



JUNE 2021 | Vol. 57 Issue 11

RAINTREE RAMBLER

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



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PG. 2 Meeting Information

PG. 4 55th Anniversary

PG. 5 Secretary's Report

PG. 8 ABWA Anniversary
Save the Date
Raintree Birthdays

PG. 9 DVP Event Form

PG. 11 Sponsors

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

Hope you've had a great weekend - it's a little on the muggy side, but at least it's not raining - again. I had the pleasure this weekend of watching my twin grandsons graduate from high school. Perhaps some of you had that same experience.

This month we will be celebrating Business Associate Night with Janet Johnson chairing the event. I hope she has received several candidates; even if your candidate does not win, she or he will know how much you have thought of them over the years.

I talked to Renae Gawith a few days ago, and she mentioned there are still several committees that do not have a Chair. Remember, we are a small group and some members may have to do "double duty" to fill those spaces. Give it a thought and get in touch with Renae.

Mary Cordle has things set up for Raintree Chapter to help with fundraising for the chapter by selling Trophy Nut products at the Middletown Lions Club Fair, Monday thru Friday this week, 6 pm - 10 pm. Last I heard there are still some times that are not covered. I'm hoping to get over there yet, however, my car "died" the other day and waiting on my mechanic to get me running again. Of note, Rene' Street is going to be purchasing some of our items!!

Towards the end of June the current board and the incoming board,

Continued page 3



Past Scholarship
Recipient Rosie Hua

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

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

RAINTREE CHAPTER



"BUSINESS ASSOCIATE & EDUCATIONAL NIGHT"

Thursday, June 17, 2021

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

In Person Registration and Dinner	6:00-6:15 PM
Zoom Registration	6:45 PM
Networking, Introductions & Program	7:00 PM
Brief Business Meeting	7:45 PM

COME JOIN US AS WE HEAR FROM OUR PAST SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT, ROSIE HUA. WE WILL ALSO BE ANNOUNCING OUR 2021 BUSINESS ASSOCIATE. You won't want to miss this. We love lots of guests at this meeting. Celebrations galore!!!!



2019 Business Associate, Alan New receiving his award from his father, Bill New, 2018 Business Associate.

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

Please RSVP by Sunday, June 13th by phone, text or email to guarantee your reservation to Shirley New 765-620-8271

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)

as well as Committee Chairs will be meeting to share information and think about things that we need to do in the coming year (for newer members, our year starts in August, through July). If you have any ideas for the new year, please contact Incoming President, Renae Gawith with any ideas or suggestions you may have.

I do want to mention that Dawn Pokorny (Chair) and Renae did a great job with our 55th Anniversary!! Learning some things about events that were held many years ago was a lot of fun. And, of course, the meal was great!!

At the last meeting, Mary Cordle passed out some very lovely boxes she had purchased at a reduced price . . . she suggested each of those come back filled with something for an upcoming ABWA event where we need to help with the Silent Auction. The first of those is the DVP Event in July when we will be honor-

ing Cheryl Blair (who did double-duty as our District Vice President due to the Covid issues). This will be held in Ann Arbor, Michigan - July 16 & 17. Hope to see a lot of Raintree members there supporting Cheryl - I'm sure she would be very pleased!!

I am Chair of the Silent Auction Event in Ann Arbor and have yet to hear from any Raintree members if they are working on a basket (or item) for this event. If you are planning to do so, would you let me know as soon as you can what your theme is? We want to share the themes, so those leagues who are still thinking about it, will try to avoid too many duplicates.

And/or, if you're so inclined to help with the Envelope Pull, give your gift card(s) (minimum \$10) to Renae Gawith as she is working

that event for DVP. I've turned mine in . . . have you?

I know this is repetitive, but it is very important that we keep thinking about these things coming up . . . In addition to the DVP Event mentioned earlier, we also need baskets for:

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

- and, for **Make, Bake, or Buy** in Fort Wayne. New date to be announced soon. (It was colliding with the National Women's Leadership Conference date)

Looking forward to seeing all of you on June 17th at the REMC Building or via Zoom.

ABWA HUGS,
KAREN JOHNSON,

BUSINESS ASSOCIATES AND EDUCATIONAL NIGHT —June 17

~~Great speakers!!

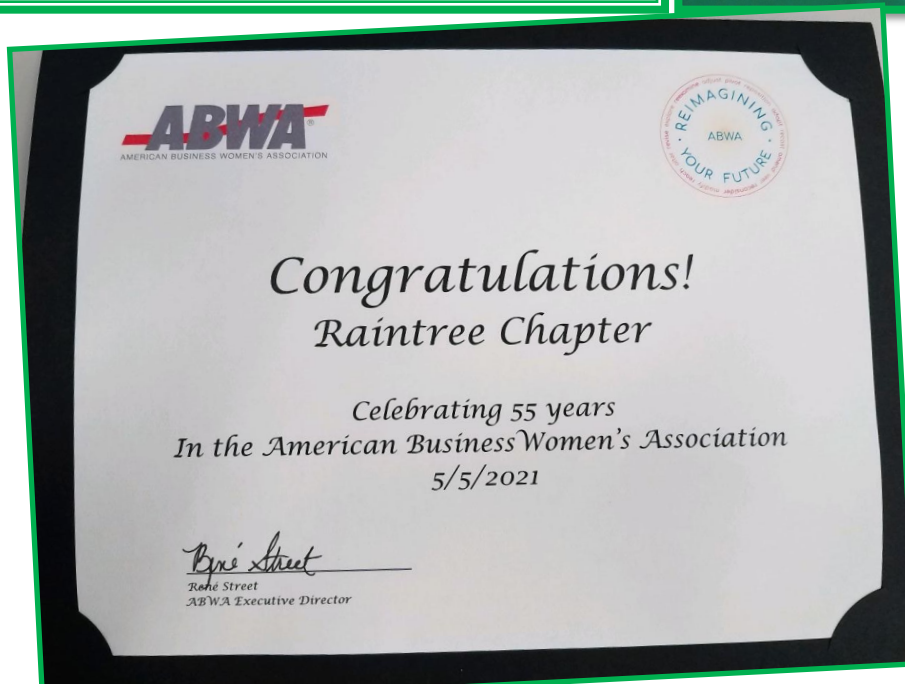
~~Business Associate Award presented

~~Bring a guest—spouse, friend, past business associate, past member, new acquaintance

~~Enjoy dinner and a fun evening out with friends!!

RSVP TO SHIRLEY NEW BY SUNDAY, JUNE 13!!!!!!

HAPPY 55TH ANNIVERSARY RAINTREE CHAPTER!!



Raintree celebrants: Dawn Pokorny, Mary Cordle, Lois Cook, Donna Collins, guest; Rose Elliott, Marilyn Upchurch, Renae Gawith, Jessica Malsen, Peggy Miller, Debbie de Kater, guest; Karen Johnson, Cheryl Cramer, guest; Elaine Study, Janet Johnson, Shirley New

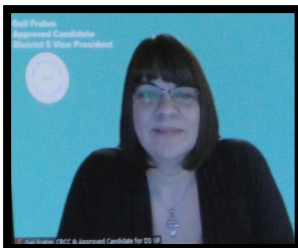
Raintree May Chapter Meeting

The May 20th meeting of the ABWA Raintree Chapter was held at the Henry County R.E.M.C. community room. Meeting was called to order at 6:30 by President Karen Johnson after a meal catered by member Dawn Pokorny. Karen welcomed everyone to the Chapter's 55th Anniversary Celebration!

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Elaine Study. Janet Johnson let the ABWA Mission Statement. Renae Gawith explained the networking activity was to state your name, chapter affiliation and number of years in ABWA.

Members attending were Dawn Pokorny, Mary Cordle, Marilyn Upchurch, Jessica Malsen, Rose Elliott, Lois Cook, Shirley New, Janet Johnson, Renae Gawith, Peggy Miller, Karen Johnson, and Elaine Study. Guests were speaker Karey Davis, Indianapolis Charter Chapter members Cheryl Cramer and Debbie de Kater, and Donna Collins guest of Rose Elliott.

Zoom guest was Gail Frahm, Cass River Charter Chapter.



Speaker
Karey Davis is a Physician Assistant with Henry Community Health. In her role as Nu-

trition Outreach Fellow with the PA Foundation, Karey travels to New Castle, Muncie and Cambridge City to share information with community members. She discussed healthy aging, diabetes Type 2 and enhanced recovery after surgery. Her excellent handouts provided more examples and tips for those topics.

Healthy aging allows us to be able to do the things we enjoy as we get older. Overall, what we eat plays a huge role in how we all age, keeping diabetes in check, and helping us bounce back after surgery. Increasing protein both before and after surgery promotes faster recovery times. Karey encouraged us to read the nutrition labels on foods because they tell lots of information! We need to be healthy to benefit both our work and home lifestyle.

To begin **Raintree's 55th Anniversary Celebration**, Karen read a congratulations letter from ABWA Executive Director

Submitted by
Elaine Study
Raintree
Secretary



Rene' Street and the ABWA National Support Team. She turned the next part of the meeting over to Anniversary meeting co-chairs Dawn Pokorny and Renae Gawith. Renae asked each attendee to put on the "Happy Birthday" headpieces to help us celebrate our 55th year. Everyone also had a specially designed cloth napkin courtesy of speaker Karey Davis (who is also Dawn's daughter), and a chocolate bar.



Dawn welcomed the group to the anniversary celebration and shared some member highlights. Renae took us on a time travel of Raintree's history. She began in 1975 when Shirley New was president. Shirley spoke about happenings during her term as president. **Continued page 6**

Raintree May Chapter Meeting (cont. from pg. 5).

Off we traveled to 1988. Then President Donna Collins remembered some special aspects of her presidency.

Lois Cook shared events in 2007 during her years as president.



Attendees then learned about 2016 activities with Elaine Study reminiscing.

The time travel ended in 2021 as current President Karen Johnson summarized her past year.

Members and guests were then treated to specially prepared anniversary cake and punch.

Business Meeting

With no additions or corrections, the secretary's minutes and treasurer's report were saved for history or filed for audit. Renae Gawith was the Meeting Sponsor for the Month.



Committee Reports

Janet Johnson reported on next month's **Business Associate** meeting. She distributed Business Associate applications which are needed to be turned in to her by May 28.

Fundraising Chair Mary Cordle announced the chapter will have a booth selling Trophy candy & nuts at the upcoming Middletown Lions Club Fair from June 7 to June 11. The Home Show in the pavilion will be open from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Mary circulated a sign-up sheet for working at the booth.

Membership chair Shirley New revealed this month's special membership points were added if you wore the special "Happy Birthday" headpiece today.

Professional Development Chair Shirley New reported we still needed to have a Community Connections lesson to comply for Best Practices. That lesson will take place at the July meeting in lieu of the annual On the Road meeting.

Shirley also encouraged members to attend **the Virtual National Women's Leadership Conference November 4-6.**

Continued page 7



Raintree May Chapter Meeting (cont. from pg. 6).

Attendees will be voting for National Officers. Member Cheryl Blair is an approved candidate for National Secretary/Treasurer and needs our votes!!! The chapter has put money aside to help members defray the registration fee of \$489. There is a 4-part payment plan starting June 16 of \$122.25. Please contact Shirley if you are thinking about attending. Some members are traveling to Denver where the conference will be headquartered to support Cheryl and will be staying in an Airbnb.

Elaine Study urged members to also support Cheryl as the current District Vice President by attending the July 16 and 17 **DVP Event**. She explained the purpose of the event was to thank Cheryl for her service to District 5 by serving on the National Board for the past 2 years. Early registration deadline is June 16. Registration forms were in the latest newsletter. Gift cards and silent auction items are still needed.

Council Woman of the Year applications are to be given to Renae this week so Raintree's nominee can be submitted by June 1.

Renae also gave each member a form to sign up for next year's committees. Mary had purchased decorative boxes for members to take home and fill up for possible silent auction donations.

May birthdays are Jackie Brayton and Melba McKnight.

June birthdays are Sharon Woodruff and Liz McDonald.

ABWA Anniversaries: Janet Johnson 3 yrs.; Liz McDonald 1 yr.

Door prizes winners: Cheryl Cramer, Jessica Malsen, Karey Davis, Debbie de Kater, Lois Cook

Karen led us in the benediction, adjourned the meeting and invited everyone back to the Associate's Night meeting on June 17.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Study, Secretary





June 7-11 Middletown Fair 6-10 pm

June 10 Just In Time Webinar

June 16 Early Registration-DVP

June 16 4 Part Payment Plan Nat'l
Woman's Leadership Conf. due

June 17 Raintree Meeting

June 29 Incoming/Outgoing officers
& committee chairs meeting

July 15 Raintree Meeting

Jul. 16-17 DVP Luncheon

Jul. 24 Cardinal Crossroads Council

Aug. 19 Raintree Meeting

Aug. 27-28 Summer Sizzler

Nov. 4-6 National Woman's Leadership
Conference

RAINTREE BIRTHDAYS

Sharon Woodruff-June 12

Liz McDonald-June 15

Pauline Hasty-July 4



happy anniversary

JUNE

ABWA ANNIVERSARY

Elaine Study 10 years

Jackie Brayton 26 years

JULY

ABWA ANNIVERSARY

Karen Johnson 26 years



District V Annual Luncheon Honoring ABWA District V Vice President **Cheryl Blair** Saturday, July 17, 2021

The Kensington Hotel
3500 S State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Sponsored by District V Councils
Eastern Michigan
Cardinal Crossroads



REGISTER NOW

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____
Chapter/Express Network: _____
Top 10/Year: _____ National Officer/Year: _____
DVP/Year: _____ Other: _____
☐ Early Registration Deadline June 16, 2021 **Cost: \$45.00**
☐ Final Reg (*pay pal only*), Deadline June 17– July 15, 2021
Cost: \$50.00

☐ REGISTER ONLINE (PayPal @ <https://www.abwa-emc.org/dvp-luncheon>)
☐ OR MAIL Payment and Completed Registration to:
Gwendolyn Guy
12531 2nd Avenue S; Southgate, MI 48195
Phone: (313)530-8642

Checks payable to: ABWA Total Enclosed \$ _____

☐ Yes - I also plan to attend the Informal Meet & Greet Friday Night
☐ I will eat dinner with the group on Friday night at the hotel (pay your own way)
☐ I will attend Friday night Meet & Greet virtually (**NOT** in-person)

Registration includes

- Saturday Full Breakfast Buffet
- Saturday Lunch (Fajita Bar)



Please note any dietary requests/restrictions below:

Masks are required indoors



Cheryl Blair
2019-2021 District V Vice President

Agenda

Friday, July 16th

5-6pm Informal Meet & Greet
6pm Dinner at the hotel

Saturday, July 17th

8:00 am Registration
8:30 am Full Breakfast Buffet
9:15 am Welcome
9:30 am ABWA Educational Event
12 Noon Luncheon
1:15 pm DVP Honor Event



Cheryl Blair, District V DVP

In addition to our scheduled agenda, look forward to Networking, our Silent Auction items to Bid on, and the annual Envelope Pull as well as Recognition and contributions to 2021-2022 DV National Office candidates and Awarding of (2) NWLC Early Bird Registrations to the 2021 Conference

Hotel Reservations

Must Reserve before June 16, 2021
Call Kensington Hotel (734)761-2929
Code: ABWA DVP
Room Rates: \$129/night (up to 4 occupants)

For info/contact Co-chairs

Jo Ann Huebner **Susie Mariutto**
(248)370-0532 (317)435-1782
donandjoann@wowway.com smariutto@ameritech.net



District V Annual Luncheon Honoring ABWA District V Vice President **Cheryl Blair** Saturday, July 17, 2021

The Kensington Hotel
3500 S State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Sponsored by District V Councils
Eastern Michigan
Cardinal Crossroads



DONATIONS REQUEST

Donations for Auction Items & Gift Cards for the Envelope Pull are requested from individuals, ABWA Leagues, Councils, and community businesses. The donations are greatly appreciated, with proceeds helping to fund the District V Vice President's Luncheon. (Notification deadline of donors for either the Auction or the Envelope pull is **June 16, 2021**. Any donations after that date will NOT be recognized in the program.)



AUCTION ITEMS

We are requesting auction items of various themes with a value of **\$20 to \$50**. (We're asking Council Chapters to try and provide at least two to four auction items each.) Auction items are distributed via a Silent Bid Auction. **Please advise the Auction Co-Chair Karen Johnson, if you are donating** - we will need name of contributor, theme or type of auction item, and approximate \$\$ value of same so we can complete the bid sheets prior to this event.



GIFT CARDS FOR ENVELOPE PULL

Gift cards for restaurants, gasoline, clothing stores, home improvement stores, sewing or craft materials, on-line games, and many others are needed. Cards can be in various values (\$10, \$15, \$20, \$25, or more). Cards should be for businesses who are nationally recognized and available in many states.

Cards are distributed through an Envelope Pull. Receiver pays \$10 for an envelope; each envelope is guaranteed to have a gift card with a minimum value of \$10; however, many envelopes have a higher value. We will need name of chapter or individual donating card(s), vendor (type of gift card), and \$\$ value. **Please advise Envelope Co-Chairs if you are donating so they can prepare the envelopes prior to this event. If you would like to donate directly to the committee and they will purchase cards, contact Debbie deKater for details.**

Profits from these two fundraisers will help fund the two Early Bird Registrations for the 2021 NWLC, as well as aiding the 2021-22 Campaigns for District V Candidates.



Cheryl Blair
2019-2021 District V Vice President

AUCTION TEAM CO-CHAIRS

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CHERYL SCHMANDT

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

Vacation Temptations



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Independent Beauty Consultant

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

Contact me for a complimentary facial



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Gas-Electric-Geothermal
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RAINTREE RAMBLER

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

JUNE 2021 | Vol. 57 Issue 11

ABWA Core Values

ANNIVERSARY-Dawn Pokorny

ASSOCIATES NIGHT-Janet Johnson

BEST PRACTICES-Peggy Miller

FUNDRAISING-Mary Cordle

MEMBERSHIP-Shirley New

NEWSLETTER-Elaine Study,
Renae Gawith

NOMINATING— Vote in March

NOTIFICATIONS-Pauline Hasty

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
& EDUCATION**— Shirley New

PUBLICITY-Renae Gawith

TOP TEN-Cheryl Blair

WEBSITE-Wendy Wilker

WOMAN OF THE YEAR-Elaine
Study

WOMEN'S SYMPOSIUM-
Marilyn Upchurch

**CARDINAL CROSSROADS
COUNCIL**

RAINTREE DELEGATE-
Renae Gawith

RAINTREE ALTERNATES—
Jackie Brayton, Peggy Miller

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



RAINTREE OFFICERS

Vice President Renae 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**

~~~~~  
**Newsletter Editors**

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**studyelaine@yahoo.com**

**Renae Gawith 765-615-7252**

**renaegawith@gmail.com**

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

**Raintree Chapter**

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