



In The Loop

January 2024 to March 2024

Monroe West Monroe

Recap on March, 09, 2024
Scholarship Fundraiser

2024 Women's Symposium

Call for Officer
Nominations
Local and State

State Conference
June 7-9, 2024



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
2024 THEME-"TOGETHER WE CAN DO IT"



2024 is off to a great start for our local organization. In January we participated in the Mid-Year Board meeting via Zoom with Klassi R. Duncan, Vice President of the Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation (CEI) at the Urban League of Louisiana (ULLA), of the New Orleans Urban League, followed by an uplifting presentation on Health and Wellness in 2024 by our now own Monica Hunter, Nurse Practitioner, Owner of RefreshWellness, LLC.

This quarter culminates a busy month, Women's History Month. International Women's Day celebration, hosting the Scholarship Fundraising Luncheon with the dynamic guest speaker, Dr. Ashanti Jones, Associate Program Director, Director of Clinical Education, and Neurophysiology Curriculum Coordinator for the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at University of Louisiana-Monroe, (ULM), representing the State Federation at the ULM Women's Symposium and attending the Southwest Central District Meeting.

Since the beginning of the year, we have welcomed four new members. Let us celebrate our successes as individuals and as an organization! Monroe West Monroe is lighting a path for our future that promotes solidarity, justice, diversity, equity, inclusion, and innovation as we celebrate our accomplishments.

I will share the words of President of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc. Megan Shellman-Rickard, 2020-2024.

"We are moving forward to increase our relevancy by aligning with like-minded organizations so that we can achieve our mission more fully. We are continuing to cultivate leaders from all walks of life and at every phase of their careers. Encourage a diverse membership across the generations and create a more vibrant space for virtual interactions that span across the nation. You have an opportunity to provide constructive input and to find your own unique path in this organization. This is a chance to develop your potential, and that of BPW, in a safe and welcoming space. Please continue to bring your ideas, projects, and your own light forward. We know that collectively; our influence is stronger. We can empower each other by creating new opportunities for networking, burgeoning friendships, and collaborations."

Thank you for being an integral part of our Monroe West Monroe Business and Professional Women organization as we continue to help women strive for success.

As always, I extend to each of you, my

Best Personal Wishes,

Angie Jackson-Wilson

LO President 2023-2024

angiejwilson@gmail.com

318-348-1681



2023-2024 Board of Directors

Monroe West Monroe Business & Professional Women

P.O. Box 15046
Monroe, LA 71207

bpwmwmla@gmail.com

Executive Committee



President

Angie Jackson-Wilson
318-348-1681
angiejwilson@gmail.com



Vice President

Shirley Stewart
318-348-9431
sstewart572@gmail.com



Secretary

VACANT
Contact President
bpwmwmla@gmail.com



Treasurer

Doretha Bennett
318-805-3948
browndee423@yahoo.com

Committee Chairs

Audit

Sheila Clark-Mims
318-547-9395
mims307@bellsouth.net

Empowerment & Events

Brenda Sheppard-Nelson
414-793-6171
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Membership

Vicki Crist
318-547-5752
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Publicity

Darian Atkins
318-348-8991
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Scholarship

Teresa Brooks
318-362-8055
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Special Appointments

Chaplain

Gwen Amelin
318-732-3641
a1962gwen@yahoo.com

Parliamentarian

Frances Jakes
318-237-2894
fbjakes1935@icloud.com



Louisiana Federation of
Business & Professional Women
P. O. Box 15131
Monroe, LA 71207
www.lafbpw.wildapricot.org



2023-2024

“Together We Can Do It”

BPW/LA Calendar of Upcoming Events

2024

2024

April	01	Distribution of Spring Pelican
April	04	EC Monthly Teleconference
April	09	Election of 2023-2024 LO Officers
May	01	Deadline for BPW/LA Awards
May	02	EC Monthly Teleconference
May	15	Deadline for reports from BPW/LA Committee Chairs and Special Appointees
May	15	Deadline for LO 2024-2025 LO information to State President – incoming officers, meeting information
June	7-9	State Conference (Location TBD – Southeast District)

*Note:

Additional activities to consider.

- Statewide Fundraiser
- NIKE Award Distribution
- Distribution of Agnes Morris Scholarship

2024

ANNUAL STATE CONFERENCE

7-9 JUNE, 2024

SAVE THE DATE

**2023-2024 THEME
TOGETHER WE CAN DO IT**

Additional details to follow !



**Monroe West Monroe BPW
proudly supports
Doretha Bennett
for
State President
2024-2025**

2024 SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER LUNCHEON
MARCH 09, 2024
LOUISIANA DELTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Dr. Ashanti Jones
Guest Speaker

Associate Program Director | Director of Clinical Education Asst. Professor. The Neuro Specialist Institute Certified Neuro Specialist Lucy Shackelford Endowed Professorship in Kinesiology, College of Health Sciences | Doctor of Physical Therapy Program University of Louisiana – Monroe

2021-2023 Recipient



Jordan Carter
Major:
Dental Hygiene

Previous recipients of the Monroe West Monroe BPW Scholarship at ULM



Terri Love, 2008-2009;
Robin Cox, 2011-2012;
and Lakeysha Bullock,
2016-2018.



University of Louisiana at Monroe president, Dr. Nick Bruno, left, and Janis Guyton, right, president of Monroe/West Monroe Business and Professional Women congratulate Robin Cox, center, for winning the BPW scholarship for 2011 at the National Business Women's Week Banquet held recently.



LO members, Vicki Crist, Sheila Clark-Mims, and Lou Antley decorated the venue for the luncheon.



Past State President and LO Chaplain Gwen Amelin and Sate Vice President and LO Treasurer, Doretha Bennett.

THANK YOU, MEMBERS

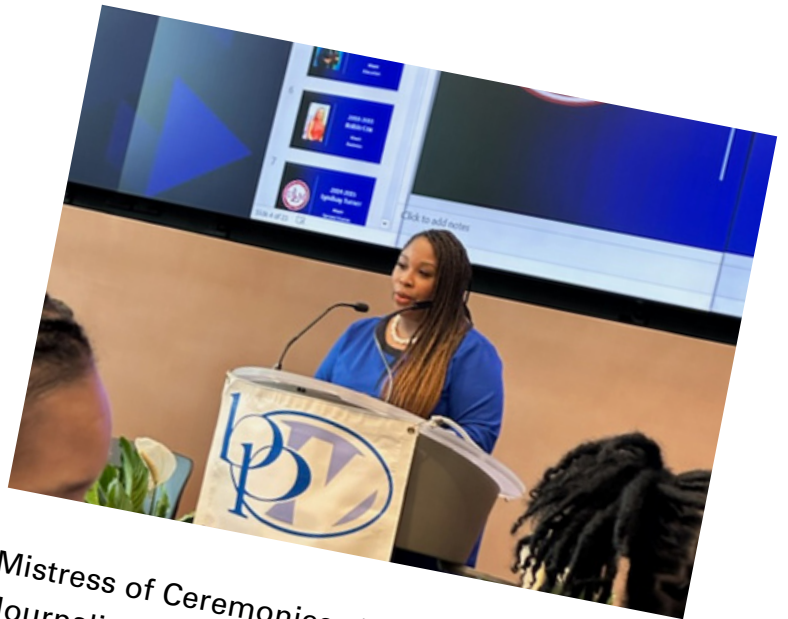
A great big thank you to the dedicated members who participated in making the luncheon the success it was. Especially, Shirley Stewart, Vice President and Chair of Programs, Gwen Amelin, Lou Antley, Doretha Bennett, Jordan Carter, Sheila Clark-Mims, Vicki Crist, Monica Hunter, and Ella Nimmers. Thank you for your generous support of the fundraiser and our vital mission of women helping women strive for success!



Camp BPW participant, TaBria Turner with Sheila Clark-Mims. Tabria, along with other Camp BPW participant, Ariance Marles and India Lewis were sponsored by Serenity Care Providers.



President Angie Jackson Wilson, with guest speaker Dr. Ashanti Jones, Mistress of Ceremonies, Jasmine Anderson and Vice President and Chair of Programs, Shirley Stewart.



Mistress of Ceremonies, Jasmine Anderson, Journalist, KNOE -TV.



Monroe West Monroe Business and Professional Women
wishes to say

Thank You

to our

Sponsors!

Silver



Monroe Regional Airport

Marshall Small Family Education Fund

Serenity Care Providers

Pearl



Christopher Youth Center



Monroe Chamber of Commerce

In-Kind

chico's



Brookshire's

Chico's



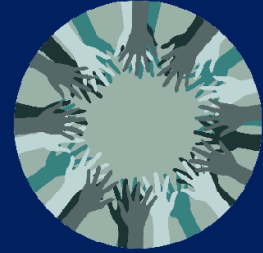
Pelican State Federal Credit Union

Your generous contributions help fund our career advancement scholarship
at ULM

Southwest Central District Meetings Spring Recap



SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024
10:00AM
ON ZOOM
SOUTHWEST CENTRAL
DISTRICT MEETING



"Together We Can Do It"

Helping Women Succeed



Guest Speaker

Donna Bailey

MS, SPHR, SHRM-SCP Vice President of Human Resources RoyOMartin

Donna Bailey, a native of central Louisiana, holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education from McNeese State University and a Master of Science in Human Resources with a concentration in leadership development from Louisiana State University. As an educator in Allen Parish for 12 years, Donna has held positions at the local, regional, and state levels.

For the past 19 years, Donna has been employed at RoyOMartin, where she has served as human resources manager, director of human resources, and corporate director of employee engagement. In 2018, she was named RoyOMartin's vice president of human resources, making her the first female to hold the title of vice president in the company's 98-year history.

During her time at RoyOMartin, Donna has developed and led many workforce development programs:

- WoodWorks, a nationally recognized, industry-based training program for high school students in both Louisiana and Texas.
- Girls Can Too, a manufacturing mentor program for high school females.
- RoyOMartin's Women in Manufacturing educational event, which targets high school females for manufacturing careers.
- Pay for Knowledge and Skills, an employee-driven internal advancement program that creates defined career paths for production and maintenance team members.
- I Believe, a nationally awarded employee engagement and empowerment philosophy that provides information, activities, and resources to influence our team members to achieve excellence.

Donna's community service includes serving on the Louisiana State ACT Work Ready Community Committee, the Region 5 Workforce Development Board, and the Agriculture Education Commission for the State of Louisiana. She has earned several awards, including Allen Parish Teacher of the Year and the STEP Ahead Award from The Manufacturing Institute. In addition to being a candidate for a doctoral degree in Organizational Change & Leadership at Baylor University, Donna holds several professional human resources certifications.

Donna attends Calvary Baptist Church in Alexandria, LA, and is a member of the choir and worship team. She is a pianist and loves all things music. Her greatest joy comes from her family: husband Chad Bailey of Pineville, their 6 children aged 36 to 13, and three grandchildren- Reed, Ryan, and Beckett.

Linda Burns and Pat Moses-Howard, District Directors

Members present for the District Meeting: Gwen Amelin, Jasmine Anderson, Lou Antley, Doretha Benett (zoom), Shelia Clark-Mims, Vicki Crist, Monica Hunter (zoom), Angie Jackson-Wilson, Beverly Lewis, Brenda Sheppard-Nelson, Shirley Stewart (zoom), John Wilson

Local and State Nominations

Local Officer Nominations for 2024-2025

Elections for Local Officers for 2024-2025 will be held on April 09, 2025. The new officers will be installed on May 28th.

ALL offices are open for nominations. You can self-nominate. Members seeking office must be in good standing. Dues must be paid to date.

The current officers are:

President – Angie Jackson-Wilson

Vice President – Shirley Stewart

Secretary – Vacant

Treasurer – Doretha Bennett

Please send your nominations to Gwen Amelin at Gwendolyn.Amelin@la.gov

[Monroe-West Monroe Business and Professional Women – Files \(bpwmonroe-westmonroe.org\)](http://bpwmonroe-westmonroe.org)

State Officer Nominations

The deadline for the State Nominations has passed. However, if you are interested in a position as an elected officer or committee chair, you can contact the State Nominations Chair, Sheila Clark-Mims at clarkmims@comcast.net and provide your information. All elected offices with no nominations turned in by the deadline will have to be nominated from the floor. Appointments must be submitted to the State Vice President, Doretha Bennett, at browndee43@yahoo.com for board approval before the State Conference.

Read the relevant bylaws (and the BPWLA Policies and Procedures Handbook) to learn the requirements and duties and **time commitment** of each office.

[BPW LA Full Policies and Procedures Handbook July 2016.pdf](#)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Monica Hunter
Jasmine Anderson
Julia Toliver
Joyce Powell



Monroe West Monroe Officer Nomination Form

I would like to nominate _____ for the office of

_____.

Nominee Contact Information:	Name of person placing nomination (if not a self-nomination):
E-mail:	E-mail:
Cell Phone:	Cell Phone:
Other:	Other:
Employer:	
Occupation:	

This nominee has served in the following positions with Monroe West Monroe BPW (local, state or national) and/or another organization (name organization and positions held). New leaders are also welcome!

Local: _____

State: _____

National: _____

Other: _____

WRITTEN CONSENT

If elected to the position of _____, I will serve to the best of my ability.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

I, _____ verify that the nominee is a member in good standing.

Print Name _____ Date _____ Position _____

MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to Beverly Lewis, Director of Economic Development & Community Initiatives at Ochsner LSU Health Services, Monroe for receiving the W.L. "Jack" Howard Public Service Award at the City of Monroe's 45th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Salute!



**Kristen
Chandler
Rising
Professional**

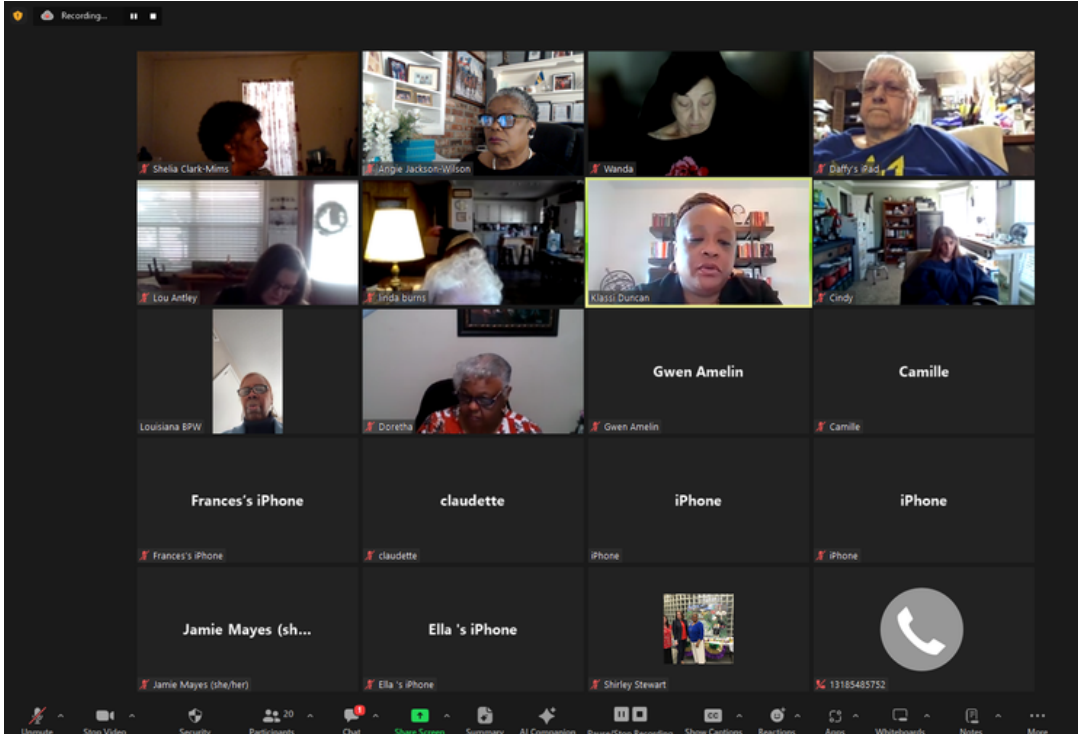


Congratulations to Jamie Mayes for receiving the 2024 Kristin Chandler Rising Professional Award at the ULM 2024 Women's Symposium, March 20, 2024.



Congratulations to Jasmine Anderson and her colleagues at KNOE for winning the Louisiana Association of Broadcaster's Best Morning Show – TV Small Market

LOCAL ACTIVITIES



2024 Mid-Year Board Meeting via Zoom on Saturday, January 20th. Guest speaker, Klassi Duncan, Urban League of Louisiana – New Orleans.

Monica Hunter, center, Nurse Practitioner, RefreshhWellness, LLC, Speaker at the February 13, 2024, meeting.



Julia Toliver, Brenda Sheppard Nelson, Gwen Amelin and Angie Jackson-Wilson at Delta's Masquerade Ball, one Enchanted Night.

LOCAL ACTIVITIES



President Angie Jackson-Wilson and Vice President and Chair of Programs, Shirley Stewart promoting the luncheon on the KNOE-TV Early Morning Show with Jasmine Anderson.

Scholarship Luncheon!

Back row: Monica Hunter, Doretha Bennett, Vicki Crist, Lou Antley, and Gwen Amelin.

Front row: Sheila Clark-Mims, Angie Jackson-Wilson, Shirley Stewart at the Scholarship Luncheon!



LOCAL ACTIVITIES



Women's Symposium Keynote speaker, Dr. Pamela Lewis-Williams, OBGYN and Monroe BPW President, Angie Jackson-Wilson!

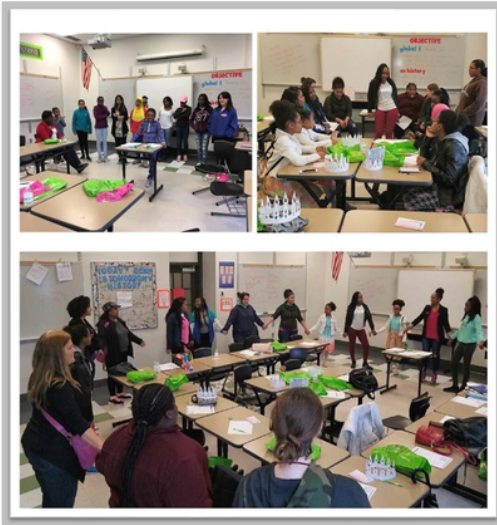


Women's Symposium! Angie Jackson-Wilson, Doretha Bennett, Darian Atkins Gwen Amelin, Beverly Lewis

Thank you!

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to Louisiana Federation of Business and Professional Women 2023-2024 Federation year. Doretha Bennett, Vice President, Angie Jackson-Wilson, Treasurer, Sheila Clark Mims, Nominations Chair,, Frances Jakes, Parliamentarian, Gwen Amelin, Rules and Resolutions Chair

MORE ABOUT US



Monroe - West Monroe Business and Professional Women

Leadership Program for Young Ladies

CAMP BPW

ONE DAY CAMP FROM 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Camp BPW is a *free* one-day program for young ladies *ages 14-18* interested in learning about real-world strategies designed to prepare them for adult life.

The Camp will be offered to 30 young ladies.

DATE, TIME AND LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED



The leadership camp will explore the follow:

Goal Setting

Career Preparation

Financial Literacy

Team Building

Dressing for Success
and much more.

CONTACT PERSON:

ANGIE JACKSON-WILSON

318 348 – 1681

or

bpwmwmla@gmail.com

Come join the excitement!

MONROE/WEST MONROE BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S ORG., LET'S BUILD THE FUTURE FOR OUR STUDENTS.

We see how much you care for our University through your giving. We invite you to continue Changing Lives by participating in ULM's 2024 Day of Giving. Give to your favorite on-campus cause or give to one of our highlighted funds:

- The **Student Academic Endowment**, which will help create a perpetual source of funding for merit-based Academic Scholarships,
- Or the **Athletic Excellence Fund**, which provides funding for student-athlete training, nutrition, and mental health.

GIVE TODAY

TO BE COUNTED TOWARD DAY OF GIVING!



SCAN TO GIVE
ulm.edu/dayofgiving

DAY OF GIVING 2024

MAY 2, 2024

A 24-hour giving challenge for friends of ULM

If you would like to make a gift via check, please make checks payable to "ULM Foundation" with "Day of Giving" in the memo line. Mail gifts to 700 University Avenue, Monroe, LA 71209.

[Camp BPW](#)

[Scholarships](#)

Support member businesses. Visit the membership directory page!

[Member Business Directory](#)