Effective Leadership Award

Sheila Wright Benoit, an officer for many years with the Grand Island Professional Women's Chapter, New York State Women, will receive the "Annual Effective Leadership Award for Women in Business."

The Award is sponsored by ACT, Advanced Cancer TheranosTX and will be presented by its president, Dr. Sherry Bradford, on Thursday evening, June 21 in the Four Points by Sheraton, Buffalo Avenue, in Niagara Falls, NY.

The Grand Island Professional Women's Chapter promotes equity for all women in the workplace and brings working women's concerns to the attention of the business and professional community.

According to Dr. Bradford, the ACT award is an opportunity to recognize women for what they have accomplished. "It honors a woman who actively supports and inspires women to reach their full potential, and who promotes equality and equity in the workplace," Dr. Bradford explained.

"It honors a woman who excels in her chosen field, who devotes time and energy to her community in a meaningful way, and who serves as a role model for women everywhere," Bradford added.

This year's winner, Sheila Wright Benoit, graduated from D'Youville College with a BS in Medical Technology. She earned certification from the American Society for Clinical Pathology as a Medical Laboratory Scientist. Benoit has been a member of the American Society for Clinical Science—New York for 32 years and has served as board member, treasurer and president.

According to Sonja Miller, past president of ASCLS—NY and past president of Grand Island Professional Women's Chapter, Benoit has been a friend and colleague for many years as a clinical laboratory scientist, medical technologist and clinical educator in area hospitals and colleges in hematology, coagulation and transfusion services .

"She has been and continues to be a driving force in planning and implementing ASCLS-NY continuing education conferences, regional conferences, local continuing education seminars, and National Clinical Laboratory Week activities," Miller said. Miller is a professor of clinical laboratory technology at Erie Community College.

Benoit has received recognition for her professional service. She received the Mary B. Cooper Service Award and the Sara Marie Cicarelli Member of the Year Award. Last year, she received the Region I Presidential Award for Outstanding Service.

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Other volunteer activities include the PROI Foundation for Cancer Research, Upstate New York Transplant Services and TRY (Teaching and Restoring Youth).

TRY is a residential program for girls in need of a structured home life. Benoit cooks dinner for the girls every Monday night. She was TRY Volunteer of the Year in 2009.

A widow, Benoit has four sons, one daughter and six grandchildren.

For additional information and/or dinner reservations, contact Chapter President Diane Dinsmore at 308 6230 or email: dinsdggr@aol.com

-30-

Written by Mary Anne Shea, PR Chair, Grand Island Professional Women's Chapter NYS Women, Inc.

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note: TheranosTX is correct