

Western Gateway Gazette
Northern Berkshire Business and Professional
Women

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November, 2005

A message from your president...

Dear Members

We've turned back the clocks and here it is November, the time to celebrate Thanksgiving with family and friends. Dare we shop on "Black Friday"? We had a great October, beginning with the Meet the Members meeting on Oct. 19. Fourteen members and ten guests attended. Carol Kondel did a GREAT job of organizing and presenting the event. Pat Stowell, BPW/MA President spoke on the connection between Northern Berkshire and Hampshire Counties and the Mass. Federation. Rosemary Roper, District Director, spoke on the benefits of belonging to BPW and Liz Manns, past NBBPW President, gave a humorous speech relating to her childhood, her reasons for joining NBBPW and the benefits she has received from this membership. On Oct. 21 & 22, Paulette, Liz and I attended Fall Board in Boston. Some of the topics discussed were BPW membership and MAEF funds for BPW members. On Oct. 26, thirty-two persons attended the "Woman of Achievement" program. Thank-you to all who participated in this important event...Sandy and Lucy for presenting a fine program, Liz for nominating Jane Allen to receive this honor and Marge and Marion for hosting the evening. Peter Fohlin, Williamstown Town Manager, spoke of Jane's dedication, perseverance and integrity in all that she does. Jane spoke

of her pleasure at receiving such a distinguished award. Mr. Fohlin also mentioned that Jane is known at Town Hall as "Lady Jane", a fitting tribute to a charming woman.

We are anticipating a visit from Maria Coviello and Caroline Coscia at our November meeting. Maria and Laura Bauver are both running for Recording Secretary at the national level of BPW. Remember that the meeting is one week earlier than our usual meeting time. I hope to see you all there.

Sincerely, Sylvia



Bring non-perishable food items,
for the Northern Berkshire Food
Pantry, to the November 16
meeting.

November Meeting

Date: November 16, 2005

Location: Williams Inn

Program: "Building Bridges to a Fitter Lifestyle"

Speaker: Kimberly Guilds, ACE Certified Personal Trainer, Fitness Model & NPC Figure competitor

Menu: Soup de jour

1. Baked Scrod
 2. Hawaiian Ham Steak
 3. Vegetarian entrée
- Dessert – Pumpkin Pie

Coffee, Tea

Cost: \$20.00

**Hostesses: Liz Manns
413-664-7445
Pauline Davis
413-663-7844**

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!



November Birthdays

Gwen Boillat – 11/11

Inna Gertje – 11/25

Dates to Remember

November 11 – Veteran's Day

November 16 – NBBPW Meeting

November 21 – Western District Meeting, Pittsfield

November 24 – Thanksgiving

December 14 – December Meeting

~*~*~**FYI**~*~*~

(from Fall Board)

There is increased access to MAEF funds for BPW members. These funds are available to members to use for 1 or 2-day workshops, conventions, and training sessions as well as for full courses, etc. It was suggested that the amount of the award be increased from \$500 to \$1000.

Rosemary Roper has arranged for BPW/MA to present the REALITY STORE Program at the Big E and at the Topsfield Fair. NBBPW will represent Northern Berkshire one day at the Big E. The Big E will be giving BPW 8 free tickets per day to staff the booth. More information will be coming from Rosemary Roper. On Dec. 7, women from across Mass. will attend the Massachusetts Governor's Conference for Women in conjunction with the Mass. Commission on the status of women. All locals are invited to join in staffing the BPW table and promoting their local. A suggestion was made that each local name one member to the Mass. Coalition for Choice and to pursue further contacts within the community through participation of members in other community organizations. (NBBPW is a member of the Berkshire Chamber of Commerce. Any member may attend the meetings.)

OF INTEREST.....

BPW/USA Newsletter
Vol. III, Issue 10

Study Shows Gender Roles Slow to Change

According to Tools of the Trade, a new report by the National Women's Law Center, high school career and technical education programs haven't made much progress since the days when girls were required to take home economics and boys were required to enroll in shop. The report examines girls' participation in career and technical education (CTE) programs that are nontraditional for their gender. The report finds that, in spite of the 33-year-old Title IX law that prohibits sex discrimination in education, girls still represent the vast majority of students in traditionally female fields and boys are nearly all the students enrolled in traditionally male programs, a pattern virtually unchanged over the last three decades. Visit the *National Women's Law* to view the report, including state-specific fact sheets.

Gender-Based Stereotyping Continues in Workplace

According to a new study by Catalyst, gender-based stereotyping still contributes to senior executives' perceptions of men and women's skills in the work place, thereby contributing to the continuing gender gap in the work place. Women "Take Care", Men "Take Charge" Stereotyping of U.S. Business Leaders Exposed finds that gender-based stereotyping can potentially undermine women's capacity to lead, and poses serious challenges to women's career advancement. Additionally, the study reports that men consider women to be less adept at problem solving, one of the qualities

most commonly associated with effective leadership and a key trait of a CEO. Since men far outnumber women in top management, this male-held stereotype may contribute to the small number of female CEOs in Fortune 500 and Fortune 1000 companies. Visit the *Catalyst Website* to read the full report.

Reminders. . . .

1. Give your YC nominations to Francine LaJoie or a committee member.
2. Scholarships applications are being accepted by Pauline Davis & Inna Gertje.
3. Nominations for "Member of the Year" need to be given to Fran Czarnecki at the November meeting.
4. 50/50 Holiday Raffle tickets will be distributed at the November meeting or will be mailed to members who are not present at the meeting.

Things to be secretly thankful for... just some reasons to smile ☺

The last of the ugly heirloom goblets finally broke.

The ruffles on your new holiday skirt could be considered garish. On the other hand, the waistband is elastic.

No need to polish your sterling silver spoons--you sold them all on eBay.

Nobody called attention to your niece's nose piercing or to Grandma's brow lift. In all these years, no one's ever noticed that your gravy actually comes from a jar.

At least you're not married to your brother-in-law.

Your cousin's baby went down for her nap three minutes before dinner started. It's your sister-in-law's turn to have Christmas.

Good Housekeeping, November 2005