



Inside Novi Oaks

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter
Meeting in Novi, Michigan

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

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Marcia Green, President
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President's Message

The Novi Oaks Charter Chapter kicked off the new ABWA year on Wednesday, August 14, with our Team Planning Retreat at the Farmington Community Library. We accomplished some important votes, learned more about each other and about ABWA. Working with this wonderful group of women is so rewarding and inspiring.

This is a big year for Novi Oaks. We have been awarded a Level III Best Practices Award and six of our members will be going across the big stage in Overland Park, Kansas, to receive it. Linda DaBiero, Holly Hengstebeck, Karen Kolc, Sheri Mayer, Chris Struwe, and I will report on our favorite parts of the conference. Check out our next newsletter for pictures and details.



MARCIA GREEN

We are working feverishly to finalize everything for our October 19th **Autumn Brunch With Auction**. Tickets are still at the early-bird price of \$30 until October 1st. Please grab some friends and come out for a fun day of shopping and sipping Mimosas while you help raise scholarships for women! The event will be at the Hellenic Cultural Center (east of Newburgh Road) due to the closure of the Burton Manor.

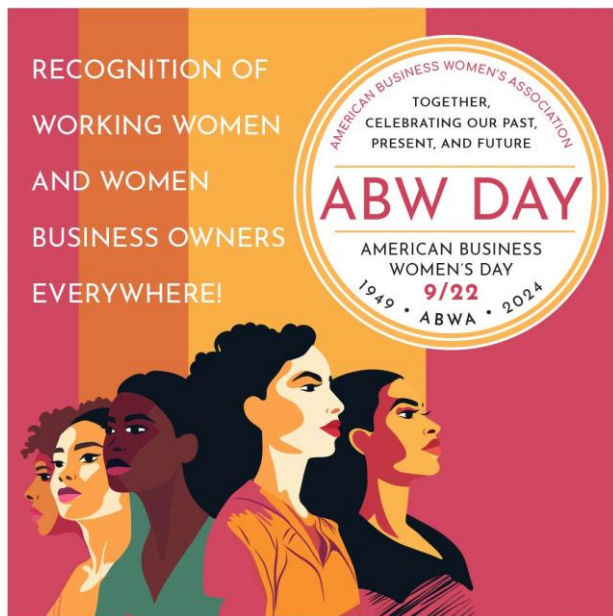
Our buffet breakfast for that morning will include:

- | | | |
|---------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Scrambled Eggs | Pancakes w/ Syrup | Bagels w/Cream Cheese |
| Egg Bake | Waffles w/ Fruit Topping & Whipped Cream | Fresh Fruit Tray |
| Sausage Links | Bacon | Orange & Cranberry Juices |
| Hash Brown Potatoes | Assorted Danish | Coffee, Hot Tea & Iced Tea |

Visit our website at <https://www.novi-abwa.org/autumn-brunch> for a preview of items up for auction and to register by October 1st. The new location also has parking very close to the building and easy access.

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter will be celebrating its 35th anniversary on December 11th. The actual anniversary is January 29, 2025, but we want to celebrate a little early as we close out a great 2024. Former State Representative from Novi, Kathy Crawford, will be presenting, "Don't Worry, Be Happy!" so we invite our members, other chapter members, former Novi Oaks members, and family and friends to join us that evening. The cost will be \$25 per person, including a buffet dinner.

I hope you are able to get out and travel our beautiful state of Michigan during the fall color time!



Eastern Michigan Council Honors Women of the Year, Top Ten Nominees, Protégé Award Event

On September 14, the Eastern Michigan Council of ABWA (EMC) held its event to honor the chapter Women of the Year, Top Ten Nominees, and Protégé Award recipients, and to choose the EMC Woman of the Year. The Protégé Award is presented to members for becoming actively involved in their first full year of membership.

Six of our Novi Oaks members attended the event: Linda DaBiero (WOY), Mary Gantt (TT nominee), Marcia Green, Chris Struwe, and Protégé Award recipients Jennifer Starrs and Patty Sneed.

Mary Ceccanese (in white sweater below) conducted the program. She is the 2024 EMC Woman of the Year, a 2019 Top Ten, and served as the 2022-23 District V Vice President. The 2025 EMC Woman of the Year is Mary Mills (upper right), who is a member of the Greater Oakland Charter Chapter in Auburn Hills. Chris Struwe was also nominated for this honor.



Mary Mills Greater Oakland EMC 2025 Woman of the Year



Top Ten: Mary Gantt, Dawn Kaiser (2025 Top Ten), Mary Ceccanese, and Janet Szymanski.

EMC WOY: Beverly Woods, 2025 Top Ten Dawn Kaiser, Mary Mills, Chris Struwe, with Mary C.



Chapter Women of the Year (L to R): Beverly Woods, Shirley Stitt, and Vivian Stuart of the Nu-Lite Chapter in Flint, Lynn Pomerleau of Greater Oakland Charter Chapter in Auburn Hills, Linda DaBiero of Novi Oaks, Mary Ceccanese, Gail Frahm of the former Cass River Charter Chapter in Frankenmuth, Nadie Holmes of Nu-Lite, and Debbie Bernard of Suburban Connection Chapter in Utica.



Protégé Awards: Patty Sneed and Jennifer Starrs of Novi Oaks, Mary C, and Calista Young of the former Cass River Charter Chapter in Frankenmuth.

The Eastern Michigan Council meets on the 2nd Saturday in February, April, June (Novi Oaks will host this meeting), September (honor event), and December. They also host the District Vice President event in July. To register for any EMC event, visit www.abwa-emc.org.



Novi Oaks Members on the Move!



2025 Top Ten Nominee Mary Gantt, Protégé Jennifer Starrs, President Marcia Green, Treasurer and nominee for EMC Woman of the Year, Christina Struwe, Woman of the Year Linda DaBiero, and Protégé Patty Sneed at the Eastern Michigan Council event.



Christina Struwe, Sheri Mayer, Mary Gantt (vendor), Regina Hall (speaker), and Marcia Green went to Anderson, Indiana on August 23 & 24 to attend the Cardinal Crossroads Council's Summer Sizzler. There was a fun welcome party on Friday night and the Saturday main event featured three speakers, including our own Regina Hall.



Upcoming Events

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

Early registration for the auction is October 1, 2024

NOVI OAKS MEETINGS / EVENTS

- October 9 Meeting Amy Lazare, Empowered Dreams & Goals / Novi Civic Center
- October 19, 10:00 a.m. (Saturday) **A**utumn **B**runch **W**ith **A**uction
\$30 Early-bird pricing – Hellenic Cultural Center, Westland – Invite Guests!
- November 13 Meeting Veteran Shelly Rood, Mission Ambition / CARES of FH
- December 11 35-Year Anniversary Celebration / Kathy Crawford / Novi Civic Center

OTHER MEETINGS / EVENTS

- Sept 25-28 75th Anniversary – National Women’s Leadership Conference
Overland Park, Kansas
- November 2 Make, Bake, or Buy Auction by the Cardinal Crossroads Council
Tincaps Stadium, Suite Level Lounge, 1301 Ewing Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46826 from
10am-2pm – more details to follow.
- November 23 Prayer Breakfast by the Nu-Lite Chapter
Genesis Park – more details to follow
- December 14 Eastern Michigan Council Holiday Celebration
8:30 to 11:30 a.m. / Details to follow

*Please register for all Novi Oaks meetings on our website or in person
no later than two days before a meeting.*

www.novi-abwa.org/events

Novi Oaks’ 35th Anniversary Celebration



**Featuring
Kathy Crawford**



**NOVI CIVIC CENTER
December 11, 2024**

find unity in
COMMUNITY

Empower Your Dreams to Make Them a Reality



AMY LAZARE

**What are our aspirations for 2025? Let's look at what is
working currently in the key areas of our lives, what we want to
change, and identify the necessary steps to achieve our goals.**

**LEARN SOME POWERFUL TOOLS TO HELP
OVERCOME LIFE'S CHALLENGES ALONG THE WAY.**

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

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

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

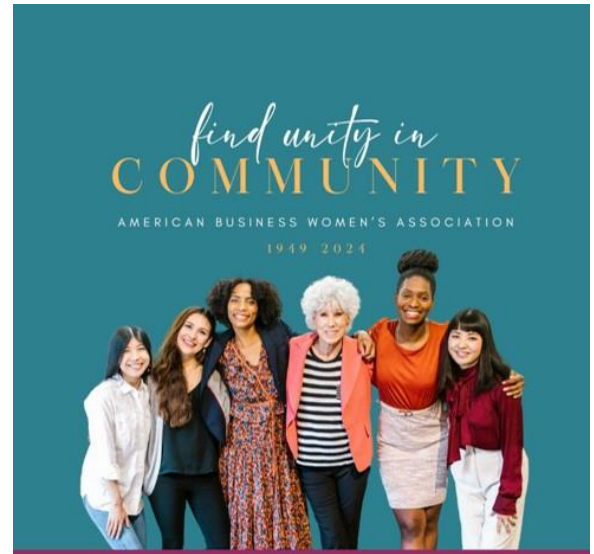
find unity in
Novi Oaks Charter Chapter COMMUNITY

Visit us online at www.novi-abwa.org 5

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.



2024-2025 Chapter Executive Board

President..... Marcia Green
 Vice President..... Linda DaBiero
 Secretary Sheryl Mayer
 TreasurerChristina Struwe

2025 Top Ten Nominee:

Mary Gantt

Novi Oaks’ 2024-2025 Woman of the Year:

Linda DaBiero

2025 Council Woman of the Year:

Mary Mills, Greater Oakland Charter Chapter

2023-2024 National Executive Board

President.....Rachel Jamerson-Holmes
 Vice President..... Anne O’Neill
 Secretary-Treasurer.....Genice Hall Fowler
 District V-Vice President.....Cheryl Schmandt
 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 w/dinner / \$10 w/o dinner / \$5 Zoom

Where: Locations vary – visit website for details

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

**\$30 Until
Oct 1st**

www.novi-abwa.org

*The Novi Oaks Charter Chapter of
The American Business Women's Association
Presents its Nineteenth Annual*

**AUTUMN
BRUNCH
WITH
AUCTION**



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

Saturday, October 19, 2024 – 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 October 1, 2024 (\$37 after)

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

VISA and MasterCard will be accepted at the auction!!

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.