

# The Business Buzz



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Wichita Falls Texas Business Women

Mar/Apr 2011



## Women Helping Women

In cleaning out some boxes at my parent's a couple of weeks ago, I found several articles my mother had cut out and kept. On one, she had put the date "Sept. '68". There is no way to know where it came from or whom authored the article. I would like to share it with you, and beg forgiveness for "borrowing" it without permission:

Once when Chaucer was asked for a definition for woman, he said "What is greater than gold? Jasper. What is greater than jasper? Wisdom. What is greater than wisdom? Woman. What is greater than woman? Another woman."

This definition is a goal that we must keep before us, always, just as women in the past used the thought as their beacon of light guiding them through the ages when people were slow to recognize their value.

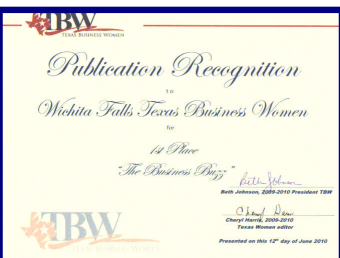
From the dawn of creation to this very day (even to 2011 - this very day) women have quietly, effectively and with determination woven their thread of influence through the course of human progress. Their part in the development of our civilization has been tremendous - their

strong dedication to the good around them comes out clearly as we unravel world history. Women in groups have executed greater and more humanizing influences in the course of history than we realize. Women have known, always, that they were born for such a time as existed at that particular moment or age. Women as bearers of the human race have seen the needs, set the goals, accepted the challenges, made the sacrifices and took the opportunities to better develop their homes, communities and world, so that each generation lived a little better.

The above article - I dedicate it to you, my sisters, The Best Women EVER!!!



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**March Program Meeting**

by Cheryl Cogdell, President Elect/Issues Management

Our program speaker for March will be Cassey Crump, Volunteer Coordinator at First Step Inc. She started out at First Step as a Shelter Aide and was in charge of enforcing the rules, giving out medications and any needed supplies, hotline calls and in-taking new clients. Cassey said the most important task at First Step is to serve the clients, and to encourage them daily. "Most of them have never been loved or cared for by anyone. A kind and caring staff makes all the difference in letting these people know they are special and deserve a better way of life" Cassey said.

First Step assists their clients with things like finding a job and housing as well as obtaining identification. They are available to take them to medical and legal appointments, help with financial assistance for medication and other needed essentials. They strive to teach their clients to become self-sufficient. Cassey is very passionate about First Step and its mission because as a child, she grew up in a household with domestic violence. "Now today I am helping people suffering through domestic violence and sexual assault just as I have. I am helping them go from being a victim into a becoming a Survivor!" Cassey said. Join us on Thursday, March 24 to hear more about First Step and the wonderful work they are doing in our community.

**April Program Meeting**

by Cheryl Cogdell, President Elect/Issues Management

We are excited to welcome Johnell Donnell, Project Coordinator with Faith Refuge as our program speaker for April. Johnell grew up in Harlingen in Deep South Texas. She is married to Barry and they have two grown children. She got into jail ministry three and a half years ago and was appalled to find there were so many of the incarcerated women who are homeless -- "couch surfing" at friends' homes, living in crack houses, living under the bridge in Lucy Park. Johnell said she felt like this was an ugly secret of our community that needed to be exposed, so she started telling people about what a great need we had for a women's shelter, and that's how the campaign to build Faith Refuge began. They recently reached their goal of \$3.2 million and are continuing fundraising to provide all the extras such as an activity room, green friendly environment, walking trail, and playground. Johnell said, "It has been surreal the way God has carried us along through all of this. We have more volunteers than we have jobs to keep them busy".



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

TBW meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at noon, Luby's, 1801 9th St, (back entrance says "Monarch Catering"), Wichita Falls, TX.

**March 2011**

March - Women's History Month

3 - Board Meeting - Noon - Luby's

10 - Regular Meeting - Noon - Luby's

17 - Social Networking 5 pm

Oyster Bar on Kell

24 - Program Meeting - Noon - Luby's

Guest Speaker: Cassey Crump, First Step Volunteer  
Coordinator

**April 2011**

14 - Regular Meeting - Noon - Luby's

21 - Social Networking 5 pm

Oyster Bar on Kell

28 - Program Meeting - Noon - Luby's

Guest Speaker: Johnelle Donnell, Faith Refuge

**May 2011**

5 - Board Meeting - Noon - Kemp

12 - Regular Meeting - Noon - Luby's

19 - Social Networking 5 pm

Oyster Bar on Kell

26 - Program Meeting - Noon - Luby's

Guest Speaker: Marilyn Rumsey, Alternative Paths

There will be School Board and City elections in May, so those who want to vote in those elections need to be sure to register to vote by April 14 if they are not already registered.

**March Birthdays**

4 - Patty Taylor

16 - June Anderson

18 - Maggie Johnson

26 - Cheryl West

**Happy Birthday Ladies!!**

**April Birthdays**

4 - Joan Paradeis

28 - Shirley Gray

28 - Paula Johnson

**Happy Birthday Ladies!!**

Mark your calendars now for the \*Texas Business Women Spring Conference in Austin on March 25-28, 2011!\* It will be at the Hilton Garden Inn Austin Downtown 500 North IH 35, Austin. The special room rate of \$139/night will be available until March 4th or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first.

Book hotel reservations online at  
[http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/A/AUSGIGI-TBW-20110325/index.jhtml?WT.mc\\_id=POG#reservation](http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/A/AUSGIGI-TBW-20110325/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG#reservation) or

call 1-512-480-8181 and ask for Group/Convention Code: Texas Business Women Spring Conference



## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

by Rita Vokes, Membership Chair/2<sup>nd</sup> VP

### **SPRING HAS SPRUNG! Let's HOPE it is true!**

It has been said: "If you don't like the weather in Wichita Falls .... wait a minute .... It will change! As typical for Wichita Falls, one day we had a record LOW temp; the following week, we had the record HIGH!

Whether or not you like the weather in Wichita Falls, one thing is true, we are known as a city of nice, friendly people! And the nicest, most friendly people are members of Wichita Falls TBW! BUT.... There are STILL a LOT of great people who live in our surrounding area who are NOT TBW members – and it's ONLY because they don't KNOW about TBW and/or haven't been invited to a meeting or social networking event.

With the spring and summer months approaching, it is a perfect time to "reach out and touch" someone who is a working (or retired) person .... regardless of gender (we definitely want men in our organization since they bring new ideas and perspectives about women's issues!)

Not only are there great opportunities to network and enjoy interesting programs at our local club, there are TWO important events which each and every one of you will want to attend.

If you haven't already, please mark your calendars for **Saturday, 26 March 2011 for the TBW Spring Leadership Conference**, held at the Hilton Gardens in Downtown **Austin**. More specific information can be found on the TBW webpage.

Some inside information: This officer was fortunate to be on a teleconference call with the keynote speaker for the Spring Conference, **Mary Beth Harrison**, and the other directors-at-large, in which she previewed some of the topics to be presented. Not only does she "hit the nail on the head" for issues affecting working women (and men), she will help each of us better understand the changing demographics, gender and generational issues in today's workplace. Following her presentation, the DALs will discuss the four quadrants of potential TBW members and WHY it matters to any organization. Most importantly, a specific "ACTION Plan" will be shared which will benefit every club in the state.

Also, the **Annual Membership Meeting/Conference** (formerly State Convention) **24-26 June 2011** at the Sheraton Hotel in **Arlington** is shaping up to be another stellar event. Dynamic speakers, training sessions, opportunities to network and enhance your leadership prowess will be on the agenda. Information is available at [www.texasbusinesswomen.org](http://www.texasbusinesswomen.org)

**"TBW Road Trips"** are a lot of fun and a great way to get to know your fellow TBW local members better, meet new people and to find out what is going on around the State of Texas.

As a state organization, we are still in a period of growth and development and we need everyone's suggestions about how to make Texas Business Women the "Go To" place for career development, networking, and esteem building. **TBW training: Do it for YOU!**



**A Look Back**

by Cheryl Cogdell, President Elect/Issues Management

On behalf of TBW, thank you to Jill King for speaking at our program meeting on February 24. Jill is a graduate of the University of Texas and has been a dietitian for over 25 years, a Certified Diabetes Educator for 10 years and has been in Wichita Falls since 1998. The information she shared with us regarding heart healthy diet and heart healthy lifestyles I know will certainly make a difference in our lives and the lives of those we love. Her program was a great way to end February which is American Heart Month!



President Edwina Wight and Jaime Feaster present a Scholarship to Kelly Soerens



President Edwina Wight with Jill King, Registered Dietitian. Jill spoke about healthy eating for a healthy heart.

**How was my Valentines Day?**

My Valentine's started early... Thursday February 10th was the 10 year anniversary of our first date. I was clueless, Troy is really the one who remembered. When he asked if I wanted to go out on that night I said, "for an early Valentines?!" We went to see the Beatles tribute at Wichita Theatre and for dinner. He also gave me a beautiful porcelain stargazer Lilly (my favorite flower) and a DVD of Traffic, the movie we saw on our first date.

- Sandra Sims

My husband brought me some beautiful roses. We had dinner and a movie. Very nice.

- Cheryl Zachary



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Jerri Schubert  
Patricia Bell

### TBW/Texas

Silvia Pendleton	President
Diane Sirois	President-Elect
Mary Huneycutt	Vice President
Grace Emery	Secretary
Kendra Kinnison	Treasurer

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**The Business Buzz**



***Imagine More  
With Texas  
Business Women***