

May 2009

Let me start off by saying Thank You to each and everyone of you who have helped me in one way or another over the past two years. I could not have done any of the past two years without your support.

As I have been thinking back over my 11 years in Uptown I have actually grown in my confidence and presentation in front of large crowds. I have learned to conduct meetings and chair various committees. To actually think where I started in Uptown as the telephone committee chair, which consisted of calling each member on the phone to tell about events or take lunch reservations for the head count at the Petroleum Club to serving as president has been a complete pleasure. My mentors have always cheered me on and been there to give me advice any time I was in doubt of my next move.

To those before me and those who will come after me, let us continue to remember what our main focus or goal is as a member of BPW...Building Powerful Women: Women actually helping other women. We see it all around us. We can actually be a part of it by volunteering to be on a committee, to chair an event, to travel to out of town meetings and to be there when others need encouraging words. To quote a famous singer, Helen Reddy, "I Am Woman Hear Me Roar", never made much sense to me until I became a member of Uptown.

As we come to the close of our 2008-2009 year our nominating committee, chaired by Patti Humphrey, presented a strong slate of nominees. With the help of the committee, Shirley Harris, Donette Marble and Debbie Gann they encouraged the following members to run for our 2009-2010 offices. For president, Debbie Gann of Arcadis US Inc.; 1st vice president, Stacy Nelson of the Bosworth Company; 2nd vice president, Jennifer Birkla of Robert Half International/Office Team; Treasurer, Jerri Ripplinger of Midland Fair Havens; and Secretary, Mona Bethany of T. Bob Amthor Co. Voting will take place on May 27, 2009 at the Petroleum Club noon luncheon. This luncheon meeting is closed to guests and members need to be current on dues to vote. We will also be taking nominations from the floor for each of these positions.

Our last program meeting for the year is on May 13th and will be at the Petroleum Club at noon. We will have Safe Place giving the presentation on Violence against Women. For reservations contact Debbie Gann at 687-5400.

State Convention is June 11th – 14th in Fort Worth. If you would like more information concerning registration contact Glenda Knox at 570-6612.

Installation of the newly elected officers for Uptown will be June 17th. More information about this will follow.

Again, thank you for sharing this great organization with me. It has been a pleasure serving Uptown.

Sincerely,

Sheila Warren *Uptown BPW 2008 - 2009 President*
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