



# TouchLine

A Monthly Publication of The Women's Roundtable

October 2009

6th Annual  
MEMBER SHOWCASE  
Thursday, October 22

Signs Now  
2232 West 23rd St. (West of Pittsburgh Ave.)  
5:00 p.m. Exhibitor Set-up  
6:00 p.m. Showcase  
Members-only Display Tables: \$10/Table  
Members/Guests Attending Only: \$5/Person  
Refreshments • Pizza & Salad Served

Well attended and often talked about, The Women's Roundtable Member Showcase gives members the opportunity to "showcase" their own business, career or hobby/craft in a mini-tradeshow atmosphere.

Members exhibit their wares while members and guests learn firsthand what our members do for a living or how they spend their free time.

To give you an idea, past Member Showcase participants have displayed Cosmetics, Jewelry, Housewares, Financial Services, Realty Services, Women's Clothing, Promotional/Specialty Advertising & Gifts, and Child Development & Educational Tools, to name a few.

Signs Now will provide the table, but you'll have to bring the drape. Space is limited, and we've sold out in previous years, so call and reserve your table today to ensure your spot.

*Hope to see you then!*



**RSVP Required:**

Call Hospitality Director **Barbara Brown** at **725-5789** by Friday, October 16.

*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](http://www.wrterie.org)

## A Message From The President

Well, I can't believe it's October already! Maybe it's just because we really didn't have much of a summer, so fall just blends! Golf season is winding down and that is not a good thing for me! I always miss it since I'm no longer the skier I used to be, although George and I plan to hit the slopes more this year ... *we will see!*

I need to talk about the **Athena Awards** since it just took place September 28 at Mercyhurst College. I don't know if you're familiar, but if you aren't, Google it and read about it. It's a fabulous event for our community ... not just the women, even though that is what it's all about. **Linda Stevenson** spearheaded bringing this wonderful opportunity to Erie back in 2000. Along with it comes the **Athena PowerLink** program. I know you've heard of these opportunities, but do you really understand what they're all about? If not, please ... I encourage each of you to look this information up and read about it. This year **Linda Stevenson** herself was the recipient of the award, much to her surprise! She works so hard to be sure this event is top-notch each year. She is the force behind it, and it was a beautiful thing seeing her blindsided by the fact that she was the 'chosen one!' Everyone involved did a remarkable job keeping it a secret from her and making her believe that she was preparing for someone else to be announced as the recipient. *You just had to be there!*

The women of the Erie region are very fortunate to have so many opportunities for career advancement and training, as well as small business support. The community is so supportive of women-owned businesses. We have the above mentioned, as well as W.I.L.D. and the SBA at Gannon University. **Deb Steiner** is another woman that brings many opportunities to the women here. Along with them, there are countless other individuals -- *both men and women* -- who are always 'there' for you. I'm out every week attending events associated with these organizations. It all creates a healthy buzz around town. It's what makes you feel a part of the community and helps make you a successful business or career person.

*It's a lot of fun, too ... get involved!*

Susan Wendel



### CultureSpark Invites Participation

CultureSpark, the Erie County Cultural Plan, has developed an initial set of priorities and ideas through a series of forums, leadership interviews and meetings with artists and organizations. CultureSpark is now reaching out to Erie County residents, artists and organizations to gather your opinions, ideas and hopes by conducting three online questionnaires (Community, Organization & Artist Surveys). The goal is to have over 1,000 respondents from across the County.

WRT member **Mary Ellen Dahlkemper**, chair of the Steering Committee, urges you to go to [www.culturesparkerie.org](http://www.culturesparkerie.org) to participate or call 452-3427 for a survey. The deadline is October 9.

### 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](mailto:agencyal@neo.rr.com) or fax to 866-6911. Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month.

## TidBits ...

**Nadia Havard** and her husband, Jon Woodard, welcomed their first child into this world on August 28 ... Anna Elizabeth weighed in at 7 lbs. 13 oz., and was 20.5 inches long!

Congratulations, too, to **Linda Stevenson**, on being named the 2009 recipient of the ATHENA® Award! Recipients of the ATHENA Award® are individuals who: demonstrate excellence, creativity, and initiative in their business or profession; provide valuable service by contributing time and energy to improve the quality of life for others in the community; and actively assist women in realizing their full leadership potential. Since the



program's inception in 1982, more than 5,000 awards have been presented in over 500 communities in the United States, Canada, China, Russia, the United Arab Emirates and, most recently, the United Kingdom. By honoring exceptional leaders, the ATHENA Award® Program seeks to inspire others to achieve excellence in their professional and personal lives.

**Gay Marie Catania**, HR management consultant, will present "Correcting Inappropriate Employee Behavior" October 23, from 12:00-4:00 p.m., at Preferred Systems, Inc., 1341 West 6th Street in Erie. Cost is \$60. Call 456-0406 for more info.

Membership Director **Theresa Power-Natale** welcomes anyone interested in Bayview Toastmasters to contact her at 833-4763. The local chapter is actively seeking new members. You can visit them online at [www.bayview.freetoasthost.com](http://www.bayview.freetoasthost.com).

### The Women's Roundtable 2009-2010 BOARD MEMBERS

President .....	Susan Wendel 833-8110
President-Elect .....	(Vacant)
Treasurer .....	Susan Hegel 734-2547
Secretary .....	Karen Bukowski 455-2811
Immediate Past President .....	Debbie Trocki 868-0079
Director of Programs .....	Bo Iole 864-3274
Director of Membership .....	Theresa Power-Natale 833-4763
Director of Publicity .....	Marsha MacKinnon 868-4002
Director of Hospitality .....	Barbara Brown 725-5789
Newsletter Editor .....	Diane DeLuca-Thompson 866-6909
Webmaster .....	Kristin Mooney 397-7973
Woman of the Year Co-Chairs .....	Sharon Johannesmeyer 868-9520 Tabitha Jones 450-5428
Council of Women's Organizations .....	Brenda Bennett 833-2301

## Upcoming Women's Roundtable Events

**NOVEMBER 17**

**NETWORKING**

6:00 p.m.  
South Shore Winery  
North East

**DECEMBER 3**

**HOLIDAY PARTY**

6:00 p.m.  
Erie Maennerchor Club  
Erie

## Welcome New Members ...

*EEK! We have NO new members to announce ... that's Zip, Zero, Zilch!*

If you have a friend, family member or colleague that may be interested in learning more about The Women's Roundtable, be sure to invite them to our next event.

Don't hesitate to contact Membership Director **Theresa Power-Natale** at 833-4763 or you can email her at [TheresaPower-Natale@roadrunner.com](mailto:TheresaPower-Natale@roadrunner.com) for brochures, membership applications, etc.

## Volunteers Needed ...

Highmark Caring Place, the focus of our September meeting, is a center for grieving children, adolescents and their families. Grieving children and adults go to the Caring Place after a loved one dies, seeking the safety and comfort of being with others who understand because they are going through similar circumstances. Importantly, the peer support group programs offered are provided at no cost to families in the Erie community.

The program relies on the dedication of a large group of volunteers, and it is their compassion that is the heart of the support received by the families who attend the program. By becoming a volunteer, *you can make a difference*. Volunteers are needed to serve food, greet families and work with children and families in support groups.

If you can help, please contact WRT member **Tami Petrucelli**, volunteer services coordinator, at 871-6934 or email her at [tami.petrucelli@highmark.com](mailto:tami.petrucelli@highmark.com).



## Northwest Pennsylvania's 9th Annual Nonprofit Day

October 21

11:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.\*

Bayfront Convention Center, Erie

A vendor fair, you'll have the opportunity to exhibit your products and services to more than 400 nonprofit leaders, including senior management staff and board members from organizations throughout the region.

Vendor Booths are draped 8' tables. Cost to exhibit is \$100. For more information or to register, call 454-0843 or visit [www.thenonprofitpartnership.org/assets/npp-exhibitor.pdf](http://www.thenonprofitpartnership.org/assets/npp-exhibitor.pdf)

*\*Vendor Fair and Reception with all conference participants from 4-5:00 p.m.*

## JUST FOR WOMEN ...

**WE DO** Women's Economic  
Development Outreach  
CREATING CONNECTIONS. **BUILDING BUSINESS.**

**October 16**

9:00 a.m.

### STRATEGIES FOR A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

Valley of Erie Scottish Rite  
4701 Old Zuck Rd, Erie

Packed with invaluable advice from nationally acclaimed and extraordinarily successful female entrepreneurs and our own local experts, you don't want to miss this teleconference, which is well attended.

The cost is \$45 and includes a networking breakfast and boxed lunch. Call **Linda Stevenson** at 871-1225 for more info, or register online at [WE-DO.net](http://WE-DO.net).

### WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SERIES POWER OF PROJECTING CONFIDENCE & CREDIBILITY

**October 22**

**1:00 - 2:15 p.m.**

A 60-minute Webinar Training Conference designed especially for women. You'll learn: Communication Skills to Build Your Credibility, Tips to Managing How Others Perceive You and Keys to Handling Tough Situations with Composure. Includes Q&A. Presented by Pamela Jett, internationally recognized presenter and author on developing leadership skills and improving workplace relationships.

Hosted by Progressive Business Publications, the cost is \$199. Register by calling 800-964-6033 or visit :

[www.pbconferences.com](http://www.pbconferences.com).

*Save the Date!*

### W.I.L.D. Conference

(Women in Leadership Development)

**March 26, 2010**

Location TBA

Presented by Gannon's SBDC

### Quote of The Month

*"Don't be afraid your life will end; be afraid that it will never begin."*

Grace Hansen

## The Women's Roundtable Membership

Georgeann Antalek ☉  
 Judy Arkwright  
 The Honorable Susan P. Baxter ●  
 Brenda Bennett ☎  
 Pamela Biroshak  
 Barbara (Sue) Boyes  
 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  
 Audrey Gallagher  
 Mary Graziano  
 Nadia Havard  
 Sue Hawley  
 Susan Hegel ☎  
 Roberta Holdsworth

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

Kim Stucke ☎  
 Chris Tombaugh  
 Rena Tran  
 Debbie Trocki ☉☎  
 Deborah Vahanian  
 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