

Western Gateway Gazette
Northern Berkshire Business and Professional Women
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June, 2006

A message from your president...

As June is the month that marks the transition from the spring season to the summer, so it also marks the transition from one set of officers to another for our local. I would like to extend my congratulations to Sylvia Proud and her team on the highly successful year they have just completed. You have certainly set a fine example for us all.

I would like to welcome Deborah Felix (2nd Vice President), Pauline Davis (Secretary), and Gwendolyn Boillat (Treasurer) to the Executive Committee. I would also like to extend my thanks to Paulette Remillard for agreeing to serve a second term as 1st Vice President. Each of us brings our own strengths and talents to the committee and I look forward to an outstanding year with all of you.

My theme this year is "Catch a Shooting Star. For a Woman, Anything is Possible." My goal is to increase the club's visibility within the local community. One of the easiest ways we can do that is by our participation in the large community events that will be happening over the summer months. This includes the Downtown Celebration in North Adams (August 23) and possibly Hi Jinks night in Adams (July 31). Our participation in such events will depend on volunteers to man the tables. At the June 28th meeting, I will be passing out sign up sheets for each of these events, so if you can spare an hour or two for one or both of these events, please put your name down. I also over the summer plan to get our meeting dates for next year posted on the Berkshire Chamber of Commerce's Online Calendar and published in the 2007 edition of the Quality Print Calendar. Lastly, our newest visibility tool is our own website. Over the summer, the website will be being updated and additions added to it. Most recently a discussion forum for members only has been added to the website. If you have not checked out the site, please do.

As you can see we have some exciting things to cover at our June 28th Beach Party meeting. Weather permitting; I hope to see everyone there sporting their best summer finery. For those who cannot attend, I hope you have a great summer!!!

Elizabeth Manns
NBBPW President

JUNE MEETING

Date: June 28, 2006

Location: Williams Inn
Program: "Beach Party"

Menu: Garden Salad

Choice of:

- 1. Roast Strip Loin of Beef**
- 2. Baked Scrod with Crumb Topping**
- 3. Grilled Vegetables over Creamy Polenta**

Dessert: Fresh Berries atop a Light Sponge Cake

Coffee, Tea

Cost: \$20.00

Hostesses: Carol Kondel
413-743-7885
Allyn Basel
802-694-1466

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!

~*~Did You Know?~*~

Dr. LENA MADESIN PHILLIPS

Lena Madessin Phillips was born in the then sleepy Kentucky Hamlet of Nicholasville on September 15, 1881, in the fabled Bluegrass Region. Her formative years were spent in Nicholasville and Jessamine County, where her father was a country judge for 44 years. She was a talented musician, although poor health forced her to abandon plans to become a concert pianist, she continued to study music in New York and did some composing.

After an interlude in Nicholasville, she turned to a life-long interest in law and in 1917 was the first woman to graduate with Honors from the University of Kentucky, College of Law. She was admitted to the lawyers bar in the same year and began practicing law, first in her hometown, in New York City, in whose teeming streets she came face to face with injustice, despair, and social ills which had never touched her sheltered youth. She quickly sensed what power could be generated by a national movement to organize all women who had a business or profession. Together they could mold public opinion, set new working standards, improve economic and industrial conditions, and lay enduring foundations for peace and for the benefit of all mankind. To get such an organization on its feet became her consuming passion.

In 1919, she was offered, and accepted, the post of business women's secretary for the national board of the Y.W.C.A. in New York which led to her position of leadership among the nation's business and professional women and the

founding of BPW USA in the same year.

In the late 1920's while president of the US National Federation; she crisscrossed the Atlantic several times. Each time she was leading a "good will tour" whose purpose was to find like-minded European business women and to aid them in forming an international organization. She inspired these women to give their all for the same cause and in 1930 her second dream was realized with the founding in Geneva, Switzerland of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women. She was elected President, a position she held for 17 years. Under the auspices of the Office of War Information, during World War II, she toured clubs in the various countries of Europe to talk with women and help them plan for their future after the War.

From 1923 on, Dr. Lena Madessin Phillips continued to practice law in New York City and would write articles for magazines. She also served as a Consultant to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. The University of Kentucky awarded her an honorary doctor of law degree in 1939.

En route to a consultative conference with women leaders of the Middle East, which was to be held in Beirut, Lebanon, she became ill and died on May 20, 1955, in Marseilles, France. She is buried in the family plot in the Maple Grave Cemetery, in Nicholasville, Kentucky.

Dates to Remember

June 14 – Flag Day
June 18 – Father’s Day
June 28 – NBBPW General Meeting
July 4 – Independence Day
July 18-22 – BPW National Conf.
Dallas, Texas

Summer Birthdays

Margaret Tash – 6/14
Kathy Ziarnik – 6/27
Nancy Lescarbeau – 7/5
Sylvia Proud – 7/7
Dorothy Ransford – 7/125
Patti Troumpe – 7/23
Mary Michel – 7/27
Deborah Felix – 7/28
Paulette Remillard - 8/29



Facts on Title IX

No person in the United State shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving financial assistance (20 U.S.C. Section 168).

The purpose of Title IX of the Education amendments of 1972 is to give girls and women equal opportunities to those offered to boys and men in all education programs receiving taxpayer dollars. BPW/USA strongly supports Title IX and opposes any efforts that would weaken its effectiveness in ensuring equal educational opportunities for all students.

What is Title IX?

Regulations for Title IX prohibit discrimination based on gender and marital or parental status in admissions and recruitment; housing and facilities; courses and other educational activities; career guidance and counseling; student financial aid; student health and insurance benefits; and scholastic, intercollegiate and intramural athletics. It regulates federally-funded education programs to prevent and address sex discrimination. Provisions of Title IX include:

Sexual Harassment

- Prohibits sexual harassment by any employee or agent of the school, which was confirmed in a 1981 U.S. Dept. of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) memo.

Athletics

- Regulates institutions to provide equitable athletic opportunities for all students, regardless of sex, in three separate areas: participation, treatment of athletes, and athletic scholarships.

Single-Sex Education

- Prohibits single-sex classes or programs within co-ed schools, with very limited exceptions.

from BPW/USA

IMPORTANT WEBSITES!!

www.bpw/usa.org

www.bpw/ma.org

www.northernberkshirebpw.org