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## Words from the President

### **The Buzz from Beverly**

Yesterday you may have seen me driving around town with my window halfway down. Sure, it was only 9 degrees in mid-January, but the breeze felt wonderful at that moment! Can you relate?

As I was driving, I was thinking about writing my “buzz” column for this month. It occurred to me that the Flint Women’s Forum is such a dynamic group of women that we can help change the direction of our community, despite the dismal economy. How can we do this you might ask?

Well if each member makes an effort to bring at least two other women to an upcoming meeting over the next three months, then we can stir up our network of *women with worth* in this community. When I say worth I don’t necessarily mean wealth, (although I know that some of you carry heavy pocketbooks); many of us have the political power, authoritative power or the inspirational power to make a difference in our community. The greater the numbers, the greater the impact we can have on others when we meet each month. Remember that confidence breeds empowerment; and empowerment breeds change. Amazing things can happen when we encourage one another to reach our full potential.

I think of the great women that have changed us all in recent years like Sybil Atwood, Olive Beasley, and our own Jan Carl. They relished the opportunity to regularly network with female movers and shakers. So let’s keep their spirit of sisterhood going and step up our membership efforts. Let’s begin with each member inviting one “*youngin*” and one “*legend*” to come and join the Flint Women’s Forum!

Stay warm this winter!

*Beverly Brown*  
*President, Flint Women’s Forum*

## **Our Mission**

The Flint Women's Forum brings together people of professional achievement and influence. Through educational programs and the exchange of ideas, experiences and resources, the members contribute to one another's professional advancement, increase the visibility of women leaders and facilitate the effectiveness of women in the community.

## **The Sharing Section**

– *Submission Deadline is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the Month*

- The **GASC Technology Center** will host its **Annual Open House** on Thursday, March 6, 2008 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. The entire community is invited to attend. Visitors can explore programs in Visual Communications, Forensic Science, PC Motion Graphics, Emergency Care, Culinary Arts, Cosmetology, House Construction and more! GASC is currently accepting applications for the fall from sophomores and juniors in Genesee County. For more information contact Beverly Brown at 760-1444, ext. 177.
- In February, the crash of bowling pins will become a familiar sound as the **29<sup>th</sup> Annual Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowling Challenge** gets underway. Pick one day and one hour to bowl between **February 20 – 24** and join hundreds of other bowlers, non-bowlers, families, friends, co-works and everyone else looking for a great way to have fun at this much-loved fundraising event. Through sponsorships and pledges, dollars are raised to support the mission of providing mentors to Genesee County youth through Big Brothers Big Sisters. Contact Ellen Brothers at 810.235.7274 for more details or visit [www.supportbbbskids.org](http://www.supportbbbskids.org).
- **Wine Women and Chocolate! February 9** - You are cordially invited to join us for this very unique women's only event offering a 5K snow shoe, cross country ski, and walking course on the beautiful [IMA Brookwood Golf Course](http://www.ima.org). Attend this fun event and help support local children through the IMA Recreation Fund and the Boys and Girls Club. Cross country skis and snowshoes will be provided by Shumaker's Ski & Snowboard. Representatives from Shumaker's will be available to help fit the equipment. Volunteers will be around the course to help women who find learning a new sport a bit challenging. Hospitality tents will be on the course offering hot chocolate, coffee, teas, cookies, fruit, soup, chocolate and wine! Relax after you finish the course and be pampered with mini-massages, manicures, make-up tips, and more! Wine tasting and pampering will begin at 2:00 p.m. You must be at least 21 years of age to attend this session. Cost is \$40 for advanced registration (strongly recommended) and \$50 at-the-door. Space is limited, so register at [www.winewomenandchocolate.org](http://www.winewomenandchocolate.org) or contact Diane Wojciechowski at (810) 249-7060, e-mail [dwojo@flintima.org](mailto:dwojo@flintima.org).
- Let **Avon** be your source for holiday ideas, great gift deals and convenient shopping. Visit Lynn Barbee's website, [www.youravon/lynnbarbee](http://www.youravon/lynnbarbee) to place an order and have the items shipped directly to your home or office. Lynn is also available by phone and email: 810-743-1036; [lookbeautifulwithavon@yahoo.com](mailto:lookbeautifulwithavon@yahoo.com).
- Let us expand our life ~ University of Michigan **Outreach Classes** are online and in your community! Classes include Ballroom Dancing, Introduction to Computers, Healthy Cooking, etc. For further information, call (810) 767-7030. To register online: <http://www.umf-outreach.edu/outreach/amaizing.htm>

- Nominations are being accepted for the **2008 class of the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame**. **The Hall** commemorates more than 200 women of this state who have distinguished themselves in a variety of fields of endeavor. Candidates for admission to the Hall of Fame must have been born in Michigan, achieved prominence within the state, *or* been a resident of the state for an extended period after achieving prominence elsewhere. The women may be living or deceased. Additionally, women's organizations may be nominated to the Hall. All nominations must be submitted by mail on approved nomination forms, found online at <http://www.michiganwomenshalloffame.org/pages/nomination.htm>. Printed versions may be obtained by calling the Michigan Women's Historical Center and Hall of Fame at (517) 484-1880 or by e-mailing [mail@michiganwomenshalloffame.org](mailto:mail@michiganwomenshalloffame.org). **The deadline for submissions is March 21, 2008.**

## **Forum Meeting**

- When:** *Tuesday, February 19, 2008, Noon*
- Where:** *The Flint Golf Club*
- Speakers:** *Marsha Lyttle, Director of the Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center, housed at Kettering University*
- Theme:** *Discover how the Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center can help new and existing businesses.*
- Menu:** *Chicken Alfredo or Grilled Vegetable Alfredo; Fresh Fruit and Yogurt Parfait*
- Cost:** *Members \$17; Guests \$20*

**Website** Visit our website: [www.flintwomensforum.org](http://www.flintwomensforum.org)

## **Membership**

### Recruitment Incentive

Building our membership strengthens the resources of the Flint Women's Forum and increases the networking benefit for all members. As an incentive for membership recruitment, any member who sponsors a new member is entitled to a certificate good for one free lunch at a regular meeting. Certificates are given upon new member induction.

### Birthdays

- Edna Green-Perry – February 6  
➤ Terri Irland-Munley – February 24

### Anniversaries

- Sherry Stewart – 4 years



## Member News

Do you have news to share or know some news about a fellow FWF member? This section is used for celebrating notable accomplishments, special occasions, and recognition. Send details to Mona Hendrickson, Membership Chair or Ellen Brothers, Newsletter Editor. See below for contact information.

## Membership Benefits

Sheree Blazejewski and Mona Henderickson, both Financial Advisors, would like to offer 401(k) analysis to help FWF members properly allocate funds within their plan. Just contact either one of us, a call or fax your statement and we will be happy to look at it for you.

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## Sustaining Membership

To recognize past membership involvement and a continued desire to be supportive of the Forum and its mission, a sustaining membership level was developed. Benefits and requirements for this membership level include:

1. Members in good standing of the FWF for a minimum of three years (not necessarily consecutive).
2. Must pay an annual membership fee of \$45.00.
3. Must have the ability to attend two monthly meetings per year at the member rate; additional meetings will be at the visitor rate.
4. Will be included in the member directory and identified as a 'Friend of the Flint Women's Forum'.

## Our Board Members

President – Beverly Brown .....(810) 760-1444..... [brownbev@gasc.flint.k12.mi.us](mailto:brownbev@gasc.flint.k12.mi.us)  
Past President – Teri Irland-Munley ..(810) 762-5404..... [teri.irland@abnamro.com](mailto:teri.irland@abnamro.com)  
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## January Member Meeting Highlights

- In January, the Flint Women's Forum met at the Big Eazy restaurant in Flint Township. Instead of our traditional gathering, the meeting was more casual and promoted time to get to know our fellow members a little better. Sherry Stewart put together a "Who Am I" activity. Members were asked to reveal a unique fact ahead of time to Sherry who put together an interesting quiz. For those of you who couldn't join us that day, see if you know who is who...answers are listed at the end.



Gloria Koster, Barbara Ward, Diane Hedderman

1. I have worked with Olympic athletes.
2. I worked in Manufactured Housing for 15 years.
3. I speak Russian, play piano and have two Masters Degrees.
4. I'm a problem solver and truly enjoy finding solutions. I'm the first person to call for help and take great pride in my reliability and genuine interest in helping others. I'm an eternal optimist who starts everyday with a positive attitude.
5. I belong to a book club that meets once a month (since 1992). I have a friend who is also in FWF that belongs to this book club.
6. I am an adoptive mom.
7. I sponsored an American Indian Cultural Group for inmates at Levinwood Federal Penitentiary.
8. I love roller coasters and my goal is to skydive once my kids are old enough to support themselves.
9. I was a sergeant in the US Air Force.
10. I love to cook. I like nothing better than getting out my cooking magazines and trying something new. I've been known to spend a cold winter day in the kitchen trying more than one new recipe.
11. I belong to another all women's group that encourages girls and women to get involved in the out of doors, including hunting and fishing.
12. I started an early childhood development center and a women's domestic violence program that included teaching women to play baseball and use the bat for more reasons than one in a third world country.

13. I worked as a probation officer.

14. I'm the only girl of five siblings.

15. I was a breeder of race horses and own a couple with my daughter that race out of KY.

ANSWERS:

(1) Tera Hamo Anderson; (2) Gloria Koster; (3) Yuliya Gaydayenko; (4) Kathy Rometty; (5) Jenean Kleinedler (6) Lynn Barbee; (7) Barbara Ward; (8) Teri Irland Munley (9) Mona Hendrickson; (10) Kathy Zandstra; (11) Sherry Stewart; (12) Deb Pascoe; (13) Ellen Brothers; (14) Beverly Brown; (15) Gloria Tomaszewski

**FOCUS**

Ellen Brothers, Editor

**FOCUS** is a monthly publication of Flint Women's Forum. Submissions are welcomed and appreciated. Send to Ellen Brothers, 2560 Tyrone St, Flint MI 48504, or email: [ebrothers@bbbsflint.org](mailto:ebrothers@bbbsflint.org)