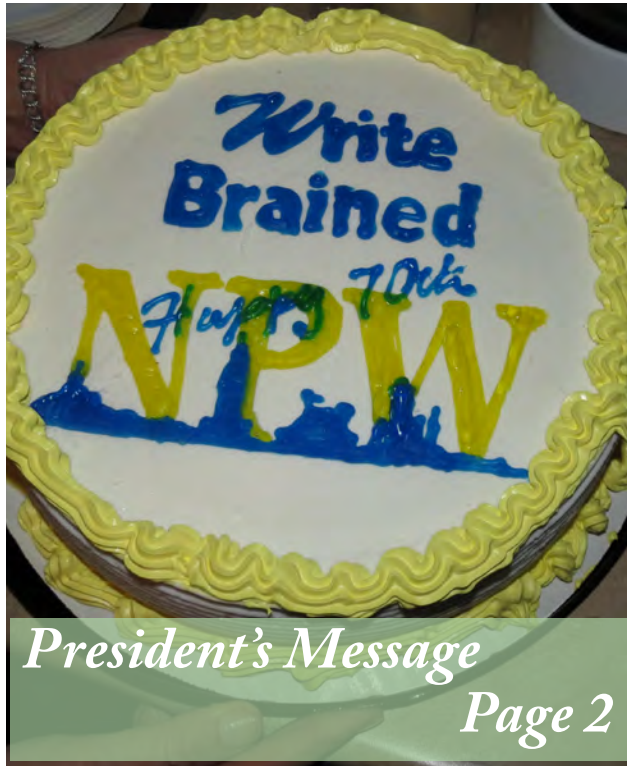


Winter 2016

NEBRASKA PRESS WOMEN



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Celebrating the past **Embracing the future**



President's Message by Sherry Thompson

It's been a year of celebration as Nebraska Press Women commemorated its 70th anniversary by honoring our past, while also planning for the future.

One of the highlights of the year was the official launch of an ambitious action plan for 2016-2020, "Looking to the Future." It's exciting to see the progress that's been made so far and look forward to what comes next as we continue to build on NPW's strengths and work to meet

the changing needs of our members.

NPW is fortunate to have four strong leaders guiding our way as we move forward. Special thanks to Judy Nelson, advisor, and our three team leaders: membership – Lori Potter; programming and member services – Jill Claffin and visibility – Glennis Nagel.

And, thanks to everyone who has been involved so far. Among the accomplishments:

- A new membership brochure highlighting NPW benefits for professional communicators was developed and an "Each One Bring One" membership campaign was launched.
- An evaluation form was developed for conference programming, and responses from the spring and fall conferences have been compiled to inform future planning.
- A new professional development position was created, with Jill Claffin filling the position. She has created a monthly email PD Digest that uses current news items to generate discussion among members on communications-related topics.
- Congratulatory letters were sent to employers of national contest winners, which led to some organizations providing support for their employees to attend the NFPW conference.

And, there's much more to come. Plans are in the works to hold regional events for members and potential members and to launch a mentoring program. Discussion is underway on ways to let more people know about

our high school contest and collegiate scholarships. Work continues on ways to expand NPW's visibility through increased outreach to media and other organizations.

Let's keep the momentum going as NPW embarks on our 71st year in 2017! We want to ensure that NPW remains a dynamic organization that provides engaging and relevant professional development and networking opportunities for communicators across the state.

A few other notes:

- Remember to renew your membership by December 31 so that you can enter the professional communications contest. Watch for a renewal notice in your inbox.
- Please continue to promote the value of NPW membership to your friends and colleagues. Our new membership brochure is available on the Nebraska Press Women website.
- Get more involved with NPW. Volunteer to work on a project or serve on the board. Contact me at sherrythompson@cox.net if you are interested.
- Stay connected with NPW on social media. Request to join the members-only Nebraska Press Women Facebook group if you are not already part of it.

I am honored to serve as your president for another term. NPW is your organization and I look forward to working with all of you and hearing your ideas.

NEBRASKA PRESS WOMEN

Winter 2016

President:

Sherry Thompson

Editor:

LuAnn Schindler

Contributors:

Cheryl Alberts Irwin, Barb Batie, Jill Claffin, Terri Hahn, Glennis Nagel, Betty Pore, Lori Potter

www.nebraskapresswomen.org
Nebraska.Press.Women@gmail.com

Nebraska Press Women, Inc., is an affiliate of the National Federation of Press Women, a nationwide organization of professional women and men pursuing careers across the communications spectrum.



Like
**Nebraska Press
Women**
on Facebook

Grand Island editor named communicator of year

by Barb Batie

MINDEN – Nebraska Press Women announced their 2016 Communicator of Achievement recipient during their recent fall conference at Burchell's White Hill Farmhouse Inn near Minden.

Bette Pore, a senior editor and columnist for the Grand Island Independent, received the award, which is the highest honor NPW bestows on a member.

Pore was honored for contributions to the state affiliate, national organization and her community. Pore has held nearly every NPW office including secretary, communications contest chair, high school contest chair, vice president and Hall of Fame director.

She has served as president of both the Nebraska and South Dakota affiliates and was part of the NPW committee that planned the 2011 National Federation of Press Women convention held in Omaha and Council Bluffs, Iowa. She frequently volunteers to write stories for the NPW newsletter and is a perennial winner in the NPW and NFPW Communications



Communicator of Achievement award • Bette Pore, senior editor and columnist for the Grand Island Independent and long-time member of NPW, was named Communicator of Achievement at the organization's fall convention, held in Minden. Barb Batie, COA chair, presents the award.

Photo by Lori Potter

contests.

She is a native of the Sac City, Iowa, area where she grew up on a crop and dairy farm. She earned a degree in journalism from Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Mo., and during her career has worked at newspapers as reporter and editor in Missouri, Iowa, North

Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska.

She has been with the Grand Island Independent since 2002 as an editor and is now the paper's senior editor. She writes a weekly column called "Moved by Movies," which often compares new releases to classic favorites.

She and her husband,

Robert, who is now the ag and business reporter at the Independent, have two children: Bob and Amanda.

Pore will represent Nebraska at the NFPW Communicator of Achievement competition set for September 2017 in Birmingham, Ala.

Nominations sought for Andersen Women Journalists Hall of Fame

Nominations are being accepted through Jan. 20, 2017, for the Marian Andersen Nebraska Women Journalists Hall of Fame. Nominations are accepted from the public, as well as NPW members.

A list of potential candidates is available for an NPW member who wishes to make a nomination. Contact NPW Vice President Cheryl Alberts Irwin at calberts1@unl.edu for more information.

The hall of fame was created by Nebraska Press Women to recognize women journalists who have made a difference for their profession and their communities. Nominees:

- Must have a Nebraska background by birth or work experience
- Must have spent a significant amount of their professional careers in Nebraska
- May be living or deceased, from any facet of the journalism profession (broadcast, print or online), news, advertising or public relations.

Nominations must provide compelling reasons why the woman should be selected and must be accompanied by two letters of support. See the Hall of Fame tab at <http://nebraskapresswomen.org> for linkage to the nomination form and guidelines. Or go directly to http://nebraskapresswomen.org/?page_id=303.

Honorees will be recognized at the NPW spring convention at North Platte in April. Details will be announced at a later date.

What are you waiting for?

NPW contest deadline getting close

**by Terri Hahn
NPW Professional
Contest Director**

It's not too early to start thinking about getting your entries ready for the Nebraska Press Women professional communications contest.

The deadline will be announced soon, and most likely, will be in mid-January.

The NPW action plan goal for the contest is to get entries from at least 50 percent of our members.

Last year, 16 contestants entered approximately 120 entries.

To meet the goal of more entrants, 15 to 20 more members need to enter. Just a few years ago, more than 200 entries were received. Even just one or two entries from every member will help us meet our goal. Don't be surprised if you get a personal email from the contest director asking about your entry plans.

Before you think "but I don't have anything to enter because I don't work for a newspaper or magazine," think again.

In addition to categories in news writing, photography, layout and design, the contest offers chances to compete in graphic design, television and radio broadcasts, web and social media, advertising, public relations and promotion, speech writing, fiction and non-fiction books, short stories, creative verse and screenwriting.

Produce a newsletter, either print or electronic, for an organization you belong to? You can enter it! Write press releases for a

living? You can enter them! Manage a website for a cause you believe in? You can enter it! Many PR and social media categories offer corporate and non-profit divisions.

Categories will be the same as last year and are available on the National Federation of Press Women website at nfpw.org.

Has it been a few years since you've entered? This is the year to get back into the contest.

Just remember: no more hard copies, all entries are submitted online now.

A few things you need to know prior to entering:

- All work entered must have been completed during the 2016 calendar year.

- Dues must be paid by Dec. 31 to be eligible to enter the contest. Only national members will be able to have their first-place entries at the state level advance to the national contest. We encourage everyone who enters to consider becoming a national member if you aren't already. That gives NPW more entries in the national contest.

- If you've entered the online contest the past couple of years, you don't even need to create a new account on the Omni website. You're already there.

- The fee to enter the contest is \$10 for the first entry and \$5 for each subsequent entry. If you don't meet the first deadline, there will be a \$25 late fee to enter after that date. You'll have about two weeks after the initial deadline to get those entries in (just one \$25 fee no

matter how many entries are late entries).

- You'll need .pdf versions, .jpg or Word documents of your work to enter. Online and social media entries will include the URLs only. Each entry will be uploaded onto the Omni platform. One thing I am going to stress this year is the uniform naming of entries before you upload them. That format will be detailed in an upcoming email once the contest deadlines are announced and will also include the announcement that the contest website is "live" and you can start uploading entries. You don't have to do them all at once; they can be done a few at a time up until the deadline.

- Awards will be presented at the spring conference in North Platte. National award winners will be announced in September at the NFPW conference in Birmingham, Ala.

For the 2015 contest, NPW advanced more than 50 first-place entries to the national contest.

Carla Chance of Cedar Creek won the third-place sweepstakes award at the national level.

Let's try to do even better this year. We have a lot of talented members in NPW and this is a chance to show off a little bit and get our name out there.

Even if you've never entered the contest before, please consider doing so this year.

Don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions or suggestions.

Professional Contest Categories

- News story
- Continuing coverage or unfolding news
- Investigative reporting
- Enterprise reporting
- Special Series
- Individual achievement
- Editorial/Opinion
- Feature story
- Personality profile
- Specialty articles in 19 categories
- Columns
- Headlines
- Editing, single page, section or supplement
- Editing, section or supplement
- Publication regularly edited by entrant
- Page design
- Photography - news/feature, sports, general
- Photo essay
- Photographer-writer
- Graphics
- Infographics
- Book designed by entrant
- Radio/TV on-the-scene report
- Radio/TV prepared report
- Special programming
- Talk show
- Best newscast
- Writing for the web
- Website edited or managed by entrant
- Podcasts
- Blogs
- Social media campaign
- Video for website
- Single advertisement
- Ad campaign
- Ad billboard, poster and banner
- Radio/TV ad
- Community, internal or institutional PR
- Public service
- Marketing program
- Audiovisuals
- PR materials in 7 categories
- News/feature releases
- Media kit
- Speeches
- Collegiate/education
- Books in various genres
- Short stories
- Creative verse
- Script or screenplay
- Essay/chapter/section in a book
- Book edited by entrant

Teen journalists earn national contest awards

by Bette Pore
High School
Communications Contest
Director

WICHITA, Kan. — Nebraska high school journalism students from Omaha, Grand Island, Fremont and Hastings were among those honored Sept. 10 with awards in the 2016 National Federation of Press Women High School Communications Contest.

The awards were presented at the 2016 National Federation of Press Women Communications Conference in Wichita, Kan.

The Nebraska students qualified to enter the contest by placing first in the Nebraska Press Women High School Communications Contest last spring.

The annual contest includes categories for student newspaper, yearbook, broadcasting and online video work.

Nebraska students placing in the national contest were:

News story — Libby Seline of Westside High School in Omaha, first.

Sports story — Megan Fisher of Fremont High School, second.

Feature story — Natalija Ward of Westside High School in Omaha, second.

Opinion — Nicole



High school contest winners • Mitchell Francis and Nicole Saner, students at Omaha Westside, both earned first-place honors in the NFPW high school contest. They traveled to Wichita to receive their awards and meet members of the Nebraska delegation, including (front row, l-r): Terri Hahn, Mary Pat Finn Hoag, Bette Pore, Molly Klocksins, Delores Meister; (back row, l-r): Barb Batie, Lori Potter and Judy Nelson.

Saner of Westside High School in Omaha, first.

Review — Libby Seline of Westside High School in Omaha, honorable mention.

News/Feature Photo — Hannah Bowes of Westside High School in Omaha, honorable mention.

Graphics/Photo Illustration — Diane Naughton of Fremont High School, honorable mention.

Video News Story — Grace Ward of Westside

High School in Omaha, second.

Video Feature Story — Elias Ginsberg of Westside High School in Omaha, first.

Video Sports Story — Mitchell Francis and Jack Zipay of Westside High School in Omaha, second.

Best Newscast, Radio or Television — Christian Ellsworth, Katelyn Archer, Coleman Cooper, Austin Dammann, Mitchell Evans, Blake Gustafson and Katherine Smallwood of

Northwest High School in Grand Island, second.

Double-Truck Layout — Jenna Hynek of Westside High School in Omaha, third.

Yearbook Layout — Abby Lang of Westside High School in Omaha, second.

Yearbook Copywriting — Jaydn Bernt of Fremont High School, second.

Yearbook Photo — Zoey Cook of Hastings Senior High School, honorable mention.

Want to see more high school journalism students involved in NPW and the communication contest? Encourage students and their instructors to submit entries in newspaper, video, broadcast and yearbook categories. Interested parties should address questions to high school contest chair, Bette Pore or assistant chair, LuAnn Schindler.

Editorial
Opinion
News Story
Feature Story
Sports Story
Cartooning
Review

Sports Photo
News or Feature Photo
Graphics/Photo Illustration
Columns or Blogs
Radio Prepared Report
Radio/TV Interview or

Talk Show
Best Radio or TV
Newscast
Single-Page Layout
Double-Truck Layout
Environment
Video News Story

Video Feature Story
Video Sports Story
Yearbook Photo
Yearbook Layout
Yearbook Copywriting

Outtakes from the KANSAS FRONTIER



Nearly a dozen members of NPW ventured to Wichita Sept. 8-10, for the national convention.

(Left): Nebraska members, minus Cheryl Albers Irwin, at the awards banquet.

(Below, middle): Communicator of Achievement dinner

(Bottom, right): Barb Batie photographs a field during a road trip to Hesston.

(Bottom, left): Thursday evening reception at KMWU Studios

(Below, left): Memorial service





In a quaint country setting near Minden, NPW members discovered the significance of a sense of place and put methods into practice during photography and writing workshops offered at the fall convention. Members also learned about the process of researching and writing a biography during a panel discussion.



A Sense of Place



*Fall Convention
Burchell's White Hill
Farmhouse Inn*

The Art of *Biography*

by Bette Pore

A panel of three experienced writers shared their experiences researching and writing biographies Oct. 8 during the Nebraska Press Women Fall Convention at Burchell's White Hill Farmhouse Inn near Minden.

Panelists were Jan Thompson of Overton, Carol Lomicky of Kearney and Todd VonKampen of North Platte.

"Writing a biography is reporting on these people's lives," VonKampen said, emphasizing the importance of research in his project to write about the lives of philanthropists Ron and Carol Cope of Kearney.

"I've been an archivist as much as I've been an author in this project."

The Ron and Carol Cope Foundation is paying him for his time as he researches and writes a book about their lives. The project started after Carol Cope died in 2012 at age 103. Friends who were cleaning out her house realized how important a lot of the documents she had saved were and that was where VonKampen started, with 160 boxes of materials that were saved from the Cope home.

He noted that he is working for the foundation, so he has to keep his employer's sensibilities in mind in what he writes about the Copes.

"There are subjects I'll tread delicately, but I do that in newspaper work, too, as a community journalist," VonKampen said.

His work started in the summer of 2014 when he spent three days in Kearney going through the boxes to see just what was there. He said he catalogued the materials from Carol Cope's life that were stored in a trunk. But it was two years later by the time

he finished going through all the boxes and recording the information that would be used in his book project.

Another valuable resource has been the Nebraska Legislature, as Ron Cope served two terms as a state senator in the 1970s. The Legislature now has floor debate transcripts online going back to the 1970s, so that resource posed some great storytelling

ory may not be clear on some subjects from decades ago. So she has to fill in what she supposes happened.

"But if I go too far, I do have a living backstop," Thompson said.

She has focused on what she calls "the larger truth of the essence of what happened."

"Sometimes you have to include a detail that you can't verify," Thompson said. "I can create conversations even though he hasn't told me about it in the way he said it."

She said developing a clear focus for the project was essential when she began research for his book.

"My subject thinks everything he's done is fascinating," she said. "So I had to decide, what's my story?"

Thompson decided to focus on how his pioneer spirit made him successful over the years.

Lomicky especially found a need to get her research done quickly when she began researching longtime *North Platte Telegraph* publisher Keith Blackledge's career.

"A lot of the people I needed to interview were in their 80s, so I could not procrastinate," she said.

She has interviewed 27 people.

"I tried to get people I interviewed to describe what it was like to be around him in the newsroom," Lomicky said.

But the project has also involved getting totally immersed in Blackledge's writing over the years.

His family donated all his writings to the public library and historical museum in North Platte and Lomicky said she has read it all.



Biography basics • (l-r) Todd VonKampen, Carol Lomicky and Jan Thompson shared research and writing tips during a panel discussion, led by Glennis Nagel.

possibilities.

VonKampen also decided to weave in the story of Ron Cope's grandfather, who fought in the Civil War.

Thompson noted that she has learned a lot on her project on the connection between fiction and nonfiction.

Her project has been chronicling the life of a Kearney businessman who wanted someone to help him tell his story. She has been interviewing him periodically and will be a ghost writer for his autobiography.

"As journalists we're supposed to stick to facts," Thompson said. "But if you're writing about somebody's life, you're not going to know all the details. I've been able to let my imagination run wild at times."

In this case, she is interviewing the subject of her book and his mem-

Continued on page 12



by Glennis Nagel

A good photo is a mix of an interesting site or image, a good eye, and a photographer who knows a camera's strengths and weaknesses, according to Lori Potter, award-winning photographer/writer, who presented a "Sense of Place — Photography" workshop at the NPW fall convention.

"There is no substitute for being at the right place at the right time with the camera to your face, space left on the card and charged batteries," she said.

"The goal is to do your best to increase the odds of those circumstances falling into place."

Her first bit of advice to those who shoot all of their images on "automatic" was to move the setting to "program."

"Avoid 'auto' and put your auto camera on 'program,' which allows you to decide where the light reading is taken and also to shift seamlessly from single shot to video on some cameras," she said. "Then you can make the camera take a reading into the sun to get the vibrant oranges and pinks in a sunrise or sunset, and have the shapes in dark silhouettes. Auto settings pick the middle range of the light options."

Although many photographers are taught to

put the sun at their back when photographing people, Potter disagrees.

"People squint," she said. "Instead, shoot towards the sun, which backlights your subject and makes the foreground dark. You want to see the people, so use fill flash." Throughout her presentation, she emphasized the importance of using fill flash.

"Whether it's full shade or full sun outdoors, or an indoor shot, you still need fill flash," she said.

"It highlights features and removes shadows cast by trees, hats, etc. You need to know how to force the flash to operate when you want it to, not just when the auto reading on your camera says so."

And when you are photographing a person, ask the person to adjust the angle of his head and/or adjust your position to deal with flash-created starbursts on glasses. Hats are another issue. When dealing with a farmer in a seed corn hat or a cowboy in a Stetson, and you need the hat to help tell the story, she recommends asking the subject to push the hat back.

Whenever photographing people, Potter emphasized the importance of getting the "safe" portrait or action shot first, and then "...just let people do their

Photography Tips from Lori Potter

thing. The goal is to have them forget, or at least not mind, your presence. Try close-ups, many angles, wide shots and middle distance.

"Avoid every-one-in-rows group shots," Potter said, but when you have to, "Don't have the tall people stand in back and short people sit in front. Their faces are too far apart. It's better to organize the people around a prop. If all you need is their faces, pose them so that their bodies are hidden behind, in and around the prop."

Knowing what is available to use as a prop, and where to get the best shot, begins with advance planning. Potter suggests, if possible, scout the place in advance asking yourself—What is the story? What is the purpose of the photo? What speaks to you before you take one photo?

Observe how the setting changes with natural conditions (light differences if cloudy, sunny, morning, evenings, moving clouds), or if you shoot at eye level, low angle or high angle, or close-up, medium range or from a distance.

Identify the focal point—faces, someone doing something, bird, animal or object—and think about how you can best feature it within its place or surroundings.

"If you're covering an event, select an interesting, animated person and keep photographing him or her for a while," she said.

She also recommended strengthening a photo by looking for framing opportunities to guide the viewer's eye to a person or thing.

"For people, that can include a doorway, window, tractor cab, working under

something, railroad tracks, country roads, fencing, or a reflected image in a window, mirror or water," she said. "Avoid putting the focal point in the center of the frame or having a person look directly at the camera, unless it is a formal portrait."

"Images usually are more interesting if they are offset," she said, noting that the rule of thirds says the top or bottom third and/or left or right third are more interesting points than the middle third. The "6" or inverted "6" composition pattern is also more interesting and reflects motion in the image.

She also had advice for editors and page designers: "All of these ideas are things you can suggest to your photographers when discussing assignments, and some may be achievable in how the photos are cropped when designing pages."

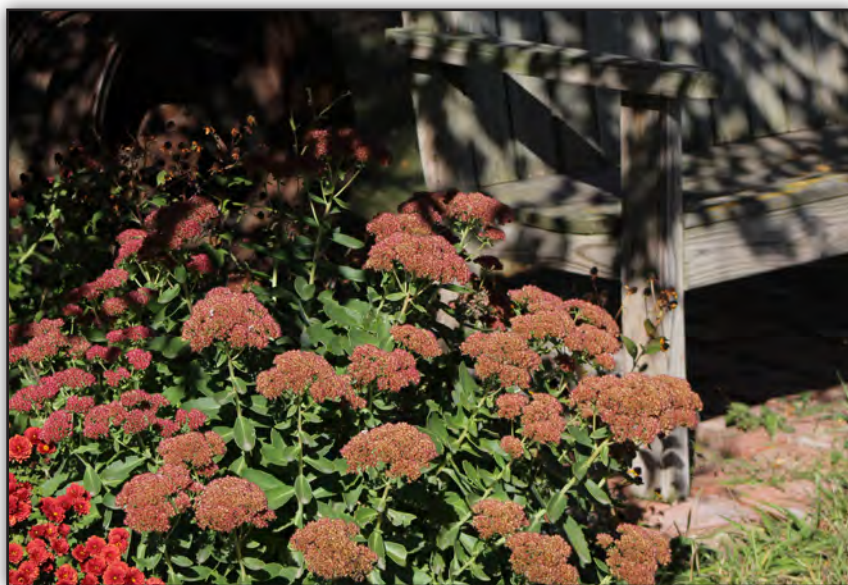
For those instances when photographers have to work in low light, she recommends using a tripod or becoming a human tripod.

"When the shutter speed is less than 1/60 of a second, it's difficult to hand hold a camera steady enough for the longer exposure time needed, and probably impossible for people who use the review screen in place of the viewfinder," she said.

"If a tripod is not available, set the camera or your elbows on a table or similar non-moving surface. Become a 'human tripod' by leaning against something that doesn't move—the wall of a crane blind, a fence, the hood of a car—or by sitting or standing with

Continued on page 12

Creating a sense of place



by LuAnn Schindler

My Antonia, by Nebraska author, Willa Cather, begins with this: "While the train flashed through never-ending miles of ripe wheat, by country towns and bright-flowered pastures and oak groves wilting in the sun, we sat in the observation car, where the woodwork was hot to the touch and red dust lay deep over everything.



The dust and heat, the burning wind, reminded us of many things. We were talking about what it is like to spend one's childhood in little towns like these, buried in wheat and corn, under stimulating extremes of climate: burning summers when the world lies green and billowy beneath a brilliant sky, when one is fairly stifled in vegetation, in the color and smell of strong weeds and heavy harvests; blustery winters with little snow, when the whole country is stripped bare and gray as sheet-iron. We agreed that no one who had not grown up in a little prairie town could know anything about it."

With these words, Cather creates a sense of place. Even if readers had not visited here, readers visualize what the area looks and feels like, have a sense of this place and its people.

You've been here, right? You've seen the far-reaching sky blanketed by wildflowers, piles

of snow wisping into peaks when strong north winds blow.

You can relate to the scene Cather created, based on memory and experience.

Sense of place is important to all types of writing, according to Judy Nelson, who presented a writing workshop on the topic during the fall convention.

Nelson provided multiple examples, noting that all use sensory details to delve into creating a tangible landscape, based on the each reader's subjective reaction, generated by stored-away memory and lifetime experience.

With that definition in mind, workshop participants strolled the grounds of Burchell's Whitehill Farmhouse Inn, jotting notes about what they saw, heard, felt, smelled and maybe even tasted.

After approximately 15 minutes of observation, each participant wrote and shared a short piece.

Some mentioned lines of corn-row sentinels, the distinct rattle of the Gleaner combine moving through the field, ripples of water bouncing outward as insects skimmed the top and brilliant colors of summer sinking into the coordinating fall gradients.

Sense of place offers more than a glimpse at a dot on the map.

Sense of place, when used correctly, becomes a character, where readers experience the ebb and flow of its daily activity.

Sense of place, when used correctly, creates a mood and tone.

Sense of place, when used correctly, becomes the centerpiece - the pillar that roots and drives the action - and takes on a life of its own.

Without sense of place, Eudora Welty would be right.

"Every story would be another story, and unrecognized ... it if took up its characters and plot and happened somewhere else.

Scholarship amount boosted to \$1,000

By Jill Claflin

Nebraska Press Women will be able to boost its Memorial Scholarship for an upper-class college or graduate student to \$1,000 next year.

Increasing the award from \$750 to \$1,000 was a goal of the NPW board, and at least for 2017, that will be possible. And it's not just the scholarship winner who will benefit.

So, too, will NPW members and friends who will enjoy a 2017 calendar featuring outstanding photos of outdoors Nebraska shot by NPW treasurer Lori Potter. To help meet the scholarship goal, Lori created a calendar featuring 19 of her favorite photos, and then generously donated the calendars as a fundraising project for the scholarship. Members received a calendar for each \$20 donation to the Memorial Scholarship fund, and they responded enthusiastically at NPW's fall convention. To date, the project has raised \$570. Many, many thanks to Lori and all who supported the project!

A few of the calendars are still available. To make a donation and receive a calendar, write to Lori Potter, Kearney Hub, P.O. Box 1988, Kearney, NE 68848. The offer remains the same: a calendar for each \$20 donation to the Memorial Scholarship fund. For calendars that are to be sent, please include \$5 to cover mailing costs. If you wish to email Lori to confirm availability, contact her at potterspix@gmail.com.

Ongoing fundrais-

ing will be necessary to maintain the \$1,000 scholarship level. The bulk of the award is funded by interest from investments. While the principal is not yet sufficient to generate annual revenues for a \$1,000 award, the NPW board determined that supplementing the revenue with special fundraising projects would be one way to achieve the \$1,000 goal while efforts simultaneously are made to grow the fund itself. Donations to the Memorial Scholarship fund or the Marianne Beel Memorial Scholarship fund may be sent to Lori.

Applications for 2017 scholarships will be available beginning in early January, according to Tammy Bain, newly appointed scholarship chair. Applications are provided to high schools and colleges and also will be available on the NPW website at <http://nebraskapresswomen.org/>. Scholarship winners will be announced at next year's spring conference in North Platte.

The NPW Memorial Scholarship goes to an upper-class or graduate student in Nebraska working toward a degree in some field of communications.

The \$500 Marianne Beel Memorial Scholarship is awarded each year to a Nebraska high school senior, with preference given to those from Sandhills counties planning to pursue studies in communications. The scholarship honors the work and memory of long-time NPW member Marianne Beel of Valentine.

Nebraska Press Women Officers and Board Officers

elected to serve a two-year term are:

President – Sherry Thompson, Omaha

Vice President – Cheryl Alberts Irwin, Lincoln

Treasurer – Lori Potter, Kearney

Secretary – Beverly Wieler, West Point

Appointed board members:

Communicator of Achievement Award – Barb Batie, Lexington

Communications Contest – Terri Hahn, Osceola
High School Contest – Bette Pore, Grand Island, and LuAnn Schindler, Clearwater

Historian – Mary Pat Finn Hoag, Norfolk

Legislative/First Amendment – Open Member Services – Ruth Brown, Lincoln

Membership – Judy Nelson, Lincoln

Newsletter – LuAnn Schindler, Clearwater

Publicity – Glennis Nagel, Kearney

Parliamentarian – Molly Klocksinn, Lincoln

Professional Development – Jill Claflin, Cozad

Scholarships – Tammy Bain, North Platte

Past President – Bette Pore, Grand Island



Food and fellowship • Members enjoyed down-home cooking, including prime rib and barbecue chicken, at Burchell's White Hill Farmhouse Inn, during the fall convention luncheon, on Oct. 6.
Photo by Lori Potter

Mark Your Calendar

Dec. 31 –
Membership renewal
deadline for contest entry

Jan. 20 –
Marian Andersen
Nebraska Women Journal-
ists Hall of Fame
nomination deadline

Mid-January –
Contest entry deadline

Feb. 4 –
Winter Board and Action
Plan Meeting, Columbus

April 27 –
Spring Board Meeting,
North Platte

April 28 –
Spring Convention, North
Platte

Sept. 7 - 9 –
NFPW Conference,
Birmingham, Ala.

Sept. 29 –
Fall Board Meeting, York

Sept. 30 –
Fall Convention, Osceola

The Art of Biography continued from page 8

“He has revealed himself to me through his writing,” she said. “In columns he revealed himself on a very personal level.”

By talking to so many sources and reading so many newspaper articles, she was able to put together a 25-page timeline for his career at the *Telegraph*.

Lomicky also did a lot of research into the history of North Platte itself, as well as the *Telegraph*.

“It really became a story about community journalism,” she said.

After close to three years of research, she is finally ready to start writing.

That’s the case for all three of the panelists. Because they were being paid to do these projects, they were able to spend extensive time on research and organization. But there comes a point when it’s time to write.

“I don’t know how long that will take,” Lomicky said.



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your elbows pressed tightly against your side, keeping your feet spread at least a shoulder width. Let out a deep breath before squeezing the shutter.”

She concluded by telling the group to “Practice, practice, practice. Keep trying things and critiquing your images to see what you like or what you might have done better. Just try stuff. And look for opportunities to steal good ideas.”

