

August 2011

Our Slant

MEMBERSHIP MEETING PROGRAM, AUGUST 17th

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN CONGRATULATE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Business & Professional Women of Nevada County happily announce the winners of their 2011 Women Helping Women scholarships. This year, three women will receive \$1100 each toward furthering their education. They are Justine Chapman, studying to be an elder care nurse at Sierra College, Victoria L. Doris, a child advocate studying Intentional Teaching and conflict resolution at Sacramento State University, and Laura Schumacher, studying to be a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit Nurse at Sierra College. This was a challenging decision process this year as there were so many fine candidates. We encourage those who did not receive scholarships to reapply next year.

Look forward to an exciting, moving and inspirational program on Wednesday, August 17 to celebrate and support the educational goals of the recipients! Each will read her winning essay and speak about her plans for the future. Plan now to attend this heartwarming evening as we honor Justine, Victoria and Laura at the Holbrooke Hotel. Social/networking hour begins at 5:30 PM; dinner is at 6 PM. Cost is \$22. Dinner reservations must be made by Sunday, August 14, either from our website's PayPal link (http://bpwnevadacounty.org), or by contacting our Dinner Liaison, Kim Wydra at 432-2591 or 478-8383, or kim@deltahl.com.

Founded in 1997, the Women Helping Women Scholarship helps with tuition, books, childcare or other needed services or supplies that support a return to school by a woman 25 or older. The award makes a significant difference to women seeking to improve their marketability in the workplace by continuing their education.

The winning applicants displayed realistic goals, ability and aptitude, ambition, motivation and financial need. We thank BPW members, friends and the community at large for their generous donations this year. It makes all the difference. Women Helping Women Scholarship Fund is a 501c(3) nonprofit arm of BPWNC so all contributions are tax deductible. Business & Professional Women of Nevada County are proud to congratulate their 2011 recipients and wish them every success.





Charlotte Cammon, Education Fund Board member, presents award to 2010 Scholarship winner Helena McDaniel (on left)



August 2011

2011-2012 BPVV-NC OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Executive Committee 2011-2012

President Robin Mallery
President-Elect Rosemary Metrailer
Vice President Phyllis Orzalli
Treasurer Suzanne Doyle
Secretary Gail Parle
Parliamentarian Sharon Rose

Board of Directors: Above officers plus the following Standing Committees

Advocacy/Community Partnership

Local:Rachelle BloksbergState:Elaine SierraNational:Judy McCarrick

Education Fund: Lynn Wenzel

Finance: Rosemary Metrailer
Membership: Karin Kleinhans

Programs: Susan Rogers/Carla Bonetti

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Web/Slant:Phyllis OrzalliPrint:Sandra RockmanBroadcast:Lynn WenzelFacebook:Rachelle Bloksberg

Special Committees

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Bylaws/Standing Rules: Geri Bergen
Dinner Liaison: Kim Wydra
Fiscal Review: Bev Lyons
Historian: Gail Parle
Mentoring: Freddy Zylstra

Nominations/Board Development: Pat Barrentine

Photographer: Mistie Van Noort
Wine Steward: Dawn Narvaez
WTHC: Robin Mallery/
Freddy Zylstra

(Working Towards a Healthy Community) **WHW Scholarship:** Judy McCarrick

BPW HISTORY

The National Federation of Business & Professional Women (BPW/USA) was organized in July 1919 to promote the interests of business and professional women regardless of industry or position. BPW demonstrates the true strength and diversity of America's female workforce. It is an organization that attracts individuals of every age, religion, race, political persuasion and socioeconomic background. It is an organization whose diversity is superseded only by its unity of purpose. It is an alliance of individuals dedicated to improving the professional, personal, economic and educational outlook for women. Its members actively seek:

- to gain political and economic equity for women
- to promote legislation that benefits all women
- to participate in programs that address women's concerns
- to benefit from personal and professional development
- to support women as business, community, and elected leaders
- to support women's reproductive rights

Membership is open to any individual who supports our goals and legislation platform. BPW needs you and you need BPW! We believe professionalism is an attitude which anyone can bring to their job, regardless of classification or salary level.

MISSION STATEMENT & OBJECTIVES

The mission of the Business & Professional Women of Nevada County is to support and promote equity for women in all aspects of their lives.

The objectives of the Business & Professional Women of Nevada County are:

- To promote personal and professional development for working women.
- To advocate on National, State, and Local legislative issues of importance to working women.
- To support the California Commission on the Status of Women.
- To promote the education of our members and the community in matters of women's equality as it relates to economics, employment, health, education, housing, civil rights, and other issues of equal opportunity.

President's Message "Heartfelt Inspiration"

It's summertime, and the Livin' is Easy...

Is it? Easy, I mean. Surely we all acknowledge that we're in the midst of summer; and just how is the livin'?

Complicated. Unbalanced. Tenuous. Disturbing. Unfair. Those adjectives describe one perspective, OR there are these words, the ones I choose to embrace, that express my perspective: Acceptance. Flexibility. Learning. Wonder. Observing. Joy. Giving. Forgiveness. Gratitude. Ah, just writing these words uplift me... (and, in future articles, I will gladly share my professional insight into Joy and Gratitude as healthful emotional choices).

So no, I am not naïve. I know that there are crazy and worrisome events occurring in our lives, many of which we have limited ability to exert control over. Headlines blare sad stories, unjust treatment of our fellow humankind is common occurrence, our government is riddled with dishonesty and plain, old ridiculous decision-making, and yes, times are tough financially. Jobs are being lost, benefits are diminishing, and prices are creeping up. We could easily succumb to gloom and doom. We could allow helplessness and hopelessness to become our prevailing response to worldly events. OR we could choose to ratchet down our view of the world, and focus on the opportunity to make a difference locally.

Nevada County offers so many ways to get involved, especially from a woman's point of view. Business & Professional Women of Nevada County is an organization in which members are actively creating a better world – not only within our own club but also as members of the many other organizations within our community.

Want to make a difference in a woman's right to choice in regards to reproductive health-care? Join Citizens For Choice (http://www.citizensforchoice.org). Are you interested in local and regional political action? Check out the League for Women Voters, (http://www.lwvwnc.org/). Does the issue of sustainability and stewarding our natural resources intrigue you?

The folks at the A.P.P.L.E Center (http://applecenter.org) would welcome your involvement. Are you an extraordinary woman (of course you are!) and/or would you like to surround yourself with more of the same? SeeJaneDo (http://www.seejanedo.com) is the place for you to engage and become active. And if you would like to add to the collective and wise voice of Gather the Women, NC (http://gatherthewomennc.ning.com), you will be heard in an empowering and nurturing way.

Within BPW-NC, the few groups I've listed here, and the many other groups within our community, you can choose to surround yourself with optimism and activism – to make a difference in the world with positivity. We can choose to be powerful women with the act of volunteering, to raise our voice with compassion and certainty, and to give of ourselves in ways that express our love for self. The alternative is to become cynical, feel helpless/hopeless, and to become isolated. I have chosen to become involved our community as a member of Live Healthy Nevada County (http://livehealthynevadacounty.com), the A.P.P.L.E. Center, and—whole-heartedly—in BPW-NC.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robin Mallery, President, BPW-NC





August 2011

SYNOPSIS OF THE JULY MEETING

By Freddy Zylstra

Deborah Pinto made me wish I were in second grade again! I unabashedly loved school the first time around – I was the child who cried the last day of school each year because I mourned the loss of the school routine and the magic that took place in learning new things.

For a child like me, the expeditionary learning model would have been somewhat akin to living in Disneyland year round. As I sat and listened to Deborah, I found myself daydreaming about how I might disguise myself as an unusually tall second grader. I would have my lunch packed and be the first in line for the bus to go on the field trip!

One comment Deborah made that particularly resonated with me was the idea of matching teaching style to the learning style of the student. Many of us already understand that the ability to learn increases exponentially if you integrate the sense of sight, sound and touch into a lesson. To take it a step further and follow the expeditionary learning model will ensure the academic success of many more students than in the past.

Expeditionary Learning Schools are based on the work of Kurt Hahn, founder of Outward Bound. Sometimes called 'Project-based' learning, students participate in multi-disciplinary studies of topics, perform research, field studies, and public presentations, while learning group dynamics and the art of collaboration.

The educational philosophy of Expeditionary Learning brings to life for students a 'real world' look at topics. Rather than teach only theory, ask students to memorize facts, and essentially test their memories, EL asks students to take a multi-faceted look at a subject just as one is expected to do as an adult. Why learn algebra, for instance, if there is no example of its real-life application? A child who is studying forest habitat, however, may need algebra to predict the rate of beetle damage to trees over a twenty year span.

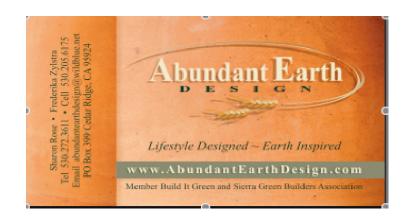
Principles of this thrilling teaching method include:

- · Self discovery and adventure
- Rewarding curiosity and critical thinking
- · Becoming self motivated to learn
- Feeling empathy for others and mentoring
- Experiencing both success and failure
- Learning to compete and collaborate in a professional manner
- Honoring diversity in both human dynamics and ideas
- Creating respect for the natural world and a responsibility to Earth
- Introspection and reflection
- Compassion for others and service to one's community

Most schools have now adopted at minimum at least some of the principles of EL, having seen the increase in test scores and uptick in college-bound seniors. There are some schools which stand out as exemplary, and are well worth the time you spend reading about them online. Mapleton in Denver, Colorado and King Middle School in Portland, Maine are truly inspiring.

(www.mapleton.us; www.kingportlandschools.org)

Deborah, having taught at Grass Valley Charter School and Lyman Gilmore Middle School, clearly loves teaching. Finding a way to harness the energy of the adolescent is not an easy task. She began her career as a music teacher, then grew and adapted in her role. Now a 'School Designer' for Expeditionary Learning, she is pivotal in the process to open the Sierra Academy of Expeditionary Learning, a high school which is slated to embrace its first students in 2012, according to The Union Newspaper. Deborah Pinto's presentation was entitled 'Putting the Fun Back Into Functional Public School', but it represented so much more. What a rich tapestry she wove with the thread of hope for our future leaders! I'll be at the bus stop with my lunchbox and backpack for the first day of school.



NEW ERA - NEW EDITION

40th Anniversary of Our Bodies, Ourselves

Submitted By Sharon O'Hara

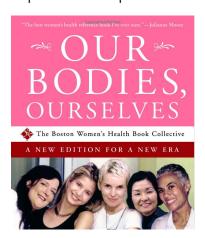
If you're like me, there's an old copy of this book somewhere on a shelf or a well-thumbed copy you've kept handy for years. I got the announcement of the new edition and wanted to pass it on.

Our Bodies, Ourselves (OBOS), also known as the Boston Women's Health Book Collective, is a nonprofit, public interest women's health education, advocacy, and consulting organization. Beginning in 1970 with the publication of the first edition of Our Bodies, Ourselves, OBOS has impacted the women's health movement in meaningful ways. Read more at www.ourbodiesourselves.org.

The new edition focuses on women's reproductive health and sexuality and includes dozens of personal stories and essential, up-to-date information about gender identity, sexual orientation, birth control, abortion, pregnancy and birth, perimenopause, menopause, health issues such as breast and ovarian cancers, and sexuality and sexual health.

The book also addresses:

- Changes in the healthcare system especially how health care reform affects women and how to get the care you need.
- Safer Sex how to engage in pleasurable, satisfying sexual experiences while protecting your health and the health of your partner.
- Environmental health risks including minimizing exposure to everyday pollutants that endanger our bodies and reproductive health.
- Body Image resisting negative media stereotypes and embracing healthier approaches to looking and feeling good.
- Local and global activism using social media and community organizing tactics to build alliances and advocate for policies that improve women's lives.



ADVERTISING IN OUR SLANT

- **New members** may have their business cards published in *Our Slant* one time at no cost.
- Business card advertising for members is \$4.00 a month or \$40.00 a year. For non-members, \$6.00 a month or \$60.00 a year.
- A free e-mail subscription to Our Slant is available to all members. Non-member subscriptions to the print version are \$15.00 per year and include one free month of advertising. Send inquiries and requests to Gail Parle: gailp@jps.net
- Our Slant is published monthly.
- Deadline for the September newsletter article to be included is August 24th. Submit articles to: Phyllis Orzalli: phyllis@studio-nine-design.com



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August 2011

OPINION PIECE

By Lynn Wenzel

It's All Your Fault...Still!

The recent rape of a west African hotel maid by former IMF Director Dominique Strauss-Kahn and the consequential uncovering of DSK's other sexual peccadilloes has brought woman-blaming front and center again. "She's a prostitute", shouts the New York Post. While the hotel maid may have some shady friends, there is little doubt among police and prosecutors that her rape claim is true. But the blame game goes on.

Of course race has much to do with the victim blaming. If DSK's victim were white, the outcry would be greater and more vociferous. Indeed, beginning with slavery, the law simply gave human property no protection from sexual assault. The inability of black women to testify in court or to serve on juries made prosecution of rape impossible. During Reconstruction, the rape of African American women became a tool for inspiring terror. Today, studies show that an African American rape victim is much less likely to disclose the assault and less likely to report it to the police. The prosecutor is less likely to file charges. Juries are more likely to believe the assailant of a white women is guilty and that the evidence against an African American woman is more believable.

Dan Rottenberg, editor of the Broad Street Review, suggested in June that journalist "Lara Logan is to blame for her gang rape by Egyptian protestors because she once showed cleavage at an award show." A photo of Logan on the red carpet, wearing a v-neck dress and smiling for the cameras accompanied Rottenberg's statements. The caption under the photo read: "What message was the TV journalist Lara Logan sending here?" Rottenberg goes on, "Earth to liberated women: when you display legs, thighs or cleavage...most men will see it as a sign you want to get laid." Rottenberg ended his column by blaming a neighbor

for her attempted rape and the molestation of her daughter because she cleaned her house in a halter-top and shorts. According to the Toronto Star, nearly half of London men aged 18-25 think sex with a woman too drunk to know what is going on is not rape. A quarter of those young men don't believe it is rape if a woman says no to sex and the man continues anyway. Muslim men are equally obsessed with women as occasion of sin. In 2006, the then-Mufti of Australia compared women who didn't wear the hijab to "uncovered meat left out for wild cats." In 2007, a Saudi woman who reported being gang raped was sentenced to 200 lashes and imprisonment for being alone with a man. In that same year, a court in Abu Dhabi sentenced an 18-year-old Emirati woman to a year in prison for illicit sex after she reported that six men had gang raped her.

Ah, but before you decide that "we in the United States would never do anything like that," pay attention to a recent event in Bristol, Vermont. Who is blaming women for rape now? We Beg to Differ reports: "Nineteen year-old Keshia Canter handed three burgers, fries and milkshakes to a carload of Tuesday afternoon customers at the Hi-Lo Burger's drive-through window. A lady sitting in the back seat leaned forward between the two men in front and handed Carter a leaflet entitled "Women and Girls." "Even though nothing is showing, you're being ungodly," the woman said. "You make men want to be sinful." Carter was wearing boots, jeans, a pink shirt and a black jacket zipped up. She had a small lip ring. The religious group that distributes the leaflet says that if you are dressed in a way that "tempts" men...you are a participant in the sin.

Marianne Mollman, the director for women's rights at Human Rights Watch and author of "Ending Impunity for Rape" tells us that rape is rarely prosecuted anywhere in the world and few sexual assaults are reported. How many reading this right now have been sexually assaulted in their life or know someone who was? Did you tell?

Under most state criminal codes in Mexico, if her father rapes a girl it is consensual unless proven otherwise.

Jacob Zuma, president of South Africa, stood trial for rape charges in 2006. He testified that the woman signaled her arousal by wearing a knee-length skirt and sitting with her legs crossed. He was acquitted.

Ethiopia and Indonesia define rape only outside of marriage. Brazil and Libya exonerate a rapist if he agrees to marry his victim.

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The U.S convicts just about 10% of rape complaints filed. Britain convicts about six percent.

According to The Moscow News, in January of this year, Russian Archpriest Vsevolod Chaplin suggested that a drunken woman in a miniskirt had no right to be surprised if she was raped. "Cheeky appearance and behaviour is a straight road to disaster," he warned. "It leads to empty love, short-term marriage, divorce...loneliness and insanity."

Really? REALLY?

If a man is mugged, do we question whether or not he was "asking" for it? Should he have been wearing that expensive suit, a Rolex watch, and a silk tie? Should he have been walking alone at night? Why, he was practically asking for it. The blame obviously rests with him.

Rape is a tool of dominance and power. It knows no age restriction, no country, and no class. Men rape because a world-wide patriarchal culture gives them permission. Blaming the victim suggests that men are weak, helpless brutes incapable of controlling even their basest urges; therefore it is woman's responsibility to continually teach them right from wrong. Poor weak, primal men have no control over their instincts yet they hold most of the power and control in the world. Perhaps instead of trying to prosecute men for rape after the fact, a suitable prophylactic would be to strip them of their power and rights, theirs only by accident of gender anyway. They would not be allowed to go out at night, they would speak only when spoken to, they would be covered from head to toe, they would be punished for existing because their very presence was an occasion of sin. A cage of sorts.

Maybe then, we would be safe.



BPW ONLINE

BPW Foundation: www.bpwfoundation.org

BPW-NC: www.bpwnevadacounty.org

Join BPW-NC on Facebook under Business and Professional Women of Nevada Co.

BPW - International: www.bpw.international.org

Enterprising and Professional Women (a new USA-wide "country federation" that is a subsidiary of BPW-

International): www.epw-usa.org





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August 2011

WHO MAY JOIN BPW-NC?

Any individual who supports the platform and objectives of Business & Professional Women, is eligible and encouraged to become a member. By joining BPW of Nevada County, you will find yourself in the company of diverse, progressive, compassionate and effective women, and have the opportunity to improve your business skills in a supportive setting designed to help you grow. Make a difference!

Get Involved Now!

For more information, contact:

Membership Chair: Karin Kleinhans 277-3630 or

President: Robin Mallery 263-4827

EDITORIAL POLICY

The BPW-NC Board of Directors has adopted the following Editorial Policy for Our Slant.

OUR SLANT is a newsletter, not a magazine. Articles should be kept short for readability, since the newsletter is sent to members electronically, and most members will choose to read it on their computers.

Longer articles may be up to one page in length (600 words). However, the editorial committee reserves the right and responsibility to cut or edit any articles submitted for relevance and appropriateness of content and for space restrictions.

Articles should be relevant to BPW interests and women's issues in general. Articles that do not meet these criteria or that solely promote one's business will not be used.

NEW MEMBERS

Newest members:

Janice Knight, Professional Life Coach and Hypnotherapist, and HR consultant, (530) 273-0700, janice@yrcoach.com, www.yrcoach.com

Claire Tallman, Information Systems Analyst, County of Nevada, claire@pcgal.biz;

Remember as a member of BPW-NC you may:

- be added to the online business directory, contact Phyllis Orzalli at phyllis@studio-nine-design.com
- be a featured member in Our Slant newsletter, contact: Lynn Wenzel at lwinparadise1@sbcglobal.net
- advertise in Our Slant newsletter, see next column

SAD NEWS!

Submitted by Geri Bergen

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN TO BE ELIMINATED

Governor Vetoes Commission's Funding

In signing the new State Budget, the Governor exercised his line item veto authority to eliminate the California Commission on the Status of Women later this fiscal year.

By cutting almost half of the Commission's budget, the Commission will only be able to function for part of the current fiscal year. We will continue to fulfill the work of the Commission as long as funding permits.

Thanks to all of you who advocated in support of the Commission. We hope you will continue your work for women and girls throughout California.

For the full language of the Governor's Veto, please go to this link: http://www.dof.ca.gov/budget/ (scroll to last page)

Commission on the Status of Women www.women.ca.gov

100 YEARS AGO – WOMEN OF CALIFORNIA WIN THE VOTE!

Submitted by Gail Parle

Even when something seems impossible to achieve in a certain political climate, it can be done with the concerted effort of determined women!

WOMEN OF CALIFORNIA WIN THE VOTE 100 YEARS AGO!

Overview of the October 10, 1911 Election:

Proposition 4 (Senate Constitutional Amendment No. 8) granting California women the right to vote was proposed by the California State Legislature and placed on the October 10, 1911 ballot. Determined suffragists drove from small town to small town in every county across the state sometimes in a fancy blue convertible, attracting crowds who listened to their speeches.

On the day of the election, determined women across the state woke up at 4:00 a.m. to insure passage. Some collected brochures to hand out near voting places to hopefully influence the undecided voter; others stood watch at the polls to insure all of the votes were counted; and others grabbed the keys to the family car and throughout the day drove men identified as supportive to the polls to be sure every vote for suffrage was cast that day.

When returns came in from the cities the proposition was failing. It was voted down in San Francisco with a vote of 62% NO and 38% Yes. City newspapers declared the proposition dead but when Californians woke up the next morning, returns from the rural counties showed that the proposition was going to pass. In rural San Luis Obispo County it won with 56% voting YES and 44% voting NO, an outcome repeated across rural California. In 1911, California became the sixth state to give women the franchise joining Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Idaho and Washington.



2011 Calendar BPW-NEVADA COUNTY

August

Tuesday, 02 Board of Directors Meeting 3:30Wednesday, 17 Membership Meeting and Program

 $Women\ Helping\ Women\ Scholarship\ awards$

September

Tuesday, 06 Board of Directors Meeting 5:30

Wednesday, 21 Membership Meeting and Program
Juliet Erikson, communication specialist

Per our offer of April 18, 2011 we are featuring the following businesses for the next 3 months. Their generous support for Women Helping Women Education Fund of \$100.00 or more earns our thanks and appreciation.



Mary E. Owens, CPA, MS
Branch Manager / Managing Principal

Mary.Owens@RaymondJames.com

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Business & Professional Women offer you:

✓-Participation in the Legislative Process

-Information on Critical Issues facing Working Women

-Leadership Experience

T-Personal and Professional Development Skills

Friendship and Sisterhood

-Networking Opportunities

Business & Professional Women of Nevada County Presents:

2011 Women Helping Women Scholarship Award Ceremony

Honoring: Justine Chapman, Victoria L. Doris, & Laura Schumacher

See front-page article for program description



Wednesday, August 17th

at the Holbrooke Hotel Express Room 212 West Main St., Grass Valley, CA 95945

Social/networking hour begins at 5:30 P.M. Dinner at 6 P.M. Cost is \$22.

DINNER RESERVATIONS FOR GUESTS **MUST** BE PREPAID USING PAYPAL,

accessible from our website, www.bpwnevadacounty.org. (A PayPal account is not necessary to reserve your space).

You will be asked upon registration whether you would prefer a vegetarian meal.

All reservations must be received by Sunday, August 14th.

For more information contact, Kim Wydra at 432-2591 or 478-8383 or by email at kim@deltahl.com.