

# The Uptown News Beat

*Focused on the Future—Honoring the Past*

**Uptown  
Midland  
BPW**

Volume 26, Issue 4  
October 2009

## Words from our President

We started the month of September 2009 with a program meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> with our guest speaker Judy James-Villalva, the Director of Crisis Intervention Services at Midland Rape Crisis and Children's Advocacy Center. Judy's presentation was very moving and motivating at the same time. We all seemed to have our eyes opened to the importance of this service with an understanding of what help this can be for victims of rape. Judy brought a young lady with her that told her story. What a brave young woman! She is a prime example of how significantly the Crisis Center helps victims overcome the effects of rape and move on with their lives. Thank you, Madam 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Stacy, for a great program!

During our Board Meeting on September 16, 2009, Stacy, Evie, Jerri, Mona, Shirley and I, discussed the budget to clarify past and present needs. Shirley presented a membership form to use going forward. The Board reviewed and agreed this form will be our official application for membership with Uptown Midland BPW. Our Membership Committee will reinstate the guest form at the meetings so if you bring a guest please be sure they fill out our form with their contact information to receive a thank you for attending. Jerri was appointed the task of determining if the luncheon costs are being covered by the \$17 charge per attendee. Please be sure to check our website periodically for any updates. Our Board Meetings are opened to all Uptown members so join us when you can.

Our business meeting on September 23, 2009, I was absent and our 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Stacy, was also absent and the next in line, Madam 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Evie Adams, led the meeting. Our Treasurer, Jerri, presented a draft budget for review and also brought up a discussion on increasing the local dues to \$20 annually and increasing the luncheon cost to \$20 each. These items will be finally determined via email to the membership. Our National Business Women's Week (NBWW) Chair, Glenda Knox, gave us an update on the committee meetings. The invitations have been sent and the flyers prepared for NBWW to honor Jane Wolf, a prominent real estate agent in our community. Already tables and tickets are being sold. NBWW certainly looks like it will surpass previous events as we usually do. The flyer and invitations are available on our website if you need to make more. A raffle item(s) is still being determined so if anyone has some ideas, please contact Glenda ([r\\_knox@suddenlink.net](mailto:r_knox@suddenlink.net)). **SAVE THE DATE, NOVEMBER 5, 2009.** Our Community Project Committee co-chairs, Tiffany Blakely and Angie Wilson reported on current projects and are asking the membership for new project ideas. A plea went out to our members to get ready for a face to face involvement as a group at selected volunteer events to be announced. Thank you, Madam 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Evie, for an outstanding meeting!

Presently we have guests that are interested in joining Uptown Midland and the membership application will be available through Evie or Shirley, soon to be on the website. The annual dues are currently \$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](http://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 October, we will only have a business meeting, October 28, 2009. I hope each of you can attend. Please RSVP to Evie Adams, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Membership Chair at 570-5233 ([evie.adams@bosworthco.com](mailto:evie.adams@bosworthco.com)), or Shirley Harris, Webpage and Telephone/Email Chair at 684-4692 ([shirley@tbobamthor.com](mailto:shirley@tbobamthor.com)). The cost of the luncheon is \$17.00 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*

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Pictured at left is our speaker , Judy James-Villalva, Director of Crisis Intervention Services at Midland Rape Crisis and Children's Advocacy Center and Kaitlyn Rabenaldt, a volunteer and Uptown's President Debrah Gann

Program Meeting  
Sept. 9, 2009

## Glenda Knox and Be Careful What You Wish For.....

A little over a year ago the company I work for was purchased by a large corporation out of California. Some of the changes have been good, but some have been not so good.

Because we live where we work, my husband (Bob) and I started talking about buying a home so when the time came to leave this job we would have a place to move to.

Bob, who is the "handy man of all men" said he wished we could find a "fixer upper". So we let some people know we were looking and we found a home that was about to be repossessed and bought it in January. Now, when you buy a "repo" you get what you get. The young couple who owned it seemed very nice and were very open about the "remodeling" they had started.

The first thing we had to do was put up a new fence. Now remember this was in February, cold and wet most weekends. Not my idea of fun. But we got it done.

This couple was very fond of color. Navy walls, orange walls, pink walls and lime green walls. We have certainly helped the stock value for the Kilz corporation. They had also taken up all the carpet and started putting down tile in every room. Needless to say they did not know much more than I do about that job, so all of that had to be removed. Next we torn down 3 walls making the living room, dining room and kitchen one big open area. We have replaced all the bathroom fixtures, all the baseboards and refinished all the cabinets. All of the plumbing and electrical work has been brought up to today's codes.

We have worked almost every weekend since February, taking a few days off for some BPW fun and a trip to San Francisco and of course I had to take some time off because of my shoulder and now Bob has had back surgery. We have had fun and not too many arguments. My children asked me why we always have two vehicles over there, my answer, "Because it is easier to drive off than commit murder." I love Bob very much, but he is a perfectionist and slower than maple syrup. So we have butted heads a few times.

The house is coming along and we hope to be living in it before the holidays. We do have running water, lights and appliances,

There is still a lot of painting to do so if you are handy with a paint brush come by 3509 W Michigan and I can put you to work.

I'm not sure Bob wanted this much of a "fixer upper" so like I said, "Be careful what you wish for."

...MEMBER HAPPENINGS...

## NATIONAL BUSINESS WOMEN'S WEEK

NATIONAL BUSINESS WOMEN'S WEEK is celebrated every where by BPW in October to honor and support the working women of the world.

This year we will host our event on Nov 5, at the Petroleum Club at 6:00PM.

We will be honoring **Jane Wolf**, a local realtor as Uptown's 2009 Woman of Achievement.

We have tables available as well as individual tickets for \$35.00.

I hope you will support this event so we can continue to do the great work we do for others in Midland.

For ticket or table information please contact Stacy Nelson or Glenda Knox

### Jo Fite - - I won it by.....



I won a room makeover from a local designer, Melissa Morehead. Above is a photo of part of my new Mary Kay Event Center. I won it by going to her website (eclectic designs) and giving a description and photo of my 'problem' room. The event center is actually my formal living/dining room. <http://moredecortx.com>

## Shirley Harris and **Gone Crazee.....**

Smitty and I have a mascot! We decided to take our patio bird along with us and put him by the step outside the door when the weather is nice. (Everyone else we have met has a dog(s) they take with them.)

A couple of weeks ago we ventured off to Kerrville by way of Fredericksburg. Oh what joy stopping in that wonderful little town. Yep—we boosted the economy there. Shopped at the

Amish Market for their wonderful butter and then had to stop in The Christmas Store. No trip is complete without a stop there.

After we left Fredericksburg it started raining. It rained



all the way to Kerrville. We stayed at a very nice campground in Kerrville, got set up and then the rain started again.

We had trailered the motorcycle and guess where it stayed? You guessed it—in the trailer. It rained until 6:00 Sat. evening. Then it was too late and too wet to ride. Anyway it was still nice to get out of town and know we could just laze around and read.

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#### **RENEWALS:**

Kristine Ashley  
Lesley Smith  
Evie Adams  
Kimberly Duncan  
Jerri Ripplinger  
Angie Wilson

#### **RENEWALS for October:**

Jeanette Porter  
Delores Schuler  
Cecily Shull  
Sheila Warren

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 (shirley@tbobamthor.com) and Evie



### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**

10/7 Lily White  
10/8 Rhonda Medelin  
  
10/11 Irmalee Ingraham  
  
10/21 Peggy Driver  
  
10/29 Ann Forest

### **Women in History**

10/7 Rose Eigenmann 1858-1947  
First prominent woman Ichthyologist  
10/8 Emily Blackwell 1826-1910  
Physician, Dean & Professor of Obstetrics at New York Infirmiry for women and children  
10/11 Eleanor Roosevelt 1884-1962  
Civil Rights advocate, feminist, author, world diplomat  
10/21 Ursula LeGuin 1929 -  
Celebrated author of science fiction and other genre  
10/29 Marie Rand 1886-1970  
Experimental Psychologist, designed industrial and hospital lighting systems