

# The Broadsheet

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## NMPW members win in NFPW competition

Congrats to members who won nine first place awards, five second place, six third place and seven honorable mentions in the 2016 National Federation of Press Women annual communications contest. Awards will be presented at NFPW's national conference in Wichita, Kansas, in September.

First place winners are: Ross Van Dusen, children's books; Heath Haussamen, investigative reporting; Megan Kamerick, talk show (radio or television); Mandi Kane, personality profile; Richard Melzer, history nonfiction for adult readers; Sharon Niederman, cookbooks; Peter St. Cyr, news story; Kelly Urig, nonfiction for adult readers; Catherine Wanek, book editing.



Second place winners: Mary Charlotte Domandi, interview for radio or television; Kathleen McCleery, prepared report for television and special programming for television; Sherry Robinson, specialty articles, environmental; Diane Thomas, novel for adult readers; Ross Van Dusen, children's books.

Third place winners: Margaret Cheasebro, specialty articles, business; Merilee Dannemann, personal blog; Bob Diven, graphics; Ruth Friesen, book design; Mary Alice Murphy, photo essay; Diana Sandoval Tapia, reports.

Honorable mentions: Nicolás Cabrera, feature story, online publication; Margaret Cheasebro, specialty articles, history; Ariana Kramer, specialty article, arts and entertainment; Tara Lumpkin, website editing/management; Sherry Robinson, continuing coverage or unfolding news; Marsha Scarbrough, biography or autobiography; Peter St. Cyr, enterprise reporting.

*To see the winners' list for the NMPW contest, go to [newmexicopresswomen.org](http://newmexicopresswomen.org).*

## Welcome to new officers

We elected Loretta Hall, president; Kathy Cordova, vice president; Damien Willis, secretary; and Peter St. Cyr, treasurer.



Loretta Hall

Loretta is an Albuquerque freelancer and author; Kathy is a Taos freelancer and author; Damien Willis is a reporter at the Las Cruces Sun News, and Peter St. Cyr is a freelancer and investigative reporter.

Loretta was also named Communicator of Achievement this year and will represent us at the national meeting.

New board members are: Sharon Niederman, publicity; Chris Burroughs, high school contest; Jessica Savage, Zia contest; Sherry Robinson, newsletter; Karen Wentworth, website; Bud Russo, communications contest; Diana Sandoval Tapia, COA, and Desiree Cooper, scholarship.

"I'm very pleased to have some new board members, some members I've served with before, and some members who have served on the board in the past and are coming back," Loretta said. "That makes a great balance of new energy, continuity, and historical perspectives. I'm looking forward to working with a great board!"

Many thanks to outgoing officers: Cheryl Fallstead, president; Bud Russo, vice president; Cassie McClure, secretary; Loretta Hall, treasurer.



Cheryl Fallstead

## Conferences, past and future

Albuquerque Press Women hosted the annual conference with great speakers in a beautiful place, the Bosque Conference and Retreat Center. The theme was "Shaping the Future of New Mexico: Our role as citizens and journalists." However, registrations were disappointing – Ghost Ranch was a tough act to follow, apparently – and NMPW lost money.

Next year, the meeting will be in Las Cruces. The theme for the conference on April 21-23, 2017 will be "Cuentos de la Frontera: Opportunities, challenges and responsibilities of telling stories on the border."

LCPW President Cassie McClure said that rather than using hotel conference rooms, the workshops will probably be spread across the historic and downtown area, with the banquet at a downtown restaurant.

"We are scouting for speakers and participants, especially those who report on or about the border. If anyone might have any contact, please let us ([lascrucespresswomen@gmail.com](mailto:lascrucespresswomen@gmail.com)) know," Cassie says.

## 2016 Zia Book Award winners announced

Author Denise Chávez received the 2016 Zia Book Award for fiction for *The King and Queen of Comezón*, her novel about the fictional border town of Comezón "Itch," New Mexico. The "Itch" refers to longstanding desires that will never be fulfilled.

"It is my *manda*, my mandate, to write about our borderland corridor and the stories that inhabit our reality," said Chávez, who lives in Las Cruces.

Diane Thomas, of Santa Fe, was named first runner-up for *In Wilderness*, her novel set in the Appalachian Wilderness that explores the power of nature to heal.

Lisa Lenard-Cook, of Albuquerque, received an honorable mention for *Dissonance*, her reissued paperback novel about Anna Kramer, a Los Alamos piano teacher who inherits the journals of a composer and Holocaust survivor.

"Of my many novels, *Dissonance* is the one of which I am proudest," Lenard-Cook said in a written statement. "My intention for the book – that it explores love, war, prejudice and forgiveness without preaching – became a reality through the leitmotif that music theory provided. "



Jessica Savage and Denise Chávez

The Zia Award is given annually to female authors who live in or have ties to New Mexico. Each year the contest focuses on one of three genres: fiction, children's literature or non-fiction. The 2017 Zia will be for children's books published in 2014, 2015, or 2016.

## In Memoriam

Lisa Lenard-Cook died of ovarian cancer not long after her Zia Award was announced. Lisa was a well-known writer, teacher and NMPW member. Her novel *Coyote Morning* was also a 2007 Zia Book Award finalist.

Jessica Savage writes: "I'm the proud owner of three of Lisa's books, including an autographed copy of *Dissonance* in hardback. I'm very



Lisa Lenard-Cook



Lois Duncan

saddened that this talented New Mexican woman author was taken from us at an age when many writers can finally focus solely on their careers. We haven't heard the last of Lisa because she has, I believe, a memoir and a novel still to be published."

We were also saddened to learn that Lois Duncan had died in Florida. Lois, a conference speaker known to many members, died at home in Florida at 82. Tributes poured into her Facebook page.

## Book Award stickers are available

By popular demand, NMPW is now offering book stickers for first place winners and finalists of the Zia Book Award and Communications Contest.

Zia Award Chair Jessica Savage says they're available to current and past winners in two styles: a gold sticker with "NMPW Zia Book Award Winner" and a silver sticker with "NMPW Zia Book Award Finalist."

Two versions of the Communication's Contest sticker are also offered for books: a gold sticker that says, "Communications Contest Winner" and a silver sticker that says, "Communications Contest Finalist."

The stickers don't have a date year, which means they can be used on books that were awarded in the past and perpetually into the future.



Book winners and finalists can order the stickers in batches of 100 stickers for \$21 (\$18 plus \$3 S&H). Send a note with the book name, year won, contest name (Zia or Communications

Contest), stickers desired and quantity, your name, an address to ship stickers, and a check made out to NMPW for \$21 for each group of 100 stickers. Send to Jessica Savage, Zia Book Award Chair, 1612 Ralph Dr., Las Cruces, NM 88001.

## NMPW News

NMPW has 69 members of both NFPW and NMPW. Vice President Kathy Córdova reports that 54 members did not renew, primarily people who joined to enter the national contest. They'll receive follow-up letters.

Treasurer Peter St. Cyr reported total assets of \$31,774, but he expects a loss of more than \$4,000 for the year. Because most expenses were from subsidizing attendance at the national conference, this may be the last year NMPW pays half of member registration fees.

NFPW has set up a discount code of NEWMEXICO50 on NFPW's conference registration site. The conference is September 8-10 in Wichita, Kansas.

High School Contest Chair Chris Burroughs will be contacting teachers, helping students with their electronic entries, and rounding up judges. She needs your help. Also, the Albuquerque schools usually enter, but members in other towns could encourage their schools to enter. Contact Chris at 505-3086.

## Chapter News

**Albuquerque** is shifting from a board to a steering committee, plans to change its name to Albuquerque Press Women and Friends, and move meetings to a restaurant. Members are Karen Wentworth, Linda Lockett, Paula Wynnyckyj, Chris Burroughs, Merilee Dannemann and Sherry Robinson. In June APW heard from Supreme Court Judge Charles Daniels on judicial reform.

**Northern** has heard from historian Ana Pacheco, journalist Peter St. Cyr, and Leah Todd of the Solutions Journalism Network.

**Las Cruces:** On July 16 Denise Chavez talked about character development and how it can work for journalism as well as fiction and nonfiction writing.

## Events

Women's Equality Day will be celebrated on Albuquerque's Civic Plaza on Friday, August 26 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. It will be the 96th anniversary of passage of the 19th Amendment.

Albuquerque Press Women will have a table at the 12<sup>th</sup> annual MARCOM Mixer, Oct. 12, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Albuquerque Rail Yards.

The New Mexico Foundation for Open Government, the New Mexico Press Association, the Society of Professional Journalists Rio Grande Chapter, and New Mexico In Depth will hold the Transparency Summer Camp: How to find and use government data online. The free seminar will be held in Las Cruces on July 21 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. and Albuquerque on July 23 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. See [nmfog.org](http://nmfog.org).

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