

## President's Column

Dear members,

As we look forward to another busy communication month in May, I just want to take this opportunity to remind you of a couple of important professional development opportunities.

First, of course, is the state conference for professional communicators that will be held May 5 in Dodge City. A lot of terrific speakers and presentations have been arranged for your benefit, so please try and find some time in your busy schedule to get the heck out to Dodge and network with your fellow Kansas communicators. The Holiday Inn Express has extended the deadline to make reservations in the block of rooms reserved for KPC to Friday, April 27. That is also the deadline to register for the conference and avoid a \$10 late registration fee.

Second, is the National Writers Workshop sponsored by the *Wichita Eagle* and the Poynter Institute. It will be at the Hyatt hotel downtown May 19-20. Please look at either the Eagle Web site or the Poynter Web site for more information. It is a great two-day conference with opportunities to learn and rejuvenate. Speakers include Pulitzer Prize-winning authors.

With a busy month ahead, I hope that we can all remember how it is possible that we have the freedom to undertake our various duties, and what an incredible thing it is to have the rights granted by the First Amendment. As you celebrate Memorial Day later in May, please take a moment to remember the veterans of all wars who were and are willing to continue to fight for our freedoms and rights.

I look forward to meeting again in June, at our regular meeting time and place (June 6 at Larkspur restaurant), and I hope to see many of you in Dodge City!

Regards,  
Cori

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### No May WPC program: Attend KPC Conference May 5 in Dodge City



Replacing our regular May meeting, the **Kansas Professional Communicators spring Conference** is Saturday, May 5, at the *High Plains Journal* Communications Center, 1500 E. Wyatt Earp Blvd., in Dodge City. Don't miss this opportunity for professional development, networking and fun. Highlights include the state Board meeting, guest speakers, silent and live auctions, lunch, historical attractions, and the evening awards banquet.

"Remember, this is the meeting where your voice is heard on the issues that affect our group, and where you get to meet and greet all of your fellow communicators! Come join us!" said Jennifer Latzke, 2007 Conference Chairperson.

Member registration — due Friday, April 27 — is \$75 for the full conference and \$40 for students. Lunch or banquet only options are available. A block of rooms is available to KPC members at the Holiday Inn Express, 2320 W. Wyatt Earp Blvd., until April 27, for \$85 per night. Call (620) 227-5000 to make reservations and be sure to mention you're with KPC.

For complete details and registration, visit the KPC Web site at [www.kansasprofessionalcommunicators.org](http://www.kansasprofessionalcommunicators.org). A registration form also is attached with this newsletter.

*Note: Wichita members' unclaimed award certificates and entries that did not advance to the national contest will be available at the June 6 meeting at Larkspur.*

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## National Writers Workshop returns May 19-20

The National Writers Workshop will return to the Wichita Hyatt Regency May 19-20. Sponsored by *The Wichita Eagle* and the Poynter Institute for Media Studies, the workshop is the best training bargain in America: a low-cost weekend with top writers, editors, and coaches, who donate their time and energy to help you improve your reporting, writing and editing.

Registration is \$75 for professionals and \$40 for students. Register now, because the professional rate rises to \$85 after May 11. A grant from the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation will underwrite registrations for more than 100 students to participate in the workshop. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.kansas.com/nww>.

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### Web site committee needs your help!

There are several short copywriting items that the WPC Web site committee needs other members' assistance with. No assignment should take long and all help is appreciated. Members with a strong feeling of the value of WPC membership are highly encouraged to participate. To find out what content you can add to make the WPC Web site a reality, please contact Augustine Iacopelli at work at (316) 978-8312 or at [augustine.iacopelli@wichita.edu](mailto:augustine.iacopelli@wichita.edu).

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### What We're Reading

**Roni Ayalla** is reading/working through *Flash Journalism* by Mindy McAdams, who will be a speaker at the National Writers Workshop. "It's a tutorial book for learning the program Flash that focuses on creating multimedia news packages," says Roni. "I had no previous experience with Flash and am finding the step-by-step directions and photos very easy to follow."

**Please tell us about your current read** and why we should check it out. E-mail *nwsbrfs* editor Melissa Lacey at [melissa\\_lacey@via-christi.org](mailto:melissa_lacey@via-christi.org).

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### Member News

**Jo Ann Beason** retired March 31 after 45 years with Berry Companies, Inc. But the longtime advertising manager for the company won't be taking it easy just yet. She began a new part-time job with the company April 3, taking on special marketing projects. Her e-mail remains: [joannb@berrycompaniesinc.com](mailto:joannb@berrycompaniesinc.com), but her new work phone number is 858-8104.

Beason has been a WPC member since 1972, and she credits the group for helping her career through the years.

"The programs have always been excellent, but the best part has been the networking opportunities," she said. "I don't know how many times I called my WPC friends with a question and came away with a wealth of information and help."

Beason said her many positive experiences with WPC made it easy to recommend membership to her Berry Companies co-worker, Jan Jaye.

**Jan Jaye** is the newest member of WPC. Jan Jaye, Berry Companies, Inc., marketing communications specialist, 3223 N. Hydraulic, Wichita, KS 67219. E-mail: [janj@berrycompaniesinc.com](mailto:janj@berrycompaniesinc.com); tel: 858-8134.

**Teresa Veazey** has left Sullivan Higdon & Sink and is doing freelance projects part-time for KPTS Channel 8. You may reach her at: Teresa Veazey, Community Engagement Outreach Coordinator, KPTS Channel 8, 320 W. 21st St. N., Wichita, KS 67203-2499. Tel: 316.838.3090 x221, [www.kpts.org](http://www.kpts.org).

Our member writer, **BD (Bonnie) Tharp** with Scribble Freelance Writing, has recently joined the writing team at Womens Focus magazine, now owned by HCI Publications.

Her first article on Autism is in the April edition. Look for her Junior League of Wichita/Kids' Zoobilee article in May. July's issue is focused on education and she'll have an article on Coach Jane Albright.

"My writing interests are centered around local non-profit groups and women with traditionally male jobs or interesting hobbies. I'm always open to new ideas and will gladly share them with the editor, so pass them on!"

WPC member, **Carl Williams**, former WPC member, John Salem, and bassman Seth O. have joined together in a smooth jazz trio appears from 6 – 9 p.m. every Friday at the Palomino Grill in the Terradyne Country Club, 1400 Terradyne Dr.

Though a few WPC members may have heard John Salem play at Larkspur, and possibly have even heard Carl play his tenor sax on occasion at the Studio on West Harry, these two veteran musicians blend their sounds together in a very pleasant way, serving up a wide range of tasteful standards and smooth jazz.

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### Submit your *nwsbrfs* & E-NEWS items

**Do you** have something to share with the WPC membership? Tell us what you're reading. Announce your news of employment, address change, accomplishment, awards and congrats. Share details of a job posting, social event or professional development.

Just send your submissions to newsletter/E-NEWS editor Melissa Lacey at [melissa\\_lacey@via-christi.org](mailto:melissa_lacey@via-christi.org), or call 268-8595. She will distribute your news in the next e-issue of *nwsbrfs* or will send an E-NEWS ALERT to the WPC membership on your behalf.

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### Randy Brown recovery update

**Randy Brown**, a senior fellow in the Elliott School of Communication and longtime Wichita reporter, editor and TV anchor, is recovering from a serious motorcycle accident April 1 near Cassoday. Randy is home after 19 days in two hospitals and a rehabilitation center. He is continuing outpatient rehab twice a week.

Surgeons had to amputate Randy's left leg just below the knee after the accident. He also suffered a compound fracture of his upper left leg and three broken fingers on his left hand.

The prognosis on his prosthesis is unclear at this time, in Randy's words, due to swelling in his leg.

"That's probably several weeks ago," Randy said.

But he's typical Randy: "feeling good and in good spirits."

"I've received a tremendous amount of support, for which I'm grateful," he said. "And it's working."

The WPC Board sent a card and Croton plant on behalf of the membership to Randy during his stay at Via Christi-St. Francis. Thanks to **Les Anderson** for this submission.

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### WPC Programs • Year 2007

May 2                    *Meeting canceled* — please attend KPC Conference May 5 in Dodge City

June 6                    Webinar — Web writing session

July 18                   Annual membership mixer — 7 p.m. at Beth Bower's home

Sept. 20-22            NFPW Conference, Richmond, Va.

Monthly meetings first Wednesday of every month, normally at Larkspur, 904 E. Douglas; Board meets third Tuesday each month.

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. Members: please leave your name tag with Judy Conkling, membership chair.

### **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

Please e-mail [bfunke@activeagingonline.com](mailto:bfunke@activeagingonline.com) or call 942-5385 *no later than noon on Monday* before each 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 will 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	\$116.50 (includes KPC & NFPW dues)
WPC Student	\$35 (includes KPC & NFPW student dues)
WPC Emeritus*	\$20
WPC Associate**	\$50

\*Retired members pay dues directly to NFPW

\*\*Local membership only

Explore KPC's web site for more information:

**[www.kansasprofessionalcommunicators.org](http://www.kansasprofessionalcommunicators.org)** or check out NFPW's site at **[www.nfpw.org](http://www.nfpw.org)**

### **2007 WPC Board**

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