



President's Message:
Rosemary Roper, President



With the arrival of Autumn, BPW/MA starts rolling. Most locals have had their first meeting and are very busy implementing their agendas. Membership is a primary focus for the state this year as we succeed in reversing the trend of previous years. Our membership will not continue to decline. We will begin to improve our membership figures.

At Interim Board, we will hold the Woman of Achievement luncheon. Please mail your nominations to Joanne Smarrella. This is a way to honor someone in your community for all of her outstanding work and accomplishments. Friday night of Interim Board will be a fun time. We are holding a 1 versus the Mob which is based on the TV show 1 vs 100. All the questions will be on women's history. Come and have some fun with other BPW members on Friday. Saturday, we will have business and a big presentation on the changes at national. There are new membership categories that will affect how we recruit new members. So come and learn more about these changes.

We have had a Poker Tournament in Lynn. This was the first of several fundraisers that the state will sponsor this year. If you have any ideas for a fundraiser, please let your officers know. On another note, we are again at the BIG E this year. Our days are September 28 - 30. We will be putting on short versions of the Reality Store during this. Besides, the BIG E, we will also be at the Women's Conference in December. Both of these events are outreach for BPW and brings us into the public's eye.

Also Helen Williams, Head Coach of Women's Basketball at Merrimack met with your president Rosemary Roper, Kathleen Pavelchek and Deb Bouras as well as AAUW. At this meeting, it was decided that BPW would do another ID seminar with Merrimack similar to the one last December. Also we will put together a Reality Store geared for college women and their first job after college. AAUW and BPW will have their own nights at the Basketball games at Merrimack.

Congratulations to Mid-Cape BPW on their successful Charter Party. Everyone who attends will have a wonderful time. We hope that they have a very successful year and continue to be enthusiastic about BPW.

CALL TO MEETING
Fall Board of Directors

Date: November 3, 2007

Location: Holiday Inn
Mansfield, MA

Purpose of Meeting:
To consider recommendations from the Executive Committee. To receive interim reports from the Executive Committee and State Standing and Special Committee Chairs. To review the federation's status and devise measures for its growth and prosperity.


Agenda:
Friday Night
1 vs. the Mob (a fun event for all)

Saturday
8:30 am to 9:00 am Registration
9:00 am to 12:15 pm Business
12:30 pm to 1:30 pm Lunch
1:45 pm to 5:00 pm Business

Attendees:
All BPW/MA members are encouraged to attend and participate in meeting discussions.

Voting Body:
BPW/MA members who serve in the following positions are members of the voting body: State Officers, District Directors, State Standing Committee Chairs, Local Organization Presidents, Past State Presidents, MEAF Director, Bay State News Editor.
In the absence of a District Director, another District Officer may vote. In the absence of a LO President, a designated representative of the LO may vote. In the absence of a Standing Committee Chair, another member of the committee may vote.

Meeting Chair:
VJ Hartnett
BPW/MA Vice-President



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First-Timers Wanted

*Laura K Bauver, BPW/MA PSP
Hampshire County BPW*

All BPW/MA members and prospective members are encouraged to attend our three state meetings. These is generally a Board of Directors Meetings held in Fall and an Annual State Convention held in May. At these meetings you will learn all about BPW on another level and you'll meet other workingwomen from across the state that share many of the same goals as you and/or can serve as mentors to you!

To assist you in getting the most out of this BPW experience, we have a brief session prior to the beginning of each state meeting. This session is known as the "First Timers Briefing". An experienced BPW member will run through the agenda for the day, advising you of procedures and welcoming you to join in to the day's discussions.

At the Fall Board Meeting all First Timers will receive a special gift.

Please join us in Mansfield and be sure to let us know you are a First Timer!
You'll be glad you invested a Saturday in BPW!

National Help Wanted

By Laura Bauver, PSP

Would you like to be appointed to a BPW/USA committee? Each year the President-Elect has the responsibility of putting together a team of BPW members from across the country to assist the Executive Committee and staff in planning a successful year for our organization. These people will serve during her term as President.

Available on the BPW/USA website (www.bpwusa.org) is an updated document entitled "National Committee Appointment Process and application. This 23-page document briefly describes the many appointed positions that need to be filled each year. The application process is quite simple. There are a few questions to answer and a consent form must be signed. These must be submitted with one letter of recommendation and a resume. Submissions sent by fax or express mail must be *received* by BPW/USA before 5pm on November 7, 2006. If you mail the packet it must be *postmarked* no later than November 7th.

If you are interested in running for a national office, information will be available on the BPW/USA website in September. Prior to the *January 15th application deadline*, a state federation must endorse your candidacy. There is a detailed application to complete which includes a statement that will be published. The nomination procedure is currently being reviewed and revised. Watch for the updated information on the BPW/USA website.

If you are interested in applying to serve on a committee or in being nominated for national office and do not have access to the internet, please feel free to contact me or any other member who has internet capabilities. We'd be glad to help you get the information you need.



A Note from President-Elect Kathleen Pavelchek

Subject: Registration for MA Conference for Women

BPW/MA can reserve a table at the MA Conference for Women luncheon on December 11, if we have at least ten (10) paid conference registrations from the organization. The registrations need to be made as a group, by early November.

A reserved table will definitely increase BPW/MA's visibility at the conference. It will also make the luncheon much more fun for our members.

I'm looking forward to the conference. It will be my first time attending. One of the speakers is Anna Quindlen, a writer I have admired since I first read her syndicated column in the 1980's. Based on reports from those who've attended the last conference, there will be a great deal of energy and knowledge to draw on; A true learning experience.

If you are planning to attend, please contact me as soon as possible. The earlier we make the reservation, the better our seats!

Coalition Update

Kristin Whitfield

Care For Youth Coalition: No meetings now, no action required immediately but aligned with BPW mission in that it will create a healthier, safer world for our young women and stronger families. Fiscal study showed that the cost to standardize curriculum and implement across the Commonwealth was minimal. That the overall cost to the Commonwealth in terms of health care for lung cancer, diabetes, battered women etc. would be far less if education started early and prevention was stressed. We pay no money to belong.

Coalition for Choice: A number one platform issue and our name should be attached; constant activity at the state house, in the press etc.; One meeting a month - exciting to attend. Good work done by a quality group of constituents. Kristin is attending these meetings and hopes to encourage back up from others. We pay \$100 year and we paid it in Feb. I think.

Coalition on Women's Wage Equality: No question the most important for us and they count on our support. No money - just ideas and energy. Patricia Byron and/or I attend those meetings. If I can't get there I can go by phone. WE will have another Equal Pay Day event - may have a different twist and format but there will be something to be involved with.

As for what all these mean to MA - we are a grass roots organization with 250 members. We need to activate them to write letters and call etc. when there is a need for a response from "numbers" of women statewide. These coalitions are mostly composed of non-profits that don't have the personal contact with 250 women - so our women's voices are an important part of what we offer back to these groups. In return BPW/MA gains visibility, efficacy in terms of our legislative legacy, and a reputation of a group that "puts their mouth where the money is - so to speak!



Third Annual Mass. Conference for Women

Kathleen Pavelchek

BPW/MA will be an exhibitor at the Massachusetts Conference for Women at the Boston Convention & Exhibit Center on Tuesday, December 11. The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women organizes the conference. BPW/MA has participating exhibitor since the inaugural event in 2005.

The conference features nationally recognized speakers and panelists who are leaders in business, media, health, personal development and finance. They share their experience and expertise on everything from leading change to managing money to finding a work/life balance. Attendees learn practical and professional strategies from nationally recognized experts, and network with peers. More than 5,000 women attended the 2006 event.

This year's keynote speakers include:

- Jack Welch, former CEO of General Electric, now teaching at MIT's Sloan School of Management
- Suzy Welch, business journalist and former editor of the *Harvard Business Review*.
- René Syler, author of *Good Enough Mother: The Perfectly Imperfect Book of Parenting*, and most recently the anchor of CBS News' *The Early Show*.
- Anna Quindlen, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and best-selling author.

We hope many BPW/MA members will attend the conference again this year. We will need volunteers to staff our exhibit booth. Conference Registration, including luncheon and access to all workshops and speakers, is \$125. For more information go to the conference website, <http://www.maconferenceforwomen.org/conference/> (Exhibit booth workers do not need to register, but will not be able to attend conference events.)

Please contact President-Elect Kathleen Pavelchek if you are planning to attend the 2007 Massachusetts Conference for Women.

Save The Date!
October 30, 2007
10 AM - 2 PM

Lobby Day for Women's Health & Safety

Details are coming together for the October 30, 2007 Lobby Day for Women's Health & Safety at the Massachusetts State House. We need your help as we lobby Massachusetts's legislators in support of the Comprehensive Health Education Bill, the Buffer Zones Bill, and the Public Health Protection Act. In partnership with NARAL Pro-Choice Massachusetts and numerous other cosponsoring organizations, we will demonstrate to legislators the overwhelming statewide support for real health education for our youth, an expanded buffer zone, and the repeal of unconstitutional abortion and contraception restrictions in Massachusetts. Help us make Lobby Day for Women's Health & Safety at the Massachusetts State House a huge success!

When is Lobby Day for Women's Health & Safety?

Where will Lobby Day be held?



Transportation will be provided from multiple locations in Central MA as well as Western MA. Contact lobbyday@pplm.org for more information on transportation. To [sign up for Lobby Day](#),

visit our [Events Calendar](#) or email lobbyday@pplm.org for more information. You may also call 617-616-1660 x1552.

What else can I do to help make Lobby Day a success?

1) Come to a phonebank! The complete list of phonebanks at all three of our sites across the state is below. Sign up online by clicking the links below or visiting our [Events Calendar](#), or by contacting one of our grassroots organizers at lobbyday@pplm.org

2) Tell a friend! The more people we can mobilize to come to Lobby Day, the better – we want to recruit 400 activists, but we'd love to exceed our goal! **Use the link below to tell a friend about Lobby Day**

(For more information about the Comprehensive Health Education Bill, Buffer Zones Bill or the Public Health Protection Act visit www.pplmvotes.org)

Phonebank Dates, Times, and Locations
Boston Center Phonebanks – 1055

Commonwealth Avenue; **Contact:** Katie Mae Simpson (617) 616-1690, ksimpson@pplm.org)

Date	Time	Date	Time
Tues. 9/25	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Thurs. 10/11	5:30 - 8:30 PM
Wed. 9/26	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Tues. 10/16	5:30 - 8:30 PM
Mon. 10/1	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Wed. 10/17	5:30 - 8:30 PM
Tues. 10/2	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Thurs. 10/18	5:30 - 8:30 PM
Wed. 10/3	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Mon. 10/22	5:30 - 8:30 PM
Thurs. 10/4	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Tues. 10/23	5:30 - 8:30 PM
Tues. 10/9	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Wed. 10/24	5:30 - 8:30 PM
Wed. 10/10	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Thurs. 10/25	5:30 - 8:30 PM

Worcester Center Phonebanks – 631 Lincoln Street; Contact: Misty Perez (508) 854-3300 x1100, mperez@pplm.org)

Date	Time	Date	Time
Thurs. 10/11	5:30 - 7:30 PM	Thurs. 10/25	5:30 - 7:30 PM
Mon. 10/15	5:30 - 7:30 PM	Mon. 10/29	5:30 - 7:30 PM
Thurs. 10/18	5:30 - 7:30 PM		

Springfield Center Phonebanks – 3550 Main Street, Suite 201; Contact: Sarah Steinfeld (413) 732-1620 x1203, ssteinfeld@pplm.org)

Date	Time	Date	Time
Wed. 9/26	4:30 - 7:00 PM	Mon. 10/15	4:30 - 7:00 PM
Mon. 10/1	4:30 - 7:00 PM	Wed. 10/17	4:30 - 7:00 PM
Tues. 10/2	4:30 - 7:00 PM	Thurs. 10/18	4:30 - 7:00 PM
Wed. 10/3	4:30 - 7:00 PM	Wed. 10/24	4:30 - 7:00 PM
Tues. 10/9	4:30 - 7:00 PM	Thurs. 10/25	4:30 - 7:00 PM
Wed. 10/10	4:30 - 7:00 PM	Mon. 10/29	4:30 - 7:00 PM
Thurs. 10/11	4:30 - 7:00 PM		

**DISTRICT MEETINGS:
Western District Report**

Patricia Stowell, Director

The Western District locals are off to a good start this fall. With four locals in the district and the largest land area in the state we strive to work well together and to grow our district. I am proud to say that all four of our locals were represented at the National Conference in Reno/Sparks, Nevada in July. The workshops and meetings provided many useful ideas for revitalizing our local and district organizations and was an invigorating beginning to the BPW year.

Over the summer some locals were active while others used the time for planning fall events. Northern Berkshire participated in the street fair in Adams in honor of Susan B Anthony Days in July, and in August at the Mayor's Downtown Celebration in North Adams. Baskets were raffled at each. They used the State's new display board which makes a big difference in visibility. They report that several women stopped by to find out about BPW and took applications. Hampshire County participated in the Hampshire County Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society in June and held a summer picnic in August where they awarded their Kathleen Griffin LaFleur Scholarship to Nina Waldron from Belchertown who will be attending Smith College this fall .

Hampshire County and Greater Springfield will continue to meet together on the second Tuesday of each month. The fall programs include Jin Shin Jyutsu in September, Woman of Achievement in October, and Osteoporosis (the Bone Health program provided by BPW/USA) in November. Northern Berkshire will have an Identity Theft program in September, a Woman of Achievement program and a "Meet and Greet" in October.

Greater Springfield Vice President, Trudy Monson, is coordinating BPW/MA's participation in the Big E for the second year. Several Western District members will be participating. We hope that many more of you will join us – it's a fun time – and a great time to talk about BPW with women from throughout New England.

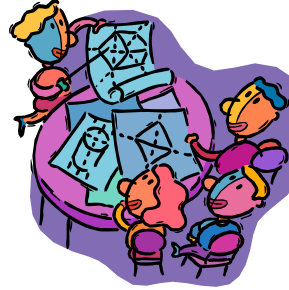
Plans are well underway for the District Annual Meeting, which will be held in the Williamstown/North Adams area in April. Watch future newsletters for the details of what is

expected to be a worthwhile and informative event.

Cranberry District Report

Marsha Stout, District Director

The District's 4th Annual Women's Expo is planned for March 2008. Pam Mulveyhill has agreed to plan this event and has secured the date of March 27, 2008 at the Bayside Resort in West Yarmouth, MA. Pam has requested help with the publicity.



The Cranberry District Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, April 6, 2008. The meeting responsibilities are as follows: Location: Mid Cape; Registration: Lower Cape; Program: Upper Cape and Elections: Falmouth. We will be looking for some ideas to change the format and hopefully streamline things so that more people will attend.

Local reports:

Falmouth - The local has their scholarship golf tournament coming up in October at the Woods Hole Country Club. This annual event is their largest fundraiser and earns money for their scholarship fund.

Lower Cape held their first meeting on Sept. 11, 2007 at Sea Pines in Brewster. The program was on networking and membership. Bookmarks were printed with a list of all the monthly meeting topics, locations and information on BPW with contacts. A new idea to help raise money for their general operating fund is to invite local business owners into each meeting to promote their business for a fee of \$50.00 They will be given ten minutes to promote or demo their product or business.

Mid-Cape – the new local in Cranberry District is kicking off their year with a Charter Party at the Cultural Center of Cape Cod in Yarmouth on Sept. 27, 2007. The focus program for this year is the Realty Store. Sandi Porter is chairing the committee and they are marketing it to local schools hoping to put it all together in the spring. Evelyn Young, President also reported that several of the meetings have been planned and a meeting was held on Sept. 13 to finalize the year.

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Upper Cape – Amy Kates reported that the first meeting was on Wednesday, Sept. 19 at Taylor's Family Farm, Route 130, Mashpee. Connie Brandy presented a program on Health and Wellness. There will be a fundraiser on October 14, 2007 – a movie matinee featuring the film, 'Iron Jawed Angels'.

BPW/USA National Legislative Platform Committee Meeting

This year, at National Conference, I had the pleasure of serving as the Massachusetts Legislative Representative with vote to this all important meeting. It is at this meeting that we hone and define the issues that BPW will follow and promote throughout the coming year. Any members are welcome to attend this meeting and quite a few of the BPW/MA delegation were there as well.

The 2007-08 Legislative Platform went unchanged from prior years and was unanimously passed. Once adopted, members and Local Organizations may not publicly disagree with any part of it, though we are not bound to be proactive on issues that are uncomfortable for us and our individual beliefs. At the state level, we are directed to "take action" – that is to follow and promote passage of bills that are inclusive of our platform issues. I suggest you provide a copy of the BPW/USA Legislative Platform to all your potential new members so that they can become familiar with the issues that BPW promotes publicly. (You can get a downloadable copy at www.bpwusa.org. Sign in, then click on Policy, then click on Legislative Priorities, then click on the underscored Legislative Platform. From there you can cut and paste into your own word document or print what you see on the screen.)



2007-2008 BPW/USA National Legislative Platform

Preamble

The Equal Rights Amendment, as authored by Alice Paul, shall stand first, foremost and above all other items which may appear on the national platform of this Federation until equal legal rights for women and men become guaranteed in the United States Constitution, because all statutory law derives there from.

The Equal Rights Amendment "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

Platform

Economic Equity

Ensure pay equity and equal educational and economic opportunities at all stages of life; and promote affordable, quality dependent care to help ensure economic self-sufficiency for women.

Health

Ensure reproductive choice and full access to all reproductive health services and education; ensure funds for research into and protections for women's health care needs; and encourage the development of a national health care policy recognizing the special health care needs of women.

Civil Rights

Ensure equal rights and remedies for women in all phases of their lives; support affirmative action; and eliminate all forms of harassment and violence against women.

There were also two Legislative Resolutions adopted. Resolutions continue into the future until there is action taken to withdraw them. One resolution is in opposition to **maternal profiling**, asking that all states work to make sure legislation is passed in their state which would prohibit maternal profiling and vigorously pursue an end to hiring practices and invasive interviewing tactics that lead to discrimination against any individual seeking employment who has children or family responsibilities. The other was related to **elder care**, asking BPW/USA to follow elder care legislation being introduced by congress, to insure wording is included to address the issues of eldercare that financially impact working women as they also take on the role of family caregiver. (To see the entire text of these resolutions, follow the steps above, then just above the text of the legislative platform there is a heading Home>Policy>Legislative Platform and Resolutions – click on Leg Platform and Resolutions.)

Also part of this meeting was a report from Elizabeth Gehl, director of BPW/USA Public Policy and Legislative Affairs. This year BPW/USA has experienced more action, PR, and media visibility than in the last five years. BPW PAC supported 45 pro-choice candidates of which nearly 50% were elected! BPW and all of its grassroots membership were very instrumental in the passing of Johanna's Law; now underway is the

approval of \$9 Million appropriation to fund it (please write your congressman). BPW was asked to testify or help draft legislation on such issues/bills as the Paycheck Fairness Act (to be introduced soon after national conference); Paid Family Sick Leave; Work Flexibility (Kennedy's new initiative); two new Title VII related bills (as a result of the Supreme Court Ledbetter decision); new Equal Pay legislation.

Probably the most exciting was BPW/USA's contribution to the hearing held on Equal Pay Day by the House Education and Labor Committee. Elizabeth Gehl was able to choose witnesses including top economists, legal scholars, and professors to testify on behalf of the need for new equal pay legislation. BPW/USA also submitted a 10 page written testimony (the full text is available on the national website - click on Calendar>Signature Events>Equal Pay Day).

To learn more about all the advocacy campaigns currently underway at BPW/USA - please go to the national website - www.bpwusa.org and click on Policy>Advocacy Center. There you can sign up for the **Legislative Hotline**; and read past issues of it. You will also see the following list - just click on each issue to learn more AND easily write a letter to your congress people. BPW/USA is doing its part to be a key advocate for working women - and its success depends on YOU and your willingness to be a grass roots advocate. Please take advantage of this easy to use "Advocacy Center" and contact your congressperson TODAY!

	Ledbetter Fair Pay Act June 26, 2007		Retirement Security for Life Act November 30, 2005
	Women's Retirement Security Act January 11, 2007		Write Your Own Letter to Congress May 06, 2005
	HEART for Women Act February 28, 2006		Equal Rights Amendment May 05, 2005
	National Women's History Museum February 13, 2006		Paycheck Fairness Act May 05, 2005
	Healthy Families Act January 10, 2006		



Dates to Remember

Charter Meeting of Mid-Cape Local	September 27, 2007
Policy and Action	February 14 - 16, 2008
Atlanta - National	July 23 - 27, 2008
St. Louis - National	July 29 - Aug. 1, 2009
Honolulu - National	July 2010

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Business and
Professional
Women/MA

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If you can receive this newsletter by email, please contact Penny56r@aol.com