

NEWS RELEASE



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Dames Bond to Honor Steve Baldzicki, Founder of Big Fish Networking, Monday July 7, 2014, at New Short North Business, The Waxxpot

Columbus, OH: When Mary B. Relotto, founder of Dames Bond, experienced her first professional networking event, it was rigid, the majority were men and she found it challenging to bond with anyone there, outside of the typical business card swap. The problem is, she was emulating how men network and it didn't work for her.

Not until she went to a Big Fish networking event did she have hope that networking could be rewarding. It was her first "social-based" networking experience and she was hooked. "What's important during networking is establishing some kind of bond with others. A card doesn't do that. The essence of social-based networking is to let business happen naturally, while having a little fun. Steve gave people the opportunity to relax into conversation, on common ground, and that worked for me."

After a little research, Relotto spoke with many businesswomen who were still emulating how men network, and it wasn't working for them either. "Women naturally want to "bond" and form authentic connections, and they want it in a nurturing and supportive environment, with other women." says Relotto.

With encouragement and advice from Steve, she brought Dames Bond to life in 2007, introducing an all female, social-based networking community to Columbus. Since then, the Dames Bond website has been recognized by Forbes and ForbesWoman as one of the top sites for women in business, featuring a business directory of local women in business. Monthly Bond events are social-based and held at a different business each month, giving members an opportunity to talk about their businesses, and to share real life stories of overcoming obstacles and challenges as an entrepreneur.

During July's event, Dames Bond will honor Steve Baldzicki for his 15 years of pioneering the social-based networking movement, giving thousands of business people an opportunity to authentically connect on common ground and for truly wanting nothing in return.

This month's host is Gretchen Gintz, owner of The Waxxpot, a new business in the Short North, specializing in body waxing and skin care. The Waxxpot opened its doors in May 2014.

About Steve Baldzicki:

Steve Baldzicki is the Founder and President of Big Fish Networking, A Premiere, Central Ohio Networking Organization since 1999. Big Fish Networking is ranked #1 for "Columbus Networking" on Google since 2007. He also is co-founder of Networking Leaders Alliance (NLA), an organization formed in 2008 to bring together the top networking organizations in Central Ohio. As a skilled networker, Steve also serves on several boards, committees, and councils within Central Ohio.

Event details:**Date: Monday, July 7, 2014****Location: 1188 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43201****Host: The Waxxpot****Time: 6pm -8pm****Cost: Free****RSVP a must: <https://www.damesbond.com/events.asp?month=7&day=7&year=2014>****Parking: 2 Public parking lots are within a block of The Waxxpot and there is plenty of on-street parking**

Our mission: To help women thrive personally and professionally.
When Dames bond, Dames thrive!

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