

President's Message



By Gwen Amelin
President, BPW/LA

Greetings, where there is no vision,
the people perish!

This country has seen a significant
change in its leadership and we all
are awaiting the results; but while
we wait, we must not become dis-
tracted and lose focus on what our
vision is.

This year's theme is "Navigating the
Waters." Exactly what does that
mean? Glad you asked! As women,
we are faced with many challenges
in the workplace, our community,
and even our homes that we must
"navigate" through in order to have
success. Equal pay, leadership
roles, work-life balance, career op-

portunities, affordable child care
and employable soft skills are just
a few of the navigational courses
women must channel through in
order to succeed in the home, the
workplace. and the community.

I hope we will continue to be the
role models and mentors that this
generation and future generations
remember as those who "Navigated
the Waters".

Be persistent, be focused
and "Navigate the Waters".

MONROE-WEST MONROE BPW HOSTS BPW/LA 98TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



"Well-behaved women never make history."

Call to Mid-Year Board Meeting January 20, 2018

The Louisiana Federation of Business and Professional Women will be hosting our Mid-Year Board at Drusilla Seafood Restaurant, 3482 Drusilla Lane, Suite D, Baton Rouge, LA 70809 .

Registration for Mid-Year Board must be postmarked prior to January 6, 2018 to receive the early registration rates. Please refer to the registration form in this publication for registration rates.

Hotel Registrations are available at Hampton Inn, 4646 Constitution Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808. Deadline for hotel reservations and special rate is January 5, 2018. Call 225-926-9990 or make reservations online at www.hamptoninn.com. The LA/BPW group code is LFB and must be used to obtain the special rate.

There will be an Executive Committee Meeting at the Hampton Inn from 9—10 a.m. on Saturday morning. Mid-Year Board Saturday registration will take place from 10:30—10:55 a.m. Our main business session will take place on Saturday, January 22, from 11:00 a.m. — 12:15 p.m. and from 1:30—4:00 p.m.

Our luncheon Keynote Speaker is Frances K. Lewis, Director of the Customer Care Technical Support Center of Excellence at Cox Communications' Southeast Region. Her topic will be 'Swimming With the Sharks'

See you at MYB 2018!

SAVE THE DATE

2018 STATE CONFERENCE

BATON ROUGE, LA

JUNE 8-10, 2018

More details to come

In Memorium—Anne Moore Storms—1925—2017



Anne M. Storms was born Sept. 9, 1925 and passed away on February 22, 2017 at Beauregard Memorial Hospital in DeRidder. She had a graveside service at Hopewell Cemetery on Feb. 25th.

Anne had one daughter Sandra Kroph (Phillip) of Houston, TX and one son, Bill (Rebecca) of Bartlett, TN. She had 1 granddaughter, three grandsons, and 3 great grandchildren.

She was a member of the DeRidder and Lake Charles BPW clubs, served BPW Louisiana as State President from 1993-1994, and was awarded the Esther Terry Nike award in 1990—1991 for her state, district, and local work.

Anne started her education in 1944 at Texas State College, which was interrupted by marriage and travel with her husband Bill's army career. Anne went back to school to finish with an Associate of Arts Degree in History at Northwestern State University in 2012 at the age of 87! The Agnes Morris Education Scholarship for two years helped her to complete her schooling. Anne received a standing ovation when she crossed the stage to receive her degree.

Anne held a variety of jobs during her lifetime —as a telephone switchboard operator, as an intelligence decoder, as a bookkeeper, and as a real estate broker. She also served on the Toledo Bend Realtors Association, the American Cancer Society, and the Beauregard Historical Society. She will be remembered as a writer, a mentor, and a friend.

Young Careerist® Program



The 2017-2018 Young Careerist (YC)® program has been launched. The program provides training, leadership, and professional development skills for working women 21-35 years of age. Networking, Mentoring, Interviewing, Preparing Presentations and Public Speaking workshops are offered for personal and professional growth and leadership experiences. Each YC® participant is partnered with a mentor to assist her in doing her very best. This provides great visibility for the candidate and her employer.

All local organizations are asked to identify and select YC® candidates and mentors. The winner will be selected at the BPW LA State Conference June 8-10, 2018, based on panel judging in categories including a speech, personal interview or group interview/presentation, and a biographical sketch with essay questions. The 2018 Young Careerist's employer and mentor will receive recognition at the conference.

For more information, visit the BPW website Young Careerist® page at www.bpwloisiana.org. The YC page can be found at <http://lafbpw.wildapricot.org/page-880659>

For additional details contact the YC® Chair Laverne George @ (504) 324-4827.

BPW/LA Seeks NIKE Award Winner

The recipient of the prestigious Nike Award must possess qualities which the Nike winged victory of Samothrace symbolizes: Strength, progress, dedication to the BPW organization, a sincere desire to make a difference daily to ensure women's rights are upheld, and to serve her community. PSP Esther Terry's vision and appreciation for achievement and dedication inspired her conception of the idea of an annual Nike Award. It is with much interest and anticipation at the Mid Year Board Meeting for BPW Louisiana that the recipient is named.



BPW LA is looking for a NIKE winner from our membership. The nominee must be submitted by her LO or by a BPW member (if the nominee is a MAL or SAL). A list of the past NIKE winners can be viewed on the BPW LA webpage: lafbpw.wildapricot.org (listed under the Membership tab). All LO's are encouraged to submit a deserving member for the 2017-2018 Nike Award to be presented at Mid Year Board in January, 2018.

Four simple things to remember about the nominee:

1. She must be a BPW LA member in good standing (she can be a MOL, MAL, SOL, or SAL).
2. You should list all the positions she has held in local, district, and state levels of BPW LA. Tell the positions she has served and programs she has worked on at each level. She should have worked on district and state levels, as well as within her LO.
3. Tell about her participation and contribution for her church and community.
4. Include information about her character and her career.

The nomination should be in report form (no more than 5 typed pages). Do not include the nominee's name/LO's name in the report. Include a cover page that has the LO name/information and the nominee's name.

Additional criteria for the award can be found on our website at

http://lafbpw.wildapricot.org/Resources/Documents/Esther_Terry_NIKE_Award_Criteria.pdf

Nominations must be postmarked no later than January 3, 2018. Please mail your nominations to Linda Burns, 1424 Evangeline Road, Glenmora, LA 71433 or email to lindab2@centurytel.net.

PLEASE SEND YOUR UPDATED INFORMATION TO THE STATE TREASURER

If you have a change of mailing address, email address, or telephone number, please remember to communicate any changes with the State Treasurer, who is also the Membership Chair. Doing so will insure that you receive communication updates from BPW Louisiana as well as BPW Foundation! Thank you in advance for your cooperation!



Find BPW/LA on Facebook!



BPW Louisiana has a Facebook group! We are listed as the Louisiana Federation of Business and Professional Women. Facebook is free; you do need a facebook account to join our group, but it is safe and spam-free. Become a friend! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/121239507920867/>

Advertising Rates

WEBSITE RATES FOR NON-MEMBERS:

Business Card Size—1 year @ \$100
6 months @ \$60
anything larger contact the webmaster

PELICAN RATES:

NON-MEMBERS AND MEMBERS:

Full Page—\$100/issue
1/2 page \$50/issue
1/4 page \$25/issue
business card \$20/issue

Before the ad is placed on the website or the pelican, it must be paid for. Send check made out to BPW/LA and mark it for ad on website. Be sure to enclose a copy of the ad, and send the check and ad to BPW/LA, P.O. Box 15131, Monroe, LA 71207. As soon as the ad is paid for, it will be placed on website. If you have an electronic copy of the ad (.jpeg or .jpg or .gif file) email to webmaster@bpwlouisiana.org (for website) or peggy-wells1508@comcast.net (for Pelican). Pelican Ads must be paid for 10 days before pelican due date. The next Pelican due date is March 1, 2018.

AMESF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS NAMED

The BPW LA Executive Committee chose the 2017-2018 Agnes Morris Education Scholarship Fund scholarship recipients at the EC Meeting held before the start of the 2017 State Conference. AMESF chair Linda Burns announced the names of the recipients during the business session of the conference held on Saturday, June 10, 2017. The AMESF scholarship is a one-year scholarship and pays \$500.00 for the fall, 2017 semester and the spring, 2018 semester. Both scholarship recipients are from the Southeast District:



Mary Emily Leavell is a Student at Large. She has worked at the Children's Advocacy Center Hope House in Covington for 2+ years. She is currently working on her Ph. D in Counselor Education at the University of Holy Cross in New Orleans. Once she completes this 3-year program, she wants to continue her work with the youth at CAC Hope House through counseling and to teach others through the field of higher education.

Jennifer Lemoine is a Member of the St Bernard LO. She is the single mother of one daughter, works full time at the St. Bernard Parish Council office, and attends Nunez Community College as a full-time student. She is completing her degree in Business (with a minor in Accounting). Completing her degree, will enable her to improve her job skills and her salary.



Jennifer Lemoine

Louisiana Federation



**Mid-Year Conference
January 20, 2018
Drusilla Seafood Restaurant
3482 Drusilla Lane, Suite D
Baton Rouge, LA 70809**

Mid-Year Business Meeting is open to all BPW Louisiana members.

REGISTRATION FORM

<input type="checkbox"/> Member		<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member	
Name:			
Address:			
City, State & Zip:			
Email:		Contact Number:	
Local Organization:		LO Position	
Past State President: <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors: <input type="checkbox"/> BOD Office:			

HOTEL RESERVATIONS – Hampton Inn, 4646 Constitution Ave, Baton Rouge 70808
Rate is \$103.00 plus applicable taxes for single or double occupancy. Group Code is LFB, Call 225-926-9990 or online at www.hamptoninn.com. **Deadline is January 5, 2018.**

LUNCH MENU – Please select one of the following:

- ___ 1.) Grilled Chicken Pasta-grilled tenders served over pasta in a spicy cream sauce.
- ___ 2.) Seafood Eggplant Casserole-fresh eggplant, crab meat and shrimp baked in a casserole

	Early Registration postmarked before January 06, 2018	Late Registration postmarked after January 07, 2018	Number of Persons	Total
Members	\$60.00	\$70.00		
Student Members	\$55.00	\$65.00		
Non-members	\$70.00	\$80.00		

Online: register at www.lafbpw.wildapricot.org

Mail: Checks payable to BPW/LA
P.O. Box 15131 Monroe, LA 71207

SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 20, 2018

9:00am – 10:00am	Executive Committee Meeting	Hampton Inn 4646 Constitution Ave Baton Rouge, 70808
10:30am – 10:55am	Registration	Drusilla's 3482 Drusilla's Ln, Ste D Baton Rouge, 70809
11:00am – 12:15pm	Business Meeting	Drusilla's 3482 Drusilla's Ln, Ste D Baton Rouge, 70809
12:30pm – 1:15pm	Esther Terry NIKE Award Luncheon	Drusilla's 3482 Drusilla's Ln, Ste D Baton Rouge, 70809
1:30pm – 4:00pm	Business Meeting	Drusilla's 3482 Drusilla's Ln, Ste D Baton Rouge, 70809

Esther Terry NIKE Award Luncheon Guest Speaker

“Swimming with the Sharks”



FRANCES K. LEWIS

Director, Customer Care Technical Support
Center of Excellence Cox Communications,
Southeast Region

Frances K. Lewis



Frances Lewis is the director of Technical Support for the Southeast Region. In this role, she oversees all areas of technical support in service provided areas.

Prior to joining Customer Care, Frances served as the Manager of Cox Business Order Management team for Cox Communications, Louisiana, where she successfully oversaw the day-to-operations and provided internal and external customers with on time delivery of Cox Business services to achieve \$130 million goal.

Lewis joined Cox in 2004 as System Support Specialist in New Orleans. Frances later served in several roles for Cox including Supervisor for Cox's New Orleans Regional Operation Center. In 2008, she was promoted to Manager of Regional Operations Center supporting clients in Kansas/Arkansas, Omaha, Louisiana, Florida & Georgia. Frances later transitioned to Customer Care leading the Technical Support team.

Frances was a recipient of the Technology Operations Synergy Award in 2012. Frances was recently recognized by Cox Communications for the highest use across the enterprise in Amplifi recognition system.

Frances holds a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems and earned a Master's in Business Administration in 2010. She has served as a board member for Brave Heart Children in Need and an Ambassador for the Ascension Parish Chamber of Commerce.

A native of Woodville, Mississippi Frances and her husband Lionel, have one child: daughter Kyleigh (10). They currently reside in Prairieville, La.

In her free time, Frances enjoys working with her church family and providing mentoring to career professionals through Black Career Women's Network. Frances also enjoys reading and cooking.

MID-YEAR BOARD LUNCHEON
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Navigating the Waters of Membership and LO Meetings

Angie Jackson-Wilson, Membership Chair

It is easy to recruit new members when you invite them to meetings that are welcoming and enjoyable. Positive and engaging meetings encourage involvement, facilitate communication and give members something to look forward to.

Fellowship and Atmosphere:

One of the most important aspects of LO meetings is fellowship. Meeting and greeting participants, making them feel that they are an important part of the group and having a pleasant atmosphere are critical to any event.

Tips to having a successful meeting:

Whether the meeting is formal or informal, here are some ideas to keep your LO on track

Have an agenda and stick to it! Share it with participants prior to the meeting

Start and end on time

Meetings should be positive and allow everyone to participate

Transparency is always important. Minutes and Treasurer's Reports should be distributed and understood.

Encourage discussion, but also keeps group on task so time is effectively used

Meeting Flexibility:

You have a choice...Your LO has the freedom to structure LO meetings in a way that best meets your members' needs. While many LOs value the traditions that have been passed down from generation to generation, it is good to know that most traditions are optional and members can choose to change the elements, frequency, and structure of their meetings to make the meeting more inviting and/or use new forms of technology to keep members connected and manage LO business.

Consider new ways to keep connected either live via smartphone or another device. Send information on topics that will be covered during the meeting to allow non-attending members to provide feedback. Be sure to send meeting news immediately following the event so the members are aware of the actions taken.

Communications:

Use multiple communication methods to encourage attendance. This would include email, letters and phone calls. Communications should be upbeat and include a positive description of the program. Underscore the importance of their involvement in the LO's activities.

Include potential members on your invitation list. Keep them informed of developments and progress on any activities the LO undertakes.

Keep members who are unable to attend events involved by providing them with a detailed status report of each LO project and encourage future participation.



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SOUTHWEST CENTRAL DISTRICT

INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

THEIR FALL DISTRICT MEETING



SATURDAY, OCT. 28, 2017

10:30 A.M. – 1 P.M. Steamboat Bill's Restaurant

**3024 N. MacArthur Drive
Alexandria, LA 71303**

RSVP: indab2@centurytel.net/318-308-7625

lunch will be ordered from the menu

State Conference June 2017



President Kaaren Montgomery-Grimes presenting gift to Speaker Carolyn Sawyer, OFA/LA



Luncheon Speaker
State Representative Julie Skinner Stokes

President Kaaren Montgomery-Grimes presents Monroe -West Monroe President Angie-Jackson Wilson with the LO of the Year award



President Kaaren Montgomery-Grimes presents St. Bernard President Suzanne Sweeney with Membership Growth and Retention awards



State Conference June 2017



Friday night dinner at Tunks



Dr. Barbara Morehead , Psy D, speaking to conference attendees



Members of the Monroe-West Monroe delegation



General Conference Audience View



Installation of the 2017-2018 BPW/LA President, Gwen Amelin

Louisiana Federation



BPW/LA Pelican
P. O. Box 15131
Monroe, LA 71207

