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### From Our President

I would like to start this newsletter off with a big THANK YOU to all of our membership! Without you as our members, we would not be here and have such an amazing and thriving Express Network like we do! You truly make this organization astonishing and you deserve to know!

I would also like to thank you all for selecting me as your Woman of the Year (WOY), such an honor! I truly feel so blessed to be surrounded by everyone in NDBW!

As your President, I didn't know exactly what to expect when we formed North Dallas Business Women...and now, I cannot imagine my life without NBDW and ABWA! I recognize that so many of you are new to ABWA and I know I can speak for the whole Executive Board when I say, we couldn't be happier you all are here! The NDBW Executive Board has & continues to made a huge contribution of time to make our group all that it has to offer!

ABWA is an amazing organization, while it is not your typical networking group, there are so many more things that you get out of ABWA than just referrals! I can speak from experience and I am sure that any ABWA Member who has been involved for at least a year can tell you the same!

As we approach our 1 year anniversary of formation, I challenge you all to get involved! I love looking around our Board meetings and seeing non-board members at the meetings, eager to get involved! North Dallas Business Women and The American Business Women's Association can be a great resource for you. If you are looking for leadership skills, goal setting assistance, assistance with how to manage finances, how to recruit & retain members, grow your organization through social media or to just meet people, ABWA can do that for you!

Additionally, I would like to thank all of our Red Diamond and Yellow Diamond partners for all of their support! We are very lucky to have such wonderful support from this group of Women! There are more Partnership opportunities available if you are interested in becoming a Partner yourself.

Without ABWA I can tell you I wouldn't be the person I am today and for that I am very grateful! Again, get involved, let ABWA be a safe place for you to be yourself, fail, succeed and be whatever you want to be! We want to help you get there!

Kimberly Williams



#### **ABWA Mission**

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 others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support, and national recognition.

### Common ABWA Terms

- 1. ABWA American Business Women's Association.
- 2. **Best Practices** Awarded annually by ABWA to chapters that exceed special group requirements and achieve the highest of standards of ABWA.
- 3. **DACA** Dallas Area Council of ABWA, which is made up of over 20 local DFW area ABWA chapters and networks.
- 4. **Express Network** an ABWA group formed to provide powerful educational and motivational programs that enable women to grow professionally and personally and offer a strong network of business leaders in the local community.
- 5. **NDBW** North Dallas Business Women 1 of 7 local express networks of ABWA.
- 6. **Top 10** This award is nominated annually at the national level for recognition of a candidate based on their accomplishments both professionally and personally.
- 7. **WIN** (Women's Instructional Network) a web based communication tool that provides members with videos, documents and other tools for business and professional education, as well as vital national and network information.
- 8. **WOY** (Woman of the Year) ABWA recognition of achievement awarded annually to a woman who is the embodiment of the ABWA mission. The award recipient has been active and shown exemplary participation in ABWA.





By Robin Corbin, Winner of the NDBW Regional Conference Registration

I really didn't know what to expect.

Having just joined ABWA in the fall and having never been to a conference outside of work or church, I was a little skeptical. I'm not really a "girls' trip" gal but decided to go to Conference in Sugar Land at the strong urging of the wonderful women who had become my friends through the North Dallas Business Women's Express Network (NDBW) and who had been to Conference before. Honestly, I just didn't want to miss out! When I won the free registration – a huge THANK YOU to the members of NDBW – I knew it was meant to be.

The first thing that struck me about the Regional Conference was how incredibly friendly, genuine and excited everyone was to be there. **You could tell it really was a "sisterhood."** I was blown away when one of the local ABWA Host Committee members offered to pick me and fellow NDBW attendee Karen Morriss up at the airport – despite the fact that it was 30 minutes out of her way. She took us to lunch and we had a wonderful time getting to know each other and learning about all the wonderful things ABWA had done for her.

The theme of generosity, professionalism, caring and fun continued as the conference began. The event was held at a beautiful property with plenty of restaurant and shopping options right outside the door to fill our time during the breaks. The meetings kicked off with a bang. The sessions were well organized, interactive and got us all mixing and mingling as we learned about what we could do for ABWA and how the organization could also benefit each of us. We were updated on ABWA news and events, trained on multiple facets that would help us improve our local organizations as well as treated to incredible speakers who shared tools and training to help us grow ourselves.

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# Dallas Area Council of ABWA (DACA) Update

The latest DACA quarterly meeting was held on Saturday, May 3, 2014. Here are some highlights from the meeting:

- DACA's 2014 Woman of the Year (WOY) was announced: Donna McCright! She, along with the other Dallas area chapter recipients, will be honored at the WOY event Saturday, August 9th.
- Delegates voted on the nominating committee members that will head up the DACA officer elections at their next meeting. Barbara Doyle is the committee chairwoman so please contact her with any potential candidates or questions.
- DACA's next meeting will be October 25th and is open to all ABWA members. It was moved from the regular date because it conflicted with the ABWA National Conference.
- The training component of the meeting was presented by Tamie Duckworth and focused on what role Ambassadors play within ABWA. Ambassadors are valuable resources whose main focus is helping the National board members. They also support ABWA chapters and members succeed and grow.

Visit the DACA website to learn more about the organization: <a href="https://www.abwa-daca.org">www.abwa-daca.org</a>.

# A WIN-WIN Partnership for Everyone

ABWA believes in growing YOU personally and professionally so why not give to a partnership that believes and returns to YOU! Monies raised from partnerships go towards the following:

- Scholarships to conferences, Regional and National
- Business skills reimbursement for those who need CEs or otherwise via SBMEF
- Scholarships for women who are currently in college or want to go back to college also through SBMEF
- Enhanced educational programming opportunities at our local monthly meetings, and other incentives.

All things that YOU and other women can benefit from. Here are just a **few more benefits**, as a **Partner**, you receive....

- Advertising and promotion for your business via the website, email campaigns and meeting collateral
- · A tax right off
- Pre-paid meeting and event tickets (~40% of the Partnership dollars cover meeting ticket expense for you and/or guests)

Hence, a WIN-WIN Partnership for everyone. Believe in a cause that believes in YOU! Click below to see the different levels you can participate in.



### Thanks to Our Generous Partners!

#### **RED DIAMOND**







#### YELLOW DIAMOND





### 2013-2014 ABWA Annual Theme

Inspire and be inspired with ABWA! It's amazing the influence that one person can bring to a community. One fired-up person can create results beyond their own experience. As a member of ABWA, you have the power to change your own world when you become more involved with ABWA and begin to inspire—and be inspired by—your fellow members, your league, and your community.

Become an inspiration leader in your Association and you could: provide a fellow member with the motivation to get involved with a local league; improve your own business skills, like public speaking, and expand both your business and personal networks; discover new opportunities within the Association, both at the local and national levels; assist your local league in recruiting and retaining new members. With committed members like you creating this ripple effect, our Association will continue changing women's lives one woman at a time.

### Mark Your Calendar!

#### How to Show Up Like a Rock Star!

North Dallas Business Women (NDBW) – July 11, 2014 Speaker: Greg Duckworth

It is our choice, not chance, that determines our destiny. Success is never an accident. In this fast-paced, results-oriented education session, career and personal development expert, Greg Duckworth, shows you his most effective strategies and techniques for mastering your personal and professional life. Register Now

#### **Memory Training Skills.**

Outlook Positive Express Network (OPEN) – July 21, 2014 Speaker: Harold Mangum

"It's taken me twenty-two years to become an overnight success," says Harold Mangum, President of The Memory Technologies Institute. However, you can shortcut your success curve as Harold puts it all together- empowering your member with a lifetime of skills and experiences.

Register Now

North Dallas Business Women (NDBW) – August 8, 2014
Join NBDW as we have a special installation of the board, by
ABWA's Executive Director, Rene Street! In addition to this we
will have multiple members of the current ABWA National Board
(Lorie Burch, Laura Morlando & Gaylyn Devine) and the three
District II VP candidates discuss why ABWA is for them, why they
ran for office and how ABWA can help you! Take this opportunity
to see what ABWA Is about on a national level!

Registration Coming Soon!







Women of the Year & Top 10 Candidates
August 9, 2014

The Dallas Area Council (DACA) of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) would like to cordially invite you to attend the 2014 Dallas Area Council of ABWA Afternoon Celebration, "Women Inspiring Women; Honoring Our History – Inspiring Our Future" celebrating Women of the Year and Top Ten Candidates.

This year ABWA will be celebrating its 65th Anniversary, and this marks DACA's 27th celebration of candidates. Every year, DACA honors the chapter and express networks Woman of the Year and Top Ten Candidates. The celebration will take place on **Saturday, August 9**, **2014**, at the Las Colinas Country Club.

This celebration has an attendance of more than 100 members and guests from around the DFW area. We celebrate the accomplishments of 10-15 local area women each year for their outstanding achievements to the Association. There are over 200 ABWA members in the Dallas Area Council.

**Register Now** 

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

# There's No Place Like Home!

Join ABWA in Overland Park, Kan., from Oct. 30-Nov. 1, for our 65th Anniversary Celebration at the 2014 National Women's Leadership Conference.

> Don't Miss This Once-in-a-Lifetime ABWA Event!



### ABWA's Proud Code of Conduct

- 1. 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 honesty, respect, fairness, integrity, responsibility, kindness, and in good faith.
- Members will maintain compliance with ABWA National, Chapter and Express Network Bylaws.
- 5. 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.





# Connections that Impact and Grow You!

By Robin Corbin, Winner of the NDBW Regional Conference Registration

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ABWA makes a big deal out of first time attendees from special recognition ribbons that we wore on our badges, to a newcomer's reception (with a fun and funny activity we got to participate in) and special greetings from all the members. There were exhibitors with great items for sale, wonderful food at the celebration breakfast and recognition luncheon and wonderful speeches from ABWA leaders. We also had a reception where we got to meet the District Vice President Candidates and mix and mingle with our ABWA sisters from all over the district.

The speakers were absolutely phenomenal and I can honestly say I learned, I laughed and I cried. The sessions were the perfect balance of business and fun with both personal and professional development and ABWA information.

While the trainings were definitely first-class and beneficial, I think the thing that most impressed me were the people. Clearly thousands of hours had been dedicated to ensure that every attendee got tremendous benefit from the Conference and that was certainly the case, but the most beneficial part of being able to participate in the Regional Conference had to be the sisterhood. The opportunity to get to spend time with and get to know the wonderful women in ABWA was the biggest benefit. Sharing a weekend with these ladies and learning together, playing together, shopping together, traveling together was so rewarding and the memories and friendships will last a lifetime.

I am so grateful to NDBW for giving me the gift of the Conference Fee and the opportunity to be a part of this amazing organization. I would highly recommend that everyone attend the ABWA conferences and even if you don't win your registration, I know it will be time and money well spent.







Photo Credits: Kasandra Vitacca-Mitchell