



APRIL 2021 | Vol. 57 Issue 09

## RAINTREE RAMBLER

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New Castle, IN

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



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### ABWA's Mission Statement

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



## KAREN'S KORNER

Raintree President Karen Johnson

As I'm writing this, I was thinking how cold and windy the weather was at our last meeting . . . Although they say rain is coming tonight and the rest of the weekend, we have had a really nice day . . . Hopefully all of that bad stuff is behind us.

Love that Marilyn Lash - and she did a great job telling us about her climb to being a Top Ten! Does it sound like something you would like to work towards?

It was good seeing so many in person last month . . . And delightful to have a former member, Lois Cook, decide to come and join our chapter again.

While we have been recognized as a Best Practice Striving Chapter, it would be great to be a BEST PRACTICE CHAPTER . . . To accomplish that our main problem is not enough members. Remember, don't make a choice for friends and acquaintances - invite them to a meeting and let them find out what we're all about. The chapter year is closing in very quickly - after this month we only have three more to make this happen. Now that the weather is better and we are back in person (for the rest of the year—fingers crossed) try to make an effort to bring along a potential member.

Congratulations to our Nominating Committee voted on last month: Shirley New is the Chair, and Darra Moore and Jackie Brayton will assist with those duties.

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Presented by  
Mayra Phipps

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 Raintree Chapter, contact President Karen Johnson at [ksj848@aol.com](mailto:ksj848@aol.com) or visit our website at <http://www.abwa-aintree.com>

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

RAINTREE CHAPTER



## The Power of Visualization Vision Board Workshop



**Suggested items to have handy for this workshop:** A Journal or Poster board, markers, glue, favorite magazine (for clipping images), or photos/print outs of items you love or dream about having.

**Thursday, April 15, 2021**

**Henry County REMC – Conference Room  
3400 S State Road 3, New Castle IN 47362**

In Person Registration and Dinner	5:45-6:30 PM
Zoom Registration	6:15 PM
Networking & Introductions	6:30 PM
Program	6:45 PM
Business Meeting	7:30 PM

**Event cost is \$15 for members and guests, cost includes dinner). Zoom & noneating attendees cost \$5.00.**

**Please RSVP by Sunday, April 11th by phone, text or email to guarantee your reservation to Shirley New 765-620-8271 [wcsanew@hrtc.net](mailto:wcsanew@hrtc.net).**

**Members – you do not have auto reservation – please RSVP so we know how many are attending in-person and by Zoom. Please specify when making a reservation.**

## Karen's Korner (cont. from page 1)

I've heard that the Indy Speedway WILL be opened up at the end of May with spectators allowed; we are assuming (and hoping) that we will be able to work one of the souvenir booths. Tell Mary Cordle you can help.

And, the DVP Event in Michigan in July will be here before you know it; If you haven't yet given it a thought, decide on a theme for a basket for the Silent Auction - or team up with another member to make a basket . . . Or offer some money to one of the gals to make one for you.

Also, if you're so inclined to help with the Envelope Pull, give your gift card(s) (minimum \$10) to Renea Gawith as she is working that event for DVP.

Can you believe it . . . RAINTREE CHAPTER #4058 WILL CELEBRATE THEIR 55TH ANNIVERSARY next month. Dawn Pokorny is Chair of this event and I've been told they are doing some different things this year. (It's easy for me to remember how many years— I graduated from high school in 1966.)

I know this is repetitive, but it is very important that we keep thinking about these things coming up .

- the Cardinal Crossroads Council's Annual **Summer Sizzler**, August 27-28 in Anderson

- and, we will again team up with Forks of the Wabash and Women of Magnitude for **Make, Bake, or Buy** on November 6th in Fort Wayne.

The chapter plans to help our members going to NWLC (National Women's Leadership Conference) this year...and, depending on how many want to travel there, we may need more

funds than we have been able to profit thus far this year. If you have any fundraising ideas, please contact Mary Cordle, or a Chapter Officer.

Looking forward to seeing all of you on April 15th, be it at the REMC building or via Zoom.

ABWA HUGS,  
KAREN



### **APRIL ABWA ANNIVERSARY**

**Jessica Malson 8 years**

**Sharon Woodruff 35 years**

**Shirley New 31+ years**



## Raintree March Chapter Meeting

The March 18, 2021, Raintree Chapter meeting was held at the Henry County Chamber of Commerce. Those in person were served a box meal catered by Dawn Pokorny.

Meeting was called to order by President Karen Johnson at 6:30 p.m. Elaine Study led the Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance. The ABWA Mission Statement was led by Janet Johnson.

The **Networking activity** was in honor of Women's History Month. Renae Gawith asked everyone to name a female relative who helped shape your world. In person attendees were Shirley New, Shirley's guest Lois Cook, Dawn Pokorny, Mary Cordle, Pauline Hasty, Karen Johnson, Renae Gawith, Marilyn Upchurch, Peggy Miller, Elaine Study & Janet Johnson. Zoom attendees were Rose Elliott, her guest Donna Collins, Sharon Woodruff, speaker Marilyn Lash & speaker helper Tammy Murray. Wendy Wilker was on Zoom for a while.

Professional Development Chair Shirley New introduced **speaker Marilyn Lash**. Marilyn is a current ABWA Top Ten Business Woman and a past District 5 Vice President. Celebrating 49 years in ABWA, Marilyn is a

primary member of Greater Oakland Charter Chapter and secondary member of Cass River Charter Chapter, both in Michigan.



Marilyn's topic was **"Reimagine My Leadership Role in ABWA as a Top Ten."** Marilyn found herself reaching out and connecting to ABWA members and non-members. She encourages us to explore the many ABWA education opportunities with APEX courses, Just-In-Time Webinars and District Vice President calls. "Just try things beyond your capabilities," Marilyn challenged us to create change in ourselves and adjust our plan.

This year's Top Tens have had more visibility than in past years when using Zoom to attend and speak at many league meetings. They are currently selling Inspiration cards and Journals to help support the Stephen Bufton Memorial Education Fund.

### BUSINESS MEETING

With no additions or corrections,

**Submitted by  
Elaine Study  
Raintree  
Secretary**



the **February Secretary's report** will be saved for history. Likewise, the **February Treasurer's report** will be saved for audit.

**February's breakout sessions** were summarized. Anniversary Committee Chair Dawn Pokorny reported all was on track. Associate Night Chair Janet Johnson plans on having the June meeting at REMC with decorations being finalized. Past Women's Symposium Chair Cheryl Blair recommended this year's committee plan for a September event. Shirley New explained committee purposes to the newer members and answered their questions.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Membership Contest Chair Shirley announced the extra points for this month will be given to members who wore green on St. Patrick's Day.

Karen encouraged all to work on obtaining items for the many **silent auction baskets and gift cards** that will be needed for the July, August, and November events.

(Cont. on page 5)

## Raintree March Chapter Meeting (cont. from pg. 4).

Current President Karen Johnson presented **Past President Shirley New** with an official Raintree gift thanking her for her guidance last year. Covid-19 had prevented an earlier presentation from happening. Shirley received a huge, framed picture collage ready for 10 pictures of her Great Grandchildren.



Woman of the Year Chair Elaine Study read qualifications for **Raintree's Woman of the Year**. Qualified members Mary Cordle, Rose Elliott, Janet Johnson, Karen Johnson, and Peggy Miller were on the ballot. In person members only could vote. Winner will be announced at the April meeting.

Nominations for **Nominating Committee** were accepted. Renae nominated and Marilyn seconded Shirley New. Motion passed. Elaine nominated and Renae seconded Darra Moore. Motion passed. Shirley nominated and Peggy seconded Jackie Brayton. Motion passed. Nominating Committee Shirley New, Darra Moore and Jackie Brayton will have a list of officer candidates ready for voting at the May meeting.

**Top Ten** Committee Chair Cheryl Blair will announce the Top Ten nominee at the April meeting.

**March Birthday**—Rose Elliott

**March ABWA Anniversaries**—Renae Gawith, Nancy Brown, Peggy Miller and Pauline Hasty.

Next Raintree meeting is April 15.

**Door Prize** winners were Marilyn Lash, Mary Cordle and Janet Johnson

Karen Johnson led the Benediction. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Elaine Study, Secretary



## RAINTREE BIRTHDAYS

**Tarra Blair - April 9**  
**Shirley New - April 18**  
**Cheryl Blair - April 28**

**Jackie Brayton-May 16**  
**Melba McKnight-May 28**



- Apr. 15 Raintree Meeting
- Apr. 21 DVP call
- Apr. 24 Cardinal Crossroads Council
- May 20 Raintree Meeting
- May 30 Indy 500 Race**
- Jul. 16-17 DVP Event
- Jul. 24 Cardinal Crossroads Council
- Aug. 27-28 Summer Sizzler
- Nov. 6 Make, Bake and Buy



## **MAY** **ABWA ANNIVERSARY**

**Janet Johnson 3 years**  
**Liz McDonald 1 year**



**ABWA - CARDINAL CROSSROADS COUNCIL**



**SUMMER SIZZLER 2021**  
**"REIMAGINE OUR WORLD"**

**SAVE THE DATE**



**SIZZLER 2021**

**August 27 & 28, 2021 Anderson, IN**

Join ABWA sisters as we network, eat, play, get educated, eat some more, shop, have recognition, basket auctions, and envelope pulls . . . and ABWA hugs!!

Actual flyer & Vendor Information will be out soon.

Questions? Chair Paula Clutter (clutterp128@gmail.com; 812-453-4697)

Vice Chair Vicki Pearson (vpearson1961@gmail.com; 260-519-4406)



SPRING MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN MARCH 1-MAY 31



***Tips for Recruiting New Members for your ABWA League.***

- **ABWA focuses on Professional Development. Have a list of recent speakers and the topics they presented.**
- **Talk about your success story, and the success stories of other members. Who received a promotion, who started their own business?**
- **Hand out a copy of your league's brochure.**
- **Collect business cards so each month an email can be sent with an invitation to your meeting.**

**With these suggestions, you will become a top recruiter in ABWA.**

***And after you recruit one, two or three new members during the spring recruitment campaign, we will send you a unique Vera Bradley gift as our way of saying 'Thank You!' (While supplies last.)***

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



## SPRING MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN MARCH 1-MAY 31



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 duffel 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



## OUR BUSINESS CARD SPONSORS - (support them when you can)

**Vacation Temptations**



**Marilyn Upchurch**  
Travel Agent

420 S High Street, Suite 506  
Muncie, IN 47305  
(765) 896-9366  
mgupchurchmuncie@gmail.com

**Karen S. Johnson**  
Independent Beauty Consultant

7161 Saffron Drive  
Huber Heights, OH 45424  
937-233-6490  
937-671-4026  
ksj848@aol.com

Contact me for a complimentary facial



**New Heating And Cooling**

**Alan New**  
765-620-1484

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




**Cheryl Blair**  
COMMERCIAL LINES  
DEPARTMENT MANAGER

4535 N Wheeling Ave  
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765-615-7252  
Renae Gawith Tupperware Consultant.



Work: (765) 684-7030 Cell: (765) 620-8271

**New Accounting**

**Shirley New**  
Accountant

514 Locust Street  
Middletown, IN 47356  
wesanew@hrtc.net  
www.shirleynewaccounting.com



**Mary Cordle**  
Real Estate Broker  
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Fax: 765.287.2206  
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# RAINTREE RAMBLER

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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### ABWA Core Values

1. Giving Members a Voice
2. Treat People With Dignity
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

**ANNIVERSARY**-Dawn Pokorny

**ASSOCIATES NIGHT**-Janet Johnson

**BEST PRACTICES**-Peggy Miller

**FUNDRAISING**-Mary Cordle

**MEMBERSHIP**-Shirley New

**NEWSLETTER**-Elaine Study,  
Renaë Gawith

**NOMINATING**—Vote in March

**NOTIFICATIONS**-Pauline Hasty

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
& EDUCATION**—Shirley New

**PUBLICITY**-Renaë Gawith

**TOP TEN**-Cheryl Blair

**WEBSITE**-Wendy Wilker

**WOMAN OF THE YEAR**-Elaine  
Study

**WOMEN'S SYMPOSIUM**-  
Marilyn Upchurch

**CARDINAL CROSSROADS  
COUNCIL**

**RAINTREE DELEGATE**-

Renaë Gawith

**RAINTREE ALTERNATES**—  
Jackie Brayton, Peggy Miller

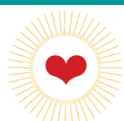


#### RAINTREE OFFICERS

Vice President Renaë Gawith; President  
Karen Johnson; Treasurer Janet Johnson;  
Secretary Elaine Study

### RAINTREE VISION STATEMENT - 2020-21

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**

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**Newsletter Editors**

**Elaine Study 765-969-8602**

**studyelaine@yahoo.com**

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**ABWA®**  
AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

**Raintree Chapter**

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