

- ▶ PRESIDENT'S MSG.... 1
- ▶ ANNOUNCEMENTS 1-5
- ▶ CONTACT INFO 5
- ▶ SPONSORS 5



MAY 2010



**Bozeman
Business &
Professional
Women**

*Representing the Bozeman Area
Business & Professional
Women's Community
Since 1930*



Bozeman Chapter Newsletter

www.bozemanbpw.org

**REPRESENTING THE BOZEMAN AREA BUSINESS
AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S COMMUNITY SINCE 1930**

Message from the President

Dear BPW Members,

*I caught the happy virus last night
When I was out singing beneath the stars.
It is remarkably contagious -
So kiss me.*

This poem, "The Happy Virus," by the great Sufi poet Hafiz, is a favorite, and it's been on my mind off and on during these intoxicating spring days midst the rain and the snow. There's a wonderful feeling of happiness and love in the air as new beginnings are happening both in nature and in the Bozeman BPW.

This spring I'm trying a little experiment. I'm channeling that energy of rebirth into a connection with nature, life, health, and relationships.

The vibrancy and energy of the season is inspiring. Living in Bozeman and walking through the snowflakes this morning, I saw the black-and-white snow of wintertime and in the next few minutes, the sun comes out teeming the earth with new, green life. The tender sprouts and fragrant blossoms feel like grace after the austerity of winter. I open to the possibilities of spring: green lawn, budding vegetable gardens, spring flowers, new BPW members, nominations of new officers, a potentially new and streamlined set of Bozeman BPW bylaws,

renewed relationships, and new young leaders stepping forward with their businesses, skills, networking, and rights for all women.

We get excited about a new iPad, nook, car, or outfit, but what about feeling the vibrant energy of life itself being new? When we see everything with new eyes, we feel the exhilaration of new life surging forth. We can get intoxicated just from the warmth of sunshine on our skin!

Spring is a great time to put attention on your inner awakening mirroring the outer stirrings of Nature.

In a group meeting this week, each member answered the question, "What is looking to be reborn in my life?" For one woman, it was a new direction for her business. For another, it was a new relationship with her body.

My answer was a new appreciation for, and honoring of, myself. One way I'm acting on this is throughout the day asking myself the question, "What is the most loving thing I can do for myself right now?"

Is something new wanting to come forth in your life? Nurture this new life with these daily practices:

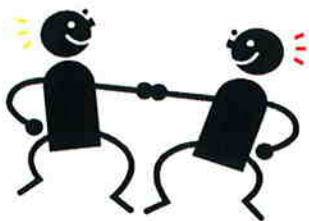
- (1) Ask yourself, "What is looking to be reborn in my life?" Take a few minutes to write down your thoughts and place some attention on this daily.
- (2) Go outside and consciously drink in the springtime. See it, feel it, hear it, smell it. Let it get into your bloodstream and infect you with happiness.
- (3) Notice what is new and fresh all around you-in nature, in your relationships, in your work.

If it still feels like winter inside your heart, be with that feeling and trust that it will pass. It always does. Keep an eye out for sprouts of hope and happiness, and when you feel them, take time to enjoy them. Last week was the 40th anniversary of Earth Day. Let's celebrate the continual renewal of our planet and our lives and our Bozeman Business and Professional Women.

Sincerely,

Sally Babcock
Bozeman BPW President

P.S. Marci Shimoff inspired me to write this article. She is the author of **HAPPY FOR NO REASON**. She can be contacted at www.HappyForNoReason.com



May Networking Social

Please join us for our next social on Tuesday, May 18th, 5:30 pm at 18 Miles to the Border! Pray for some warm weather to enjoy good company on their patio. Remember, this is an open hour of networking; feel free to come and go as your schedule allows. We would love to have you join us for some fun and networking! All BPW members are encouraged to attend, and please bring a guest. Remember, our socials are a great way to spread the word about BPW to our friends and associates for new growth opportunities to our membership. We hope to see you there!

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

On Tuesday, June 8, the state will hold its Primary Election. A primary election is also known as a nominating election because several candidates from a single party may file for office, but just one candidate from each political party is elected in the primary election. One candidate from each party then advances to the November election. In Gallatin County, there are a number of primaries this year.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO VOTE in the primary election, because the winners of those elections go on to the November election. You can shape the races for November.

The candidates for Gallatin County legislative offices are listed below. Party affiliation is in parentheses, and an asterisk indicates the incumbent legislator. I've listed the county commissioner race and all the legislative races, and highlighted the primary races in bold.

House District 63

Tom Burnett (R)

*Jennifer JP Pomnichowski (D)

House District 64

Clint Field (R)

Nick Landeros (R)

*Franke Wilmer (D)

House District 65

Nick Mahan (R)

Bethany Letiecq (D)

Kathleen Williams (D)

(*Brady Wiseman, the incumbent, is not running for re-election.)

House District 66

Jedediah Hinkle (R)

John Milanovich (R)

*Mike Phillips (D)

House District 67

Jim Elder (D)

*Gordon (Gordy) Vance (R)

House District 68

Terry Bannan (R)

Kelly Flynn (R)

Robert G. Brastrup (D)

Bradley Shookman (D)

(*Scott Sales, the incumbent, is term-limited and cannot run for re-election. This is an open seat.)

House District 69

Mary Lane Olson (D)

Ronald Scott Murray (R)

***Ted Washburn (R)**

House District 70

April Buonamici (D)

*Michael (Mike) More (R)

For Gallatin County Commission:

***Joe Skinner (R)**

Scott Sales (R)

Carol Stahl (D)

You can register to vote by mail until May 10, when those ballots are mailed. Any voter registration after that is considered late registration and must be done at the Elections Office in the county courthouse on Main Street. Absentee ballots, also known as mail ballots, can be requested by accessing the form on the Elections website (gallatin.mt.gov –then go to Departments, Elections, Absentee Request Form.)

Exercise your RIGHT to VOTE!

JP Pomnichowski

Montana State Representative

House District 63, Bozeman/Gallatin County

pomnich@montanadsl.net 406.587.7846

MAY NETWORKING SOCIAL

Thanks to everyone who joined us in honoring amazing women in our community at the April Honors Ceremony and Social. We had a good time eating amazing food generously donated by Sola Café, drinking adult beverages donated by Stockman Bank and Montana Travel, listening to speeches from our Young Careerist, Women of Achievement, and Employer of the Year, and watching the winners glow as they collected their awards.

Congratulations to all and big thanks to everyone for making the evening one to remember!

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

During April the Scholarship Committee chose two recipients to split the \$1000 scholarship offer. The winners are Christina Waller who will be starting her Masters Degree program in Sustainable Food Systems at MSU and Heather Lytle who is completing her degree in Nursing at MSU. Both of these women have made contributions to the local and world communities through their past work and have impressive goals to do more in the future with their lives. The Scholarship Committee is proud to assist them in their education!

Heather Lytle will be presented her certificate for the scholarship award at the May 12th lunch meeting. We hope that she will be able to do a full presentation sometime next year on her work as a project manager and nurse with Music for Life, which establishes community programs in rural South Africa. Christina Waller has agreed to do a lunch presentation this summer on her work with the Community Food Coop and their plans to expand into community education programs. We'll also present her certificate at that time.

PAYDAY LOANS

Did you know that Payday Lenders charge over 400% interest to Montana families?

At this week's meeting Shelly Heilweil from Montana Women Vote attended and she told us about an initiative for which her organization is collecting signatures. It's on capping the interest rate on Pay Day Lenders. This was BPW's number one issue in the last Legislature, but we failed getting a bill passed. Bozeman BPW is a charter member of the Bozeman chapter of Montana Women Vote. Shelly collected signatures from members and also asked for members to sign up to help collect signatures for a total of 4 hours in the next 8 weeks. If you can help in this effort, please email Shelly: seh@teleport.com

The Cap the Rate brochure says: "Predatory lenders target working families and seniors, charging over 400% interest. Every year, thousands of hard-working Montanans are trapped in a cycle of debt by payday and car title loans. Without the ability to pay back predatory loans within two weeks or a month, families are forced to take out another loan just to pay the interest on their original loan. In this economy, anyone could need an emergency loan. Montana families struggling to make ends meet should not be preyed on by greedy lenders charging over 400% interest. Our military families are now protected by a cap that limits the interest rate to 36%. We believe that all Montana families deserve the same protection."

Petition to Place Initiative No. 164 on the Election Ballot
If 5% of the voters in each of 34 legislative representative districts sign this petition and the total number of voters signing this petition is 24,337, this initiative will appear on the next general election ballot. If a majority of voters vote for this initiative at the election, it will become law. We, the undersigned Montana voters, propose that the secretary of state place the following initiative on the November 2, 2010, general election ballot.

Statement of Purpose:

Under Montana law, deferred deposit (payday) lenders may charge fees equaling one-fourth of the loan, which is the same as an annual interest rate of 300 percent for a 31-day loan or 650 percent for a 14-day loan. Title lenders may charge interest equaling one-fourth of the loan, which is the same as an annual interest rate of 300 percent for a 30-day loan. I-164 reduces the interest, fees, and charges that payday, title, and retail installment lenders may charge to an annual interest rate of 36%. It prohibits businesses from structuring other transactions to avoid the rate limit.

Fiscal Statement: I-164 reduces the license and examination fee revenue paid to the State because certain lenders may not renew their licenses.

FOR reducing the annual interest, fees, and charges payday, title, and retail installment lenders may charge on loans to 36 percent.

AGAINST reducing the annual interest, fees, and

charges payday, title, and retail installment lenders may charge on loans to 36 percent.

Please look for the petition at local businesses and add your signature.

Pat Simmons

WORDS OF GROWTH

I have had the pleasure of sitting on the BBPW Board for the 2009 – 2010 term as Corresponding Secretary. I want to take advantage of being the newsletter editor (for my last newsletter) and express my appreciation and heartfelt thanks to the numerous members of the Bozeman BPW, of whom I have grown close to, and become friends with.

This is truly a group of professional women that I am proud to be affiliated with.

When I began my journey in 2009 with BBPW, I don't really think I realized what an impact it would have on me. I joined, quite simply, to grow my business and gain some networking activity. And while I joined purely for selfish money-making reasons, I have realized that I have benefited far greater from the friendships and mentoring activities I have been involved with, and I really don't care about the money anymore....(for those of you who know me, here is where I insert the cough and elbow jab).

Chrissy Frank, is so deserving of the Young Careerist Award. I am very pleased to see she received it; however also know several of you gave her some stiff competition. I am so happy to say that I consider her not only a business associate, but also a friend.

Jackie McGuire, I have heard nothing but good things about you and your business. I am excited to see this award go to you; words of praise come from all sides.

Pat Simmons, has been a true mentor, I appreciate her tenacity and strength. I have learned more from her guidance than I will probably admit!

All three of these women contribute to the many facets of what the Bozeman BPW stands for. I look forward to sitting on other committees and learning more from what the BBPW has to offer.

I encourage any new members (or old!) to get involved with a committee or board position. Nominations will be coming up soon, so don't be afraid to throw your hat in the ring. You will come away with much more than you ever expected.

Cordially,

Bonnie "Green Jello" Anzick
(you will need to sit on board or committee to find out what this means). ☺

HAPPINESS HABITS CLASS

Happiness Habits class based on HAPPY FOR NO REASON beginning May 3, Monday, for 8 weeks from 9-11 at Pilgrim Congregational Church. There is no charge for the class and a free will donation is asked for the Happiness Habits packet and use of the building. Contact Sally Babcock at 406-586-8038 or sallybabcock@gmail.com to register and for more information!

NETWORKING SOCIAL & HONORS COMMITTEE

April 22nd at the Story Mansion was a lovely and fun evening! We are pleased to announce the winners are:

Young Careerist

Chrissy Frank, First Security Bank

Employer of the Year

Jackie McGuire, McGuire and Associates

Woman of Achievement

Pat Simmons, MSU Facilities O&M

Congratulations to all!

ARE YOU A "CLOSET" BOARD MEMBER??

Step up to the Plate!
Openings for the Board coming soon!
Committee Folks ALWAYS welcome!
Get Involved, Make Friends,
Business Contacts, and Have Fun!

BPW ANNIVERSARIES!

Jane Arntzen-Schumacher 1995
Breana McElgunn 2002
Clarann Weinert 2002
Sally Babcock 2005
Kaaren Jacobson 2005
Meghan Cyr 2007
Krissa Sprenger 2008

MONTANA'S WOMEN IN BUSINESS CONFERENCE

presented by
U.S. Small Business Administration,
Montana Women's Business Center
and Prospera Business Network.
June 24 & 25
Yellowstone Conference Center, Big
Sky Resort. Go to
www.prosperabusinessnetwork.org
for more information

NEW MEMBER ALERT!

Welcome new members:

Charney Gonnerman

Amber Guth, Speedy Print

Rachel Lacroix, Summit Chiropractic & Massage

Irene Dahl, Dahl Funeral Chapel

Kimberly DeBruycker, Gallatin Gateway School District

Robin Hoover, Yellowstone Country Montana, Inc.

Gail Huls, Mountain West Title

We are excited to have you a part of BPW!

MAY FUN STUFF

8th: Audubon Birding Field Trip, Museum of Rockies

15th: Bozeman Antique Show, Fairgrounds

22nd: A Streetcar Named Desire, Ellen

29th: Run for the Rivers, Peets Hill

go to www.bozone.com for more details

MAY 2010 CALENDAR

May 5 – Board of Directors & Committee Members Board Meeting, 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM, First Security on 19th

May 12 – Meeting at Comfort Inn, 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM, "Marketing Yourself and Your Business with Social Media" by Cora Larson

May 18 – Networking Social, 18 Miles to the Border, starts at 5:30 PM

May 26 – Meeting at Comfort Inn, 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM, "Zone4 Magazine" by Andra & Dan Spurr

CHICA DE MAYO

Women's Night at The River's Edge

May 6th 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Hey ladies – its Chica Day Mayo at The River's Edge!

Leave the guys at the river and come out for an evening designed just for you!

Anne Johansen of Yellow Dog Flyfishing will share her journey from new angler to world angler. Learn about sun protection and the importance of UPF in your fishing apparel from Diane Bristol, Director of Marketing at Simms. Back by popular demand, Jennifer Olsson will share her fly fishing perspectives from a new angle.

Did we mention there will be great prizes, food and drink, and exciting gift bags for the first 30 women? So grab a girlfriend and come hang out with some fun and fishy women!