



Flint Women's Forum

Volume 24

September, 2005

Issue 2

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.

Words from the President

Greetings to All!

Although we surely have plenty of wonderful warm weather to come, September points us all in the direction of fall, like it or not. Luckily autumn is a very favored time of year, particularly for Michigan residents. September is also proving to be a very busy time for the Flint area. We have The Flint Journal's Women's Expo on the 9th and 10th, the Uptown Tours are in full swing, Applewood estate has another open house and much more. The Flint Sesquicentennial is scheduled for the weekend of the 23rd-25th. The planning is far from completion, but from the sounds of things, it will be a great time to experience special activities taking place at some of Flint's wonderful establishments and newly developing projects. Hopefully, everyone can make it to the September FWF meeting as our speaker, Lynn Smith, will also provide us with updates and plans for new exciting developments. We all know there are many challenges in our area, but the dynamics are changing and the positive visioning for transforming Flint is actually materializing. Take an uptown tour, bring some questions for Lynn, or attend some of the events at the Sesquicentennial, or do it all! Some good advice someone once gave me, *focus on the successes, even if the negative outweighs the positive*. It will keep you motivated, action-oriented and focused on what is truly important!

~ Ellen Brothers

The Sharing Section – *Submission Deadline is the 4th Tuesday of the Month*

- Save the Date - The YWCA will host the **7th Annual Circle of Women** luncheon on November 9, 2005, 11:30am – 1:30pm. This inspirational event is designed to demonstrate how the YWCA impacts the lives of individuals. Over 400 women attend this luncheon each year. For more information, contact Ellen Brothers at (810) 238-7621, ext. 310.
- If you need a student for an Internship or can spend some time with a student who would be **"Job Shadowing"**, please contact: Janet Roberts - Technology Coordinator @ GASC Technology Center by phone (810) 760-1444 Ext. 201 or email roberjan@gasc.flint.k12.mi.us. Or contact Jeff Newcombe - Computer Hardware Tech. Instructor @ GASC Technology Center by phone (810) 760-1444 Ext. 128 or email newcojef@gasc.flint.k12.mi.us.
- **The "Distinguished Leadership Award"**, established in 2005, is the highest award bestowed upon the recipient by the Michigan Chamber Foundation's Leadership Michigan Program. (You do not need to be a Leadership Michigan Alumni or a member of the Chamber to be nominated.) This premier award will honor individuals who have demonstrated excellence in leadership and exemplify

the goals and aspirations of Leadership Michigan. Nominators must address four areas for the nominee including Leadership Qualities, Achievement, Vision, and Developing Others.

The submission deadline is Aug. 10. The selected nominee will be honored at Leadership Michigan's Annual Leadership Dinner on Thursday, Oct. 20, 2005 at the Henry Ford Eagle Tavern in Greenfield Village. For more information on the annual leadership dinner, you can visit www.michamber.com. The nomination form should be available on-line soon.

- **Senior Health Expo** to be held at Holiday Inn Gateway Center on Friday, Oct. 28th from 9 AM to 3 PM. Exhibitors, health screenings, flu shots, seminars and lots of other activities. Admission is free. If you are interested in being an exhibitor contact Shelley Boros at The Flint Journal, 810.766.6271.
- The long awaited **bd's Mongolian Barbeque** restaurant has opened for business. The hours are Sunday – Thursday 11:00 a.m. – 10: 00 p.m. and Friday & Saturday 11:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
- Jenean Klinedler has started selling and supporting a new CRM (Customer Relationship Management) Software – **Infotrac Software**. For more information contact Jenean Klinedler @ 810-230-0300 or via email @ jenean@tedge.com.
- The Flint Journal is hosting the **Women's Expo** on Friday, September 9, 2005 • 12 Noon – 9 PM and Saturday, September 10, 2005 • 10 AM – 6 PM at the Perani Arena. Tickets are \$6.00 at the door or \$5 at any VG Food Store. More information online at www.flintjournal.com/expo or call Lois Revenaugh @ 810-766-6161.
- **Standard Federal Bank** is changing its name to **LaSalle Bank Midwest** later this year. There are no other changes taking place – our headquarters will remain in Troy, MI, all people and policies will remain unchanged. LaSalle Bank, our sister bank headquarters in Chicago, operating in 23 states.
- Flint Area Chamber of Commerce is accepting applications from WOMEN business owners to participate in the **Athena Powerlink Program**. The Women's Business Council runs this program. It is designed to assist the business owner in taking their company to the next level. It is not for "start up" businesses and certain criteria must be met. Call Kramer Ruth Kramer at (810) 232-7101 for more information.
- Planned Parenthood of East Central Michigan, Inc. is offering **sexuality education** for significant (m) others & growing up daughters. There is a program for pre-teen ages 9-13 and another for 14 –18. The classes are ongoing – please call (810) 238-3631, ext. 332 to register.
- 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>
- Get support for your business – whether your business is existing or just in your head! Contact the **Small Business & Technology Development Center** at (810) 767-6494 for individual assistance and workshops. This center is operated through the University Outreach, University of Michigan – Flint.

Website

Visit our website. **We now have monthly newsletters posted on-line.** We want to know what you think. www.flintwomensforum.org

Membership

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.

Please welcome our newest members . . .

- ✚ Gloria Koster, Associate Broker at Cooper Commercial Group Sponsored by Jamie Cowan
- ✚ Dawn Reha, CEO at Girl Scouts Fair Winds Council sponsored by Beverly Brown
- ✚ Viva Cain, Dealer Principal at SPACE Inc. sponsored by Betty Bennett
- ✚ Mona Hendrickson, Financial Consultant and Financial Specialist at Smith Barney, Inc. sponsored by Ellen Brothers
- ✚ Gloria Tomaszewski, Assistant Vice President at Fifth Third Bank, Business Development Group sponsored by Janette Sullivant
- ✚ Rebecca Schmidt, Realtor at Tremaine Real Estate sponsored by Jennifer Tremaine

Birthdays

- ✚ Gloria Koster
- ✚ Dawn Reha

Anniversaries

- ✚ Janette Sullivant – 10 yrs.

Member News

Debbie Pascoe has moved to Child Advocacy Center located at 515 East St., Flint, MI 48503. Her new numbers are: Phone: 238-3333 and Fax: 238-7947.

Lili Donaldson, Marketing Director, at Genesee Valley shopping center in Flint Township, won an achievement award from the Detroit Chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators in recognized for her work on a World War II 60th anniversary memorial celebration.

Sustaining Membership

In recognition of this commitment, previous membership, and continued desire to be supportive of the Forum and its mission, we have a new category of membership: Friend of the Flint Women's Forum.

Requirements for joining this category and attendant benefits include:

1. Must have been a member 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.'

Board Members

President – Ellen Brothers	(810) 238-7621	ellenbrothers@ywcaflint.org
President Elect – Teri Irland Munley	(810) 762-5404	teri.irland@abnamro.com
Past President – Sheree Blazejewski.....	(810) 733-8907	sheree.blazejewski@ubs.com
Secretary – Kathy Zanstra.....	(810) 767-0136	kathy@mfo.com
Treasurer – Sara Jo Gallock	(810) 233-3130	sara.jo.gallock@abc.com
Membership –Lois Revenaugh	(810) 766-6161	lrevenaugh@flintjournal.com
Program Chair – Sherry Collins.....	(810) 342-1058	sherryc@mclaren.org
Public Relations – Pam Bishop.....	(810) 233-3130	bishopp@abc.com
Editor – Jamie Cowan.....	(810) 238-4617	jcowan@lewis-knopf.com
Member At Large - Betty Bennett	(810) 577-9572	bettyboop48506@comcast.net

Board Notes

- **Special Note Regarding Invoices** - There are some changes that must be implemented regarding financial transactions for this year. Members will only receive invoices for annual dues. Monthly member lunches must be paid in advance or at the time of the luncheon as you check in. If your company pays for your lunch, a receipt will be provided to you so you may seek reimbursement. Please contact Sara Jo Gallock if you need to explore another arrangement.
- FWF Has An Official Address! The Flint Women's Forum has invested in a post office box to minimize interruptions and more efficiently expedite communication and business! Our official address is: **Flint Women's Forum, PO Box 1328, Flint MI 48501-3287**

Mail can be sent to the attention of specific members, but requires at minimum all of the above information. For example, placing "**Attn: Sara Jo Gallock**" under Flint Women's Forum and then the remainder of the address is sufficient.

- **Notes from the Secretary** - Kathy Zandstra
 - On July 14th 2005, the board of directors of the FWF held their yearly strategic planning meeting. Here is a brief description of what was discussed.
 - Recently the By-laws were changed. After reviewing them one more time, some new changes were added. The changes will be made and presented to the general membership for a future vote of approval.
 - The newsletter will be made available on the first Tuesday of the month along with the general membership meeting notice. You may access it by going to the FWF web page.
 - The FWF is looking for additional new members. The goal of the group is to attain 75 total members. The focus of the group is to continue to add members from a diverse group of professions, age, and race. If you know of someone, please bring her to a luncheon.
 - A list of members' birthdays (month and day) will be published in the newsletter.
 - The FWF is looking to add to our list of prospective members. We will use this list for mailings. Please contact Pam Bishop with names. The goal is 100 names.
 - In order to better market our luncheon speakers, the program will be set several months in advance.
 - The Treasurer position is still in transition to Sara Jo Gallock. Thank you for your patience during this transition.

Forum Meeting

- When:** Tuesday, September 20 – noon
- Where:** Flint Golf Club
- Speaker:** Lynn Smith
- Theme:** What's Up Downtown Community Tours and Downtown Development.
- Menu:** *Cottage Cheese Fruit Plate or Salmon Asparagus Salad*
- Cost:** *\$17.00 for members and \$19.00 for guests. It is essential that you RSVP to Sara Jo Gallock at (810) 233-3130.*

PROPOSED BY-LAW REVISIONS

**As of 8/15/05
& 9/7/05**

Article V – Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors shall consist of no less than seven, not more than ~~nine~~ **ELEVEN** voting members. The elected members of the board of directors shall consist of the offices of the President, President – Elect, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer and chairpersons of the Standing committees and other committees established by the board of directors to address specific issues or needs from time to time; however, chairpersons of such special committees shall be appointed by the President.

Article VI - Duties of the Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors will be responsible for planning, approval or rejection of new members and approval or rejection of recommendations from the committees. The Board of Directors shall meet regularly. Members of the Board of Directors should be able to assume the duties and responsibilities of their offices and to regularly attend Board of Directors meetings. A member unable to participate, for whatever reason, should resign from the Board. Resignation is mandatory from the Board if the member misses three consecutive **UNEXCUSED** meetings or cumulative total of four during the term of office.

Article VII – Officers Duties:

Secretary

The Secretary shall keep minutes of the Board of Directors meetings and fulfill other duties as requested by the President and Board of Directors.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Shall keep record of the proceedings of the meetings of the club and of the board
- May sign payments, orders & checks drawn by the Treasurer
- Conducts correspondence not specifically assigned to other officers or committees
- Help update membership ~~yearbook~~ **DIRECTORY** with Membership Chair
- Sends out nomination forms and ballots
- **SUPPLIES MONTHLY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AND BOARD MEETING INFORMATION TO THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR.**

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall ensure that dues are collected; that monies collected, deposited and disbursed are properly accounted for. The Treasurer shall report the Forum's financial condition to the Board of Directors monthly and to the membership annually. The Treasurer shall cause the financial records of the Forum to be audited annually, by an ~~independent~~ audit committee or by an independent certified accountant, selected by the Board of Directors. **THE COMMITTEE SHALL CONSIST OF AT LEAST THREE PEOPLE INCLUDING ONE MEMBER OF THE FWF BOARD AND ONE MEMBER FROM THE MEMBERSHIP AT LARGE.**

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Prepare annual budget and submit it to the Board before consideration by the club
- Within 30 days after the close of the fiscal year (July 31), all accounts shall be audited as provided by the Finance Committee. Audited reports shall be returned to Treasurer within 30 days (August 31). Audited financial statement will be presented to the membership at September meeting.
- Responsible for **PREPARING AND SIGNING CHECKS**, maintaining bank accounts and preparing signature cards as needed.
- Sends out monthly meeting notices, collects membership RSVP's and notifies lunch venue of person count.
- **RECORDS MEMBERSHIP ATTENDANCE AND COLLECTS LUNCHEON PAYMENTS AT MONTHLY MEETINGS.**
- Sends out **NEW MEMBER AND CURRENT** membership renewal notices. **CONTACTS ALL DELINQUENT MEMBERS BETWEEN JUNE 1 AND SEPTEMBER 1.**
- Keeps an accurate record of membership and provides list to membership chair on a monthly basis prior to membership meeting.

Membership

Evaluate prospective members' qualifications and make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

- The Membership Committee shall review and present each application and recommend appropriate action to the Board of Directors. In all matters of application for membership in the Forum, the Board of Directors shall make the final decision to affirm or override the recommendation of the Membership Committee.
- Chairs Membership Committee.
- Conducts all correspondence as it relates to membership
- ~~Shall record and~~ Promotes attendance
- Help update membership ~~yearbook~~ **DIRECTORY** with Secretary
- Oversees membership growth and development and diversity
- Arranges and presents induction of new members
- Distributes new member gifts

Newsletter Editor

Inform the membership of Forum activities and information about Forum members.

- Disseminates written information to active, ~~and~~ sustaining **AND PROSPECTIVE** members in a monthly publication. This information should include a recap of the past general meeting and announcements, board meeting highlights and any special announcements to the membership.
- Coordinates website with Public Relations.
- Distribute “roving reporter” information sheet at general meetings.

Article XIII - Dues:

The annual dues of the Flint Women's Forum shall be fixed by the Board of Directors from year to year, as recommended by the Treasurer. Forum dues are payable June 1. Any member whose dues are in arrears ~~August 1~~ **SEPTEMBER 1** shall be dropped from membership. Members joining after January 1 shall pay one-half year's dues.

The Flint Women's Forum recognizes members as individuals, not as corporate representatives, and therefore considers them a member until the end of the membership year. There are no corporate memberships in the Flint Women's Forum. Any new employee of a member's former employer will have to undergo the application for membership process, and does not replace the former employee-member simply because of position or place of employment.

Article XIV - Amendments:

In order to amend these Bylaws in whole or in part, a proposed change must be submitted in writing ~~and read aloud~~ to the general membership at a regularly scheduled meeting. Balloting on the proposed amendment will be held at a regularly scheduled meeting no less than thirty (30) days, nor more than sixty (60) days, following presentation of the proposed amendment. All members in good standing will be notified in writing **THROUGH THE NEWSLETTER** of the proposed amendment and the manner in which the balloting will be held.

Article XV - Accounting Year:

The accounting year of the Flint Women's Forum shall be the **FISCAL** year **JULY 1 THROUGH JUNE 30**.

Note of Thanks

The Flint Women's Forum would like to recognize Lewis & Knopf, CPAs for their help in the printing of our newsletter.

FOCUS

Jamie Cowan, Editor
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FOCUS is a monthly publication of Flint Women's Forum. Submissions are welcomed and appreciated. Send them to Jamie Cowan, 5206 Gateway Ctr., #100, Flint, MI 48507, fax to (810) 238-5083, or email to jcowan@lewis-knopf.com