

THE CHASER

SPJ

September 1996

Fort Worth Chapter / Society of Professional Journalists

*"If it happened in Fort Worth ...
it's news to us!"*

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Here's a 10-gallon hat for you, Steve

National prez gears for North Side

By tradition, the new national president of the Society of Professional Journalists visits the Fort Worth Chapter first. This year we had to be quick.

Steve Geimann, senior editor of Communications Daily, a Washington-based trade publication, takes office Sept. 20 at the SPJ National Convention in Washington. He plans to attend the Austin chapter Gridiron show at the end of the month. But not before he visits Fort Worth on Thursday, Sept. 26.

Fort Worth SPJ will host Geimann at Spaghetti Warehouse on Fort Worth's historic North Side, beginning with a reception at 6:30 p.m. He will bring messages from national and preside over initiation cer-

emonies for anyone who has never been formally inducted into the society.

Past presidents are invited, as are Dallas chapter members and students.

The biggest issue facing the profession is the changing nature of information delivery, Geimann says. Cable television and on-line news challenge mainline journalism, he says, if for no other reason than the "new media" eventually will crowd out newspaper and broadcast jobs.

He also warns against SPJ pricing itself out of business. "To encourage the most broadly based group of journalists, we must achieve a delicate balance between what it costs to operate and what we charge our members to belong."

Geimann says he wants SPJ to be an organization that compels membership because it of-

fers so many services: professional development and legal support and job referrals, as well as fellowship.

Chapter Meeting

6:30 p.m. Sept. 26

**Spaghetti Warehouse
600 E. Exchange Ave.**

\$10, students \$5

**RSVP by noon Sept. 24:
Verlie Edwards, 336-5165**

**Board meeting at 5:30
Call Carolyn (390-7687, 926-2917)
if unable to attend board meeting**

This is your newsletter. We want to know what you're doing. Don't be shy. Let's use this space to communicate with each other. Call programs VP Sue Winter with ideas for topics, where to meet or what to eat. Direct other questions, announcements, brags, rumors and tips to any board member or to chapter president Carolyn Poirot.

- For everyone who bought Golden Gridiron tapes, Tracy Smith has volunteered to dub the music on them. Get your tape to Ann Gilliland (731-8600), who produced it, and she'll see that it's dubbed and returned to you.
- October meeting may be at Broadway Baptist Church to discuss covering the religion beat and see the world's biggest organ. Honest. Details next time.

She came, she saw, she conquered all

They flew in from New York and California and Florida, from Alexandria, Va., and Adel, Iowa. Greetings arrived from Portland, Ore., and Friedland, Germany, and Indonesia.

Good job, Dorothy, they all said. Enjoy retirement to the fullest.

When Dorothy Estes revealed that she would step down after 26 years as UTA Student Publications director, she knew a party was inevitable.

An intimate August affair with a few associates. Perhaps in someone's back yard. Food: barbecue.

She never planned on a black-tie evening at the Worthington, her favorite hotel.

Or that 360 would attend, including her ex-student John Ostdick, now editor of American Way magazine, who handed her two American Airlines tickets to Hawaii.

Or that organizers spearheaded by former Shorthorn staffers Janet Neff and Cari Hyden would raise more than \$15,000 above party expenses to jumpstart the Dorothy Estes Scholarship Fund for UTA journalism students.

Former UTA President Wendell Nedderman spoke, as did Dallas Morning News senior religion writer Christine Wicker (another Shorthorn

Dorothy

***Friends pack Worthington
to honor UTA Student Publications chief***

ex). Gridiron performers led by Donna Darovich paid tribute to the tune of "Camelot." An open-mike segment brought laughter and tears.

Three of the five UTA presidents Dorothy served under — Dr. Nedderman, Dr. Jack Woolf and Dr. Frank Harrison — sat front and center, applauding as Dr. Anne Witt, wife of President Robert Witt, presented the scholarship plaque.

Dorothy cried. A weep watch in the corner tallied half a dozen such instances.

She was entitled. It was the happiest night of her life, she said. And her biggest surprise.

What it was, was magical.

Almost as memorable as the lady herself.

SPJ

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