



TOWARDS TOMORROW

THE AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Maia Messenger

ABWA's Mission Statement

The mission of the American Business Women's Association is to bring together business women 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.

Newly Elected 2022-23 ABWA National Board of Directors



National President Cheryl Blair
National Vice President Rochelle Jameson-Holmes
National Secretary-Treasurer Joyce Wright
District Vice Presidents:
D1 Genice Hall
D2 Kella Price
D3 Kathy McGride
D4 Juanita Hall
D5 Mary Ceccanese
D6 Velma Landers

Mary Ceccanese, District V Vice President 2022-2023



Thank you, thank you, thank you Maia members! I am beyond grateful to each and every one of you for your incredible support in my journey to be District V Vice President. Your cards, well wishes, encouragement, and help made this experience one that I will never forget.

The journey was fun and exciting going to different meetings around District V via Zoom and a few in person. At the conference, the first day began with Meet the Candidates. My campaign managers (with a little help from Claudia Morales and Vicky Vincent) prepared my table. (Please see picture below.)

During this time, people from all over the country came to my table and chatted with me, while we handed out goodies and my rack card. It was a lot of fun, as well as a chance to meet people I had not met before.

Then, came time for my 3-minute speech. As much as you can practice and practice ahead of time, nothing can quite prepare you for the moment you go on stage. It is nerve-wracking! I have been giving presentations for almost 15 years and I mispronounced my last name!!! Everyone laughed and it set the tone for a more relaxing, yet still a little unnerving speech.

After the speeches, it was time to vote. The voting procedure (done via an app on our phones) still took a little over an hour. The candidates were then whisked off to a room away from the

the Board Room to hear the results. Trina Nkhazi, Felicia Johnson, and Rene' Street were there. Trina said that the members had voted and selected Mary Ceccanese as their District V Vice President. My stomach did a flip flop! We were told not to tell anyone, which I didn't (not even my campaign managers). At 1 p.m., we started the afternoon session with the announcement of the new National Board of Directors. When my name was announced, I heard people cheering and it was such a thrill. I'm so grateful to all of you for helping to make this happen.

Although I have thanked people via email, notes, or in person, I would still like to thank the many people involved in this process. First of all, thanks to all the people on my campaign team: Lisa Bartley (who we sadly lost to cancer), Gwendolyn Guy, Weibke Hagendorf-Schröter, Linda Hamilton, Sheryl Redding-Humphrey, Meghan Johnson, Laurie Pettigrew, Mary Shindell, Suzy Stein, Janene Ternes, and Sharon Walker. Others who helped in major ways were Vicky Vincent and Claudia Morales. Your time and help throughout the campaign have been fabulous. My ambassador colleagues provided mentoring and assistance as I traveled this road. In particular, I would like to thank our own Diane Nixon, as well as Marcia Green, Kim Hamilton, and Marilyn Lash (who kept me informed and helped me navigate the candidate journey).

Extra special thanks go to my campaign managers, Sheryl Redding-Humphrey and Janene Ternes. Although there were a few blips along the way – such as a flat tire on I-275 when the three of us were on our way to the Eastern Michigan Council (EMC) meeting where I was scheduled to speak, or when I fell on the ice and fractured my pelvis – they were there for me deciphering different plans that would keep the candidate journey going. For example, they came up with an alternate plan to get me to the EMC meeting despite the flat tire; they provided feedback on my speeches for Regional and National Conference; they spearheaded and organized all of my fundraisers; they traveled with me, and more than anything, I am indebted to them for their special and dear friendship.

This journey is one that I recommend for anyone wanting to grow their leadership skills and know more about this amazing organization. Thanks again for all you have done to help me – I am sincerely most appreciative.

Mary Ceccanese
2022-2023 District V Vice President

2023
TOP TEN

Congratulations!

Sharon R. Walker
ABWA, 2023 Top Ten
Business Woman
Maia Chapter
Ann Arbor, Michigan



The Top Ten is the highest honor awarded to a member of the American Business Women's Association for career accomplishments, community involvement, and their contributions to the association.



All Top Ten recipients were asked in their speech to answer the question: ***What do you want your legacy to be as a leader?*** Sharon described a conversation she had with one of her new team members at work. As the young woman was admiring Sharon's awards and certificates of achievements displayed in Sharon's office cubicle, she commented that she wanted to be like Sharon. Sharon explained she is always looking for new ways to participate and has a passion to continue to learn. The attitude of striving to be "simply the best" was instilled in Sharon by her grandmother. Since then, the new team member joined ABWA, and she is on her way to being a great leader. Sharon says, "when you hear the song ***Simply the Best***, please think of today with tomorrow in mind."

National Women's Leadership Conference

Maia's Photo Highlights

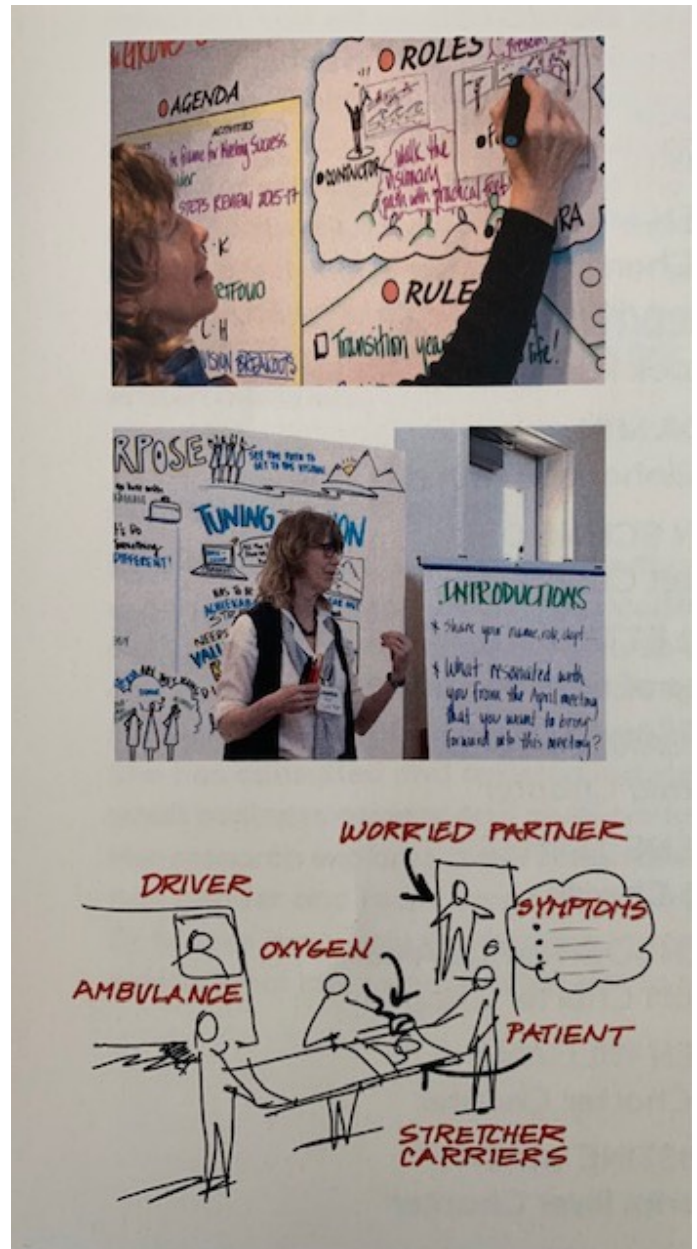


Developing Your Visual IQ — How Visualizing Makes You Smarter

Facilitator: Laurie Durnell, Director of Consulting Services, The Grove

Conference Report Mary Shindell

This session was probably the most unusual session I've attended at an ABWA national conference because it not only included tabletop discussions, but also instruction and practice on how to quickly sketch a variety of illustrations, as well as how you would use this technique as the leader of a work team. Laurie Durnell demonstrated drawing cartoon figures with notes in bubbles to illustrate roles and relationships of work teams and processes. The intent was not to learn to be a professional cartoonist, but to demonstrate how imagery and metaphors can enhance and focus our communications. Laurie states that people's ability to understand and respond to complexity is greatly enhanced when they can literally see (from a sketch) what is happening and are directly involved in the process. By combining drawing (a right-brain activity) with writing (a left-brain activity) you (and your team) will tap into more creativity and innovation which will result in better problem solving.



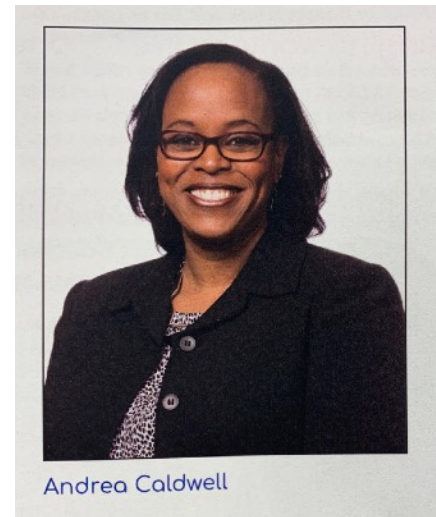
Fundamental Beliefs of Trust & Inspire Leaders

Facilitator: Andrea Caldwell, FranklinCovey

Conference Report Sheryl Humphrey

One of the exciting sessions offered at the National Conference focused on Franklin Covey's new book, "Trust & Inspire: How Truly Great Leaders Unleash Greatness in Others." Trust & Inspire is a new way of leading that starts with believing that people are creative, collaborative, and full of potential. People with this kind of leadership are inspired to become the best version of themselves and to produce their best work. When people returned to work after experiencing the pandemic, leaders quickly discovered that people no longer wanted to be managed; they wanted to be led. Most organizations, teams, schools, and families today still operate from a "Command & Control model," focusing on hierarchies and compliance from people. But because of the changing nature of the world, the workforce, the work itself, and the choices we have for where and how to work and live, these old leadership rules no longer apply.

The facilitator walked us through situational exercises, stories, and discussions to help us



Andrea Caldwell

dive into the concepts. Two key takeaways from the presentation offer quick tools to apply this concept quickly. First, there are three stewardships of a Trust & Inspire Leader. The stewardships provide a practical, actionable framework for unleashing the greatness inside of people and driving incredible performance: Modeling who you are, Trusting-how you lead, and Inspire-connect to the why. And second, the fundamental beliefs of a Trust & Inspire leader. The belief that people have greatness inside of them. People are whole people. There is enough for everyone. Leadership is stewardship. Enduring influence is created from the inside out.

These tools and resources give a jump start to rethinking how you lead and the importance of stopping and understanding what you truly believe as a leader and where you need to start to make those changes. I hope this inspires you to pick up the book and begin the journey to Trust & Inspire leadership.

Highlights - District 5 Vice President Luncheon



2022-23 Maia Executive Board Column

Hello, Maia Chapter family! Happy Fall! I'm excited—and a little anxious—to be writing to you as our chapter president. When at times I feel overwhelmed by the task of serving as president, I remind myself that Maia Chapter is just a group of friends, a group of like-minded women who have a desire in common to grow personally and professionally, and to connect with other women. Then my worries subside.

Before getting much further, I just want to acknowledge the passing of our dear friend and chapter member, Lisa Bartley on July 15, just shy of her 58th birthday. She is someone that I connected with when I joined the chapter last year, and I am grateful that our paths crossed for a short time here in Maia Chapter. Her smile and positivity brightened our interactions. She will be sorely missed.

Despite the harder moments, we have had so much to celebrate in our chapter these days. At the National Conference, our chapter received the level of Striving for Best Practices, and I know that it's just our member numbers that separate us from level three Best Practices. Congratulations! Our own Mary Ceccanese was voted in as District V Vice President! Way to go, Mary! Sharon Walker was chosen as one of the ABWA 2023 Top Ten Business Women of the Year! Wow! Additionally, Janene Ternes received an award for completing the four year Kansas University business program! What an accomplishment! What a great group of women make up our chapter!

I feel a deep sense of gratitude for my membership in our chapter, for the friendships I've made, and the growth I've experienced personally. I'm excited about spending time with all of you throughout these last few months of the year at our monthly chapter meetings as well as our social events. Wishing you all the best! See you soon!

Warm regards,

Suzy Stein, President
ABWA-Maia Chapter

Eastern Michigan Council Women of the Year, Top Ten Nominees, and Protégé Celebration



**Vicky Vincent
Maia Woman of the Year**

**Maia Protégés:
Sheryl Humphrey & Suzy Stein**



Congratulations!

Maia Chapter

Maia Chapter meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:15 pm EST. Visit www.abwa-maia.org or follow us on social media to find out if we are meeting virtually or in person (Original Cottage Inn, Ann Arbor, Michigan).



ABWA Set of Core Values

- Giving Membership a voice
- Treat People with dignity (See Proud Code of Conduct)
- Lifelong Learning
- Focus on Creating Value for Members
- Achievement
- Visionary Leadership
- Focus on the future
- Manage by Fact
- Manage for innovation

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.

Contact Us

ABWA Maia Chapter
Ann Arbor, Michigan
ABWAMAiaChapter@gmail.com
www.abwa-maia.org

WE ARE

Changing Women's Lives...

Executive Team

President:

Suzy Stein

Vice President:

Gwendolyn Guy

Secretary:

Laurie Pettigrew

Treasurer:

Wiebke Hagendorf-Schroeter

Committee Chairs

Education

Imm-Kee Lang

Fundraising

Suzy Stein

Membership

Sharon Walker

Newsletter

Mary Shindell

Professional Development

Mary Ceccanese

Publicity

Angela O'Bey-Young