



BPW CONNECTION

A Publication of Business & Professional Women, Centralia, IL



Volume XXXVI, Issue 11

April 2009

Our 2008-2009 Officers

President

Sharon Sanders775-6397

Vice President

Jackie Gray242-6002

Recording Secretary

Karen Deering318-0753

Corresponding Secretary

Beth Moore548-3466

Treasurer

Sally Tiemann249-8101

Parliamentarian

Anna Humphrey533-3900

Board

Celia M. Howard/Foundation

Ann Chappell532-2508

Finance

Karen Rogers532-3565

Issues Management

Jackie Gray242-6002

Legislation

Sally Tiemann249-8101

Membership

Bess Wesling533-2694

Public Relations

Pam McKay533-1416

Bev Virobik532-8430

Young Careerist/ID

Becky Ault533-4712

-- MEETING MINUTES --

Since the complete meeting minutes appear in the newsletter, there will be no copies on the tables at the Regular Meetings. So, bring your newsletter to the meeting if you feel you need to refer to them.

SIGN IN PLEASE!

The "sign-in" sheet is on the table as you enter the meeting room. Please take a second to sign it no matter what time you arrive - it still counts!

CENTRALIA LO WEBSITE

<http://www.bpwcentralia.org>

FROM THE PRESIDENT



April is an exciting time in nature- trees budding, flowers blooming and grass and wheat getting longer and greener each day. I can't wait until the farmers start working in their fields. There is nothing that reminds me of spring like freshly turned earth. My farm roots are showing.

April is also an exciting BPW Month, with Guest Night, Reality Store, and IL/BPW Conference in Bloomington coming up. I hope you all have your tickets for Guest Night. It is always such a lovely evening with

good entertainment, great food, the awarding of scholarships and honoring BPW members for their years of service. The Reality Store is an effort combining the talents of BPW members, Rotarians, and teachers to help the youth in the community to see the REALITY of life. This will be the first time I have been available to help. I am looking forward to this activity. The State Conference will be very exciting this year with the impending dissolution of BPW/USA or the merging of BPW/USA with Foundation. We will get to listen to many opinions on the correct way to proceed for us as a state and a LO.

The month of May will be busy as well with the Choices Program and Installation of our new officers. The Choices Program allows the youth to see the acceptable choices they can make their lives.

As always I am proud to belong to this organization. We are so active in the community and we try to make a difference. We are Women Helping Women – Hand in Hand - Together We Can.

Sharon Sanders
President

GUEST NIGHT

Women Helping Women - Hand in Hand - Together We Can



Our Annual Guest Night will be held at the First Christian Church on **April 8th** at 6:00p. Tickets will be available at the March meeting for \$10.00 each. The deadline for tickets is April 3rd. For more information contact Karen Walsh or Maggie Irwin.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2009-10 ELECTED OFFICERS

Jackie Gray - President

Beth Galicia - Vice President

Treasurer - Karen Deering

Recording Secretary - Annette Bevel

Corresponding Secretary - Sharon Griffin

These officers will be installed at our General Meeting, May 13.

GUEST NIGHT
No agenda

*Remember!! Wear your
nametag to all meetings! It
helps us to network better*



2009 MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE

Your questionnaire is very important. If you have not done so, please complete it and return to Jackie Gray.

MAY BOARD MEETING

May 4, 2009
Bogies on the Lake
Host - Jackie Gray

GUEST NIGHT HONOREE'S

Five Years

Becky Ault
Peggy Beal
Jackie Gray
Barb Norstron

Ten Years

Brenda White

Fifteen Years

Sharon Sanders

Twenty Years

Ann Chappell
Dorothy Coleman
Eunice Garrett
Myra Owens
Connie Schwartz
Evelyn Stover

Twenty-five Years

Janie Smith

Forty Years

Delphine Baldrige



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

APRIL

Sandra Neabuhr 04/18

Janie Smith 04/29

HAPPY BPW ANNIVERSARY

Dolores Mabry 04/82

Janie Smith 04/84

BPW/IL DUES ALERT

Dear BPW/IL Members:

With the announcement of BPW/USA merging with BPW Foundation, your Executive Officers feel it would be prudent to not send your dues renewal to National at this time. We encourage you to hold on to your dues renewal form and await a final answer on how to process your membership renewal fees.

At this time, we are working to establish some viable options for dues collection. We encourage you to contact us if your dues are up for renewal and we will direct you as to how to proceed. We will be sure that everyone will have the right to vote at this year's state convention with their paid membership as soon as we establish a temporary plan of action.

Please plan to attend this year's convention as we will be working to forward BPW/IL independent of the former National Organization. At Interim Board in November, a tentative plan was presented by the SLRP (Strategic Long Range Planning) committee which was voted upon and is in the works. Important topics will be covered, such as dues collection, our signature programs such as ID (Individual Development) and YC (Young Careerist) and how we can continue to best represent women professionally, politically and personally.

Peg Spear, BPW/IL State President

CENTRALIA BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN TO AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS AT ANNUAL GUEST NIGHT

Two - \$750 scholarships to persons age 25 and older as of February 28, 2009

Two - \$500 scholarships to members of the Centralia High School Class of 2009

Two - \$500 scholarships to upperclassmen (students who have already started college and are at any level)

VISIT WITH OUR U.S. SENATOR



U.S. Senator Roland Burris will be in Centralia on April 6th. A meet and greet will be held from 5:00 pm to 7:00pm at the Centralia House. Finger food will be provided with a cash bar available. At 6:00 pm he will address the audience.

VOTE IN YOUR LOCAL ELECTION

Tuesday, April, 7th
It's your civic privilege!

GET WELL

Nancy Greene
Geri Langin
LaDonne Neudecker
Janie Smith
Sandy VanCleve
Bob Virobik

WE ARE 58
MEMBERS STRONG

NEED A NAMETAG??
Call Bess Wesling
533-2694

DON'T FORGET TO RECYCLE!



The newsletters are available on
our website at

www.bpwcentralia.org.

If you forget the web address, just
do a Google search for Centralia
BPW.

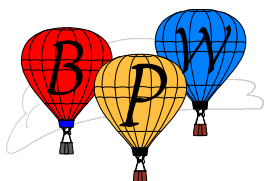
Barb Norstrom

Notes

A big thank you to all my BPW
friends for their prayers and
support during Bob's illness - he has
received many cards from my
BPW friends - also we received
over 50 cards for our 40th
anniversary and a lot of those
came from you guys. Thanks for
your continued support.

Bev

IT'S TIME TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



BalloonFest is August 21, 22, 23

EQUAL PAY DAY

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Equal Pay Day is held annually in April to signify the point into a year that a woman must work to earn what a man made the previous year. Census statistics released in 2008 show that the gap between men's and women's earnings changed by less than one percent from 2006 to 2007, narrowing only slightly from 76.9 to 77.8 percent. In 2007, the earnings for African American women was 68.7 percent of men's earnings, a drop of more than 3 percent; Asian American women's earnings was 89.5 percent of men's earnings, a drop of 3.5 percent; and Latina earnings was 59 percent of men's, a drop of .6 percent. It is commonplace to hear from elected officials how much they support working women. Together we can turn that support into genuine understanding and commitment. Make your voice heard! Write your elected representatives and tell them to support the issues you care about. Your letter does make a difference!

REGION FIVE MEETING REPORT

The Region V meeting was held March 21, 2009 at Fazoli's Restaurant in Mt. Vernon. Seven members from Centralia attended; Anna Humphrey, Lorraine Bassett, Jackie Gray, Karen Walsh, Sylvia Mahle, Beth Galicia, and Sharon Sanders. Paula Feigenbaum, Region Director, Carbondale, welcomed all in attendance. Mt. Vernon had six members present. Our BPW/IL President Elect, Susie Dewalt and BPW/IL Vice President Lynette Jones also came to this meeting. They would like to have many of our members participate in the State Conference this year. It is crucial that we know where we stand with the impending changes with BPW/USA. Christy Herzing shared her Young Careerist speech with us. You might remember her as our February Speaker. She did an excellent job and we wish her well.

The 2009-10 officers for Region V were elected; Director Sylvia Mahle, 1st Associate Director Betty Barker, 2nd Associate Director Paula Feigenbaum, Secretary Amanda Yearwood, and Treasurer Beth Galicia.

CALL TO CONVENTION

The President of the Illinois Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs officially issues the call to the 88th Annual State Convention beginning at 9:00 a.m. **Friday April 24, 2009**, at The Chateau, Bloomington, Illinois.

These members will be representing Centralia:

Sharon Sanders	Anna Humphrey	Karen Walsh
Sylvia Mahle	Beth Galicia	Mary Ann Norton
Karen Rogers	Joanetta Woods	Brenda White

ARE YOU PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UPCOMING VOTE FOR MERGER '09?

On Saturday, March 21, 2009, the BPW Foundation Board of Trustees voted unanimously to adopt the Plan of Merger which had been proposed by the negotiation teams representing the BPW Foundation and BPW/USA. On Tuesday, March 24, 2009, the BPW/USA Board of Directors also voted to approve the Plan of Merger for a vote by the members of BPW/USA.

Now it is your turn! Polls will open on April 15, 2009 and voting will end at the close of business on May 5, 2009.

Merge or dissolve - that is the question before us. Adoption of the Plan of Merger provides the continuity of the BPW/USA mission, the

\$\$ REMINDER \$\$

Please submit your bills for the 2008-09 year no later than the May 4th Board Meeting

CHOICES PROGRAM

The Choices Program will be presented on Tuesday, May 5th at the St. Mary's Grade School Gym in Centralia from 1:00-2:30p to 7th and 8th grade students.

The topics this year will be Internet Safety, a PowerPoint presentation by the Illinois State Police Community Information Officer, Ralph Timmons. Also, a very interactive presentation by Officer Mason Jackson of the Centralia City Police regarding drugs, alcohol and good choices.

Please direct your questions to Karen Deering or Ruth Antonoff.

REALITY STORE

April 24, 2009

Centralia Junior High School
Patty Brough & Vickie McDaniel,
Chairs

GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP

April 18th, 8:30a

Begins at Fairview Park

Anyone who would like to help, either contact Bev Virobik or just come out to the park. We usually have 5-6 members at least who will help

**U.S. POSTAGE INCREASES TO
\$.44 APRIL 11**

HAPPY EASTER



heritage, and the legacy through the BPW Foundation. Dissolution means that BPW would cease to exist at every level.

Informational webinars, open to all BPW/USA members, are scheduled as follows:

Thursday	April 2	8:00 p.m. EDT
Saturday	April 4	3:00 p.m. EDT
Tuesday	April 7	8:00 p.m. EDT

All members are urged to participate in one of these informational webinars to ask questions and learn more about this important decision.

Please use the information below to log into the webinar. Log-in information can also be found in the merger section of the Members Center on the BPW/USA website. This is a historic juncture in BPW/USA history and all members must be involved in this decision-making process.

Webinar Instructions

- Step 1 Go to <http://www.genesys.com/> and click 'Participant' located in the middle on the right side of the page under 'Genesys Login'.
- Step 2 Enter the Meeting number *2291294* and click Join Meeting as participant.
- Step 3 Enter your name and click Join Meeting as Participant.
- Step 4 Select Dial Me Now and enter your phone number. Your phone will ring and then when you answer, you will automatically be entered into the audio portion of the conference call. You may also choose the option to dial in directly using the instructions listed below.

If you need assistance at any time, please call the Genesys Help Desk 1-800-305-5208.

You do not need a computer to join the webinar.

If you are not able to join online: Please use the Telephone-ONLY access to join the voice portion of this meeting:

1. Dial the toll free number: 1 866 275 3495
2. Enter the Meeting Number: *2291294* Remember to enter the * before and after the meeting number when prompted.

LEGISLATION

Vote to Continue the Mission of BPW

(Press Release)

In order to continue the vital work of BPW/USA on behalf of working women, the BPW/USA Board of Directors voted in favor of a merger with BPW Foundation on Tuesday, February 17. In today's economic climate when many are forced to close their doors, this action will ensure that the mission and work of BPW/USA will continue. In addition, it will preserve the BPW brand, visibility, and reputation.

After carefully evaluating four restructuring options put for by the Task Force the BPW/USA Board of Directors determined that the appropriate business decision is for BPW/USA to merge with BPW Foundation.

It is now up to the members to vote on the proposed merger and plan. To help members understand what a merger could mean and to ask any questions, a second round of webinars are scheduled March 28 and 30 and April 2. In addition there is a special page on the website that has relevant information and documents about the merger and how the recommendation was made; there is a Quick Link on the Member Center homepage (you must log in to access this information).

CONGRATULATIONS VICKIE



Kids Hope United Centralia Office Manager Vickie McDaniel was awarded the Delno Baker Award, named after the committed American Baptist who served on the Hudelson Board until his 100th birthday. Vickie has been a valuable asset to the agency for nearly 20 years.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR PLEASE!

Change Over Meeting
Thursday, May 28th
Midland States Bank

June Board Meeting
Monday, June 1st
6-7:30p
Jackie Gray's home

BPW members, now have a unique opportunity to make a dynamic contribution to the history and future of Business and Professional Women, by uniting the two organizations. Watch for your voting materials, and be sure and vote for the continuation of our mission.

Following a potential merger, membership in State and Local Organizations would not change. State and Local organizations would carry on the business of their organizations with emphasis on state and/or community activities. To assist in the transition to autonomous organizations, BPW/USA has appointed experienced members to a State and Local Organization Transition Issues Task Force. This task force is ready and willing to begin assisting State and Local Organizations.

BPW/USA will continue its operations and programs through July 1, 2009 at which time if a merger is approved by the membership, the work of the mission will continue through BPW Foundation.

The missions of BPW/USA and BPW Foundation are inextricably linked. In this economic climate, it is critical that we unite by consolidating our assets to further promote workplace equity for workingwomen and their families. As workingwomen, we must understand that it is good business to combine our respective strengths toward the fulfillment of a shared vision.

A merger with BPW Foundation will ensure that the work of both organizations will continue and expand in a fiscally sound manner. BPW members' ongoing support of BPW/USA as we complete our programs, and your support of BPW Foundation will guarantee efforts to empower working women to achieve their full potential and partner with employers to build successful workplaces.

Centralia Business and Professional Women, Inc.

General Meeting, March 11, 2009

Sharon Sanders, Presiding Officer

The regular meeting of the Centralia BPW was held at Centralia House on March 11, 2009 with 30 members and 4 guests present. A quorum was present.

President Sharon Sanders called the business meeting to order at 7:06 pm after an informational presentation by Don Beaty and Norman Schuchman on the "Super Heroes" Mentoring program sponsored by Centralia SINA. The Secretary minutes were approved with one correction, Guest Night should be April 8th not April 11th.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Sally Tiemann presented the February report.

February report

Balloon Fest Fund	\$ 100.00
Education Fund	\$ 6,586.17
Alta McCullough Fund	\$ 16,164.78
General Fund	\$ 3,866.63
Total Assets	\$ 26,717.58

The Treasurer's Report was filed for audit.

Bills presented

Centralia-Mt. Vernon Sentinel – Visions Ad \$77.40

Karen Walsh made a motion to pay the bill and Sylvia Mahle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence – Beth Moore presented the following correspondence:

- 1) A Thank You from the family of Margie Shanafelt for the donation to Foundation in her memory.
- 2) A Thank You from Bev Virobik for the cards and prayers.
- 3) A Thank You from Norma Rueter for the many cards following her brothers passing.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance – Michele Garrison conducted the 50/50 drawing with the winner receiving \$11.25. The brag basket was also passed collecting \$17.00.

Issues Management – Jackie Gray reported we will have no regular meeting in April, we have Guest Night. She also wanted to remind everyone to please return the annual survey to her, it is very important.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cards & Memorials – Bev Virobik reported she sent a card to Jim Vandeventer.

Guest Night – Karen Walsh reported the date is April 8th, 2009 at the First Christian Church, tickets are available \$10, April 3rd is the deadline to purchase tickets. Karen also reported on the menu. In keeping with the theme Hands Helping Hands she and Maggie want to get hand prints of all the members for a little something they are putting together for Guest Night.

Reality Store – Patty Brough reported that this will be the last opportunity to sign up to work as we have no meeting next month. She will also be calling those who have not signed up.

Scholarships – Joannetta Wood reported their committee meet and made a decision on the Scholarships, which was very hard.

OLD BUSINESS

Region V Meeting – March 21st at Fozoli's in Mt. Vernon at 11 A.M., the signup sheet is available if you would like to attend.

State Conference – April 24-26 - Sharon reported so far she has 8 members going, she will be booking the rooms.

Nominating Committee Report – Anna Humphrey thanked the members of the committee. Anna presented the following slate of officers to the membership:

President	Jackie Gray
Vice President	Beth Galicia
Recording Secretary	Annette Bevel
Treasurer	Karen Deering
Corresponding Secretary	Sharon Griffin

There being no other nominations from the floor. Sylvia Mahle moved to accept by acclamation. Joannetta Wood moved to second. President Sharon Sanders called for a vote with all members in favor the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Tabloid Task Force – President Sharon Sanders appointed Jackie Gray, Beth Galicia, Joannetta Wood, Brenda Chesnek and Mary Ann Norton, she asked that they bring their recommendations to the members at the June meeting.

BPW/USA – Foundation Merger – Sylvie Mahle shared with the member's information she has regarding the merger, she stated all members will receive a ballot to vote on this. Even though they merge it doesn't mean the States change. Joannetta Wood shared some information she got from the webinar she was on.

Library Donation - President Sharon Sanders presented our annual donation to the Centralia Library, Joyce Jackson and Terri Rogers accepting on behalf of.

April is Child Abuse Awareness Month – Vickie McDaniel discussed the Wear Jeans Day Program for local businesses that wish to participate.

Alta McCullough Fund Committee – Joannetta Wood reported that she and Sally Tiemann met to designate a replacement for Margie Shanafelt, deceased, that being Sharon Sanders.

UP COMING EVENTS

30 - Board Meeting at Karen Walsh's house.

April 8 – Guest Night at First Christian Church 6:00 P.M.

April 24 – Realty Store

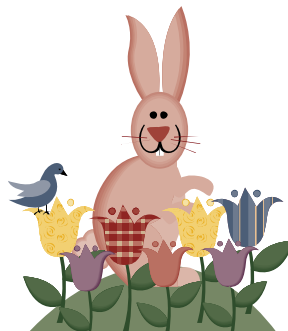
April 24-26 – IL/BPW Conference - Bloomington

May 5 - Choices

With there being nothing further to come before the club, President Sharon Sanders adjourned the business meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Deering, Recording Secretary



THINK SPRING!