

New York

Presidents Message

Greetings Members:

With the arrival of spring, we are surrounded by new growth and beauty. Our organization is also growing by leaps and bounds and taking on a new life as you will find out by reading this newsletter.

I cannot believe that our board has been in office over two years! Where does the time go? It seems like only yesterday that we were installed in office. It is now time for our qualified members to step up to the plate and consider running for office in the upcoming BPW New York 2009-2011 election. Besides adding to your personal growth and development this experience will open up your world to the possibilities of all women throughout the world.

On behalf of BPW New York I would like to thank Denise Dagostaro, our Treasurer, who for personal and business reasons had to resign from her position and welcome aboard Margherita Clemento. Read all about her inside this issue.

Once again our Executive Board organized and ran our Annual General Meeting on March 1, 2008. Many thanks to our officers and individual members who helped to make this a wonderful event. Special thanks go to Gerry Poranski, Noreen Ryan, Helen Swank, Marie Thompson, Elizabeth Vanardenne, and Linda Worman. A very special thank you to Phyllis Marino, BPW Manhattan President, for securing Commerce Bank for the 3rd year as our major sponsor.

We had a great international turnout from our BPW sisters worldwide who continually support and engage with us in this event, however many of our local members were noticeably absent at this meeting, as well as the CSW, BPW Caucus and Dinner. This is always a great opportunity to learn firsthand what our organization is all about, its accomplishments and contributions to the CSW, etc. It is also a wonderful way to network with our international members, learn what their federations are doing and experience other cultures. I always look forward each year to showing our international guests around our great city. Why not commit yourself to attend next year. I know you will not only learn a lot, but you will also have a great time.

Save the date for our AGM scheduled for Saturday, March 7th, 2009!

Don't forget to save the date and funds for our October 24-28, 2008 International Congress in Mexico City, Mexico. Register today!

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

Spring 2008

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Recording Secretary: open

Immediate Past President: Elizabeth Benham

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.



Don't Miss This Great Opportunity!

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



**XXVI BPW International Congress
"Power to Make a Difference"
October 24-28, 2008**

**Remember – Your Dues are the
Lifblood of our Federation.**



**We Need You to Renew *Your* Membership
Now!**

Reminders have been sent out for 2008 membership dues. If your entire club are members, please remind your President and Treasurer to submit payment. Any individual members, who have not received a renewal letter, please contact us immediately or fill out the membership form online and send the applicable amount. Please send your dues to Margherita Clemento, Treasurer at the following address:

BPWI / NY
880 68th Street Apt 3J
Brooklyn, NY 11220-5703



If you are NOT receiving email from Mary Scott then we either don't have an email address for you, or we have the wrong one.

PLEASE email mary@makebelievetv.com so we can add you to the list and you won't miss out on interim e-mail blasts which will keep you abreast of important information.



The XXVI BPW International Congress will be held in Mexico City on 24-28 October 2008 at Gran Melia Mexico Reforma Hotel. The theme of the Congress is "Power to Make a Difference".

The Congress theme "Power to Make a Difference" recognizes women contribution through leadership, action and advocacy. The workshops part of the Congress will also be opened to interest business and professional women in Mexico to attend.

Track I - Making a Difference through Leadership: Workshops in this track will address leadership development both at the individual and organization level such as creative marketing strategies, win-win negotiation skills, business incubation, conflict resolution strategies, performance evaluation, success from conquering defeat, talent development for women executives, etc.

Track II - Making a Difference through Action: Workshops in this track will address success cases and successful strategies to enable women to gain economic independence and advance in their careers, based on work of BPW affiliates which helped over 60,000 women to help themselves during 1996-2007. Highlights on some of the topics include financing gender equality projects, skill trainings, micro-credits, mentoring, using e-Business and other information and communication technology (ICT) to enhance opportunities for women, etc.

Track III - Making a Difference through Advocacy: Workshops in this track will address emerging issues for

women in the 21st Century that still needs to be addressed in order for women to overcome the obstacles, achieve their full professional and career potential and attain "equal participations of women and men in power and decision making". The highlights on some of the issues are gender pay gap, work-life balance, violence against women, international migration, ageing population and economic impact on women, Return on investment when women become top executives, etc. You can register by visiting <http://www.bpw-international.org/XXVI-congress/registration.htm>.



Save Some \$ for Shopping and Tequila

If you register by June 25, 2008 the cost is \$460.00, which includes the Opening Ceremony, regional conferences, business sessions, panels, workshops, Gala Dinner, and Closing Ceremony. The hotel fees are from \$110 - \$435 per night.

BPW members who register for Congress and make reservation at Gran Melia Mexico Reforma Hotel by June 24, 2008 will be eligible for drawing of the following prizes:

1 Prize:	Free 5 nights stay in a standard deluxe single / double room (double occupants)	1 award
2 Prize:	Free upgrade to Junior Suite	1 award
3 Prize:	A free night stay for a stand deluxe single / double room	3 awards

(The result will be announced 30 June 2008).

Gran Melia Mexico Reforma Hotel will be the Headquarter Congress hotel for the XXVI BPW International Congress in Mexico City, Mexico on October 24-28, 2008.

The hotel is 25 minutes from the International Airport, "Benito Juárez" of México City. A member of the Leading Hotels of the World, it is a very beautiful 5 star hotel with a 4 diamond award from AAA. There are 3 restaurants and a lobby bar with live music every day.

The L'Albufera Restaurant, offers the best Spanish food and a variety of rice meals, an original specialty. It's a relatively new hotel situated very close to the Central Historical site of Mexico City (a UNESCO World Heritage site). The group rate for BPW International

is 110 USD per room night (includes free wireless internet). There is a modern full-service spa; fully equipped gymnasium, steam room, sauna and beauty salon. It is just five minutes from the Historical Downtown and Pink Zone and ten minutes from the Bosque de Chapultepec. It is also situated close to the National Palace, Mexico City, the Ancient Cathedral and the newly discovered Aztec Pyramid that is buried in the middle of the city. It's also within walking distance of the Palace of Fine Art Opera House, which is one of the most beautiful opera houses in the world. There is a famous Mexican folklore ballet playing there. Moreover, as a foreigner attending Congress, the 15% VAT can be waived for hotel room, food and beverage if you can present the hotel with a copy of the immigration form, a copy of your passport and make your payment by foreign credit cards or wire transfer. For more information, please visit

<http://www.granmeliamexicoreforma.com>



Discount Flights to Congress

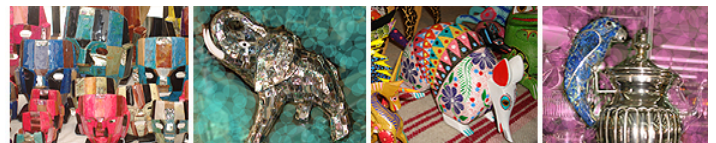
Participants who would like to come to Mexico to attend the XXVI BPW International Congress can get discounts from various airlines. This includes 25% discount for domestic flight and 10%-17% discount for International flights from AeroMexico. As the XXVI BPW International Congress is also registered as Global Meeting for SKYTEAM, participants can also get 5%-10% discount from Air France, Aeroflot, Alitalia, Continental Airline, Czech Airline and Korean Airline.

For more details information, please see <http://www.bpw-international.org/XXVI-congress/about-mexico-airlines.htm>



Check for a Current Passport

Make sure you have a current passport. Alyce Daly informs me that the US Postal Service is having an evening passport fair on Wednesday, June 18, 2008 until 7 pm. To receive all the forms and information you need (for each application) call 1-631-582-7494.



Additional Sites of Interest

The Plaza de la Constitution, more commonly known as the "Zocalo" is a must on any visitor's list of things to do in Mexico City. It is a great place to get a feel for the area's history and to start your exploration of the city. Within just a

few blocks of the Zocalo, in all directions, are some of the city's finest examples of city history, architecture and art. The Zocalo once contained the pyramids and palaces of Moctezuma and was the exact center of the Aztec empire. To this day it is center of much activity and the very heartbeat of Mexico City. The Zocalo is the second largest public plaza in the world (only Red Square in Moscow is bigger).

San Angel, a suburb for the rich and/or famous with cobblestone streets and leafy lanes. Some of the houses here are more modern, but there is also a great selection of colonial houses, mansions and haciendas. Some of these places have been turned into fine restaurants and fashionable night clubs. San Angel is also one of Mexico City's prime night spots.

The Central Plaza has cobbled streets, performers and vendors. The area is home to some of Mexico City's finest mansions and great museums. Many present-day celebrities live around here, as past celebrities have, including: Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera and Leon Trotsky.

The National Museum of Anthropology in Chapultepec (Grasshopper) Park in Mexico City is one of the most extensive of its kind in the world. There are numerous rooms that house archaeological artifacts from the numerous ancient cultures in Mexico, including Olmec, Mexica, Maya, Golfo, Aztec and others. The folk dancers and other entertainers which perform in the park near the museum are also excellent and authentic, as are the vendors with their foodstuffs, etc. laid out on blankets in the park plaza.

Museo Frida Kahlo, home to the enigmatic painter Frida Kahlo where she occasionally lived with her husband Diego Rivera. Personal objects such as jewelry, unfinished canvases propped on easels, her typical tehuana ornate dresses, papier mache and pre-Hispanic objects, as well as her wheelchair, are on display in the studio where she painted. Works by Mexican painters such as Jose María Velasco, Claussel and Orozco among others, are exhibited alongside some of Frida's own paintings.

Floating Gardens of Xochimilco, a living testimony to the canals of Mexico before the conquest. Meaning "Land of Flowers," it is a landscape of ancient canals called chinampas, built for irrigation and transportation by the Aztecs. Artificial islets were created by layering logs, earth, mud and roots tied with vine, and planting ahuejote, a native plant whose tough roots bind the walls of the chinampas. Visitors can take a trip on wooden boats trimmed with beautiful fresh flowers. The navigable waterway is lined with vendors selling their wares and delicacies, and groups of mariachi or marimba serenading them from wooden boats.

Call for Speakers for the XXVI BPW International Congress

If you already plan to attend the XXVI BPW International Congress, there is an opportunity to become a speaker at a BPW International workshop. The President's office has already identified many distinguished speakers for the workshops (including senior government officials, executives from the private sector, experts and relevant international organizations) and winners of BPW Power to Make a Difference awards. Many BPW members have expertise and talent and deserve the opportunity to make their expertise more visible. There are openings for 1-2 more speakers per workshop. For the full program of workshops, please visit <http://www.bpw-international.org/XXVI-congress/about-congress-program.htm>

If you are interested, please submit a maximum 100 words summary on your profile / key accomplishments (for web posting if you are selected), and a supporting statement maximum 500 words (if you contact eibren@aol.com I will send you the required form). You can self-nominate, but additional endorsements from your club or Federation, chair of standing committees / international taskforce, international executive board members or past international president would help. Please submit your information in English.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS 30 JUNE 2008. Nominations should be submitted to bpw-congress-26@googlegroups.com

BPW members who are selected as a speaker will be given a 10% discount of the early registration fee 414 USD. Selected speakers will be notified no later than 31 July 2008.



Support BPW New York Members Seeking International Positions for 2008-2011

Our very own Liz Benham is running for International President. Those of you who are acquainted with Liz know of her unwavering support and belief in our organization and its mission. Liz is currently 2nd Vice President of International, is Membership and Friends Taskforce Chair. In addition, Liz is an alternate UN delegate and has attended numerous Congresses, Regional Conferences, as well as country and club events throughout the world. A better candidate would be hard to find. It has been 25 years since there was an International President from the USA (Maxine Hayes: International President 1980 – 1983).

In addition, BPW New York member, Sujey Albert, is running for Finance Director. Also BPW Manhattan member, Olga Ferolito, is looking to Chair the Arts and Culture Committee and BPW North Shore member Mary Scott is looking to Chair the Public Relations Committee.



Equality between Women and Men 2008

Additional Executive Board Candidates

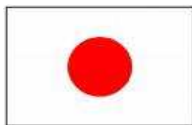


For the XXVI BPW International Congress in 2008, 19 nominations were received for positions in BPW International Executives Board 2008-2011 and 15 nominations for Chair of Standing Committees. If you wish to review their profiles and supporting statements, please visit <http://www.bpw-international.org/XXVI-congress/nominations.htm>



BPW International & Ministry of Foreign Affairs Workshop on Corporate Social Responsibilities to Empower Women Economically - UN Headquarters

Congratulations and Best Wishes BPW Japan on your 50th Anniversary!



BPW Germany lobbied Germany to hold its first equal pay day on April 15, 2008. The pay gap there is 22%. Business and Professional Women Germany are committed to equal pay coordinated activities to raise awareness about how to solve wage inequity in Germany and there were various activities and events in more than 25 cities through the whole country on April 15th. Visit www.equalpayday.de for more information.

Women are continuing to drive employment growth in Europe, but remain disadvantaged on the labor market in relation to men, says a report adopted by the European Commission. Despite higher educational attainment, women continue to be employed less and paid less than men.

Overall, despite their better educational attainment women's careers are shorter, slower and less well-paid. Despite the fact that women represent 59% of university graduates and have a better educational attainment, their employment rate remains lower than men's (by 14.4 points) and they continue to earn on average 15% less than men for every hour worked.

Women also face greater difficulties in reaching decision-making positions. The presence of female managers in companies is progressing very slowly and stands at only 33%, Work/life balance is one area where major differences persist between women and men. The employment rate of women with young children is only 62.4%. compared with 91.4% for men with children. For further information visit <http://www.bpw-international.org/members/bpw-members-young-bpw-leadership.htm#job>

Young BPW on Facebook.com

Young BPW is now on www.facebook.com and the Young BPW network of friends has already started using this online platform for online interaction and networking. There are more than 60 members from around the world who are already members of the YBPW Group on Facebook. Young BPW Canada is managing this section.

View 4th Young BPW International Online on Youtube

Young BPW Australia compiled videos of Young BPW from all over the world who attended the 4th International Young BPW meeting in South Korea. You can view these online on www.youtube.com.

Young BPW Europe Weekend May16-18

Young BPW Ankara and Young BPW Istanbul celebrated the "Young BPW Europe Weekend" in Istanbul.

Are you an expert or do you have an interest in expanding your horizons? Why not join one of BPW International's many committees!

Words To Ponder From Our Founder

“Let us build together, and see what we can achieve”.
Dr. Lena Madessin Phillips

Members Needed to join Committees - Finance, Membership, Public Relations and Bylaws. This is a wonderful learning experience and we are in great need of more members to **serve on the TEAM.**



I would like to welcome our new members for choosing BPWI/NY.

Way to Go Claire!



UN Reps Liz Benham, Claire Fulcher (honoree), Eva Richter, and (rear) Susan O'Malley

On Thursday, May 1. our UN rep, Claire Fulcher, received a trophy from NGO-UNIFEM in New York to recognize her 25 years of dedication and hard work as their first convener. It was a complete surprise to Claire. Several people gave talks honoring her efforts and achievements. Congratulations Claire! We are proud to have you as our UN Rep and member.



Interim Secretary Needed

Due to personal reasons our Secretary, Rolita James, had to step down. Thanks Rolita for the time you gave to our Federation. We wish you the best of luck.



Our 2009 Annual General Meeting **Is Saturday, March 7th, 2009**



Change of Treasurer

Denise Dagostaro, our Treasurer, has indicated that due to personal and business reasons she needs to step down as our Treasurer. Thanks Denise for the wonderful job which you did in such an efficient and professional manner. In the interim I have appointed Margherita Clemento as Treasurer. She can be contacted at mclemento@nyc.rr.com. We are very fortunate to have Margherita step up to assist us in the interim.

Margherita has been very active on the local level. She was President twice, Parliamentarian for many years, Financial Officer for at least 10 years, served as Treasurer four times and trained all Treasurers for many years, Fund Raiser Chair (4 times), and has served and chaired most committees. Margherita also served as District II Director. On the state level, she was By-laws Chair and Vice Chair, Status of Women Chair, Resolutions Chair, Foundation Chair, PAC Vice Chair, Elections Committee Chair, chaired two Fall Board meetings and one Winter Board meeting, and served as Reservation Chair for both Winter and Fall Board meetings. She is currently the State Resolutions Chair, Election Committee Chair and Governance Chair for the Strategic Planning Committee, Committee Chair for Revision of Manual of Instructions, and most importantly a member for twenty-nine years.

Together Everyone Achieves More....



Looking for a Few Great Women

Once again its time for qualified members to step up and run for the Executive Board. This is a great opportunity to not only learn more about our wonderful organization, but also to grow and

develop as an individual. At our March 1, 2008 AGM a Bylaw Amendment was passed which increased the number of Executive Board members. Currently the Executive Board consists of President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Young BPW, and the Immediate Past President.

Procedures for Nomination of Candidates **2009 – 2012**

August 31, 2008 - Nominating Committee's **slate of officers** will be **closed**.

November 15, 2008 - Candidates **ballots** will **be mailed out to all members** by the Secretary.

January 31, 2009 - Completed **ballots must be postmarked and returned** to the Secretary.

March 2009 - **Results** will be **announced** at the Annual General Meeting

The Nominating Committee

Liz Benham, North Shore BPW
631-422-7012
liz.benham@bpw-international.org

Alyce Daly, Brookhaven BPW
631-447-5377
BPWINY@aol.com

Helen Long, Nassau BPW
(516)483-2956
hellofriend33@aol.com

BPW Manhattan Helps Local Girls

BPW Manhattan has decided to mentor girls from a Brooklyn group called Youth Empowerment Mission. The Youth Empowerment Mission is dedicated to giving young people real, long-term alternatives to the gangs, violence and delinquency that challenge our communities while addressing the conditions that influence this self-destructive lifestyle. They provide many programs and services for young people including: educational support and advocacy, counseling and case management, leadership training, life and community survival skills, entrepreneurial/work skills training, and community involvement.

BPW Manhattan will be setting up a mentoring program and also sponsoring an essay contest in which they will award a

monetary prize for college for the best essay on how to achieve goals in the business world.

They will also be awarding a prize to a student from the Partnership for Student Advancement, which is a non-profit founded by one of their members, Anne Bonfiglio. This organization helps students achieve their goals in terms of college and the business world.

2008 Trafficking in Persons Report Released



The US Department of State released the [2008 Trafficking in Persons Report](#) on June 4, 2008.

This Report is the eighth annual Trafficking in Persons Report, which serves as the US government's primary diplomatic tool to encourage partnerships and determination in the fight against modern day slavery. It covers the period of April 2007 through March 2008 and presents a current, global look at modern-day slavery and the actions being taken by governments worldwide to confront it.

According to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice: "The 2008 report covers more countries than ever-- 170 total" and for the first time ever examines global prosecution data to unveil new findings regarding the sentencing of perpetrators.

You can [download the report](#) and [read Secretary Rice's comments](#) in full. I also encourage you to visit the U.S Department of State's [Office to Monitor & Combat Human Trafficking](#) website to learn more.



Three Bills being Lobbied

HEART for Women Act: This bill would authorize outreach and training of healthcare providers. In addition it would require gender-based reporting and analysis of data, including gender-specific information about new and investigational medicines and medical devices. Finally, the legislation would improve heart disease and stroke screening for low-income, uninsured women.

Family Leave Insurance Act: This bill would provide 8 weeks of paid benefits to people who take time off from work for reasons allowed under the Family and Medical Leave Act. This bill creates a new Family Leave Insurance Fund” to

finance benefit payments, allowing stakeholders to pool risk and lower costs, and funded through small, shared employee/employer premiums. To reduce administrative burdens for employers and employees, employers will pay leave benefits to employees through their regular payroll, with prompt reimbursement from the Family Leave Insurance Fund.

Fair Pay Restoration Act: This bill amends Title VII to clarify that a pay discrimination claim accrues when a pay decision is made, when an employee is subject to that decision, or at any time they are injured by it.

Senate Fails to Pass Ledbetter Fair Pay Act

The Senate was unable to bring the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act (HR 2831) to a vote despite a majority of Senators being in favor of the bill. On April 23rd, it failed by a vote of 56-42, just four votes shy of the 60 needed to proceed to debate and the final vote. Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA), sponsored the bill, Senator Boxer (D-CA) supports the bill, but we must firm her resolve with our support!

BPW/USA members sent over 469 letters and emails to the Senate on the Ledbetter Fair Pay Act using the BPW/USA Advocacy Center. It’s easy, the letter is already written; just go to the following webpage!

<http://www.congressweb.com/cweb4/index.cfm?orgcode=bpw&hotissue=6>

Lilly Ledbetter, the plaintiff in the controversial *Ledbetter v. Goodyear* Supreme Court case, will be speaking at the BPW/USA National Conference in Atlanta, GA on July 21-25, 2008.



Germs in Hotels and on Women’s Purses

There is an online news video regarding the cleanliness of cups in hotel bedrooms, which led to a subsequent conversation about germs on women’s purses. The hotel video certainly will change the way you use in-room coffee pots, cups, etc. It is much cleaner to look for plastic and styrofoam cups. The link to the hotel bathroom video is <http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid1329217643?bctid=1329232712>

After you review ABC’ news story about germs on women’s purses you will think about everywhere you set down your

purse while eating, shopping or using public areas as well as the things it touches while stowed at work and in the home.

June 14, 2008
BPW Japan Conference
Tokyo, Japan

July 7-12, 2008
APEC Women’s e-Biz Training 2008
Sookmyung Women’s University
Seoul, Korea

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

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

October 24 -28, 2008
BPW International Congress
Mexico City, Mexico
www.bpw-international.org

March 7, 2009
BPWNY Annual Meeting
Harmonie Club
New York, NY

[Equal Pay Day will be April 28, 2009](#)

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."

BPW Roster

BPW members can now view BPW Roster for Federations and Associate Clubs from all 5 regions online via www.bpw-roster.info OR via www.bpw-international.org under MEMBERS / ROSTER. The roster online brings you the latest contact information when you need it. There are instructions in all 4 official languages on how to make updates.

BPW Business and Member Pages

Are you looking to increase your business exposure or to expand internationally? Be sure to register on BPW’s Business and Member Pages at www.bpw-business.org/