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Words from the President

Greetings To All!

Plans for the **“Celebration of Women”** event are well underway. Our guest speaker is Stephannie Bailey, Director of the Leadership Institute – Women with Purpose, Inc. The mission of the Leadership Institute is to provide educational programming for the development and enhancement of leadership skills of women. The Institute is committed to educating and inspiring women by offering opportunities and resources for personal growth through which women will be better prepared as leaders in their lifelong endeavors.



Remember, the April luncheon will be held on **Friday, April 28** 11:30am – 1:30pm instead of our typical third Tuesday of the month. Event sponsorship opportunities are still available to help offset expenses. Please contact Sheree Blazejewski or me for more information as soon as possible. We are again assembling gift bags with items collected from our members to help promote our individual endeavors. Please bring at least 100 items or more if possible. We will return any unused items back to you.

Also, please note that everyone, including FWF members, will receive an invitation in the mail for the event and you should RSVP using the enclosure provided. We will not be sending out an email RSVP option for this particular luncheon.

The **Outstanding New Member** award will be presented at the April luncheon as well. Members eligible to vote will be receiving a ballot soon. In addition, board recruitment is just around the corner. If you are interested in serving on the board, contact Teri Irland Munley. It is a great way to become a little more involved and connected!

Mark your calendars for April 28th and invite some guests!

Have a wonderful month!

~ Ellen Brothers

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.

Forum Meeting

When: *Tuesday, March 21 – noon*

Where: *The Flint Golf Club*

Speaker: *Valerie Warren, Vice President of Administration and Safety for Dee Cramer, Inc. In 2005, Governor Granholm appointed her to at two-year term on the State's Construction Safety Commission.*

Theme: *Valerie Warren will discuss the pros and cons of working for nearly 35 years in the male-dominated world of heating and cooling.*

Menu: *Choice of: Broiled Whitefish or Vegetable Risotto*

Cost: *\$17.00 for members and \$19.00 for guests. It is essential that you RSVP to Sara Jo Gallock at (810) 233-3130.*

The Sharing Section

– Submission Deadline is the 4th Tuesday of the Month

- The U-M Flint Recreation Center is hosting **"Women's Night Out"** on **Thursday, March 16th** from 4-8 p.m. Free Admission to Women 16 and Older. There will be Door Prizes, Free Snack Bags for the first 300 Women. Fitness and Fun for You: Cardio Kickboxing, Aqua Fitness, Low Impact Aerobics, Mind-Body Classes: Pilates, Yoga, and NIA, Spinning, and Latin Dancing. Also, Shop the Women's Marketplace! Vendors with Specialty Products for Women, Holistic Health Fair, Community Services for Women, Chair Massage - \$1/Minute (5 minute minimum). Support a Cause! - Support American Cancer Society Daffodil Days Fundraiser, Vase of Daffodils - \$10/each - Bouquet Only - \$7/each. For more info Contact UM-Flint Recreation Center to place your order or for more information (810) 762-3441. This event is Co-sponsored by: Women's Educational Center, Office of Student Life, Office of University Outreach, Flint Association of University of Michigan Alumnae, and Staff Council and can be reached at (810) 762-3441.
- **TO BE OR NOT TO BE: Four Hundred Years of Vanitas Painting** is running **February 4, 2006 - April 2, 2006** in the Hodge Gallery. This exhibition presents 35 works representing the vanitas genre. Each work of art emphasizes the visual and philosophical content of vanitas as a meditative image that encodes the interplay of morality and excess. Themes of transience, the ephemeral nature of beauty, and the fragility of human life are addressed in these visually powerful works. Paintings from collections across the country will be included in this diverse exhibition, with works ranging in date from the 17th to the 21st century by artists from France, Germany, Flanders, the Netherlands,

Italy and the United States. For more information visit the Flint Institute of Arts website: <http://www.flintarts.org/>

- **Whaley Children's Center is celebrating its 80th Anniversary.** We have some fun new products for sale this year to mark this special occasion, we are offering a canvas tote bag, a travel mug, a long sleeve t-shirt and pen, all have the Whaley logo on them. If you are interested in purchasing any of the items, please contact the Development Department at (810) 234-3603.
- Junior Achievement of Greater Genesee Valley presents The **2006 Economic Update Luncheon** on **April 4, 2006** at Genesys Conference Center from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Featured speakers are Glenn Hansen, Senior Vice President of the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank-Detroit Branch and Sam Kahan, Senior Branch Economist of the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank-Detroit Branch. Individual ticket(s) are \$50 per person. Table sponsorships for \$500 include eight luncheon tickets and recognition in the program. There are also higher levels of sponsorships available if your organization would be interested. If you would like to attend the event, please contact Janette Sullivant at (810) 766-6032 or email at Janette.Sullivant@plantemor.com.
- A **Salute To Sybyl Atwood** will be held on **Thursday, May 11, 2006** at 5:30 – 6: 30 p.m., Cocktails; 6:30 – 7:00 p.m., Dinner; 7:00 – 8:30 p.m., Program in the Atrium at the Great Lakes Technology Center. The Honorary Co-Chairs, Libby Maynard and Helen Philpott will host the event. This event allows the community will honor Sybyl Atwood for her many, many years of passionate community involvement and service. Cost for the event are \$500 Per Table sponsor and Individual Tickets \$75 each. For more information please contact Dale Weighill at resource@gfn.org
- If your organization is looking for a different type of fundraiser call bd's Mongolian barbeque and ask about the **"Guest Griller Program"**. Call the restaurant at (810) 732-1132 or contact Betty Bennett at (810) 577-9572.
- 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.
- Jenean Klinedler has started selling and supporting **Infotrac Software**, a new CRM (Customer Relationship Management). For more information contact Jenean Klinedler @ (810) 230-0300 or via email @ jenean@tedge.com.
- 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. 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.

Anniversaries

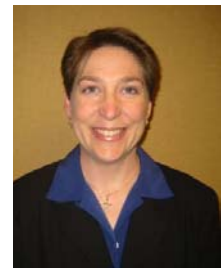
- Debbie Pascoe – 2 yrs.
- Lili Donaldson – 2 yrs.
- Ellen Brothers – 3 yrs.
- Kathi Horton – 14 yrs.



Member Profile

- Getting To Know Our Members

This month's member profile is **Jamie Cowan.**



1. **How did you learn about the Flint Women's Forum?** I learned about FWF from Judy Bernethy and Anita Abrol. They both invited me to several meetings.
2. **What year did you join?** I joined FWF in 2001. I was immediately recruited to the Treasurer position. It was a great way to get to know all the wonderful ladies in the group.
3. **Who invited you and how did she convince you to join?** Judy and Anita both invited me over the course of a couple of years. There really was no need for convincing – I was blown away by the stature of the group and knew I wanted to be a part of this dynamic and impressive group of women.
4. **Where do you work? For how long? Tell us about a typical day in your job.** I am a Manager for Lewis & Knopf, CPA and have been at the firm for 9 years. A typical day on my job is anything but typical. I cover client work from compiling financial statements to supervising an audit. When the phone rings, it could range from a simple 1040 question to a complex calculation related to a lease or buy decision. My job is very fast paced and exciting. The best part is the people.

5. **Do you have any children or pets? If so, how many?** I have three girls. My husband's first daughter is Jesika (16) who is a junior at Linden High School. Samantha (4) is a chip off the old block and Mackenzie (21 months) and is just starting to share her personality.
6. **What are your interests and hobbies?** Anything related to my family. I am very active with the girls. We do many community events. I am trying to make them into runners. They have each completed two races already. Other hobbies include card and board games.
7. **My dream job, as a businesswoman would be:** To balance my current position with a part-time teaching at a university. I enjoy teaching and connected best with the professors who had real world experiences to complement the text.

Recognition

- Congratulations to Jenean Kleinedler. She has earned the Accountmate Elite Business Partner status for the Accounting and CRM software that Technical Edge, represents.

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.'

Our 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 Zandstra	(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) 342-4477	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

Notes from the Membership – Lois Revenaugh

- The **2006 FWF Directories** were distributed at the January meeting. They will be available at the registration table for the next couple of meetings. If you have not received yours, please arrange to pick them up.

Notes from the President Elect – Teri Irland Munley

- Please watch your email (or postal service mail if applicable) for your upcoming ballot for the **2005-2006 Outstanding New Member Award**. This award is given annually to a member who was inducted during the previous two years (1/1/04 through 12/31/05) who has shown superior dedication and commitment to advancing the mission of the Flint Women's Forum. Only members who are not eligible to receive award are eligible to vote. Ballots will be returned to Teri Irland Munley through email, fax, or postal service. The Award Committee will make the final decision and the award will be given at our April Celebration of Women Event.

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

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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.