

MR. ROBIN P. WILL

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*A writer/editor with commercial publishing background and
thirty years' experience with end-user issues in computer software.*

Editor and Webmaster, Aurora Colony Historical Society, 1996-present

In this volunteer position I get to research my own roots while managing a website (www.oldaaurora.com) and producing a newsletter for the Aurora Colony Historical Society, Aurora, Oregon.

Production Guru, Trader Publishing Company, 1989-present

Oregon Auto Trader publishes about 25,000 digital photo ads per week in thirteen magazines and uploads them to a national website, in addition to producing 300-350 pages of display advertising. I started as a Macintosh production artist, but increasingly I work in the background to ensure the flow and quality of digital production. I deal with design challenges and bad customer art; resolve compatibility issues with customers' files; create imposition specs for each week's books; serve as liaison with our pressroom; chair the in-house Quality Action Team; provide inter-departmental training and troubleshooting, and supply management information internally and to our home office in Norfolk, VA. In a day's work I am likely to use Quark XPress, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe PageMaker, FileMaker Pro, Microsoft Excel, plus the bastard applications Trader uses internally.

Freelance Writer: Photojournalism, Public Relations, Software User Manuals, 1979-1989

For a number of years I earned part or all of my living as a freelance writer, demonstrating a knack for presenting specialized information with a general audience in mind. My background as a printer allowed me to participate in budget, design, and purchasing decisions when clients were creating new publications.

Most of the photo-journalism work was for Ruralite Magazine, the public-relations voice for Bonneville Power Administration's Rural Electric Cooperatives. The largest software documentation project was for Timberline Software's first release of microcomputer-based accounting software, 1981-84.

Managing Editor, Beautiful America Publishing Company, Beaverton, Oregon, 1978-81

Beautiful America produced coffee-table books of scenic color photography. I wrote texts, hired and supervised freelance writers, assisted in procuring photography, handled most of the liaison and scheduling with color labs and pressrooms, and created an in-house typesetting department.

Photocomposition Supervisor, Times Litho, Forest Grove, Oregon, 1973-78

In the '70s, Times Litho produced three weekly newspapers and about 50 monthly publications for local business and professional organizations. I managed second-shift typesetting, pasteup and darkroom operations. This was like an apprenticeship to 50 of the city's prominent editors and public relations chiefs, observing work in process and tracking it through the pressroom and bindery.

Publications

Beautiful Portland, Beautiful America Publishing Company, Beaverton, OR, 1979. ISBN 0-915796-96-0.

Beautiful Minnesota, ISBN 0-915796-61-9.

Beautiful Texas, ISBN 0-915796-75-9.

Beautiful Manhattan, ISBN 0-89802-096-4.

Beautiful Yosemite National Park, ISBN 0-89802-069-7.

Beautiful Ohio, ISBN 0-915796-77-5.

Stuff that Doesn't Fit

In addition to the above, I have paid experience as a youth minister, a drug crisis counselor, a group-home foster parent, a farm caretaker, a bus driver, a bartender, and a country/bluegrass musician.