



Spring 2014

www.nebraskapresswomen.org

# NPW NEWS<sub>e</sub>LETTER

## Let's get together in Ogallala

By Mary Pierce

"It's a Women's World" is the theme for the Nebraska Press Women's annual spring convention, slated for May 3 in the Mid-Plains Community College, Ogallala Extended Campus at Ogallala.

The college campus is located on the southeast quadrant of Interstate 80 (exit 126) south of the Super 8 motel.

The daylong celebration of women begins with registration at 7:30 a.m. followed by a membership meeting at 8. A light breakfast of coffee, juice, rolls and fruit will be available.



Amanda McGill

Featured speaker Sen. Amanda McGill of Lincoln will give a presentation at 9

on the challenges women often have when pursuing their career goals.

McGill's talk will include discussion of an interim study related to the income gap between men and women. McGill said studies have shown women are paid less



Nebraska Press Women's spring convention will be at Mid-Plains Community College, Ogallala Campus on May 3 in Ogallala. The college is located across the street from the Super 8 motel, where NPW members who make the trip on Friday will be staying.

than their male counterparts and there are much fewer women in leadership and management positions. McGill also will discuss the balance of work and family, as well as self-confidence roadblocks. A brief question and answer session with the senator will follow her presentation.

At approximately 9:45, National Federation of Press Women President Teri Ehresman will speak about the advantages and disadvantages

of working in a predominantly male field in science.

Following Ehresman's talk, several other female speakers, including Ogallala Community Hospital Administrator Sharon Lind, Automotive Service Solutions owner Pam Palser and Keith County Deputy AJ Voborny, will also share their views on the challenges and opportunities they face while serving in largely male-dominated fields.

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## This is a don't-miss NPW convention

This spring's Nebraska Press Women convention will require most of us to drive several hours, but one of the best things about being an NPW member is the chance to get away from home for a day or two and see a part of the state that we don't normally visit.

This promises to be a great convention, with several interesting programs planned with the theme "It's a Woman's World." Plus, on Saturday afternoon we'll get to see several of Ogallala's claims to fame, including Boot Hill, Lake McConaughy and the Ogallala Petrified Wood Gallery.

A big thanks is due to Mary Pierce of Ogallala, who arranged this conference.

Our spring convention always closes with the presentation of awards in the Communications Contest, but don't forget the focus on awards at the luncheon.

Along with recognizing any



Bette Pore

high school journalism contest winners and scholarship recipients who are able to be present, Sherry Thompson will induct three women into the Marian Andersen Nebraska Women Journalists Hall of Fame, bringing the total to 14 women in the hall of fame, which is in Andersen Hall at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

This year we will honor NPW's own Gwen Lindberg of West Point, a 53-year member of NFPW, as well as Leta Powell Drake of Lincoln and the late Elia Peattie, who wrote for the Omaha World-Herald in the late 1800s. If you come to the convention, you'll learn a lot more about these ladies and how much they have contributed to their communities, their state and their professions.

So, let's get together in Ogallala. If you know anyone who is a past member of NPW or might be interested in becoming a new member, invite them to come with you.

Just make sure that anyone who will be attending has registered by the deadline of April 21. After that date, the registration fee goes up \$5 and it helps a lot to get a firm number of how many people will be attending. The registration form is on page 4 of this newsletter.

## Communications contest awards to be presented at banquet

Nebraska Press Women members will be recognized for their excellent work at the spring convention banquet May 3 as the 2014 NPW Communications Contest awards are presented.

Of the 126 entries by 23 NPW members, 40 won first places and the first-place

entries of NFPW members have been sent on to the national contest, with the results of that contest to be announced at the NFPW Convention Sept. 6 in Greenville, S.C.

The Nebraska contest had entries spanning the categories, from books to poetry, to

public relations and marketing, to newspaper photography, reporting and editing.

This year's contest directors, Terri Hahn and Bette Pore, will present the awards, culminating in the announcement of the sweepstakes awards winners.



# Ogallala hosts NPW spring convention

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Discussion and questions from the entire audience will be encouraged.

At 11:30, lunch will be served in the shop area of the college. Local caterer Deana Schaecher will prepare two kinds of pasta – baked ziti with meatballs and red sauce and baked penne with polish sausage and peppers in a creamy white sauce. Salad and bread will also be served. Two kinds of crepes will be served for dessert.

After lunch, three women will be inducted into the Marian Andersen Nebraska Women Journalists Hall of Fame, followed by recognition of the NPW high school journalism contest winners.

At 1:15 p.m., NPW's own Barb Micek, a Fullerton journalist, and a new NPW member, former sports writer Nancy Hansen, will speak about teaming up to present a twist on Nebraska history. In their book, "Nebraska Authors Volume One," the two Nebraska natives invite readers to discover the United States and world history through the pens of Nebraska authors.

Micek and Hansen will describe the nearly three-year project in which they interviewed, researched and wrote 52 stories for the 432-page book.

The newly released book features authors selected at random from lists of Nebraska authors compiled by the two writers.

"Nebraska authors have



Teri Ehresman



Sharon Lind



AJ Voborny



Pam Palser

written their stories," Micek said. "Now Nancy and I are encouraging others to write theirs."

At 2, a driving tour of Ogallala, including stops at Boot Hill and Ogallala Petrified Wood Gallery, will begin. The tour also will include drivebys of the expansion project at Ogallala Community Hospital and the School District's \$15 million project to consolidate three school buildings into one.

From 4 until 6, NPW members and guests are encouraged to shop downtown Ogallala, as well as Trails End gift shop, located next to the Petrified Wood Gallery on Highway 30, or just spend time visiting and relaxing.

At 6, the shop area in the college will be transformed into a banquet hall. Don't expect any "city" food. Rather, diners will feast on pre-selected meals, a choice that

includes a prime rib sandwich or fried chicken prepared by Brule's Classic Catering. Vegetables and mashed potatoes, as well as pie, will also be included.

Following the meal, the Nebraska Press Women Communications Contest awards will be presented.

A block of rooms (10 double and two single) has been reserved at Ogallala Super 8 for May 2 and May 3. The motel is offering a special rate of \$60 for a double room (two queen-size beds) and \$50 for a single room (one bed). Super 8 offers a continental breakfast at no charge. The motel also has a hot tub and exercise room.

The block on the rooms expires April 11, as does the rate. Call Super 8 directly to make a reservation at (308) 284-2076 and tell them you are with Nebraska Press Women.

Super 8 is located directly north of the Mid-Plains Community College, Ogallala campus.

Cost of the full-day conference, including all meals, is \$45. The cost for guest meals for lunch is \$15. Dinner is \$25.

Checks should be sent to Stephanie Geery-Zink, 7352 S. 29 St., Lincoln, NE 68516, with the registration form on page 4 of this newsletter.

NPW members are encouraged to bring items for door prizes, which will be presented throughout the day. Also, there will be a table for books, photos and other items NPW members have for sale.

# Nebraska Press Women spring conference 'It's a Woman's World'

May 3, Mid-Plains Community College Ogallala campus

## Tentative schedule

- 7:30-8:30 a.m. registration and light breakfast
- 8 a.m. NPW membership meeting
- 9 a.m. "It's a Woman's World" featured speaker Sen. Amanda McGill
- 9:45 a.m. National Federation of Press Women President Teri Ehresman
- Followed by introductions and a panel discussion featuring women in western Nebraska who serve in traditionally male-dominated career fields, including a hospital administrator, a law enforcement officer and an automotive repair business owner
- 11:30 a.m. lunch. Recognition ceremonies for Hall of Fame inductees and High School Contest winners
- 1 p.m. Presentation by Barb Micek, Fullerton journalist, and Nancy Hansen, former sports writer on their book project "Nebraska Authors Volume One"
- 2-4 p.m. Driving tour of Ogallala and Lake McConaughy
- 4-6 p.m. free time
- 6 p.m. banquet, followed by Communications Contest winners recognition

*A block of rooms has been reserved at the Ogallala Super 8. A discounted rate of \$60 for a double room and \$50 for a single room will apply. Rooms are reserved until April 11. Call (308) 284-2076 to make reservations.*

## Spring Conference Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**May 3:** Full-day registration-\$45 \_\_\_\_\_ Lunch only-\$15 \_\_\_\_\_ Dinner only-\$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner selection: (Please mark one) Prime rib sandwich \_\_\_\_\_ Fried chicken \_\_\_\_\_

Late registration fee (after April 21 add \$5)

Please email late registration information to Mary Pierce at [mpierce@ogallalaknews.com](mailto:mpierce@ogallalaknews.com)

### Registration deadline: April 21

Make checks payable to **Nebraska Press Women**. (If sending a corporate check, please indicate who it is for and enclose a registration form for each person the check covers)

Send checks to Stephanie Geery-Zink, 7352 S. 29 Street, Lincoln, NE 68516.

# NPW member news

## Potter recognized by North American Agricultural Journalists

Lori Potter of the Kearney Hub placed second in the personal column division of the 2013 writing contest sponsored by the North American Agricultural Journalists.

Potter's column topics were the Super Bowl's "God Made a Farmer" ad, a 1939 Buffalo County Fair video and a writer who indicated that no one wanted to be a farmer.

The judge commented: "Strong sense of place in choice of topics. Clear, crisp writing invites the reader to continue. Surely rings true for her audience."

## Welcome, new Nebraska Press Women

Drop these new members a line to welcome them to NPW, and encourage others to consider joining.

**Tena Cook**, interim marketing director, Chadron State College, [tcCook@csc.edu](mailto:tcCook@csc.edu); 308-432-6213.

**Nancy Hansen**, author, former sports writer; PO Box 208, Wolbach, NE, 68882; 308-550-1399.

**Leslie Means**, program director, Kearney Chamber of Commerce, [lmeans@kearneycoc.org](mailto:lmeans@kearneycoc.org); 308-237-4671.

NPW/NFPW membership is \$96 per year, while state only professional membership is \$30.

Join online at [http://nebraskapresswomen.org/?page\\_id210](http://nebraskapresswomen.org/?page_id210) or contact Cheryl Alberts Irwin, [calberts1@unl.edu](mailto:calberts1@unl.edu).

## Dates to know

**April 11:** Deadline to make motel registrations for the spring convention. Call (308) 284-2076, Ogallala Super 8

**April 21:** Registration deadline for the spring convention.

**May 2:** NPW board meeting, 6 p.m., Mid-Plains Community College, Ogallala Campus.

**May 3:** NPW Spring Convention at Mid-Plains Community College, Ogallala Campus.

## Come early for the board meeting

The NPW Board of Directors will meet at 6 p.m. May 2 at Mid-Plains Community College, Ogallala Campus, with supper before the meeting.

## NPW Board of Directors

President	Bette Pore	Historian	Mary Pat Finn-Hoag
Vice president	Sherry Thompson	Member services	Kerry Hoffschneider
Secretary	Barb Micek	Membership	Cheryl Alberts Irwin
Treasurer	Stephanie Geery-Zink	Publicity	Terri Hahn
COA director	Martha Stoddard	Legislative/First Amendment	Lori Potter
Comm. Contest directors	Terri Hahn	Parliamentarian	Judy Nelson
	Bette Pore	Scholarship director	Barb Batie
High school contest director	Bette Pore	Past president/webmaster	Ruth Brown