A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Less stress, more giving is secret to holiday happiness

“Never worry about the size of your Christmas Tree. In the eyes of children, they are all 30 feet tall” - Larry Wilde

Happy Holiday Season! I’ll be 100 percent honest. It’s not my favorite season. In fact, I dread it slightly every year. Mainly because I know the added amount of stress that is about to be added to me to be the “perfect” mom/wife/daughter/daughter-in-law/sister/aunt in executing the holiday to perfection.

The thoughts of in addition to my regular “mom/employee” duties I now have the sole responsibility of buying gifts for everyone, baking cookies from scratch, making dozens and dozens of pierogi and pumpkin rolls- of course from scratch, making sure family photos were done, Christmas cards sent, Santa breakfasts (and of course Santa lunches) were attended, Christmas light venues were driven through, school plays attended, and of course the house was decked and the stocking were hung - well quite frankly I hated Christmas. Do you know what I realized? My kids really didn’t care. I was putting myself through all this to make them the “perfect” Christmas and really they were just satisfied with doing a few of things above.

Just the magic of the season was good enough for them. Our “slim” 7ft tree could have been equivalent to the one at PPG Place. So in past few years, I don’t stress myself out about getting everything checked off “the list”. I have been buying all my cookies (thanks BPW Sister Traci Naugle), we don’t attend every Santa event advertised on Facebook, my family is getting “New Year’s” cards instead of Christmas, and only half my decorations are out of the attic at the time of this publishing.

What IS important is that we have family “movie nights” on Friday nights, we pray together before bed, and we pull names off giving trees to play Secret Santa. The magic of Christmas is in our soul not wrapped in a box. If I pass any tradition onto my children, I’d rather it be just that. To help others less fortunate, to volunteer, to be a Secret Santa, to hold the door open for others, and to spread kindness.

Our Latrobe BPW ladies are a stunning example of the magic of Christmas all year round.

This month, our Goodwill committee is leading The Red Kettle Campaign, where dozens of our members will ring the bell outside Giant...
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Eagle for The Salvation Army. In BPW fashion however, we don’t stop there. Susie and Grace have bought hundreds of candy canes to be passed out and many of our members will dance and sing! They will infuse Christmas Magic into so many shoppers that day. Just another wonderful example of our group spreading kindness. I write this every newsletter, but I am truly in awe of the women in this group and am so very proud of our accomplishments. Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas to my Latrobe BPW sisters. May your holidays be less stressful and your hearts filled with love.

Nominate for Business, Woman, New Member of Year

Nominations are still OPEN for Latrobe BPW Woman of the Year, Business of the Year, and New Member of the Year. Nominations entry forms were sent to each member and are also included on Page 9-11 of the newsletter. The guidelines for nominations include:

Woman of the Year
A member who has contributed to elevate standards, promote interest, develop cooperation, and extend opportunities among all business and professional women.

Business of the Year
Business firm or employer who has contributed most, in the opinion of the judges, to the employment, advancement and recognition of women.

New Member of the Year
A member with two years of service or less whom has contributed to the Latrobe local in promoting the mission of BPW and is active in supporting local goals and projects in the following six ways: Active in supporting local goals and projects; regular attendance at monthly meetings; invites guests to meetings; has brought in new members (how many) to the local organization; participation as an officer, chair or committee position held in the local; why are you nominating this person for the award.

The deadline is the third Thursday of December. Please direct all questions and submissions to 2017-2018 Woman of the Year and Committee Chair: Susan Mough (tsmough@wpa.net).

Since December is the month of giving, here is an update on what Latrobe BPW has donated to the YWCA from August to November. We are doing a terrific job of supporting President Theresa’s State Project. $773 in just four months! We are on fire! The birthday box will be at the meeting on 12/20. Please consider donating during this month of giving. Remember President Theresa’s goal is $10k!!

Happy Birthday!
December 5    Cindy Smithhammer
December 10   Gwen Blystone    December 12  Sindy Diaz
Karen Mowry  December 23  Lori Armstrong
December 26  Tracy Rocco
December 27  Laurie Corbett
December 29  Lisa Moore Hoffman
December 29  Nancy Bennett
December meeting will be ‘Ugly’

Time to dust off those ugly sweaters for the Latrobe BPW regular meeting on Dec. 20th—because we are having an Ugly Sweater Contest! That’s right. Get festive. Get competitive. And, get ugly! Members will be able to vote for the Best Ugly Sweater!

Also, since this is our last meeting before the holiday, we will be having a gift exchange. It’s optional, but if you’d like to participate, bring a wrapped “new” gift, valued at $10 for the exchange.

Make sure you register for the dinner by Sunday, Dec. 16th. You won’t want to miss this!

Candy Cane Challenge

“It’s that time of year...” Candy Cane season! Not to eat yourself, but to give to someone who is serving you just to say Thank You! Retail store employees, cashiers, supervisors, waitresses, janitors, toll booth operators, gas station attendees - anyone who is doing something to make your life easier.

This time of year they put up with a lot of people’s anxiousness and frustrations. (As a former Kmart Manager trust me when I tell you they put up with a lot!) They don’t feel appreciated.

A simple candy cane with a smile and a “thank you for your hard work this time of year...” will TOTALLY put a smile on their face... and possibly change their entire day!

I started doing this after participating in BPW’s ringing of the Salvation Army bell at Kmart. We had a surplus of candy canes and I just thought it would be nice to walk around the Kmart and hand out to the employees. Wow, what a fulfilling few minutes!

Today I have a cup holder full in my car and a purse extra full with candy canes.

I challenge you to try it! (By the way Ollie’s has boxes of 50 for $2.99!) I PROMISE you, YOUR day will change too!!
In September, Latrobe BPW launched its Member of the Week series on our new Latrobe BPW Facebook Page. It’s a great way to learn a little bit more about your BPW sisters. Here are our members from the last month.

**November 14**

Karen Laskie
Karen has been a member of Latrobe BPW for almost 2 years. She was drawn to BPW for their support of local charities and how members support one another. “I like how all members make you feel welcome and I enjoy the social activities.”

Retired from Giant Eagle where she worked as a Deli Manager for 29 years, she always said when she retired she would become a travel agent—and she did. “After a friend opened Mystical Dream Travel, she immediately joined her team. She says she loves Disney and loves helping families plan their trips.

Karen has two children, one granddaughter and a grand dog named Brinley. Karen has two dogs of her own. Their names? Mickey and Minnie—of course.

**November 21**

Tracy Grace
Tracy has been a BPW member since 2006, joining at the invitation of her friend Joy to grow her Aflac business. She found out almost right away that BPW wasn’t your average networking group, it was a family. The sisterhood of BPW is her favorite part of the club.

Tracy is a Business Development Manager for Express Employment Professionals but refers to herself as more of a matchmaker. “I match great companies with hard working people,” she says. She has been with Express for a year and a half. Prior to that Tracy worked for the Follett Higher Education group for 27 years overseeing college bookstores. Though Tracy loves her matchmaking career, her dream job would be Beach Umbrella Rental Agent. “The beach is my happy place, if I could earn a buck with my toes in the sand, watching the waves… this would be it!”

Tracy has been married to husband Sam for 3 years. All combined, they have 6 kids and two grandkids, and two crazy cat brothers they adopted two years ago.

**November 28**

Marsha St. Pierre
Marsha has been a member since March 2015. She was introduced to the group when Angela Apple contacted her looking for a clothing supplier for the Fashion Show for the Spring Tea that year. The rest, as they say, is history.

Marsha and her family moved to Latrobe from British Columbia in 2012 after she left her 25-year career as a property manager to become a stay-at-home-mom. She hadn’t planned to go back to full-time work, but when she found Ruby Ribbon that all changed. Being a newcomer, it wasn’t easy, but she built a successful business with the new company that sold intimate apparel that no one had ever heard of before. She credits BPW for giving her a platform to promote Ruby Ribbon. But even more importantly, BPW gave her a social network of women who she now calls friends. Marsha has been an active member from the start.

Marsha has served as Membership Chair, and now holds the office of treasurer and is the membership chair for BPW District 3.

Marsha’s dream is to start a small batch kitchen/bakery of specialty homemade and Canadian foods.

Marsha and her husband Jeremy were married in 2012 and have a blended family of six adult children, and so far, two grandkids. They live in British Columbia and Ontario, Canada. They also have three cats, two dogs, which they rescued from local animal rescues.

**December 5**

Michelle Teague
Michelle initially came to BPW as a guest of Theresa Whitacre in 2005 but she was in graduate school and didn’t have the time to dedicate to the group. She officially joined in 2007. She said the group is a source of inspiration for her. She loves how welcoming fellow members are to newcomers.

Michelle has held many offices in Latrobe BPW including Treasurer, Vice-President, and President. She has also chaired the ID/YC and Scholarship committees and participated on the he History, Policies and Procedures, ID/YC, and Membership committees. Michelle has also been a member of special committees, such as the Spring Tea, the Relay for Life, and the D3 Host committees.

Michelle is a life coach, trainer, consultant and motivational speaker with The John Maxwell team. Michelle has been married to her husband Jim for over 21 years with two children and two fur babies. Michelle loves to travel, go to concerts and sporting events.
There is still time to get your reservation in for the Latrobe BPW December dinner meeting, which is Thursday, Dec. 20 starting at 6 p.m. at the Christ Our Shepherd Center (formerly the Bishop Connare Center).

We will be having an Ugly Sweater contest, along with a Christmas grab-bag gift exchange, so bring a (new) gift of value of $10 to participate in the exchange.

For the December meeting, our dinner choices are:

1. Shrimp Salad
2. Turkey with dressing, sweet potatoes and green beans

Dessert is a surprise!

Each meal comes with soup, appetizer, beverages, rolls, and dessert. The cost is $17 per meal cash/check at the door or $17.47 debit/credit card at door. Reservations for the meeting are due by end of the day, Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018. Use the online ordering system at https://goo.gl/forms/NDJgQD3vBQ5kVyq12

For questions or more information, you can e-mail the dinner committee at latrobebpwdinner@gmail.com.

**SHOP FOR A CAUSE**

Doing any last minute shopping? Don’t forget, you can still benefit YWCA while doing your holiday shopping. All you need to do is change your Amazon Smile charity to YWCA and then get clicking.

**NEWSPAPER COLLECTION**

We are still collecting newspapers for Action for Animals. Bring your donation of newspapers to the next meeting.

**BELL RINGING**

Thanks to everyone who helped with the bell-ringing for the Salvation Army.

**BIRTHDAY BOX**

Don’t forget to bring some extra $$$ for the Birthday Box! All proceeds benefit the YWCA!

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

Please gather up all the Box Tops for Education that you have collected and bring them to the next meeting. Thank you for your continuing support of this project.

**ID/YC WORKSHOP SCHEDULED**

The ID Workshop, which was scheduled for Nov. 17th and rescheduled for January 19th is coming up. See page 8 of the newsletter for additional details and how to register.

**MEMBER TO MEMBER BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

A “business” specific directory of members who have a full-time or side business(es) is at our activities and getting to know you both.

**DECEMBER INDUCTION CEREMONY**

Once again we will take time during our dinner meeting to formally introduce and welcome our newest members. At the December 20th meeting we will hold our Induction Ceremony for the 11 members who joined between June and December: Kelsey Pierchoski, Tracy Rocco, Theresa Woodring, Beth Stefanik, Stephanie Ankney, Lori Armstrong, Gina Fraicola, Annie Heide, Joyce Weimer and Alice Brasili.

**CARROT COUPON CLUB CONTINUES**

Since April 1st our Local has grown with 13 new Members! The list of Sponsor Members is growing to earn a “Carrot Coupon” (paid dinner meeting fee for bringing in 5 new members).

**Sponsored 1 member:**
- Gina Fraicola
- Sindy Diaz
- Marsha St. Pierre
- Dana Shannon
- Michelle Stoops
- Teresa Whitacre

**Sponsored 2 members:**
- Jean Calabrace

The Member, or Members if a tie, who brings in the most new Members by March 30, 2019 will also receive a special prize. In addition, each Member who brings in 5 or more new members would also be recognized at the State Convention next summer.

**WELCOME**

It is always great to expand our list of members. In November, we welcomed one new member Annie Heid. Alice Brasili also submitted an application early in December. We look forward to seeing you at our activities and getting to know you both.

**REMINDERS**

Christ Our Shepherd Center requires an accurate dinner count, so in order to do this, it is imperative that the reservations are received by the RSVP date. Cancellations must be made to dinner chairs at latrobebpwdinner@gmail.com prior to 5 days before the meeting date.

**SHOP FOR A CAUSE**

Doing any last minute shopping? Don’t forget, you can still benefit YWCA while doing your holiday shopping. All you need to do is change your Amazon Smile charity to YWCA and then get clicking.

**NEWSPAPER COLLECTION**

We are still collecting newspapers for Action for Animals. Bring your donation of newspapers to the next meeting.

**BELL RINGING**

Thanks to everyone who helped with the bell-ringing for the Salvation Army.

**BIRTHDAY BOX**

Don’t forget to bring some extra $$$ for the Birthday Box! All proceeds benefit the YWCA!

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

Please gather up all the Box Tops for Education that you have collected and bring them to the next meeting. Thank you for your continuing support of this project.

**ID/YC WORKSHOP SCHEDULED**

The ID Workshop, which was scheduled for Nov. 17th and rescheduled for January 19th is coming up. See page 8 of the newsletter for additional details and how to register.

**MEMBER TO MEMBER BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

A “business” specific directory of members who have a full-time or side business(es) is at our activities and getting to know you both.
being developed. If you wish to be included, please complete the form on Page 7 and return it to the Membership Committee either in hard copy form, scan and email to LBPWKerryOzmelek@gmail.com.

GUEST FOLLOW-UP

Members, if you invited a guest to a previous meeting, or the Shopping Extravaganza in November, please take a moment to follow up with them to find out if they are interested in joining our Local. Feel free to pass on my name and number if they have any questions you are unsure about answering.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Only Members with paid up dues are listed. Send any corrections or changes to: LBPWKerryOzmelek@gmail.com or text to 724-493-5967.

JANUARY 2019 – MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Do you have friends and colleagues who are interested in joining BPW? Reach out to them – dues for the remaining part of the Club year are as follows:

- Primary is $28
- Student is $23
- Secondary is $17.50

*These fees are only for the balance of the Club year.

ALSO watch on Facebook and look for emails for the date, time and venue of a Membership Introduction Social event to happen in January.

Committee chairs: don’t forget to send your round-up items in for the next newsletter’s Round Up. Committee reports are due by first Friday of each month. Send them to Amy Fauth at amysuefauth@gmail.com

Valentine’s for Veterans

In January, the Goodwill and Special Projects Committee will be sending Valentine’s to veterans and active members of the military.

So, we are searching for names and contact information for members of the military or veterans that have a connection with someone in our club. We will be writing out greetings to send to them at December and January meetings. We especially want to make sure we cards to those that are deployed and far from home. If you, a family member or someone you know is in the military or a veteran, bring their name and contact information to the December dinner meeting or if you can’t be at that meeting get the information to Teresa Whitacre or Susie Mough.

Spring Tea Committee Meeting Dec. 17

The Spring Tea Committee will be meeting at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 17, at Sharky’s Café. All our welcome to attend.

Shadows wanted

The Latrobe BPW is looking for members who would be interested in shadowing officers at the upcoming meeting. Positions available for shadowing: President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary. Contact Nicole Purnell, if you are interested!
Yes! I want to be included in the Latrobe BPW Member to Member Business Directory.

Category (circle one only)

Accounting Services  Advertising & Media  Beauty & Cosmetics
Clothing & Jewellery  Family & Community Services  Financial & Insurance
Health & Wellness  Home Goods & Improvement  Legal Services
Lodging & Travel  Pets & Veterinary  Real Estate & Property Management
Restaurant, Food & Beverage  Shopping & Retail  Sports & Recreation
Transportation

________________________________________________________________________

BUSINESS NAME

________________________________________________________________________

MEMBER NAME

________________________________________________________________________

BUSINESS / CONTACT PHONE  EMAIL

________________________________________________________________________

WEBSITE

________________________________________________________________________

DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS (50 words or less)

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Note: Only current Members (in good standing) will be included in the Business Directory.

Return completed form to Kerry Ozmelek
Scan & Email: LBPWKerryOzmelek@gmail.com
Have you ever wished you could be that person giving the presentation with confidence and poise? Did you ever not apply for a new position because you needed assistance with preparing for an interview and negotiating your salary? Do you need assistance with goal setting and leadership skills? Then the Individual Development program is for you!

The Individual Development program was developed by BPW and is a trademark program. The IDP facilitators are trained and approved to give the course. The IDP program is divided into 15 modules (lessons) ranging in topics including, Networking, Negotiating, Goal Setting, Interpersonal and Transferable Workplace skills, Public Speaking, Building Media Relations and Branding, Leadership skills, Parliamentary Procedure, Grassroots Advocacy and more!

District 3 Business and Professional Women’s Clubs
Individual Development Program

BPW’s Seminar Series in Personal and Professional Leadership Development

Saturday, January 19, 2018 • 8:00 am—4:00 pm (lunch provided)
YWCA Westmoreland
424 N. Main Street, Greensburg, PA 15601

$25 BPW members/$30 non-members (Flashdrive)
$30 BPW members/$35 non-members (printed version)

Name________________________________________

Email________________________________________

Phone________________________________________

BPW member _____ Non-member_______ I would like ___Flash Drive ___Printed Book

I am interested in participating at the district and/or state speak-off

Checks payable to BPW/District 3
Pre-register by December 29, 2018

Mail Registration to Angela Apple, 230 Lentz Road, Latrobe Pa 15650
Questions: Contact Angela Apple 724-787-8718 • aapple@wpa.net
Nomination Form
LATROBE B.P.W.
WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2018-2019

Name:

Address:

Name of Local BPW Club to which she belongs:

Number of years a member of BPW:

Offices Held:

Name and location of employer:

Nature of business of employer:

Education:

A name of other clubs or associations with which nominee is affiliated:

Essay:
State and describe fully the contribution the nominee has made to the advancement of BPW – To elevate standards, promote interest, develop cooperation and extend opportunities among all business and professional women.

Nominations are to be on 8 ½” by 11” paper, typed and double spaced. Nominations may be electronically mailed to the club WOTY Award Chair only (tsmough@wpa.net)

Latrobe BPW WOTY Award Chair
PO Box 545
Latrobe, PA 15650

ENTRY DEADLINE IS THE THIRD THURSDAY OF DECEMBER
ENTRY FORM
LATROBE B.P.W.
BUSINESS OF THE YEAR 2018-2019

Name of business or firm:

Address:

Nature of business:

Number of employees:

Number of women presently employed:

Number of women hired during the last calendar year:

Number of women advanced during the last calendar year:

Brief description of special recognition by business to women:

Brief description of any other incentives for women:

Essay:
This citation is awarded to the business firm or employer who has contributed most, in the opinion of the judges, to the employment, advancement, and recognition of women. State and describe fully how this nominee has done this and promotes the mission of women in the workplace.

Nominations are to be on 8 1/2” by 11” paper, typed and double spaced.
Nominations may be electronically mailed to the club BOTY Award Chair only (tsmough@wpa.net)

Latrobe BPW BOTY Award Chair
PO Box 545
Latrobe, PA 15650

ENTRY DEADLINE IS THE THIRD THURSDAY OF DECEMBER
ENTRY FORM
LATROBE B.P.W.
NEW MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2018-2019

The new member of the year award recognizes contributions to the Latrobe local from a member who promotes the mission of BPW with no more than 2 full years of membership.

Name:

Address:

Date of Local Induction (must be later than December 1, 2016):

Office or chair positions held:

Name and location of employer:

Nature of business of employer:

Education:

Name of other clubs or associations with which nominee is affiliated:

Essay:
Describe fully the contributions the nominee has made toward her local BPW organization using the below six (6) criteria:

- Active in supporting local goals and projects
- Regular attendance at monthly meetings
- Invites guests to meetings
- Has brought in new members (how many) to the local organization
- Participation as an officer, chair or committee position held in the local
- Why are you nominating this person for the award

Nominations are to be on 8 ½” by 11” paper, typed and double spaced.
Nominations may be electronically mailed to the club NMOTY Award Chair only (tzmough@wpa.net)

Latrobe BPW NMOTY Award Chair
PO Box 545
Latrobe, PA 15650

ENTRY DEADLINE IS THE THIRD THURSDAY OF DECEMBER
Latrobe BPW Celebrates the Season & Women in Business at Annual Holiday Shopping Extravaganza!
Get Inspired

Would you like to part of making a huge impact for your favorite non-profit helping other women? Is it time and money that is your hurdle? If there were a way you can connect with other like-minded women, and collectively in short 1 hour quarterly philanthropic meetings you make a huge difference, would you want to be a part? At our October meeting, Angel Arms, division of Faith Forward Inc. of Latrobe, received a $2,300 check!

Visit www.inspiredwomen.com and plan to join us for the first quarterly meeting of 2019! January 16th 6-7 at Antonelli Event Center.

We Inspired Women can make a huge impact Paying it Forward!