



The Minnesota Business Woman

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

Vol. 86, No 1 • 2019-20

SAVE THE DATE: May 9, 2020
for MFBPW's Special Meeting
& **100th Anniversary!**

MFBPW State Event – Meeting and Gala Details

- ▶ Saturday, May 9, 2020
- ▶ Embassy Suites
Minneapolis - North
6300 Earle Brown Drive
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
(763) 560-2700
Hotel reservation link: room rate is \$139
for 2-queen non-smoking suite...
https://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/M/MSPBRES-MFB-20200509/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG
- ▶ Tentative schedule
 - ▣ 3:30pm – member business meeting
 - ▣ 5:30pm – cash bar
 - ▣ 6:30pm – dinner
 - ▣ 7:30pm – program

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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 (October and February). 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** High resolution digital photos preferred (approx. 1 MB).
- Faye Crane, Editor • faye@prestoprintofgrmn.com
- **NEXT COPY DEADLINE:** Feb. 14, 2020 — Issue 2

MFBPW Legacy Project

Following the May 2019 state meeting vote to disband the Minnesota Federation of Business and Professional Women, Beth Gibson Lilja presented a proposal to the MFBPW Board of Directors at its June 2019 meeting for the preservation of the organization's legacy. The board voted unanimously to move forward with Beth's proposal. Here are the objective, benefits and preservation platform of the project:

Project Objective

- To curate, archive and preserve the history and legacy of the Minnesota Federation of Business and Professional Women (MFBPW) from its founding to present.

Project Benefits

- A record of the past not only benefits memory but also helps to clarify an organization's purpose and evolution.
- A well-documented organization history honors the accomplishments of its members.
- The historical record provides a storehouse of ideas and a leadership roadmap that can inspire future generations.
- For those who have guided and contributed to the growth and development of MFBPW, this project provides an opportunity to enjoy memories, revisit life experiences, share them graphically with others should you wish and to be creative around a subject you all know so well.
- Once the visual and verbal elements that comprise MFBPW's history are reliably curated and safely preserved, these vital documents, pictures and memorabilia are easy to access when needed.
- When completed MFBPW will have transformed the various fragments of its history that are just "lying around" into meaningful verbal and visual stories archived in a single location that is easy to access and update.
- Without a legacy plan in place, MFBPW's history will be lost.

Project Digital Preservation Platform

- MFBPW's history will be compiled and preserved on the organization's own permanent, private cloud storage FOREVER® account, a web-based platform that allows the organization to tell its story reliably and securely through pictures, clippings, documents and text.

Beth, along with her company BGL & Associates, LLC, is in the process of creating the workflow for the project. BGL & Associates, LLC will be the contact person responsible for gathering, dating and labeling of all submitted organization history elements. A legacy email address has been established to use in the process. BGL & Associates, LLC will be requesting legacy information from past and present members. The goal is to have the workflow document ready for distribution by the end of October. The plan is to have a video, using information received to date, to show at the 2020 state event gala. BGL & Associates, LLC will continue to manage the project after the official disbandment of the organization.

Celebrating a Century of Leadership

What was closure if not a clock? Not an end as everyone imagined, but a beginning. — Celeste Chaney

We are on the cusp of celebrating 100 years as the Minnesota Federation of Business and Professional Women!! Bittersweet, I know, that it will be our grand finale. We will have the opportunity to come together on May 9, 2020, to celebrate 100 years of inspirational women, 100 years of nurturing women leaders, 100 years of training and knowledge that was absorbed, accomplishments that were celebrated and friendships that were gained.

I refuse to think of this as an end. I see it as a beginning for each local to be able to focus on their communities and future leaders. I believe BPW will continue to help us learn more about ourselves and others. We are strong women, doing great things, and we need to celebrate that!!

Julie



Julie Asmus, President

Your Story Matters!

Leech Lake Area Business & Professional Women's Club

Picture this – October 1962

Opening duck season

Leech Lake Area Business and Professional Women's Club Charter Dinner

Place – Sleepy Hollow Supper Club

Time – Happy Hour

Present – Minnesota State President

District 1 Director

Many important guests from around the state

52 local members

Duck hunters

Wow! We chartered with 52 members and all the offices and committees filled. We were all dressed to the nines, wonderful food and the dining room was set up very nicely with some tables left over for the duck hunters. You never turn away business in October. Bar crowd now comes in to eat - dressed to the nines in camouflage. The state president spoke, we had a very nice Charter Ceremony and were only asked about five times to "BURN OUR BRAS". I was proud of our club members – did not lose our cool. Talked through the request and had a very impressive evening. Hunters gave us a standing ovation. Just a piece of history.

Joyce Humphreys, Charter Member, PSP

Willmar Area BPW Club

At a state meeting in Austin, I brought a male guest from the Home Medical industry. We were sitting at a table close to the stage. As state president, Linda Laitala, was leaving the stage, she missed a step and fell on the man's lap. I teased her that it was on purpose!!

I also enjoyed our leadership program that we had to teach us about addressing the press, dealing with legislators, political awareness and how to get on boards and commissions. Our state organization, in cooperation with the University of Minnesota, held a two part program called LEAD. Participation was by application selection only. Most of the women were my support group in the business world and now are my emotional/personal support group as time moves on.

Carol Laumer, member

Skyway BPW of Minneapolis Club

Welcome Skyway BPW of Minneapolis!

On February 3 a charter luncheon was held for our newest local. They are a state sponsored local organized by E. Irene Theis and a steering committee of Metro area BPW members. Please welcome their charter officers: Patricia Hahn, President; Sandi Johnson, First Vice President; Laura Fruth, Second Vice President; Joy Smalley, Secretary; and M. Kathleen Gallovitch, Treasurer

These are talented women and they are off to a great start with some new ideas for downtown Minneapolis. They meet at lunch time during the work week. I'm looking forward to hearing what they do differently and how others of us might make use of their ideas to increase membership in our own locals.

Is there another area in the state where a noon time or breakfast meeting might work? Maybe monthly meetings don't work for everyone or the standard meeting format isn't right. For BPW to be for all working women, let's think "flexible" and try some new ideas. Network with your non-BPW friends. What does BPW need to offer in order for them to join us? Be sure to make our Skyway BPW members feel welcome at State Convention.

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submitted by Judy Mechura, State Expansion Task Force*

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It's better to be a lion for a day than a sheep all your life.
— Elizabeth Kenny

MFBPW 2019-20 Leadership Directory

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STATE OFFICERS

- PRESIDENT** — Julie Asmus
SECRETARY — Joni Fauchald
TREASURER — Faye Crane

Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

- June 29, 2019 10:30 in St. Cloud
 October 3, 2019 7:30 pm conf. call
 January 2, 2020 7:30 pm conf. call
 April 9, 2020 7:30 pm conf. call
 June 27, 2020. *Final BOD meeting in St. Cloud*

Special Meeting & 100th Anniversary May 9, 2020 Embassy Suites, Brooklyn Center

CLUB MEETING DATES & DUES

Dala of Mora	— 4th Monday	\$39
Fergus Falls	— 1st Thursday	\$60
Grand Rapids	— 9-27-19 • 11-21 3-26-20 • 5-28	\$24
Mankato	— 3rd Wednesday	\$70
Willmar Area	— 3rd Tuesday	\$60

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Ways Women Still Aren't Equal to Men (just in case you thought we were caught up)

Mary Jo Igelstad, Historian

If anyone tries to tell you otherwise—show them this! We've made great strides over the years, but we still have a lot to do. If we call this “feminism”, every woman and/or individual has equal rights to that of a man; no matter their race, religion, gender id, sexual preference, or anything else. Many people disagree with this saying “Women are already equal to men”. They say women's gains don't come up to men's because they haven't worked hard enough OR women and men are biologically different so you can't compare them.

Here are the ways women aren't yet equal to men in America:

- Women pay more for common household items than men do — from hygiene products to a pack of socks.
- Women make less money than their male counterparts — women make 85% of the male counterparts.
- Black and Hispanic women, the gap is even worse — they need to work 19 months to make what a male counterpart does.
- Women are underrepresented in government — we make up 51% of the population, only 25% of the Senate and 23% of the House.
- Women are the minority in the executive suite — Fortune 500 Companies women are 25.4% of the board members and 6.6% of the CEO's.
- Woman are the minority in the news media — 2019 edition of Women's Media Center states women comprise 41.7% of the overall news media.
- Women are the minority in the tech sector too-25% computing jobs are held by women.
- When women enter male-dominated industries, the pay decreases — according to the New York Times.
- Female entrepreneurs receive less funding and investments — getting funding for a startup is hard enough, but sexism and gender inequality complicate things more.
- Women still shoulder more of the household burden — 54% of women take maternity leave, and only 42% of men take time away from their jobs. Women are more likely to work from home, look after sick kids, or quit their jobs to be total caregivers.
- Woman are more likely to be victims of human trafficking — NPR reported in January 2019 the rise in human trafficking of girls, which leads to sexual exploitation and forced labor.
- Female soldiers face rape and harassment — in 2019 the Smithsonian reported 66% of female service members reported sexual harassment or sexual assault compared to 27% in 2015.
- Women are at a greater risk of rape and domestic violence — females age 18-24 and 25-34 experience the highest rate of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV); followed by PTSD.
- Retired women are twice as likely as retired men to live in poverty — as women make less money but live longer. Women have 7.6 times their salary saved by retirement, when they really need to save 11.6 times their salary.
- Women of all ages are more likely than men to live beneath the poverty line — across the U.S., 15.5% of women live in poverty compared with 11.9% men.
- Despite being as successful as male athletes, women in sports still face gender inequality.

If the date on your mailing label is red
your dues are past due.
Please contact your club treasurer to renew.



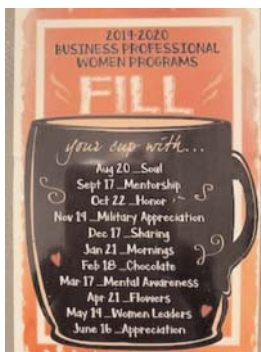
Stepping Out . . . around the state!

WILLMAR AREA BPW *co-presidents* Linda Bahe & Lana Palmer

This year we are focusing each month's program around our theme "Fill Your Cup With ..."

At the August picnic we handed out wine glasses to kick off our theme for the year.

We also did something new this year with our programs. We put the monthly program on a refrigerator magnet to give each member as a reminder about our monthly meetings.



Highlights:

- Our September meeting highlighted the BPW Mentorship Program. Heidi Burton, School Child Guide, shared the selection process and spoke to the positive impact she sees with the BPW Mentorship Program. Mentorship/Mentee Monthly Activities were also highlighted by our Mentorship Activity Coordinators, Stephanie Carlson and Amelia Ryan.
- In October we will be honoring our BPW Woman of the Year, Audrey Nelson, at a Banquet. We will have a short program and special speaker at this meeting.
- Our annual Scholarship Mum Fundraiser was a SUCCESS! We sold 221 mums raising about \$1,400 toward our BPW Scholarship Fund.
- Our member chair, Robin Kopel, has been a rock star and we have welcomed 5 new members so far this year

FERGUS FALLS BPW *co-presidents* Sandy Johnson & Jan Jones

I found a cute poem that I am going to share. Enjoy! Jan

October's Party 1887

*October gave a party;
The leaves by hundreds came—
The Chestnuts, Oaks, and Maples,
And leaves of every name.
The Sunshine spread a carpet,
And everything was grand,
Miss Weather led the dancing,
Professor Wind the band.*

*The Chestnuts came in yellow,
The Oaks in crimson dressed;
The lovely Misses Maple
In scarlet looked their best;
All balanced to their partners,
And gaily fluttered by;
The sight was like a rainbow
New fallen from the sky.*

*Then, in the rustic hollow,
At hide-and-see they played,
The party closed at sundown,
And everybody stayed.
Professor Wind played louder;
They flew along the ground;
And then the party ended
In jolly 'hands around.'*

— George Cooper [1840 - 1927]

GRAND RAPIDS BPW Joni Fauchald, president

Our signature event, THE Craft Show, is being held on November 9 at TimberLake Lodge in Grand Rapids. Fine Artisans bring their handmade wares to this great show. In turn, our club is able to give several community scholarships. At our September 27th meeting, we voted to give The Coat Rack \$750, giving winter wear to families that are in need; \$500 to Grace House, a homeless shelter; \$750 to Open Closet, helping them with undergarments for families in need; and \$500 to Empty Bowls, helping to fund The Community Cafe.

Join Grand Rapids BPW
at their
annual fundraiser . . .

THE Craft Show
November 9, 2019

TimberLake Lodge
Grand Rapids

Take a "road trip" and
experience great shopping!