

GATEWAY OWL ALIVE AND WELL!!

That's right! Our chapter of OWL is well on the road to recovery! Last month we told you about major changes in our funding, staff and location. Much to deal with. Now we'll tell you about what we've done to get ourselves back on track.

First, the good news: **Barb McQuitty**, our new Executive Director, has decided to stay in her position for the time being. What good news! She understands OWL and has done monumental things to help us through this tough time of transition. Second, we have a reprieve on our office space in

Webster Groves and won't have to move in 2008. And third, our committees and programs are in full swing, which you'll read about in the articles that follow.

This is the time to show your support for the Gateway chapter, now in its third decade. This is the time to send your tributes and other contributions, time to join a committee, time to renew your membership or find a new member. Everything our members can do will help us keep the issues that affect midlife and older women in the public eye.

Women of Worth Dinner 2008 To Be Held October 16

An energetic committee organized by member and past Woman of Worth honoree **Arlen Chaleff** has set the date for this year's Women of Worth dinner and quickly lined up key community members who will make our 18th awards evening a success.

Highlighting the October 16th event will be honorary co-chairs **Christine Buck** and **Barbara Washington**, and keynote speaker **Rosemary Terranova**. Gateway OWL members can be part of the process by joining the planning committee, by submitting a nomination and by attending this always-gala event. To do any or all of these, just call Barb McQuitty at 725-5862 and tell her how you'd like to be involved. Our members are our most important resource!

OWL Calendar: Contact OWL at 725-5862 for detailed information on all programs

Thursday, June 5 – Special OWL program presented by Dr. Peter Orris on *"The Transformation of American Medicine: How did we get from there to here?"*. At Ladue Chapel, 9450 Clayton Rd., 6:30 p.m.

Friday, June 27 & Saturday, June 28 – Performance of "Morning's at Seven" by Paul Osborn at Stray Dog Theatre. (See article in this newsletter for more detail.)

Tuesday, September 9 – OWL Membership Meeting. Ladue Chapel, 9450 Clayton Rd. 6:00 p.m., light dessert and meeting 7:00 p.m., program TBD

Wednesdays, Oct 15 – Nov. 12 – Financial Education Series (see article page 2)

Thursday, October 16 – Women of Worth Dinner, Missouri Athletic Club.

Saturday, October 18 – Midlife Divorce Seminar, Brentwood Community Center, 9:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. More to come.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

These women have joined Gateway OWL in the past year:

Jane Evans

Dorothy Hanpeter

Rose Hotze

Lynn Lyss

Joy Martin

Jane Mendelson

Carolyn Stern

Susan Tebb

Catherine Underwood

Theatre Event for OWL

Member **Sally Eaton**, OWL's co-chair of Membership has a busy life as an actress with areawide theatre groups, and is now learning her lines for four different plays! Sally has arranged for OWL members and friends to attend one of these, "Morning's At Seven" by Paul Osborn, at a matinee on June 27th or

28th. The venue is the **Stray Dog Theatre** at 2336 Tennessee Ave. in St. Louis and a special discount price of \$13 per ticket is available to us on those dates. Simply call 314-865-1995 to make your reservation for one of these performances.

Gateway OWL is grateful to these members and friends for their recent contributions, helping the chapter along as we get back into full swing again:

Contributions: Ann Bauer, Charles Schwab Co., Jean Crowder, Dorothy Hanpeter, Marsha Kohlenberg, Norma Leuthauser, Yvonne Logan, Maryann Sexton. **Tributes:** Gladys Barker, Nina K. Bryans, Janet Shipton.

Memorial: Bea Renna. **Grant:** Emerson Electric Corp.

Your gift in any amount can be mailed to OWL, 7513 Big Bend, St. Louis, MO 63119. It will go directly into the operating budget unless you specify otherwise, and it will make a difference.

Women's Financial Education Series

On Wednesday evenings from October 15th to November 12th, the Women's Financial Education Series will take place in Clayton at the University of Missouri Extension offices. This is a joint venture for Gateway OWL and UM-St. Louis.

Topics to be covered include banking, credit and debt management, insurance, wills and investing. The series, held once each year, is an excellent way to get up to speed on your own financial situation and to understand that there is no mystery to topics that you may not have dealt with in the past.

Suzanne Gelman of the University of Missouri Extension will be the lead speaker for the series. More information will be coming in future months on the details of the series and how to enroll.

We congratulate OWL's Woman of Worth in 1992 Jackie Schapp and 2006 Lifetime Achiever Annelise Mertz on their recent honors; Jackie as Eastern Missouri Girl Scouts' Woman of Distinction and Annelise Mertz on her 90th birthday tribute from Washington University.

What we've done... A Focus Group

At the end of March, four Board members, our Executive Director and four knowledgeable and experienced community members met in OWL's office to help us explore what the Gateway chapter would look like without the Pension Recovery Program. Those from the community lending us their expertise were **Wendy Jaffe**, Trio Foundation; **Kari McAvoy**, United Way; **Sue Tebb**, St. Louis University School of Social Work and **Rosemary Terranova**, St. Louis County Older Resident Program (CORP).

The member survey you recently received was the first result of this effort. We needed to know what our membership looks like and what their needs are. Results from this survey will soon be available. We have recently attracted a new level of member and friends donations, telling us that women still want to support OWL's goals. We will soon work on strategic planning to take us to the next level. And there may be partnerships in the future for programs that Gateway OWL can operate with another community organization.

From the President

Dear OWL members and friends,

As you read in our last newsletter, OWL St. Louis has had some setbacks since we lost funding for our Pension Project. What a disappointment. However, we are not throwing in the towel! We are moving forward and concentrating on other programs we have in place; state and national Advocacy, the Divorce Support Group, Informational meetings, the Financial Education Series and coming soon, the annual Women of Worth dinner on October 16th.

For those who have received the Member Survey form, we ask that you complete it and send it to the OWL office. We value your insights, comments and suggestions. After reviewing the surveys, we will develop a strategic plan for the future.

With your continued support, involvement and contributions, we will be flying high again!!!

Maryann Sexton

Lost: A Valued Member & Friend

By Marge Polcyn

In the middle of May, Nancy Beuchler died suddenly. She was one of OWL's role models, always there to help in any way she could. She served on the Board of Directors for many years as OWL's Secretary and recently told Board members about the importance of a living will. She was on the Advocacy committee too, and I remember the fun we had going to Jefferson City to educate our legislators. Last year, we attended the MO Public Utility Commission hearings to testify on behalf of senior citizens who opposed raising Ameren's

rates. She planned the April OWL meeting and brought in public health nurses to update us on inoculations and preventive health. Nancy was one of our stalwart and dependable members.

We were all proud of her when she was presented with the Governor's Award for Volunteerism in 2005. Although she was outspoken when she didn't agree with something, she was well respected and loved by the members of the Gateway OWL chapter and will be greatly missed

SEE OWL'S CALENDAR
FOR CURRENT AND
FUTURE PROGRAMS,
INCLUDING A SPECIAL
HEALTHCARE EVENT
ON JUNE 5.

**OWL's mission: To address the special concerns of mid-life and older women
through advocacy, education and empowerment.**

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