

# OHIO BUSINESS WOMAN

Website: [www.BPWOhio.org](http://www.BPWOhio.org)



We're All STARS  
Successful\*Tenacious\*Audacious\*Resilient\*Smart



STEPHANIE BRIDWELL  
2023-2024 PRESIDENT

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Ohio Business & Professional Women

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**HAPPY 2024!**

Winter has arrived in Ohio. The cold, blustery air brings a new year full of promise, and BPW Ohio offers lots of chances to keep reaching for the stars by following our theme words.

**Successful** – Compete in one of our Signature Program contests. Paulette Knazek can answer your questions on the Individual Development program while Ursula Bess can assist members 21-35 interested in the Young Careerist program.

**Tenacious** – Make change for working women. Follow along with Pat Talbot's legislative updates and keep an eye on the upcoming primary season.

**Audacious** – Advocate for Equal Pay (March 12). Your local can receive up to \$100 to educate your community about the importance of ensuring an equitable workplace.

**Resilient** – Develop your leadership skills by volunteering for officer and committee chair positions at local, regional, and state level. Reach out to your leadership or state President-Elect Amelia Taggart to discuss opportunities.

**Smart** – Apply for the Nursing or STNA Scholarships offered by the Women's Retirement Foundation.

There are so many great opportunities for us to shine bright with BPW

Ohio. I look forward to hearing all your success stories at our state conference in May in Strongsville, the State Leadership meeting in April in Columbus, or on a Cocktails and Conversation call. Feel free to reach out to me on e-mail or social media.

### Tidbits:

Come join us on social media.

Facebook – BPW Ohio

LinkedIn Group:

**The Ohio Federation  
of Business & Professional  
Women**

*Stephanie*

## A TASTE OF OHIO State Board Meeting

November 4, 2023



Charlon Dewberry, Carol Holton, BPW/OHIO President Stephanie Bridwell, Shirley Jones and Candy Kelly

A TASTE OF OHIO judging results follows.

### Results:

BPW/Ohio's Stephanie Bridwell's President's Project was "A Taste of Ohio." There were 12 entries at the November 4, 2023 State Board Meeting. Lora Manon, PSP, was the judge.

**Sauerkraut balls**, entered by Akron BPW (Stephanie, Shirley and Candy), was the Judge's choice for most traditional, especially for the holidays.

**Kombucha**, entered by Toledo BPW (Charlon and Carol), was the Judge's choice for the most unique, and a woman-owned business.

**Cutout decorated cookies**, entered by Coshocton (not pictured), was the Voter's choice.

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## 2023-24 OHIO BPW President-Elect

AMELIA TAGGART, Ohio Valley BPW

### 2024 State Leadership Meeting – April 20<sup>th</sup> 2024

The leadership meeting is not just for those that want to lead but for those that want to learn more about BPW and help shape the future of the organization. The President is tasked with a theme, I thought about why I joined BPW and why I continue to stay in BPW which is why my theme for 2024-2025 is, “Remember the Past, Plan for the Future - **Be Present Women**” As you learn the history of BPW and remember what these women were fighting to achieve you can’t help but think of what is to come and how will we pave the way for women in the future. Without hunger strikes and protests would we even have the right to vote? Are we in jeopardy of having that right stripped? If it weren’t for those ladies, could we even picture the wages a women can make today? Will we be able to sustain these in the future? That is what we are here to do, so we must live in the present, **Be Present Women**, so that years from now the women of BPW will remember us as the women that keep the torch burning.

I humbly ask you to join us at the 2024 State Leadership Meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup> 2024 at the Rev1 Labs 1275 Kinnear Rd. Columbus Oh 43212. One, because it’s a cool place and you will get an insight to start up companies and the interesting things they are working on and developing. Two, because you owe it to the women before you and your future self to be present and set the way for the year ahead. Hang on ladies it’s going to be a fun ride!

Amelia Taggart  
President Elect



## 2023-24 OHIO BPW Vice President

CHARISSE KELLUMS, Youngstown BPW

### My Role as Vice President

Part of the responsibilities of the VP is to attend and participate at Executive Committee, Board, Region and Local meetings. My first EC meeting was Sep 26<sup>th</sup>,2023 and there have been four more to date. I was at the November Board meeting to be part of decision making on behalf of BPW/OHIO members as well as partake in the goodies for the Taste of Ohio. The EC realized we weren’t always communicating information to our Members at Large so I’ve taken on the role of making sure to do just that. Attending at least one local’s meeting from each region is a goal I have stated. Since September I’ve been to Region 3-Ohio Valley Local’s meeting in Steubenville and Region 2 Leadership Zoom meeting. I’m hopeful to make plans to attend locals’ meetings for Regions 1, 4 and 5.

The State Directory was mailed or given in-person to all leaders of BPW/OHIO. Corrections to the directory have recently been emailed to all.

Remember the VP is the liaison to communicate for you to the Executive Committee. I want to share how BPW has helped in other aspects of my life. Currently my Homeowners Association Board of Trustees is undertaking changes. A group of homeowners met to discuss the legality of the changes. I asked the question regarding when a motion could be made and by whom? Paying attention to the Bylaws and P&P of BPW made that connection for me. Individual Development surely helped my confidence to stand up at these meeting to voice my concern. Please take advantage of all that BPW offers!

Charisse Kellums, BPW/OHIO Vice President  
bpwsponsor@gmail.com

Ohio Business and Professional Women  
**2024 STATE LEADERSHIP MEETING**

**Saturday April 20, 2024** 9:30 a.m. Registration Opens

We're All STARS

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REV1 Labs  
1275 Kinnear Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43212  
\$25 Registration



- 9:30 a.m. Registration, Coffee & Connections
- 10:00 a.m. Individual Development and Young Careerist Competition
- 11:00 a.m. Legislative Platform Meeting
- Noon Lunch/Networking
- 12:30 p.m. Leadership Training
- 2:00 p.m. Meeting closes

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_  
Local: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ID Participant \_\_\_\_\_ YC Participant \_\_\_\_\_ Legislative Representative

**Please mail reservation and payment by April 5<sup>th</sup> to:**

Amelia Taggart, Ohio BPW President-Elect, 1714 Hamilton Pl. Steubenville, OH 43952

Check Payable to: Ohio/BPW or Pay Online: [bpwohio.org](http://bpwohio.org)

*Accommodations for a hotel room/overnight stay may be made by calling (614)889-0573:*

*Hampton Inn*

*3920 Tuller Rd., Dublin, OH 43017*

<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/cmhnwhx-hampton-columbus-dublin/>



## PAC means **POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE**

According to Ballotpedia: Political Action Committees (PACs) are political committees established and administered by corporations, labor unions, *membership organizations*, or trade associations.

*BPW/Ohio has a PAC that allows members to help influence the election of statewide candidates. No federal candidate, nor local candidate can receive an endorsement or campaign contribution from BPW/Ohio PAC.*

***BPW/OHIO PAC has the financial means to make contributions to candidates. We need to know who has the right stuff for BPW. Which candidates deserve our support and are willing to support women's issues.***

2024 is a Presidential election year, and as such, moves the Ohio Primary election to March instead of May.  
March 19, 2024 Primary Election in Ohio.

February 20, 2024, **Deadline for voter registration for presidential primary election (30 days before presidential primary election)**

County Election Boards have until Jan. 2 to certify those candidates (and tax issues) to the ballot, according to the Ohio Secretary of State's Office. We have a huge opportunity this year to make a difference in the election outcome.

***Are you pleased with the laws or lack of action regarding existing laws in the State of Ohio? What about your voice – is it being heard in the Ohio legislature? Who is standing up for Women of Ohio?***

***Making a change requires you, making a difference requires you, leading for change requires you! You must make your voice heard! – No one can do it for you!***

Please visit your County Board of Elections to discover who is running for state office. You can just type into your search bar on your browser – XXXX county board of elections to find your board of election. From there you will be able to see who is running for office.

I need **you** to check out who is running for state office – think of your state senator, and state representative.

Actually, I use [https://ballotpedia.org/Ohio\\_elections,2024](https://ballotpedia.org/Ohio_elections,2024) to stay up to date on election information on a state level, then maybe drill down to my local districts.

You as a member are asked to check out the candidate and if you feel they deserve our support the process is actually easy. **Instructions:**

Fill out a 2023-2024 Nomination form which can be found on our website. (*Form must be signed by President of the sponsoring Local or Region.*)

Have the candidate complete the Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire – form is on the website. The candidate must sign the Platform Endorsement Form – Don't forget to provide BPW/OHIO Legislative Platform – both forms and the platform are on our website.

Have local president or region president sign the endorsement form and send all forms to:

BPW/OHIO PAC chair Penny Pelikan Dehner  
16 Stanhope Drive.  
Chillicothe, OH 45601

**PLEASE HAVE THESE FORMS TO THE PAC CHAIR BY FEBRUARY 1, 2024 – FOR THE PRIMARY.** Please give the committee time to review the endorsement and make their decisions in time for the candidate to benefit from the endorsement and/or contributions.

2023-2024 BPW/OHIO PAC Committee members are:

Region 1	Linda Miller
Region 2	Rebecca Davis
Region 3	Tomma Bordenkircher
Region 4	Chair Penny Pelikan Dehner
Region 5	Gail Snyder

continued on page 6

**PAC** continued from pg. 5

Legislative consultant Kathy Telban Region 2

Registered with the State of Ohio Treasurer Gina Fetty - Region 4

Deputy Treasurer Leona Phillips - Region 1

**Please note:** Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer and Legislative Consultant serve without a vote.

Endorsements and contributions will be made on a non-partisan basis and will be decided upon evidence of each candidate's support of the BPW's objective and legislative agenda.

### **From BPW/OHIO PAC Policies and Procedures**

1. Only candidates for state office, who support BPW/Ohio's objectives and legislative agenda, may be endorsed.
2. Endorsements and contributions will be made on a non-partisan basis and will be decided upon evidence of each candidate's support of BPW/Ohio's objectives and legislative agenda.
3. Candidates who wish to receive financial contributions must:
  - a. be formally nominated by a local organization in the area of the candidate's legal residence or by BPW/Ohio officers of the region with which that local is affiliated.
  - b. complete both a candidate endorsement questionnaire and a platform endorsement form.
  - c. In the case of an incumbent a candidate must have a voting record that reflects support of BPW/Ohio's objectives and legislative agenda.
  - d. BPW/Ohio Executive Committee and Regional and Local officers, as well as the candidate and/or candidate's campaign committee, will be notified of the committee's decision concerning endorsement and/or funding.
  - e. Campaign contributions can be made during both primary and general election periods, within the limitation of funds available to BPW/Ohio PAC and the Ohio Revised Code.
  - f. Candidates and/or their campaign committees will need to make separate applications for contributions and/or endorsement in each of the campaign periods.

Local BPW/Ohio members shall be encouraged to seek out and recruit suitable candidates for endorsement or support.

<https://www.bpwohio.org/bpw-oh-pac>

<https://www.bpwohio.org/legislation>

Nomination Form

The Ohio Legislative Platform

Candidate Endorsement Form

Platform Endorsement Form

Questions or concerns call or email.

740-649-2724 (cell) [ppdehner@gmail.com](mailto:ppdehner@gmail.com)

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## **Mariwyn Heath Memorial Service**



Hello BPW Sisters,

I have the honor of chairing the Memorial Service at conference this year. I know at times this service can be very hard on us, but I promise to memorialize any member with the deepest respect.

If you will submit the name of any BPW member who has passed this year to me with a short bio of them or anything you would want others to know, that would be great. I will take submissions as close to conference as I can.

Please submit to me by email: [PhyllisR66@aol.com](mailto:PhyllisR66@aol.com). If you have pictures, message them to me. My number is 740-317-3868 to message me, or if you need to call me for anything.

I look forward to conference this year, I know the committee is working hard to have a great one. Hope you can attend; I miss all of you very much.

Fondly, Phyllis

**Plan to shine bright as S.T.A.R.S.**

**at the 2024 BPW/OHIO Conference in Strongsville**



**Charisse Kellums, BPW/OHIO 2024 State Conference Chair**

President Bridwell and the Conference Committee are looking forward to you joining us at the events, business and fun at the 104th state conference.

Our efforts to gather ideas and subsequent planning will bring educational, informative, inspirational and fun-filled events for you at the Best Western Plus Strongsville hotel from **Friday May 17th through Sunday May 19th**. We want each of you to experience BPW in action; whether it is at a seminar, participating at a board meeting or during a business session. Activities and events are meant to have fun while honoring members, networking, socializing and to take away knowledge.

**Friday, May 17**

Plan to attend 2 seminars; **“Planning for the Expected and Unexpected”** and **“Advancing the Mission of BPW as the Leading Advocate for Working Women”**. Enjoy lunch and experience **“The Best Songs I Never Sang: A Storyteller’s Concert”** presented by Bette Lou Higgins from Eden Valley Enterprises. The **Board Meeting** will be conducted before we head off to start the evening events. **First Timer’s** session brings together any member who has never attended a State Conference, to learn about the “How and Why” of BPW. Community Involvement focusing on the **Renee Jones Empowerment Center**, dedicated to offering life coaching and aftercare assistance to individuals having the fortitude to end the cycle of human trafficking, will be featured at dinner. The **Opening Business Session** begins with recognition of the State Officers and Board, Past State Presidents and a message from **Keynote Speaker Mary Wright-Ally**, small business owner/employer of Café Ah-Roma. The business of BPW/OHIO will be conducted ending with the **Candidates’ Forum**. Continue the evening at a fun-filled **“Trivia Night”** while enjoying snacks & dessert. How much do you know about BPW, music, movies, historical women, etc.?

**Saturday, May 18**

Breakfast hosts a Vendor Fair where you’ll hear presentations from the vendors, win give aways and take Time to Shop. Plan to attend the **“Strategies for Professional Success and Growth in Today’s Workplace”** seminar after breakfast. Lunch will feature **“GREAT Lakes Ladies”** from storyteller Bette Lou Higgins, Eden Valley Enterprises. Business of BPW/OHIO will continue at the **2<sup>nd</sup> Business Session** with featured speaker **State Representative Bride Rose Sweeney** and Reflections of PSP Kathy Kellums by Mary Clark, BPW/OH Finance Chair. Saturday night dinner hosts the revealing of the Joyce M. Davis Distinguished Member award, Young Careerist and Individual Development speeches, Legends Celebration and the Installation of the 2024-2025 Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

**Sunday, May 19**

Breakfast will be the time and place to present awards to the locals and regions. We will continue with tradition and acknowledge members who have passed away during the year at the **Mariwyn Heath Memorial Service**. The **Closing Business Session** will culminate with final award presentations, the 2025 Conference presentation and the passing of the gavel to the 2024-25 President.

We encourage you to mark your calendar now to be one of the **“S.T.A.R.S.”** at the Best Western Plus hotel in Strongsville from May 17-19, 2024!

**Hotel reservations** can be made by **calling 440-238-8800 using Group Block code 2405OHIO**. Or **via the direct link** on the Conference page on [www.bpwohio.org](http://www.bpwohio.org), or **via website link** directly to Best Western Reservations

[https://www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotel-rooms.36178.html?groupId=N90GK7J5](https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.36178.html?groupId=N90GK7J5)

**Conference forms are included in this publication: 2024 Conference Registration form, Program Ad and Shout Out form, and Vendor Contract.**

**SEE YOU IN MAY!**



# 2024 BPW/OHIO CONFERENCE PROGRAM BOOK ADVERTISEMENT



Advertise your business.  
Acknowledge BPW as an advocate for women.  
Do you, your Local or Region have a message to share?  
Acknowledge BPW S.T.A.R.S by creating a **"STAR Burst"** Shout Out Statement.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

BPW Affiliations: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (H)

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Conference Sponsor? \_\_\_\_ (Yes) \_\_\_\_ (No)      Conference Vendor? \_\_\_\_ (Yes) \_\_\_\_ (No)

### Advertising Procedures and Guidelines

Advertisers must complete this form and send with payment to the Conference Program Ad Chair.

Paulette Knazek, Program Ad Chair  
228 Adams St.  
Zanesville, OH 43701

Check must be made payable to **BPW/Ohio Conference**. Final copy and payment must be postmarked no later than **4/20/2024** to guarantee a space in the Conference Program Book.

Advertising materials should be sent electronically to Paulette Knazek by **4/20/2024**.

E-Mail: [pknazekbpw@gmail.com](mailto:pknazekbpw@gmail.com)

Questions can be directed to Paulette Knazek at 440-339-6009.

Electronic ads should be submitted in PDF, JPG or GIF form. Print ready logos, graphics and photos must be sent in with resolutions of at least 300 pixels. Please send in either black & white or color formats.

<u>Ad Sizes: (enter 1, 2, 3, etc)</u>	<u>Width X Depth</u>	<u>Amount</u>
___ Cover (color)	4-1/2" X 7-1/2"	\$150
___ Full Page	4-1/2" X 7-1/2"	\$100
___ Half Page	4-1/2" X 3-1/2"	\$ 50
___ Business Card	4-1/2" X 1-1/2"	\$ 25
___ "STAR Burst" Shout Out	2 Lines (max total of 150 characters)	\$ 10

Have you wondered how to acknowledge BPW S.T.A.R.S. from across the state, in your local or region?

Create a 2-line shout out statement called a **"STAR Burst"** for the Conference Program Book.

Enter your **"STAR Burst"** verbiage below: (max of 150 characters) PRINT IN CAPS:

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# BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN/OHIO

## 2024 BPW/OHIO Conference – Best Western Plus, 15471 Royalton Rd, Strongsville, Ohio Vendor Registration Deadline (April 13, 2024)

Name of Organization /Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (cell): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (other) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration: \$30 vendor and a \$25 value give-away**  
**After 4/13/2024: \$50 and a \$25 value give-away**  
(Hotel cost for electricity will be available for an additional charge: \$25)

Registration received by 4/13/2024 includes: **1 Table** (6-foot table – one table per business), **1 Thirty second presentation** (one presentation per business) and **1 Business card advertisement in Conference Program**.  
Breakfast is available at an additional charge of \$18 per person. (Please indicate below)

**Vendor Hours:**

Set Up on Saturday, May 18, 2024 from 6:00 to 8:00 AM  
Saturday, May 18, 2024 from 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM

Vendor Fair & Breakfast with BPW/OHIO Members, Saturday, May 18, 2024 from 8:30 to 10:00 AM

By signing this form your organization agrees to pay the Ohio Federation of Business and Professional Women \$30 for a 6-foot table (space) AND a business card advertisement in the Conference Program Book.

**Late registration fee:** \$50 (after 4/13/2024). Returned check fee: \$35.00. Full payment must accompany this agreement.

Hotel reservations: Call 440-238-8800 using Group Block code 2405OHIO. Or via the website link directly to Best Western [https://www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotel-rooms.36178.html?groupId=N90GK7J5](https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.36178.html?groupId=N90GK7J5) Reservations. Reservations are to be made before 4/25/2024. Room space is not guaranteed.

Send signed agreement and check payable to BPW/OHIO Conference

To: Mary Clark, Conference Vendor Chair  
305 Seneca Trail SW, Hartville, OH 44632  
Email: [mary.clark@RLCarriers.com](mailto:mary.clark@RLCarriers.com)

In consideration for being permitted to rent a space from the Ohio Federation of Business and Professional Women (herein BPW/OHIO) at the 2024 State Conference at the Best Western Plus in Strongsville, Ohio, May 18, 2024, the undersigned hereby releases and forever discharges BPW/OHIO from any and every claim, demand, action or right of action of whatever kind of nature, either in law or in equity arising from or by reason of any accident which may occur as a result of the space at the hotel for the state conference of BPW/OHIO or any activities in connection with such rental, whether by negligence or not. BPW/OHIO is not responsible for any loss, theft, accident or other damage to any items left or exhibited within the vendor's space. **Vendors are responsible for securing their own property.**

The undersigned further states that he/she has carefully read the foregoing and knows the contents hereof.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# of 6-foot tables needed \_\_\_\_\_ Total for vendor space \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Electrical needed (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_ Total for Electrical \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
No. for Breakfast (\$18 each) \_\_\_\_\_ Total for Breakfast \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cancellations received after 4/13/2024 will not receive a refund.**

Received by \_\_\_\_\_ BPW/OHIO Conference Vendor Chair

Revised/Approved 12-

**The Ohio Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW/Ohio)  
Introduces the  
Kathy Kellums Mentorship and Encouragement Award**

Kathy Kellums was a leader with a passion for BPW/Ohio and for the women who volunteer to support its mission and ideals. No one can question her leadership skills and service in BPW/Ohio. And as such, she felt the most important part of leadership was encouraging and mentoring her fellow BPW sisters. From the very beginning of her journey in BPW/Ohio, Kathy hit the ground running. She volunteered, encouraged others, and mentored many so they could experience growth in all aspects of their lives; personal, career, and community. She mentored them in getting the most out of their experiences in BPW building new leaders for the future. Encouraging many to take advantage of the privilege to hold office at all levels of the organization. Those who were recipients of this attention are eternally grateful.

This is the type of individual the committee is looking for to shine a light and appreciation. If you have experienced mentorship and/or encouragement from a brand new BPW/Ohio member, a BPW/Ohio Legend, or any BPW/Ohio member, please consider nominating them for this annual honor.

**Requirements & Qualifications:**

- Any BPW/Ohio member in good standing
- Demonstrates mentorship abilities.
- Encourages others to achieve personal and/or professional growth.

**To Nominate:**

- Any BPW/Ohio member in good standing may nominate another member in good standing.
- The nominee may be from your own local, another BPW/Ohio local, or a member at large.
- Complete the application and write a 250-500 word essay providing specific examples of how this individual has been a mentor.
- Email or mail both documents to the Mentorship and Encouragement Chair to be received by the deadline.

The committee will review all the nominations and select one person from the nominations to receive the 2023-2024 BPW/Ohio Kathy Kellums Mentorship & Encouragement Award. The selected individual will be recognized at the BPW/Ohio 2024 State Conference.

Applications must be received by: **April 20, 2024.** If mailing your application, please mail it early.

Email to:	Mail to:	In Person
Paulette Knazek, Mentorship and Encouragement Chair <a href="mailto:pknazekbpw@gmail.com">pknazekbpw@gmail.com</a>	Paulette Knazek, Mentorship and Encouragement Chair c/o Zanesville BPW P.O. Box 695 Zanesville, OH 43701	At the BPW/Ohio Leadership Training on April 20, 2024

This information sheet and nomination form are available online at <https://www.bpwohio.org>

Sincerely,

Kathy Kellums Mentorship and Encouragement Committee

- Paulette Knazek, PSP, ME Chair
- Phyllis Riccadonna, PSP
- Stephanie Bridwell, BPW/Ohio President
- Charisse Kellums, BPW/Ohio Vice President
- Rhonda Stemmer, Region 3 President
- Pat Talbot, Legislation Chair



## **Coshocton BPW**



### **Coshocton BPW Woman of the Year**

The Coshocton BPW honored member **WENDY BOWMAN** with the prestigious award of Woman of the Year. Wendy is the 18<sup>th</sup> woman to receive this award that has been given since 2005. She has been a member of BPW since 2017 and has served in various capacities including NIKE Club advisor, Membership Chairwoman and fundraising participant. She has helped members and River View High School girls achieve success through the NIKE club and was instrumental in establishing the NIKE Scholarship.



## **Ashland BPW**

### **National Business Women's Week Event**

**Ashland BPW President Rachael Yoder** told the history of NBWW. **Ashland Mayor Matt Miller** read a Proclamation declaring the Week of October 15-21 as National Business Women's Week. **Kari Pickens**, Ashland University Women's Basketball Coach, was the keynote speaker.

Kari begins 2023-2024 as the second-winningest NCAA women's basketball coach all-time in terms of winning percentage. Her topic, "50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Title I Celebration and what that meant to our team." Title IX made it possible for Pickens, her sisters and her mother to participate in high school and college athletics. She said she was surrounded by women empowerment her whole life. It wasn't until the COVID-19 pandemic that she learned not all women had the same experience. She educated herself and her team on the importance of Title IX and empowering women.

The Continuous Giving Award was given to **Roberta Weiler** for her volunteer work in the community and in BPW. This award recognizes someone who goes above and beyond expectations.



Mayor Matt Miller; President Rachael Yoder; Kari Pickens, Keynote Speaker; Roberta Weiler, Recipient of the Continuous Giving Award.