Dear Members,

As we “FALL” into September, I thought I would share with you some of the results from the President’s survey I sent out in July. Out of 52 surveys, 17 surveys were received. There was a lot of positive feedback regarding topics such as: good speakers at the meetings, helpful networking, charity work, the use of the Pledge of Allegiance, support of our community and meeting new women. Some suggestions of things to work on in the future are: staying on topic at meetings, attendance, making the meetings more “fun”, length of the meetings, incorporating more outreach activities and improving member involvement...just to name a few.

Taking all of the feedback into consideration, these are some of the changes I am going to address first: in order to make the meetings more efficient, all reports and networking will have a set time limit to keep the meeting on track. Also, we will no longer call on all committee chairs at every meeting for their reports. Those who have a report will be lined up ahead of time to present to the members. In the interest of being more involved in the community, we are looking to donate or assist Meals on Wheels, Westmoreland Walks and collecting non-perishable goods for our local food pantry in the months to come. If you have any other suggestions of local organizations that we could reach out to please let me know.

This month’s regular meeting is going to be AMAZING!!! Our theme for this month is the Kentucky Derby, so break out your glamorous attire and extravagant Derby hats ladies! It’s all in good fun, after all. Bonus points if you include blue...you’ll see why. On a more serious note our speaker for the month will be Ligonier Valley Police Chief John Berger who will be addressing the subject of human trafficking and what we can be doing to help. I am excited to see you all there. I will be there in blue to show my support for our law enforcement officers.

Tara Hassler - President

Officers for 2020-2021
Tara Hassler, President
Maggie Hildebrand, Vice-President
Betsy Shepler, Treasurer
Janet Riordan, Recording Secretary
Raven Cintron, Corresponding Sec’y
Dawn Berkebile, Parliamentarian

This is a list in progress!

Standing Committee Chairs:
Finance – Wendy Lint
Foundation – Paula Maloney
Issues Mgmt. – Maggie Hildebrand
Legislation – Amy Kohler
Membership – Laurie Hough
Public Relations – Maggie Hildebrand
By-Laws – Brenda Sherbondy
ID/YC – Laurie Hough

Special Appointee Chairs:
Dinner: Tish Berkey-Purdy
Newsletter: Kristin Poerschke
SLN/BPW: Diana Neiderhiser
LVBPW Scholarship: Kelly Hoover
Historian – Susan Patchin
Scrapbook – Beth Caldwell
LVBPW Scholarship Growth – Betsy Shepler
Luxury Bash – Lisa Altimus & Janet Riordan & Maggie Hildebrand
Web Site – Raven Cintron

Celebrating 102 Years of Women Helping Women with Passion and Purpose

"Of the Pennsylvania Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc”
Kristin Poerschke, editor

Tuesday, September 22 – 5:45 pm – Regular meeting at the Ramada Inn

Tuesday, October 6  6:30 Board meeting, location to be announced later
The September meeting is on Tuesday, September 22 at 5:45 pm at the Ligonier Ramada Inn.

**Main Menu:** Honey Almond Chicken, Roasted Red Potatoes, Broccoli –
**Alternate:** Chicken Caesar
**Dessert for all:** Strawberry Shortcake

Stay healthy! Thank you! - Tish

Thanks to this month’s contributors:
- Lisa Altimus
- Tish Berkey-Purdy
- Tara Hassler
- Maggie Hildebrand
- Laurie Hough
- Paula Maloney
- Diana Neiderhiser
- Kristin Poerschke
- Ina Smithley

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"If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair.“
Shirley Chisholm, MA

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**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS!**

| September 1 | Wendy      | Lint   |
| September 5 | Dawn       | Berkebile |
| September 9 | Kathy      | Flickinger |
| September 24 | Michelle  | Krebs   |
| September 27 | Rita      | Horrell |

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Thanks to this month’s contributors:
- Lisa Altimus
- Tish Berkey-Purdy
- Tara Hassler
- Maggie Hildebrand
- Laurie Hough
- Paula Maloney
- Diana Neiderhiser
- Kristin Poerschke
- Ina Smithley

Member Merchants – from Maggie Hildebrand

Although we will not be having a Member Market at the October meeting, last month I announced an open invitation for two members to present a product that they represent or a service that they offer at each upcoming meeting. The two volunteers for September are Dawn Berkebile, presenting Mary Kay ([https://www.marykay.com/dberkebile/en-US/](https://www.marykay.com/dberkebile/en-US/)), and Lucille Zimmer, presenting Jordan Essentials ([https://www.myjestore.com/membertoolsdotnet/shoppingcartv4/MainCartv4.aspx?MG=40](https://www.myjestore.com/membertoolsdotnet/shoppingcartv4/MainCartv4.aspx?MG=40)). We thank these members for being willing to present their products, and perhaps bring some Cash and Carry items for us to take with us. We are thankful for these two presenters and want to help them succeed in their businesses!

I have one presenter already for October, and would love to line up more of you members for October and future months! Just contact me - maggie@outputsales.com – and I will get you on the schedule.

+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++ 

A heartfelt thank-you to our Anniversary Committee and every member who helped (I believe that includes EACH ONE OF YOU!) make our Anniversary Party in August a success! You are gifted organizers, yarn artists (you know who you are!), hostesses, greeters, and party-ers– and thank you all for your contributions!

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RAFFLE TICKET UPDATE

If you have any tickets unsold, PLEASE let Maggie know as soon as possible. Sounds like we may have sold all our tickets.

All 20 baskets (and a few more) have been donated by our members and will be posted on face book. So as you complete your basket, please send a picture to Raven & Tara. All baskets need to be given to Maggie, Janet or Lisa by September 15th. Remember, we can also pack & wrap your basket if needed.

If anyone has any questions, please contact Lisa Altimus, Janet Riordan or Maggie Hildebrand.

Thanks so much for all your help and support.
Please accept this invitation to attend BPW/PA’s new Personal and Professional Development Workshop. This session is designed to examine workshop content, time frame, relatability and effectiveness.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

DATE:
Sunday, October 11, 2020
(Registration closes on September 30th)

TIME:
7:30 am – 4:00 pm
(Workshop will begin promptly at 8:00 am)

LOCATION:
YWCA Westmoreland County
Huff Mansion – Living Room/Library
424 N. Main Street
Greensburg, PA 15601
(Parking is available on the premises of the mansion. Additional parking can be found on the adjacent street.)

COST:
$25.00 members only
Make check payable to: District 3 BPW
Mail payment to: Tracy Grace
510 Greenwood Street, Jeannette PA 15644

"If you have knowledge, let others light their candles in it."
— Margaret Fuller
Plans are already in the works for the Friday night event at the PA State Convention in 2021. PA State President Marissa Harmon is tentatively planning a Costume Party Bingo with cash prizes, a silent auction, and baskets.

Please continue to remember the Foundation as you plan your year-end gifts. We need your support to provide help and opportunities as we strive to assist other women.

The PA BPW Foundation Board of Directors thanks all those members for their donations to the Foundation this past year. Contributions last year totaled $18,667, which included $4,505 from members donating Convention registration and dinner fees. Anyone wishing to donate can do so by using the PA BPW Foundation donation form located on the website.

Thank you for your generosity!

Submitted by Paula Maloney, Foundation Chair

It's Not Too Early!

Our speaker for the October meeting will be Jamie Bostart from the Twilight Wish Foundation. She will be detailing how we can be involved in helping make a wish come true for a low-income senior. As you know, we are already providing a $25 value basket at each meeting (in September, the Finance Committee – Wendy Lint, Lisa Altimus, Janet Riordan, Charlene Shank, Betsy Shepler – will be providing the monthly basket) for one lucky member to win. Proceeds from the baskets go to Twilight Wish – our State Project.

The Eleanor Briner Award is the highest honor presented by BPW/PA to a district. This is conferred upon the district that, in the opinion of the BPW/PA Executive Board Committee, "does the most to advance our Federation objectives." The award is given in memory of Eleanor Briner who was serving BPW/PA as District Coordinator at the time of her death in March 1964. To win this award, a district must have full cooperation of its members, Local organizations, and officers.

2020-2021 District 3 Director Laurie Hough was another speaker at our anniversary celebration.

Reservations for the Fall District meeting can be given to President Tara Hassler or sent directly to Carolyn Ralph (address below).

And ... just 2 spots (count ‘em – TWO) remain for the Welcome Home Eleanor Event on Sunday, September 20, 2020 at Bella Terra Vineyards, Hunker - $15 each. Contact Laurie Hough immediately if you want to attend:
laurielhough@gmail.com

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### Official Call to Fall District Meeting

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| Date:    | Monday, October 12, 2020 |
| Location: | Banquets Unlimited |
|          | 544 Caruthers Lane |
|          | Irwin, PA 15642 |
|          | 724-864-1646 |

| Time:     | Registration 5:30 pm |
|          | Dinner Buffet 6:00 pm |

Presently, **Masks will be REQUIRED as per the CDC Set Requirements for PA State Restaurant and Dining Facilities, unless otherwise declared prior to October 12, 2020.**

| Hostess: | McKeesport BPW |

| Mail Reservations to: | Ms. Carolyn Ralph |
|                       | 1008 Pennsylvania Ave. |
|                       | Irwin, PA 15642 |

| Cost: | $30.00 per person (includes $3.00 registration fee) |
|       | **Final deadline is Friday, October 2, 2020** - Please use the attached Reservation Form |
|       | Make checks payable to: McKeesport BPW |

All Committee Chairs please email a copy of your report to Jackie Elliott bpwd3correspondence@gmail.com by Friday, October 2, 2020.

Please note: All Locals are responsible to bring a themed basket for the basket auction.

Please inform Traci Naugle kinashidriver@gmail.com the name of your basket. A sincere thank you is in order from all of District 3 to the Locals for their basket donations.

Remember, all District 3 members in good standing, in attendance, have voting privileges. We hope to see every Local in District 3 well represented.

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Jackie Elliott  
Corresponding Secretary  
127 Baby Paige Lane  
Latrobe, PA 15650  
jelliott1077@gmail.com  
(C) 724.244.6230

Laurie Hough  
District Director  
3555 State Route 130  
Acme, PA 15610  
laurielhough@gmail.com  
(C) 724.875.6928
Kim Bellas was prepared with the Woman from History moment for the August meeting, but, as it wasn’t a regular meeting, we asked her to present the item at the September meeting. This will be a woman who was profiled in a blurb in the Woman’s Slow Cooker cookbook. This item will be presented during Networking and we think it will always be a fun fact. Hopefully, we will have a volunteer to take the cookbook home for a month and find another Woman from History that interests her to present in October. (Volunteers are not required to cook any recipe from the cookbook!)

At the virtual State Convention on Saturday, June 13th, BPW/PA members adopted the following sentence to the beginning of the Civil Rights plank of the Legislative Platform: “To encourage and promote diversity in our membership and in others in our communities and actively oppose all forms of institutional and individual racism.”

The Sandra L. Neiderhiser/Ligonier Valley BPW Scholarship Fund is invested with The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County, which is under The Pittsburgh Foundation “umbrella.” The Pittsburgh Foundation manages 1.2 billion dollars and 2,300 individual charitable funds.

Since this Fund was established, a total of $62,157 has been deposited into the fund. This includes all donation, memorial contributions and the profits for the years of fashion shows.

The current fund balance is $67,813.74 as of 6/30/2020. A total of $41,500 has been awarded in scholarships over the years to 43 different recipients. In the early years the scholarship amount was $500, it was then increased to $1,000. This year we awarded a total of four $1,000 scholarships in response to the pandemic.

So in quick summary … the foundation has taken $62,157 and turned it into $109,313.74!!! One last important note….Lisa Schroeder (a woman) is the President and CEO of the Pittsburgh Foundation.

Submitted by Diana Neiderhiser

Survey Says…….!  

Thanks to all who responded to President Tara’s survey! As promised, all surveys were anonymous, but the resulting ideas were collected and presented and we are implementing many ideas that came up on more than one survey response. Two of those new ideas will be put into effect at the September meeting. The Board agreed that these two changes would make a great difference in the flow of each business meeting and the length of the meetings. These are rules that guide District and State meetings also, and we are glad to put them into practice here.

1. **Any member wishing to speak must raise their hand and be recognized by the Chair (in this case, President Tara).** This should make it much easier for all members in the room to hear each speaker more clearly.

2. **All guest speakers will be limited to 15 minutes, with 5 minutes for questions.** The Vice President will be the timer, and yes, this means that I will be cutting off the Chief of Police if he speaks too long (oh my, oh my).

We understand members’ time is valuable, and we want to make the best use of the time we are together. Be looking for other changes that we may make as a result of your survey answers!

Maggie Hildebrand

www.ligoniervalleypbw.com Check out our REVAMPED website.

The Rada information: www.helpourfundraiser.com Internet ordering # 504857  Password (lower case) bpwlv
The Anniversary Committee asked Ina Smithley to tell the story of how the BPW of Ligonier Valley began. This is a condensed version (4 pages to 1!) of what she shared.

I had been a member of the original Ligonier BPW for 3 years in the early 70s and also a Latrobe BPW member from 1991 till we formed this club in 2000. I began thinking, "our President was Sandy Neiderhiser who lived south of Ligonier, and about half of the 12 member board was from the Ligonier area." I thought to myself," Why don't we have a club in Ligonier?"

With encouragement from Judy Hoffer and the late Gayle Finn, I decided to think seriously about learning what it would entail. I learned from the Dist. Director Kitty Collins that before we could charter we would have to formulate local bylaws, select four officers and get about 8 additional people to serve on a board of directors. We only had a few gals who knew anything about BPW so it sounded almost impossible. We would need 20 people before we could charter.

At that time I was working as a district aide in the state representative's Ligonier office so I was in town every day. I immediately made a flyer and during my lunch break I would distribute them to all the businesses in town. I talked with friends and contacted delinquent Latrobe members who were from Ligonier. Several weeks after I took flyers to the businesses in town, I visited a second time to see if there was interest in attending a dinner meeting.

One of the people I visited was Rachel Roehrig who was executive director of the Chamber of Commerce. Rachel said she thought it sounded interesting but she didn’t think she could fit an organization into her busy schedule. However she said she would like to come to the dinner and learn more. And guess what, she signed the charter! Another charter member is my sister Rita Horrell. You know how active Rita is and though I could never talk her into running for president, she has always been more than willing to help in any other way.

It looked like we had enough interest to start a club so we met at the former Wagon Wheel in Oak Grove. Others in attendance were state membership chair Audrey Johnson, the District 3 Director Kitty Collins and other key people from the District. We could NOT have started the club without all of their assistance.

I knew before that night that I had a prospective vice president and the District asked that I serve as president. Judy Hoffer agreed to be our first secretary but of the people who were attending I couldn't come up with a potential treasurer. So what do you do? I asked for volunteers and was ecstatic to get a volunteer from one of the businesses that I visited. Do you want to guess who our first treasurer was? It was Lisa Altimus. I had never met Lisa, however I had taken a flyer to Dr. Evelyn Lemon's chiropractic office and was impressed by the number of questions Lisa asked about the organization, never once thinking that she was getting information for Dr. Lemmon AND herself. Both Lisa, Dr. Lemmon and her mother Peg were charter members.

We had several meetings then at my house to hear everyone’s ideas and to use the model bylaws to write our own. And after about 5 months of planning, we received our charter with 37 names on it (note: and here Inie was worried about getting 20 women!). The state president Kathy Kidd presented the charter, in March of 2000, at a dinner meeting at the Country Inn, Laughlinton.

We are a 70 plus member team and all of you are to be congratulated for making this club one of the largest in the Pennsylvania Federation of Business and Professional Women’s Clubs.

A reminder that our speaker for the month will be Ligonier Valley Police Chief John Berger who will be addressing the subject of human trafficking and what we can be doing to help.

Ligonier Mayor
Butch Bellas,
and father of
former BPW
President Kim
Bellas, also
spoke at our
anniversary
celebration.
In November, our BPW Club will collect care items for service men and women who are deployed and sending them to Soldiers’ Angels, who will distribute them as needed. The collection items we will be looking for are listed below.

**Hygiene and Personal Care**
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Wet Wipes
- Female Hygiene Products
- Hand Warmers
- Manicure Set
- Back Scratchers
- Socks (no tube socks)
- Hand Sanitizer
- Cleaning Cloths/Spray (for glasses/goggles)

**Snack Items:** (All food items must be store-bought. If you are interested in baking, please check out the **Soldiers’ Angels Angel Baker Team**

- Protein Bars
- Jerky or Meat Sticks
- Sunflower Seeds
- Freeze-Dried Fruit (Single Serve)
- Sauce Packets
- Single-Serve Peanut Butter or Nutella
- Single-Serve Cereals (Boxes or Cups, no bags as they will crush easily)
- Pop-Tarts
- Nuts/Trail Mix (Single Serve Preferred)
- Tuna Salad Kit with Crackers
- Chicken Salad Kit with Crackers
- Powdered Drink Mixes like Crystal Light or Sports Drinks (Single Serve)
- Gum
- Candy

**Down-Time Items:**
- Small Balls or Footballs
- Puzzle Books
- Travel-Sized Games
- Coloring Books
- Pens/Pencils
- Colored Pencils
- Pencil Sharpeners

Please AVOID the following items as we will not be able to include them:
- NO AEROSOLS or SPRAYS IN CANS
- No Pork or Pork By-Products (Slim Jims are OK)
- Tobacco or Alcoholic Beverage Products
- Bars of Soap
- Anything packaged in glass
- Sharp Objects (Knives, Tools, Safety Pins, etc.)
- Pornography or other culturally sensitive material
- Bagged Potato Chips (they are too easily crushed)
- Unwrapped Candies
- Nail Polish
- Perfume or Cologne

Or, of course, cash donations are welcomed and appreciated. We will not be packing separate packages. We will collect all items and pack them to send to the organization address in San Antonio, TX. Thanks to you all in advance.

Our BPW Club’s FIRST President, Ina Smithley, sharing the history of the founding of our club.

Kim Shaffer, a charter member and currently a member of the staff for PA State Representative Mike Reese presenting a proclamation from Representative Reese to President Tara Hassler. A proclamation was also shared from Senator Kim Ward.