

The Uptown News Beat

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midlandbpw.com
April 2008

Letter from our President:



Hello everyone,

I wish I could start off with April Showers will bring May flowers but at this point I would just like to have a little moisture. The flowers can come later. Everything in God's timing.

With spring comes renewed excitement about the year ahead and Uptown is no different. We have had, and are having many continuing and new projects coming up. As some of you may be aware, we are coming up on one of our favorite events. "BPW in Bloom" is our annual style show that for the past 7 years has been the primary source for our scholarship funding. Twice a year Uptown BPW awards 4 scholarships in the amount of \$500.00 each to qualifying non-traditional women in the Permian Basin. When we first started we were doing much smaller amounts and over the years with the LO and community support for this stellar event has allowed us to increase the amount of the scholarships given out. This year the style show will be on April 23, 2008, from 11:30 to 1:00. This is also Administrative Professionals Day and

we hope it will be a great selling tool as well. Jo Fite, committee chair and her committee have been working hard to make this another grand occasion to celebrate the BPW goal of "Women Helping Women". We will have celebrity models and door prizes. And as always at any event we do we will have a silent auction to benefit M.D. Cancer Center Research & Development. Tickets for this event are \$35.00 for an individual ticket or you may purchase a sponsor table. For more information on sponsorship please contact Shirley Harris or Mona Bethany at 684-4692. We are also taking items for door prizes. Auction items are welcome as well. We just ask that they have an information sheet to go with the item. We are excited to have this show on April 23rd, we believe it will be a great way to involve business by having an alternative venue for their assistants.

We have a nominating committee working on the upcoming year's officers for our election in May. Nominations will be presented at the next business meeting on April 9th, at the Petroleum Club at noon. So if they contact you to serve please take prayerful consideration in serving. BPW has been here for each of us, helping us to grow and be community conscious. I know I have gained many tools to help in my daily life through this amazing group of ladies, and they don't just revolve around our Midland group. We have

regions, state and national group that are all intertwined to pull strength and knowledge from. That is amazing and yet comforting at the same time. "Women Helping Women", that is what we are all about.

In June we will be teaming with Midland College and Upward Bound to mentor young at risk girls in grades 9 through 11. With this program our goal is to give these girls the tools and knowledge to succeed in whatever their goals and dreams are. These young ladies are typically from single parent homes or are potential first generation college students. This program is 5 weeks long ending with a graduation achievement ceremony. We will have each Monday in June from 6:00 to 8:00 to mentor and interact with these young ladies. If you are so inclined to help or volunteer in any way please contact Jennifer Birkla or Lesley Goeres at 570-5740 or Sheila Warren at warren@dawson3d.com. Wouldn't it be the best experience to give these ladies to see that they can go the distance and have the support network that BPW offers all women? Again, "Women Helping Women", it is good to be a woman in the Permian Basin with groups like Uptown Business & Professional Women.

Building Powerful Women,

Sheila Warren

Uptown BPW President

Letter from Our Incoming Region 6 Director:

Dear Members of Uptown Midland BPW

March 8, in San Angelo, I was installed as the upcoming director for Region 6. It was a very special day for me and the other incoming officers.

For those of you that are new, Region 6 includes clubs from Midland, San Angelo and Sweetwater. We have members of all ages and all job descriptions. Most of the time I am in awe of what our tenured members have done, seen and been through to bring us to where we are today.

As most of you know, the year 2007 was quite a traumatic year for me and my family, having lost my best friend and my mother to cancer and my mother in law to "old age", she was 96. So the love and support I have received from Uptown and Region 6 were most appreciated.

During the 2008-2009 year which will begin for BPW on July 1st, I hope to get to know each of you better and assist you in any way I can. I hope we can grow as a Region. We only have 3 active clubs now so everyone needs to really work at getting new members and retaining the ones we do have.

I think the key to success in any thing we do is communication. So I promise I will keep you informed to all the business of the state and region.

We will be having a planning meeting in July and I hope to make it a fun day

so be looking for more information on that.

Patti Humphrey and I will be attending the 2008-2009 planning meeting in Dallas with President Elect Shari Macioch. We are looking forward to learning more of her plans for BPW Texas. Her theme is - "Step Into History to Plan for the Future".

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about our club or the region and I will do my best to help in any way or send you to someone you can help.

***Best Personal Wishes
Glenda Knox***



Each year, BPW/USA members and advocates across the country organize Equal Pay Day activities and events in April to bring attention to the issue of pay equity. Equal Pay Day is held annually in April to signify the point into a year that a woman must work to earn what a man made the previous year.

The following information is from the BPW USA web site. For more information on The Equal Pay activities, please go to bpwusa.org.



Equal Pay Day

Every year in April, Business and Professional Women/USA and hundreds of other organizations ó womenó, civil rights, labor, and community ó team up with the National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE) for a national day of action promoting fair pay: Equal Pay Day. Pay equity continues to be an issue of economic justice for women and minorities in America.

April symbolizes the month when womenó wages catch up to menó wages from the previous year. To help end wage inequities, the NCPE, a nonprofit organization working exclusively to achieve pay equity in America, coordinates this annual day of action.

Achieving fair pay for women and minorities continues to be a struggle for the U.S. The problem is complex. In some instances, women and people of color do not receive equal pay for doing the same job as their male or white counterparts. On a broader level, because socialization in America is not free from sex or race bias, we continue to wrestle with stereotypes about women and people of color, including stereotypes about what kind of work is

appropriate for women and the importance of their jobs. When parking lot attendants are paid more than child care workers, we know the work women do is undervalued.

While earnings statistics do not tell the whole story, they are an important indicator of the progress we have made in wage parity and in economic opportunity, such as ensuring fair opportunities to earn more. Several legal cases have focused on the problems women and people of color face in gaining access to higher paying positions, such as revenue-generating jobs.

Overall in 2006, the median annual earnings of women were only 77 percent of men's salaries. The gap is even worse for women of color. African American women make 66 percent, Latinas make 55 cents and Asian American make 80 percent of men's salaries.

BPW Local Organizations and advocates nationwide will mobilize their communities by holding press conferences and setting up meetings with public officials and policymakers to push for stronger state and federal equal pay laws. For more information, contact BPW/USA's Director of Public Policy, Policy@bpwusa.org

lot more information on it. I think it is so important that we support keeping it up in this age of electronics. The link is midlandbpw.com. Please go look at it and give Shirley the input and compliments she has earned.



Birthdays in April 16, 2008

Lindsey Burroughs April 1
Debrah Gann April 9
Cynthia Maes April 26

April Membership Renewals

Jennifer Birkla
Lindsey Burroughs
Deborah Gann
Lian Kuohui

Our Web Site

I don't know if any of you have checked out our web site lately, but, you will find that Shirley has done an outstanding job updating it. It is a work in progress at this point. It's looking good and has a