

# Business Professional Women Newsletter

## Willmar Chapter

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**Jane Vikse wins Women of Year!** Pictured is Jane Vikse and Stacy Peterson.

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## Presidents Message—From Stacy Petersen

A huge Thank You for a great October Banquet. Thank you Jeni Ritz, Colleen Hern, and Michelle Marotzke for making this night a huge Success!



Our Guest speaker:

**Janel Anderson, PhD**, *Workplace Communication Expert and CEO of Working Conversations*. Janel did a great job on her topic, Meaningful Connections. We were glad to have her attend and enjoyed her inspiring talk.

## Jennie-O Turkey Store wins Employer of the Year!

Pictured is Pat Solheid, Betty Gubrud, Renee Cool, Nancy Kothrade, Brenda Santamont, Dianne Parker and Stacy Peterson.





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## Mentoring by Julie Asmus

The mentoring group tapped in to their artistic side for our October activity. We each painted a beautiful fall picture. It's amazing how



everybody has a little different painting even though the instructor is telling us all the same thing. The girls all had a great time and it was fun to create something that we might actually hang in our house. Nancy Welch joined our group with our newest mentee, Sophie. It was fun to meet her and she is a

great addition to the group. If you're interested in joining us, please contact Julie Asmus.



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## **Willmar Area BPW Executive Board Meeting**

**Tuesday October 13, 2015**

**Present:** Stacey, Teri, Yvette, Betty, Kathy, Jeni – guest

**Called to Order:** Stacey called the meeting to order at 1201

### **Business Items:**

#### **October Banquet Plans/WOTY and BOTY (Jeni/Stacey):**

Date - October 27th at the Oaks. Social hour at 5:30 and supper at 6:00 pm. Speaker is Janelle Anderson and her topic will be Making Meaningful Connections. Need a photographer, Betty will ask Angie Caskey. The Women Of The Year - Jane Vikse and Business Of The Year – Jennie-O Turkey Store, will receive 2 complimentary tickets. If a member comes for the program only and does not want the meal, the cost will be \$5.00. Food is ordered, turkey will be the entrée. Will plan for a silent auction event currently 7 baskets have been volunteered and plan to limit the baskets to 10. The monies will be earmarked for the scholarship fund. Jeni has updated the membership book and will plan to email versus making hard copies. Plaques have been ordered. Candy will be placed on the tables along with our brochures. Will plan to do our Door Prize, tickets will be sold at the welcome table.

#### **Women Works event (Stacey):**

MBW contributed to the to the Women Works event held the 10th of October. Attendance not optimum. Brochures were handed out.

#### **Survey Monkey Results for Extra Funds – 23 responses:**

Organization: Grace Place – 50%  
Distinguished Young Women – 27.27%  
Family Promise – 22.73%

Dollar Amount: \$500 – 69.57%  
\$1000 – 30.43%

Comments: I believe Distinguished Young Women fits nicely into our organization. We are a group p of business women – the young women who take part in this program are setting the stage for their future career.

Give \$250.00 to each group

I think all 3 are great organizations and provide a lot of value to our community. If it's possible to make a large contribution to one and smaller contribution to the other 2, that would be a great opportunity to spread the MBW name across a broader selection of the population.

I would like the amount to be given in a way that can make an impact on the women or a woman at Grace Place and really say, BPW did this. Whether it is helping with adequate clothing for women transitioning out of the house, perhaps travel fund for them to reconnect with family or pay for ongoing counseling for the women as they transition out of the house – something to make them feel like the world cares and wants them to succeed and here is a little help in getting to where they need to be. Stacy and Jane could probably give us an idea of what these women need most during that transitioning time – maybe a little fund that can be used at their discretion to provide for the women as the need arises.

\$500.00 will be given to Grace Place and Distinguished Young Women. Stacey did not vote due to conflict

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of interest.

**Other:****Member Acknowledgement:**

There has been confusion as to buying a token of recognition for various life events for our members. Discussion relative to history ensued. Decision made to acknowledge members as an organization with deaths of a spouse or child. Will plan to build into bylaws at next revision.

**Young Careerist Event:**

Stacey indicated that the state is looking at bringing the Young Careerist event back. Jeni and Teri shared their experiences with the program. It is difficult at best to engage employers to participate. Unsure it fits what today's needs are with little incentive for employers/employees. Also currently only 9 MBW orgs in MN and Willmar is the largest. Group encouraged that our delegation would not support the return of this event.

**Treasurer's Report (Yvette):** Budget see report (jewelry fundraiser was not tagged for anything - but desire to put a tag on future fundraisers) all monies received for silent auction items at banquet will go to scholarships.

**Membership Report (Teri):**

One new member Kristin Dressler. Believe current membership number to be 40.

**Programs Report (Betty)**

October is the Fall Banquet, November will feature Repurposed Decorating. RSVP's will be taken for Nov dinner at 6:30 with a single entrée, December is the Christmas party at Patti's and will be catered in.

**Mentoring:**

Julie email report. New mentee/mentor Nancy Weber/Sophie. Painting Class will be held the end of October.

**Finance/Fundraiser:**

Upcoming fundraiser at LuLu Beans. More information to follow .

**Newsletter:**

Articles due to Betty by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Please respect this deadline. Will have Donna continue to post Willmar BPW information on the State website.

**Next Meeting:**

The next Willmar Area BPW Executive Board Meeting is November 10<sup>th</sup> at noon at The Goodness Coffee Shop.

**Adjournment:** 12:43

**Respectfully Submitted:** Kathy Dillon

# **November Member Meeting**

## **Nov 17th**

**5:30 pm The Oaks**

Speaker: Deb Krueger; Repurpose Decorating

A bit about Deb:

Deb and her husband Paul live in Svea. They have two adult children and one grandchild. Deb has worked at Rice Memorial Hospital for 15 years, she is a Health Data Specialist. Some of Deb's passions: Working with her daughter Desrae as Wedding Coordinators for Calvary Lutheran Church. Donating time to Home Front Connections, a military organization supporting veterans and active duty military and is currently serving as President.

Five years ago Deb and her friend Christy started Red Door Treasures, a repurpose occasional shop in Svea. After a friend asked Deb to make a T-Shirt quilt for her daughter's graduation, Stitch your Niche was created. Deb is a contributor at Patina Marquet in Willmar, and Snappy and Pappy in New London. When Deb is not hunting for treasures to repurpose, she enjoys spending time with her grandson, running, she ran her first marathon this past spring, gardening, and reading.

Raffle item provided by: Nichole Gleason and Patti Dols

**Like our Facebook page:**

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/MBW-BPW-Willmar>

**Log onto:**

**[www.mnbusinesswomen.org](http://www.mnbusinesswomen.org)**

Check out what happening at the state level



Fund Raising Event:

# BPW Fundraiser

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Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>

**LuLu Bean's Coffee House**

1020 1<sup>st</sup> St So, Willmar

4:30 - 6:15

**Tastefully Simple - Heather Nett**

**Norwex - Kim Bristle**

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## **Welcome our Newest Member: Sharyl Helgeson**

Sharyl is currently "in between" - seeking a Willmar position to simplify commute. Sharyl retired from the State in 2012 after 33 years in nursing/mental health & later at St. Paul Central Office in health & human services public policy/administration for 22 years. Program Director/Service Coordinator for nonprofit Atwater Area Help for Seniors for past three years.

Sharyl has three step-daughters Jenne, Jill, and Jaimee with their families. My three 'rescued' kitties: Buddy, Sam & Nemo are great company.

Sharyl enjoys walking/hiking, flower gardening, enjoys nature in general & lake sunrises/wildlife specifically, reading, the arts, resurrecting knitting projects, cooking/baking.

What Brought You to Join BPW: Betty Shepperd was my next door neighbor - she suggested I'd be interested in BPW whenever I decided to work in Willmar area vs. Twin Cities commute. Looking forward to networking and socializing with other women, the program aspects of meetings and being involved in efforts that benefit our community. Saw recent ad - including a couple members I know - that spurred me into 'action

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# Minnesota Business Women Board of Directors Meeting

## Saturday, October 3, 2015

### Courtyard by Marriot | St Cloud, MN

Call to Order President Joni Fauchald called the meeting to order at 10.38am.

Roll Call Secretary Pro-Tem Beth Gibson Lilja presented the roll call.

Present: Joni Fauchald; Beth Gibson Lilja, Connie Hill, Julie Asmus, Faye Crane, Paula Hritz-Nobs, Sharon Prah, June Pittenger and Kristina Kainz

Absent: Kelly Hulke, Susan Jordahl-Bubacz, Michele Marotzke, Stacy Peterson, Arlene Roehl, Evette Wissler, Mary Jo Igelstad, Jenny Konrad, Michele Vogl, Deb Bounds, Jane Peterson and Stacy Peterson

Approval of Minutes The August 2015 minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve made by Beth Gibson Lilja, seconded by Julie Asmus. **Motion Carried.**

Treasurer Report Report presented by Faye Crane. There are no changes as there has been very limited activity. A listing of members was attached to the report. There was discussion regarding the status of membership numbers. There are 113 members paid to date. Dala has five new members after the last meeting but dues have not been sent. **Report will be filed for audit.**

Unfinished Business Limited Liability Insurance and Treasurer's Bond – Carol Masberg with Hays Companies in Minneapolis is seeking bids from various companies. These items are not in the budget but the payment can be made from surplus funds. Beth will continue to monitor this process.

Webmaster – Donna Brau has said that she will continue for now but will seek someone from Willmar to transition to the position. Dennis Benson from Willmar is the Webmaster. Local Organizations may send information to Donna at [LAdirector@vinjchurch.com](mailto:LAdirector@vinjchurch.com). Donna would like Local Organization information as soon as possible – pictures of officers, newsletters, dates of meetings, special events, contact person, location of meetings, etc.

WCDC Representative – Susan Jordahl-Bubacz attended the September meeting. Julie Asmus has agreed to be our new representative and she will contact Shirley about attending the October meeting.

Young Careerist and ID Programs – Discussion was held regarding these programs and how to implement them back into MBW. Perhaps some of the individual programs like Robert's Rules of Order (skit) could be used for the 2016 State Conference. We may need to explain to each Local Organization why it is important to have this training. Beth indicated that she served on by the BPW/USA Young Careerist and Individual Development National Committees and will provide her information to the Board. Beth has been tasked with the Young Careerist program for the State. The ID program could be used for Local Organization meetings. Joni indicated that she would be sending a listing of the Individual



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Development Module Programs to the Local Organizations.

Michele was not present to provide an update of the Women of Today Program. She will provide information on how that organization manages its training programs. There is also a Woman of Distinction Award. The organization also provides high school scholarships.

Beth provided an update of the Minnesota Women's Consortium. The board discussed how it can work with them – perhaps the new director could be a 2016 State Conference speaker.

Faye provided the board with an update on the member database. Evette has not been receiving the information of new members – she just set it up initially but is not going to continue with the process. Since we switched to the new system, we no longer have older information like lapsed members. We do not have a workflow for keeping track of new members. The board discussed the news of the database system. Kristina has volunteered to initiate the process. Information should start with the MBW Treasurer. Local Organization Treasurers should then send information to the State Treasurer. With this new process we would not need a database manager – the Local Organization Treasurers need to add to timelines to report to State Treasurer each month.

Presidents Call was held last Thursday and there were only two others on the call - Evette from Dala and a representative from Mankato, Tammy Ellis. Mankato is very excited. Joni sent out the agenda well in advance. Is this something we want to continue? We will give it one more chance for the November call and see what happens.

New Business Legislative update – Susan was not available for this meeting and there was not written report. What type of event should we have for the members? Do we want to partner with the Minnesota Women's Consortium for the Girls Rock the Capitol Program? Each Local Organization will need to determine the extent of its participation.

Meetings Planner – This is a new role for Julie and she is seeking assistance in determining her position and who will be helping her for the 2016 State Conference. This would be a conference and becomes a meeting if there needs to be changes to the Bylaws. What do we want from this event? We need to provide personal, professional and political sessions. We need to begin a budget. How about a murder mystery for the Friday night event?

Meeting Recess      Joni called for a recess for lunch at 12:50pm.

Meeting Reconvened Joni reconvened the meeting at 1:22pm.

The Board continued its discussion of the 2016 State Conference. The legislation component could be covered with speakers from the Minnesota Women's Consortium and the Women's Candidate Development Coalition. We need costs for 35 attendees. Costs of speakers are needed for the budget. The conference will be

The Board continued its discussion of the 2016 State Conference. The legislation component could be covered with speakers from the Minnesota Women's Consortium and the Women's Candidate Development Coalition. We need costs for 35 attendees. Costs of speakers are needed for the budget. The conference will be held in St Cloud. Do we want sponsors? Evaluations turned in at the end of the meeting to be eligible for a drawing?

Membership Report – Jenny Konrad was not available for the meeting nor provided a report. The membership survey has been tabled. Would it be possible to have a state brochure for the Local Organization new member packets? Does the brochure need to be updated? Should there be an incentive for members who pay on time?

#### Motion

Presto Print to send 50 updated copies of state brochure to each local organization. Motion made by Julie Asmus and seconded by Kristina Kainz. Motion Carried.

Bylaws Chair – Faye Crane indicated that there were no changes at this time. There was a question, however, about whether the State Conference should be every other year.

Finance Chair – Paul Hritz-Nobs mentioned that our budget was designed for 150 members this year. At this point, we will need to pull funds from surplus funds.

#### MBW Magazine

The deadline for Issue 1 is October 27. Discussion was held on what should be included in the magazine.

#### Other Business

None

#### Schedule Next Meeting

Next BOD conference call will be 12.3.2015 at 7:30pm.

Next Presidents call TBD.

Next BOD in-person meeting in person will be 1.30.2016 from 10:30-3pm at St Cloud Courtyard by Marriott.

#### Adjourn Meeting

Joni adjourned the meeting at 2:27pm