



Raintree Rambler Raintree Chapter #4058 New Castle, IN

*A League of the American
Business Women's Association*



CHAPTER PRESIDENT KAREN JOHNSON



HELLO, RAINTREE MEMBERS . . .

I know I say it every month, but where does the time go? While I am not fond of Zoom meetings (prefer face to face), we did have a good one in November, and we inducted two new members into Raintree! Congratulations, DARRA MOORE, Office Manager @ Fred's Shed . . . And MAYRA PHIPPS, a Speaker/Trainer/Coach with the John Maxwell Team. We're very happy to welcome you to the Raintree Chapter and wish you a great journey with us. We had recognized Peggy Miller's November birthday, and I have since

learned that our new member Mayra celebrated her birthday in November as well.

We also had a very interesting speaker in Heather Lytle (a member of Women of Magnitude) - I felt her program on "Building Your Dream Business" was very enlightening.

We had two fundraisers running back to back—Shirley New had advised that the Make, Bake & Buy earned us \$2028.11 . . . Mary Cordle was collecting our Trophy Nut orders and by now you should have received your goodies. This fundraiser has added another \$1090.50.

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MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the American Business Women's Association is to bring together business women 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.



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RAINTREE OFFICERS

**RENAE GAWITH (Vice President), KAREN JOHNSON (President).
JANET JOHNSON (Treasurer) and ELAINE STUDY (Secretary).**

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

ANNIVERSARY - DAWN POKORNY

**ASSOCIATES NIGHT -
JANET JOHNSON**

AUDIT - JACKIE BRAYTON

BEST PRACTICES - PEGGY MILLER

FUNDRAISING - MARY CORDLE

MEMBERSHIP - SHIRLEY NEW

NEWSLETTER - KAREN JOHNSON

NOMINATING - VOTE IN MARCH

NOTIFICATIONS - PAULINE HASTY

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT &
EDUCATION - SHIRLEY NEW**

PUBLICITY - RENAE GAWITH

**WOMAN OF THE YEAR-
ELAINE STUDY**

TOP TEN - CHERYL BLAIR

WEBSITE - WENDY WILKER

**WOMEN'S SYMPOSIUM -
MARILYN UPCHURCH**

**CARDINAL CROSSROADS
COUNCIL**

**RAINTREE DELEGATE:
RENAE GAWITH**

**RAINTREE ALTERNATES:
JACKIE BRAYTON
PEGGY MILLER**





**RAINTREE CHAPTER
#4058**

DECEMBER MEETING: Thursday, December 17, 2020

WHERE: ZOOM ONLY

Closer to the meeting you will receive information regarding how to access Zoom, or what phone number to call.

WHEN: 5:45 - 6:00 Zoom Check-in
6:00—8:00 Networking & Business Meeting

PROGRAM: *Twas the Night Before ABWA . . .* by Cheryl Blair.

RECOGNITIONS:

MELBA McKNIGHT - 50 years in ABWA

Melba was not able to join us last month, but accommodations have been made to recognize her this month.

BRING: **BRING A GUEST** - YES, you can have a family member, a co-worker, or a friend join us on Zoom and let them see/hear what ABWA is all about!!

CONTACT SHIRLEY NEW - to advise of a guest who is joining us on zoom, or if you cannot make the meeting via zoom this month; must contact her by Sunday, 10-19-2020 @ 5 PM.

Ph: 765-650-8271 or Email: wcsanew@hrtc.net

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

**LOOK THIS NEWLETTER OVER VERY CAREFULLY,
YOU MIGHT WIN A PRIZE!!**



“Celebrating the Season in a Very Special Way”



MELBA McKNIGHT

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.

***Changing Women's
Lives... One
Woman at a Time!!***



THURSDAY, December 17, 2020

Virtual Meeting through Zoom

Contact Shirley New 765-620-8271/wcsanew@hrtc.net to register to get link for meeting.

CHECK-IN & REGISTER: 5:45 pm — 8:00 pm
NETWORKING & MEETING: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Join the Raintree Chapter of the American Business Woman's Association on Thursday, December 17th for a special virtual meeting with a presentation by our own Cheryl Blair, District V Vice President, ***“Twas the Night Before ABWA”***.

Also, a very special celebration: we will be celebrating 50 years in ABWA for our member, Melba McKnight. Let's see all that Melba has given to ABWA in 50 years. Come and help us celebrate a very monumental event.

There is no cost for this meeting.

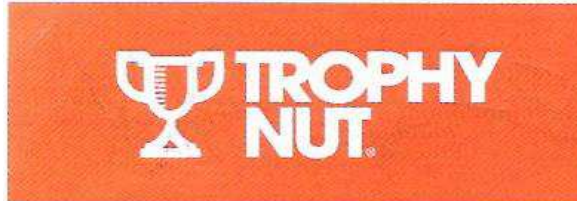
For more information about Raintree Chapter, contact President Karen Johnson at ksj848@aol.com. Or 937-671-4026 or visit our website at <http://abwa-Raintree.com>





**ABWA is here
to help you
connect,
learn, and
grow today!**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE continued from page 1



If you haven't sent your Trophy Nut money to Janet Johnson yet, please do that as soon as possible.

Looking forward to seeing all of you on Zoom next week - please consider having a prospective member join us as well. Would love to install many new members in the months ahead.

We will be recognizing a 50 year member, Melba McKnight . . . and Cheryl Blair will share "*Twas The Night Before ABWA* " (we all know how entertaining Cheryl can be).

Can't believe Christmas is right around the Corner. Our family always gets together the Saturday before Christmas to avoid any clashes with "the other part of families." Looking forward to Turkey/Ham/Mashed Potatoes & Noodles/Corn & Green Beans/Deviled Eggs/Pumpkin Roll and Pies/Cheese Ball/the favorite candy - and Mom's Punch. I hope you all are able to share with your family - noting distancing and masks— whether in person or zoom or phone. Let your family know how much you love them. And, don't forget the reason for the season!!

Rise to the Challenge in ABWA!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Karen

Karen Johnson, President

RAINTREE CHAPTER

ELAINE STUDY
Raintree Secretary



NOVEMBER 19, 2020

ZOOM MEETING



The November meeting of the Raintree Chapter was held via Zoom on November 19, 2020. President Karen Johnson called the virtual meeting to order at 6 pm. Thirteen members and 2 guests attended. Elaine Study led the Invocation and Janet Johnson read the Mission Statement.

Karen led the **networking activity**. Attendees were to share their name, years in ABWA, place of work, and favorite Thanksgiving food. Those responding include members: Shirley New, Elaine Study, Darra Moore, Cheryl Blair, Rose Elliott, Jackie Brayton, Janet Johnson, Sharon Woodruff, Mayra Phipps, Karen Johnson, Peggy Miller, Mary Cordle, Renae Gawith (technical issues prevented her from responding), and guest Donna Collins and speaker Heather Lytle.

Professional Development Chair Shirley New introduced our **speaker, Heather Lytle**, member of ABWA Women of Magnitude Express Network, and owner of Lytle Communications. Heather's topic was "**Building Your Dream Business.**" Items needed for a business are: Policies—set of expectations for clients & employees; Processes—documents which show how and when to do things;

Payment Policy; Privacy Policy & Service Agreement. Contact Heather at lytle.communications@gmail.com.

New members Mayra Phipps and Darra Moore were installed by President Karen and welcomed by the attending members. Shirley New is their sponsor.

The October **Secretary's and Treasurer's reports** were accepted with no changes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fundraising Chair Mary Cordle reported final Trophy Nut sales are due tonight. Karen will place the order soon, and product will be distributed the first week of December.

Make, Bake and Buy Chair Shirley New reported the November event went very well. Fifty-four people were in attendance. She thanked all members who donated items for the auction and worked the Fort Wayne event. Each of the three sponsoring chapters should profit over \$2000.

Membership Chair Shirley reminded attendees to send her their November tally for the member scorecard. The monthly challenge is to submit an order for Trophy Nut or Candy Sales.

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REMINDERS:

Peggy Miller's **birthday** was November 4.

Melba McKnight celebrated her 50th year ABWA **anniversary** on November 18.

Cardinal Crossroads Council Christmas Zoom meeting is December 5. Shirley needs your reservation.

District V Zoom call is December 16. Let DVP Cheryl Blair know if you need the Zoom link.

Next **Raintree Zoom meeting** is December 17. This will be our Christmas meeting.

Peggy Miller, Darra Moore, and Mary Cordle won **door prizes**.

President Karen led the Benediction and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine

ELAINE STUDY, Secretary



RISE TO THE CHALLENGE
IN THE AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

LADIES,

We need new members! That is every member's responsibility. Look how much our chapter could grow in strength with new ideas and participation. I want to encourage everyone to ask at least one guest for this upcoming meeting.

We are meeting via Zoom until further notice. If you have a potential the guest, just advise them that due to Covid-19 rules right now we are on zoom, but we would still love to have them.

Let's grow together. I believe in you. You can find at least one person who you know who could help us, and we could help them by becoming a member of ABWA. There are so many benefits for them. Plus, this program for October should be a really good one for everyone.

SHIRLEY NEW, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

IT'S ALWAYS FUN TO SEE SOMEONE YOU KNOW IN THE NEWSPAPER . . . OUR OWN, SHIRLEY NEW, WAS RECENTLY PUBLISHED IN THE COURIER TIMES.

Shirley New: New Accounting

Shirley New, New Accounting offers accounting services of all kinds to individuals and businesses, not limited to, but including: Payroll services, bookkeeping services, notary service and tax preparation.

“With tax season coming soon I can help the individual or business get things organized for tax preparation. I also offer discounts for successful referrals,” says Shirley. “I can help with those dreaded W-2s and 1099s that some have to do

514 Locaust St., Middletown, Indiana

Contact: Phone: 765-620-8271; email: wcsanew@hrtc.net.

at year end and the make the process pain free.”

Shirley says that she has worked in this area for more than 40 years, and was excited to open her office in September 2018.

“I share an office with my son who does Heating and Cooling,” she says. “It has



Shirley New is owner of her own accounting business in Middletown.

Photo provided

family, friends and the Middletown community has been overwhelming.”

Shirley says that her tax business has more than doubled and she hopes to increase that even more next year.

“To have control of my own time and energies is very rewarding. As they usually say, if I knew what I knew now, I would have done this years ago.”

been so rewarding to be my own boss. The encouragement I have received from

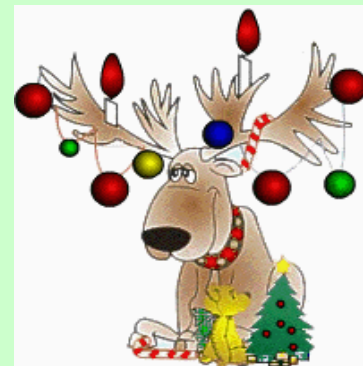
CHECK OUT THE APEX COURSES . . . YOU ARE SURE TO FIND SOMETHING YOU ARE INTERESTED IN, OR NEED.

Just announced, two more **complimentary** courses as long as you register by the deadline, you will have 45 days to complete the course (a \$50 value).

Transforming your Value Streams
(December 1st—31st, 2020)

Leader Standard Work
(January 1st—29th, 2021)

Details went out on webmail on December 7th.



WHAT WONDERFUL RESOURCES WE HAVE IN ABWA!!!

KEEPING UP WITH OUR ABWA SISTERS . . .



As you know, we have a member, Pauline Hasty, who regularly sends out cards to our members (and their families) when there is a death in the family or there is illness.

Vice President Renae Gawith felt that especially during the Covid times, we need to keep in touch with our members. It's hard when many are shut-in during normal times, but with the Covid issues, it is even harder (not necessarily having Covid, but dealing with the stress of everything going on pertaining to it).

Renae felt, too, there were members who would like to know on a timely basis about their ABWA sisters & send them a card to cheer them up. She has taken on the task of finding out who might need/benefit from this & will try to post weekly. (Remember - when you hear something, let us know - finding out a month after the fact, is not good.) Her first email included the following:

- **Pauline Hasty—having tests for both heart & kidneys.**
- **Rose Elliot—thinks she might have a pinched nerve in her neck.**
- **Elaine Study's husband, Ron, has been having issues with his feet and had surgery, with a return to the ER.**
- **Maggie Beckner—had a stent put into her left carotid artery.**
- **Jackie Brayton's husband has been fighting some health issues.**
- **Sharon Woodruff and her husband have been shut-in due to the Covid (they don't have it, but her husband is fighting cancer and his immune system is down right now).**
- **And, just added, Jessica Maldon's (who just lost her father in mid October) mother was admitted to the hospital on Thanksgiving; she was released to go home with Hospice and passed this morning (12-9-2020) . This one's tough!**

AGAIN, IF YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT A MEMBER, CONTACT RENAE!! THANK YOU!!

New National Office Address:

- **USPS mailing address:**
ABWA
PO Box 4757
Overland Park KS 66204-0757
- **UPS or FEDEX mailing address:**
ABWA
8010 Conser St #4757
Overland Park KS 66204
- **Physical address:**
ABWA
8010 Conser St, Ste 240
Overland Park KS 66204

Phone numbers remain the same.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

DAWN POKORNY
December 18th



DECEMBER
ABWA ANNIVERSARIES

TARRA BLAIR
December 30th
One Year





DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER

- December 16 - Cheryl Blair, District V Update - ZOOM
- December 17 - Regular Raintree Meeting / Christmas Party ON ZOOM
- December 25 - Merry Christmas
- December 31 - New Year's Eve - BE SAFE



JANUARY 2020

- January 1 - the Start of another year!!
- January 21 - Regular Raintree Meeting—ZOOM
- January 23 - Cardinal Crossroad Council Quarterly Meeting - ZOOM

Expand your network with like-minded women across the country. Grow your business skills. Reach a new audience. Advance your career. Any woman anywhere benefits by being part of a prestigious, dynamic, and innovative organization—join ABWA today!



join and grow *together*



OUR BUSINESS CARD SPONSORS - (support them if you can)




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Cheryl Blair
COMMERCIAL LINES
DEPARTMENT MANAGER



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New Accounting

Shirley New
Accountant

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Vacation Temptations



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New Heating And Cooling

Alan New
765-620-1484

Repair and Installation Services
Gas-Electric-Geothermal
newhvac1@gmail.com



ABWA 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. Management for Innovation



ABWA RAINTREE CHAPTER

VISION STATEMENT - 2018-19-20

Raintree Chapter offers opportunities to support our members and the women of our community by helping them grow personally and professionally through leadership, networking, education, recognition, and community enrichment.

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.

Karen Johnson
Raintree Chapter
President

Karen Johnson
Newsletter Editor
Phone: 937-671-4026
Email: ksj848@aol.com



Raintree Chapter

Visit us online at
<http://abwa-raintree.com>



Like us on Facebook at:
ABWA – Raintree Chapter



THE NEXT SEVERAL PAGES WILL BE A RECAP BY OUR MEMBERS WHO WERE IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE 2020 NATIONAL WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, HELD BY MEANS OF ZOOM DUE TO COVID ISSUES RATHER THAN IN COLORADO (the original destination for NWLC).

OUR MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATED INCLUDE:

CHERYL BLAIR

ELAINE STUDY

WENDY WILKER

SHIRLEY NEW

THANK YOU, LADIES, FOR SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH US!!



**CHERYL
BLAIR**

DAY 1 NWLC, Wednesday, October 14, 2020

ABWA history was made October 14, 2020, when the First Virtual National Women's Leadership Conference "zoomed" off.

The meeting began with Rene Street, ABWA Executive Director and Sharon Godbee, ABWA National President greeting all in attendance along with recognition and accolades to many sitting in the Zoom audience.

Professor Mark Haug PHD, JD from KU School of Business presented the day long class . . .

"Negotiation Skills for Every Business Woman."

This was followed by keynote speaker, Janine Stange's presentation ***"Discover your Mission."*** Members were able to "meet and mingle" with Janine immediately following her memorable performance. She left us all with a new knowledge base of "Peeps."

A **"virtual happy hour"** began at 6:30 with professional bartender, Justin; with much humor and finesse, he led us into mixing our own "Reimagine Your Cocktail," and it was ohhhh so delicious!!!

The awesome day ended with **"Movie Night!"** telling the story of Janine Stange/National Anthem Girl. As the evening drew to a close many Zoom goodbyes were uttered along with anticipation of the many events planned for the next day....

History in the making — and I am so happy and honored to have experienced it up close and personal!!! Plan today to attend next year's National Women's Leadership Conference!!

**CHERYL BLAIR,
District V Vice-President
Raintree Chapter
Chapter 2020 Top Ten Candidate**



**ELAINE
STUDY**

DAY 2 NWLC, Thursday, October 15, 2020

I am SO grateful for Raintree's financial support allowing me to attend this first ever virtual National Woman's Leadership Conference as Raintree's Woman of the Year!! Thank you for your support!! Yes, the four very full days were quite intense, but the speakers, topics and entire virtual presentation was very much worth the time.

Keynote Speaker Pamela Barnum delivered a timely presentation entitled **"3D Trust in a 2D World: Innovative Approaches to Enhance Trust Virtually."** She explained that people place more weight on nonverbal communication.

Before presenting virtually, check your background behind your chair & make sure it reflects your brand. Use professional lighting to reduce shadows. During your presentation, keep your feet on the ground, dress as if in person and be your authentic self. Engage the audience by asking questions to respond in chat, conduct polls and share a picture—audience can retain content better.

The Franklin Covey 7-hour professional development class, **"Finding Uncommon Ground: How to Overcome Unconscious Bias"** was led by Andrea Caldwell. We learned about a variety of biases. We are aware of conscious bias, yet not aware of unconscious bias. Some discussion included Impacts of Behaviors, How to Identify Bias and Bias Traps.

Breakout sessions were used throughout the day with lots of discussion both in the sessions and in the Zoom chat.

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ELAINE STUDY
DAY 2 - NWLC

One interesting story that was shared by Andrea involved an iPhone development team. Reviewing feedback from users who had problems, it was discovered left-handed users were having difficulty swiping their new phones. It turned out, only right-handed developers were on the team, which led to an unconscious bias toward left-handed users!

I had been wondering for days how the Best Practices Awards Program would be conducted. I was not to be disappointed! Executive Director Rene' Street and ABWA President Sharon Godbee took turns recognizing the Level 1, 2, and 3 winners. The new twist added this year was the Achieving Leagues had the opportunity to promote their leagues using a video! It was amazing the variety of videos that were shown. I especially enjoyed watching Level 3, District 5's videos:

Indianapolis Charter Chapter & Women of Magnitude Express Network from IN and Novi Oaks Charter Chapter and Nu-Lite Chapter from MI.

Of course, the evening's highlight was clapping when **RAINTREE CHAPTER** was proclaimed winner of the Striving for Best Practices Award!!! We joined 6 other leagues from District 5 who were also recognized.

ELAINE STUDY
Raintree Chapter - Secretary
Chapter 2020 Woman of the Year



**WENDY
WILKER**

DAY 3 NWLC , FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2020

We had four great professional development Speakers, as well as the ABWA TOP TEN Recognition. Here are the key messages from each Session.

1) *HIT THE RESET BUTTON* by Tamara Ellison
Reset your focus while adjusting to a new normal. Reboot your creativity to maximize the moment of today. Ignite your confidence to live a life without self-imposed limits!

2) *CRUCIAL CONVERSATIONS* by Traci Chevreux
When you have opposing opinions, strong emotions and high stakes. you are in a crucial conversation. Recognizing that you are in a crucial conversation is key, and so is preparation! Check out the book “Crucial Conversations” by Kerry Patterson.

3) *CHANNELING MY ‘WHY’ THROUGH CAREER* by Tasha Jones
Ensure that you are contributing ideas that help the company growth. Be ready to discuss the three projects you are working on for the company and showing your worth! Often you will need help to accomplish your projects/ideas, be sure to ask for what you need: resources, sponsorship, tools, etc.

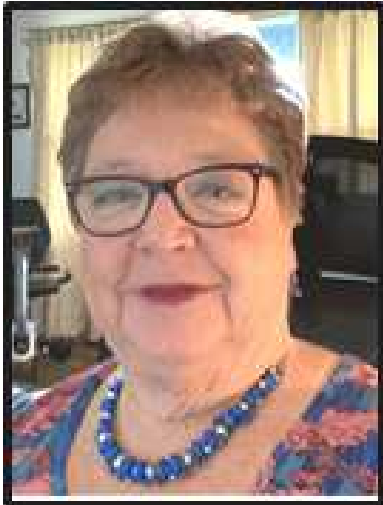
4) *BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE MULTIGENERATIONAL WORKPLACE* by Jeff Butler. Apply the ABC’s of multigenerational management through Alignment, Building Relationships, & Communicating with others.

5) *2021 ABWA TOP TEN RECOGNITION & ABWA BUSINESS WOMAN OF THE YEAR.* Congratulations to these amazing business women!!

(1) Dr. Deborah Johnson-Blake, Top Ten & Business Woman of the Year
Other Top Tens: (2) Joy Broils, (3) Lindsey Chapman, (4) Kristena Hackett, (5) Tracy Johnson, PhD JD, (6) Trina Kingery, (7) Marilyn Lash, (8) Robin Necci, CPS, (9) Elsa Smith, and (10) Judy Taylor

WENDY WILKER

**Former TOP TEN & ABWA BUSINESS WOMAN OF THE YEAR
Raintree Chapter - Website Chair, Women’s Symposium, &
Fundraising**



**SHIRLEY
NEW**

DAY 4 NWLC, Saturday, October 17, 2020

The day was started like each other day with a morning chat with Rene Street and Sharon Godbee and breakout sessions with attendees.

The first Keynote Speaker of the day was Jackie O Latourrette on *Breaking Barriers*. She is a motivational speaker and the first lady Fighter Pilot from Colorado. She taught us the “Fights On” framework to break your own personal barriers. She said to close your eyes and imagine how you will be when you reach your dream. Barriers divert you to another path and drive you to fight. Make a flight plan for your mission. Excellent speaker and great advice.

The next speaker was Rose Lounsbury on *Simplicity for Women In Business*.

Simplicity is a lifestyle that includes career, finances, health, relationships, and schedule. Start with your own things first and start somewhere easy. The “less is more” method is what she suggested. Layout your vision and purpose. Sort it twice – decide what is to keep, donate, trash and used elsewhere. When you get what you need it is the just right amount.

The next speaker was Morgan A Wider on *Worthiness Within Your Wardrobe*. Be present to who you are and to your audience.

Executive Presence = Creditability & Likeability =

Sales Influence. There are six different styles, and you can determine which is yours:

Minimalist, Rockstar, Romantic, Creative, Classic and Active.

Be confident: Know It, Stand on It, and Speak It.

Learn to implement techniques to build an authentic but professional personal brand and image.



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SHIRLEY NEW
DAY 4—NWLC

Learn to implement techniques to build an authentic but professional personal brand and image.

The last Keynote Speaker was Jeff Evans on ***Developing the Expeditionary Mindset***. Jeff is a Mountaineer and Adventurer. He provides lessons of teamwork, servant leadership, communication and handling adversity.

His experiences highlight the importance of adopting an expeditionary mindset necessary to succeed both professionally and personally in our current VUCA (Volatile, Uncertain, Complex and Ambiguous) world.

Who will be on your rope team, who will be there to back you up? There are a lot of big mountains out there, look for the opportunity to step to the edge, take that hand and take that leap.

The day was finished with closing remarks from Rene Street and Sharon Godbee.

Next year's NWLC will be a Hybrid event. Details will be forthcoming down the road. All in all it was a ***fantastic conference***.

SHIRLEY NEW
Past District V Vice-President
Raintree Chapter Professional Development Chair
Raintree Chapter Membership Chair