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

The Connection

Published by Coral Springs Charter Chapter
Coral Springs, FL

From your President...

As we near the last quarter of this crazy ABWA year, we should be proud of all that we have accomplished all the while being on Zoom and not able to see each other in person. We've had social events, fundraising events, meetings, and community service that will impact young mothers for a very long time. We have added new members and supported our current membership by always being willing to listen, adjust and move forward with great ideas.



We have "masterminded" ourselves to personal and professional growth! Our new book club will be the newest addition to the many avenues for our members to become involved in our amazing chapter. We are planning a few more events some sweeter than others! I can't wait to try out all our chocolate samples for our chocolate tasting virtual event in May. Many thanks to Lori Mauer for giving us the gift of a beautiful cookbook that we can share with our families and friends. As we look forward to a future of being in person, we are planning our first social in August for our Tea Time party.

If you have any ideas of other socials, fundraisers, community service or speakers for our meeting, get involved. Volunteer for a committee or step up as an officer to help make the 2021-22 ABWA year the best ever. We are hoping to be able to begin holding our chapter meetings in person starting with the new ABWA year. We will share more information regarding our progress. Believe it or not, we will be celebrating our 35th Anniversary as a Charter Chapter this year. We are planning a fabulous program for our June meeting to honor all the hard work and relationships formed over the years with all of our ABWA sisters. Join us and celebrate the past and our future!

Gayle Bramson
2019—2021 Chapter President

May Chapter Meeting—05/06/21

It's not too late to register! RSVP on Eventbrite: www.coral-springs-fl-abwa.eventbrite.com/

**American Business Women's Association
CORAL SPRINGS CHARTER CHAPTER**

THURSDAY MAY 6
ZOOM MEETING STARTS AT:
6:30pm



Monthly MEETING

with keynote speaker:
Trina T. Nkhazi
IT/IS Program Manager

**A Woman's Take on
Diversity and Inclusivity in the Workplace**

This presentation will look through the lens of today's business woman in exploring and recognizing how diversity and inclusion impacts us in the workplace.

In this seminar, you will:

- Explore the advantages and disadvantages of behaviors of being a part of the "in crowd"
- Recognize the barriers that stop us from realizing our best self
- Discuss the T3 Approach to D&I - Tips Tools and Takeaways

MEET TRINA
Trina T. Nkhazi is an IT Program Management Professional and advocate for business women in the workplace. She is an approved candidate for ABWA 2021-2022 National President and was the 2019-2021 ABWA National Vice President.

Event Registration
Zoom Meeting Fee:
\$10 members & guests
RSVP on Eventbrite:
www.coral-springs-fl-abwa.eventbrite.com/

Changing Women's Lives
One Woman at a Time
CORAL SPRING CHARTER CHAPTER
ABWA
AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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.

For more information about our Chapter, contact Rhonda Sternberg at 877-216-9908 ext. 732 or visit our website at www.abwa-coral-springs.org

New Member Profile



Tracy Lautomne

Meet one of our newest members, Tracy Lautomne. Tracy is a Community Affairs Specialist with the Seminole Coconut Creek Casino and lives in Margate where she enjoys gardening, reading and writing.

For fun, Tracy enjoys roller skating and watching Netflix. I wouldn't be surprised if you found her watching movies with a bowl of her favorite dessert—Haagen-Dazs chocolate peanut butter ice cream—YUM!

Tracy joined ABWA to build relationships with like-minded professional women, and is looking forward to contributing in the areas of event planning (one of her many skills) and building our public image. When asked to identify three attributes that describe Tracy, she said: loyal, organized and honest—a great fit for our chapter!

Be sure to say hello to Tracy at the next meeting. Welcome!

Article contributed by Kathy Gallagher

Cookbook Fundraiser a SUCCESS!

Contributed by Lori Mauer

Our Cookbook Fundraiser has already been a big success – and we are not done yet. We had 30 contributors with over 200 amazing recipes – many family heirlooms. As of press, we sold 84 of our 113 books. 29 are left for sale, and we expect them to go fast once everyone sees how awesome they are. As an added bonus, we included a cookbook stand with each cookbook as well as a digital download for each book.

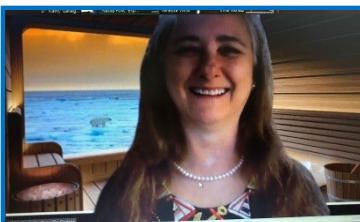
Many thanks to those who contributed recipes, helped enter them in, and organized them into the proper sections. I couldn't have done it without you all!

If you have not already purchased your copy (copies), or if you would like more, please let Andrea Levenson or Kathy Gallagher know.



Regional Conferences

Contributed by Nadia, Gayle, Kathy, Carolyn & Kandyce



Nadia Folic

The three regional conferences were a value opportunity provided by ABWA. Such spirited women gathered together in multiple Zoom pages! We had opportunities to break off into more intimate chat room sessions to learn about each other and connect on a personal level.

Speakers were provided for our learning pleasure! Specialists that dug into the nitty-gritty of the process of communication. Relevant to our times, a focus on diversity training was provided. Lessons on working remotely with others were taught. Teamwork was emphasized and reviewed for best approach. In depth sessions were also guiding us on how to be even more confident and true to ourselves in the process. We had individual and group exercises to help us grow in the knowledge. A joint white board was utilized to share ideas as a group.

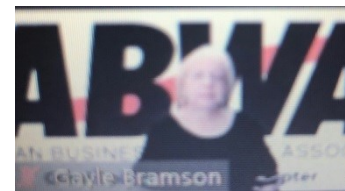
The three regional conferences were not exactly the same, although there were sections that were overlapping to be consistent to our brand. But that was okay. It help to reinforce some of the information and to catch points that were overlooked the first time! An element of competition was activated as the challenge to raise funds for the SBMEF was stoked.

What always amazes me is the way ABWA members connect over the distances. Zoom simply made this an easier process! Seeing faces and chatting with people from across the United States after a long absence was a sweet feeling.

When next year's Regional Conferences open up for registration, please don't hesitate to sign up. It's worth your time and effort! And a nice way to meet new people too!

I am always amazed at how well organized National is when it comes to reinventing how to successfully present multiple days of workshops. Once again, they provided us with outstanding speakers and information to help us grow professionally and personally. I got the most from the section about "How to Have a Difficult Conversation". The advice holds true with professional situations, but also with those difficult ones with family and friends: get clear about what the real issue is, how does it make you feel, how did you contribute to the problem, what are you willing to do to resolve the issue and bring the other person to the conversation to see what their thoughts are.

Gayle Bramson

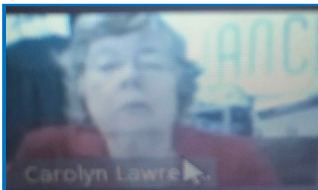


I attended all three of the virtual Regional Conferences this year, and I'm glad I did! They all were organized and executed extremely well—excellent keynote speakers, relevant professional development sessions, and there were numerous opportunities to interact with our fellow ABWA members in breakout rooms. I loved Kelly McDonald's keynote on diversity in the workplace, and she spoke from her recent book entitled, "How to Work With & Lead People Not Like You." Communication was a consistent theme throughout the conferences, with discussions including how to manage virtual teams, hold employees accountable and provide effective feedback. We also celebrated Women's History month, and discussed how each of us should find the women's history in our own families—ask the matriarchs in **your** family to share their stories, so they can be passed down to the next generations! Great idea!



Kathy Gallagher

Regional Conferences, cont'd



Carolyn Lawrence

“Reimagining Your Future” - This was definitely an appropriate title for this conference because it was the third major one to be held virtually. We had a year of major communication challenges for our membership both locally and nationally, and this was our 2nd Regional Conference held via Zoom. Therefore, challenge #1 had been to bring members of our chapters’ Executive Boards up to speed in order to help the rest of us participate as well. I truly believe Coral Springs has done a fantastic job.

I am going to focus on a short segment of this multiple day/hours conference and discuss one of the areas that is as important to us as Employees as it is as Chapter Members. That is “Building Connections through Communication.” This segment focused on identifying the communication key that is most important to our remote teams, recognizing the times when we need face-to-face interactions and discussing effective tactics for remote teams. This can be a two sided problem; team members

who are not in the same physical room may feel they are invisible, forgotten and missing out on important facts.

Therefore, it is important to make everyone feel connected, so ACT. Provide the action, acknowledge the contribution and thank the person directly. Remember that there are more issues with remote communications: such as distractions in the receiver or sender’s areas, talking may be too slow or too rapid (or internet issues) plus there may just be a lack of interest on someone’s end. Therefore, it is very important to ask clarifying questions of anything that you are not sure of and make sure when you respond, that you let the person know that this is what you understand the question to be and here is the answer.

And remember, there needs to be trust on both sides of this equation. For effective communications there are 4 Cs. Communication, competence, consistency and character. If any of them are missing or in question, your team will not be on the same page. So make sure you listen carefully, participate in decision making, follow through on your commitments and work honestly giving credit to all of your team whether it’s your job or your league.



Kandyce Key

First, I want to thank the members of Coral Springs Charter Chapter who have re-embraced me when I renewed my membership in 2020. While I have been a member of ABWA since August 2007, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was forced to not renew my membership with ABWA and was finally able to rejoin ABWA [and Coral Springs Charter Chapter] in 2020. I have always enjoyed seeing my ABWA sisters at Chapter meetings and at regional and national conferences whether as a Scentsy vendor or as an attendee [sometimes both].

The one thing that I have always loved about ABWA is its ability to adapt to the changing times and unforeseen circumstances. While it was disappointing to not be able to see my ABWA sisters in person at this year’s Eastern Regional Conference, it was nice seeing and communicating with my ABWA sisters over Zoom and see first-hand how ABWA has adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Technology is an amazing thing... it brings us together from all over the country and world. It allows members of ABWA to attend conferences that otherwise would have been cost prohibited -- no airfare, hotel and food expenses [look how much money we saved in wine]. For Chapters and Express Networks where budgeting is key, a lot of money was saved.

(Cont'd on page 9)

Spring Membership Drive is on!

Who do you know that might be interested in meeting like-minded business women? Now's the time to invite someone to join ABWA! Bring them to our May meeting - and when they join, you can earn some cool stuff!

SPRING MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN MARCH 1-MAY 31

**WE KNOW THAT ABWA
IS AN ASSOCIATION THAT'S
ALL ABOUT "CHOICE."
IN ABWA, YOU CHOOSE.
YOUR LEAGUE AFFILIATION, YOUR LEAGUE'S ELECTED OFFICER, YOUR LEADERSHIP JOURNEY!**

This year, we asked our regional conference attendees to choose their favorite package of Vera Bradley accessories (VB) for recruiting, one, two or three new members during the spring campaign period. We are pleased to announce that the majority of members selected **Package 1** which includes a Vera Bradley luggage tag, hanging organizer, and a duffle bag with luggage sleeve valued at almost \$200 in a fun spring pattern (*while supplies last*).

This campaign season, reach out to a woman who needs the support of a community of strong, smart and compassionate women. Ask her to attend a Chapter/Express Network meeting. Help her **REIMAGINE HER FUTURE**, by sharing the benefits of membership in ABWA. And if she joins, make sure **YOUR** name is listed as her sponsor to qualify for prizes. You will be recognized on the ABWA District Facebook pages weekly, for every member you sponsor too!

PLUS, if you recruit more than 3 new members during the campaign, you will be added to a drawing for "bonus" prizes too in the same pattern just in time for spring.



LEVEL

1

ENROLL ONE NEW MEMBER



WHIMSY LUGGAGE TAG

LEVEL

2

ENROLL TWO NEW MEMBERS



HANGING TRAVEL ORGANIZER

LEVEL

3

ENROLL THREE OR MORE NEW MEMBERS



COMPACT WEEKENDER BAG

Virtual Chocolate Tasting on May 2

- A Chocolate Lover's Dream!

Contributed by Kathy Gallagher

Many thanks for those of you who participated in the virtual Chocolate Tasting event on Sunday afternoon. Each of us received a packet containing 6 different chocolate samples (see chart). Rebecca Snyder, Co-founder of Lumineux Chocolate, described how cocoa beans turn into chocolate bars, and led us through tasting each one. It was an eye-opener for me, and I realize I need to fine tune my tastebuds so I can more readily pick out the subtle "notes" and flavors in the different chocolates. Rebecca did a very good job sharing where the cocoa beans are grown and how they support the businesses in the Congo, Uganda, Ghana, India and Tanzania. I will definitely pay more attention to the chocolate I buy now!

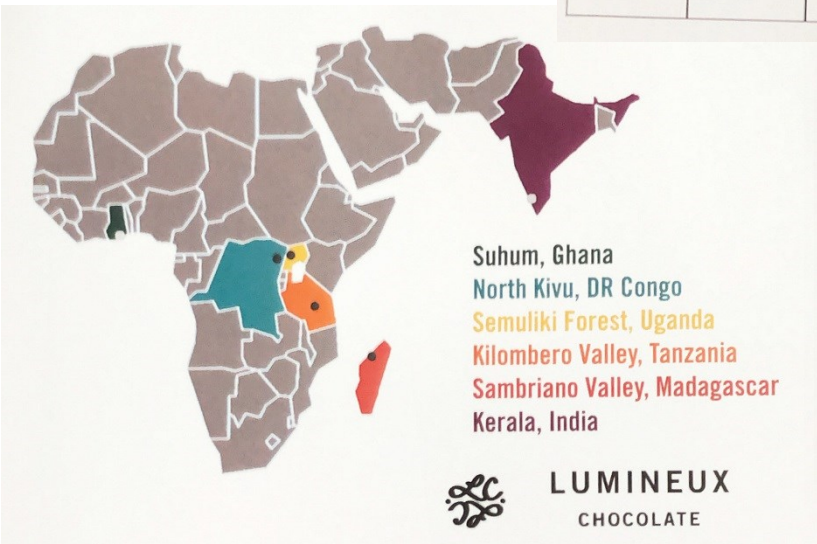
Don't forget to use the 25% discount when you shop online to get your favorite(s)! Use code **vpt25** at:

lumineuxchocolate.com/shop



VIRTUAL CHOCOLATE TASTING NOTES

Tasting Sample	1) 45% Congo Milk	2) 68% Uganda Dark	3) 70% Uganda O&C Dark	4) 72% India Dark	5) 75% Tanzania Dark	6) 80% Ghana Dark
Aroma <i>What do you smell in the chocolate?</i>						
Taste <i>Can you identify any particular flavors?</i> <i>Does it have a clean finish or does the flavor linger?</i>						
Overall Impressions						



2021 Protégé of the Year—Melissa Jaclyn Mauer



You are a ...



April's Super Star
Ellen Engel



March's Super Star
Lori Mauer



February's Super Star
Cherise Irons



Save the Dates!

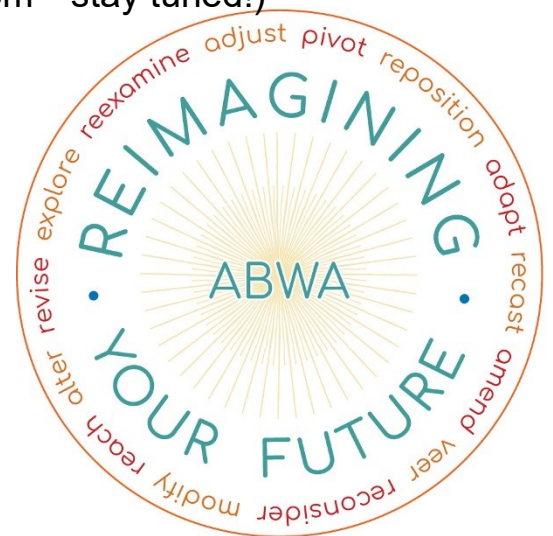
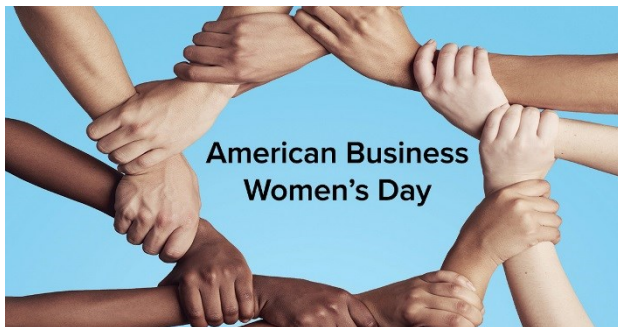


Join us as we celebrate our chapter's 35th Anniversary on **June 3rd!**

Tri-County Council Events:

June 12th—2nd Quarter "Leadership Exchange" (via Zoom)

September 10-12—ABW Day Celebration Weekend
(in-person and/or Zoom—stay tuned!)



Regional Conferences, cont'd from page 5

From Kandyce Key

I enjoyed hearing about the changes that have been made over the years with SBMEF; the officer/candidate presentations; it is ALWAYS a joy to see René; I was able to attend the Top Ten presentations and the Keynote speakers. While time timeline is fast and tight, this year I was able to relax and enjoy everything about the conference and attend portions of the conference that had been cost prohibited in the past. PLUS, knowing that there was time to eat without be-

ing rushed or being in a position that there was food that you could not eat was a huge, added bonus!

René --- thank you for reaching out to me when I re-renewed my membership. I enjoyed our conversation, my mom says hello and I can't wait to hug you in person [when hugging is socially acceptable again as a greeting].

June Meeting—06/03/21

**American Business Women's Association
CORAL SPRINGS CHARTER CHAPTER**


Celebrating Our 35th Anniversary!

THURSDAY

JUNE

3

ZOOM MEETING
STARTS AT:
6:30pm



Monthly

MEETING

with keynote speaker:
Mary Giuseffi
Personal Brand Expert, Image Consultant,
Best Selling Author & Speaker

Undeniably You!

How to Create an Authentic Personal Brand and Image for
Your Highest & Most Beautiful Life!

Mary is excited to share the essential ingredients on how to create a personal brand based upon your mission statement, career goals, and client avatar. Learn how to convey your talent, outstanding qualities, products, and services in the most immediate and essential way to attract your ideal clients and best results. She will also share the significance of being authentic in your relationships, conversations, lifestyle, and image. "Your personal brand is your commercial to the world. What does yours say about you?" Mary will inspire, educate, and entertain with information, stories, and actionable advice on personality, style, colors, images, and backdrops to ensure your image and messaging is clear, consistent, confident, and captivating. Whether you are a 'stay at home" mom, entrepreneur, student or volunteer, you will benefit greatly from her talk!

In this seminar, you will:

- What is a Personal Brand? How You look + How You Act + How You Speak = Your Personal Brand
- What are The 5 W's of Effective Communication In creating a personal brand?
- Color is a powerful non verbal language. Which colors express your Personal Brand the most successfully?

MEET MARY


Mary Giuseffi is a Former Ford Model, Fashion and Color Authority, Award-Winning Humanitarian, and Advocate for Women and Children. She is an internationally recognized guest on many stages sharing her expertise on Personal Branding and Image. She appears across the broadcast platforms, including The Today Show, and speaks nation-wide on Personal Branding and Marketing, Fashion and Style, Color, Self-Empowerment, and Women's Inspiration. Mary has been creating personal brands and images for over 30 years world wide. Her latest book, Undeniably You! The Good, The bad and The Fabulous, inspires women to live their highest and most beautiful lives as their most empowered and authentic selves.

Event Registration

Zoom Meeting Fee:
\$10 members & guests

RSVP on Eventbrite:
www.coral-springs-fl-abwa.eventbrite.com/

**For more information about our Chapter, contact
Rhonda Sternberg at 877-216-9908 ext. 732
or visit our website at www.abwa-coral Springs.org**




High Tea & Mimosas Event—August 28th

ABWA CORAL SPRINGS CHARTER CHAPTER PRESENTS

HIGH TEA & MIMOSAS



IT'S FINALLY HERE!

The day we can all get together to enjoy good food & great friendships!

SATURDAY 28th AUGUST | 1 - 3 PM

\$35 MEMBERS | \$40 GUESTS

Price includes quiche, soup or salad, a mimosa and high tea (sandwiches, desserts and scones)

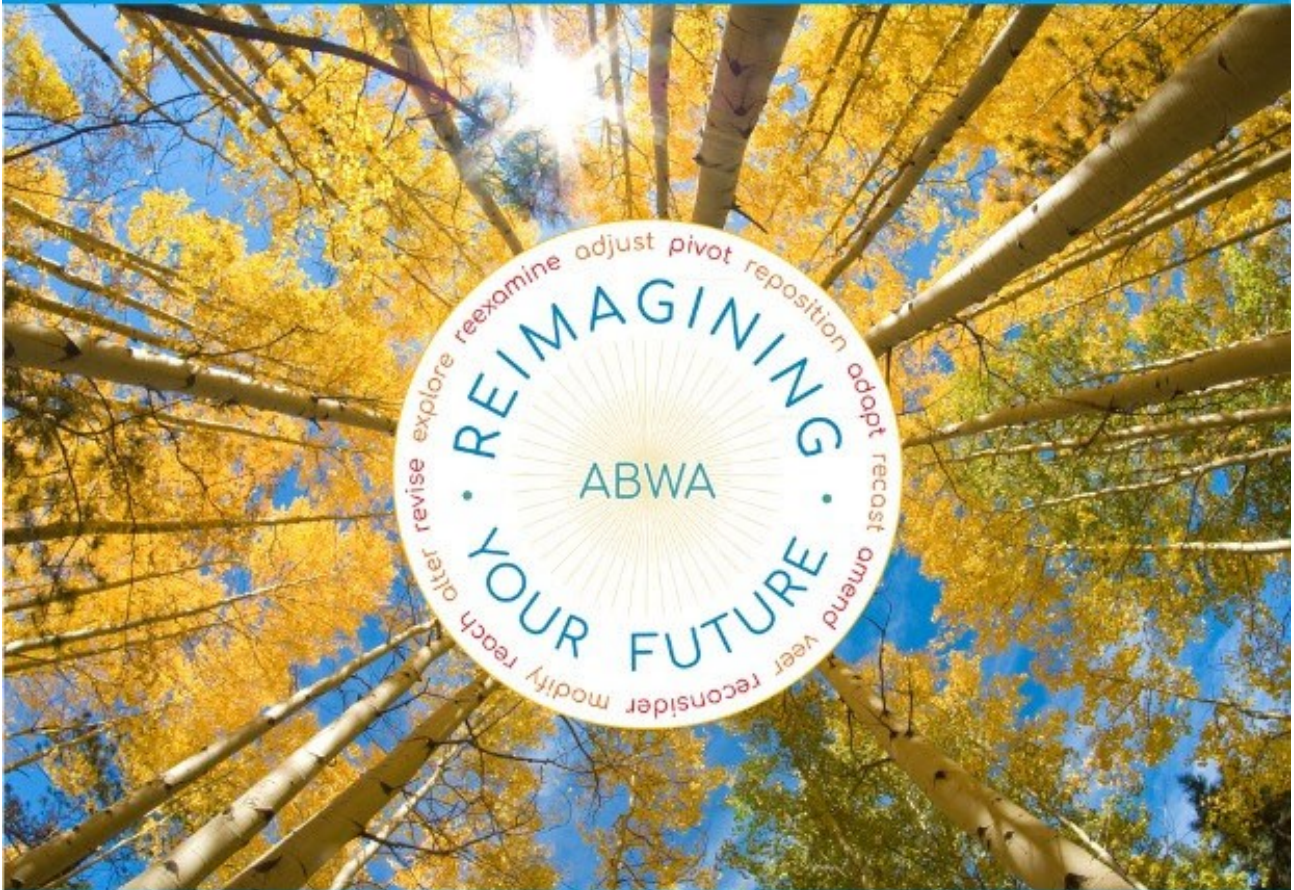
TEA TIME | 7762 NW 44th STREET, SUNRISE, FL

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE AT EVENTBRITE

This event is limited to 30 attendees, so GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

National Conference is all VIRTUAL! Save the Date! November 4-6, 2021

OUR NEXT VIRTUAL NATIONAL
WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
IS COMING THIS FALL!



save the date!

NOVEMBER 4-6 2021

The 2021 Virtual National Women's Leadership Conference will be a celebration of ABWA members and leagues as we recognize accomplishments, learn from key business experts, and become inspired by others around us.

2020-2021 Chapter Officers



Gayle Bramson, President
sunrise91954@yahoo.com@gmail.com



Connie Kalish, Vice President
ckalish@aol.com



Susan Miller, Secretary
susanmiller1287@gmail.com



Kathy Gallagher, Treasurer
kathygallagher.abwa@gmail.com



Lois Margolin, Past President
Loismargolin.abwa@gmail.com

2020-2021 Committee Chairs

Auditing Committee TBD

Best Practices TBD

Community Service Melissa Mauer

Education Diane Diamantis

Fundraising Andrea Levenson

Hospitality Susan Miller

Membership Stephanie Seberg, Rhonda Sternberg

Newsletter Kathy Gallagher

Professional Development Lori Mauer

Publicity Barbara Gobbi

Recognition Stephanie Seberg

Technology Deb Roman

Tri-County Council TBD

Woman of the Year Rhonda Sternberg

2019-2021 National Board of Directors



National Officers from left to right

TRINA NKHAZI, National Vice President

SHARON GODBEE, National President

ANNE O'NEILL, National Secretary-Treasurer



District Vice Presidents from left to right

District I Vice President, **MARY STEPHENSON**

District II Vice President, **JUDY TAYLOR**

District III Vice President, **KATHY SCHOOLEY**

District IV Vice President, **MARY MAUPAI**

District V Vice President, **CHERYL BLAIR**

District VI Vice President, **KERRIE UNDERHILL**

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 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.

ABWA's Core Values

1. Giving Members a Voice
2. Treat People with Dignity (Proud Code of Conduct)
3. Lifelong Learning
4. Focus on Creating Value for Members
5. Achievement
6. Visionary Leadership
7. Focus on the Future
8. Focus on Results
9. Manage by Fact
10. Manage for Innovation

Gayle Bramson

Chapter President

Kathy Gallagher, Editor

Coral Springs Charter Chapter

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Email:

kathygallagher.abwa@gmail.com



JOIN US (now via ZOOM!)

Meetings are on the 1st Thursday of the month

Visit us online at

www.abwa-coral Springs.org

Like us on Facebook at:

<http://tinyurl.com/ABWA-CS-FBpage>

Follow us on Twitter at:

@abwa_cs