

## President's Column

### *From the desk of Wilma Moore-Black*

Sometimes life throws a few curves that bounce back at you rather fiercely. You just don't know which decision will direct you straight ahead, on detour to the right or left, or just a dead end. If one of life's curves leaves you with total uncertainty, an old-fashioned evening of networking can help.

That is what I envision as we approach the annual July mixer. It's planned for 6 p.m. Tues., July 14, at the home of Beth Bower, who is president-elect of our organization. It's an opportunity to eat delicious food, fellowship and network. You can even support our scholarship fund by making bids in the silent auction.

The truly fun part about this gathering is that you don't need your computer, cell phone texting or any of the upbeat, social and business Internet networking sites like LinkedIn, Myspace, Facebook and mucho others. This mixer is about in-person talking, chatting, getting to know other guests and members better, sharing headlines and swapping job leads or career tips.

You are encouraged to bring your resume and business cards. The way the economic conditions are today, that resume needs to be ready, up-to-date with contact information. Don't leave home without it! Sell your skills, accomplishments, and confidence that you're the productive person equipped to fit the job.

Do your research and homework about the new job you want. Job searching is selling — period. A respected and successful job search coach says “the chances are that your next job will come from a referral, from networking.” Keep in mind that any jobs posted on the Internet or advertised positions invite everybody — qualified and unqualified — to compete, even globally.

Jobs are still out there. Employers are interviewing and hiring, even in tough times like today, if they are convinced that you will help them be profitable and productive. So save the date of July 14 — do it right now — and embark on a new direction in your life with some old fashioned networking.



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### **Mix it up — plan to attend the July 14 summer social mixer**



The 8th Annual Wichita Professional Communicators Summer Membership Mixer is 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 14, at board member and president-elect Beth Bower's home, 15700 Lynnwood St.

This is a fun opportunity to socialize and introduce potential new student and professional members to our organization. Please bring a colleague or other potential member and enjoy a delicious variety of hors d'oeuvres and wine. Beth and Guy Bower and the WPC board will provide the food and drink. Additional dishes are welcome.

There is a \$7 charge for members and guests. Please RSVP to Teresa Veazey no later than noon Monday, July 13, at [teresa.veazey@wichita.edu](mailto:teresa.veazey@wichita.edu) or call 316-978-6462.

Members who wish to donate items for the silent auction held during the mixer should fill out an attached donation form and submit the form along with the item(s) to auction chair Shannon Littlejohn ([shannon.littlejohn@wichita.edu](mailto:shannon.littlejohn@wichita.edu)) before the mixer. Proceeds from the auction will benefit the WPC scholarship fund.

**DATE:** Tuesday, July 14  
**TIME:** 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** 15700 Lynnwood St., Wichita  
**COST:** \$7 for members and guests

**Reservations/cancellations required:**  
E-mail Teresa Veazey at [teresa.veazey@wichita.edu](mailto:teresa.veazey@wichita.edu) or  
call 978-6462.

**Directions to Mixer:** East on Kellogg to 159<sup>th</sup> Street. Left on 159<sup>th</sup>. First left on Willowbrook into Bellagio subdivision. First right onto Grandmere. Grandmere turns into Lynnwood. White house on curve with willow trees in yard.

-OR-

East on Central to 159<sup>th</sup> (stop light at Kutter's Vet). Right on 159<sup>th</sup>. Sixth right on Willowbrook into Bellagio subdivision.

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### Join WPC at the mixer for a special deal

New members joining Wichita Professional Communicators at the July 14 mixer or later for the 2010 calendar year will receive membership for the rest of 2009 free. That means extra months of getting the lower membership price at the monthly luncheons as well as receiving WPC e-news alerts about job openings and other items of interest, which is sent exclusively to WPC members. A membership form is attached.

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### Scholarship recipients send thanks

Each month WPC has members who generously donate new or gently used books to raffle at the monthly meetings. Money raised through the sale of raffle tickets and from such activities as the summer mixer's silent auction is used to fund one or more scholarships each year. Eligible students are undergraduates who are majoring in communications at Wichita State, Newman and Friends universities. This year, WPC awarded scholarship money to three students. Five more scholarship applicants were awarded memberships in WPC, [Kansas Professional Communicators](#) and the [National Federation of Press Women](#).

In a note of thanks, scholarship winners Chandra Stauffer wrote "Thank you so much for the \$300 WPC scholarship. It came at the perfect time because I am taking Les Anderson's Greensburg pre-session class, and all my other financial aid doesn't start until the fall semester. This is tremendous help!"



Jennifer Wright wrote, "I cannot thank ... the Wichita Professional Communicators enough. ... I am deeply honored and very proud. I look forward to ... being part of the wonderful organization that is WPC!"

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### Member news



Kudos to the following WPC members who placed in various categories in the NFPW national competition. These members had moved on to the national contest after capturing first-place awards in the Kansas Professional Communicators state-level competition in April. NFPW first-place honors went to **Cheryl Miller** and **David Kamerer**. Winning second-place awards were **Jennifer Heinicke** and **Melissa Lacey Nagy**. **Wilma Moore-Black** and **Sharon Iorio** won third-place awards, and **Les Anderson** received an honorable mention.

Welcome to new member **Keshia Ezerendu**, who is a student at WSU. She can be reached at (316) 708-3281 or [keshia.ezerendu@gmail.com](mailto:keshia.ezerendu@gmail.com). **Diane Post** has rejoined WPC. You can reach her at [dianepost@cox.net](mailto:dianepost@cox.net).

Longtime WPC/KPC member **LuVerne Paine** died Monday, June 15, at a Wichita care facility. She was 91. LuVerne retired from The Wichita Eagle, where she worked for many years as a photographer and had reportedly been the paper's first woman photographer. After retiring, she volunteered in the communications department of the American Red Cross in Wichita. She rarely missed a Wichita Press Women (now the WPC) meeting until her health didn't allow her to attend. She was Communicator of Achievement in the late 1990s. A memorial has been established with the American Red Cross Midway Kansas Chapter, 1900 E. Douglas, Wichita, KS 67214.

*Received a promotion or award, changed jobs? Share your news with your fellow WPC members and friends. E-mail [nwsbrfs editor](mailto:nwsbrfs@editor.com), Amy Geiszler-Jones, [algj64@sbcglobal.net](mailto:algj64@sbcglobal.net).*

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## National conference to be held in San Antonio

If you plan to attend this year's National Federation of Press Women conference, you can save \$50 on the registration fee if you register by Aug. 10. This year's conference is being held Sept. 10-12 in San Antonio. Early bird registration is \$325 for NFPW members. Day rates are also available. For more information about the conference, go to <http://www.nfpw.org/conference.htm>.



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## What We're Reading

BD Tharp has discovered a new set of mystery books by Maine author Julia Spencer-Fleming, a writer of novels of faith and murder.



Tharp says, "I did an interview with a lovely lady for a June magazine article and found that she was as big a lover of books as I am. She recommended Julia Spencer-Fleming mysteries to me, and when I admitted that I hadn't read any she loaned me four books. They were very hard to put down so I had them read in a month. I highly recommend "All Mortal Flesh," "Out of the Deep I Cry," "To Darkness and To Death" and "A Fountain Filled with Blood" — but only if you enjoy a good mystery set in a small town with a female priest and her best friend, the chief of police."

*Tell fellow WPC members about your latest read. E-mail the title and author of the book and your observations to nwsbrfs editor, Amy Geiszler-Jones, [algj64@sbcglobal.net](mailto:algj64@sbcglobal.net).*

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## Tell us more about you

The inquiring minds of your fellow WPC members want to know more about you. Last year, we started publishing the occasional member profile in WPC nwsbrfs to help us get to know one another. We've run a handful of profiles, and would like to share more. Here are the standard questions. E-mail your answers, along with a photograph, to nwsbrfs editor, Amy Geiszler-Jones, at [algj64@sbcglobal.net](mailto:algj64@sbcglobal.net).



**Name:**

**Employer:**

**Your full business title and describe what you do:**

**A little about your family:**

**A little about where you grew up:**

**Your educational background:**

**Your favorite things to do, see or visit in Wichita:**

**One thing about you that would surprise people:**

**The most interesting/funny/unusual/weird person you've ever interviewed or written about:**

**Your favorite book:**

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## WPC Programs & Calendar • Year 2009

- July 13: WPC board meeting, noon at Watermark, 4701 E. Douglas
- July 14: WPC mixer, Beth Bower's home, 15700 Lynwood St.
- Aug. 5: WPC luncheon at Larkspur, 904 E. Douglas. Watch for program details in the August newsletter
- Aug. 10: WPC board meeting, noon at Watermark, 4701 E. Douglas
- Dec. 7: WPC holiday mixer

WPC offers professional development and major networking opportunities for working communicators, freelancers and career-directed students. Membership is open to any person who is paid as a communicator. We welcome visitors to our monthly luncheon meetings. Members \$12, students \$10, all others \$15. Check in and pay at the WPC table inside the banquet room, or prepay with PayPal on the WPC Web site. Members: please leave your name tag with Teresa Veazey, membership chair.

## RESERVATIONS, CANCELATIONS REQUIRED

E-mail [bfunke@activeagingonline.com](mailto:bfunke@activeagingonline.com) or call 942-5385 *no later than noon on Monday* before each luncheon meeting. You're responsible for your reservation or cancellation. If you reserve a spot but do not attend, you are still responsible for paying for lunch. If you don't have a reservation but wish to attend the meeting, we'll try to give you a seat but do not plan to eat. Meetings begin promptly at 11:30 a.m. If you've reserved a meal but haven't arrived by 11:45 a.m., your plate may be sold.

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

**WPC Professional:** \$138 (Includes membership in National Federation of Press Women, Kansas Professional Communicators and Wichita Professional Communicators)

**WPC Local:** \$50 (Membership in WPC only)

**WPC Student:** \$35 (Includes membership in NFPW, KPC and WPC)

**WPC Emeritus:** One-time payment of \$105 for KPC plus \$20 annually for NFPW (no additional WPC dues necessary). Make payment to WPC.

### COMM LINKS

Wichita Professional Communicators: [www.wichitaprofessionalcommunicators.com](http://www.wichitaprofessionalcommunicators.com)  
Kansas Professional Communicators Web site: [www.kansasprofessionalcommunicators.org](http://www.kansasprofessionalcommunicators.org)  
National Federation of Press Women site: [www.nfpw.org](http://www.nfpw.org)

### 2009 WPC Board

PRESIDENT - Wilma Moore-Black [wmbcreative@yahoo.com](mailto:wmbcreative@yahoo.com) or [wilma.black@wichita.edu](mailto:wilma.black@wichita.edu)  
PAST PRESIDENT - Cori Dodds [cdodds@wichitaeagle.com](mailto:cdodds@wichitaeagle.com)  
PRESIDENT ELECT – Beth Bower [beth@goodlifeguy.com](mailto:beth@goodlifeguy.com)  
SECRETARY - Kathy Souter [kathy210929@cox.net](mailto:kathy210929@cox.net)  
TREASURER - Carreen Simon [carreen.simon@cox.net](mailto:carreen.simon@cox.net)  
VP MEMBERSHIP – Teresa Veazey [Teresa.Veazey@wichita.edu](mailto:Teresa.Veazey@wichita.edu)  
VP PROGRAMS - Jill Miller [jilldm@swbell.net](mailto:jilldm@swbell.net)  
AT-LARGE - Shannon Littlejohn [shannon.littlejohn@wichita.edu](mailto:shannon.littlejohn@wichita.edu)  
AT-LARGE - Susan Hund-Milne [susanhm@cox.net](mailto:susanhm@cox.net)  
AT-LARGE - Melissa Lacey Nagy [melissa\\_lacey@via-christi.org](mailto:melissa_lacey@via-christi.org)  
AT-LARGE – Judy Conkling [judy\\_conkling@via-christi.org](mailto:judy_conkling@via-christi.org)  
SCHOLARSHIPS - Deb Umberger [dumberger@ilrcks.org](mailto:dumberger@ilrcks.org)  
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**Happy Fourth of July!**