

The Handclasp

The Newsletter of
Schenectady Business &
Professional Women
An organization for
all working women

Volume LXXXIV Number 8

Founded in 1927

June 2011



Calendar

- June 16** 6:00 – 7:00 pm - “Pro's and Con's”
of staying part of NYS Women, Inc. First
Reformed Church, Poling Conference Room.
All members welcome.
- June 23** **District IV Leadership Meeting.**
7:00 pm at The Ripe Tomato, 2721 Route 9,
Ballston Spa (Exit 13 of Northway). Order
dinner off menu. Come and share what
happened at State Conference, June 3-5.
- June 28** **Monthly Meeting at The Stockade Inn**
5:30 pm Networking; 6:00 pm Dinner
Scholarships Presentation
- HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!**
- August 9** **5:30 pm - Fashion Show Committee Meeting**
at Jane Osterhout's house, 923 Wright Ave.,
Schenectady.
- August 10** **Making Strides for Breast Cancer Breakfast**
Kickoff Breakfast to be held at The Albany
Marriott. Registration begins at 7:00 am
- August 31** **Women's Day at the NYS Fair, Syracuse, NY**
- September 6** **6:00pm Board Meeting at The First Reformed**
Church, Poling Conference Room
All members welcome!
- Sept 23-24-25** **NYSWomen, Inc. Fall Board at High Peaks**
Hotel, Lake Placid, NY.



A meaningful logo for our organization's future

The squares in the logo are an abstract representation of our organization's diversity - that we are open to women of all ages and in various stages of their lives regardless of ethnicity, religion, and/or profession. The colors are symbolic of NYS Women, Inc. as an organization. A strong blue provides continuity with the former BPW/NYS logo, denotes professionalism, and is a reflection of New York State's official seal. The bright green is a modern, appealing color and reinforces a theme of renewal and future growth.

New York State Women, Inc.



Our Mission

To build powerful women professionally, personally, politically through advocacy, education and actions.

Our Vision

To be the leading advocate for working women.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greeting BPW Members:

What a great year we have had this year!!! Kudos to all of you, for helping to make my year so great. You have contributed so much. Thank You to all Committee Chairs and their committees for a job well done. I think we accomplished more than any other club. We know how to work in unity and accomplish all of our goals. I just can't believe we have gained so many new and talented members to add to the talented members we already had. It is such a pleasure to come to the meetings and see everyone enjoying the meeting and having fun too.

June is a very busy and important month for all. I hope you will all be able to attend the June Scholarship Program chaired by Elena Alvarez and her Committee. This is a very special evening. You will meet all of the scholarship recipients and their families. All of this is made possible because of Cyndie Powell and her Fashion Show Committee working so diligently to raise money for the Scholarships. After the Scholarship Program we will hold a short Business Meeting and a hold a very important vote to decide if we should disengage from NYS Women Inc. We voted at the June Board Meeting to hold the vote this month, instead of waiting until September. The Special Meeting for New Members is June 15, 2011 at 6:00 PM at the First Reformed Church, directly across the street from The Stockade Inn. This meeting is to educate new members and veteran members on what NYS Women Inc. does for us; and what BPW Foundation stands for. I have invited Carol Moyer, NYS Women Inc. District IV Director, to come and speak and explain NYS to all of you. This should help you to decide how to vote. The voting will be done by ballot, so if you want to vote you need to be present at the June 28th Business Meeting.

Last month we held our Installation of Officers and New Member Inductions. Thank you so much to Judy Schultz, Bonnie Keller and Aldona Viatulis, for such beautiful ceremonies. The flowers were beautiful, and the presentations were awesome.

This will be my last Presidents message until September. If anyone needs any information please visit our Website. www.schenectadybpw.org Cyndie Powell keeps all information current on the website.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you again at the meeting on June 28th. We will have some committee meetings over the summer, even though we recess our business meetings until September. Also, Susan Daly and Bonnie Keller, our 1st VP, will be planning a program meeting/get together over the summer. We will let you know the time and date and venue for this meeting as soon as the date has been established. Also The Fashion Show Committee will be meeting over the summer. If you are on the committee, Cyndie will keep you informed of the upcoming meetings and other information regarding the Fashion Show and Woman of the Year Event. The deadline for the nominations for Woman of the Year is August 1, 2011. All of the forms and information is on the website. If you know of any woman qualified for this honor, please fill out the application and send it to me by August 1, 2011. Also Kim Bellizzi and Miriam Cajuste will be working on the Youth Leadership Program, planned for October 15, 2011 at SCCC. More information will become available as they receive it. They will need help from our entire club for this very special program.

I hope you all enjoy the summer and any vacations you may have planned. It has been my utmost pleasure to lead you all into a very successful year. I can't tell you how much you all have raised my self esteem. I hope we all continue to work in unity and have another successful year.

Best Regards,
Jane Osterhout
Jane Osterhout
President



Birthdays

June

13 Michele Paludi
21 Lydia Rollins

July

2 Donna Thomas
6 Kim Bellizzi
12 Stephanie Schechter

August

9 Linda Rolfe
11 Irene Wickham



Schenectady Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc.

Please join us at our next business meeting

Where: The Stockade Inn

When: Tuesday, June 28, 2011

5:30 – Networking

6:00 – Dinner Meeting

Reservations required

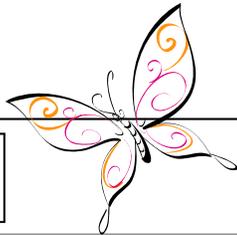
Cost: \$28 for guests; \$25 for members

Scholarship Award Ceremony

Please R.S.V.P. By: Friday, June 24, 2011 to Susan Daly at 428-8830 or Carolyn Sabol at 887-5851 or Email Carolyn at cwsabol@hotmail.com

Please remember that if you are a member, your reservation is automatically made for you. If you are unable to attend, you must contact Susan Daly or Carolyn Sabol at the phone numbers or email above, so that the club will not be charged for your dinner.

Thank you for your consideration.



Tips and Tidbits

Reservations.

Remember, all members of Schenectady BPW have a reservation for every dinner meeting. If you are unable to attend any meeting, it is your responsibility to call Susan Daly at (518) 428-8830 or Carolyn Sabol at (518) 887-5851, or Email Carolyn at cwsabol@hotmail.com

We are responsible working adults and must take responsibility for our own reservation. Bills will be sent to any member who does not cancel, and does not attend. We are billed for each dinner that we reserve.

Cancellations are due the Friday before the monthly meeting, which is held on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Our hospitality committee does a great job keeping track of the reservations. Please communicate with them, they are more than willing to accommodate if you have a special situation. Thank you.

You can access the **Handclasp** on our website.

Go to: www.schectadybpw.org

The Handclasp is located under the “Resources” tab. Cyndie Powell will also be emailing the Handclasp to members and other interested parties when it is ready for publication.

“A World of Changes”

As I look back at my life of 68 years, I probably would have never imagined all of the good and bad things that have happened over the years, both in my personal life and in the world. Who would have ever thought that you could write a letter (as I am doing right now) and send it to someone without an envelope or a stamp? Who would have ever thought that we would have computers instead of typewriters, printers instead of AB Dick copiers? I am so amazed to see where we have come, and where we have been, it is hard to fathom. We are a world of changes in all aspects of life. I am sure there is more to come in technology, medical miracles, and education. We must move forward with all of these changes in order to keep ourselves ahead of the game. This is a great country to live in. Although right now we are going through some bad times, but with the right leadership we can pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off, and move forward.

I personally have experienced many hardships along the way. If it wasn't for my father instilling confidence, and perseverance in me, I never would have moved forward in my life and accomplished everything that I have so far. It wasn't easy, but my motto has always been, “Stop feeling sorry for yourself, because someone out there is worse off than you are”. The same goes for our country. Do you wake up every morning and have a nice warm home, hot and cold running water, food to eat, a car to drive, and a job to go to? We do have a great education program in our country. Think of all of the people in the world who do not have these simple things. They may not eat for days have a job to go to, their children cannot bathe, or be educated. Some countries do not even have roads so they can get to places to improve their lives. So whenever you think you are bad off, thank our Country for getting us this far. I know I do. I also thank our Armed Forces for protecting us and risking their lives for our Freedom. I thank God everyday for bringing my own son home safe from his military assignments. So whenever you see a notice in the paper or on the news, that a certain group is collecting items for our troops overseas, please donate something to thank them for our freedom. Without the Armed forces we would not be where we are today.

Our own organization has been through many changes in the past few years. We had a choice to join the BPW Foundation or create an organization on our own. The state chose to go out on their own, and became “New York State Women's Inc”. Local Chapters had a choice of either staying as BPW or moving on to NYS Women's Inc. The Schenectady Chapter chose to belong to both organizations. We felt that there was too much history with BPW to give it up, so we now belong to both and are able to carry on the history that we joined the organization with. Another example of change in our lives.

I am wondering how many of you have seen the video, “Who Moved My Cheese.” This video is a great tool for any group to use to educate about change. We must keep changing and keep up with the changes that happen everyday in our lives; otherwise you are going to be looking for your cheese all by yourself.

Creative Writing Composition
Respectfully Submitted by:
Jane Osterhout
Schenectady BPW

Membership—Michele Paludi & Aldona Viatulis

Our membership stands at 46 with more waiting for paper work. We are one of the largest of the local chapters in NYSWomen, Inc. You may pick up a copy of our new roster at our meeting June 28 from Bonnie Keller.

On our list we have seven members who have not renewed in March, April, and May. That means that you are dropped from NYSWomen, Inc. Please pay your dues now and be reinstated as a member of Schenectady BPW.

Over the summer, carry copies of BPW Schenectady membership application form and give them to women you meet. Tell them what BPW membership means to you. Mail the check for dues (\$72) and form to Michele Paludi or Aldona Vaitulis. Let's have a full page of new members in our September HANDCLASP.

Youth Leadership Conference - Kim Bellizzi, Chair

Our Schenectady Youth Leadership Conference is scheduled for October 15, 2011 at Schenectady County Community College. This is a Career Exploration Conference focusing on a Reality Store, where students can sit with a woman in her field of interest to explore educational requirements, job requirements, salary ranges, and whether or not these elements are adequate for her hoped-for marriage, children and standard of living.

Kim Bellizzi will need most of us to carry out the leadership needs for this conference. She has asked for help by women who will staff the tables in her career.

Call Kim at 908-625-1754 and tell her you will help in this event. Orientation materials be sent out later.

Fashion Show – Cyndie Powell, Chair

We are once again offering Vendor Tables for our 2011 Fashion Show and Woman of the Year Celebration. This year's event will be held on Sunday, November 6, at The Glen Sanders Mansion. Forms for the event are on our Website. The cost per table is \$100. There are only 10 tables available, so make sure that you get your forms in quickly. Tables will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Also, don't forget that there are many ways to support our event and highlight your products and services at the same time. We are also asking local businesses and entrepreneurs to donate Door Prizes, Silent Auction items and our "high end" baskets to raffle. There is more information on our Website, as well as forms and receipts for donations. Also, don't forget about the ad spaces available in our Program Booklet for the day of the show. Please visit our Website at www.schenectadybpw.org for more information.

All of the profits from the Fashion Show go directly to our scholarship fund for local girls and women in the Schenectady County area who are furthering their education. Because of your generosity last year, we are able to award \$7000 in scholarships this year.

Thank you in advance for your continued support of our efforts.

85th Anniversary Year

On May 11, 2012, Schenectady BPW will kick off its 85th Anniversary Year. We will kick off the year with a dinner at Riverstone Manor in Scotia. The event will be chaired by Bonnie Keller and Jane Osterhout.

Public Relations

Thank You!

This greeting is for the person who is sending in the monthly notices of our Schenectady BPW meetings. An article appears in the Saturday issue of the *Gazette* before our monthly meeting. It not only includes notices of what will be presented at the respective meeting, but also is an invitation to join with other women to address issues of all working women. The ad includes the who, where, when and how issues.

Thanks, again, to the person who does this important work each month for our organization.

Books for Summer Reading

Many inner city children have never owned a book of their own. As part of the summer lunch program, SICM recruits volunteers to conduct activities. One activity is reading aloud to a group of children. After the group reading, books are distributed to children to take home. Bring any slightly used or new children's books to our June meeting and we will donate them to the SICM summer program.



2011 – 2012 Schenectady BPW Board Members and Directors

Board President -- Jane Osterhout
1st Vice President -- Bonnie Keller
Co-2nd Vice President -- Aldona Vaitulis
Co-2nd Vice President -- Michele Paludi
Treasurer -- Tammy Krisher
Secretary -- Cyndie Powell

Directors: Susan Daly
Carolyn Sabol
Marie Johnson

Immediate Past President: Elena Alvarez, PhD.

Schenectady BPW Winners of High School Scholarships and Cay Raycroft Awards, 2011-2012

Respectively submitted on 5/28/2011 by
Elena Alvarez, PhD, Chair, Schenectady BPW
Scholarship Committee. Committee Members:
Bertha Berman, Stephanie Schechter, and
Aldona Vaitulis

COLLEGE AWARDS

Schenectady High School

Brionna Neal
Field: Environmental Engineering
College: Clarkson

Lena LeGere
Field: International Business
College: SUNY Binghamton

Scotia-Glenville High School

Olivia Dutelle
Field: Accounting
College: Hartwick

Kirsten Faubion
Field: Undecided
College: Marist

Shalmon High School

Kara Howansky
Field: Physical Therapy
College: Massachusetts College of Pharmacy

Mohanesen High School

Bryttni Walter
Field: Childhood Educational
College: SUNY Oneonta

Niskayuna High School

Jaclyn Dobies
Field: Pre-Medicine
College: Duke University

CAREER AWARD

Anne-Marie Kwiatkowski
Field: Graphic Design
College: Schenectady County Community College

CATHERINE H. RAYCROFT AWARDS

Elaine Davis
Field: Education
College: Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts

Sheryl Welch
Field: Chemical Dependency Counseling
College: Schenectady County Community College



Business and Professional Women's Foundation

BPW Foundation conducted a survey among women on the use of Broadband for vocational and personal use. The results of their 2011 Women's Broadband Survey, based on answers from 1,400 on-line participants, found that women continue to use high-speed technology as a critical component of building their businesses and advancing their careers.

This survey brings attention to the tremendous advancement that broadband access has brought to women, women-owned businesses, and women's everyday lives. The results also demonstrate that there is a critical need for efforts to educate women on how to better and more efficiently utilize high-speed technology to empower them to remain competitive in the workplace, in their own businesses, and in their personal lives in this growing digitally based economy.

BPW Foundation Joins First Lady in Launching "Joining Forces" Initiative

BPW Foundation was invited by the White House to attend the announcement of the Joining Forces initiative to support military families and veterans. It was particularly gratifying to have our new mentoring program for military spouses and women veterans recognized as part of this national effort to assist military families in the areas of education, wellness, employment and public awareness.

With approximately 150,000 women transitioning out of the military over the next five years, women veterans are an increasingly vital part of this equation.



State Conference held in Albany, June 3 – 5, 2011 moved forward on many fronts. The Strategic Planning process presented a preliminary report. Those items adopted have been passed on to the Bylaws Committee. Additional sections will be presented at Fall Board.

Fall Board will be held September 23-25, 2011 at Lake Placid, NY at the High Peaks Hotel.

The last two years have been a work-in-process. We now have a framework. When BPW/USA merged with BPW Foundation, they became a 501 (c)(3) organization. This meant that BPW/USA and BPW/NYS moved from being a membership organization to a corporate model. BPW/NYS has moved to NYSWomen, Inc as a non-profit for education (501)(c) (4 or 6).

Awards at NYSWomen, Inc. State Conference

June 3,4,5 2011 for Schenectady BPW

1. NY Grace Legendre Endowment Fund – Certificate of Appreciation \$3.62 *per capita*
2. 3rd greatest % membership increase at 40%
3. 3rd largest chapter with 42 members (now 46 and growing)
4. 2nd most new members with 14 new members
5. Certificate of Participation – Women's History Month and HANDCLASP submissions

If there is anything that you would like to see on the Website, that isn't currently there, please let Cyndie know. You can contact her by email at: cyndie@nycap.rr.com or by phone at 518-370-7249.

If you have any items that you would like included in the Handclasp, please get your information to Cay by the 1st Wednesday of each month. Cay can be reached on 518-372-2521 or by email at ddraycroft@aol.com



Thank You!

For many years, Schenectady BPW board meetings, tag sales, and special meetings have been held at the Vet's Club, 718 Union Street. We are now holding our board meetings at the First Reformed Church with a barrier-free parking lot and handicapped access entry. Meetings are held in the Poling Conference Room at the church. A plaque has been presented to the Vet's Club to express our appreciation for their hospitality over the years.



AMONG OUR MEMBERS

- **Bertha Berman** is now living in Clifton Park and is looking for a ride to and from our monthly meetings. Call Bertha at 377-7710 if you can help.
- **Miriam Cajuste**, Affirmative Action Officer for the City of Schenectady announces two upcoming meetings for Small Business Owners.
How to Do Business with the Federal government and the 109th Air National Guard,
June 9, 5:30-7:00pm at SCCC
“Doing Business with the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York,”
June 16, 5:30-7:30pm SCCC
Register at www.schenectadychamber.org or call (518) 372-5656.
- **Jean Gordon** wants all of to know that her new Email address is: jean_gordon@verizon.net
- Kudos to **Richard Osterhout**, husband of President **Jane**, for help in setting up the Sales Boutique Shop at the Animal Protective Foundation. Even our husbands get involved in supporting our members.
Thanks Dick and Jane, too!

In the Community

Jane asked that we all take time to support our member, **Kim Bellizzi** who works at **The Animal Protective Foundation**. We take care of our sisters in shelters and other needs. This month we are urged to bring items needed by our four-footed friends at the Animal Protective Foundation located at 53 Maple Ave., Scotia, NY 12302.

Bring to our June Meeting

Cat food - any kind of pate canned food
Good quality collars and leashes - medium and large sizes
HE (high-efficiency detergent)
Paper towels
White copy paper
Stamps
Gift cards to Price Chopper, Walmart

Can You Help?

SAFEHOUSE can use the following items for their teenage residence:
All travel-size shampoo conditioner, lotion, deodorant, and soaps. Also needed, are socks for both male and female as well as washcloths and towels. Most youth come to their door without any of these items and when they leave, they can use the following items for their own apartments/rooms: pots/pans/dishes, glasses, mugs, silverware, small appliances, and dish towels. Call Judy Lewis at SAFEHOUSE, 518-374-5178

Handclasp Advertising Supporters

SCHENECTADY BPW

Jane Osterhout

**2010-2011
President Schenectady BPW**

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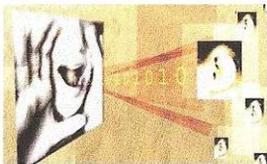
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have Real Conversations about what's important to you!

HOW SMART WOMEN MANAGE THEIR MONEY
THEY DON'T

You have enough demands
on your time without worrying
about your financial plan.
It's especially wise to have
an advisor who not only
understands the intricacies
of investing in today's
marketplace, but who also
listens – helping you know
your options and giving your
investments the attention they
deserve. Call today.

Cynthia Voelker Powell
Financial Executive

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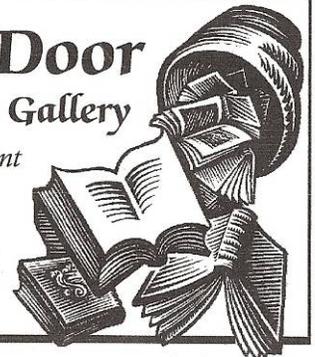
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Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Birthday (month/day) _____

Employed at _____

Business Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Job Title _____

Business Phone _____

Email address _____

Hobbies & Interests _____

For more information, please contact our membership chairs:

Aldona Vaitulis at (518) 355-4923

Or Bonnie Keller at (518) 895-2364 or (518)993-4799

Or email Bonnie at: bkeller@nbtbank.com

Dues \$72.00 per year

Please make checks payable to: **Schenectady BPW**

And mail to:

C/o Tammy Krisher, Treasurer

P.O. Box 2311

Scotia, NY 12302



Signature _____

Business and Professionals Women's Club

Benefits of Membership

Active BPW members come together each month for regular meetings and special programs. Members network professionally, share contacts and career strategies, and work on political issues of importance. Members participate in BPW at all levels and are eligible to serve as conference participants

www.schenectadybpw.org