



**Nokomis Charter Chapter
#5027 Midland, Michigan**

www.abwa-midland-mi.org

Volume 46, Issue 6

November 2009

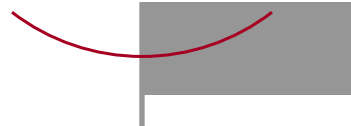
Inside this issue:

October Program Business Meeting	2
Chapter Calendar	3
Birthdays & Anniversaries	3
EMC Meeting	4
Vocational Speaker	4
Get Involved!	5
EMC Events	5
Are you getting your money's worth?	6
Scholarship in debate	7
Member Highlight—Cindy	8
Take a look . . . Then look again!	9
ABWA Code & Mission	10
ABWA National News	10



The Creek Line

Nokomis News



November Business Meeting - Prioritizing your Life

November 9th, 2009

Midland Resort (Wackerly Road, Midland)

6:00 pm Networking, 6:30 pm Dinner, 7:00 Presenting
Speaker followed by Business Meeting

Presenter: Darryl White

Description: Prioritizing Your Life

\$16 at the door for Buffet Dinner

RSVP: Online at www.abwa-midland-mi.org (Chapter Events) or
call Bev Garchow by 5pm Monday

Holiday Nokomis Event

Save the date

December 9th, 2009

Come to the November business meeting to hear the plans forming for
the annual Nokomis Holiday Party!

Goal 2009–2010

Increase our Membership

Goal Setting . . . Applied to Nokomis Charter Chapter

Our October program was lead by Kim Walden. We viewed a portion of an ABWA WIN Program “Goal Setting and Measuring Results. There are four parts to the goal setting.

First define your Key Result Areas: Link your Key Result Areas to what your customers expect of you. Include Key Results Areas in your team’s charter.

Secondly define Benchmarks: How can we measure it?

Thirdly what is the Current Performance:

The key is to measure your team’s performance using the same methods identified in your benchmarks.

Fourthly define Goals: They should be: Attainable, Challenging, Clearly Measured, Have Specific Actions, and be Plainly Written.



We broke into two groups and discussed what the Nokomis Charter Chapter goals should be. We aim to increase our membership using a benchmark of 40 members. We also aim for 75% active participation from members. We are currently discussing a member drive during the January meeting.

Chapter Calendar

November

Wednesday, 4th Nokomis Board Meeting 6:00pm FBI

Friday, 6th WakeUp! Midland at Valley Plaza Resort 7:30-9:00 am, \$5

Wednesday, 11th Nokomis Program & Business Meeting at Midland Resort, 6:00 pm \$16

Friday, 13th How to win more business in a Challenging Business Economy Seminar (www.macc.org)

Wednesday, 16th MACC Business After Hours XXX, \$5

December

Wednesday, 2nd Nokomis Board Meeting 6:00pm FBI

Friday, 4th WakeUp! Midland at Valley Plaza Resort 7:30-9:00 am, \$5

Wednesday, 9th Nokomis Holiday Social Event TBA

Saturday, 12th EMC Meeting, Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor 9am, \$16

Wednesday, 16th MACC Holiday Party at Great Hall, Valley Plaza 5 - 7, \$5

January

Wednesday, 6th Nokomis Board Meeting 6:00pm FBI

Friday, 8th WakeUp! Midland at Valley Plaza Resort 7:30-9:00 am, \$5

Wednesday, 13th Nokomis Program & Business Meeting at Midland Resort, 6:00pm \$16

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS!

12th Cora Belle Bell

14th Kathy Frost

ANNIVERSARIES!

2008 Dodie Heilein

2008 Karla Oldenberg

2008 Erin Strayer

EMC

October 10th the ladies of Eastern Michigan Council travelled to Midland as the Nokomis Chapter hosted the State of the Council meeting. During the August meeting the attendees were surveyed on their impressions of the EMC. Ten chapters were represented at the August meeting. Sandy Sidaway presented the results. Questions asked involved the effectiveness of the EMC, each chapter's statistics of membership, management, communication, meetings, offices, education, national conference involvement, fundraising efforts and chapter vision. The full results are available from those attendees on October 10th (Maria, Theresa, Dawn, Vicki, Bev).



Member Vocational Speaker—Sue Adams

Do you know what Pre-Paid Legal offers? Nokomis member Sue Adams took a few minutes at the October Business Meeting to describe their services. Pre-Paid Legal Plan offers unlimited services relating to wills, real estate purchases, contract reviews, defense against a civil suit, and traffic offenses. Pre-Paid Identity Theft Shield offers a credit report analysis, monitoring of credit activities, and identity theft restoration.

They offer 3 packages Legal Plan & Identity Theft Shield Both, or the Legal Plan alone, or the Identity Theft Shield alone. Contact Sue today to find out more details.

E-mail: sueadams03@gmail.com

Office: 989-414-3196

Get Involved!

Respectfully submitted, Theresa Burby

Attending events and fundraisers held by other chapters in the EMC is not only fun, but rewarding, too. By supporting other chapters, we receive reciprocal involvement, with members of other chapters supporting us. Plus, it gives us a chance to network with other dynamic ABWA women around the state. With our big fundraising event “Party Gras” scheduled in less than four months, we should be checking into ways we can help with other events happening throughout the council (sometimes it only requires volunteering to help in some way or sending a raffle item).

Please check out list of current events at www.abwa-emc.org.

Vivon Chapter: Make, Bake or Buy

Saturday, December 5, 2009

Elks Lodge 343
3292 Beach, Port Huron

Doors open at 11am, Hot Lunch
Buffet 11:30am, Auction to follow

Cost \$22 + Cash Bar

www.abwa-vivon.org

Greater Oakland Chapter: 10th Annual Holiday Auction

Sunday, November 15, 2009

Crowne Plaza
1500 Opdyke Road, Auburn Hills

Preview 11:25am, Lunch 12:15
pm, Auction 1:00pm

Cost \$25

www.abwa-greateroakland.org

***EASTERN
MICHIGAN
COUNCIL EVENTS..
. OTHER CHAPTER
EVENTS***

Eastern Michigan Council Holiday Event

Saturday, December 12, 2009

Hosted by Maia Chapter

Weber's Inn
3050 Jackson Rd, Ann Arbor

9am–12pm

Cost \$15

www.abwa-emc.org

Are you getting your money's worth?

Benefits of your ABWA membership . . . Respectfully submitted, Theresa Burby

Being a member of ABWA has its rewards. There are benefits to being a member both at the National and local chapter levels. This article is designed to provide an overview of these benefits. In following newsletters, some of these benefits will be explained in further detail. If you have questions regarding these benefits, please don't hesitate to contact me, your fellow chapter members, or ABWA National.

National benefits:

By being a member of ABWA at the National level, you are entitled to:

- Discounts from corporate sponsors such as Geico, US Bank, Hertz, and an advertising discount in Women in Business magazine.
- Professional development opportunities including attending District and National Conferences at a discounted rate.
- Receive Women "IN" Business magazine, published every other month.
- Networking and being part of one of the largest Women's organizations in the US.
- WIN – The Women's Instructional Network. Please take time to explore everything WIN has to offer through the National website www.abwa.org.
- And more...

Local benefits:

By being a member of ABWA at the local (chapter) level, you're entitled to:

- Personal and professional development through working as part of a committee, becoming a committee chair, or taking a role as a chapter officer.
- Networking opportunities at chapter board meetings, business meetings, and special events.
- You're also eligible for Business Skills Tuition Reimbursement to help defray costs of continuing education and training for our members. (Restrictions apply

– please contact our Education Chair, Cora Belle Bell, for details.)

There are other memberships that your chapter has paid for that you can take advantage of too!

- Nokomis Charter Chapter is part of the Eastern Michigan Council (EMC) of ABWA . The EMC is a group of 16 Michigan chapters that meet every other month with a focus on chapter growth and development. Great networking opportunities also exist with the members of the council.
- Nokomis Charter Chapter is also a member of the Midland Area Chamber of Commerce. This membership entitles you to attend everything from networking programs to professional development seminars at free or discounted member rates.

Please note that this is not an all-inclusive list. There are many, many more benefits to being a member of the American Business Women's Association. Are you involved with your membership? Are you taking advantage of any of these terrific opportunities? Are you getting your money's worth?



Special Scholarship in Debate

Our chapter special scholarship is a wonderful gift to a young woman in the area going to university. There is no debate about the philanthropic gift. But there is a debate among chapters in the Eastern Michigan Council if that special scholarship money is spent in the best way for the chapter. It's again deciding what we want from our membership in Nokomis Charter Chapter.

Nokomis Charter Chapter actively offers several programs. The Chapter Special Scholarship is a \$2,000 scholarship for Midland County women enrolled in any course of study at any class level. Nokomis pays for a student membership of the recipient and funds the entire cost by chapter fundraisers. The Outright Grant is a \$1,500 grant for women enrolled in any course of study at a junior, senior, or graduate level. This grant is encouraged to current ABWA members, but again any Midland Country woman can apply. The Outright grant is largely funded by SBMEF after the Nokomis Charter Chapter contributes \$500 to the fund. This same \$500 contribution also allows our members to be eligible for Business Skills Tuition Reimbursement.

The first argument against Chapter Special Scholarship is that often, the recipients who accept the scholarship are not active in ABWA at any level. Nokomis Charter Chapter awarded Laura Lauer the last scholarship, and although she might not be able to attend the monthly meetings, she is always in contact to be involved in other ways. Laura is an ideal scholarship recipient; however she seems to be an exception from past recipients. A suggestion to combat this issue is to raise the requirements for the scholarship. Because the scholarship is from Nokomis Charter Chapter, we can change criteria; such as: women over 25, women in graduate school, or recipients must agree to attend 5 meetings and/or chapter events per year. Some-

times a more mature student has the time and drive to be involved with organizations outside of the school campus.

The second argument against Chapter Special Scholarships is to use that money and invest it in the members of the Nokomis Charter Chapter. The ABWA mission statement is about professional development and personal growth of the members. Our national organization has created Best Practices for those chapters who excel at practicing this mission statement. To be a Best Practices awarded chapter, we must use 50% of our yearly profit toward our existing members' development. For example: If Nokomis Charter Chapter raises \$5,000 of profit during the year: \$2,500 should be used for member development - EMC participation, chapter library, and/or ABWA conferences. So in the proposed Best Practices budget this is the breakdown:

Nokomis Profit:	5,000
Member Development	-2,500
Special Scholarship	-2,000
<hr/>	
Remaining Profit	\$500

If we use 50% of our income for member development and give a \$2,000 scholarship, the chapter only has \$500 left in the example for normal expenses like programs, social events, post office box, website hosting, postage, etc. We could consider the suggestions to lower the amount of the Chapter Special Scholarship or omit it entirely for 1 year. If the scholarship is lowered to \$1,000, the chapter would have \$1,500 to normal expenses.

The final suggestion is to eliminate the Chapter Special Scholarship totally. Most members of Nokomis are torn with the idea. However, two chapters in the Eastern Michigan Council have eliminated the special scholarship. As long as we continue to contribute \$500 to SBMEF each year, our chapter can sponsor an Outright Grant of \$1,500 for a student in the commu-

Special Scholarship in Debate . . . continued

nity. If we decide to suspend the Chapter Special Scholarship, we still uphold our philanthropic goal.

This discussion is ongoing and might not be resolved in the near future, but we value your opinion. Should we keep the scholarship with current requirement and current amount? Should we raise the requirements to encourage recipients to be involved in ABWA? Should we lower the amount of the scholarship to have more money for active member development? Should we eliminate the special scholarship and focus on the grant? Tell us your thoughts?

Cindy Adamowski . . . Member Highlight

Cindy is a part owner in the Midland Sabourin’s Pharmacy. She joined in XXX because she believes in women. After her high school diploma, she also holds certificates in Jewelers and Hair Styling. She’s been married for 25 years with three children (Jenifer, Craig, and Whitney) and four granddaughters (Ava, Emma,

Mya, Sophia).

Cindy owned her first business at 21 years of age. She’s been a hair stylist for 30 years and opened an excavating business with her husband. One point in her life, she worked as a Brench Jeweler, soon after was a certified jeweler.

Sabourin’s Pharmacy

Married w/ 3 Children

4 Granddaughters

Save the Date

Nokomis Party-Gras

Girls Night Out

Awesome Appetizers, Cash Bar, Music, Vendors

Friday, February 19, 2010

6pm—Midnight at Midland Resort

Take a Good Look, then Look Again!

Respectfully submitted, Theresa Burby

Professional Development opportunities are EVERYWHERE. Sure there are many accredited colleges and universities at our disposal, but did you know that additional professional development and educational opportunities come in forms much different than traditional class listings?

It's true and following are a small list of examples:

- Newsletters and e-newsletters: Seriously! Our Creekline publication holds many great articles so read through it and to find something you may not have known before.
- Another great example is obtained through www.qrp-printing.com. That's right one of our local printing businesses has a fabulous FREE publication. Sign up for their e-newsletter and you won't be disappointed. Each newsletter highlights an "idea of the week", a "tech tip of the week", a "marketing tip of the week", and a "product of the week". If that weren't enough, they've even added cartoons and humor to their newsletter to help alleviate a little stress.

The Grace A. Dow Memorial Library offers FREE computer classes and more. Not to mention all the fantastic books they have on business, marketing, networking and others that are just for the enjoyment of reading! <http://www.midland-mi.org/gracedowlibrary/>

ETC – The education and training connection offers more advanced computer and business classes for a fee. They're right in our backyard and ready to assist! <http://www.etc-1.com/>

And last for this edition, but certainly NOT least, talk to our long-standing members. They've got great amounts of experience and knowledge and they're willing to share! The same holds true for many other chapter members.

Your challenge now is to start to identify education and professional development opportunities in non-traditional settings. Learn, grow, and have fun!

Professional Development:
Creekline
Company Newsletters
Library Classes
ETC
Member Mentors

**American Business
Women's Association**

Nokomis Charter Chapter #5027
P O Box 223
Midland MI 48640

E-mail:
abwamidlandmi@yahoo.com



Mission Statement

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.

ABWA's Code of Conduct

1. All members will serve as goodwill ambassadors for the American Business Women's Association.
 2. Members will not allow their personal beliefs and convictions to interfere with the representation of ABWA's mission.
 3. Members will always treat their member colleagues, guests, vendors, and sponsors with honesty, respect, fairness, integrity, responsibility, kindness and in good faith.
 4. Member will maintain compliance with ABWA's National, Chapter, and Express Network By-laws.
 5. Members will not use their personal power to advance their personal interests.
 6. Members will strive for excellent in their professions by maintaining and enhancing their own business knowledge and skills, and by encouraging the professional development of other members.
-

Notes from National

District V Conference
Indianapolis, Indiana
April 30th - May 1st 2010

National Conference
Chattanooga, Tennessee
October 28 - 30, 2010

Maria Weiss, Editor

PO Box 223

Midland MI 48640

maria.venezia@gmail.com

Check us out: www.abwa-midland-mi.org