

## AWC Past President Quotes

I remember being very glad that we had formed a WICI chapter in Springfield. I liked being with other professionals and discussing issues of interest to us. I was glad that there was a PR/news mix because I wasn't very savvy about PR so had much to learn.

*1978 - Anne Gilles Craxton, WICS-TV*

That fact that I supported gender equality made me supportive of that aspect of the national Women in Communications mission. But my main goal was to build an organization that would put on great professional development programs in Springfield. My first desire was to have that development focus on journalism.

*1980 - Jeff Brody, State Journal-Register*

Was always proud of the fact that public relations and news professional found so much common ground. I was 20-something during my years with the chapter - my personal and professional growth was great, hard to measure. Being president was my first meaningful leadership role.

*1981 - Carol Fowler, Capital Information Bureau*

I definitely learned leadership skills and improved my ability to work with others while chapter president. I think those skills helped me later when I became communication department chair at UIS.

*1986 - Mary Bohlen, Sangamon State University*

The proudest moment I had as a member of AWC was under the presidency of Denise Joehl when our chapter brought Gloria Steinem to Springfield to speak. I was part of the team that coordinated and promoted her. It was a great success – we had over 900 people attend. Some of the women I worked with are my friends to this day.

*1987 - Melinda McDonald, Teachers' Retirement System*

For me, our best time came after my presidency when I got together a couple of past presidents to form the "Past Presidents Club" an unofficial group whose intent was to keep past presidents engaged in the organization. This group planned an all-day workshop, which was well received.

*2001 - Naomi Velazquez Greene, St. John's Hospital*

I remember we worked hard to increase membership and update the constitution and by-laws. This was one of the most fabulous groups of women I have ever worked with.

*2005-07 – Linda Dawson, Illinois Association of School Boards*