

Membership Ideas From Around the Country

This was a first for me – listening to what women from several other states said works to draw women into their organizations. This came about because I attended the national Summer Meeting on July 29 and 30. In the middle of serious discussions (and a lot of laughter) on our future, women were invited to step up to the microphone and share, share, share. Here’s a brief rundown on ideas that just might work for your local organizations. I don’t have much detail, but if something here strikes a chord, I believe that with the help of Pam DeMarce (Mankato), I can get more information.

Indiana hosts an annual program for Young Working Adults where they partner with young women fresh from college and help them learn how to interview and sell themselves to potential employers. They also co-

ordinate a Reality Store geared toward middle school girls. They steer the young girls through the exercise of earning money, taking out taxes and living expenses. This shows them dramatically how much money is left over for fun and games, and is often a major wakeup call to many of them.

Utah talked about how they invite area businesses to be “lunch sponsors”. For \$150, the business gets their name in the newspaper announcement, in the local’s newsletter, and five minutes at the meeting to promote their business and hand out business cards.

Minnesota/Mankato has been successful in getting their name out in the public by collaborating with other groups, specifically, the YWCA’s Girls on the Run program.

Wisconsin meets over lunch hour but once a quarter they do an evening meeting to allow more networking time and good old fashioned girl talk. This also gives women who might be interested in a membership, but can’t meet at lunch, an opportunity to see if there’s a good fit.

There were other ideas floating around besides these, and I hope to be able to share more as we progress through this year. Until then.....

Paula Rue, Membership Chair

The mailing label on the back of your magazine shows your paid through date. If the date is in red it means your dues are past due and you should contact your club treasurer for amount due.

Calendar

2011

- October 14Publication copy deadline
Fall Issue of *Minnesota Business Woman*
- September 30Fall Packet Report deadline
- October 7-8Fall Meeting
AmericInn, Owatonna
- December 9Publication copy deadline
Winter Issue of *Minnesota Business Woman*

2012

- January 20Winter Packet Report deadline
- January 27-28Winter Meeting
Metro Area
- March 5Publication copy deadline
Spring Issue of *Minnesota Business Woman*
- April 17Equal Pay Day
- April 21Convention Packet Report deadline
- May 4Executive Committee Meeting
- May 4-5Annual Meeting
Sawmill Inn, Grand Rapids



MBW members at the summer national meeting held in Minneapolis July 29-30.

Front row: Anne Andreasen (Skyway of Minneapolis), Pam DeMarce (Mankato), Linda Laitla (Dala of Mora), Pat Thompson (Mankato), Judy Mechura (North Hennepin), E. Irene Theis (North Hennepin), Beth Gibson Lilja (Skyway of Minneapolis).
 Back row: Arlene Roehl (Grand Rapids), June Johnson (Grand Rapids), Faye Crane (Grand Rapids), Diane Norland (Mankato), Paula Hritz-Nobs (Grand Rapids), Paula Rue (Owatonna). Not Pictured: Wendy Ulferts (Willmar)



Minnesota Business Women
 – Working Women Working Together



Lights, Cameras and Action...

Minnesota Business Women are working women, working together and the spot LIGHT is on you. Working women, on all that you do. It is about discovery and seeing what everybody has seen and thinking what nobody has thought. It's about your innovative performances both personally and in business. As we go forth the CAMERAS are rolling as we do what we do...Doing all that we can do. By all the means we can. In all the ways we can. In all the places we can. At all the times we can. Benefiting all the people we can. This is what we strive for and this is what success is all about. Finally, perpetual motion... ACTION - plans made, goals sought, sleeves rolled up and said initiatives hard won in the field. It's of will, determination, back bone and integrity. Action is about testing your every boundary, of epiphanies, new ideas, new horizons of creativity brought to light along life's well traveled path. It's about thinking on your feet throughout the journey. Phyllis Rose once said, "The literature of women's lives is a tradition of escapees, women who have lived to tell the tale...They resist captivity. They get up and go. They seek better worlds." This, my sister, is who we as working women are, we are the Minnesota Business Women. For in our wisdom we see that it is never too late -- in fiction or life -- to revise the script. My Grandma used to say... "I have always known that at last I would take this road, but yesterday I did not know that it would be today."

LIGHTS, CAMERAS and ACTION! Things to look forward to in the year of 2011-2012:

This year our organization is going back to three state meetings. It seems like it's been awhile. But, these meetings are about networking, learning, growing and continuity of our organization. We have great things coming up this year with our speakers, break-out sessions, many educational opportunities, and celebrating what we do best will be offered through these meetings. Not to mention you!

You count for a lot, you are a part of the sum of the whole. Thus, believing in our mission, attending and coming together as we do from across our fair state gives us strength, builds upon our new horizons as a forward moving organization and gives us the bipartisan legislative clout that we are known for.

Fall Meeting: October 7/8, 2011 - Owatonna. Focus: We will be putting some proverbial meat back on our meeting's plate. We plan to do this with positive and educational opportunities to better our skill-sets both as individuals and in our professional work lives, with fun interactive group dynamics and an afternoon business meeting. Finally, writing the script and directing our Lights, Cameras and Action organization...setting the stage for our organization's future. What is EPW, could it be part of our future?

Winter Meeting: January 27/28, 2012 - Metro Area, site to be announced. Focus: Legislation, the importance thereof, and understanding the hot topics on the forefront of today's political process, and what they mean to women, families and our great state. Information will be included from the Minnesota Women's Candidate Development Coalition and the Minnesota Women's Consortium. Explore the idea of life-long learning. A short business meeting, should one be needed. We will also be fitting in a little something-something about self-nurturing, pampering...we'll just have to see what the make-up and wardrobe folks come up with...

Spring Convention: May 4/5, 2012 - Grand Rapids. We will be including multiple break-out sessions of which you can pick and choose from a variety of hot topics. Topics like business, leisure activities to arts/crafts, along with forums for new officers, etc. It's also the annual MBW awards ceremony. (A complete list of contests with entry forms coming to website soon.) As well as our annual business meeting, and so much more! Spring Convention 2012, promises to be a red carpet affair to remember!

A&A

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 after school enrichment and life skills

Call to MBW Fall Meeting — October 7-8, 2011

"For man, autumn is a time of harvest, of gathering together. For nature, it is a time of sowing, of scattering abroad." — Edwin Teale

The Minnesota Business Women's Fall Meeting will be hosted by Owatonna at the AmericInn, Owatonna, MN, Friday, October 7 and Saturday, October 8, 2011. The registration form can be found on page 7 of this publication. Registration is due September 28 with the hotel deadline being the same date. The tentative agenda can be found to the right. Please note that this is a special meeting and only those items on the agenda can be discussed or voted on. Should you have an item you would like to see on this agenda please send it to me by September 10. (This is an absolute deadline. As per the bylaws there is a specific turn-around time frame for me to get it out to all the local presidents.) Please email me at sjbubacz@msn.com, or mail to PO Box 432, Bovey, MN 55709.

I seriously and warm heartedly encourage all members of all locals to attend. These meetings are very important to our organization overall. In the very least, one-two officers/members from each local should plan on attending. Networking and keeping abreast first hand of what has been happening in the state at each local and statewide are truly important to our mission. YOU are important to our mission and the process thereof. Also, a reminder, that all members now have a vote at these meetings, it is not just the presidents...again, it is YOU. I will say it again, YOU are very important to this organization and in your role of a Minnesota Business Woman you are truly valued.

In addition, any written report can be provided for the meeting packet. Reports are due to President Elect, Pam DeMarce, by Monday, September 26, 2011. Reports should be sent email if at all possible to Pam at pam@wowzonefec.com. Or mailed to: Pam DeMarce at 11 Oriole Place, North Mankato, MN 56003-2326

Please plan on attending, it's going to be a great meeting! We have some very interesting topics/speakers coming in. We look forward to being updated by your locals in person as to what you have been accomplishing, your goals and us networking together! (And, having a good time doing so.) We hope this meeting through sharing, feeding and nurturing our minds, as individuals, friends and professionals will have you leaving with a smile on your face, in your heart, and all the wiser. We also look forward to updating you on happenings - statewide, and nationally along with our items of interest regarding Minnesota Business Women's upcoming meetings and initiatives.

Grandma used to say.... "I happen to feel that the degree of a person's intelligence is directly reflected by the number of conflicting attitudes she can bring to bear on the same topic." Grandma and Henry David Thoreau, "Be true to your work, your word, and your friend."

Susan Jordahl-Bubacz, Pres.
June Johnson, Admin. Asst.

Fall Meeting Tentative Agenda

Friday, October 7, 2011

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
4:00 am – 6:00 pm	Registration/Check-in
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Social Hour
6:00 pm	Member Recognition Dinner/Fun Night

Saturday, October 8, 2011

8:30 am – 1:30 pm	Registration/Check-in
9:30 am – noon	Training - Social Media, etc.
noon – 1:15 pm	Lunch
1:30 am – 4:00 pm	Business Session
	• Audit Report
	• EPW

Get the Word out!


Members from around the state will meet at Owatonna on Friday and Saturday, October 7th and 8th. I hope you will be there. It is a chance to meet with others and gather ideas for interesting programs.

A great way to attract people to your meetings is by bragging about your next speaker, telling about a member's promotion or any of the many things that we do for our community. We are all busy and involved. We just need to tell others, to share the fun and friendships we have found, and to talk about Minnesota Business Women.

We've all read about the person attending a seminar, or being named "employee of the month" or, well, you get the idea. The item is put there by someone just like you who wants to tell others about their organization or business. All we have to do is take action. Just Do It! It doesn't have to be perfect. The media will contact you if they have a question. So remember to include your phone number and name when submitting the item.

Save copies of the articles on new officer installation, pictures of your events, and the "bones" for pulling off that exciting event. We are women helping women to be successful. When you get back home after our conference, let your community know who attended and when your next meeting will be. The bulletin board on your local radio station will announce your next meeting and the local paper's upcoming events section should be on your regular calendar. See you soon!


June Johnson, Public Relations



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News from around the State



MANKATO BPW Heather Thielges, president

The Mankato BPW club is collaborating with two other women's organizations in the Mankato area, Zonta and YWCA to support area women through the Clothes Closet project. See recent feature in the Mankato Free Press at the web site link below. <http://mankatofreepress.com/local/x1443108059/Clothes-Closet-project-keeps-women-in-challenging-situations-looking-good>

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A good leader inspires us to have confidence in him or her. A great leader inspires us to have confidence in ourselves.

OWATONNA BW

Katie Simon, president

The Owatonna Business Women are excited for our upcoming fall events. The OBW is hosting speaker Sue Henry who will present "The Tiara Experiment" about getting out of your own way to find success. It will be held on Tuesday, September 20th at 6:30 p.m. at the Owatonna AmericInn. This event is open to the public; tickets are \$20 in advance and are available by contacting us at owatonnabusinesswomen@hotmail.com

We will also be hosting a new member recruitment event in October with plans to keep our membership of 35 growing strong. Potential members will be invited to a social hour, dinner and our monthly meeting. Finally, OBW members have been challenged to "Network-Up" and reach out to higher-ranking business contacts in their social networks as a way to achieve better results from their networking. We encourage our fellow MBW members to join us for one of our monthly meetings which are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Pizza Ranch in Owatonna from 11:30 – 1 p.m. Happy Fall from the OBW members!

BW OF GREATER GRAND RAPIDS

Susan Jordahl-Bubacz, president

Grand Rapids has been busy as usual. We have had some great meetings with some wonderful speakers. We have laughed and we have cried with some of our presenters, but all of them giving us wonderful insight and information on their various topics. Our group worked together to fill our monthly meetings calendar. This is a process, but it works great if we have one go-to person, the vice president in our case, but different members actually take different months, becoming chair for that respective month. We are looking forward to some really wonderful programs as ideas flew around the table. Our members completed a survey as to what their interests are in several different areas and this gives those of us picking a month some interesting and great topics to choose from and mould into a great program and fun evening for our members. In July we had a wonderful meeting at our newly built and a long time in the works, first ever hospice house in Grand Rapids. It is a truly beautiful facility which will be a blessing to many families once the doors open. In June, we gave out two five hundred dollar scholarships to some very deserving, non-traditional women students who are back in school. Our scholarship process involves not only our scholarship committee, we as a club pick from the final group of candidates that meet our criteria. We work hard at many things in the Grand Rapids club, but we also work hard at being inclusive and it serves us well.

Some upcoming Up-North events for Grand Rapids are: Our annual summer picnic in August. Employer of the year recruitment, National Business Women's Week and much more are on the docket.

ST. PAUL BW

Connie Hill, president

After sitting out most of 2010, St. Paul Business Women are back on the map, five members strong as of Aug. 22, 2011. Our business agenda includes reorganizing our process to fit the schedules and lifestyles of today's busy working women. One anticipated change is reducing the number of meetings per year.

We hosted a Get Acquainted open house in March, with 7 guests, two of whom joined. In May, Patty Tanji was our speaker. Our next meeting will be Sept. 26, with speaker Trish Santini, external relations director at the Guthrie Theater. Visitors are welcome, so come check us out.

Minnesota Business Women Fall Meeting — October 7-8, 2011 — AmericInn, Owatonna
Registration Form Due By September 28, 2011

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HOTEL DEADLINE: Friday, September 28, 2011

Name _____
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Please check one or more of the following if you are attending the State Convention:

Member . . . is this your 1st state meeting? _____
 State Officer: _____
 State Administrative Assistant (Year ____ / ____)
 State Parliamentarian
 Club President or _____ Club Representative
 State Committee Chair: _____
 Past State President (Year ____ / ____)
 Guest or Speaker _____

REGISTRATION FEE: \$35 \$ _____

I CANNOT ATTEND, SEND PACKET ONLY . . . \$15 \$ _____

FRIDAY:

Dinner catered by Hy-Vee - Herb roasted chicken, roast beef, baked potato, green bean almandine, garden salad, rolls, and chocolate pie. \$25 \$ _____

SATURDAY:

Lunch Assorted subs from Quiznos, chips, and cookies. \$15 \$ _____

LATE Registration Fee (AFTER , SEPT. 28, 2011) . . . \$10 \$ _____

(PLEASE NOTE: Late registrations are not guaranteed availability of meals as count must be given early to the caterers.)

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Check # _____

[Pop and bottled water will be available at \$1 each]

MAIL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MBW-Meetings • 57280 222nd St Austin, MN 55912-9172
 Contact: Days - 507-538-1663 oscarson.deborah@mayo.edu & Evenings - 507-433-6260 (Debbie Oscarson)

EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION – MBW Fall Meeting — Form Due By September 28, 2011

INVITATION TO EXHIBITORS — *An opportunity to market products and/or services to professional and business women in Minnesota.*

EXHIBIT HOURS: Saturday, October 8, 2011, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. [hours subject to change]

EXHIBIT TABLE: (one table and two chairs) **RATE: \$20.00 MBW Members only**

Name _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____
 Company _____ Check # _____
 Address _____ Phone _____

 Email _____ Fax _____
 Description of Product or Display _____

Note: Room reservations are to be made directly with AmericInn 507-455-1142

PLEASE NOTE: Exhibitors must have valid MN Tax ID Number and collect appropriate sales tax or display a tax exempt certificate. *With my signature below, I assume responsibility and liability for losses, damages, and/or claims arising out of injury to individuals or property during this conference.*

Signature _____ Date _____

VENDORS AT BPW/MN MEETINGS

Vendors who wish to sell items at MBW meetings shall:

1. Request space for selling on appropriate form made available by Meetings Planner.
2. Provide certificate of insurance.
3. Collect and submit to the State of Minnesota the appropriate sales taxes.
4. Post their sales tax number in a visible spot on their table.

POLICY STATEMENT ON EXHIBIT RENTAL REFUNDS AT BPW/MN MEETINGS

Vendors who are registered for a meeting and not able to attend may:

1. Request refund from the meetings planner no later than 7 days prior to the 1st day of the meeting to receive full refund of exhibit rental cost.
2. All other requests for refund of exhibit rental cost will be at the discretion of the executive committee.

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POSTMASTER: SEND address changes to:
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TO:

What would it take?

- C What would it take to organize *one* wine & cheese event for new members?
- C What would it take to attract *two* new members?
- C What would it take to line up *three* great programs?
- C What would it take to convince *four* members to serve on committees?
- C What would it take to make a list of *five* prospective members and invite them to a meeting?
- C What would it take to sell *six* rolls of wrapping paper and earn \$30 for scholarships?
- C What would it take to invite *seven* Girl Scouts to a meeting and show them what women in your community are accomplishing?
- C What would it take to have *eight* meetings planned out ahead of time complete with topics and confirmed speakers?
- C What would it take to build a silent auction table with *nine* items to auction off for scholarships during National Business Women's Week?
- C What would it take to invite one potential member to your meeting every month for *ten* months?

What would it take?

Linda Laitala
Past State President – Communication Chair

Dear Paula, [Hritz-Nobs, Finance Chair]

We're glad to have you and Minnesota Business Women in the Minnesota Women's Consortium network! Thank you for renewing your member dues. And please extend our appreciation to your membership for the extra donation. We look forward to keeping you connected to what's happening with women and girls in our community and beyond.

In between the Capitol Bulletin and E-Consortium Notes, stay in touch by visiting www.mnwomen.org or following us on Twitter; reading the Equality Quilt Blog or join us on Facebook. And please let us know about your group's news, events, projects, etc.

*Many thanks,
Minnesota Women's Consortium*

Visionaries Wanted

A week ago I was at a forum held by BCBSMN. There were 600 people in the room, mostly men. At my table was my friend and fellow broker Stephanie. She knew Al and introduced us. I learned Stephanie & Al were originally from Litchfield. Since we were at a table for eight and the conversation was of Litchfield I was happy to hear them reminisce about their favorite small town. Then Stephanie says to Al: "remember the BPW club in our town and all of the wonderful events and things they did?" And Al said "yes I do." Well, Anne is a past state president of BPW Minnesota. Suddenly, the entire table was looking at me. It was wonderful to hear Stephanie and Al talk about BPW at length and for me to be able to say what a wonderful organization it is; they were all so very impressed I had been a statewide President. The interesting thing was I had invited Stephanie to meetings and she couldn't attend for one reason or another but I never knew she knew so much about BPW and she had this impression set back when she was a young woman. I don't know why she never shared so many details before.

The point is we have a long strong tradition in which we have formed the lives of young women and that opportunity to continue to do that is before us if we have Visionaries willing to step forward to lead and continue our history.

Visionaries wanted...see the Nominations Chair to fulfill your destiny! Prior experience not needed.

Anne Andreasen
Nominations Chair 2011-2012
anne@a-a-insurance.com

MINNESOTA BUSINESS WOMAN

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- **ARTICLES & PHOTOS:** Submissions for the *Minnesota Business Woman* are welcome from both local organizations and individual members.
- **Articles** are subject to editing for space availability, clarity, etc.
- **Photos** are appreciated. High resolution digital photos are preferred, but regular photos may also be submitted by postal mail.
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