



Women's Council
OF GREATER BATON ROUGE

Connecting, Promoting & Empowering Women

Special
points of
interest:

- Holiday Luncheon History
- Photo Gallery Update
- Meet & Greet
- Member Events coming up- you won't want to miss!
- Next WCGBR Council Meeting Thursday, Jan. 14th, 11:30am

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Erica Malone
Editor

Women's TIME

December 2009

WCGBR's Annual Holiday Luncheon

Someone back in 2004 had a great idea to have a holiday luncheon in place of our regular meeting in December. The idea was to have a social occasion for members to enjoy getting to know each other better. The first one was held on December 9, 2004 at DeAngelo's on Jefferson. Each person ordered from the menu and paid individually. Everyone brought a gift for the ladies at the Battered Women's program. The luncheon was so much fun that it quickly became an annual event.

On December 1, 2005, the luncheon was held at Juban's for the first time and has been held there ever since. Lunch is one price with three menu options. Juban's has a huge wreath at the entrance, there's a beautifully decorated tree near the reception desk, and a roaring fireplace across from the bar. Our room is also decorated. Members always look very festive and everyone is in the holiday spirit. 2006 was the first year that we attempted to learn about different holiday customs and traditions. Bringing a gift for a designated charity also became a tradition.

Last year the luncheon was escalated to a planning committee with Irma Plummer and Ramona Tauzin as co-chairs. It was the first year that a formal invitation was sent out. It was beautifully done in red and green and just spoke "celebration". Unfortunately it snowed on December 11 and the event was cancelled. Since we missed last year's event, no one will want to miss this year's luncheon. It is one of the nicest things we do.

Karen Groves, Historian

Holiday Greetings from The Women's Council

Wishing you wonderful holidays graced by the presence, warmth, and love of family and friends. Because of the efforts of so many of you, this has been a landmark year of incredible accomplishment and growth for Women's Council. Thank you all for your contributions, and especially the extraordinary work and dedication of those of you who serve as officers, committee chairs, project heads, and board members. This is a unique organization, and I am grateful and so honored to be a part of it and to have the opportunity to meet and work with so many wonderful women. As we celebrate the close of one year and the beginning of another with its many possibilities and opportunities, I wish all of you and yours a safe and happy holiday season and all the best in the coming year.

Anita White
WCGBR President

The Women's Council of Greater Baton Rouge

cordially invites you to our

Holiday Luncheon

December 10, 2009

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Juban's Restaurant
3739 Perkins Road
Baton Rouge, LA

Cost: \$25

**Come experience the "Sights and Sounds of the Season"
Featuring Holiday celebrations and traditions
From around the world**

Holiday giving this year will be in the form of donations to the Food Bank

Please bring non-perishable food items as your holiday gift

Suggested value: \$10

R.S.V.P. with payment for the luncheon must be received by December 4, 2009

R.S.V.P. to Kristina at (225) 928-4193 or Kristina@ShapiroAndShapiro.com

Payment can be mailed to:

Kristina Shapiro
1500 Lobdell Avenue, Suite B
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806

www.wcgr.com

PayPal not available for this event

Meet & Greets Bring New Members



Some Meet & Greet Attendees pose for a picture Thursday.

The Women's Council of Greater Baton Rouge held its Fall Meet and Greet Open House at the First United Methodist Church on Thursday, November 12. Twenty-eight members

welcomed ten new and forty prospective members for lunch and a brief program during which President Anita White explained the mission of the Women's Council and Membership Chair Martha Dishongh introduced each committee chair to talk about her committee's purpose and its goals for 2010. At least five women decided to join the WCGBR on this day.

An evening Meet and Greet was held in October in conjunction with Market Place, the WCGBR small business members group. Attending that event were

eighteen members and twelve new and prospective members.

Thanks to all the wonderful women who supported us to make these events a success, including our caterer Pam Hardy, all guests who brought a dish, all who attended, all who helped with planning and organizing, and all those who joined our organization today. Click [here](#) to view more photos from the Meet & Greets.

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Special Events By Members

Girls Hope Scholar Performing in Ballet Recital

Rachel, a Girls Hope Scholar, will be dancing at a free recital Wednesday, December 9th at 6:30PM at Independence Park Theatre. Each person attending for Rachel counts as a vote for her to win a prize. For more information on the event, call Erica at 346-5095. For more info on Boys Hope Girls Hope, visit our website at www.bhqhbr.org

Yelp! Adoption Events in B.R.:

No Kill BR, an initiative to end the euthanization of healthy and treatable companion animals in the Greater Baton Rouge area announces upcoming pet adoption events. For more info, click [here](#).

If you have an announcement for the next newsletter email Erica at bookbooglar@yahoo.com

HELP WANTED:

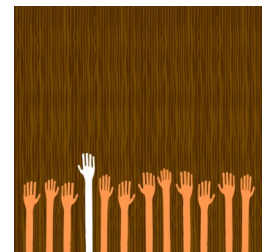
RESOURCE FAIR NEEDS HELP

Calling individuals, organizations, schools, and businesses offering services of particular interest to women.

The resource fair offers display space at our planned conferences on improving the lives of women--money, work, family, personal. Our wonderful program offers sixteen informational sessions to conference attendees. We are still finalizing the place and date--late winter or early spring.

If you are interested in participating or helping, or for more information, please e-mail member@wcgbr.com or call (225) 302-8018 Ext. 5. Give your name and contact information and a brief description of your participation interest.

Other Help needed. Please click [here](#) for more information on how you can help.



Like to help us out??? We'd love to have you!

2010 Membership Renewals Due January 1, 2010

Membership dues are for calendar years. So 2010 WCGBR Membership renewals are due January 1, 2010.

NOTE: If you joined as a New Member after September 1, 2009, your membership is paid through the end of 2010.

To renew your membership and keep receiving member benefits, please renew by January 1, 2010.

You can renew your membership by mailing your dues or renewing online. Details on each option are below:

To renew by MAIL, send your check to the following address:

Women's Council of Greater Baton Rouge.
P. O. Box 80138
Baton Rouge, LA 70898

To renew ONLINE:

1. Click the RENEW NOW link in the top right corner of the WCGBR website at www.wcgr.com.
2. Enter your Membership ID (available under your profile when you log in to the Member Area)
3. Follow the online screens to complete.
4. Pay online using PayPal or mail in your check to above address.

The membership dues are as follows:

- Individuals \$30
- Non Profit \$55
- Small Business \$65
- Corporation \$100

If you decide not to renew your membership, please notify Membership Committee at wcgr09@yahoo.com or Martha Dishongh at 225-752-6628. Also feel free to contact Membership Committee if you need more information or your member ID number.

Women's Council Photo Gallery updated on Website



Many thanks to Mary Jacob for all of her work uploading our new photos to the WCGBR Photo Gallery! Now you can view the most recent photos from Women's Council events on our [website](#).

Click [here](#) to view pictures.

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Women's Marketplace warmly welcomes all newcomers who wish to come share our experiences in starting small businesses or working independently. This is a sister meeting to the daytime meeting, all are welcome.

Women's Market Place, the evening meeting for women interested in business, meets the 4th Thursday of the month at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Tara Blvd at Old Hammond. 6:00 pm rsvp4pm@gmail.com to make your reservation for dinner. \$10 members, \$12 guests

Nominations Open for Officers and Board Members for 2010

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- Nominations are open for Officers and Board Members
- Download nomination form [here](#).

You may nominate yourself or someone else, but please get her consent first if you nominate someone else.

Member Spotlight



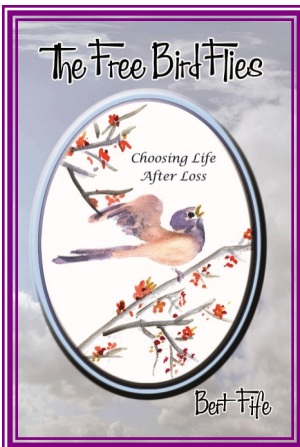
WC Member, Linda Allred (right) with client, Chantelle Soileau.

I smile every time I look at this picture of me and Chantell Soileau from Walker, LA taken last week at the Premier Chapter of BNI. Chantell used my Stop Smoking NOW Self-Hypnosis Home Study System to become a non-smoker. Chantell works for Big Bob's Flooring Outlet in **Gonzales, LA**, and her boss Randy Dugas, a fellow BNI member, told her about me. I am so happy Chantell trusted me to help her become a non-smoker. I truly believe that every time I help someone stop smoking my Dad smiles down on me from heaven. Look for Chantell's testimony soon in the local **Coffee News of Baton Rouge**.

If you know of anyone that you love and care about who would like to stop smoking, I know a hypnotist I can recommend. It would be an honor and privilege for me to help them quit this terrible habit once and for all.

-Linda Allred

www.lindaallred.com



Thanks in part to the support and encouragement from WCGBR Friends, my book **The Free Bird Flies...Choosing Life After Loss** will be released mid December. It has truly taken a village to get it published and through it all, you have been so understanding when I couldn't be available. When faced with life's challenges to Choose Life After Loss, it's helpful to channel your energy where you find passion and purpose that aligns with yours. Once again, WCGBR is truly a source for career and personal support. Please go to www.Thefreebirdflies.com for some suggestions to show compassion when you don't know what to do or say to support others in their time of loss. Happy Holidays from my family to yours.

-Bert Fife

Cover of WCGBR member, Bert Fife's, new book.



The Baton Rouge Lady Barbarians rugby team.

The ladies rugby team has been a busy group of women over the last several weeks. These women are a relatively new addition to the Baton Rouge Women's Council, but are excited to be part of the council. In the last few weeks the Barbarians, or rather, the "Barbies", have been, not only traveling across the South East playing rugby, but they have been involved with the local community as well. Click [here](#) to read more about what they've been doing in our community and on the field.

- The Barbies