



# **BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB MASONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA**

**October 2020**

*To achieve equity for all women in the workplace  
through advocacy, education and information.*

## **THIS MONTH'S THEME**

*Bring a Friend - Membership Drive*

October 13, 2020                      DINNER AT 6:00 P.M.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 5:30-6:00 P.M.

GUEST SPEAKER:

**Phyllis Mrosco**

**From Twilight Wish**



**CELEBRATING SENIORS AND  
MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE**

**THIS YEAR'S THEME**

**"Let Your Dreams Take Flight"**

**THIS YEAR'S STATE PROJECT**

**"Twilight Wish"**

## **Dates to Remember**

October - Breast Cancer Awareness

10 - District Meeting, Washington, PA

13 - BPW Meeting

Invite a Friend to Join Masontown BPW

18 - Ecumenical Event on Zoom

18 - 24 - National Business Women's Wk

November 3 - Election Day

**GET OUT AND VOTE!**

10 - BPW Meeting

Colebrook Chocolate Orders Due

December 8 - BPW Meeting

January 12 - BPW Meeting

February - Heart Awareness Month

9 - BPW Meeting

April - Equal Pay Day

June 10-13 - BPW/PA

Annual State Convention  
Marriot North, Cranberry

**Friends make life  
a lot more  
fun!**



**FACE  
MASK**  
· REQUIRED ·

MASK MAY BE  
REMOVED ONCE YOU  
ARE SEATED

*· thank you ·*

### Masontown BPW 2020-2021 Officers

President: Charlene Smochinsky

Vice President: Sharlene Lehman

Recording Secretary: Dorothy Gruskowski

Treasurer: Barbara Harmon

Corresponding Secretary: Marlene Vrabel

Parliamentarian: Denice Robinson

## BPW October 13 Meeting

Masontown Senior Center

22 S. Main Street

Masontown, PA 15461

### OCTOBER HOSTS

Chair: Denice Robinson

Committee: Lois McDonald,

BJ Covey, and Ruth Sexton

### MENU

Tossed Salad

Stuffed Pork Chop

Mashed Potatoes

Mixed Vegetables

Rolls and Butter

Fruit Salad and Cookies

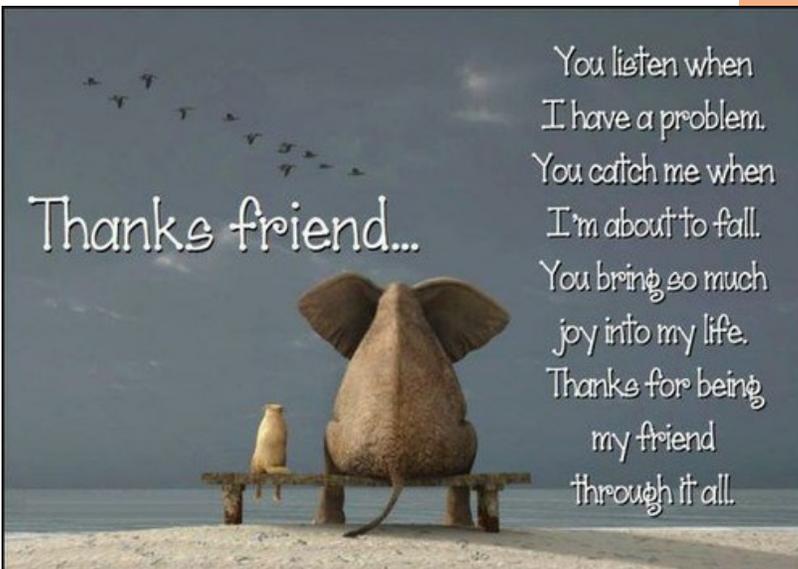
RSVP by calling or emailing:

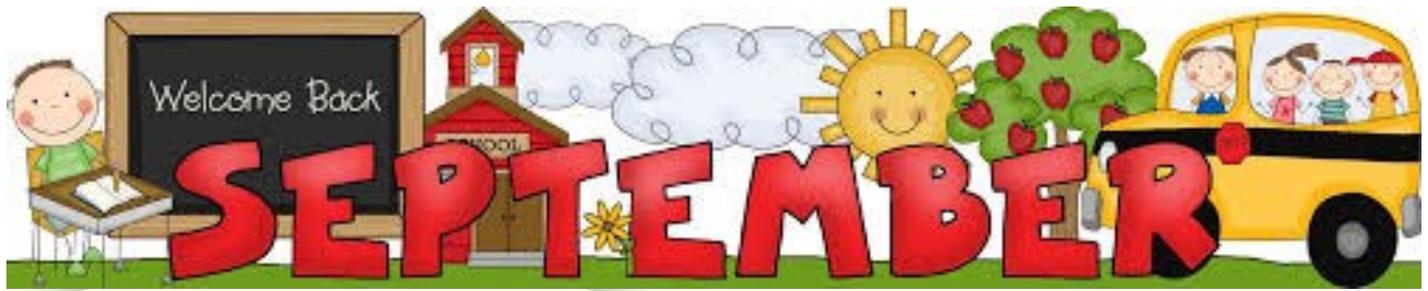
Lois McDonald at 724-366-1552

Email: [lois.mcdonald10@gmail.com](mailto:lois.mcdonald10@gmail.com)



*Lois will be bringing our favorite fundraiser forms, Colebrook Chocolates, to the meeting. Be sure to contact her if you need a form, but will not be attending the meeting.*





Many thanks to Pamela Dubell for creating our Snack Basket for the Masontown Elementary teachers and staff. Pictured on the left are Dorothy Gruskowski, Nanci Myers, Pamela Dubell and Charlene Smochinsky who helped deliver the basket along with some backpacks for the students.



**SPANISH FLU VS. COVID-19**

The Spanish flu (H1N1) pandemic of 1918 holds many parallels to the current COVID-19 pandemic. One point of comparisons is number of deaths in the US:

~675,000  
VS.  
**205,372**

As of September 30, 2020

**WASH YOUR HANDS!**

At Septembers meeting, our theme was Pandemics - Then and Now. A skit comparing the Spanish Flu to Covid-19 was enjoyed by all in attendance. The skit, written by Charlene Smochinsky, compared historical information

from various individuals that were affected by the Spanish Flu to how individuals are affected today by Covid-19. Taking part in the skit pictured above were: Barbara Harmon, Dorothy Gruskowski, Nanci Myers, Sharlene Lehman, Charlene Smochinsky and Pamela Dubell.

**DID YOU KNOW:** Cigarette smoking causes about one of every five deaths in the United States each year, or 1,300 deaths every day. (From the CDC website.)

- More than 480,000 deaths annually (including deaths from secondhand smoke)
- 278,544 deaths annually among men (including deaths from secondhand smoke)
- 201,773 deaths annually among women (including deaths from secondhand smoke)



Our guest speaker this month will be Phyllis Mrosco from Twilight Wish. Come to the meeting to find out how we can help individuals in our community and promote our BPW State project "Twilight Wish." Be sure to bring a friend so that they can also learn about this wonderful opportunity to give back to our community thru this program. (Remember this month is our also our membership drive. What a good way to get your friends involved in BPW!)

## IMPORTANTANCE OF BPW MEMBERSHIP...

How did you become a member of BPW?

Did someone invite you?

Well now it is your turn to pay it forward and invite someone to a meeting to learn more about what Masontown BPW is all about.

This month is our Membership Drive. Be sure to call a friend or two to invite them to join us at our BPW Meeting on October 13th.



**BRING A FRIEND**

Beverly Honeywill, our membership chair, also handed out invitations at the September meeting. For more information, contact Beverly at 724-583-9761. Also see the following page for 10 Great Reasons to become a BPW Member.



# TEN Great Reasons to be a BPW Member!

## 1. Impact

Be part of a national movement and make a difference in the lives of working women as we work together to create the changes needed for equitable work environments and supportive communities. Belong to a nationally recognized organization whose legacy of success opens doors to other leaders and opinion makers.

## 2. Networking

Exchange ideas, explore business opportunities, and share common goals with professional women at the community, state and national level. Connect with mentors, colleagues and friends who can assist you in advancing your career and making the right connections.

## 3. Advocacy

BPW/USA is headquartered in the Washington, DC metro area for a reason - - to provide members effective national representation on issues critical to workingwomen. Stay informed and participate in the process through the weekly *Legislative Hotline* and the Contact Congress program. Learn how to be a successful advocate and lobby your representatives at the annual Policy & Action conference. With the added benefit of the US Women's Chamber of Commerce for our members, this partnership signals a new era of cooperation, advocacy and influence to advance women's business, career, and social issues in a positive direction. Keep the workingwoman's agenda - equal pay, work-life balance, better child and elder care, strong social security pension programs and workplace equity - at the forefront. Through BPW/USA membership you have a powerful voice on small business issues, with corporations and on Capitol Hill, without doing all of the legwork yourself.

## 4. Education/Career Enhancement

Participate in BPW/USA programs that are specifically designed to provide personal and professional development, growth and opportunities. Through seminars, hands-on workshops and noted experts, BPW/USA members are given a vast array of opportunities to gain the skills they need to succeed and be successful. The BPW/USA Individual Development program has provided tens of thousands of women with the leadership, negotiation and professional skills necessary to reach their full potential. The Young Careerist program gives a "leg up" to young women new to the work force but full of potential.

## 5. Information

Have quick access to relevant up-to-date information about topics essential for workingwomen such as the entrepreneur center via the BPW website. Members are also kept on top of developing issues and organization activities through the weekly electronic *Legislative Hotline*, the e-newsletter *Headquarters News*, and our print publication *Business Woman*.

## 6. Leadership

Develop leadership skills at the Local, State and National level with mentors to help you along the way. Maximize the career

-boosting value of your BPW/USA membership by identifying volunteer opportunities that match your professional goals or strengthen your existing skills. Become a recognized leader by getting involved in programs that benefit your community

## 7. Visibility

Gain visibility and prominence in your community through involvement in BPW/USA events - - locally, regionally, statewide and nationally. Meetings, newsletters and websites provide opportunities to showcase and promote you and your business.

## 8. Helping Others

BPW/USA has a proud tradition of "women helping women." In 1956, the members of BPW/USA created BPW Foundation to provide scholarships, research, information, and career development programs for working women. Supporting the BPW Foundation allows you to help other women upgrade their skills or return to the workplace while furthering workplace equity and work-life balance. Since 1969, the BPW Foundation has awarded almost \$6 million in scholarships, research grants and loans. Involvement in the Individual Development, Young Careerist, and Mentoring programs allows you to aid in the personal and professional development of women while raising awareness of issues affecting working women.

## 9. Member Benefits/Discounts

Gain access to special programs like the BPW/USA Career Center or the Home Buyer's assistance program to obtain a mortgage or home equity loan. There are also discounts on stationery, car rentals, hotel rooms, gourmet foods and cruises! With BPW/USA benefits and discounts you can enjoy great products and save money too.

## 10. Friendship

Membership in BPW/USA brings many rewards but the most lasting and meaningful are the lifelong friendships. Through participation in the many BPW/USA activities and programs, you will form supportive friendships as well as important business relationships. There is nothing quite like feeling you get in a roomful of powerful women all focused and energized on current issues and a common cause. Whether it is laughing together, working together, or lobbying together, BPW/USA members know how to have fun and to get the job done!

## Join BPW today!

Masontown BPW/PA Membership Chair

Beverly Honewill

Home: 724-583-9761 Cell: 724-984-4595

Email: bevrans23@verizon.net

## Our District 12 Officers

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| District Director  | Bobbie Dobler      |
| Assistant Director                                       | Denise Byers       |
| Recording Secretary                                      | Sharlene Lehman    |
| Corresponding Secretary                                  | Lois McDonald      |
| Treasurer  | Jill Shook         |
| Parliamentarian  | Aleta Richmond     |
| Public Relations Chair                                   | Dorothy Gruskowski |
| Chair for Barbara Myers-Ciccone<br>Scholarship Committee | Denice Robinson    |



Pictured left to right: Denice Robinson, Lois McDonald, Aleta Richmond, Jill Shook, Sharlene Lehman, Denise Byers, and Bobbie Dobler. Not pictured: Dorothy Gruskowski

## DISTRICT DIRECTOR THOUGHT OF THE MONTH:

OCTOBER

Someone special needs your attention - **Y O U**

It can seem silly or selfish to make time for yourself. But with all you do, and all you give, you need and deserve at least a moment or two to replenish, restore and renew. Go ahead and take a happiness break. It's good for you!

I am surely going to take mine.

DD Bobbi

## Celebrate National Business Women's Week

On Thursday, October 22nd at noon, Dorothy Gruskowski will be giving her presentation of **"The Suffrage Tea Party"** at the Abel Colley Tavern on Rt. 40, (which is the residence of the Fayette County Historical Society.)

This will be followed by a Luncheon catered by several volunteers from the club and a high tea. We are asking for a \$10.00 donation to be given to the Historical Society.

Hope you can join us! (More information will be available at the October 13th meeting.)





## Ohio-Pennsylvania Annual Ecumenical Event

Sponsored by Ohio BPW

This year's BPW Ecumenical Event will be held on Zoom on Sunday, October 18th. It will be hosted by Ohio BPW. The Official Invitation and instructions are below.

**Be sure to Register by Monday, October 12th**



Business and  
Professional  
Women/OH

*You are cordially invited  
to attend The Ohio-Pennsylvania  
41<sup>st</sup> Annual Ecumenical*

*Sponsored by BPW/OH*

*Sunday, October 18, 2020 ~ 3:00 p.m. on Zoom*

*Theme:*

*“She is clothed with strength and dignity  
and she laughs without fear of the future”.*

*Proverbs 31:25*

**Keynote: Rev. Karen M. Cook**

**Registration on Eventbrite:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/41st-annual-ecumenical-service-tickets-119955850177>

Questions: Contact Liz at 740-294-1353 **RSVP By: October 12, 2020**

**Help kick off National Business Women's Week**

# FALL FESTIVAL

## Masontown Senior Center

Looking for volunteers to help out with the Fall Festival at the Masontown Senior Center. Due to Covid-19 we will only be able to pass out treat bags on Friday, October 30th.

We will need volunteers to help put 60 bags together and supply items to put in the bags.

We are looking for donations:

- Candy
- Individually wrapped snacks
- Drinks
- Fall items or favors for bags (Already have Halloween pencils)
- Fall puzzle or activity
- If you are not sure what to bring, a monetary donation is always appreciated.



Please bring all donations to the meeting on October 13th for the Masontown Senior Center Fall Festival.





Remember to vote - Election Day - November 3rd

This year on August 18, 2020 marked the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote. Be sure to take advantage of your hard earned right to vote and vote in the upcoming election.

To commemorate this event the U.S. Postal Service issued a forever stamp in August. I am using it on everything that I mail out.

Over the years the post office has issued other commemorative stamps for the 19th Amendment and I found some other interesting artifacts doing my research. Enjoy!

From the USPS website:

**19th Amendment: Women Vote (Pictured above)**  
With this stamp, the Postal Service commemorates the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which guarantees women the right to vote. Inspired by historic photographs, the stamp features a stylized illustration of suffragists marching in a parade or other public demonstration. The clothes they wear and the banners they bear display the official colors of the National Woman's Party — purple, white and gold. Art director Ethel Kessler designed the stamp with original art by Nancy Stahl.



# Looking Ahead to November



## Coat Collection Drive

With the assistance of Pam Dubell,  
we will again be collecting much needed  
**WINTER COATS** for **HELPING HANDS**.

So remember when cleaning out your  
closets to set aside any coats that  
you no longer need and bring them to  
the meeting in November.

We need coats for women,  
men and children.

Check with the grandchildren  
and see if there are any  
coats they've outgrown.

We don't want any little ones  
or their mommy or daddy to be  
without a warm coat.





**STATE PROJECT**

## **CELEBRATING SENIORS AND MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE**

BPW/PA has designated Twilight Wish as its State Project for the upcoming year, with Mary Weeks as the BPW/PA State Project Chair. Headquartered in Doylestown, PA, Twilight Wish has Pennsylvania chapters in Erie, Allegheny, Butler, Mercer, Washington and Westmoreland Counties. (They are looking to create more chapters, maybe **WE** should start one here in Fayette County.) This month we will have a guest speaker from Twilight Wish. Be sure to attend our October 13th meeting!

Since their founding in 2003, the Twilight Wish goal has been to make the world a nicer place to age, one Twilight Wish at a time. Wishes can be in any of the four categories – simple needs, celebrating a life, living life to the fullest, or Veterans. To date, 3,331 Twilight Wishes have been granted.

Any District, Local or individual member can make a monetary donation to make a Twilight Wish come true. Complete the form in the Presidents' Manual (the form will also be on the website and a copy is on the next page of the newsletter) and make your check payable to TWILIGHT WISH and turn it in to Masontown Treasurer, Barbara Harmon by March's meeting or send it directly to Mary Weeks, State Project Chair, 700 Columbia Ave, Lansdale, PA 19446. Any wishes granted from BPW/PA donations will be utilized for a PA resident. **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF MONETARY DONATIONS IS DUE APRIL 15, 2021.**

Any BPW District, Local or individual member can also nominate deserving seniors for Twilight Wishes, if they meet the criteria.

### **TWILIGHT WISH RECIPIENT REQUIREMENTS**

Qualifying Twilight Wish recipients must meet all the following requirements and proof must be provided (Age, Income, Residence, Physician Approval (when requested), and Military Service (DD214 Form or Discharge Form), if applicable)

- \* Must be 65 years of age OR a permanent resident of an eldercare facility
- \* Legal United States citizenship
- \* An annual income of less than 200% of current federal government published poverty level income (2019 – \$24,280 or less annual income for a household of one) or be unable to grant own wish (not including financial reasons)
- \* History of giving back to others (through service to our nation, community or family)
- \* Must be cognitively and physically capable of communicating and experiencing the wish
- \* Physician documentation (when requested)

Please let me know if you nominate someone for a wish. (We need to inform Mary Weeks, the State Project Chair - Nomination forms will be available at the meetings.)

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 give it to me or send it directly to Mary Weeks, so we will know how we supported this Twilight Wish program (# cards used; \$ donated—see the next page of the newsletter for a copy of this form.)

## BPW/PA State Project – Twilight Wish Contribution FORM (SP18)

Enclosed is a tax-deductible gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to make a twilight wish come true.

Your contribution is tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

I have used # \_\_\_\_\_ DUTY cards to pay for # \_\_\_\_\_ senior meals for a total cost of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

BPW LOCAL: Masontown DISTRICT: 12

GIFT IS FROM (CHECK ONE): INDIVIDUAL \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: If you are sending in contributions for more than one BPW level (i.e. yourself and your Local),

**PLEASE USE SEPARATE CONTRIBUTION FORMS AND SEPARATE CHECKS FOR EACH LEVEL OF DONATION.**

CONTRIBUTION IN MEMORY/HONOR OF:

\_\_\_\_\_

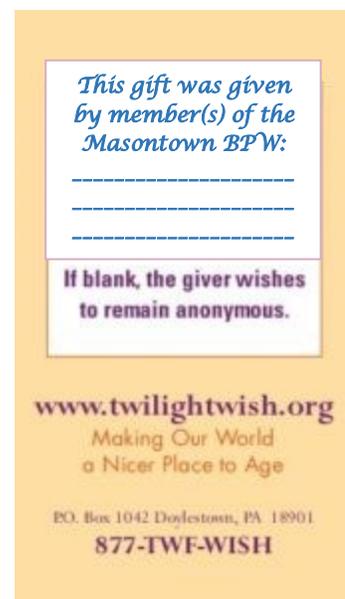
Make check payable to Twilight Wish. Mail all contributions and donation forms to:

Mary Weeks, BPW/PA State Project Chair, 700 Columbia Avenue, Lansdale, PA 19446-3310.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF MONETARY DONATIONS TO Mary Weeks IS APRIL 15, 2021.**

To the right is an example of the “DUTY” cards (Dining Unexpected Thank You) that are referred to above on the **BPW/PA State Project – Twilight Wish Contribution FORM (SP18)**

Please see the Masontown Treasurer, Barbara Harmon to get some of the cards to use to donate a meal the next time you are dining out.





## **2021 ANNUAL BPW/PA STATE CONVENTION**

**June 10–13, 2021**

**“LET YOUR DREAMS TAKE FLIGHT”**

**Pittsburgh Marriot North**

100 Cranberry Woods Drive, Cranberry Twp, PA 16066

**We are hosting the convention this year!**

**We will need volunteers - YOU**

**Start thinking about attending this year's convention and what you can do to help!**

