



Illinois Federation of Business Women's Clubs, Inc.

ILLINOIS BULLETIN

A WORD FROM OUR OFFICERS

Spring Edition

Our Officers

President:

Susan McGrath
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President Elect:

Tina Suarez
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Secretary:

Danielle DiMarzio
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Treasurer:

Carla Tucker
treasurer@ifbwc.org

PRESIDENT



Hello, BWC members! Our 96th State Convention is almost upon us, and you will see in this issue of the Illinois Bulletin not only our Call to Convention, but also the Schedule at a Glance, and a description of the activities you can attend. Your leadership team, and your convention team, paid close attention to the comments and suggestions made by convention attendees, and members who have contacted us with their ideas. We have put together a program that we hope balances business with education and fun! In addition, I am so excited that you all will have another opportunity to visit my community and see everything we have to offer! I also wanted to thank the Centralia local for sponsoring our post-convention board speaker, and the Effingham local for sponsoring our keynote speaker and the budgeting workshop offered by Amanda Spade. I need to thank my own Champaign-Urbana local for sponsoring our speaker from the University of Illinois Extension Program, and the Friday after hours reception, continuing a time honored tradition on the first night of convention!

I also look forward to a spirited PLD competition this year, as each local can now submit up to three candidates for the competition. Please check out the new PLD materials on our Federation website if you know of anyone who might be interested in participating in this event. The deadline for submission of candidates is April 15. Thank you, Carrie Perkins-Schnicker, for agreeing to chair this competition.

While Tina Suarez and I have finished our visits to the locals, we still have other special events going on this spring that we will be attending as well, such as the Mt. Vernon Soup and Sandwich Luncheon on March 20, and the Longaberger Basket/Coach Purse Bingo event in Paris, Illinois on March 12. Please also take a moment to read Tina Suarez' column which talks about our Second Fun Day on March 25 in Centralia. I know it is going to be a lot of fun, and I think it will be a great kickoff to the spring we are all anticipating after the winter's cold. Please continue to keep us updated on your local events, and don't forget to copy us in on your local newsletters, so that we can help you spread the word about everything you are doing!

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FROM THE PRESIDENT continued...

In the last Illinois Bulletin you read about the initiatives and annual plans for each of the Federation Standing Committees as recommended by the Networking Committee, based upon the SLRP Recommendations adopted by the Convention Body in April 2016. We have asked each of our standing committees to suggest how these initiatives and annual plans can be implemented. If you are interested in assisting the Education Committee (Holly Nordheden, Chair), the Finance Committee (Michelle Hagen, Chair), Leadership University (Kathy Clark-Eller, Vice-Chair of the Education Committee), the Legislative Committee (Amanda Spade, Chair) or the Networking Committee (Cherie Kesler and Kristin Wakefield, Co-Chairs), please contact them with your ideas or expertise!

The Executive Committee is also studying the possibility of offering BWC clothing and/or jewelry, which is something we discontinued a few years ago. Tina Suarez has been working with local companies to determine what they might be able to offer us in terms of items and cost. Watch for further news in this regard.

Thank you for the privilege of allowing me to serve as your State President this year. I would continue to encourage you to share the word about the Federation with people you work with, people you are in other organizations with, people you are neighbors with, and anyone you think could benefit from the work we do.

Let's continue to build our movement!

Susan McGrath ~ President

FROM THE PRESIDENT ELECT

Hello everyone. Wow this IFBWC year has certainly gone fast. It has been a great year working with so many people around the state. We are all strong women that have a lot to offer in Women Helping Women. It should be noted that many LO's have done great projects this year. We need to keep getting out in our local communities to let people know about this great organization. This hopefully will gain us new vibrant women one at a time. I want to thank all of you for what you do. Well one of the things that our members wanted was more fun things to do in the community. We began that this year with the Robinson Club hosting the Fun Day at the Heath Museum. It was a fun day and a tasty day, I might add. A small crowd attended, but we all enjoyed ourselves. I know everyone is so busy in their personal lives but we need to take advantage of these stress free days. I hope all of you have been keeping up with the great news on our state website. Thank you Tina Klein. She can only put on there what we all send to her. Please continue to get things to her so we can all take advantage of great opportunities. The next fun day will be in Centralia on Saturday, March 25th at the Cultural Society. Please note that it is on the website. It will be another day of fun. We will be enjoying wine and other drinks for the alcohol free members. You will also be able to enjoy an array of great appetizers. Then the fun begins. You will be able to paint a beautiful floral picture to take home with you. Please be thinking of the colors you want to use. Don't be afraid if you can't paint. The painting will be outlined for you. I need for you to RSVP me so that I will have enough drinks, food, and canvas. You can send a check or pay at the door. Mt. Vernon has informed me that they will be having a Soup and Sandwich luncheon on March the 20th. It will begin at 11 at the Epworth Methodist Church in Mt. Vernon.

Remember to put on your calendar April 4th for Equal pay day in Chicago. It is a great time. Our own Barb Yong does a great job putting together great speakers. I bet you don't know that there will be another Equal Pay Day in the state. Yes, Centralia LO will be hosting one on April 8th. They decided on this because the importance of Equal Pay Day but for people that cannot travel to Chicago, this is a great opportunity.

FROM THE PRESIDENT ELECT continued...

On April 12th the Centralia LO will be having their Guest night. Laura Kannady will be our keynote speaker. If you were at convention last year she was one of our main speakers. She is great. She gets you motivated. You are all invited. We would love for you to be apart of this great evening. Please contact Centalia LO.

So now to the most interesting part of my article, it is time for CONVENTION. We have some exciting things planned. We have great speakers and break-out sessions. I would like each club to send members as well as bringing first timers. I want to thank Pat McNicholas for hosting the First Timers workshop for the last few years. This year Carol Burk will be conducting the workshop. I have previewed of the fun exciting things Carol has in store. Kind of wish I would be a first timer.

Please always share your local newsletters, as well as, the Illinois Bulletin with women in your local communities. We have so much to offer women from Social Networking, great meeting speakers, University leadership online. WE ARE THE FUN AND KNOWLEDGEABLE GROUP.

Well as my year as president elect comes to a close I want to thank all of you. I am so looking forward to becoming your president next year. I have some of my team in place but can use many others to set up. If you have or have not been a part of the state committee you should know it is a great opportunity. Please let me know if you are interested in being a part of the state team for next year.

I want to se everyone at the State Convention this year. Come enjoy, learn, and share your ideas. We need everyone.

Tina Suarez ~ President-Elect

FROM THE STATE TREASURER

LO Treasurers: How's your budget?

Did you make it and put it away? Now is a good time to catch up on the books and see where your club is going. Are you overspending? Do you know why? Are you getting good value for the club's money?

What about the money you have not spent? Is there a project that needs to get off the ground? The end of the club year is coming up faster than you think. Take a moment see where you are. Start making notes for the next year's budget. What would you change? Do your policies and procedures need to be updated? What did you learn this year that you want to pass on to the next group of officers?

Take a moment to regroup and I hope to see you at convention!

Carla Tucker

IFBWC Treasurer

OWWI COMMITTEE

By the time you read this, the OWWI deadline will have passed and I will have the applications. I am so looking forward to acknowledging up to three wonderful, accomplished women as the 2017 OWWI winners at our 2017 convention in Champagne. I do hope that many LO's identified and nominated candidates. I believe it is incumbent on women to recognize other women who have made contributions in the workforce and their communities. IFBWC has this wonderful opportunity and as your chair, I am pleased and proud to be a part of it. See you at convention.

Sylvia Mahle, OWWI Chair

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SPEAK-OFF COMPETITION

Because of the interest that locals have expressed in this year's PLD Speak-Off Competition, the Executive Committee has authorized me to extend the candidate submission deadline to April 15! In addition, the Executive Committee has also authorized each local to submit up to three candidates for this event. I believe this is an excellent opportunity not only to the candidates, but also to the Federation to spread the word about our organization, and one of the practical methods in which we offer value to our PLD candidates, who will hopefully become members of our organization.

You will also find very useful information on the website with the newly updated PLD manual and materials that will assist you in the recruitment and training of your PLD candidates. Please don't hesitate to contact me at carriep-s@hotmail.com if I can help you with any questions you may have about the rules of the competition, or any other questions about this event. Don't forget in your candidate submission materials that I will need a biography and photo of each candidate.

The topics for the Speak-Off Competition at the 2017 State Convention. They are as follows:

1. If you could choose one woman in history (living or deceased) to have a conversation with, who would it be and why?
2. Who do you consider to be the most influential woman in your life and why?
3. What characteristics do you feel are important in a female leader?
4. What lessons in history have you learned from the outstanding women who led before us?
5. What role do you think the Fine Arts play in the development of a young woman's self-esteem?
6. Why is the issue of pay equity important to young women?
7. Why should women run for elective office?

Thank you for your interest in PLD, and I look forward to a great competition this year!

Carrie Perkins-Schnicker, Young Careerist Speak-off Chair

Golden Book of Memories

Ladies, hoping one of the first things you did in 2017 was to mark the dates of our State Convention on your calendars. Convention will be here before we know it.

As Chair of the Golden Book of Memories, I just want to remind you to please send me the following information for any deceased members of your local organization during the 2016-2017 IFBW year:

1. Name
2. Date of Birth and Date of Death
3. Family information
4. Member of what Local Organization
5. IFBW offices held, locally, former district/region, and state,
6. Hobbies
7. Any other personal or professional information you would like to share,
8. Recognitions, etc.
9. A picture (which I will be happy to return to you)

It is so important that we include all departed members. Please submit information on a timely basis if at all possible. Thanks so much. Have a great winter!

Golden Book of Memories and Historian

Dorris Schroyer

Equal Pay Day Chicago 2017

In 2010, Barbara Yong, past state President of the Illinois Federation of Business Women's Clubs and a partner in the Chicago law firm of Golan Christie Taglia LLP, conceived the idea of holding a rally during the lunch hour in Chicago's Daley Center Plaza on Equal Pay Day, and to invite all of the women's groups in Illinois who are fighting for equal pay to come together to collaborate on the planning of the event and to invite their members to participate.

The goal of the rally is to create one major event for all of these groups, including IFBWC, to raise awareness about the pay disparity between men and women. Equal Pay Day is recognized world-wide as the day when a woman comes even (after working nearly 16 months) with what her male counterparts earned in the preceding calendar year, based on women earning on average 78¢ for every dollar that a man earns.

The Equal Pay Day rally has since become an annual event. This year's rally is scheduled for noon on Tuesday April 4th. Now in its 7th year, there are nearly 40 sponsoring organizations including women's organizations, trade associations, federal and state governmental agencies and bar associations. The planning committee has also expanded the mission of the event to include (1) positioning equal pay not just as a women's issue but as a family issue and (2) engaging the interest and support of younger working women. To this end, much of the communication about the event takes place through social media. A Facebook page and twitter account have been created and new postings about equality, women's rights and, of course, the Chicago April 4 event, are posted daily.

Sally Lou Loveman, former Director of Audience Services for the Oprah Winfrey Show, will emcee the event this year and Dorri McWhorter, CEO of the YWCA Chicago will also be speaking. Also confirmed are the two women who organized the Chicago Women's March held on Saturday January 21st which drew nearly 250,000 men, women and children.

Click this link for more information about Equal Pay Day Chicago 2017

https://www.facebook.com/equalpaydaychicago/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel. We hope you can make it to this year's rally.

Chair of Nominations Report



Carol Burk - Mt. Vernon President-Elect

I have been a member of IFBW since November 1, 2005. As a Local President, Treasurer, and Board Member-at-Large for the past 10 years and Region 5 Associate Director and Regional Director I have made many friends and have learned a great deal on a wide variety of topics. Each year that I age, I become more interested in enticing new members of a younger age. I have found that with new members come fresh ideas and more knowledge on a variety of subjects. As I have seen our Locals and our State memberships decline it makes me sad that such talent is available but we have not offered what it takes to bring these individuals into our membership as well as attend our Convention. As a President-Elect I plan to focus on the same issues I am using as my Presidential Motto this year “Reorganize, Revitalize and Regrowth.” We need the experience of our current active members and the fresh input of new members. I appreciate the sisterhood I have grown to enjoy and depend on within our Local and State IFBW and hope that I am able to provide the leadership needed to make our organization vibrant and thriving once again. I plan to pull from knowledge of all members making them feel needed and an important part of the future of IFBW. I look forward to serving our organization this year as President-Elect and next year as President and would be honored to have the membership put their confidence in my abilities to elect me to these positions.

Carla Tucker - Champaign/Urbana LO Treasurer

Oft-time IFBWC treasurer Carla Tucker looks forward to returning to work as a state officer. “There is always a new challenge, and an opportunity to do the job better”, she says. Carla grew up wanting to be an accountant like her mother, but was distracted by the shiny flashing lights of the computer. Well, there used to be flashing lights. So now she is a programmer/analyst for the City of Urbana and indulges her love of accounting in her spare time. Carla studied accounting at the University of Illinois. She has been a member of Champaign-Urbana BWC since 1980. She is married for 34 years to Jim Tucker. They have two children together, two more from Jim’s first marriage, and a healthy assortment of grandchildren.



Amanda Spade ~ Chair of Nominations

Illinois Federation of Business Women's Clubs, Inc.
96th Annual State Convention May 5 - 7, 2017
Call to Convention

I, Susan W. McGrath, IFBWC State President 2016-2017, with the approval of the Executive Committee, hereby issue the Call to Convention for the 96th Annual State convention to begin on Friday, May 7, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the I-Hotel AND Conference Center, 1900 S. First St., Champaign, Illinois.

Pursuant to Article XVI, Section 2, of the Federation Bylaws, any member in good standing who has paid the full registration fee may attend the Annual State Convention and vote.

There will be a pre-convention Board Meeting on May 5, 2017 at 12:30 p.m., and a post-convention Board Meeting on May 7, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

This year's State Convention will be for the purpose of:

- (1) Election of Officers;
- (2) Election of the Chair of Nominations;
- (3) Election of Membership Representatives and Alternate Membership Representatives;
- (4) Consideration and adoption of the 2017-2018 budget;
- (5) Consideration and adoption of the 2017-2018 State Legislation Platform;
- (6) Receiving reports of the officers, and standing and special committee chairs, for the preceding year; and
- (7) Acting upon motions, resolutions and other business presented to the convention.

In addition, State Convention presents the opportunity to members and their guests to:

- (1) Recognize our Celia M. Howard recipients;
- (2) Recognize our PLD contestants and award winner;
- (3) Recognize our OWWI nominees and awardees;
- (4) Attend a Keynote Speaker presentation and educational workshops;
- (5) Learn more about the preceding and prospective activities of the Federation;
- (6) Visit the Exhibitor/Vendor area;
- (7) Explore Champaign and Urbana; and
- (8) Have fun!

The Convention Schedule At A Glance provides specific details on all convention activities. We look forward to seeing all of you at our 96th Annual State Convention!

Susan McGrath
IFBWC State President, 2016-2017

Call to Convention

Schedule-At-A-Glance

Friday, May 5, 2017

9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Convention Registration	Loyalty Room
10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Speak Off Competition	Knowledge Room
10:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.	Speak Off Interviews	Loyalty Room
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Free Time; see list of exciting opportunities	Champaign Urbana City
12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	Pre-Convention Board Meeting	Knowledge Room
2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Break	Knowledge Room
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Workshop Women's Nutrition by Ag Extension, Beth Peralta	Knowledge Room
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Convention Registration	Loyalty Room
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Amanda Spade, Budgeting Workshop	Knowledge Room
5:05 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.	First Timers Kick-off Meeting	Knowledge Room
5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Drinks at Houlihan's	Houlihan's Restaurant and Bar
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Dinner/Greetings from Mayor Feinen/President's Roast	Quad Room
7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Convention Opens - First Business Session	Technology Room
8:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Unfinished Business - Nominations of Officers	Technology Room
8:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	Awards and Golden Book of Memories Ceremony	Technology Room

Saturday, May 6, 2017

7:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.	Breakfast	Houlihan's Restaurant
8:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.	Past State President's Breakfast (By Invitation Only)	Loyalty Room
8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Convention Registration	Loyalty Room
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Exhibitors Open	Technology Room
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Convention Reconvenes - Second Business Session	Knowledge Room
10:00 a.m.	Registration Closes	Loyalty Room
10:10 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.	Keynote Speaker – Robin Albright from Zinger Zanger	Knowledge Room
11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Election/Vote First Ballot	Knowledge Room
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Celia M. Howard Fellowship Luncheon	Alma Mater Room
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Carol Burk, You can be Superwoman	Knowledge Room
3:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Convention Reconvenes - Third Business Session	Knowledge Room
4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Election/Vote, Second Ballot if necessary	Knowledge Room
6:00 p.m.	Head Table Line-up / Cocktail Attire	Alma Mater Room
6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Alma Mater Room
7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.	Special Recognition, Entertainment, OWWI Recognition, 2017 President & New Officer Installation, and President Reception	Alma Mater Room

Sunday, May 7, 2017

7:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.	Breakfast	Houlihan's Restaurant
9:00 a.m. to 9:25 a.m.	Devotions	Loyalty room
9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Post Convention Board Meeting	Excellence Room

Convention Activities

Speakoff Competition: PLD candidates selected by their local organizations will be speaking on one of seven topics selected by the PLD Speak-Off Coordinator, Carrie Perkins-Schnicker. This Competition provides all candidates the opportunity to practice public speaking, interviewing, and resume writing in a mentoring and supportive environment. Your attendance will not only give these candidates the support they need, but also a great audience before which to demonstrate their skills. The competition will start at 10:00 a.m. on May 5.



Keynote Speaker: Robin Albright, CPCC, is a Midwesterner at heart, but day-to-day a sand between her toes kind of gal.

Robin is a visionary, an artist, a visual life/business coach, speaker/visual recorder and a caregiver. After certification through Coaches Training Institute in 2008, Robin focused predominately on sharpening her coaching skills. She couldn't help but add art to each session (it's deep inside her) and as her style began emerging she's connected with her purpose and in full swing. Her creative style as a visual coach and speaker married with her unique creative perspective offers each client not only insight and clarity but the opportunity to take away a visual

component that adds depth to their learning.

Zinger Zanger Visual Coaching is an intuitive and creative company. Once known as Zinger Zanger Inc. and located in the heart of the Midwest, ZZ now hangs it's hat in the sunny state of Florida where creativity is prevalent (on the beach with a margarita in hand).

Educational Workshops:

1. Beth Peralta, University of Illinois Ag Extension Media/Communications Specialist, and Ag Extension Nutrition Education Program, presenting a workshop on May 5 at 3:00 p.m. entitled "Let's Eat for Health: Easy, Family-Friendly Nutrition Tips for Any Budget" at which you will be provided with information on topics such as the use of whole grains, recipes that have only five ingredients or less, use of canned fruits and vegetables, and healthy living.
2. Amanda Spade, Chair of Nominations, and President of the Effingham Local, will be presenting a workshop on May 5 at 4:00 p.m. entitled "Keeping Your Wits and Wages About You at Any Age" at which you will be provided binders with budgeting forms and other information designed to help you wisely budget and spend your hard earned money, either as a working women, or a retiree.
3. Carol Burk, President of the Mt. Vernon Local, and Past Director and Associate Director of Region 5, presenting the First Timers Event on May 5 at 5:00 p.m. for those who have never attended a State Convention. In addition to the valuable information you will learn about how to make the most of your first convention, you will also be introduced to other first timers, and get some fun prizes.
4. Carol Burk, President of the Mt. Vernon Local, and Past Director and Associate Director of Region 5, presenting a workshop entitled "You Can be Superwoman!" based upon "Presence", authored by Professor Amy Cuddy, Harvard Business School professor and social psychologist. You will learn about body language and creating a positive presence, which you can use to grow your local membership, and improve your personal life by surrounding yourself with positive people. Two minutes can make a major difference in your appearance, attitude and success.

Convention Activities continued...

Other Noteworthy Activities:

1. Past President's Breakfast, 8:00 a.m., May 6, for those women who have led before us, at which Immediate Past State President Kathy Clark-Eller will be smooching up to the Past State Presidents to become a member of that august body.
2. Celia Howard Luncheon, Noon, May 6, to honor our scholarship recipients from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, and the University of Illinois College of Law. In addition to an excellent meal, you will have the opportunity to meet the superlative young women your Celia Howard dollars are sponsoring in their various courses of study, and who are destined to make a mark on their respective communities, and our society.
3. Installation Banquet, 7:30 p.m., May 6, which will include Special Recognition awards, recognition of our OWWI candidates, and installation of our 2017-2018 Officers. This is your chance to dress up in your best cocktail attire, and attend what will be a very festive evening.
4. Visit your Host Cities, Champaign and Urbana, in your free time throughout the convention. Check out the information on what these cities have to offer in a separate handout!
5. Visit your Exhibits and Vendors on May 6 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You will not want to miss the special give aways and products that these hardworking companies have to offer!

Suggested Bylaws Change

The Executive Committee voted in favor of the suggested Bylaws Change on February 16, 2017.

Bylaw amendment to Article XI, Section 5: No one shall be eligible for election to the Office of President or President-Elect who has not served at least one (1) year on the Board of Directors or as a Local Organization President.

Presently, the bylaw reads: No one shall be eligible for election to the office of President or President-Elect who has not served at least one (1) year on the Board of Directors and as a Local Organization President.

Rationale: With the elimination of districts, and then regions, there are fewer opportunities for people to move up within the leadership of IFBWC to become President or President-Elect. This is especially true for our younger members. We just went through the difficulty of determining whether or not Carol Burk was eligible to serve as President-Elect because she wasn't recently on the Board of Directors, but not taking into account that she had served as Region 5 Director. Until our organization grows in membership, and with the small number of people willing to serve as President-Elect, we think this bylaw change will assist us in recruitment until such time as our membership increases in size one again

Convention Meals

Friday Night:

Hot Buffet

BBQ Beef Brisket

Grilled Chicken

Cobb Salad

Pesto Pasta with Grilled Vegetables

Assorted Jumbo Cookies & Brownies

Columbia Street Roastery Regular & Decaffeinated Coffee, Assorted Hot Teas, Iced Tea & Ice Water

Vegetarian Plate: 3 Cheese Penne Bake with Garlic and Bread Crumbs

Saturday and Sunday Breakfast:

Breakfast is free for those staying at the hotel.

Saturday CMH Luncheon:

Beef Stroganoff

Green Beans with Shallots & Whole Button Mushrooms

Broccoli with Lemon Zest & Roasted Garlic

Assorted Breads & Rolls

Jumbo Cookies and Brownies

Columbia Street Roastery Regular & Decaffeinated Coffee, Assorted hot Teas, Iced Tea & Iced Water

Vegetarian Plate available

Saturday OWWI & Installation Dinner

Roasted Breast of Chicken with Champagne Veloute

Roasted Garlic Red Mashed Potato

Roasted Root Vegetables

Vegetarian Plate: Grilled Vegetable Tower with Vegetable Couscous and Sweet Saba Balsamic Vinegar.

2017 - 2018 Reception

Celebration Cake

Hotel Information

Congratulations!!! All rooms are booked at the I Hotel. But don't fret, we have more. We have a great deal at the Hyatt Place Hotel close by. The reservation includes a free breakfast, and shuttle service for up to 11 people going back and forth to the I-Hotel.

Room rate is : \$169.00 per night.

The Hotel address is : 217 N Neil St, Champaign, IL 61820

Phone number: (217) 531-2800

You can click on this link to make [Reserve rooms at the Hyatt](#) .

Cutoff date for rooms is April 6, 2017

Don't wait, reserve your rooms now. There are limited numbers in all hotels, so don't wait.

Hotel Features:

- Free hotel-wide Wi-Fi Internet access
- Gallery Menu, Fresh 24/7 with mouthwatering options including our signature flatbreads & more
- Enjoy your free a.m. Kitchen Skillet™ served daily, with hot breakfast items, fresh fruit, oatmeal and plenty more to choose from.
- Grab 'n Go case offers new sandwiches & greens from our Gallery Menu and bottled beverages for moments on the run
- Intimate Coffee to Cocktails Bar serves Starbucks® specialty coffees & teas, premium beers and wines
- Self-service check-in/check-out kiosks
- Audio visual equipment
- Free 24-hour Stay Fit fitness center with Life Fitness® cardio equipment



Illinois Federation of Business Women's Clubs, Inc.
96th Annual State Convention, May 5 - 7, 2017
Registration and Meal Reservation Form
I Hotel and Conference Center, 1900 S 1st St, Champaign, IL 61820

Local Organization _____

Name (Please Print) _____
(Last Name) (First Name)

Street Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Email _____

<u>Credential Classification</u>	
<input type="radio"/> Past State President	
<input type="radio"/> State Board: (Member: State Officer/Membership Rep/Standing Committee Chair – Circle)	
<input type="radio"/> Local Organization President	
<input type="radio"/> Member	
<u>Special Classification: Check ONLY if Applicable</u>	
<input type="radio"/> Speak Off Candidate	
<input type="radio"/> OWWI Recipient	
<input type="radio"/> 1st Time Attendee (IFBW Member attending entire convention for the first time)	
<input type="radio"/> Attending Sunday Morning Meeting	
<input type="radio"/> Visitor (Non IFBPW Member)	
Registration (Postmarked by April 21, 2017)	
<input type="radio"/> IFBPW Member Registration with Paper Packets	\$90.00 (Price does NOT include Meals)
<input type="radio"/> IFBPW Member Registration using Electronic Packets	\$80.00 (Price does NOT include Meals)
<input type="radio"/> Visitor Registration	\$100.00 (Price does NOT include Meals)
<input type="radio"/> Student Registration	\$65.00 (Price does NOT include Meals)
<input type="radio"/> Registration Postmarked AFTER 04/14/16	\$120.00 (Price does NOT include Meals)
<input type="radio"/> Friday, Dinner	\$20.00
<input type="radio"/> Saturday, Past President Breakfast – Invitation Only	<i>No cost if staying at the hotel, but please indicate if you plan to attend</i>
<input type="radio"/> Saturday, Celia M. Howard Luncheon	\$25.00
<input type="radio"/> Saturday, Installation Dinner	\$30.00
<input type="radio"/> Specific Dietary Request, please specify:	
TOTAL REMITTANCE	\$

Mail completed form and payment to: Registration Chair, Susie Dewaele, 39 Stone Drive, Highland, IL 62249. Make checks payable to IFBWC. Your cancelled check will serve as your receipt. Your registration will be returned if illegible or amount is incorrect. Register & pay on line by going to: www.ifbwc.org. **NO MEALS WILL BE SOLD ON SITE.**

Centralia LO



The Centralia Business and Professional Women’s Club wrapped up a busy 2016 with their annual donations and Christmas Party. We presented a donation to our local Home to School Connection, and representative Kathy Donnelly spoke about the organization. We also presented donations to the Centralia Regional Library, the Salvation Army, CCBA Food Pantry, and One Hope United Children’s Home. The Christmas party was a success as members participated in the “Ugly Ornament Exchange” that is always fun and full of competitiveness.

In February, we hosted our first trivia night fundraiser, “Freaky Friday Trivia Night, which was a great success! Our trivia night committee did a fantastic time organizing and promoting the event, which had over 200 people!



We’re gearing up for an Equal Pay Day Rally in Centralia on April 8th and Guest Night on April 12. Guest Night we will award our scholarships (applications available now) and Centralia BPW membership awards. We will round our April with Reality Store, our initiative with the local junior high to teach students real life skills. We’re looking forward to spring!

Crawford County LO

March – CCBW will host a Realty Store for students on the 23rd.

April – 2nd annual Spring Fling Quarter Auction will be held at The Cottage House, Robinson, IL on the 20th.

May – Installation of new officers

Debbie Medsker, President

Highland LO

Monday, April 10, 2017, the Highland IFBW will be hosting the Annual Speak Off at Highland Middle School at 6 p.m. Women throughout the region are invited to participate in this event. The topic choices were provided by the state's Speak Off Chair. One chosen speaker from each local organization will be invited to move forward to a State Speak Off.

Additionally, the Highland IFBW is inviting all high school juniors and seniors from all area high schools to consider participating in the Speak Off on this evening. This is an excellent opportunity to pursue resume` building for college scholarships while voicing the accomplishments of women around us, and sharing goals and dreams of the future generations. These high school participants are future contenders to advance to the State level through their local organizations in the years to come.

For further information, please contact Joyce at (618) 610-6011 or Donna at (618) 979-7983.

Donna Plocher & Joyce Zerban
IFBW – Highland LO
Education Committee Team 2016-17

Mt Vernon LO

As your 2016-17 Mt. Vernon Business Women's Club year begins to wind down, our Local's activities are seeming to wind up. We thought we were really busy during Business Women's Week in October, our Fall Festival providing a major fundraiser with our Fall Festival Guide Book as well as sponsoring the "Great Pumpkin Decoration Contest", but our club seems to remain shifted in high gear with upcoming events and activities.

In September the Mt. Vernon BWC sponsored a Candidates Forum inviting all candidates from our area to participate in a question and answer session. Our Forum was broadcast on our local WMIX 94.1 fm radio as well as covered by both local newspaper. I am told that we are one of the very few Candidates Forums held in the State of Illinois. We feel it is our civic duty to introduce candidates and their platforms to our local voters prior to Election Day. This event always draw a large crowd and several candidates participate.

In November our program was presented by Shirley Roney author of a novel entitled "Nancy Allen and the Cherokee Trail of Tears". Shirley is currently vice-president of the South Forty Southern Illinois Bicentennial Consortium. Her presentation enlightened us about past history of our Jefferson County area as well as informed us of upcoming Bicentennial activities. Our November community project was to make donations to the Countryside Manor Nursing Home and Assisted Living Facility. Our current member, Tana Dehart is Assistant Activities Director for the facility and we were able to replenish their supply of prizes to be used for prizes for their resident's games and activities.



December always proves to be an exciting and fun month for our Local. Everyone is always excited about Christmas and seeing family and friends. Our Christmas party meeting this year included a potluck with door prizes and fun games. A new part of our Christmas party this year was a cookie exchange organized by member, Sharon Costa. We had some past members attend which brought back fond memories for not only them but our Local as well. Our community project for December was a collect of donations to be made to a newly launched "Casey Care Closet" at our Middle School. A wide variety of items were donated to get this new project of the Women's Leadership Council and the United Way well on its way. Did I mention we sponsored and manned the cookie decorating tent at the Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade and had a blast with all the kids eating and decorating Christmas cookies?

Mt Vernon LO continued...



January started off a 2017 with the promise of still more fun activities and speakers to come. Getting us started was our 9 year old speaker, Conner Reaney. Conner is a member of the Field Consolidate Grade School Robotics Team. He explained the basics of building a robot and gave a demonstration with the robot he had built. Our community activity was to collect donations for Angels' Cove, an assistance center for young unwed mothers which provides counseling and help with basic necessities.

The remainder of our year looks even busier as we look forward to a "VIP Night" for our February meeting where each member is asked to bring a guest who has influenced their life in some way. While celebrating our love and appreciation for these individuals we will have a speaker from Senior Services to get us all focused in the right direction in our "maturity". Our community project will be donations to "Little Hearts" which is an organization started by a little girl who has had open heart surgery at St. Louis Children's Hospital. She wanted to give back for all the kindness she received and has started making hospitality packs for families of those receiving care at the hospital. We will be donating kleenx and chap sticks. February has also proven to be an exciting month for our Mt. Vernon Local with the selection of an Outstanding Working Women of the Year candidate for State Convention and a speaker for the Leadership Development Speak Off competition at the Convention. We are also proud to have made a nomination for the Chamber of Commerce Small Businessman (Business Woman) of the year. We are so excited to support all our candidates. The current Mt. Vernon President, Carol Burk, has agreed to run for President-Elect for the IFBW for next year as well and will giving a presentation on "You Can Become A Superwoman" at the State Convention in May. Whew! Let's go Mt. Vernon Local.

I know this was to be a short article, however our March events will be as exciting as the past ones this year. We will be holding a Soup and Sandwich Luncheon on March 20th to help raise funds for our scholarship program. Scholarship forms has been distributed to our local schools by our scholarship chairman and three \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded in May. We will also be holding a spring Candidates Forum in March show casing our Local candidates running for Mayor and Council. This year we have three candidates for the Mayoral position and four candidates to fill two vacancies on the Mt. Vernon City Council. This, of course, is besides our regular monthly meeting.

We have our speakers and programs lined up all the way through July, 2017 which a special emphasis on the "Great American Eclipse" which will be August 21, 2017 and be studied and focused on in the Mt. Vernon to Cairo area.

What a wonderful productive year it has been and will continue to be. Our Mt. Vernon Local has certainly lived up to my slogan of "Reorganize, Revitalize and Regrowth" this year. May and our installation of new officers is just around the corner. I can't wait to see why lies ahead for next year.

Thank you,

Carol Burk, President

Mt. Vernon Business Women's Club

State Spring Fun Day

Join the Centralia LO at the Cultural Society for Cocktails and Canvas.



DATE: Saturday, March 25, 2017

Time: 3pm - 6 pm

Place: Centralia Cultural Society

1250 East Rexford

Centralia, IL

Cost: \$25.00 per person

Come have a fun day of painting, wine and social time with friends.

Participants will create and paint a canvas with spring flowers. All art supplies, instructor and wine, tea, water and a variety of appetizers will be provided.

Please RSVP by March 18 to Tina Suarez at either email tsuarez2@hotmail.com or phone 618-247-3332 . You can pay either by mail or day of activity, Checks can be made out to Centralia BPW. If you mail the check please send to :

**Tina Suarez
PO Box 433
Sandoval, IL 62882**



WHAT CAN I DO IN CHAMPAIGN-URBANA?

For those of you who are planning to attend the IFBW Interim Board on November 12, 2016 and/or State Convention on May 5 - 7, 2017 in Champaign, Illinois, you may want to know about the community and what it has to offer you and anyone you bring with you. The following are suggestions close to the Hawthorn Suites for activities you may enjoy with local flavor. We have many fine national establishments that have stores in Champaign and Urbana as well, so we wanted to focus on our great local establishments!

Restaurants and Specialty Dining

- Bacaro, 113 N. Walnut St., Champaign
- Big Grove Tavern, 1 E. Main St., Champaign
- Black Dog Smoke & Ale House, 201 N. Broadway, Urbana
- Café Kopi, 109 N. Walnut St., Champaign
- Courier Cafe, 111 N. Race St., Urbana
- Crane Alley, 115 W. Main St., Urbana
- Cream and Flutter, 114 N. Walnut, Champaign
- Dancing Dog Eatery & Juicery (vegan), 126 W. Main St., Urbana
- El Toro, 723 S. Neil St., Champaign
- Esquire Lounge, 106 N. Walnut St., Champaign
- Escobar's Restaurant, 6 E. Columbia Ave., Champaign
- Farren's Pub & Eatery, 308 N. Randolph, Champaign
- Fiesta Café, 216 S. 1st St., Champaign
- Lil Porgy's Barbeque, 101 W. University, Urbana
- Manzella's Italian Patio, 115 S. 1st St., Champaign
- Merry Ann's Diner, 1510 S. Neil St., Champaign
- Milo's Restaurant, 2870 S. Philo Rd., Urbana
- Mirabelle Fine Pastries, 124 W. Main St., Urbana
- Nando Milano, 204 N. Neil St., Champaign
- Nitaya Thai, 134 W. Church St., Champaign
- Pekara Bakery & Bistro, 116 N. Neil St., Champaign—Bakery and speciality drinks
- Peking Garden Restaurant, 206 N. Randolph St., Champaign
- Radio Maria, 119 N. Walnut, Champaign
- Sam's Café, 115 N. Walnut St., Champaign
- Seven Saints, 32 E. Chester St., Champaign
- Siam Terrace, 212 W. Main St., Urbana



WHAT CAN I DO IN CHAMPAIGN-URBANA?

Continued...

Restaurants and Specialty Dining continued..

- Silvercreek, 402 N. Race St., Urbana
- Timpone's, 710 S. Goodwin, Urbana
- V. Picasso Wine Bar & Restaurant, 122 N. Neil St., Champaign
- Watson's Shack & Rail, 211 N. Neil St., Champaign

Shopping

- Alto Vineyards, 4210 N. Duncan Road, Champaign
- Art Mart, 1705 N. Prospect, Champaign
- Calico Jewelry, Lincoln Square Mall, Urbana
- Christopher's Fine Jewelry, 124 N. Neil St., Champaign
- Common Ground Co-op, Lincoln Square, Urbana
- Connections Retail Shop, Lincoln Square, Urbana
- Crossroads Corner Consignment, 723 S. Neil St., Champaign
- Dandelion Vintage & Used Clothing, 100 N. Chestnut St., Champaign
- Flora Gems, 302 W. Kirby, Champaign
- International Galleries, Lincoln Square, Urbana
- Gameday Spirit, 1422 S. Neil St., Champaign
- Jane Addams Book Shop, 208 N. Neil St., Champaign
- Karen's Klotset, 231 S. Mattis, Champaign
- Salvation Army Thrift Store, 109 W. John St., Champaign
- Spritz Jewelry Company, 205 N. Neil St., Champaign
- Strawberry Fields Natural Food Market, 306 W. Springfield, Urbana
- Ten Thousand Villages, 105 N. Walnut St., Champaign
- The I.D.E.A. Store, 28 E. Springfield, Second Floor, Champaign
- Walnut Street Tea Company, 115 S. Walnut St., Champaign



...and there is no better place to relax and be pampered than the BJ Grand Salon, 3006 Crossing Court, Champaign. It is about a 12 minute drive from the hotel and easy to find.





Past State Presidents Birthdays

September:

Fayrene Wright - September 26th

March:

Pat McNicholas - 22nd

May:

Cindy Heflin - 1st

Sonja Chamesse - 16th

Judy Bredeweg - 19th

April:

Lucille Anne Schott - 1st

Susie Dewaele - 7th

Tasha Roedl-Rhodes - 18th

Aina Holland - 19th

Calendar of Events

March 25 State Fun Day - Centralia Cultural Society, 1250 East Rexford, Centralia, IL

April 11 Equal Pay Day Rally - Chicago Daily Center

May 5 - 7 Annual State Convention in Champaign at the I Hotel.

For Local Organization events please go to the Google Calendar on the IFBWC website at www.ifbwc.org

Illinois Federation of Business Women's Clubs, Inc.

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**SEND TO: IFBWC, PO Box 1174,
Springfield, IL 62705-1174**

ONE FORM PER NEW/ RENEWAL

LO Treasurer, please complete one of the two:

1. Collect a check from the member that is for the state portion only
2. Request that your member write one check to your LO and the LO will then submit the appropriate amount to state.

The
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IFBW Mission Statement:

The mission of IFBW shall be to achieve equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education, and information.

Please send any articles to
the Illinois Bulletin Editor:

Tina Klein

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618.786.3058 phone • adminasst@ifbwc.org

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