



Newsletter Editor: Linda Flowers

2006/2007 Executive Board  
And Committee Chairs

President:  
Mary Florence

Vice President:  
Sallye Belton

Treasurer:  
Penny Doane

Recording Secretary:  
Heidi Torres

Correspondence Secretary:  
Alexis Monroe

President Elect:  
Linda Flowers

Membership:  
Marilyn Dial

Publicity:  
Karyn Combs

Ways & Means:  
Brenda Daniels

Professional Development:  
Tessie Dunnaway

Hospitality:  
Vickie McCavitt

Roving Reporter:  
Anna Peele

Panhandle Area Council:  
Annie Corbett

Benevolence:  
Rickey Allen

Special Committee Chairs:

Woman Of The Year:  
Doris Counts

Top Ten Business Women:  
Annie Corbett

Patsy Sears:  
Brenda Daniels

Okaloosa County Status of Women:  
Jackie Woerl



Greeting ABWA Members and Friends,

As I looked through my office window on a beautiful Friday, thoughts of what would my February's president message be. Love and color red came to me. February is the month that most of us connect love and the color red, as they both symbolize Valentine Day. Did you know that according to hallmark more greeting cards are sold for Valentine Day than any other holiday? February is also the shortest month of the year. Take time and enjoy the month of love.

We also celebrate "Black History Month" during this month and let's not forget to wear red on February 2<sup>nd</sup> in support of "National Wear Red Day". Encourage women and men to wear something red to show support for women's heart disease awareness. Red is such a beautiful and vibrant color. It's a powerful color and speaking of power we have lots of powerful women and strong leadership in this chapter. As we celebrate our Top Ten Nominee and Women of The Year, I would like to thank both committees for their commitment in this chapter. I have served on each committee in past years and I know how difficult the decisions are because of all the strong candidates. I hope each of you submitted your updated Bio. Special thanks to the committee that's working on getting the information needed for our upcoming fundraiser "A Taste of Elegance Blind Wine Tasting". This event will be held on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. We will have fun as we will raise money for our Professional Development and Scholarships which will be awarded in May.

March is our Spring Enrollment Event. It's a time to mentor and support the working women. Set goals and invite a potential member to our March meeting and Wine Tasting. This will be a great way to network and introduce other ladies to ABWA.

The Star Award is the highest award that can be earned by an ABWA chapter and truly represents the fulfillment of best practices by and ABWA group. We are on our way to receiving this Award. We currently have forty-five members and will need fifty members by the end of the chapter year as part of the requirements. I know we can do this as we.

Please continue to pray for Sheila Mitchell, Debby Money, Deborah Pape, Jackie Woerl's mom and our entire membership. Please let our Benevolence chair, Rickey Allen know if we have any members that are facing difficult times so that she can mail a card or send flowers.

I love and appreciate each of you. Happy Valentine Day!  
Mary Florence

The love of liberty is the love of others; the love of power is the love of ourselves: William Hazkitt

## History

The Fort Walton Beach Charter Chapter of the American Business Women's Association was organized and held its chartering ceremony on May 20, 1973. Guided by National Headquarters, our chapter became a reality for six members at large and one inactive member living in the area.

## ABWA's Proud Code of Conduct

All members will serve as goodwill ambassadors for the American Business Women's Association. Members will not allow their personal beliefs and convictions to interfere with the representation of ABWA's mission. Members will always treat their member colleagues, guests, vendors and sponsors with honest, respect, fairness, integrity, responsibility, kindness, and in good faith. Members will maintain compliance with ABWA National, Chapter and Express Network Bylaws. Members will not use their personal power to advance their personal interests. Members will strive for excellence in their professions by maintaining and enhancing their own business knowledge and skills, and by encouraging the professional development of other members.

## About ABWA

Today, the American Business Women's Association spans the nation as the world's most diverse professional organization for women. Ten of thousands of members gather throughout the country united by a common goal- support each other in professional development and career advancement.

*A Taste of Elegance  
Blind Wine Tasting  
&  
Fundraiser*



*Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
2pm until 6pm*

*Swift Creek Club House in Niceville  
Appetizers will be served*

*Sponsored by:  
The Fort Walton Beach Charter Chapter  
American Business Women's Association*

*Please call for tickets and reservations:  
Irma 678-9113 or our message line 850-314-3010  
Or you may purchase tickets at the door.*

*Your **Donation of \$20.00** will benefit our  
Professional Development & Scholarship Funds*

# Roving Reporter

**Dr. Karyn Combs** enjoyed a wonderful Christmas vacation in California with her parents, sisters, brothers, nieces and nephews. They were in Calaveras County which is near the San Andreas Mountains in northern California. They also traveled to Bear valley and played in the snow.

**Jackie Woerl** says that her grandchildren Noah and Ashley Woerl, who live in Ocean Springs, MS, will be "starring" (ha) in the play "Seussical Musical" January 29th - February 4th, 2007. Nana Jackie will be their special guest for the February 3rd performance.

**Anna Peele** has been hired back by the City of FWB as a contract employee to finish a program that she started and didn't get to complete before retirement. The Museum Assessment Program, which is a in-depth self-study through the American Association of Museums, is helping the museums of Heritage Park & Cultural Center to understand how they relate to the community and the community to the museums. The outcome of this grant program will help the museums to offer more services to the public and to become an outstanding heritage and cultural center in the southeastern United States.

## Remembering inventors in History

Thomas L. Jennings 1791-1859

A tailor in New York City, Jennings is credited with being the first African American to hold a U.S. Patent. The patent, which was issued in 1821, was for a dry cleaning process.

Norbert Rillieux 1806-1894

Born the son of a French planter and a slave in New Orleans, Rillieux was educated in France. Returning to the U.S., he developed an evaporator for refining sugar, which he patented in 1846. Rillieux's evaporation technique is still used in the sugar industry and in the manufacture of soap and other products.

Benjamin Bradley 1830-?

A slave, Bradley was employed at a printing office and later at the Annapolis Naval Academy, where he helped set up scientific experiments. In the 1840's he developed a steam engine for a war ship. Unable to patent his work, he sold it and with the proceeds purchased his freedom.

Elijah McCoy 1844-1929

The son of escaped slaves from Kentucky, McCoy was born in Canada and educated in Scotland. Settling in Detroit, Michigan, he invented a lubricator for steam engines (patented 1872) and established his own manufacturing company. During his lifetime he acquired 57 patents.

Lewis Howard Latimer 1848-1929

Born in Chelsea, Mass, Latimer learned mechanical drawing while working for a Boston patent attorney. He later invented an electric lamp and a carbon filament for light bulbs (patented 1881, 1882). Latimer was the only African American member of the Thomas Edison's engineering laboratory.

Garrett Augustus Morgan 1877-1963

Born in Kentucky, Morgan invented a gas mask (patented 1914) that was used to protect soldiers from chlorine fumes during World War I. Morgan also received a patent (1923) for a traffic signal that featured automatic STOP and GO signs. Morgan's invention was later replaced by traffic lights.



### February birthdays and anniversaries:

Birthdays

Sheila Mitchell 2/3

Anniversaries

Rickey Allen 2/14/91

Karen Butler 2/10/05

Karyn Combs 2/11/88

Penny Ericksen 2/10/05

## MENU



**TBA**

**Cost:** Meal Prices are \$12.50 for FWBCC Members, \$17.50 for Guests; Chef's Salad is \$11.50

Members on the permanent reservation list who are not planning to attend this meeting or members wishing to make reservation for your self or a guest please calls the chapter's phone line at 314-3010 by noon Monday the week of the membership meeting. **A meal not cancelled will be billed to that member.**



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*Guest Speaker*  
*From January*

Here is the information from Susan Ott with times and days that she teaches her diabetes classes. The information is presented in two sessions. On Mondays (part A) and Tuesdays (part B). . Both days starting time is from 9:00 a.m. till 11:15. The classes are held at White-Wilson Medical Center, Ft. Walton Beach (across from the hospital) in the Conference room. Susan works with Dr. Holt and if anyone would like to attend. For reservations Call Dr. Holt's office at 863-8267. You do not have to have diabetes to attend. Susan feels that if you have risks factors, or is a borderline diabetic it would be worth your while. Knowledge is POWER with this disease. Susan sends her regards to everyone and she enjoyed meeting all of us.

## Calendar

### Business meetings Dates

*January 11*

*February 8*

*March 8*

*April 12*

*May 10*

*Scholarships Awards, Chapter 34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. And Election of Officers*

*June 14*

*Business Associate Event*

### **Mission Statement:**

To bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support, and national recognition.

# PANHANDLE AREA COUNCIL MEETING

## AGENDA

JANUARY 27, 2007

**LOCATION:** Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, 2725 Graves Road, Tallahassee, FL (850/536-2007)

**TIME:** 12:00 Noon

**AGENDA:** Meeting called to Order Rosalie Rowland, Chairman

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome

Luncheon

Program

Introductions Representative from each  
Chapter

Business:

Read and approve minutes	Stella R. Carr, Secretary
Read and approve treasurer's report	Stella R. Carr, Treasurer
Chapter reports	Delegate from each Chapter

Other:

- Vote for new Executive Board
- Chapter membership dues (\$12.50)
- By-Laws Review & Approval
- Focus on Women Expo Approval (\$50)
- Next meetings: TBD

Benediction

Adjournment



ABWA  
Fort Walton Beach Charter Chapter  
Meeting Minutes  
January 11, 2007

I President Mary Florence called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM

II **Invocation:**

- Sallye Belton led the chapter in the Invocation.
- Sallye announced the guests: Mona brought a guest, Maggie. Irma brought a guest, Marci. Jean's guest was Susan Ott, our guest speaker. Brenda brought a guest, Athea Stalker, who is joining the chapter as a member.
- Sallye announced birthdays and anniversaries. Birthdays, Mona Camacho, Annie Corbett, Doris Counts, Brenda Daniels, Marilyn Dial, Penny Doane, Mary Florence, Linda Flowers, Jean Floyd, Mary Goodsell, Carol Hathcock, Pam Lee, and Sonja Manley. Anniversaries: Mona Camacho, Brenda Daniels, Linda Flowers, and Rosemary Roberto.

III **Officers Reports:**

A. **President**

Mary Florence had not new reports.

B. **Vice President**

Sallye Belton had no new reports.

C. **Recording Secretary**

Heidi Torres reported the business was suspended for the December meeting, so there were no minutes.

D. **Corresponding Secretary**

Alexis reported that she received some Christmas cards in the mail. Shelter House is having a Gala and auction on February 9<sup>th</sup> at the Sandestin Resort. They are looking for door prizes to be donated.

E. **Treasurer**

Penny Doane reported her computer crashed, so she was unable to complete the Treasurer's Report. She will have this at the next Board Meeting and Chapter Meeting.

F. **Program**

Jean Gunn announced the guest speaker, Susan Ott. Susan works at Dr. Holt's office as a nurse practitioner specializing in Diabetes. Susan educated members on the risks of Type I and Type II Diabetes.

- The average person with Type II Diabetes has had it for 10 years before being diagnosed.
- Children being born right now, for the first time ever in the U.S., will have a shorter lifespan than their parents.
- Walking 150 minutes a week does better than medication for Type II Diabetes.

Jean presented a certificate of appreciation to Susan for being the guest speaker. Her presentation was very educational.

IV **Committee Reports:**

A. **Hospitality**

Vickie McCavitt has stepped up as the Hospitality Chair because Doris Counts has moved to Kentucky. The cut-off deadline for dinner reservations for Chapter meetings will be on the Monday before the meeting.

B. **Panhandle Area Council (PAC)**

Annie reported the PAC will be in Tallahassee at the Ramada Inn on Monroe Street on January 27t. Annie is planning to attend, so please email her by Friday 1/19 if you would to ride with her.

C. **Ways & Means**

Brenda reported she collected \$672 for the silent auction, \$513 for the Belk Sale tickets, \$252 for the Silver Sands tickets, and \$90 for the Bake Sale = \$1527.

**D. Membership**

Marilyn reported, Athea Stalker, was joining the Chapter tonight. Brenda Daniels is her sponsor.

**V Old Business:**

**A. Texas Hold'em**

Marilyn moved that we join forces with David Wellema (Emerald Coast Children's Foundation) in August to get a feel for the project. Brenda seconded.

**VI New Business:**

**A. Fundraising Event**

Mary mentioned having a Wine and Food Tasting. Irma lives in Swift Creek and has made arrangements to use the Club House. The fee to use the Club House is \$50. Irma has already reserved February 10<sup>th</sup>, but she will ask if we can move it back to March 10<sup>th</sup> to give us more time to prepare. A committee was formed and will begin trying to find sponsors. Mary will email everyone once the date has been confirmed with the Club House. We will sell tickets for \$20 per person.

**B. Spring Conference**

The Spring Conference is March 30 – 31 in New Orleans. The Chapter will pay for the registration fee for 6 - 8 members. Members must register by February 28<sup>th</sup>. Penny already has four members signed up. Please give your registration to Penny by the January Board meeting so she can get it turned in on time.

**C. 50/50**

Mary asked members to vote whether or not the money collected during the 50/50 at Chapter meetings should continue to go towards the Christmas Social to off-set the cost. Members voted in favor.

**D. Raffles and Free Dinner Drawing:**

Irma Temples  
Alexis Monroe  
Brenda Daniels  
Maggie, Mona's guest  
Annie Corbett: 50/50  
Karyn Combs: Free Dinner

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Vice President, Sallye Belton, led the chapter in the benediction. There were 32 members present.

**Upcoming Events:**

Panhandle Area Council meeting, Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> in Tallahassee at the Ramada Inn on Monroe Street.

Board Meeting: January 25, 2006 at Eglin Federal Credit Union  
838 Eglin PKWY NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Employee lounge 6pm

Heidi Torres: Secretary 2006/2007

# Special Events and Awards



## Woman of the Year Event February

A Chapter Woman of the year is selected by the membership from nominations submitted by a selection committee. Nominations selections are made based on biographies. The selection nominee will be a member who represent the chapter in the business community, enhance the chapter's image, and demonstrate that her participation in ABWA has resulted in career advancement. The Current Woman of the year will chair the committee for the following year.

## Patsy Sears Memorial Award November

An award is presented annually in memory of Patsy Sears, the 1980 chapter president who met with an untimely death on February 20, 1980 when she was struck by a car. This annual award is presented to an active member who best portrays the spirit of ideals of ABWA and who has been most supportive of the chapter goals during the year. The membership votes by secret ballot.

## Business Associate of the Year June

This event recognizes member's business associate/employer. Each member has the opportunity to nominate a community business leader who has actively supported the advancement of business women. Prior to the event, the membership elects to have one or all nominees honored. If only one person is to be honored, a panel of judges selects the winner, otherwise all entries are honored.

## Protégé Award: July

Recognizes a member of the chapter who has completed one year of membership in the association and is starting her second year.

- Member must have attended 10 or more meetings
- Member must have participated in an activity to support the chapter.
- Member must have recruited at least one member.

## Top Ten Business Woman February

The Top Ten Business Woman nominee is selected by the membership from nominations submitted by the selection committee. Nominations selections are made based on biographies. The selection nominee will be a member who can serve as a role model for the entire membership, as well as achieve recognition for their accomplishment as businesswomen. There are several requirements that are sent down by national in order to be considered for this award. Refer to the Chapter office & committee guide.

## Scholarships-Local Event May

Scholarships are awarded during May of each year. The Education Committee screens applications based on need and scholastic standing and presents their recommendations to the chapter membership for vote. Two scholarships are designed as the Christine McLendon and the Myra Preuss Scholarship in memory of two of our chapter member.

## Stephen Bufton Memorial Educational Fund (SBMEF)

The SBMEF is the national scholarship trust of ABWA. Its objective is to help members and other women achieve their business and/or professional goals through education. SBMEF is named in honor of Stephen Bufton, son of ABWA founder Hilary A Bufton JR., and Ruth H Bufton. SBMEF is a tax-exempt trust, administered by the elected national officers off the Association, who serve as trustees and the selection board. There are several forms of financial assistance available through SBMEF. Each has defined guidelines, eligibility requirements and chapter requirements that vary depending on the type of SBMEF scholarship. However, only female citizens of the United States of America are eligible to receive any of these types of assistance. ABWA members or non-members also may apply for these scholarships. Our chapter currently donates \$1000.00 yearly to this scholarship fund.