



## Let Your Dreams Take Flight

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Fall is here and it brings District Meetings and official visits! Our State Officers are busy visiting various districts across the state. National Business Women's Week is right around the corner. The kickoff- the annual Ecumenical Event hosted this year by BPW/Ohio - will take place Sunday, October 18 at 3pm on Zoom. Governor Tom Wolf has also issued a proclamation to honor the week.

### BPW/PA Officers

#### President

Marisa Harmon

#### President Elect

Tiffanie Burger

#### Vice President

Melissa Wieand

#### Treasurer

Roxanne Pease

#### Recording Secretary

Glenda Auker

#### Corresponding Secretary

Virginia Shultz

#### Parliamentarian

R. Maureen Myers

Election Day is next month and it is important for each of us to get out and vote. 100 years ago the 19th Amendment was passed, giving women the right to vote. Think of all the women who marched, rallied, were arrested, and fought hard for us to have the opportunity to help choose our elected leaders. Educate yourself on the issues at hand and what each candidate has to say about them. If you are voting by mail, make sure to follow the directions and sign the outside envelope.

Lastly, we are just getting into flu season. There were approximately 34,000 deaths associated with the flu during the 2018-2019 flu season, with 2019-2020 flu deaths estimated between 24,000 and 62,000. With the continued pandemic, hospitals will most likely be inundated with both flu and COVID-19 patients this winter. As a health care professional, I cannot stress enough the importance of obtaining yearly flu vaccines if you are able to so as to help provide herd immunity for those who either cannot receive the vaccine or are immunocompromised. Please continue to wear your masks in public, avoid large gatherings, practice social distancing and hand hygiene, and stay home if you do not feel well.



Instead of another picture of myself I'm attaching this fall one I took.

Stay safe, take care, and keep being  
Bold Powerful Women!  
President Marisa





## CELEBRATING SENIORS AND MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE

### **BPW/PA STATE PROJECT: TWILIGHT WISH - Celebrating Seniors and Making Dreams Come True**

I know it's still early in our current BPW year, but we are off to a great start supporting BPW/PA President Marisa's State Project - Twilight Wish. **As of October 1<sup>st</sup>, I have already received \$400 in donations! Thank you...thank you!**

I am aware that there are several Locals and Districts across the state who are sponsoring fundraising events for Twilight Wish. Thank you for your enthusiastic support of this worthy cause and I look forward to receiving your donations by April 15, 2021.

But why wait to send in your money if you have allocated money in your Local budget and your budget has been approved? There are currently open wishes out on the Twilight Wish website that we can help to fulfill. And with the upcoming holidays, I wouldn't be surprised to see more wishes posted. Please consider sending in your donations now, if possible.

Any District, Local or individual member can make a monetary donation to make a Twilight Wish come true. Complete the form in the Presidents' or Treasurer's Manual on the BPW/PA website under the members' section. Any wishes granted from BPW/PA donations will be utilized for a PA resident.

**Also, do you know a deserving senior who would like a Twilight Wish?** Any BPW District, Local or individual member can nominate deserving seniors for Twilight Wishes, if they meet the criteria. To find out how to request a wish and what the criteria are, go to [www.twilightwish.org/request-a-twilight-wish/](http://www.twilightwish.org/request-a-twilight-wish/). Please let me know if you nominate someone for a wish.

**You can also support Twilight Wish by using DUTY (Diner Unexpected Thank You) cards to pay for senior meals.** The DUTY program involves thanking seniors directly by treating them to a meal on the spot. If you use a DUTY card, would you kindly complete the form and send it to me, so I will know how we supported this Twilight Wish program (# cards used; \$ donated).

Twilight Wish has also agreed to provide speakers for District or Local BPW meetings, if possible (depending on availability and location). I would be happy to help you arrange for a guest speaker, if you would like.

**Please help me make our Pennsylvania Seniors' Dreams Take Flight this year through your generous donation to Twilight Wish.**

Mary Weeks, BPW/PA State Project Chair



## **The best PR is you!**

The best public relations is your own personal review. How many times have you been influenced by a friend's personal review or experience? That new trendy restaurant. The cute pair of jeans that look great and fit like a dream. A new doctor or hair stylist? We all use personal experience of others to help us make decisions. BPW is no different. Do you share your personal review of BPW with friends? Your enthusiasm is the best public relations for your local and it is so easy! Think about all the things you love about BPW. The friendships. The support of women in your community. The networking. The personal and professional development. The list is endless.

## **How can you share your personal review of BPW?**

Word of mouth. Bring it up in conversation. Tell your friends about your local. Share community projects that BPW participates in. Invite friends to attend an event or meeting.

Social Media. If you are on social media be sure to like the state Facebook page and if you local has a page like it too! Share the information on the page with family and friends. Interact with the page so others see the information

BPW logowear. If you have BPW logo gear - wear it in the community. Strike up a conversation about BPW with women you encounter shopping, at the doctor office - anywhere and everywhere.

## **Aren't sure what to say about BPW? Here's a few things our members are saying about their locals.**

An extraordinary group of women who support and build each other up.

When I mention you should join the Latrobe BPW to friends, a few automatically have mentioned that they are not business enough and they do not own any business attire. No business attire needed to join the Latrobe BPW! Join the fun, make new friends and network!

It's a sisterhood to promote one another and support one another and celebrate women's history, achievements, and educate, advocate and help Our community to grow stronger.

It's a group of woman all with one common mindset of success for one another.

This group is the place to be for support, networking, friendships, and learning

This group of ladies is supportive, caring, philanthropic, friendly, and full of examples of what strong women can be!

A professional women's group promoting, advocating for and educating women in the professional world...while also supporting their personal lives and providing networking opportunities.

Fantastic group of supportive in women bonded by their concern of equal rights

A group of supportive women who are mentors, community leaders, and some of my best friends.

A group in which its members support & encourage other members in the pursuit of living their best life. It provides educational, philanthropic & social opportunities.

I challenge you to add to this list and share with all the women in your life. I can't wait to hear your stories!

Angela Apple

BPW/PA Public Relations Chair





# D A T E S T O R E M E M B E R

July 1, 2020	<b>* Deadline for the September Issue of <i>THE KEY</i></b>
August 7-8, 2020	* BPW/PA Summer Board Meeting, Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel, 215 Innovation Blvd., State College, PA 16803 * PA BPW Foundation Meeting * EPW/PA Meeting
August 26, 2020	* Women's Equality Day
October 2020	* Breast Cancer Awareness Month
October 1, 2020	<b>* Deadline for the December Issue of <i>THE KEY</i></b>
October 18-24, 2020	* National Business Women's Week
October	* BPW Ecumenical Event,
November 1, 2020	* Deadline for PA BPW Foundation Scholarship applications for Spring Semester
November 3, 2020	<b>* Election Day – GET OUT AND VOTE!</b>
November 11, 2020	* PA Conference for Women, Online To register visit website: <a href="http://paconferencefor-women.org">paconferencefor-women.org</a>
November 15, 2020	* Deadline for LO copies of Budget to District Finance Chair
December 2020	* Happy Holidays!
January 15, 2021	* Deadline for BPW/PA Candidate Application to State Nomination Chair, Dawn Berkebile * Deadline for one copy of LO Budget and District Budget from District Finance Chair to BPW/PA Finance Chair, Joyce Turner * Deadline for any proposed changes to the BPW/PA Bylaws to BPW/PA Bylaws Chair, Donna Jones
February 2021	<b>* Foundation Month</b> <b>* Heart Awareness Month</b> <b>* National Cancer Prevention Month</b>
February	*World Cancer Day
February 6, 2021	<b>* Deadline for April Issue of <i>THE KEY</i></b>
February 15, 2021	* Deadline for LOs in Districts 5 and 6 to submit Bylaws to District Bylaws Chair
March 2021	* Women in History Month
March 1, 2021	* Deadline for Districts 5 and 6 Bylaws to BPW/PA Bylaws Chair, Donna Jones
March	* BPW/PA Mid-Winter Board Meeting, The Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel, 215 Innovation Blvd., State College, PA 16803 * PA BPW Foundation Meeting * EPW/PA Meeting
April 15, 2021	* LO Contest entries are due to the District Chairs for the following: Issues Management, Legislation, Membership, and Public Relations
April 2021	<b>* Equal Pay Day, Primary Election – Get out and vote!</b>
April 30, 2021	* District Historians must send their LO Histories and their District History to BPW/PA Historian, Liz Leeper * All Donations to PA BPW Foundation must be received by PA BPW Foundation Treasurer
May 1, 2021	*BPW/PA District Entries to BPW/PA Chairs are due (and postmarked) for the following: *Issues Management Jean Ann Towle *Legislation Virginia (Ginny) Bailey *Public Relations Angela Apple *BPW Foundation entries are due (and postmarked) to Foundation Chair, Terri Detrick BPW Foundation entry form must be attached. *All Materials/Photos for the District Individual Development and Young Careerist representatives are due to BPW/PA ID Chair, Sheryl Nierenberg, And BPW/PA YC Chair, Susan Vladika * Deadline for PA BPW Foundation Scholarship Applications for Fall Semester * Reports from District Directors, Standing and Special Committee Chairs are due to the Convention Manual Editor, Angie Marhefka
	* All BPW/PA Chairs with contests must send a copy of their categories and winners to Issues Management Chair, Jean Ann Towle, for the contest winner booklets and to Donna Weinstein for printing of the certificates for presentation at Convention. *All remaining BPW/PA Standing and Special Committee Chairs are asked to send a summary of the Districts' participation to BPW/PA Vice President, Missy Wieand for the Eleanor Briner Award.
June 7, 2021	National Cancer Survivors Day
June 10-13, 2021	BPW/PA 101 <sup>st</sup> Annual State Convention, Pittsburgh Marriott North

# What's Happening?



# District 3

## *Message from the District Director*

The leaves are shades of yellow, orange, red and brown. Aromas of pumpkin pies, fresh cider and homemade soups fill the air. The blessings of Autumn colors fill our days with golden memories of yesterday and Fall is here.

What plans do you have for September, October and November?

Perhaps you decided to attend the Welcome Home Eleanor Party at Bella Terra Vineyards to celebrate the accomplishments of BPW District 3 to mix and mingle with members from other locals. 23 ladies have signed up to share a glass of wine, share snacks, donate to Twilight Wish and enter to win a \$50 Bella Terra gift certificate.

The Personal and Professional Development Workshop led by facilitator Sheryl Nierenberg, MSM is almost full. It will be held on Sunday, October 11 from 7:30 am – 4:00 pm at the YWCA Westmoreland County Huff Mansion in Greensburg. Thank you Tracey Grace District 3 ID/YC Chair for organizing this wonderful event!

Please consider coming to the District 3 Fall Meeting at Banquets Unlimited in North Huntingdon on Monday, October 12 hosted by McKeesport BPW. BPW/PA State President Marisa Harmon will be making her official visit.

Final deadline is Friday, October 2. Make checks payable to McKeesport BPW.

National Business Women's Week is October 18 – 24. Do you have something planned by your local to make it special to honor this week?

I would like to thank all the members who helped make our District 3 Lucky Labor Day Bonanza Raffle Ticket a success. All 500 tickets were sold.

Congratulations to Latrobe BPW member Danette Meredith who was the winner of \$2000 in cash and prizes.

Remember to Vote on Tuesday, November 3. Your voice counts.

Join us as we come alongside districts and locals throughout the state who are making an incredible difference for Twilight Wish – our state project celebrating seniors and making dreams come true. We will serve them and at the same time grow in the community with others while working together in Allegheny and Westmoreland County.

Remember you deserve good things. You have the magic that makes dreams come true. You've got the imagination. All you really need in addition is conviction. So toss out those self-doubts. Deep down you know you can do it.

When you believe wonderful things can happen!

Dream Big  
Laurie Hough – District 3 Director



# District 3

## Greater Pittsburgh

Greater Pittsburgh Business and Professional Women celebrated Labor Day in the month of September. In the club's newsletter, it was noted that the holiday is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It is a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity and well-being of the country. It was first celebrated in New York City in 1882, and in 1887 became a national holiday.

The article went on to explain that the history of Labor Day lacks one thing: women. While many historians claim that's because women weren't a part of the workforce back then, that isn't exactly true. In 1843, Sara Bagley of the Female Labor Reform Association in Massachusetts organized textile workers to appear before state lawmakers. They spoke about workplace health and safety risks and petitioned for a 10-hour work day. Freed black women who worked as laundresses in Mississippi formed a union in 1866. In 1869, women shoe stitchers from six states formed the first women's labor organization. And numerous other examples of women's labor movements existed "back then." Labor Day is a celebration of all workers' rights, but the article stated that it is indeed a reminder of women's labor and employment rights—a fight that continues today. This year's club theme is has been deemed "Make Equity a Reality, Not a Dream." Members are encouraged to think of ideas, activities and projects in 2020-21 to support president Maurita Bryant's theme for the club.

Areas that can be considered include:

- Equal pay for women
- Healthcare
- Education
- Employment Opportunities
- Criminal Justice
- And more.

## Scottdale

On Tuesday, Sept. 8, the Scottdale BPW invited Scottdale Fireman Nate Savanick and Jason Baker to speak to our group. They joined us to catch us up on what's been happening since COVID19 entered our world. Obviously fundraising has been difficult for them during this time. They rely on events such as cash bash's, Bingos and Festivals to raise money. With the current restrictions, those things cannot be done. They also discussed their need to recruit JR Firemen: both male and females between the ages of 14-18. The Scottdale BPW presented them with a check for \$300.00. We are asking all to consider donating to this group who keeps our town safe. Donations can be mailed to:  
**PO Box 73 Scottdale, Pa 15683.**





# District 3

## Ligonier Valley

The BPW of Ligonier Valley currently has 75 Members. In August we had our 20th Anniversary Garden Party. Butch Bellas was one of the speakers and dedicated a week in March in our town of Ligonier for Ligonier Valley Business and Professional Women's Club Week. We also had Kim Shaffer, former Mayor of Ligonier, charter member and the assistant of our PA State Rep-resentative Mike Reese, speak and give us a proclamation. I also received feed-back from my anonymous surveys and I am looking forward to improving some things. As a special surprise, Past BPW/PA President and Latrobe/Ligonier member Dawn Berkebile made a special presentation to Past District Director Jean Calabrace. It was the Eleanor Briner Award that Dawn had travelled to District 11 to bring back to District 3. We were so proud of Director Jean and District 3 in achieving this award, and it was a great moment to for the presentation to be at our 20th Anniversary Party. September is a Derby theme for our monthly meetings. Bonus points for wearing Blue, to show support for our Guest Speaker. Ligonier Police Chief John Berger will be speaking about human trafficking. October 4th is our Virtual Luxury Basket Raffle LIVE on Facebook. The theme for the monthly meeting is autumn colors or (Halloween) costumes. Our Speaker is Jamie Bostard from Twilight Wish. She will tell us all about our new BPW/PA State Project. We will be participating in Ligonier's Scarecrow Contest. We are also decorating Abigail's Coffee Shop Window for National Women's Week. We are hoping to create something involving Women's 100th year of voting. In November we will be making Armed Forces Care Packages at our monthly meeting. Our member and veteran, Susan Patchin, will be telling us about her new position as Department Americanis Chairperson for the American Legion. The theme for this meeting is red, white, & blue, OR Camouflage. We will also be ask-ing for canned/boxed donations for our local Food Bank in Ligonier. In December we will be donating the food items received at last meeting, so the food bank has them for Christmas. We have our Christmas Party this month as well. The theme for our Party is Roaring 20's.

-Tara Hassler, Ligonier Valley President





# *District 3*

## *Latrobe*

We, as a club, met in person for our board and monthly meetings

We, as a club, meet monthly for our regular meetings at Rizzo's Malabar Inn

October is NBWW and we have some exciting events planned. Meeting date is October 15<sup>th</sup>

We are planning a vendor event for November at our regular meeting at Rizzo's

We have 102 members

In September, 13 of our members attended the welcoming home party for Eleanor at Bella Terra Vineyard

Due to unforeseen circumstances the board accepted the resignation of Tracy Rocco who served as Vice-President. We thanked her for her service and a new Vice-President has been appointed, Tracy Grace. Tracy Grace served on the board as chairwoman for ID/YC and due to her appointment, we have appointed Teresa Whitacre as the new chairwoman for ID/YC.



# *District 4*

## *Curwensville*



District IV Curwensville BPW started their year with an outdoor meeting and welcomed a new member. Making it extra special, they now have members representing THREE GENERATIONS of the Bowery Family. Pictured below are Club President Sandy Bowery (in middle) with member JoAnna McClure (her daughter) and new member Erika Leigey (her granddaughter.)



# District 5

## Cresson

The Cresson Local were aware of the valuable and extensive contributions the Sisters of Mercy, women of courage and vision, demonstrated in establishing an educational setting in Mount Aloysius College. Their vision coalesces with the BPW/PA Federation mission to achieve equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education, and information. The Local was pleased to submit Mount Aloysius College as a candidate for the 2020 BPW/PA Employer of the Year Citation.

The Mount is a private institution that was founded in 1853. Its setting is rural and the campus size is 165 acres. It utilizes a semester-based academic calendar. The school type is private coed with gender distribution 32% male 68% female. The mission of the Mount is to respond to individual and community needs with quality programs of education in the tradition of the Religious Sisters of Mercy. While the academic focus is paramount, the College also considers spiritual, cultural, social and personal growth as essential elements in the development of the student. Today, the Sisters of Mercy focus on a few key critical concerns: the Earth, Racism, Non-Violence, Immigration, and Women. It is their strong values and dedication to service which helps guide the campus life and Catholic tradition at Mount Aloysius College. On campus there is also the Ann Harris Smith Little People's Place child development center. Children between the ages of two and five are welcome. Parents are encouraged to come by and visit. In addition to offering space for children of students, faculty and staff of the Mount, the facility is also available for members of the local community. The child development center is licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare.

During 2019-2020 academic year the Mount employed 197 females both full time and part time employees. Five full time female employees were hired with nine full time female employees advanced to a more important position. By establishing schools for women like Mount Aloysius, the Sisters of Mercy helped to create environments where women could be leaders and educators, paving the way to a successful future for so many over the years. Through recognizing the past contributions and building on these successes The Mount has successfully kept pace with changing times. Today the college is a vibrant higher education setting with emphasis on values of justice, hospitality, mercy, and service. In the words of Mother Catherine McAuley, RSM, an early businesswoman and professional who founded the Sisters of Mercy, "Be ever ready to praise, to encourage, to stimulate, but slow to censure and still more slow to condemn".

## 2020 Employer of the Year Citation Mount Aloysius College





# District 5

## Bedford

With the Covid-19 shutdown in March, we were able to have several ZOOM meetings to keep everyone somewhat together and informed. In September we met at one of the member's house for our 2020-2021 budget and planning meeting. Our September meeting was also at a member's home with 8 members attending.

We were able to award three \$1,000.00 scholarships to Bedford County senior girls in May. Our April bingo and our October Bedford County Fall Foliage Festival were canceled. We presently are selling Tastefully Simple products to make a few dollars to help replenish our coffers from all our usual fundraisers.



# District 6

## Jersey Shore

**Jersey Shore BPW** did a virtual campaign gathering sanitary items for women for the Love Center Food Pantry. We collected a LARGE amount of items, mainly due to the efforts of Lisa Meade and Abbey Welker Yoas. (Photo)

We plan to once again display signs in the community during NBWW to promote BPW.



## Wellsboro

**Wellsboro BPW** initiated two new members and installed 2020-21 officers during our August picnic. We also planned the programs and fundraisers for the year.

Our fall lineup of programs includes an October mini-workshop entitled "Using Your Strengths to Improve in the Five Essential Elements of Wellness" and a November program about business support entitled "Wellsboro Task Force Aid to Local Businesses."

In December, we plan to enjoy our annual Holiday Party at a local restaurant.

Bev McKnight, District 6 Director, addressed Wellsboro ladies during her official visit in September.

We plan to place a window display in the Deane Center for the Performing Arts on Main Street, Wellsboro, for National Business Women's Week.



Our "Socially Distanced" Wellsboro BPW Officers for 2020-2021 (L-R) Secretary, Arline Buchman; Vice-President, Susan Graver; Treasurer, Colleen Jackson; and President, Priscilla Walrath



Wellsboro BPW Welcomes New Members Flori Prough (M) and Mikayla Chilson (R)



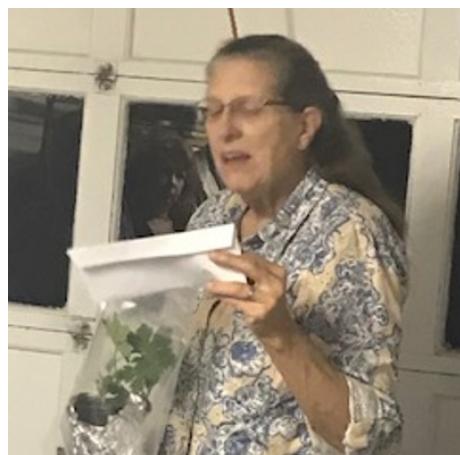
Bev McKnight, District 6 Director



# *District 8*

## *Carbondale*

Welcome to our new officers! In a socially responsible meeting Debbie Longacre inducted from left to right Susan Vladika Parliamentarian, Debbie Policichio Treasurer, Beth Derwin Recording secretary, Joann Jordan Vice President, Diana Rivera President and seated Chris Blaine corresponding secretary. This was the first time we had been able to meet since 2-25-20 due to the COVID 19 restrictions! Many thanks to all for moving forward and to Chris for hosting an outside Meeting!





# *District 8*

## *Scranton*

The Scranton Chapter of District 8 held a zoom meeting on September 30<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was also streamed live on Facebooks as well as recorded for members who could not attend the zoom meeting. Despite our need to be safe, we could still meet and share ideas. Sarah Thomas, our President and this year's BPW PA Young Careerist, had prepared an agenda for our meeting that she shared on the screen of the zoom meeting so we could all follow along. We are planning on a Zoom meeting for October as well. The meeting will be held on October 28<sup>th</sup> and we are encouraged to wear costumes since it is so close to Halloween. The first part of our meeting will be social, since we all miss each other's company. Then we will get down to business and determine how we raise funds for our annual scholarship and non-profit donations when we cannot congregate. We will keep you informed on what we are doing. In the meantime, please visit our Facebook page "Scranton Business and Professional Women" and check out our last meeting. We will also be highlighting members each month on Facebook, an idea we stole from the District 8 Facebook page. Look for that in the near future.



# District 10

## Director News

The summer seemed to fly by this year. We are enjoying some beautiful fall weather in this part of the state, even though the CDC restrictions are still pretty strict. Restaurants are starting to be open at 25-50% depending on the area.

**District 10 voted in their new slate of officers:**

**Ro Colantuono, Director (Delaware County Local)**

**Lois Hall, Assistant Director (Greater Downingtown Local)**

**Tricia McLaughlin, Recording Secretary (Delaware County Local)**

**Fran Farrell, Treasurer (Greater Downingtown Local)**

**Donna Weinstein, Corresponding Secretary (Chesmont Local)**

Our Fall District meeting (October 24th) was changed to a ZOOM meeting. We welcomed Glenda Auker, BPW/PA State Recording Secretary, as our official State visitor. Leigh Wilson Price was also in attendance to give us a wonderful presentation on BPW Membership.

Our fundraiser for the Fall was a Gift Card Raffle, with half the proceeds to benefit the BPW/PA State Project Twilight Wishes and the other half will be for our District operating expenses.

District 10 is looking forward to participating with the Twilight Wish Foundation. A few of the locals have had or are planning to have guest speakers from the Foundation.

Director Ro and Assistant Director Lois will do their official visits in the new age way this year.....via ZOOM. Should be very interesting.

We look forward to working with President Marisa and the entire Executive Board for a very

Treasurer - Lois Hall

successful BPW/PA year.

## Delaware County

Delaware County BPW had its first regular meeting of the new Club year on September 9, 2020 via Zoom. The meeting was conducted by 2020-2021 President Jen Bravo. The business of the Club was conducted and Vice President Patty Snyder and members surprised President Jen with a virtual baby shower. Jen is expecting her first child in October and Delaware County BPW Club members can't wait! Good Luck Jen we are so happy for you!

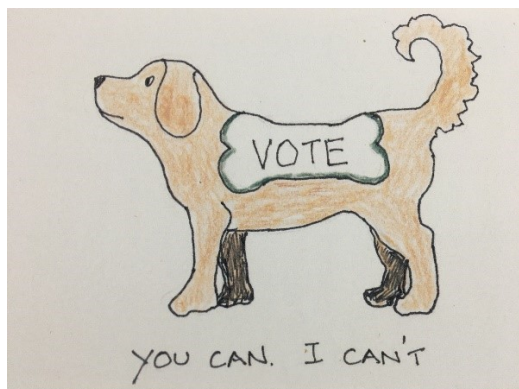
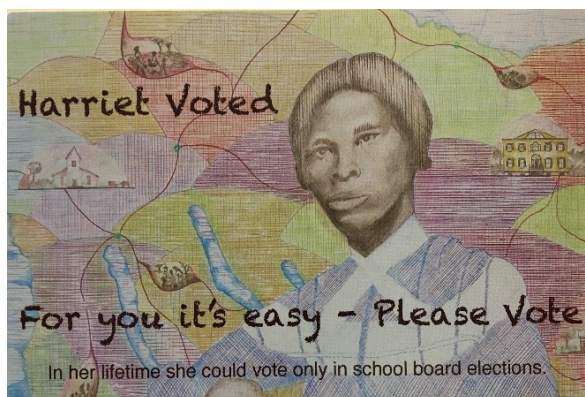
The October meeting of Delaware County BPW will be held on October 14, 2020. The Club will have the pleasure of having Director of Wish Management of Twilight Wish, Michelle Bowren as our speaker. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom. We look forward to hearing about our BPW/PA State project partnering with Twilight Wish as we join Twilight Wish celebrating seniors and helping to make dreams come true.



# District 10

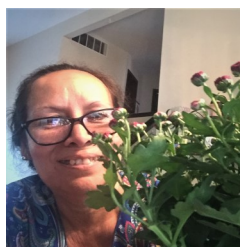
## Chesmont

The Chesmont Local Organization is working this year to encourage our Chester County neighbors to vote in the November 3<sup>rd</sup> election. Working with Art Cards for Votes organization, we will be sending over 1000 postcards. The cards include information on how to check on the status of the voter's registration, especially if the voter has recently moved. It also encourages those who have requested mail-in ballots to fully complete them and return their ballots either by mail or to a drop box in their neighborhood. Here are a couple examples of the cards we are sending.



In addition, we are helping to support our US and State Representatives by calling our neighbors and asking for their support.

## Greater Downingtown



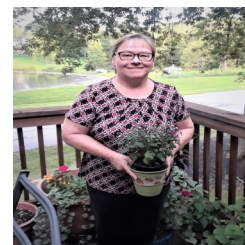
President - Keny Holman



Vice President – Lorraine Tindaro



Treasurer – Lois Hall



Recording Secretary – Fran Farrell



Correspondence Secretary –  
Carole Gallo



Parliamentarian – Janis  
Nippes

At their September 9, 2020 Zoom meeting Fran Farrell installed the 2020-2021 slate of officers for Greater Downingtown BPW.

Greater Downingtown was able to adopt our 2021 budget and do our audit via zoom. We have speakers for 2020 and 2021 which we will do on Zoom too. Carol Metzker Community Outreach Speaker for October, Cass Forkin speaker in January for Twilight Wish.



# District 11

## Key Report

District 11 kicked off its 2020-21 year with a Zoom Summer Board Meeting on Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:06 am. There were 22 Board Members and 11 guests in attendance, including two first-timers. Reports of the Officers, Chairs, Speciala Appointees and Local Presidents were given. New business included an update on the State Project, Twilight Wish; Fall District Meeting information; and discussion regarding a virtual District Fundraiser. Director Van Ingen's theme for this year is "Just Be".

Director Van Ingen then held a follow-up meeting with the Local Presidents on September 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss increased teamwork and communication between Locals, especially during the pandemic. The District Fundraiser was further discussed, as well as the Locals' fundraisers and whether to move forward with on-line payments. Director Jen reached out to BPW/PA Locals via the Buzz for further information on vendors. The meeting concluded with details regarding reports/poems for the upcoming Fall District Meeting/Memorial Service on October 31<sup>st</sup> at Caitlyn and Cody's Diner in Pennsburg. All attendees are urged to dress up as Rosie the Riveter in support of Mae Krier's goal of having Congress award all the Rosies who supported the war effort the Congressional Gold Medal (Senate Bill 892). Mae, age 94, lives in Bristol Township, PA and is one of the original Rosie the Riveters.



## Greater Conshohocken

Greater Conshohocken BPW is taking this year to rebuild and become a stronger local. With all of the challenges out in the environment that we face, we are trying to be more creative. Until we are sure that it is safe to venture out into the restaurant world, we will be conducting our monthly meetings via Zoom and relying more on social media.

We are trying new methods and hopefully fun activities to encourage increased involvement with the Club, including monthly contests with prizes on our Facebook page. In September, we posted our Who Am I? pictures. In October, there will be a Pink Pumpkin Contest for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Also, an expanded newsletter is up and running again, with fun and informative articles. We will also be updating our other social media, including our website.

For our October meeting, GC BPW is planning a Candidates' Forum with area political candidates invited to address our BPW/PA Legislative Platform. In November, our Issues Management topic will be Women in the Military/Women Veterans. We will hold our holiday party in December, with a paddle raffle and bake sale planned.



# District 11

## Central Montgomery

The Central Montgomery County BPW used Zoom as their meeting communication line on September 17, 2020. President Nancy Werner welcomed a majority of their 42 members and guests.

She welcomed Krissy Freeman, Associate Director of Annual Giving Programs of the Montgomery County Community College. The CMC BPW presented Ms. Freeman with \$2,000 for their MCCC Scholarship Fund that will be given to two students over 25 years of age and in the business curriculum.

President Nancy also welcomed Cass Forkin, Director of Twilight Wish, to share her vision and mission of this wonderful project. Barbara Maresca, chair of the CMC BPW Twilight Wish Project, took time to visit Cass and her staff and mailed every member their "duty cards" and a beautiful wand to make the wishes come true.

Lastly, President Nancy shared the Grace B. Daniels Award that the LO received from the BPW Foundation (National) Committee of our BPW/PA. They have continued to visit the women veterans at the Mary Walker House and provide meals, journals, crafts and socialization. They even provide needed assistance at the Montgomery County Veteran's Center in Norristown. Kudos are extended to Mo Gillen and Becky Shoulberg for their continued efforts in the "Women Joining Forces" project.

CMC BPW knows that a challenging year is ahead of them. They are thinking "outside that proverbial box" with creative ideas that they will attain another successful BPW year.

Nancy Werner, President of CMC BPW



## Quakertown

Our 2020-2021 has begun with the Quakertown BPW. The Local Organization met on September 22, 2020 at the McCoolle's Restaurant - Arts and Entertainment Center **in person**. President Linda Moskal welcomed the members and guests to the first meeting of the year.

They were delighted to have as their speaker, Jennifer Bright, Founder and CEO of Bright Communications. She presented the topic, "Telling Your Story" – how we can market ourselves to others. She shared seven years with the Rodale Publishers before starting her own company in 2004. If you have a story that you wish to publish, just google her name or company. She is waiting to hear from you. (If you were working on a book during the pandemic, here is your chance!)

The monthly raffle proceeds will be given to the "Angel" for the Twilight Wish State Project. The members will also be selling daily lottery tickets for January 2021 from now until December 31. Lastly, the Quakertown BPW famous Paddle Raffle will be held on Sunday, April 18, 2021. Quakertown BPW had to cancel their Autumn Apple Dumpling Sales due to the annual Quakertown Alive Festival not being held.

Nancy Werner, Quakertown BPW KEY





# District 11

## *Souderton –Telford*

Souderton-Telford is proud to have enjoyed 69 years with one of their founding members! Though it is sad to say that Irene Landes passed this summer, there is joy in knowing that her memory will continue as part of the fiber of our local organization for MANY years to come. S-T BPW will honor a member each year with the Irene Landes Award that will be given to the member that most embodies the spirit of BPW. Many of you will remember Irene from state convention. She loved our BPW state conventions and was a loyal participant there until the end. Her daughter, Eileen Gillin, often jokes that because of her Mom she has been a BPW member since the womb! We are grateful to have Eileen's continued support and will each carry a little of Irene's spirit forward. She will be missed by many and always remembered fondly.

At S-T BPW we are facing the same challenges as many of you: meeting accommodations, retention, fundraising, and plenty others. We are embracing these opportunities and are striving to adapt and not just survive, but to prosper. We are using this transitional period to look ahead long term and see what steps we can take today to ensure that our chapter will be here for our daughters. We appreciate the information shared across the state regarding digital payment systems and other experiences that will help us all grow and thrive through this uneasy time. To reread our Collect has been a very centering activity and, for that and for all of you, we are grateful.



## *Upper Perk*

We were finally able to have a face to face board meeting and get a photo of the new 2020-2021 board members.

President: Alice Hager

1<sup>st</sup> VP: Libery Dusza

2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Rebecca Boyd

Treasurer: Annie Skoraszewski

Recording Secretary: Angela Graber

Corresponding Secretary: Cheryl Gebert

Parliamentarian: Jennifer VanIngen

While maintaining social distance and being safe, we discussed our year, what it could possibly look like and how we could handle keeping things alive as much as we can. We have a fund raiser going with online ordering of BPW T-shirt, masks, hats, leggings, and sweatshirts with Upper Perk Printing. Every few weeks it will be updated with new product to order. The link is <https://upbpw.spiritsale.com>. Check out the link and order away.





# District 12

Because of COVID-19, we were unable to hold our Spring District Meeting in April, so on June 28, we had a masked, socially distant Transition Meeting in the form of a catered picnic at the American Legion picnic pavilion in Hopwood, hosted by the Uniontown local. The food was delicious and it was wonderful to actually see our members again and do a little socializing!

At our brief business meeting, we were finally able to elect our new officers and install them. District 12's officers for 2020-2021 are: District Director, Bobbi Dobler; Assistant Director, Denise Byers; Recording Secretary, Sharlene Lehman; Treasurer, Jill Shook; Corresponding Secretary, Lois McDonald; and Parliamentarian, Aleta Richmond. The installation was performed by Past State President Denice Ferranti-Robinson.

We also celebrated our member Marisa Harmon's election as BPW/PA President with a unicorn balloon bouquet, a unicorn and rainbow cake, and unicorn cookies. We are so proud to have one of our own as President and we have all pledged to help and support her in any way we can!

As the new year of BPW meetings begin, our locals are working to find ways to hold meetings while following state guidelines to prevent the spread of the COVID virus. Many of our members are actively working for their chosen candidates in the upcoming elections and to get people to exercise their right to vote. We are also working to increase our membership numbers and retain our current members, while supporting President Marisa's state project and raising funds for our district and individual local projects. Buckle up, District 12, looks like it's going to be a busy year!



Congrats Marisa