

## The Importance of the Printed Word – Memory Missionary Missive – February 2017

People have asked me on occasion if the Binder of a Lifetime (BoaL) is really in a binder. The answer is...it depends. Considerations include many things, but one key aspect is whether the recipient values the printed word or would rather partake of it electronically (my BoaL is a combination of the two – lots of print plus audio, video and documents electronically.)

While doing some BoaL efforts of my own in the past few days it was lots of fun going through my Baby Book plus reviewing various print documents that my mom kept for me - local newspaper summaries of weddings (my parents' and ours;) baseball/softball exploits; church activities and much more (thanks Mom!)

Those experiences coupled with attendance at the recent Cincinnati Enquirer Coffee & News event held at the 8 Mile Servatii's got me to thinking: **the value I place on the printed word is substantial, and I'm not sure I'm putting my money where my mouth is!** I intend to change some behaviors and would encourage you to consider that as well. Let me tell you why...

Many at the Eastside Tech Talks and elsewhere have heard me say that "technology is a blessing and a curse." After the election cycle we've just experienced, I probably need to say no more. Nevertheless, I will: **many websites, Tweepsters and Facebook posts are not credible and we need to recognize them for the extreme biases they represent.** We also need to assure that the media outlets we do value (because of their fact-checking and investigative reporting) continue to be viable.

So, as a percentage of our expenditures, Kim and I want to improve our influence in supporting quality media reporting. Ways we intend to do this in the future include:

1. Continuing to get The Cincinnati Enquirer delivered to our door in print version. Having the printed word sitting on our kitchen table reminds me to read it and savor (and financially support) factual articles plus enjoy favorite writers, including Paul Daugherty and Cindi Andrews who "write it as they see it" - and factually at that
2. Continuing to pay local children to deliver The Community Press (CP) to our door. Our CP version is still one of the best ways for me to see all the wonderful things happening near us
3. Increasing our local shopping, especially among companies that post advertisements in the Community Press, Cincinnati Enquirer and/or local radio stations and TV stations
4. Subscribing/contributing to magazines, newspapers, radio stations, PBS and fact-checked websites that share so much of the news we appreciate receiving

Part of the reason for sending this letter is to encourage you to examine the value and expenditures you put on/into quality news reporting as well. I've taken it for granted for far too long and I'm guessing maybe a few of you readers have as well?

When you share memories with your children, will you have newsprint versions to share with them? Maybe they won't appreciate the print anymore, but it will give them a sense of what we valued, and will hopefully assure we continue to get quality, investigative reporting of our world activities.

Enjoy the day...and the memories!

-----  
*Steve Long, an Anderson Township resident, is an aspiring "memory missionary." He and wife Kim are having fun with Long Memories efforts ([www.LongMemories.info](http://www.LongMemories.info)), focusing on helping others in "Making, Capturing, Organizing and Sharing Memories...Now and (Virtually) Forever!"*

[NOTE: compilation of all MMM articles is here: <http://www.longmemories.info/articles-by-long-memories-llc-founders-pdf-format> ]