

Breaking Barriers

National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, anchor Jane Pauley, retired White House Correspondant Helen Thomas, Vice President for Special Marketing Camille Keith, freelance journalist Bea Zeeck and <insert your name here, insert your title here> ...

All are outstanding communicators. Women like those above, including you, have worked hard to break down barriers for communicators of today and tomorrow. They've opened doors and we continue to persevere. Is there room for improvement? Yes. An annual report on women in the workplace by Catalyst found that women hold 12.5 percent of the executive jobs in corporate America's Fortune 500 publicly traded companies and 11.7 percent of the directorships of those companies.

In 1909, seven female students at the University of Washington in Seattle entered the college's new journalism program, only the second of its kind in the country. One of them, Georgina MacDougall, developed the idea for a women's journalism society. Today, the Association for Women in Communications has more than 120 student and professional chapters in the world. I salute the members of the Lubbock Professional Chapter of the AWC; we must continue to champion the advancement of women by breaking barriers.

- Christye Marez, President

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Membership Mixer

The AWC membership mixer, "How many ways can you wear a black skirt?" was presented by Brenda Becknell Sept. 6 to give fashion tips about updating wardrobes.

The event was of great interest since the AWC chapter is made up of professional communicators who realize the importance of image.

"The AWC mixer was great," said Michelle Banta of Covenant Health System. "It was a lot of fun and Brenda Becknell was wonderful!"

The mixer was a recruitment effort to attract prospective AWC members. Since the mixer, AWC added two new members and has several leads.

"Our membership mixer was a great success thanks to our host Diane Harlan and the AWC members who helped coordinate the event," Judy Oskam said. The event catered to women of all ages and occupations.

AWC thanks all members who were in attendance at this fashionable event.

AWC Guests

- Michelle Banta*
- Vickie Bennett*
- Shannon Bichard*
- Julia Childs*
- Eva Cortez*
- Cameka Crawford*
- Judy Johnson*
- Kayla Kemper*
- Prema Khanna*
- Diana Melcher*
- Dawn Murphy*
- Amy New*

Mission:

"To champion the advancement of women across all communication disciplines by recognizing excellence, promoting leadership and positioning our members at the forefront of the evolving communications era."



Diana Melcher, Kelley Roach-Pitts and Julia Childs at the Membership Mixer Sept. 6.

Member Spotlight

Denise Garlington, assistant vice president of marketing at American State Bank, is the focus of October's AWC member spotlight.

Garlington has worked in the marketing department of the bank for more than six years, and she enjoys the variety her position entails.

"I wear many hats," Garlington says. Her duties include setting up advertising campaigns, coordinating bank sponsorships and participating in community events.

Garlington believes her career and the focus of AWC are a good fit. She enjoys networking with other AWC members with interests similar to her own.

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The Lubbock Chapter of the Association for Women in Communications meets twice monthly. The business meeting occurs the first Tuesday of each month. Program luncheons are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month. Both meet at the Lubbock Women's Club. E-mail Diane Harlan by the Thursday before each luncheon at dharlan@lubbockonline.com for reservations.

November Program

Ashley Cox is a Lubbock County assistant criminal district attorney. She worked as a clerk and a legal assistant in the CDA's domestic violence unit before graduating from the Texas Tech School of Law in 1998. She spent the next two years as the CDA's domestic violence prosecutor, and then moved to chief felony prosecutor in the 140th District Court.

Cox was Women's Protective Services' Advocate of the Year in 1999 and the MADD Prosecutor of the Year in 2001.

This year, Cox formed the nonprofit organization SAVE to assist police and prosecutors with the investigation of domestic violence cases. SAVE's operation expenses will be paid through donations.

Cox and her best friend, Juli Benson, are training for a marathon. They are seeking sponsors for their run as a fund-raising initiative for SAVE.

Program Schedule:

Nov. 13
Assistant Criminal District Attorney
Ashley Cox

Dec. 11
Lubbock Police Cpl.
Sharon Casey

Jan. 8
Texas Tech Associate Director of Athletics
Judi Henry
KCBD-TV Sports Director Emily Jones
Tech student athlete

Feb. 12
To be announced

March 12
First Amendment/
Freedom of Information

April 9
Nelda Armstrong of
Armstrong Advertising Agency

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**Lubbock Chapter
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