



DBE WORLD

31ST Administration

(Summer 2010)



This is the first edition of the DBE World from the 31st Administration and having looked back at the quality of work of my predecessor, Sheila Gilbert, and the ladies who came before her, it's rather an intimidating task. Fortunately for me, I realized that it's not a competition and it's not all about me and it's not all about the 31st Administration, but it is all about "us", the wonderful team of ladies who are the DBE. I know there are a lot of creative and informed ladies out there and I look forward to hearing from you. So please share your stories, brainteasers, interesting facts, successes and failures, anything you believe might interest your fellow members and we'll publish as many as we can.

The National Convention in Sarasota was my first Convention and I can see why everyone who attends Convention encourages others to do the same. It's a great experience and a good bonding opportunity. I'm looking forward to attending other Conventions and to getting to know as many people as possible. It's certainly a lot of hard work for the host State and the National Board and it would be very remiss of me at this time not to thank everyone involved. There are too many names to mention and I would hate to miss out someone so I will just say A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL for whatever part you played in contributing to such a successful event.

Enjoy your Summer and I am looking forward to hearing from all of you.

Jean Waud
National Communications Secretary



Fabulous Finale in Florida!

The 30th Administration went out with a flair at the Triennial Convention held in Sarasota Florida May 13th-15th 2010! It was the first time a convention had been held in Florida since the early 1960's and it was their 100th anniversary!!! Attendance was good with 140 members from 25 of 30 States present.

As usual, the convention started out with workshops and the open forum on Thursday and had the business sessions on Friday and Saturday. On Saturday the new Bylaws were passed, much to everyone's relief and the new National Board were installed. But more about that later.

Sarasota is a charming town on the southern end of the Tampa Bay area on Florida's west coast and was a delightful setting for this convention. Our hotel – the Hyatt – was located on a dead end street just a very short distance from the beach. Across the street were a theater and a park which had a nice walking path. The hotel also had a small marina on the back side by the pool. The hotel was fairly modern with lots of glass, chrome and bright colors. Most rooms either had a balcony or a bay window to take full advantage of the views of the water. There was a nice gathering area right by the elevators and stairs down to the lower level (where the meeting rooms were) where one could sit to watch the world go by and catch a DBE friend or two in passing!

The Florida welcoming committee met us with sand buckets and spades filled with the usual goodies – candies, brochures, samples etc. The beach theme was carried out throughout the convention with the table centerpieces, both at the State luncheon and the National Banquet, having seashells, and many of the invitations and the convention binder also having a shell motif. At the National Banquet each of the ladies received a beautiful pashmina and the men received a wine stopper with... a starfish on top.

The Hospitality Room was housed in "The Boathouse"- a large building with several rooms that sat over the water by the marina and pool. The Florida DBE's did a fantastic job of taking care of the attendees, and took turns by chapter providing the tea and food. The place was always humming with ladies relaxing and chatting away. As an extra nice treat, the National History Museum was on display there as well. There were 5 volumes of scrapbooks from 1909 to 2004, and new this year – two posters with pictures of 29 of the 30 National Presidents. What a treat!!!

Friday night, about 135 attendees, husbands and guests enjoyed a two hour dinner cruise on the 'Marina Jack'. It was a wonderful opportunity to sit and chat and visit, to see some of the mansions on the bay and to enjoy the beautiful sunset. Far too soon the evening was over. Though only a short distance from the hotel, we did have to go by hotel shuttle.....which gave us the added treat of seeing a giant statue lit up by floodlights that was a replica of the famous "World War II is over soldier kissing a nurse" picture. Fantastic! Saturday was a busy day. The discussion of the Bylaws started after the morning break, and after a short 45 minutes for a box lunch we continued in to the afternoon. There were a few items that generated a lot of discussion, and several 'adjustments' were made, but all in all, most people were in agreement with the document as presented by the Bylaws Committee. It was with a great cheer that the motion to accept the new Bylaws passed unanimously. After a short break we continued with the installation of the National Officers and Vicki Downey then addressed us as the new National President, encouraging us to put the past behind us and to move forward in a spirit of co-operation and unity to our common purpose. When she finished each of the States came forward and pledged their support to the new Administration. It was a very special moment. After that everyone retired to their rooms to get freshened up for the evening which started with cocktails out by the pool with background music provided by a piper in full kilt. He then led the members to the Banquet room and then piped in the outgoing and incoming Boards and their husbands. The food was very good and for entertainment we had a husband and wife couple, John & Mary K. Wilson who sang show tunes for us and then ended with a rousing rendition of God Save the Queen



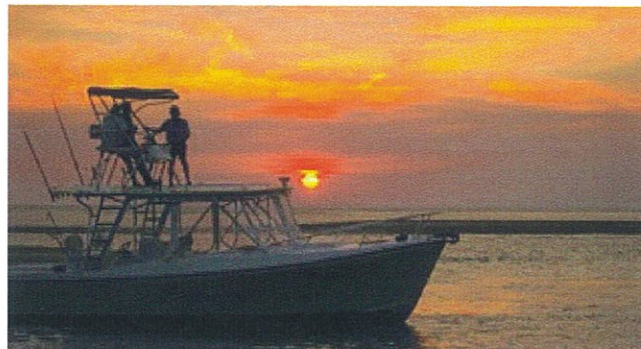
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The only things that marred an otherwise wonderful convention were that the National President, Joan Gol MBE was not able to be present due to doctor's orders not to travel. She was greatly missed, but Sharon Pruitt, National 1st VP stepped up admirably to the job and conducted a well run meeting. The other was that our dear Bertie Kvinge MBE had a fall on the Thursday morning and got banged up quite a bit. But she was as valiant as ever, attending the sessions on Thursday afternoon and evening after coming back from the emergency room. She took the day off on Friday except for the State luncheon, but was back with her usual vitality for the events on Saturday. She is a real trooper and shows true British 'grit'. We understand she has been recuperating well back home in Seattle.

See you all next year in Philadelphia!

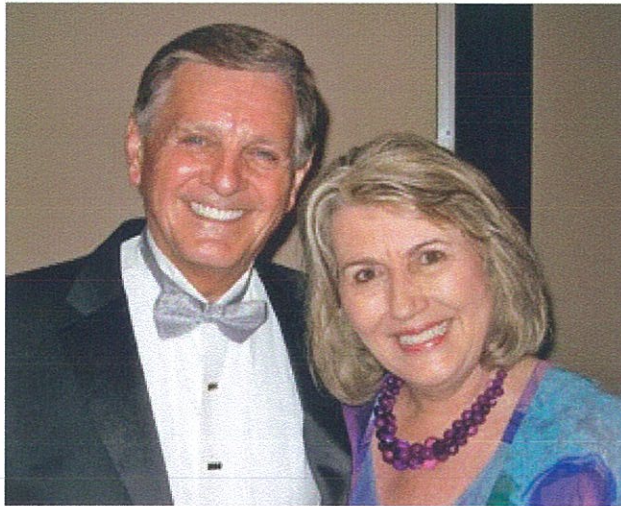
Your Convention Correspondent

Photographs from Marina Jack Evening





Photographs from the National Convention Banquet



During the National Convention Janet Connolly was recognized for having attended 26 consecutive Conventions – quite an achievement but only part of what Janet has achieved during her years of dedication to the work of the DBE. While Janet has been a Member at Large for the last two years she was a Founder Member of the Jubilee Chapter (Massachusetts) in 1977 and served in many offices, including that of Regent. Janet also held several State positions including State Organizer before serving as National Organizer from 1986-1989. Luckily for the DBE, Janet moved and introduced the DBE to Rhode Island, serving as its first State President before moving back to Massachusetts and transferring to the Dame Sybil Thorndike Chapter and later becoming State President. In 2003 Janet and her husband moved to Cape Cod and she became an active member of the Mayfair Chapter while continuing to serve on the State Board as 3rd VP. She served on the National Bylaws Committee for the 29th Administration and on the original National Bylaws Committee for the 30th Administration. Janet – we hope you can make it 27 consecutive Conventions in a row and look forward to seeing you in Philadelphia!