

the Connector

September 2004

A Newsletter for Members of the Professional Business Women's Association

Vol. 04/Issue 9

networking notes

PBWA: Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2004, noon to 1:30 pm
September Regular Monthly Membership Meeting
The Purple Iris at Hartwood
1409 Winchester Ave., Martinsburg, WV.
Meal Cost \$12.00/Payable to PBWA

PBWA: Thursday, September 16, 2004
8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
Shepherdstown Breakfast Networking Meeting
Shaharazade's Exotic Tea Room
141 W. German St., Shepherdstown.
Phone: 304-876-1000

PBWA: Martinsburg Lunch Networking Meeting
Canceled until further notice due to lack of participation.

PBWA: Breakfast Networking Meeting in Inwood
Canceled until further notice due to venue closing.

PBWA: Second Annual Women in Business EXPO
Wednesday, October 6, 2004, 5:30pm to 7:30 pm
Holiday Inn, Martinsburg
Free and Open to the Public

SEPTEMBER 1ST MEETING

As September is National Fall Hat Month- everyone wear or bring a hat to the meeting.

At this meeting we will be addressing the EXPO postcards to invite your customers, friends and clients to the Expo- so bring mailing labels, address book or rolodex and pens. PBWA will furnish the postcards and stamps.

MEMBERS' CORNER:

Changes for current members:

Marilyn Braithwaite and Wilma Jones
RE/MAX Success Realty
202 Viking Way
Martinsburg WV 25401
304-596-5500

New Member:

Tina Combs, Executive Director
Martinsburg-Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce
The Chamber is a non-profit volunteer business organization whose mission is to facilitate the economic progress of its members and develop a positive business and economic climate.
tina@berkeleycounty.org

NEW BREAKFAST VENUE

The September Shepherdstown breakfast will take place at Shaharazade's Exotic Tea Room, 141 W. German St. Shepherdstown. Sue Dom's new restaurant features items such as home-baked pastries and scones, many types of tea and--yes, coffee. It's located a block up the hill from the Sweet Shop (the usual venue), on the corner of Church St.

PBWA

Professional Business Women's Association

P.O. Box 2586 Martinsburg, WV 25402

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HEALTH CARE ISSUES

by Chris Lundberg

In a recent meeting with business owners, Rep. Capito talked about the Health Savings Plan passed as part of the Senior Prescription Bill. This plan is an alternative for the employee to start building a savings account that can be used to pay medical expenses.

She also said that the U.S. House passed an Associated Health Plan bill, but that the U.S. Senate has not passed the bill. This bill would allow associations to join together to approach insurance companies as a group allowing the businesses to get a lower rate on their health insurance premiums

In West Virginia, PEIA is working on a program to provide health insurance to small business owners and their employees who have not had coverage for the past 12 months. The program will not be available to self-employed persons. The program should be announced in the next months and Jerry Rouche at 304-558-6244 ext 274 is in charge of the program.

In August, the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce sent out a questionnaire to start gathering information on businesses and employees about health insurance. This data collection maybe in anticipation of any federal legislation allowing associations to put together group plans.

Tina Combs, new PBWA member, is the local Chamber Executive Director and might be a contact for more information on any plans.

THERESA HEINZ-KERRY DISCUSSES HEALTH CARE ISSUES

by Elise Woods

On Tuesday, August 24 Theresa Heinz Kerry came to City Hospital in Martinsburg to meet with women who are concerned about health care issues. I was fortunate enough to be asked to appear on a panel with her and three other local women. Sharon Rockefeller moderated the discussion. I represented small business owners who are unable to provide health insurance for themselves and their employees. The other panelists were a young, single, working mother with 3 children who has a pre-cancerous condition and no health insurance; a doctor from WVU who works with the Jefferson County Health Department in their clinics; and a woman who has an adult daughter who has multiple debilitating health problems.

Ms Heinz Kerry spoke of her desire to help all Americans create a culture of wellness instead of our current system of merely reacting

to illness. She spoke of John Kerry's plan for a catastrophic health care plan that would be available to everyone without health insurance. The plan includes a tax deduction for 50% of the premiums in order to make it affordable.

Ms. Heinz Kerry shared her experience of growing up in Mozambique and watching her doctor father treat local people at their country home. She learned from him the benefits of preventative health care for conditions such as dysentery and typhoid. She still believes that prevention is the key to our health care crisis in this country. Heinz Kerry recently met with many farmers in Iowa which crystallized for her the picture of the plight of small business owners who cannot afford health care. She talked to many of them who are barely getting by and have no extra money for health insurance.

GETTING TO KNOW THE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Ginger Lewis, Vice-President Marketing, CoxHollida LLP

I would like to run for Management Council of PBWA to help further the organization and assist its members with the marketing and development of their successful businesses. I am anxious to work with other business women in the community and use my education and experience to grow the organization.

Dawn Newland, State Farm Agent

I have been a member of PBWA since 1997, when I moved to the Martinsburg area as a State Farm agent. Previously a Maryland resident, and a Florida resident before that, I didn't know many people here, especially fellow business women. After taking advantage of all the club had to offer as a member for 6 years, I stepped forward as a MC candidate in 2004. I've had the good fortune this year to work with the departing MC members, Chris, Jen & Karen, and they have taught me much about the inner workings of our organization. I'd like to continue their good work in 2005.

Donna Reeves, Reeves Enterprises

Why I want to run for management counsel, by Donna Reeves
Because it is my turn.

Nancy Streeter and Chris Lundberg are looking for 2 more golfers to complete a foursome for the 8th Annual American Cancer Society Fall Classic, Sept. 17th at Cress Creek, starting at 12:30 pm. Call Chris at 260-4382 if you are interested.

OOPS!!

In last month's "Getting to Know You" article about Nan Stevens, some inaccuracies were printed. We apologize to Nan for any inconvenience and have printed the corrections here:

Nan works for the West Virginia Housing Development Fund, not the West Virginia Housing Management Fund and graduated from West Virginia University in 1978, not 1980. She has also completed graduate level course work through West Virginia University. Nan wrote grants and managed projects for the Region 8 Planning and Development Council, not the National Southbranch Valley Multiple Resource Area. Much of Nan's free time is taken up by volunteer work on boards such as Main Street Martinsburg (not Martinsburg Main Street) and Region IX Planning and Development Council (not Region IX Planners). She also serves on the Leadership Berkeley Committee (not Leadership Berkeley County).

CONGRATS TO PBWA MEMBERS!

DIANE MICKELSON WINS PRESS AWARD

Diane Mickelson recently won a third place award from the West Virginia Press Association for her column, "Dinamic Fitness," that appears in The Journal's Living section every other Monday. The award was in the Division 2 category, represented by newspapers in the second highest circulation category statewide.

Diane has been freelancing for The Journal for over seven years and her columns are always full of great information on the wellness topics of exercise, nutrition and stress management.

Watch The Journal for her column and the columns of three other PBWA members--Chris Lundberg on business, Su Carroll in Neighbors and Ruth Olean Myers' travel column.

SU CARROLL WINS TWO GOLD MEDALS

Congratulations to **Su Carroll**- she swan her way to 2 gold medals in the 25m and 50m swims at the Senior Veterans Olympics in Fresno, California. She qualifies for the Senior Olympics next year in Pittsburgh.

LESLIE SEE PROMOTED TO MARKETING DIRECTOR

Congratulations to **Leslie See**! She has been promoted to Director of Marketing with Valley College. This promotion occurred on July 19, her fifth anniversary with the company. She now will be traveling between the three campuses of Martinsburg, Beckley, and Princeton developing and promoting the college. "I cannot express my excitement for this new opportunity." Leslie went on to add, "I am also deeply touched by all the letters of support I have received by many members of PBWA. This organization has not only provided me with wonderful contacts but also dear friends."

Leslie served on Management Council 2001- 2003 and has been a PBWA member since 1999.

REGISTER TO VOTE

President Betty C Spence, Ph. D., of the National Association of Female Executives says:

"If you haven't registered to vote, do it today at www.nafe.com, where you'll find a voter registration link and can print every state's form and then mail it. Pleas join NAFE in our voter registration drive. Ask people you know--colleagues, employees, friends, the waiter in the coffee shop--if they're registered, and if not send them to the web site. Or print the form for them. Tell people who've moved or didn't vote in the last election to re-register. Remind the reluctant of where women can't vote--like Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan--and how lucky we are.

Elected women--be it local, state, or national--bring women's brains, awareness of family issues and women's business issues, as well as health. . . . women fight for our issues because they are part of their lives."

*From The 3rd Quarter issue of NAFE Magazine Pg. 3
submitted by Diane Mickelson, NAFE member*

JOYCE ERVIN ON BILLBOARD

As you travel up Route 11 North in Falling Waters be sure to look to your right for the billboard with Joyce Ervin on it.

According to PromoArt (www.promomaer.com), the following days/events are coming up to celebrate:

September is :

Be Kind to Editors and Writers Month;
Fall Hat Month;
National Coupon Month;
National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month;
Self-Improvement Month;
Shameless Promotion Month; and
Subliminal Marketing Month.

Sept. 5th- Is Be Late For Something Day;
Sept. 15-Oct 15 is National Hispanic Heritage Month;
Sept. 19-25- National Dog Week;
Sept. 22- American Business Women's Day;
Sept. 27- World Tourism Day; and
Sept. 29- National Women's Health & Fitness Day.

Planning ahead for October:
National Breast Cancer Awareness Month; with:
Oct. 3-9 is Get Organized Week;
Oct. 11-17 is National Networking Week; and
Oct. 16 is World Food Day.

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Connecting with *The Connector*

To have your news items included in the next issue of *The Connector*, enclose them in the body of an e-mail or a Microsoft Word attachment and send by the **twentieth of the month** to Jen Rolston at jen@edendesignco.com

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Management Council

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