

AVON WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS MAY 16, 2017- MINUTES

Introductions

BUSINESS:

Need a New Co-Coordinator for AWE

Lisa Bohman advised the group that Tully Meyer has taken a new job with company not currently a member. Therefore, we need a new co-coordinator to work with Heather Pierce. The job is “easy” primarily involving keeping the email list current and running the meetings. In addition, the coordinators work with Lisa on scheduling.

Announcements & Events

- **Post your events on the Avon Chamber Facebook Visitor Page** – Lisa can help you get going
- **Promote your events in the Avon Chamber Email Blasts** – Send information about your event to Lisa allowing plenty of lead time.
- **Wednesday, May 17th – Deadline for making an Annual Meeting reservation**
- **VYBE (Valley Young Business Entrepreneurs)** – Encourage your employees ages 21 to 35 to participate in this networking group just for them. This gives younger people an opportunity to develop their networking, communication and leadership skills with their peers. The Chamber isn't just for the owner/boss.
- **Friday, April 21** – Susan Lederman, **P'zazz**, invited everyone to attend the **Channel 3 Kids Camp Luncheon** at which author Wally Lamb will be keynote speaker. If you can't attend, you can donate a ticket through Susan or make a direct donation to the project.
- **Sunday, April 23** – Dr. Aylah Clark, **Whole Health Associates**, will be discussing “Kill the Bloat: GI distress causes and what to do about them” at Valley Fitness Center in Unionville. Open to the public; free; starts at 10am.
- **Wednesday, May 24 – Avon chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon** from 11:00am to 1:30pm at the **Golf Club of Avon**. Early Bird reservations save \$5 if paid by April 19.
- **Sunday, June 4** – Lung Force Walk sponsored in part by **Argentum Financial Partners**. Why: 1 in 8 women will get lung cancer; also focused on asthma and other lung diseases.
- **Wednesday, June 7th – Morning Networking at Cosi**
- **Thursday, June 8th – MAP (Mentoring Avon Professionals) Meets at New England Pasta Company** – This includes breakfast and a door prize to encourage attendance. Currently, MAP is discussing Customers—how to get them, develop them and maintain them.
- **Wednesday, June 14th – Business After Hours**
- **Saturday, June 17** – Dr. Jeanne Folks, **CT Psychotherapeutic Resources**, will be offering a program on our relationship with food, **Food is Your Friend. Really. I Promise.**, at Wisdom House.
- **Saturday, October 7** – Dr. Jeanne Folks, **CT Psychotherapeutic Resources**, will hold her annual **Tapping Prayerfully Retreat** with the theme of “Letters from Your Older Wiser Self.”.
- **Tuesday, October 17 – AWE Cooking Class** with Celeste from **CT Kitchen and Bath** will be held at Avon Health Center.

Upcoming AWE Meeting Schedule:

- **June 21st – Host PAFY (Patient Advocate for You) ; Speaker Dr. Aylah Clark, Whole Health Associates** on natural approaches to common issues
- **July 18th – Host Residence at Brookside; Speaker Susan Lederman, P'zazz** on Putting Yourself Together
- **August 15th – Beach Day** – space limited to 16 so let Lisa know if you plan on attending
- **September 19th – Host Bill Selig Studio; Speaker Charmaine Seavy, CV Media**

**AVON WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS
MAY 16, 2017- MINUTES**

- **October 17th** – Host Avon Health Center; Cooking Demo by Celeste Borelli, CT Kitchen and Bath
- **November 21st** – Host Shihan Skin Care (potentially at Marriott Residence Inn); **Holiday Showcase** – if you want to display your wares you may
- **December 19th** – Host Sharing the Light Wholistic Center; Speakers Shein, Cohen, Palmer & Company and Tim McCarthy, CPA/US Wealth on Year End Tax Planning

HOST: Heather Pierce, Residence at Brookside

The Residence is celebrating its second anniversary! The facility has 74 apartments and a memory care unit. They also offer summer respites to families needing care for a member while vacationing.

SPEAKER: Ariel Stein, Argentum Financial Partners

Argentum specializes in comprehensive financial planning. She also does financial literacy training with groups of employees. For example, she helps them understand how to make healthy financial decisions such as saving versus paying off debt (credit cards, school loans) and how does a 401K fit into their situation.

Ariel brought the group into a circle and asked everyone to share 1 thing she is proud of and 1 thing she worries about. The following is a list of the themes (worries about doesn't necessarily pair up with proud of by person):

PROUD OF	WORRIES ABOUT
Having paid off debt and established savings	Income is all on you and your effort
Relationships I have formed over time	Outliving savings in retirement
My kids were able to choose the colleges they wanted to attend	Kids' futures because of the condition of the State of CT and world happenings in general
My success raising my children	Need to take on managing home finances should my husband become unable to do it
Helping others-it's the best of the best	Having to work until I die
Having been able to take the risk of incurring debt	Rationalizing quality and price to keep customers happy with products
Owning a business; of getting a business up and running	That the next generation will not achieve a better standard of living that their parents
Quality of my life	What I don't know
Of being inducted into the World Woman Martial Arts Hall of Fame as 1 of 5 women having earned their 5 th degree black belt	Medical burdens (e.g., expensive medications, high deductibles) will eat up retirement savings
Getting MBA during the '70s when women didn't go into finance	Saving – there seem to be more up-front costs today (deductibles, HAS contributions, property taxes) before you can save; am I saving enough
My 25-year-old daughter whose business employs 10 and paid off its debt in 2 years	Am I putting enough into the 529 plan for my kids' education
Maintaining a positive attitude – stuff happens	Can my volunteer/philanthropic work be sustained over time

Ariel closed by saying that our thoughts and concerns is what Financial Planning is all about. It's your life— what you are proud of and what you worry about. Comprehensive financial planning is not about your investment statement but what you have accomplished and where you want to go.

--Joanne Beers