Happy February everyone. -- Hope everyone who was in our area made it through the bitter cold and snow storms without any issues. By this time each year, I have to be careful I don’t get the “blues” - I start to tire of winter and cold weather. That’s when I turn my thoughts to spring and the promise of warmer weather, sprouting greenery and flowers. That’s what keeps me going through the dreary winter days. I have HOPE – expectation that something will happen, trusting, waiting and looking for it to happen. I also have FAITH – believing in things that I cannot see, trusting they will happen.

As we near Valentine’s Day, I like to think of it as a reminder to add a large helping of LOVE to brighten the winter days. LOVE – a word with many meanings. There are many types of love: Eros or erotic love named after the Greek God Eros; Phila or affectionate love for others, friendship; and Agape which is divine love. Agape love is also referred to as Charity. This is the love that lasting relationships are built on, the love that never fails.

As we move through the season of winter into spring – and the start of new, we should plant the seeds of Faith, Hope and Love, not just in our own lives and homes but also for others. As BPW members we are united in our mission to achieve equality for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education and information. We are an advocate for working women, and focus on all issues that touch women’s lives and careers. We are Women Helping Women. Perhaps there is a woman who just needs a little encouragement, a friend to listen, or a helping hand. Perhaps there is a young professional who can benefit from our BPW programs, mentoring, scholarships or networking. Look for ways to “be there”. Share information about BPW, consider joining a committee to help with a project, our outreach, or a fundraiser, encourage women to apply for BPW scholarships and participate in BPW activities if you can.

As a team, let’s “be there” for all women -for each other, for those we don’t yet know, and to make things better for those who will follow us.

Keep the Faith, Hope and Love,
Joan LaSalle
February Birthdays
Donna Miller    February 8
Robin Arnold    February 16
Nancy Fowler    February 21
Nancy Mellott    February 25

Bedford Club News

Nancy Fowler Address Update - Member Nancy Fowler is now residing at Colonial Courtyard. She enjoys visits and cards. Nancy is in room 210. Address is Colonial Courtyard, 220 Donahue Manor Rd., Bedford, PA 15522 Phone Number (814) 330-4088

Bedford BPW member Chris Bollman and the Hickory Bottom Band are working on a project in a recording studio. Chris is the only female member of the band, and has an amazing, beautiful voice. She also plays guitar. If you have not heard this band, take a minute and check out their facebook page and website http://www.hickorybottomband.com. They are a contemporary bluegrass and country band. You can find songs on You Tube. Look for more information in March Newsletter about Chris!

Mathcounts Competition was held February 2nd at Penn State Altoona Campus. Both Blair and Center County winners were girls. Thank you to those who volunteered from Bedford BPW: Laura Whetstone, Ella McElwee, Joan LaSalle.

Club Member Deb Bollman has announced she is a candidate for Bedford County Commissioner. Look for more information in our March newsletter, at her website, www.deb4bc.com and find her on facebook page www.facebook.com/deb4bc.

Incumbent County Treasurer and Bedford BPW member Melissa Cottle will be running for re-election for second term. She has served as Treasurer for 4 years and working in other jobs in the county for a total of 19 years as a Bedford County employee. Treasurer Cottle would appreciate your support in the primary election May 21st.

Upcoming Events

MARCH BPW meeting speakers are the Bedford County Primary candidates for office. We anticipate as many as 20 candidates in attendance. Stay tuned for updates and possible time changes to our March meeting to accommodate this event.

April 7, 2019 (Sunday): 31 Bingo to benefit Bedford BPW Scholarship fund. Bedford Elks, doors open at 12:30pm, and first game is at 2 pm. We need a total of 20/$100 sponsors and at east 4/$200 sponsors to cover the cost of the baskets. We will have 20 regular games and 4 specials. At this time we have 1 of 4 $200 sponsor and 14 of 20 $100 sponsors. Perhaps get a friend to go “half” with you. Sponsors are listed in the program that we hand out the day of the bingo and also announced by the bingo caller. We also need donations of nice baskets/items for our raffle portion of the event. If you would like to donate a basket or toward filling a basket, please let Chris Bollman know. Along with items, money, gift cards or lottery tickets are great basket fillers.

If you have news for our newsletter, email or call Joan LaSalle: 814-285-6610; jlasalle929@gmail.com
STATE AND DISTRICT NEWS

Condolences:
BPW PA State President Theresa Rusbosin’s mother, Georgia G. Scerbo, passed from her Earthly home to her Heavenly home on January 23, 2019. Family and friends will be received from 5:30-8:30pm on Friday February 8 at the Robinson–Lytle Funeral Home, 36 7th Street, Indiana, PA 15701. Mass Saturday February 9th at 11 am at Bernard’s of Clairvaux, 200 Clairvaux Drive, Indiana, PA 1570. Cards may be addressed to President Theresa and her family:

Theresa Rusbosin
727 Cat Curve Lane
Latrobe, PA 1560

There will be a card to sign at February meeting for Theresa and family.

Get Well / Prayers:
Cards and prayers are needed for Dawn Berkebile, President Elect of BPW/PA and a member of the PA BPW Foundation Board. Dawn has started her treatments for Stage 3 breast cancer. Please keep Dawn and her family in your thoughts and prayers as she goes through this journey.

Dawn Berkebile
281 Wicklow Lane
Ligonier PA 15658

There will be a card to sign at February meeting for Dawn.

Legislative:
Do you know how to contact your legislators? Did you know you can email them directly from their website?


Upcoming Events:
March 8-9, 2019: BPW PA Mid-Winter Board of Directors Meeting, The Penn Stater Conference Center and Hotel, 215 Innovation Boulevard, State College, PA 16803. District 3 is Hostess Club. You can register online at the BPW PA website. bpwpa.wildapricot.org. Cost is $5.00, Saturday luncheon is $25.00 if registered by Feb. 20, 2019. Carpool for Saturday will be available. Call Joan LaSalle if you wish a seat in carpool.

Equal Pay Day – (Early April/ late March) Date and events TBD


In Our Community:
Thursday February 28 - Chamber Business After Hours: 5-7p., Golden Eagle Inn; Cost $6.00 for members, More information and reservations – 814.623.2233


Friday March 8th, United Way March into Comedy, Bedford Elks, Doors open 5:30, Buffet 6:15, Laughs begin 7:00. Contact Katie Fink for tickets: 814- 624-0041 or email Katie@uwaybedfordpa.org

If you know of an occasion for BPW to send a card, please contact our Acting Corresponding Secretary, Carol Stump. Phone: 814-623-8255 (home), Email: carolstump8@aol.com.
Maura Whetsone, our Bedford BPW member and travelling Occupational therapist, is currently living in Alamosa Colorado, working at San Luis Valley Boces School District. Her mother, Bedford BPW member Laura Whetstone, recently visited Maura in Colorado. Laura shared these photos: From top left to right: Sand Dunes in a snowstorm, Mt Blanche, Rio Grande Gorge, Indiana Jones house (from the movie), Oldest Church In Colorado, Mule Deer in Parking lot of Maura’s apartment.