



# The Valley Voice

Celebrating 100  
Years of Women  
Helping Women  
with Passion and  
Purpose

*BPW of Ligonier Valley*

*June 2019*

"Of the Pennsylvania Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc"

Kristin Poerschke, editor

## Officers for 2018-2019

Kimberly Bellas, President

Michelle Krebs, Vice-President

Rebecca Zedreck, Treasurer

Maggie Hildebrand, Recording Secretary

Kim Wing, Corresponding Secretary

Charlene Shank, Parliamentarian

### Standing Committee Chairs:

Finance - Betsy Shepler

Foundation – Ginnie Widich

Issues Mgmt. – Michelle Krebs

Legislation – Amy Kohler

Membership - Laurie Hough

Public Relations – Ina Smithley

By-Laws – Brenda Sherbondy

ID/YC – Claudette Kane

### Special Appointee Chairs:

Dinner: Rachel Roehrig

Newsletter: Kristin Poerschke

SLN/BPW: Diana Neiderhiser

LVBPW Scholarship: Kelly Hoover

Historian - Louise Wagner

Scrapbook - Beth Caldwell

LVBPW Scholarship Growth - Betsy Shepler, Reyne Kozar, Janet Riordan, Glenda Dickson & Annie Urban

Luxury Bash - Lisa Altimus

Web Site – Reyne Kozar

Happy almost summer, ladies!

Wow! I had the most wonderful experience at the BPW/PA State Convention this past weekend at the Meadow Lands in Washington, PA. It was fun, informative, interesting, and did I say fun?! I am so glad I had the opportunity to attend convention this year. I highly recommend it to all of you. Getting to meet so many awesome ladies was energizing. The speakers were great and so many vendors! Next year is the 100th anniversary of the convention, and our District is once again hosting it although in York, PA. I am sure it will be fantastic!

This month is officer installation, and I will be installed as your President for another term. I think you will enjoy the ceremony! Hope you can make it!

Before our next regular meeting, I will be reaching out to you to fill Committee Chair positions. Please remember my slogan from last year about stepping outside of your comfort zone and helping not only me but the whole club on these committees. We have all been there in not quite knowing what to do but once given some guidelines, direction and instruction, it was all a piece of cake! I will also be circulating the committee sign up sheet so the committees and chairs will be in place to start our new Year in July. It will be another great year!

See you all in a couple of weeks!

Enjoy soon to be summer!

Thank you!

Kim

Step outside  
your comfort  
zone.

Tuesday, June 25    5:45 pm, Regular Dinner Meeting, Ramada Inn

Tuesday, July 2 6:30 pm Board meeting at Kim's house

DON'T FORGET: Promote your business on our own public Facebook group page: BPW of Ligonier Valley  
Free advertising and all club members can post!

The menu choices for the June 25 Dinner Meeting at 5:45PM at the Ligonier Ramada are:

**Main Menu:**

Homemade meat Lasagna, with a side salad, and garlic toast.

**Alternate Choice:**

Strawberry almond chicken salad.

Dessert for all is: Fresh Fruit Plate.

Please respond to Rachel Roehrig with your dinner choice by **Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>**. As always, the cost of the meal is \$14. If you reserve a meal and are not able to attend, you are responsible for the cost of the meal. Thank you!



Claudette Kane, our own ID winner. Make sure you read her speech in the newsletter

**June Birthdays!**

|         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|
| June 3  | Doris   | Wood    |
| June 19 | Lisa    | Altimus |
| June 24 | Shirley | Nipps   |



Club member Maggie Hildebrand receiving Foundation award at State Convention.



2019-2020 STATE BPW President Dawn Berkebile on the right

Our Prez Kim Bellas with outgoing state president Theresa Rusbosin



[www.ligoniervalleybpw.com](http://www.ligoniervalleybpw.com)

Check out our website.

The Rada information: [www.helpourfundraiser.com](http://www.helpourfundraiser.com) Internet ordering # 504857 Password (lower case) bpwlv

**Save-the-date! September 15, 2019 is our Luxury Bash!**



LV President Kim Bellas, above, and member Janet Riordan receiving and distributing awards at the state convention.



#### New members of our Ligonier valley BPW Club!

seated, Maggie Hildebrand, Laurie Hough, Sonya Brown, Donna Christopher,  
standing, Kathy Wood, Beth Jarrell, Lucille Zimmer, Bree Fox, Evelyn Davenport, Andrea Niapas, and Raven Cintron.

Lisa Altimus co-chair of the club's annual Luxury Bash held at Antiochian Village, asked all members to clear their calendars for the Sept.15 fundraiser. Maggie Hildebrand and Janet Riordan are co-chairs of the event with Altimus. It supports the club's five annual \$1,000 scholarships for graduating high school students. On the same subject, corresponding secretary Kim Wing read thank you notes from each of this year's recipients.

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Bellas recognized club member Claudette Kane who will be presenting a five minute Individual Development speech at the PA Convention to be held June 7-9 at Double Tree Meadowlands , Washington Pa. Kane was chosen the winner of the speak-off at a District 3 meeting held earlier this year. She had completed a one day BPW workshop in personal development which she said provides training and resources in developing leadership skills and improving communications for business, profession and careers. The topic for this year's competition, is "Celebrating 100 Years of Women Helping Women With Passion and Purpose". Kane said she "wants to win this competition, yet I know I became a winner when I joined this professional women's organization."

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The club also accepted two new members at the past meeting. They are Jean Brozack and Amy Henson, bringing the total membership to 93.



Janet Riordan and out-going president Theresa Rusbosin presenting cupcakes! Yum!

Maggie and Laurie were intrigued by the spice theme that Kim used for her installation and wanted to investigate how they could relate that theme to the induction of our wonderful new members.

They began by using salt to represent our club's leadership - wouldn't you say they are the "salt of the earth!?" Maggie and Laurie took creative license and assigned the new members their own seasoning or spice according to what they feel are their traits. The new members added their spice to the vase.

Sonya Brown (Reyne Kozar) - Basil  
Observant, Self-Reliant, Understanding

Donna Christopher (Kim Bellas) - Cinnamon  
Balanced, Warm, Responsible

Raven Citron (Tara Hassler) - Cayenne Pepper  
Creative, inventive, passion into reality

Evelyn Davenport (Andrea Niapas) - Chili Powder  
Fearless, inspired, witty

Alberta Evans (Michelle Krebs) - Thyme  
Calm, confident, diligent and tireless

Bree Fox (Tara Hassler) - Paprika  
Adventurous, energetic, radiance and gutsy

Samantha Gonda (Tara Hassler) -  
Cilantro  
Aspiring, Individual, Studious

Beth Jarrell (Laurie Hough) - Parsley  
Adaptable, harmonious, kind and warm

Wendy Lint (Kim Bellas) - Rosemary  
Compassionate, courageous, sense of purpose

Janet Landry (Laurie Hough) - Nutmeg  
Strong, considerate, hard worker

Andrea Niapas (Maggie Hildebrand) - Garlic  
Captivating, Trusting, Thorough

Amy Moore (Ginny Widich) - Ginger  
Leader, Appreciative, Practical

R Jaye O'Brien-Steffy (Laurie Hough) - Cardamom  
Colorful, Playful, Principled

Catherine O'Brien-Steffy (Laurie Hough) - Cloves  
Clear-Headed, Optimistic, Methodical

Lucille Zimmer (Kelly Hoover) - Poppy Seed  
Honest, Dynamic, Selfless

Kathy Wood (Judy Hoffer) - Oregano  
Insightful, Vivacious, Sensitive

"Let us also end with salt to represent the experienced members in the club. Just as you wouldn't use this seasoning mixture as it stands to rub on meat or to add to a cake, we appreciate our members individually AND enjoy their diversity as a colorful group! Making a commitment to each other through Ligonier Valley BPW means you combine your gifts and together, you make a greater difference in the world than you would as individuals. Just as spices complete a recipe, you complete each other. Our seasoned members who have already been in the local are here to help with your personal growth in BPW by encouraging you to be involved by education including the shadowing program introduced this year. Step out of your comfort zone to try something new, how will you spice up Ligonier Valley BPW?"

Let us end this Induction Ceremony by reciting the Federation Pledge:

I hereby solemnly pledge my allegiance to this local organization and do promise:

To be governed by the rules and regulations as set forth in the bylaws;

To be faithful in attendance, trying always to be on time;

To be loyal in service, willing to serve in any capacity whereby I can best promote the interests of the local organization;

To be generous, not alone of my money, but of my praise, my time and my talents;

To be tolerant and friendly, knowing the friendliness gives and finds happiness and health;

And to be honest with myself, my fellow members and my local organization.



**BPW/PA -2020 Women's Right to Vote Project**  
(Limited to 100 participants)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_ Local: \_\_\_\_\_

**Checks Payable:**

**BPW/PA 2020 Women's Right to Vote Project**

**Registration Deadline - July 9, 2019**

**SEND COMPLETED FORM WITH CHECK TO:**

**Denice Robinson  
80 Oakland Avenue  
Uniontown, PA 15401**

**drobinson1966@gmail.com**

**724-557-5552 Cell**

**Please check the appropriate activities and total your amount.**

**Saturday, September 7, 2019**

- 1. Bus trip from the West. Pick up Site: \_\_\_\_\_ Greenville  
\_\_\_\_\_ New Stanton \_\_\_\_\_ Bedford \_\_\_\_\_ Carlisle      Cost-\$70.00**
  
- 2. Alice Paul Home, Mt. Laurel, New Jersey                          Cost - \$55.00  
Tour, luncheon, and Kate Campbell Stevenson presenting Alice Paul  
and Rose Crabtree.**
  
- 3. Staying at the Valley Forge Casino and Hotel on Sat., Sept.7. How  
many to a room? \_\_\_\_\_ Need to have an idea for the contract on  
rooms.(Reserve Rm. – BPW/PA 610-354-8118 - Room rate is \$119.)**

**Sunday, September 8, 2019**

- 4. 10:00 a.m. Attending the Sunday Brunch in the lower level of the  
VFC&H. Ross and Jefferson rooms. Hearing the PA Justice Bell  
Story of 1915 by Amanda Owen, J.B. Foundation Chair. Cost -\$40.00**

## BPW/PA State Convention June 6-9, 2019 Washington, Pa.

By Claudette Kane

This year's state presidential theme was about celebrating women helping women with purpose and passion. We've come a long way in the last 100 years and we have achieved so much. We vote. We own property. We run companies. We lead in organizations. We legislate. We have so much to celebrate. And we did celebrate this weekend. What we need to do now is to look for how we got here. What is it that women have that can change a culture of bondage to a culture of freedom? What is the secret individual strength that each woman has that when we are united, we can change our world?

I am inspired by a woman born in this century who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2011 for leading the largest mass nonviolent prayer movement for peace that changed the leadership in her nation. Her name is Leymah Gbowee, and she is from Monrovia, Liberia in West Africa. Leymah was a single mom with four children who spent some time in a refugee camp during her country's civil war. Women were violated by war-lords. Young boys, as young as 8 years old, were taken to fight and turned into soldiers and addicts. The country's infrastructure collapsed. Sick and tired of the destruction, Leymah went to school, got a degree, and became a social worker. She worked with women in her community and surrounding communities and influenced them to unite and work together. She helped develop WINET, Women In Peacebuilding Network, that included women from Sierra Leone, Guinea, Nigeria, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Togo—almost all the sixteen West African nations. These women focused only on women and only on building peace.

Leymah Gbowee changed how she defined herself, no longer as a social worker but a peace-builder. Leymah is a woman of faith and prayed regularly for her family and her nation. One night, Leymah had a dream that God spoke to her and said, "Gather the women and pray for peace." And that is exactly what she did. Her story is in a documentary *Pray The Devil Back To Hell* and also in a book *Mighty Is Our Power*. Both are available for purchase.

We are created influential and communal as women. When we use our strengths in unity, we can change our culture and our history for future generations. The choice is up to you, what will you do?

