



Inside Novi Oaks

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter
 Meeting in Novi, Michigan

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

IN THIS ISSUE	
2 President's Message	2026 Top Ten Nominee, Karen Wernette Kolc; 2025-26 Women of the Year, Carol Ann Donnelly and Janice Jones; Novi Oaks attending the District V Vice President event
3 ABWA Member Online Community	ABWA's new Member Online Community – connect with other members and find member resources
4 2025 National Women's Leadership Conference	ABWA National 2025 National Women's Leadership Conference – November 12-15
5-6 Upcoming Events	Novi Oaks Upcoming Events / Eastern Michigan Council
7 Core Values	ABWA's Core Values and information about Novi Oaks
8 Code of Conduct	ABWA's Proud Code of Conduct



Marcia Green, President
 Newsletter Editor
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President's Message

It is Cinco De Mayo today!! We are celebrating my sister's birthday and mostly just trying to stay warm. Bill and I had the pleasure of attending the Dueling Pianos fundraiser hosted by the Suburban Connection Charter Chapter in Chesterfield Township on Saturday, May 3rd. It was a great night! We stayed at the St. Clair Inn and spent some time in their waterfront restaurant watching the ships go by. One of my favorite activities!

Our Top Ten Nominee, Karen Wernette Kolc, is in the process of completing her application, which is due to be postmarked by May 15th. All submissions from around the country will be judged by a panel outside of ABWA, and the Top Ten will be chosen by that group. Nominees are evaluated based on their contributions to ABWA, work history, education, and community service.

The Top Ten are usually announced by the end of August, and all ten will speak at the National Women's Leadership Conference in Portland, Maine (November 12-15, 2025). This event is a favorite at the conference. One woman from the Top Ten will be chosen as the 2026 Business Woman of ABWA, which is ABWA's highest honor for a member.

Karen Kolc has served as our Education Chair for many years – wrangling the scholarship applicants to be sure they submit all of their required paperwork in a timely manner (May 1 deadline). She has recently reported that we have at least six completed applications, the minimum we need to present our two \$2,000 Impact Scholarships. We will also submit a candidate for the \$2,000 Outright Grant for District V (not guaranteed that she will win). Then it is up to the ABWA National Board of Directors to review the applications from all of the chapters across the country and announce the winners.



MARCIA GREEN



Carol Ann Donnelly



Janice Jones

Congratulations to our TWO 2025 Women of the Year (WOY), Carol Ann Donnelly and Janice Jones. Both women have contributed so much to the chapter in their years of membership. The auction would not be the same without their contributions and hard work.

In February, the chapter voted to attend the July 12th event to honor District V Vice President Renee Clement (DVP) in place of holding a meeting on July 9th. This event will be held at the Kensington Hotel in Ann Arbor (8:30 to 3:00 p.m.).

Please note that the early registration rate of \$60 expires on June 1st, so please register early (download the flier here: www.abwa-emc.org/dvp-luncheon). After members attend, Novi Oaks will reimburse \$30 of that cost. You may register now via mail or give your check made payable to the Eastern Michigan Council or cash payment to Marcia or Chris at the May 14th fashion show. (There is an additional fee if you register online at www.abwa-emc.org.)

There is also a reception at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 11th (no charge, but please let us know you're coming). The attendees of the reception will be going to dinner at the Los Amigos restaurant, which is across the parking lot from the hotel (each person orders and pays for her/his own dinner).

This special event will feature DVP Renee Clement, and two of the 2025 Top Tens from District V will also speak. Kelly Gray is from the Gem City Charter Chapter in Dayton, Ohio, and Dr. Dawn Kaiser is from the Northeast Sunrise Chapter in Oscoda, Michigan.

There will be fundraising activities that day: a silent auction, an "envelope pull" (\$10 cost with guaranteed \$10 value or more), and a wine cork pull for wines (\$10 cost with guaranteed \$10 value or more). If you wish to donate gift cards, wine bottles, or items for the silent auction (\$25 + value), please let me or Chris Struwe know.

All in all, this event is a fun day and a great way to meet not only other members from District V (Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and West Virginia), but to also meet members of the National Board of Directors from all over the U.S. I hope you will be able to attend that day!

If you are a mom, I wish you a Happy Mother's Day!

Marcia Green, President

CHECK OUT OUR NEW MEMBER COMMUNITY ONLINE! <https://abwa.site-ym.com/>

[Contact Us](#) [Sign Out](#)

View National
Event Calendar

[CLICK HERE](#)

National Resources

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Achieve Growth with
ABWA's Apex Campus

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Get Your Swag:
Shop ABWA

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Educational Fund

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NATIONAL WOMEN'S
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 12-15, 2025
Portland, Maine

Call ABWA at 800-228-0007 To Register!



www.novi-abwa.org



Upcoming Events

Visit novi-abwa.org/events to download fliers with details on meetings.

NOVI OAKS MEETINGS / EVENTS

June 11 Linda Hannah / Hats Off to Your Brilliance: Unleashing Your Potential and Leading with Influence / NCC

July 12 In place of a regular meeting, we are attending the District VP Event
See details below

Aug 12 (TUESDAY)..... Team Retreat featuring Dr. Regina Hall / NCC
More details to follow

Oct 18..... Autumn Brunch With Auction at the Hellenic Cultural Center
All proceeds go to the Novi Oaks Scholarship and Education Fund / \$30

OTHER MEETINGS / EVENTS

June 7 Eastern Michigan Council Meeting / Dave & Buster's, 7 Mile, Livonia
10:30am to 1pm / www.abwa-emc.org to register / Cost \$25 Zelle or \$27 online

July 11 & 12 Event to Honor Renee Clement – District V Vice President
Kensington Hotel, Ann Arbor / Cost \$60 / visit www.abwa-emc.org to register

Team Retreat TUESDAY August 12!



Dr. Regina Hall
August 12, 2025
6:00 p.m.

Novi Civic Center



Linda Hannah

Hats Off to Your Brilliance: Unleashing Your Potential and Leading with Influence

by Linda Hannah



As a former milliner, Linda Hannah shares expertise on 'hats,' or mindsets, that build creativity and resilience for life and business. She inspires audiences with her message and empowers them to take action, embracing these mindsets for personal and professional growth.

Linda is also a partner with her husband in K & L Media Works. Linda will also be releasing her new book, ***The Hat Chronicles: Scripture-Powered Insights to Embrace Every Role You Wear***, this spring.

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

6:00 P.M. NETWORKING & DINNER | 6:30 P.M. MEETING / PROGRAM

PLEASE REGISTER AT WWW.NOVI-ABWA.ORG/EVENTS

\$22 WITH DINNER / \$10 WITHOUT DINNER / \$5 VIA ZOOM

SET ASIDE THE DATES! MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW!



RENEE CLEMENT

District V Vice President Celebration & Honoring Renee Clement 2025-2025 District V Vice President

This event is sponsored by the Eastern Michigan Council and Cardinal Crossroads Council

JULY 11 & 12, 2025

KENSINGTON HOTEL / 3500 S. State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48108

CLICK the BOXES:

- ☐ I WILL ATTEND
the Friday
Meet & Greet
- ☐ I WILL GO to Friday
dinner with a group
(locations to be
announced)

Friday, July 11 - 5:00 p.m. Informal Meet & Greet
 6:00 p.m. groups go to different restaurants (list available later)

Saturday, July 12 – 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Main Event
 BUFFET BRUNCH INCLUDED

Early Registration \$60 by June 1 (cash, check, Zelle, or PayPal*)

FOR THE DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT EVENT, REGISTER AT WWW.ABWA-EMC.ORG

AUTUMN BRUNCH WITH AUCTION



All proceeds benefit the Novi Oaks Charter Chapter's Education and Scholarship Fund

Saturday, October 18, 2025 – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Hellenic Cultural Center - Westland

36375 Joy Road - Westland, Michigan 48185 (east of Newburgh Road)

\$30 Adults / \$20 18 & under until September 25, 2025 (\$37 after)

REGISTER ONLINE AT www.novi-abwa.org/events

VISA, MasterCard, and Zelle payments will be accepted at the auction!!

Set of Core Values for the American Business Women's Association

Our core values are the foundation for which the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) was founded on in 1949. They're reflective of the ethos of the ABWA culture and have been integral to creating an enduring and supportive community for generations of women in the workplace.

- 1. Selfless Leadership** – Be committed to doing the right thing, always. Be transparent in your actions even when no one is looking!
- 2. Building Community** – Be committed to creating sustainable ABWA communities where women can connect, learn, and grow together.
- 3. Value and Seek Diversity** – Be committed to recruiting new members from diverse cultures, ages, work industries and experiences.
- 4. Manage for Innovation and Excellence** – Be committed to original thinking and delivering excellence in everything you do.
- 5. Lifelong Learning** – Be committed to enhancing your own business knowledge, skills, and acumen. Be unafraid to make mistakes, iterate, err and try again.
- 6. Focus on Facts and Own Results** – Be committed to using "data" to drive your decisions and actions and be accountable for your performance, good and bad.
- 7. Choose to Make a Difference** – Be committed to unlocking a member's potential and inspiring/motivating her to become the best version of herself.
- 8. Celebrate** – Be committed to celebrating members' achievements.

START 2025 WITH NEW CONNECTIONS



BELIEVE. BELONG. BECOME.
American Business Women's Association



2024-2025 Chapter Executive Board

President Marcia Green
Vice President Linda DaBiero
Secretary Sheryl Mayer
Treasurer Christina Struwe

2026 Top Ten Nominee:

Karen Wernette Kolc

Novi Oaks' 2025-2026 Women of the Year:

Carol Ann Donnelly and Janice Jones

2025 Council Woman of the Year:

Mary Mills, Greater Oakland Charter Chapter

2024-2025 National Executive Board

President Anne O'Neill
Vice President Kim Stengel
Secretary-Treasurer Barbara Pederson
District V-Vice President Renee Clement
Executive Director Rene' Street

ABWA National Headquarters

P.O. Box 4757
Overland Park, KS 66204-0757
(800) 228-0007 / www.abwa.org

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter Meeting Details:

IN PERSON MEETINGS:

When: The **2nd Wednesday** of each month

When: 6:00 p.m. Dinner and Networking
6:30 p.m. Introductions, then presentation.
Meeting follows.

Cost: \$22 with dinner / \$10 w/o dinner / \$5 Zoom

Where: Locations vary / visit website for details

AUGUST meeting will be on **TUESDAY, August 12th**

TO REGISTER visit www.novi-abwa.org/events

PRE-PAID RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter's Vision Statement:

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter educates and empowers women by supporting them to achieve their personal best.

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter

2nd Wednesday of the month / Visit website for location of each meeting

6pm Networking/Dinner | 6:30 Introductions/Program

\$22 w/Dinner, \$10 w/o Dinner, \$5 via Zoom

For reservations and details, visit www.novi-abwa.org/events



www.novi-abwa.org



NoviOaksABWA@gmail.com

Please
register
by May 11

www.novi-abwa.org

Ladies' Night Out

*Fashion Show / Shopping
Discounts / Door Prizes*

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Dessert Served

First 50 receive Goodie Bags!



at the Clothing Cove
in Downtown Milford

414 N. Main Street

West side of Main / Enter Rear Door
Parking lot south off Commerce Road

WALK-INS ARE WELCOME!

PLEASE REGISTER AT NOVI-ABWA.ORG/EVENTS

YOU CHOOSE THE DONATION AMOUNT
(\$5 OR MORE)

All donations will benefit the
Haven Domestic Violence Shelter



♥ Women Helping Women ♥

ABWA
AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION
Novi Oaks Charter Chapter

ABWA's Proud 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. Members will maintain compliance with ABWA National, Chapter and Express Network Bylaws.
5. 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.