

President's Column

From the desk of Wilma Moore-Black

Heard the saying that “everything in Texas is big!”? A majority of the time, that’s a true remark. And when it comes to San Antonio, it’s all about the beauty that attracts millions of visitors to the history of this charming city. I’ve got deep, family roots there, and I love the diversity of people, places to eat and the scenic, peaceful walks along the Riverwalk.



You can experience San Antonio and expand your professional development at the National Federation of Press Women’s conference being held Sept. 10-12 at the El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel. August is the month to book your reservation and make plans to attend the conference themed “Roundup on the River.”

The national NFPW newsletter “The Agenda” says “with the blending of ancient and modern cultures and Southern hospitality, no other city in America can boast a more diverse heritage than San Antonio.” The Press Women of Texas are offering pre- and post-conference tours to such locations as the Mission San Jose, the Alamo, the Mexican Market, the Fernando Cathedral and much more. More details about the conference tours can be directed to Donna Hunt, 903-465-8412 or d.hunt_903@yahoo.com.

At the conference, you’ll be offered stimulating workshops and speakers covering everything from survival in the print media to making a living in fiction, writing a book proposal to using social media to your professional advantage.

Being in San Antonio for another event and personal reasons, I will attend parts of the conference, which will be my first national conference experience. I’m looking forward to hearing Heloise, whose first name is a household word in millions of readers’ homes since she writes a nationally known syndicated column, “Hints from Heloise.” She will be guest speaker at a morning session Friday, Sept. 11, and a presenter at a session on “Going Back to Journalism 101.”

As a recipient of a national writing award, I plan to attend the awards banquet on Saturday, Sept. 12. I know our state Communicator of Achievement award winner and fellow WPC member Jill Miller will be heading to San Antonio, and I hope to see more Kansas members at the conference too.

August luncheon: What’s developing in Wichita’s downtown

Find out what’s on the horizon for the development of Wichita’s downtown area at the next Wichita Professional Communicators’ luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5, at Larkspur, 904 E. Douglas.



Jeff Fluhr, president of the Wichita Downtown Development Corp., will talk about the progress on a new comprehensive development strategy for downtown Wichita. The project, a joint venture between the public and private sector, will provide a 20-year development blueprint for downtown. Fluhr will show what other U.S. cities are doing to revitalize their downtowns, and what the goals are for our city’s plan.

Please RSVP to Becky Funke no later than noon Monday, Aug. 3, at bfunke@activeagingonline.com, call 316-942-5385, or reserve and prepay with PayPal at www.wichitaprofessionalcommunicators.com. Remember, the RSVP deadline is firm.

DATE: Wednesday, Aug. 5
TIME: 11:30 a.m. *sharp*-12:30 p.m.
PLACE: Larkspur, 904 E. Douglas
COST: Members \$12, students \$10, guests \$15

Reservations/cancellations required:

E-mail Becky Funke **by noon Monday, June 1**, at bfunke@activeagingonline.com or call 942-5385. To prepay online using PayPal, visit the WPC Web site.

Join now for 2010 and get 2009 membership free

From now until the end of the year, new members joining Wichita Professional Communicators 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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Register soon for national conference 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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Share your news and information

We share what's going on with various members through three standard newsletter features: Member News, where you can share recent news about yourself; What We're Reading, where you share the title and author along with your observations of your latest read; and the occasional member profile. Submit your items to nwsbrfs editor Amy Geiszler-Jones at algj64@sbcglobal.net. If you'd like to share your profile, e-mail the editor to receive a list of questions.

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WPC Programs & Calendar • Year 2009

- Aug. 5: WPC luncheon at Larkspur, 904 E. Douglas
- Aug. 10: WPC board meeting, noon at Watermark, 4701 E. Douglas
- Sept. 2: WPC luncheon at Larkspur, 904 E. Douglas. Watch for program details in the September newsletter
- Sept. 10-12: NFPW Conference in San Antonio
- Sept. 14: 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 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
Kansas Professional Communicators Web site: www.kansasprofessionalcommunicators.org
National Federation of Press Women site: www.nfpw.org

2009 WPC Board

PRESIDENT - Wilma Moore-Black wmbcreative@yahoo.com or wilma.black@wichita.edu
PAST PRESIDENT - Cori Dodds cdodds@wichitaeagle.com
PRESIDENT ELECT – Beth Bower beth@goodlifeguy.com
SECRETARY - Kathy Souter kathy210929@cox.net
TREASURER - Carreen Simon carreen.simon@cox.net
VP MEMBERSHIP – Teresa Veazey Teresa.Veazey@wichita.edu
VP PROGRAMS - Jill Miller jilldm@swbell.net
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AT-LARGE - Melissa Lacey Nagy melissa_lacey@via-christi.org
AT-LARGE – Judy Conkling judy_conkling@via-christi.org
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