

Ohio Federation of Business and Professional Women
Issues Management Agenda
2008-2009

Timing is Everything – Guidelines for Local Organizations

Overview: The theme for BPW/Ohio in 2008-2009 is Back to the Future. The President's mission is to challenge each member, local and region to look back at our heritage and the strides that have been made personally, politically and professionally in order to develop a long range plan for our federation so that we can build a stronger, better BPW for the next generation. The main emphasis is two-fold.

First, we will be studying the history of the suffrage movement. Believe it or not, there is a YouTube video depicting a male college student doing a survey on abolishing women's suffrage. Believe it or not, almost every individual (mostly young college students including women) who the surveyor approached with the question about signing a petition to abolish women's suffrage signed. Many did not know what suffrage meant. BPW can fill this void and by doing so make the mission of BPW more relevant and more necessary than ever before. In an effort to make our mission more practical and have greater longevity, we will begin the year with a Suffragette's Tea at Lakeside. From there, we will move forward with the ultimate tribute to the suffragettes – voting. From there, we will support those who serve to protect our right to vote. From there, we will take the importance of our mission to young women. It is important for young women to understand our mission, affirm its relevance and carry forward our vision.

Secondly, we will use the inspiration we gain from studying our past to create a Long Range Plan for BPW. It is important that each member have a chance to participate in this process. Some have already participated by completing the survey. Each member has the chance to directly affect the plan by attending the August and November state meetings as well as the summer region trainings. At each summer training, feedback will be solicited. At the August meeting, the plan will be further refined by the members in attendance. A written plan will be presented for comment on November 1 at the state meeting in Canton. Please feel free to propose any changes that you feel would increase the strength and durability of BPW for our future generations. Specifically, consider TIME – our long range planning model. Technology, Image, Money, Evolution. For example, how can we better use technology to advance our mission; how can we streamline our message to create a consistent image of BPW; what do we do about dues and/or expenses; and how does BPW need to evolve to thrive? Your comments can be forwarded to Trecia Kimes-Brown, BPW/OH President at any time.

With that in mind, it is TIME to get started. Submit a portfolio of your local organization's participation to Linda Miller, Issues Management Chair, postmarked on or before April 30, 2009 and your LO will be honored at conference 2009. We are looking for creative ideas. Therefore, please feel free to participate in all or some of the following activities or modify them to suit your LO's needs. Regardless of how you participate, remember we must pay it forward while making our predecessors proud.

In order to achieve the foregoing two goals, your 2008-2009 BPW/OH leadership team enthusiastically encourages all members, locals, and regions to participate in the following:

August, September, and October: TIME to Get Out the Vote

- ❑ Attend the BPW/Ohio August Suffragette's Tea with Speakers in Lakeside, Ohio
- ❑ Develop a Get Out the Vote campaign
 - Register voters
 - Distribute absentee ballot forms
 - Drive people to the polls
 - Serve as a poll worker
 - Partner with other local groups
 - Show Iron Jawed Angels to public but seek out a college forum in particular
- ❑ Hold an essay contest for high school students on the ERA and offer award during NBW week
- ❑ Host a Meet the Candidate Night prior to the Election
- ❑ Support a Candidate especially if an LO member is running for office
- ❑ Host an Election Day Chicken Noodle Dinner

November, December, and January: TIME to Join Forces

- ❑ Attend the November State meeting in Canton, Ohio
- ❑ Develop programs to support women in the military – in particular, offer ID course to military; coordinate program for young careerists in the military
- ❑ Create a Women Joining Forces Campaign – see bpwusa.org for details on the national program

February, March, and April: TIME to Reach for the Future

- ❑ Include essay on BPW issues, collect, and “women helping women” philosophy in scholarship contests
- ❑ Display mission and legislative platform at meetings and events
- ❑ Follow up with letter writing campaigns as directed by Legislative Chair
- ❑ Attend National Policy and Action Conference
- ❑ Attend BPW/Ohio Policy and Action Conference in Columbus, Ohio
- ❑ Hold local meeting with legislative platform emphasis
- ❑ Partner to sponsor an educational roundtable, program, dialogue at a local college or library
- ❑ Host an Equal Pay Day event at a college, trade school, etc. OR locate an employer in your community who pays equally and acknowledge/honor them at a Equal Pay Day celebration

BPW MEMBERSHIP
(Everyone's Responsibility)
A Call to Recruit from State Membership Chair Phyllis Riccadonna

This year our State President, Trecia Kimes-Brown, has drafted an outline for the whole year, which includes going to our past, present, and future. Our future is in the balance - membership is key. The theme for the year is Back to the Future.

Jump on board right now and form a membership committee within your local. The committee will keep the telephones busy all summer retaining the members you already have. When you convene in September, you won't have to guess who is coming back - you will know. A successful start for any local, and what better way to start planning National Business Women's Week.

As State Membership Chair, I will challenge all locals as follows: 6 new members - one in their 20's; one in their 30's; one in their 40's; one in their 50's; one in their 60's; and any age as a member of the military or one who has served in the military. The successful locals will be recognized at 2009 Conference, and these categories will include awards. Of course, if the locals recruit many members in all of these categories, you will be the Top Local. The reason for the different ages is to recognize the need to recruit younger members for continual growth of BPW.

Keep in mind suggestions for recruiting:

ASK

If you don't ask someone to join BPW, you are not doing your part as a member. You would be surprised to know that your friends, or a frequent acquaintance might be interested in joining. If you have just met a stranger, ask her. Ask if they know what BPW represents: networking with other women, legislative goals to improve working conditions for all women, making new friends, being a part of a national organization that sets the agenda in your community for all working women. Do not discount all working women - local bank teller, waitresses, mall managers, healthcare workers and marketing directors, and just about anyone you come in contact with.

FOLLOW-UP

Okay, now you have the attention of a prospective member. Invite her to come to the next meeting. If you think the next meeting is not especially well-planned, ask to plan the following meeting for your club and then ask your prospective member. If you are having an interesting speaker (don't forget to ask the members themselves to speak), this would be a good time to make your plans. Take her to lunch or try a dinner to get to know her better. Spending time with someone makes all the difference.

FOLLOW-THROUGH

Its the night before the meeting. Call your prospective member and make sure she is still on board. She might make up "the last minute excuse", but that's okay, you will still follow-through for the next meeting. If you have not made contact the night before, call the day of the meeting and let her know how important it is to you that she comes.

DON'T GET DISCOURAGED - AFTER YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING SOMEONE TO ATTEND, YOUR RECRUITMENT SKILLS WILL GET BETTER AND YOU WILL ENJOY BRINGING IN NEW MEMBERS. MAKE CHALLENGES AMONG YOUR MEMBERS IN EACH LOCAL.

"ANY ORGANIZATION'S SUCCESS IS IN THE STRENGTH OF ITS NUMBERS"

GET MOTIVATED AND MOTIVATE OTHERS!!!!!!!!!!!!

BPW/OHIO Legislation

Legislation is an essential part of who we are as an organization and I'm proud that we have a Legislative Platform. The BPW/OHIO platform is reviewed every year and the membership votes to adopt the platform as presented by the Legislative Chair who along with the Regional Legislative Representatives have reviewed the platform during the legislative platform meeting (usually held at conference). I am happy to announce with Legislative Consultant Charlon K. Dewberry this process was completed and we have adopted our own BPW/OHIO Platform with no changes and have no suggestive changes to the BPW/USA platform. Conference also affords the membership the opportunity to review and discuss some important issues and if the membership feels strongly about an issue or Ohio legislative bill we can propose resolutions and they will be voted on by the membership at conference. The 2008 conference body passed three resolutions. The resolutions in their entirety will be made available at our web site www.bpwohio.org as soon as possible. If you would like to have them electronically before then please let me know via email at sebash@horizonview.net

Resolution #1 Ohio Prevention First (this is reaffirming our commitment to this legislation)

Resolution #2 Teen Dating Domestic Violence

Resolution #3 The Ledbetter Fair Pay Act

Each of these resolutions also include a section for action that I as Legislative chair must make letters available to our Ohio legislators and U. S. Senators (Regarding Ledbetter Fair Pay Act). This will be done ASAP and will be available on our website. Please keep checking our web site – These should be posted by June 10th.

BPW/OHIO President Trecia Kimes-Brown has challenged each chair this year to actually form a committee and work as a committee (to afford putting the work all on one members and to foster mentoring amongst our members). I already have a committee and am **looking for more!** If you are a Region Legislative Representative you are part of the BPW/OHIO Legislative Committee and I am so happy to already have one volunteer Mary Conway from Lancaster. **PLEASE Let me know if you are a Region Legislative Rep. or if you would like to serve on an ACTIVE committee.**

Active Committee Means:

- Will meet through-out the year (either in person or electronically via gmail chat).
- Will watch legislation affecting women in Ohio House and Senate.
- Will keep informed on legislation in U. S. Congress.
- Will provide letter samples to members.
- Will make sure each local organization reviews the legislative platform.
- Will hold BPW/OHIO Policy and Action Day in Columbus!
- Will attend and actively participate in Legislative Platform meeting!

Legislation on our radar:

HB280 / SB231 Abortion Coercion Poster Bills

HB314/ SB230 Ultrasound Bills

SB175 Fetal Death Bill

HB284 Abortion Ban

HB287 Mandatory Permission Bill

HB89 Insurance Coverage

And of course sub HB 247 – Teen Domestic Violence

HB251 / SB179 Ohio Prevention First Act

Late breaking news (received after conference): Rep Dan Stewart officially introduced the Compassionate Assistance for Rape Emergencies bill (HB 560) and Contraceptive Equity bill (HB 561) in the Ohio House. Here is a list of the co-sponsors: HB 560 CARE. Co-Sponsors: Stewart D., Skindell, Foley, Hagan R. Strahorn, Boyd, Brady, Letson, Yuko, Slesnick, Sykes, Celeste. HB 561 Contraceptive Equity: Co-Sponsors: Stewart D., Skindell, Foley, Hagan, R., Strahorn, Boyd, Brady, Letson, Yuko, Slesnick. FYI – Rep. Dan Stewart is representing the Columbus area in the House but BPW/OHIO PAC did contribute to his re-election campaign.

Recipe Name: _____

(If additional space needed, use reverse side of page)

Recipe Section:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appetizers | <input type="checkbox"/> Soups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Salads | <input type="checkbox"/> Beverages |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetables | <input type="checkbox"/> Side Dishes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meat and Game | <input type="checkbox"/> Fish and Seafood |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry | <input type="checkbox"/> Baked Goods |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Desserts | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Include Story:

Ingredients:

Preparation Instructions:

Number of Servings: _____

Submitted by:

Name: _____ **BPW Position:** _____

Local: _____ **Number of Years as BPW Member:** _____

Image Included Image Not Included Title of Image: _____



08-09 BPW/Ohio Fundraiser

Dear BPW/Ohio Officers, Board Members and Members:

As you know, we are taking a journey back to the future this year. I encourage each of you to look at where we began and envision where we can go. There are obstacles but there were more obstacles for the suffragettes and they succeeded. As I was thinking about fundraisers for this year, I thought about things that connect all of us to our past, our families and friends, and our traditions. One common thread is the sharing of a meal together. We gather around the table for holidays, special events, and even meetings. Therefore, I thought we would build this year's fundraiser around that idea of sharing our heritage with our BPW sisters through the writing of a cookbook. I will be using an online company called Heritage Cookbooks as seen on Oprah. The price of printing is reasonable and the terms for reprints, etc. are conducive to our organization's needs. My goal is to share with each other more than recipes – stories about when the particular food was cooked at your region, a recipe that one of your members is famous for, a tribute to a BPW sister who has passed on, etc.

I am attaching some information on the company. You can also go to their site online. I am attaching a form to use for submitting the recipes and accompanying information to me. If you want to have an electronic version, please email me at trecia@attorneykimes-brown.com. Feel free to duplicate the form for your locals, etc.

My goal is to have recipes as follows because the size of the cookbook determines the cost of publication which I am trying to minimize as well.

State Officers and EC	No more than 2 recipes each
State board members	No more than 2 recipe each
Each PSP	1 recipe each
Each region	15 recipes each
Each local	At least one recipe from each
Each member	No more than 3 recipes per person

I am asking that you strictly adhere to the following deadlines. I want to provide the cookbooks to you as soon as possible for your meetings. The deadline for submission is 8/30/08 (this has been extended from July to give you more time). I will have the cookbook ready for the November state meeting just in time for Christmas. If all recipes are collected earlier, then the cookbook will be submitted earlier.

I am looking forward to this project – its history, its diversity and its ability to unite all of us for a good meal. I hope you enjoy our journey.

Sincerely, Trecia Kimes-Brown, BPW/Ohio President