



Grains of Sand

American Business Women's Association
Fort Walton Beach Charter Chapter
Monthly Newsletter

P.O. Box 897, Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32549

Phone: 850-314-3010

October 2006 Vol. 36 Issue 40


President Mary Florence



Hello Wonderful and Powerful Ladies,

It's such a joy as we come together as one and make wonderful things happen. Those of you that got together for our first Community Project as we celebrated ABWA Day 2006, thank you. It gave me great pleasure as we toured the Habitat Home that is being built and such an experience it was. The volunteers were very appreciative of our efforts in the delivering of lunch to them. I look forward as we continue this project.

As President and a member of the most wonderful chapter in the association I appreciate the comment. We are all great leaders and I'm so thankful that I can fellowship, network, mentor, and

 with you. By the time you read this letter our National Leadership Conference will be over and we will have a new National Board of Directors. I'm sorry that we didn't have a representative from our chapter to attend. I know we will make up for this loss, by attending 2007 Spring Conferences. Several are within driving distance. District II is in New Orleans and I know we are all curious of the rebuilt of the city from the destruction by Hurricane Katrina. Even though we are in District I we can always attend conferences in other districts.


Dr. Karyn Combs, 2005 Business Woman of the American Business Women's Association, thanks for being our program speaker at our September's meeting. And for "Sharing the Power" of your successful story of being the 2005 Business Woman of the American Business Women Association. Wow! What an honor and an accomplishment. We are so proud of you and happy that you are a member of the most wonderful chapter in the association... our chapter.

Ladies its beginning to look like fall and speaking of fall don't forget to see Brenda, our Ways & Means Chair. She has tickets for the Belk Fall Charity Sale. This is an easy way for us to bring in income for our chapter. We keep all the money from the sale of each ticket. Buy one for your self and one for a coworker or family member as a "just because" gift to them.

We have a new but, not so new member. Let's welcome her back to our chapter the Southern Hospitality style. I know most of you are not originally from the south but, let's give Sonya, a warm welcome to our chapter. She was previously a member of our chapter quite some years ago and the only

familiar face probably is her mom our Dorie Day. Sonya, on behalf of this chapter, we welcome you and are happy that you decided to rejoin the most wonderful chapter in the association.


Let's not forget our Publicity Chair; Dr. Karyn Combs would like to take group pictures at the October's meeting. The weather should be great for an outdoor shot so let's get there on time. She would like to take the pictures before the meeting starts.

Serving on a committee is a good way to get to know your ABWA sisters. All committees are looking for members to serve on their committee. Let  and sign up to serve on a committee.

Don't forget August started the new chapter year. Please mail you chapter dues to the post office box or to our membership chair Marilyn Dial home address. The committee is busy trying to complete the new chapter roster. And speaking of the new chapter year it's also Fall Enrollment Event, so invite a friend to our meeting this month. You never know, you may change her life by introducing her to the association. I know this for a fact because Betty Lester shared the power with me, on October 13, 1988 when she invited me to join this association.

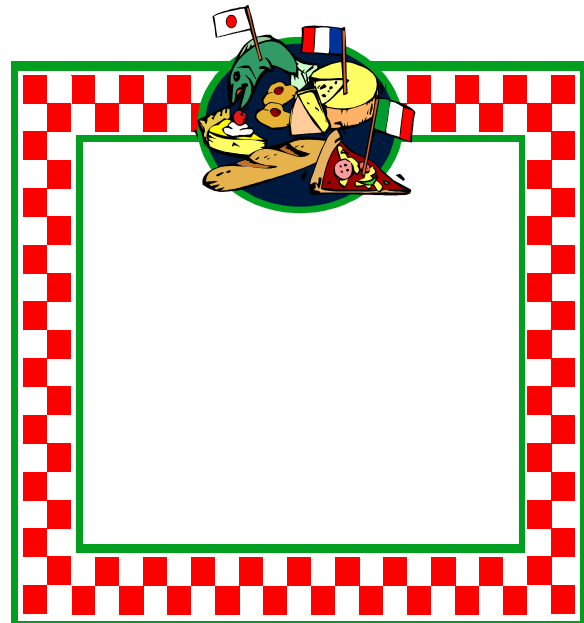
We have been missing some familiar faces. Please join us at the next meeting. I know most of you are very busy but I hope that you will take time to join us

and we continue to  and are making new and exciting things happen.

Thanks, Penny for completing the proposed budget and presenting it to the chapter for approval and. now that the Standing Rules and the Budget has been voted on and approved its time to sit back, enjoy and have fun as we 

Thank you for the wonderful support of this chapter and the association.

See you in October
Mary Florence
2006-02007 FWBCC President



*When a team of dedicated individuals
Makes a commitment to act as one... The Sky's the limit.*

ABWA
Fort Walton Beach Charter Chapter
Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2006

- I.** President Mary Florence called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM. Mary led the chapter in the Invocation and Pledge.

II. Officer Reports

A. Vice President:

Sallye Belton announced guests: Susan Wellema brought Jeni Cleveland, Jeni's husband works at Wells Fargo.

Sallye announced birthdays for September: Jean Gunn, Sallye Belton, and Irma Temples.
Anniversaries for September: Barbara Banning, Martha Considine, Jean Gunn, and Rosaline Rowland.

B. Recording Secretary:

Heidi Torres reported that August Chapter Meeting minutes are complete and in the newsletter. The minutes were approved with a few minor changes. Heidi will make these changes.

C. Treasurer's Reports:

Penny reported that the Treasurer's Report and Proposed Budget are sitting on each table for review/approval. At the last Board Meeting it was decided for Committee Chairs to take receipts to the Board Meeting for all of their members for reimbursement. Reimbursements will be given at the Board Meeting.

D. Corresponding Secretary:

Alexis reported that she received some mail regarding the Silver Sands Evening of Giving. This is similar to the Belk Charity Event. It will be held on Sunday, November 19th from 5 – 9:00 PM.

E. Program Chair:

Jean Gunn introduced the guest speaker: Dr. Karyn Combs.

Next month's program topic is "Dress for Success". Kimmy Felder will be putting on a fashion show for us. Volunteers are needed to model.

F. Speaker:

Dr. Karyn Combs spoken about inspiring to become the Woman of the Year 2005 for the entire country. She said this was a wonderful experience. Dr. Combs is currently the Principal of Cherokee Elementary. She said one thing that has helped her success is being a visionary: being creative and thinking outside of the box. She has co-authored a book with her father titled, "An African-American Quiz Book for All Americans".

The experience that Dr. Combs spoke about when she was selected for Woman of the Year was when she joined the Air Force Reserve at 35 years old. She said she has now trained over \$10,000 reservists through out the United States.

Dr. Combs spoke about when she first started speaking publicly in front of people. She said she wasn't very good at it; her timing was off. A woman gave her advice. She said, "Don't worry, you will get better", and she did!

Some advice Dr. Combs had to give is the following:

- Be an "Empowered Woman"; explore what empowerment means to you.
- Take an hour a day for yourself.
- "I deserve the right to ruin my own day. I don't let other people do it for me." This was advice given to Dr. Combs by her daughter.

Jean Gunn presented Dr. Combs and Jackie Woerl with gift certificates and certificates of appreciation for all their help with coordinating/being guest speakers when needed.

III. Standing Committee Reports:

- A. **Newsletter / Bulletin:**
No new reports.
- B. **Publicity:**
Dr. Combs said she would like to take a group picture of the entire chapter at the October meeting. Members decided everyone would wear teal, pink, and/or brown. She also asked that everyone submit a picture of themselves prior to the Oct 12th meeting to be included in the Publicity album for this year.
- Dr. Combs emailed the Northwest Florida Daily News about activity planned for ABWA Day and Habitat for Humanity. Dr. Combs welcome anyone who would like to be on the Publicity Committee.
- C. **Ways and Means:**
Brenda Daniels reported that \$38 was collected in door prizes and 50/50 last month. .
- D. **Membership:**
Marilyn Dial reported we still have 23 members on the roster who still owes their dues. She said she is holding off on updating the roster until these are paid.
- E. **Education:**
No new reports
- F. **Hospitality:**
No new reports

IV. Special Committee Reports:

- A. **Roving Reporter:**
No new reports.
- B. **Panhandle Area Council:**
Annie Corbett reported the next PAC meeting is October 21st at the PoFolks in Panama City. Rosie Rowland is the Chair for the Committee. The guest speaker will be talking about Andrew Jackson. Members will note on the proposed standing rules. A new chairperson will be voted on at the January meeting in Tallahassee.
- C. **Benevolence:**
Jackie brought a card for everyone to sign for Deborah and Daryl Pape. Daryl is still in the hospital.
- D. **Patsy Sears Award:**
Alexis reported that the Patsy Sears Award will be awarded on November 9th. This award is a representation of who best fits what ABWA represents and participation.

V. Old Business

- A. **Audit Report: 2005-2006:**
Penny reported on the Audit Report for 2005-2006. No discrepancies were noted. A recommendation was made to close the Car Show Checking Account, but the Board Members decided this will be kept open and name the "Special Events Account". This can be used for fundraisers this year.
- B. **ABWA Day - Habitat for Humanity**
Mary spoke to the woman at Habitat for Humanity. She is not sure they will able to give us a tour of one of the homes because many of the home owners will be out of town that weekend. Maybe we can have a tour next quarter.

We will be preparing food the Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, September 23. Penny has arranged for us to use the Promise Church in FWB. This is the old DAV located on Edge Drive behind Wal-Mart. We will meet at 9:00 AM to prepare the lunches. The meals must be delivered by 10:30 AM. Mary will email a sign up sheets for sandwiches, chips, cookies, paper bags, etc. We need old pop boxes to back the lunches in to take to the site.

C. **Texas Hold'em Poker**

David Wellema is scheduled to come to the Board Meeting in September to give us some information on the poker tournament. We will vote at the October Chapter Meeting about whether to do the poker tournament as a fundraiser. Christina, Mary, and Penny worked at the Poker Tournament at the Ramada. David has everything so well organized, it seemed easy. They made \$1,300 in door prizes, and \$7,800 in registration = \$9,800. They only had \$1,200 in overhead, so they made \$8,600. Information packets are sitting on the tables about Texas Hold'em.

VI. **New Business:**

A. **2006-2007 Projected Budget**

Members reviewed the 2006-2007 Projected Budget. Penny created this based on input from Board and Committee members. Members recommended moving the digital camera and QuickBooks purchase under the "total annual expenses". Penny will make these adjustments and distribute and updated budget. Rosie motioned to accept the budget with the approved changes and Marilyn seconded.

B. **Belk Charity Sale**

Brenda Daniels reported on the Belk Charity Sale. We will sell tickets for the sale, and we get to keep the proceeds. We can also have a Bake Sale on Saturday to raise additional money. Brenda motioned to participate, Pam Lee seconded.

C. **Silver Sands Factory Stores – Evening of Giving**

Alexis reported that she received some mail regarding the Silver Sands Evening of Giving. This is similar to the Belk Charity Event. It will be held on Sunday, November 19th from 5 – 9:00 PM.

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

- Pam Lee x 2
- Brenda Daniels
- Dorie Day x 2
- Marilyn Dial
- Sonya Day x 3
- Karyn Combs x 2
- Susan Wellema – Centerpiece
- Anna Peele – Centerpiece
- Doris Counts - Centerpiece
- Sonya Day – Centerpiece
- Penny Doane – free meals
- Marilyn Dial – Flower Arrangement

VII. **Important upcoming events:**

9/22	ABWA Day
9/23	Community Event – Habitat for Humanity
9/28	Board Meeting at Eglin Federal Credit Union
10/21	Panhandle Area Council Meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Vice President, Sallye Belton, led the chapter in the benediction. **There were X members in attendance.**

Heidi Torres Secretary 2006/2007
Recording Secretary:

**It will soon be that time...
Get ready...**



Presenting:

"Delta Dream Girls... A Tribute to Our Legacy"

The Annual Scholarship Ball of the Okaloosa County
Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Saturday, November 4, 2006, Hurlburt Field Soundside

Tickets are available for \$20.00 each –see Karyn Combs

Patsy Sears Remembered

Patsy Sears was a believer in the mission of ABWA. From the time she joined in October 1976, she became a very active member. In September 1977, she was chairman of the Enrollment Event while also chairing the Ways & Means Committee. She was vice-president from September 1978 to August 1979. She attended several conventions and conferences. She was elected president for the September 1979 to August 1980 term. On February 20, 1980, Patsy was hit by a car and killed, as she crossed the street in front of Choctawhatchee High School. She had been taking a night courses in pursuit of a college degree.

A memorial award was established that year to be awarded annually, in November, to an active Chapter member who has best portrayed the spirit and ideals of ABWA and who has been most supportive of the chapter goals and purpose during the year. The month of November was selected as being very appropriate for this award due to Patsy's birthday on November 7, 1932.

PATSY SEARS AWARD RECIPIENTS

1980 Barbara Rogers	1981 Karen Roberts
1982 Betty Boureaux	1983 Elizabeth O'Shea
1984 Stella Carr	1985 Alice Hook
1986 June Holler	1987 Sandra Smith
1988 Carolane Williams	1989 Melba Stribling
1990 Jackie Woerl	1991 Belva Parrett
1992 Jeanne Ferguson	1993 Mary Florence
1994 Jeanette Thompson	1995 Anna Peele
1996 Marilyn Dial	1997 Kathy Sellers
1998 Carol Hathcock	1999 Martha Massarelli
2000 Doris Day	2001 Gail Pipes
2002 Mona Camacho	2003 Janet Reagle
2004 Annie Corbett	2005 Alexis Monroe
2006	

During our November meeting, our members will once again have the opportunity to cast their vote, by secret ballot for this important honor.

Please be thinking and have someone in mind who best meets the criteria for this year, **Patsy Sears's memorial Award.**

Welcome to our new member

Sonja Manley
6478 Moonlight Ln
Crestview, FL 32539
Phone: 850-423-0678
FAX: 850-664-5720
Email: ManleyAssoc@yahoo.com
Birthday: Dec. 6

Sonja Manley is a returning member, (formerly Sonja Day) and is the daughter of member Dorie Day. Sonja owns three businesses! She also has three daughters ages 13, 11, and 10. Sonja has owned a computer business for over 20 years and specializes in networks and security. She and her husband formed Highpoint Home Inspections in August of this year and from her love of horses, she and a friend are starting a horse tack store. Sonja and family live in Crestview. They own two miniature horses which they keep in Crestview, but they also own a pony and a full sized horse stabled in Fort Walton Beach which they show. Sonja said that the reason she wanted to rejoin ABWA was that she wants to network with other business women; to learn from them and share common issues that business owners or women in management encounter. Please help us welcome back this very busy lady to our chapter!

Birthdays: Anniversaries

Rickey Allen Oct. 15th
Tessie Dunaway Oct 3rd
Laurie McGrew Oct 7th
Wilma Scott Oct 16th



Doris Counts Oct 15, 1993
Tessie Dunaway Oct 9, 2003
Mary Florence Oct 13, 1988
Melissa Johnson Oct 13, 2005
Tonya Spears Oct 13, 2005
Jackie Woerl Oct 14, 1981
Sara Perez Oct 25, 1994



ABWA Mission Statement

The mission of The American Business Women's Association is to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and other grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support and national recognition

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 member colleagues, guests, vendors and sponsors with honesty, 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.

CHAPTER YEAR 2006-2007 PROGRAMS

August 10

*Old Business-Jackie Woerl-
President Northside
Mortgage*

*New Business-Linda
Flowers-President L&L
Document Service*

September 14

*The Road to Business
Woman of the Year Dr.
Karyn Combs*

October 12

*Dress for Success Weekender
Fashion Show Kimii Felder*

November 9

Will and Estate Planning

December 14

*Christmas Social and Silent
Auction*

January 11

February 8

March 8

April 12

May 10

*Scholarships Awards,
Chapter 34th Anniversary.
And Election of Officers*

June 14

Business Associate Event

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

Education:

Tessie Dunnaway

Hospitality:

Doris Counts

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:

Alexis Monroe

Roving Reporter

Sonja Manley announces the opening of her business Highpoint Home Inspections, Inc. The company performs construction loan inspections as well as new construction inspections (to be performed before your builder's warranty expires) and inspections for buyers and sellers of existing homes. Sonja says her number one priority is to make sure your home is safe! Realtors, we are not alarmists! Please call us and give us the opportunity to assist you. We are licensed, insured, and AHIT Certified. Please call 850 499-6214.

Sallye Belton will be going to Japan on September 30th for a week. Although this is work related, she plans to thoroughly enjoy the trip!

Joana Negron was recently promoted to GS-14 as Squadron Director of International.

Melissa Johnson recently traveled to Kentucky for a lovely visit with her parents and twin sister.

Carol Hathcock is traveling to St. Augustine for a week's vacation. Her sister from Savannah will join her the weekend of the 22nd. In October, Carol will be attending a Cancer Camp outside of Pensacola for three days. She attended this camp in April and had an awesome experience.

Mary Florence traveled to Atlanta in September to visit her daughter and grandchild and had a great time. Mary will head out to Columbus, MS in October to spend time with her sister and special friend since the 3rd grade. Mary's daughter had a parent teacher conference for Briana (6year old) granddaughter. She called Mary after the conference and told her she had good news and bad news. The bad news is that she is very sensitive and cries when she is told she can't do something. The good news is that she is very smart and is reading on the level of a fourth grader and is doing math on the second grade level. She is in the first grade.

Anna Peele says that by the time the October newsletter is out she will be retired after 22 years service with the City of Fort Walton Beach Museum Division. Anna has been the museum director for the past nine years. She plans to enjoy doing house, garden and art projects for a while and spending time with her husband Tom and six cats! Tom and Anna will also celebrate their 39th wedding anniversary on October 7th.

Introducing Christian Flowers



*Arrived on September 10, 2006
At Arnold Palmer Women's Center
Orlando, Florida*

*Nephew of Lee, and Jerry Flowers
Grand Parents of Lee, and Linda Flowers*