

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! Is it 2005 already? You know when I first became an Illinois State Trooper back in 1978, my retirement was projected as January 1, 2007. At the time that seemed like such a very long time away. Now it's just two years away. I won't say that time flies ... sometimes it does drag on ... but it does seem to accelerate as we get older.

The IWIL directory is out and it's fabulous! We started distribution at the Holiday Social in December and will continue to pass them out at the January and February meetings. Be sure to pick up your copy from either Nora Sansone Hoover or Pat Hughes. If you find you're not in the directory, it may be that your membership application and payment missed the November cut off. Our membership is dynamic and in order to go to print we had to select some arbitrary date as our stopping point.

Speaking of the Holiday Social, our Silent Auction, which funds our Scholarship Program netted just under \$3,000. Thank you for your generosity in donating auction items as well as spending money to buy them!

A number of you approached me at the Holiday Social with some wonderful ideas and suggestions. IWIL is developing into an innovative and exciting organization with your help! Thank you and keep "*thinking outside the box*"!!

Kathleen

INTRODUCING THE IWIL "GEM AWARDS"

Illinois Women in Leadership has unveiled their new awards program entitled "**The GEM Awards**". These awards will be presented to women who have demonstrated extraordinary standards of professional excellence, vision and dedication within the business arena and community. Three women will be honored each year.

The **RUBY** award will be presented to a woman who stands in the forefront with great influence in a chosen endeavor. She is a distinguished and committed woman with an enduring sense of community and who is endlessly reliant.

The **EMERALD** award will go to a woman who is inventing or reinventing herself. This is someone who has defined and is systematically planning a path for herself and has shown evidence of this plan in the last two to three years.

And finally, the **SAPPHIRE** award will go to a woman who can intuitively grasp the goals/dreams/aspirations of others and can act as a catalyst to those goals. This woman continues a coaching/nurturing relationship with those she mentors in order to support them planning, re-directing and successfully achieving their dreams. This woman is consistently "the wind beneath the wings" of others who want to fly high.

Everyone will be eligible for these awards this year; however; next year, you must be a member in good standing for one year to be eligible.

The timeline is as follows:

January 3, 2005 – Request for nominations to be sent.

January 31, 2005 – Nominations due.

February 14, 2005 – Notice of nomination along with application form to be sent.

March 11, 2005 – Application due.

Week of March 14, 2005 – Judging.

April 21, 2005 – Awards to be given.

If you have any questions at this time, please contact Val Yazell at 546-3860 or at valerayazell@hotmail.com.

SIG CONTACTS

Would you like to increase networking and strengthen the bonds with other Illinois Women In Leadership members by sharing a more personal side of yourself? The Special Interest Groups (SIG's) might be the answer. Volunteers have started small groups with specific interests that meet outside the time constraints of our monthly meeting. If you have an interest and would like to start a group, please contact **Val Yazell** at **546-3860** for guidance.

***BOOK CLUB**

Contact **Val Yazell** at **546-3860**.

***CAREER SEELERS**

Contact **Mary Furrrie** at **529-9645** or mary@gams.com.

***GOLF**

Contact **Mary Schaefer** at **529-2600**.

***GOURMET**

Contact **Susan Wilcockson** at **483-2574**.

***HIKING**

Contact **Viv Bennett** at viv@springnet1.com or call **622-8976**.

***SCRAPBOOKING**

Contact **Julie Krehbiel** at **546-6112** (work) or **546-0576**(home).

***SUPPORT GROUP for members with aging PARENTS-LOVE**

Contact **Marianne Jackson** at **498-8962**.

***WATERCOLOR PAINTING**

Contact **Shirley Caldwell** at **529-6959** or via email at caldwellsmith@sbcglobal.net.

IWIL MEMBERSHIP GROWING



The **Illinois Women in Leadership** membership has been growing strong with **206** members at press time.

Each month we will be introducing our new members.

Please join us in welcoming the new members who joined **IWIL** this past month..

DECEMBER 2004 NEW MEMBERS

Tanya Desanto, DDS, PC

Sheila Hohimer (Bickford Senior Living)

Patti Roseboom (National Association for the Self Employed)

Barbara Wall (Haloyan Transitions)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE JANURAY MEETING

FACILITATOR: **VAL YAZELL** (OWNER / WAVEMAKER OF MAKING WAVES)

SPEAKERS: **PANEL OF WINNERS OF THE SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARDS**

KAREN CONN (OWNER OF THE INN AT 835)

SHELLEY JACOBS (PRESIDENT OF DEL'S POPCORN SHOP)

JAN SESCLIEFER (OWNER OF THE ENRICHMENT GROUP)

RACHEL BROUGHTON (OWNER AND PRESIDENT OF BROUGHTON TRUCKING)

DARLENE WEAVER (OWNER AND PRESIDENT OF DISTINCTIVE DESIGN)

TOPIC: **ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT ... "I WILL IMPLEMENT NEW IDEAS"**

WHEN: **11:30 AM THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2005**

WHERE: **THE SANGAMO CLUB
227 EAST ADAMS
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

COST: **\$14 MEMBERS; \$15 GUESTS; \$20 AT THE DOOR**

Reservation forms for the IWIL January meeting will be e-mailed to the membership on Thursday, January 6, 2005.

REMINDER: All reservations and payments must be received by 5:00pm on Monday, January 17, 2005.

Send completed registration forms and payments to:

Illinois Women In Leadership Program Registration

Attn: Jackie Newman

Springfield Housing Authority

1910 Truman Road

Springfield, IL 62703

No phone reservations are accepted. All late reservations will be invoiced a \$6.00 late fee.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

President	Kathleen Stevens
President Elect	Val Yazell
Vice President	Rachel Broughton
Treasurer	Theresa Boley
Secretary	Kate Hein
Organization Advisor	Marianne Jackson

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Communications	Eileen Kluckman
Hospitality	Denise Rice
Membership	Susan Wilcockson
Membership Directory Co-Chairs	Nora Sansone Hoover Pat Hughes
Mentoring	Cindy Davis
Program	Becky Hendricks
Public Relations	Cyndi Deitrick
Registration/Nametags Co-Chairs	Jean Jachino Jackie Newman
Scholarship	Diane Hillard-Sembell

Contact Us Via Email at
info@iwil.biz

We are on the web at
www.iwil.biz

Illinois Women In Leadership
P.O. Box 5612
Springfield, IL 62705-5612

SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT, UPCOMING EVENTS AND MORE ...

The **Book Club SIG** will meet on Saturday, January 22, 2005, at 9:00am at the home of **Val Yazell**, 3105 Spring Mill Drive. This month's selection is "**Reading Lolita in Tehran, a Memoir in Books**" by **Azar Nafisi**. Read the entire book or just part of it, we're not picky. The discussion is always lively and thought provoking. If you have any questions or would like to be added to the announcement e-mails, contact **Val Yazell** at valerayazell@hotmail.com (interim coordinator).

The **Career Seekers SIG** will be meeting on Saturday, January 22, 2005, at 10:00am at Panera Bread by White Oaks Mall. Let's get together and talk about our careers. Where are the next great opportunities? How can we prepare ourselves to be the top candidate? Let's share some ideas! Whether you have a job currently or not, career planning is essential. We'll see you there. Contact **Mary Furrrie** at **529-9645** or e-mail her at mary@gams.com.

Val Yazell of **Making Waves** is excited to announce the introduction of her "**Saturday Morning Flashlight Series**". The mini seminars will be held about once a month on a Saturday morning beginning in February. The focus will be on leadership and life integration. Flashlights are used for illumination and we will be shining a light on thoughts and ideas that may be 'in the dark'. "We don't know what we don't know". If you are interested in being added to the invitation list, please contact **Val Yazell** at valerayazell@hotmail.com or **546-3860**.

The **IWIL Directory** will be available for distribution at the January (lunch) and February (breakfast) meetings. You can also contact **Nora Sansone Hoover, Co-Chair**, at either work **782-6536** or **782-6539** or home **793-2957** to make other arrangements. The directory is a wonderful way to stay connected with membership and patronize businesses run by our members. It is a very visible benefit of membership in this organization. For those of you who have already received your directory, if you have any corrections or additions to it, please e-mail them to **Nora** at nshoover@insightbb.com. Those who would like to add a photo, please send it to Nora via snail or e-mail. There will be one update, mid-Spring, with changes listed. Photos will be added if feasible.

The **IWIL Mentoring Committee** is planning a career night called "Dreaming the Dream" for high school freshman. It is to be held this Spring. This will be a showcase and networking opportunity for students interested in careers in which many of our IWIL members have excelled. We are opening up the planning committee to anyone who might be interested in making a difference in a young girl's life. Please contact **Cindy Davis** at cdavis@resource1-4u.com, or **Nora Sansone Hoover** at nshoover@insightbb.com for more information on helping to plan this important event. Remember that part of the IWIL credo is "I Will Leave a Legacy".

Remember to take a look at what's going on behind the scenes at Illinois Women in Leadership by visiting our web site at www.iwil.biz. Also, if you've missed out on any previous newsletters or you're just joining our group, past newsletter publications are posted under the **Communications** section of the web site. Just click on the [news and articles](#) link.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU...

To everyone who contributed to this month's newsletter and especially to all of the members who participate and make this organization a continued success.

Eileen Kluckman, Communications Chair