

Connections

Events Calendar

MAY 12, 2019
MOTHER'S DAY

MAY 18, 2019
ARMED FORCES DAY

MAY 27, 2019
MEMORIAL DAY

WHAT'S INSIDE:

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Brain Teaser...

Fourteen kids in a class are girls. Eight of the kids wear red shirts. Two of the kids are neither girls nor wear red shirts. If five of the kids are girls who wear red shirts, how many kids are in the class?

(Answer page 5)

2019 BPW Iowa Annual Conference Highlights

"Collectively we are better together!"

The conference began Friday evening, April 26, 2019, with the banquet, followed by entertainment by a stringed instrument group from Roosevelt High School. The evening concluded with the Iowa BPW Foundation live auction fundraiser.

Our business meeting began Saturday morning, April 27, 2019, with State President Lynette Fitzgerald presiding. The Collect, Pledge and introductions were followed by "Moments of Reflection" for deceased members Dixie Lair of Humboldt and Ellen Kentfield of Oskaloosa.

Our featured speaker, Vanessa McNeal, MSW gave us a very informative presentation on sex trafficking in Iowa. She most recently directed the documentary "Gridshock" about the topic. Her message was to look for the absence of "normal." She called on us to take four actions: see something, say something; hold men accountable; believe survivors and educate!

The Iowa BPW Foundation hosted the annual scholarship awards luncheon. Five very deserving women received scholarships.

Hailey Workman, Volunteer Toolkit Manager, for GSUSA (Girl Scouts) talked about some of the programs Girl Scouts offer, including G. I. R. L., which means Go-getter, Innovator, Risk taker, and Leader. They encourage girls to Step Up, Pick Up, and Move Forward. President Fitzgerald presented Ms. Workman a \$100 check for Girl Scouts on behalf of BPW/Iowa.

Charla Schmid, substituting for Nominations Chair Cindy Gleason, presented the following slate of 2019 – 2020 officers: President Catherine Hines; Secretary Rosalyn (Rose) Lorenz; and Treasurer Kristie Konz. There

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was no candidate for Vice President, nor was anyone nominated from the floor. The presented slate was unanimously elected.

BPW Iowa 2019-2020 Legislative Platform, Strategic Plan and Budget were all adopted as presented.

There were five first time attendees: Laurine Price, Atlantic; Kimberly Johnson-Herbst, Cedar Falls; Deniene Kneeland, Cedar Falls; Karen Lund, Humboldt; and Lisa Ambrose, Waterloo.

The proposed state dues increase to \$50 for Members of a Local (MOL) to match that paid by Members at Large (MAL) and all Student Members (SMOL and SMAL) to \$25, effective June 1, 2019, passed.

Cathy Hines presented the BPW Iowa membership’s gift to outgoing President Lynette Fitzgerald: BPW word art, Deep Sea Sand Art and a donation to Iowa BPW Foundation in honor of Lynette.

Tentative dates for next year’s Annual Conference are April 24 and 25, 2020.

Susan Foster
Secretary

2019 CONFERENCE FEEDBACK SUMMARY

The feedback from our April 26-27 Conference was positive. Respondents were asked to rate each aspect of the conference on a scale of 1 to 5 with **5 being excellent**. Here are a few key items:

	<u>Average Score</u>
Sex Trafficking Is Real – Vanessa McNeal	4.9
Business Meeting	4.4
The Girls Scout Impact – Hailey Workman	4.5
Overall Value of Attending this Meeting	4.9

If you would like to see the entire feedback summary, email Cathy at cathyh2032@msn.com.

Legislature Review

Iowa lawmakers ended the 2019 session, a 15-week session, on April 27, 2019. Here’s a brief overview:

- Restoring felon voting rights didn’t pass, but sports betting did.
- Property tax increases over 2% will require a public vote passing by 2/3 majority.
- Solar panels will not require a new monthly fee that Mid-American Energy wanted.
- Thousands of Medicaid recipients will not have to work to keep benefits.
- Stricter penalties for animal abuse did not pass.
- Amending the IA Constitution to declare no abortion rights has failed.
- A constitutional amendment for people to keep and bear arms passed but needs a second go-round before going to public vote
- A bill proposing elimination of permits to own or purchase guns failed.

An attempt to expand several forms of birth control to adult women without first going to a clinic has failed, but Gov Reynolds wants to work with US Sen Ernst to go ahead with a federal version of this later.

Cindy Paulsen
Women’s Issues/ Legislation

“You are never too old to set another goal or dream a new dream.”
C.S. Lewis

Iowa Business and Professional Women's Foundation, Inc.

A huge "Thank You" to all of the BPW/Iowa members who participated in the live and silent auctions at our Annual BPW/Iowa Conference! There were several of you who sent a donation even though you weren't able to attend the conference this year. Thank You for your contribution. The total dollars raised and collected at the Annual Conference was \$2,338.00. What an amazing amount of money! You are all very generous women.

To all the members who were not able to participate at the Annual Conference I am reaching out to you and asking for your continued support. The Foundation gives five (5) \$1,000 Scholarships each year and we need your help to reach the \$5,000 goal. No amount is too small or too large! Please consider giving to Iowa Business and Professional Women's Foundation, Inc.

All five scholarship winners for 2019 attended the luncheon with their guests. The 2019 Scholarship Recipients are:

- Sarah Elizabeth Becker – Atlantic, Iowa, Upper Iowa University of Des Moines
- Janelle Lala – Des Moines, Iowa, Des Moines University
- Angela J. Becker – Kingsley, Iowa, Morningside College
- Jessica Palmer – Akron, Iowa, St. Luke's College
- Whitney L. Dean – Sioux City, Iowa, Morningside College

Janice Brown, President
Charla Schmid, Secretary-Treasurer

The Strength of Sisters. The "POWER" of Community

Do you feel particularly blessed and called to be a blessing? Participate in our WOMEN "POWER" for Change campaign!

Help us reach our 2019-2020 goal of \$5000.00 for scholarships!



Women "POWER" for Change!

- Passionate Woman \$20-
- Outstanding Woman \$50-
- Warrior Woman \$100-
- Empowered Woman \$250-
- Radical Woman \$1,000-

Send your check to: IOWA BPW Foundation, c/o Charla Schmid, Treasurer 1890 215th St., Red Oak, Iowa 51566-6013

Questions? Please email Janice Brown, jlbrown@mchsi.com or Charla Schmid, charla_schmid@hotmail.com

SEX TRAFFICKING SECRETS

Annual Meeting speaker, Vanessa McNeal, shocked us with her statistics of how prevalent the sex trade is, even here in Iowa! Victims are often forced into the sex trade by men and women who themselves may have been forced into it, thus perpetuating it.

Traveling business men are the most common users, and they usually are married with children! Teenagers and younger are the biggest targets. Sometimes even babies are sold knowingly by parents who need cash.

How many times can a sex trafficked worker be resold? Possibly thousands of times! How much money can be made? Millions and millions of dollars!

As long as there is a demand, there will always be people willing to buy and people willing to sell. But the necessary third person, the actual trafficking victim, is a key part of the equation. Sometimes this third person may even be totally unaware that “not everyone’s father, uncle, grandfather, neighbor, etc. does this and this isn’t normal?” If groomed from an early age by a family member, some victims just don’t know what normal relationships consist of.

Today’s social media has made buying and selling a thing of ease and often times untraceable.

For more info, watch Vanessa’s documentary, “**Gridshock**”, on internet and at selected locations across Iowa, not yet in theaters. You’ll be shocked!

Cindy Paulsen

Women’s Issues

Empower Girls through Sports



Do you have a young, impressionable girl in your life (daughter, niece, cousin, grandchild, child you mentor, etc.)? Encouraging her to participate in sports builds physical and emotional health, helps develop teamwork and builds her self-esteem and confidence.

Show your support:

- Encourage her participation by providing transportation to practice/events, supply needed equipment and carve time from your schedule to attend frequently when she plays.
- Focus on fun. Encourage her to try new sports until she finds one she enjoys.
- Avoid comments about her physical size, shape or appearance.
- Encourage her to look for active female role models. Perhaps watch sporting events together and/or provide books about female athletes.

Welcome New Members!

Cedar Falls

Melinda Doyle

mjmdoyle@cfu.net

Member At Large

Melissa Gesing

melissa@redgoosesolutions.com

Print copies of the 2018-2019 **Federation Manuals** & 2019 **BPW Iowa Resource Guides** are available for purchase.

The *Federation Manuals* are priced at \$7 each and The *Resource Guides* are \$10 each.

If interested, please contact Cathy Hines cathyh2032@msn.com or 319 235-6655.

Dazzle of Zebras

Most know a group of lions is called a pride, but did you know a group of zebras is called a dazzle? Some collective nouns for animals are especially apt and interesting.

Here a few others:

- Parliament of owls
- Pandemonium of parrots
- Coalition of cheetahs
- Journey of giraffes
- Bloat of hippos
- Sloth of bears
- Crash of rhinos



A group of women, the *Pasadena Celebrates 2020*, is planning a victory celebration honoring women winning the vote, one hundred years ago. And what could be a better day for the first national celebration than January 1, 2020?

In keeping with our history, we are building a glorious float that will appear in the 2020 Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, CA. The theme is *Years of Hope, Years of Courage* and portrays the courage, hope and persistence that was required to be victorious after a 72-year struggle for women’s equality and justice.

Learn more at www.pasadenacelebrates2020.org.

Learn from the past, live in the now and be optimistic about the future.

— Anonymous

Brain Teaser Answer: There are 19 kids in the class.