



The Connection

www.womeninleisureservices.com

Women in Leisure Services...The Professional Connection for Women

2014- 2015 National Board

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Lydie Gutfeld
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Marcia Bach
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Allison Brammer
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Alpha Chapter
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Delta Chapter

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Gamma Chapter

Nancy Hogan -
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Zeta Chapter

Juli Johnson-
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President's Message—Juli Seydell Johnson



Welcome to fall! Welcome to a new year of adventure, growth and relationships through WILS. I'm very excited and honored to serve as President of the National WILS Board. Thank you for giving me this opportunity. I believe very strongly in the value our efforts bring to each community where we work. I also believe in the importance of having a web of professionals from which to lean on, learn with and share stories from the field that no one else understands! My primary goals for this year are that we grow together, strengthen our chapters and celebrate the leadership we each provide for our organizations.

The WILS year kicked off with a National Board Meeting on October 1st in La Mesa, California. I'd like to think that the theme we worked from was "Where there is a WILS, There is a way." (Credit - Delta member Elissa Landsman.) Strengthening our chapters, growing memberships and developing new chapters were primary themes throughout the meeting. We heard from Life Member, Nancy Aaron, regarding concerns about structure and By-laws. Are the current "rules" keeping members and new clubs from joining? The board discussed these along with several other similar concerns from chapters about attendance and membership.

Unfortunately there doesn't seem to be one simple answer, but the board has committed to continuing the conversation with our chapters and members to make sure that WILS continues to be a valuable affiliation. Watch for regular President's messages that will explore this and ask for member advice and ideas. I want to my year of WILS leadership to be remembered through stronger, more active chapters that provide an invaluable network of women leaders for parks and recreation.

The National budget is largely funded through membership dues passed along from each chapter. As chapter membership fluctuates, so does the amount available for National expenses and initiatives. At this time, the National Board has a reserve fund of approximately \$12,000. For the second year, the National Board has authorized using some of this reserve to offset lagging revenues. Obviously, we are lucky to have a

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President's Message, continued

reserve, but spending it for annual board expenses can only work for a few years. This leads us to the need to explore methods to expand membership, create new revenues and/or lessen expenses. Board discussion included all of these avenues. This important discussion will continue at the spring board meeting.

National board funds are used to allow the National Board to meet twice per year, to host a National Luncheon and Spring event, to aid in new chapter development, and for other expenses associated with remaining a non-profit and awarding the Helen I Pontius award. A full accounting of the budget is included in this newsletter.

Other items discussed by the board included:

National Webpage – Chapter representatives are asked to discuss discontinuing the National Webpage if the National information could, instead, be accessed easily through the Gamma and Zeta Chapter sites. Should we consider other social media platforms?

WILS Logo & Pins – Is it time to update our logo? Are pins still an important part of the WILS experience?

New Chapter Development – A 6 month extension for passing by-laws was granted to the Lota Chapter in Illinois.

WILS 80th Anniversary in 2015/16 – Subcommittee created.

Helen I Pontius Award – How do we encourage more members to apply? Can we provide more information for newer members to follow beginning earlier in their careers in order to work toward becoming eligible?

Strengthening our organization and fixing the budget gap will be a primary topic of conversation at the 2015 Spring National Board meeting. This meeting, scheduled for Thursday, March 5th, will be hosted by the Alpha Chapter.

I am continually encouraged by the work and commitment of our members both to our field and to the WILS organization. I thank you all for the energy and excitement you provide. Please share your thoughts about the future of WILS with me at any time through e-mail or a phone call. "Where there is a WILS, there is a WAY!"

Juli Seydell Johnson,

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Purple Ribbon Committee Update

The Purple Ribbon Committee is still working to support Iota Charter Chapter (greater Chicago area) as they continue to meet and define leadership roles for establishing their Bylaws. This is their final step prior to becoming an Active Chapter. Leading this effort is Jan Hincapie, Director of Parks and Recreation of the Village of Lincolnwood, a suburb of Chicago. In recent communication she said, "I can't help but smile when I think about the birth of this organization in Illinois."

Submitted by Allison Brammer, Gamma Chapter



Two Rings: A Legacy of Hope by Dorothy E. McIntyre

A year ago I was privileged to attend the fall 2013 National Luncheon in Egan, Minnesota. The guest speaker was Dorothy E. McIntyre. She and a fellow colleague wrote *Two Rings: A Legacy of Hope*. I enjoyed reading the book on the history of women's basketball in Minnesota told through the eyes of a high school student named Sarah. Below are a few quotes from the book I feel are important to share and we can use.

A "winner" is someone who makes the best use of her abilities, who is committed to a cause, who accepts responsibility for her actions, and who breaks big problems into little ones and solves them one at a time.

"We fly like our favorite Canadian geese, in a V-formation, where the leader takes on the force of the wind, making it easier for those who follow. When the leader gets weary from the struggle of leading the flock, she can exchange her position and rest while another goose leads the way." When a flock of geese flies over, look up, and listen. You'll hear them calling to one another encouragement, saying, 'keep going, we'll make it.' That is what we all need to do: to fly together, share the responsibilities of leadership and call out our encouragement to one another. Then we all will reach our destination – full, fair and equal treatment.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead



Valarie Frost

2014 Helen I. Pontius Award of Merit

Valarie Frost was awarded the 2014 Helen I. Pontius Award of Merit on Wednesday October 1st by Karon DeLeon.

The 2014 selection committee members were Dorothy Meyer (2012), Sue Leto (2011), Donna Tilsner (2009) and Roberta White (1995). Karon thanked them for their careful consideration of the nominees and continued service to Chi Kappa Rho.

Valarie began her career in 1994 for the City of Lakewood in the capacity of Community Services Leader, in 1999 she became a Community Services Supervisor and in 2003 she was promoted to Community Services Manager and currently serves the city in that role.

She joined the Gamma Chapter in 1997 and jumped right in by chairing numerous committees such as: Awards & Installation, Scholarship, Corporate Sponsors, Nominations & Elections, Website and Finance. Valarie was responsible for the re-vamping and administered the website for Gamma as well as revised the career Development Reimbursement Program to assist members financially to attend trainings.

Valarie served the Gamma Chapter as: Past President, President, 1st Vice President and 2nd Vice President twice. She was recognized by the Gamma Chapter with many awards and honors including: 3 Service Awards; the Helen Green Memorial Citation Award and the Mary K. Peterson Award.

She served as the Gamma National Delegate and was a member of the National By-Laws Committee, National's Luncheon and Social committees and assisted with hosting of several National meetings in the City of Lakewood.

Valarie is very active in the Rotary Club of Lakewood, serving as President, President Elect, Secretary and website manager, she also was their chairperson for the Every 15 Minute program. For service and dedication to the Club, she was recognized as Rotarian of the year in June of 2014 and Rookie of the Year in 2012.

She has also been very involved with Boy Scouts of America, performing such duties as: Den Leader, Pack Committee Chair and a Leader Specific Trainer.

Valarie has many talents and wears many hats. She volunteers in her sons' classrooms and urges their teachers to apply for Lakewood Education Foundation Scholarships. She also volunteers for the Ronald McDonald House, Pan American Association, Lakewood Project Shepherd and on the PTA at her sons' schools.

Lisa Litzinger a past HIP awardee and Valarie's Director in Lakewood describes her as an individual that characterizes the objectives of WILS by fostering friendship and sociability, stimulating mutual helpfulness and loyalty, while providing professional services.

Karen Plantz, Valarie's co-worker says of her— Valarie has a keen interpersonal skill and easily gains the respect of anyone she is working with. She is a true friend and professional in all interactions.

Helen Gorgering described Valarie with the following words: Valarie is a dedicated wife, mother, daughter, sister and friend. No matter how demanding her schedule may be, her family is her utmost priority and she will stop at nothing to assure their health, safety and happiness.

As you can see, Valarie Frost is a Super Woman in her own right.



2014 Helen I. Pontius Winner Valarie Frost with past HIP Winner Karon DeLeon

National Budget

National Budget 2013 ~ 2014	Act #	2012-2013 Actuals 9/30/13	2013-2014 Adopted 9/13	2013-2014 Actuals 3/14	2013-2014 Yr End 9/14
CHAPTER REVENUES					
Membership Dues	100	\$2,820.00	Year End Report 2013-2014 \$2,860.00	\$2,570.00	n/a
Fall Fundraiser	300	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/a
Fall Luncheon	300	\$2,131.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	n/a
Fall Social	300	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	n/a
Spring Fundraiser	400	\$765.00	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$885.00
Spring Luncheon/Social	400	\$4,700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$850.00
Spring Social/Hospitality suite	400	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Pin sales (\$8.00 each)	200	\$318.70	\$88.00	\$0.00	
Scholarship	800	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Corporate sponsor	300	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Miscellaneous Income		\$635.27	\$705.00	\$400.00	\$766.54
Chapter Development Trust (\$300 in trust)		\$88.26	0.00		
TOTAL REVENUE		\$7,111.47	\$3,961.00	\$3,090.00	\$2,100.45
EXPENDITURES					
National Board Meetings		\$82.95			
Fall Mtg. Travel/Lodging	1000	\$1,990.45	\$1,315.20	\$1,880.00	\$576.00
Fall Meeting Supplies	1000	\$0.00	\$225.00	\$225.00	
Fall Meeting Room	1000	\$1,723.37	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Spring Mtg. Travel	2000	\$1,700.48	\$2,450.00	\$1,700.48	\$529.81
Spring Meeting Supplies	2000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Spring Meeting Room	2000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total National Meetings		\$4,533.23	\$3,990.20	\$3,806.53	\$1,123.33
National Events/Social					
Fall Luncheon	4000	\$2,131.72	\$0.00	\$1,168.31	
Fall Social	4000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Fall Decorations/Supplies/Postage	4000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Spring Luncheon	5000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1168.31
Spring Social	5000	\$635.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Spring Decorations/Supplies/Postage	5000	\$28.34	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total National Events/Social		\$2,795.30	\$0.00	\$1,168.31	\$1,168.31
Fund Raisers		\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Fall Fund raiser	5000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Spring Fund raiser	5000	\$21.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	
Total Fund Raisers		\$121.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Directory and By Laws		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Printing	8000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Postage	8000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Newsletter		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Winter (inc. print & post)	8000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Spring (inc. print & post)	8000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Software	11000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total Newsletter		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Postage		0.00	0.00	0.00	
Elections	8000	0.00	0.00	0.00	
General	8000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
TOTAL ELECTIONS		\$ -	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership Pins	7000		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership Certificates	7000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Membership		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Awards					
Helen I Pontus Plaque	8000	\$158.27	\$105.00	\$28.26	\$0.00
HIP Travel/ Luncheon	8000	\$337.80	\$337.80	\$0.00	\$0.00
Board Member Recognition Gifts	8000	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Outgoing Pres. Plaque	8000	\$40.00	\$105.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Flowers				\$54.00	
Scholarship	8000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Awards		\$536.07	\$747.80	\$82.26	\$0.00
Historian/Archives		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Scrapbook/Archives	1100	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Archives			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Exemption Filing Fee	9000	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
Check Printing Charges	9000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$97.43	\$22.00
Total Admin Costs		0.00	\$70.00	\$117.43	\$42.00
Special Projects		\$719.34		\$0.00	\$0.00
Web site Development	1100	\$392.16	\$300.00	\$310.00	\$298.00
T-shirts	1100	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$110.00	\$0.00
Chapter Development	1100	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Special Projects		\$1,117.20	\$900.00	\$620.00	\$298.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$2,148.04	\$5,808.00	\$5,792.57	\$2,571.84
Summary					
		2013-2014	2013-2014 Adopted 9/13	2013-2014 mid year Actuals 3/14	2013-2014 Yr end 2014 sent!
Total Revenue		\$7,111.47	\$3,961.00	\$3,090.00	\$2,100.45
Total Expenditures		\$9,148.04	\$5,808.00	\$5,792.57	\$2,571.84
Net Profit/(-Loss)		(\$2,036.57)	(\$1,847.00)	(\$2,702.57)	(\$471.39)
Beginning Balance as of September 30, 2013					
		\$12,539.03	Beginning Balance as of March 1, 2014		\$13,133.49
Actual Revenue 3/4/2014					
		\$3,090.00	Actual Revenue 3/4/2014	8/30/2014	2100.45
Actual Expenditures 3/4/2014					
		\$5,792.57	Actual Expenditures 8/30/2014		2571.84
Ending Balance as of 3/1/14					
		13,133.49	Ending Balance as of August 30, 2014		12,662.10
Submitted by: Lydie Garfield					
	4-Mar-14		Submitted by: Lydie Garfield	1-Oct-14	

Alpha Chapter

Maile Marquand—National Delegate

2014-2015 Board Members

President

Melody V. Gutierrez

VP Membership

Jaci Koci

VP Programs

Kortley Norris

Recording Secretary & Corresponding Secretary

Open

Treasurer

Ann Vollmer

National Delegate

Maile Marquand

Life Member Chairperson

Dorothy Meyer / Karen Kalsman

Sunshine Chairperson

Adria Deliberto

Membership:

Active Members: 8

Life Members: 48

Friends: 2

The Alpha Chapter held their annual Bosses Day event on October 23rd to honor supervisors and mentors at San Antonio Winery. On November 9th they participated in a 5K Run & Friendship Walk to raise awareness and funds for Ovarian cancer research at Pan Pacific Park. To wind down 2014, on December 5th Alpha's annual Holiday Luncheon will be held at Mimi's Cafe in Los Feliz. To kick off 2015 and show appreciation for staff the Employee Recognition Event will be held in February.

President Melody Gutierrez welcome message to all Alpha members is to update their recruitment plan to include Recruitment Fairs at local colleges, presentations at region meetings and promoting the organization to recreation and leisure service departments outside of the City of Los Angeles. The chapter plans to update the Alpha website. It will assist in communicating chapter trainings, socials, scholarship opportunities and increasing membership. In addition, they will work on creating quarterly professional trainings and networking opportunities, luncheons and mentorships for young professionals.



Awards and Installation on May 30, 2014 at

Cafe Cordiale in Sherman Oaks.

2014-2015 Board Members

President

Michele Greenberg-McClung

Vice President

Eileen Turk

Recording Secretary

Suzanne Stephens

Treasurer

Kathy Tinsley

Membership

Michele Greenberg-McClung

National Delegate

Kathy Tinsley

Membership:

16 Active Members

8 Life Members

Events

September 12th—Delta held a social on the Bahia Belle on beautiful San Diego Mission Bay. Photo below Delta members, life member and guests minus our husbands laughing at us.



October 27—Bosses Day event was held at San Diego Gas & Electric Energy Innovation Center. The mission of the center is to educate businesses and residents about new energy technologies and cost effective technologies in the context of a holistic sustainable building design.



SDG&E Innovation Center Tour—Energy Efficient Kitchen

www.wils-gamma.com

2014-2015 Board Members

President

Valerie Passarella

1st Vice President

Ashley Wysocki

2nd Vice President

Morgan Gonzalez

Secretary

Wendy Cant

Treasurer

Adrianna Hyta

Past President

Shawntee McCauley

National Delegate

Nancy Hogan

Committee Coordinator

Janet Martell

Membership:

Active: 88

Life: 52

Associate: 0

Gamma Chapter programs for 2014—2015 include: Annual Business Meeting August 2014, Bosses Day, October 2014, Fall Fundraiser 2014, Holiday Breakfast and Charity December 2014, Winter Workshop February 2015, Spring Fundraiser April 2015, and Installation Banquet May 2015.

Awards and Installations was held Thursday, May 15 at Country Gardens Restaurant in Santa Ana. The 2014 –2015 Gamma Board was installed, scholarship and award winners were announced, and our guests enjoyed a great meal! Highlights included Lydie Gutfeld being awarded the Mary K. Petersen Award. As always, it was a great night to socialize with our peers and friends, recognize the hard work of our sponsors, members and supporters, and to install our new President, Valerie Passarella! Tiny Cherry conducted the installation.

Annual Business Meeting was Thursday, August 14 at Angelo's and Vinci's Ristorante in Fullerton. This provided a unique setting and great food for Gamma's Annual Business meeting. The 43 Gamma members and sponsors in attendance enjoyed a yummy buffet. The event started out with a friendly competition, challenging attendees to build the tallest freestanding tower possible, made only from straws and tape. The 2014—2015 Gamma Board was introduced, the 2014-2015 Gamma budget was approved, the Professional Scholarship was presented and a few of our new members were introduced. Candice Chung from the City of Cypress, was recognized with a Gamma Chapter Service Award for 2013-2014, in a special awards ceremony.

Gamma receives \$400 for each business sponsorship. In exchange, the chapter recognizes their business on the Gamma Website and on all printed and electronic publications. Additionally, sponsors are properly recognized at each chapter event and celebrated at the annual awards banquet held in May.

Miscellaneous Notes: Gamma created a Save the Date card for the year's events, each committee chair received a flash drive to upload all documents and photos for their event or program. Gamma transferred all chapter funds to US Bank to allow for the Treasurer to handle funds more efficiently.



2014-2015 Board Members

President

Kerry Phillips

Past President

Tanya Mozingo

Vice President

Laura Knollmaier

Secretary

Lindsey Danhauser

Treasurer

Michelle Brassington

National Delegate

Juli Seydell Johnson

Member Services Retention Chair

Nicole Weedman

Ways & Means Chair

Diane Moe

Membership

Active	68
Life	6
Post-Professional	1

Zeta Chapter continues to offer a wide variety of educational and fun monthly events. Two events were held in April, “Maximizing Internal Organization Impact Through Personal Brand” and WILS & WIN Clothing & Accessory Swap. New officers were Installed in May along with a presentation and book discussion from the author of “10 Minute Leadership Challenge”, Margaret Smith. The September Morning Coffee was an excellent way for Zeta members to network over a cup of coffee, hot chocolate or tea while discussing programming ideas for Zeta. The October program was about fitness programming for the community and included directions on use of FitBits and similar for a community health initiative. A FitBit band was given away as a door prize at the end of the meeting. November’s meeting focused on “Take a Risk! Be a Change Agent for Your Own Life”. December will feature a wine and art social.

The 2013—2014 Zeta Award was presented to Zeta Member and current National Chair, Juli Seydell Johnson.



Zeta 2014-2015 Board Installation

Why Be Thankful for Community Parks and Recreation

By: Lauren Hoffmann, Senior PR and Communications Manager, NRPA with contribution from Rich Dolesh, VP for Conservation and Parks, NRPA

Posted 11/21/2013

I received an email from NRPA at work on 11/25/2013. I read through it and found this WOW article and printed it knowing I wanted to use it somehow. This is what we preach.

Enjoy these 10 reasons why we can be thankful.

1. Parks and recreation allow us to become healthy and stay fit for adults AND our youth making the connection that getting active and eating healthy is fun and good.
2. Parks are places to see wildlife and experience nature, breathe in fresh air and appreciate what is natural and wholesome around us: they pass on the benefits of conservation and stewardship and cultivate a new appreciation for nature among the next generation.
3. Parks and recreation are great places to walk, hike and bike, maybe even pick up a new activity like skateboarding or Pickleball. (I really took notice to this one since I work with the program and we are getting our court resurface this week.)
4. Parks are places to enjoy a picnic—who doesn't love to eat al fresco!
5. Parks and recreation bring generations together. Not only that, they bring all types of people together no matter age, race, income and ability. Community parks and recreation is one of the highest and best forms of "public good" - the right to enjoy your life, your health and your liberty.
6. Parks are places for festivals, concerts, art displays, music, craft fairs and community events. Where else can you find all that?
7. Parks and recreation provides places for sports—teams, individuals, practice and tournaments. Many elite and even some pro athletes got their start at the local park and rec.
8. Parks can revitalize underserved communities transforming them into vibrant destinations.
9. Parks and recreation provide a safe place for kids and are one of the largest providers of care during out-of-school times (afterschool, before school, weekends, holidays and the summer).
10. Parks and recreation offer the opportunity to volunteer and give back to our communities, the environment and others. On the flip-side, they are where we can go if we need help—many of our local parks provide low-to no-cost meals, enrichment programs, senior care and therapeutic recreation opportunities.