

**History 2003-2004**  
**Louisiana Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.**

At the conclusion of the 84th annual conference at the Holiday Inn in Monroe, the Installation Banquet launched the 2003-2004 year with the installation of President Linda Burns, President-Elect Camille Moran, First Vice President Angela Wilson, Second Vice President Judy Wilson, Corresponding Secretary Phyllis Callahan, Recording Secretary Rebecca King and Treasurer Marie Eddlemon. The President announced her slogan "Lighting the Way for a Brighter Tomorrow through Commitment, Education, Positive Attitude, Networking and Womenomics" and her goals of Membership Growth and Leadership Training.

The appointed committee chairmen were Bylaws Corvette Kowalski, Finance Phyllis Callahan, Foundation Wanda Ishmael, Nominations Janis Guyton, Public Relations Dot Horton, Young Careerist Desiree Duhon-Dyess, and Individual Development Paula Hope.

The special committee appointments were Auditor Anne Storms, Parliamentarian Frances Jakes, Pelican Editor Rhonda Counselman, *NBWW* Chair Deanna Hamilton-Lamz, Agnes Morris Education Loan Fund and LA Education Foundation Linda Burns, NIKE Chair Becky King, State Convention Chairs Pat Tracey and Sherrie Conrad, Historian Iona Myers, Scrapbook Phyllis Callahan, Chaplain Lois Ferguson, Legal Advisor Desiree Duhon-Dyess, Rules and Resolutions Kathryn Nizer.

The Past State Presidents on the Board were Pat Moses, Linda Dreier, and Alice Barrios. Stephanie S. Tufaro is the Southeast District Director and Rhonda Counselman is the Southwest/Central Director.

Following the Sunday breakfast where the Past Presidents Council inducted the newest Past State President Pat Moses, the post-convention board of directors meeting convened. The state directories were distributed to the above members and the local presidents. District meeting dates were planned and announced.

Members who attended the BPW/USA conference as delegates at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, in Cleveland, Ohio, July 15-19, included Young Careerist Courtney Hornsby, Camille Moran, Angela Wilson, Linda Dreier, Alice Barrios, Glenda Prechac, Pat Tracey, and Iona Myers.

The Mid Year Conference and Legislation Day convened at The Holiday Inn Hotel, Lafayette, Louisiana, November 7-8. Linda Burns accepted the reservations with deadline of October 10. The Legislative Day Forum was planned by Angela Wilson, Legislative Chair, and occurred from 1 to 4 PM. A Social followed in the President's Suite. The evening concluded with Dinner featuring St. Bernard's presentation in honor of the Louisiana Purchase 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The agenda for Saturday was registration from 8 to 9, followed by the conference from 9 to 3, with a break for lunch from 12 to 1. Fees were \$25 for registration, \$20 for Friday dinner, and \$15 for Saturday lunch. Room rate was \$69.00.

Two issues of the *Pelican* went to each member and the President sent out emails and *Leadership Update* newsletters.

On November 20, 2003, state president Linda Burns made BPW/Louisiana proud with a congratulatory letter to our newly-elected, first-ever, FEMALE governor, Kathleen Blanco.

The Policy and Action Conference of BPW/USA and Interim Board meeting was held in Washington, DC, February 4-8, with BPW Louisiana represented by President Linda Burns, President Elect Camille Moran, and First Vice President Angie Wilson.

District meetings for the Southeast District were held in Donaldsonville, September 27, with Judy Wilson as state representative, and in Jefferson March 27, with Becky King as state

representative. The Southwest/Central District held a Spring meeting, February 28, in Lake Charles, with Angie Jackson-Wilson as state representative.

The Eighty-Fifth Annual State Convention convened at the Holidome in Kenner, June 11-13, 2004, with President Linda Burns presiding. Southeast District was host, with Pat Tracey and Corvette Kowalski serving as Convention co-chairmen.

At the Friday night awards dinner, with St. Bernard hosting "B.P.W.'s Pajama Jam" Kathryn Nizer received the Nike Award, the state's highest honor.

Other awards presented included:

St. Bernard won the "Best Program" for *National Business Women's Week* Awards, presented by Deanna Hamilton Lamz.

St. Bernard won all the Public Relations Awards, presented by Dot Horton, including Press Book, Best Coverage Community Program and Best News Coverage single program.

BPW/USA Foundation Gold Award was presented to Jefferson Parish for \$78 per capita. Silver Awards were presented to Natchitoches (\$25 per capita) and Oakdale (\$10 per capita). Jefferson Parish had honor of FRIEND for 25% of members giving to Foundation. St. Bernard received Best Foundation Program Award.

Legislation Awards, presented by Angela Jackson Wilson, included Most Outstanding Program Award to St. Bernard and Monroe-West Monroe. The Most Outstanding Legislative Project went to Jefferson Parish. The LO with highest percentage at Legislative Day was Monroe-W. Monroe, and LO with 10% attendance at Legislative Day was St. Bernard. Issues Management Award to enter National competition went to St. Bernard, as did Equal Pay Day award.

Membership Awards, presented by Judy Wilson, included the following awards.

Individual Recruitment Awards- SW/CENTRAL DISTRICT:

Plus One: Opie Hogston, Lake Charles; Johnnie Traxler, Annette Murdock Tangye, Patty Stewart, Mary Rucks, Cheryl Carlew, Cheryl Cooper Moulriere, Monroe-West Monroe; Lori Tate, Camille Moran, Natchitoches; Linda Burns, Oakdale.

Plus Two: Rhonda Counselman, Angela Jackson-Wilson, Monroe; Julia Coleman (4), Natchitoches

Plus Five: Desiree Duhon-Dyess, Natchitoches

Plus Ten: Judy Wilson (19), Monroe/West Monroe

Individual Recruitment Awards – SE DISTRICT:

Plus One: Evelyn Hebert, Lafitte; Ludy Pittman, Mary (Kaki) DeCarlo, Jacqueline Baron, Slidell; Karen Fecke, Martha Hughes-Cucinella, Tiffany Ingariola, Maria Oser, Sherrie Anderson-Houpy, Nita Hutter, Donna Benfatti, Debora Keller, St. Bernard; Lisa Giardina, Stephanie Weeks, Stacey Klees, Olga Marquette, Judy Jennings, Delores Jenkins, Robin DeLeo, Laney Tulli, West St. Tammany.

Two Plus: Cynthia Cuttino-Edwards, New Orleans; Carroll Devine, Tina McCarthy, Rose Campagna (3), Beth Montreuil (3), Bonnie Cook (3), Dianne Henrie (4), St. Bernard; Iona Myers (3), Jefferson Parish; Violet Dickinson, Karin Lorenz, Charlotte Matheny (3), Pam Eiffert, West St. Tammany.

Plus Five: Lois Hueschen, St. Bernard; Patti Mayeux, Rhonda Gabb, West St. Tammany.

Plus Ten: Angie Campagna-Balli (39), St. Bernard; Katie Champagne- Reynolds (11), West St. Tammany.

Top Recruiter: Angie Campagna-Balli (39), St. Bernard

Recruiting Contest 2003-2004: Third Place Monroe/West Monroe – Recruited 29 New Members; Second Place West St. Tammany – Recruited 38 New Members; First Place St. Bernard – Recruited 69 New Members.

Local Recruiting at Least One New Member 2003-2004: Lafitte (1), Jefferson (3), Lake Charles (1), New Orleans (2), Slidell (3), Oakdale (1)

Big Push Award April and May 2004: Monroe (7) , St. Bernard (26), and West St. Tammany (12) In July, these three locals will receive \$5.00 from BPW/USA for each new member recruited during this period.

Team Player Award 2004: Camille Moran, Iona Myers, and Judy Wilson

Membership Growth Award by Percentage: 4<sup>th</sup> Place, Natchitoches; 3<sup>RD</sup> Place, West St. Tammany; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Monroe/West Monroe, 1<sup>st</sup> Place, St. Bernard.

Membership Retention Plus 5 Award: Natchitoches 5, West St. Tammany 15, Monroe/West Monroe 17, St. Bernard 64.

Certificate of Merit – for Equalizing: Donaldsonville, Lafitte, Monroe, Natchitoches, St. Bernard, West St. Tammany.

Membership Top Local SW/Central District: Monroe/West Monroe

Membership Top Local SE District: St. Bernard

Membership Recruiting Local of 2003-2004 St. Bernard

One of a Kind Membership Campaign Award: St. Bernard

Ann Barrios, St. Bernard, won the Young Careerist Award, presented by Desiree Duhon Dyess.

Lynette DiFatta, St. Bernard was the Individual Development winner, recognized by Paula Hope. Jefferson Parish and St. Bernard were recognized with Certificates for holding ID Programs.

District Leadership Awards, by Camille Moran, were presented to Rhonda Counselman and Stephanie Tufaro for using the President's Theme and Communication. The Participation Award was presented to Monroe-West Monroe, and the Outstanding District Performance Award was presented to Rhonda Counselman.

The president presented awards for Education to W. St. Tammany; for Womenomics to St. Bernard and Monroe-West Monroe. She also presented awards for Communication to Lake Charles, Natchitoches, Jefferson Parish, St. Bernard, and West St. Tammany. The President's Excellence in Leadership Award was received by Martha Cucinello, St. Bernard; and St. Bernard received the Most Outstanding Local Organization – Traveling Award, from President Linda Burns.

The business meeting convened on Friday, after workshops and YC and ID competitions. Barb Henton, National Representative, brought greetings from BPW/USA and nominations for officers were received. The business meeting recessed and reconvened on Saturday. Business included changing the name of the Agnes Morris Loan Fund to the Agnes Morris Scholarship Fund. The budget that passed included funds for making a BPW/LA Public Service Announcement to be aired on major TV stations, promoting our mission and vision.

The officers elected to serve the 2004-2005 year were:

President Camille Moran, President Elect Angie Wilson, Vice President Judy Wilson, Secretary Cynthia Edwards, Treasurer Marie Eddlemon. The officers were installed at the Installation Banquet on Saturday evening, with Anne Storms as Installing Officer.

Registration included 45 members and 2 guests. Meeting adjourned about 3 PM. The Installation Banquet followed in the evening.

Iona R. Myers, Historian 2003-2004

Adopted as Official History by 2005 State conference delegates on June 11, 2005