



Colorado Press Women

exPRESSIONS

Newsletter of Colorado Press Women

OCTOBER 2006

November 18 Meeting Showcases Authors

Join Us in Celebrating National Novel Writing Month during our November 18 meeting with authors. This year's speakers are Sybil Downing, Patricia Gaffney-Kindig, and Baine Kerr.

The 2007 recipient of the CPW Communicator of Achievement will also be announced at the meeting. Saturday's event begins at 9 a.m. and includes brunch at [Simm's Landing Restaurant](#), 11911 W. Sixth Ave., Lakewood. Registration begins at 8:45 a.m. Cost is \$30 for CPW members, \$35 for nonmembers. RSVP by Nov. 12 to Ann Lockhart, AJLDenver@aol.com, 2332 Eudora St., Denver, 80207. 303/388-6978.

[Sybil Downing](#) is the award-winning, best-selling author of four historical novels, a biography and 13 books for young readers. She writes of women and the American West with a passion born of being a fourth-generation Coloradan, a co-founder of Women Writing the West, a reviewer for *The Denver Post* and the great-granddaughter of Colorado's first U.S. congressman. Her latest book is *The Vote: A Novel*. Set in 1918, this is the story of the final fight for women's right to vote as seen through the eyes, ears and hearts of three young women from different backgrounds. Her other books include *The Binding Oath*, *Ladies of the Goldfield Stock Exchange*, *Fire in the Hole*, The Colorado Heritage series and the Women of the West series.



Patricia Gaffney-Kindig edited and contributed to *American WWII Orphans Network, In Their Memory*, published by Turner Publishers, which won a CPW first-place award for editing and an honorable mention from NFPW. Patricia is published in numerous newspapers and periodicals, as well as professional publications at Yale University, and is widely regarded as an expert resource on issues related to WWII losses and consequent impact on survivors' families. Her story is included in *The Greatest Generation Speaks* by Tom Brokaw and in a segment of *Beyond Chance* produced in 1999 by the Lifetime Channel that featured the story of Patricia's search and the discovery of her father's airplane crash site.

[Baine Kerr](#), a Boulder trial lawyer, draws on his litigation experience for his two novels, *Wrongful Death* and *Harmful Death*. *Publisher's Weekly* says of *Wrongful Death*, "Everything winds up fitting together beautifully in this strong and very moving tale. It's an impressive performance and a stunning, inspiring read." *Harmful Death* is a medical courtroom thriller and was a finalist for the Colorado Book Award. A graduate of Stanford University and the University of Denver's writing programs, Baine has written a collection of short stories, *Jumping-Off Place*, and was published in *Best American Short Stories*. He was a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fiction Fellowship and the Editors' Prize award from the *Missouri Review*.

—Gay Porter DeNileon

FYI — President's update

By now, I hope you've all seen the NFPW Conference coverage that **Erin Hottenstein** sent out last month and that **Teresa Ford** has posted on the website.

It was Erin's first CPW ExPRESSions as editor, and she did a fantastic job of putting it all together. Likewise, Teresa worked her magic on the copy for www.coloradopresswomen.org and also posted a photo gallery of conference sessions and speakers that includes 77 photos organized in albums!

None of this could have happened without the contributions of CPW and NFPW members who sent stories and photos. I'm amazed at the way our members responded to requests for their time and talent, making the conference one of the most successful ever.

The latest numbers from NFPW show nearly 300 attended at least one event during Rendezvous in the Rockies. There were 195 full registrations, 34 one-day registrations, another 40 attended the Communicator of Achievement Banquet. Eighty of the registrations were for first timers—a conference record.

Conference co-chairs **Ann Lockhart** and **Marilyn Saltzman** provided excellent leadership and guidance and set the mark high. Tour director **Bobbi Gigone**, along with **Glennys McPhilimy**, **Joan Frisch** and **Dala French Giffith** organized pretours that were so appealing and reasonably priced, they were fully booked.

Our dependable treasurer, **Marlys Duran**, handled the tour registrations and kept track of countless financial details while paying the bills and recording receipts. Marlys graciously volunteered to remain as treasurer through 2006 to handle pretour finances.

Once more, I'd like to commend the rest of the conference planning committee—**Sandy Nance**, **Mary Alice Parmelee**, **Gay Porter DeNileon**, **Lee Anne Peck**, **Teresa Ford**, **Ruth Anna**, **Carmen Julseth** and **Marion Galant**—for their hard work and contributions over the past two years.

During the conference, others stepped forward to lend a hand. **Ann Subart** organized the Thursday night Sign-Up-For-Supper, **May Anderson** helped with the set-up and clean-up of the Thursday night reception, **Lori Rapp** helped escort members to Thursday special events, and **Cheryl Christ** chauffeured several groups from the Adam's Mark to the Colorado History Museum for the Thursday reception. **Sandy Graham** facilitated one of the freelance panels.

Then there was the adjunct group of non-CPW members who handled the registration desk Wednesday through Saturday. Ann's sister **Dorothy Lawrence** of Ogden, Utah, **Irv Saltzman**, **John Nance** and **Alex Galant** made sure registrations ran smoothly while responding to numerous requests.

OK, we didn't "change the world," as in Margaret Mead's quote—"Never doubt that a small group of committed citizens can change the world." But we did produce a successful, fun-filled, stimulating event that resulted in many kudos.

In other news, ten CPW members carpooled to Longmont earlier this month to take long-time member Lea Flanders to lunch. Lea celebrated her 90th birthday this summer with some 300 friends and family. During the luncheon, she reminisced about her journalism career at the *Longmont Times-Call*, and said she finally retired completely a few months ago and wrote her last column for the paper. The CPW contingent included Sandy Nance, Bobbi Gigone, Mary Parmelee, Joan Frisch, Carmen Julseth, Glennys McPhilimy, Ann Lockhart, Marilyn Saltzman, Kate Johnson and me.



Oct. 11th lunch in Longmont with CPW former president and member Lea Flanders, a long-time columnist with the Longmont Daily Times-Call. Lea is seated third from the left of the table. Also pictured are (from left) Glennys McPhilimy, Sandy Nance, Lea, Marilyn Saltzman, Ann Lockhart, Judi Buehrer, Carmen Julseth, Joan Frisch, Bobbi Gigone and Mary Alice Parmelee. Kate Johnson, who took the photo, is not pictured.

As I write this, CPW members continue to lend their support to our organization's ongoing tasks and activities. **Cheryl Ghrist** is our 2007 Communicator of Achievement Chair; **Kathleen Duff**, **Marilyn** and **Ann** are reviewing our bylaws; and **Gay Porter DeNileon** and **Ann Lockhart** have put together a terrific program for the Fall Authors Meeting, November 18.

Next month, I'll be asking for help again—it just never ends! I want to use the momentum of the conference to launch a broad membership initiative. But I'll save that for November's FYI. In the meantime, feel free to give me a call or send me an e-mail if you have any suggestions, questions or concerns about CPW.

—**Judi Buehrer, President**
jluebhrer@earthlink.net
Tel: 303-948-5587
Cell: 303-587-9473

Member News

Tiana Nelson Amell is now working for the Fort Collins Area Chamber of Commerce as the communications coordinator. You may reach her at: tnelsonamell@fcchamber.org

Boulder Daily Camera Editor **Sue Deans** is stepping down on November 17, according to Associated Press reports. The leave is voluntary and she will stay on the paper's editorial board. Deans will begin a column in January. Following the death of her husband Mal Deans in December, Deans thought a lot about her life and what would come next.

Kaye Bache-Snyder had surgery September 8 and is recovering well. She was scheduled have a second surgery for a ski-related injury on October 9, and expected to be out of commission for about six weeks. Cards may be sent to: 215 N. Gay St., Longmont, CO, 80501-5336.

After tiring of 12 years of insurance and annuities, **Anne Subart** accepted a new position at JP Morgan Chase in Inverness. The new job is mostly working with corporate 401(k) retirement plan sponsors on communicating information to their employees. Anne is concerned about the amount of travel, but is excited and already studying for Series 6 & 63 securities tests.

New Members

Please welcome three new members to CPW:

Lynn Dean said she felt welcomed and right at home at the NFPW conference. She is a freelance writer and mother of three. She has published over 500 articles which have appeared in more than 100 publications in 35 states. She concentrates her writing in the areas of parenting, health, women's issues, home and lifestyle. Lynn also provides writing services for non-profits including PR materials, financial and annual reports, and grants.
LynnDean@frii.com

Leslie Young Giase is the vice president for communications and editor-in-chief at Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals in Evergreen. leslie@abmp.com or doclyoung@yahoo.com.

Kathryn Mayer is a student and editorial assistant at the University of Denver.
kmayer@du.edu.

CPW Writers Group formed

A Writers Group is being formed of CPW members who will meet periodically to critique each other's work. The group will determine how often to hold meetings, the time and location. Having E-meetings via e-mail will also be discussed. If you are interested in participating in this group, contact Judi Buehrer, jlbuehrer@earthlink.net or 303-948-5587.

Denver Press Club facility available for events

Please consider renting the club for your holiday events, parties, weddings, meetings and other functions. You'll find the costs are quite reasonable when compared to similar facilities. For information, call club manager Amelia Gailunas at 303-571-5260 or e-mail her at denverpressclub@qwest.net.



Anne Thompson shows CPW President Judi Buehrer a copy of the *Rocky Ford Daily Gazette* during a visit on July 21.

Anne Thompson entertained guests with colorful stories one month before her death

Anne Thompson, publisher of the Rocky Ford Daily Gazette, was born in 1920 – “the year women got the vote,” as she referred to her birth year. Before she died this August, Anne had reached another milestone in her life, racking up 65 productive years as member of the Colorado Press Women.

To celebrate Anne’s crowning accomplishment, eight CPW members piled into two cars and took a field trip to visit her on July 21. The drive took them through the farmlands of Colorado’s Arkansas River valley to the small town of Rocky Ford, mostly famous for its cantaloupes, second famous for Anne’s *Rocky Ford Daily Gazette*. The group included **Mary Alice Parmelee, Carmen Julseth, Glennys McPhilly, Bobbi Gigone, Joan Frisch, Ann Lockhart, Brenda Goates** and CPW president **Judi Buehrer**.

More than 50 years ago Anne and her husband Ross moved to Rocky Ford and bought the *Daily Gazette*. Together, they printed a paper five days a week, reporting

on local events and residents. Their son, J.R. Thompson, is now managing editor, as Ross passed away about a year ago.

When we found the *Rocky Ford Daily Gazette* building, J.R. and Anne welcomed us warmly. Anne, a frail octogenarian, still exuded some of the strength of spirit and determination that helped her succeed in the newspaper business for more than six decades.

We also met Susan Pieper, the editor for the past five years, wearing a T-shirt stating, “Proud to be a small town journalist where the *real* news happens!”

J.R. gave us a rundown on the *Daily Gazette*’s circulation, which is about 3,000 out of the town’s 4,300 residents. The newspaper also serves the towns of Fowler, Manzanola, Ordway and La Junta (even though La Junta has its own paper). Out of 29 daily Colorado newspapers, the *Rocky Ford Daily Gazette* holds the distinction of being one of six Colorado newspapers that are privately owned, according to J.R.

We ate lunch with Anne, J.R. and Susan a couple of blocks away in a café called “Christine’s” in a beautifully renovated German Congregational church. J.R. told us to leave room for the homemade pies, which turned out to be good advice.

Anne sat at one end of the table where she held court for the CPW members. They asked Anne about her life and her association with the CPW.

"I joined the Iowa Press Women one year before I came to Colorado, then joined the CPW here," Anne recalled.

She ran for the National Federation of Women Press presidency in 1960 or 1961 (couldn't quite remember). "I ran against a woman from Ohio," she said, adding that the Colorado delegation wore cowboy hats at the national conference where elections were held.

Though Anne doesn't write columns as regularly as she used to, she has never officially retired. An article about Anne and her husband in the March 2, 2004, *Denver Post* says that she wrote a "Koffee Klatch" column in which she reminisces about early family holidays. She also wrote book reviews every week.

Anne earned her journalism degree at the University of Iowa. She subsequently worked on newspapers in Iowa, Wyoming and Colorado. In addition to CPW, she is a member of NFPW, Colorado Author's League and Theta Sigma Phi, a national fraternity for women in journalism that became Women in Communications in 1972.

Anne told the group that she got her first job as a journalist when she was a public relations ward officer for the Colorado Civil Air Patrol. In a story about how the CAP conducted an air-raid test requiring everyone to turn their lights off, she described how the lights going out looked like the clouds passing in the sky.

She submitted the story and photographs to the *Times Republican* in Marshall Town, Iowa. The paper subsequently hired her as photographer. "I learned the dark room stuff later," she quipped.

"The reason I got the job to begin with was that two people had been photographers before me. And one of them was killed in a plane crash, and the other got drafted and went off to the service. They didn't have anybody, and I had said I could take pictures, and so they hired me to be a photographer. I said, 'I can't do darkroom work,' and they said, 'Don't worry about that. We'll teach you.' And they did, too."

Anne died in her sleep early Friday, Aug. 25, at Pioneer Health Care Center in Rocky Ford, where she was recovering from a fall a few weeks earlier that resulted in a broken collarbone.

Anne was named CPW's Communicator of Achievement in 1970 and won numerous awards from NFPW, CPW, the Colorado Press Association and the National Newspaper Association. The CPA named her publisher of the year in 1979. Anne served in the State Legislature from 1957 to 1961. Over the years, she served on the State Child Health Board, was chair of the Colorado Small Business Administration and was on several boards in her community.

—**Brenda Goates, CPW Historian**

Anne Thompson interview transcript

The following impromptu "interview" sheds more light on Anne's career.

J.R.: Tell them about when you studied to be a linotype operator.

Anne: We had a paper [the *Baca County Banner*] and a competitor when we were in Springfield, Iowa. The competitor was very proud that he was a printer. When we came we hired linotype operators and printers—all of them seemed to disappear. They got better jobs.

Ross and I decided that one of us should go and learn to be a linotype operator. And we figured that I was the one that had more time to do it, [laughter] so I went down to Pittsburg, Kansas. They had a course in linotype operation, and I signed up for it. Meanwhile, our competitor found out that I was learning to be a printer, and he was really shook up. [laughter] He got the guy that works for him to come over and tell Ross that he'd like to buy the *Baca County Banner*.

So, I was down there at Pittsburg, and I'd been getting to learn to make ads, and then they called me and they said, well, we sold the *Banner* so you might as well come home. We'll come after you. So I told my teacher, I said I'm going home because my husband sold the *Banner*. And so they came after me, and I didn't even finish the course, but I didn't fail the course. Instead, I got a "B." And I'd been so proud of myself; I got a "B" in linotype. [laughter]

J.R.: Forever thereafter, she was our ace in the hole. [laughter]

Anne: That's right.

Q: Did you ever work on the linotype machine on your paper?

Anne: No, I didn't. I *can* do it. I showed you [J.R.] how you do it. I had tried it a little bit before, but I learned to set ads. I think he [Ross] was kind of proud that I'd done so well that they sold the paper [laughter].

Q: When you bought the paper here, was it linotype?

J.R.: It was innertype, actually.

Anne: I never touched that one.

J.R.: We were the first paper in Colorado to go offset. When we did that, we didn't need a linotype operator.

Q: What about computers?

J.R.: When we started using computers we had those big old 8-inch floppy disks -- great big -- and we got those in 1983. But then we switched to Macintoshes in 1985. And we were glad about that.

Q: How many different positions did you hold in the paper? Your husband was publisher and you were the editor, or vice versa? Or how did you decide who did what?

Anne: At the Gazette?

J.R.: When they operated, titles didn't make any difference.

Q: But you did photography for the paper.

Anne: Yeah.

Q: And you did writing. Did you write editorials?

Anne: Yeah.

Q: Did you cover sports?

Anne: No, I didn't.

Q: [laughs] The one thing you didn't do, probably.

Anne: Once in a while I'd take a picture of the golfers or something if they won a contest. I didn't particularly like to ... there were plenty of other things to do.

Q: But you didn't ever have a day when you said, "I'm retiring?" You never retired from the paper, though they had a party for you?

Anne: Well, I'll retire when I get to be a hundred, but I'm not quite there. [laughter] I may well be the oldest one here.

Q: How old are you?

Anne: I was born in 1920. I should have said, "I was born the year the women got the vote." [laughter] Not in Colorado, but in the United States.

Q: So officially, you're still not retired.

Anne: Well ...

Q: You never officially retired?

Anne: No.

—Brenda Goates, CPW Historian

EXPRESSions Editor Erin Hottenstein: ErinHottenstein@qwest.net

President Judi Buehrer: jluebhrer@earthlink.net

Web site: www.coloradopresswomen.org

E-mail: coloradopresswomen@earthlink.net