



The Minnesota Business Woman

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State Convention Has Two Outstanding Guests



BPW/USA Treasurer **Tina Garner**

BPW Minnesota is fortunate to have BPW/USA Treasurer Tina Garner as its National Representative at State Convention

Tina L. Garner is a Certified Public Accountant and is employed as a Tax Manager for the accounting firm of Adami, Lindsey & Company, LLP in

Sherman, Texas. She joined the Sherman Business and Professional Women's Club in 1987 and has demonstrated her commitment to BPW by serving in various leadership positions at all levels. She currently serves as the BPW/USA Treasurer, BPW/USA Issues Management Task Force Chair, BPW/Texas Foundation Treasurer and BPW/Texas Past State President.

She has served as a board member and/or officer of numerous community organizations. Awards she has received include the Sherman Chamber of Commerce Athena Award, District 12 BPW Outstanding President Award, and the Sherman BPW Member of the Year and Woman of the Year awards. She was named Sherman and District 12 BPW VAYC and is a graduate of the Leadership Sherman Program.

Tina is married to Dale Garner, and they reside in Sherman, Texas.

MN Correctional Facility Warden **Jessica M. Symmes**

The State Convention keynote speaker will be Jessica M. Symmes, Warden of the Minnesota Correctional Facility-Oak Park Heights. MCF-OPH opened in 1982 and is the state's highest-security facility for adult males.

Symmes' career with the Minnesota Department of Corrections began over 30 years ago.

She started in a support position at the Stillwater facility in 1975 and later was hired as a corrections officer at Oak Park Heights where she rose through the ranks to Watch Lieutenant.

In 1993, Symmes began her management career at the MCF-Oak Park Heights as assistant to the Warden. She also served as a cell hall director and Associate Warden of Administration.

In 1999, Symmes was named Associate Warden of Operations at Oak Park Heights, and later transferred to the Stillwater facility where she spent five years. In this capacity, she was responsible for administration and direction of two divisions of the facility that included offender living units, case management, religious services, psychology, health services, visiting, recreation, education, treatment, emergency response, perimeter security, armory, offender transportation, industry security, and Special Operations Response Teams.

"Jessie Symmes is an exceptionally talented individual who possesses the vast range of experiences and management skills crucial for this appointment," Corrections Commissioner Joan Fabian said upon appointing Symmes to her current position. "I'm delighted she has accepted this new challenge."

Symmes' appointment was effective Aug. 15, 2005.



State Convention Dates	
March 31	Awards Forms due ... pg. 4
April 1	Hotel Deadlinepg. 11
April 19	Registration Deadlinepg. 11
April 19	Packet Reports & Tips Due ... pg. 3
April 19	Transition Packet Reports Due ... pg. 10
April 10	Leg. Platform Comments ... pg. 5
May 2-3	STATE CONVENTION !



Holly Morey, President

So much to do, so little time.

How many times have we all said the same phrase? About the time we get started, the year has passed. That's exactly how I feel right now.

BPW Area Reps. needed

If you are interested in serving as a BPW/USA Area Representative, please contact me. The BPW/USA Chair of Nominations is still accepting applications even though the deadline has passed.

I encourage you to think about serving BPW in this capacity. Currently we do not have anyone running from Minnesota. We are in Area 4 along with Michigan, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. According to the BPW/USA bylaws, to be eligible to serve on the board of directors, a member must:

- A. be employed;
- B. be in good standing; and
- C. officially and publicly support the national legislative platform.

The duties of Area Representatives are to:

- A. serve as the Area Representative on the board of directors of BPW/USA.
- B. implement the mission and objectives of BPW/USA.
- C. attend meetings of the BPW/USA board of directors.
- D. disseminate information to all the state and/or local presidents in their area.
- E. report quarterly (electronic and/or paper) to all state Federations and Local Organizations in their area and the BPW/USA executive committee.

State Convention notes

We are privileged to have BPW/USA Treasurer Tina Garner attend this year's State Convention as our National Representative. A word of warning, Tina is from Texas. At the time of this writing, Tina isn't very happy that Texas has had what she refers to as "Minnesota's snow." Enough with the weather. Tina has also served as chair of BPW/USA's Issues Management Task Force. With her, she brings a wealth of knowledge and experience about the organization. I highly encourage you to take the time to visit with Tina while she is here.

So, why should you attend this year's State Convention? Whether this is your first convention or you've attended too many to count, in no certain order, here are ten reasons why you should attend this year:

10. Installation of incoming officers. No one ever said that St. Cloud doesn't know how to have a good time.
9. Celebrate your successes during the past year, and the successes of others throughout the state, at the Awards Luncheon.
8. Networking opportunities with members from all over the state. Did you know that often times when a BPW member is looking for

a service, they look for a BPW member first... need I say more?

7. Let your voice be heard. We can't hear what you have to say if you don't attend. Remember, every member has a voice in this Federation.
6. Friday's Casino Night, hosted by Stillwater BPW, with money/donations going to Minnesota charities.
5. Breakout training sessions including the continuation of the BPW/MN book club.
4. Leadership 101 Training. This not-to-miss event isn't just for those serving on a state level.
3. BPW/USA Treasurer Tina Garner will be in attendance. Hear what she has to share from BPW/USA. I also have it on good authority that we might, I said might, have members from other states in attendance at our convention.
2. Keynote speaker, Warden Jessica Symmes of the Minnesota Correctional Facility-Oak Park Heights. She is checking to see if there are other female wardens in the area who are available to join us.
- 1. You'll have to attend to find out!**

President's message continued

Final thoughts

This is your organization. Let your voice be heard and be a part of shaping the future of our Federation.

I am continuing my travels throughout the state. My goal is to attend a meeting and/or event for each Local. I have enjoyed meeting the members and seeing first-hand the uniqueness of each Local.

Congratulations to Katrina Wass, Fergus Falls BPW, who will represent Minnesota at the BPW/USA National Convention in Atlanta as our Virginia Allan Young Careerist Representative. If you missed the Winter Board of Directors' Meeting, you missed hearing the phenomenal candidate speeches. The candidates certainly did not make the judges' job easy for them.

For those members who have not served in a leadership position in BPW, I highly recommend it. I wouldn't trade the experiences I've had this past year for anything.

Holly



Looking forward to a successful State Convention!

President Elect Jaci Olson

State Convention is just around the corner. Come and have some fun! I have four items to discuss with you.

1. State Sponsorship

By having sponsorships for our state meetings, it would increase our visibility, allow us to network with other businesses, gain membership, grant us the opportunity to have personal, professional and political educational opportunities and **help offset some of our costs**. Think of the businesses in your areas that would benefit from **statewide recognition** and pass their names and phone numbers on to me.

2. Speakers

Have you had speakers at your local meeting that would be excellent for one of our state meetings? If so, please pass their contact information to me. Thank you to those of you who have already shared some ideas with me.

3. Call for State Convention Packet Reports

• Due April 19!

As you already know, state officers, elected positions, standing committee chairs, special appointments and Local Organization presidents should submit a report to tell us about your local or what is going on in your position with BPW.

4. Tips — NEW packet information • Due April 19!

State officers, elected positions, standing committee chairs, special appointments and Local Organization presidents: It is your turn to pay it forward. Provide three pieces of positive advice/tips you can give to incoming officers. If there is anything that you can share about your current position that will help make the next person successful, what would that be?

Send Reports and Tips via...

E-mail (as a Word attachment) to: jaci.olson@nahan.com

Fax to: 320-217-7209

If you do not have access to a fax machine or e-mail, please mail your report to me at:

11090 Wild Life Ct, Holdingford, MN 56340



Xtra^o

Proposed 2008-09 Budget

All Local Organization presidents will receive a copy of the proposed 2008-09 budget with the official Call to State Convention. Anyone wishing to review the budget before the Convention should contact her or his LO president or a member of the BPW Executive Committee for a copy.



Foundation Thanks, BPW/MM Awards, Women's Work

*Patty Tanji, BPW/MN Vice President,
BPW/USA Legislation Chair*

BPW/USA Foundation

Thank you to everyone who participated in the BPW/USA Foundation silent auction at the Winter Board of Directors' Meeting. Your beautiful donations raised \$555!

BPW/MN Annual Awards — Nomination forms are due March 31

I would like to call your attention to the Minnesota awards forms that were in the WBOD packet. Please make sure I receive your entries by March 31. There are ten awards to choose from. I am happy to send the forms to you via e-mail as well. Send requests to ptanji@aol.com. Award recipients will be recognized at the Saturday luncheon at the State Convention.

A Woman's Work Is.....

Some of you may not know that I am the National Legislation Committee Chair. You may also not know that I am a public policy *aficionado*, which I suspect is part of the reason I was asked to take on this job. I truly believe that society's ills can be solved by passing laws. However, I know this is not very practical. American citizens would spend all our public dollars theorizing and pontificating about worm rights versus human rights and from the plight of the Atlantic sea swallow to protecting the intellectual properties of beehives. Nonsense. But what isn't nonsense is that the values of BPW/MN, and its umbrella organization BPW/USA, are embedded in the laws we supported in the past and the laws we will support in the future. Advocating for equality for working women is what we are about.

I know we, as an organization, have lost our way somewhere between the suffrage movement and the Bush Administration. Either because we — as working women, mothers, breadwinners — became too busy and dropped out of the women's movement or began to perceive the advances we strove to gain have become reality. I implore you to continue questioning: Why aren't women running the country in the same ratio as we exist in the population? Why aren't we leading Fortune 500 companies in the same ratio as we exist in the workforce? Why aren't we receiving the same pay as our male counterparts?

We are not finished. But what is finished is the old way of accomplishing the task at hand. We must make room for all women to join our efforts either via e-membership in e-locals, members in traditional locals, or some type of hybrid between the two styles. We will invite supporters of our cause to meet monthly and in cyber space. We will invite our supporters to light, fun, events and to grueling bylaws meetings. We will make sure all our voices are heard — not just the privileged few who attend national and state conventions. We have an opportunity to carve something truly unique in the history of BPW/MN. This organization is your legacy, and you will leave it behind for your children and grandchildren — just as the women who came before you did.

Let's work together to solve the mystery of BPW/MN's unchartered territory "straight forward and unafraid." Let's continue the discussion.

Wass named BPW/MN 2008 VAYC

Katrina Wass, BPW Fergus Falls, was named BPW/MN's 2008 Virginia Allan Young Careerist at WBOD in February. Wass is an attorney with Pemberton Law Firm in Fergus Falls. She will go on to represent Minnesota in the VAYC competition at the National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, in July.



MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Beth Gilthvedt

BPW/Owatonna

Owatonna BPW member Dr. Elizabeth (Beth) Gilthvedt, a doctor of optometry with Horizon Eyecare Professionals, Owatonna, Minn., was awarded the 2007 Optometrist of the Year Award by the Minnesota Optometric Association at its annual meeting this February in Minneapolis. This award is presented to an outstanding optometrist who has shown great involvement in the optometric community as well as in his or her local community.

Gilthvedt is an active member of the MOA. She has been a long time member of the MOA Education Committee, is active in local legislative activities, and participates in MOA outreach activities such as the Minnesota State Fair. On the national level, she is a member of the American Optometric Association Contact Lens Society.

A committed community leader, she is active in organizations such as the Owatonna Rotary Club, Owatonna Business and Professional Women, Steele County Children's Remedial Fund, and serves on the Board of Trustees of the Owatonna Hospital. Gilthvedt is also involved in Future Citizen's and the 4-H Club of Owatonna, and received the Owatonna Rotary International Service Award in 2001.

Gilthvedt joined Horizon Eyecare Professionals in 1985 and has owned the practice since 1988. She and her husband, "Pastor Ron," have been married since 1973. They live with their son, Eric, in rural Owatonna.

Legislation & Legislative Platform Report

Jane Geisinger, BPW/MN Legislation Chair

janegeisinger@charter.net or 218-205-1151 (cell)

Please read over the BPW/MN and BPW/USA Legislative Platforms printed here.

We will be reviewing our state Legislative Platform at the State Convention. A Legislation Committee (Linda Hauge, Kate Malmon, Patty Tanji, Holly Morey, Mindy Bowman and Jane Geisinger) has reviewed the state Platform and will be recommending that we remove the Mission section in its entirety.

I will also be conducting a straw poll to see if anyone feels that BPW/MN should suggest changes to the BPW/USA Legislative Platform during the National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, in July.

If you have any comments or suggestions on either the state or national Legislative Platforms, please contact me prior to State Convention.

Save The Date: April 22, 2008
Join BPW Alexandria for a BPW Day at the St. Paul Capitol
 Details to come via e-mail or contact Jane Geisinger (see above).

BPW/USA National Legislative Platform

PREAMBLE

The Equal Rights Amendment, as authored by Alice Paul, shall stand first, foremost and above all other items which may appear on the national platform of this Federation until equal legal rights for women and men become guaranteed in the United States Constitution, because all statutory law derives therefrom.

The Equal Rights Amendment "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

PLATFORM

Economic Equity • Ensure pay equity and equal educational and economic opportunities at all stages of life; and promote affordable, quality dependent care to help ensure economic self-sufficiency for women.

Health • Ensure reproductive choice and full access to all reproductive health services and education; ensure funds for research into and protections for women's health care needs; and encourage the development of a national health care policy recognizing the special health care needs of women.

Civil Rights • Ensure equal rights and remedies for women in all phases of their lives; support affirmative action; and eliminate all forms of harassment and violence against women.

REASONS the Legislation Committee recommends the Mission section of the BPW/MN Legislative Platform be deleted: The opening phrase is inaccurate. The remainder of that sentence is our official Mission and is in the bylaws. The final part of the Mission section does not pertain to our legislative goals. Deleting the Mission section from the Legislative Platform does not change any of the goals of the Platform; it just removes information that is duplicated elsewhere in our organizational documents.

BPW/MN Legislative Platform

MISSION

With over 500 members in 19 local organizations throughout the state, Business and Professional Women Minnesota promotes equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education and information. BPW/MN members include women and men of diverse age, religion, race, political and socio-economic backgrounds who are located in every Congressional District throughout the state.

PREAMBLE

Because the fundamental law of the land is embodied in the Constitution of the United States, and all statutory rights are derived therefrom; passage of the Alice Paul Equal Rights Amendment, without amendments, shall stand above all other items which may appear on the Legislative Platform until equal rights for women and men become guaranteed in the United States Constitution.

PLATFORM

Equal Rights Amendment

We support legislation that:

- Supports passage, without amendments, of a bill in the Minnesota Legislature to place an Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution of the State of Minnesota
- A fair and livable wage
- Affordable dependent care
- Equal opportunities in education
- Equal access to affordable housing
- Adequate retirement benefits and Social Security
- Programs for women re-entering the workforce

Economic Equity — We support legislation that ensures:

- Health care privacy
- Reproductive freedom as a right for all women
- Equality of access to affordable and adequate health care and service for all
- Increased funding for research of women's health issues

Violence and Exploitation of Women

— We support legislation that provides:

- Legal protections for victims of exploitation
- Adequate funding for education programs that teach violence prevention and anger management
- For the establishment of additional shelters and aftercare programs
- Programs to inform victims of their legal rights
- Compensatory damage awards for victims of violence
- For jail time when appropriate

Civil Rights

We support legislation that:

- Ensures equal rights and remedies for women in all phases of their lives
- Continues affirmative action programs
- Eliminates sexual harassment against women

Approved May 2007



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Meet Your 2008-09 President Jaci Olson



Jaci is a staffing/employee relations human resources leader at Nahan Printing, St. Cloud. A multi-million dollar company, Nahan recognizes people make the difference. Jaci and her husband, Mark, have two children; she is active throughout the community, most notably for Jr. Achievement. Of all the roles that Jaci carries out,

it is motherhood that makes her strive to better herself and the world around her.

Some 14 years ago, Jaci joined BPW because Linda Linn told her to. Now, Linda Linn is taking a support and mentorship role as administrative assistant to the president. To prepare for her role as president, Jaci was involved in many positions at the local and state level. In St. Cloud BPW, Jaci was president, president elect, vice-president, and secretary/correspondence. In service to the BPW state Federation, she served as the state VAYC chair for two terms. Other BPW activities include: a graduate of the BPW Individual Development program and attending National Convention three times. Being the BPW/MN President Elect has been yet another learning experience for Jaci as things are always changing. Linda Hauge and Anne Andreasen have been amazing mentors to Jaci this past year. This BPW experience, teamed with passion for service and commitment to the mission, has given her the courage to take on the role as state president.

Jaci has a passion for people, training and development, and she packs “fun” and “professionalism” in every endeavor she undertakes. By accepting this position, she is willing to do the same. Her personal growth through BPW has made her vested in BPW’s future success. In her year as president, Jaci will use her skills and talent to work with BPW members throughout the state in service to the BPW mission to enact the best organization for women — one that dances with the change of the times while respecting the legacy of the women who brought us to this point.

Jaci looks forward to serving as president of BPW/MN and to influencing change — change in programs, change in membership, change in meetings and change for women personally, professionally and politically.

Meet the Candidates



President Elect: Patty Tanji

As a change agent, Patty serves as president of the Pay Equity Coalition of Minnesota where she does fundraising, lobbying and consulting on behalf of the coalition. The coalition’s mission, to eliminate the wage gap between men and women, is very much aligned with BPW/MN’s mission to achieve equity

for working women. Patty walks the gender equity talk every day. She recently graduated from the University of Minnesota with a master of liberal studies degree. Her master’s thesis subject was women in corporate leadership or the lack thereof. In her research, she explored the historical lack of female voices in the formation of western economies and the gradual breakdown of gender social norms that allowed for more, but not enough, women executives today. She has been a member of BPW for 13 years and is currently the BPW/USA Legislation Chair. As such, she was given the opportunity to help lead one of its signature events in February — the 2008 Policy & Action Conference in Washington D.C. Patty looks forward to the challenge of moving BPW/MN into the future while respecting the legacy of our past.

When not advocating for change, Patty can be found at the pool or gym cheering on her daughters’ swimming and gymnastics efforts. In 2001, Patty and her husband, Todd, created a private foundation and together enjoy supporting marching music education.



Vice-President: Jane Geisinger

Jane joined Fergus Falls BPW in 1997 and became president elect of her Local shortly thereafter. At the insistence of her LO president, Debbie Irmen, Jane began attending state meetings and has been going to as many state meetings as possible ever since.

Jane has been LO president twice, secretary and on numerous committees. At the state level, Jane is probably best known for her role as state newsletter editor since 2002. She is currently the legislation chair, was the 2006 National Legislative Platform Committee Member for Minnesota, served two terms as state treasurer and one as secretary, was the administrative assistant to presidents Beth Gibson Lilja and Linda Hauge and served as Individual Development chair. She loves the “business” part of the organization and, with your support, feels she is now ready to begin “moving up the ladder”

continued next page

Meet the BPW / MN 2008-09 Candidates

towards state president.

Jane owns JLG Type & Design, a graphic design/writing/editing service, and launched the quarterly publication *Forward Thinking Woman* last year. She is also a free-lance writer, writing under the pen name J.L. Chance.

Jane and husband, Jerry, live in Fergus Falls with their son, Mike (16), her mother, a dog and two iguanas. Their daughter, Jess (23), now lives in Boston.

One of Jane's favorite activities is bringing her iguanas to schools, the library and the YMCA for presentations to the kids. Along with BPW, she is on the board of NOW and the Otter Tail County DFL.

Secretary: Open Treasurer: Open

As of press time, candidates for Secretary and Treasurer had not been confirmed.

National Legislative Platform Committee Member: Mindy Bowman

Mindy has been active in the Bemidji Area BPW since becoming a member in 1997. She has held offices on the local level as well as on the state level. She is running for National Legislative Platform Committee Member.



Her special interest is the Policy & Action Conference held each February in Washington D.C. Mindy has enjoyed the challenges of lobbying on Capitol Hill and is encouraged with resulting actions by our Senators and Representatives. BPW takes an active roll in preparing BPW members with

knowledge and information prior to heading to the Congressional offices, and it is exciting to bring the BPW message to the Minnesota delegation.

Mindy owns and operates a Christmas wreath company that has been in her family since the mid-1960s. She and her brother manage the plant, which employes nearly 100 people during the production season. She and her husband started a retail store, Surplus Outlet.

She is also a member of the board of directors of the Joint Economic Development Commission in Bemidji. They actively seek both business expansions and business relocations to the Bemidji area to expand the local economy.

Most free time will find Mindy at her sewing machine. She has worked on costumes for the local high school show choir for four years and continues her passion of quilting.

Nominations Chair: Beth Gibson Lilja



Beth joined Skyway of Minneapolis BPW in December 1994 and has served in many capacities on the local, state and national levels. On the national level, she has served on the Virginia Allan Young Careerist and Issues Management committees and is currently the chair for the 2007-08 Issues Management Committee. In 2002-03, she served on the national board of directors as BPW/Minnesota's president and continues to serve as the spokesperson for her BPW/USA 2002-03 presidents' group, "Cindy's Stars."

Along with president, Beth has served BPW/MN as president elect, administrative assistant and marketing/public relations chair. Her current roles include Individual Development chair, mentoring chair and state training director. Beth is also serving once again as her Local Organization's president. In addition, she is currently serving a three-year trustee position with the Minnesota BPW Foundation and is its 2007-08 treasurer.

Beth is a photo and memory celebration coach as well as an independent consultant with Creative Memories. She assists busy people with the preservation of their precious family memories and partners with those who wish to share this passion by developing their own businesses. In February 2006, she was promoted to a Creative Memories Unit Leader and at the company's annual Showcase in August 2006, she was recognized for ranking fourth among the Top 10 Consultants and Senior Consultants in personal sales.

Beth is a graduate of St. Cloud State University with marketing and speech communications degrees. She has a Financial Paraplanner designation from the College for Financial Planning in Denver, Colorado.

Beth enjoys album-making, crafts, card-sending, basket collecting, traveling, reading and biking. Beth and her husband, Patrick, live in Golden Valley.



Beth Gibson Lilja
Independent Consultant
5308 St Croix Ave N
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Skyway

Beth Gibson Lilja, president

Skyway of Minneapolis BPW's continued success is a result of the enthusiasm and dedication of its members. Our Fundraising Committee — co-chaired by Sue Kolar and Beth Gibson Lilja — is in its initial stages of planning our annual fundraising event. The date has been set for Thursday, Oct. 16, 2008, to coincide with National Business Women's Week. The Fundraising Committee's goal is to raise money for not only our Community Outreach Program but also for our Local Organization education fund and the MN BPW Foundation.

In January, we held a BPW roundtable discussion regarding our 2008-09 program planning year. We have determined our speakers for the upcoming fiscal year and are in the process of confirming the speakers and working on our program brochure for distribution at our annual meeting in May.

St. Cloud

Kristen Jacobs, president

St. Cloud BPW will be observing Equal Pay Day with an Un-Happy Hour in April. There will be a short program along with networking. The event is a great opportunity to mobilize and show our group concern for inequities in the work place.

We are also looking forward to our annual Anna Marie's Brunch coming in late April. The event allows the woman of our organization to give back to the community as a group by contributing both our time and money to women in need.

Our Brown Bag Lunches continue to be a success this year. Our most recent event was hosted by Kristin Rothstein, president of Continental Press in St. Cloud. These quarterly events feature female leaders in our community. The public event allows attendees to hear a short presentation from a prominent business leader and take a tour of the featured business over the lunch hour.

Stillwater

Joan Sirotiak, president

Greetings from Stillwater BPW! We cordially invite you all to attend our 3rd Annual Golf Workshop and Golf Outing on Saturday, May 17. For reservations please call Sheryl E-Marshall at 651-214-0391.

Stillwater BPW is busy making plans for hosting the BPW/MN State Conference in May. Get your registrations in as soon as possible. It will be a fun-filled, educational meeting. And as always, we invite all of you to come and visit Stillwater BPW. We meet at 6 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of every month at the historic Lowell Inn in downtown Stillwater.

Three Rivers BPW

Shari Pikkaraine, president

We had a lot of fun hosting WBOD. It was a great opportunity, and I highly recommend it to any group that hasn't done it lately. Thank you to all the members in Three Rivers who helped with goodie bags, attending and more. Of course we really enjoyed Friday night and the magician. I wonder if Jane's card is still on the ceiling? Besides getting ready for WBOD, February was busy with our Expo at North Hennepin College. In addition, Anne Andreason came and shared great stories about how the MN BPW Foundation is making a difference for women. Our March program will be by the Anoka Historical Society for Women's History Month. April will be about women in the military. Some of us also plan to visit other local BPW meetings, which will be fun. May we are planning our anniversary celebration and have a special guest from the MN Lynx joining us. We hope to see many of you in Stillwater in May.

Grand Rapids

Joni Fauchald, president

Greetings from the Northwoods! four of our members attended WBOD. It was a very good meeting, had a really good speaker and the VAYCs are always great!

In February, we had a presentation from a professional business coach. March we will have the Grand Rapids Area Library director speak to us. We will also read through applications to chose our scholarship recipient.


We have a new member! Actually she was a member years ago and has decided to rejoin.

See you at State Convention!

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More BPW Around The State . . .**Alexandria Area***Lynn Grueneich, president*

Our Mentorship Committee provided a new opportunity for members to mentor Alex Tech College students. To enhance the mentoring opportunity, we had a speaker on generational differences at a lunch meeting and also held a panel presentation. Nearly 50 people attended the generational panel presentation.

In January, 20 of our members gathered for an afternoon of strategic planning. We brainstormed ideas and changes for implementation over the next couple of years. It was a wonderful bonding event, and we are excited about our future.

In November, a book study was held on the book *212—The Extra Degree*. The March book is *Strengths Finder 2.0* by Tom Rath. This is an exciting opportunity for our members to discover and share their strengths.

Planning is underway for our 12th Annual Style Show and Fundraiser, to be held on April 3. We raise funds to provide scholarships to graduating high school women through our local Dollars for Scholars program.

We would love to hear from you. Please contact Lynn Grueneich at 320-763-2100 or lynn.grueneich@tastefullysimple.com.

Fergus Falls*Kelsey Felstul, president*

Fergus Falls BPW held an Awards Banquet in January where we honored our Virginia Allan Young Careerist, Katrina Wass; Woman of the Year, Immediate Past State President Linda Hauge; Large Employer of the Year, Pemberton Law Firm; and Small Employer of the year, Hanley Murphy Dental. At the Winter Board of Directors meeting in February, Katrina was named the 2008 BPW Minnesota Young Careerist. We are honored to have Katrina as one of our local members.

The programs we have scheduled for this spring include: the cost of stress, car care for women, and hobby how-to. If you would like to attend one of our meetings, please contact me at kelseyfelstul@hotmail.com.

Willmar*Deb Solsrud, president*

A warm greeting from the Willmar Area BPW organization! Our members continued to stay busy this winter. Our January meeting was at capacity, as our program featured a local law enforcement's efforts to identify and track gang activity. Our February program showcased photography work and tips for using digital cameras. Willmar's mentoring program continues to be a success, including a recent trip to St. Cloud to see "High School Musical" with the girls. Spring promises more events, including our membership drive at a local winery, as well as focusing on Equal Payday in April.

North Hennepin*Gina Smith, president*

North Hennepin continues to grow with the addition of six new members and six transferees from other locals.

We made \$514 at our National Business Women's Week breakfast for scholarships for non-traditional women. Our annual holiday silent auction in December, where members donated and bid on a variety of gift baskets, raised \$525 for local programs.

In support of the Go Red for Women program, Channel 12 taped a three-part segment February that included a representative from the American Heart Association to spotlight our involvement in this initiative and promote our meeting. Another segment taped at member Shirley Kramer's place of business showed their participation in raising awareness by wearing red on Feb. 1.

Our book club offers an opportunity to introduce non-members to BPW and meet new people who share a common interest in books.

We are very excited to have Tanna Halphen as our VAYC candidate this year.

Owatonna BPW*Paula Rue, Woman of Achievement committee chair*

For the last couple months, we have focused our attention on planning our scholarship fundraiser. This year it will be held on Friday, March 14, at the Owatonna Arts Center. The evening starts with a silent auction of items donated by area artists and local businesses: gift baskets, prints, jewelry, quilts, handcrafted items, etc. We encourage mixing and mingling by serving hors d'oeuvres and wine. At the beginning of the program, all corporate sponsors are recognized and given preferential seating. The four 2008 scholarship winners are announced, our speaker gives a keynote address, and the evening closes with the recognition of our Woman of Achievement Award nominees and announcement of the new recipient. This year we are thrilled to have seven local women nominated for this honor. Beth Lilja and Sue Kolar from Skyway BPW and Beth Serrill from Mankato BPW agreed to interview our nominees and select the winner.

St. Paul*Connie Hill, president*

St. Paul BPW did not hold its regular February meeting as most of the members were unable to attend. The March program will be a reprise of the Generations Workshop held at the Winter Board of Directors meeting in February. In April, we will hear from Mary Clare Lockman, an author who writes about parenting and children's fiction. For reservations, contact Connie Hill at 651-270-9144 or e-mail connie@llewellyn.com.

Kay L. Wallerich

Attorney At Law

1907 EXCEL DRIVE PO BOX 550
MANKATO, MN 56002-0550

PHONE: 507.387.3002

FAX: 507.625.4394

KWALLERICH@FARRISHLAW.COM

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Official Call to the 2008 BPW/MN State Convention

The 2008 State Convention of the Minnesota Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (BPW/MN) will be hosted by Stillwater BPW at the Wildwood Inn, Lake Elmo, Minnesota, on Friday, May 2 and Saturday, May 3, 2008. Registration for the meeting is due by Saturday, April 19. The hotel registration deadline is Tuesday, April 1.

All state officers, Local Organization presidents (or their representative), immediate past state president, standing committee chairs, special committee chairs, and appointments are required to attend. In addition, a written report should be provided for the meeting packet. Reports are due to President Elect Jaci Olson by April 19. The meeting is open to all current members in good standing. All members are encouraged and welcome to attend this meeting.

Your attendance at the State Convention will give you the opportunity to develop additional leadership skills through training, as well as strategize for building and retaining membership at the local level. You will hear first-hand the reports from BPW/MN leadership and participate in the business of the Federation. In addition, you will hear a report from BPW/USA on happenings at the national level. This meeting will include a Leadership 101 training, as well as several one hour workshops to choose from. The workshops will run concurrently, so you will only be able to choose one to attend. There should be something that appeals to everyone among the choices. You will not want to miss our keynote speaker Warden Jessica Symmes, Minnesota Correctional Facility-Oak Park Heights.

Stillwater BPW will be hosting a Casino Night with money/donations going to Minnesota charities. Saturday night will be the installation of new officers as I hand over my duties as President to President Elect Jaci Olson and her team. Don't miss this opportunity to renew your BPW friendships and make new ones! According to our bylaws, every Local Organization must be represented. Let's have 100 percent attendance at our State Convention. Your executive committee looks forward to seeing you in Lake Elmo, Minnesota. Let us continue the process of Building Powerful Women!

Holly Morey, President
Kathy DeLonais, Admin. Asst.

Xtra^o

NAN I. HAGGERTY

ATTORNEY AT LAW

P.O. Box 531
STARBUCK, MN 56381
HAGGERTYLAW@HCINET.NET

CELL: 320-815-3674
OFFICE: 320-239-2544
FAX: 320-239-3922

BPW/MN State Convention Friday, May 1 – Saturday, May 3, 2008 Wildwood Lodge, Lake Elmo, MN

Tentative Agenda

Thursday, May 1, 2008

7:00-9:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting

Friday, May 2, 2008

8 a.m.-6 p.m. Registration
9:00-10:15 a.m. Pre-Convention Board of Directors' Mtg.
10:15-10:30 a.m. Break/Vendors
10:30 a.m. State Convention Begins
10:30-12:00 p.m. Business Session
12:00-1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:15-2:15 p.m. Leadership 101
2:15-3:00 p.m. Business Session
3:00-3:30 p.m. Break/Vendors
3:30-5:00 p.m. Business Session
6:00-7:00 p.m. Dinner
7:30-10:00 p.m. Friday Fun Night (Casino), hosted by Stillwater BPW

Saturday, May 3, 2008

8:00-9:00 a.m. Registration
9:00-10:45 a.m. Business Session/Voting
10:45-11:00 a.m. Break/Vendors
11:00-12:00 p.m. Keynote Speaker: Warden Jessica Symmes
12:00-1:30 p.m. Awards Luncheon
1:30-2:15 p.m. Breakout Training Sessions
2:15-2:45 p.m. National Representative
2:45-3:30 p.m. Business Session
3:30-4:00 p.m. Vendor/Break
4:00-5:00 p.m. Business Session
6:00-6:30 p.m. Social Hour/Cash Bar
6:30-9:00 p.m. Dinner and Installation

To All 2008-09 Incoming Board Members:

(Including EC members, 2008-09 LO presidents, chairs and special committee appointees.)

Please submit a brief description of what you would like your role to be as a board member in the next year, and what I can do to help you achieve it. Also, **include your mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address(es)** so that we will have contact information available as we begin our year together. I will put all of the information together and hand it out as part of a transition packet at State Convention. You can e-mail your Transition Packet Report to me at: jaci.olson@nahan.com AND/OR jmolson@jetup.net, or put a written copy in the mail to me at: 10090 Wild Life Court, Holdingford, MN 56340.

Transition Report Deadline is April 19, 2008

I am looking forward to working with all of you and sharing a successful year of BPW.

~ Jaci Olson, President Elect

BPWminnesota State Convention — May 2-3, 2008 — Wildwood Lodge, Lake Elmo
Registration Form Due By April 19, 2008

MAKE YOUR ROOM RESERVATIONS WITH:
Wildwood Lodge
8511 Hudson Blvd • Lake Elmo, MN 55042
PHONE: 651-714-8068 — "BPW Conference Rate"
Double — \$119 + tax [6.5%]
HOTEL DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2008

Name
Address
Work Phone
Home Phone
Fax
Email
Local Org.

WHEN DID YOU JOIN BPW?
Please check one or more of the following:
Member . . . is this your 1st state meeting?
State Officer:
State Administrative Assistant (Year /)
State Parliamentarian
L.O. President or L.O. Representative
State Committee Chair:
Past State President (Year /)
Guest or Speaker

REGISTRATION FEE: \$ 50.00 \$

FRIDAY:

LUNCH (The Sombrero: Build your own tacos and fajitas.
Marinated chicken & beef, sautéed onions & peppers,
Spanish rice, refried beans, chips & salsa, sopapillas
with honey & chocolate sauce, coffee or tea.) \$ 24.00 \$

DINNER – Check One:

(• Chicken Parmesan: Tender chicken breast dusted
with herbs and bread crumbs, and then pan seared and
topped with provolone cheese.)
– or (• Maple Glazed Trout: Fresh Rainbow Trout
in a maple glaze and flame broiled.) — Both entrees
are served with salad, dinner roll, coffee or tea.) \$ 37.00 \$

SATURDAY:

BREAKFAST (complimentary breakfast included with your hotel room)

LUNCH (Sage Pork Roulade: Roasted pork loin rolled
with herbed stuffing and topped with an apple brandy
sauce, mixed green salad, bread, coffee or tea.) \$ 24.00 \$

DINNER – Check One:

(• Wood Fired Rib Eye: a 10 oz. Delmonico style,
hand-cut choice rib eye, charbroiled to perfection.)
– or (• Pecan Chicken: Tender chicken breasts seared in
a pecan breading and drizzled in a caramel cream sauce)
Both entrees are served with a mixed salad, dinner roll,
dessert, coffee or tea.) \$ 42.00 \$

LATE Registration Fee (AFTER APRIL 19, 2008) \$ 10.00 \$

(PLEASE NOTE: Late registrations are not guaranteed
availability of meals as count must be given early to the hotel.)

I CANNOT ATTEND, SEND PACKET ONLY \$ 15.00 \$

CONTRIBUTION – Minnesota BPW Foundation \$ 25.00 \$

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$

Check #

MAIL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MFBPW-Meetings • P.O. Box 404 • Grand Rapids, MN 55744-0404
Meetings Committee Contact: Days - 218-326-6200 & Evenings - 218-326-4058 (Paula Hritz-Nobs)

EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION – BPW/MN Convention — Form Due By April 19, 2008

INVITATION TO EXHIBITORS — An opportunity to market products and/or services to
professional and business women in Minnesota. Exhibit Area: Table top display.
EXHIBIT HOURS: Fri., May 2, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sat., May 3, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
EXHIBIT TABLE: (one table and chair) RATE: \$80.00 (BPW Members: \$55.00)

Name Amount Enclosed: \$
Company Check #
Address Phone
Email Fax

Description of Product or Display
Note: Room reservations are to be made directly with the Wildwood Lodge, Lake Elmo, MN, 651-714-8068

PLEASE NOTE: Exhibitors must have valid MN Tax ID Number and collect appropriate sales tax
or display a tax exempt certificate.
With my signature below, I assume responsibility and liability for losses, damages, and/or claims
arising out of injury to individuals or property during this conference.
Signature Date

- VENDORS AT BPW/MN MEETINGS
Vendors who wish to sell items at BPW/MN
meetings shall:
1. Request space for selling on appropriate
form made available by Meetings Planner.
2. Provide certificate of insurance.
3. Collect and submit to the State of
Minnesota the appropriate sales taxes.
4. Post their sales tax number in a visible
spot on their table.

- POLICY STATEMENT ON EXHIBIT RENTAL
REFUNDS AT BPW/MN MEETINGS
Vendors who are registered for a meeting and
not able to attend may:
1. Request refund from the meetings planner
no later than 7 days prior to the 1st day of
the meeting to receive full refund of exhibit
rental cost.
2. All other requests for refund of exhibit
rental cost will be at the discretion of the
executive committee.

BPW/MN Calendar

April 19	State Convention Packet Reports due
April 22	BPW Day at the St. Paul Capitol
May 2-3	BPW/MN State Convention, Lake Elmo, hosted by Stillwater BPW
July 22-26	National Conference, Atlanta, GA
Sept. 19-20 (tentative)	SBOD, Owatonn

You have an impact!

Karen Howell, president,
BPW/MN Past State Presidents

Policy in Action — February 2008

The underlying theme to this year's PIA conference was its partnerships with: NEA, AARP, AAUW, the American Heart Association, and Lifetime Television.

These groups partner with BPW because of the work we do on behalf of women's issues. This work puts BPW in the national spotlight

Our Women Joining Forces program impresses even the veteran's associations. I speak from professional experience when I say that BPW really accomplished something — there is NO stronger lobby in Washington DC.

If you do not attend a national meeting (and certainly not all of us are able to do that) you don't realize what an impact YOU have — your dues, your membership numbers, your advocacy on issues, your dedication to women. All of this counts in the national scope.

BPW/MN Members should NOT send address changes to the editor! The mailing labels are printed directly from the national Web site, so please do your address changes online at: www.bpwusa.org

Invitation to Bid

Bids are now being accepted for the composition, printing, and mailing of the 2008-09 *Minnesota Business Woman*.

Please base your bids on the following specifications:

- Four (4) issues, 500 & 700 copies per issue
- 60# offset paper, black ink
- Trimmed to fit 8.5" by 11", assembled and folded
- Mailing: labeling, sorting and delivery to post office (mailing labels will be provided by zip code order; format is 30-up on 8.5x11)
- Bids broken down for 8-page, 12-page, and 16-page editions
- Photos will be used, printer and compositor must be able to facilitate
- Multi-year quotes considered
- Guaranteed completion and delivery time

Separate bids for these three categories:

- Composition (typesetting and layout)
- Printing
- Mailing (2nd class mailing)

A sample copy of the magazine is available on request. Formatting suggestions and samples may be included with the quote.

Send final bid by April 19 to: Jaci Olson

E-mail (as Word attachment): jaci.olson@nahan.com

Fax: 320-217-7209

Mail: 11090 Wild Life Ct, Holdingford, MN 56340

Important Notice to Local Treasurers!

Beginning in 2008, small tax-exempt organizations whose gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less will be required to submit an annual electronic notice, Form 990-N. Please read the letter posted online in the Leadership Team Information Center from the BPW/USA Finance Committee. Please review the filing information as posted on the IRS Web site and contact your State Federation Treasurer or local not-for-profit tax accountant for additional information. You may contact any member of the Finance Committee or Chair Kathy Beals at kbealsmk@hotmail.com or 217-273-1687.

MINNESOTA BUSINESS WOMAN

ADVERTISING: *Minnesota Business Woman*, the official publication of Minnesota Business and Professional Women's Clubs., Inc., is published four times each year (August, November, January, and March). Ads are welcome, but BPW Minnesota reserves the right to refuse advertising for alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or any other product or service which does not meet the standards of the organization and this magazine. For ad rates, contact the editor.

• **ADVERTISING DISCOUNTS:** BPW members receive a 20% discount. An additional 20% commission is available to Local Organizations selling

advertising. Ad copy may be sent via e-mail. Payment should be mailed to the editor at the time the ad is submitted. Contact the editor for current rates.

• **ARTICLES & PHOTOS:** Submissions for the *Minnesota Business Woman* are welcome. All Local Organizations are encouraged to submit at least one paragraph for each issue. Items for "Around the State" should be no more than 150 words. **USE A WORD COUNTER!**

• **Articles** about program ideas or membership growth/retention projects that have been successful for your Local are also wanted. Please

note that all submissions are subject to editing for space availability, clarity, etc.

• **Photos** are appreciated. High resolution digital photos are preferred, but regular photos may also be submitted by postal mail.

• **CONTACT:** Jane Geisinger, editor, e-mail preferred:

janegeisinger@charter.net

Mail: 602 W Cavour Ave, Fergus Falls, MN 56537. Phone: 218-205-1151 or 218-739-5201

• **NEXT DEADLINE:**

Sumemr 2008 issue:

copy deadline Mid-July 2008