



# Business and Professional Women/Berea

**NEXT MEETING**  
**Wednesday, May 5**  
**at 6 pm - Smokehouse Grill**

May 2010

Greetings from your President:

Well ladies, you pulled it off! I am very pleased to announce that the registration table and the gift bags were a big hit at the South Central Regional Meeting held at Boone Tavern. A big thanks to Zayda and Leona for the set up. I would also like to send out another thank you to Zayda, Leona, Sherry and Mary for their support offered to me during the meeting and everyone else who sent up prayers. This really meant a lot to me!



Congratulations to Sherry Jones our Assistant Regional Director. Next year's regional meeting will be held in Campbellsville.

A Brief Overview of the South Central Regional Meeting:

- Our ice breaker was the Zumba-we learned two dances and I moved parts that had not been moved in awhile, we were in continuous motion for 15 minutes or more.
- The 88th State Conference that will be held at the Barren River State Resort Park.
- Local Organization Bylaws
- We went over the tentative KFBPW Calendar of Important Dates.
- The State License Agreement Fee has gone from \$40 per member to a flat, annual fee of \$50 per State Organization. More discussion will be held at the State Conference.
- BPW/KY Foundation and the scholarships it awards and the Promise Campaign.
- Local President's Reports
- Speaker Tamara Hurst
- The new revised Professional Development Program which will also be voted on at State Conference.
- The Young Professional Task Force, which we are looking for a new name. Suggestions welcomed.

Again we have our plates full for the month of May. We'll need your help in any capacity that you can offer. We will be holding our meeting at the Smokehouse Grill. We will be interviewing the high school seniors for the scholarships that we present to each Berea high school. I always enjoy listening to their achievements and accomplishments.

REMEMBER: "May Day Pay Day" is the month that dues have to be paid. Please bring your checkbooks and make sure you pay your \$25 state dues. I will have the dues forms and reinstatement forms at the May meeting on Wednesday.

I will be looking forward to seeing you in May.

Have a Great Day!  
Rene' Poitra

## **Birthdays:** **April Birthdays:**

- Jean Huffman – 4/9
- Linda Van Winkle – 4/13

*Happy Birthday!!!*

## ◆ **Next Meeting:**

- Smokehouse Grill. Wednesday, May 7, 6:00 pm. You should call Mary Miller with your reservation!

## ◆ **Events:**

- June 11- 12– State Meeting Barren River State Park Resort



## ◆ **Current Officers:**

President:	
René Poitra	986-5816
Vice President:	
Arritta Morris/	986-8080
Bea Riley	
Treasurer:	
Barbara Belcher	986-0647
Secretary:	
Linda Van Winkle	986-9848



*Well-Behaved Women Seldom  
Make History  
— Laurel Ulrich*

## ***Highlights from The Web — April '10***

### ***Legislative Overview***

The Kentucky Commission on Women is a resource for Kentucky women about current legislation. In order for women to be an influential voice in policy decisions, women need to stay informed on the issues.

It is important for all women to know who represents them in the Kentucky State House of Representatives, Kentucky State Senate, United States Congress and United States Senate.

U.S. Senate: All Kentuckians are represented by Senator Mitch McConnell and Senator Jim Bunning in the United States Senate. In Kentucky's history, no woman has been elected to represent Kentucky in the United States Senate.

U.S. House of Representatives: Kentucky is comprised of 6 Congressional Districts. Currently, all 6 are held by men. Kentucky has elected 2 women throughout history to Congress. In 1927, Katherine Gudger-Langley became Kentucky's first United States Congresswoman, the second woman came 70 years later in 1997. No women of color have yet to be elected to Congress.

Kentucky State Legislature: Women currently hold 21 of the 138 seats in the Kentucky State Legislature. Mary Elliott Flanery was the first woman elected to the Kentucky State Legislature in 1921. Forty (40) years later, Amelia Tucker became the first African American woman elected to the Kentucky State Legislature.

During the last two general elections, 2007 and 2008, more women than men turned out to vote. In 2008, 54.1% of the voters were women and in 2007, 52.1% of the voters were women!

If you need to register to vote, please visit the Kentucky Board of Elections website and follow the directions to complete your voter registration card. Or go to your local County clerk's office. You must register at least 28 days prior to the election to be eligible to vote.

From <http://women.ky.gov/legislation/>



### ***Legislation Introduced to Expand Women's Access to Higher-Paying Jobs***

Representatives Jared Polis (D-CO) and Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) introduced the Women and Workforce Investment for Nontraditional Jobs (Women WIN Jobs) Act late last week. The bill has more than 40 cosponsors and is intended to "promote the economic self-sufficiency of low-income women through their increased participation in high-wage, high-demand occupations where they currently represent 25 percent or less of the workforce."

In a press release, Congressman Polis said, "For far too long, women have been under-represented in higher paying jobs as a result of inadequate training, stereotypes, and lack of information...As our nation works to rebuild the economy, it is essential that we take action today against gender inequity in the workforce and promote diversity and equal opportunity."

Despite the fact that women are now half of the US workforce, two-thirds are working in only 5 percent of "occupational categories", which are, except for teaching and nursing, among the lowest paid occupations. Concurrently, there is also a severe shortage of skilled workers in fields ranging from information technology to manufacturing, where women hold a very small percentage of jobs. In the press release, Congresswoman DeLauro said, "Our efforts will open doors, enabling our nation's women to better their lives, their families, and ultimately, our workforce as a whole."

According to a fact sheet released by Congressman Polis, the bill would create a new federal grant program that would authorize "up to \$100 million for recruiting, training, placing and retaining women in occupations that lead to economic self-sufficiency" and "requires grantees to conduct public education and outreach, provide career guidance and counseling, conduct individual assessments, [and] assist participants to access postsecondary and apprenticeship programs," among other functions.

From: Feminist Daily News 3/15/2010: Legislation Introduced to Expand Women's Access to Higher-Paying Jobs

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If you have any comments, complaints, corrections, announcements or contributions (always very welcome), please contact:  
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