



BPW CONNECTION

A Publication of Business & Professional Women, Centralia, IL



Volume XXXVI, Issue 9

February 2009

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

What an eventful month! We have had an inauguration, the passing of Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, the impeachment of our governor, and nine inches of snow

Those of us members who attended the National BPW Conference in Atlanta were honored to attend the Lilly Ledbetter workshop with standing room only. She was an excellent speaker and has been such an advocate for women. I was so excited to see her with

President Obama as he signed the bill. History has been made.

February is National Heart Month and February 6th is Red Dress Day. This is the fifth anniversary of Red Dress Day. So everyone, bring out your red dress, shirt, sweater and your Red Dress Pin and wear them on Friday. Heart disease is still the number one killer of women. Eat healthy and exercise often.

On a very sad note, we have lost one of our own, Margie Shanafelt. She had been so active in BPW and so many organizations and activities in Centralia. She will be missed.

Sharon Sanders
President



FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

The regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 11th at 6:00 pm at the Centralia House. The meal will be Chicken Mexicali with rice, vegetable, salad, brownie and your choice of beverage. The cost of the meal is \$10.00 which includes the tip. Our speaker for the evening will be Christy Herzing on Increasing Economic Opportunities for Disabled Individuals. So come, bring a friend or prospective member and network with our community's most knowledgeable professional women!

Jackie Gray
Issues Management

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

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Agenda

Welcome
Collect & Pledge
Introduction of Guests
Birthdays
Dinner
Business Meeting
Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report
Presentation of Bills
Correspondence
Standing Committee Reports
Celia M. Howard/Foundation
Finance
Issues Management
Membership
Public Relations
Young Careerist
Special Committee Reports
Cards/Memorials
Choices
Guest Night
Networking
Reality Store
Scholarships
Old Business
Year End Report
New Business
Nominating Committee
State Conference

-- 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>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

FEBRUARY

Barb Norstrom 02/02
Karen Walsh 02/05
Dorothy Coleman 02/11
Becky Ault 02/13
Brenda White 02/16
Pam McKay 02/20
Joanetta Wood 02/25

MARCH

Bess Wesling 03/01
LaDonne Neudecker 03/10
Mary Ann Dulumback 03/13
Ruth Antonoff 03/21
Geri Langin 03/30
Veneda Knolhoff 03/31

HAPPY BPW ANNIVERSARY

Barb Norstrom 02/86
Pam McKay 02/97

MARCH BOARD MEETING

March 2, 2009

6:00 pm

Kaskaskia College South East Conference Room - Student Center
(cafeteria)

Hosted by Beth Moore & Sally Tiemann

CENTRALIA BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN TO AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS

Centralia Business and Professional Women, Inc. is pleased to announce that their organization will be awarding a total of \$3,500 in scholarships at its April 2009 Guest Night. The club is able to make these awards as the result of a highly successful National Business and Professional Women's Week Scholarship Luncheon in October, 2008.

Scholarships to be awarded are:

- 2-\$750 scholarships to persons age 25 and older as of February 28, 2009
- 2- \$500 scholarships to members of the Centralia High School Class of 2009
- 2-\$500 scholarships to upperclassmen (students who have already started college and are at any level)

All applicants must provide an academic transcript with the application and have and maintain a 3.0 GPA. Other qualifications are outlined in the application form.

Applications are available on our website at www.bpwcentralia.org or you can just Google Centralia BPW. Applications will also be available at Centralia High School, Kaskaskia College Office of Financial Aid, or by contacting committee chair Barb Norstrom at 618-533-0052 or norstroms@charter.net and must be postmarked on or before February 28, 2009.

Barb Norstrom
Chair

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

DUES

Watch the mail for your coupon from National. **You should pay your dues directly to Signet Bank in the envelope provided.**

Members not paying by the due date will be dropped from the National database. So please try to pay on time.

Direct your questions to Bess Wesling, 5332694

Special Assignments

Alta McCullough
 Joannetta Wood.....532-0765
 BalloonFest
 Karen Deering318-0753
 Sylvia Mahle532-0545
 BPW Week
 Patty Brough533-3051
 Brenda Chesnek485-6690
 Bylaws
 Beth Moore548-3446
 Cards Memorials
 Bev Virobik.....532-8430
 Choices
 Karen Deering318-0753
 Ruth Antonoff533-0431
 Club Properties
 Pam McKay533-1416
 Guest Night
 Karen Walsh533-1607
 Maggie Irwin533-1975
 Historian
 Norma Rueter226-3238
 ID
 Becky Ault533-4712
 Networking
 Mary Ann Norton.....532-3613
 Nancy Greene532-7968
 Newsletter
 Michele Garrison.....533-8383
 NIKE
 Ernestine Foster.....533-2329
 Reality Store
 Vickie McDaniel249-6678
 Patty Brough533-3051
 Scholarship Salad Luncheon
 Anna Humphrey.....533-3900
 Beth Galicia533-2167
 Scholarships
 Barb Norstrom.....533-0052
 Website
 Barb Norstrom.....533-0052

REALITY STORE

April 24, 2009
 Centralia Junior High School
 Patty Brough & Vickie McDaniel, Chairs

LEGISLATION

The Fair Pay Campaign

On Jan. 29, 2009, President Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law.

The bill's passage means that women's ability to challenge unequal pay will be restored. We celebrate with women and their families who can once again stand up and fight for the pay they so desperately need and deserve.

President Barack Obama signed his first bill into law on Thursday, handing his labor and women's rights backers a victory by reversing a 2007 Supreme Court decision that made it harder to sue for pay discrimination.

With the woman for whom the law was named at his side, Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act at a White House ceremony. The Democratic-led Congress passed the measure this week and many leaders attended the signing.

"Signing this bill today is to send a clear message: that making our economy work means making sure it works for everybody, that there are no second-class citizens in our workplaces," said the Democratic president. Pay equity was a sensitive issue during the presidential election campaign last year, especially among labor unions and women voters. On average, U.S. women are paid 23 percent less than men, while minority women receive even less.

First lady Michelle Obama, at one of her highest-profile events since the inauguration last week, hosted a reception for Ledbetter and others who worked for passage of the law. "She knew unfairness when she saw it and was willing to do something about it because it was the right thing to do, plain and simple," the first lady said of Ledbetter.

Ledbetter is an Alabama woman who discovered after 19 years on the job at Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co that she was the lowest-paid supervisor at her plant despite having more experience than several male co-workers.

A jury found she was the victim of discrimination. But during the Bush administration, the Supreme Court in a 5-4 decision reversed what critics described as decades of legal precedent by declaring that discrimination claims must be filed within 180 days of the first offense.

The court rejected the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's contention that each new discriminatory paycheck triggers a new 180-day statute of limitations.

The law signed by Obama amended the 1964 Civil Rights Act to put the old EEOC standard into law, and covers pay discrimination based on gender, race, national origin, religion, age and disabilities.

Some Republicans and business leaders have expressed concern the measure could trigger an explosion of lawsuits based on old claims, discourage employers from hiring women and undermine efforts to stem the recession.

"Goodyear will never have to pay me what it cheated me out of," Ledbetter said at the White House reception. "I will never see a cent from my case. But with the passage (of the law) and president's signature today, I have an even richer reward. I know that my daughters and granddaughters and your daughters and your granddaughters will have a better deal."

Sylvia and Sally,
 Chairs

CONGRATULATIONS

A big congratulations to Nancy James on being selected St. Mary's School Alumni of the Year. We are so proud of you!

"Whatever you are, be a good one."
 Abraham Lincoln

DON'T FORGET TO RECYCLE!



BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
Not scheduled at this
time

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

GET WELL

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

**WE ARE 59
MEMBERS STRONG**

**NEED A NAMETAG??
Call Bess Wesling
533-2694**



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 February and March meetings for \$10.00 each. The deadline for tickets is April 3rd. For more information contact Karen Walsh or Maggie Irwin.

DO KNOW AN OUTSTANDING WORKING WOMAN?

Nominations for the 2009 Outstanding Working Woman are due March 1, 2009. Applications are on line at bpw-il.org or call Sharon Sanders.

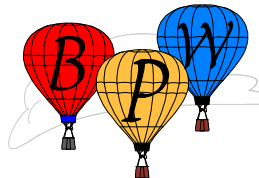
SHINGLES VACCINE

The Centralia Women's Club is presenting information on the shingles vaccine at Heritage Woods March 13th at 5:30p and March 14th at 2:00p. For more information contact Ann Chappell.

CHOICES PROGRAM

We will once again sponsor a Choices Program for the Seventh and Eighth Graders in the surrounding school area. The program will be held on **May 5th** from 1:00 until 2:30 p.m. in the St. Mary's School Gym.

IT'S TIME TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



BalloonFest is August 21, 22, 23.

Centralia Business and Professional Women, Inc.
January General Meeting, January 14, 2009
Sharon Sanders, Presiding Officer

The regular meeting of the Centralia BPW was held at Centralia House on January 14, 2009 with 21 members and 1 guest present. A quorum was not present.

President Sharon Sanders called the business meeting to order at 7:15 p.m after an informational presentation by Rita Howell and Tiana Sanders from the Bureau of Blind Services of Mt. Vernon. The December minutes were approved as printed.

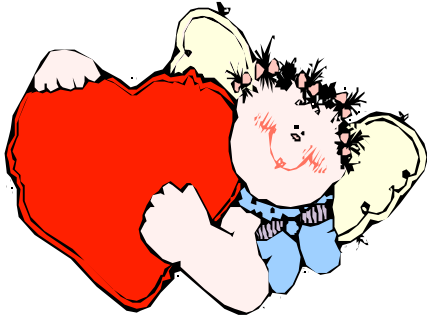
Treasurer's Report – Treasurer, Sally Tiemann presented the December report.

December report	
Balloon Fest Fund	\$ 100.00
Education Fund	6,586.17
Alta McCullough Fund	16,164.78
General Fund	<u>4,015.38</u>
Total Assets	\$ 6,866.33

The budgeted items were reviewed, no bills to present.
The treasurer's Report was filed for audit.

Correspondence – Karen Deering presented the following correspondence:

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!



- 1) A Thank you from La Donne Neudecker for all the cards and prayers.
- 2) A Thank you from the Food Pantry for all the food donations.
- 3) A Thank you from Kids Hope United for all the generous gifts.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Celia M Howard/Foundation – Sally Tiemann reported that \$205.00 was raised with the cookie sales. She will be sending the Foundation \$2 per member, at present 69 members.

Finance –Karen Walsh conducted the 50/50 drawing with the winner receiving \$9.50. The brag basket was also passed collecting \$14.00.

Issues Management – Jackie Gray reported that the February speaker will be Christy Herzing, speaking on Economic Opportunities for Disabled Individuals.

Membership – Veneda Knolhoff reported there is nothing new with membership, but did give us an update on Bess Wesling's health issues and asked to keep her in our prayers.

Public Relations - Karen Walsh stated there will be a picture in the newspaper of the school that won the Pizza Party from the ornament contest, great photo op for BPW.

Young Careerist – Becky Ault reported she has not found anyone willing to do YC. If anyone knows of anyone, please let her know, they have to do a 4 minute speech, 5 different subjects to speak on.

Legislative – Sylvia Mahle reported that the House passed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, Sally Tiemann added that it will go to the Senate January 15th.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cards & Memorials – Bev Virobik reported on a long list of cards that have been sent.

Guest Night – Karen Walsh reported the date is April 11th, 2009 at the First Christian Church, the tickets are \$10, invite yours friends, your spouse. Vickie Loomis will present an excerpt from the play "Crowns". Karen has tickets available if you are interested.

Scholarships – Sharon Sanders went over the 6 scholarships that are available. Vickie McDaniel reported for Barb Norstrom that the applications are available on the web site, at the High School and at Kaskaskia College, or you may contact Barb for one.

Reality Store – Vickie McDaniel reported that a date has been set for Friday, April 24th, 2009.

OLD BUSINESS

Cultural Society Report – Karen Walsh thanked everyone who donated cookies and help serve.

By-Law Review – Sharon Sanders reported that she checked with Beth Galicia, our State By-law chair, and there are no changes.

Audit – Sylvia Mahle reported that the audit was completed and the books are in good order.

NEW BUSINESS

State Officer Nominations – Sharon Sanders reported she has applications available if anyone would like to apply.

Year End Reports Due – Sharon Sanders reported that she still needs everyone's reports, she will be working on them next week.

UP COMING EVENTS

- February 2nd – Board Meeting – Michele's Boardroom, hosted by Becky Ault.
- February 11th - General Meeting – Centralia House 6 PM
With there being nothing further to come before the club, President Sharon Sanders adjourned the business meeting at 7:47 p.m.
Respectfully submitted, Karen Deering, Recording Secretary