

New York

Presidents Message

Greetings Members:

I hope you and yours had the best of holidays and are enjoying a healthy and happy new year. Just as all of you, our federation is reflecting on our accomplishments and setting goals for the future. We are grateful that we are able to build on the strong foundation created by our previous board and have some great activities planned for 2007 and 2008. Why not take full advantage of your membership by attending some of the various events scheduled by our international sisters.

The November 18th Violence Against Women's Conference was a great success. There were 170 attendees, a great keynote speaker and outstanding panelists. Many ideas to help tackle this problem were presented. The various Project Five-O organizations exchanged vital information and plan on continuing to work as a team to combat this horrendous situation.

Why not take a break from the winter cold and bask in the sun at Montego Bay while meeting your regional sisters. Our regional conference will be held in Jamaica from February 16-18, 2007 and a wonderful agenda has been planned. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity.

Our Annual General Meeting will once again be held at the Harmonie Club, 4 East 60th St, New York City on March 4, 2007. Our meeting is held in conjunction with the UN's Conference on the Status of Women. What an informative and great networking opportunity to meet your BPWI Board and visiting BPWI members. We have extended our \$85 discount registration fee to February 26th. All registrants after that date will be charged the \$115 at door fee.

Start saving now for our October 24-28, 2008 International Congress in Merida, Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico.

Lastly, don't forget to read about what our BPWI sisters are doing, and what events lay ahead

With my very warmest wishes,
Eileen Brennan

BPW International Theme 2005 - 2008
"New Dimensions of Leadership"

Newsletter

Winter, 2006 - 2007

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Mission Statement

BPW International members take professional responsibility in all levels of society, the economy and politics, thinking and acting locally, nationally and globally in working with the United Nations and other international organizations while practicing networking, mentoring, lobbying and enjoying lifelong learning and friendships.

WANTED – Members to Join Committees and Take an Active Part in Our Federation

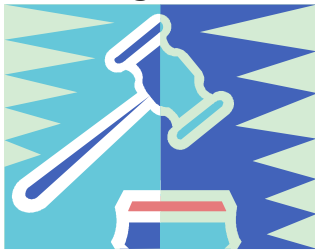
I am urging all members to consider joining one of the following committees:

Membership and Bylaws
Finance
Club Liaison
Public Relations
Communication
Hospitality

This is not only a wonderful learning experience, but a great opportunity to **serve on our TEAM.**

Together Everyone Achieves More....

Don't forget to attend



2007 Annual General Meeting
Sunday, March 4th, 2007
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Place: Harmonie Club
4 East 60th Street, New York
Corner of 60th Street & 5th Avenue
Tel: (212) 355-7400

Members: \$85.00 till 2/26/07
At the door and Guests: \$115.00

**Registration Fee Includes: Conference,
Materials,
Refreshments and Lunch**

Our annual general meeting runs in conjunction with the CSW (Commission on the Status of Women) at the United Nations.

This year BPWI has over 220 members signed up to attend these sessions. We are very fortunate to have all of our international executives here at this time, as well as many of our international sisters who are in NYC for this event. Each year our international sisters attend our conference to support us. Why not expand your horizons and join us at this great event.

You can download a registration form on our website - www.bpw-newyork.org under membership.

We are very pleased to announce that Commerce Bank has once again agreed to sponsor our organization and its activities.



Last Call

**NORTH AMERICA & NON-SPANISH SPEAKING
CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE**

February 16–18, 2007



Visit www.bpw-northamerica.org to download information and the registration form.

Have you heard?

Congratulations to Yasmin and Danny El Sayah on the birth of their son and Yasmin Darwich as she assumes her role as grandmother. Also congratulations to Gloria Ciolli on the birth of her grandson.

We have three members who recently published books - Ann Fry, Peggy Nichols and Trish Rubin. We are all proud of you and give you our best wishes. Please support these members by purchasing their books.

I am pleased to announce that our Rum Fund fundraiser was a success. Special thanks to Helen Swank for making this possible. The winner is Helen Long (Nassau BPW) who is a long time member and supporter of our federation. Helen is scheduled to go to Montego Bay and has generously offered to share her winnings with her sister BPWI members in Jamaica. Way to go Helen!

[BPWINY website](http://www.bpw-newyork.org) has been updated thanks to our Secretary, Susan Dorward. You can now read current and past newsletters, renew your individual membership, and register for our AGM on March 4, 2007.

Mentoring Taskforce

Currently, the Mentoring Taskforce is creating a Mentoring web section on www.bpw-international.org to be used as a resource for BPW clubs and BPW members around the world. A member of Mentoring Taskforce, Anna Fang, who is a Past President from the Hong Kong Association of Business and Professional Women, will be in charge of this task. We envision that the website section will be completed shortly.

According to Anna's research, there are at least 18 existing national mentoring and skills training programs among BPWs around the world. We want to make sure that, as BPW clubs, Associations and Federations, we share information and resources.

The Mentoring Taskforce welcomes your input on mentoring programs. Please send your input / comments to bpwmentoring@yahoo.com
Ninette Trifiletti, MentoringTaskforceChair,
trifile@bigpond.net.au



International Women's Day (IWD) is observed on March 8th every year. It is a major day of global celebration for the economic, political and social achievements of women.

Started as a political event, the holiday blended in the culture of many countries (primarily Russian). In some celebrations, the day lost its political flavor, and became simply an occasion for men to express their sympathy and love to the women around them - somewhat similar to Western Mother's Day and St Valentine's Day mixed together. In others, however, the political and human rights theme as designated by the United Nations runs strong, and political and social awareness of the struggles of women worldwide are brought out and examined in a hopeful manner. For further information visit

<http://www.internationalwomensday.com/about.asp>

From our International President's Desk

The year 2006 was a year of traveling, reform and changes. I visited 16 countries. Several reform measures were tried out, while we followed the reform at United Nations closely. We co-organized events with the UN in New York and in Bangkok. More BPW members are gaining high post at regional and national levels. Member Services has been transferred to the President's office in Thailand. BPW International survey on Violence Against Women received an overwhelming response from member countries. Visit

<http://www.bpw-international.org/start.htm> for further information.

Dr. Chonchanok Viravan
International President
2005-2008



Candle lighting Ceremony

Beginning February of each year BPWI federations worldwide conduct a candle lighting ceremony to reflect on the bonding of women from many parts of the world. It is an emotional event which leaves women with the uplifting thought that they are members of a worldwide network of strong and dedicated women.

UN Agency for Women

The high-level panel appointed by former Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, is recommending the creation of a separate UN Agency for Women, following an increasing demand to rectify the gender shortcoming.

Currently, UN bodies that deal with women's issues include:

- UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM),
- UN Population Fund (UNFPA),
- Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW),
- Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues (OSAGI) and
- International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW)

Yet none of them with the exception of UNFPA, are resource-rich agencies such as the UN Development Programme or the UN children's agency UNICEF.

Since the 1995 Fourth World Conference in Beijing, United Nations and national governments are failing on their commitments for gender equality and women's empowerment.

It needs a powerful and well-resourced entity within the UN, with a comprehensive mandate dedicated to the full range of women's rights and concerns, derived from CEDAW, the Beijing Platform for Action, and other relevant policies. The agency must be able to create and set coherent global policy for gender equality across the UN system.

The implementation of the recommendation awaits the decision of the new UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon.

Annarosa Colangelo, 1st Vice President and
Chair of UN Committee on Status of Women

Triple One Membership Challenge

Liz Benham, 2nd Vice President, BPW International
Membership Chair

An organization's strength and credibility is determined by its membership. To be recognized the organization must have a long history, exhibit staying power, do good works and be financially sound. BPW International meets these criteria, however financially we have more work to do and new membership development and strong member retention is fundamental to sustaining its future. The triple one membership challenge was designed to achieve this goal.

It is now well under way and I will be reporting some results in January 2007 after the December 2006 submissions from affiliates. If you have brought in a new member to BPW this year be sure to let your club president know as soon as possible so that you can be recorded as eligible for the triple crown pin.

Successful member retention is key to a sustainable future and it relies on two things: Individual member investment (time and money) and, the return (services) members receive from the organization. I would like to encourage all to review your membership records, the development programs and your retention programs.

That is where our members come in. Your personal investment in paying your dues makes a huge difference to the operation of the organization. Increases in membership provide new and vital ongoing revenue.

Many members believe that BPW should not be reliant on dues alone. This I agree with however, our members must first be willing to support with their personal investment. The annual due of 10.5 Euro is the best deal of any international organization. Much is expected for our members from these dues.

Membership growth remains the responsibility of all members and not just of the leadership, who remain very busy with the management of all the programs in the federations and clubs. Individual members can and must help with this.

Don't forget to renew your membership!

Reminders have been sent for 2007 membership dues. If your entire club are members, please remind the President and Treasurer to submit payment. All others pay individually.

Words of Wisdom from our Founder

Dr. Lena Madesin Phillips

“Leaders may emerge with vision, creativity and direction but it is the quality of the supporting members, the width of the expertise they contribute, the depth of their interest and determination they bring, that allows an organization to fulfill its aims and become the powerhouse for the members’ own development.”

BPW International

If you have not already done so, download BPWI's latest newsletter from www.bpw-international.org/ to keep abreast of news from the executive board and to learn what various federations worldwide are doing.

- **Communication** is one of challenges that must be overcome in order to improve productivity of BPW's work. Reforming the way BPW members communicate is crucial.
- **Make BPW Visible.** BPW accomplishments are being made more visible via brochures, public relations documents, presentations and the web site. Expertise and Business of BPW members should be made known to the public.

1. BPW Roster Online

BPW Roster is now available on-line via www.bpw-roster.info or www.bpw-international.org. This roster allows presidents of member countries to update the roster page of its own country directly. It also allows members to download the most current version of the roster any day. A demo on how to use Roster Online can also be downloaded from BPW International web site www.bpw-international.org.

Once BPW Roster Online is fully up-to-date in all regions (beside Europe which is already up-to-date) and all member countries, we can automatically create and maintain the group e-mail to presidents in Africa, Asia-Pacific, North America and Latin America as well as group e-mails to the executives of each member country.

2. E-mail Communication

To overcome problems where a member cannot contact members of the executive board, chairs of committees and taskforces, past International presidents and presidents of Federations/Associated Clubs, or other persons who hold BPW posts at the International level, BPWI has created

e-mails using @bpw-international domain name for both individuals and groups. For individuals, the format of the e-mail would be "Firstname.Lastname@bpw-international.org" (though the e-mail would be forwarded to her personal e-mail address).

We have Gabriella Canonica, European Regional Coordinator, to thank for setting up and maintaining these e-mails and the BPW Roster Online. Gabriella has also been very helpful in getting our federation's website up and running.

3. BPW Online

The purpose of BPW Online is to keep members informed about BPW news, activities and opportunities for BPW world-wide. Any BPW members can join. Each Member of BPW Online can receive news from BPW International as well as posting news about important project / events from her country. News related to women from United Nations would also be posted here.

To receive messages, there are several subscription types for you to choose from to suit your preferences.

- No E-mail: You read messages from BPW Online archive at your convenience.
 - E-mail: You get individual e-mails as they come.
- Abridged E-mail: You get 1 e-mail per day, summarizing messages of that day. You can click to read the whole message from the archive at <http://groups.google.com/group/BPW-Online>. (through e-mail would be forwarded to her personal e-mail address).

To post a message, member of BPW Online simply send an e-mail to BPW-Online@googlegroups.com. However, it must be sent from the e-mail address that has been registered as member of BPW Online. To avoid spam and messages that are not relevant to BPW matters, message posting is moderated by the President's office

4. BPW Business and Member Pages

The BPW Business and Member Pages make members more visible for free on the web site www.bpw-business.org. Support this great tool by including yourself on the worldwide network. Sign up is simple.

BPW members can also promote their business online with pictures of their products at the rate of 100 Euros for the first year and 75 Euros for subsequent years. Gabriella Canonica has developed this tool (available in 6 languages) in such way that people can locate these business pages easier via an Internet Search tool like Google. Thus, it becomes a great platform for BPW members and their businesses.

Members can list themselves for the member pages online [@bpw-business.org](http://www.bpw-business.org). For business page subscription, you need to contact presidents.office@bpw-international.org so that a proper invoice can be issued before payment is transferred.

5. BPW International Preferred Channels / Languages

Official BPW International's communications from the International President's office go to member countries in the four official languages – English, French, Spanish and Italian, as preferred by member countries.

6. Publicity Tools

BPW International is currently working on brochures, membership booklets, folders and CDs to be used to publicize BPW. The brochures will be translated into multiple languages.

2007 Asia Pacific Regional Conference and 4th Young BPW Meeting Seoul, Korea May 10-15, 2007

The fourth Young BPW International Meeting will be held on May 10 -13, 2007, Seoul, South Korea. The objective of this meeting is to provide the Young BPW members an international level Leadership training and networking opportunity, as well as enable Young BPW members to take part in shaping the future of BPW through their participation in Organization Review and Reform.

All members of BPW Korea are ready to heartily welcome you to this event.

This event is a very good opportunity for members of BPW Korea to have the experience of understanding BPW International activities and making friends with BPW members from other countries. Especially Young BPW Korea can network with International friends in the early stages of their life and develop lasting friendships.

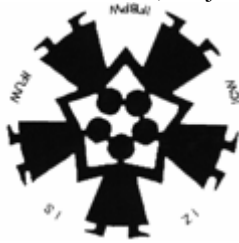
BPW Korea has arranged to offer a high quality meeting at a very reasonable price and BPW International is offering partial subsidy for airfare for young BPW members to attend this event. We hope that it would enable young BPW members from as many countries as possible to attend. **The deadline to apply for this support is 28 February 2007.**

Those who want to attend both will get a discount on the registration of Asia-Pacific Regional Conference.

Rooma Para,
Chair of Young BPW Committee

Donations to Project Five-O General Fund

Susan Jones, Project Committee Chair



BPW International is a member of Project Five-O together with four other organizations; International Council of Women, International Federation of University Women, Soroptimist International and Zonta International.

Project Five-O offers funding for projects in vocational training for women in developing countries. To qualify for funding, at least 2 of the 5 member organizations must work jointly on a local project and meet the requirements as set out in the guidelines. For over 25 years, BPW International has received funding support for projects which BPW manages locally such as La Paz Nursing School in Mexico, women's development projects in Nepal, Tsunami relief project in Thailand, etc. Except for BPW New Zealand, BPW has not been a contributor to the General fund of Project Five-O. As Project Five-O fund is depleting, member organizations need to help raise funds so that support for the projects may continue.

We would like to urge affiliates of BPW to help raise funds for Project Five-O General Fund on a volunteer basis.

La Paz Nursing School



The Five-O project in La Paz, the capital of the Baja California Sur (Lower California South), is a Nursing School established in 1992 offering all subjects of nursing. The majority of students come from poor villages outside La Paz and go back to their local areas after graduation to work as

nurses who are in great demand because of the scarcity of health facilities.

Each year about 250 students enroll for their three-year education, after which they go into professional practice for a year and end with an official exam leading to a professional diploma which is recognized in any Health Institute.

Scholarships are donated by BPW Mexico to students with low economic resources enabling them to become educated. Donations are also given for the expansion construction of the School buildings.

In October 2003 the School became the first Educational Institute in Mexico to be certified with the ISO 9001:2000 norm, which reflects the quality of the training.

School of nursing-new uniforms were sewn & delivered by members of BPWI Canada. Annual scholarships (US \$60/student) can be donated by BPWI members.



XXVI BPW International Congress Merida, Mexico, 24-28 October 2008

The theme for XXVI BPW International Congress in Merida, Mexico, 24-28 October 2008 is

The Power to Make a Difference

- Through Leadership
- Through Advocacy
- Through Actions

This new theme is chosen to illustrate BPW contribution at the Congress as well as motivate more activities of the same in the future.

At Merida Congress, crucial decisions will be made regarding the results of our organization review, our new funding strategy and constitution, which will lay a new foundation for BPW International. So mark your calendar and look for updates on our Merida Congress via www.bpw-international.org.

<http://www.womenscalendar.org/index.asp>



The Women's Calendar is a diverse journal of events and resources for women of all walks of life...liberal, conservative, fundamental and libertarian.

The Women's Calendar listings are in an open format. This brings enormous visibility to events and makes it easy for readers to see what is going on.

There is treasure inside the Calendar. The details provide connections to hundreds of women's organizations and other excellent resources to help readers grow their businesses build awareness of social issues and fuel active involvement in local and worldwide communities.

Over 3,000 events have been posted making the Women's Calendar one of the most popular Web sites for listing events for women worldwide.

The Women's Calendar takes an earnest grassroots approach to service. The Calendar Team fields over a thousand e-mails a week from women looking for contacts and assistance. Many times a personal phone call is made.

Women are welcome to make known their points of view about the events that are posted by contacting us and giving feedback; or, better yet, by contacting the event sponsors.

Calendar of Events

February 15-18, 2007
BPW North America Regional Meeting
Montego Bay, Jamaica
www.bpw-northamerica.org

February 23-24, 2007
Train the Facilitator Leadership Seminar
for Individual Development Program
New York, NY - USA

February 24, 2007
Project Five-O Meeting
New York, NY - USA

February 26- March 9, 2007
Commission on the Status of Women
51st Session
New York, NY – USA

March 4, 2007
BPWNY Annual Meeting
Harmonie Club
New York, NY – USA

April 12-14, 2007
BPW Argentina National Conference
Mar del Plata, Argentina

April 16-18, 2007
5th Latin-America & SSCC Regional Conference
Santiago, Chile

May 3-6, 2007
BPW New Zealand National Conference
New Zealand

May 10-13, 2007
4th Young BPW International Conference
Seoul, Korea

May 12-15, 2007
Asia Pacific Regional Conference
Seoul, Korea

June 1-3, 2007
87th Annual BPWNYS Conference
Hilton Resort Hotel
Lake Placid, NY - USA

July 17 – 21, 2007
BPWUSA National Conference
The Nugget
Reno, NV - USA

August 2007
BPW Africa Regional Conference
Benin

October 19-21, 2007
6th European Presidents Meeting
Valencia, Spain

July 22-26, 2008
BPWUSA National Conference
The Hilton Atlanta Hotel
Atlanta, GA - USA

July 23-27, 2008
BPW Canada Convention
Winnipeg, Manitoba

October 24 -28, 2008
BPW International Congress
Merida, Yucatan Peninsula
Mexico
www.bpw-international.org

Vision Statement

"To achieve a just and equal status for women in all levels and areas of society where the decisions are taken in true partnership with man, based on mutual respect, for a more balanced and peaceful world."

Visit the Web!

BPWI NY – www.bpw-newyork.org

BPW/USA - www.bpwusa.org

BPW International:www.bpw-international.org

**BPW North America & Non-Spanish Speaking
Caribbean – www.bpw-northamerica.org**

BPW Canada - www.bpwcanada.com