



## President's Message

2009-2010 year is the start for many changes facing our organization on a state and national level. We have seen in a short time period the reorganization of BPW/USA and BPW Foundation into a single entity. The Louisiana Federation during the State Conference June 2009 voted to stay the course and support the new merged organization. Within our state we continue to face changes as local organizations go their own way and new members come on board with the understanding that they are joining a new more streamlined BPW that has taken the mission statement as an edict to get back to basics. In 2009 we are finding that women's rights are not as secure as one would hope. Financial decisions in budgets throughout our state and on the federal level are not a direct attack on rights but by not funding programs that support women causing as much damage. Domestic vio-

lence support programs are being cut. Title IX is under a threat of cuts that are not equal between programs at colleges. The Equal Rights Amendment is only a few states shy of being passed and Louisiana is one of those states that have not stepped up to the bar. Equal Pay saw great strides forward with the Lilly Ledbetter Act however our state continues to sideline the issue. We are a powerful voice if we unite and speak to our legislators. We are strong if we continue to provide education to women so that they can further their careers. We are a support to each other through networking and friendships. We are the Louisiana Federation of Business and Professional Women. I look forward to a year of great changes and a group who has stood the test of time and will continue for the next ninety years.

Thank you.  
Cynthia Thompson  
President BPW/LA

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## SWC District talks BPW

The Southwest Central District's Fall meeting held in Monroe on Saturday, Sept. 26, 2009 focused on BPW's recent merger and what BPW means to me. We did not use an outside speaker as we felt it was important to let the membership voice their concerns about matters that affected them.

One area we discussed was: what was working well since the merger and what seemed to be a problem. The working well area comments included we haven't seen much difference; we were happy and relieved that BPW Foundation negotiated the number of members for the assessment (since we have lost some LOs and members since June); the emails seem to be better; we are more satisfied that we can set up our own legislative platform so that it fits us better; and we feel we have more control at state level.

On the problem side, comments included that there was not enough communication from Foundation regarding the merger and terms; we have lost our central information depot—many things we were used to finding on the BPW/USA website aren't there or we can't find them; we need more program diversity on the state level; there is no communication of who is in charge at Foundation to LO members; we feel disconnected to National; we need more definition on how the structure at Foundation works with us; and we need more information on how the Foundation trustees are selected.

*Continued on page 3*

## ESTER TERRY NIKE AWARD

The prestigious ESTER TERRY NIKE AWARD will be presented at Mid Year Board this year. This is Louisiana BPW's way of honoring our outstanding members for their achievement and contribution to BPW/LA, their BPW local and to their communities.

The criteria for judging will be very much as in previous years.

- No previous recipient will be eligible.
- Her local must endorse the nominee and only one nominee for each local will be accepted.
- The name of the nominee should not appear on the written summary but should appear on the cover letter.
- The deadline for submission must be postmarked on or before Dec. 31, 2009.
  
- The nominees shall be judged on:
  - Contributions to their local chapter.
  - Contributions to the District, State and National organizations.
  - Support the legislative programs of BPW.
  - Contributions to her community, civic and church organizations, and career activities.

I would like to encourage all local chapters to nominate a deserving person for this prestigious award.

Wanda Ishmael  
*Ester Terry Nike Chair*



### **CONGRATULATIONS TO ANGIE JACKSON-WILSON 2009 NIKE WINNER**

**NIKE Winners pictured below:**

*Front (LtoR):* Lois Ferguson (1994), Glenda Prechac (1980), Angie Jackson-Wilson (2009), Camille Moran (2007)

*Middle (LtoR):* Janice Williams (1997), Annie Price (2003), Frances Jakes (2006), Iona Myers (1992), Pat Moses Howard (2001), Linda Burnes (2005), Anne Storms (1991)

*Back Row:* Cory Kowalski (1999)



**SWC District talks BPW** *(Continued from page 1)*

The other stimulating question “Why do you belong to BPW?” led to some interesting discussion. Many belonged because they had a friend(s) who asked them to join; they like the networking opportunities; they liked what BPW did in their community; they liked that BPW was an advocate for working women/mothers with concerns/women in the military; they had made many BPW friends; and they liked to hear what the other LOs were doing.

We also had a report on state membership and where the Foundation relationship was at this time.

Of the 11 present, 3 state officers (Peggy Wells, Vice President; Angie Jackson Wilson-Treasurer; and Linda Burns-Secretary) and 8 Past Presidents were in attendance (Angie Jackson Wilson, Anne Storms, Annie Price, Delia Flynn, Janis Guyton, Judy Wilson, Linda Burns, and Pat Moses Howard). We also presented Angie Jackson Wilson her NIKE (which was awarded at 2009 State Conference).

*Linda D. Burns*  
*SWC District Co-chair*

***Congratulations to our 2009-2010 BPW/LA Officers!***

At our 90<sup>th</sup> state conference in Alexandria, Cynthia Thompson was elected President, Peggy Wells was elected Vice-President, Angie Jackson-Wilson was elected Treasurer, and Linda Burns was elected Secretary. Corvette Kowalski will be serving as Auditor, and Glenda Prechac will be serving as Parliamentarian.



# *Well-Behaved Women Never Make History!*

**BPW/LA - MISSION:**

To achieve equity for all women in the workplace through  
advocacy, education, and information.

## *SAVE THE DATE!*

*SW/C Fall District Meeting, September 26, 2009, in Monroe*

*SE Fall District Meeting, October 3, 2009, in Kenner/Metairie*

*Mid-Year Board Meeting, January 22-23, 2010, in Baton Rouge*

*91<sup>st</sup> BPW/LA State Conference, June 4-5-6, 2010, in Baton Rouge*

*Stay tuned for more details!*

## *Join BPW/LA on Facebook!*

BPW Louisiana has a Facebook page! Share information among BPW/LA at-large members! Share information among members of Local Organizations! Share information with the BPW/LA Executive Committee! Share information between LO's! Post BPW State and LO events! Have online discussions with other BPW/LA members! Our current discussion is entitled "What Does BPW Mean to You?" You must have a Facebook account to participate, but it's free, it's easy, and it's spam-free! Once you are in Facebook ([www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)), look for Louisiana-Federation-of-Business-and-Professional-Women or go to <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/pages/Louisiana-Federation-of-Business-and-Professional-Women/83483777437?ref=nf>

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### **UPCOMING DATES:**

Monthly Executive Committee Teleconference - August 11 and September 8, 2009

SW/C Fall 2009 District Meeting in Monroe - September 26, 2009

SE Fall 2009 District Meeting in Kenner/Metairie - October 3, 2009

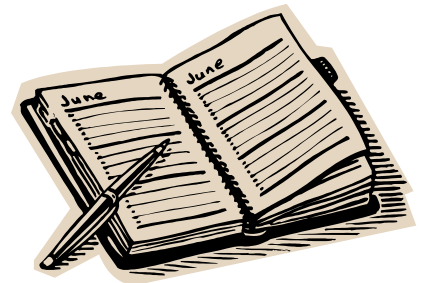
Monthly Executive Committee Teleconference - October 13, 2009

National Business Women's Week - October 12-15, 2009

Monthly Executive Committee Teleconference - November 11, 2009

Monthly Executive Committee Teleconference - December 8, 2009

Mid-Year Board Meeting in Baton Rouge - January 22-23, 2010



Local Organizations MEMBERSHIP	30-Jun-09 Member of Local MOL	Student of Local SOL	E members	Members at Large MAL	Total
Alexandria	4	0	0	0	4
DeRidder	1	0	0	0	1
Donaldsonville	3	2	0	0	5
Fleur de Lis	18	0	0	0	18
Jefferson Parish	6	0	0	0	6
Lake Charles	8	0	0	0	8
Monroe	30	3	0	0	33
Natchitoches	6	1	0	0	7
New Orleans	8	0	0	0	8
Northwest Louisiana	1	0	0	0	1
Oakdale	6	2	0	0	8
Slidell	0	0	0	0	0
St. Bernard	8	1	0	0	9
West St. Tammany	93	0	0	0	93
Members at Large	0	0	0	27	27
<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>228</b>

## SWC DISTRICT MEETING



**BPW Louisiana  
Mid Year Board Conference  
January 22-23, 2010**

**Baton Rouge Marriott, 5500 Hilton Ave  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808**

Mid Year Board Conference is open to all BPW Louisiana members.

You are encouraged to bring friends and guests.

Board Members are: LO Presidents, Past State Presidents, BPW LA Officers and all Committee Chairs.

Room rates:

King: 1 person 1 bed           \$99.00

Double: 2 people 1or 2 beds   \$99.00

**Schedule**

**Friday, January 22, 2010**

5:30-6:30 PM Registration

6 – 7 PM Exec Committee Mtg

7 – 8 PM President's reception

**Saturday, January 23, 2009**

7:30 - 8:30AM Registration

8:30 - 11:30AM Morning Business Session

11:45 - 1:15PM Luncheon

1:30 - 3PM Afternoon Business Meeting

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
LO Name \_\_\_\_\_ Board Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Member \_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_

Registration \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 (Postmark January 4, 2010 or earlier)

Late Fee \_\_\_\_\_ \$45 (Postmark January 5, 2010 and after)

**Friday Evening** – No cost, come join President Cynthia Thompson for a networking reception.

**Saturday Lunch** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$25.00 per person**

(Luncheon buffet, baked or grilled chicken and baked or grilled catfish)

If you have specific dietary needs that preclude you from eating from the buffet please state on this registration form. We will attempt to accommodate you.

**The 2010 Nike Award will be presented during the Luncheon; Guest Speaker is Monique Edwards, Esq. Asst. Secretary, in the Office of Mineral Resources and Executive Counsel at the Department of Natural Resources**

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_ Make checks payable to: **BPW Louisiana**      **Mail to:** BPW/LA  
P.O. Box 15046  
Monroe, LA 71207

Or go online to <http://www.bpwlouisiana.org/files/index.php?id=46> and pay by Visa or Mastercard.