

# 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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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Autumn in Ohio is a magical time. The hills are ablaze with color, and so are our football stadiums. Rich hues catch the eye, and the crisp air makes us breathe a little deeper and reflect on the year. Autumn is our chance to see the fruits of our labors and reap the bounty of our hard work.

**Successful** women celebrate our victories, and we have just the occasion to do so. National Business Women's Week is October 15 – 21, and I encourage all locals to do something special to honor your members. One great way is to attend the Ecumenical Service October 15<sup>th</sup> in Washington, PA with our Pennsylvania sisters. Details are included in this edition about this inspirational event.

**Tenacious** women vote. Alice Paul said, "Unless women are prepared to fight politically they must be content to be ignored politically." There are many crucial races and issues on November's ballot. Make the time to vote and understand the

issues in detail. Pat Talbot, Legislative Chair, and Kathy Telban, Legislative Consultant, are fabulous resources. Several of our locals host "Meet the Candidates" nights, and we have several members running for office. Our votes matter.

**Audacious** women make a statement, and October brings the best chance to do that – Halloween. Why not choose a famous woman in history as your costume inspiration this year? Educate and entertain your friends with your choice. Tag us on Facebook or Instagram at #bpwohiocostumequeen when you share your original ideas.

**Resilient** women stay strong and committed to their purpose. Make time for self-care as you finish the calendar year strong. Get sleep, eat nourishing meals, and rest. The end of the year seems to fly by – take care of yourselves to avoid burnout going into the holidays.

**Smart** women are always learning. We will have another small business webinar on October 24 at 6 p.m. with Teri Clapper of Merit Marketing offering tips and tricks. This is a great chance to prepare for the

ID and YC competitions this spring. Encourage those women of promise to learn something new and stretch their options. It is never too early to be nominated as a BPW Ohio officer.

2023 has been a busy year – let's end on a high note! Take the chance to live your passion, try something new, and shine bright like the stars that you are!

*Stephanie*

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## 2023-24 OHIO BPW Vice President

**CHARISSE KELLUMS, Youngstown BPW**



When I accepted the responsibilities of the Vice President, I committed to partner with the Region Presidents to address their members concerns, questions and needs. If you have ideas or concerns whether at the local, region or state level let them or me know. The VP is the liaison to communicate for you to the Executive Committee. Attending at least one local's meeting from each region is a goal I have started. So far, I've been to Region 2-Columbiana's Local meeting and Region 1-Leadership Training in Ashland. I have plans to travel to Region 3-Ohio Valley Local's meeting in Steubenville on September 26<sup>th</sup>. I'm hopeful to make plans to attend local's meetings for Region 1-Ashland, Region 4-Lancaster and Region 5-Cincinnati.

One of the other responsibilities of the VP is to create the State Directory. Happy to report - the document is at the printer. The leaders of BPW/OHIO should expect to receive their copy by the end of September/early October.

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

## 2023-24 OHIO BPW President-Elect

**AMELIA TAGGART, Ohio Valley BPW**



### Calling all to serve...

This comes at a time in my life where I don't have time for one more thing! Like many BPW members I'm busy, kids in school, kids' activities, work, work activities, deciding what's for dinner, making dinner, cleaning. Who even has time to clean the house, let alone scrub the toilets? (side note - My daughter once told my friend that I never clean the toilets! Lol I guess she just never saw me do it, but trust me I do!).

We all do these things and lead busy lives, but, we make time for the things that are important to us. To those of you who feel BPW is important and feel that we need to sustain this organization, not only for us, but for women in the future - I'm asking you to be on the Board for 2023/2024.

There are many women in the club that have held these positions and are willing to mentor and help you through. It gives you a chance to lead and help shape the club for the future. So, ladies if you think you don't have time...then make time for this important organization. We have been working to make sure our legislative platform is heard, equal pay is achieved and that we have fun when we are doing it together. You will see emails from me in the coming weeks, some of you have already received calls. I hope you will take the time to serve with me.

Please reach out to me any time (I don't sleep)

**Amelia Taggart**  
**President Elect 23-24**  
**[ameliapro@yahoo.com](mailto:ameliapro@yahoo.com)**

## 2023-24 OHIO BPW Treasurer

**BRENDA ANDERS, Lancaster BPW**



### **UPDATE FROM THE TREASURER**

First off, I want to apologize for not getting the financial reports, invoices and membership reports out in a timely manner these last few months. Many of you know that Kathy Kelums has been dealing with some very serious health issues which has made the process of transferring everything to me, your new Treasurer/Database Manager, very difficult at times. I plan to have everything updated by the time you are reading this so that from now on reports and invoices will be sent in a timely manner.

Just as a reminder, the State Dues have increased to \$40 while the Student Dues remain at \$20 and the Member at Large Dues at \$50. You can still pay your dues online from our website at [BPWOhio.org](http://BPWOhio.org) then click on Online Payments. All checks, new member forms or member updates should be sent to me:

Brenda Anders  
BPW/Ohio Treasurer  
557 Ross Rd SE  
Lancaster, OH 43130

If you have any questions or would like to email documents to me, please use [Treasurer@OhioBPW.org](mailto:Treasurer@OhioBPW.org).

I will be looking into updating our accounting system and hopefully get back to emailing invoices with the ability to pay directly from the invoice. Of course, a hard copy of your invoice will be sent to you if you still wish to receive one. I am not sure how long it may take to get everything in place, so for now, I will continue with the hard copy invoices sent via regular mail.

**Attention Local and Region Presidents:** If you have not already done so, please send me a full list of all your officers so that I can make sure the database is up to date. Once you receive the newest membership list, please check with your members to make sure I haven't missed anyone and that I have the most current information for your members.

I am looking forward to working with Stephanie, the rest of the EC and the State Board to make this an even better organization. Remember though, we cannot do this without the participation of our Local members.

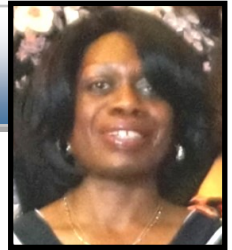
**Brenda Anders, 2023-2024 Treasurer**

### **BPW/Ohio Calendar Events - - September - January**

9/26	Cocktails & Conversation
10/10	Local Presidents Mid-Year Reports Due
10/15	Ecumenical Event in PA
10/15-21	National Business Women's Week
10/30	EC, State Chairs, Region Presidents Mid-Year Reports Due
11/4	BPW/OH Board Meeting
11/28	Cocktails & Conversation
1/15/2024	Winter OBW Article Submission Deadline
1/30	Cocktails & Conversations

## 2023-24 OHIO BPW Young Careerist Chair

URSULA BESS, Cincinnati BPW



### WHAT IS THE YOUNG CAREERIST PROGRAM?

The Virginia Allen Young Careerist (YC) program is a specialty program developed to help young professionals polish their skills for leadership and presentations. The purpose of the program is to recognize the achievements of young working adults, between the ages of 21 and 35, and to introduce them to the many diverse opportunities available with a membership in Business and Professional Women (BPW). In addition, candidates must have worked full time for one year and support the goals and objectives of the BPW/Ohio Legislative Platform

Any young woman living in Ohio who is interested in benefitting from this program, please contact your Ohio BPW Local or go to the state Web site, <http://www.bpwohio.org>, and look under Signature Programs for more information and the application instructions.

**Ursula Bess**

**513-262-2989**

**ursulabess@yahoo.com**

## 2023-24 OHIO BPW Conference Chair

CHARISSE KELLUMS, Youngstown BPW



**STARS will be bright** at the BPW/OHIO 2024 Conference! President Bridwell and I (Conference Chair) have met a few times to discuss the tone and focus of Conference. We want to come prepared to meet with the members of the Conference Committee in early October. The Conference Committee will work together to plan events for the 2024 state conference in Strongsville from May 17-19.

As of now I can share that there will be seminars, there will be business conducted, and FUN. The business of BPW/OHIO will be conducted at one (1) State Board meeting and three (3) Business Sessions. Friday Business Session begins with recognition of the State Officers and Board, features a Keynote Speaker and concludes with the Candidates' Forum. Plan to come to Trivia Night on Friday evening after the business session. A Vendor Fair will take place during Saturday Breakfast. Lunch time speakers will educate, entertain and enlighten. Saturday night Dinner hosts the revealing of the Distinguished Member, Young Careerist and Individual Development winning speeches and the Installation of the 2024-2025 Executive Committee and Board of Directors. Tradition continues on Sunday morning when we gather for the Mariwyn Heath Memorial Service followed by the Closing Business Session. We encourage you to mark your calendars now to be one of the **S**uccessful, **T**enacious, **A**udacious, **R**esilient, **S**mart women of BPW at conference. More details and specifics will be in the next OBW for the BPW/OHIO Conference at the Best Western Plus hotel in Strongsville from May 17-19, 2024.

**2024 Conference Chair**

**Charisse Kellums**



## Busy Time for Legislation

By Pat Talbot, Legislation Chair 2023-2024

Let's start with the August election. Ohio voters voted NO to unnecessary changes to the process to amend our Ohio Constitution. Good job voters!



Speaking of Constitutions, The Equal Rights Amendment is STILL being discussed in Washington D.C. At a "Coffee with the Congressman" sponsored by the Coshocton Chamber of Commerce, Congressman Troy Balderson (R 12<sup>th</sup> District) spoke on many topics. When asked about the ERA he indicated he was aware of the efforts both in the House and Senate but does not think there will be serious movement on the publication of the ERA until next year. His advice was to "keep contacting your representatives" to make the ERA part of the Constitution. (Photo to the left: Pat Talbot, Troy Balderson)

September is Legislation Month for BPW so don't forget to read the BPW/OH Website to get some information on Constitution Day. We are going to have a virtual meeting Sunday, September 17 and write some letters to our federal and state representatives. OR, if you'd rather, do this as a meeting with your local. Information about names and addresses of your representatives can be found on the BPW/OH Website or go to <https://www.commoncause.org/find-your-representative/change-your-address>

What do we have to say? Well, for one Frank LaRose and his cronies are trying to change the ballot language on the Reproductive Rights Amendment.



*"In a 3-2 split decision Thursday, the Ohio Ballot Board rejected using the full text of a proposed reproductive rights amendment on the ballot in November, adopting instead summary language written by the Ohio Secretary of State's Office that was criticized for being incomplete and inaccurate.*

*The board's approval of the language – which is now titled Issue 1 for the November general election – was the next step in the process of voters deciding whether or not the Ohio Constitution will include the right to abortion, as well as contraception, fertility treatment, miscarriage care, and continuing one's own pregnancy. Those last four items were all left out of the language approved by the ballot board majority."* Ohio Capital Journal.com

This is a blatant attempt to confuse the voters, similar to what they tried to pull on August 8. PLEASE, discuss this Amendment with your friends, family and anyone else who will listen. This is NOT just about abortion.

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### Small Business Seminar

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Join Zanesville BPW member Teri Clapper on **Tuesday October 24 at 6 p.m.** for a fun and informative **webinar** learning about skills you need to be the best business owner you can be. Watch for flyers coming soon.

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# Ohio Business and Professional Women

## PRESIDENT'S PROJECT

### A TASTE OF OHIO

An awesome part of being an Ohioan is our deep commitment to tasty local treats. Each city claims to have the best food, and this year we are going to see which local will earn bragging rights as the best snack or treat in the state.

#### Details:

Each local who wants to participate will pay a \$25 entry fee and provide samples at the November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. We will have two winners – one from impartial judges and a People's Choice as determined by votes which cost \$1. (This is the only election where you can vote more than once!) President Stephanie will visit the locals with the winning entries, and samples will be available at conference. This will be a fun way to support local businesses and BPW.

Entries must be received by October 27. Please send entries and \$25 to BPW/Ohio President Stephanie Bridwell, 7515 Old Hickory Lane, Chandlersville, OH 43727.

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Local: \_\_\_\_\_

President: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Snack Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Media for Snack Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_



## Business and Professional Women/PA

You are cordially invited to attend  
**The 44th Ecumenical Event**  
(BPW/OHIO/PA)

**Sunday, October 15, 2023**

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### Washington Country Club

599 Country Club Road, Washington, PA 15301  
Phone 724-225-9245

Hosted by: BPW PA

**Cost: \$40 (Checks payable to District 12 BPW)**

Mail checks to: Bernadette Koval, 1 Trimont Lane, Apt. 720B, Pittsburgh, PA 15211

Email: [bemie69@comcast.net](mailto:bemie69@comcast.net)

Phone: 412-315-7397



## THEME: Women of the Bible: The three Mary's

Schedule: 9:00 – 9:30 Registration & Welcome  
9:30 – 10:30 Ecumenical Service  
10:30 – 11:30 Brunch Buffett  
11:30 – 12:30 Entertainment/Final Remarks & Closing

**Deadline to RSVP – October 10<sup>th</sup>**

### Registration form:

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

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Local/State \_\_\_\_\_

BPW Title \_\_\_\_\_

Special requests \_\_\_\_\_



# Ohio Business and Professional Women STATE BOARD MEETING

Saturday, November 4th  
Worthington Northwest Library  
2280 Hard Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43235

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9:30 a.m. Registration and Networking  
10:00 a.m. Meeting Begins  
\$20.00 Registration (**By October 27th**)  
\$25.00 LATE Registration

## Major Topics:

2024 Conference Budget  
2025 Conference Site Selection  
Taste of Ohio Competition

*(Region Presidents are required to attend or appoint a representative for their Region)*

You can pay your membership dues AND meeting registrations online **bpwohio.org**

Room reservations may be made by calling Hampton Inn Columbus/Dublin at 614-889-0573 (3920 Tuller Road, Dublin, OH 43017). Ask for the BPW Block of Room

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Region: \_\_\_\_\_

Local: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Current State Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks out to Ohio/BPW. Please mail reservation and payment to:  
Ohio BPW President Stephanie Bridwell, 7515 Old Hickory Lane, Chandlersville, OH 43727  
Cell: 740-624-2787 [sbridwell@columbus.rr.com](mailto:sbridwell@columbus.rr.com) **OR Pay Online: bpwohio.org**

**A reservation MADE is a reservation PAID.**  
Call IF you have any dietary or special needs





## 2023-24 OHIO BPW Individual Development Program

**Are you looking for a chance to develop your leadership skills?**

**Do you want to improve your professional presence?**

**Would you like to learn tips and tricks to make you successful in business dealings?**

The **Individual Development** program is one of BPW Ohio's best kept secrets. This class is a chance for BPW members to receive personalized coaching in a supportive environment on how to be a more efficient and effective businessperson. Students have the opportunity to deep-dive in to a variety of topics:

**Leadership.** Learn more about your leadership style, developing leadership skills, and goal setting.

**Presentation Skills.** Attendees will give a variety of speeches, executive presence, advocacy communications, and using social media.

**Business Communication Skills.** Gain insights on networking, interviewing, negotiations, parliamentary procedure, and business etiquette.

**BPW Fundamentals. Understand the history of BPW and where our journey may go.**

Contestants for the statewide contest must compete at the Region level first. Each contestant will have a prepared speech up to but not exceeding five minutes touching on the BPW Ohio legislative platform. Contestants will also give a two-minute impromptu speech. Contestants will be finalized mid-March.

The individual development program is more than just a speech class. It is a chance for a self-assessment and to identify hidden strengths and opportunities for improvement. I would like for you to take a little test: <https://discpersonalitytesting.com/free-disc-test/>. The DISC model discusses what level of personality traits you might have. The four types of personalities include Dominating, Inspiring, Supportive, and Cautious. Take the quiz and see if this helps you understand how lead and interact with others. Please reach out to your regional leadership team about how you can enter today!

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# Cocktails and Conversations

## ZOOM SESSIONS

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 7 p.m.

Tuesday November 28, 2023 7 p.m.

Tuesday January 30, 2024 7 p.m.

Come join BPW/OHIO members from across the state for a fun and informative chat about all things BPW. Special guests will include state chairs talking about our activities for the year, local officers sharing information on fundraisers and local activities, and interesting BPW members from across the state.

**No RSVP needed – just drop in and join the conversation!**

**If you have a topic please send it to President Stephanie Bridwell  
(sbridwell@columbus.rr.com)**

### Details:

The waiting room will open at 6:45 p.m.

### Zoom Meeting Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85398335378?pwd=bTZTYmV4SmNpTTI0WmIOcFRBd29vUT09>

Meeting ID: 853 9833 5378

Passcode: 352604

## NATIONAL BUSINESS WOMEN'S WEEK OCTOBER 15 - 21

### HISTORY of NBWW

The concept of **National Business Women's Week**® originated with Emma Dot Partridge, Executive Secretary of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs from 1924 to 1927.

The first annual observance of NBWW was held April 15-22, 1928, when National President Lena Madessin Phillips opened the week with a nationally broadcast speech. She stated that the purpose of the week was "to focus public attention upon a better business woman for a better business world.

From this early effort, NBWW has grown into a nationwide salute to all working women. The program for the first observance of NBWW included: Legislative Day devoted to national, state and local legislation of interest to women; Education Day devoted to emphasizing the need for equitable educational opportunities; Club Rally Day for prospective new members; Community Day honoring leaders in the community; and Goodwill Day devoted to working with other women's organizations.

In 1938, NBWW was moved to the third full week of October. U.S. President Herbert Hoover was the first president to issue a letter recognizing NBWW and the contributions and achievements of working women. The celebration of **National Business Women's Week**® has helped to promote leadership roles for women and to increase opportunities for their advancement.



## **BPW OHIO PRESIDENT VISITS COSHOCOTON LOCAL**



**Stephanie Bridwell, State President and  
Carey McMasters, Coshocoton President**

Coshocoton BPW met on August 17th. President Bridwell, the speaker, asked members to spread the word about BPW because she was tired of BPW being the best kept secret! She also discussed her theme for 2023-2024. Cake Auction Chair Kim Gress stated that the auction is scheduled for Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at the Frontier Power Community Room. The theme will be “The Movies”. Sponsorship and Entry Forms will be available soon. Photo: Stephanie Bridwell, State President and Carey McMasters.

Coshocoton has started their business year with a “kick off” with BPW State President Stephanie Bridwell at the Boat-house Restaurant on August 17, 2023. Thank you, Stephanie, for presenting your program with a focus on promoting BPW and all that we do for the community and to challenge all members to be audacious, resilient, dream big and to have fun! Challenge accepted Madam President!!!!

Our local has made some changes to our meeting dates. Out with the Monday evening meetings and in with the Thursday evening meetings – after all isn’t Thursday’s traditionally “Ladies Night”. Also, we are celebrating our BPW sisters and brothers by having those interested to do a program at our meetings. They will present several different programs that they personally have a passion for. We are all quite diverse and talented so let’s celebrate us!

Our 18<sup>th</sup> annual Cake Auction will be held November 4, 2023 with the theme “The Movies”. This is our biggest fundraiser that we have and through the hard work of Kim Gress and her committee we were able to raise over \$5,000 last year and were able to give out two \$1,000 Working Women Scholarships in May of 2023. We also sold raffle tickets for a 5 night stay in a Condo located one block from the ocean in Indian Rocks Beach, Florida and raised \$1,580 . Fundraising is a buzz for our organization this year. We are looking into sponsoring a craft show, a Ladies Poker night and possibly a poker run.

Our local is evolving and continue to be “movers and shakers” in our community as we continue to make our BPW presence known in several community events such as co-hosting “Meet the Candidates” night, supporting NIKE Girls at Riverview School, attending Chamber events and Dollars for Scholars. We stand firm on our BPW Platform but understand that we must be flexible and evolve with the issues working women are dealing with in today’s world. We are all looking forward to our upcoming year representing BPW and celebrating each other!

Carey McMasters  
Coshocoton Local BPW President



# BPW/OHIO LOCALS' NEWS

## **Ohio Valley Wine and Shoe Extravaganza**

The Ohio Valley BPW held their annual Wine and Shoe Extravaganza on April 28th, 2023 with over 400 in attendance. In addition to the Shoe Show in which ballots are cast for the most fabulous shoes, attendees get to vote for their favorite celebrity server and Woman of the Year. The proceeds help fund the scholarships that are awarded each year to a Traditional High School student, a NIKE Club member and a Woman going back to school. 2023 Nominees included; Sara Lane, Shannon Price Irvin, Amy Parakakis, Lisa Clark Mort and Roseann Trimmer - the women are selected by BPW Wine and Shoe Committee members and show outstanding leadership in the community



Picture from left: Sara Lane (Ohio Valley BPW Treasurer), Lisa Clark Mort, Amy Parakakis, Rosann Trimmer (Woman of the Year) Jeannine Sawon (BPW Event Co-Chair) Phyllis Riccadonna (BPW Event Co-Chair), Shannon Price-Irvin, Julie Decker (Ohio Valley BPW President 22/23)