



The Minnesota *Business Woman*

The Official Publication of the Minnesota Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc.

Vol. 85, No 2 • 2018-19

A Century of Change



Julie Asmus, President

It wouldn't be Minnesota if we didn't talk about the weather. I don't know if it's ever going to quit snowing and blowing, but we WILL have an incredibly fun time in St. Cloud on May 4, even if we have to climb over snowbanks. (Hopefully not by then) Our speaker, Sunday Burquest, is going to be amazing. She is a mother of four, a breast cancer survivor and was a participant on the reality TV show "Survivor"! She will inspire you and bring out the "Grit Girl" in all of us. I'm also looking forward to Riddler's Escape Room. It will be fun to see how groups use their problem solving skills to find the clues and work as a team to get out of the room!!

A fabulous day of training, a great speaker, breakfast, lunch and an escape room experience for only **\$10**

Minnesotas BPW has been working to empower women and develop them personally and professionally for almost a century. Thank you for being a member of this great organization. We will also be having a membership meeting for all BPW members at the state event. I hope you can join us, not only for a great day of training, but to also participate in a discussion about our future.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in St. Cloud!

Julie

REGISTER NOW!
for MBW's 2019 Annual Event
& Special Meeting on **May 4th**

"Leading the Way - Step by Step"

PLEASE USE THE REGISTRATION FORM (ENVELOPE) ENCLOSED.
THE DEADLINE FOR EVENT REGISTRATION IS APRIL 19, 2019.

EVENT QUESTIONS:

Beth Gibson Lilja at (612) 616-1215 or beth@gettingorganizednow.com

"Leading the Way – Step by Step"

May 2019 MFBPW State Event

Tentative Agenda

Saturday, May 4, 2019

Registration at Best Western Kelly Inn	9:30 am – 10:00 am
Continental Breakfast	9:30 am – 10:00 am
Welcome & First Timers Introduction	10:00 am – 10:15 am
Keynote Speaker – Sunday Burquest	10:15 am – 11:00 am
Special Meeting <i>[proposed bylaw changes - see green box below]</i>	11:00 am– 12:30 pm
Lunch	12:30 pm – 1:15 pm
Travel to Riddler’s Escape	1:15 pm – 1:40 pm
Escape Room Team Building Exercise	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Closing	3:00 pm – 3:15 pm

Your Survival can be Summarized

in one word: *Grit*



Sunday Burquest

The key ingredient to surviving life's biggest setbacks can be summarized in one word, grit. You are much stronger than you thought and are braver than you imagine, you simply need to discover the grit you already possess. By sharing her personal experiences, Sunday will walk through the practical steps needed to tap into that grit, leaving you not only inspired but confident that you can survive any setback you face.

Proposed Bylaw Amendments for MFBPW

To be voted on at the special meeting held on May 4, 2019 in St. Cloud.

The Board of Directors of the Minnesota Federation of Business and Professional Women’s Clubs, Inc. moves ***that the state organization dissolve at the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year (5/31/2020)***. The determination of remaining funds to be decided by the members at a special meeting in conjunction with the state event in 2020.

If the above motion of dissolution passes, the following motion will be considered:

APPENDIX — DUES (effective for the 2019-2020 fiscal year)		<u>Currently</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
ACTIVE MEMBER:	TO: Minnesota Business Women	\$ 12.00	\$ 0.00
STUDENT MEMBER:	TO: Minnesota Business Women	\$ 6.00	\$ 0.00
MEMBER-AT-LARGE:	TO: Minnesota Business Women	\$ 60.00	Delete category

FYI: See paragraph below for the text of ARTICLE XV DISSOLUTION:

Upon dissolution of this corporation, all of its assets remaining after payment of all costs and expenses of such dissolution shall be distributed to an entity that has qualified for exemption under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and state tax regulations. The voting body will approve which entity that is. None of the assets will be distributed to any member or officer of this organization.

MAKE YOUR ROOM RESERVATIONS FOR THE EVENT WITH:

Best Western Kelly Inn | 100 – 4th Ave S | St Cloud, MN 56301

Room rate is \$115 plus applicable taxes and fees (queen or double)

Room block under Minnesota Federation of Business and Professional Women

(room block for Friday night only)

**HOTEL
DEADLINE:
APRIL 4, 2019**

Help People Find You

Linda Laitala,

Past State President 1991-92 & 2013-14

Presidents work hard to run their clubs.
Together with their executive team they:

- Find a place to hold monthly meetings
- Craft an annual budget
- Develop a list of compelling programs
- Create a membership marketing plan
- Insure club events are publicized
- Orchestrate fundraising events
- Insure the activities of the club are documented and saved by the secretary
- Assign a committee to audit the finances of the club each year
- Represent their club in community functions

In addition, they:

- Lead the meetings
- Welcome guests
- Insure thank you notes are sent
- Coordinate membership drives
- Donate to fundraisers put on by the club
- Invite friends and family to club events
- Mentor where necessary
- Identify future leaders
- And a mountain of other tasks

The point is all the effort, planning and hard work done by your local organization is for nothing if the meetings aren't publicized before and after the event.

Meeting details should be posted on your club's Facebook page and in the Calendar of Events in your local newspapers.

After each meeting, pictures should be posted on Facebook (name the people in the pictures) and in local newspapers as well.

Make yourself known in your community. Attracting new members will be easier once they know the good you do.

A Minnesota Proverb: It's better to drive too slow and wish you were going faster than to drive too fast and wish you were going faster.

The good thing about science is that it's true whether or not you believe it.
— Neil DeGrasse Tyson

A CENTURY OF CHANGE: Why is being a woman of change in the 21st century so amazing?

Mary Jo Igelstad, State Historian

Over the previous centuries, women have changed the world in many different ways. We have also paved the way for women of the future. In historical times, women achieved goals, but were still treated as unequal and inferior. Our historical women ancestors couldn't vote, couldn't get a normal job, and for sure, couldn't hold a place in politics. They managed the home, took care of the children and other homemaking tasks. These women weren't "in charge of things" and couldn't speak freely like we can today. Historical women catered to men and their every need and so ignored their own needs for freedom and opportunity.

Many important historical women changed the way women are viewed today. They gave women rights and opportunities that they never had before.

Such women as:

Susan B. Anthony for granting women the right to vote
Helen Keller for educating the world about women with disabilities
Jackie Joyner-Kersey for bringing women into the Olympics.

Other women who paved the way for us:

Mary Wollstonecraft-writer and philosopher of women's rights
Sojourner Truth-abolitionist/suffragist
Harriet Tubman-abolitionist/liberator
Lucretia Mott-women's suffrage advocate
Antoinette Brown Blackwell-first ordained woman minister in America
Lucy Stone-women's rights advocate
Elizabeth Cady Stanton-women's rights suffrage/leader

We are much different women today than our historical foremothers. Today we are consumed with many obligations, duties and responsibilities on a daily basis. We have stepped out of their historical role of mother and housewife to obtain a higher quality of living. They have a much different lifestyle with many choices. The women of today look, dress and act much differently than historical women. We are creatures of the world, and continue to adapt to the new environments around us. Women in many foreign countries continue to keep traditional roles, but women in America are breaking the old and changing with the times. We focus more on ourselves and our own lives than the historical women did. Goals and opportunities are more abundant for women, and we take advantage of them in a positive and healthy way.

So – Have women improved throughout time? Yes, no, maybe in some ways? In a survey of 394 people, 64% said yes; 10% said no; and 26% said in some ways.

Women of the 21st century are so amazing because of all the things they can offer to themselves, others and the whole world. We are much more intelligent, stronger, self-sufficient, and important than ever before. We account for a larger portion of changes, especially in government and politics. A woman's opinions and thoughts are more important and considered by others during this century because she's more educated and well informed about the changing world. Women are the other half of the whole equation. The world is finally able to evolve and adapt with the changes that are going on around them constantly. Women of the 21st century endure more changes and challenges than historical women of the past centuries including technological and medical advances. Because of these changes, women are more flexible and versatile, along with increasing their endurance and stress levels. We women of the 21st century are amazing for many reasons, but the point is that we are amazing!

Before anything else, preparation is the key to success. — Alexander Graham Bell



Minnesota Legislative Update

*Susan Jordahl-Bubacz,
Legislation Chair*

Minnesota Legislative News

The Minnesota Legislature convened on January 9, 2019. Many of the reading of the first bills were under the category of education. From special education needs, funding for schools for troubled kids to what is to be considered a 'text' book in the current education system. Additional Bills in the forefront were for health and human services, capital investments, transportation. Smaller more independent bills were presented as well, examples are bills for arts and culture, specific investments in historical or art entities, and such.

Keeping Democracy Alive through Interactive Bi-partisanship.

Minnesota's Current Government is the nation's only lab for testing bi-partisanship. Republicans continue to hold majorities in most of the nation's state capitals, as they have in recent years, but Democrats now control six new legislative chambers, including the Minnesota House of Representatives. Along the way, though, Minnesota — where Republicans hold a narrow majority in the Senate — became the only remaining state in the nation where control of a legislature is divided. Even in an era of single-party dominance in state legislatures, it is a stunning notion: It is the first time in more than a century that only one state has split control of its legislative chambers, and is one more indication of the depth of the nation's bifurcated political sensibilities. The state has become the lone state laboratory for testing whether bipartisanship — which has failed spectacularly on the federal level — can work in this moment. (Credit New York Times)

Minnesota Hot Topic: Recreational marijuana faces hazy prospects at Capitol. Efforts to legalize recreational marijuana in Minnesota began taking shape Monday with legislation introduced in both the House and Senate. Under the bill, individuals age 21 or older would be allowed to cultivate, consume and possess cannabis. The product would be regulated for commercial sale, and eligible individuals could have past marijuana convictions expunged. "Rarely as a state legislature do you have the ability to have a win-win scenario: to tax a product that consumers agree should be taxed and regulated," said Sen. Melissa Franzen, DFL-Edina, the chief sponsor of the Senate bill. "By doing so we are making it safer by removing the need for the black market to exist, while eliminating the harm that it has done to society." (Credit MPR News)

Affordable Housing, More Is Needed: At Sven Clogs in Chisago City, the shoe sprayer lives in Osceola, Wis. The shop manager drives from White Bear Lake. Two quality-control staffers live closer to work

but said they search every day for more affordable places. "I swear, I'm just going to put up an apartment building and call it Sven's apartment building," said owner Marie Rivers, who called the lack of affordable housing in the community a "nightmare" for her staff. Employers like Sven have joined the push for more housing, along with cities, counties and chambers of commerce. Teachers whose students suffer without stable homes are talking about it. Health care professionals recognize the physical and mental toll of homelessness. Housing advocates aim to harness the energy and encourage a new set of state leaders to spur construction and preserve affordable properties. In the first big housing proposal of this legislative session, a coalition of more than 200 non-profits, cities and other organizations recommended the state devote \$430 million to housing over the next two years. (Credit Star Tribune)

National Report

Trump declares national emergency to help fund border wall

U.S. President Donald Trump spoke on border security during a Rose Garden event at the White House Feb. 15, 2019 in Washington, DC. Calling it "a great thing to do," President Trump declared a national emergency on Friday in order to help finance a long-promised wall on the U.S.-Mexico border. It's a highly unusual move from an unconventional president.

In circuitous remarks in the Rose Garden, Trump said he was declaring an emergency because of "an invasion of our country with drugs, with human traffickers, with all types of criminals and gangs."

The move came a day after Congress approved a spending bill giving Trump around \$1.3 billion in border security funding, far short of the \$5.7 billion he had called for. Trump signed the bill Friday afternoon, averting another government shutdown until at least October. Invoking emergency powers frees up additional funding.

Legal challenges and pushback even from some within his own party await Trump in the next phase of the ongoing national political battle over border security and immigration policy — cementing the issues at the forefront of his bid for a second term.

The House Judiciary Committee announced Friday evening that it is launching an "immediate investigation" into Trump's decision to declare the national emergency. The committee is requesting that those involved in the declaration, including White House counsel Pat Cipollone, testify on Capitol Hill.

Chairman Jerry Nadler, D-N.Y., and six other House Democrats who chair subcommittees of the judiciary panel, signed the letter to the president, writing that "we believe your declaration of an emergency shows a reckless disregard for the separation of powers and your own responsibilities under our constitutional system."

Opponents of the declaration say that Trump's claim of a crisis at the border is overblown and that the move is unnecessary. Illegal border crossings in the most recent fiscal year (ending in September 2018) were actually lower than in either 2016 or 2014 and much lower than at their peak around 2000, as NPR has previously fact-checked. Many of the most recent arrivals are Central American migrants seeking asylum, citing a fear of violence or persecution back home.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., issued a statement sharply critical of the president's action. The statement said, in part:

"The President's unlawful declaration over a crisis that does not exist does great violence to our Constitution and makes America less safe, stealing from urgently needed defense funds for the security of our military and our nation.

"The President's actions clearly violate the Congress's exclusive power of the purse, which our Founders enshrined in the Constitution. The Congress will defend our constitutional authorities in the Congress, in the Courts, and in the public, using every remedy available."

White House officials say Trump's executive action, including the emergency declaration, will free up about \$8 billion for border wall construction. That includes the \$1.375 billion in the funding bill passed by Congress on Thursday.

The balance of the funds include:

- \$600 million from the Treasury drug forfeiture fund.
- Some \$2.5 billion from counter drug activities with the Department of Defense and some reprogramming from other Pentagon accounts.
- Some \$3.6 billion in military construction funds.

No disaster money will be used.

Rep. Adam Smith, a Washington Democrat who chairs the Armed Services Committee, called the reallocation of funds "utterly disrespectful of U.S. national security and the needs of our men and women in uniform, and it further undermines his credibility in requesting the upcoming defense budget."

White House officials say the \$8 billion should allow Trump to build as much wall as he wanted to — 234 miles of barrier — had Congress authorized the \$5.7 billion he asked for. Officials say plans are to construct a metal bollard barrier, not a concrete wall, at locations to be determined by Customs and Border Protection.

Trump said Friday that he expects such legal challenges and predicted they would eventually reach the Supreme Court, where, he said, "We'll win, I think."

"I didn't need to do this," Trump said in response to a reporter's question about the emergency declaration. "I just want to get it done faster, that's all."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., who had previously cautioned Trump against declaring a national emergency, said Thursday he was on board with the president's move. However, others within the GOP have pushed back.

Centrist Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, who is up for re-election in 2020, called Trump's planned move a "mistake" in a statement Thursday. Collins also argued that the National Emergencies Act was only "intended to apply to major natural disasters or catastrophic events, such as the attacks on our country."

"Such a declaration would undermine the role of Congress and the appropriations process; it's just not good policy. It also sets a bad precedent for future presidents — both Democratic and Republican

— who might seek to use this same maneuver to circumvent Congress to advance their policy goals. It is also of dubious constitutionality, and it will almost certainly be challenged in the courts," Collins said.

Rep. Will Hurd, R-Texas, whose districts cover about 800 miles along the U.S.-Mexico border, said Friday on The View that the declaration was "unnecessary" and expressed concerns about the land seizures that would have to take place in order to build the wall.

"What we should be talking about is the strategy on how to defend our border, not one specific tool, which is the wall," Hurd said.

But to Trump, declaring a national emergency likely seems to be the only way he can claim victory after weeks of back-and-forth over funding for border security that included a record 35-day partial government shutdown.

Another shutdown would have been risky, and there wasn't much appetite for going that route again among congressional Republicans.

But there's little support among the public for Trump's approach either. A CNN poll earlier this month showed Americans oppose — by more than 2 to 1 — Trump using a national emergency declaration to build a border wall.

That seems to be one of the messages Democratic leaders will home in on during what is likely to be a new phase in the standoff over border security.

In the Democrats' Spanish-language response to Trump's State of the Union earlier this month, California Attorney General Xavier Becerra said he would sue the administration if Trump declared a national emergency to find funds for a border wall.

On Friday, appearing alongside California Gov. Gavin Newsom, Becerra said a lawsuit would likely be coming soon. "This is not 9/11. This is not the Iran hostage crisis of 1979," Becerra said, citing past presidential emergency declarations. "This is a president showing his disdain for the rule of law and our U.S. Constitution."

Added Newsom, "Donald Trump, we'll see you in court."

—Credit: News source NPR, Jessica Taylor, Brian Naylor

It is easier to pull down than to build up.
— Latin Proverb

Calendar

2019-20

March 2019	Women's History Month
April 2, 2019	Equal Pay Day
May 4, 2019	Special Meeting/State Annual Event Best Western Kelly Inn, St. Cloud
October 20-26, 2019	National Business Women's Week
Fall 2019	Deadline for next issue of <i>Minnesota Business Woman</i>
March 2020	Women's History Month
2020	Special Meeting / 100th Anniversary Event



Stepping Out . . .
around the state!

FERGUS FALLS BPW

*Bever y Rund &
Linda Hauge, co-presidents*

We're enjoying a good year here in Fergus Falls. Our membership is growing. Our Christmas brunch and silent auction was fun and raised some extra dollars for our funds. Our January program featured an exercise coach from the local YMCA who provided us with a lot of good health information and then led us in some simple exercises that could be done in your office or living room during TV commercial breaks. Due to the extreme winter weather our February program was cancelled. We will reschedule our speaker, Jan Jones, who is a certified Laughing Yoga instructor. Who wouldn't want to spend a while laughing through a program? In March we will have a program presented by one of our members, Bridget Leonard, and newly elected city council member, Krista Hagberg, who will discuss Community Organizing.

We have several members interested in attending the state event. It will be a time of mixed emotions but it's always good to see our BPW sisters from around the state.

GRAND RAPIDS BPW

Joni Fauchald, president

Our signature event, THE Craft Show, was a big success. We netted over \$2,100. We continue to look for scholarship opportunities in our community. Beginning in March we start planning and sending out applications for the November 9, 2019 show.

Our club is on a winter break so to speak. We meet again on March 28.

Sadly, our club lost an active member, Connie Swanson. Such a dear lady, we will miss her.

We are looking forward to the May 4 State Event and Special Meeting. See you all then!

MANKATO BPW

Pat Kaiser, president

Mankato BPW had another successful year selling and creating our cheese balls. One of the recipients from the 2018 scholarships helped us during the cheese ball rolling process, and it was her way to give back to the organization. Our speaker in December was from CADA House (Committee Against Domestic Abuse) which is a safe house for people, most of them are mothers with children escaping an unsafe home environment. Our group collected items and gift cards to donate to this facility, plus quarterly items are gathered and donated. This has been an ongoing donation for our club over the last two years. We want to make a difference in our community and feel this is a worthy organization.

MINNESOTA BUSINESS WOMAN

- **ADVERTISING:** *Minnesota Business Woman*, the official publication of the Minnesota Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. is published twice each year (Fall and Winter/Spring). Ads are welcome, but *Minnesota Business Woman* reserves the right to refuse advertising that does not meet the standards of the organization and this magazine. For ad rates, contact the editor.
- **ARTICLES & PHOTOS:** Submissions to the *Minnesota Business Woman* magazine are welcome from both clubs and individual members.
- **Articles** are subject to editing for space availability, clarity, etc.
- **Photos** are appreciated. High resolution digital photos preferred (approx. 1 MB), but regular photos may also be submitted by postal mail.
- Faye Crane, Editor • e-mail preferred: faye@prestoprintofgrmn.com
1257 S Pokegama Ave, Grand Rapids, MN 55744
- **NEXT COPY DEADLINE:** TBD: Fall of 2019 — Issue 1

WILLMAR AREA BPW

*Jamie Van Lengen &
Lana Palmer, co-presidents*

Ridgewater College held their 2019 Celebration of Giving to recognize scholarship recipients on Tuesday, February 5th at 8 am. Aleshia Miller, who received our scholarship, was unable to attend.

December was a fun meeting as we had a cookie exchange, January's program was yoga, and February will be Wine, Women, & Wellness with Dr. Ashley Rath who owns Family Roots Chiropractic (hopefully the weather cooperates). Our program ladies are still finalizing March and April but are trying to get some local women who own businesses, R and J Travel and Creekside Greenhouse. May brings the annual installation of officers and the graduation of one of the girls from our mentorship program. Then in June comes our Girlfriends Night Out fundraiser for the mentorship program.

The mentorship group has been busy. December was a shopping trip for the girls and then back to a mentor's house to wrap gifts and bake cookies. January was game and movie night with a soup supper one of the girls made. February was yoga and dinner at a local restaurant. March will see them watching one of the group perform in the Jr. High musical, Aladdin. In April they are hoping to go to the Community Center for the Community Rhythms Drum Circle.

Membership Drive

Jeni Ritz, Membership

Ideas for a membership drive is my task for this issue. Having gone to several as well as the ones our own club has done, I've come up with:

- Bingo Party – Women like to win things ... a few prizes, some cash, some wine and a simple menu.
- Wine Tasting Dinner Party – Have a Sommelier come in to introduce what wines work the best with different courses served.
- Visit a Winery as a Group – have the Dinner catered in if the Winery doesn't have food service.
- A Speaker who has a cause – that makes them speak passionately about a subject close to a woman's heart.
- A Sign or Painting Party – that all can work on and still have time to socialize while they do the project.
- Serve a High Tea – complete with Teapots and Teacups and do it at Lunch instead of Supper time.
- With Spring around the corner have a Master Gardener do some flower starters in peat pots or do a cut flower arrangement or wreath.

All these ideas can have an informative program interjected in with the "fun". Women like to have time to socialize and talk informally together and then they can take in the message of your organization after the project/lunch/supper is done. It's also good to have a Great Door Prize to give away at the end to have them leave with a good impression of your club. I realize that some of these would cost more than others to put on but with a little negotiation and some women asking for free stuff from businesses, it can help cut the costs. It would be a good idea to have the "Guests" come for free and your members would pay their normal fee they pay for meeting dinners or lunches. If there is a time to spend some money, membership drives would be a good time to allow that to happen.

Forward Looking . . .

Linda Laitala, Past State President 1991-92 & 2013-14

In the next two years we face the very real possibility that our nearly 100-year-old state organization BPW MN will cease to exist.

We've arrived at this place after countless hours of soul searching and asking ourselves, "What if we had done this...or that..., would it have made a difference?"

We have gone from a high of 62 BPW clubs (see box to the right) in Minnesota in 1981 down to just 5 today. But the fact that there are still 5 strong and growing clubs gives us hope.

How have these clubs endured? What's their "Secret Sauce?" They all have these traits in common. They are:

1. Always recruiting. A diverse membership is critical to an organization's success.
2. Developing programs that stretch members and expose them to ideas that are new and worth sharing.

3. Mentoring and welcoming young women; helping them develop leadership skills in a safe environment.
4. Setting big goals. Whether it's scholarships or mentoring, or supporting a domestic violence program, it's important to give back.
5. They are creating a tribe, a group of women who are connected to each other, their leaders and an idea.
6. They celebrate women every day. They laugh and they have fun together.

I don't know why our state federation is floundering. We can analyze and ponder until the cows come home. But to what benefit. We are where we are.

Better to look ahead, build for the future and keep focusing on doing the right things (as opposed to doing things right.)



MFBPW CLUBS — 1981

- Albert Lea
- Alexandria
- Anoka Area
- Austin
- Bemidji
- Bloomington-Richfield
- Crookston
- » Dala of Mora «
- Detroit Lakes
- Duluth
- East Ramsey
- Fairmont
- Fairbault
- Farmington
- » Fergus Falls «
- Fridley
- Glencoe
- » Grand Rapids «
- Hibbing
- Highland Park
- Hutchinson
- Lake Minnetonka
- Lakes Area of Forest Lake
- Leech Lake / Walker
- Litchfield
- Luverne
- Madison
- » Mankato «
- Marshall
- Minneapolis
- Minnesota Valley
- Montevideo
- Moorhead
- Northern Dakota County
- Northfield
- North Hennepin
- North Metro
- Northwest Suburban
- Owatonna
- Park Rapids
- Princeton-Milaca
- Red Wing
- Redwood Falls
- Rochester
- St. Cloud
- St. James
- St. Louis Park
- St. Paul
- Sauk Centre
- SW Suburban of Edina
- Stillwater
- Suburban Ramsey
- Thief River Falls
- Two Harbors
- Virginia
- Wadena Area
- Wayzata
- West Central
- » Willmar Area «
- Windom
- Winona
- Worthington

» the five current clubs «



for ALL of your paper and printing needs!

Paula Hritz-Nobs & Faye Crane
(218) 326-6200
orders@prestoprintofgrmn.com
1257 South Pokegama Avenue
Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744-4208

... and Looking Back

Can you find some of our current members in the above Minnesota photo from BPW's 1984 National Convention in Nashville?

In the front row, 5th & 6th from the left is E. Irene Theis and June Johnson. In the middle row, far right are Paula Hritz-Nobs and Faye Crane. In the back row, 4th from the right is Linda Laitala.

It is impossible to live without failing at something unless you live so cautiously that you might as well not have lived at all — in which case, you fail by default. — J.K. Rowling

In Memorium



Constance (Bergum) Swanson

November 10, 1942 ~ January 10, 2019 (AGE 76)

Born in Warroad, MN, Connie was raised in Calumet, MN where her parents had a café they called “POPS Café”. She graduated from Greenway High School in 1960. She married Jerome Skalsky and had two children; Johnny Lee Skalsky and Ginny Swanson. Connie and her children moved back to Calumet and she then married Keith Swanson on January 11, 1975. They made their home in Calumet.

Connie went on to obtain her business degree at Itasca Community College and worked for the County for close to 30 years at the Deputy Auditor/Treasurer’s office. After retirement she started her second career as the office manager at the Ester House. She also worked as an office manager for Habitat for Humanity, where she ended her working career at the age of 70.

Connie enjoyed many activities. She became Mayor of Calumet for four years. As a member of Grand Rapids BPW, she held most positions, secretary, treasurer, president. She served in many positions on the state level including membership, finance, nominating chair, secretary and treasurer. She was a Minnesota Business & Professional Foundation director working with the Crossroads program.

Connie loved to travel and go dancing. She and her husband learned to square dance and round dance. She loved going to the casino’s, watch TV and playing games on the computer. Whenever anyone met with Connie, she was always smiling.



Suzanne (Spink) Bounds

October 20, 1932 ~ December 16, 2018 (AGE 86)

Sue, a former member of Grand Rapids BPW, was born in Baraboo, WI. She grew up and graduated from high school in Tulsa, OK, graduated from the University of Tulsa and later from the University of Illinois with her Masters Degree. Sue married Thomas D. Bounds on Sept. 3, 1955 and they made their home in Grand Rapids, MN.

Employed with the Grand Rapids school district as the Early Childhood Program coordinator, Sue was also in private practice as a speech/ language pathologist, retiring in 2002. Sue served as the president of Grand Rapids BPW in 1982-83, director for District II in 1985-86, co-coordinator for Northern Region in 1992-93 and as a member of state committees.

Sue enjoyed golfing, sewing, traveling to Florida but especially loved spending time with her family. She is survived by her daughter, Cheryl (Patrick) Spellacy of Rice, MN; two sons, Steve (Lynn) Bounds of Rochester, MN and Greg (Debra) Bounds of Cohasset, MN; 8 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

“Leading the Way – Step by Step” — May 4, 2019

Best Western Kelly Inn | 100 – 4th Ave S | St Cloud, MN 56301
Registration Form Due By April 19, 2019

Name _____ Work Phone _____
Address _____ Home Phone _____
_____ Email _____
Cell Phone _____ Member of _____ Club

REGISTRATION DUE: APRIL 19, 2019

MEMBER FEE \$ 10⁰⁰ NON-MEMBER FEE \$70⁰⁰

(PLEASE NOTE: Late registrations are not guaranteed availability of meals as count must be given early.)

The event fee of \$10 is inclusive for all events – Saturday continental breakfast, speaker, meeting, lunch and team building exercise at Riddler’s Escape Room. Please indicate any dietary restrictions: _____

Questions to Beth at (612) 616-1215 or at beth@gettingorganizednow.com

Make hotel room reservations directly with the hotel (see page 2).

Please check if you will be participating in the team building exercise (Riddler’s Escape Room).

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ Check # _____ MAIL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MFBPW

Send check and form to: Presto Print • 1257 S Pokegama Ave • Grand Rapids, MN 55744