

Business and Professional Women/LA

SPRING ISSUE 2010

Call to State Conference June 5-6, 2010

The Louisiana Federation of Business and Professional Women. Inc. is hosting our 91st State Conference on June 5-6 at The Radisson Hotel, 2445 S. Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

For those coming early, Friday night, June 4th, we will be attending a social event with Cajun food and music at Boutin's (www.boutins.com). There is no charge for this event, as each person will be responsible for his/her own check. Guests, spouses, and friends are welcome. We do need a headcount for this event.

Our main business sessions will be held on Saturday, June 5. Former UN Ambassador and Head of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, Patricia Brister will speak at the Opening Session on Global Women's Rights. Former Louisiana State Representative Diane Winston (R) of Covington will speak at the luncheon on her recent experiences as a State Department Representative monitoring the recent Iraqi parliamentary elections. Biogaphies of these fine speakers have been attached.

The installation banquet on Saturday evening promises to be a "BPW Look Back in Time" with a slideshow of pictures from our Louisiana Federation past that have been contributed by our members. You have 2 choices for the banquet entree, and a cash bar will be available.

Sunday morning is a brief devotional, breakfast, Past-State President 'Roast', and incoming board meeting.

The Radisson is offering special discounted room rates through May 4th. Rooms are \$79.00 plus tax for a double room. Please contact the hotel directly to make these reservations. Their number is (225) 236-4000. To receive the special rates, please be sure to tell them you are with the Louisiana Business and Professional Women.

For agenda, speaker biographies, registration and conference information, go to www.bpwlouisiana.org/files/index. php?id=29. Registration may be done online using Visa or Mastercard via PayPal, or you may register by filling out a registration form (attached) and mailing it with a check to the designated address on the form. Early registration discounts end on May 2nd.

Opening Session Keynote Speaker Patricia P. Brister

Pat and her husband Joe have lived in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana for 31 years. They owned and operated a successful company for over 35 years until recently retiring and selling that business to their employees. Pat was an integral part of this business for 26 years, serving as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

Pat was appointed by Governor Foster to serve on the Louisiana State Museum Board where she served as Vice Chairman of the Finance Committee, and the St. Tammany Parish Environmental Services Commission. She has served on the Board of the St. Tammany Children's Advocacy Center, the Commission on Families, and the Mayor's Military Advisory Committee. She has been involved with the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation, where she received their Meritorious Service Award. She has also served on the Board of the St. Tammany West Leadership Foundation. Her dedication to the public and her President commitment to improve the community led her to be elected as Councilwoman here in St. Tammany, where she has served as Chairman. She was unopposed in her bid for a second council term. Pat served as Chairman of the Women's Build Habitat for Humanity, and also served on the Board of the Volunteers of America-Great New Orleans. She was named Woman of the Year in 2004 by the St. Tammany Business and Professional Women's Organization and Alumnus os the Year in 2007 by the St. Tammany Leadership Foundation.

In February, 2001 she received an appointment to the nineteen member Board of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas. In January 2004 she was elected as Vice Chairman of the Board. The Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas is a \$60 Billion dollar business involved primarily in funding home loans through local banks.

George W. Bush appointed Pat as one of three dele-



gates representing him at the United Nationals Commission on the Status of Women in 2005. In 2006, President Bush appointed Pat as Head of Delegation to that UN Commission. This appointment holds the rank of United States Ambassador and she has been confirmed for the position by the U.S. Senate.

In 2009, Governor Bobby Jindal appointed Pat as Commissioner to the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission where she serves as Secretary.

She currently serves as Executive Director of the Northshore Business Council.

Luncheon Keynote Speaker Representative Diane Winston (R)

Diane Grisham Winston is a businesswoman from Covington, Louisiana, who served as a Republican member of the Louisiana House of Representatives from 1996 until 2008. Her District 77 included parts of St. Tammany and Tangipahoa parishes in suburban New Orleans. In the House, Winston served on the Appropriations; Education; Retirement; and Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs committees. She also was a member of the Budget Subcommittee on Civil Service, Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, and the Select Committee on Fiscal Affairs.

Prior to her legislative service, Winston was the executive director of the St. Tammany West Chamber of Commerce from 1988-1996. She also operated her own retail business in Covington. She has been active



in the Children's Advocacy Center, the Louisiana Breast Cancer Task Force, Habitat for Humanity, and the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation. She is married to Robert Bryant "Bob" Winston.

In March 2010, Diane Winston led a delegation of current and former female state legislators to Iraq to help monitor the March 7 parliamentary elections. Winston, 61, is to be part of a team from the National Foundation for Women Legislators that has been invited by the U.S. State Department to travel to Baghdad. Winston served in the state Legislature from 196 to 2008 and was chairwoman of the Women's Legislative Caucus for three of those years. Her experiences in Iraq will be the focus of her presentation.

Vice President's Report 2009 - 2010 Legislation and Issues Management Areas

Legislation:

In August, 2009, the BPW Louisiana Legislative Platform was revised to include 3 prominent areas of focus: ERA, Pay Equity, and Prevention of Violence Against Women. The proposed platform was presented for member review at both the SE and SWC Fall 2009 District Meetings.

In September, the BPW/LA Board of Directors voted in support of BPW Louisiana joining the United-For-Equality coalition, which is working for ERA passage via the ERA 3-State Strategy, whereby the ERA ratification time limit is abolished nad only 3 more states are required for ERA ratification in order for the ERA to become part of the U.S. Constitution; 35 states had previously ratified.

During August, September, October, and November, efforts were focused (in conjunction with United-For-Equality partners) in trying to obtain a U.S. House of Representatives lead sponsor for the ERA 3-State Strategy Resolution. Numerous US Representatives were contacted, and BPW organizations in GA, FL, MI, WI, and TN were contacted to lobby their representatives on the House Judiciary Committee. In late October 2009, US Representative (NJ) Robert Andrews combined the Time Limit Elimination Resolution with the 3-State Strategy and is the lead sponsor for the combined bill. In November, we had a cosponsor sign on with the combined bill -Rep. Tammy Baldwin (WI). We are still looking for additional co-sponsors for the

combined bill. We will also focus our efforts on obtaining a US Senate Sponsor for the Senate equivalent of this bill, and will start with members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. We will again ask our BPW sisters to contact their U.S. Senators, and Louisiana BPW members will be asked to do the same.

At both the SE and SWC Fall 2009 District Meetings, a letter to Louisiana Senator Mary Landrieu and attached petition in support of Pay Equity Bill S-182 was circulated for member signatures. The letter and accompanying petition was mailed October 4, 2009.

In November 2009, BPW members were asked to participate in a letter-writing campaign to their U.S. Congressional Representatives in support of the Military Domestic and Sexual Violence Response Act (HR840) - that BPW Louisiana supports as part of our legislative platform. HR840 is supported by BPW Foundation as well. The purpose of the bill is to reduce sexual assault and domestic violence involving members of the Armed Forces and their family members and partners through enhanced programs of prevention and deterrence, enhanced programs of victims services, and strengthened provisions for prosecution of assailants, and for other purposes. Sample phone messages and email/letter messages were provided to members, as well as information on how to contact specific U.S. Congressional Representatives.

In December, 2009, two PSA videos that were made previously for the ERA Louisiana efforts were uploaded to YouTube for use by the United-For-Equality Coalition.

The BPW Louisiana website Legislation page now has a) links to the BPW/LA Legislative Platform, b) links to the BPW/LA Legislative Strategy, c) links to Louisiana Senators and Congressional Representatives, d) links to the Louisiana State Senate, and e) links to the Louisiana House of Representatives. http://www. bpwlouisiana.org/files/index.php?id=16

In February 2010, BPW members and former members were asked to contact Senators Landrieu and Vitter in support of S-182 – the Senate version of the Pay Equity bill. Sample phone messages and email/letter messages were provided.

In April, in conjunction with Equal Pay Day, members and former members will be asked to again contact Senators Landrieu and Vitter in support of S-182 – the Senate version of the Pay Equity bill.

Issues Management:

No additional issues were assigned by the President other than the Legislative focus mentioned previously in this report.

Submitted by Peggy Wells Vice President, Legislation/Issues Management Chair

Webmaster's Report 2009-2010

BPW LOUISIANA WEBSITE:

 BPW Louisiana has a Facebook™ page.

• A special page for Members-at-Large (MAL & SAL) was added to try to provide professional development topics that might be covered in LO meetings.

• A 'Members Only' username/ password-protected page was created for uploading membership reports for access by LO presidents.

BPW LO WEBSITES:

•Monroe-West Monroe website is up and running and current. Using BPWONLINE website service. Monroe-West Monroe also has a FacebookTM group.

• BPW New Orleans has cancelled its website as of 4-14-10 in favor of using a FacebookTM group. Whenever they have this set up, we will provide a link to it on our state website.

• BPW Fleur de Lis website was cancelled after receiving the notification

of their disbandment in February. They have replaced their website with a Facebook[™] group called Professional Women's Network of Baton Rouge. http:// www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/group. php?gid=128191107815&ref=ts

The following do not have websites but do have a page on the state website with listed contact information:

Alexandria Donaldsonville Jefferson Parish Lake Charles Oakdale St. Bernard

It's important to have an internet presence so that new members find you. "Googling" is a verb. We aren't listed in the phone book. Some of us have PO boxes but prospective members don't have this information. Publicity in local news media is time and date specific; the prospective member has to be watching/listening/ reading. Having a website means that new members can find you at their convenience. Having a website or Facebook™ group appeals to younger, more technologysavvy members; we must attract this target group in order to grow.

> Submitted by Peggy Wells, Webmaster

Vendor and Sponsor Opportunities

There are a limited number of vendor tables available for 2010 State Conference in Baton Rouge. These will be assigned on a first-come-first-serve basis upon payment of the vendor fee of \$75. Vendor tables will be open on Saturday only since we are not having an official meeting on Friday.

The vendor form and the sponsor form are attached. As always, you may either pay by check or pay online using a Visa or Mastercard (via PayPal).

We are extending the opportunities to be a state conference sponsor and/ or have a vendor table to our current members and former members first.

Deadlines for vendors and sponsors is May 18th. Payment and registration forms must be received by then.

Monroe-West Monroe Business and Professional Women commend the following members for their service during 2009-2010:

Peggy Wells ~ Vice President and Webmaster Angela Jackson-Wilson ~ Treasurer Judy Wilson ~ PR Chair Rhonda Counselman ~ Pelican Editor



M. M. (PEGGY) WELLS FOR PRESIDENT 2010-2011





ANGELA JACKSON-WILSON FOR TREASURER 2010-2011

Nominations for State Office



Peggy Wells for State President

Peggy received her BSChE from the University of Arkansas and her MBA from the University of Houston Clear Lake. After working for BASF in Freeport for a brief time, she went to work for the Dow Chemical Company, where she has worked in operations management, engineering, technology center, Six Sigma, and project management for 30 years. In 2002, she received Project Management Professional® certification from the Project Management Institute®. In 2006, she moved to Sterlington, LA, as a project manager for ANGUS Chemical Company, a fully-owned subsidiary of the Dow Chemical Company. In this role she manages environmental, infrastructure, and new technology implementation projects ranging from \$2MM - \$30MM. She coaches and trains project managers across the company.

Peggy is currently the President of Monroe-West Monroe Business and Professional Women (LO) and the Vice President and Webmaster for the Louisiana Federation of Business and Professional Women. She also serves on her church's Administrative Board. In her 'free' time she enjoys her dog, reading, travel, wine, and cooking.



Linda Burns for State Secretary and Agnes Morris Education Scholarship Chair

Linda has been a teacher for Allen Parish School Board for 27 years, Rapides Parish School Board for 7 years, Our Lady of Prompt Succor for 1 year and the past 3 years with Rapides Parish School Board. She has served and would like to continue to serve as the AMESF Chair. Linda also served as Secretary on the state level for 3 terms in the past and most recently served as Secretary for 2009-2010.

Other offices and chairmanships held on the local level are: President, 1st and 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, and has chaired on all committees on the local level. On the state board, Linda has served as President, President Elect, 1st Vice President, Secretary, and as chair for District Director, Legislation, and Education

Committees. Linda feels competent that she can fulfill the duties of these two positions.

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NAME OF CANDIDATE:		
AUDRESS	NAME OF CANDIDATE:Mary M (Peggy) Wells	
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Qualifications of Candidate: Allen Parish School Board Teacher-27 years Pegy has served as Vice President and President of the Monroe-West Monroe Local Organization, and as Secretary and Vice President of the State Federation. She received her BSChE from the University of Arkansas and her MBA Vice President of the State Federation. She received her BSChE from the University of Arkansas and her MBA Simplementation projects ranging from S2MM. Qualifications of Candidate Manaages environmental, infrastructure, and new technology implementation projects ranging from S2MM. Her organizational, planning, and risk manaagement skills will serve her well in this position. She also serves on her church's Administrative Board. In her 'free' time she enjoys her dog, reading, travel, wine, and cooking. Qualifications of Candidate Include, NAME, LOCAL ORGANIZATION ENDORSEMENT and the OFFICE for which endorsed. This space to be filled in and signed by the Candidate WRITTEN CONSENT Will serve to the best of my ability. If elected (X) or appointed () to the position of _State President_, I will serve to the best of my ability. WRITTEN CONSENT Will serve to the best of my ability. IP W Louisignar. Nomination Form Page 2 of 2 Weither State Play and the orfice of this organization President. Linda D. Burns Linda D. Burns Date: 3//10 Signature: Linda D. Burns Linda D. Burns Linda D. Burns has been a member of Oakdale BPW/LA BPW for <u>38</u> years. Date: 3//10 Organization: Monroe-West Monroe Date: 3//10 Organiza	Employer: ANGUS Chemical Company 2005-present Occupation: Project Manager	
Qualifications of Candidate: Pegy has served as Vice President of the Monroe-West Monroe Local Organization, and as Secretary and Vice President of the State Federation. She received her BSChE from the University of Arkansas and her MBA. from the University of Houston Clear Lake. As a project manager for ANGUS Chemical Company, she manage environmental, infrastructure, and new technology implementation projects ranging from S2MM - S30MM. She coaches and trains project managers across the company. Her organizational, planning, and risk management skills will serve her well in this position. She also serves on her church's Administrative Board. In her 'free' time she enjoys her dog, reading, travel, wine, and cooking. Qualifications of Candidate Include, NAME, LOCAL ORGANIZATION ENDORSEMENT and the OFFICE for which endorsed. This space to be filled in and signed by the Candidate WRITTEN CONSENT If elected (X) or appointed () to the position of _State President_, I will serve to the best of my ability. WRITTEN CONSENT IF BPWC BYLAWS ARTICE XIII SECTION 4: 'Only candidates who officially and publicly support the National Legislative Platform shall be eligible for election to office.'' Date: <u>3/1/10</u> Organization: Oakdale This space to be filled out by Local Organization for _4 years. Date: <u>3/1/10</u> Organization: Oakdale BPW/LA BPW for <u>38</u> years. Date: <u>3/1/10</u> Organization: Oakdale		
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President's Signature: Linda D. Burns Vice President's Signature: Malinda Morein	Date: <u>2/9/10</u> Organization: Monroe-West Monroe	Date: <u>3/1/10</u> Organization: <u>Oakdale</u>
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	/	

BPW Louisiana Special Board of Directors Meeting Saturday, May 15, 2010

Baton Rouge Radisson Hotel 2445 South Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge LA 70808

Special Board Conference is open to all BPW Louisiana Members. Only Board Members will be allowed to vote. BPW Membership must be current as confirmed by the State Treasurer. You are encouraged to bring friends and guest. Board Members are: LO Presidents, Past State Presidents, BPW LA Officers, all State Committee Chairs, and all State Special Appointees. There is no cost for registration or bagged lunch

Schedule: Saturday May 15, 2010

- 9:00 9:30 AM Registration
- 9:30 11:30 Morning Business Session
- 11:30 1:30 Working Luncheon (no cost)
- 1:30 End of Board Meeting (approximately)

Draft Agenda

- The New BPW Foundation agreement that supersedes the one signed by our Federation last year.
- Bylaws changes to reflect the new dues structure for the state
- Bylaws changes to the structure of the leadership at the District Level and possibly state level in reduction of positions.
- Bylaws changes to the Treasurer to reduce the workload and place it back at the local level in dues collection for each member with reports being reinstated from locals to the Membership Chair. Locals will now be required to collect state funds and pay it to the state no less than quarterly.
- Policy and Procedure to streamline the course and structure of meetings to reduce the time required.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name	Addı	ress
City/Zip Code		
email		
		ard Position
If not a member of the Board	are you attending as a	BPW Member or Guest
Mail your completed form to:	BPW Louisiana c/o Cory Kowalski 1012 St Julien Dr, #F5 Kenner, LA 70065	Or go on line to: <u>http://www.bpwlouisiana.org/files/index.php?id=47</u>
deadline is May 5, 2010. Reg	gistration will continu	anning purposes and luncheon count; registration e to be taken up to the morning of the Special Board ch cannot be guaranteed.

BPW/LA State Conference June 4-6, 2010 Radisson Hotel, 2445 South Acadian Thruway Baton Rouge LA 70808

State Conference is open to all BPW/LA members, friends, and guests. Board members include LO Presidents, Past State Presidents, BPW/LA officers, state committee chairs, state special appointees, and LO presidents.

Hotel reservations must be made direct with The Radisson Hotel of Baton Rouge @ 225-236-4000. Discounted room rates: Double \$79.00+tax are valid through May 4th. Tell the hotel you are with the Louisiana Business and Professional Women.

	Conference Schedule.	
Friday	Registration for State Conference	5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
	Social night @ Boutin's Restaurant, 8322 Bluebonnet Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70810 225-819-9862	6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
	Cajun food and music! Each person responsible for his/her own check.	
Saturday	Breakfast – on your own	
	Registration for State Conference	8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
	Opening Session - Keynote Speaker: United Nations Ambassador for Women's Rights Patricia Brister	9:00 – 9:45 a.m.
	Morning Business Session	10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
	*Luncheon – Keynote Speaker: State Representative Diane Winston – Iraqi Women's Rights and Iraqi Elections	11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
	Afternoon Business Session	1:45 – 4:00 –p.m.
	Officer Training Session	4:15 – 4:45 p.m.
	*2010-2011 Officer Installation Banquet Officers' Reception	7:00 – 9:00 p.m. 9:00 – 10:00 p.m.
Sunday	2010-2011 EC Committee meeting in Incoming President's Suite	7:00 – 8:00 a.m.
	Devotional	8:15 – 8:30 a.m.
	*Breakfast	8:30 – 9:00 a.m.
	Induction Ceremony by PSP Council Post Convention Business Session	9:10 – 9:30 a.m.
	FOST COnvention Dusiness Session	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Conference Schedule:

*Ticketed events

BPW Louisiana 2010 State Conference June 4, 5 & 6, 2010

Radisson Hotel 2445 Acadian Thruway Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Hosted by the Southeast District – Wand
REC
Name

Reservations: 225-236-4000 or 1-800-395-7046 Room Rate: \$79.00 plus taxes Hotel Reservation Deadline: May 4, 2010

Hosted by the Southeast District – Wanda Ishmael, State Conference Chair

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

City/Zip Co	ode	Phone		-
Please check	all boxes that apply to yo	u:		
BPW State Pres BPW State Office	ident BPV cer BPV	W LO President W Committee Chair	BPW Past State President Other affiliation / Guest	
Pre-registrat	tion Fee \$ 60.00 L	.ate/On-site Registratio	n Fee : \$75.00	\$
Friday Night: Local Restaurant – Boutins (www.boutins.com) for socializing, food and Cajun music. No fee collected, pay as you go. Please check yes and number in party if attending or no. Yes # or No				
Saturday Luncheon w/Keynote Speaker \$22.00 Garden Cobb Salad, includes bread, desert, coffee and Ice Tea \$				
Choice of entre	stallation Dinner: ée: Rib Eye Steak \$ 36.00 o vegetable, bread, coffee, herb			\$
Plated breakfa	Lkfast (after the devotional) st with scrambled eggs with cl ads, jellies, seasonal fruit and	heese, bacon or sausage, co	ountry potatoes & grits.	\$
Make checks	payable to BPW Louisiana	Check Number _	Total Remittance	ce: \$
Mail to:	BPW Louisiana c/o Cory Kowalski 1012 St Julien Dr, #F5 Kenner, LA 70065		o://www.bpwlouisiana.org/files/ino	
	RATION MUST BE POSTMARK	(ED BY MAY 2, 2010. PAYI	MENT TO HOTEL FOR MEALS MU BE ACCEPTED WITH MEALS UP T	ST BE PAID

SATURDAY JUNE 5, 2010. FIRST BUSINESS SESSION SATURDAY JUNE 5, 2010 WILL BEGIN AT 9:00 a.m.



LA/BPW STATE CONFERENCE 2010 SPONSOR REGISTRATION FORM

Sponsorship Levels Available:

Blue Sponsors - \$250.00 – for this sponsorship fee you will receive 1-year's free advertising on the BPW Louisiana state website and your name in the conference program

Silver Sponsors - \$100.00 – for this sponsorship fee you will receive 6 months free advertising on the BPW Louisiana state website and your name in the conference program

Company Name	
Company Address	
City/Zip	Sponsorship Level Requested
Contact Name to confirm informa	ation
Phone	Email
	sor you will be asked to fill out the registration form and send the information, formation for your website and program advertisement.
•	Conference Registration Chair, to reserve your sponsorship today. is Monday, May 17, to allow for printing time.
• • •	ard or VISA at http://www.bpwlouisiana.org/files/index.php?id=29 d send it, along with your check (payable to BPW Louisiana), to:
BPW Louisiana	
c/o Cory Kowalski	
1012 St Julien Dr, #F5	

Kenner, LA 70065 Corkow@aol.com



BPW/LA STATE CONFERENCE 2010 VENDOR REGISTRATION FORM

The conference is being held June 5-6, 2010 at The Radisson Hotel, 2445 S. Acadian Thruway, in Baton Rouge, LA. There are a limited number of vendor spots available, and spots will be granted on a first-come-first-served basis upon payment of the vendor fee.

The cost for having a vendor display at the BPW/LA 2010 State Conference is \$75. A 5' x 10' display area will be available for each vendor. Vendors are expected to provide their own extension cords and items to set up their displays. Credit card capability is highly desirable.

Vendor booths will be open to conference attendees on June 6, Saturday from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Company Name		
Company Adress		
City/Zip		
Contact Name to confirm information		
Phone	Email	

You may pay online via Mastercard or VISA at http://www.bpwlouisiana.org/files/index.hp?id=29 or mail this registration form and send it, along with your check (payable to BPW Louisiana), to:

BPW Louisiana c/o Cory Kowalski 1012 St Julien Dr, #F5 Kenner, LA 70065 Corkow@aol.com



BPW/LA *Pelican* Rhonda Counselman, *Editor* 403 Hudson Lane Monroe, LA 71201

Help Your Business Grow ADVERTISE!

An easy way to expand your business is to advertise on the BPW/LA website. Place your business card on the web for a very reasonable rate and help yourself and our federation. Tell your business friends this is the best price in town for their ads.

Rates for Non-BPW Members - \$55.00 for 6 months or \$100.00 for a year (Payable in full)
Rates for BPW Members - \$50.00 for 6 months or \$90.00 for one year (Payable in full)

Send business card and check made to BPW/LA and Web advertising on memo to: Peggy Wells, Webmaster 1508 Frenchman's Bend, Monroe, LA 71203.

Check out our updated website www.bpwlouisiana.org <http://www.bpwlouisiana.org> for the latest information on what is happening in BPW/LA.

> For further information, call Peggy Wells, Webmaster at 318-651-8934 or e-mail pwells@dow.com

LA/BPW Slate of Officers 2010-2011

President	Peggy Wells
Vice President	??
Secretary	Linda Burns
Treasurer	Angela Jackson-Wilson
Parlementarian	Frances Jakes