



PELICAN

SPRING 2023

A Message from the State President

Hello BPW Members,

Spring is upon us and that only means that our annual state conference is right around the corner. That's right, The Southwest Central District will host The Louisiana Federation of Business & Professional Women 103rd Annual State Conference beginning June 9 & 10 2023.

I look forward to seeing everyone. Gather your local club members as we kick off our Mardi Gras themed awards night. So, don't forget to pack your favorite purple green and gold outfits for this festive evening. After our awards celebration we will be going out to dinner as a group to break bread and enjoy each other's company.

On Saturday morning we will hold our annual business meeting. Shortly after our meeting we will have the installation of 2023-2024 State Officers and special appointments.

Membership within our organization is growing at a slow pace but I'm optimistic that if we continue "Charting the Course" we will thrive. We need to go out in our community and talk to people we meet at social gatherings and share the mission of our organization what we do within the communities in which we live.

I encourage all of our members to get more involved on both the local and state level and support your local and state board members.

To our newer members I ask you to step out of your comfort zone. Sign up to participate in several committees. It may just be your ideas that bring new life to your local organization.

I can't wait to see you all very soon! Calling Baton Rouge!



With my Warmest Regards,

Lisamarie Kraemer-Brandon

LOUISIANA FEDERATION OF BUSINESS AND
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN, STATE PRESIDENT

BPW Executive Committee

Lisamarie K. Brandon, President

504-452-8600

lisamarieBrandon39@gmail.com

St. Bernard Parish

Rene Hollins, Vice President

504-810-3639

Rhollins05@att.net

New Orleans

Linda Burns, Secretary

318-308-7625

lindab2@centurytel.net

Oakdale

Angie Jackson-Wilson, Treasurer

318-348-1681

angiejwilson@gmail.com

Monroe West Monroe

Gwen Amelin,

Immediate Past President

318-732-3641

A1962gwen@yahoo.com

Monroe West Monroe

Frances Jakes, Parliamentarian

318-237-2894

fbjakes1935@icloud.com

Monroe West Monroe

LOUISIANA FEDERATION OF
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

103RD ANNUAL STATE CONFERENCE

JUNE 9–10, 2023

On behalf of your 2022-2023 leadership team of the Louisiana Federation of Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., the State President officially issues the call to the 103rd Annual State Conference beginning at 5:00 p.m. Friday, June 09, 2023, at the Courtyard Baton Rouge, Acadian Center/LSU Area, 2421 S Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge, LA 70808.

Pursuant to Article XVIII of the Federation Bylaws, any member in good standing who has paid the full registration fee may attend the annual state conference and vote (Section 2).

The purpose of the State Conference is to receive reports of the officers and chairs for the preceding year; act upon recommendations, resolutions and other business presented to the conference; elect officers for the ensuing term and adopt a budget.

Agenda items must be submitted no later than 01 May 2023. Additionally, all Standing Committee Chairs must submit a written report by e-mail to me, no later than May 25th, so that it can be included in the Board Book.

You are encouraged to attend to learn more about our State Federation, renew acquaintances, make new friends, recognize any Agnes Morris Scholarship recipients who may be in attendance.

Your participation in the Federation business is strongly encouraged. Your input on our way forward is invaluable.

We are reclaiming Friday night as the Awards Night with a Mardi Gras party.

The Executive Committee will conduct the Pre-Conference Board meeting on Saturday, June 10 starting at 9: 00am., after which we will go into full conference activity.

Please join me and the Board of Directors in making our annual conference a memorable one.

[ONLINE: TO REGISTER CLICK HERE.](#)

Hotel Accommodations must be made directly with the Courtyard Baton Rouge, Acadian Center/ LSU Area, 2421 S Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge, LA 70808. Book directly with Marriott Reservations at 1(800) 321-2211 or (225) 924-6400 on or before Friday, May 12, 2023, (the "Cutoff Date") to make their sleeping room reservations. Please identify yourself as part of the Louisiana Federation of Business & Professional Women. The sooner you make your reservations, the easier it is for them to place us close to each other.

[Click Here to book your group rate for Louisiana Federation of Business & Professional Women](#)

BPW will not receive credit for rooms booked through other online booking websites. The Conference Schedule at A Glance provides specific details on all convention activities. We look forward to seeing all of you at our Annual State Conference!

Conference Registration Form

103RD Annual State Conference
June 09-10, 2023



"CHARTING THE COURSE"



Courtyard Baton Rouge
Acadian Center/LSU Area
2421 S Acadian
Thruway Baton, Rouge, LA 70808

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email: _____ Contact Number: _____

Local Organization: _____

- ☐ Past President
- ☐ LO President
- ☐ LO Member
- ☐ Member-at-Large
- ☐ Speaker/Presenter

- ☐ State Officer
- ☐ Committee Chair
- ☐ Special Appointment
- ☐ Non-Member

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MAY 25, 2023

| | Member (MOL, MAL) | Member-Student (SOL, SAL) | Guest Registration | Speaker/Panelists |
|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Early | \$125.00 | \$120.00 | \$75.00 | \$0.00 |
| Late after May 25th | \$140.00 | \$135.00 | \$90.00 | |
| TOTAL | | | | |

Online registration at www.lafbpw.wildapricot.org

By mail:

Make checks payable to BPW/LA State Conference and mail along with completed form to:
P.O. Box 15131, Monroe, LA 71207.

Must be received by May 25, 2023. *NOTE*****

Special Dietary Requirements; - Please inform Angie Jackson-Wilson (treasurer@bpwlouisiana.org) before the registration deadline.

Charting the Course

STATE CONFERENCE AT A
GLANCE



FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2023

5:30 PM - Executive Committee Meeting

6:45 PM - "Mardi Gras/Krewe Night" – Dinner and Fun

Wear your favorite **purple**, **green**, and **gold** attire for the festivities.

Dinner at a local restaurant

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023

8:00 AM - Past State President's Breakfast

8:30AM - Registration

9:00 AM - Pre-Conference Board Meeting (Board Members Only) 9:15 AM –

11:45AM - Opening Ceremony of the 103RD Annual Conference Business

Session:

Nomination of 2023-2024 Officers

Election of Officers

Memorial Reflections

12:00PM - Installation of 2023-2024 Officers Luncheon

Past State President's Induction Ceremony

Post Conference Board Meeting Adjourn



Mardi Gras

KREWE NIGHT

Friday, June 09, 2023

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Courtyard by Marriott-LSU
Baton Rouge, LA



SPEAKER QUEENA GRANT

Queena Grant is a Shreveport native and has 21 years of Higher Education Enrollment Management/ Marketing experience. She currently resides in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she is

Director of Communications and Outreach for the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

Queena has managed several successful admissions teams at postsecondary institutions across Texas, California, Pennsylvania, and Nevada. She has brought great energy and commitment to establishing innovative strategies and successful programs for engaging prospective, new, and continuing students in the college experience. She has successfully connected and partnered with local school districts, community members, correctional units, faculty, and staff to recruit new students and increase institutional awareness and engagement within their respective communities. She holds bachelor's degree from the University of Louisiana at Monroe in Pre-Law, a master's degree in Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix. Currently, she's a doctoral candidate in Higher Education Leadership at Nova Southeastern University.

Queena's commitment to serving the community is longstanding. She has been a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. for 25 years. She is also a member of the Association of Career and Technical Education and the Louisiana Association of Collegiate Registrar's and Admissions Officers.

In her spare time, Queena enjoys swing and line dancing. She also loves music and curling up with a good book. Lastly, but most important, she is the mother of an adorable seven-year-old son Kingston.



Southwest Central District
*thanks the following members of the
2022-2023 Board of Directors for their service.*

Alexandria LO
Delia Flynn-Bylaws Chair

Lake Charles LO
Pat-Moses Howard – LO President and Co-District Director

Member-at Large
Camille Moran- ERA and Pay Equity Chair

Monroe West Monroe LO
Gwendolyn Amelin – Immediate Past State President

Pamela Byrd-Chisley – State Chaplain

Sheila Clark-Mims, Nominations Chair

Angie Jackson-Wilson – State Treasurer, Membership Chair,
Event Planner & LO President

Frances Jakes – State Parliamentarian

Brenda Sheppard-Nelson-Pelican Editor

Oakdale LO
Linda Burns – State Secretary, AMESF Chair, Esther Terry NIKE Chair,
Co-District Director and LO President



Monroe West Monroe

appreciates

*the service of the following members during
the 2022-2023 Federation year and thank them for their selfless
contributions.*

Gwendolyn Amelin – Immediate Past State President

Pamela Byrd-Chisley – State Chaplain

Sheila Clark-Mims, Nominations Chair

Angie Jackson-Wilson – State Treasurer & Membership Chair

Frances Jakes – State Parliamentarian

Brenda Sheppard-Nelson-Pelican Editor

and proudly supports



*Doretha Bennett
for State Vice President*



*Angie Jackson-Wilson
for State Treasurer*

*Southeast District extends,
to the incoming members of the
Board of Directors
Best Wishes
for a successful 2023-2024 year*

New Orleans - St. Bernard - Jefferson

*Southwest Central District offers
Best Wishes
for a successful 2023-2024 year
to the incoming members of the
Board of Directors
Locals of the Southwest Central District*

Alexandria - Lake Charles - Monroe West-Monroe - Oakdale

Everyone has a story. Everyone faces their own set of challenges. Everyone has battle scars from life. Ours may not all look the same, but they all exist.

I grew up in a typical African American single-parent family. I lived with my great-grandmother and greataunt for much of my life. My mother struggled to make ends meet as a single mother of four children and worked hard and often long hours. My mom was a teen mom, as were all five of her sisters, as was her mom. My dad was a teen dad and found trouble as his refuge from dealing with his parent's divorce. As a result, he spent much of his life in prison and survived a year outside before being killed. Both his parents died when I was in elementary school; my grandmother of cancer, and my grandfather was shot and killed because he was mistaken for someone else at his job.

See? Everyone has a story.

The years I spent under my great-grandmother's and aunt's tutelage were marked by the strict instruction to finish school and attend college. No one had done so within my immediate circle up to that point. Warnings to "stay away from those turkeys because all they do is gobble gobble," were bountiful, too. I was instructed to travel, do everything I wanted, and THEN get married. I didn't adhere to that, and my grandmother was more disappointed when the news came of my first pregnancy. I married at 20 and had only one semester of part-time college under my belt. I sat out a year to work and earn money to buy a car. So, I worked full-time and went to school part-time. Once I was pregnant, she thought I'd never finish school, and I suppose she also felt her investment in me would go to waste.

I married an outstanding, family-oriented guy who loved God more than anything, and we had three babies back-to-back. With Lawrence's encouragement and support, I finished my undergraduate degree in 2001 from ULM. Twenty years later, in 2021, I embarked on the journey to earn my master's degree. Lawrence and I talked

through the years about having a consulting agency specializing in people's development. We realized that goal last September. A master's in Communications would lend credibility to my resume as I pursue clients. Working more than a full-time job and going to school has been more than a notion, and I wanted to be done as quickly as possible. I didn't want to go into significant debt doing this venture, so I sought scholarships. There are not very many out there for graduate-level students.

However, the BPW offered me the opportunity to apply. I did just that and was selected as one of their recipients. That scholarship allowed me to shave off a whole semester! Instead of finishing in two years, I was able to finish in a year and a half. Currently, I have a 4.0 GPA. I hope to hold on to it through my last two classes, but one of those classes may get the better of my "A" capability!

ALL of this to say, I refused to remain a victim in my story. I am thankful for the people God put in my life and path. Business and Professional Women have been added to that very special list. Thank you for your mission and for choosing to invest in me. You impacted not only me, but every life I touch from here on out.



Darian Atkins
Monroe West Monroe
Corporate Member

Agnes Morris Education Scholarship Fund



Are you entering a higher education institution to finish your degree or to further your career? Are you a member of BPW LA? If so, Agnes Morris Education Scholarship Fund can give you a scholarship to help with your school expenses. The scholarship is set up for \$500.00 per semester for one year.

All you need to do is go to the BPW LA website (www.lafbpw.wildapricot.org), download the rules and the scholarship form. You **must** be a BPW LA member (member or student member of a local, student member at large, or a

member at large). Fill out the form, send in three references with your form, and have your LO President-Treasurer sign the form. (If you are a member/student at large the BPW LA Treasurer will validate your membership.) Then you mail the information to me (mail to 1424 Evangeline Road Glenmora, LA 71433 or email to lindab2@centurytel.net).

I need your application by May 1st so that I will have time to make copies, check the information, fill out the review form, etc. The applications are reviewed at the EC Meeting that is held before State Conference convenes and we announce the scholarship recipient on Saturday during the business session at State Conference in June.

Linda D. Burns. AMESF Chair

Legislative Updates

Unfortunately, as we knew would most likely happen, our ERA Senate Resolution, SJR 4, failed to make cloture on the U. S. Senate floor yesterday 04/27/23. The Senate, unlike the House, requires a procedural vote before the actual vote on the bill or resolution. This procedural vote must have a supermajority of 60 in order to pass; not just a simple majority. This procedural vote (cloture) allows a vote on the bill/resolution, if passed by a supermajority. The cloture vote on the ERA only garnered 51 votes (47 opposed), so it failed to reach cloture and the resolution itself therefore was not voted on.

This is a sad day for the ERA and its supporters, but it was also a historic day, as this was the first time the Senate resolution had a floor vote. We will have to regroup and see where we go from here, so stay tuned for updates on next steps.

In more sad news, Sen. Joseph Bouie's bill to require employers of state contract workers to obey the Louisiana Equal Pay Act of 2013 that we passed for state workers ten years ago, died in the Senate Labor and Industrial Relations Committee on Wednesday by a vote of 2-4. This used to be an easy committee to pass equal pay and other economic security legislation in, but unfortunately the make-up of this committee has changed drastically and it is no longer a supportive committee. We deeply appreciate the favorable votes we received from Sen. Regina Barrow and Sen. Royce Duplessis. Please send them and Sen. Bouie notes of thanks for their favorable votes and sponsorship, respectively.

Sen. Gary Carter's bill to increase the state minimum wage was not heard in Senate Labor on Wednesday after all but is supposed to be heard next week. Please lobby the committee members for their support prior to the vote.

Thanks to everyone who contacted our U. S. Senators re the ERA Resolution vote and the members of the Senate Labor Committee re the equal pay bill.

Camille Moran

Equal Rights and Pay Equity Chair, LAFBPW

IN MEMORIAM



Every year during the State Conference, we honor those members and family members we have lost in the past year. If you would like to include your loved one and fellow BPW members in the memoriam at the Conference, please send the name, date of death and relationship to the Chaplain, Pamela Bryd-Chrisley at pbchisley@yahoo.com

Mid-Year Board Meeting 2023



Zoom Meeting



Vicky Morales

The 2023 Mid-Year Board meeting was held on Saturday, January 21, 2023, via Zoom. The highlight of the meeting was Guest Speaker Vicky Morales, Diabetes Care and Education Specialist with St. Bernard Parish Hospital in partnership with Ochsner Health.

Monroe West-Monroe Club



Monroe Chamber Diversity Committee
presents

BUSINESS LUNCH AND LEARN

Thursday
March 23
2023

12:00pm-1:30pm

Benoit Recreation Center
1700 Oaklawn Dr, Monroe, LA 71202

Free to attend



with special guest

DARIAN ATKINS

Louisiana Delta Community College
presenting

*The Role of Diversity in Building
Strong Teams in the Workplace*

Special Thanks to our Sponsor



Monroe member Beverly Lewis- honored as a NELA
Delta African American Heritage Museum
Phenomenal Woman on March 31, 2023



LINCOLNPARISHJOURNAL.COM

Women's History Month: Local Tech, GSU graduate educates through creation

By Brenda Daniel In closing out the month of which women have been highlighted and celebr...



Women's Symposium
February 28 - 3


Thank you to our community sponsors!



Women's History recognition by the City of Monroe



Women's Empowerment Tea -Gwen Amelin, Mayor Alice Wallace, Winnsboro, LA, Angie Jackson-Wilson and Jamie Mayes. Jamie was a panelist


Gerontology

Honoring and Celebrating Ageless Women in Our Community

You are invited to the

4th Ageless Women's Leadership Summit: Voices of Experience

Thursday, March 30, 2023 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Via Zoom)

To receive the Zoom link, e-mail to Dr. Anita Sharma at asharma@ulm.edu

KEYNOTE:

Tana Trichel, President/CEO, NELA Economic Alliance

SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS:

President Ron Berry, Mayor Staci Mitchell, Shirley Merrick, Tara LeBlanc
 Janet Durden, Pam Allen, Caroline Cascio, Angie Wilson
 Dr. Elizabeth Disbrow, Dr. Beverly Walker, Dr. Donna Thomas, Alice Proffit

New Orleans Club

New Orleans Club Report Southeast District Spring 2023 Meeting



At meeting Renee provided a summary of activities the New Orleans Club had participated in. The club also provided information on the Master Class Series that were held in the fall and spring.

Submitted by Ms. Rene Hollins, President

St. Bernard Club

January 2023 Meeting - The St. Bernard Club started off 2023 with our January meeting. Our special guest, Gail Gowland, Executive Director of St. Bernard Family Violence / Battered Women, updated the members of the ongoing programs to help Women and children in abusive situations and informing everyone what they can do to help. Plus, thanks to donations by the members, at our Christmas Dinner, we were happy to present a check to the St. Bernard Family Violence / Battered Women Program for \$1,275.00. A special thanks to the members that attended the event and contributed.



On Wednesday, February 15, 2023, the ST. Bernard Club celebrated Mardi Gras with their annual Mardi Gras Luncheon at The Court of Two Sisters. A great time was had by all attending.



March is the month where The St. Bernard Club distributes their scholarship applications throughout Chalmette High School where young ladies graduating are able to apply for one of 3 scholarships, that are awarded by the Club. The Scholarship committee will review the applications and award the 3 scholarships at the Chalmette High School Award Ceremony in April.

Our March monthly meeting will have our member Cindi Meyer, Vice President of Driven Youth Organization. She will update the club on Driven. An outreach program designed to reach our youth in St. Bernard Parish middle and high school. And provide moral guidance and character development for the students.

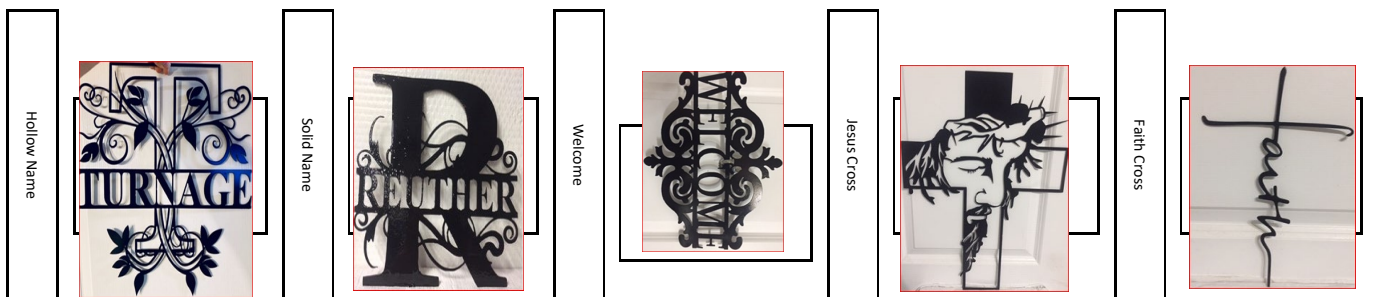
The Club's nominating committee will be meeting to recommend the officers for 2023/2024 St. Bernard Business & Professional Women Club with election in April.

Report submitted by:

Claudette Reuther, ST. Bernard Business & Professional Women President



State Fundraiser



Thank you to all participated in the State Fundraiser! With little work we sold 79 pieces of the metal artwork and raised \$559.00. All the funds raised was split between the State and Local organizations. The results are listed below:

| | | |
|-------------|----|--------|
| State | \$ | 279.50 |
| New Orleans | \$ | 28.00 |
| St. Bernard | \$ | 173.00 |
| Oakdale | \$ | 78.50 |
| Totals | \$ | 559.00 |

Great Job everyone!

STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE POKE CAKE RECIPE



This Strawberry Shortcake Poke Cake is the perfect cool and refreshing dessert. Yellow cake with strawberry gelatin poked throughout, topped with a delicious whipped topping and fresh strawberries.

- ☐ 1 Yellow Cake Mix (plus ingredients on back)
- ☐ 1 small box instant strawberry JELL-O Raspberry or cherry work too!
- ☐ 1 cup hot water
- ☐ 1 cup cold water
- ☐ 1 8 oz. block cream cheese softened
- ☐ 1 tsp. [vanilla extract](#)
- ☐ 1/2 cup [powdered sugar](#)
- ☐ 2 cups [whipped cream](#)
- ☐ 2 pints strawberries sliced

Instructions

Make Yellow Cake by following directions on box.

1. Once the cake is out, take a fork and poke it all over.
 2. While cake is still warm, make jell-o by adding mix to 1 cup hot water and dissolving and then adding 1 cup cold water. Spoon this liquid over the top of the cake, making sure it goes through the holes made by the fork. Refrigerate for 4 hours.
 3. When ready to serve make frosting by mixing cream cheese, and powdered sugar in a medium bowl. Add vanilla. Mix to well combined. Fold in Cool Whip. Spread over cake.
 4. Spread sliced strawberries over the frosting or add individually to each cake square.
- ENJOY!

Louisiana Federation of Business & Professional Women

P.O. Box 15131

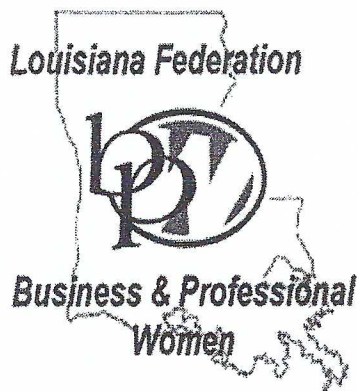
Monroe, LA 71207

www.lafbpw.wildapricot.org

BPW/LA 2022-2023 Budget (10 months)

| INCOME | |
|--|--------------------|
| | Actual YTD |
| Membership | \$ 2,452.00 |
| State Conference 2023 - June 09-11, 2023 | \$ 125.00 |
| SWC District Conference Account | \$ - |
| Mid Year Board 2023: | \$ 140.00 |
| Income Allocations from Designated Funds | \$ - |
| Advertising | \$ - |
| Misc Income | \$ 741.76 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$ 3,458.76 |

| EXPENSES | | EXPENSES cont'd | |
|--|-----------|--|--------------------|
| Membership | | Web Page | |
| Dues Remittances to LO | \$ 455.00 | Maintenance and periodic updates:- | \$ - |
| Foundation License Agreement | \$ - | Wild Apricot Database | \$ 1,188.00 |
| State President's Gift | \$ - | Domain name registration(goDaddy.com) | \$ 105.85 |
| AMESF Assessment | \$ - | Facebook Ads | \$ - |
| Publication & Printing | | NIKE Award | |
| Pelican - two (2 Issues - Fall & Spring) | \$ - | Purchase & Engraving | \$ - |
| State Board Book (incoming president) | \$ - | SWC District Conference Account | |
| Administrative Operations | | 2023 State Conference | \$ - |
| Printing, invoicing, copying and supplies | \$ 162.57 | Bank Charges/Fees | |
| LA Sec of State Annual Report | \$ - | Electronic transfer of LO Dues etc | \$ 225.00 |
| Safety Deposit Box | \$ - | Affinity Pay | \$ 38.82 |
| Officers Liability (paid in advance - May 2023 for 2024) | \$ - | Other Expenses | \$ - |
| Past President's Pin with Guard | \$ - | Misc | \$ 1,690.59 |
| State Post Office Box | \$ 171.00 | JV Entry | \$ (1,345.59) |
| iContact | \$ 49.70 | TOTAL EXPENSES | \$ 1,160.53 |
| Adobe Acrobat | \$ 165.69 | Over/under | \$ 2,298.23 |
| Zoom Conferencing | \$ 156.57 | | |
| Expenditure from Designated Funds | | | |
| Legislative Activities | \$ - | | |
| Individual Development | \$ - | | |
| Mid Year Board 2023: | | | |
| Program Book, registration, President's Lodging and operational costs | \$ - | | |
| Speakers (for MYB 2023 - for lunch and gift) | \$ - | | |
| Membership Development/Promotion | \$ - | | |
| monthly mailings to members without email; | | | |
| mailings to HR directors to advertise BPW and YC program; mailings to colleges about BPW and scholarship program | \$ - | | |
| Louisiana Women's Conference Sponsorship | \$ - | | |
| Membership Development Activities | \$ - | | |



New Orleans Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc.
P. O. Box 50215
New Orleans, Louisiana 70150-0215
bpwnolalo@gmail.com

LisaMarie Brandon, President
LA Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club
P.O. Box 15131
Monroe, LA 71207

February 8, 2023

I have audited the documentation of the LA Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. for the period of July 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. I certify the information is accurate.

I commend Angie Jackson-Wilson, State Treasurer, for a job well done.

Sincerely

Rose Maria Broussard,
2022-2023 State Auditor
Email: rebroussardbj@cox.net Cell 504-202-4754

Louisiana Federation



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

