

The Business Buzz

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Wichita Falls Texas Business Women

Summer 2009



Imagine More With The President

It is time for a new year and a new name. Wichita Falls Business and Professional Women will now be Wichita Falls Texas Business Women. With the decision to stand apart from BPW Foundation we will have many decisions to make this year along with our usual responsibilities as club members we also have an opportunity to be a part of history in the making by watching the familiar change into a new beginning for our organization. I believe that despite all these changes that are ahead of us we will have an exciting and exceptional year.

Committee chairs have been filled and they are already discussing ideas for this year. I look forward to continuing the excellence we top each year when we make our plans for Woman of the Year and Trivia Night. Our group has always wowed the attendees at our functions and I am never surprised by the compliments we receive after each event. But the Committee Chairs can't do it alone so I would like to challenge each of you to volunteer to serve

on at least one committee. Sign-up sheets are going to be passed around at the August meetings. Please sign up for committees that you are interested in to ensure the continued success of this club.

Several members from our club will attend the Region 7 Planning Meeting in Gainesville on Saturday, August 15th. The Region meetings are so fun. We get to know women from the other clubs of Region 7—Sherman, Cooke County, and Bonham.

As President I have some big shoes to fill following our past presidents, but I know that I have a vast well of experience and knowledge that will be there for me to draw on this year. Each of you is important to our club, and I am always open to your ideas and comments. Until next month... ***Imagine More!***

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MEMBERSHIP

by Rita Vokes, 2nd V.P., Membership Chair

What is old is new again! For those of you who have been members of “BPW” for more than just a few years, you know I was formerly the Membership Chair.

Well, I guess I am getting another chance to enhance our club’s membership. Either I didn’t do it well enough in the past Or I did it well enough that you have confidence in me to “do it again.” I hope the latter is true.

As you ALL well know, we will no longer be “Wichita Falls Business and Professional Women” since it was decided at state convention to break away from BPW/USA.

What’s in a name? BPW has been around since 1919, but regardless of what we will be named in the future, the focus of our organization, the mission, the vision, the “Women Helping Women” mantra will stay constant.

In this day and time, change is inevitable. In fact, it was once said that “the only thing that remains constant is ‘change.’”

What will never change with our club is that our members are the greatest. We love to network, help one another, and develop long-lasting friendships.

It is an exciting time for us as we see our state federation work through the myriad of issues and to voice our opinions and suggestions to the Executive Committee as we move into a new dimension for women in Wichita Falls, and our surrounding communities, like Iowa Park, Henrietta, Burkburnett, Sheppard AFB, and wherever working, retired, college-age and/or high school age women exist.

My goal, as always, is to have each of you, the current members, “reach out and touch” another woman, and invite her to one of our meetings. If, after she comes and visits, she doesn’t believe our club is for her at this time, nothing lost. BUT, what if a woman with whom you work, go to church, social, know from other organizations, etc. is just waiting for an invitation to investigate what we have to offer? Look what we have to GAIN. Wouldn’t it be a shame if she were NOT invited and was not offered the opportunity to network, help someone, or find a life-long friend?

Members, your mission Should you choose to accept it Is to invite another woman you know to our very next meeting. Just ASK her to come! If she can’t make it to the upcoming meeting, then ask her to the following one Until she does come or tells you to “bug off.” But, “you don’t know what you don’t know.” And if she has never come to a meeting or is clueless about who we are and what we do, she deserves to at least come once and evaluate our organization for herself.

Every member needs to be a recruiter! It is the right thing to do. Our club and our members will be better for it.



A Look Back at July's Program Meeting

by Edwina Wight, Pres. Elect/Issues Management

WOW!!! If you were not at the July Program meeting - you missed a lot!!!

Formerly BPW/Texas - now Texas Business Women State President Beth Johnson presented the program. She shared information leading up to the vote at State Convention in June that ended the association with BPW Foundation (national) to today. At State Convention, an ad hoc committee was named to conduct the quest for a new name for the state organization. After informative emails and questionnaires, the name Texas Business Women was the winner. There were other changes as well:

- * the state office has condensed - shredded - donated - and moved to a smaller one room office.
- * a program has been purchased that will allow members to pay on line - update your profile on line and many other conveniences
- * the executive committee is looking at current state awards criteria - requesting your input - and possibly changing them
- * Previous Individual Development will be revamped and renamed.
- * Meetings In A Box - if a local organization is needing a program, the CD provides all the material you need for a great program.
- * Leadership Training - there will be several Leadership 101 events throughout the state and other Leadership courses will be in the Dallas/Ft Worth metro area
- * the State Foundation elected to affiliate with BPW/Foundation - but the monies remain in Texas and will still be used as previously for scholarships and MD Anderson.

President Beth stated that our main goal will be Membership. And in thinking of membership, to think of the visitors that come to the meetings - to visit with them - to sit with them. In thinking of membership to attend Regional conferences and State conferences

and meet new friends - "sisters". Do not accept the way things have been - make them better and share Texas Business Women with everyone.

Renew your enthusiasm with Texas Business Women and see YOU at the next meeting!

July Birthdays

1—Meredith Kennedy-Lee
 1—Sheryl Moses
 11—Cheryl Zachary
 13—Kelly Guthrie
 14—Karen Fischer
 16—Cari Beesinger
 19—Alicia Pruitt
 22—Sally McGaha

Happy Birthday Ladies!!

August Birthdays

3—Kathy Lanham
 6—Shari Carpenter
 10—Charlene Vomastek
 12—Penny Miller
 16—Monica Morris
 20—Jeni Secord
 24—Janice Sons
 27—Gay Beck

Happy Birthday Ladies!!

A Look Back at June's Program Meeting

by Edwina Wight, Pres. Elect/Issues Management

The June Program meeting was the installation of the new officers for the 2009-2010 year. Installation officer Keli McCord did a wonderful job. Installed were:

- Sheryl Moses - President
- Edwina Wight - President-Elect
- Cheryl Cogdell - 1st VP - Finance
- Rita Vokes - 2nd VP - Membership
- Sarah Eads—Recording Secretary
- Doris Lackey—Corresponding Secretary
- Brenda Wehmeier—Treasurer
- Parliamentarian - Keri Orsak

It was a unique installation using the playing pieces from Monopoly and their relation to the duties of the officers. All officers are looking forward to serving the members this year.



INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT

by Rita Vokes, Chair of a “New Named Course”

Well, let’s talk about MORE changes on the horizon. Not to sound like a broken record, but our club will no longer be able to use the trademark name “Individual Development” (I.D.) since we are no longer “BPW.”

O.K. So as I asked before: “What’s in a name?” Even though we cannot offer the “I.D.” class per se, our club can still sponsor a program to help women with their leadership skills, speaking ability, and the “soft skills” that set confident, proactive and dynamic women apart from the rest of the crowd.

I would like to hear from you, our members, what it IS you would like to learn from a short, highly motivating, fun class.

What has been taught in the past has been: Business Etiquette, Goal-setting, Team Building, Negotiating, Networking, Interviewing for a Job, How to make a 2-minute impromptu speech and a 5-minute prepared speech (with OUT knees knocking, stomachs churning, hands sweating, and beads of perspiration appearing).

We have taught this class on Sunday afternoons, Monday and Wednesday evenings in the fall, in the spring.

We need at least 10 participants to make it most beneficial for the class participants and the faculty/facilitators.

Please provide me your input on what YOU would like with regard to: Class format, time, days, duration of course, etc. We, the faculty, will build a course that best meets YOUR needs.

Please email rvokes@swbell.net with your comments, suggestions.

Graduates of I.D.: We would like to hear from you as well! Please share with me what you enjoyed most, what suggestions YOU can give us to improve the course for future participants.

I look forward to receiving your input.

Thank you in advance for all the suggestions for making our club and this course the best it can be.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

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

AUGUST

- 13 Business meeting—noon—Luby’s
- 15 Region 7 Planning Meeting
10:00 a.m. Location TBD
- 27 Program meeting—noon—Luby’s

SEPTEMBER

- 10 Business meeting—noon—Luby’s
- 12 Fall Conference
- 17 Social Networking 5:30-6:30
Location TBD
- 24 Program meeting—noon—Luby’s
Guest Speaker: Sandra Sims
Topic: Advancing Your Career by using Online Social Networks: Twitter, LinkedIn & Facebook

October

- 8 Business Meeting—Noon—Luby’s
TBD Woman of the Year Banquet
- 22 Program Meeting—Noon—Luby’s



August's Program Meeting

by Edwina Wight, Pres. Elect/Issues Management

Our speaker for the August 27th meeting will be Joan Paradeis.

Joan has been a financial advisor for Edward Jones since 2005. She retired from the U S Navy in 2002 after 22 years service. Joan has a MBA from Brenau University and a BS in CIS from Chapman University.

She has been recognized for Inspirational Leadership for the Navy League of the United States.

Besides being a member of the Wichita Falls Women's Group, she also is involved with the University Kiwanis Club, the VFW Post 2676 and on the board for Bridge-A-Gap.

Edward Jones provides financial services for individual investors in the United States and, through its affiliates, in Canada and the United Kingdom. Every aspect of the firm's business, from the types of investment options offered to the location of branch offices, is designed to cater to individual investors in the communities in which they live and work. The firm's 10,000-plus financial advisors work directly with more than 7 million clients to understand their personal goals - from college savings to retirement - and create long term strategies for their investments that emphasize a well-balanced portfolio and a buy-and-hold strategy. Edward Jones embraces the importance of building long-term, face to face relationships with clients, helping them to understand and make sense of the investment options available today.

We invite you to spend your lunch hour with us at Luby's and learn from Joan about investing for women in today's market.

See you there!



Sheryl Moses' first words as our 2009-2010 President



Keli McCord with Sheryl Moses



Edwina Wight and Sheryl Moses welcome Texas President Beth Johnson (middle) at July's Program Meeting



2009-10 President Sheryl Moses receives the President's gavel from previous President Sandra Sims



Legislation

by Penny Miller, Legislation Chair

August 26 is Women's Equality Day, commemorating the final ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920, granting women the right to vote. We tend to forget that for much of history, women had few rights and in our own nation, women were not believed to have the judgment needed for this privilege.

Thanks to five women in Seneca Falls, NY who organized a "convention to discuss the social, civil and religious conditions and rights of women" on July 13, 1848, the suffrage movement was born. The product of that convention was the Declaration of Sentiments, signed by 100 women and men. Of those, only one, who was 19 at the time, lived long enough to see women achieve the right to vote.

The League of Women Voters grew out of the suffrage movement. Some of the women who were active in getting the 19th Amendment passed started the organization to ensure women registered to vote and received nonpartisan information on which to base their decision.

Remember the sacrifices made by the many women who fought for our right to vote and become an informed, participating voter. We really have no excuse not to exercise the right we tend to take for granted, even though it has been only in the lifetime of some living women today that we gained that right.

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Rita Vokes	2nd Vice President	(940) 696-2442	rvokes@swbell.net
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Parliamentarian	Keri Orsak	(940) 696-9597	kericpa@nts-online.net

TBW Region 7

Lana Bernadin	Region Director
Meredith Kennedy-Lee	Secretary
Keli McCord	Treasurer
Kay Aldridge	State Nominating Committee Member
Keri Orsak	State Nominating Committee Member Alternate

TBW/Texas

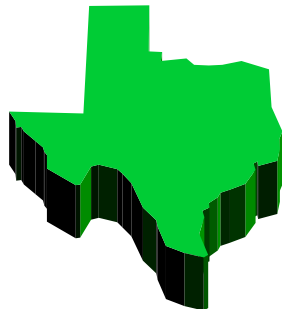
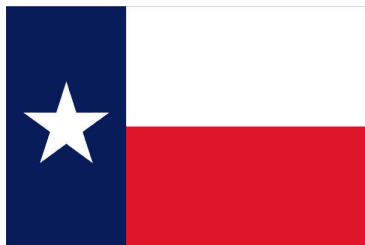
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