

Western Gateway Gazette
**Northern Berkshire Business and Professional
Women**

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

May, 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The leaves on the trees are starting to bud and flowers are beginning to blossom. A sure sign that Spring has finally taken hold and Winter has let go its grip on the Berkshires. May is annually the month of transition for both our local and the State Federation.

At State Convention (May 18-20), one of Northern Berkshire's good friends Rosemary Roper will be installed as State President. She would dearly love to see as many friends from our local on hand as can possibly come, even if all the time you have to spare is for the Installation Dinner. It is still not too late to make a reservation; so, come and spend some quality time with your sisters from the other locals in the Federation. The Convention is being held at the Holiday Inn, Holyoke, MA. Contact person is Lucienne Pelletier (978-774-1442).

Our local's meeting is on Wednesday, May 23rd. It will be a relaxing meeting as we wind up the club's business for FY'07 and install the officers for FY'08. Paulette Remillard, our incoming President, is busy planning her year and, like all presidents before her, is

seeking among you talented women for some committee chairs.

As this year is coming to a close, I want to thank you, the members of Northern Berkshire, for all the support and help you have given to me and our local. Without you, our local would not be as strong as it is nor accomplish all that it has. The President, like a captain of a ship, may have her hand on the steering wheel, but it is the officers and members who keep our good ship NBBPW afloat.

It has been a pleasure serving as your President this year and I thank you for entrusting the local to me once again. I look forward to seeing everyone at the May 23rd meeting as we turn the reins over to Paulette, Deborah, Dorothy, Pauline and Gwen.

Elizabeth Manns
NBBPW President



MAY MEETING

Date: May 23, 2007
Location: Williams Inn
Program: Installation of Officers
2007-2008

Menu: Garden Salad

Choice of:

1. Roast pork Loin
2. Chicken Almondine
3. Fettuccine Rachel with Spinach & Mushrooms

Desert: Cheesecake with Melba Sauce

Coffee, Tea

Cost: \$20.00

Hostesses: Marge Bissaillon
413-743-0759
Marion Duffy
413-663-7094

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!

IMPORTANT WEBSITES!!

www.bpw/usa.org

www.bpw/ma.org

www.northernberkshirebpw.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 13 – Mother's Day
May 19 – Armed Forces Day
May 18-20 – BPW State Convention,
Holyoke, MA
May 23 – General Meeting
May 28 – Memorial Day
June 2 – Skillshop Day, UMass Med.
School, Worcester, MA
July 18-21 – Nat'l. Conf. & Conv.
Reno, Nevada



May Birthdays

Marge Bissaillon –
5/23
Lucy Milette – 5/25

REMINDER!
State Convention

May 18-20, 2007
Holiday Inn, Holyoke, MA

All members in good standing are delegates once registration fee has been paid.

Fri. night: Pre-convention Board of Directors meeting and Open House/Reception for the National Representative in president-elect Rosemary Roper's suite.

Sat. morning: First-timers Briefing, coffee, tea and bagels, business meeting, Young Careerist Speak-off, nomination report and candidate's forum. Lunch will be a deli buffet.

Sat. afternoon: Business meeting continues, including topics such as bylaws, budget, Strategic Planning Report and President's Report.

Sat. night: Installation of officers followed by dinner and an evening of Jazz. The theme of the installation is "Warping into the Future".

Dinner choices are salmon or chicken with chocolate for dessert.

Sun. morning: Awards breakfast, where public relations, membership, issues management and legislation awards will be given and local Members of the Year will be recognized.

Registration Details: Rooms - \$109 (deadline April 18th). BPW registration - \$75 postmarked by May 1; \$85 postmarked later; \$95 at the door. Send to: Lucienne Pelletier, 45 Riverside Street, Danvers, MA 01923.

BPW/MA Three-year
Strategic Plan

GOAL: Increase membership by 20% in three years, while maintaining 80% retention.

PLAN:

1. *Development of deep leadership pool*
2. *Development of scholarship program for membership*
 - a. *develop guidelines, including member expectations*
3. *Develop outreach targets*
 - a. *continued collaboration with other women's groups*
4. *Development of marketing plan for ID*
 - a. *implementation*
 - b. *identification of target markets*
5. *Development of interactive website*
6. *Development of mentoring Program*
 - a. *Identify targets*
 1. *local officers*
 2. *younger members*
 3. *outreach for potential Members*
7. *Redesign state meeting model*
 - a. *State convention*
 - b. *Skill shop*
 - c. *Interim Board*
8. *Look at District structure*
 - a. *District liason*
President -Elect

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