

President's Message



by Peggy Wells
President, BPW/LA

It is hard to believe that my term as your president is almost over. The time has gone by quickly.

Since June, the state organization has done quite a bit of publicity throughout the state. We have publicized our Young Careerist program, our Agnes Morris Education Scholarship, and our Mid-Year Board luncheon. As a result, we have obtained 30 new members from June—February and have a retention rate of 99.98%.

Every one of us joined BPW for a reason, and that is true of our new members. They joined because of the possibility of a scholarship to advance their education, or they joined to network with other women business owners, or they joined for the potential of professional and personal development. Our Young Careerist candidates are a part of the YC program because we are offering professional development topics. I'd like to make

an important point: First, we have to make them aware what BPW has to offer, and then we have to work to prove to them that they have joined a vibrant, relevant organization that offers value to its members.

How do we attract new members to our organization? How do we make them aware of BPW in the first place? That is what our 2010-2011 Public Relations/Marketing plan has been (and continues to be) about. We have focused on making women around our state aware of the benefits of our organization.

The mission of BPW is still relevant today: **To achieve equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education, and information.** We advocate for equal rights and equal pay for equal work for women in our state and our nation, we partner with other women's organizations for common goals, we contribute to our communities, we provide scholarships to women who want to continue their education, we provide opportunities for professional and personal development, we provide mentoring to women throughout their careers.

Membership in BPW Louisiana is a great value and is more affordable than ever before—\$40 + LO dues annually, or \$60/yr for Members-at-Large. We also have special rates for student members and for those

who have been members for 40+ years.

Once new members join, how do we retain them? First, we communicate regularly with our members on what is going on in our organization. Next, we offer professional and personal development value—in our local meetings with relevant programs, in our state meetings with informative speakers, and in our community outreach activities. We need to demonstrate that we are "Women Helping Women." The state organization can publicize the benefits of BPW/LA, but the benefits must also be evident every day at the LO and individual levels. That takes work, but I believe it is worth it, because I believe in the BPW mission. Do you agree?

For the second year, on September 23, 2011, BPW/LA will be a sponsor for the Annual Louisiana Women's Conference in Baton Rouge. It is an opportunity for networking with women from around the state, for professional and personal development sessions, and to advertise our organization's benefits, and to spread the BPW message to others. I urge you to attend.

I challenge each member to be an ambassador for BPW Louisiana in our cities, towns, places of business, and social groups to spread the BPW message throughout the state.

UPCOMING DATES:

Registration for State Conference opens! - April 1st

EC Teleconferences—April 12th, May 10th

Events Planning Committee Teleconference—April 14th, May 12th

State Conference Early registration and hotel discounts deadline - May 20th

92nd State Conference —June 3-5, 2011



NOMINATIONS for 2011-2012

BPW membership has so much to offer individuals through education, research, mentoring and training opportunities. Even though membership is rewarding in itself, we all have skills that are worth sharing. By serving in a leadership position, we also grow as an individual. Serving as a state officer or committee chair, we are “WOMEN HELPING WOMEN” and encouraging others to share their expertise with all members.

To run for state office, a copy of the nomination form can be found on the Members-Only tab (log in using your email and BPW member number) under LAFBPW Documents at

www.lafbpw.wildapricot.org. If you would like to serve as a state officer, submit a completed form to me postmarked by March 1, 2011. Only those nominations received by the deadline will be published in the Spring 2011 *Pelican*. Positions submitted after March 1, 2011 will be accepted as a nomination from the floor at the state conference in June 2011.

Wanda Ishmael
Chair, Nominations
414 Claiborne Street
Donaldsonville, LA 70346
wishmael@cox.net

Call to 92nd State Conference, June 3-5, 2011

The Louisiana Federation of Business and Professional Women will be hosting our 92nd State Conference at The Atrium Hotel and Conference Center, Monroe, LA., June 3-5, 2011.

The Executive Committee meeting will be held in the Board Room from 4—5 p.m. Friday registration will take place from 5-6 p.m. For those arriving on Friday, there will be a BPW Marketplace in the hotel atrium. Local vendors will provide shopping opportunities, and food and drink will be available at no charge for members, YC candidates, and YC judges. A cash bar with wine/beer will also be available. And there will be door prizes throughout the evening!

Saturday registration will take place from 8:00—8:30 a.m. Our opening session speaker is Monroe City Schools Superintendent Kathleen Harris, the first African-American to hold this position. She will speak on “A Lifetime of Learning.” Then, our opening ceremony will feature the Wossman High School Female Color Guard and Bayou Breeze, a quartet that will sing some patriotic selections.

During our morning business session, the Young Careerist Interviews will take place. All YC candidates will give their speeches to the conference body, and at the conclusion of the YC luncheon, the winning candidate will be announced. We are hoping to arrange for local TV coverage for the ‘speak-off.’ The YC luncheon keynote speaker and topic have not been finalized.

The afternoon business sessions will be broken up with a couple of afternoon speakers; topics are still being determined. At the conclusion of the final afternoon business session, our traditional memorial service will be held.

Our traditional devotional will be held on Sunday morning, followed by breakfast and the incoming President’s Meeting of the Board of Directors.

See you at State Conference 2011! Early registration ends May 20, 2011!

DID YOU KNOW???

MEMBERS OF BPW LOUISIANA CAN POST A BUSINESS-CARD-SIZE AD ON OUR STATE WEBSITE AT NO COST! TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS BY SENDING A BUSINESS CARD (EITHER ACTUAL CARD OR EMAIL A .JPG FILE) TO OUR WEBSITE COORDINATOR, EDNA HADEN AT EHADEN@BELLSOUTH.NET OR TO P. O. BOX 4803, MONROE, LA 71211.

Young Careerist® Program

By Peggy Wells, BPW/LA State President



The 2010-2011 Young Careerist (YC)® program is well underway. The program provides training, leadership, and professional development skills for working women 21-35 years of age. Networking, Mentoring, and Interviewing workshops have been offered both face-to-face and virtually via free webinar for personal and professional growth and leadership experiences. Our final workshop sessions on Preparing Presentations and Public Speaking will occur at the 2011 Spring District meetings on March 19th from 9-noon in Kenner and on March 26th from 1-3 p.m. in Alexandria.

Our Young Careerist Candidates are Arin Bradley, Lacrechia Cade, Lauren Godshall, Monique Sanders, Kimberly Silas, and Jaclyn Tubre. Our Young Careerist mentors are Jo Ann Cooper, Cynthia Edwards, Martha Gremillion, Harriet Haworth, Lisa Hibner, and Glenda Prechac. The 2011 Young Careerist Judges are Dr. Pamela Higgins Saulsberry, ULM Social Work Department Head and Professor; Ms. Sue Nicholson, President of the Monroe Chamber of Commerce; and Beth Betz, Past President of Monroe-West Monroe Business and Professional Women.

The winner will be selected at the BPW LA State Conference June 3-5, 2011, based on panel judging in categories including a speech, personal interview or group interview/presentation, and a biographical sketch with essay questions. All of the YC® candidates will present their speeches to the conference body on Saturday, June 4th. The 2011 LA Young Careerist's employer and mentor will receive recognition at the conference.



Young Careerist Candidates Kimberly Silas (l), Lauren Godshall (c), and Jaclyn Tubre (r)

2011 Esther Terry NIKE Award Winner

Martha Gremillion of the New Orleans Local Organization has been awarded the 2011 Esther Terry Nike Award! She was nominated by both the Jefferson Parish and the New Orleans local organizations. Martha has been a member of the New Orleans Local Organization since 1973. She served her Local Organization as President, President-Elect, First Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Auditor, and many Chair positions. She has held many offices on the State level; some include Corresponding Secretary, Membership Chair, State



Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and State Historian. Martha worked for Entergy and was an executive secretary upon retirement. Martha received her award at the 2011 Mid-Year Board Meeting luncheon. The award is recognition of Martha's willingness to serve BPW wherever she has been needed on the local, district, and state level, her dedication to the BPW organization, her dedication to working women, her sincere desire to make a difference daily to ensure women's rights are upheld, her service to her church, and service to her community as an elections commissioner.



Martha Gremillion (c) receives the 2011 Esther Terry Nike Award from NIKE Chair Pat Moses Howard (l) and MYB Panel Moderator Kathy Fletcher Victorian (r)

Congratulations, Martha!

In Memoriam

By Rev. Jo Ann Cooper, Chaplain

All of us draw strength from the example of others - especially those we call "friends." I do hope that we will allow each day a moment of reflection and gratitude for those who have gone before us and those who graciously walk with us. It is in this spirit that we honor the women within our BPW Louisiana sisterhood who have passed away. If you know of a past or current BPW member who has passed away, please contact me with an obituary or any other information that

will allow us to honor the lives of these women.

Please send your information to revjocooper@yahoo.com or to Rev. Jo Ann Cooper,

2262 Springtide Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, 70810. Please note the change of address.



We remember Faye Underwood, former Monroe-West Monroe member and SW/C District Director, who passed away September 15, 2010.

We remember Rosa White, former Lake Charles member and Nike Award recipient, who passed away December 29, 2010.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF BPW LOUISIANA!

The following new members have joined BPW Louisiana from July 1, 2010—February 28, 2011:

Alexandria

Allyson Moreau - Member

Jefferson Parish

Gail Jackson - Student Member
Rachel Carazo—Student Member

Monroe-West Monroe

Rokesha Allen—Member
Amanda Hinton - Member
Linda Holland - Member
Kathleen Johnston - Member
Ashley McGee - Member

New Orleans

Michelle Standige—Member
Shelley Curren—Student Member
Jennifer Roth—Student Member

St. Bernard Parish

Wanda Alcon—Member

Denise Clark - Member
Trinette Johnson - Member
Angelle Lailhengue - Member
Julie Landry - Member
Alberta Lewis - Member
Sue Montgomery - Member
Lena Nunez - Member
Jeanne Nunez-Juneau - Member
Claudette Reuther - Member
Julie Riolo - Member
Cynthia Ryckaert - Member
Trudy Totorico - Member
Pam Uhle - Member

At-Large

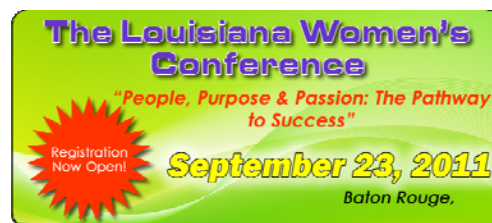
Sandra Joslyn - Student Member-at-Large
Marie Metzger—Member-at-Large
Katherine Pate - Student Member-at-Large
Mary Peyton - Member-at-Large
Shelley Warrington - Student Member-at-Large

We look forward to seeing you at LO meetings and state events!

Mark Your Calendars! BPW/LA is a Sponsor!

3rd Annual Louisiana Women's Conference in
Baton Rouge
September 23, 2011

[http://www.nationalwomensconference.com/
Louisiana/index.htm](http://www.nationalwomensconference.com/Louisiana/index.htm)



**Louisiana Federation of Business and Professional Women
92nd State Conference Agenda - Tentative**

Friday, June 3, 2011

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Executive Committee Meeting	Board Room
5:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Registration	Lobby
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.	BPW Marketplace Finger foods, soft drinks, shopping Wine available for purchase	Hotel Atrium

Saturday, June 4, 2011

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	Salon Center/West
8:30 – 9:15 a.m.	Keynote Speaker Kathleen Harris “A Lifetime of Learning” Superintendent of Monroe City School System	Salon Center/West
9:15 – 9:30 a.m.	Opening Ceremony Mayoral Proclamations—Monroe and West Monroe Wossman High School Color Guard/Flags Bayou Breeze Quartet	Salon Center/West
9:30 – 11:15 a.m.	Business Session	Salon East
9:30 – 11:15 a.m.	Young Careerist Interviews 10 minutes each	Board Room
11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Young Careerist Speeches	Salon Center/West
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Young Careerist Luncheon Keynote Speaker (TBD) Announcement of YC Winner	Salon Center/West Salon Center/West Salon Center/West
1:45 – 2:55 p.m.	Business Session	Salon East
3:00 – 3:45 p.m.	Speaker 1 (TBD) Speaker 2 (TBD)	Salon Center/West Salon East
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Business Session	Salon East
7:00 p.m.	Installation Banquet	Salon Center/West

Sunday, June 5, 2011

8:00 – 8:30	Devotional	Salon East
8:30 – 9:00	Breakfast	Salon East
9:00 – 12:00	Post-Conference Board Meeting	Salon East

BPW Louisiana 2011 State Conference

June 3, 4 & 5, 2011

The Atrium Hotel and Conference Center, 2001 Louisville Avenue, Monroe, Louisiana 71201

HOTEL RESERVATIONS must be made directly with The Atrium at 1-318- 325-0641 or 1-800-428-7486 by **May 20, 2011**. Tell them you are with the Business & Professional Women of Louisiana to get the special rate.

Room rates:

2 Queen Beds: \$69.00 + tax
King Suite: \$129.00 + tax

MEMBER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name _____ Address _____
City/Zip Code _____ Phone _____
LO Name _____ Email: _____

Please check all boxes that apply to you:

BPW State President _____ BPW LO President _____ BPW Past State President _____
BPW State Officer _____ BPW Committee Chair or Appointee _____ BPW Member _____

BPW/LA MEMBERS (MOL or MAL):

Early registration Fee (postmarked on or before May 20th)
with complete meal package (Saturday dinner entrée Ribeye Steak) \$130.00 _____
Early registration Fee (postmarked on or before May 20th)
with complete meal package (Saturday dinner entrée Fried Catfish) \$120.00 _____
Late/onsite registration Fee (postmarked after May 20th)
with complete meal package (Saturday dinner entrée Ribeye Steak) \$145.00 _____
Late/onsite registration Fee (postmarked after May 20th)
with complete meal package (Saturday dinner entrée Fried Catfish) \$135.00 _____

Friday Night: BPW Marketplace – Local Vendors for Shopping, Finger Foods, Soft Drinks;
cash bar available with wine/beer. No charge for BPW members, YC Candidates,
or YC judges; need a headcount Yes _____ No _____

Members Complete Meal Package: incl. Saturday breakfast, lunch, dinner, & Sunday breakfast

Saturday Continental Breakfast: Assorted Danishes, Muffins, Fresh Seasonal Fruit, Coffee, Juice
Saturday Buffet Young Careerist Luncheon w/Keynote Speaker Salads, 2 entrée choices
(Baked Chicken and Pork New Orleans), vegetables, dessert, rolls, tea, and coffee
Saturday Night Installation Dinner: Includes salad, entrée (select one: Ribeye Steak or Fried Catfish),
vegetables, bread, coffee, herbal tea and iced tea. Dessert after installation.
Sunday Breakfast (after the devotional) Buffet breakfast with scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage,
biscuits and gravy, toast, juice, coffee, and tea.

Make checks payable to BPW/LA SW/C District Check Number _____ Total Remittance: \$ _____

Mail to: BPW/LA SW/C District
c/o 1424 Evangeline Road
Glenmora, LA 71433

Or pay on line at : <http://www.lafbpw.wildapricot.org>
with Visa or MasterCard via PayPal

Note: If you do not receive an online receipt, you are not registered.
Continue through PayPal menus until you reach the "PAY NOW" button

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Room rates:

2 Queen Beds: \$69.00 + tax
King Suite: \$129.00 + tax

STUDENT MEMBER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name _____ Address _____
City/Zip Code _____ Phone _____
LO Name _____ Email: _____

Please check all boxes that apply to you:

BPW State President _____ BPW LO President _____ BPW Past State President _____
BPW State Officer _____ BPW Committee Chair or Appointee _____ BPW Student Member _____

BPW/LA MEMBERS (SOL or SAL):

Early registration Fee (postmarked on or before May 20th)
with complete meal package (Saturday dinner entrée Ribeye Steak) \$100.00 _____
Early registration Fee (postmarked on or before May 20th)
with complete meal package (Saturday dinner entrée Fried Catfish) \$90.00 _____
Late/onsite registration Fee (postmarked after May 20th)
with complete meal package (Saturday dinner entrée Ribeye Steak) \$115.00 _____
Late/onsite registration Fee (postmarked after May 20th)
with complete meal package (Saturday dinner entrée Fried Catfish) \$105.00 _____

Friday Night: BPW Marketplace – Local Vendors for Shopping, Finger Foods, Drinks;
cash bar available with wine/beer. No charge for BPW members, YC Candidates,
or YC judges; need a headcount Yes _____ No _____

Members Complete Meal Package: incl. Saturday breakfast, lunch, dinner, & Sunday breakfast

Saturday Continental Breakfast: Assorted Danishes, Muffins, Fresh Seasonal Fruit, Coffee, Juice
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Room rates:

2 Queen Beds: \$69.00 + tax

King Suite: \$129.00 + tax

GUEST REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name _____ Address _____

City/Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Email: _____ YC Candidate _____ Guest _____

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MAY 20, 2011

Friday Night: BPW Marketplace – Local Vendors for Shopping, Finger Foods, Drinks; cash bar available with wine/beer. Free for YC Candidates. Guests/Public—\$10

\$ _____

Special Speakers + Breakfast/Lunch package for Guests/Non-members/Public

Postmarked on or before May 20th

\$30.00

\$ _____

Late/On site Registration (postmarked after May 20th)

\$45.00

Includes Continental Breakfast, Opening Keynote Speaker, Lunch, Luncheon Keynote Speaker, and Afternoon keynote speaker(s)

Saturday Continental Breakfast: Assorted Danishes, Muffins, Fresh Seasonal Fruit, Coffee, Juice

Saturday Buffet Luncheon w/Keynote Speaker Salads, 2 entrée choices (Baked Chicken and Pork New Orleans), vegetables, dessert, rolls, tea, and coffee

Guest Dinner Registration (ADDITIONAL) - Saturday Dinner Entrée choice – Ribeye Steak \$35

\$ _____

Saturday Dinner Entrée choice – Fried Catfish \$25

\$ _____

Includes salad, entrée (Ribeye Steak or Fried Catfish), vegetables, bread, coffee, herbal tea and iced tea. Dessert after installation.

Make checks payable to BPW/LA SW/C District Check Number _____ **Total Remittance:** \$ _____

Mail to: BPW/LA SW/C District
c/o 1424 Evangeline Rd
Glenmora, LA 71433

Or pay on line at : <http://www.lafbpw.wildapricot.org>
with Visa or MasterCard

Note: If you do not receive an online receipt, you are not registered!
Continue through the PayPal menus until you reach the "Pay Now" button.

Louisiana Federation



LOUISIANA FEDERATION OF BUSINESS AND
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN
STATE CONFERENCE 2011
VENDOR REGISTRATION FORM

The Louisiana Federation of Business and Professional Women invite you to have a vendor booth at our upcoming 2011 State Conference. The conference is being held June 3-5, 2011 at The Atrium, 2001 Louisville Avenue, Monroe, 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. Deadline for vendor booths is May 20, 2011.

Vendor booths will be open to conference attendees on June 3, Friday, from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. for the “BPW Marketplace.” 50-100 attendees are expected; this venue will be open to all hotel guests and advertised to the public. The cost for having a vendor display at the BPW/LA 2011 State Conference is \$25 plus a door prize (value of \$25 or higher). Door prizes will be given to attendees throughout the evening. 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.

Company Name_____

Company Address_____

City/Zip_____ Website_____

Vendor items for sale_____

Contact Name to confirm information_____

Phone _____ Email_____

You may pay online via Mastercard or VISA at <http://www.lafbpw.wildapricot.org> and click on the Vendor Registration link. Or, mail this registration form and send it, along with your check (payable to BPW/LA SW/C District), to:

**BPW/LA SW/C District
c/o 1424 Evangeline Rd
Glenmora, LA 71433
bpwlapresident@comcast.net**

Louisiana Federation



LOUISIANA FEDERATION OF BUSINESS AND
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN
STATE CONFERENCE 2011
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 organization's name and logo 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 organization's name and logo in the conference program

Company Name_____

Company Address_____

City/Zip_____ Sponsorship Level Requested _____

Organization Website_____

Contact Name to confirm information_____

Phone _____ Email_____

After your sponsorship payment has been processed, you will be contacted to fill out the registration form and send the information, company logo (JPG file), and information for the corresponding website and program advertisements.

Deadline for all sponsorships is May 20, 2011, to allow for printing time.

You may pay online via Mastercard or VISA at <http://www.lafbpw.wildapricot.org> and click on the Sponsor Registration link. Or, mail this registration form and send it, along with your check (payable to BPW/LA SW/C District), to:

**BPW/LA SW/C District
c/o 1424 Evangeline Rd
Glenmora, LA 71433
bpwlapresident@comcast.net**

FEBRUARY 28, 2011 BPW/LA MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

Name of Local	As of 05/31/10	Renewals YTD	New Members YTD	Moved or Re- classified	Non-renewals YTD	Membership YTD
Alexandria	2	3	1	0	0	6
Donaldsonville	0	1	0	0	0	1
Jefferson Parish	5	2	2	1	0	7
Lake Charles	2	8	0	0	0	10
Monroe	29	3	5	0	5	32
New Orleans	4	5	3	0	2	10
Oakdale	6	6	0	0	0	12
St. Bernard	11	3	14	0	0	28
SE Members-at-Large	21	1	6	1	20	8
SWC Members-at-Large	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	81	31	30	0	27	115

MOL	98	SOL	8	106
MAL	5	SAL	4	9

WEBSITE REPORT

In November 2010, we 'went live' with www.lafbpw.wildapricot.org—a new membership database and event registration website for Mid Year Board online registration. The service is provided by Wild Apricot, and used by many other state BPW organizations. We have been using this new website in tandem with our current website, www.bpwloUISIANA.org. The new database service has been used for membership renewal invoicing, online membership renewal, online event registration, and automated membership e-messaging.

Members can now also access members-only features on www.lafbpw.wildapricot.org. Once you log in with your email address and password, the members-only button will appear on the side menu. There is access to the Private Member Directory, YC Training Materials (covered by our license with BPW Foundation), our State Documents such as Bylaws and Policies and Procedures, and Resources for LO, District, and State Officers. In the Private Member Directory, you can:

- Download the latest membership directory in Adobe Acrobat form; this will be updated monthly.
- You can sort the membership database - by Last Name, Membership Type, LO, LO Presidents, PSP's, EC Members, or Board of Directors.
- You can also go in and edit your information in case your address, email, or phone number changes.
- You can also change your password.

The Executive Committee voted to transition our official state website to WildApricot due to a) membership management, b) more flexible display options, c) lower cost, d) easier record-keeping, e) easier website updates, and f) personalized membership communications. We will send out a state-wide communication whenever this transition occurs. Thank you for your patience during the transition, which we hope to complete by April 1, 2011. If there is anything you would like to see on the site, please submit your request to the State President for approval.



FIND BPW/LA ON FACEBOOK!™



BPW LOUISIANA HAS A NEW 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!

**Louisiana Federation
of
Business and Professional Women
Balance Sheet
12/31/10**


Assets:	
Chase Checking Account	\$ 6,140.72
Chase Saving Account	\$ 22,991.76
Chase Certificate of Deposit	\$ 5,700.00
Pay Pal Account	\$ 764.37
	<u>\$ -</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 35,596.85</u></u>

Liabilities:	
ERA/Legislative Funds	\$ 302.17
Membership Promotion	\$ 2,737.26
Pelicanette Fund (YC)	\$ 2,471.96
Individual Development	\$ 750.00
State & National President's Gift	\$ -
SE District Operating Funds	\$ 3,358.24
SE District Conference Account	\$ 3,850.47
Foundation Dues Assessment	\$ 195.00
Total Liabilities	<u><u>\$ 13,665.10</u></u>

General Funds in Savings	\$ 9,326.66
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 5,700.00
Total Designated and Reserved Funds	<u><u>\$ 28,691.76</u></u>

Chase Checking	\$ 6,140.72
Pay Pal Account	\$ 764.37
Total Net Worth	<u><u>\$ 6,905.09</u></u>

Liabilities	\$ 28,691.76
Net Worth	\$ 6,905.09
Total Liabilities & Net Worth	<u><u>\$ 35,596.85</u></u>



Angie Jackson-Wilson, State Treasurer

Date Approved: 2-8-11



Peggy Wells, State President

Date Approved: 2/8/11

I have reviewed the financials for
07/01/2010 thru 12/31/10 and
found all records in good order

Janis Guyton, 2010-2011 Auditor

 2/8/11

Dugas Receives Prestigious St. Bernard LO Service Award

Olga D. Dugas, a charter member and past president of the St. Bernard Business and Professional Women's Club was named the recipient of the Louise Gorbaty Golden Circle Award in December 2010 at the club's holiday luncheon.



Past President Olga Dugas (c) receives the St. Bernard LO's Louise Gorbaty Service Award from Past Presidents Deborah Keller (l) and President Lauren Gibson (r).

Each year since 1971 the past presidents who are current members of the St. Bernard Business and Profes-

sional Women's Club consider nominating a current member for this prestigious service award.

Nominees must not currently hold office in the local organization, but must have demonstrated service by serving on committees and offering service to the club whenever called upon to do so. The award was established by charter member and past president, as well as former Woman of the Year, Louise Gorbaty.

In 1961, the New Orleans local organization of BPW asked Lena Randazzo Torres if she would consider starting a club in St. Bernard Parish. She then contacted Thelma Deano, who worked for the St. Bernard Parish School Board, and soon a small group of women chartered the club with Deano as president. Two of the original charter members, Olga Dugas and Lena Torres, have held continuous membership since its founding.

For nearly 50 years, Dugas has served the club, as well as the community. She was club president in 1965 and named St. Bernard BPW Woman of the Year in 1968. She most recently organized a reunion of the past 50 Men and Women of the Year at the club's golden anniversary Man and Woman of the Year gala during National Business Women's Week in October 2010.

Monroe-West Monroe LO Holds Fifth Send-One-Suit Drive

The annual Send-One-Suit drive, sponsored by Dress for Success, took place February 24-27, 2011. For the fifth year in a row, Monroe-West Monroe Business and Professional Women partnered with DressBarn to collect new and gently-used business-appropriate attire to donate to lower-income and disadvantaged women trying to reenter the workforce. Suits, separates (jackets, pants, skirts, shells, blouses), shoes, and purses in conservative solid colors were collected. Having the appropriate attire and job search skills helps to instill confidence in interviewees.

The Dress for Success organization helps lower-income and disadvantaged women reenter the workforce. Besides providing 'business-appropriate' attire for interviews and work, they help with interviewing skills, resume preparation, and job searching, etc. Local agencies refer clients to the nearest Dress for Success store. Go to <http://www.dressforsuccess.org> for more information on Dress for Success.

BPW Monroe-West Monroe collected items at their Feb-

ruary 8th monthly meeting at the Atrium, and delivered the items to Dress Barn during the drive. People in the



Monroe-West Monroe President Janis Guyton (l) and Monroe-West Monroe member Peggy Wells delivers the Send-One-Suit collections to DressBarn's Sr. Assistant Manager Pansy Cloman (r).

community also took items directly to DressBarn during the drive. Almost 300 items were collected.

Send a Suit.....Change a Life!

Jefferson Parish LO Update

Our January meeting was held at the President's house. The speaker, Janice Penci, was blinded at 31, and spoke about the challenges of daily living as a result of this life-altering change. She worked for the Lighthouse for the Blind for 9 years, and now teaches a course at the Jefferson Parish Recreation Department for the visually impaired.

In February, our group met at the Fat City Diner. The

speaker was Sue Plumbeck, a small business owner with a passion for nutrition. Her handouts focused on the importance of healthy eating, and the illnesses that could be avoided with proper diet. She was very involved with the importance of eating correctly.

In March, our LO will meet at Erik's Restaurant on W. Esplanade. Our speaker will be Anita Calogna of the Battered Women's Shelter.

St. Bernard LO Update



The St. Bernard BPW held their February meeting Feb. 21, 2011 in Chalmette with guests Dr. Muhamad Khalid, cardiologist at a nearby hospital who gave a presentation on "Women and Heart Disease" in conjunction with February being Heart Health month. Peggy Wells, President of the BPW/LA State Federation, also was a guest and presented a gift to St. Bernard BPW President Lauren Gibson.



BPW/LA POLICY IN ACTION STRATEGY SESSION

by Camille Moran, BPW/LA ERA Coordinator

BPW/LA held a Policy in Action strategy session following the Leadership Luncheon at the January Mid-Year Board meeting. The small but involved group of participants had great ideas on how to help with the campaign in support of United 4 Equality's national ERA resolution to eliminate the ratification deadline and reintroduce the Three-State Strategy, which BPW/LA is co-sponsoring. Other sponsoring organizations include the Louisiana Coalition for the ERA, Louisiana League of Women Voters, AAUW Louisiana, The Louisiana Movement, and other state and national organizations.

Facilitators for the strategy session included Camille Moran, BPW/LA ERA Coordinator and United 4 Equality Lobbying Director, BPW/LA PR Chair Judy Wilson, and The Louisiana Movement President Dawn Collins. League State President Lawrence Narcisse and Voter Services Vice-President Wanda Wright also participated in the session. The outstanding discussions centered around not only the ERA campaign and issue itself, but also how to run an issues-based campaign on any issue, and how to get your message out to the masses and the media. Due to time constraints, the discussion on the Louisiana pay equity campaign was postponed to a future date.

BPW New Orleans member Cynthia Edwards filmed a group video, in which session participants shouted three sentences in rally style regarding their support for the ERA Three-State Strategy, which will be posted to YouTube, the United 4 Equality website and Facebook Page, and other social media sites.

Ms. Collins also invited participants to Democracy for America's rally in Lafayette on March 18-19, 2011.

Shortly after 6:00 p.m. ET on March 8, 2011, on the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day, our national ERA Resolution was introduced before Congress! H. J. Res. 47, which is a combined resolution to eliminate the ratification deadline and reintroduce the ERA Three-State Strategy, is now officially filed, introduced, and ready to be heard in committee. Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), as lead sponsor, led the introduction festivities, along with original co-sponsors Congressman Robert Andrews (D-NJ), Congresswoman Jackie Speier (D-CA), Congresswoman Chellie Pingree (D-ME), Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman-Schultz (D-FL), and Congressman Luis Guterrez (D-IL). The Three-State Strategy was authored by Congressman Andrews.

Stay tuned for more details and lobbying instructions!

Proposed Bylaws Changes to Article V Sec 5 and 6 Membership, Article VIII Sec 1 Dues and Article XVIII Sec 3 State Conference 2010-2011

Article V Membership SECTION 5

SECTION 5. (current) The only criteria for membership shall be per Article V, Section 1, and the payment of appropriate dues.

SECTION 5. (proposed) **SECTION 5.** The criteria for membership shall be per Article V, Section 1, and the payment of appropriate dues. **Dues are due on the first calendar day of the renewal (anniversary) month. A member will be notified at least 1 month in advance of the dues renewal. No grace period applies.**

Rationale: This change clarifies the term of payment of appropriate dues and eliminates confusion of membership eligibility for voting.

Article VIII Dues SECTION 1

SECTION 1. (current) Dues are payable upon acceptance to membership and renewable annually on the first day of the following month.

SECTION 1. (proposed) Dues are payable upon acceptance to membership and renewable annually on the first day of **the member's renewal (anniversary) month.**

Rationale: This change clarifies the term of payment of appropriate dues and eliminates confusion of membership eligibility for voting.

Article XVIII State Conference SECTION 3

SECTION 3. (current) The voting body shall be any voting member in good standing based upon the records of the state treasurer thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the annual state conference who has paid the full regis-

SECTION 3. (proposed) The voting body shall be any **member in good standing based upon the records of the state treasurer prior to the opening of the first business session of the annual state conference and who has paid the full registration fee.**

Rationale: This change clarifies the term of payment of appropriate dues and eliminates confusion of membership eligibility for voting.

For membership vote at 2011 State Conference
Proposed Bylaws Changes Article X District Organizations 2010-2011

ARTICLE X DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

SECTION 1. This state shall be divided into districts for the purpose of promoting state programs, promoting membership work, and organizing new and assisting existing local organizations. The districts shall afford a contact between local organizations and the state federation.

SECTION 2. This state shall be divided geographically into districts.

SECTION 3. The reorganization of the districts shall be considered and approved by a committee composed of district directors, the state president chair of district directors), vice president, and state treasurer with notice of intention to reorganize being given thirty days in advance, by the Chair of District Directors to local organizations within the district concerned.

SECTION 4. Each district shall have a district director, an associate director, and a candidate data chair who shall be elected and installed at the district meeting prior to state convention to take office on May 1, except the candidate data chair who shall take office on June 1 (or immediately following state convention whichever is the later date). To be eligible for district director and associate district director a candidate must have served her/his local organization as president.

SECTION 5. Each district shall have at least one meeting each year, the time and place to be determined by the district director with the concurrence of the LO Presidents, chair of district directors and the executive committee. District meetings may be conducted physically face-to-face, in a password-protected (or otherwise private) chat room, teleconference, video-conference, or other electronic technology.

ARTICLE X DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

SECTION 1 – No change.

SECTION 2 – No change.

SECTION 3 – No Change

SECTION 4 – District Structure may be established by one of the following organization structures:

A district director, an associate director, and a candidate data chair who shall be elected and installed at the district meeting prior to state conference to take office on May 1, except the candidate data chair who shall take office on June 1 (or immediately following state conference whichever is the later date).

Or

District liaison who shall be elected and installed at the district meeting prior to state conference to take office on May 1. Liaison will perform the duties of the candidate data chair. who shall take office on June 1 (or immediately following state conference whichever is the later date).

Duties and responsibilities are outlined in Sections 6, 7 and 8. District Director, Associate Director and Candidate Data Chair duties will be combined for the District Liaison Structure.

SECTION 5 – No Change

For membership vote at 2011 State Conference
Proposed Bylaws Changes Article X District Organizations 2010-2011

ARTICLE X DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

SECTION 6. It shall be the duty of the district director to:

- (a) act as liaison officer between the local organizations and the state federation;
- (b) serve as a member of the state federation Board of Directors;
- (c) maintain a close relationship with the presidents of the local organizations in the district;
- (d) visit each local organization in the district at least once a year;
- (e) plan district meetings, submitting the district program to the chair of district directors for approval;
- (f) provide for election of the succeeding district officers by a procedure established in the state federation;
- (g) help to organize new local organizations and assist existing local organizations;
- (h) work to stabilize and promote membership;
- (i) arrange inter-local organization meetings and discuss methods of furthering the state and national programs.

SECTION 7. It shall be the duty of the associate district director to:

- (a) Assist the district director in any capacity requested by the district director;
- (b) Act for the district director in her/his absence;
- (c) Become district director for the unexpired term in case of death, resignation, or incapacity; and
- (d) Serve as a member of the state elections committee (Article XIII, Section 8).

ARTICLE X DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

SECTION 6 – No Change.

SECTION 7 – No Change.

For membership vote at 2011 State Conference Proposed Bylaws Changes Article X District Organizations 2010-2011

ARTICLE X DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

SECTION 8. It shall be the duty of the district candidate data chair to:

- (a) Serve as a member of the state nominating committee (Article XII, Section 1), and assist with elections at State Conference (Article XIII, Section 8); and
- (b) Secure from local organizations nominations for district office and present candidates, with qualifying data at spring district meetings.

SECTION 9 – New section

ARTICLE X DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

SECTION 8. No change.

SECTION 9 – District Funds. All funds for the BPW Louisiana (excluding the Agnes Morris Scholarship Funds) will be assigned to the State Treasurer. District accounts will be designated by name and purpose and managed for the district by the State Treasurer. District Director and/or District Liaison will be responsible person for the authorization of fund expenditures and review of deposits. State Treasurer will provide periodic financial updates but not less than twice a year regardless of activity.

BPW TRIVIA

How many of these questions were you able to answer?

- 1. On August 26, 1920, what happened? **Women won the right to vote.**
- 2. What BPW program offers assistance to women military veterans transitioning into the workforce? **Women Joining Forces**
- 3. What did BPW/USA establish in 1928 to celebrate women's accomplishments and their contribution to the workforce and the economic success of the nation? **National Business Women's Week.**
- 4. What year was BPW Louisiana founded? **1919**
- 5. In 1993, who became the first female US Attorney General? **Janet Reno**
- 6. Who was the first woman on the U.S. Supreme Court? **Sandra Day O'Connor**
- 7. Who was the first woman to be elected in her own right to the United States Senate? **Hattie Caraway (Arkansas)**

- 8. In January, 2009, President Barack Obama signed what bill, changing the definition of pay discrimination to mean every time discriminatory compensation is paid? **Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act**

Now.....the next round!

- 9. Who was the author of the Equal Rights Amendment ?
- 10. Who is the American journalist and National Public Radio contributor, whose mother and father were members of the House of Representatives for Louisiana?
- 11. The majority of women business owners are under what age?
- 12. Which war was the first to have US women serving in combat?
- 13. What is the Louisiana wage gap between men and women?
- 14. What does Equal Pay Day commemorate?
- 15. Who was the first state president of BPW Louisiana?

AMESF Scholarship Applicants Named

Linda Burns, Agnes Morris Scholarship Chair, announces that there are four applicants for the 2011-2013 scholarship.

- Shelly Curren—SAL, is going to attend UNO upon finishing her coursework at Delgado. She is working on a degree in Business Administration. She is employed at Luke Restaurant in New Orleans as the Pastry Chef.
- Gail R. Jackson—MOL (Jefferson Parish), is attending Loyola University and pursuing a B.S. Degree in Liberal Studies.
- Ashley McGee—MOL (Monroe-West Monroe), is a full time employee at CenturyTel Communications and has started to work on the exams and certification to become a CPA (Certified Public Accountant); she has a degree in accounting from ULM.
- Shelley Warrington—SAL, is pursuing a nursing degree through the accelerated nursing program at Southeastern Louisiana University (she graduated from LSU with a General Studies degree in 1995).

Applications are currently under review by the Executive Committee. The scholarship winner(s) will be announced at the 2011 State Conference on June 4, 2011.

Rx for Resumes

Do you have a current resume? When was the last time you pulled out your resume and reviewed it? Don't make the mistake of letting your resume get too out-of-date.....you never know when you might need it! Even though you may not be looking for a position right now, a fabulous opportunity may come up and you may be asked for a current resume.

Have you heard that resumes are supposed to be only one page? Some people believe that. Two pages is the maximum. Anything larger appears too overwhelming to wade through, and hiring personnel are busy too. Remember....the resume is just supposed to get you noticed and get you that first phone call to start the interviewing process.

First, is your contact information correct? What about the contact telephone number? Is your email address correct? Be sure that your email address sounds and looks professional. And, be sure that your voicemail message on your contact telephone number sounds professional. Do you put a picture on your resume? No.

Next, what position are you seeking? What is your career objective? Have you updated that recently? Most people still have the type of position they were looking for the last time they were job-hunting, and haven't considered updating that section with their next envisioned position.

Next, what about your qualifications? Have you listed those accomplishments and activities that give evidence of readiness and preparation for that position you are seeking? Most people think that they are supposed to list everything they have ever done. That is not true.



Tailor your resume to match the position you are seeking. Use titles and words that relate to the job you are seeking. Is your resume updated with your latest position/special project/

certification? Most people, after they find a job, forget to update their resumes with accomplishments in that new job.

Next, what about education? Have you gone back to school? Received an advanced degree? Received a professional certification that qualifies you for this next level position you are seeking? List degrees and certifications that are pre-requisites for the position you are seeking.

Next, what about your references? Have you spoken to them lately and kept them up to date on your professional accomplishments? Have you verified that they are still willing to act as professional and/or personal references for you? There is nothing worse than listing a reference, having a hiring manager contact the reference, and have the reference not be willing or able to provide you with a glowing reference.

Want to learn more? Be sure to attend the 3rd Annual Louisiana Women's Conference on September 23, 2011 in Baton Rouge, where BPW Louisiana will be presenting "Rx for Resumes" and attendees will actually bring their resumes and review each other's resumes!

*BPW Louisiana Southwest/Central District
offers Congratulations and Thanks
for a successful 2010-2011 Federation year
to outgoing officers, committee chairs, and special
appointees*



Thank you for your service!

*BPW Louisiana Southwest/Central District
proudly endorses the following candidates
for 2011-2012 State Offices:*



**Linda Burns, PSP
President 2011-2012**



**Angie Jackson-Wilson, PSP
Treasurer 2011-2012**

Mid Year Board January 21-22, 2011

BPW/LA held its 92nd Mid Year Board Meeting in Baton Rouge, LA. For those arriving Friday night, there was a Members-Only Wine and Cheese reception in the President's Suite, where friends reconnected and visited prior to the Saturday business session.

The Saturday morning business session was completed in record time. Several changes to the Policies and Procedures Manual were approved. 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 Budget Revisions were approved. Several Bylaws changes were approved to proceed to 2011 State Conference for final membership vote. The Mardi Gras Silent Auction was a great success.



Past State Presidents Pat Moses Howard and Janis Guyton examine items on the silent auction table while deciding to enter their bids.

\$340 was raised for the Agnes Morris Education Scholarship Fund. A thank you to the Silent Auction committee: Cynthia Edwards, Kaaren Montgomery Grimes, Janis Guyton, Iketha Williams, and Judy Wilson.

We had a large turnout of 54 people for our NIKE Award Luncheon; there was not a vacant seat! After a delicious luncheon, President Peggy Wells introduced Kathy Fletcher Victorian of City Hall Fellows, who then introduced the panel of Baton Rouge Women Business Leaders: Sharon Cole, Site Leader of Dow Louisiana Operations in Plaquemine; Patricia Felder, Owner of Felder's Collision Parts in Baton Rouge; and Stephanie Griffin Manson, Op-



Kathy Fletcher Victorian



Panelists Stephanie Griffin Manson (l), Patricia Felder (c), and Sharon Cole (r) answer questions about leadership skills needed during these challenging economic times.

erations Vice President of Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center in Baton Rouge.

Some of the topics covered by the panel were: maintaining work/life balance, how to influence others to take leadership roles, specific leadership skills needed to manage in a tight economy, how mentors and advisors helped each panelist along her particular career path, and overcoming roadblocks when entering non-traditional workplace roles. All three women spoke of the importance of mentoring and helping other women. These panelists left us with the reminder: "When you get your foot in the door, be sure to leave it open so that another woman can enter behind you."

At the conclusion of the luncheon, the prestigious Esther Terry Nike Award was presented to Martha Gremillion of the New Orleans local organization.

After the luncheon, members and guests stayed for both the Young Careerist Interviewing training session and the Legislative Strategy session presented by BPW Louisiana and several of our partnering organizations. The Young Careerist training was presented by Lisa Hibner, a Career Counselor at Delta Community College. The Legislative Strategy session was chaired by Camille Moran, BPW/LA Pay Equity/ERA Chair and Judy Wilson, BPW/LA Public Relations Chair. Other organizations represented were the Louisiana Movement, the Louisiana Coalition for the ERA, Louisiana League of Women Voters, and AAUW Louisiana.

"Inspired and Empowered Women Can Transform Their World"

Louisiana Federation



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