



DOLPHIN TALES

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA COUNCIL



APRIL

2008

April 19, 2008

Call to order

Invocation & Pledge

**Introduction of Board.
Woman of the Year &
Lifetime Achiever**

Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

**Program: Attorney,
Matt Linde – speaking on
Charitable Contributions.**

**Old Business:
Professional
Development Day –
Lehigh Society**

**Lifetime Achievement
Changes:**

**New Business:
Chapter Events**

Benediction

2008 COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chair: Dr. Joyce Grace

V. Chair: Ann Polito

**Communications Officer:
Sandy Waite**

Treasurer: Doris Mellon

Dear Members,

The next Council meeting will be held on April 19, 2008 at 9:30 at the Fort Myers Library at 2050 Central Avenue in downtown Fort Myers. This should be a great informational meeting as we will be having as our guest speaker Attorney Matt Linde. As discussed at our January meeting, Attorney Linde will be providing information on Charitable Contributions that your chapter has been making. This will include scholarships, and any other contributions you make to other groups. Most of us were unaware that there are strict guidelines and percentages that each chapter must go by since we are considered a 501[c]6 organization. It is different for organizations that are a 501[c]3. Most chapters have not been doing this correctly, and if their chapter books are audited by the IRS, can be fined heavily. Some chapters have already had this happen to them.

This meeting is just not for the Chapter Delegates. We want to have each Chapter's Officers and the Education Chairman attend this meeting so that everyone receives this vital information. As many chapters have also voted for their Woman of the Year, this is the time to update the Councils records. The Board still needs updated rosters for most chapters with current contact information. Voting for the updated Lifetime Achievement Award Applications will be done at the next Council meeting. They will be due in July. Exact date will be announced.

For those attending Spring Conference at Myrtle Beach, have a great time and plan to give us a short report of your trip. Next year's Spring Conference will be held in Fort Lauderdale.

Remember to bring your upcoming events to the meeting or send them to me so that we continue to support other chapters in our area.

Yours always,

**Dr. Joyce Grace
Council Chair**

Southwest Florida Council ABWA Minutes

February 9, 2008

Meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m. at 1500 Monroe Street, Fort Myers by Chairperson Dr. Joyce Grace. Introductions were made by each of the 22 members that represented 9 chapters of the Council.

The invocation and pledge of allegiance was lead by Chairperson Grace. Minutes from the previous meeting were in the newsletter. No corrections or additions and a motion to accept the minutes was made by Sheila Bedwell and seconded by Brenda Wickendon.

The Treasurer's report by Doris Mellon, Tropic Enlightenment Chapter, was distributed along with the financial report of Women of the Year Luncheon. Dues for the year 2008 are due by February 15, 2008 and Doris reported that 3 chapters still have not paid this year's dues. She has made a follow up contact will all 3 chapters. The reports will be filed for audit.

The Audit Report for the Calendar year of January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2007 was read by Sandy Waite, Neapolitan Chapter. The audit report will submitted for print in the Council Newsletter and filed.

Program speaker Deb Cullen with the Cape Coral Caloosa Chapter spoke on Chapter Scholarships. She distributed a detailed email from Susan Zweimiller from ABWA National Headquarters. The content of this email was reviewed and discussed. ABWA as a 501(c)(6), a Business League, has legal obligations to meet and could raise money to support the founding goals and mission of the association. *"Because of the complexity and risks involved in using chapter funds for local scholarships, we are encouraging chapters to use their Associations' national scholarship fund to fulfill that last chapter goal. We also remind you that chapter funds should be used for the first five goals too."* This quote is from Susan's email. Jean Flewelling, Neapolitan Chapter, added her information from contact with ABWA National. Open discussion began and a consensus was formed that members would like to have an attorney speak in more detail on this same topic at our next Council meeting. Jean offered to contact the Matt Linde to speak at the next meeting.

Old Business: Joyce McLeod and Brenda Wickendon, Caloosahatchee Chapter, reported on the success of the 2008 Woman of the Year Luncheon held on Saturday January 19 at the Colonial Country Club, Ft. Myers. Lina Lawson, National President presented "The Change You Want – It Can Happen". The 2008 Council Women of the Year was awarded to Vicki Reynolds of Caloosahatchee Chapter.

LeHigh Society Chapter will host the 2008 Professional Development Day. The date has been set for September 20, 2008 but the location is tentative for the Colonial Country Club, Ft. Myers. More information will be available at the next meeting.



Cape Coral Caloosa will host WOY Luncheon 2009. No update available.

Dr. Joyce Grace announced that the 2009 Professional Development Day is in need of a Chapter to host/sponsor. She urged all delegates to take this information back to their chapters for discussion. She also asked for all chapters to submit their current member rosters, council delegates, executive board and WOY names and contact information to Sandy Waite so that all records can be updated.

New Business:

Ann Polito, Cape Coral Caloosa distributed a draft of the revised application and point system for the Lifetime Achievement Award that her committee drafted. Discussion began and additional changes were submitted by the council members. These changes were noted and will be added to this draft and resubmitted at the next meeting.

Rosie Parker asked if anyone had interest in taking a bus to the Spring Conference in Myrtle Beach to please contact her.

Dr. Joyce Grace announced that Sandy Waite would begin as the new Website Coordinator to work with Lynn Drowne, the current Webmaster of the SW FL Council website. The Website Coordinator will be responsible to contact each chapter's delegate to obtain current information for their chapter to have available on the website. Rosie Parker offered to assist with this new position.

The next meeting will be April 19, 2008. Chairperson Grace will check with the Downtown Library for space on that Saturday.

Chapter Events:

Punta Gorda Chapter will be presenting the Spring Fling III, Luncheon and Fashion Show on March 9, 2008 at Visani. Admission will be \$25.

Neapolitan Chapter will be presenting the Sixth Annual Women in History luncheon on March 14, 2008 at the Hilton Naples. Admission will be \$75.

Caloosahatchee Chapter will have a booth at the Swamp Cabbage Festival on February 22 and 23, 2008.

Martha Wooley, Tropic Enlightenment, won the 50-50 of \$40.50.

Benediction was held and meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Sandy Waite
Communications Officer
South West Florida Council ABWA



SW FL Council Audit Report
January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2007

Gayle DeHaan-Garland - Sanibel Captiva Chapter
Sandy Waite – Neapolitan Chapter

Committee met at 9530 Marketplace Rd Suite 203, Ft. Myers on Saturday, February 2, 12:40pm – 1:20pm.

Each month's bank statement for the above stated year was reviewed and verified that the ending balance was the beginning balance for the next month. The individual checks and deposits were verified for accuracy and compared to the Treasurer's Report.

The expenses and income of the 2007 Woman of the Year luncheon and the 2007 Professional Development Day were verified and all accurately documented.

The Treasure's Report dated 10/01/07 – 12/31/07 states a Balance of \$3,371.96.

The committee agreed that the treasurer's books are in good order and well organized. They would like to make two recommendations:

- 1. The annual Council dues statement should be email to the Chapter president and C.C. to the Chapter treasurer or mailed to the address listed on file for the chapter.**
- 2. A standardized expense reimbursement form is submitted to the Treasurer with the actual receipts attached. An example form is attached to this report.**

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SOUTHWEST FLORIDA COUNCIL
AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION
Temporary Editor: Pat Kluge

