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Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications, Inc.

www.loebschool.org




NACKEY S. LOEB
SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATIONS
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a few words from the director...

Look out grandma and grandpa, about 40 enthusiastic story-tellers are headed your way, tape recorders and notebooks in hand . . .

The group attended the annual Telling Your Family Story workshop at the school on March 8, picking up interviewing and story-telling tips from several of the state's best story-tellers: columnist John Clayton, commentator Fritz Wetherbee and video documentarians John Gfroerer and Lisa Brown.

Historian Stuart Wallace offered ideas on how to research family stories and archivist Lori Fisher from the state Political Library shared ideas on how to preserve old family photos and documents.

Telling Your Family Story is just one of the varied workshops and classes offered at the Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications, most of them for FREE.

With this first edition of our newsletter, Link, we open a new chapter for the school. Our plan is to tell our school's story through the words and work of teachers and students.

Classes in our six-week sessions are taught Wednesday evenings, and they attract students of all ages and abilities from all over the state.

We began our 8th year in January with our popular 6-week broadcasting course, taught by a team from WMUR including General Manager Jeff Bartlett, crime reporter Andy Hershberger, Director of News Operations Jim Breen and Executive Producer David Hurlburt. We also featured two new courses that were suggested by students: Blogging and Columns, taught by Nashua Telegraph columnist and blogger Stacy Milbouer and Tom Long of The Boston Globe; and InDesign/Photoshop, taught by computer trainer Debi Rapson. Members of the blogging class set up an active blog at NewHampshire.com, spreading the word about the school and their own activities around the world.

The spring session features three of our core subjects: First Amendment, taught by Attorney Gregory Sullivan;



DAVID TIRRELL-WYSOCKI is the executive director of the Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications. When he's not working at the school, he is a reporter for The Associated Press in Concord.

Newswriting, taught by Concord Monitor reporter Meg Heckman; and Photojournalism, with Geoff Forester.

Teachers and students alike tell us that the school offers a stress-free atmosphere to learn new skills because the teachers, who are media professionals, love their work, and the students, from homeschoolers to retirees, want to be here. They come early and stay late. It's true. And there are no report cards, just newfound experience about news, features, blogs, editorials, photography, the First Amendment or designing a newsletter with photos.

Mrs. Loeb, who was president and publisher of the Union Leader Corp., established the school in 1999. She died in 2000, just as our doors were opening. None of this would have started without her desire to inspire interest, integrity and excellence in communications and to promote understanding of and appreciation for the First Amendment.

And none of this would continue without generous sponsors who support our annual First Amendment Awards banquet honoring New Hampshire residents who fight to uphold our Constitutional rights of free speech and free press. Thanks again to the major sponsors of last fall's dinner: TD Banknorth Charitable Foundation; Wheelabrator Technologies, Inc.; PSNH; FPL Energy, Seabrook Station; Bank of America; New Hampshire International Speedway; Sen. John Sununu and Kitty Sununu; Sen. Judd Gregg and Kathleen Gregg; Business NH Magazine; National Grid; ThermoFisher Scientific; Verizon Foundation; BAE Systems; Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Services; Amerprise Financial, Paul A. Pouliot & Associates; The Dupont Group; SilverTech; Mark Bodi.

We've already begun planning for next fall's dinner and the fundraising to support our programs. If you would like to help, please give us a call at the school.

We encourage you to enroll in a class or workshop, or help make them possible through a donation. See the website: www.loeb.school.org or give us a call at 627-0005.

www.loeb.school.org

2008 Calendar & Program Schedule

Spring Classes – March 12 – April 16

- Newswriting (Meg Heckman) (6:30 – 8:00)
- First Amendment Law (Greg Sullivan) (6:00 – 7:30)
- Photojournalism (Geoff Forester) (5:00 – 6:30)

April 12 (Saturday)

- Workshop – Public Speaking * (Andrea Bard) (9:00 – 3:30)

May 9 (Friday)

- Workshop – Writing Press Releases and in-house newsletters *

June

- The Presidency & the Press, with Marlin Fitzwater Center for Communication, Franklin Pierce College & N.H. Political Library

Fall – Student Media Workshop *

Fall Classes – September 10 – October 15

- Sportswriting (Joe Sullivan)
- Editorial Writing (Marty Karlon) (5:30-7:00)
- Political Reporting (Tom Fahey) (7:00 – 8:30)

November 20 (Thursday) - First Amendment Awards Dinner

* workshop with nominal fees



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The BLOGGING MCGILLICUDDYS

This winter, husband and wife Monika and Jay took their first class at the NLS - Writing the personal essay/column/blog taught by husband and wife teaching team - Stacy Milbouer and Tom Long.

The McGillicuddys both sell real estate for Prudential Verani Realty in their hometown of Hampstead. They've been married for 18 years, have three children between them, and grandson, Michael. They're avid bloggers but took the class to work on the quality of their writing. Their blogging has taken them to extraordinary places. We asked them a few questions about their lives and their NLS experience:



Q. How did you hear about this class and why did you take it?

A while back I (Monika) wrote a blogging post about a local artist named Kathy Radford. I'm always looking for local events and people to write about as my blog is a hyper local blog. I interviewed Kathy and we became friends. I wrote about Kathy twice and love her work. She told me about the NLS and sent me a link. I signed up right away and took Jay with me. I plan on taking more classes and really enjoyed the class Stacy and Tom taught.

Q. How has blogging changed your lives and work and tell us about the amazing story of searching for Jay's birth parents?

We've been blogging since November of 2006, pretty well before most people even knew what a blog was, and reading blogs since 2003. We do blog mainly for work but pretty well talk about anything that catches our interest on our blogs. We have a main blog - www.NewHampshireRealEstateBlogs.com and we also blog on a real estate social network called Active Rain.

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Blogging has given us a lot of good exposure, which benefits both us and our clients tremendously. Most people who read our blog posts feel like they know us and so when they contact us for their real estate needs, it's a comfortable relationship from the start. I can't tell you how many times I've met strangers who have told me they feel like they really know me. All from the Blog!

I (Monika) have written two posts on the ActiveRain blog that have totally changed our lives. One called "Hate" which was about the funeral of a local Hampstead war hero when protestors from Kansas decided to protest outside my office window. I had hundreds of comments on that blog post as well as e-mails from people all over the country. I'll never forget that day and the "Hate" I felt.

The second post was inspired by a dream I had. I dreamed I had written a very personal letter to my husband's birth mother and posted it on my blog. When I woke up I knew I had to write it and started it right away before I could forget it. I wrote the letter crying as I did so and Jay kept asking me what was wrong. I couldn't answer him and told him to leave me alone until I was done. I had no idea how he would react. We had tried searching for his birth mother in the past with no luck. Jay is 53 years old and we figured the odds would be slim and that possibly his birth mother would not even still be alive. We had no idea if he would have any siblings.

Something compelled me to write that post and I thought what if someday somehow she would find it and read it. I wanted her to know that I appreciated her giving Jay to me... she could have made other choices. I wrote from my heart.

When I was done writing, I got up and told Jay to read what I wrote and that I would not post it unless it was okay with him, but I needed to get the words out. He read it and was moved to tears. We decided to post it and received over 240 comments.

That post gave us the push to start another search. The comments were all so supportive and encouraging and we got excited about maybe finding Jay's birth family. This time it paid off and we actually found someone with the same name as his birth mother and a telephone number. We asked my father to call Germany for us, as he is fluent in German. We didn't know if it would really be her, but we were optimistic.

When my dad called her he asked in German if she was Klara Bezold, she told him that she was...he then told her he was calling on the behalf of a man once named Holger Rainer Bezold (Jay's birth name)....and she immediately cried out "That's my son...That's my son"!!!! She was very happy to be found and Jay has a brother and a sister as well. It has been an incredible experience. We have since found a picture of Jay's biological father and know he is from Philadelphia and so now we're searching for him as well. Jay has posted the photo on his blog in hopes that someone somewhere might recognize him. We have no name, just this image of him. Who knows? Maybe we'll get lucky again!

So you can see that blogging has changed our lives in more ways than we ever thought it would. It's been a great experience and we truly enjoyed our time in The Blogging/Columns class and I can't wait for my next class. - Stacy Milbouer

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“My photography demonstrates the passion that I have for the earth. I focus on portraits that depict unusual designs, fluid landscapes and the interplay of nature. The camera has become the pathway to my soul. The special place where I live, dream and create. The place that supported me to cancer remission. I hold many local and regional competitive, photographic honors that have served to support my continued growth as an artist.”
June Butka, Photographer

June’s work can also be seen at the Design Gallery by ArcLight and Design Wares Gift Galley, both in Nashua. This photo is on display at Elliot Hospital in the Oncology Radiation Therapy waiting room.

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A Well Kept Secret

(Blogging Student, Winter 2008)

A few days ago I picked up the local newspaper and for some reason, I opened to a page I rarely look at. It was a community page listing all the different events and support groups that were happening in the greater Manchester area. For some reason, as I read the support groups, I was drawn to ‘Parents without Partners’.

While glaring into the page, I realized that my father and I played a similar role without the support. Many years ago, 53 to be exact, my mother had an illness and had to be hospitalized for kidney failure. While in the hospital she developed pneumonia which eventually she succumbed to.

My brother and sisters had already left home and were raising their families. This left dad and me home alone. My father was a salesman on the road for at least two nights a week. During that time, I had responsibilities while he was away. I was a 14-year-old high school freshman. I had to take care of the coal furnace, knowing absolutely nothing about maintaining it. I often wondered why the second floor tenement had an oil furnace and we had coal. I had a paper route to run every afternoon when I got out of school. Getting my meals was not a big problem. I make excellent pb & j sandwiches. When dad was home, we usually went out to eat. Neither of us was handy in the kitchen. We relied on mother to do all the cooking.

Dad was not in the best of health. Even at my age, I knew something physically was bothering him. He was a heavy smoker; not much to do when you are out driving the back roads of northern New England. And with the loss of mom, he must have been hurting, for he had to continue to make a living, maintain a residence and deal with a physically and emotionally charged teenager. Where were the support groups when you needed them? It wasn’t quite a year; in fact it was 20 days shy of the first anniversary of my mother’s death, when dad suddenly passed away. Now a sophomore, this is when you really feel alone. I went to live with my oldest sister who was raising three children of her own. I continued high school, gave up my paper route and started a part-time job. This situation that I was forced into makes you grow up and mature very fast. Your decisions, good and bad, are your own and you have to live with them.

High school is supposed to be the best time of your growing years. It clearly was not for this teenager. No participation in sports and there was no social life to speak of. And, of course, no mom or dad to get guidance from or to be there when needed, especially graduation. Thank goodness my wife and I have been there for our two children. I came to know more teachers, coaches and guidance counselors than anyone during the eight years of high school for our two students.

To this day, I have had a secret that is now revealed: I truly missed my parents. This is a chapter in my life that I can now close. It has taken a long time. That time in my life was something one should not have to go through. Because I did, my children were the benefactors of that life experience.

a word or two more...

.....by the way, I am GREATLY enjoying this class! Debi is an excellent instructor with a vast reserve of important information related to the class.

This course dovetails perfectly with an email newsletter I have wanted to create for my job for over 2 years. I'm very grateful for everyone at the school for making this terrific learning experience so conveniently available!

Paul Doane (In-Design Student - 2/18/08)
Instructor Debi Rapson

I have enjoyed the class and it has help me to overcome some 'secrets' that I have been keeping.

Thanks to you both for your kindness to the class. I will continue to blog on New Hampshire.com. I have acquired a tremendous admiration for journalists. I only knew one other, Joe Sullivan. Now I know two more thanks to this class. I will have my wife bring home the Nashua Telegraph from work each day so I can read your column.

Jim Eddinger (Columns/Blogging Class - 02/24/08)
Instructors Stacy Milbouer and Tom Long

Kudos to you and the Loeb School for an excellent workshop on telling Your Family Story last Saturday. All the presenters were excellent and I learned a lot that will help me get started in telling my family story.

Alice Noyes (Telling Your Family Story Workshop - 03/10/08)

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ABOUT US

All are welcome!

The Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications, Inc., admits students of any race, color, sex, age, religion, national and ethnic origin to all of the rights, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, disability, color, sex, age, religion, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs and athletic and other school administered programs.

Rent our space!

The Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications offers several classrooms and a large function room for your business or agency needs. Our handicapped-accessible facility is conveniently located off Interstates 93, 293 and 101. With ample parking, it is ideal for out-of-the-office retreats, training sessions or as a central meeting place for employees from satellite offices or agencies. We have everything: wireless Internet connection and even the kitchen sink. See our rental information at www.loeb.school.org.

Support our programs!

Hundreds of sponsors and donors help the Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications offer its free classes by supporting our annual First Amendment Awards dinner. Find out how you can become a sponsor or donate to the school by calling 627-0005.

Contact us!

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Read our student blogs!

At newhampshire.com.

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