



KWN Community

February 2015

A Monthly Newsletter for members of Kenosha Women's Network

Women Supporting Women in Business

A Note from our President:

Hello KWN Members,

The New Year is in full swing, and big things are on the rise for KWN! Here is a look ahead at all the exciting things coming up for this great organization.

February is our annual meeting, where we vote for new board members. Melissa Sebetic's term as Fundraising Chair is ending, and we do need someone to step into this position. Also, my term as President is coming to an end. A big thank you to Melissa for all the great work she has done for the community as a part of this great organization! Also, a big thank you to all of you for allowing me the honor of being first Co-President with Julie Mucha, then as President these past two years. If you are interested in getting more involved, these two positions are great ways to do so! Amanda Blommel has been nominated as our new President, and Judy Williams has been nominated to step into the role of Fundraiser Chair. Of course, you may run or nominate someone for any board position if you so desire. Please contact a current board member for details on what this entails.

We will also vote to approve the budget and bylaws at our annual meeting. There have been no changes to the by-laws this year, which you may review on the KWN website. We will have copies of the budget available at the February luncheon for you to review. Copies of the bylaws and budget were e-mailed to the membership on 2/7/15.

In March, we have a very busy month, and we need all of you to help us out! First off, we have the Chamber of Commerce Expo at Parkside on March 7th and 8th. This is a fantastic event, and a great way to spread the word about KWN. We need volunteers to sign up for our booth. Please talk to membership chair Joanne Horner for more about volunteering for the Expo. This is coming up quickly, and will be here before we know it! This is an excellent opportunity to network for yourself, as well. Before or after you have worked your shift, you are then welcome to go around networking with other businesses at the Expo, and possibly make some great connections for yourself!

On March 20th, we have the Susan B. Anthony Award dinner. KWN is one of three organizations that co-sponsor this event to honor women in Kenosha who make a difference, as well as giving grants to community organizations and scholarships to women continuing their education. Join KWN, AAUW, and WWT for an evening filled with inspiration, hope, and of course, gourmet delights! You can get involved by donating one of your special gourmet treats, selling raffle tickets, placing an ad in the program, or volunteering the night of the event. The form is on the KWN website to RSVP, reserve your ad, or purchase raffle tickets. If you would like to sit with other KWN members, simply write "KWN table" on your form. Frances Kavenik will also have printed forms and raffle tickets.

Coming up in April, we will have our annual Chamber of Commerce Business After Five. This is another great way to not only share info about KWN, but also network for your own business. Our Business After Five is unique for a couple of reasons. For the past three years, this event has doubled as a second fundraiser for KWN, and has greatly increased the amount of money we are able to give back to the community! Start thinking about donations for the raffle so we can bring in more money for our mini-grant program. Secondly, because we are an organization, we as members have the opportunity to set up informational displays to promote our businesses. We will have more information coming very soon!

I look forward to spending lucky Friday the 13th with you for our next meeting!

Laura

February Meeting:

Friday, February 13, 2015
11:30AM to 1:00PM at
Agave Luna Azul Restaurant
2227 60th St, Kenosha

RSVP by
Wednesday, February 11, 9pm
to Anne Robbins at:
Kwn-lunch@hotmail.com and put
"attending" in the subject line.

The meeting fee is:
\$12.00 with Reservation,
\$15.00 at the door.

The fee includes your meal.

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.



Membership Renewal

Here we are in February already! Did you remember to renew your KWN Membership? The renewal price is \$65.00. New members pay \$75.00, which includes the cost of their name tag. The final deadline to renew your KWN membership is the March meeting. After that, you will pay \$75.00, the same as a new member. Please note: we can now accept credit cards!





Board Members:

President:

Laura Cox
262-496-4626

Vice-President:

Mary Radigan
262-694-0455

Secretary:

Donna Funk
262-995-4368

Treasurer:

Wendy Gauss
262-942-0163

Standing Committee

Chairs:

Communications:

Linda San Filippo
847-361-2678

Membership:

Joanne Horner
847-337-2778

Website:

Amanda Blommel
262-995-5932

Newsletter:

Joanna Carlberg
262-891-3110

Fundraising:

Melissa Sebetik
262-620-7554

Hospitality:

Anne Robbins
262-818-8569

Contact the board:

KWN.Board@gmail.com

Getting to Know You

Robin Shiels-Robin's Nest Cakery



Robin Shiels is the owner, baker and creative mind behind Robins's Nest Cakery, a 5 year old business that specializes in wedding cakes with sugar flowers. For the last 3 years the business has operated out of a small storefront on 7th Avenue with a commercial kitchen in the back. She sells cupcakes and cookies over the counter but most of her work is made to order. A typical wedding cake will take three months of work, from the first meeting with the client to the final design. All her cakes are one of a kind, based on the client's design ideas and décor. The size depends on the number of servings and, of course the clients will taste test different flavors. Her reputation is growing fast; Robin commented that she is already nearly booked up for wedding cakes in 2015! As well as wedding cakes, Robin makes cakes for other occasions, such as birthdays and showers and runs cake decorating classes in the shop.

The business is a family affair. Robin is still working towards giving up her day job at a bank, so her children help out in the store. She and her husband of 20 years have three children, two girls and a boy, aged 11, 16 and 19. Strangely enough, it's her husband who has the culinary background-he went to chef school but has never worked as a chef. At home, he is the cook and Robin rarely has to fix dinner!

Robin is originally from Grayslake, Illinois, just down the road. She is a homebody who is not fond of travelling, but she and her family sometimes visit relatives in Tennessee.

Robin joined KWN in late 2014 but her schedule is such that she has a hard time attending the meetings. Once she leaves her job at the bank, Robin looks forward to being able to network with other business women at KWN.

Check out Robin's Facebook page for pictures of her awesome creations!! <https://www.facebook.com/RobinsNestCakery>

February Speakers

There will be no speakers in February as this is election time! New officers, including the President, will be elected at this meeting and the by-laws will be approved for the year. Don't miss it!!

If you would like a chance to speak at one of our up-coming meetings, please contact Mary Radigan. Her phone number is: 262-694-0455. Promote your business in the 3 minute slot, or speak about an educational topic beyond just business in the 10 minute slot.

Mark your calendars!

Events coming up in the next couple of months:

Chamber Expo, March 7 \$8-Volunteers needed!

Susan B Anthony Award dinner, March 20-Tickets available!

KWN's sponsored Business After 5 in April-date TBD.

Don't forget to RSVP!

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the first meeting of 2015! Don't forget to RSVP to Anne Robbins at: KWN-lunch@hotmail.com by Wednesday February 11 to get the discounted price. Put "Attending" in the subject line. Walk-ins are always welcome but we need a rough head count for the restaurant. Friday the 13th is always a lucky day for KWN! See you then!

Thank you to all our members who donated raffle prizes at the January meeting:

*Wendy Gauss-Balistreri Physical Therapy *Wendy Gauss-Pampered Chef *Peggy Walker-Pepper the Clown

*Joanna Carlberg-Joanna's Digital Images *Judy Walthers-Hospice Alliance *Emily Delabruve-KACC

Have you considered making a donation to our monthly raffle? Get your name and business mentioned in our monthly newsletter!