

Women In Leadership

Central Illinois

April 2009

A Note from Your President

Dear WIL Members,

Spring is officially here and this brings lots of annual events to Women In Leadership! The Leadership Awards will be presented in May so I hope you all submitted your applications. It is always so rewarding to recognize our own! Our plant exchange is planned for June and the Luau in July is already in the works. This month do not forget to bring items for an added event, the Salvation Army Food Drive. Thank you all for participating in the Dress for Success drive in March. I know I sure would have loved to do a little "shopping" before we carried things out!

Our attendance at WIL luncheons continues to include many guests which means your enthusiasm is carrying over to your friends and colleagues. If they have any questions about WIL that is not covered in the packet they receive, please encourage them to contact Beth Kolowski, VP of Membership, or ANY WIL Board member or maybe invite them to the next meeting. Guests can attend three meetings before joining but why would they want to wait that long to be a member?!

The Board is constantly working on improving and adding things for our members so watch for information as these things happen. We do pay attention to the surveys at the meetings (so thank you for completing them) but as always feel free to let us know what you are thinking!

April 9th is an early month meeting again, so put it on your calendar, invite your friends, and get your reservations in! And don't forget to check out our awesome web site: peoriawomeninleadership.com! The directory is now there!

Marcia
President

Be a friend, bring a friend, lead a friend to WIL!!
(As said by Katie Arnholt Kim)

Next Meeting: April 9 ~ Peoria Country Club

Speaker Information:

"Buying and Selling a Home" **Becky Peterson**

Becky Peterson is the immediate past president of the Peoria Area Association of Realtors. She has nearly 17 years of experience in this industry. Becky is a Peoria native who graduated from Richwoods High School and studied accounting in college. She serves on several local and state board committees. At the state level, Becky serves on committees for government affairs, housing opportunities and professional standards. She is the mom of two children, ages 28 and 15.

This month's luncheon topic is centered on buying and selling a home. Any member associated with this profession is welcome to bring their marketing literature to the luncheon. We will have a table reserved for such literature and it will be offered to all luncheon attendees.

Menu:

Chicken Salad and fruit with fruit pie for dessert

Fun Fact

There are more chickens than people in the world.

http://www.munising.com/fun_facts.php



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SPECIAL REMINDERS:

- Remember to leave your name badge at the registration table upon departure.
- Reservations are required for ALL meetings.
- To help avoid congestion at the registration table, please have your cash or check made out to WIL in the amount of \$20.00 (Members) or \$25.00 (Guests). Payment is expected the day of the meeting.
- Canned Food Drive for the April Luncheon
- Don't forget to "Toot Your Horn" at the luncheons

Board of Directors

President:

Marcia Cannon
mcannon@westaff.com

Immediate Past President:

Donna Cimino
dcimino@hbcpcas.com

President Elect:

Allison Vershaw
allisonvershaw@sbcglobal.net

President-Elect Presumptive:

Beth Kolowski
bkolowski@edc.h-p.org

Secretary:

Amanda Beadles
amandab@fgmarchitects.com

Treasurer:

Becky Davies
beckycdavies@marykay.com

VP/Membership:

Beth Kolowski
bkolowski@edc.h-p.org

VP/Programs:

Michelle (Shelli) Cowser
michellec@kedmep.com

VP/Public Relations:

Amanda Hahn
ahahn@hotelpermarquette.com

Asst VP Membership:

Katie Arnholt Kim
katie@horanconstruction.com

Director/Awards:

Nicole Nolte
nicole.nolte@cibbank.com

Director/Reservations:

Kathy Schaeffer
kls@ssinet.com

Director/Special Projects:

Amy Simmons
simmonsae@usa.redcross.org

Director/Monthly Luncheons

Traci Johnston
tjohnston@redcrossillinois.org

Director/Network Luncheons

Stacy Frederking
stacy.frederking@busey.com

Director/Annual Conference

Shawna Knapp
shawnak@fgmarchitects.com

New Members

Please welcome the following new members to WIL!!

Sarah Keefer – Vision Enhancement Center

Renee Dixon – Petersen Hotels

Moriah Turner – All Baby Needs Equipment Rental

New Dues Structure

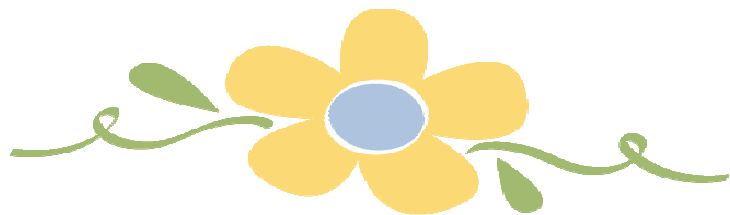
Previously a new member joining in January-June paid ½ the annual membership fee, then renewed with the rest of WIL members in July. The WIL Board has decided that a new member will pay a full year's membership (currently \$85) and their annual renewal will be in the month that they joined. If you are currently a member, your renewal will continue to be in July. If you have questions please call or email Beth Kolowski (495-5973 or bkolowski@edc.h-p.org).

Tie a Yellow Ribbon "Round The New Member's Name Badge

Remember what it was like when you were a new member of WIL? Maybe a little intimidated that everyone seemed to know everyone . . . Except you? New members now have a yellow ribbon on their name badges. Make a point to introduce yourself to them and make them feel welcome and at home.

"Spring Fling" Membership Drive

Yes...you read correctly...we're having a membership drive in April & May. We're going to keep it simple...for each guest you bring to the April and May meetings, your name will be put in a drawing for a Grand Prairie gift card. AND anyone who joins in April & May will have their name put in a drawing for a Grand Prairie gift card. So...spread the word...invite, invite, invite and you may be going shopping, shopping, shopping!



Luncheon Reservations

NEWS YOU CAN USE NOW!

We now offer a gluten free option for lunch. You will find the reservation form updated to allow for this option. Please be sure to let Kathy Schaffer know if you would like the vegetarian or gluten free option. Substitutions on the lunches or desserts are not available! Thank you!

As you know, **payment is expected the day of the meeting**. To help avoid congestion at the registration table, please have your cash or check ready and payable to WIL in the amount of \$20.00 (Members) or \$25.00 (Guests). While late reservations are accepted after noon on the Friday before our monthly meeting, please add an additional \$5.00 charge.

Cancellation policy: If you make a reservation for the luncheon and are unable to attend, cancellation must be received by noon on the Friday prior to the meeting date; if not, you are responsible for full payment of your reservation.

Name badges: Please remember to leave your name badge on the registration table upon departure. This will help ensure the badges don't get lost and that you have a badge at the next meeting. If anyone is in need of a name badge to replace a lost one, please contact Kathy Schaeffer at kls@ssinet.com. The cost is \$10.00 for replacements. If you have changed employers, there is no cost.

Guest Reservations: When making a reservation for a guest, please include the guest's company name and email address. No guest reservations will be honored unless this information is provided.

If you have any questions about the reservation/registration process, please contact Kathy Schaeffer (kls@ssinet.com).

WIL Website

Check out your WIL Website (www.peoriawomeninleadership.com). How can we make it more informative for you, our members? Please send your suggestions to Kathy Schaeffer (kls@ssinet.com). If you haven't checked out our website in awhile, please do! There are past newsletters, reservation forms, pictures and so much more!

Ask your company to add the WIL website link to their website. It's a great way to promote WIL and your active involvement in the community!

Did you forget your username and Password to get into the Member's Only Section?

If so, please email Beth Kolowski [bkolowski@edc.h-p.org]

Question and Answer

Q. What do bullet proof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers and laser printers all have in common?

A. All invented by women.

<http://www.kenlarsen.net/code/funfacts.htm>

Calendar of Events

Date: Thursday, April 9

Time: Luncheon (11:30am)

Location: Country Club of Peoria

Speaker: Becky Peterson

Topic: "Buying and Selling a House"

Special Event: Food Drive

Date: Thursday, May 14

Time: Luncheon (11:30am)

Location: Country Club of Peoria

Topic: Awards Luncheon

Date: Thursday, June 11

Time: Luncheon (11:30am)

Location: Country Club of Peoria

Speaker: Shelli Cowser/Shawna Knapp

Topic: Going Green

Special Event: Plant Exchange

Special events are subject to change

March Door Prizes & Birthday Auction

Thank you for our Door Prize donations:

Carolyn Sue Wolf	ICC	Girl Scout Fruit Slices
Jeanne Buysee	American Family	Atlas
Kathy Schaefer	Stellar Systems	Coffee mug and pen
Carol Hultgren	Brewer Financial	Flowers
Laurie Trompeter	Belcan Engineering Group	Snow globe
PJ Hagerdorn	Tastefully Simple	Drink Mix
Teresa Manzella	Confidential Onsite Paper Shredding	2 St. Pat's Day Mugs



Birthday Auction items for March 2009

Tonya Taylor handmade and crafted three Glass Cabochons for necklaces. What talent! A gift box of a beanie frog, praline nuts, tea, coffee etc. was given by **Monica Jagiella**. **Erikka Brookhart** brought a beautiful amber necklace and earrings set!

We raised \$135.00 through the auction to go directly to the Foundation.

****Attention:** With the current state of the economy, we realize that everyone is making budget cuts of some sort – whether it's condensing trips to town, car pooling, cutting back on going shopping, the list is endless. So, the WIL Board of Directors has decided that we will discontinue with the Birthday Auction for the remainder of this membership year. If you wish to still bring something to celebrate your special day, your item will be used in Door Prize drawings. We hope that you understand our decision and we wish everyone the best during this economic struggle.

WIL Scholarship Fund ~ Nominations Pending

The Women in Leadership Scholarship Fund is targeted at assisting women in the Tri-County area who are pursuing college/university, post graduate, or accreditation/certification for business management/professional or entrepreneurial education. The award is intended to defer tuition, fees, books, and other academic expenses. The amount granted for any year shall not exceed \$1,000.

The scholarship will be available to qualified women who are residents of the Illinois Tri-County area as well as being a graduate of a high school or a recipient of GED. The applicant should have motivation to accomplish career and leadership goals. Financial need will be considered only when other factors are equal among applications. The applicant should also be a non-traditional student who has been in the workforce a minimum of three years.

Money for the WIL Scholarship Fund is raised through many of our fun programs, including:

- Birthday auctions
- Toot Your Horn announcements
- Pathway to Success Conference

2009-2010 Board Members

President – Allison Vershaw

President-Elect – Beth Kolowski

Immediate Past President – Marcia Cannon

Secretary - Deb Johnson

Treasurer – Val Sinks

VP – Membership – Katie Arnholt Kim

Asst. VP - Membership – Amanda Beadles

Director - Monthly Luncheons - Traci Johnston

Director - Reservations - Kathy Schaeffer

VP - Programs - Becky Davies

Director - Awards - Nichole Nolte

VP - Public Relations – Amanda Hahn

Director - Special Projects – Cathy Thomatis

Director - Network Luncheons - Linda Martin

Director - Annual Conference - Shawna Knapp ; Also President-Elect
Presumptive

Next Role for Annual Conference – Cindy Fleming



Pathways to Success 2009

We are starting to plan for Pathways to Success Conference 2009!

We are gearing up for the planning of the 10th Anniversary of the 2009 Pathways to Success Conference that will be coming up in October.

We are excited about building on last year's great success by expanding our coverage to areas of Central Illinois such as Bloomington, Springfield, Galesburg, Champaign, and LaSalle/Peru. We will focus on bringing in an even better headline speaker and more vendors!

I hope you have begun to catch the excitement as WIL celebrates its 5th anniversary and NAWBO's 30th!

We would love to have you volunteer on the planning committee to help us realize our goals. This conference has grown bigger and better than any of us could imagine. Help us make Pathways the premier woman's conference of Central Illinois! Please contact Shawna Knapp by e-mail: shawnak@fgmarchitects.com or call: 669-0012.

***Make sure to put the conference on your calendar for
Wednesday October 21, 2009.***

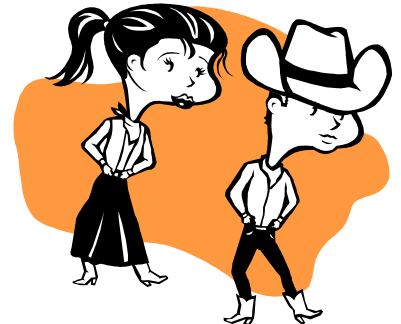
WIL Special Events

Thanks to everyone who donated clothing to our Dress for Success Clothing Drive at the March luncheon! It was a great success!



In April, we have another opportunity to pay it forward...A representative from the Salvation Army will be in attendance at our meeting. We will be collecting non-perishable food items to be donated to the Salvation Army Food Bank. So, clean out those cupboards or pick up a few extra things at the grocery store. Bring any non-perishable food items to the April 9th Luncheon!

On March 19th we had another great evening at the Stone Country Saloon! We learned 4 new dances including "Thunderfoot", "Cowboy Aerobics", "Down on the Corner" and "Applejacks"! The requests are already pouring in for another night of dance lessons! Watch your newsletters and e-mail for upcoming opportunities.



May is National Women's Health Week is May 10th through the 16th. We will have a wellness event sometime during that week. I will be sending out more information in the coming weeks!

Interesting Fact

Across the world and at all ages, women have a significantly higher risk of becoming visually impaired than men.



Happy Birthday

April Birthdays

Cindy Fleming	Apr 1
Robin Barnes	Apr 4
Linda Woods	Apr 6
Betsy Yarcho	Apr 9
Nicole Nolte	Apr 10
Laura Schoon	Apr 19
Kristen Berchtold	Apr 21
Donna Nicholson	Apr 21
Beth Kolowski	Apr 29

A special thank you to
 Sherry Carlson and
 Elizabeth Buck
 for being our greeters at the
 March luncheon!

Network Lunches

Network Luncheon Leaders have been scheduled for most of the year and we hope all members will take this opportunity to get involved! Network lunches are smaller groups that are the perfect setting to get to know each other better and exchange information and ideas. Please remember we encourage you to attend the luncheon for your group as well as any of the other luncheons scheduled.

Watch your email for the upcoming luncheon group dates and locations. Please feel free to attend more than one or any that work better for you. Monthly network luncheons are also on the WIL website calendar.

You should have received an email from your assigned luncheon leader. Please feel free to contact Stacy Frederking (stacy.frederking@busey.com or 303-1542) if you have any questions or have not been assigned to a group.

Our luncheon leaders 2008-2009 will include Stacy Frederking, Linda Martin, Linda Woods, Heather Fitzanko, Lori Boland and Kathy Schaeffer/Cathy Thomatis.

Stacy Frederking

April 15 11:45 at Cyd's in Junction City
May 19 11:45 at Kaiserhoff in Shoppes of Grand Prairie
 June 16 11:45 at Old Chicago out by Shoppes of Grand Prairie.

Linda Martin

April 17 noon at Logan's Roadhouse, East Peoria
May 15 noon at Red Lobster
June 19 noon at One World Cafe

Linda Woods

April 22 11:45 at the Mayflower Restaurant

Heather Fitzanko

April 3 - noon at Avantis N. Knoxville
May 1 - noon at Jalapenos
June 5 - noon at TGI Fridays
July 3 - noon at Panera N. Knoxville

Kathy Schaeffer/Cathy Thomatis

April 28 - 11:45 at Eamon Patricks
May 26 - 11:45 at Mings
June 23 - 11:45 at Jim's Steakhouse
July 28 - 11:45 at Rhythm Kitchen

Lori Boland—Morton

April 20 noon at Basta's