2007 DPA Communicator of Achievement

Katherine Ward

When DPA executive director Katherine Ward—freelance writer, editor, writing coach, educator, author and leader—received the 2007 Communicator of Achievement Award at DPA’s annual Holiday Luncheon, she said, “I’ve been a member of DPA for nearly 20 years and am delighted to have received this great honor. What could be cooler than to be the DPA 007 Communicator of Achievement!”

“Katherine is so very accomplished,” said DPA’s 2006 COA Karen Galanaugh when presenting the award. “In 2006 alone, she had two books published: Write Home for Me: A Red Cross Woman in Vietnam (Random House Australia), for which she was editor for author Jean Lamensdorff. Within two weeks of its release, it was #1 on the bestseller list in South Australia. And she was the editor of The Legacy Endures, a 25th anniversary commemorative book on the 92 women in the Hall of Fame of Delaware Women (Delaware Commission for Women). She also was co-author/editor of Delaware Women Remembered (Modern Press, 1977), the first book to chronicle the lives of Delaware women, and of A Legacy from Delaware Women (Middle Atlantic Press, 1987).”

Katherine, who serves on the NFPW President’s Advisory Council, was director of NFPW’s national communications conference, “Brave New Media World,” hosted by Delaware Press Association in Wilmington in 2003. She has held numerous DPA board positions, including two terms as president, and is the central communicator for the organization. For many years she has written copy for and edited the DPA newsletter and Web site, and she has written a history of the organization (founded in 1977), which was published in Women’s Press Organizations, 1891 – 1999 (Greenwood Press, 2000). As DPA historian, she is organizing a celebration of DPA’s 30-year anniversary in April.

Katherine developed curriculum for and taught writing classes and humanities seminars for the gifted and talented and for several years was director of the enrichment program for a number of schools in Northfield, Minn. She also worked as the publications director/newsletter editor for The Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond, Va.

Active in the work of Christ Church Christiana Hundred, Greenville, Katherine has been a lector and communion assistant for many years. For several years she was president of the Prison Arts Advisory Board for the Delaware Department of Correction. She also serves on the University of Delaware’s Sea Grant College Advisory Board and is a member of the Delaware Coalition for Open Government.