



Women's Council  
OF GREATER BATON ROUGE

Connecting, Promoting & Empowering Women

Special  
points of  
interest:

- Women's Week History
- Women's Week Patrons
- Activities Info
- Member Events coming up- you won't want to miss!
- Next WCGBR Council Meeting Thursday, July 9th- 11:30am

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Erica Malone  
Editor  
bookbooglar@yahoo.com

# Women's TIME

July 2, 2009

## Before Women's Week

Starting with the first official year in 1994, the Council had a conference for women every other year. The first and second conferences were both called "*Women Together: Making It Happen.*" The third in 1998 was "*Mentoring Women for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.*" All three were held at the Centroplex (now the River Center) with keynote speakers and breakout sessions.



In 2000, the conference moved to Pennington and was called "*Celebration of Women: The Power to Move in New Directions.*" This was the state's first regional conference to prepare a Platform for Action for the United Nations Year 2000 Special Session to precede Beijing 2000. The three conference topics were Education, Economics and Violence Against Women. Conference collaborators were The President's Interagency Council on Women and the US Department of Labor. Every level of state government was represented.

The Social Security Office and the Council held a second conference in August that year at Pennington to inform women about benefits. The conference was broadcast by Louisiana Public Broadcasting.

All of the conferences were very successful with great attendance. By 2002, the Council decided that the all-day conference format was waning in popularity. So *Women's Week* was introduced.

Karen Groves, Historian

## Thanks To Our Wonderful Patrons!

Thanks to all the hard work from the Patrons Committee and to Women's Council members who stepped forward to help! A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to **Baton Rouge Duplicating Products** and **Turner Industries Group** who donated \$5,000 each! **The Advocate** newspaper is going to donate over \$5,000 worth of publicity for Women's Week and Whole Foods will donate 5% of its sales on September 17th to Women's Council (thank you Kristina Bradford)! And thank you to all the other patrons that donated to Women's Council, which as of June 25th included: Anita White & Anita White Law Firm; EMCO Technologies; Kristina Shapiro & Shapiro Law Firm; Sandra Thompson; Karen Groves- CFP with Ameriprise Financial; Crescent Sterling, LTD; Trudy Cenac Piper- CFP with Merrill Lynch; Abadie Financial Services (Ticket Sponsor); Home Instead Senior Care; Liberty Agency; Janelle Tessier- State Farm Agent; Ann Wise; Wolf Creek Business Growth Institute (Real World); Akers & Wisbar Law Firm; LA Lottery; and Ann K. Taylor.

It's not too late to obtain patrons, or to be an individual patron. Individuals can be a patron for only \$100, and you have until July 13th to get your name in the activity booklets.

**Call Kristina Shapiro at 928-4193 for information.**

## ACTIVITY AMBASSADOR REGISTRATION OPENS ON WEBSITE

### SIGN UP NOW!!!!

*The Women's Council Activity Ambassador serves as a representative of the Council at the Women's Week Activity.*

The sign-up screen lists the responsibilities of the Ambassador -- they are as follows:

- Display the Patron Poster and Activity poster in a prominent place
- Hand out and collect comment cards for all attendees/participants
- Have membership applications and extra Women's Week Activity Booklets available
- Greet all attendees/participants as they arrive
- Introduce yourself and the Women's Council
- Introduce and thank the sponsor of the activity and all our major sponsors

Introduce the speaker (if there is one)

The Women's Council Website has approximately 200 **Women's Week Activities** posted on it and each activity needs an Ambassador and an Alternate Ambassador.

To see the activities that are registered, go to our website [www.wcgbr.com](http://www.wcgbr.com) and click on "View 2009 Women's Week Activity Calendar" under the monthly Event calendar on the main page.

To learn more about the activity, click on the title and it will show you all the details.

If the activity needs PRIMARY AMBASSADOR, you will see an icon that says "ACTIVITY AMBASSADOR SIGNUP" under the activity. If it needs an ALTERNATE, it will say "Alternate Activity Ambassador Signup."

Click on that *icon on the website* and it will allow you to sign up. You will be required to supply your NAME, PHONE NUMBER and EMAIL. You will receive an e-mail confirmation.

You may sign up for as many activities as you want -- the Activity Ambassador does not have to pay the fee to attend the activity if there is a fee -- but she must register for the activity by calling the sponsor and introducing herself and explaining her role.

Because of the number of activities, we NEED you to begin SIGNING UP NOW!!!!

Please visit the website often and sign up as the Ambassador for the activities of your choice. As Women's Week gets closer, there will be a short training session for you to attend where you will receive a packet for each activity for which you are the PRIMARY ambassador.

***When you sign-up, remember to write your commitment time and date on your calendar as a reminder!!***

For more information, please call (225) 302-8018, ext. 6 and leave a message.

Thank you!

Activity Ambassador Committee

# Women's Week Luncheon Tickets On Sale Now!



**Keynote Speaker,  
Lisa Bull**  
Women's Week Luncheon  
Friday, September 25th.

This year we celebrate our 8th Women's Week and the 15th anniversary of the Women's Council of Greater Baton Rouge. Lisa Bull, the keynote speaker, is an accomplished trainer, speaker, Certified Human Behaviorist, and owner of multiple businesses. Over the course of her 11 years of success in the executive search arena serving a "Who's-Who" list of Fortune 500 clients, Lisa has effectively navigated the transition from employee to business owner to entrepreneur. This highly publicized signature event is a sell-out every year, so get your tickets soon.

Tickets are \$35 each and may be purchased beginning July 1st online at [www.wcgbr.com](http://www.wcgbr.com), picked up at 1500 Lobdell Ave., Suite B, Baton Rouge, or by calling Kristina at 225-928-4193.

The luncheon is followed by a week of over 150 events and activities of interest to women and families throughout Baton Rouge and runs through Sunday, October 4, 2009. Details are at [www.wcgbr.com](http://www.wcgbr.com).

\*Silver Magnolias are entitled to one free ticket to the luncheon. Please call Kristina at 928-4193 to reserve your table.\*

**Women's Week kicks off with a luncheon this year at Boudreaux's on Friday, September 25th.**

**Tickets for this luncheon are only \$35, and are available for sale now.**

**So mark your calendars today!**

## Special Events By Members

### GIRLS NIGHT OUT

Several members are getting together to see a performance at BREC's Independence Park Theatre on July 11th called "Mama's Night Out", a comedy trio comprised of three women- Sherry Davey, Karen Morgan, and Nancy

Witter. The show begins at 7 p.m. and tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors. We will meet in the lobby of the theatre around 6:30 p.m. so we can sit together. If you would like to join us, come to the

theatre or call Kristina Shapiro at 928-4193.

If you have an announcement for the next newsletter, email Erica Malone at [bookbooglar@yahoo.com](mailto:bookbooglar@yahoo.com).

## HELP WANTED:

### Luncheon Activity Fair Chair

Responsible for coordinating the Activities Fair at the Kick-Off luncheon. Duties involve working for Fair participants on registration and display guidelines and working with staff at Boudreaux's to facilitate event.

### Presenters Needed For Women's Business Center

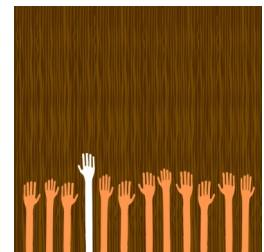
The Women's Business Center is accepting applications from

members who are interested in making presentations at the quarterly women's conferences on personal, family, and business finance beginning in November 2009. The planned range of presentations includes all aspects of women's lives as they relate to finances- earning or preparing to earn money, handling money, using money wisely, saving money, looking good and enjoying life on less money, planning for your financial future, etc. Please send your name, contact info, credentials (CV), and a brief description or outline of your proposed presentations with a copy of handouts to : Anita White, 2924

Brakley Drive, Suite A-3, Baton Rouge, LA 70816 or email to [anitarozaswhite@bellsouth.net](mailto:anitarozaswhite@bellsouth.net).

### Activity Ambassador Packet Assembly Volunteers Needed

Anyone interested in spending a few hours one day to assemble packets for the Activity Ambassadors Committee, please contact Helen Rivet at 292-4819 or [hrivet@cox.net](mailto:hrivet@cox.net).



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

## All About the 2009 WCGBR Membership Committee

Last month Membership told you about the Tea for Two. This article is just to let you know who we are and what else we do throughout the year to act as the catalyst for a strong Women's Council membership.

We have two main on-going tasks. The first is to process all applications from new members whether they join on-line or by hard copy. We are responsible for activating your membership. This means that we send you two e-mail messages. One is to give you your log-on ID and password as well as your member ID. The other is to welcome you, provide some basic information about when the WCGBR meets and to give you someone to contact if you have questions.

The second is to coordinate meals at the General Membership Meeting as well as to man the sign-in table and welcome new members at that meeting. This meeting is held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at the First United Methodist Church (930 N. Blvd.). Lunch and networking are from 11:30-12:00. The meeting is from 12:00 -1:00. Please join us if you have never attended this meeting – or if you haven't been in a while.

We are also here to do things like connect you to a committee that you've shown interest in, remind you when your membership expires and to provide information about the WCGBR to prospective members. If you have questions or concerns about anything membership related or if you know of anyone who is interested in learning more about us, feel free to have them contact the Co-Chairs, Martha Dishongh or Tenise Brown Roberson at [wcgbr09@yahoo.com](mailto:wcgbr09@yahoo.com) or 302-8018, ext. 1 for Membership.

Soon after Women's Week we hold the Annual Meet and Greet Luncheon. This year it will be held on November 12<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 AM -1:00 PM at the First United Methodist Church. This is a great opportunity for new and prospective members to learn about the WCGBR. Each committee will present information about what they do, what their needs are and encourage members to become active on one or more of our committees. It is helpful to have many current members present at the luncheon to help us welcome these curious women and answer their questions. Please watch for more details later in upcoming months.

To accomplish our tasks the Membership Committee meets monthly at LaMadeleine's to eat and enjoy getting to know each other. Oh yeah and to discuss important things such as how to best welcome and engage new and prospective members and to plan the aforementioned events.

Our group is a mix of fairly new and more senior members. We reflect the make-up of the Women's Council as a whole, bringing diverse skills from our varied backgrounds - from businesswomen to health field backgrounds to education to retired but still very active.

As with many of the WCGBR committees, there are many tasks that are not on going. Many members are able to give more time, attend most of the meetings, and help out at each event. Other members contribute their time on an as needed basis doing just one thing such as making changes to a form or making phone calls, serving as a greeter at one event, assembling informational materials, etc.

Membership Committee is a great way to get involved because you are some of the first people new and prospective members talk to and your input can influence how we carry out the work of this part of the WCGBR. Sharing what you know about the WCGBR is rewarding. Besides learning more about the WCGBR you make many new friends, find new clients and gain new skills.

Membership Committee: Co-Chairs were mentioned above, Karen Vingiello is our advisor. Members: Frances Bennett, Lillian Brule', Barbara Cavalier, Amy Chang, Janel Chapman, Edna Cosey, Candace Crow, Tasha Dangerfield, Helen Gist, Marilyn Harrington, Toi Harrison-Schofield, Brenda Jackson-Conrad, Eileen Kennedy, Pat LeDuff, Celia Mellad, Carol Nichols, Marjorie Nichols, Trudy Piper, Catherine Roundtree, Helen Spears, Judy Stamper, Ramona Tauzin, Caress Threadgill, Ellie Torres, Claire Trahan and Ann Vollenweider.

## Beyond Women's Week

While so many of us are so busy organizing and preparing for Women's Week, and this exciting annual event is what is on all our minds right now, don't forget that the members of the Women's Business Center Project Committee are also busy preparing for four quarterly conferences on personal, family, and business finances that start in mid-November after Women's Week.

In many ways, these conferences extend the

opportunities of Women's Week throughout the whole year. Plan to explore with us how to improve your financial picture, manage what you have, live better and smarter and have more fun on less, and plan for your and your family's future. The committee is currently enrolling partners and presenters. Please contact Anita White at [anitarozaswhite@bellsouth.net](mailto:anitarozaswhite@bellsouth.net) if you would like to participate as a partner or presenter.



Women's Business Center opens soon. Check our website for details!  
[www.wcgb.com](http://www.wcgb.com)