

**Arkansas BusinessWoman  
President's Message...**

Dear Fellow BPW Members:

What an exciting time to be the President of the Arkansas Federation of Business and Professional Women as we begin **Making Change. ..Personally, Professionally and Politically.**

As we completed the 2006-2007 year by Stepping Up and Stepping Out for BPW through Legislation, Individual Development and Diversity, we continue with the third year of the BPW/USA theme of Building Powerful Women Politically, Professionally and Personally. What a great leadership team we have in place with the Executive committee, Special Officers, Region Directors, LO Presidents and committee chairs and members. It is going to be a great year of change, so hold on to your purse!



At the installation banquet I spoke about all that BPW has meant to me over the 20+ years I have been a member. I am positive that each of you has your own story about why you are a BPW member. I think if we begin to share those stories and experiences with others and ask for others to join our wonderful organization we will begin to see our membership grow. As I was telling Ashlee Colliver, (designer of my logo) with First Federal Bank's marketing department about BPW and where we have been and where I hoped to be again, I shared my dreams for ARIBPW, thus the creation of my logo. You will note the large dots (where we were) falling down to a smaller set of dots (where we are today) and the arrow of where we want to be again. It will take us all to make that happen, but I know we are the best organization for working women today and if "each one reach one", we will continue to grow our membership.

I am excited about the re-organization of the Harrison BPW. On July 12<sup>th</sup> we held an informational meeting about BPW.

That night we had several that signed up and more that said they would sign up. In attendance we had PSP's Edwina

Hancock, Mary Beth Sudduth, Kathleen Dickerson, Millie Ballantyne and Kristina Croslin, Denise Tarter, and myself from the Executive Committee.

The week of July 17-22, 2007, twelve members of BPW/AR traveled to Reno for the **BPW/USA National Conference**. It was a busy week of change with many bylaw and

policy changes to be discussed and voted on. We enjoyed Col. Kim Olsen and Harvard Professor, John Kotter as keynote speakers. Individual Development winner Mary Griffith and Young Careerist Carol Johnson did a great job. **Arkansas received the Meriwyn Heath Award** for our efforts to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. This is a very prestigious award so congratulate Karen Garcia Legislation Chair and her committee for a job well done. Jo West Taylor and her committee this year will continue their efforts as we prepare for the 2009 Legislative Session.

The **Region Conferences** are being planned and I hope each of you will attend your region's conference. It is a great way to meet members from other organizations and learn about BPW. The Region dates are as follows:

Region I	September 15, 2007
Region II	October 6, 2007
Region III & IV	September 22, 2007

**The National Business Woman's Week** event will be held October 20, 2007 at the Capitol Rotunda from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Please forward me the name of your Woman of the Year so they can be recognized at this special event.

**Individual Development Training and Mid-Year Board** meeting will be in November so make sure to mark these dates on your calendar. The ID training will be November 8 & 9 and the Mid-Year Board meeting will be November 10 & 11 at the Hilton Metro Center in Little Rock, AR. If you signed up at State Convention, PSP Edwina will be looking for your registration for ID training. This is one of the best ways to Make Change... Personally, Professionally, and Politically, that BPW has offer.

I look forward to visiting each local organization. Please contact me for a date if you have not already done so.

**Thank you for allowing me to serve as your President. Together we can and will Make Change...Personally, Professionally and Politically.**

*Donna Hopkins*  
BPW/AR President 2007-2008