

April 14, 2026
Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH



NH Bankers Association is pleased to present our 2026
Women in Banking Conference: Create Your Future.
This program welcomes all levels of staff interested in their career growth.

NH Bankers
ASSOCIATION



2026 WOMEN IN BANKING

April 14, 2026 | Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH

AGENDA

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM

REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM

WELCOME

Kristy A. Merrill, *President*, NH Bankers Association

9:15 AM – 9:45 AM

NETWORKING: GET UP AND MOVE

Moderator:

Cristy Beemer, *Associate Professor of English*, University of New Hampshire (UNH)

Come prepared to network, interact with attendees, and quickly share ideas to set the stage for the day.

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM

BACKWARDS IN HEELS – OVERCOMING IMPOSTER SYNDROME TO RECOGNIZE YOUR TRUE VALUE

Anne Schutt, *Vice President, Business Development*
Midwestern Securities Trading Company

Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers were both incredibly talented dancers that rose to fame due to their talents. Not to take away from Fred's talent, but Ginger did everything he did, but backwards and in heels! Too often you overlook the skills that you have developed throughout your dance of life and undervalue yourself. Some of the demands in life that often fall upon women help develop unique skills that make you very valuable at home and in the office. Stop feeling like an imposter in the boardroom, recognize your true value and dance more confidently towards success.

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM

STACK YOUR DECK: HOW YOU CAN HELP CREATE YOUR OWN FUTURE

Moderator:

Gayle Price, *EVP - Chief Human Resources Officer*, Bank of NH

Panelists:

Sara Timberlake, *MBA Relationship Manager, Business Banking*, M&T Bank

Alexandra Pelletier, *SVP-Retail Banking Administration Officer*, Bank of NH

Chrissy Askren, *SPHR, SHRM-SCP, SWP, SVP-HR*, Claremont Savings Bank

Create your own future by learning from this panel of outstanding women who will provide actionable advice to define your success, overcome challenges, and help continue to build a purposeful life through practical exercises and personal stories.

11:45 AM – 12:00 PM

RECAP OF MORNING AND STRETCH (DR. BEEMER)

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

NETWORKING LUNCH & BASKET GIVEAWAYS

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1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

TIPS TO IMPROVE PUBLIC SPEAKING

Sarah Chaffee, *Director of Development, New Hampshire Humanities*
Magalie Lawrence, *President, Toastmasters*

Becoming a confident public speaker requires practice, feedback, self-awareness, and a willingness to step out of your comfort zone. Learn some tools on how to engage your audience and deliver a clear message that will make an impact on that audience around you.

2:00 PM – 2:05 PM

STRETCH AND KEEP MOVING (DR. BEEMER)

2:05 PM – 2:50 PM

THE CONFIDENCE GAME

Cristy Beemer, *Associate Professor of English, University of New Hampshire (UNH)*

Balancing your professional and personal life requires constant adjustments and the need to emphasize your skills, positive relationships, ethics, and self-belief as foundations for confidence and success. Dr. Beemer will share frameworks for personal growth as you learn the key traits that allow you to thrive in business or at home.

2:50 PM – 3:00 PM

FINAL STRETCH (DR. BEEMER)

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

TEAMWORK & DECISION MAKING IN UNPREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENTS

Ty Gagne, *Author, The Last Traverse: Tragedy and Resilience in the Winter Whites*

Through the experience of a winter traverse of the Franconia Ridge Ty will share lessons learned on how to speak up, manage risk and contribute to a culture where people feel comfortable expressing concerns, ideas, or disagreements.

4:00 PM – 4:15 PM

FINAL THOUGHTS

Cristy Beemer, *Associate Professor of English, University of New Hampshire (UNH)*

Share what you learned today and ways to maximize the impactful networking connections you made along the way.

4:15 PM

CONFERENCE ADJOURNS