



Taking part in the Morganton BPW's Young Careerist competition were: (from left) Karen Harmon Causby, Katherine Lane Peters, Denise Ann Williams, runnerup, and Cheryl L. Ox-

ford, winner, who receives plaque from Linda Wortman Lowe, chairwoman of the club's Young Careerist committee.

Cheryl Oxford selected Young Careerist winner

Cheryl L. Oxford, coordinator of performing arts at Western Piedmont Community College, was winner of the Young Careerist competition held by the Morganton Business and Professional Women's Club last week.

The contest was held during the club's monthly dinner meeting at the Community House.

As winner Ms. Oxford received a plaque and will represent the club in the district Young Careerist competition in March. District winners will advance to the state finals.

Denise Williams, a speech pathologist and administrative supervisor at Communi-Care/Pro-Rehab, was runnerup. Other contestants were Karen Harmon Causby, a sixth grade teacher in the Burke County Schools, and Katherine Lane Peters, recreation therapist II/therapeutic recreation specialist at Western Carolina Center.

Linda Wortman Lowe, chairwoman of the Young Careerist committee, presented the young women with certificates for their participation.

The Young Careerist program is BPW's way of honoring successful young career women while introducing them to the ideals and standards of the national federation. The contestants are judged on personal accomplishments, speech presentation at the meeting, group interaction and personal interviews with the judges.

Ms. Oxford, a graduate of Glen Alpine High School, received her A.B. in speech and English education from the University of North Carolina where she was a James M. Johnson Scholar, was Phi Beta Kappa and graduated with highest honors. She received her M.A./Ph.D. degrees in interpretation/performance studies from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.

Before coming to work at WPCC in 1983, she was employed with the North Carolina Arts Council, Department of Cultural Resources, as artist-in-the-schools.

Ms. Oxford's most significant professional accomplishments are two-fold. One is her efforts on behalf of the establishment of a two-year associate in fine arts degree in drama at WPCC, one of only five such programs in the statewide commu-

nity college system.

The other is the completion of her dissertation featuring case studies of traditional storytellers from Western North Carolina. This work won the Cratis D. Williams prize from the N.C. Folklore Society and is being considered for publication by UNC Press.

In addition to coordinating drama at WPCC, she directs the after-school theater activities at both Freedom and East Burke High schools. She also works closely with the Old Colony Players of Valdese and with the advisory board of the City of Morganton Municipal Auditorium.

Serving as judges for the contest were June Hollingsworth, executive director of the Burke County Chamber of Commerce, Rusty Triebert of Henredon Furniture Industries, and Oleata Haymaker, District II director.

Doris Foster, state president BPW/nc, was among the special guests at the meeting. She congratulated the Morganton BPW for gaining 21 new members this year. She reminded the group of the state BPW convention to be held in Winston-Salem in June and the national convention in Detroit, Mich. in July.

She urged the members to continue helping with BPW projects such as 2012 to renovate the national BPW headquarters and the state

BPW Foundation fund which will help women with educational funding. She was introduced by Norma Caldwell, president-elect.

President Sharon Marlow presided over the business session. Guests were Mary Ann Riggs, Linda Edwards and Susan Allison. New members introduced were Janet Gouge, Sherita Mahoney, Jeanne Walden and Paula Leonard.

Foundation committee chairwoman Cindy Mode reminded the group that February was Foundation Month and any contributions to the BPW foundation need to be turned in by March 31.

Jane Shuping, membership chairwoman, announced a new member orientation would be held on Feb. 27 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Community House before the club's monthly meeting which will begin at 6:45 p.m.

A nominating committee was selected to present a slate of officers for the 1989-90 year. Ruby Prewitt was elected chairwoman and Sherry Willard and Anne Searcy committee members.

Mrs. Marlow reminded members to attend the Spotlight of Women conference Feb. 3-4 in Chapel Hill. Susan Conway, a member of the local club, is chairwoman of this year's conference. Pat McGalliard, legislative chairwoman, announced that Legislative Day would be Feb. 23 in Raleigh.

Anyone wishing to attend a meeting or to join the local BPW organization should call Jane Shuping at 874-0648.