

The Uptown News Beat

Focused on the Future—Honoring the Past

Words from our President

During the month of October 2009, we combined a program meeting with the business meeting on the 14th with our guest speaker Jan Brown with the 9/12 Project. Ms. Brown talked to us about the bond that was made apparent after the horrible tragedy of 9/11/01 and how we need to keep that bond strong. We must remain vigilant and continue to fight for democracy, never to take for granted our freedoms. Thank you, Jan, for a moving talk.

At the same meeting, our National Business Women's Week (NBWW) Chair, Glenda Knox, gave us an update on the event planning. Please contact Glenda if you can help at the event. We hope you can all come, NOVEMBER 5, 2009. See you there. The membership also made a motion to change the luncheon fee to \$18 per person and the motion passed.

Shirley Harris, our Newsletter Chair, has sent out an email addressing the requested change in the bylaws for raising our membership dues at the local level to \$20 per member. This will be voted on at our next business meeting in November. Presently the annual dues are \$13 for the local organization and \$40 for the affiliation with BPWF, for a total of \$53. New membership or renewal of membership will soon be available on the website (www.midlandbpw.com). If you have any questions, just send them in to the Board and we will try to answer them or we will find someone who can.

For November, we will only have a business meeting, November 11, 2009. I hope each of you can attend. Please RSVP to Evie Adams, 2nd Vice President and Membership Chair at 570-5233 (evie.adams@bosworthco.com), or Shirley Harris, Webpage and Telephone/Email Chair at 684-4692 (shirley@tbobamthor.com). The cost of the luncheon is \$18.00 unless otherwise noted for special events. Please connect with us as we trek through this new adventure for Uptown and continue the spirit of BPW for others in our futures.

Building Powerful Women,

Debrah Gann

Uptown Midland BPW President 2009 - 2010

debbie.gann@arcadis-us.com

432-557-3465

**Uptown
Midland
BPW**

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Pictured at left is our speaker , Jan Brown with the 912 Project, - Mission: Restore our Country's Constitutional Principles & Values - and Uptown's President Debrah Gann
www.912pb.org

Program/Business Meeting
 Oct. 14, 2009

Diane Browne—Thirty-Five Years!!!!

This year my husband, Geoff, has been with Champion Technologies for thirty-five years! Yes, with the same company although the job has taken us from Odessa, to Oklahoma City and back to Midland. Well, they partially sponsored a trip to Hawaii which we took this September after getting re-certified to scuba dive. We had a fantastic time! We scuba dived twice on Oahu, did the historical and Pearl Harbor stuff, and squeezed in some time at the Polynesian Culture center including their luau and show. The show afterward was awesome and as good as any we have ever seen in Las Vegas! Geoff has a Nikon digital that he nearly wore out while we were there. We still haven't seen all of them yet!

On the big island, we took the helicopter tour and saw the lava flowing into the ocean: the only place in the world that is happening. To see Mauna Kea, we took the night van trip to the summit. This included an informative talk on the stars with our guide using a special laser to point out different planets, stars, moons, nebulae, etc, and telescopes set up for us to see them up close and personal. Our scuba dive on this island was probably the high point of the trip. It was a night dive so that we could see the manta ray come to eat plankton. We sat or knelt on the ocean floor while 7-11 of the 1000lb or so fish did a graceful ballet around, over, and between us. The experience was breathtaking and again we got some great pictures.



The Old Lahaina Luau introduced us to Maui. The food was excellent and the show and demonstrations very entertaining. We had two spectacular road trips- one to the volcano, Haleakala, and one on the Road to Hana. Again, breathtaking beauty that resulted in fabulous pictures to help us remember. Our final dive of the vacation was out to Molokini, which we also enjoyed very much. As you can tell, we didn't rest and relax much, but who cares!?! We hope to get back there someday, but if we don't, we know that we have certainly taken in the high points of that beautiful state and helped their tourism numbers and local income.

...MEMBER HAPPENINGS...

Yvonne Reyes.....LEADERSHIP Midland



I am pleased to announce that the 2009-2010 Leadership Midland class has finalized its plan for this year's community project. This year's class has focused on the needs of the community during these hard times, specifically non-profit organizations that are so vital to many in Midland.

In some cases, organizations have reached out to us for assistance or members have found organizations that they have witnessed impact so many lives. The Leadership Midland Class is proud to take on the ambitious goal of working on behalf of the following organization to meet the needs of the community.

- The Hope House - Assisting in furnishing some of the new 8 room facility for family of Midland Memorial Cancer patients
- Midland Children's Advocacy Center - Refurbishing the therapy waiting area
- The Martin Luther King Junior Community Center - Updating and replacing items in the youth activity center
- Midland Fair Havens - Replacing fencing for the facility which will hinder unwanted activities in the area.

I see how important these organizations have been to BPW and, as a representative of the club, have fully supported our participation in these worthy projects. Your financial assistance is needed to meet the estimated goal of \$20,000.00 towards the four projects above. You may send your charitable donation to me at the address below or contact me at 940-1412 for further information regarding in-kind donations.

Thank you in advance for your generous support of our efforts to assist these organizations. I am very proud to be included among this great group of people and to be representing Uptown BPW.

With Warmest Regards,

Yvonne Reyes
c/o Western National Bank
508 West Wall, Suite 1100
Midland TX 79701



Things that are happening in our city right now:

OIL & GAS DRILLING ORDINANCE

The Midland City Council returned to the drawing table and has now unveiled the latest draft of the Oil & Gas Drilling Ordinance. The DRAFT ordinance can be viewed on the city's website, www.midlandtexas.gov.

The Midland Oil and Gas Task Force first reviewed the existing City of Midland ordinance regulating oil and gas drilling and production activities within the city limits and recently provided recommendations to the City Council. The recommendations were taken into consideration when drafting a modified ordinance. A public hearing was held on October 13th. The City Council then took into consideration the comments and concerns voiced at that hearing. The result is the newer draft of the ordinance.

The objective of the oil & gas drilling ordinance is to meet the goals of encouraging orderly development and growth of the city while accommodating the rights of mineral owners to reasonable access to their minerals and protecting the health, welfare, and safety of the public.

YARD WASTE SITE MULCHING

The City of Midland will work with a contractor to mulch yard waste on site at the location on Smith Road just north of Veterans Airpark Lane. The location is the city's yard waste dumpster site.

The process will begin on **November 2, 2009**, and run for approximately two weeks (depending on the volume and the weather). The public should note that the yard waste site will be closed during this time.

The process includes grinding the branches into smaller wood chips that are collected directly into a 30 cubic yard container. The full container is loaded onto a truck and hauled to the landfill. There, the material is used to cover the landfill.

Materials may be diverted to the City of Midland Landfill (located seven miles east of Midland on Garden city highway) and Recom Resource Recovery located at 4705 W, Industrial (formally Discount Materials). Residents must show their current City of Midland utility bill to receive free yard waste disposal.

There are two city council meetings in Midland scheduled for the remainder of this year. Everyone is welcome. If you want to stay informed, or even make your opinion known, please plan to attend.

November 10
December 8

...CITY HAPPENINGS...BY PATTI HUMPHREY

2009 Woman of the Year



Thursday evening at our National Business Women’s Week meeting, it was my privilege to announce Uptown’s 2009 Woman of the Year. I sent out the call for nominees in September and members sent back the names of five candidates. They were: Jo Fite, Debrah Gann, Stacy Nelson, Sheila Warren and Angie Wilson. What a great group of ladies. I was so glad that I did not have to do the judging.....

After the votes were tallied the winner was SHEILA WARREN. Here we are at the meeting on Nov. 5th where I presented her with her plaque—2009 Uptown Midland BPW Woman of the Year.

CONGRATULATIONS SHEILA!!

By Shirley Harris

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

Shirley Harris and Gone Crazee.....

Hello!!!! Hello!!!! We went on our third trip in September. We drug the motorcycle and trailer behind us again. Smitty wasn’t so nervous on this trip. He only turned the rearview camera on a couple of times. Sure enough the trailer hadn’t fallen off somewhere.

This time we went to Lake Buchanan.



It was a nice. Lots of freindly folks. It was cloudy and dark all the way down and we were concerned about it raining again but it didn’t. YEAH!! We stayed at the Big Chief RV Resort, and we could walk down to the lake (or what there was left of it—way low). Saturday morning we got up, got the bike out and went for an all day ride. The weather was cool and overcast but it

still made for a good day of riding. We saw lots of other bikes on the road.

The water was way down on the lake. (Texas is in the midst of a huge/critical drought.) The boat dock at the Big Chief was probably about 30 feet above the water level. The picture at left is Smitty and me after we got back from our ride Saturday afternoon late. We walked over towards the overflow on the dam and it is dry. Where I took this photo used to be under water. You can see the chopped off tree stumps behind us.

The next photo is taken looking across the lake at the overflow part of the dam.



The overflow was a long ways away from

the water. They will have to have lots and lots of rain to get the water level back up,.

We walked back to the RV, got our chairs



out and sat down to look at the lake and watch the sun go down. At least we hoped to watch the sun set because we had not seen the sun all day. Much to our joy the sun popped out from behind the clouds just before it got dark. So we got to see the brilliant reds, yellows and oranges of the sun setting on top of the smooth lake. Above is a photo of the sun just before it disappeared for the day.

All in all it was a great weekend!

Smitty decided we need a car dolly.....

...MEMBER HAPPENINGS...

Uptown Midland BPW

PO Box 3895
Midland TX 79702

Shirley D Harris, Editor
Cell 432-528-7072
Work 432-684-4692
Fax: 432-684-4694
E-mail: shirley@tbobamthor.com

www.midlandbpw.com

RENEWALS:

Evie Adams
Cecily Shull
Sheila Warren

RENEWALS for November:

Judy Galbraith
Glenna Haskell
Patti Humphrey

We sent out renewal invoices to members last week. Please check your e-mail. Please e-mail or call me if you have any questions.

Thanks.....Shirley and Evie
shirley@tbobamthor.com

Remember :

Uptown's Christmas Party and Silent Auction to Benefit MD Anderson
Cancer Research - put on your Calendar:

Thursday—December 10, 2009

Starts at 6:00 pm

Grasslands Club House



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

- 11/1 Shirley Harris
- 11/18 Demetra Johns
- 11/22 Jerri Ripplinger

Women in History

- 11/1 Anna Hallowell 1831—1905
Established first free kindergarten
for poor children in Philadelphia.
1879
- 11/18 Rose Knox - 1857—1950,
one of America's foremost business-
women, cofounder of Knox Gelatin
Co., Following her husband's
death, she revolutionized the com-
pany, initiating a 5 day work week
and 2 week vacations.
- 11/22 Billie Jean King - 1943
Tennis Champion, won 20 Wimble-
don titles; first female athlete in
any sport to earn \$100,000, 1971