

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Wednesday, January 13, 2016 – Annual Networking Meeting

This is one of our most popular luncheons as the entire time is spent networking and eating. It's the perfect time to bring along that person you know who has been thinking about joining WIB. As an added incentive, current members will receive a raffle ticket (for luncheon door prizes) for each nonmember guest they bring to this meeting!

Starting at the January meeting along with selling raffle tickets for the 50/50 and door prizes, we will be selling separate raffle tickets, \$10 each, to win entrance to Bay Path University Leadership Conference (value \$350).

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 – Tami Germain, WFFCU – “Stealing Without a Gun”

Tami has been with the Webster First Federal Credit Union for 35 years. Webster First Federal Credit Union has approximately \$850 Million in assets and was established in 1928. Tami started out as a teller and worked as a Branch Manager for the Norton Branch, The Worcester Branch and the Auburn Branch before taking on the title of VP of Branch Administration-Worcester Region. In her position, she oversees nine branches to ensure daily operations are being met, compliance issues, scheduling, etc. In addition she is the Security Officer for the credit union at this time.

Her speech will cover what identity theft is and what thieves might do to obtain information along with the red flags of identity theft. She will discuss check fraud, lottery scams, mystery shop scams, IRS scams, and charity scams. Tami will discuss how to protect your information and what to do if your identity is stolen. She will provide handouts from her presentation as well as goodies from WFFCU to distribute.

Tami has a shredder to give away for a raffle prize!

Woman In Business monthly meetings are being held at –

Old Sturbridge Village (Oliver Wight Tavern Entrance)

1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge, MA 01566

Time: 12:00 noon (Registration at 11:45 am)

Cost: \$20 for members; \$25 non-member

Interested in sponsoring a luncheon?

Contact a board member or e-mail us at: info@wibsturbridge.org

Cost: \$50. Sponsor will be acknowledged at the luncheon they are sponsoring in the WIB newsletter and in e-mail reminder notifications.



Thank you to our monthly luncheon sponsors:

January: Brenda M. Bianculli, CPA, of Brenda M. Bianculli, CPA, LLC, located in Charlton, MA

February: Maxine Carter-Lome – Weathervane Enterprises, Inc. of Sturbridge, MA,
Publishers of Your Hometown Shopper and The Journal of Antiques & Collectibles

PROGRAMS FOR 2016

Programs 2016

- January 13** **Annual Networking Meeting**
- February 10** **Tami Germain, WFFCU – ‘Stealing Without a Gun’**
- March 9** **Jill Motyka, Director of Admissions - Bay Path College –**
Modern Day Resume Writing and Interviewing
- April 13** **Kathy Kirk, Director of Sales Holiday Inn Express – Building Self-esteem & Confidence**
- May 11** **Annual Auction – Evening Event at Old Sturbridge Village**
- June 8** **Annual Meeting & Scholarship Awards**

If anyone has anything to offer on any of these topics, please e-mail the member listed as responsible for that program. All members' e-mails are in the directory. Directories have been distributed to members. Please let us know if you haven't received one.

Board of Directors Meetings

Board of Directors meetings are open to all members. It is a good way to find out how to become more involved in the activities and decisions of Woman In Business, Inc. We meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month, except for July, at 7:30 am in Brenda Bianculli's office in Charlton. Meetings are usually over by 8:45 am. If you would like to attend, please e-mail Carol Porra and she will put you on our agenda email list.

New Members

Woman in Business is pleased to announce our newest members:

Individual Members:

Tammie L. Chenevert is the owner of TLC Home Cleaning LLC, her mailing address is 62 Shepard Road, Sturbridge, MA 01566. She can be reached at 508-347-3275 or by emailing her at tlchomecleaning2007@gmail.com.

Jane Bania, V.P. of Sales at MBI graphics, her mailing address is 97 Worcester Street, Southbridge, MA 01550. She can be reached at 508-243-9202 or by emailing her at jane@mbgraphics.com.

Do You Have a WIB Success Story to Share?

Have you or someone you know benefited from services provided by Woman in Business, Inc?

As part of our efforts to grow our membership, we are looking to find out about women who have been helped by Woman in Business, Inc. We want to hear about your success stories. These success stories are not limited to just our scholarship recipients. The WIB board is interested to hear stories or names of individuals who have experienced a positive outcome by being part of WIB, in general, or as a result of a WIB scholarship. Please send any of these names or stories to Becky Bruso via BeckyBruso@gmail.com or call me at 508-320-7832. The board is looking to publish any success stories our membership has had as a result of scholarships, networking, or other interactions with WIB.

Bay Path University 21st Annual Women's Leadership Conference

We have started selling raffle tickets for a chance to win one admittance to the **Bay Path University 21st Annual Women's Leadership Conference scheduled for Friday, April 29, 2016 at the MassMutual Center, Springfield, MA.**

The Bay Path University Women's Leadership Conference is the region's premiere women's leadership event for professional and personal networking and enrichment

This is a \$350 value! The cost of each raffle ticket is \$10. We will draw the winning ticket in March of 2016 and you do not have to be present to win.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Message from our President, Karen Spiewak:

Goodbye 2015 and Hello 2016!

Last year was yet another eventful year for Woman In Business. We not only ‘conducted business as usual’, which included hosting a series luncheons with terrific speakers, handing out numerous scholarships to area high school seniors, (and an adult female from Bay Path University), we also provided networking opportunities galore. Our organization also underwent some very ambitious changes...

In 2015, Woman In Business:

- Changed our luncheon meeting location to Old Sturbridge Village
- Held our first strategic action planning meeting and developed an action plan for 2016/2017
- Was approved as a public charity under the IRS (IRC) Section 501(c) (3)
- Celebrated our 30th anniversary
- Had the pleasure of honoring our founder, Judy Jaeger, President Emeritus, at our annual Christmas party
- Increased publicity for our members using social media and other media outlets

Sincere thanks to all of you for supporting this amazing organization. Heartfelt thanks to Judy Jaeger for starting WIB, and the hundreds of ladies who have dedicated much of their lives to sustain it all these years. As I mentioned at our celebration, we needed WIB 30 years ago and we’ll need WIB 30 years from now. I look forward to working with all of you to ensure this organization continues to thrive!

Happy New Year! Thank you for your support.

Karen A. Spiewak, President WIB.

NEWS FOR / FROM MEMBERS

WIB Attends United Way Luncheon

Carol Porra attended the second of three United Way luncheons that was held at the Publick House in Sturbridge. The featured speaker was Paul Mina, Executive Director of MA 2-1-1. Help is a phone call away! Visit www.mass211.org for important information.

Woman In Business again donated a beautiful basket full of various teas, cookies, chocolates and much more. The basket was made by Daniella Spelman owner of Basket Boutique. The event also featured a slideshow that depicted The Day of Caring. The pictures showed that all the volunteers worked very hard and also that they had a lot of fun. Thank you to United Way for all you do!



Interested in Building a Website for your Business?

Becky Bruso, CEO and Founder of The BizPal Company, LLC announces upcoming Website Building Workshops. These workshops will be held starting in mid-January in three weekly three hour long sessions. This training is geared to self-employed individuals and small businesses who want to build and manage their own websites.

If you have any friends and family just starting out in business, this just might be the workshop for them to take to get their brand message out on the Web. Interested parties are encouraged to email Becky@TheBizPalCompany.com for priority placement in the workshops before they are posted on The BizPal Company, LLC website: <http://TheBizPalCompany.com>.

Donating Stock Instead of Cash – Brenda M. Bianculli, CPA, MST – www.brendacpa.com

Tis the season of thinking of others and many people make charitable donations this time of year. Instead of cash, you may want to consider donating stock (that has appreciated in value) to your favorite charity. In general, if you donate stock you have owned for more than 1 year, you will receive a charitable donation for the “fair market value” of the stock and you do not have to recognize the gain on the stock.

Caution: As with most tax saving strategies, such strategies do not work for everyone. So, be sure to check with your accountant to make sure this would benefit you depending on the amounts involved and your tax situation – Do you itemize your deductions? Are you subject to Alternative Minimum Taxes?

WIB extends our best wishes to our own Vice President, Kate Durgin, on her upcoming wedding in January 2016!



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“Woman in Business is an organization that supports women by fostering networking, sharing information and experiences and providing education opportunities”

Officers

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Board of Directors

**Holly Bonilla, Irene Garand,
Diane Kady & Carol Porra**

Everyone likes to WIN!

Each month we have a 50/50 raffle as well as other prizes, from wine, candy, candles and gift cards, to name a few. Each person who brings a raffle item to a lunch meeting will receive one free raffle ticket.

Speaker Gift Bags: We need your help!

We need your help! If you have any promotional items from your business or workplace, we can put a bag together or you can assemble your own gift items for our speakers. Items do not have to be business related, chocolates (who doesn't like chocolate?), gift cards, candles, etc. If each member of WIB was able to donate nine items, we would be in good shape for the coming year. Attaching your business card to the items will help promote what you do. Please e-mail Carol Porra at Dryf@aol.com to arrange to pick up your items or you may bring them to a meeting. Any offering will be greatly appreciated.

Like us on Facebook and Share and Comment Too!

We are building our presence on Facebook and adding information regularly. We post pictures from past meetings. Our goal is to build our social media presence. To do this, we need your help! When people comment and share on what is posted, Facebook values these interactions and it helps us boost our popularity and reach.

Consider joining our Woman in Business group; we have great informative speakers, time for networking and a wonderful buffet lunch.

