

KWN Community

A Monthly Newsletter for members of Kenosha Women's Network

March 2024

Kenosha
Women's
Network



Growing Together, Rooted in the Community

A Note from our President

Hello, KWN,

I hope you were able to enjoy the February luncheon with us. We had quite the crowd, and we learned a lot, too, thanks to Amanda Blommel and Wendy Gauss. To that end, don't forget to read this WHOLE newsletter because the Susan B. Anthony – Women of Influence Awards Dinner needs your help on March 22!



So, the groundhog didn't see his shadow, and that, inexplicably to me, means that we'll have an early spring! I'm not sure that we should take forecasts from a rodent, but this time around he seems to be right! Temperatures are warmer; the sun is out most days; and, of course, the sun sets later each day! By the end of March the sun will be setting after 7:15 p.m.!

But, with the warmer weather typically comes more activities. Remember that "no" is a love word...at least according to a friend of mine, and it's also a complete sentence. Learn to be comfortable with not explaining yourself.

"Do you want to go to this event with me?"

"No, thanks."

"We should do lunch!"

"No, thanks."

"Hey, we should sell merch on the road with Dion!"

"No, thanks."

OK, that last one probably won't happen to you since my husband David McGrath and I cornered that market, but during this season of new beginnings and transformations, of fresh starts and starting over, be kind to yourself! Take time to rest and relax because fresh starts and transformations need downtime, too!

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.

March meeting

KWN's March meeting will be at [Casa Capri](#).

The meeting date is March 8th, 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 March 5th, 2024

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

Save the Date for the 33rd Susan B Anthony-Women of Influence Awards Dinner to be held on Friday, March 22nd, 2024, at the Alfred & Bernice De Simone Arena, at UW Parkside. This year's winners are:

Lifetime Achievement: Rebecca Matoska-Mentink

Arts/Education: Rebecca Stevens

Business/Government/Nonprofit: Nakeisha "Nikki" Dennard Payne

Woman to Watch under 40: Jenna Zeihen

[Click here](#) to buy a ticket to the event! Early Bird pricing runs through February 23rd. Reservations close on March 14th.



Click on the image to register



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March's Wise Women Read Meeting

In March, we'll be back at Blue House Books, 5915 6th Ave A, at 6:30 p.m., at our regularly-scheduled date, the second Tuesday, which is March 12.

We chose an Irish-themed story for St. Patrick's Day. The book we'll be discussing is *The Lost Bookshop* by Evie Woods, and it's described as "*The Keeper of Stories* meets *The Lost Apothecary* in this evocative and charming novel full of mystery and secrets. 'The thing about books,' she said 'is that they help you to imagine a life bigger and better than you could ever dream of.'"

The book choice for April 9th is *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!



March Speaker: Cathy Kramer of CMIT Solutions

Cathy Kramer, our speaker for the canceled January luncheon, is back on Friday, March 8, at Casa Capri. Cathy is the Director of Business Development at CMIT Solutions (small business IT company), and we are so happy to have her present to us on the topic of cyber financial safety.

[Click the link](#) to register now!



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.

Having Fun with your Fellow Members

It's always great to spend time with your friends from KWN! It doesn't have to be a big organized event; in the past, we have participated in Women Build Week with Habitat for Humanity but also "Maven Monday" which was a Monday evening outing to an area restaurant once a month (pre-Covid), a Thursday gathering at The Red Oak Restaurant, painting pottery at Alpaca Arts, and free concerts in the park. What would you like to do that would be much more fun with a few friends? One suggestion was knitting together-maybe making something to benefit others, like hats for premature babies. It doesn't have to be sponsored by KWN or be limited to KWN members. In fact, it's a great way to attract new members, when they see what a fun bunch we are!!! Ellen Kupfer is looking for suggestions-why not talk to her at the next meeting or email one of the board?

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

*Guida Brown—Guided by Guida

*Diane Gerlach—Aurora Children's Health

*Jennie Tunkieicz

*Peggy Gallo—Tax Preparation

*Deb Strecker—Woman's Club

*Ellen Kupfer—Cathy Mach Estate

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



Brenda Haynes, (M.A., MT-BC), is the owner of Notes 88 Music Studio, where their passion is performing and teaching others so they, too, can appreciate and enjoy this amazing world of music. Their goal is to make the world a better place by filling it with more music and musicians!

Brenda also provides music therapy services to clients of all ages and with various functional needs, such as NICU, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Developmental Delay, Stroke/injury recovery, pain management, Alzheimer's, dementia and Hospice Care.

New member, Dawn Skau, works for KAFASI as the Manager/Coordinator for Volunteer Transportation Service. They provide transportation for Kenosha County residents aged 60 or older who are unable to use public transportation. Rides are provided by volunteers in the community. Riders can request transportation for medical visits, shopping or other trips. There is a desperate need for more volunteers to help with this worthwhile service! If you would like to help, call 262-842-7433 and volunteer!!

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

Traditionally the Susan B. Anthony – Women of Influence Awards Dinner offers a silent auction of baked goods, so we need your help to support that! Funding from the event goes to nonprofits and scholarships. This year, the following nonprofits are being supported: Boys & Girls Club, *SMART Girls*; ELCA Outreach Center, *Feminine Products Project*; Hope Council, *Loved Ones Group*; KAFASI, *Power Her With Essentials*; Kenosha Literacy Council, *Lifting Women's Voices*; Shalom Center, *Shelter Program Bus Tokens*; Sharing Center, *Hygiene Supplies*; Society's Assets, *Advocacy in Action* and the two nontraditional-aged Kenosha women receiving the scholarships are *Shannon Adamczyk* and *Lisa Kurman*.

So, if you like to bake or otherwise create food to be auctioned, this is your chance! Please let Frances Kavenik know at kavenik@uwp.edu or by phone at 262-654-7570 if SBA can count on your donation. She'll even arrange for pick up if needed!

Remember that the event is at UW-Parkside's Arena on Friday, March 22, so items must be received by then! (And if you still need a ticket because you want to be there to honor our own member Rebecca Matoska-Mentink as the **Lifetime Achievement Award** winner, or the other winners: Nakeisha "Nikki" Dennard Payne for **Business/Government/Nonprofit**, Rebecca Stevens for **Arts/Education**, and Jenna Zeihen for **Women to Watch Under 40**, you can order tickets here: [BUY A TICKET](#) Don't like to bake or make desserts...or whatever? That's OK! In the past few years the silent auction has expanded a bit, so your baskets or other items are also welcome! Once again, please let Frances know what to expect.

Remember that KWN is one of the sponsors of the Susan B. Anthony – Women of Influence Awards Dinner, and with that privilege brings responsibility from us! Thanks for your assistance!



Susan B. Anthony – Women of Influence Volunteers

One more ask for the event, if you're already planning on being there: we need volunteers! Last year KWN members totally ROCKED on raffle ticket sales, so that's one place we need assistance again! Another is the silent auction, which means that right after dinner and during the event we will need help with organizing the items; AFTER the event we also need help with handing out items.

This is a ticketed event, so we're asking that you buy your ticket, then help at the event. Are you in? Let Guida know, please: guidedby-guida@gmail.com or 262-914-1820; she's happy to answer any questions and get you a position!

