

Connections

Events Calendar

OCTOBER 6, 2020

WEBINAR 5:30 – 6:30 PM
 SPOTTING LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL
 KNOWING THE BEST WAY TO
 HELP: MENTORING AND MORE
 REGISTER:

toni@peermangroup.com

OCTOBER 18-24, 2020

NATIONAL BUSINESS WOMEN'S
 WEEK

NOVEMBER 3, 2020

ELECTION DAY

NOVEMBER 11, 2020

VETERAN'S DAY

Celebrate!

October 18-24, 2020



The idea for a National Business Women's Week (NBWW) originated with the Executive Secretary of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Emma Dot Partridge. National BPW President Lena Madesin Phillips opened the 1928 first annual observance of NBWW week with a nationally broadcast speech stating that the purpose of the week was "to focus public attention upon a better business woman for a better business world." Over the course of many years, **NBWW has grown into a nationwide salute to all workingwomen.**

Since its inception, NBWW has been celebrated by BPW Iowa members in their local communities. NBWW is a great opportunity to recognize and highlight the progress women have made in their work lives. It's an opportunity to call attention to the leadership of working women and the contributions of local women entrepreneurs.

The 2020 Pandemic and its economic consequences have had devastating effect on small business. By some estimates, over 100,000 small businesses nationwide have closed their doors forever and many others are barely surviving. According to the *2020 Women in the Workplace* report by LeanIn.Org and McKinsey & Co., women in business

WHAT'S INSIDE:

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- Choices – Nov. 3
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- Women's Suffrage and Defending Democracy – Doris Kelley, Chair 19th Amendment Centennial Committee
- Committee Chair Contact Info

have been affected even more than men. Let's make the support and recognition of women-owned small businesses in our communities a priority during NBWW.

What can we do? Look for opportunities to shop small business, utilize local service providers and patronize local restaurants without jeopardizing your health. Check to see if the business has drive through, curbside service, online ordering, free delivery, etc. Consider buying gift certificates/cards for future use. If you purchase a product or service from a local business and feel they've gone the extra mile to keep you safe and healthy, tell your friends and neighbors or give them a great review on Yelp, Google, Facebook, etc.

BPW local organizations (LO) can identify and "feature" women owned local businesses in social media NBWW posts. Invite local businesswomen to October LO meetings (face to face or virtual) to network. Consider "gifting" a local businesswoman with a BPW membership.

BPW Iowa's NBWW objectives:

- Recognize the achievements of business and professional women
- Publicize the mission and objectives of BPW Iowa as they relate to working women in all stages of their work lives.

Cathy Hines

BPW Iowa President

cathyh2032@msn.com



ELECTION
DAY
NOV 3

With elections coming up, I hope everyone has been paying attention to the multitude of choices. With corona virus concerns, absentee ballots will be used heavily across America. If mailing ballots, please mail at least a week early. Voting starts Oct. 5 in Iowa. If voting in person, be aware there may be waiting lines. Your ID will be required. Be sure to protect your health.

One important choice for many BPW members is whether to support the possible dismantling of social security and Medicare. Another issue to consider is women's reproductive rights. And let's not forget, we can make a choice to maintain women in Iowa's leadership roles.

Please listen to candidates and learn what they support. However you choose to vote, just remember that voting is so important. Don't take it for granted. Remember that we are celebrating 100 years of women voting!

"Voting is the most basic right of a citizen. The most fundamental right and obligation is to participate in choosing the people who will make laws of our country." — Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Cindy Paulsen
Legislative Issues

DO YOU? HAVE YOU? WILL YOU?

DO YOU ever order anything from Amazon? If the answer is “yes”, HAVE YOU gone into the Smiles option and put “**Iowa Business and Professional Women Foundation**” into the section that indicates a percentage of your purchases will go to your designated non-profit?

If you have, “Thank You”. The Foundation does receive some money from Amazon from the people who have taken the few minutes to fill in this line. If you have not yet done so, WILL YOU take the time to make a difference in someone’s life? I heard someone say, “Well, I don’t buy that much, so my little bit won’t help!” What if everyone thought that and did nothing! A penny isn’t much by itself, but a bunch of pennies can and will make a difference!

DO YOU have relatives and friends who order from Amazon? HAVE YOU encouraged them to designate Iowa Business and Professional Women Foundation as the recipient of this money? If you haven’t yet, WILL YOU?

Janice Brown
Past President
Iowa Business and Professional Women Foundation

Nov. 3rd General Election Undecided voter?



Go to www.vote411.org, a voter’s guide provided by the League of Women Voters.

Enter your residence address to learn about the candidates on YOUR BALLOT. See the races. Compare candidates side-by-side and read their views on the important issues in their own words.

Note: The League does not support or oppose any candidate or party.



**RUTH
BADER
GINSBURG**
(RBG)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg (RBG) was a petite woman who held HUGE ideas to the fire with determination by asking not “why”, but “why not?”

When RBG was growing up, her parents insisted the money should go to her brother’s college education, although he was less qualified. The day before RBG graduated as high school valedictorian, her mother was buried, thus eliminating RBG’s speech.

At Cornell Univ, she again was the top of her class in 1954 but put education on hold to marry and start a family. Soon her husband was off for military service, putting RBG’s education on hold again. Finally enrolling in Harvard as only 1 of 9 women in a class of 500, she was scolded for “taking a man’s place.” Graduating first in her class at Columbia Law School, she still had to fight to find employment, with 3 strikes against her. First, she was a WOMAN, secondly, she was a JEW, and she had a young CHILD.

Through sheer determination and ability, she eventually was chosen by President Clinton to serve on the Supreme Court, where she fought hard against gender discrimination. If you have a credit card in your name, your own credit history, leased an apartment, bought your own property, consented to your own medical treatment, or played sports in school, you can thank RBG!

Her legacy as a women’s rights advocate will live on!

Cindy Paulsen

IBPWF Update

The Iowa Business and Professional Women Foundation met via conference call Sept. 28th for the annual meeting. Here are the highlights of the meeting:

- ✓ Elected/Reelected to 3 year terms:
Sue Muri; DiAnne Lerud-Chubb; Lynette Fitzgerald;
Laurine Price; Marilyn Lihs
- ✓ Elected officers for 2020-2021:
President: Rose Lorenz
Vice President: Aurelia Klink
Secretary/Treasurer: Charla Schmidt
- ✓ Approved the Financial Statement which included some income from Amazon, as well as member donations
- ✓ Approved the budget for the following year with three scholarships funded, instead of our usual five, based on income received thus far
- ✓ Discussed fund-raising ideas and opportunities.

The officers and the trustees thank all the members who continue to support our purpose and goals. Thank You for your continued support!

Janice Brown

Greetings BPW/Iowa,

As I keep finding out I can still learn. Thanks to my friend Debbie Leistad, we gathered 8 Atlantic BPW members, 2 first timers to the virtual BPW/ Iowa Annual meeting. Thank you, Cathy, for all you did to get this organized and learn for this event.

As we go forward, let us not forget our wonderful trailblazer and what she did for women — RBG! AND, get out to vote to honor our ancestors for all they did so we have that right. AND how important it is especially at this election.

One more, my heart is also heavy with the passing of Helen Reddy. I was in my teens when her hit song, “I am Woman, Hear me roar”, became popular. That song hit my heart and little did I know how being in high school at the time, that shaped my life.

Jacque Wickey
BPW/ Iowa Registration Chair

Symptom comparison: COVID-19 vs. flu vs. cold

Symptom	COVID-19	Flu	Cold
FEVER	Often	Often	Rare
COUGH	Often	Often	Rare
SHORTNESS OF BREATH	Often	Rare	Rare
FATIGUE	Often	Often	Sometimes
BODY ACHES	Sometimes	Often	Often
HEADACHE	Sometimes	Often	Rare
SORE THROAT	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often
DIARRHEA/GI	Sometimes	Sometimes	Rare
STUFFY NOSE	Rare	Sometimes	Often
SNEEZING	Rare	Rare	Often

Source: Yale New Haven Health

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND DEFENDING DEMOCRACY: HARD WON – NOT DONE



Doris Kelley

Prior to ratification of the 19th Amendment on Aug. 18, 1920 and its formal certification on Aug. 26, 1920, many small steps eventually led to suffrage (women's right to vote). It all started on June 12, 1840 when Lucreita Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lady Byron tried to attend the World Anti-Slavery Convention, though the invitation was only extended to "gentlemen."

The women were barred from attending and incensed that females were excluded from participating in any meeting. During that time period American women were deprived of legal rights in virtually all dimensions of their lives; excluded from college, wages belonged to husbands, couldn't own property and custody of children went to spouse in dissolution of marriage.

Eight years later in July of 1848, Mott and Stanton held a public protest meeting in Seneca Falls, NY, noted in history books as the official start of the American women's suffrage movement. Between 1848 and 1920 – 72 long years – mockery, ridicule, beatings, arrests and imprisonment followed the suffragists in their fight to earn the right to vote.

Opposition, especially from virtually all male legislators in all states, was intense. Women's active role in the World War I industrial preparedness caused anti-suffragist President Woodrow Wilson to change his mind and announce in 1918 women's contribution during WWI had earned them the right to vote.

The theme of Iowa's 19th Amendment Centennial Commemoration is "Hard Won – Not Done." The 'Hard Won' element is in recognition of the 72 year – if not longer – fight to garner equal representation at the ballot box and in positions of leadership in government, business and industry. Passage of the Equal Pay Act and Family and Medical Leave Act are other important milestones in advancing the position of women.

But, as witnessed by continual sexual harassment, spousal abuse, different legal rights for men and women, distinct societal expectations, women holding a minority of elected positions at city council, school board, county board, state legislature and U.S. Congress, minority representation of female corporate board of directors, female minority as business CEO's, women earning about 80% of men's pay in similar positions and America ranking 53rd on the Global Gender Gap Index, the "Not Done" portion of Iowa's 100-year commemoration is legitimate.

As noted in the August 1-2, 2020 issue of *The Wall Street Journal*, the 19th Amendment was really just the start to extend, protect and defend democracy. One hundred years later – if not 172 years – women stand in the forefront to achieve greater diversity and equal rights.

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WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND DEFENDING DEMOCRACY CONT.

Several Iowans championed the suffrage movement. The most prominent was Charles City native Carrie Chapman Catt (1859-1947), who created the “Winning Plan” in 1916 to gain support and eventual ratification of the 19th Amendment. Catt also founded the League of Women Voters in 1920, which continues to this day -- 100 years later -- a non-partisan grassroots organization who believes in the power of their male and female members to help create a more perfect democracy.

Cameo profiles of 22 Iowa women (7 Black and 15 white) who were instrumental in Iowa’s suffrage movement, can be found at <https://19th-Amendment-Centennial.org> under the heading *Profiles of Courage and Persistence*. The stories are a must read to fully comprehend their dedication to Iowa being the fourth state to ratify the 19th Amendment (July 2, 1919).

The narrative of the United States has been one of constantly seeking to perfect an imperfect democracy. Those who engage in the process of defending democracy, whether it was in 1848 or up to and including 2020, know – firsthand – the task is, in and of itself, Hard Won – Not Done.

Doris Kelley

Chair - Iowa’s 19th Amendment Centennial Commemoration Committee



State Committee Chairs 2020—2021

<p><u>BUDGET AND FINANCE</u> Kristie Konz 2360 State Highway 48 Red Oak, IA 51566-9418 712-623-2806 (H) 712-621-0242 (C) wkkonz51@hotmail.com</p>	<p><u>COMMUNICATION</u> Kat Zeglen 102 S Adams St Olds, IA 52647 319-601-1980 kzeglen838@gmail.com</p>
<p><u>LEGISLATION/WOMEN'S ISSUES</u> Cindy Paulsen 1609 S. Market St. Oskaloosa, IA 52577 641-673-6408 (H) cindypa@mahaska.org</p>	<p><u>MEMBERSHIP</u> Lisa Ambrose 912 Western Ave Waterloo, IA 50702 319-486-0170 lisaambrose1969@gmail.com</p>
<p><u>GENERAL CHAIR</u> Debbie Leistad 1605 E. 14th St #8 Atlantic, IA 50022 712-249-1480 (C) dleistad@aol.com</p>	<p><u>BYLAWS</u> Janet Freytag 1130 Maplecrest Dr Marion, IA 52302 319-377-3530 olhsbn1@outlook.com</p>
<p><u>FEDERATION MANUAL/ RESOURCE GUIDE</u> Susan Foster 300 E. Nishna Road Shenandoah, IA 51601 712-246-1706 (H) sdfoster@mchsi.com</p>	<p><u>STATE NOMINATING</u> Lynette Fitzgerald 513 Gilbertville Rd Elk Run Heights, IA 319 415-6779(C) 319 233-8476(W) fitzgeraldlynette62@gmail.com</p>
<p><u>REGISTRATION CHAIR</u> Jacquie Wickey 700 E 5th St Atlantic, IA 50022 712-243-4671 (H) jacquewick54@gmail.com</p>	