

## **Debra-Lynn B. Hook**

471 Danel Street

Kent, Ohio, 44240

330-283-6907

dlbhook@yahoo.com

### **OBJECTIVE**

To continue my career as a journalist.

### **EDUCATION**

1981 Bachelor of Arts in News Editorial Journalism, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, La. Minors: English, history, French. Related experience: Reporter and editor, LSU Daily Reveille (student newspaper); vice president local chapter Society of Professional Journalists.

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

Nov. 2008-present Contract writer. Health Day.com.

April 2008-present Contract writer. American Greetings blog, Journey in Parenting.com. Duties include twice-weekly posts with accompanying photography.

March 2008-September 2008 Contract writer and editor. International Hyperhidrosis Society, Philadelphia. Responsible for bi-monthly online newsletter, "Sweat Solutions."

2007-2008 Contract writer and occasional photographer. Moms Easy Chair.com, ezine for Haystack Media Group, Atlanta. Traveled nationwide with team of journalists gathering data and attitudes on motherhood. Sole responsibility for compiling research into white paper/marketing document.

2005 Adjunct instructor, School of Journalism, Kent State University.

1987- present Columnist. McClatchy News Service, formerly Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Service. Family life column, "Bringing Up Mommy," has appeared in more than 100 newspapers, magazines and dot.coms.

1995 Author. "Bringing Up Mommy: The Tender Years." Book collection of newspaper columns published by Andrews and McMeel Publishing.

- 1994-1997                      Researched and wrote monolith, *Working Together for Our Youngest Children, Four Collaboratives in Early Childhood Education*, for BellSouth Foundation, Atlanta.
- 1983-1993                      Reporter, occasional fill-in features editor and photographer. *The State*, (Columbia, S.C.). Circulation at the time, 138,000. Beats included early childhood education; higher education trends; feature writing; medical feature writing; general assignments; local government and crime; marriage and family issues. Related experience: Member of the newspaper's child-care task force; participant in seminars on writing, cultural diversity and newspaper design.
- 1982-1983                      Reporter and photographer. *The Greenville News* (S.C.), Pickens County Bureau. Circulation at the time, 91,000. Duties included spot news, features, local government, crime and courts and business, some photography.
- 1982                              Reporter. *The Myrtle Beach Sun News* (S.C.). Circulation at the time, 40,000. Duties included general assignments, local government and education, features, some photography.
- 1976                              Studio photographer, Palmetto Portraits, Greenville, S.C. Traveled the South, photographing Shriners for yearbook.

#### **AWARDS**

- 2007                              Best Media Coverage, International Hypherhidrosis Society.
- 1990                              South Carolina Press Association, Best Column, Second Runner-Up.
- 1990                              South Carolina Medical Association, First Place, Print Journalism.
- 1989                              Institute of Southern Studies, Feature Reporting for series, "Surviving Old Age," First Runner-Up.
- 1987                              South Carolina Press Association, Spot News, Second Runner-Up.

#### **OTHER**

- March 2007                      Family, including children 10, 15 and 19, spent spring break with Kent State University contingent working on rebuilding New Orleans, specifically F.W. Gregory Junior High.
- 2007                              Helped found "Heart Stories" volunteer hospice writing program with Robinson Memorial Hospital Hospice, Ravenna, Ohio.

	Collected information, interviews and photographs, then produced written and pictorial life stories for dying patients.
February 2006	Hosted/held party/fundraiser in Kent, Ohio, for NOLA Musician's Village. Attendees, 150. Raised \$1,100.
Fall 2005	Raised \$8,000 for Katrina victims in New Orleans.
Oct. 20, 2005	Cover story with photos, <i>The Cleveland Plain Dealer</i> , "Broken Home," story on returning home to visit my late mother's drowned home in NOLA post-Katrina.
2004-2005	Founder and President, Parents and Children Together, group of 100 families in Kent, Ohio, advocating for and supporting community's gifted students.
2003	Vestry member, Christ Church Episcopal, Hudson, Ohio
2000-2003	Program director of adult education, Christ Church Episcopal, Hudson, Ohio.

#### **REFERENCES**

- Brent Bierman, News Editor, McClatchy-Tribune News Service, Washington, D.C.
- Lisa Pieretti, Executive Director, The International Hyperhidrosis Society, Philadelphia
- Jaime Smith, Editor, *American Greetings*, Cleveland
- Megan Sexton, former Features Editor, *The State*, Columbia, S.C.
- Paul Gaston, former provost, Kent State University