this year across the range of entries with the quality and impact of the work we reviewed," said Steve Doig, the Knight Chair in Journalism at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University. "It's gratifying to see the innovative ways that clever reporters are applying social science techniques to journalism problems.

"The entries to this contest underscore how increasingly common it is these days to see such techniques used to produce powerful journalism built on solid evidence beyond just anecdotes," Doig said.

The entries included topics such as the effect of parental notification laws on abortion rates, auto insurance rates, the loss of affordable housing, the hidden costs of murder convictions, tracking sex offenders, the deaths of college students, aviation safety, the politics of national disaster declarations, and much more. The use of social science methods ranged from statistical and geographical analyses and modeling of various kinds to survey research and demographic studies.

"The Meyer Award entries this year show not only the increasing sophistication of journalists in using data analysis and social science, but also in the improved blending of those methods with more traditional approaches in reporting," said Brant Houston, Executive Director of IRE and author of "Computer-Assisted Reporting: A Practical Guide."

2006 Meyer Award Winners

First Place: *The Wall Street Journal* "Perfect Payday," a series of articles over the past year that exposed the widespread practice of secretly backdating stock option grants to benefit corporate insiders. Lead writers Charles Forelle and James Bandler used a statistical model to calculate the wildly improbable odds that options grant dates would just happen to be so favorably profitable to dozens of executives at some of the nation's best-known companies. Their stories about the scandal have spurred an ongoing federal securities investigation into rigged options at more than 100 companies to date.

Second Place: Gannett News Service for "Special Report: Rating Hospital Health Care," an investigative package that rated more than 3,000 U.S. hospitals on how well they followed recommended medical guidelines for treating heart attack and heart failure patients. The stories by database editor Robert Benincasa and reporter Jennifer Brooks showed that patients in poor and rural areas were less likely to receive the recommended care. Their analysis took a national dataset detailing the treatments given to each patient and used a composite scoring methodology to rate each hospital.

Third Place: *The Philadelphia Inquirer* for "Camden Schools Investigation," a series of stories that uncovered a cheating scandal in the standardized testing being used by the Camden, N.J., school district. The stories by reporters Melanie Burney, Frank Kummer and Dwight Ott revealed that test scores in several Camden schools were dramatically higher than would be expected based on past performance, and ultimately led to the resignation of the district superintendent, an investigation and strict monitoring by the state department of education.
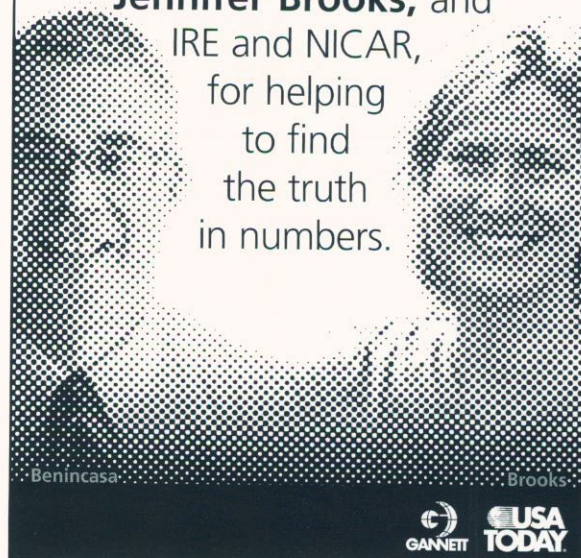
DATABASE LIBRARY

In skilled hands, computer software can sift and analyze millions of records in seconds. IRE and its National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting have the expertise needed to determine patterns, identify people and map locations quickly – which saves newsrooms days of trial and error. Adding this kind of authority to your reporting can be critical to your story. We look forward to helping you by supplying data, providing analysis or consulting on a project. Data prices start as low as $25, analysis as low as $50 an hour.

The IRE and NICAR Database Library maintains a collection of databases containing government data on a wide array of subjects, provides data-analysis services for news organizations, and provides assistance to journalists trying to resolve data problems. See details and sample data at www.ire.org/datalibrary.

Data for breaking news, projects and beats
- Transportation (air safety, roads, waterways, hazardous materials)
- Elections (federal campaign contributions)
- Health (pharmaceuticals, medical devices, morality)
- Public Safety (crime, bridges, dams, firearms dealers, workplace safety, consumer products)
- Environment (toxic releases, hazardous sites)
- Business (wage violations, federal contracts, home mortgages, SBA loans)
- Federal Spending (payments to states, federal grants, arts grants, Social Security payments)
- Demographics (county and state migration, Social Security Master Death Files)

Convenience
- Set up a customized online account – for individuals or news organizations – including special pricing for our entire database collection. Get your data as soon as it's updated.
- Start your stories faster with government data that arrives in user-friendly format with Database Library readme files and supporting documentation. The service was created to help you devote your time and resources to other reporting tasks. Get the big picture by accessing the Database Library's archived data. Many collections cover decades and past years are available at low cost.

Learn more

Database Library staff will be available at the Demo Room (Severance Room) throughout the conference to answer questions and demonstrate the library's services. Don't miss two special sessions in the Demo Room on "What IRE and NICAR can do for you" at 11:40 a.m. on Friday and 4:40 p.m. on Saturday.

Our expertise for your projects
- IRE and NICAR staff can provide customized database analysis or mapping services tailored to your project and budget. We collaborate closely with news organizations to create unique stories backed by high-quality research.

- Get help with raw data. The Database Library can transfer data from magnetic data tapes to CD-ROM. Our staff can help download/import/format large datasets, too.

- Quick searches of aviation data following a plane crash to find reports of service difficulties, previous accidents or incidents and registration information of that plane.

In the past year, NICAR has helped journalists identify robbery and auto theft hot spots, find ballots cast by dead voters, measure distances between sexual offenders and schools.

Call us with your ideas; see what we can do for you.

NICAR's role can range from behind-the-scenes research to creating data analyses and maps that form the core of an investigation. For major projects or breaking news, the Database Library can run custom queries that provide context to local reporting, or look for background details when you're profiling a company or person.

Here are just a few examples of our recent work:

- Working with IRE and NICAR, KHOU-Houston located the city's riskiest spots for robbery. The analysis involved three years of data – more than 20,000 cases – to create an interactive map for viewers to check for robberies in their areas.

- WFXT-Boston obtained names and addresses of all schools, licensed daycares and Level 3 sex offenders in Massachusetts. Using mapping analysis from the Database Library, Mike Beaudet reported that hundreds of sex offenders live near children in Massachusetts. The reporting proved timely given that communities are adding buffer zones between homes of sexual offenders and places where children gather.

- Duane Pohlman of WEWS–Cleveland worked with IRE and NICAR to find at least 27 instances of "ghost voting" – cases where ballots were cast on behalf of dead voters. The results came after comparing more than 200,000 voters in Cuyahoga County to death records kept by the Social Security Administration. In addition, 12,688 people who have died remain on voting registries, a finding that has prompted lawmakers to seek cleaning the rolls.

- After acquiring more than 11,000 police reports, Steve Chamraz of KMOV-St. Louis used mapping analysis provided by NICAR to show where thieves were most likely to target parked cars St. Louis.

THURSDAY PANELS

	Ballroom A	Ballroom B	Gold Room
9-10:10 a.m.	**The latest in mapping: From ArcView tricks to recent work** • Dave Herzog, Missouri School of Journalism • Brian Hamman, *The New York Times*	**Perl and Python programming** • Daniel Lathrop, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* • Chase Davis, *Houston Chronicle*	
10:20-11:30 a.m.	**Building your intranet: Getting data to the newsroom** • Doug Stanley, *The Tampa Tribune* • James Wilkerson, *The Des Moines Register*	**Doing your own sampling and surveys** • David Donald, IRE and NICAR • Paul Overberg, *USA Today*	
11:40-12:50 p.m.	**Web scraping: Techniques and challenges** • John Perry, The Center for Public Integrity • Linda Johnson, *The Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader*	**String functions: Cleaning up that data** • Griff Palmer, *The New York Times* • Richard Mullins, The Center for Public Integrity	**Wikis and other new tools for investigations** • MaryJo Webster, *St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press* • Derek Willis, Washingtonpost.com
12:50 – 2 p.m.	Lunch on your own		
2-3:10 p.m.	**What's next: Smart text at *The New York Times*** • Aron Pilhofer, *The New York Times* • Janet Roberts, *The New York Times* • Tom Torok, *The New York Times*	**Making stats sing: From crosstabs to regression** • Robert Gebeloff, *The (Newark, N.J.) Star-Ledger* • Jennifer LaFleur, *The Dallas Morning News*	**Social network analysis: Overview and techniques** • Jaimi Dowdell, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR • Paul Walmsley, IRE and NICAR
3:20-4:30 p.m.	**Making data interactive on the Web: Programming tips** • Chase Davis, *Houston Chronicle* • Aron Pilhofer, *The New York Times*	**Alphabet soup** • Maurice Tamman, *Sarasota (Fla.) Herald-Tribune* • Jodi Upton, *USA Today*	**String Functions: Cleaning up that data** • Richard Mullins, The Center for Public Integrity • Griff Palmer, *The New York Times*
4:40-5:50 p.m.	**Wikis and other new tools for investigations** • MaryJo Webster, *St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press* • Derek Willis, Washingtonpost.com	**Social network analysis: Overview and techniques** • Jaimi Dowdell, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR • Paul Walmsley, IRE and NICAR	**What's next: Smart text at *The New York Times*** • Aron Pilhofer, *The New York Times* • Janet Roberts, *The New York Times* • Tom Torok, *The New York Times*

FRIDAY PANELS

Demo Room

	Ballroom A	Ballroom B	Gold Room	Severance
8:30 a.m.			How best to use this conference and the year in review • David Donald, IRE and NICAR • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR	
9-10:10 a.m.	Internet 101: Effective searching and best sites • Neil Reisner, Florida International University	CAR and the environment • Spencer Hunt, *The Columbus Dispatch* • Ken Ward, Jr., *The Charleston (W.Va.) Gazette*	The latest in mapping • Dave Herzog, Missouri School of Journalism • Mark Salling, Cleveland State University • Jeremy Milarsky, *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*	Parsing tricks with Monarc • Robert Gebeloff, *The Newark (N.J.) Star-Ledger*
10:20-11:30 a.m.	Internet 102: Advanced searching, the invisible Web, and downloading data • Kelly Guckian, *San Antonio-Express News*	CAR and local government contracts •Jason Grotto, *The Miami Herald* • Dan Keating, *The Washington Post*	Presidential money and politics • Aron Pilhofer, *The New York Times* • Derek Willis, Washingtonpost.com	Reporter spycraft: Technology tips to keep your secrets • Steve Doig, Arizona State University
11:40-12:50 p.m.	Using CAR for criminal justice stories • Justin Mayo, *The Seattle Times* • Griff Palmer, *The New York Times* • Doug Smith, *Los Angeles Times*	Transportation: Covering accidents and infrastructure • Jennifer LaFleur, *The Dallas Morning News* • John McCormick, *The Chicago Tribune*	Basics of social network analysis • Jaimi Dowdell, *St. Louis Post Dispatch* • Aaron Kessler, *The (Charlottesville, Va.) Daily Progress*	What IRE and NICAR can do for you • IRE and NICAR staff
12:50–2 p.m.	Lunch on your own.			
2-3:10 p.m.	Writing and editing CAR • Doug Haddix, *The Columbus Dispatch* • Stuart Warner, *The Plain Dealer*	Investigating subsidies • Megan Clarke, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* • Sarah Cohen, *The Washington Post*	Dealing with home mortgage data • Paul Lavigne, *The Des Moines Register* • Griff Palmer, *The New York Times*	Data-sharing frameworks for the newsroom and Web • Aron Pilhofer, *The New York Times* • Derek Willis, Washingtonpost.com
3:20-4:30 p.m.	Using numbers in CAR • David Donald, IRE and NICAR	CAR for consumer investigations • Mc Nelly Torres, *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* • Chris Schnaars, *The (Allentown, Pa.) Morning Call*	CAR and the Web 1: How to get reporters and developers working together • David Milliron, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* • Aron Pilhofer, *The New York Times*	RSS scripting to download data • Daniel Lathrop, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*
4:40-5:50 p.m.	CAR for disasters • John Maines, *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* • Ron Nixon, *The New York Times*	Census: From ACS to IPUMS • Paul Overberg, *USA Today* • Steve Doig, Arizona State University	CAR and the Web 2: Programs for data and interactivity • Brian Hamman, *The New York Times* • Derek Willis, Washingtonpost.com	Serving up online maps with ArcIMS and ImageMapper • Ted Mellnik, *The Charlotte (N.C.) Observer* • Dave Sheingold, *The (Hackensack, N.J.) Record*
6-7:20 p.m.	Philip Meyer Awards Reception in the Ambassador Ballroom			

HANDS-ON CLASSES

A = Advanced classes; **B** = Basic classes; **I** = Intermediate classes; **MINI-BOOT CAMP**

Carnegie (Internet)	Stouffer	Rockefeller	Garfield	Halle
I: Downloading and analysis using American Community Survey data • Paul Overberg, *USA Today*	B: Access 1: The purifying experience of filtering your data, Learn to select and sort data items you choose. • Aaron Kessler, *The (Charlottesville, Va.) Daily Progress*	B: Excel 1: Performing simple calculations and sorting • William Hartnett, *The Palm Beach Post*	A: Mapping 1: Displaying data geographically with ArcView9.2 • Sarah Okeson, *Florida Today*	A: When desktops aren't enough: SQL Server introduction on how to import, view and query the data • Janet Roberts, *The New York Times*
B: Web sites and search techniques for reporters • Beth Kopine, IRE and NICAR	I: Access 2: Summarizing databases with counting and summing • John Maines, *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*	B: Excel 2: Calculating ratios and rates in Excel. • Robert Gebeloff, *The (Newark, N.J.) Star-Ledger*	A: Mapping 2: Importing and selecting data by attribute (ArcView9.2) • Chris Schnaars, *The (Allentown, Pa.) Morning Call*	A: When desktops aren't enough: Introducing the basics of MySQL, an open source database server • Daniel Lathrop, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*
B: Backgrounding people on the Internet • Carolyn Edds, *St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times*	A: Access 3: How to join tables, matching information from one file to another. • Jeremy Milarsky, *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*	B: Excel 3: Learn pivot tables, filtering and more. • Doug Haddix, *The Columbus Dispatch*	A: Mapping 3: Geocoding to merge databases with street addresses into maps (ArcView9.2) • Andrew Lehren, *The New York Times*	A: SQL Server: Using views, from basic to advanced • Tom Torok, *The New York Times*
B: Background businesses on the Internet • Neil Reisner, Florida International University	B: Excel 1: Performing simple calculations and sorting (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • Larry Gillick, American University	B: Excel 1: Performing simple calculations and sorting (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • Jennie Coughlin, *The (Staunton, Va.) News Leader*	A: Mapping 4: How Spatial Analyst can pinpoint places and improve stories (ArcView9.2) • MaryJo Webster, *St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press*	A: SQL Server: Aggregating and manipulating data, including string functions • James Wilkerson, *The Des Moines Register*
B: Excel and Internet: Importing data from the Web into spreadsheets • Carolyn Edds, *St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times*	B: Excel 2: Calculating ratios and rates in Excel. (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • Steve Doig, Arizona State University	B: Excel 2: Calculating ratios and rates in Excel. (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • Debbie Wolfe, *St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times*	A: Mapping 5: Nailing down the details -- dealing with projections • Jennifer LaFleur, *The Dallas Morning News*	A: MYSQL and PHP: Sharing data in your newsroom and on the Web • Brian Hamman, *The New York Times*
B: Excel and Internet: Importing PDFs from the Web into spreadsheets • Debbie Wolf, *St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times*	B: Importing data into Excel (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • Ryan McNeill, *The (Oklahoma City) Oklahoman*	B: Importing data into Excel (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • Agustin Armendariz, *The San Diego Union-Tribune*	A: Connecting the dots and statistics with Social Network Analysis • Jaimi Dowdell, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*	A:Programming skills: Moving data into your newsroom with ASP.NET • Aron Pilhofer, *The New York Times*

SATURDAY PANELS

	Ballroom A	Ballroom B	Gold Room	Severance
9-10:10 a.m.	**Google and Yahoo mapping - mashups** • Tom McGinty, *Newsday* • Maurice Tamman, *Sarasota (Fla.) Herald-Tribune*	**Using CAR for education** • Jason Grotto, *The Miami Herald* • Frank Kummer, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*	**CAR and the Web 3: Making data interactive and visually enticing** • Shan Carter, *The New York Times* • Steve Duenes, *The New York Times*	**Visualizing speeches (and more) with tag clouds** • Chase Davis, *Houston Chronicle*
10:20-11:30 a.m.	**Following the money in Congress** • Bill Allison, Sunlight Foundation • Sheila Krumholz, Center for Responsive Politics • Derek Willis, Washingtonpost.com	**Covering nonprofits with CAR** • Andy Hall, *Wisconsin State Journal* • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR • Dan Moore, GuideStar	**Using FOI for CAR: Recent developments** • Wendell Cochran, American University • Jennifer LaFleur, *The Dallas Morning News*	**Mashing it up with AJAX, XML, JSON** • Brian Hamman, *The New York Times*
11:40-12:50 p.m.	**Using CAR in housing foreclosures** • Geoff Dutton, *The Columbus Dispatch* • Ted Mellnik, *The Charlotte (N.C.) Observer* • Jill Riepenhoff, *The Columbus Dispatch*	**State money and politics** • Edwin Bender, National Institute on Money in State Politics • David Poole, Virginia Public Access Project • Maurice Tamman, *Sarasota (Fla.) Herald-Tribune*	**Federal databases** • Sean Moulton, OMB Watch • Ron Nixon, *The New York Times* • Jeff Porter, IRE and NICAR	**What's next: Smart text and the Standardizer at *The New York Times*** • Tom Torok, *The New York Times* • Janet Roberts, *The New York Times*
12:50–2 p.m.	Lunch on your own.			
2-3:10 p.m.	**CAR and healthcare** • Robert Benincasa, Gannett News Service • Joan Mazzolini, *The Plain Dealer*	**CAR and broadcast** • Nancy Amons, WSMV-Nashville • Mark Greenblatt, KHOU-Houston • Jeff Porter, IRE and NICAR	**Military CAR: From the homeland to Iraq** • Mike Fabey, *Aviation Week & Aerospace Daily* • Andrew Lehren, *The New York Times* • Doug Smith, *Los Angeles Times*	**Tracking federal dollars: New search tools** • Sean Moulton, OMB Watch
3:20-4:30 p.m.	**International CAR** • Helena Bengtsson, The Center for Public Integrity • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR	**Investigating business with CAR** • James Bandler, *The Wall Street Journal* • Charles Forelle, *The Wall Street Journal* • Jason Method, *Asbury Park (N.J.) Press*	**Workplace CAR** • David Knox, Kiplinger Program in Public Affairs Journalism • David McKie, CBC News • Ken Ward, Jr., *The Charleston (W.Va.) Gazette*	**CAR-station on a stick: Portable apps on the run** • Daniel Lathrop, *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer*
4:40-5:50 p.m.	**Quick hit car: CAR without projects** • Dave Davis, *The Plain Dealer* • Linda Johnson, *Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader*		**Covering ethnicity and race with CAR** • Elliot Jaspin, Cox News Service	**What IRE and NICAR can do for you** • IRE and NICAR staff
6-7:20 p.m.				

HANDS-ON CLASSES

Carnegie (Internet)	Stouffer	Rockefeller	Garfield	Halle
B: Web sites and search techniques for reporters • Kelly Guckian, *San Antonio Express-News*	I: Access 2: Summarizing databases with counting and summing • Robert Benincasa, Gannett News Service	A: Beyond basics: Using advanced Excel functions • MaryJo Webster, *St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press*	A: SPSS 1: Navigate SPSS, using descriptive statistics and frequencies. Create basic counts and percentages to help you understand your data • Doug Haddix, *The Columbus Dispatch*	A: Programming skills: An introduction to Perl and regular expressions • John Perry, The Center for Public Integrity
A: Web Scraping 1: Programming tools to grab data from the Web Public Integrity • Aron Pilhofer, *The New York Times*	A: Beyond basics: Access string functions for data cleaning and more • Doug Stanley, *The Tampa Tribune*	B: Excel 1: Performing simple calculations and sorting • Andrew Lehren, *The New York Times*	A: SPSS 2: Doing crosstabs to show the data in different ways, and statistical tests • Jason Method, *The Asbury Park, (N.J.) Press*	A: Programming skills: Using ASP to share data in your newsroom • Robert Gebeloff, *The (Newark, N.J.) Star-Ledger*
A: Web Scraping 2: Programming tools to grab data from the Web (attendance in Advanced Web Scraping 1 required) • John Perry, The Center for Public Integrity • Aron Pilhofer, *The New York Times*	A: Beyond basics: Building a database using Access forms to ease the process • Paul Overberg , *USA Today* • Jodi Upton, *USA Today*	B: Excel 2: Calculating ratios and rates in Excel. • Tisha Thompson, WMAR-Baltimore	A: SPSS 3: Basic linear regression techniques and diagnostics • David Donald, IRE and NICAR	A: Programming skills: Python -- the programming language for the rest of us? • Derek Willis, Washingtonpost.com
A: Google Maps 101: How to build dynamic maps • Maurice Tamman, *Sarasota (Fla.) Herald-Tribune*	B: Moving into Access: An introduction to filtering with Access (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • Chase Davis, *Houston Chronicle*	B: Moving into Access: An introduction to filtering with Access. (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • Megan Clarke, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*	A: SPSS 4: Using SPSS syntax to automate time-consuming tasks • David Donald, IRE and NICAR	A: Taming data: Turning reports into tables with Monarch • Paula Lavigne, *The Des Moines Register*
A: Advanced Google Mapping: How to create dynamic maps overlaying thematic polygons • Maurice Tamman, *Sarasota (Fla.) Herald-Tribune*	I: Access 2: Summarizing databases with counting and summing (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • Ted Mellnik, *The Charlotte (N.C.) Observer*	I: Access 2: Summarizing databases with counting and summing (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • Griff Palmer, *The New York Times*	A: Mapping 2: Importing and selecting data by attribute (ArcView9.2) • Mark Greenblatt, KHOU-Houston	A: Taming data: Using text editors to clean your data and text manipulation • James Wilkerson, *The Des Moines Register*
A: Wiki for your thoughts: Setting up and creating this free-wheeling database • Derek Willis, Washingtonpost.com	A: Access 3: How to join tables, matching information from one file to another (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • Tom Gaumer, Freelancer	A: Access 3: How to join tables, matching information from one file to another (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • Dave Sheingold, *The (Hackensack, N.J.) Record*	A: Mapping 3: Geocoding to merge databases with street addresses into maps (ArcView9.2) • Dan Keating, *The Washington Post*	A: Taming data: Perl and VBScript as tools to format, clean and organize data for use in any database software • Tom Torok, *The New York Times*
OPEN LAB for mini-boot camp: A session on finding, downloading and importing data (limited seating available; students might have to share computer time)	If you've got a willing teacher and students, we can add a session in this time slot! Come see us in the Demo Room for scheduling!	If you've got a willing teacher and students, we can add a session in this time slot! Come see us in the Demo Room for scheduling!	If you've got a willing teacher and students, we can add a session in this time slot! Come see us in the Demo Room for scheduling!	If you've got a willing teacher and students, we can add a session in this time slot! Come see us in the Demo Room for scheduling!

SUNDAY PANELS

	Ballroom A	Ballroom B
9-10:10 a.m.	**Teaching CAR in journalism schools and newsrooms** • David Herzog, Missouri School of Journalism • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR • Larry Gillick, American University	**Internet 101** • David Donald, IRE and NICAR
10:20-11:30 a.m.	**Roundtable on CAR in the changing newsroom** • Brant Houston, IRE and NICAR	

HANDS-ON CLASSES

A = Advanced classes; B = Basic classes; I = Intermediate classes; MINI-BOOT CAMP

Carnegie (Internet)	Stouffer	Rockefeller
B: Backgrounding people on the Internet. • Carolyn Edds, *St. Petersburg* (Fla.) *Times*	B: Build your own database: The ins and outs of how to structure and maintain a database you create (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • Ken McCall, *Dayton Daily News*	B: Build your own database: The ins and outs of how to structure and maintain a database your create. (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • David Knox, *Kiplinger Program in Public Affairs Journalism*
B: Backgrounding businesses on the Internet. • Todd Wallack, *Boston Business Journal*	A final Q&A session, exercise and how to take it all home (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • IRE and NICAR staff	A final Q&A session, exercise and how to take it all home (MINI-BOOT CAMP) • IRE and NICAR staff

GETTING AROUND CLEVELAND

Parking
Up just for the day? Try the Tower City parking lot, a left turn off Huron. There is also parking off W. 3rd and W. 6th Streets, north of the hotel; a garage off Ontario near Prospect, and other options. Prices are most reasonable if you arrive early.

Driving In Cleveland
Be very careful. Cleveland is installing up to 30 traffic cameras to enforce speed and traffic-light rules. Even if you don't notice the cameras going off, fines of up to $200 may appear in your mailbox several weeks later. None of the cameras are downtown, but if you go outside the neighborhood, be careful to stay within 5 mph of speed limits and to stop when the light turns yellow.

Cabs
Don't try to flag one down: Call. Better still, ask a hotel staffer or door attendant to.
Ace Taxi 216-361-4700.
Americab, Inc. 216-881-1111 or 800-FOR-A-CAB - 800-367-2222 Open 24 hours.
United Taxi 216-398-9000. Phone for details.
Yellow Cab Co. of Cleveland 2069 W. Third St., 216-623-1550 Rate is $1.80 first 1/6 mile, $1.40 each additional mile. Call 24 hours in advance for scheduled pickups.
People Express Airport Transportation Service 440-248-3007 Minivans. Fare figured by zone. 24-hour notice preferred.

A reminder for pedestrians: Downtown Cleveland is considered one of the safest places to hold a conference, but it is still a big, old city and sensible precautions are in order. Especially if you're walking more than a few blocks or walking at night, go with a group, and don't flash money or valuables.

Rapid Transit and Buses
Greater Cleveland RTA - The Tower City Rapid Station is located in the lower level of Tower City, adjacent to the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel.
Fares: $1.50 - $1.75 (exact change required)
Schedules and information at www.gcrta.org
RTAnswerline - 216-621-9500, offers transit help from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri. and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

RTA also offers two free downtown trolley routes (Mon.-Fri. only). There are two available trolley routes: the E-Line serves Euclid Avenue, the Warehouse District, the Entertainment District, and the theatres in Playhouse Square, and the B-Line circles Superior and Lakeside Avenues and the Warehouse District. The E-Line runs from 7 a.m. - 11 p.m. weekdays; the B-Line runs 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. weekdays. Each line runs with a 10 minute service interval.

To the Cleveland Hopkins Airport
Cab: about $25 from the hotel; shuttles about $20.
RTA Red Line train serves the airport from the Tower City station: $1.50, some indoor walking, exact change required.

© Courtesy of the Convention & Visitors Bureau of Greater Cleveland

Cleveland's skyline.

EATING IN CLEVELAND

In Cleveland, the problem is not where to eat, but where to start. Here are some of *The Plain Dealer* restaurant critics' favorites near the Renaissance.

Price guide:
$ - $6 to $8
$$ - $12 to $18
$$$ - $18 to $24
$$$$ - $24 and up

Blue Point Grille. 700 W. St. Clair Ave., 216-875-7827. Few places in town so consistently provide fine seafood, good service and a sense of event in a polished space. $$$$

Bo Loong. 3922 St. Clair Ave., 216-391-3113. Dim sum is served from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily and is a dining experience you owe yourself. $$

Brasa Grill. 1300 W. Ninth St., 216-575-0699. Find a special occasion to indulge in this glamorous spot offering an all-you-can-eat roasted-meat feast, Brazilian-style. If you have a good appetite, the fixed price won't hurt as much. $$$$

C&Y Chinese Restaurant. 2222 St. Clair Ave., 216-566-1188. C&Y's long menu features dozens of fried rice, noodle, vegetable, seafood and meat dishes, including standbys such as chow mein and chop suey. $$-$$$

The Historic Warehouse District is a popular, upscale entertainment destination feauturing trendy restaurants, lounges and nighttime hot spots complete with live jazz and blues music.

Don't eat these

Copies
FedExKinko's, 1801 E. 9th St., between Superior & Euclid
Rapid Printing & Copy Center, 426 Superior Ave E.
Colonial Printing, 526 Superior Ave. E.
Sir Speedy Printing, 614 W. Superior Ave.

Shipping
FedExKinko's, 1801 E. 9th St., between Superior & Euclid

Drugstore
CVS, 840 Euclid Ave. at E. Ninth St.

Misc. groceries
West Side Market, 1979 W. 25th St., Open Wednesday, Friday and Saturday until 4 p.m., Saturday to 6 p.m. Go in the morning; it opens at 7 a.m.
Sixth Street Market, 1313 W. Sixth St., liquor store. (N.B. Ohio prices are quite high.)

Post office
Arcade, 410 W. Superior Ave., and Tower City, 50 Public Square

Just plain gorgeous old architecture
Cleveland Public Library, The Arcade — and of course, the Civil War monument.

Clevelander Bar & Grill. 834 Huron Road, 216-771-3723. This unpretentious sports bar in the Gateway District serves basic pub grub for lunch daily. Best bets are quesadillas, wings and fries; appetizers large enough to share. Quick service. $

Cleveland Chop House & Brewery. 824 W. St. Clair Ave., 216-623-0909. Historic building in the Warehouse District, part of a Colorado-based chain specializing in handcrafted beer brewed on the premises and large portions of steaks, chops, chicken and seafood. Generally good quality; some dishes are overdressed. $$$

Flannery's Pub 323 E. Prospect Ave., 216-781-7782. Friendly service, Guinness and Irish whiskey are main attractions of this Irish-themed bar and eatery. The food sometimes rises to the same level, particularly burgers and fish & chips. $$

House of Blues 308 Euclid Ave (East Fourth Street and Euclid Avenue, across from the Arcade); 216-523-2583. Check out the Gospel Brunch. This hallelujah happening is where you praise the Lord, pass the cornbread and wear the elastic waistband. Although the music varies, the food is great. Seatings at 11 a.m. every Sunday. $$$

Hyde Park Grille 123 W. Prospect Ave., 216-344-2444. Steakhouse near Jacobs Field and Quicken Loans Arena serving prime dry-aged beef. Good selection of boutique wines, seafood appetizers and luscious desserts. $$$

Jac's 1303 W. Sixth St., 216-298-4125. Mussels with sun-dried tomatoes (Small) are a good way to begin at this upscale eatery featuring Small, Medium and Large plates. Other standouts include roasted chicken (Medium), hanger steak (Large) and sea scallops in fig vinaigrette (Medium). Good wine list. $$$

John Q's Steakhouse 55 Public Square, 216-861-0900. As the name suggests, John Q's has some delicious beef selections, with nice surprises and fresh-fish specials. $$$

Johnny's Downtown 1406 West Sixth St., 216-623-0055. The food is often heavenly, ceremonially rich decor and service that's efficient, if sometimes chilly. $$$$

Juniper Grille 1332 Carnegie Ave., 216-771-1334. Spacious restaurant serving expertly prepared contemporary comfort food in a lively atmosphere. Luscious bakery desserts, classic breakfasts. $$$

Machu Picchu 850 Euclid Ave., 216-664-9712. This Peruvian restaurant serves food with simple and subtle seasonings and hearty satisfaction. Maybe there's a splash of lime here, a sprinkling of big white corn kernels there, but the overarching experience has familiar comfort. $$

In the Tower City complex:

Renaissance Cleveland Hotel
Sans Souci
Brasserie

Tower City Restaurants
Castaldi's
Hard Rock Cafe
Houlihan's Third level
Morton's of Chicago
It's Greek To You, above food court.
Tower City Food Court

Coffee
Bagel on the Avenue, Tower City
Caribou Coffee, in Terminal Tower
Dunkin' Donuts, 512 Euclid
Starbucks, 1374 W. Sixth

Morton's of Chicago Tower City Center, 1600 W. Second St., 216-621-6200. Don't plan any intimate conversation in this boisterous beef palace featuring prime beef and an array of American wines. The quality generally merits an appropriate price tag. $$$$

No. 1 Pho 3120 Superior Ave., 216-781-1176. Step into this snazzy Vietnamese restaurant after work or before a show for plenty of sparkling Asian meals under $10. $$

Pickwick & Frolic 2035 E. Fourth St., 216-241-7425. A delightful getaway from the daily grind, this multimillion-dollar entertainment complex features a fabulous dining room that serves rustic fare with style. Also features a martini bar, cabaret and comedy club. Reasonably good brunches. $$-$$$

Porcelli's Bistro 1852 E. Sixth St., 216-574-2270. Popular downtown lunch spot serving delicious pasta, hearty sandwiches, fresh salads and a daily homemade dessert. Bright young staffers provide quick service for a mostly white-collar crowd. $$

Sans Souci 24 Public Square, 216-696-5600. This warm, sunny and intimate dining room in the stately Renaissance Cleveland Hotel touches on French Mediterranean flavors and comes up a winner for smart, fresh and distinctive meals. $$$

Sapporo Sushi 1940 E. Sixth St. (around the corner from the Arcade), 216-579-7000. A pleasant little storefront with lunches and early dinners. Try the Crunch Munch roll and the salmon teriyaki, and bring your own booze. $$$

Sinergy 1213 W. Sixth St., 216-363-1130. Is it a restaurant or a nightclub? When Sinergy is a restaurant, the lights rotate, bathing the spacious room in color at night. The menu is long and global in nature with a nod to the season. Later in the evening, the owners will push the tables aside to make room for the hoofers. $$-$$$

Sushi Rock 1276 W. Sixth St., 216-623-1212. It's loud, expensive and makes a lot of young professionals happy. Half-price sushi night (5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesdays) and some spectacular salmon and lamb chops make a lot more people happy. $$$

Vincenza's Pizza & Pasta 603 Prospect Ave. E., 216-241-8382. Those who whine that they can't find good pizza in Cleveland have not been paying attention. Vincenza's has been here since 1979. Deep dish and New York-style pizza, plus pasta, subs, calzones and fresh cannoli. $-$$

Vivo 347 Euclid Ave. (Old Arcade), 216-621-4678. Stylish restaurant with an Italian-influenced menu that features several good meats and fish grilled over a wood fire. Dense and creamy desserts. $$$

XO Prime Steaks 500 W. St. Clair Ave., 216-861-1919. XO is unapologetically pricey, but the steak is special. The lobster is expertly cooked, and the dinner version of shrimp cocktail is so big it could make a dinner with a salad or side dish. But the service, certainly punctual and polite, is often aloof. $$$$

Ethnic quick picks

Barbecue
Freddie's Southern Style Rib, (walkable) 1431 St. Clair Ave.

Corned beef
Slyman's, 3106 St. Clair Ave., just east of I-90.
Danny's Deli, 1658 St. Clair Ave. NE. (E. 17th and St. Clair)

Chinese (Both have dim sum)
Li Wah, 2999 Payne Ave. (E. 30th and Payne)
Bo Loong, 3922 St. Clair Ave. NE. (E. 40th and St. Clair)

Eastern Europe/German
Frank Sterle's Slovenian Country House, 1401 E. 55th St.

Ethiopian
Empress Taytu, 6125 St. Clair Ave., just beyond E. 55th St.

French
Sans Souci in the Cleveland Renaissance Hotel (not cheap!)
Le Oui Oui Cafe, 1881 Fulton Rd., off Lorain

Greek
Greek Express, Deli, 401 Euclid Ave. (Fourth and Euclid)
Opa!, 1834 W. 25th St. (Ohio City)

Japanese
Sapporo Sushi, 1940 E. Sixth St., under $20
Sushi Rock, 1276 W. 6th St.

Korean
Seoul Hot Pot, 3709 Payne Ave.
Korea House, 3700 Superior Ave. E.

Latin/Mexican
La Tortilla Feliz, 2661 W. 14th St., three lights south of W. 14th exit off I-90W. (Tremont)
Tequila Ranch, W. 6th and Lakeside.

Mideast
Nate's Deli, 1229 W. Sixth St. (West Sixth and Lakeside Ave.)
Teahouse Noodle, 1900 E. Sixth St.

Vietnamese/Thai/SE Asia
No. 1 Pho, 3120 Superior Ave. Nice space.
Pho Hoa, 3030 Superior Ave. E. (30th and Superior at Golden Plaza)
Phnom Penh Restaurant, 13124 Lorain Ave.
Siam Cafe, 3951 St. Clair Ave. NE.

Local Eye on Lunch

Vincenza's Pizza & Pasta, 603 Prospect Ave. (entrance to Colonial Marketplace). Even Clevelanders love New York-style pizza at this skylighted hangout.

Corner Alley. 402 Euclid Ave., www.thecorneralley.com. The pizza's fresh but even better if you bowl a few frames in this retro moderne setting.

Greek Express, The Arcade, 1507 Euclid. Great spanakopita and oregano potatoes in one of the country's oldest and most glamorous shopping malls.

Teahouse Noodles, 1900 E. Sixth St. Refreshing, Asian-inspired rice, soup and salad bowls with low-fat and vegetarian options.

Sapporo Sushi, 1940 E. Sixth St. (around the corner from The Arcade) Try the Crunch Munch roll in this cozy spot.

Pickwick and Frolic, 2035 E. Fourth St., Lunch with a little pizzazz in a stylish comedy venue.

Best Bets

The House of Blues restaurant and concert hall has a full schedule of events this week. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Gaelic Storm ($15); Thursday, 8 p.m., the Ataris with Asobi Seksu and Wax on Radio ($15); Friday, 8 p.m., Pete Yorn with Aqualung, Minibar ($22.50); and Saturday, 7:30 p.m., Energizer Presents Cartel with Cobra Starship, Boys Like Girls and New Atlantic ($16). Call the House of Blues at 216-523-BLUE. Located in the East 4th Street entertainment district. The concert hall entrance is 308 Euclid Ave. The restaurant and bar entrance is around the corner on East 4th Street.

Hilarities 4th Street Theatre Pickwick & Frolic Restaurant and Club, 2035 E. Fourth St., 216-736-4242. Hilarities is located on East 4th Street, just south of Euclid Avenue and a short walk from the conference hotel. Show times are 8 p.m. Thursday; 7:30 p.m. and 10:15 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and 7:30 p.m. Sunday. Performing this week is Caroline Rhea, actress and host of the NBC reality show *The Biggest Loser*. Tickets are $18. Dinner packages are also available with the Pickwick & Frolic restaurant in the same building, 216-241-7425.

Liquid/Fusion 1212 West Sixth St., 216-479-7717. Cool corner club serving as the de facto neighborhood bar in the Warehouse District. Next door, Fusion is cozy, but the martini list is as long as the lakefront.

Velvet Tango Room 2095 Columbus Road, 216-241-8869. Owner/host Paulius Nasvytis tries to keep an air of mystery here (complete with no sign), but it has drinks like the French 75 that will keep you coming back. Pianist and hot jazz sounds.

Hoopples Riverbed Cafe 1930 Columbus Road, 216-575-0483. A living, breathing slice of blue-collar Cleveland on a quiet (and scenic) curve of the Cuyahoga. Live music.

Spy 1261 W. Sixth St., 216-621-7907. The attitude has loosened over the years, but the great DJs and theme nights remain. Check out the bar width text-messaging screen and interactive dance floor.

Other great choices

Belinda's Night Club 9613 Madison Ave., 216-651-1968. Latin music is a specialty.

The Chamber 11802 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, 216-228-7110. Younger night owls gather to get their Goth on. Legion of Doom with DJ Darknave, Spinning Gothcon. every Friday night at 10 p.m.; DJ Dyadfaerie every Saturday night 10 p.m. Admission $3-$5.

Five O'Clock Lounge 11904 Detroit Ave., Lakewood. 216-521-4906. One of the snazziest rock 'n roll party spots in town.

Mercury Lounge 1392 West Sixth St., 216-566-8840. Local and international DJs playing a broad spectrum of music 365 days a year.

Mirage on the Water 2510 Elm St., 216-348-1135. An urban legend that rolls hip-hop and R&B all weekend (until 4 a.m.), except for Sunday's old-school Happy Hour which includes line dancing.

Traffic 1296 W. Sixth St., 216-566-9621. Current after-midnight champ in the Warehouse District, where hips and hits collide. Proper dress required. Dances at 10 p.m.

806 Wine & Martini Bar 806 Literary Road, 216-696-4806. Watch it. You're tantalizingly close to Lolita. Bistro, that is. This posh watering hole has a new drink menu.

Cloud 9 1299 W. Ninth St., 216-363-1113. The opening of this swank pad marked the transformation of the Warehouse District into a village of lounges. Cloud 9 is the sleekest of the lot.

Cooper'stown 2217 E. Ninth St., 216-566-8815. A blend of sports and rock 'n roll, all courtesy of namesake Alice Cooper. Prime location across from Jacobs Field and The Quicken Loans Arena.

Around the Corner 18616 Detroit Ave., Lakewood. 216-521-4413. If the characters from *Friends* rolled into town, they'd probably pull up here. And why not? I'm sure they'd love the Tiffany-style lamps, the rustic woodwork and the preppy crowd.

Edison's 2373 Professor Ave., 216-522-0006. Okay, so maybe it isn't THE bar in Cleveland anymore. This pub is still a good way to visit the Tremont area and test your knowledge of the world.

Improv Comedy Club & Restaurant 2000 Sycamore St., 216-696-4677.

Playhouse Square entertainment – Blues Festival
The Cleveland Blues Festival is Friday night at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday. The lineup includes the Bobby Blue Band, Marvin Sease, Mel Waiters, Sir Charles Jones, Latimore and Shirley Brown. Tickets start at $42. Palace Theatre in the Playhouse Square area, 1501 Euclid Ave.

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum and the **Great Lakes Science Center** are located in the downtown area known as North Coast Harbor. It's about a 15- minute walk north of the conference hotel, or you can take the waterfront train line from the Tower City station to a stop near both of them. The trains run every 20 to 30 minutes on the waterfront line to the museums.

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum attracts visitors from around the world with its collection of exhibits, films, artifacts and tributes to music icons – all housed in a building designed by renowned architect I.M. Pei. Located at One Key Harbor (East Ninth St. at Lake Erie). Adult admission is $20. Hours are 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. daily (open until 9 p.m. on Wednesdays). 216-781-7625.
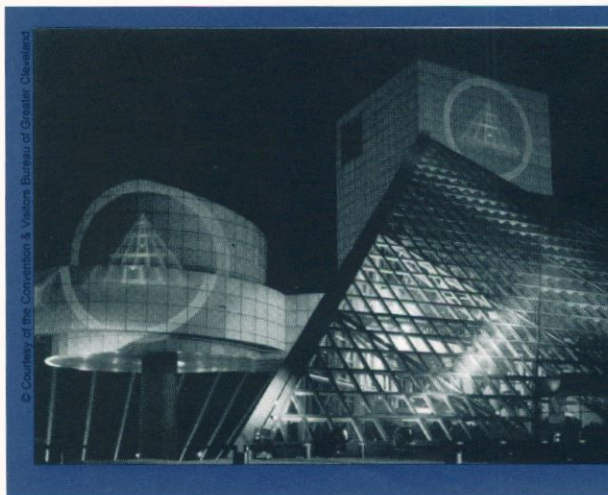
The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum.

AND MORE ...

Great Lakes Science Center includes the six-stories-tall OMNIMAX Theater with daily shows. Museum or OMNIMAX tickets are $8.95 each (combo tickets for both $12.95). Call 216-621-2400 for more information.

The University Circle area About three miles east of downtown, you'll find a cluster of popular museums, including the Cleveland Museum of Art (Free, 216-421-7350), the Western Reserve Historical Society and Crawford Auto-Aviation Museum ($8.50, 216-721-5722), the Cleveland Museum of Natural History ($9.50, 216-231-4600) and the Cleveland Botanical Garden ($7.50, 216-721-1600).

Movies There is a multi-screen cinema in the Tower City Center complex, accessible without going outside from the convention hotel. For the latest show information, call Tower City Cinemas at 440-564-2031.

Cleveland Orchestra The Cleveland Orchestra, long considered one of America's great orchestras, is performing at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday in Severance Hall, 11001 Euclid Ave. (in the University Circle area, about three miles east of downtown.) Tickets start at $29 for Thursday and $34 for Friday and Saturday. For ticket information, call 216-231-1111.

Basketball The Mid-American Conference college men's and women's basketball championships come to the Quicken Loans Arena March 7-10. You can get to The Q, as the arena is known, via an enclosed walkway from the conference hotel. Tickets start at $17. For more information, visit www.theQarena.com.

If you're sticking around Sunday, you can catch the Cleveland Cavaliers and Indiana Pacers in Quicken Loans Arena. Tipoff is at 6 p.m. Tickets start at $10. 1-800-858-CAVS.

© Courtesy of the Convention & Visitors Bureau of Greater Cleveland

Playhouse Square Center is the nation's second largest performing arts center with more than 10,300 seats. Five beautifully restored theaters set the scene for lavish Broadway productions, the Cleveland Opera, the Ohio Ballet, the Great Lakes Theatre Festival and hundreds of concerts throughout the year.

© Courtesy of the Convention & Visitors Bureau of Greater Cleveland

Voinovich Park, just north of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum offers panoramic views of Lake Erie and the Cleveland skyline. The park is named after George Voinovich, former Cleveland mayor, Ohio governor and now U.S. senator.

UPCOMING EVENTS
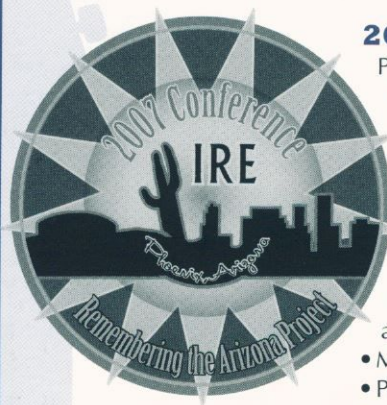
2007 IRE Conference

Phoenix – June 7-10
- Honoring the 30th anniversary of the Arizona Project
- Panels touching every beat, including computer-assisted reporting
- Special emphasis on covering public safety, courts, national security, the military, business, education, local government and much more
- Broadcast Show & Tell Room
- Bilingual panels for Spanish-language speakers addressing topics such as immigration and borders
- Mentoring opportunities
- Presentation of the IRE Awards
- Annual IRE membership meeting and board of directors elections

Save the Date!

The 2008 IRE Conference will be at the InterContinental Miami in Miami, June 5-8.

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. NICAR staff provides follow-up help when participants return to their news organizations.
- March 25-30 – Columbia, Mo.
- May 13-18 – Columbia, Mo.
- Aug. 5-10 – Columbia, Mo.
- December 2007 – Florida International University, Miami

Mapping Data for News Stories Boot Camp
- Aug. 17-19 – Columbia, Mo.

Register and find out more at www.ire.org/training/bootcamps.php
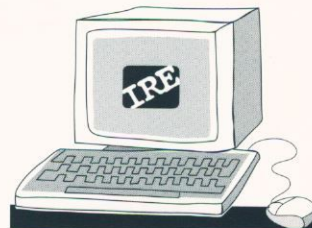
WATCHDOG JOURNALISM

Watchdog Journalism

This training program for small to mid-sized newsrooms or bureaus of larger papers is made possible in part by generous grants from the Chicago Tribune Foundation, the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation, and the *Las Vegas Sun*, Barbara J. Greenspun, publisher. To learn more and register for upcoming events, visit www.ire.org/training/watchdogjournalism

Unleashing the Watchdogs

(Primarily for editors)
These workshops, held in partnership with the American Society of Newspaper Editors, feature top editors and trainers sharing techniques, tips and years of experience on how to get watchdog journalism done, especially from reporters covering beats and daily stories. The workshops cover how to guide reporters in the effective use of the Internet, open records laws, computer-assisted reporting and anonymous sources.
- April 14-15 – Syracuse, N.Y., hosted by S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications; in collaboration with NewsTrain
- April 17 - Tacoma, Wash., hosted by *The News Tribune*
- April 27-28 – Oklahoma City, Okla., hosted by *The Oklahoman*

Better Watchdog Workshops

(Primarily for reporters)
These workshops help journalists learn the investigative skills that keep government and business accountable and to produce enterprising and informative stories.
- March 24-25 – Spokane, Wash., hosted by the SPJ Region 10, Inland Northwest Professional Chapter
- April 14 – Long Island, N.Y., hosted by Hofstra University and the SPJ Region 1 Chapter
- April 14-15 – Syracuse, N.Y., hosted by S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications; in collaboration with NewsTrain
- April 16 – Tacoma, Wash., hosted by *The News Tribune*
- April 27-28 – Oklahoma City, Okla., hosted by *The Oklahoman*

SUPERIOR AVENUE

GARAGE

Philip Meyer Reception

AMBASSADOR BALLROOM

ENTRANCE

LOBBY COURT BAR

GRAND LOBBY

PUBLIC SQUARE

PROMENADE

ELEVTORS

WOMEN

MEN

FRONT DESK

ENTRANCE

SANS SOUCI RESTAURANT
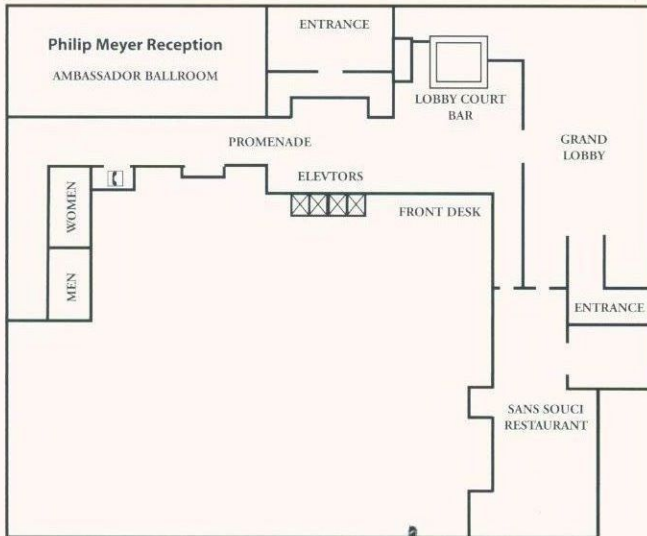
MAIN LOBBY
(SECOND FLOOR)

SUPERIOR AVENUE

MEN

WOMEN

PUBLIC SQUARE

REPRINTS & TIPSHEETS

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND SALES

ELEVTORS

MEN

BALLROOM A

WOMEN

BALLROOM B

GOLD ROOM
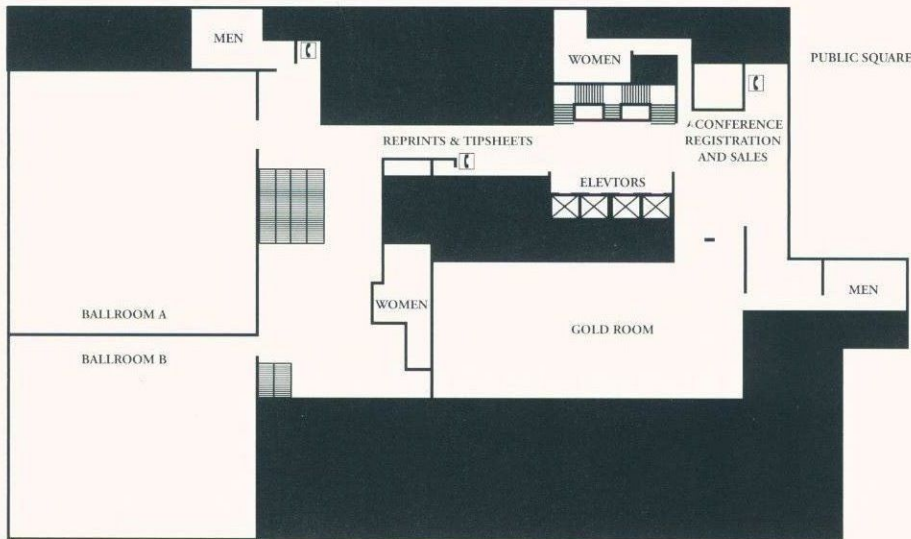
BALLROOM LEVEL
(THIRD FLOOR)

ROCKEFELLER

CARNEGIE

WOMEN

STOUFFER

ELEVTORS

MEN

WOMEN

MEN

SEVERANCE

DEMO ROOM WITH INTERNET ACCESS

GARFIELD

HALLE
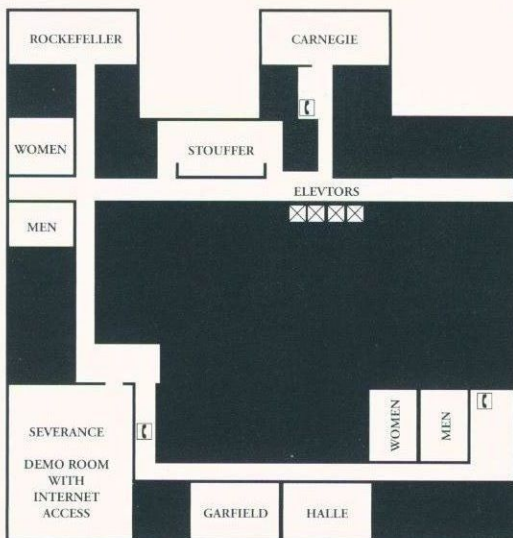
MEETING ROOMS
(FOURTH FLOOR)

2007 CAR CONFERENCE IN CLEVELAND

DON'T MISS A BEAT!

CONFERENCE MEETING ROOMS
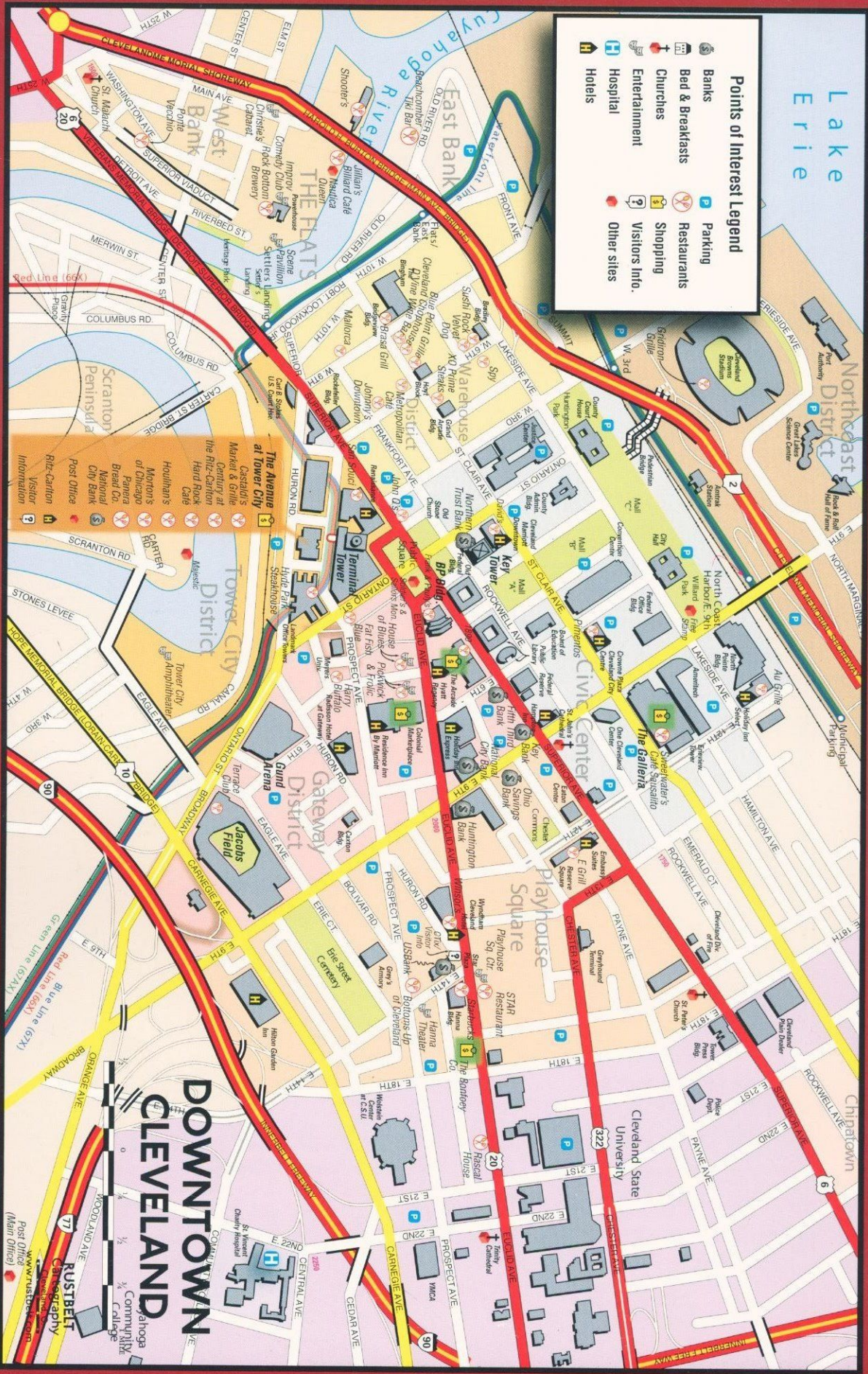
DOWNTOWN CLEVELAND

Points of Interest Legend

- Banks
- Bed & Breakfasts
- Churches
- Entertainment
- Hospital
- Hotels
- P Parking
- Restaurants
- Shopping
- Visitors Info.
- Other sites

Lake Erie

Cuyahoga River

Cleveland Memorial Shoreway

THE FLATS

West Bank

East Bank

Warehouse District

Civic Center

Northeast District

Playhouse Square

Gateway District

Tower City District

Scranton Peninsula

The Avenue at Tower City

Terminal Tower

Key Tower

BP Bldg

Jacobs Field

Gund Arena

Cleveland State University

Chinatown

St. Vincent Charity Hospital

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Lake Erie

BILL ALLISON is a senior fellow at the Sunlight Foundation. Before joining Sunlight, Allison worked for The Center for Public Integrity for nine years, where he co-authored "The Cheating of America" with Charles Lewis and was co-editor of *The New York Times* bestseller "The Buying of the President 2004." He edited projects on topics ranging from the role of arms smugglers and private military companies in failing states around the world to the rise of Section 527 organizations in American politics.

NANCY AMONS oversees the investigative team and specializes in computer-assisted reporting at WSMV-Nashville. In 2006 she was honored by the Association of Health Care Journalists for a documentary on cuts to Tennessee's health care system, and she won a National Headliner Award for continuing coverage of dangerous guardrails. She has been an IRE contest judge for three years.

AGUSTIN ARMENDARIZ is a staff writer at *The San Diego Union-Tribune*. He previously worked for The Center for Public Integrity in Washington, D.C. His work has included research and reporting for the *New York Times* bestseller, "The Buying of the President 2004," and serving as database editor on the "Party Lines" project, which analyzed state political party activity during the 2004 election cycle.

EDWIN BENDER is the executive director of the Institute on Money in State Politics. Before being named executive director in 2003, Bender directed the Institute's research efforts and authored many of the Institute's analytical reports. A graduate of the University of Montana School of Journalism, Bender worked at newspapers in Montana, Alaska and Washington state before beginning the state campaign-finance research project in Montana.

HELENA BENGTSSON has worked for several investigative programs at Sveriges Television, the national broadcasting company in Sweden. Since 1994, she served as a researcher, assistant producer, projects editor and most recently as the database editor for the news and current affairs department. She is the international database scholar at IRE and The Center for Public Integrity, based in Washington, D.C.

ROBERT BENINCASA is database/special projects editor at Gannett News Service in the Washington, D.C., bureau for Gannett's 90 U.S. daily newspapers. He collaborates with other journalists on enterprise and breaking-news stories involving computer-assisted reporting. He also assists Gannett journalists around the nation in their CAR reporting efforts. His most recent projects include an analysis and searchable online database of heart care at U.S. hospitals and an online database of staffing levels in air-traffic control towers.

SHAN CARTER is an interactive graphics editor at *The New York Times*. He previously worked at the *San Jose Mercury News*, *The Oakland Tribune* and *The Sacramento Bee*. He holds a degree in economics from the University of California, Davis.

MEGAN CLARKE joined *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* in 2005 as the computer-assisted reporting specialist. While finishing her master's degree at the Missouri School of Journalism, she worked as a data analyst at IRE and NICAR. She has also reported for KOMU-Columbia, Mo., Missouri Public Radio and Wisconsin Public Radio. In 2005, Clarke was awarded the Chicago Tribune Foundation Fellowship.

WENDELL COCHRAN is an associate professor and journalism division director at American University. Cochran was special projects editor at Gannett News Service and a business reporter and editor at *The Kansas City Star* and *The Des Moines Register*. He has won the John Hancock Award for Excellence in Business and Economic Journalism, the Amos Tuck Award for Economic Understanding and the National Headliner Award. He is co-author of "Inside the Beltway: A Guide to Washington Reporting," and serves on the IRE Board of Directors.

SARAH COHEN is a database editor for *The Washington Post* specializing in local and national investigative projects. She shared in the 2002 Pulitzer Prize, the Robert F. Kennedy Award's grand prize and the IRE Award for an investigation of the District of Columbia's child protection agency, and the 2005 Selden Ring Award for stories on contaminated water supplies. The 2006 series "Harvesting Cash" on waste in federal farm programs is a finalist for Harvard University's Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting.

JENNIE COUGHLIN is editor of the data and delivery desks at *The* (Staunton, Va.) *Daily News Leader*. She previously was the assistant city editor and CAR specialist and trainer at the paper. She led teams that have won Virginia Press Association awards for investigative reporting the last three years.

DAVE DAVIS, director of *The* (Cleveland) *Plain Dealer*'s news research center, oversees the newspaper's day-to-day CAR efforts. Davis also is the "go-to guy" for the U.S. Census, which he has used to examine the plight of the working poor in Ohio, to show how the nation's fastest-growing cities are increasing their populations by annexing their neighbors and to document the growing racial income gap in Cleveland. Davis has received an IRE Medal, a George Polk Award, and the Heywood Broun Award, among others.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

CHASE DAVIS is the computer-assisted reporting specialist at the *Houston Chronicle*. Before joining the *Chronicle* in 2006, he worked for IRE and NICAR as a data analyst and did freelance CAR work for several organizations, most recently *The Boston Globe*. He is a graduate of the Missouri School of Journalism, where he continues to work as a part-time Web developer.

ANTHONY DEBARROS is database editor in the Life section at *USA TODAY*, where he covers topics such as the deaths of college students and the Academy Awards. Before joining *USA TODAY*, he was an editor at the *Poughkeepsie* (N.Y.) *Journal* and taught journalism at Marist College in New York. He has won awards from the Education Writers Association and The Associated Press.

STEPHEN K. DOIG is the Knight Chair in Journalism, specializing in computer-assisted reporting, at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism at Arizona State University. Before joining ASU in 1996, he was associate editor/research at *The Miami Herald*. Projects on which he has worked have won the Pulitzer Prize for public service, the IRE Award, the Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting and others. He is a former member of IRE's board of directors and organizer of the Philip Meyer Award.

DAVID DONALD is the training director for IRE and NICAR. In the past three years, he has coordinated and conducted more than 150 investigative and computer-assisted reporting workshops in the U.S. and abroad for print, broadcast and online journalists. An award-winning reporter, Donald oversaw the CAR and research programs at the *Savannah Morning News* after stints on the education beat and the projects team. He has taught at the high school and college levels, including five years as an adjunct instructor at Savannah State University.

JAIMI DOWDELL is assistant director of news research/computer-assisted reporting specialist at the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. Before joining the *Post-Dispatch*, she worked at IRE and NICAR in the Database Library and Resource Center while completing her master's degree focusing on computer-assisted and investigative reporting. She has worked on projects for *The Kansas City Star*, tracking terrorists and their finances, and for the *Wisconsin State Journal*, analyzing a state prison database.

STEVE DUENES of *The New York Times* previously spent five years at the *Chicago Tribune*, researching and designing information graphics for the newspaper and the Web site. He joined the *Times* as the science graphics editor, and he worked on the science desk for three years before becoming the deputy, and eventually the director, for graphics.

GEOFF DUTTON has been a reporter for *The Columbus Dispatch* since 2002. He has investigated mortgage fraud and foreclosures, teenage criminals tried as adults, charity care by nonprofit hospitals and sexual assaults in youth prison.

CAROLYN EDDS is a news researcher for the *St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times*. Prior to joining the paper in 2004, she was the Eugene S. Pulliam research director for IRE. She has been a news researcher with the *San Antonio Express-News* and the news research manager at the (Spartanburg, S.C.) *Herald-Journal*. She has been a presenter at events sponsored by IRE, the Special Libraries Association and the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association.

MIKE FABEY covers the Pentagon for *Aviation Week/Aerospace Daily*, and he previously covered air and space warfare for *Defense News*. A reporter or editor for more than two decades, Fabey has won more than two dozen national, state and regional journalism honors, including being named a finalist in the IRE Awards. He reported from Brazil as a correspondent for publications owned by *The Economist* and was the editor for the English business online wire service for *O Estado de S. Paulo*.

CHARLES FORELLE is a reporter in *The Wall Street Journal*'s Boston bureau. Forelle, with colleagues James Bandler and Mark Maremont, has been named a winner of the Philip Meyer Award and the George Polk Award this year for stories investigating stock-options backdating. Forelle was also part of a *Journal* team awarded first place in the Education Writers Association's 2003 National Awards for breaking-news coverage of the Supreme Court's decision on affirmative action.

TOM GAUMER was editor of computer-assisted reporting at *The* (Cleveland) *Plain Dealer*. His work included mapping data and teaching CAR, and helping reporters analyze data. Gaumer was a beat reporter, assistant city editor, metro editor and business editor at the paper; he also was co-chair of the open records audit performed in Ohio. Gaumer took advantage of a buyout offer and left *The Plain Dealer* for early retirement last fall. He still remembers enough to teach, but makes no promises about a year from now.

ROBERT GEBELOFF is a projects reporter specializing in computer-assisted reporting for *The* (Newark, N.J.) *Star-Ledger*. In addition to working on enterprise projects and daily journalism, he builds interactive data applications for the newsroom intranet and the Web.

LARRY GILLICK teaches digital and broadcast journalism at American University in Washington, D.C. (www.digital-ed.com) He is also a Mac (formerly Linux) geek who has taught computer-assisted reporting as a distance-learning course via video podcast. Gillick first encountered CAR while studying broadcast journalism at Syracuse University. In the past year, Gillick has co-written training material for Gannett's chain-wide transition to digital journalism.

MARK GREENBLATT is an investigative reporter at KHOU-Houston. He has won four Edward R. Murrow Awards from the Radio-Television News Directors Association, including the national Murrow for the best investigative report in 2006. His investigations have changed federal law and numerous state laws, and they have prompted widespread reforms throughout local government. He also received an IRE Award for his "Troubled Bridges" report.

JASON GROTTO is computer-assisted reporting editor for *The Miami Herald*'s investigative team. He has helped uncover problems within Florida's criminal justice system, Miami-Dade public schools, the Florida Department of Children and Families, and the Miami Police Department. He joined the investigative team in 2001 and previously covered education in Broward County. Prior to joining the *Herald*, he worked for IRE and NICAR.

KELLY GUCKIAN is the database editor at the *San Antonio Express-News*. She assists reporters and editors in negotiating for data from agencies, provides data cleanup and analysis, and trains reporters to use computer-assisted reporting tools. She posts searchable databases on the newsroom intranet and participates on news project teams. She worked in news research for 10 years at the *Express-News* and has been awarded an Editorial Unsung Hero Award by her peers in 1996 and 2003.

DOUG HADDIX is projects editor at *The Columbus Dispatch*, where he recently directed investigations of mortgage foreclosures and fraud, specialty and nonprofit hospitals, and sex abuse inside an Ohio juvenile prison. Haddix was city editor at *The Scranton* (Pa.) *Times* and the (Danville, Ill.) *Commercial-News*, and was a reporter for United Press International in Indianapolis and the *Springfield* (Ohio) *News-Sun*.

ANDY HALL covers education at the *Wisconsin State Journal*, where he served as investigative and projects reporter from 1991 to 2006. A former IRE Board member, he teaches reporting classes at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. From 1982 to 1991, he worked at *The Arizona Republic* as an investigative, general assignment and federal courts reporter. Hall has won more than 30 national, regional and state journalism awards, including National Headliner, Gerald Loeb, Inland Press Association and James K. Batten awards.

BRIAN HAMMAN joined the news technology department at *The New York Times* on March 5. Most recently, he was online managing editor at the *Columbia Missourian*, where he helped launch several Web sites. Hamman is a 2006 M.A. graduate of the Missouri School of Journalism. While working on his master's degree, he also worked for IRE and NICAR as a data analyst for two years.

WILLIAM HARTNETT is a computer-assisted reporting specialist at *The Palm Beach* (Fla.) *Post*. Recent projects include a report on the super-sizing of professional football players, a series of special sections on South Florida's real estate boom and an investigation of private juvenile prison operators that was a finalist for IRE's 2004 Freedom of Information Award.

DAVID HERZOG is an assistant professor at the Missouri School of Journalism, where he teaches computer-assisted reporting. He also serves as the academic adviser to NICAR and is managing editor of *Uplink*, the institute's electronic CAR 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* (Allentown, Pa.) *Morning Call*.

BRANT HOUSTON is executive director of IRE and a professor at the Missouri School of Journalism. He is also author of "Computer-Assisted Reporting: A Practical Guide" and co-author of the fourth edition of "The Investigative Reporter's Handbook." He previously served as managing director of NICAR for two years and was a daily journalist for 17 years. He worked as an award-winning investigative reporter and database editor at *The Hartford Courant* and *The Kansas City Star*, where he also was part of its investigative team.

SPENCER HUNT is the environment reporter at *The Columbus Dispatch*, where he has used computer-assisted reporting to develop stories about urban sprawl, pollution along the Ohio River and abandoned Appalachian coal mines. As a state government reporter for *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, he tapped government databases for stories on state hiring practices, and Ohio's mental retardation, Medicaid and mental health programs. He has worked for Gannett News Service and the *Rockford* (Ill.) *Register Star*.

KARL IDSVOOG, a professor at Kent State University, teaches computer-assisted reporting and online/broadcast news. Idsvoog rode the dot-com rocket as vice president of project development at APBnews.com, which won the first IRE

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Award for online journalism the day before announcing its bankruptcy. A past Nieman Fellow at Harvard University, he has conducted media training for the U.S. Department of State, the International Center for Journalists, Internews and IREX. He asks anyone with raw video that can be used for broadcast news writing/editing exercises to contact him.

ELLIOT JASPIN, a reporter for Cox Newspapers, has over the last 36 years worked as a reporter, editor and journalism professor. He won a Pulitzer Prize in 1979 and was the Kiplinger Distinguished Contributions to Journalism by the National Press Foundation. In 1989, while a fellow at the Gannett Center for Media Studies at Columbia University, Jaspin developed software that allowed computer-assisted reporting on a personal computer. He founded what today is NICAR at the Missouri School of Journalism.

LINDA J. JOHNSON is the CAR coordinator at the *Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader*.

DAN KEATING is a database editor at *The Washington Post*. He has written lately about the cost of special education, broadcasting council meetings in HDTV, car-deer collisions, robbery surges, cops drinking on duty and the District of Columbia's spending without contracts. He has worked at *The (Pittsfield, Mass.) Berkshire Eagle* and *The Miami Herald*, where he reported from Key West for four years.

AARON KESSLER covers higher education and state politics for *The Daily Progress* in Charlottesville, Va., where he lives on a farm with his wife and several dozen beef cattle. He was previously deputy director at the non-profit Virginia Public Access Project, which maintains a database of Virginia political money. A native of Atlantic City, N.J., Kessler also covered state government for *The Joplin (Mo.) Globe*, and has worked on freelance investigative projects for *The Kansas City Star* and the *Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch*.

DAVID KNOX is a Kiplinger fellow at the John Glenn School of Public Affairs at Ohio State University. He'll return this summer to his job as CAR specialist for the *Akron Beacon Journal*. He was on the reporting team for "A Question of Color," a series on Akron-Canton's black community awarded the 1994 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service. A recent project on bankruptcies won a Society of American Business Editors and Writers award.

BETH KOPINE is the Eugene S. Pulliam research director for IRE. She coordinates the collection, indexing and archiving of materials for the Resource Center. She also coordinates entries in the annual IRE Awards program. She previously served as Visual Resources Curator for the Art History and Archaeology Department at the University of Missouri.

SHEILA KRUMHOLZ, executive director of the Center for Responsive Politics, is the watchdog group's chief administrator and spokesperson, appearing regularly in news stories around the country as a money-in-politics analyst. As CRP's research director for eight years, Krumholz supervised data analysis for OpenSecrets.org and CRP's clients in the media and elsewhere. She first joined the CRP staff in 1989. Sheila has a degree in international relations and political science from the University of Minnesota.

FRANK KUMMER has been a reporter at *The Philadelphia Inquirer* since 2002 and joined the paper's computer-assisted reporting team in 2006. He is now on staff at Philly.com. He has been "newsgathering" in the Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey region for 20 years.

JENNIFER LAFLEUR has been the computer-assisted reporting editor for *The Dallas Morning News* since 2003 after completing a media law fellowship with The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press. She has directed CAR at the *San Jose Mercury News* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. She was IRE's first training director and is co-author of "Mapping for Stories: A Computer-Assisted Reporting Guide." She has won awards for her coverage of disability, legal and open government issues.

DANIEL LATHROP joined the *Post-Intelligencer* in July 2006 and is an investigative CAR reporter. He was database editor at The Center for Public Integrity and worked on numerous award-winning projects. He joined the Center in 2003 as a senior researcher. In 2004, he became assistant database editor with a focus on lobbying, state politics and the telecommunications industry. Previously, he was a reporter at the *Daytona Beach News-Journal* and *The (Ames, Iowa) Tribune*.

PAULA LAVIGNE is a reporter and computer-assisted reporting specialist for *The Des Moines Register*. She worked previously as a reporter for *The Dallas Morning News*, where her projects included an investigation into violations in the organic food industry and a series on the most affluent, yet debt-ridden, suburb of Dallas. In 2006, she was a finalist for the Livingston Awards for Young Journalists. She also has reported for *The (Tacoma, Wash.) News Tribune* and the *St. Joseph (Mo.) News-Press*.

ANDY LEHREN is part of *The New York Times'* computer-assisted reporting team. He has worked on such stories as the Iraq War, Hurricane Katrina, teenage abortion, and an ongoing series on religion and politics. For nine years, he was a producer for NBC, where his documentaries won such awards as a Peabody, Polk, two duPont-Columbia awards, two Edward R. Murrow awards, two IRE Awards and three Emmys. He previously ran the IRE and NICAR Database Library and worked at various newspapers in the Philadelphia region.

JOHN MAINES is assistant news editor for computer-assisted reporting at the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He has worked as a reporter at the *Sun-Sentinel* and other publications, including the *Observer* in Massena, N.Y., *The Ithaca* (N.Y.) *Journal*, and *The* (Jackson, Miss.) *Clarion-Ledger*. Maines has been a contributing writer for *Washington Technology* newspaper and *American Demographics* magazine. In 2006, he was named a Pulitzer Prize finalist for an investigation of federal disaster aid programs.

JUSTIN MAYO has been a reporter with *The Seattle Times* investigative team for eight years. He specializes in database and spatial analysis covering a variety of issues, including criminal justice, demographics, elections and education. Previously he was the database administrator for IRE and NICAR; he received an M.A. from the Missouri School of Journalism in 1998 and a B.A. in International Studies from the University of Washington in 1992.

JOAN MAZZOLINI has worked at *The* (Cleveland) *Plain Dealer* for 15 years. Mazzolini has been a projects reporter and has covered medicine, county government and election issues. Previously she worked at the *Birmingham* (Ala.) *Post-Herald*. Mazzolini has won a George Polk Award, an IRE Award and other national and state contests.

KEN MCCALL is the database reporter for the *Dayton Daily News*, where he has worked on projects such as "Down on the Factory," a 2003 finalist for the Goldsmith Prize, and "The Toll of War," winner the 2005 Joseph L. Galloway Award for Distinguished Journalism. A former Kiplinger Fellow at Ohio State University, he previously worked as a columnist and special projects writer at the *Las Vegas Sun* and *The* (San Luis Obispo, Calif.) *Tribune*.

JOHN MCCORMICK has been a general assignment reporter and database specialist at the *Chicago Tribune* since June 2002, working for the metro, national and projects desks. He was the CAR coordinator at *The Des Moines Register*, where he helped cover the 2000 Iowa presidential caucuses and wrote Iowa Poll stories. He previously reported for the (Rochester, Minn.) *Post-Bulletin* and *The* (Minneapolis) *Star Tribune*.

TOM MCGINTY is a staff writer on *Newsday*'s investigative team. He was part of a team of reporters that investigated *Newsday*'s false inflation of its circulation figures; the coverage was a finalist for an IRE Award in 2004. As *Newsday*'s energy reporter, he helped lead coverage of the 2003 blackout, which was a finalist for the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for breaking news. He was the training director for IRE and NICAR and was a reporter for *The* (Trenton, N.J.) *Times*.

DAVID MCKIE is an Ottawa-based journalist with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's investigative unit. The unit's stories have won several awards, including one of Canada's top prizes for investigative journalism in 2004 and 2005 and an IRE Certificate. McKie is co-author of "Digging Deeper: A Canadian Reporter's Research Guide." He teaches journalism at Carleton University and edits *Media*, a quarterly published by the Canadian Association of Journalists. He currently is working on a CAR textbook schedule to be published in 2008.

RYAN MCNEILL is the database editor at *The* (Oklahoma City) *Oklahoman*. He took the position in January 2006 after spending two years covering the legislature. He also has covered city and county government in four years at the paper.

TED MELLNIK is database editor at *The Charlotte* (N.C.) *Observer*. He contributed to two recent series about rising home foreclosures and their effects on neighborhoods, and to a 2005 series about racial differences in who gets high interest rates on mortgage loans.

JASON METHOD has been an investigative projects reporter for the *Asbury Park Press* in Neptune, N.J., since 1999. He was a member of the team that wrote "Profiting from Public Service," a series that won the 2004 Selden Ring Award, a National Headliner award, and was a finalist for Harvard's Goldsmith Award, among other honors. Previously, Method covered politics and transportation issues for the Gannett State Bureau in Trenton, N.J.

JEREMY MILARSKY is an assistant editor at the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* in Fort Lauderdale, where he simultaneously runs the newspaper's research division, works on CAR projects for the newsroom and builds Web applications, both for the newsroom intranet and the newspaper's Web site. Jeremy is an active participant on the NICAR Listserv and recently built one of the first interactive maps to serve as a voter's guide for local issues in the November 2006 election.

DAVID A. MILLIRON is director of database management and technology for *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and leads a team responsible for the design, implementation and support of database management systems for the newspaper's editorial and online operations. Prior to his current role, Milliron directed the newsroom's computer-assisted reporting program and developed innovative news and information products for the newspaper and its online audience. His previous employers include Gannett News Service, *The Tampa Tribune* and *The* (Fort Myers, Fla.) *News-Press*.

DAN MOORE, vice president for public affairs at GuideStar, is responsible for increasing business and collaborative opportunities with government agencies and with certain national nonprofit organizations. Previously, Moore was a chief law enforcement official overseeing charitable organizations in the New Mexico Attorney General's Office. He is a past president of the National Association of State Charity Officials (NASCO) and is a nationally recognized expert on nonprofit accountability.

SEAN MOULTON is the director of federal information policy at OMB Watch, where he has worked on information policy since early 2002, with special attention to environmental information and right-to-know issues. Moulton served as the tax policy analyst at Friends of the Earth, and he spent several years as a research fellow with the Environmental Protection Agency, and as a researcher and data manager on corporate environmental responsibility for the Council on Economic Priorities.

RICHARD MULLINS has been an assistant database editor at the Center for Public Integrity since July 2006. A former researcher and database administrator for the Center for Responsive Politics, Mullins has more than 10 years experience in database programming and software development. He was an assistant professor at the Missouri School of Journalism and academic advisor for NICAR, where he also taught CAR Boot Camps. He worked in daily newspapers for seven years.

RON NIXON is a projects editor on *The New York Times'* computer-assisted reporting team and is assigned to the paper's business desk and Washington Bureau. Prior to joining the *Times*, he was CAR editor for *The* (Minneapolis) *Star Tribune*. He was training director for IRE and trained hundreds of reporters around the world in CAR and investigative reporting techniques. Nixon was also an investigative reporter at *The Roanoke* (Va.) *Times*.

SARAH OKESON is an investigative reporter at *Florida Today* in Melbourne, Fla. She previously worked at the *Journal Star* in Peoria, Ill., where she was a general assignment reporter. Her stories ranged from going to Saudi Arabia with local Army reservists to covering a funeral that inspired a song by country music singer Mary Chapin Carpenter. She attended IRE and NICAR's mapping boot camp in 2004.

PAUL OVERBERG is a database editor at *USA Today* and helps train its 500 journalists. He had been a science and environmental reporter and editor at Gannett News Service. He started his professional career at *The* (Bridgewater, N.J.) *Courier-News*, where he held editing and reporting posts, including business editor.

GRIFF PALMER works at *The New York Times*. He was database editor for the *San Jose Mercury News*. Before moving to the *Mercury News* in late 2000, he worked for 19 years at *The Oklahoman* in Oklahoma City. He worked for seven years as the paper's database editor, a position he helped persuade management to create. He has been a journalist for 27 years.

JOHN PERRY is a senior fellow at The Center for Public Integrity. Before that, he worked 16 years at *The Oklahoman* in Oklahoma City, most recently as database editor. He also has worked as an assistant city editor and projects reporter, and has covered beats ranging from economics to religion to crime. Perry was a database consultant on *The Kansas City Star's* insurance industry investigation, which involved using Perl to download more than 35 million records from an online database of insurance customer complaints.

ARON PILHOFER is projects editor for CAR at *The New York Times*. He previously was database editor at The Center for Public Integrity. Pilhofer spent a year on IRE's national training staff and served as director of IRE's Campaign Finance Information Center; he is a co-author of "Unstacking the Deck," an IRE beat book about campaign finance. He was a projects reporter at *The News Journal* in Wilmington, Del., and covered politics and state government in New Jersey for Gannett newspapers.

DAVID POOLE is a Florida native and a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill. In 1984, he began covering state politics for the *Lynchburg* (Va.) *News* and later became a state capitol reporter for *The Roanoke* (Va.) *Times*. In 1997, he founded the Virginia Public Access Project, a nonprofit dedicated to helping the public understand money in Virginia politics.

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