

KWN Community

A Monthly Newsletter for members of Kenosha Women's Network

April 2024

Kenosha
Women's
Network



Growing Together, Rooted in the Community

A Note from our President

Hello, KWN,

Happy spring...or so I'm told, though you can't prove it by the weather.

The Susan B. Anthony – Women of Influence Awards Dinner was a rousing success, thanks, in part to our members! We sold raffle tickets, helped with the silent auction, and even directed the food lines. It takes a village, Friends, and the village of KWN members made all the difference in the world! Special thanks to Darleen Scuglik, Roseann Baldauf-Shales, and Theresa van Landuyt for stepping in to assist! Thanks, too, to all the members who attended this event, helping to keep it the premier women's event!

Special shout out to Joanna's Digital Images for capturing photos of the night so that we can relive them over and over. Check them out here: <https://www.joannasdigitalimages.com/Client-photos>. They can be downloaded using **SusanB2024** as the password. For professional prints of the evening, contact Joanna Carlberg, Joanna of Joanna's Digital Images.

April's luncheon meeting will be an opportunity for all of us to give our 10-second introduction, so practice now!

And, don't forget to vote on April 2, if you haven't voted early. Local elections matter, and your vote counts! Don't I know it!

See you at lunch!

Guida



Our Mission:

To promote and encourage the professional and personal growth of our members in a supportive environment, where women's efforts are recognized and encouraged.

April meeting

KWN's April meeting will be at **Casa Capri**.

The meeting date is April 12th, from 11:30am to 1:00pm.

The price to attend is \$18 per person and includes a delicious buffet lunch.

Please RSVP by end of day April 9th, 2024

Click on this [Link](#) to register.



YOUR

OTE

COUNTS

In addition to the local contests on the April 2nd Spring Election ballot in Wisconsin, there are two questions on constitutional amendments put before voters for approval or rejection. They are pretty hard to understand and received comparatively little public attention but they are extremely important. Attached is an excellent explanation of the amendments so that you can make an informed decision.

Have We Got A Deal For You!

Members, the board of directors has decided that when you bring a guest to lunch, we want to give you a break! It's not much of a break... because we don't charge much extra in the first place...but you can now register your guests – defined as those people who are not currently members of Kenosha Women's Network – for \$15 each.

"How do I do that?!" When you register yourself and your guest(s), just add the guest(s) as \$15, despite what the Jotform asks! That is, when you register and pay for yourself and guest Jane Doe, the cost is \$33. When you register and pay for yourself and guests Jane and Judy Doe, the cost is \$48.

So, you need to remember that you get a break! This break is for our members only, which is why you have to do the secret handshake...or secret math, as it were...to get the discount.

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April's Wise Women Read Meeting

We next meet on Tuesday, April 9, at Blue House Books, 5915 6th Ave A, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss *The Butterfly Sister* by Amy Gail Hansen. It is billed as "a moving Gothic tale that intertwines mystery, madness, betrayal, love and literature." Best of all, it's based partially in Kenosha, Wisconsin, since it's written by a Carthage grad and she will be joining us for the discussion!!

And on Tuesday, May 14, we'll be discussing the autobiography of EGOT-winner Viola Davis, *Finding Me*. The book is "is Viola Davis' story, in her own words, and spans her incredible, inspiring life, from her coming-of-age in Rhode Island to her present day. Hers is a story of overcoming, a true hero's journey. Deeply personal, brutally honest, and riveting, *Finding Me* is a timeless and spellbinding memoir that will capture hearts and minds around the globe."



April Speaker: the topic is: Introducing the KPL Kids at Uptown Library

Our own Ellen Kupfer and Kenosha Public Library Director Barbara Brattin will present news on the Children's Library coming to Uptown Kenosha. The library will be located on the ground floor of the newly built Uptown Lofts mixed-use project, occupying 7,632 square feet of the project, and it should be opening soon!

The Uptown Children's Library will be neighbors with a grocery store, restaurant, and 70 affordable housing apartments. Attend April's luncheon to hear about the progress on this exciting venture!

Register now: [LUNCH](#)

The Information Table is back!

The Information Table is back! We know you have a lot of information to share with fellow members, both about your business and upcoming events. Rather than putting literature on the lunch tables, where it may be missed and have food spilled on it, we are giving you a designated spot where the action is closer to all the attendees!

We introduced this at the February meeting and had a great response! So, please be prepared to leave your brochures and flyers on the designated table at the front of the room, and, after lunch, be sure to pick up any that remain. Anything left behind, will be thrown away or recycled.



THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS WHO DONATED RAFFLE PRIZES AT THE MARCH MEETING

*Guida Brown—Guided by Guida

*Darleen Scuglik—DarsHearts

*Mary Modder—SE WI Labor Times

*Kristina Braaksma—KC's Green Acres

*Deb Strecker

*Ellen Kupfer—Cathy Mach Estate

*Darlene Duncan

*Lynda Ruffolo—Kenosha Harbor Market

Make a donation (valued at \$10 or more) to our regular monthly raffle and get your name and business mentioned in our monthly newsletter!



Kristina Braaksma was not raised on a farm, but, when she and husband Chad bought their small farm in 2019, he suggested she get some chickens. So Kristina dove into raising chickens for eggs, learning as she went. She says that chickens are the “gateway drug”, leading to ducks, geese and turkeys, followed by baby goats! She now breeds and sells Alpine goats and uses their milk for making goat cheese (chèvre), soaps and lotions, as well as for drinking. Kristina sells her eggs, soaps and lotions at farmer’s markets during the summer and now sells her soaps and lotions on Amazon!!

Mary Modder joined KWN about 6 years ago, after attending the Christmas Luncheon at the invitation of Fran Kavenik. She shared that she won the 50/50 raffle and used it to pay for her membership dues! Mary, a retired teacher, and her husband own the *Southeast Wisconsin Labor Times* newspaper. She always has a few copies to distribute at meetings to those who want them. Mary says she has made good connections at KWN, as well as good friends. She particularly values the mini grant program and has sponsored several nonprofits looking for grants over the years. To quote Mary, “When I pay my dues, I know that the money is returned to me in so many ways!”

KWN members: We want to put you in the spotlight! Share with us, in 50-60 words, something about your business or your experience as a member of KWN. Look for the sign up sheet at the next meeting to get your name on the list!

Susan B. Anthony/Women of Influence Awards

If you were not at the Susan B Anthony Awards on March 22nd, you missed a great event! Here are a few pictures. To see more go to: [Joanna's Digital Images](#) web site.



Lifetime Achievement winner, Rebecca Matoska-Mentink



Arts/Education Winner: Rebecca Stevens



Business/Government/Nonprofit winner: Nikki Dennard Payne



Woman to Watch under 40 winner: Jenna Zeihen

