

ABPW President's Message

Enthusiastic. . . Energetic. . . Exuberant. . . Generous. . . Fun-Loving. . . These words only begin to describe our delightful outgoing president Becky Reitz. We all know that she's a tough act to follow, with her innovative ideas that have taken us onto elevators with our introductions, and onto the Web for wider exposure. We learned more about one another while sharing our professional passions at theme breakfast meetings with gaily decorated tables. She lovingly gave us candy at each meeting and a book to guide our developing introductions. And, under Becky's leadership, we gave much to our community in scholarships, donations and support.

Thank you, Becky, for your generosity, and a fantastic 24th ABPW year! We all appreciate your laughing smile while leading us to new heights!

It is a privilege and an honor for me to serve as ABPW's President during 2006, when "Honoring Our Past. . . Building Our

Future” will be the theme for our 25th year. With a focus on ABPW history, we hope to have an opportunity to honor our past presidents at a Presidents’ Day social, being planned by Linda Kloss and Ann Ness. We’ll feature historical tidbits in each newsletter, so well done by Karen Anderson, and we’ll honor our past in an ad to launch our website, another project of Karen’s. Lynn Shigekawa ably will handle the ad development and PR for us during this important year.

Regarding “Building Our Future”, we can adapt that aspect of our theme into continued personal and professional growth, with super programs under the guidance of Monica Millican. To build an even stronger ABPW, I hope we can encourage greater involvement from our newer members and reach out to those we wish to see more often. And we’ll continue to be generous, fulfilling needs in our community, with Linda Costanza chairing Scholarships, and Carolyn Hibbard spearheading our hygiene bag project for BATP and ICM. Carolyn will help us grow, too, as Membership chair. Norinne Gill has agreed to serve as Seeds chair

again, assisting McWhirter students and their families. Paula Durrett is returning as our 2006 Hugs chair. We will request that the Hugs and Social committees work together on a retreat for this important milestone year as well.

Creative Toni Masone has agreed to be our Historian, always an important project, especially during a history-focused-year. And Becky, as Past-President, will head Organizational Development, continuing the effort to gather, sort and purge ABPW records for secure storage.

I look forward to having the counsel of Becky and other past presidents, and am eager to work with our 2006 Directors, Cindy Kennedy Hebert, Polly Lewis, and Sharon Maaz; and officers Kathy Scalf, President-Elect; Jennifer Bowers, Treasurer; Christine Walker, Treasurer-Elect; and Jean Burkett, Secretary. We'll depend on Arlene Weinberg to keep us on track as Parliamentarian, and want to thank Arlene for her generous gift to ABPW. Arlene bought two, two-book sets of Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, one for my review and a set for her use. Arlene

and I will give those four books to Kathy and her parliamentarian next year, and hope that they will be passed on from year to year.

I certainly am grateful to all of you who so willingly said “Yes!” when asked to serve as an officer, director or committee chair. I look forward to working with each of you and our entire membership.

With such dynamic members, and a fantastic board and chairs, we will have another banner year! I encourage each of you to come early to our meetings to get to know one another better. Please volunteer for committees, attend our socials and identify potential members. Help us build an even stronger ABPW for the next 25 years!

And remember, your ideas and suggestions are always welcome, either to me personally, or on the “Great Ideas” sheets we’ll have at each meeting.

I deeply appreciate your many kind words of encouragement and support, and thank you again for the privilege you have given

me to serve as ABPW's 2006 President during our silver anniversary year.

Sincerely,

Beverly Baldwin