



Greater Nashua Business and Professional Women (BPW)

Mission: To achieve equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education, and information. Locally, we strive to support and educate women in business. Our goal is to make a significant contribution to our community while benefiting our members with educational programs and a variety of networking opportunities.

Benefits:

- Participate in local community of women who support one another's professional efforts
- Gain knowledge and skills that will enhance your business acumen
- Access the local resources our members provide through our membership directory

Meetings: We meet at 11:00 am on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Nashua. The format of the meeting allows for networking among members as well as the opportunity to educate ourselves through the presentations of speakers drawn from a variety of professions.

Committees: We encourage all members to participate on our committees, the organs through which we do our work. Committees and their roles in the organization are:

- **Programs** – Query organization for interesting topics, search out and invite speakers to present, review the speaker's agenda, facilitate the speaker portion of our BPW Luncheon Meetings
- **Communications** – develop internal and external communications such as publicity for meetings and events and organization newsletter, brochures and flyers.
- **Membership** – Recruit new members, promote and develop existing member interest, maintain and distribute membership list. Host New Member Socials for prospective members.
- **Finance** – Maintain financial records, manage budget, and collect fees. Devise creative ways of raising funds to support the organization and its community activities.
- **Political Action Committee** – Our local liaison to the Political Action Committee giving you a voice on Capitol Hill
- **Community Service** – Identify and develop opportunities to "give back" to the local community.

Below is a bit of the history of BPW, taken from the national BPW web site. More interesting facts can be found at www.bpwusa.org

While mobilizing for World War I, the U.S. Government recognized the need for a cohesive group to coordinate identification of women's available skills and experience. A Women's War Council, financed through a federal grant, was established by the War Department to organize the resources of professional women. The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs was founded on July 15, 1919. Throughout the years, three major issues shaped BPW's legislative agenda: elimination of sex discrimination in employment, the principle of equal pay, and the need for a comprehensive equal rights amendment.

The establishment of "Status of Women" commissions in the U.S. in 1963 was due largely to BPW efforts. President Kennedy recognized BPW's leading role in securing passage of the Equal Pay Act by giving BPW's National President the first pen he used when signing the Act into law.

Discussions on "comparable worth" are expanded to include enforcement and strengthening of existing Equal Pay legislation. The Pay Equity Employment Act of 1994, followed by the Equal Pay Act (introduced in 1994) and the Paycheck Fairness Act (introduced in 1997) became BPW's focus legislation through the '90s. 2003 marked the 75th Anniversary of National Business Women's Week™ (NBWW).

For membership information, email Membership@BPWNashua.com