

Western Gateway Gazette
Northern Berkshire Business and Professional
Women

Lucy A. Milette, editor. Elizabeth Manns, copyist/production.

April, 2006

APRIL MEETING

A message from your president...

Dear Members,

At last Spring is here. Now it is time for change, beginning with the election of officers for next year. I know that Liz Manns and Patti Troumpe, our nominating committee, are looking for a candidate for 2nd VP in charge of membership. This is a great opportunity to serve the club while enjoying the benefits of membership.

Paulette Remillard, Patti Troumpe, Liz Manns and I attended the Western District meeting, April 1, in West Springfield. We all participated in a Reality Store workshop organized by Trudi Munson. It was very informative, fun, challenging and a great teaching, learning tool. There will be an opportunity to sign up to staff the Reality Store booth at the Eastern States Exposition. Parking and admission are free if you commit to 4 hours at the booth. I hope that you will have time to take advantage of the offer.

Officer and Committee Chair reports are due at the April 26th meeting.

Remember...May 19th & 20th are the dates for participating in the "Relay for Life" Cancer walk to be held at Noel Field, North Adams. I am walking for 1 hour, from 11am to 12 noon on Saturday. ...hope to see you there.

Cheers, Sylvia

Date: April 26, 2006

Location: Williams Inn

Program: "Ways to Create Miracles in your Business...and Your Life"

**Guest Speaker: Jerry Posner,
Motivational Speaker**

Menu:

New England Clam Chowder

1. London Broil au Jus

2. Poached Salmon with Dill Sauce

**3. Portabella Mushroom with
Eggplant, Spinach and Tomato**

Dessert – Carrot Cake

Coffee, Tea

Cost: \$20.00

Hostesses: Sylvia Proud

413-662-5434 (W)

802-823-5535 (H)

Gwen Boillat

413-663-9328(H)

Please remember: Reservations are due by the Friday before the meeting. If you haven't been called, call one of the hostesses above. **Also, you are responsible for reservations made and not honored.** We must pay for meals ordered.

Networking – 6:00

Meeting opens – 6:30

Dinner – 6:45

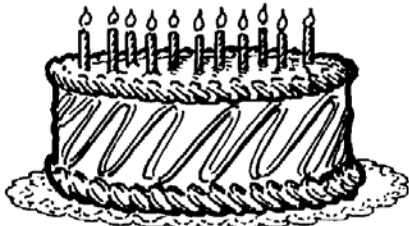
Guests are welcome!

Dates to Remember

April 13 - Passover
April 16 - Easter
April 17 - Patriots Day
April 26 - NBBPW Meeting
(Member Recognition)
May 1 - NBBPW Board Meeting
May 14 - Mother's Day
May 19-21 - BPW/MA
State Convention
May 24 - NBBPW Meeting
May 29 - Memorial Day
July 18-22 - BPW National Conf.
Dallas, Texas

April Birthdays

??????
Are we missing you????
??????



2006 NBBPW Members to Be Honored

10 years - Patti Troumpe
15 years - Allyn Basel
Maureen O'Mara
20 years - Nancy Lescarbeau
30 years - Marion Duffy

***"EVEN IF YOU ARE ON THE RIGHT
TRACK, YOU'LL GET RUN OVER IF
YOU JUST SIT THERE."***

WILL ROGERS

~*~Did You Know?~*~

Domestic Violence And The Workplace

More than one in four American women over the age of 18 has experienced domestic violence. Every year in the American workplace, approximately 120,000 employees are victims of violence committed by an intimate: current or former spouse, lover, partner, or boyfriend/girlfriend. Employers lose between \$3 and \$5 billion every year in absenteeism, lower productivity, higher turnover, and health and safety costs because of domestic violence. Of women who are victims of domestic violence, 96% experience problems at work due to abuse, 74% are harassed at work by their abuser, 56% are late to work, 28% leave work early, and 54% miss entire days of work.

BPW Foundation

IMPORTANT WEBSITES!!

www.bpw/usa.org

www.bpw/ma.org

www.northernberkshirebpw.org

BPW/MA

~~*FYI*~*~*

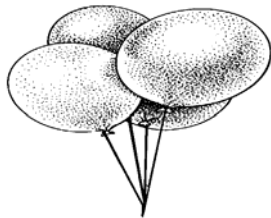
BPW/MA's annual State Convention will be held from May 19-21, 2006 at the Radisson, Plymouth Harbor Hotel. Rooms will cost \$119 plus taxes for single or double occupancy.

Reservations at the \$119 rate will be accepted until April 19, 2006. Due to the short reservation time frame, Liz Manns has already reserved two rooms on her card so if anyone is interested in attending, contact Liz by May 10th, at the latest.

At State convention, all members in good standing may vote to make their voices heard on the issues facing Massachusetts Federation. Other events happening at State Convention this year include awards to locals for Foundation, Membership and Public Relations. Also, each local's member of the Year will be recognized. State Officer installation will take place Saturday evening and include Western District's own Rosemary Roper as President-Elect and Jane St. Sauveur as Secretary.

So, come, one and all, for a fun weekend near the ocean and for an opportunity on Friday to tour historic Plymouth and perhaps, on Sunday, to zip over to the Cape.

Liz Manns



Lawmakers Vote to End Older Worker Penalty

Massachusetts House and Senate lawmakers unanimously voted to eliminate the Social Security Unemployment Insurance offset. The measure was included as part of economic stimulus bills passed by both houses. The offset penalized older workers by reducing unemployment benefits for those collecting Social Security by 50% - or 50 cents for each dollar of Social Security payments. "With AARP's guidance, we are righting a wrong that has impacted numerous older workers in Massachusetts", said Senate President, Robert E. Travagline (D). "Eliminating the Social Security offset makes the labor laws more fair to seniors and helps retain their valuable contribution to our workforce."

AARP Massachusetts testified before the Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development, met with legislative leaders, and helped AARP members make their voices heard in the debate.

"With AARP's teamwork, we gave an extra helping hand to seniors who lose their jobs," said House Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R).

A House-Senate conference committee is now working on the economic stimulus bill to send to Gov. Mitt Romney ® for his signature. Check www.aarp.org/ma for updates.

AARP Newsletter-Winter 2006