

2008 Alaska Professional Communicators Contest Winners

1A	News reporting, non-daily newspaper		
1st	Diana Haecker	<i>Settlements with Jesuits trigger pent up emotions</i>	<i>Nome Nugget</i>
2nd	Diana Haecker	<i>Two construction workers die at Rock Creek</i>	<i>Nome Nugget</i>
2	Continuing coverage or unfolding news		
2nd	Diana Haecker	Rock Creek mine coverage	<i>Nome Nugget</i>
5	Special series		
1st	Diana Haecker	<i>Being young in Nome</i>	<i>Nome Nugget</i>
7A	Feature story, non-daily newspaper		
1st	Diana Haecker	<i>Wilderness holds other than material values</i>	<i>Nome Nugget</i>
2nd	Diana Haecker	<i>King Island mask returns</i>	<i>Nome Nugget</i>
7C	Feature story, publication for general or specialized circulation		
1st	Dana Stabenow	<i>On the bridge</i>	<i>Alaska Magazine</i>
2nd	Kathy Tarr	<i>Alaska at large: Hubbard Glacier</i>	<i>Alaska Airlines Magazine</i>
8	Personality profile		
1st	Yereth Rosen	<i>The moose babysitter</i>	<i>Christian Science Monitor</i>
9F	Special articles, ecology/environment		
2nd	Diana Haecker	<i>Fish sampled for toxic dust and AGC corrals mercury-laden site</i>	<i>Nome Nugget</i>
9H	Special articles, government or politics		
1st	Yereth Rosen	<i>An Alaska icon comes under fire and Tales of oil industry's influence in Alaska</i>	<i>Christian Science Monitor</i>
9N	Special articles, sports		
1st	Diana Haecker	<i>Spring carnival has Shishmaref hopping with excitement and Iditarod 35: a race to remember</i>	<i>Nome Nugget</i>
9P	Special articles, travel		
1st	Amy Murphy	<i>Continental Divide trail – Montana and Grand Teton National Park – Wyoming</i>	<i>Scree</i>

10B	Personal columns, general		
1st	Elise Patkotak	<i>We're each part of some minority and Beware the power of the "babe"</i>	<i>Anchorage Daily News</i>
2nd	Elise Patkotak	<i>Problems of Alaska Native women and Straight talk about abuse in Bush</i>	<i>Anchorage Daily News</i>
3rd	Elise Patkotak	<i>Foster parents help a girl find herself and Extraordinary life full of love, service and honeybuckets</i>	<i>Anchorage Daily News</i>
HM	Elise Patkotak	<i>Size 3 society too much weight to bear and Weep for fallen leaders; weep because of those we have</i>	<i>Anchorage Daily News</i>
23	Photographer-writer		
1st	Amy Murphy	<i>St. Mary's gets a MET tower</i>	<i>Ruralite magazine</i>
2nd	Diana Haecker	<i>Little Diomedes is three homes bigger</i>	<i>Nome Nugget</i>
24B	On-the-scene spot report, television		
1st	Rhonda McBride	<i>Walrus bellies</i>	KTUU-TV Ch. 2
25B	Prepared report, television		
1st	Rhonda McBride	<i>49th cello</i>	KTUU-TV Ch. 2
26B	Special programming, television		
1st	Rhonda McBride	<i>Bethel remembers</i>	KTUU-TV Ch. 2
28A	Personal column on air, radio		
1st	Ginny Mahar	<i>The Sauk</i>	KTOO 104.3 FM
2nd	Therese Harvey	<i>Cape Spencer marine operator</i>	KTOO 104.3 FM
28B	Personal column on air, television		
HM	Rhonda McBride	<i>Diabetes: facing the challenge</i>	KTUU-TV Ch. 2
29B	Interview, television		
1st	Rhonda McBride	<i>Fallen heroes project</i>	KTUU-TV Ch. 2
31B	Best newscast, television		
1st	Sheila Balistreri	<i>The Morning Edition with Sheila Balistreri</i>	KTUU-TV Ch. 2
32B	Best presentation, anchor, television		
1st	Sheila Balistreri	<i>The Morning Edition with Sheila Balistreri</i>	KTUU-TV Ch. 2
33B	Writing for the Web, content for corporate or for-profit site		
HM	Alan Sorum	<i>Fatal falls overboard; Smart, safe driving practices; Anatomy of a sea kayak; and Using perfect canoe strokes</i>	Suite101.com

- 34C Web site edited by entrant, not-for-profit or educational org. site**
 HM Amy Murphy Alaska Village Electric Co-op Web site,
www.avec.org
- 35A Web site development/creation, not-for-profit or educational org. site**
 HM Dianne O'Connell Immanuel Presbyterian Church Web site,
www.yukonpresbytery.com/Immanuel
- 36B Single advertisement, print or Web, institutional or image**
 1st Amy Murphy AVEC – Cooperative Month ad *The Delta
 Discovery and
 Ruralite
 magazine*
 2nd Amy Murphy *Cama-i 2007* *The Delta
 Discovery*
- 38B Print or electronic ad campaign, one subject, institutional or image**
 1st Amy Murphy Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday ads *The Delta
 Discovery and
 Ruralite
 magazine*
- 39B Poster campaign**
 1st Mary Katzke and Deborah Schildt *I made time and You can't see it or feel
 it—but I can find it series* Alaska Ofc. Of
 Breast and
 Cervical Health
 Partnership
- 42 Community or institutional relations program**
 1st Amy Murphy Kalskag community relations program –
 high school student story writing project AVEC – *Ruralite*
 magazine
- 46B Audiovisuals, video productions**
 1st Mary Katzke and Deborah Schildt *For the love of Riley* The Arc of
 Anchorage
- 47B Annual report, internal**
 1st Amy Murphy *AVEC Annual Report* Alaska Village
 Electric Co-op
- 47C Annual report, CD-Electronics**
 1st Sherrie Simmonds *2006 Annual Report--celebrating 60 years
 of housing Alaskans* Alaska Housing
 Finance Corp.
- 50A Newsletter, one- to three-color**
 1st Elise Patkotak *The Flight Feather* Bird TLC
- 50B Newsletter, four-color**
 1st Chuck Maas *The Viewfinder* Alaska Soc. of
 Outdoor and

			Nature Photographers
54	Manuals and handbooks		
1st	Alan Sorum	<i>Clean boating</i>	Univ. of Alaska Fairbanks
55A	Single news release		
1st	Kalei Brooks	<i>Alaska Air National Guard assists seaman injured in British submarine</i>	Alaska Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs
2nd	Amy Murphy	<i>AVEC wins engineering award</i>	Alaska Village Electric Co-op
55B	Single feature release		
1st	Kalei Brooks	<i>Operation Santa Claus 2007 about to take flight</i>	Alaska Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs
69	Individual achievement		
1st	Rhonda McBride	Dentistry in the Bush coverage	KTUU-TV Ch. 2
72A	Non-fiction book, general		
HM	Steve Wolfe	<i>Call Us Champions: More Alaska Wrestling Stories</i>	
72C	Non-fiction book, biography and autobiography		
1st	Steven Levi	<i>Telling It All</i>	
2nd	Beth Leffingwell	<i>Leff Continuity: Anchorage Arts from Earthquake into Millennium</i>	
72G	Non-fiction book, instructional		
1st	Aliza Sherman Risdaahl	<i>Streetwise eCommerce: Establish Your Online Business, Expand Your Reach, and Watch Your Profits Soar</i>	
72H	Non-fiction book, religious or inspirational		
1st	Linda Kay Thompson	<i>Erik's Story: Finding His Gifts Against All Odds in Rural Alaska</i>	
73	Fiction, novel		
1st	Steven Levi	<i>Cadzow</i>	

We often give a special award, called the Sweepstakes Award, to the “winningest” entrant in the contest. There’s a sliding scale, with all wins counting and the most points for first places. It was a close contest this year! We’re proud to announce

DIANA HAECKER

as our Sweepstakes winner. Congratulations, Diana!

2008 APC Contest Judges

SAM KINCH

Categories 1-10 (Print journalistic writing)

Sam Kinch Jr. was a prizewinning reporter on Texas politics and government for 37 years before he retired in 1998. An honors graduate of the University of Texas, from which he earned a bachelor's degree in history and a master's in journalism, he was editor of the student newspaper, *The Daily Texan*. He began covering the Texas legislature in 1961, then moved to Washington to cover Texas members of Congress for six years for the *Dallas Times-Herald* and *Dallas Morning News*. In 1970 he returned to Austin, where he was state political editor for the *Morning News* until 1984, when he left to found *Texas Weekly*, the largest political newspaper in the state, which he sold in 1998. He has written three books on Texas politics. He is married, with three grown children and five grandchildren spread all over the country, each of whom he sees at least three times a year.

VICKI RISHLING, University of Idaho

REBECCA J. "BECKY" TALLENT, University of Idaho

Categories 11-17 (Print journalism editing and layout) and 70-78 (Non-fiction, fiction and poetry)

Vicki Rishling, a longtime newspaper editor and reporter, holds a master's degree in journalism from Ohio State University, where she was a Kiplinger fellow in 2002. She is a senior lecturer for journalism classes at the University of Idaho's School of Journalism and Mass Media in Moscow, Idaho.

Rebecca J. "Becky" Tallent is an award-winning journalist with more than 30 years' experience as a journalist and public relations specialist. She is currently an assistant professor of journalism and mass media at the University of Idaho and serves as ombudsman for the Spokane *Spokesman-Review* newspaper. Becky has been active in the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) since 1972 and currently serves on her chapter's Board of Directors. She is also active in the Native American Journalists Association. She has bachelor's and master's degrees in journalism from the University of Central Oklahoma and a Doctor of Education in Mass Communications degree from Oklahoma State University.

HEATHER ANNE THOMAS

Categories 18-23 (Photography)

Heather Anne Thomas attended Hollins College and graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a BFA in studio art and a BA in art history. She has been working in the commercial photo industry since 2000, refining her skills in Houston, Texas and New York City. She has a photography studio in Maryville, Tennessee, which specializes in portraiture.

JOHN FOSHOLT

Categories 24-32 (Radio and TV) and 69 (Individual achievement)

John Fosholt is a photographer and writer with KUSA television, the NBC affiliate in Denver. He has worked in Denver television news for 32 years as an editor, producer, and investigative journalist. He has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Colorado State University and a master's in Mass Communication from the University of Denver, where he has been teaching television news for about 30 years. He is also vice-president of the Colorado Freedom of Information Council.

WILLIAM BLINN

Categories 33-35 (World Wide Web)

William Blinn is owner of William Blinn Communications, a Web site design and consulting firm. He is a member of the HTML Writers Guild and is the host of TechByter Worldwide, a podcast that discusses high technology in plain English. He developed the Web site for Citizens for Humane Action, a low-kill volunteer pet rescue and adoptions service in Columbus, Ohio, and maintained it for five years. Blinn's own Web sites include <http://www.blinn.com> and <http://www.techbyter.com>.

RUTH ANNA

Categories 36-41 (Advertising, electronic and print); 42-57 (Public relations, promotion, publicity); and 58 (Speeches)

Ruth Anna founded Anna Public Relations Consultants in the Denver area in 1977. She has more than 30 years of diversified experience in both the private and public arenas. Her clients include professional associations, scientific firms, human service and nonprofit agencies, businesses, government agencies, and political candidates. Her services include speech and report writing and editing, media relations, crisis management, workshops and seminars, publications, campaign management, fund raising, and event management. She's a past president of the National Federation of Press Women and Colorado Press Women, and has served on the Colorado Freedom of Information Council since 1987.

Categories 59-68 constitute a separate contest for undergraduate college students. Alaska had no entries in this competition—but we'd like some next year!