

Berkshire Business & Professional Women



May 2017

President's Message



Dear Members and Friends,

I can't believe it's already May and my last meeting to chair as President is right around the corner. Our speakers have been fun and informative. We started in November with Karen Allen Actress, Director and Entrepreneur! (Yes I must say I was a little star struck, and pleasantly surprised that she is funny and down to earth and so incredibly nice!).

We followed that meeting up with pampering ourselves (We deserve it!) at Cranwell Spa for our December Holiday meeting, and kicked off the year with Katherine Miller, Master Chef, Holistic Healthy Coach and Menopause Muse. February brought us Sarah Eustis, CEO of Main Street Hospitality. We launched March with another amazing panel at our March Mentoring Meeting and then followed up in April with Christa Collier, Executive Director of the Northern Berkshire United Way. Christa tackled

the non-traditional topic of the challenges facing her constituents traced to generational poverty.

We finished out the 2016-2017 season with our May meeting and Dr. Natalia Smirnova from the American Institute for Economic Research speaking on credit scores, savings plans and a program that is educating

women financially. Financial education is so important to women!!

With this impressive roster of programs and speakers I feel fortunate to be part of Berkshire Business and Professional Women, and look forward to my continued participation in this organization.

Our June 5th our meeting at Mazzeo's will bring my term to an end as well as the programs' chairs, Kristen van Ginhoven and Karen O'Donnell; however I know the new board members replacing them will continue with educational, fun, informative meetings and events. June 5th we will also be inducting more new members, I hope that you will join us and support the new board, say farewell to the outgoing board members and welcome new members.

Please don't forget these important reminders:

- Information about our meetings and other events can be found on our website at www.berkshirebpw.org.
- Follow our Facebook page for updates on events, member announcements, and other points of interest www.facebook.com/BerkshireBPVW.
- Please be sure to send updates to your contact information to Membership VP Katrina Cardillo at katrinaslosek@gmail.com
- Any member wishing to submit information for our monthly newsletter may do so by the 15th of each month to Lori Gazzillo at bbpwnews@gmail.com
If you have donations for prizes for our monthly raffles, please contact our raffle chairs, Fran Zarubick at fzarubick@goodwill-berkshires.org or Kathy Anker at kanker@goodwill-berkshires.org

Warmly,

Amy Dunn, BBPW President

P.S. May is an incredible month that starts out honoring our moms (Mother's Day is May 14th) and ends with honoring our veterans who died in active military service (Memorial Day is May 29th)! No matter the type of mom you have (i.e. biological, step or "special") take the time to thank them and appreciate them! I am so grateful for my mom and my stepmom! I also salute and hope you will join me in saluting the men and women who have sacrificed their lives and continue to every day in the pursuit of our freedom! I hope you enjoy the month of May!

Board of Directors

President
Amy Dunn
*Account Manager
Compuworks*

1st VP Programming
Karen O'Donnell
*Partner
Autonomy LLC*

2nd VP Programming
Kristen van Ginhoven
*Artistic Director
WAM Theatre*

VP Membership
Katrina Cardillo
*Marketing Director
BCARC*

Treasurer
Donna Collins
*Director of Training &
Development
Greylock Federal
Credit Union*

Secretary
Jane Apkin
*Franchise Owner
Seniors Helping Seniors*

Change to Membership Invoicing Process

By Donna Collins, Berkshire BPW Treasurer

Some of you have mentioned that you have not received a membership renewal invoice in over a year. Up until now, the BPW/MA board has issued the \$40 annual renewal invoices, processed the payments, and returned \$19 to Berkshire BPW as our portion for local dues. Upon further investigation, Katrina Cardillo and I have confirmed that membership renewal invoices have not been mailed to Berkshire BPW members in over a year.

Effective May, 15 2017, the process for mailing member renewal invoices is changing. The Berkshire BPW Treasurer (that's me!) will mail invoices to members. The annual membership fee will remain at \$40. However, to cover the additional cost of mailing and processing invoices, Berkshire BPW will now retain \$21 for local dues, and return \$19 to BPW/MA for state dues.

Membership invoices will be mailed in May and November each year going forward. Members who have not paid annual dues in more than twelve months will receive invoices in May 2017. Members whose membership period renews after May 2017 will receive invoices in November 2017. Members will continue on either the May invoicing track, or the November invoicing track for future renewal notices.

On behalf of the entire Berkshire BPW board, we hope you agree that the nominal annual membership dues is a worthwhile fee. Local dues help cover operating costs, such as our website, our dinner reservation system, and complimentary dinners for event speakers and scholarship recipients. The dinner events alone typically breakeven, and do not provide enough revenue to cover operating expenses. Membership also provides members the opportunity to place announcements in our newsletter, and members receive discounted pricing for the annual Woman of Achievement dinner. Lastly, members may be elected to Board positions!

Year in Review...





Berkshire BPW Career Advancement Scholarship

Berkshire BPW annually awards career advancement scholarships to working women residing in Berkshire County. Scholarships may be used for tuition, books, child care, uniforms, or other related educational expenses.

Scholarship amounts and the number of scholarships awarded will be determined by the scholarship committee and trustees of Berkshire BPW's non-profit affiliation, Berkshire County Education Council.

Eligibility criteria is as follows:

1. Women who are 25 years of age or older.
2. Must reside in Berkshire County.
3. Must be employed full-time or part-time.
4. Must be enrolled in an educational program or course at an accredited college, technical or vocational school on a full-time or part-time basis.
5. Must complete the BBPW Career Advancement Scholarship Application Form and submit it with a personal statement (two-page limit).
6. Enclose two letters of recommendation.

DEADLINE: July 1, 2017

Visit

<http://www.berkshirebpw.org/scholarship.html>
to apply



Next Monthly Dinner Meeting...

June 5, 2017

BBPW Dinner Meeting

2017-2018 Board of Directors Induction

5:30 PM Networking/Cash Bar

6:00 PM Dinner

Mazzeo's, 1015 South St, Pittsfield MA

Our final dinner meeting before summer break to thank our outgoing Board of Directors and welcome the new Berkshire BPW board for 2017-2018.

Join us for an evening of business networking, a family style meal at Mazzeo's restaurant and celebration of the past years accomplishments and events.

Over the summer, be sure to spread the word about the *Scholarship Awards* and look for the *Woman of Achievement* nominations announcement sometime in June.

Registration deadline: May 31, 2017

Cancellations must be made by May 31, 2017

A mother is she who can take the place of all others, but who's place no one else can take...



Berkshire BPW

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To promote full
participation,
equity, and economic self-sufficiency
for America's working women.



www.berkshirebpw.org

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<https://www.facebook.com/BerkshireBPW>

The Berkshire Business and Professional Women organization provides professional and personal development and networking opportunities for working women from diverse fields. Since 1965, Berkshire BPW has been honoring local women in Berkshire County, Massachusetts, recognizing the achievements of outstanding women, developing awareness of issues important to working women and awarding career advancement scholarships.

Berkshire Business and Professional Women meets at 5:30pm on the first Monday of each month, with a few exceptions. Guest speakers are invited to each meeting to address a variety of topics that are important to working women, such as health and wellness, wealth management, public speaking and organization techniques.

To submit items to be included in the newsletter, please e-mail Lori Gazzillo at lgazzillo@hotmail.com by the 15th of the month.

THE COLLECT

Keep us, Oh God, from pettiness;
Let us be large in thought, in word, in deed.
Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off self-seeking.
May we put away all pretense and meet each other face to face
Without self-pity and without prejudice.
May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous.
Let us take time for all things;
Make us grow calm, serene, gentle.
Teach us to put into action our better impulses,
straightforward and unafraid.
Grant that we may realize it is the little things that create differences,
that in the big things of life we are at one.
And may we strive to touch and to know the great,
common human heart of us all.
And, Oh Lord God, let us forget not to be kind.

- Mary Stewart

*If you imagine it
You can achieve it.
If you dream it
You can become it.*

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OUR MISSION :
To promote full
participation,
equity, and economic self-sufficiency
for America's working women.