

BPW/PA
April
2018



Official Publication of
The Pennsylvania Federation of Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.

The Key

Message from President Marilyn Tallant

Bridge to the Future is the theme for 2018.

A Bridge is a structure that provides connection, contact or transition. Our Bridge is connecting us to 100 years of BPW. 2018 is the 99th year of BPW.

April is the month for District Meetings. This Spring visits will be made to Districts 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12. The President, President Elect and the Vice President will each visit 2 districts.

June 7-10, 2018 we will celebrate our 98th Annual Convention at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Wyomissing, PA. I encourage all of the members to make plans to

attend. District 9 is working hard and is very anxious to serve as your hostess for this year's convention.

This Convention will open Friday morning, June 8th. We will honor 25+ and 50+ years of membership and have a presentation for FIRST TIMERS, SOME TIMERS and ALL TIMERS. Several speakers will give presentations throughout the convention. Our Young Careerists and Individual Development participants will give presentations.

OUR CLUBHOUSE (www.ourclubhouse.org) is the State Project. Our Clubhouse provides comfort, care and

hope to those touched by cancer. It is free cancer support for those living with cancer at any age, as well as the family and friends who care for them. Thank you for supporting this project where nobody has to face cancer alone.

Please check the website for updates and information.
www.bpwpa.org

See all of you at the 98th Convention, June 7 – 10.

2017-2018 President

Marilyn

Marilyn Tallant
BPW/PA President

State Convention Issue 98th Annual State Convention



June 7 through 10, 2018



Crowne Plaza Hotel—Wyomissing, PA

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“Bridge to the Future”

BPW/PA 2017-2018 STATE INFORMATION

Nominations

Ladies, it gives me immense pleasure to present to you an “almost” complete slate of officers. All members have completed the required paperwork for Nominations. I have not received a nomination for the office of Treasurer. I ask members to consider this important office be nominated from the convention floor in June in Reading.

Each candidate was asked to respond to the following questions:

Question 1: How do you see yourself as being “The Bridge” to BPW/PA’s future?

Question 2: How do you see BPW as being “The Bridge” to the future for women.

PRESIDENT-ELECT



Nominated for the office of President-Elect is Dawn M. Berkebile who is a member of Latrobe BPW in District Three.

In response to Question 1, Dawn says, “I don’t see myself being the Bridge to future at all.

DAWN M. BERKIBILE

I see myself more as a small section of the Bridge already under construction by each of the presidents that have come before me. We each add a section to the bridge while at the same time shoring up the existing structure. I envision my section being filled with the involvement of more working mothers of young children. According to the US Department of Labor for 2017, 70% of mothers with children under the age of 18 participate in the work force. And 75% of those work full time. Mothers are primary and sole earners of 40% of households with children under 18. Those are some very interesting statistics. I know we all may have these working mothers in our locals and there are a handful that are active. We need to come up with ways to help them manage their already busy

schedule to allow them the ability to get more involved without the “mom guilt” of not being available to their children and help them step into leadership roles.”

In response to Question 2, Dawn says, “I believe with how busy our lives have become that it is harder and harder to motivate people to get involved in organizations. People feel they are being pulled in too many directions and volunteer organizations are the first things chopped off their calendars. We, as an organization, have already taken great strides to bring us into the 21st century with all of its tech savvy craziness. And we are looking into other ways the organization can accommodate today’s busy working woman. We need to continue on that path while still supporting our seasoned members and educating all women on the issues we all face. Even with the overextended lives we lead today, there is a need for organizations like ours to support and connect women.

VICE

PRESIDENT



Nominated for the office of Vice President is Marisa S. Harmon who is a member of Uniontown BPW in District Twelve.

MARISA S. HARMON

In response to Question 1, Marisa says, “I see myself as someone who can hopefully bridge the gap between our seasoned BPW sisters and the future members who will eventually become a new generation of seasoned sisters. In the last year, I started a new career where most of my co-workers are in their early to mid-twenties. It astounds me how many of them, through discussions, have no idea about pay inequity, unequal work conditions for women, and what women have been through since obtaining the right to vote almost one hundred years ago. While I do my best to educate them on these issues and in what BPW stands for, I realize there are so

many more young women who would benefit from an organization like BPW/PA.”

In response to Question 2, Marisa says, “As I touched upon in my previous answer, we have a generation of young women who are unaware that inequality still exists in the workplace despite all advances made since women earned the right to vote. BPW is necessary to continue educating women of all ages about these issues so that our future has the chance to be much brighter and far more equitable for women. It is the bridge between generations of women who know far too well that we still haven’t reached ‘Equal Pay for Equal Work’.”

RECORDING SECRETARY



Nominated for the office of Recording Secretary, is Virginia (Ginny) Bailey. Ginny is a member of Montgomery County BPW and District Eleven.

GINNY BAILEY

In response to Question 1, Ginny says, “I see myself as “The

Bridge” in encouraging my friends and co-workers to get involved in the issues that are important to them, getting them to register to vote, doing their research to find and support the candidates who have the best record on that issue, and then actually going to vote for that candidate. Even people who say they are “not political” have opinions on issues that affect them.

With her parents support and help, I am encouraging my 4-year old niece Ellie to think for herself by giving her books and toys that challenge gender stereotypes. For example, I have given her books like “She Persisted” by Chelsea Clinton and “Princesses Wear Pants” by Samantha Guthrie. I also gave her a dress-up doll that has outfits like scientist, doctor, astronaut, firefighter, police woman, etc. She could see that while it was okay to

Nominations (condt.)

pretend to be a princess or go to tea parties, there are other options for girls. My friends say that Ellie is the only 4-year old with a women's studies shelf in her library."

In response to Question 2, Ginny says, "a bridge is defined as "a structure carrying a road or path across a river, ravine, road, or other obstacle". BPW must be the bridge that carries women over the current obstacles: our legislators failing to pass laws to protect women from workplace and pay discrimination; domestic violence; quality health care; reproductive freedom; sexual abuse in the military, workplace and college campuses and failure to pass the Equal Rights Amendment. As BPW members, we need to support and encourage candidates to run for office

who agree with the BPW/PA Legislation Platform.

To be the bridge for women in the future BPW needs to continue to work for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. When Arizona ratified the ERA in 2017, it left two more states needed to ratify. North Carolina is close and in a recent interview, Shelly Simonds said that if the courts uphold her election to the House of Delegates in Virginia, she promised to get the ERA ratified in Virginia. With North Carolina and Virginia working to pass the ERA, 2018 could be the year the ERA gets added to the U.S. Constitution.

Now more than ever, BPW must be the voice of working women.

TREASURER

Nominations will be accepted from the floor at State Convention.

Members, I look forward to State Convention when we will nominate and elect a new BPW/PA Treasurer to our Executive Board.

Thank you Dawn, Marisa, & Ginny for stepping up to serve our PA Federation in these capacities.

Thank you, President Marilyn, for the opportunity to serve the PA Federation of BPW as your Nominations Chair!

Susan Vladika, Nominations Chair
vladika@verizon.net

Legislation

2017-2018 BPW/PA LEGISLATION CONTEST CATEGORIES CONTEST PERIOD: APRIL 1ST 2017 TO MARCH 31ST 2018

CATEGORY #1

Best program or project relating to or passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

CATEGORY #2

Best program or project relating to BPW/PA Legislative Platform
ECONOMIC EQUITY plank.

CATEGORY #3

Best program or project relating to BPW/PA Legislative Platform
HEALTH plank.

CATEGORY #4

Best program or project relating to BPW/PA CIVIL RIGHTS plank.

CATEGORY #5

Best program promoting BPW/PA Political Action Committee (PAC) nomination and follow through with the candidate.

CATEGORY #6

Best program educating the community about BPW's commitment to legislative action and role in the political process.

CATEGORY #7

Most legislatively active local organization participating in enacting or reforming Pennsylvania or national legislation whose activities support BPW/PA's Legislative Platform.

CATEGORY #8

Most legislatively active District with the highest number of local organizations participating in BPW/PA Legislation contests.

CATEGORY #9

Best letter to an Editor or Politician advocating for a BPW/PA legislation issue or to influence public opinion.

CATEGORY #10

Local Organization who sent the most letters to Editors or Politicians advocating for BPW/PA legislative issues.

Rochelle Quiggle Esq.

BPW/PA Legislation Chair



Foundation

PA CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN WAS A HIT!



Who knew that when the PA BPW Foundation Board ordered two tables for the upcoming PA Conference for Women scheduled for October 3, 2017, we would have a mass hysteria on July 11! We

ordered the tables in May so we could try to sell the seats while at State Convention. Yes, we sold some of the seats but that July 11th was the day that it was announced that our former First Lady Michelle Obama would be the keynote speaker. As hard as our Treasurer Denice Robinson called and tried to get a few more tables, we were placed on a lengthy waiting list. We knew that we disappointed some of our BPW/PA members and for that we were truly sorry. We had NO WAY of knowing that Michelle Obama would be asked.

Over 11,000 women gathered at the Convention Center in Philadelphia. The largest crowd in the 13 years of the PA BPW Conference. It was really crowded but the many speakers and excellent workshops were outstanding to those who could get into the conference rooms. The one half of the convention hall provided areas for the booths filled with vendors or partici-

pants such as ourselves.

The PA BPW Foundation and the BPW/PA cosponsored a corner booth and welcomed many to hear about our organization and what we had to offer for women and their families. There were pamphlets, giveaways, candies for all to enjoy. We had members who donated gift cards that were used for the "lucky drawing jar." We wish to thank each of them for their kind gesture. All the cards were dispensed.

But the one item that makes our booth stand out year after year is the BPW/PA Quilt. It is a work of many hours of labor and members' hands. Women come every year just to marvel at its beauty and its Pay Equity message. It is definitely a conversational piece during the day as everyone wants to see all the panels that were created by our local organizations back in the early 2000's. It is a masterpiece and hopefully someday, we can finish it once we reach equal pay for equal work.

But representing our PA BPW Foundation were Cathy Collins, Vice President and Bernie Koval, Board member, and representing BPW/PA were President Marilyn Tallant and Karen Schmiech, Corresponding Secretary, and many members of our districts. Terry Miller, District 10 member and a dedicated supporter, was able to have our members sharing the duties of manning the booth during the long day. We wish to send a HUGE thank you to all of you who made this day so eventful.

Next year's date has been posted as October 12, 2018. So if anyone hears anything about who might be the keynote speaker, please give us a "heads up."

Nancy Werner, PA BPW Foundation Chair; February 28, 2018

PA BPW Foundation Announces...

We are in search of applicants for the PA BPW Foundation Scholarships. Please consult the bpwpa.org web site and search the public page. If you or anyone you know might need assistance for the upcoming academic

fall semester, please read the criteria. If applicable, please complete the application and make the required number of copies and submit all the required documents to the Chair of our Education Committee, Cathy Collins. We will be rewarding six (6) scholarships. **Deadline MAY 1.**

We are proud to announce that we are purchasing 3 tables for the upcoming PA Conference for Women to be held on

Friday, October 12, 2018 at the Philadelphia Convention Hall. At the upcoming State Convention, we will have forms and will accept your checks. The cost last year was \$175. We have not heard the cost as of yet. Plus no, we have not heard who will be the Keynote Speaker but we do **NOT** wish to be caught off guard again. Keep reading the web site for the PA Conference for Women for

Young Careerist

NOW IS THE TIME . . . to secure a Young Careerist Candidate to represent your District at Convention. Our BPW/PA Spring District Meetings are fast approaching so please do what you can to encourage young women from your District to participate in the Young Careerist Program. The requirements of the 2017-2018 YC Program are available on our BPW/PA website. A \$300.00 cash award will be presented to the Young Careerist winner at Convention. Please remember that the Young Careerist application form must be submitted by May 1, 2018. The

application includes a biographical information sheet and a signed BPW/PA Legislative Platform support statement and a digital photo.

The YC candidate makes a presentation at Convention speaking a maximum of 4 minutes on any one of six topics from the 2017-2018 topics. There are also short personal interviews conducted at Convention to allow the Judges to get to know the candidates. The Young Careerist Program spotlights our future BPW/PA leaders. The program rec-

ognizes the accomplishments of our younger women and provides them with professional and personal development, skills and opportunities. Let's have a candidate from each of our 12 Districts at Convention. I look forward to all of us meeting in June and having the opportunity to congratulate 12 young women on their decision to challenge themselves and grow using BPW as the Bridge to the Future.

Terry Miller Young Careerist Chair

District 1 News

BPW/PA District 1

Meadville—The BPW/PA Meadville local held its Seventh Annual Judith's Jig 5K Race on March 17th, 2018. Judith's Jig celebrates the life of Judith Patterson Gilbert. Judith, a former District Director and local president, was a very active member of BPW on a local, district and state level. Proceeds from the race this year benefitted Crawford County CASA, Women's Services of Meadville and The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network.

Members of the Meadville Local are busy planning events for the upcoming months. On April 10th it will hold its annual Dames, Dollars & Desserts

Equal Pay Day commemoration. The event is free and open to the public.

Female Firepower, a signature program of BPW/PA Meadville, will be held Friday, May 18 at the Iroquois Club in Conneaut Lake, PA. The event is not only a professional development for women in the Crawford, Erie and Mercer County areas, it is a recruitment tool for membership into the Meadville Local.

In February members of the BPW/PA Meadville local took ALL of their donated purses, from their very successful "Purses, Pastries, and Pints" event in October, and filled them with tons of donated personal items such as hand

creams, tooth brushes and soaps and took them to Women's Services in Meadville. Pictured below are members of the local with donated purses as well as personal items that were included in the purses.



District 3 News

Greater Pittsburgh— November was held in recognition of Veterans Day, Captain Pam Iovino (Ret) educated us on women in the military and her personal journey climbing through the ranks.

In December, our annual Holiday Party was a night of fellowship, action, and fun! Member Ashley DiMaio hosted the festivities at her home cheerfully decorated for the holiday season. During the party we collected items for the Humane Society, assign shoppers for our Adopt-a-Family donated funds for the Senior Stocking Stuffer initiative championed by member Emily Neel. Members are scheduling our Local's participation in WPAL Stuff-a-Store event at the Monroeville Mall. Members of the Greater Pittsburgh BPW were excited to exchange gifts during our grab bag game.

Also, Assistant Superintendent of the Allegheny County of Police and BPW member Maurita Bryant invited the Local to take part in the Western Pennsylvania Police Athletic League (WPAL) Stuff-a-Store event at the Monroeville Mall. During the holiday season, police officers donate and distribute toys to youth in their communities. Greater Pittsburgh BPW supported the effort by wrapping and packing hundreds of the donations for the Christmas holiday.

Members Maurita Bryant and Joy Pekar championed the Adopt-a-Family spirit in the Wilmerding community. They along with the entire local club bought and donated Christmas gifts to two families with children who were impacted by a house

fire. President Diane Richard and Maurita Bryant provided the families with the donated gifts.

In January, the National Robotics Engineering Center in Pittsburgh hosted the For Inspiration in Research Science and Technology (FIRST) robotic competition. Local high school students are invited to test out their self-designed robots in practice challenges. Girls of Steel, an all-girls team, entered their robots as well as built the competition field for the event. GPBPW Member M.J. Shaw served onsite as a Mentor for the day. Feel free to follow the competition at <http://frc.ri.cmu.edu/>

In February, GP BPW Vice President M.J. Shaw served as judge and visual board operator at the Math Count competition in February. The Math Counts program combines the efforts of business and technology in the community to promote math excellence to middle school students.

Greensburg BPW is working on fundraisers to support our Scholarship Program and OUR CLUBHOUSE, the state project. We sell Colebrook candy at Christmas, coupon books in Nov and Easter candy in March. And we support our local food pantry at our monthly meetings.

In October we toured the Westmoreland County Food Bank in Delmont led by Texie Waddell. She explained that the Food Bank distributes food to 43 pantries one day per month in West-

moreland County. Food is distributed to 7200 families annually. The Food Bank is an affiliate of Feeding America which is a national network. Food safety is very important and they work with Penn State for education. Texie explained some of the programs such as Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), Summer Food Program, Operation Fresh Express and SNAP (known as food stamps). For every \$1.00 donated they can purchase \$10.00 in food. We had an overwhelming tour of the warehouse and donated \$200.00 from Greensburg BPW.

To celebrate NBWW we placed an Ad in the Tribune Review on Oct 19th to honor the contributions of working women and employers who support working women. Also, Cathy Caccia designed tent cards for the Westmoreland Mall food court explaining NBWW and our Greensburg local with info on joining.

In Nov two of our new members gave presentations on their recent European trips. Kate Frame spent a week in Amsterdam, Brussels and London. In Amsterdam everyone is "laid back". Many coffee shops sell marijuana, which is legal. Everyone uses bicycles for transportation. In London she saw the London Eye, like a ferris wheel to hold 20 people. Emily Frye lived in Prague while interning in HR. The economy in the Czech Republic is thriving. People are reserved because of the Communist influence. The Czech Republic is the most atheist in the world. Both presentations were excellent.

District 3 News condt.

Before Thanksgiving, Marilyn, Cathy, Nancy, Emily and myself decorated a tree at the Ramada in Greensburg with donations going to our fundraisers.

Our Jan program was TAX TIPS presented by Cathy Caccia. Cathy reviewed some of the difference between 2017 and 2018 that will result from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. For example, the standard deduction for filing as Single, Married or Head of Household nearly doubles in 2018 but the personal exemption of \$4,050 will be eliminated. Unless you exceed the standard deduction amount of \$12.0 for Single or \$24.0 for Married you cannot itemize. Cathy provided us with a hand out that highlighted the important changes in the new tax plan that was signed into law on December 22, 2017 and became effective on January 1, 2018.

In February, Bonnie DeLosier, Program Manager of Adagio Health gave a great presentation on Women's Health. If you are 40-64 yrs old, have no or limited insurance and have a low to moderate income you can qualify for a Mammogram, Pap test, diagnostic tests and will NOT receive a bill. The Program is sponsored by the Pa Dept. of Health through a grant from the CDC.

Latrobe BPW has momentum! We continue to grow and are 103 members strong. Focusing on President Tallant's theme Bridge to the Future, we are focusing on bridging the gap between our new and seasoned members. Connecting new members and supporting each other we will continue our legacy.

In January we welcomed our first students of the month for the club year. Each student is eligible for our club scholarship.

We've had 2 amazing guest speakers in 2018. Dawn Hennessey of Faith Forward Ministries/Angel Arms shared how her organization is bridging the gap in care for children

born through addiction. Barbara Calcagni of All About Thermography gave a wonderful presentation on the benefits of Thermal Imaging and helping women detect breast cancer early.



Our members have really stepped up in support of President Tallant's state project – Our Clubhouse. In addition to raising funds, we have helped raise awareness of the organization. Our Clubhouse has a location in Unity Twp. PA and we have several members who also belong to their support groups. Members Susan Mough and Grace Rigoni, co-chairs of our Goodwill/Special Projects Committee, have really made a connection with the local office. In December, we decorated the facility for Christmas. In January we organized a family game night for Clubhouse members. In February we provided dessert and served the Valentine dinner to 30 Clubhouse guests. It has truly been a rewarding experience to connect with Our Clubhouse staff and members. We are looking forward to more projects with them.



Our ID/YC chair has been busy mentoring candidates for a club speak off at our March meeting. We are excited that we had 5 members attend the ID/YC workshop in the fall. I am joining the state board members at the winter board meeting "Train the Trainor" session to become an official ID/YC Workshop Facilitator.

Our annual Spring Tea was on March 24. This highly anticipated event was our biggest to date. We sold out almost immediately and expected 290 guests. The local Woman of the Year and New Member of the Year was revealed during the event. This is our sole fundraiser generating funds for our scholarships and club philanthropy.

We are looking forward to convention and welcoming Latrobe member Theresa Rusbosin as State President for 2018-19.

Ligonier Valley BPW February was a busy month and Ligonier Valley tried to cover all the bases! It was Heart Awareness Month and our speaker and member, Leah Wagner, shared her story with us of her journey regarding the health of her heart. Our Foundation Chair, Laurie Hough, had a fun game to test our Club's knowledge of Foundation in honor of Foundation Cancer Prevention Month. And in line with National Cancer Prevention Month, we are continuing our collections for Our Clubhouse.



On Tuesday, **April 3, 2018**, Ligonier Valley hosted "A Night at the Museum", an evening at Fort Ligonier's Center for History Education from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. that encompassed both Women in History month and Equal Pay Day and feature a program given by Erica Knuckles, Director of History, entitled "Women of the War – Roles in the 18th Century" as well as entrance into the interior museum. We invited our sister Locals to attend.



BPW Membership makes a great graduation gift!

District 8 News

Tunkhannock—Our Local set the date for our Wine Down at the Dietrich Theatre in PA. Thursday, May 17. Call Judy Werkheiser 570-840-2928 for information and tickets. The movie will be Life of the Party. We are looking for-

ward in possessing our District Eight Spring Conference. Our March meeting was interesting with Deborah Courville as our speaker talking on the subject of 1900-1920 women's fashion. February we had a silent auction during our meeting to raise

money for Foundation. January our own member, Julianne Miller, discussed Finances for the New Year. Happy Spring to everyone, Janet Roeber Tunkhannok Local President

District 10 News

District 10— under Keny Holman as District Director is going along smoothly working on Building the Bridge to the Future.

Greater Downingtown has been busy this year and in December made a contribution to support the CYWA to provide meals at a shelter for homeless women. The Local also delivered gifts to the Mary Walker House in Coatesville for women veterans. Delaware County Local has provided \$2,500.00 in contributions to various organizations for women and girls. **Chesmont** continues to support their community with a \$250.00 grant from the Local for the most improved student. **West Chester** collects paper products for a local women's shelter. All four Locals in District 10 have reached out to the community this year and look forward to continuing their good work! District Director, Keny Holman and Assistant Director, Ro Colantuono have visited the Locals this year.

District 10 is looking forward to having BPW/PA President, Marilyn J. Tallant as our official representative at our Spring District Meeting on April 21,

2018 at the Concord Country Club!



Chesmont: celebrated the holiday season at the Rainbow's Comedy Dinner Playhouse, in Lancaster PA enjoying the show **Guess Who's Coming to Christmas** with good food and fellowship and many laughs!

The January meeting was a presentation by Mary Kay Peterson, President of the Chester County National Organization of Women (NOW) and Patti Myers, Treasurer. Mary Kay described the goals and efforts of NOW. The group is dedicated to gender equality and is looking to partner with like groups, such as BPW. They are planning to run some forums on gender equality. Following the Presidential

election, they experienced a resurgence of interest in membership. Mary Kay's Mother had been a member of BPW, and she was very positive about how much BPW had benefitted her Mother.

(www.chestercountynow.org)

In March, Chesmont BPW will be celebrating our 71st Anniversary! Our celebration will include a matinee show of *The Dixie Swim Club* at the Forge Theater in Phoenixville followed by dinner at the Valley Forge Trattoria.

Delaware County BPW Delaware County BPW started off the New Year with our speaker Patty Snyder, RN who discussed the Uses of Medical Marijuana. Our members again this year served as Guest Chefs for Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia in January. Our speaker in February was Maria T. Guidera, Registered Dietician who spoke on Heart Healthy Eating for Women. Our Quarter Auction is March 14, 2018 and we will also be partnering with Friends of Delaware County Women's Commission to host our 12th Annual WOMENOMICS® Forum on April 7, 2018.

How to Open A Wine Bottle Without A Corkscrew



Using a drill and a nail about the length of the cork, drill the nail into the cork leaving just enough space for you to lodge the back of a hammer around the nail. Then, as you would pulling a nail from a wall, slowly but with con-

sistent pressure pull up on the nail (without ripping it from the cork!) and the cork should follow.

Using a wooden spoon- In this method, you won't actually get the cork out of the wine bottle, but you'll at least get it out of the way. Using the back of a wooden spoon, press with consistent pressure down on the middle of the cork. Keep a steady and tight grip on the base of the opening, on the neck of the bottle, and the cork should push down into the body of the bottle. You may have to keep pushing the cork down to get it fully out of

the way!

Use a key- Stab the key as deeply into the cork as you possibly can (this may require you to push the key consistently to lodge it tightly in the cork.) Then wiggle the key without ripping it from the cork and watch the cork pop out!

Using a steak knife- Use caution with this method. Twist the knife into the cork (make sure to choose a knife that isn't wider than the mouth of the bottle.) Don't screw the knife all the way through the cork. With consistent and steady force, wiggle and pull the cork out.

District 11 News

WAY TO SPONSOR STATE PROJECT

The District Eleven is helping to support the "Our Clubhouse," the State Project with a new twist. Using empty water bottles,

every district member has been asked to fill their very own bottle with dimes. Now that comes to a lot of dimes but we do know that some clubs are using one large bottle and you may donate any coins that you wish. We are anxiously awaiting the monetary returns when we get to our Spring District Meeting on April 14.

GREATER CONSHOHOCKEN NAME SHINES!

With a new name for the former Conshohocken BPW, the local put together a very successful and informative Candidate forum. They had candidates for the Mayor's office, judges, school district and bor-

ough. They were quite pleased that some of these candidates who did indeed go on to be elected into their new county/borough positions.

Quakertown- Fourth year paddle raffle was held on Sunday, April 22 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Senior Center in Milford Square, PA. Another great day, everyone to had FUN!

Members obtained patrons and local businesses to contribute items for the paddle raffle. Also, everyone was encouraged to save their quarters,

Members sold tickets to family and friends. They also had the brown bag specials that are called the "Ticket Raffle" and there was a BIG Item Prize for the day.

Souderton-Telford- BPW held their second annual Locally Grown Showcase on Saturday, March 3 at the Indian Creek Foundation, 420 Cowpath Road, Souderton from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Their goal is to connect families with farm to table restaurants, local organic growers and sellers, service organizations and non

profits ways to get involved in the community and ways to give back and invest in the community. Food vendors and food trucks were present. There was many vendors providing information and goods on a variety of topics from wine tasting, soap making to products from alpaca fur. We had another great turnout from the communities that they represent.

Upper Perkiomen- BPW held their 9th outstanding EXPO, "BPW: A Bridge Through Generations" on Sunday, March 11, 2018 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Upper Perkiomen YMCA. There were over 40 vendors present and this year the vendors were selling their wares! They had a fantastic raffle for a 3- Night Trip for 2 that includes hotel and airfare to either: New Orleans, Las Vegas or Miami Beach. The winner was announced that afternoon. The admission cost was \$3.00.

UPBPW had another successful EXPO.

District 12 News

Connellsville— Spring is a wonderful time of the year. It is a time of renewal, re-birth and re- invigoration of ideas. Our club has the same problem that many other clubs have-how to gain and maintain new members. We tried something new at our March meeting.

Each member personally invited a former member to come back for a new look. We conducted our usual

business meeting followed by a Round Robin activity, "What woman impacted your life most".

It was interesting to hear from ladies that we thought that we knew. We had one former member attend. Hopefully, she is planning to re-join.

We have finally completed our informational traveling display board. This board has basic information about BPW along

with photos of members at work for BPW. This board will be brought to meetings and activities to let people what BPW is all about. Hopefully, it will spark some interest for others to join. Our scrap bookers helped to beautify the project!



TO: BPW/PA Executive Committee
BPW/PA Board of Directors
BPW/PA Past State Presidents
BPW/PA Local Organization Presidents
BPW/PA Members

FROM: Marilyn J. Tallant, President *Marilyn J. Tallant*
Karen L. Schmiech, Corresponding Secretary *Karen L. Schmiech*

DATE: March 1, 2018

RE: Call to the 98th Annual State Convention

DATE: June 7 through 10, 2018

LOCATION: Crowne Plaza Hotel
Wyomissing, PA

HOSTESS: District 9 – Mynele Caraballo-DeJesus, Director
Diane Lewis, Convention Chair

The 98th annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. will convene Friday, June 8, 2018 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Wyomissing, PA

The purpose of the convention is to elect officers and transact the business of the federation and carry out the provisions of the bylaws. As stated in the Pennsylvania Federation Bylaws, Article XVIII, Section 2: The call to convention, candidate information and any proposed bylaws amendments shall be mailed to each local organization at least thirty (30) days prior to the convention.

As per Article XVIII, Section 4: The voting body shall be any individual who has paid convention registration fee and is a member in good standing. No member shall have more than one vote and no voting by proxy shall be allowed.

ROOM RESERVATIONS



Crowne Plaza Reading Hotel
1741 Papermill Road
Wyomissing, Pa. 19610

877-814-2538

Room Rates

Event Discount Code: BPW

\$122.00 - Single **\$122.00 - Double**
\$132.00 - Triple **\$142.00 - Quad**
All rooms + 11% tax

Full hot breakfast buffet is included with room rate

Reservation deadline is May 7, 2018



**PA Federation of Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.
2018 ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM**

JUNE 7 THROUGH 10, 2018
Crowne Plaza Hotel
1741 Papermill Road
Reading, PA 19610
877-814-2538 or 610-376-3811

Local: _____ District: _____ Date Joined: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Official Capacity (Check One)

_____	State Officer	_____	YC Contestant	_____	25 Yr. Member
_____	State Chair/Committee	_____	ID Contestant	_____	50 Yr. Member
_____	Past State President	_____	LO President	_____	50+ Yr. Member
_____	District Director	_____	Member	_____	Guest

*** PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR REGISTRATION ONLINE USING www.bpwpa.org ***

ADVANCE REGISTRATION (Postmarked by March 10, 2018) \$ _____
Full Time - \$55.00 One Day - \$40.00 (Circle One: Friday Saturday)

REGULAR REGISTRATION (Postmarked After March 10, 2018 and before May 15, 2018) \$ _____
Full Time - \$65.00 One Day - \$50.00 (Circle One: Friday Saturday)

ON-SITE REGISTRATION \$ _____
Full Time - \$90.00 One Day - \$70.00 (Circle One: Friday Saturday)

Friday Night Event (includes food) - \$35.00 \$ _____
(Benefits PA BPW Foundation & BPW/PA Special Programs)

SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET - \$40.00 \$ _____

Circle One: Vegetarian Chicken Boursin (in Puff Pastry) Sliced Grilled Sirloin
(All meals include salad, vegetable, rolls and beverage)

Dietary Restriction (Please Specify) _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

REGISTRATION IS NOT COMPLETE UNTIL PAYMENT IS RECEIVED. The method of payment can be done either using PayPal via the website or by making checks payable to **BPW/PA** and mail to: Jean Ann Towle, 248 W. Rowe Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252, 570-778-2072. **No email reservations accepted!** All tickets will be distributed at the time of registration at State Convention.

Refund Policy for Convention Pre-Registration: There will be a \$10 service fee for processing refunds. A letter requesting the refund should state the pre-registrant's name, address, LO and District and to whom the check should be made payable. No request will be honored if such request is postmarked after May 8, 2018 (30 days prior to the opening session). In the event of a death or hospitalization in the member's immediate family or hospitalization of the member after the 30-day limit, the registration fee will be refunded after verification and approval by the State President and/or State Finance Chair.

EXHIBITOR RESERVATION FORM
PENNSYLVANIA BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUBS, INC. (BPW/PA)
2018 STATE CONVENTION
June 7 - 10, 2017
The Crowne Plaza
1741 Papermill Road
Wyomissing PA 19610

-Please Print-

NAME _____

COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Description of product(s) to be exhibited: _____

BPW member \$100.00 per table \$ _____

State Federation and/or Local Organization

Non-BPW member \$150.00 per table \$ _____

25 ft. extension cord \$15.00 (if supplied by hotel) \$ _____

AC power strip \$15.00 (if supplied by hotel) \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please return a copy of the Exhibitor Reservation Form, the Exhibitor's Agreement, and your check made payable to **BPW/PA** to:

BPW/PA Convention Exhibitor Chair:
Rochelle Quiggle
2513 Panther Valley Rd.
Pottsville PA 17901

DEADLINE IS: APRIL 20, 2018

EXHIBITOR AGREEMENT
PENNSYLVANIA BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUBS, INC. (BPW/PA)
2018 STATE CONVENTION
June 7 - 10, 2018
The Crowne Plaza
1741 Papermill Road
Wyomissing PA 19610

1. **CONTRACT** – This agreement properly executed by applicant (EXHIBITOR) shall, upon written acceptance and notification of space assigned by BPW/PA, constitute a valid and binding contract.
2. **PURPOSE** – To offer innovative products from various markets to Pennsylvania women. BPW/PA reserves the right to determine, at its sole discretion, whether an Exhibitor may exhibit at this function.
3. **ASSIGNMENT OF SPACE** – Assignment of space is final and shall constitute an acceptance of the Exhibitor's offer to occupy space. Space assignments may be revoked or changed by BPW/PA any time that the full payment is not received by the due date.
4. **SUBLETTING OF SPACE** – Exhibitor agrees not to assign, sublet or apportion the whole or any part of the space allowed without the knowledge and written consent of BPW/PA.
5. **SPACE RENTAL FEES** – Exhibitor tables measure six (6) feet and include two (2) chairs. The rental fee for each "six-foot table exhibitor space" for the duration of the function will be One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for BPW members and One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) for Non-BPW members; 25 ft. extension cords are available from the hotel for an additional charge of Fifteen Dollars (15.00); power strips are available from the hotel for an additional charge of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00). **Please return a copy of the signed Exhibitor Agreement, completed Exhibitor Reservation Form and check made payable to BPW/PA.**
6. **ARRANGEMENT OF EXHIBITS** – Exhibitor agrees to arrange exhibits so as not to obstruct the general view nor hide other exhibits. No display material exposing an unfinished surface to neighboring exhibits or aisles will be permitted.
7. **ADVERTISING MATTER** – BPW/PA reserves the right to refuse to permit distribution.
8. **SAFETY PRECAUTIONS** – Exhibitor agrees to take the necessary measures to safeguard visitors in the Exhibit Area from any hazards associated with "exhibit equipment."
9. **PAYMENT AND CANCELLATION** – Full payment of the Space Rental Fee is required with the signed agreement. In the event of cancellation, BPW/PA shall have the right to use said space to suit its own convenience, including selling the space to another exhibitor, without any rebate or allowance to the defaulting exhibitor.
10. **OCCUPANCY OF EXHIBIT AREA** – BPW/PA may terminate this contract in the event the Exhibit Area is destroyed or damaged, or if the function fails to take place as scheduled, interrupted, discontinued, or access is prevented due to any of the following causes: strike, lockout, injunction, emergency, act of God, act of war, or any other cause beyond the control of BPW/PA. In such event, Exhibitor agrees to waive any damages and claims for damages and agrees that the sole liability of BPW/PA shall be to refund the Exhibitor all payments made for exhibit space, less a proportionate share of all expenses incurred and committed by BPW/PA.
11. **INSTALLATION AND DISMANTLING** – Exhibitor agrees to start installation of exhibit at 12:00 p.m. Thursday, June 7, 2018 and be ready by 2:00 p.m. for business sales continuing until 8:00 p.m. that day, Exhibitor agrees to be in place for the opening of the Business Session on Friday, June 8, 2018 at 7:30 a.m. Exhibitor agrees not to dismantle any exhibit before the tear down time of 2:00 p.m. Saturday, June 9, 2018 or remove any portion of an exhibit during the exhibition hours without permission from BPW/PA.
12. **REJECTIONS AND PENALTIES** – BPW/PA reserves the right to restrict, reject, prohibit or eject any exhibit, in whole or in part, which, because of noise, safety hazards or for other prudent reasons, becomes objectionable. Any Exhibitor's products, materials or behavior, which BPW/PA determines is non-conducive to a successful show, will be removed from the exhibition area. If any exhibit or Exhibitor is ejected for violation of these rules and regulations, no return of rental fee shall be made.
13. **INSURANCE AND LIABILITY** – BPW/PA and The Crowne Plaza will use reasonable care to protect the Exhibitor against loss. However, they will not be liable for damage or loss to property or of injury to Exhibitor, his/her agents or employees, through theft, damage by fire, accident or other causes. Exhibitor should insure his/her property against such loss. Exhibitor agrees to make no claim against and to protect, indemnify and hold harmless BPW/PA and The Crowne Plaza against loss, theft or damage to Exhibitor's property or for any injury to persons in Exhibitor's area. In the event BPW/PA shall be held liable resulting from Exhibitor's act or failure to act, Exhibitor agrees to indemnify BPW/PA

EXHIBITOR

PENNSYLVANIA BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB, INC.

Exhibitor Name

Marilyn Tallant, BPW/PA President

Date

By: _____

Date: _____

Rochelle Quiggle, BPW/PA 2018 Convention Exhibitor Chair Date

BPW/PA 2018 ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION AD/PATRON LIST

The state convention patron list can be used as an opportunity to show your support of the state federation or congratulate or extend good wishes to other members. The state convention patron ad can be used as an opportunity to promote your company or business or your employer.

Patron ads and patron lists will appear in the 2018 Convention Manual, which is distributed to every registrant at the State Convention. Costs are as follows:

Business Card	\$25.00
1/4 Page	\$50.00
1/2 Page	\$100.00
Full Page	\$150.00
Line – limited to 24 characters	\$5.00/line

Ads must be camera-ready and will be printed in black and white. Ads and/or lists **MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 15, 2018** for inclusion in manual. Please make checks payable to **BPW/PA** and return this form with payment to:

Angie Marhefka
BPW/PA Convention Manual Editor
27 Park Avenue
Scottdale, PA 15683
724-887-3530 (Home)
amarhefka@hotmail.com

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

Name of person completing form: _____

Telephone #: _____ Email address: _____

Size of Ad: (check one) Business Card _____ 1/4 Page _____ 1/2 Page _____ Full Page _____

PATRON LIST

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____



EQUAL PAY DAY

Capital Rotunda
501 N. 3rd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Tuesday, April 10, 2018
2:00 p.m.



**Plan to Lobby
Senators & Representatives
Prior to Rally**

ORGANIZED BY



PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION



Business and
Professional
Women/PA

DISTRICT 12 - TRIBUTE TO WOMEN AWARD CANDIDATE SUBMISSION

Each year at Convention, District 12 presents a special award to a woman who symbolizes leadership, wisdom, and strength in the face of opposition. She champions the equality of the working woman. She is dependable, and generous and represents friendship.

The nominee must be a BPW/PA member in good standing.

If you would like to submit a candidate's name for this award, please submit a letter that is no more than two type-written pages. Share why you feel this nominee best exemplifies this criteria. The Tribute to Women Committee has been proud to share this award with the late Janet Ford, Nancy Werner, Denice Robinson, Margaret Hildebrand, and Denise Clawson.

Each has received a certificate and proudly wears the star shaped necklace during her year of recognition. We would enjoy adding another name to this list. So if you have someone in mind, please send your letter to: Denice Robinson, Chair, 80 Oakland Ave., Uniontown, Pa. 15401 by May 15, 2018. Thank you.



PICTURE TIME



Chesmont BPW celebrating the holiday season at the Rainbow's Comedy Dinner Playhouse, in Lancaster PA enjoying the show **Guess Who's Coming to Christmas** with good food and fellowship and many laughs!



2017 PA Conference for Women: Cathy Collins, President Marilyn, Terry Miller and Karen Schmiech



Delaware County BPW members serving as Guest Chefs on January 28, 2018 at Ronald Mc Donald House for families of Sick, front, Tricia McLaughlin, Kathy Kovach, Kelly McCaughern, back Mary Jane Gibley



Sandy Gera of New Choices, Carol Metzger of New Day, President Pat Puleo, Lauren Psimaris of Girls on the Run, Susmita Sukla of Mary Walker House for Women Veterans and Vice President Jen Bravo. The organizations gratefully accepted Delaware County BPW's donations totaling \$2000.00 for their programs.



Latrobe BPW Members hosting "Game Night" at the Clubhouse in January.



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION OF
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S
CLUBS, INC.

4961 St. Josephs Road
Coopersburg, Pa. 18036
Fax: 610.966.4015
Email: bpw.mleonard@gmail.com

B
P
W



“Bridge to the Future”

Upcoming Events!

June 7-10, 2018– BPW/PA State Convention will be held at the Crown Plaza in Wyomissing. For additional information, see the included convention registration form. Join us for business and fun times with other members from across the state!

Female Firepower
Get fired up about your work and your life!
SAVE THE DATE!
05.18.18
FemaleFirepower.org

Female Firepower, a signature program of BPW/PA Meadville, will be held Friday, May 18 at the Iroquois Club in Conneaut Lake, PA. The event is not only a professional development for women in the Crawford, Erie and Mercer County areas, it is a recruitment tool for membership into the Meadville Local.

Letter from the Editor:

I would like to thank everyone for their understanding with the unfortunate lateness of this issue of The Key. As many of you are aware, my mom was in the final stages of her Appendiceal Cancer. I was following her wishes to stay in my home. I was able to do this with thanks to St. Luke's Hospice, my husband, and children. As she has always done, my mom was one tough cookie and fought her passing until her final day. On April 14 she passed away.

I would like to thank every BPW member who has sent sympathy cards or flowers. It truly meant a lot that so many of my fellow BPW members cared enough to send their condolences. You have all put faith in humanity back in my life.

Thank you,
Marcia Leonard
Key Editor

Deadline for Next Issue of The Key

Deadline for the next Key will be reported at State Convention in addition on where to send information to be included in the next issue. Thank you all for your assistance in making our state newsletter possible.

If you have any corrections to information in this issue of The Key, please notify Marcia so the changes can appear in the next issue of The Key.

Use of picture(s) Disclaimer: As pictures are provided to the Key Editor for use in this publication they become the property of the BPW/PA Key to be used at the total discretion of the publication and BPW/PA including publication in print and on the web (without any compensation for those in the picture as well as those who supply/create the pictures and at the organization's discretion). BPW/PA, the Key, or members associated with BPW/PA will be not be held liable for any damages resulting from use of provided or utilized photographs.