



TouchLine

A Monthly Publication of The Women's Roundtable

January 2010

JANUARY 21

**WOMEN IN BUSINESS:
THE MANY HATS WE WEAR/START-UPS**

Lisa Maas, Owner

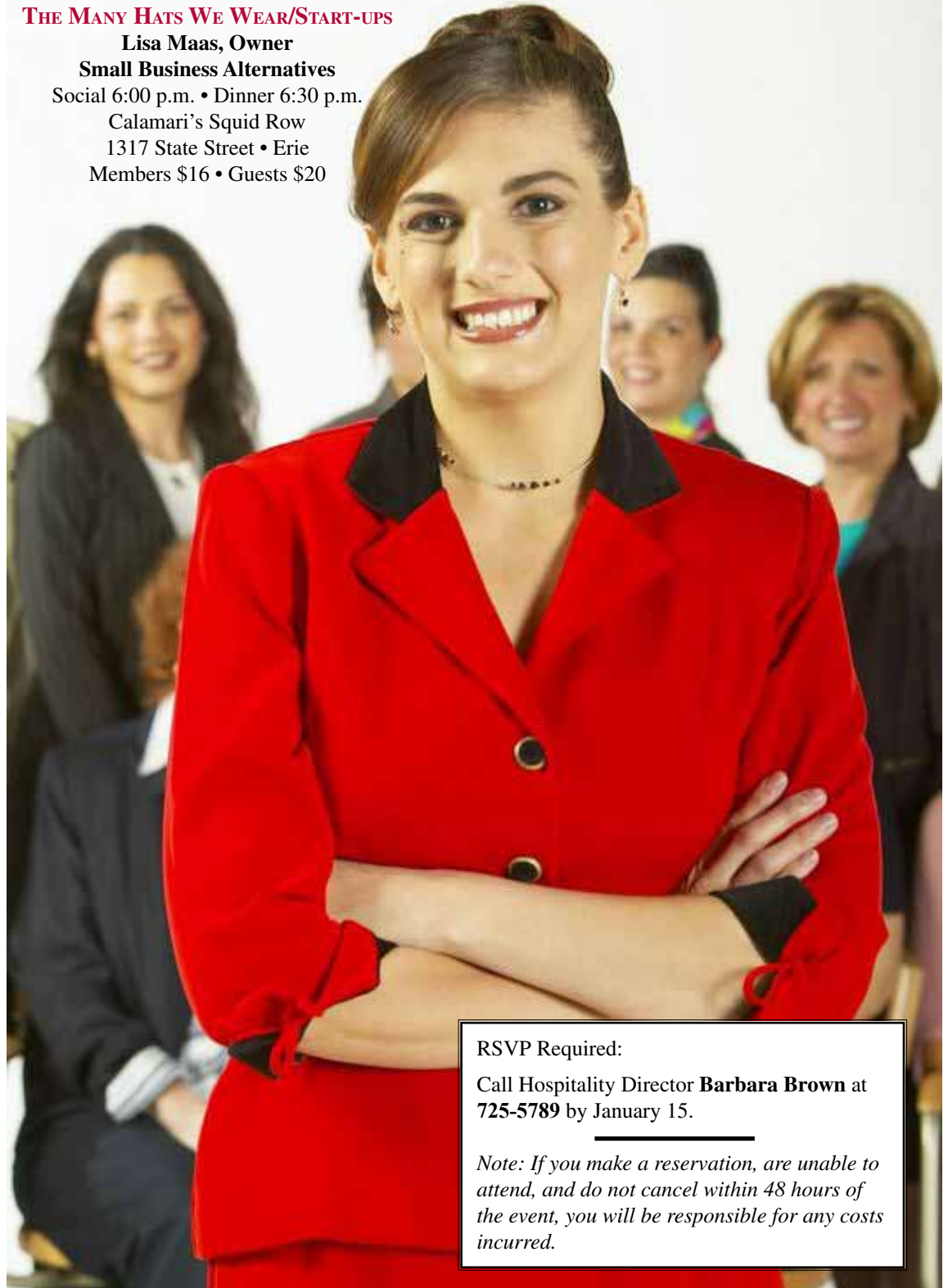
Small Business Alternatives

Social 6:00 p.m. • Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Calamari's Squid Row

1317 State Street • Erie

Members \$16 • Guests \$20



RSVP Required:

Call Hospitality Director **Barbara Brown** at
725-5789 by January 15.

Note: If you make a reservation, are unable to attend, and do not cancel within 48 hours of the event, you will be responsible for any costs incurred.

GROWTH

EXCELLENCE

MOTIVATION

STRENGTH

Visit us online at
www.wrterie.org

A Message From The President

Here we are entering a new decade. I don't know if I'm getting old or time is going faster because of the faster paced world and more time spent with technology! I honestly don't know where the time went. Looking back, I have accomplished and achieved a lot of things and traveled all over the world, as well as throughout this great country. I guess all that also accounts for the fast passing of time!

The Women's Roundtable has flourished and has seen many women come and go. The members of our organization have gained wisdom and we've had fun with every one of them. I hope in reflection, they feel the same about us. We also have a wonderful core group of members that have been with us the whole decade, and many before that! These women are the ones that keep the heart of the organization beating. I feel privileged to know all of them ... the long-term and new members alike. I enjoy sharing time with them. It's exciting to see the changes and accomplishments in their lives involving family and business. Our group is amazing ... we have such a diverse gathering of talents and personalities! Whenever we need any advice, or a special product or service, we seldom have to search beyond our own membership for solutions.

Try to make it a point to attend as many meetings as possible this year. I promise you'll find that you'll grow both professionally and personally from the interaction with all our wonderful members!

Susan Wendel

Save
the Dates!



2010 Woman of the Year

Plans are underway for the 23rd Annual Woman of the Year Awards. WOTY Chair **Tabitha Jones** has confirmed the following dates for these prestigious events, which will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the Bel-Aire Clarion Hotel & Conference Center:

April 15 • Community Reception
May 13 • Awards Banquet

It's not too early to start thinking of a special woman in your life that should be nominated! Members will be receiving letters with Nomination Forms in the mail shortly. The forms can also be downloaded from our website at www.wrterie.org.

The WOTY Committee currently consists of **Haley Margraf Figurski, Peggy Schwab, Kristin Mooney and Diane DeLuca-Thompson**. If you'd like to help out this year, please don't hesitate to contact Tabitha at 450-5428 or email her at tabitha@schwabhospitality.com.

Newsletter Information

If you have any news or information you'd like to share with members and friends of The Women's Roundtable, please forward to **Diane DeLuca-Thompson**, TouchLine Editor, via email at agencyal@neo.rr.com or fax to 866-6911. Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month.



Difficult Times

Our sincerest sympathies to WRT member **Peggy Schwab** on the recent loss of her father-in-law, Clemens V. Schwab, Jr., who passed away January 3.

And to former member and long-time friend **Linda Austin** on the sudden death of her husband, Michael, in December.

Please keep these ladies and their families in your prayers.

Relief for Dry Winter Hands

by Dr. Jessica Wu

With the threat of H1N1, we're washing our hands like crazy these days. Compound that with dry inside winter air, and we have a problem. Here's some tips:

Keep a tube of hand cream near the sink. Reapply every time you wash your hands. If you're on the go during the day, keep a tube in your bag. When choosing a hand cream, remember that a rich cream will last longer than a light lotion. Look for deep moisturizing ingredients like glycerin and shea butter. I like Olay Quench Therapy Hand Cream, which also contains aloe and chamomile extracts to soothe irritated skin. It leaves your hands soft and smooth, but not greasy, so you can still drive, text or use your laptop ... without leaving greasy fingerprints.

Use a moisturizing hand soap. Washing hands thoroughly kills germs as well or better than using alcohol-containing hand sanitizers. In fact, some of my patients carry hand soap in their bags for use in public bathrooms. Try Tom's of Maine Natural Moisturizing Hand Soap, which contains coconut and palm oils to clean your hands gently and naturally.

Rub rich cuticle cream on your fingertips to prevent ragged hangnails. Try Burt's Bees Lemon Butter Cuticle Cream, which contains cocoa butter and sweet almond oils to repair cracked cuticles and split fingertips.

Splurge on a paraffin dip. If your hands are extremely chapped, consider getting a paraffin dip. Many manicurists perform this treatment, which coats your hands in a protective layer of paraffin wax. Just be sure it's done hygienically. The best way is if your manicurist pours clean, warm (not hot) wax in a fresh plastic bag, and then puts your hands inside. This way there's no "double-dipping" in a communal tub of wax.

Thank You for Your Holiday Spirit!

Georgian Turri, Christmas program coordinator at Community Shelter Services, has informed us that the family we "adopted" at Christmas was absolutely thrilled with the many gifts provided.

The family has been working towards and accepted into the ShelterPlus program, a federally-funded program that assists families in need with their rent and utilities. They will be moving into a new home shortly and should be on their way to better times. *Quite a success story for CSS!*



Upcoming Women's Roundtable Events

FEBRUARY 16

LUNCHTIME/OFFICE EXERCISES/BONE BUILDING

HELP & CHOCOLATE CONTEST!

Aaron Hertel, Co-owner
Hertel & Brown Physical Therapy
Social 6:00 p.m. • Desserts 6:30 p.m.
Family First Sports Park

MARCH 24

REAL-TIME COMMUNICATIONS MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

David VanAmburg, President/CEO
VanAmburg Group, Inc. & MutualGravity, Inc.
Social 6:00 p.m. • Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Location TBA

TidBits ...

Haley Figurski (formerly *Haley Margraf*) was married to Patrick Figurski on September 19th! The young couple exchanged vows at St. Peter's Cathedral and had their reception at the beautiful Bel-Aire Clarion Hotel. They honeymooned in Punta Cana in the Dominican for a week!

Georgeann Antalek had the opportunity to show us her stuff recently ... she was the designer for the Dr. Gertrude A. Barber National Institute Christmas tree in the St. Vincent Auxiliary 2009 Festival of Trees. The theme was "Not a Creature Was Stirring." *I saw the tree and it was gorgeous ... she got my vote!*

PGA Golf Professional **Karen Bukowski** is offering her expertise via a monthly article in Senior News. She'll be covering various golf-related topics to improve the game for seniors.

Mary Ellen Dahlkemper is pleased to announce that Stairways Behavioral Health is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year. SBH was started by a group of very passionate women volunteers and was initially housed in a second floor room above the former Nihil Shoe Store at 8th and State Streets in downtown Erie. Today, they have nearly 500 employees, hundreds of volunteers and service more than 8,500 clients.

Marsha MacKinnon has taken on a temporary gig as a substitute teacher with the Erie School District. She's currently teaching at East High School.

Barbara Brown, a senior representative with Silpada Designs, was promoted to Star Leader this past July. She was recognized for building a team that produced more than \$10,000 in sales in June, earning her her first leadership charm, a fabulous sterling bracelet and three days in Chicago for a Leadership Conference.

Women's History Month/Writing Women Back Into History

The Women's History Dinner, sponsored by the Council of Women's Organizations (CWO), is scheduled for **Monday, March 8**, at the Maennerchor Club in Erie. The festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$27.

Send your payment made payable to CWO to Mary Anne Little, 5426 Lakeshore Drive, Erie PA 16505. For more information, call 833-9082 or email ma.little@verizon.net. WRT will have a display table at the event.

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION:

WWW.WRTERIE.ORG

JUST FOR WOMEN ...

Women, Money & Opportunity

A seminar for women business owners and entrepreneurs

January 29

8:00 - 4:00 p.m.

The Rivers Club

One Oxford Centre

301 Grant Street, Suite 411

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

The Pennsylvania Treasury Department's Women & Money Project is proud to partner with Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP) to help women progress towards stronger economic security. This seminar will provide concrete resources for Pennsylvania women to start, grow, and innovate their businesses. The program provides vital information, tools and resources in three essential target areas:

- ♦ **Contracting:** competing and teaming for federal and state contracts;
- ♦ **Accessing Capital:** strategies for finding and securing diverse revenue streams; and
- ♦ **Business Matchmaking:** One-on-one meetings with procurement officers from the public and private sectors and non-profit small business consultants.

WIPP is a national bi-partisan group comprising over half a million members. It is a non-profit organization and is the public policy voice for 49 national Women in Business groups and is The Voice for Women in Business in our Nation's Capital.

The cost is \$50/person*, and parking below the Oxford Centre is \$15/day with validation. For more information, either email Jason Lalak at jlalak@wipp.org or visit them online to register:

wipp.org/events

**Includes 1 Year Membership in WIPP*

Quote of The Month

"People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within."

Elizabeth Kubler Ross

The Women's Roundtable Membership

Georgeann Antalek ☉
The Honorable Susan P. Baxter ●
Brenda Bennett ☎
Pamela Biroshak
Barbara Brown ☉
Amy Brzuz
Karen Bukowski ☎
Carol Cannarozzi ☉
Delores Catalde
Gay Marie Catania
Diane Chido
Dorothy Christoph ●
Eileen Cullen, D.Ed.
Mary Ellen Dahlkemper
Diane DeLuca-Thompson ☎☉☎
Elsie Dickson
The Honorable Stephanie Domitrovich ●
Veronica Dunn
Haley Margraf Figurski
Audrey Gallagher
Mary Graziano
Nadia Havard
Sue Hawley
Susan Hegel, Ph.D. ☎

Bozena (Bo) Iole ☎
Ruby Jenkins-Husband ●
Sharon Johannesmeyer ☎
Tabitha Jones ☎
Marietta Kuehn
Mary Ann Kupniewski
Janet Laskowski
Marilyn Livosky, Ph.D. ☉
Carol Loll
Mary Macie ☉
Marsha MacKinnon ☉☎
Alice Frazier McCullough
Jeanne Miller
Kristin Mooney ☎
Sheila Norgard
Tami Petrucelli
Theresa Power-Natale ☎
Susan Rogers
Sue Sanders
Mary Sansone
Peggy Schwab
Mavis Sergeant
Linda Stevenson
Kim Stucke ☎

Chris Tombaugh
Debbie Trocki ☉☎
Valerie Weaver
Susan Wendel ❖
Diane Wilson
Eileen Zinchiak ☉

Legend:

- ◆ New Member!
- ☎ 2009 Woman of the Year
- Former Woman of the Year
- ☎ 2009-10 Board Member
- ❖ 2009-10 President
- ☉ Past President
- ☎ Founding Member