**Virtual Business Club President's Message**

Happy, Happy day fellow WA State Virtual Business and Professional Women and the newest Club we have created!! Now you can join us virtually when we have our meetings and events. Wow.

I want to share with you my experience with BPW in my short 14-year timeframe. I started out not knowing ANYONE in my new chapter in Boulder CO. I was a bit intimidated by the wonderful women that approached me at an event and asked if I'd like to come to a meeting of the board soon. I nervously said *sssssure.* The meeting was at the YWCA where we had a free meeting room. We were all still in person back before COVID.

I listened to the meeting, run by our great president at the time, Michele. She ran it beautifully. I gave my ideas and they listened! I came with a small paragraph of what I wanted to see happen in my first year. I attended several meetings and events. Then, when I was at about my third meeting, the board had our secretary step down due to having a cute baby girl. They asked if I would be interested in doing it. Uh oh. I had to step up or shut up! I had no real experience, but I said yes.

From that small YES, I have been secretary of BPW CO (Various clubs), Grays Harbor Fire District 11, Grays Harbor Water District one, Westport Fire Department and Timebank Boulder. I am probably missing a few. Boy, have I learned a lot! I can't tell you how much I have learned in BPW! How about you think of joining us at a board meeting in September and discuss YOU (yes, You) starting as our secretary? We happen to have an opening right now. Can you believe it?

Opportunity knocks. Be brave and answer this message, sign up as our secretary and you'll start learning a ton about meetings, events, how to run a business meeting with real professionals. Think about it!! You could start an amazing trip down BPW lane. I've been to FL, NYC, the United Nations CSW (Commission on the Status of Women), EGYPT and much more. It all started saying yes to the secretary position!

**JOIN US!! Get Involved, we need you, reap the benefits of belonging!!!**
**Sharon Simmons, President**