

# BPW/KANSAS ADVOCATE

THE KANSAS FEDERATION OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUBS, INC

“BPW/Kansas: Working Together for a Better Tomorrow”

January 2024 Issue 3

President's Message



2023-2024

Dear BPW Sisters & Brothers

Happy New Year to all! I hope and pray that everyone is staying healthy and taking care of themselves. The Holidays are a fun time but seem to exhaust most of us. As far as my family, the grandkids were sick on Christmas Eve, so we are having our Christmas meal in January. I cannot believe how fast time goes and before we know it, we will be half way through 2024. Time seems to pass faster the older that I get.

Clay Center Local had a great Christmas party and get together at Dr. LewAnn Schneider's (and Mike's) amazing He/She shed. Dr. LewAnn and Skylar went above and set the tables all with China plates and crystal glasses. It was so pretty and decorated for Christmas. We had a potluck supper, and it was well attended. Everyone enjoyed sitting around and visiting and we each shared a tradition or a memory of our own family Christmas.

I would like to remind all members to start making plans to attend the Spring Conference on March 16-17, 2024 in Salina, Kansas. It is so much fun seeing and visiting with all of our BPW friends. I am excited about the upcoming Spring Conference and I have some very educational and entertaining

presentations planned. Remember that the theme is Hawaiian Luau, and we will be having a Luau at the banquet on Saturday evening. Please wear colorful Hawaiian clothing if you have them. You can also wear grass skirts if you would like. This should be lots of fun. I encourage all of you to attend.

I am not sure about you, but I am ready for summer. I am not a winter person. My mother used to tell me that I was solar powered, and I do believe that she was correct. My theme Bloom Where You Are Planted is really a part of me. Here is a quote for you to think about; *Life is so ironic. It takes sadness to know what happiness is, noise to appreciate silence and absence to value presence.* So many times, in life we have to experience an event before we learn to appreciate life and learn to cope with issues. So let us be grateful to the people who make us happy. They are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.

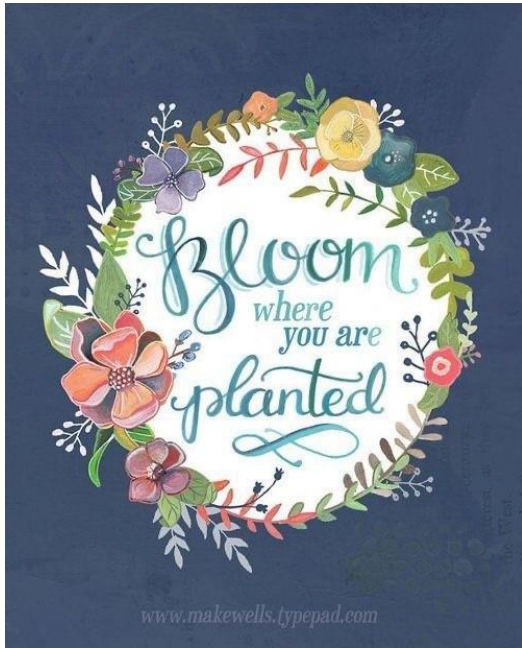
I am looking forward to seeing each of you at Spring Conference. Take care and stay healthy.

Friends to all.  
Kayla Wang  
PO Box 422  
Clay Center, Ks 67432

## CALL TO SPRING MEMBER BOARD

By virtue of the powers vested in me as President of the Kansas Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., I do hereby call the Annual Spring Member meeting to meet at the Holiday Inn, Salina KS March 17, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Kayla Wang  
BPW/Kansas President



## Presidential Goals and Awards for 2023-2024 “Bloom Where You Are Planted “

Goals –

### **Different Flowers Grow Better in Different Zones (Individuals express themselves at different Levels in their careers and in their lives)**

1. Continue to grow memberships of all AGES for BPW/Kansas. The Organization together is a wealth of knowledge, leadership, and information with the variety of careers.

### **Hardiness Zone Map (Individuals weather life in different levels.)**

1. Provide a support group for all members. When Individuals are having a wilting rough time, we need to provide sunshine, moisture, and positive support to help them.

### **Comfort Zone (Your life becomes day-to-day routines.)**

1. Every one of us gets stuck in our comfort zone in our day-to-day living. Let us take one day and make a change and do something kind for yourself, a friend, or a stranger. It will make you feel good about yourself and then maybe it will become a habit of happiness in your life.

### **Step out of your zone (Take a chance and do something different in life.)**

1. Let us increase the volunteering within our local organization, community and with BPW/Kansas. We need to mentor and develop future leaders for BPW/Kansas

### **Grow out of your comfort zone (Adventure by taking a big step in your Life.)**

1. Step up and serve as an Officer or as a Committee Chair. You will always have support and encouragement provided by other individuals and members.

## **AWARDS**

### **EXOTIC ORCHIDS (CLUB \$100)**

1. Have at least three members attend all three State meetings.
2. Recruit and sign on 10% or more new BPW/Kansas members
3. Increase Visibility with Media Presence in Communities, State, Facebook, Newspapers and Website
4. Local Organization retain 90% of membership as of May 1, 2023
5. Have one or more members be a State Officer and/or a State Committee Chair

### **HYBRID TEA ROSE (INDIVIDUAL \$50) (Any 4 of the 5 listed)**

1. Attend all Local Regular Meetings
2. Attend all three State Meetings
3. Sponsor two new members
4. Be a Local Officer and/or Committee Chair
5. Participate in Individual Development (ID) or Young Careerist (YC) or provide a program at State/Local meeting.

### **BLUE FORGET-E-NOT (INDIVIDUAL \$20)**

1. Attend two of the three State Meetings
2. Be a Local Officer and/or Committee Chair
3. Sponsor two new Members
4. Perform a community Service or present a program.

### **DANDELION (INDIVIDUAL \$10)**

1. Attend one of the three State Meetings
2. Be a Local Officer or Serve on a Committee
3. Sponsor one new Member

### **LILY-OF-THE-VALLEY (\$10) (Any 4 of the 5)**

1. Attend two of the three State Meetings
2. Donate to Foundation
3. Mentor a current member
4. Attend one meeting of a local organization.
5. Sponsor new member.



Business and  
Professional  
Women/Kansas

# UPCOMING DEADLINES

| <u>EVENT</u>              | <u>DUE BY</u>     |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Scholarship Applications  | February 1, 2024  |
| Hall of Fame Nominations  | February 29, 2024 |
| State Officer Nominations | March 1, 2024     |
| Woman of the Year         | March 1, 2024     |
| Business of the Year      | March 1, 2024     |
| NBWW Activities           | March 1, 2024     |
| Club History to Historian | May 1, 2024       |
| President's Awards        | May 1, 2024       |
| Foundation Nominations    | May 1, 2024       |

## PUBLIC RELATIONS

Dear Members,

Do not forget to record your exciting activities of your Local Organizations either on your Facebook pages or in the local newspapers and newsletters.

Remember – There will be a monetary award for the best coverage for 2023-2024 at State convention.

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PUBLIC RELATIONS NOTEBOOKS IS MAY 1, 2024**

**DEADLINE TO POST SOCIAL MEDIA ON FACEBOOK IS MAY 9, 2024**

FRAN GRAHAM, CHAIR AND SHARON WIBER, CO-CHAIR

## MARY TEFFT GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Foundation encourages members to apply for the Mary Tefft grant to attend all State meetings. To apply, complete the meeting registration marking the activities you plan to attend, write a short essay on "What BPW is to me" or "Why BPW is important to women", sign a statement agreeing to volunteer if needed during the meeting, and either mail or e-mail the completed application to the Foundation president 10 days before the meeting's registration deadline. The essay should be not less than ½ page or more than 2 pages. The deadline to apply for the Mary Tefft Grant for Spring Conference is **Tuesday February 20, 2024**.

Successful applicants will be advised, and their registration forms forwarded to the Convention registrar before the registration deadline. Funds will be distributed to the BPW/Kansas Federation on completion of the meeting and after participation is confirmed.

If you need a copy of the grant requirements, email Jenny Myers at [jimyers15@outlook.com](mailto:jimyers15@outlook.com) or contact any of the Foundation Board members.

## HALL OF FAME

The Hall of Fame Committee is accepting applications for candidates for consideration for induction into the Hall of Fame for 2024. Please submit your nomination to Donna Gratts either by mail Donna Gratts, PO Box 74, Baldwin City, KS 66006-0074, or email at [onnaday1950@yahoo.com](mailto:onnaday1950@yahoo.com). Please submit all nominations no later than February 29, 2024.

### CRITERIA:

There will be two (2) categories:

- 1) BPW member inductee
- 2) Posthumous inductee

### BPW Inductee:

- 1) Must be a member in good standing.
- 2) Must have been a member for at least ten (10) years.
- 3) Must have served on the BPW/Kansas board of directors.
- 4) Must have outstanding achievements in their community and/or in Kansas that has benefitted working women.

### Posthumous Inductee:

- 1) Must have been a citizen of Kansas for most of their adult life.
- 2) Must have outstanding achievements that benefitted working women of Kansas.
- 3) Does not have to be affiliated with BPW/Kansas.

Nominations must include name, address, biographical information, and reasons why the member/ nominator feels the nominee should be inducted into the BPW/Kansas Hall of Fame. The member/ nominator must also include their name, address, and local affiliation.

Hall of Fame committee  
Donna Gratts, Chair  
Chris Booth, Charlotte Shawver, Jenny Myers

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## NOMINATIONS

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### TO PLANT A GARDEN IS TO BELIEVE IN TOMORROW

Candidates for BPW/Kansas Office must be members in good standing to be eligible for office. Candidates are and continue to be our Seeds that Make Our BPW Garden Grow! Hey, do not forget that we do not plant one seed, but a Handful coupled with Support, Strength, and Service...That is What our KS BPW Team is All About & We Want U!

Candidates for office shall file the following materials with the Nomination Chair by March 4. Send to Julie McDaniel, 6242 Ash Street, Mission, KS 66205, or email to Julie at [jlsmith@everestkc.net](mailto:jlsmith@everestkc.net).

### Candidates for Office Filing Requirements

1. Letter agreeing to serve if elected.
2. Resume of activities and qualification for the office. Should include years in BPW; office and chair positions held at local organization; state federation involvement including chair positions, previous offices held, special task forces, and special achievements; occupation, and community involvement.
3. Email/mail a photo for publication to Diana Redger at [redger@ucom.net](mailto:redger@ucom.net)

An essential component of the BPW Leadership Team is the growth of the next generation of members, as well as the continuing formation of all the existing members. All members are an integral part of KS BPW statewide Personally & Professionally.

### CANDIDATES CRITERIA

*Only members in good standing shall be eligible for office.*

- The officers (Also, referred to as Executive Committee) of BPW/Kansas shall be President, President-Elect, Vice President, the Recording Secretary, the Treasurer. These officers shall assume office at the close of the annual convention and shall serve until the close of the following annual state convention or until a successor is named.
- Candidates for President-elect, Vice president, Recording Secretary and Treasurer must have served one year as a chair or elected officer of the BPW/Kansas Board of Directors

Please consider being part of the candidate Team for Leadership. If it is not You, but partner with an individual to volunteer your time and resources, also, for helping the Leadership team continue into 2024 & beyond! Remember that it is complementary and special when someone can

relate to your vision and wants to be a part of that by being a Growth Partner.

By: Julie McDaniel  
KS BPW Nominations Chair  
Past State President  
KS BPW State Membership

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## HALL OF FAME SCHOLARSHIPS

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Kansas BPW Educational Foundation, - Inc. has Hall of Fame Scholarships for the 2023-2024 academic year. Applicants must list the ones they wish to apply for on the line following "Other" either by number or name. The scholarships are as follows:

1. Northwest Kansas Accounting Scholarship – Must be a high school graduate from Norton or Phillips County Kansas High School, majoring in accounting. Funding for this scholarship is provided by Anthony Caputo.
2. John & Terri McClure – Grow Ag Scholarship: A scholarship for a high school graduate from Butler County, planning to attend Butler County Community College majoring in Agriculture Business. Individual needs to demonstrate prior involvement in an agricultural entity and have assumed a decision-making or ownership role in that endeavor.
3. Craig & Pam McClure – Grow Ag Scholarship: Applicant must be a Kapun High School graduate majoring in Ag Econ. They should demonstrate activity in high school or intramural sports and have participated in agricultural work. They must be planning to attend Butler County Community College or Kansas State University.

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Equal Pay Day will be observed on March 12th, 2024. This date changes each year. Equal Pay Day is an annual observance that symbolizes the ongoing issue of pay disparity and the wage gap between men and women. The date itself symbolizes how far into the year a woman must work to make as much as men during the previous year. As such, this holiday usually occurs during March in the United States. Please let me know what activities your local does to honor this observance by May 1st. Recognition will take place at the 2024 Convention.

"Bloom Where You Are Planted"

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## KANSAS BPW EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

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February 1, 2024 is the deadline for scholarship applications. Send the original application to Jenny Myers, 18972 KS Hwy 7, LaCygne, KS 66040 or email to [jjmyers15@outlook.com](mailto:jjmyers15@outlook.com). Do not forget – you only need to submit one (1) complete copy of each application to me either by mail or email.

Applications may be endorsed by an individual member or a local organization. Please make sure the applications have been reviewed and only those that qualify for the scholarships are submitted. **Locals no longer** need to send a copy of their minutes endorsing each person applying, but the president or the member sponsor must still sign each person's application.

The current application has (11/23) in the bottom right hand corner of each page. It is available online at <https://bpwkansas.weebly.com/foundation.html> or can be obtained from any Foundation Board member. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact a board member.

**Incomplete applications or ones where the applicant does not meet the scholarship criteria will not be considered.**

Please note the scholarships are for the 2024-25 school year and are available after the recipients are announced. Funds are given for two semesters and the recipient may choose which two semesters they will receive the funds, summer, fall or spring.

There are "Other" scholarships for 2024-25 that are listed in a separate article. To apply for any of these an applicant will need to write the name on the "other" blank on the application.

Any Local Organization or an individual may "fund" a one-time scholarship with a minimum of \$500. The criteria is established by them. The Foundation Board of Directors follows the established criteria in naming the recipient. If you want additional information, contact a Foundation director.

**Scholarship recipients will be announced** at the BPW/Kansas federation's Spring Board Meeting at Salina. Soon after, all applicants (and local organizations/sponsors) will receive written notice of the status of their applications. Thank you to all local organizations and members who actively promote the Foundation's scholarships.

### **Grants still available**

There is grant money available from Foundation for programs and Individual Development workshops. To be considered, the Foundation President must receive the grant request at least **60 days** prior to the event.

Foundation grants have been used to host speakers at Convention and conferences, to host ID workshops, to hold

a Diabetes workshop and to make Clay Center's Silent Witness forms. These grants have been up to \$200 per event. Check out the criteria for each.

### **WANTED – CANDIDATES FOR FOUNDATION**

Two Board positions will be open for election at the May 18, 2024 Foundation Annual Meeting at Salina. Members of the Board of Directors serve a three-year term. The qualifications for Foundation Director are:

- 1) Must be a member in good standing of Kansas BPW
  - 2) Elected by a majority vote of the voting body at the annual meeting.
- Candidates for the Board of Directors shall file the following with the Secretary of the Foundation – Dana Rickley, 625 Webster, Clay Center, KS 67432 – by May 1, 2024.
- 3) Letter agreeing to serve if elected,
  - 4) And a resume of past federation and local activities and qualifications for the Board of Directors.

Nominations may also be made from the convention floor provided all required material is presented immediately following the nomination.

Jenny Myers, President  
Kansas BPW Educational Foundation, Inc.  
18972 KS Hwy 7, LaCygne, KS 66040  
[jjmyers15@outlook.com](mailto:jjmyers15@outlook.com)

### **WHY EQUAL PAY DAY IS IMPORTANT**

- **It sheds light on the wage gap**  
The fight for equal pay between men and women dates back at least a century, with several historical antecedents. There has been significant progress in many parts of the world, but the fact that women are still paid less than men for the same amount of work is proof that more effort is needed.
- **It demonstrates that women always have to work harder**  
Whether to establish a position in a male-dominated field, or earn as much money as male co-workers, or climb up the corporate ladder, women still have to put in twice the effort. The issue weighs on women, who represent 48 % of the global workforce.
- **It promotes equity**  
Ensuring equity in professional fields is still an issue in the modern-day economy. Equal Pay Day, along with other international observances focusing on the same issue, is a reminder of this fact. As women suffer from such inequalities, it will draw a clear distinction between the business practices of today and a genuinely equitable work environment.

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## BALDWIN CITY BPW

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Baldwin City BPW had many activities from July to December from installing officers, welcoming new members, celebrating member Cynthia Beals retirement from KU and Donna Gratts many years as a BPW member. She was inducted into the Kansas BPW Hall of Fame at Convention in May.

Members gathered to meet BPW/Kansas president Kayla Wang and president-elect Leanna Grater to hear their vision and goals for the upcoming year at the presidents official visit.

Baldwin City BPW supports the 8th Annual Adopt A Grandparent Program providing Christmas gifts and caroling to four local senior living facilities. Club members enjoyed a Christmas dinner and ornament exchange with twelve members enjoying the fun.

Here are some pictures and more information about their activities.

during the event Marsh and McBride used the opportunity to share information with parents and others about how to participate in the Baldwin City Community Garden, which is a Baldwin City BPW community project.

Below Donna Gratts and President Debra Marsh welcome new BPW members Shanaye McBride & Becky Fender



LtoR Debra Marsh and Shanaye McBride,

**Baldwin City BPW Part of Halloween Fun This Fall**  
Despite chilly temperatures, the Baldwin City BPW members joined with others in distributing treats to area children at the Halloween 2023 Truck or Treat event in downtown Baldwin City. BPW President Debra Marsh and Vice-President Shanaye McBride joined with many other organizations in handing out sweets to hundreds of children, although temperatures dipped into the mid-30s on a windy October 31<sup>st</sup>. The event was coordinated by the Baldwin City Chamber of Commerce.

The Baldwin City BPW donated money toward purchasing candy to distribute at the event, plus fellow members donated additional bags of candy. Also,



Baldwin City BPW welcomed BPW/Kansas President Kayla Wang and President Elect Leanna Grater for an official visit. Pictured are members with Kayla and Leanna who are seated on the right. Kayla and Leanna shared the vision and goals for the upcoming year.

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## BPW TIDBITS

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**Garnett BPW** and friends/spouses attended Christmas dinner at a member's home to celebrate good food and gift exchange. Also, everyone revealed their Secret Sister names with gifts.

December 3rd, Garnett BPW held their annual Holiday Boutique event along with the Friends of the Library Homes Tours. Ten vendors had a very successful event.

Garnett BPW wishes you all a Happy New Year!!

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**Ashland BPW** members enjoyed a Christmas lunch at Cups & Mugs before going to the Ashland Library for a short meeting and visiting. President Chris Booth treated everyone to lunch.

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Make plans to attend Spring Conference in Salina March 15-17. You will not want to miss the fun!

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**Kansas website – [bpwkansas.weebly.com](http://bpwkansas.weebly.com)**

### NOTES

For information regarding a change of address for your advocate mailing or other information, please contact BPW/Kansas Executive Secretary, Dr. LewAnn Schneider at the following address and phone:

2271 Broughton Rd, Clay Center, KS 67432 Phone: 785-313-7471 e-mail [drlewann@twinvalley.net](mailto:drlewann@twinvalley.net)

### BPW/KANSAS ADVOCATE

BPW/Kansas: The Federation of  
Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.  
2271 Broughton Rd  
Clay Center KS 67432

***ADDRESS CORRECTION  
REQUESTED***

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## BPW CALENDAR

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|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>February 1, 2024</b>  | <b>Foundation scholarships Due</b>  |
| <b>February 29, 2024</b> | <b>Hall of Fame Nominations due</b>   |
| <b>March 1, 2024</b>     | <b>Nominations for state officers due</b>   |
| <b>March 1, 2024</b>     | <b>Deadline for Woman of Year and Business of the Year, National Business Women's Week Activities</b> |
| <b>March 14, 2024</b>    | <b>Equal Pay Day</b>  |
| <b>March 16, 2024</b>    | <b>Spring Conference Holiday Inn, Salina KS</b>   |
| <b>March 17, 2024</b>    | <b>Spring Member Board Holiday Inn, Salina KS</b>   |
| <b>May 17-19, 2024</b>   | <b>State Convention Holiday Inn Salina KS</b>   |

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**NOTE:** Please send items for the newsletter to Diana Redger, Newsletter Editor, Box 122, Ashland, KS 67831 phone 620-635-2546. E-mail [redger@ucom.net](mailto:redger@ucom.net)

**Spring Conference- Bloom Where You Are Planted  
March 16, 2024**

**OHANA MEANS FAMILY. FAMILY MEANS NOBODY GET LEFT  
BEHIND OR FORGOTTEN!!**

**Saturday March 16, 2024**

**8:00 – 9:00 am Registration**

**9:00 am Welcome**

**9:05– 10:30 am – Wild Horse Roundup  
Dr. LewAnn Schneider, Clay Center, Ks.**

**10:30 am – 10:45 am – Break**

**10:50 am – 12:00 pm – KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc, Washington, Ks.  
Bryce Dolan, Clay Center, Ks., Director of Marketing & Fundraising**

**12:00 pm -12:10 pm Break**

**12:10 pm – 1:10 pm – Kansas BPW Luncheon**

**1:10 pm – 2:30 pm – Life of a Pharmacist  
Mallory Zwegardt, Salina, Ks. and Tabia Norris, Bennington, Ks.**

**2:30 pm - 2:45 pm – Break**

**3:00 pm – 4:00 pm TO BE ANNOUNCED- NOT CONFIRMED AT THIS TIME**

**6:00 pm – Kansas BPW Banquet Dinner**

**Sunday March 17, 2024**

**8:00 am Executive Board meeting**

**9:00 – 12:00 – Business Meeting**





**BPW/Kansas  
Spring Conference & Board of Directors Meeting  
Holiday Inn 3145 S 9<sup>th</sup> Salina KS  
March 15, 16, 17, 2024**

**Saturday Member Registration** . \$15.00

**Saturday Luncheon Deli Lunch Buffet - \$19.00**  
Oven Roasted Turkey, Baked Ham, American and Provolone Cheese, Pretzel Bun  
and Wheat Bread, Garden Salad, Potato Salad

**Saturday Banquet – \$24.00**  
BBQ Pulled Pork and Hawaiian Chicken, Fresh Fruit, Hawaiian Macaroni Salad  
roasted Vegetables Rice Pilaf, and Pineapple Upside Down Cake

**Breakfast Saturday & Sunday Mornings – hotel has \$7.00 coupon per day at front desk.**  
Breakfast buffet with drink

**Total Enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**I plan to participate Friday in BPW Visiting with Friends and Game Night** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION & MEALS DEADLINE March 1, 2024**

Early deadline due to hotel deadline for ordering food

ALL FEES FOR REGISTRATION AND MEALS MUST BE PAID BEFORE THE MEETING BEGINS

Make checks payable to BPW/Kansas. (Checks will not be cashed until after Spring Conference)

Send to:

Meetings Manager: Donna Gratts PO Box 74, Baldwin City, Ks. 66006

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Local** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position in L.O.** \_\_\_\_\_ **or St Board:** \_\_\_\_\_

Photo Release (please mark one option below)

I authorize BPW/Kansas to share photos of me online (i.e., BPW/Kansas website, Facebook page, and/or twitter) and in print.

I do NOT authorize BPW/Kansas to share photos of me online (i.e., BPW/Kansas website, Facebook page, and/or twitter) and in print.

**To reserve a room,** Call Holiday Inn 3145 S 9<sup>th</sup> Salina KS call 785-404-6767 reservations. Tell them you are with the Kansas BPW Group. The room charge will be \$109.99 + tax. The Block of rooms will be held until February 20, 2024 **(I will see if this date can be extended.)**

**ENJOY A HAWAIIAN LUAU BANQUET WITH YOUR FRIENDS!!WEAR  
HAWAIIAN CLOTHING IF YOU WOULD LIKE!!**