

## Business and Professional Women

### BPW/CA Mission Statement:

To provide participation in leadership, communications, education, and career opportunities. To promote equity, political and economic self-sufficiency for working women.

### BPW/USA Mission Statement:

To achieve equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education and information.

BPW/USA Web Site: [www.bpwusa.org](http://www.bpwusa.org)

CFBPW Web Site:

[www.bpwcal.org](http://www.bpwcal.org)

BPW International Web Site: <http://bpwintl.com>

Bay Capital District BPW Web Site:

[baycapitalbpw.org](http://baycapitalbpw.org)

District Newsletter, Bay Capital Connection:  
email: [dricos@juno.com](mailto:dricos@juno.com)

### BPW MERCED OFFICERS

Mary Ward, President...261-9933

Vicky Ramirez., President-Elect...389-1036

Bev Young, Recording Secretary...726-5111

Louise Farley, Corresponding

Secretary...564-6261

Bev Ward, Treasurer...631-0638

Janet Ramsey, Immed. Past President...769-8272

### DATES TO REMEMBER 2009 BPW

\* Every fourth Tuesday, Merced BPW

\* Every second Monday, Merced BPW

Board Meeting

### 2009 Merced BPW Dinner Meetings at

Fernando's in Merced

Social 5:30 pm; Dinner 6:15 pm:

Tuesday, June 30, 2009

Tuesday, July 28, 2009

Tuesday, August 25, 2009

Tuesday, September 29, 2009 > 85th

Anniversary Dinner

Tuesday, October 27, 2009 > Working

Women of the Year Banquet

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

For Information or to R.S.V.P.

[mercedbpw@aol.com](mailto:mercedbpw@aol.com), [mwardmerced@aol.com](mailto:mwardmerced@aol.com),

209-261-9933 or 209-631-0638

GUESTS ARE WELCOME AT ALL

MEETINGS



## 2009 Scholarship Awards Honor Merced County Women Students

April 28, 2009 BPW Meeting at Fernando's Bistro

Merced BPW is extremely proud to announce our organization's recipients of this year's scholarship awards. Nine deserving women in our community were selected to benefit from BPW's scholarship awards, which are granted every year, and are the mainstay of Merced BPW's community focus. Our recipients have goals that will give back to their community. Some are headed for careers in Nursing, Teaching, and Accounting, while others are pursuing degrees in Business, Child Development, Psychology, and other areas of specialization. All have one thing in common -- a desire to better themselves, their families and their communities. Many of the honorees noted their appreciation of the awards as a vote of confidence, faith and encouragement to the women as much as the monetary value. Merced BPW President Mary Ward expressed her appreciation for the hard work and dedication of not only the recipients themselves, but also acknowledged the supportive family members who make it possible for working women such as these to pursue their goals. Here are the honorees:

**Nora Dicochea** is a full-time nursing student at Merced College who has 2 children and a part-time job. Nora plans to continue her education in the Registered Nursing program after finishing her current program in December.

**Tami Fantazia** lives in Hilmar with her husband and two teenage sons, and is enrolled in the Registered Nursing program at Merced College. After graduation she will continue her education to become a critical care nurse specializing in cardiology.

**Charlotte Klock** is a part-time student at CSU Stanislaus while working at the Merced County Office of Education. After finishing at Stanislaus with a Multiple Subjects Credential specializing in Special Education, she plans to teach in the Merced County school system.

**Amber LaCroix** is a working mother of two who attends Merced College. She is currently majoring in Child Development and plans to pursue a degree in that subject. She will be the first college graduate in her family.

**Samantha Thompson** is working on her Master's Degree in Business Administration with the University of Phoenix online campus program while working a busy job at the Merced County Office of Education in subsidized child and development services. She completed her Bachelor's Degree in Human Services in 2005.

**Sarah Sanders** is a psychology major at UC Merced and a busy employee with the Atwater Chamber of Commerce. Her goals include travelling and providing education on health issues in other countries, as well as obtaining a Master's Degree in Psychology toward becoming a counselling therapist.

**Maria (Lucy) Sicairos** will graduate from Merced College next month with an AA in Business Administration and Accounting and has been accepted to California State University in Stanislaus. She is also a mother of two with a full-time job who somehow finds time to participate in community events such as the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

**Melissa St. Antoine** is a full time student at Merced College in the Registered Nursing Program. She is also a mother, care-giver and works part time. She will attend USC Stanislaus to obtain a specialty degree after finishing at Merced College.

**Heather Maciel** currently lives in Merced with her husband and 3 children and attends Merced College while working part time. Her goal to become a teacher of English literature has just become a step closer with her acceptance to Humboldt State University. With a house move coming up, Heather was especially happy to receive the BPW scholarship. She will be a full-time student at Humboldt.

## State Conference and Installation May 15-17/09

Piccadilly Inn Shaw, 2305 West Shaw Ave., Fresno

From the Friday night Sock Hop to adjournment on Sunday morning, the State Conference in Fresno was a great learning and networking experience for all attendees. The weekend featured several enlightening presentations, including one on BPW's many and varied international activities by Vancouver, B.C.'s Jill Worobec, a 'Women in Charge' panel, featuring talks by Margaret Mims, Sheriff of Fresno County and Susan Anderson, Chair of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, and a presentation by Dr. Loretta Kensinger, Program Co-ordinator of Women's Studies at Fresno State University. At the installation dinner on Saturday night, Merced BPW's own Janet Ramsey was installed as CFBPW President. President Janet's state officers are Vice-President Marjory Hopper from Valley Sunset District, Hollywood local; Recording Secretary Sandy Thompson, Valley Sunset/Burbank; and Treasurer Lila Hines, Sierra Mar/EI Monte.

## Dues Collection Changes Expected

May Days will be Pay Days

BPW dues will be collected at the local level for submission to the state, district, and international federations. Members should not send dues to national BPW/USA. At the State Conference in Fresno, the CFBPW membership, including Bay Capital District, voted to withdraw from the national organization, BPW/USA. Merced BPW will continue to be a part of Bay Capital District, California Federation and International Federation at this time. After the state convention and state revision of by-laws, there may need to be changes to our structure that will come about this summer. Mary Ward will keep members posted on the changes.

## Summer Fundraiser on Track

Come and Go at Fernando's August 14

Merced BPW members should watch for emails regarding our upcoming summer fundraiser, a 'Come and Go' luncheon at Fernando's Bistro in Merced. The luncheon is scheduled for Friday, August 14. Sales of \$100- sponsorships are needed to provide revenue to our organization so we can continue to offer scholarships to deserving Merced County women students. We also need individual ticket sales, raffle prizes, door prizes, and desserts, so please participate and start early!