

# Meet Bonnie Reese



# The Networker

I am a native of Spokane, Washington, who moved to Rapid City in August, 1999. After 26 years on the East Coast, my family and I longed for the slower pace and warmer people in the West. When asked what brought me to Rapid City, I tell them simply, "Mt. Rushmore!" These Hills had called to me for years, after a brief visit here in 1982. So, when we decided to move west, this is where we chose. When my husband died suddenly, I decided to come anyway, to finish our dream. It's been the best thing I've ever done for myself.



Starting BJ's Balancing Act is something I sort of stumbled onto. A couple of people who were helping me accomplish some things needed company logos designed, and I offered to do it for them. From there, the business has evolved steadily. My passion for the written word has led me to focus my business efforts in that direction. Writing is so difficult for many people and yet,

we all have letters or other things that need written. That's where I come in: I'll write it for you, and make it sound like YOU wrote it.

Many people have asked about my company name and why I chose it. Life is a constant balancing act, and communication is no different. If your communications don't make your point clearly, you won't attract the customers you're after, and they won't really understand you. I help you bridge that gap. My company slogan is "Striking a balance between you and your customers."

The funny thing is this business wasn't even a concept until I moved here. I'd never dreamed of running my own company before. In fact, I'm constantly amazed at the wonderful life I've found here in Rapid City, and the marvelous friends I've made. Even though I've been here only 10 years, it feels like much longer. This place has made me feel so welcome, it seems like I've been here all my life. It is my home.

Sincerely,  
Bonnie Reese

## Important Announcement

The November Women's Network meeting location has been changed. The meeting, scheduled for Nov. 11, will take place at the **Howard Johnson Hotel** behind Central High School. The location change is due to the fact that the Civic Center will be closed in observance of Veteran's Day.

### Officers, Board & Committee Members

- Shelley Dykstra (President).....(c)415-2313
- Rosemary Harvey (President-Elect).....(c)391-9660
- Kyla Wright (Secretary).....(w)716-8899
- Nina Braun (Treasurer).....(w)342-5630
- Bernie Steichen (Treasurer-Elect).....(w)342-9470
- Ann Henrichsen (Past-President).....(w)390-3463

Visit us on the web at [www.rcwomensnetwork.org](http://www.rcwomensnetwork.org)

\* Committee Chairs who are also Voting Members of the Board  
Edited and Produced by Jennifer Blake, JAB Publishing.

### Hospitality Committee

- Sandy Schwan\*.....(w)343-9230
- Liz Benusis (Guest Follow-up).....(w)342-4213
- Cheryl Carlton (Sunshine).....(w)391-8697
- Dianna Fuchs (Social Director).....343-8733

### Membership Committee

- Brandy Small\*.....(w)343-9230
- Jolee Wolf (Reservations).....(c) 393-7292
- Marsha Humphreys (Business Tables).....(w)716-2190

### Publicity Committee

- Ann Henrichsen\*.....(w)390-3463
- Jen Blake (Newsletter & Web Site).....(w)393-2526

NEXT MEETING

November 11 at 11:45 a.m.  
at Howard Johnson'sr

BUSINESS TABLES

Liz Benusis, Portrait Echo; and  
Amy Curtis, Somerset Court

GREETERS

Liz Benusis, Portrait Echo;  
Darlene Kremer, Kirk Funeral Home; and  
Michelle Minerath, Ketel Thorstenson, LLP

*Guests are welcome to attend up to two  
meetings as non-members.*

*For reservations, please call 393-7292 or  
e-mail  
reservations@rcwomensnetwork.org by noon  
Friday, November 6.*

NEXT BOARD MEETING

November 18 at noon at The Beanery.

NEXT MEMBERS-ONLY MIXER

November 21, 2009  
at the Lucky Nugget Gambling Hall in  
Deadwood

## ***From the Holiday Committee***

The Holiday Committee is asking for ladies to decorate a table in the Christmas/Holiday theme. If you would like to participate contact Lisa Wesolick at 415-2240 or lisawesolick@gmail.com . We need at least 10 sponsors. If sponsors would like (but not mandatory) they can have a little gift for each at their table like a chocolate truffle, candle, ornament, something small. Their will be an extra table available for business cards and brochures so as not to clash with the table decorations.

Sponsors for the Christmas Luncheon will be able to set up as early as 2:00 on Tuesday, up until 7:00pm on Tuesday evening, or they can come in Wednesday morning as early as 8 am. Please be finished by 10:30am just to make sure we don't have any last minute people that push the time limit. They are putting us upstairs in the Ponderosa Alpine room (to the left of the elevators) where we used to meet, so we don't conflict with another function that is taking place in the room we've been meeting in lately.

## ***Door Prize Winners***

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**Dr. Kate Haave, Wilson Park Dental**

\* Two Complimentary Oral Exams, Pen, Toothbrush, Stainless Steel Tumbler, Toothpaste, Chocolate & Lip Balm, won by Carol Lawhun

**Chris Bestgen, Lucky Nugget Gambling Hall**

\* \$20 Meal Voucher (2), won by Peggy Schlechter and Michelle Minnerath

**Fay Swenson, Avon ISR**

\* Anew Reversalist Night Renewal Cream, won by Vesta Wells Johnson

**Ranae Wolfe, DJ's Boutique**

\* Pink Ribbon Scarf, won by Kathy Jones

**Jen Blake, JAB Publishing**

\* A Mug (2), won by Paulette Kirby and Heather Morijah

**Sharon Faiman, Forget-Me-Not Floral**

\* Yellow Rose Vase Arrangement, won by Mary Roth

**Dr. Mary Roth, Wilson Park Dental**

\* Two Complimentary Oral Exams, Pen, Toothbrush, Stainless Steel Tumbler, Toothpaste, Chocolate & Lip Balm, won by Karen Brewer

**Helen Skogas, Mary Kay**

\* Frosted Autumn Almond Shower Gel and Lotion from Mary Kay's Private Spa Collection, won by Rosemary Harvey

**Chantelle Emond, Integrity Massage**

\* Half-Hour Hot Stone Massage, won by Lori Hodgins

**Vicki Urban, Rushmore Rollerz**

\* Basket with Halloween Candy, won by Sharon Faiman

**Brandy Small, Great Western Bank**

\* Lunch on the Go Kit, won by Chantelle Emond

**Colleen Keiser & Karen Kjerstead, AFLAC**

\* Sunflowers, won by Darlene Kremer

**Lori Baldwin, Laser Vision Center**

\* Thermos, won by Dodee Hill

**Darlene Kremer, Kirk Funeral Home**

\* Gift Certificate to Armadillo's Ice Cream Shoppe, won by Gail True

**Nina Braun & Michelle Minnerath, Ketel Thorstenson**

\* Wine Tote, won by Shawn Williams

**Paulette Kirby, Kirby Health Care**

\* Chico Bag, won by Lori Baldwin

**Vesta Wells Johnson, CDR**

\* "The Moon is Hiding" Lullaby CD, won by Fay Swenson

**Ann Henriksen, Black Hills Faces Magazine**

\* Free One Year Subscription to Faces Magazine, won by Peggy Roozing

**Peggy Schlechter, Tastefully Simple**

\* Cheese It Up! Crisps, won by Liz Benusis

**Peggy Roozing, National American University**

\* NAU T-Shirt (2), won by Kathy Pike and Lesley Wentz

# A final note from Shelley

Dear friends of mine in Women's Network of Rapid City,

Thank you for warmly welcoming me into your midst 3 years ago. Thank you for placing your trust in me to help lead this fine organization. Thank you for the many wonderful comments I have heard from you during this short tenure as your President. Thank you for becoming my FRIEND!! I am very very excited about my HUGE life change. However, I will miss the fun and fellowship that Women's Network has provided. I have learned, I have grown, I have laughed, I have cried, I have developed forever friends.....you have made a difference in my life!!

Please be kind and helpful and supportive of Rosemary and the rest of the Board as they take over for me. THANK YOU so very much for the sassy jewelry the Board gave to me. It will look fabulous on me. It will be a reminder to me of the sassy women I was honored to work and play with. I am off — to sun, sand, surf..... and LOVE.

Always, Shelley

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**LOCATION CHANGE** — The November Women's Network meeting location has been changed. The meeting, scheduled for Nov. 11, will take place at the **Howard Johnson Hotel** behind Central High School. The location change is due to the fact that the Civic Center will be closed in observance of Veteran's Day.

**DEADWOOD, HERE WE COME!** — The November Mixer will take place at 6 p.m. on Saturday, November 21 at the Lucky Nugget Gambling Hall on Deadwood's Main Street. The cost is \$10 and this is a members-only event. Please RSVP by Nov. 11 to Chris Bestgen at [chrisj@luckynuggetgh.com](mailto:chrisj@luckynuggetgh.com)

**TAX DEDUTABLE** — The \$14 meeting fee must be paid by everyone who attends our meetings — even if they opt not to eat the meal. The fee is for the meeting and, therefore, is completely tax deductible.

**WHEN TO STOP** — In order to keep our meetings to the allotted time, please do not get in line after the President.

**TO MAKE A RESERVATION** — Make your reservation for lunch by calling Jolee Wolf at 393-7292, e-mailing her at [reservations@rcwomensnetwork.org](mailto:reservations@rcwomensnetwork.org) or using the message board on the website.

**LITERATURE TABLES** — Members may put out flyers for their business of event and free samples on the table in the back. However, do not display products for sale.

## NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



**DON'T CLUTTER THE TABLES** — Please feel free to place literature on the dining tables that are 3x5 or smaller. Larger pieces can be placed on the literature table at the back of the room. Thank you!

**HOLIDAY PARTY** — The Holiday Party Committee has asked for table sponsors. Contact Lisa Wesolick at 415-2240 or [lisawesolick@gmail.com](mailto:lisawesolick@gmail.com) for details.

**DO I KNOW YOU?** — Many members have a photo with their listing on the online directory. If you would like your photo posted, contact Jen Blake at [jennifer@jabpublish.com](mailto:jennifer@jabpublish.com) or call 393-2526.

**DO YOU HAVE A RESERVATION?** — Those who show up without reservations can expect to pay an additional \$5 fee.

**FORGOT YOUR PASSWORD?** — To get to the online directory, you need a username and password. The username is your first initial and last name (no spaces, all lower case), and the password is your last name (all lower case). You may then register to use the message board, but will have to create a separate user name and password. Confused? Contact Jen Blake at [jennifer@jabpublish.com](mailto:jennifer@jabpublish.com).

**SCHOLARSHIP** — Applications are due Jan. 30 for the next round of Women's Network Scholarships. One-half of each meeting's 50/50 money goes to help Women's Network members. See a board member for details.