

OHIO BUSINESS WOMAN

Website: www.BPWOHio.org



LORA MANON
2025-2026 President

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From the President's Pen....

For your information, January 9, 2026, was recognized as "Quitters' Day." Now, you might be wondering exactly what that means. It's not a day for giving up on bad habits or even good habits or for just deciding to sit out the remainder of the month, the winter or the season. Instead, Quitters' Day is, traditionally observed on the second Friday of each new year, and is the day when many people abandon all those new year's resolutions that they made just a few days earlier. Perhaps their motivation faded, perhaps the goals they made were too lofty and unattainable, or maybe they just didn't get around to setting any specific goals.

Now, I'm not calling anyone a quitter. But since we are now more than halfway through this BPW year, it seems like all the things we wanted to do for this organization have fallen by the wayside. Membership is down. Again. While several locals and regions keep striving to be active in both this organization and in their respective com-

munities, many seem to be taking a pause. Again. In fact, one or more local organizations decided to disband. People seem to spend more time on social media complaining about this, that, or the other thing (some of those things are legitimate bases for critique and comment) than they do taking positive action and making encouraging statements that support our platform issues and women in general. Maybe we've just given up. Maybe we are too tired to keep standing up for what this organization means. Maybe we feel like no one cares, or this current generation of women feels like BPW is no longer necessary, or maybe we're all just weary from doing things the same old way and getting the same results. Frankly, we're fading. Fast.

But you probably should know that Quitters' Day can also be a day of encouragement. People can use it to take another look at their resolutions, goals, and readjust, recommit, and make new plans rather than simply giving up and forgetting about it.

This year, I have tried to encourage you all to think outside the box, to consider what you and BPW can try

to support women. Can you ADVOCATE, ENCOURAGE, MENTOR, INVITE, INVOLVE, and REACH OUT to improve this organization, your local and region organization, and take us into the future as the leading advocate for women? It's time to reassess, re-adjust, reenergize, and recommit. It's time to make new plans. It is not time to just give up. I know that together, we can all do better. Now is not the time to be a quitter.

Best Personal Wishes,
Lora Manon, 2025–2026 President



L to R: Keynote Speaker Jeananne Chadsey with President Lora Manon at the November 2025 BPW/OH State Board Meeting

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2025-26 OHIO BPW Membership Chair

DOROTHY KOVACH, Ohio Valley BPW



Membership exists on several levels. There is official membership, which is what we possess in a club like ours. We pay our dues; attend meetings and events working as a collective group toward common and shared purposes. Participation is key to membership and creates true membership by being more fully engaged. Every member should feel welcome to participate as much as they desire.

Each of us, as members, must do what we can to welcome everyone (but more importantly) to make everyone feel welcome. That requires taking the time to greet and engage with members, that is making sure members are seen and heard.

This means greeting each member at gatherings, along with taking the time to chat. Listening to members, especially new members, which helps to know what value each one brings to the club. We need to recognize that some may need help to “learn the ropes” and having veteran club member be a mentor certainly helps. It’s a testimony I’ve heard time and again from our veterans about how they were trained and mentored by past members.

Remember, focusing on members is key to membership!

2025-26 OHIO BPW Individual Development Chair

Liz Herrell, PSP, Coshocton/Zanesville BPW



BPW/OH and Region 3 hosted a Zoom ID Class, Jan 6-Feb 3, 2026. Participants were Region 1 Angela Barnes; Region 2 Rene Butler and Erline Trsek; Region 3 Erica Gurney, Shelly Klein and Bobbie Warren.

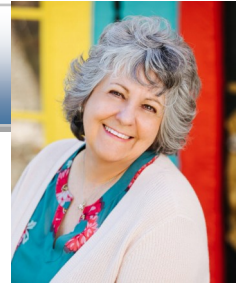
BPW Facilitators were PSP Stephanie Bridwell; PSP Liz Herrell; Carol Holton; Charisse Kelums; PSP Paulette Knazek; and Kathy Telban. Non-member facilitators were Paulla Hathaway, retired teacher; Kyle Johnson, Muskingum County NAACP President; Melissa Lyons, People Manager, Bimbo QSR; Josie Sellers, Reporter and Editor, The Coshocton County Beacon; Julie Stein, AVP of Marketing Strategy and Communications at American Share Insurance; and Larry Szeliga, TEDx Speaker, bestselling author & business consultant.

Completion of the Individual Development (ID) program, within the last 3 years, is required in order to participate in the State ID Speech Competition scheduled for April 11, 2026 at the State Leadership Training.

Region participant forms are required by March 23, 2026 by text (740-294-1353) or by email (lizywca@columbus.rr.com).

2025-26 OHIO BPW Non-Dues Chair

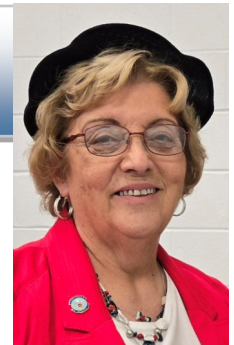
DIANA GIBBENS, PSP, Lancaster BPW



President Lora Manon and I are working on the President's Project. We are researching a nice portfolio in a royal blue color. Once we have everything worked out we will be taking orders. They will sell for \$30.00 each. They will contain a tablet and a BPW pen. We will be asking for payment when you order, as we are only going to order what people want. Once everything is worked out I will create a flyer with a picture of the item and the information. They will make very nice gifts for a member that goes above and beyond helping out or to give to a special speaker that you have at a regular meeting. Be thinking about how many you will want to order and we will let everyone know once it is ready for purchase. Thank you.

2025-26 OHIO BPW Nominating Chair

Liz Herrell, PSP, Coshocton/Zanesville BPW



Thank YOU Mari Ann Ohba for stepping up to be Treasurer again in 2025-2026, and also Rene Butler for Recording Secretary! I'm currently waiting for their paperwork. Dee Kovach is considering running for an office.

President-Elect Chandra Ontko is going to need a great team to lead us as our incoming President!

Unfortunately, NOBODY has stepped up to run for President-Elect or Vice President.

Here are the duties according to the BPW Ohio Bylaws:

SECTION 3. The president-elect shall: (a) Act as the representative of the president when requested; (b) Serve in such capacities as assigned by the president; (c) Plan the State Leadership Training; (d) Plan projects and activities designed to advance the mission and objectives of BPW/OHIO for the year in which the president-elect will serve as president, and (e) Prepare the federation budget in consultation and cooperation with the State Finance Chair.

SECTION 4. The vice president shall: (a) Perform the duties of the president in the absence of the president; (b) Become president for the unexpired term in case of death, resignation, or incapacity of the president; (c) Serve in such capacities as assigned by the president; (d) Assist the president-elect in the planning and preparation for State Leadership Training, and (e) Serve as liaison between the Region Presidents and the Executive Committee.

Having no candidates apply prior to the Conference means that any individual wanting to run for an office will need to be nominated from the floor on the Friday evening of Conference. IF that is your plan, you still **MUST COMPLETE THE CANDIDATE DATA FORM (exhibit A), which includes your local president's signature, a recent photo, and the STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC EXPERTISE** are immediately presented to the Presiding Officer at the annual meeting. IF this step is **NOT** taken by Friday evening, and again nobody steps up, then the BPW Ohio President can appoint her Executive Committee. I encourage EACH Local President to address this issue at their next meeting. Deadline for Nominations is February 1st.

740-294-1353 or (lizywca@columbus.rr.com)

2025-26 OHIO BPW Legislation Chair

LEONA PHILLIPS, PSP, Vermilion BPW



I hope everyone had a moment to enjoy the holidays with friends and family. It really is a busy time of year from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day. I appreciate that I am able to be a part of all the family functions. My New Year's resolution was to be more organized, to find my documents as needed...yep, I've got work to do!

I would like to remind everyone that Equal Pay Day, March 4, 2026, is right on our doorstep. Here we are 2026 and we are still two months behind. Ohio did just have a cost of living minimum pay increase to \$11.00 per hour. Yes, we have accomplished many hurdles but the fight is not over until we are paid comparable to what a man makes and treated as equals. Everyone has their strengths and weaknesses. Not everyone is capable or qualified to do everything the same as others, but we still deserve to be recognized as equals. The push for the Ohio Amendment for the ERA will be gathering signatures again. I will be getting signature petitions and canvassing. We need to make this happen for real!!

I do send out emails with a variety of legislation information for your review, please take a moment to really read them. You are able to research any of the legislative bills listed by going to the website - legislature.ohio.gov. You can find more information and the status of any bills. Click on Legislation and enter the bill number. Reach out to me with any questions.

2025-26 OHIO BPW Young Careerist Chair

CAROL HOLTON, Toledo BPW



Have You Asked? The Virginia Allen Young Careerist program was established in the 1960's and was announced as one of two BPW's Signature Programs along with Individual Development program. This program was designed to let young women who were working full time, attending an education program or a training program full time enhance their written and oral communication skills. Candidates need to be between 21-35 years of age (inclusive by May 31, 2026). Initially, candidates were young women. Now candidates can be women or men (BPW has been open to men as members of BPW for quite some time). Candidates must support the goals and objectives of the BPW/OHIO Legislative Platform. Candidates need to compose a 4-minute speech with their topic to align with BPW's Legislative Platform. Local BPW organizations are able to send as many candidates to represent their Local to their Region meeting. The Regions are allowed to send only one (1) candidate to the State Speak off.

Candidates need to be aware of four (4) important dates which are listed below:

Important dates - present their speech to -

- Local Speak off in January or February 2026
- Region Speak off in March 2026 (information paperwork due to YC chair March 23, 2026)
Email teaberry4129@yahoo.com Subject: YC Speak Off Information
- State Speak off April 11, 2026, location in State Calendar
- State Conference Banquet May 16, 2026, location Bowling Green State University campus

YC Brochure and necessary YC Paperwork can be found www.bpwohio.org

YC's 2025-2026 Theme is **ASK!**

BPW/OH 2026 Calendar of Events

Date	Event/Deadline	Location
Saturday, January 17, 2026	Winter OBW Article Submission Deadline	Email articles to Pres. & OBW Editor
TBD	Cocktails and Conversation	Open ZOOM discussion
Sunday, February 1, 2026	Deadline for Nominations Forms	Email to State Nominating Chair
Wednesday, February 4, 2026	Executive Committee Meeting	Virtual
Saturday, February 21, 2026	EC and Conference Committee	Conference Site
Wednesday, March 4, 2026	Equal Pay Day	
Saturday, March 14, 2026	Spring OBW Article Submission Deadline	Email articles to Pres. & OBW Editor
Monday, March 23, 2026	YC and ID Candidates Information Due	Email to YC / ID Chairs
TBD	Cocktails and Conversation	Open Zoom Discussion
Saturday, March 28, 2026	Local President Year End Reports Due	Email to your Region President
Sunday, April 5, 2026	Distinguished Member Nominations Due	Email to State Distinguished Member Chair
Sunday, April 5, 2026	EC, State Chairs, Region Pres. Year-End Reports Due	Email to State President
Friday, April 10, 2026	Executive Committee Meeting	TBD
Saturday, April 11, 2026	Leadership Training, ID, YC, Legislative Platform Meeting	Northwest Library 2280 Hard Road Columbus, Ohio 43235
Thursday, May 14, 2026	EC Meeting and Conference Committee Dinner	TBD
Friday May 15 - 17, 2025	OH BPW State Conference	Bowling Green State University



Cocktails and Conversation: Virtual Meetings

Join fellow BPW members from across the state for an open discussion on all things BPW.

No RSVP needed—just drop in and join the conversation!

Dates: See Calendar of Events

Zoom meeting link: Will be emailed prior to the meeting

If you have a topic, please send it to

President Lora Manon at lora.manon1@gmail.com.



2026 State Leadership Training & ID/YC Competition

Our leadership training and ID/YC competition will be held on April 11, 2026 at 9 am at the trillium meeting room at the Northwest Library in Columbus. The address is 2280 Hard Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235. It is a nice location. We only have the venue until 1:15 pm, so plan to get there on time and get down to business! We are also having Olive Garden for lunch! My husband has been gracious enough to agree to go get us our meals while we are conducting our meeting, so we can eat on time and then get out of there on time as well. Cost is \$25 and covers your meal. There is no charge to us for the venue. I look forward to seeing all of you in April. An agenda will be forthcoming soon! - Chandra L. Forshey Ontko, President-Elect

2026 Conference Teaser

Just like the Huey Lewis song from Back to the Future, we are going “back in time”! Not really, but our conference is going to be back in the old format. Federation business, seminars and having fun with old and new friends. We are going to Bowling Green State University and remember those college days including dorms. That is right, we will be bunking in the dorms. I for one, lived at home during my college days so I am looking forward to seeing what dorm life is about. Each room will hold two people only so grab your roomie for the weekend. Our meals will be provided by the culinary school and I am looking forward to some exciting/tasty dishes. We will have seminars, both educational and fun to pique your interest. We will handle our business and much more. Plus, we listened to feedback that you all want to spend more time visiting with friends so the meals for the most part will be for visiting and without speakers. President Lora and I have had many conversations on what she wants in a conference, and I am excited to be part of a team that allows that to happen. Conference information will be out soon. In the meantime, you all know I like to know your thoughts and if you are as excited as I am. If you plan on coming and have any ideas to assist making this extra special for the Prez, shoot me an email at Mclarkoh@yahoo.com. Hope to see you soon! - Mary Clark, Conference Chair

BPW OH PAC: Why It Is Important

They say that “pen is mightier than the sword.” I say that the “vote” is mightier than the word/pen or the sword. With your vote, you get to impact your life as well as the lives of those in your community. **Having qualified individuals to vote for in any election is crucial.** That is where BPW Ohio’s Political Action Committee, commonly known as BPW Ohio PAC comes into play.

Our organization has a long history of supporting those candidates that support our Legislative Platform with our votes, working on their campaigns, distributing literature about their positions and personal donations.

We also support candidates who are running for State offices through our BPW Ohio PAC.

2026 is another important election year. All of the members of the Ohio House of Representatives will be on the ballot in their respective Districts. One third of the Ohio State Senators will be on the ballot and all of the offices of Ohio’s Executive Branch. All of these individuals will one way or another impact your life over the next two (2) years and perhaps longer.

Political campaigns cost money and whether or not we want to admit it Candidates and elected officials listen to those providing the money. We need your donations to PAC so that we can help qualified candidates. We need your nominations of qualified Candidates so that we can endorse them and provide financial backing. Take the time to review our PAC page on the BPW Ohio Website, check out the candidates running for State elective offices in your area and get involved.

Let us use our voices, our “pens,” and our dollars to support candidates that support the issues that are important to us.

Charlon K. Dewberry, PSP
BPW/Ohio PAC Chair 2024-2026

Business and Professional Women's Retirement Foundation Grant Recipients

Mill Run Place in Ashland is the recipient of a \$500 grant from Business and Professional Women's Retirement Foundation.

Prior to applying for the grant, Amanda Stuart, service coordinator, met with residents to discuss what they wanted and needed.

A decision was reached. They requested a treadmill, new curtains, and pictures for the wall in the exercise room.

Amanda researched the best treadmill for their use. She chose one that has arms on both sides that make it easy and safe to hang on to when walking.

Commenting on the treadmill, Rose, a resident, said, "When you can't walk outside, we can walk inside."

Art said, "We just love it. Thank you very much."

Barb said, "I love it. I like the design. The arms make it friendly."

Amanda Stuart said, "Residents have used it to improve overall health and weight loss. One resident is ready to have a knee replacement. After surgery, the resident will come to the exercise room for therapy."

Ashland BPW is always glad when Mill Run Place receives the grant. A maximum of three grants are awarded in the state and announced at the annual conference in May.

Mill Run Place is part of United Church Homes, Inc.

Photo: Left to right Amanda Stuart—Service Coordinator at Mill Run Place, Barb (front) - a resident on the treadmill, Rose—a resident holding picture, Art—a resident, Roberta Weiler and Nancy Young (front), both members of Ashland BPW.



\$500 STNA Scholarship Awarded

Business and Professional Women's Retirement Foundation awarded a \$500 scholarship to Nurse Aide Training Centers of Ohio for Sarah Brown to earn her STNA. Sarah wrote that she is a very empathetic person with integrity and values. She has a special needs daughter and her mother has health issues. Since she always helps others, she said that it makes sense to earn a STNA.

Tammy Young is the instructor. She said that Sarah will be a really good aide. Tammy is a member of BPW.

No picture available

2025 – 2026 Membership Referral Program

Growing our membership and attracting the next set of BPW/OH leaders is the goal of the 2025-2026 membership referral program. Any BPW member in good standing will be rewarded by recruiting 2 or more new members (up to 5 new members) to a local or member at large. \$20 will be paid to the member for each newly paid membership left (up to \$100) by completing the referral form on or before April 15th. The program is on a first come, first served basis until funds are depleted. Don't keep BPW a secret!



Membership has its Privileges!

1.)

New Member Name: _____ Local: _____
Referred By: _____ Local: _____
Confirmation by Database Manager: _____ Date: _____
Confirmation by Database Manager: _____ Date: _____

2.)

New Member Name: _____ Local: _____
Referred By: _____ Local: _____
Confirmation by Database Manager: _____ Date: _____
Confirmation by Database Manager: _____ Date: _____

3.)

New Member Name: _____ Local: _____
Referred By: _____ Local: _____
Confirmation by Database Manager: _____ Date: _____
Confirmation by Database Manager: _____ Date: _____

4.)

New Member Name: _____ Local: _____
Referred By: _____ Local: _____
Confirmation by Database Manager: _____ Date: _____
Confirmation by Database Manager: _____ Date: _____

5.)

New Member Name: _____ Local: _____
Referred By: _____ Local: _____
Confirmation by Database Manager: _____ Date: _____
Confirmation by Database Manager: _____ Date: _____

Email to Dee Kovach deekovach@att.net by April 15th 2026

This form is also available on the BPW/Ohio website at www.bpwohio.org under Programs & Membership.

The Kathy Kellums Mentorship and Encouragement Award

Candidate Application

This award is to recognize BPW members who have mentored and encouraged other BPW members to grow both personally and professionally inside and outside of the organization.

Any member of BPW/OH in good standing may apply. Include with the application a 250-500 word typed essay describing why this candidate (also a member of BPW/OH in good standing) should be considered for this award. Please include specific examples of the member's mentorship and encouragement and why you think they deserve this award.

Application and 250–500-word typewritten essay must be submitted one of three ways:

Email to:	Mail to:	In Person
Paulette Knazek pknazekbpw@gmail.com	Paulette Knazek, Mentorship & Encouragement Chair 228 Adams Street Zanesville, OH 43701	At the BPW/Ohio Leadership Training on April 11 2026.

Application and essay must be received by: April 15, 2026, to be considered. If mailing your application, please mail it early to ensure it arrives on or before April 15, 2026.

The Mentorship & Encouragement Committee members will evaluate and choose the winner of the award to be announced and presented at the BPW/OH State Conference in May.

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Name of the ***candidate you are nominating:** _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Region _____ Local _____ or *MAL

*Local President _____ Phone _____

Name of the ***person nominating the candidate:** _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Region _____ Local _____ or MAL

*Local President _____ Phone _____

Please include the 250–500-word typewritten essay with this application. Please include the candidate's last name in the header portion of the essay. Submissions will not be returned.

***If the person nominating or the nominated candidate is a Member at Large (MAL) list the BPW/Ohio President in that section.**

Ohio Federation of Business and Professional Women Clubs, Inc. (BPW/Ohio)
Joyce M. Davis
2025-2026 Distinguished Member Award

Nomination Form

General Information:

Deadline for Nominations: April 15, 2026 – Postmarked by 4/15/26
No Nominations will be accepted after 4/15/26

Mail completed form to: Linda Miller, Distinguished Member Chair
1912 Lake Ave. Huron, OH 44839

Email: lbmiller2222@aol.com

Requirements:

1. Must be a member of BPW for a minimum of five (5) years.
2. Must be endorsed by a member in good standing
3. Has held an office at the Local or Region level, and an office or chairmanship at the State Organization level.

Qualifications: Must meet at least two (2) of the following:

1. Has competed in either the Young Careerist or Individual Development Program.
2. Has taken an active role in membership growth on the local level.
3. Has taken an active role in the education and/or passage of legislative issues directly related to the BPW/Ohio Legislative Platform. This includes, but is not limited to, publishing articles, conducting seminars or presentations to outside organizations.

NOMINATOR: _____ **Email:** _____ **Phone:** _____

Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Email:** _____

Phone: (H) _____ **(W)** _____ **(C)** _____

Employer: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Email:** _____

Position/Title: _____

Supervisor's Name/Title: _____

Ohio Federation of Business and Professional Women Clubs, Inc. (BPW/Ohio)
Joyce M. Davis
2025-2026 Distinguished Member Award

Nomination Form

Page 2 of 2:

1. BPW Member Information: Membership

Date: _____ Local: _____ Region: _____

2. List of BPW Offices and Committee Chairs held in the past. Write a paragraph (200 words or less) that details the goals and successes of the activities related to one of the leadership positions that is listed below.

Office/Chair

Year Held

LO/Region/State

3. List participation in any political arenas, legislative issues, seminars, presentations, special BPW projects, YC or ID competitions (year(s) competed), awards and/or recognitions. Write a paragraph (200 words or less) that details the members' efforts in one of the listed areas listed below and the effect it had on increasing membership. Attach all documentation relating to any or all of these areas. Include photos, if available. |

Nominator Signature _____

Local _____

Phone Number: (H) _____ (W) _____ Email: _____

2025-2026 BPW PROGRAM AWARD FORM

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This year as we will do almost anything to help women, we must not just “think outside the box;” we must THROW AWAY THE BOX! Think big round bowl filled with pie-in-the-sky, nutsy genius, and passion fruit. The serious issues we deal with can be presented (and better remembered) with humor, entertainment and Yes—FUN! If it sounds a little crazy, do it!

SUBMIT DOCUMENTATION THAT DEMONSTRATES THE FOLLOWING:

1-WHO IS BPW? WHAT DOES BPW DO?

ACTIVITY/EVENT-DATE

2-HOW DO WE ATTRACT MEMBERS AND BETTER EMPOWER THEM?

ACTIVITY/EVENT-DATE

3-WHAT ARE THE NEEDS OF WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE TODAY?

ACTIVITY/EVENT-DATE

LOCAL _____ **SUBMITTED BY:** _____

Email to Linda Miller lbmiller2222@aol.com by APRIL 15, 2026

BPW Local News

Ashland BPW Held Event for National Business Women's Week

Ashland Business and Professional Women held a National Business Women's Week event, Monday, Oct. 20, 2025 at Ashland University's Convocation Center.

Nancy Young read a Proclamation from Ashland Mayor Matt Miller which proclaimed, October 19-25 to be National Business Women's Week in the city of Ashland, Ohio.

Keynote speaker, Kim Mager, who wrote a book, A Hunger To Kill, which are the words of serial killer, Shawn Grate. Kim was a Detective with the Ashland Police Department for 27 years. After Grate's arrest, Kim had one-on-one interviews with him. He confessed other killings.

Ashland BPW's Continuous Giving Award was given to Dana Zody. He has gone above and beyond to help with BPW's recycling project of plastic bags made into a park bench.

Teresa Clark-Chamberlain, 2nd Vice President, shared information about Ashland BPW and encouraged membership.

President Karen McCreedy announced that BPW/Ohio Women's Retirement Foundation awarded a \$500 grant to Mill Run Place. The Foundation also awarded a \$500 STNA scholarship to Sarah Brown, one of Tammy Young's students.

An on-going candy fundraiser raised more than \$450 for supplies donated to Safe Haven, rape crisis/domestic violence shelter. Susie Stake won the 50/50 drawing and immediately donated her winnings to Safe Haven.

Gift baskets were donated by Lorell Kline, Brenda Lane, Lori Marsh-Lykins, Kathy Norris, Nurse Aide Training Center, and Roberta Weiler.

BPW member-Teresa Clark-Chamberlain, guest-Sharon Clark, Safe Haven Program Director-Rebecca Garcia, Safe Haven Manager-Jill Taylor, keynote speaker-Kim Mager

They are standing in front of a table loaded with donations for Safe Haven.



NASA Glenn BPW Celebrates the Season

NASA Glenn BPW members at their Holiday Luncheon on Dec. 7th.

BPW Local News

Celebrate You! 'I Am Well Foundation' Speaker Shelly Acker for Greenville BPW November Meeting

Greenville Business & Professional Women's Club (BPW) member Shelly Acker was the guest speaker at the November 13, 2025 meeting which was held at the 'I Am Well Foundation' in Greenville. Shelly is a lifelong advocate for *Whole Person Wellness* with over 40 years of experience in healthcare and community well-being. She is the Founder and Owner of **Imagine Living, LLC** and the Co-Founder and current Board President of the **I Am Well Foundation**, a nonprofit established in 2021 with a mission of *Whole Person Wellness for Everybody*.

Pictured from left to right are: Members Dorothy Poeppelman, Leah Dumas, Stacy Sykes, Shelly Acker and Desteni Mason.



Greenville BPW Hosts Successful Guest Night

Greenville Business & Professional Women's Club (BPW) guests and members attended the popular annual guest night "**Fall Into a Night of Giving**" event on October 9th. The evening featured silent auction items, two super raffles, vendor tables, and door prizes. Seventeen sponsor tables from local businesses participated in the event. This successful evening brought in around \$10,000 to reserve for the scholarship fund for the young women of Darke County. Committee chairs Stacy Sykes and Alexia Sykes along with committee members, Hallie Foureman, Terra Denniston, Delores Sleppy, Jodie Anderson, Joelle York and Vicki Cost hosted the evening.



Photo: **Fall Into A Night of Giving** Guest Night Committee pictured from left to right: Jodie Anderson, Stacy Sykes, Hallie Foureman, Terra Denniston, Delores Sleppy, Joelle York and Alexia Sykes. (Vicki Cost is missing.)

NASA Glenn BPW Student Member Growing Her Skills in NYC

NASA Glenn BPW student member, Elaine Schaft, recently attended a National Retail Federation conference in New York. This initiative and experience allows her to apply what she learned as she continues building toward a career in supply chain and operations.



BPW Local News

Zanesville BPW Brings Cheer to Senior Residents

Zanesville BPW assembled 42 Christmas gift bags for Abbott Senior Living residents during our December 11th meeting at Pizza Cottage.

PHOTO: Treasurer Mary Ann Dutro, PSP, President Stephanie Bridwell, PSP and VP Teri Clapper. Recording Secretary Liz Herrell, PSP also helped.



Lancaster BPW Gives Back and Works to Increase Membership

Lancaster held their annual "Festival of Little Trees" from November 29 thru December 13, 2025. We had 17 trees, wreaths, and centerpieces donated. We set them up at Outerbelt Brewery for two weeks so customers could bid. On December 13 we called the winners.

On January 8th at our regular meeting, we were able to present two local charities with a \$500 check each from the auction. The charities were Short East Community Kitchen and St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. Representing the Food Pantry was Mike Griffin to accept the check and tell us a little bit about what they do. Jeff and Ann Cherry were representing the Kitchen to accept the check and also spoke on what they do for the community.

At the same meeting we had 3 members of the Fairfield Leadership Class (Part of the Lancaster Chamber) attend our meeting to see how a meeting works and to find out more about what BPW is all about. They are helping us with our marketing as a project. The three ladies are Kirstin Roberts, Stephanie Herman, and Maggie Keener. The fourth member of this group is Tiffani Harlan. She was unable to attend our meeting.

Also, at our January meeting we signed up a new member we met at the Festival of Trees. We talked to her about BPW and invited her to our meeting. The day before the meeting I sent her a reminder email about the date, time and place. She attended and she joined! My motto, Don't be afraid to tell everyone you meet about BPW. They won't all join, but some will. - Diana Gibbens, PSP, Lancaster BPW President





Photos courtesy of Liz Herrell, PSP at the November 2025 BPW/OH State Board Meeting