
The Whirlwind

P.O. Box 20268, Reno, NV 89515-0268

January 16, 2006

Meeting: 3rd Tuesday
of each month
6:15 pm Networking,
6:30 pm Meeting/Dinner

Our new location

Liberty Belle Restaurant
4250 South Virginia Street,
Reno Nevada 89502
(775) 825-1776.

Call: Sherry Fairchild at 775-
673-8576 on/before noon the
Friday prior to the meeting.

*Reminder- A Reservation Made
is a Reservation Paid*

Board Members

Sherri Simmons, President
775-787-0144 775-250-4010

Deborah Shadaram, V.P.
775-450-4455

Debbie Frombola, Secretary
775-554-9319 775-853-9991

Rita Perry, Treasurer

Sherri Fairchild, Cspd. Secretary
775-673-8576

Newsletter articles are due by the last
Friday of the month. Please
e-mail Sherry Fairchild your articles at
csilover@netzero.com, or mail them to
P.O. Box 20268, Reno, NV 89515-0268

Happy Birthday!!

Roseanne Capriotti
Rita Perry
Sherri Simmons
Pam Walker



From The President's Desk

Happy New Year!! I for one am thrilled to say “good-bye” to 2005 and onward to 2006! With a new start to the calendar year there is a refreshed mindset. We have a whole new year of opportunity to meet our personal, professional and organizational goals. I hope you have taken time to reflect on your accomplishments from last year and to set challenging but realistic expectations for yourself this year, including time for fun and relaxation!

As a chapter, we have an exciting spring ahead of us starting with a brand new location, the Liberty Belle Restaurant, and events such as the Women's Expo, Spring Conference, Woman of the Year nominations and Make-Over raffle! We have a lot to do in a very short time, so all hands are needed to make it work. Let's get busy and have some fun!

It is membership drive time again, and membership growth is critical for any organization. *Every* member is a membership person. Please keep you friends, family, colleagues, vendors, clients etc. in mind. The chapter would like to reach Star Award again this year, and you have an opportunity to reach personal membership rewards with ABWA as well. So spread the word about all that ABWA has to offer. I have heard many of you speak from the heart, so share that experience with others!

Thanks for a great 2005 and let's make history in 2006!

Anniversaries

Roseanne Capriotti

Invocation

In the quiet of this hour,
we come to thee for wisdom
And for power;
To view thy world through only love filled eyes;
To grow in understanding; to be wise.
And sure to see thy guiding light;
And thus to know each other as thou knowest
us.
Amen

Excerpts from
"The Complete Live and Learn and Pass It On"

I've learned...That opportunities are never lost; someone will take the ones you miss.

I've learned....That when you harbor bitterness, happiness will dock elsewhere.

I've learned...That I wish I could have told those I cared about that I love them one more time before they passed away.

I've learned....That one should keep his words both soft and tender, because tomorrow he may have to eat them.

Calendar of Events

January 25th Express meeting
February 14th Valentine's
February 14th WZ board meeting
February 21nd WZ General meeting
February 22nd Express meeting
March 14th WZ Board meeting
March 17th St. Patrick's Day
March 21st WZ General meeting
April 7-9th Women's Expo & ABWA
Lake Tahoe Conference

Benediction

O Guiding Spirit, Guardian of our days,
be with us as we as we go our separate
ways.
Help us to feel those thoughts that lift
and bless,
to know a closer bond of friendliness.
To see Thy beauty, always, every day,
translated into living, this we pray.
Amen

Borrowed from the Council Communications Newsletter- National

ABWA Responds to Hurricane Katrina

The American Business Women's Association (ABWA) is deeply saddened by the widespread and catastrophic disaster resulting from Hurricane Katrina. We encourage concerned members of ABWA to make donations to organizations that are equipped to provide direct aid to those affected by the storm, such as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army. We know you care and want to do all that you can.

One of the strengths of ABWA is the inherent close-knit connection that it creates among members. In an effort to encourage those members who have lost so much in this disaster to remain a part of the ABWA community at a time when they may need it most, the ABWA Company, Inc., will pay the annual dues of ABWA members who are severely impacted by Hurricane Katrina and who request assistance.

However, we have received many requests from our membership for a channel through which they can directly assist those members who were in the path of the storm. Any ABWA member who has been affected by the disaster and finds it financially difficult to attend an ABWA national conference may apply to the American Business Women's Foundation for assistance to attend. Interested members can make donations to the American Business Women's Foundation by filling out the [Katrina Disaster Relief Donation Form](#) and enclosing it with a check made out to the

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American Business Women's Foundation. This is the beginning of an ongoing disaster relief fund. Any donations that are not distributed to help victims of Hurricane Katrina will remain in the Foundation and will be made available for future disaster relief needs.

The American Business Women's Foundation was established in January 1998 with the purpose of receiving, administering and expending funds for charitable and education purposes in connection with helping women in various situations, including assisting and aiding victims of disasters or other unfortunate circumstances. As the Foundation has 501 (c) 3 status, contributions are tax deductible. If you are interested, please take some time to learn more about the [American Business Women's Foundation](#).

If you know of any ABWA member who, due to the effects of Hurricane Katrina, may be in need of such assistance from the American Business Women's Foundation, please make the [Katrina Disaster Relief Request Form](#) available to her. Thank you for your concern and support.

Something Funny to Think About.....

You may not know this but many non-living things have a gender.

- 1) Ziploc Bags are Male, because they hold everything in, but you can see right through them.
- 2) Copiers are Female, because once turned off; it takes a while to warm them up again. It's an effective reproductive device if the right buttons are pushed, but can wreak havoc if the wrong buttons are pushed.
- 3) A Tire is Male, because it goes bald and it's often over-inflated.
- 4) A Hot Air Balloon is Male, because, to get it to go anywhere, you have to light a fire under it, and of course, there's the hot air part.
- 5) Sponges are Female, because they're soft, squeezable and retain water.
- 6) A Web Page is Female, because it's always getting hit on.
- 7) A Subway is Male, because it uses the same old lines to pick people up.
- 8) An Hourglass is Female, because over time, the weight shifts to the bottom.
- 9) A Hammer is Male, because it hasn't changed much over the last 5,000 years, but it's handy to have around.
- 10) A Remote Control is Female. Ha! You thought it'd be male, didn't you? But consider this - it gives a man pleasure, he'd be lost without it, and while he doesn't always know the right buttons to push, he keeps trying!

Borrowed from the Council Communications Newsletter- National

Why are Organizations Having a Difficult Time Recruiting Gen Xers?

One of the most often questions I am asked about volunteer management is "How can we get the younger generation involved?" This is a problem for most volunteer managers. When interviewing the volunteer manager at Shiner's Hospital, I asked her, "How do you get the younger people to volunteer?" She was quiet for a time and then answered, "We don't, for the most part, except for school internships." Her answer was typical.

However, some organizations are reaching their younger members and getting them involved. How are they doing it? First, they understand that the Gen-Xers are really different. They don't respond to the old recruiting techniques. I have been reading and hearing about the differences, but I questioned them. My reaction was, "I was the same way when I was their age." However, I decided to see for myself what all the hype was about, so I began a very revealing experiment and learned that there are significant differences. If we don't understand these differences, those of us who are baby boomers (born before 1964) will never be able to successfully recruit and manage generation X volunteers (born after 1965). But before we look at these differences, a warning is necessary: Any discussion of generations contains generalizations, even some stereotyping. The needs of younger volunteers reflect the needs of all volunteers; however, I have discovered that each demographic group does have some unique features that affect how we recruit, motivate and manage volunteers.

The Experiment

I divided a small workshop, anywhere from 25-50 people, into two groups — the baby boomers and the Xers. I asked the groups to discuss the question, "What are the differences in the work ethic of the boomers and Xers?" When I started this experiment about 10 years ago, I used to say, "Everyone under age 28 stay on this side of the room while all of you 29 and older form a group on the other side of the room." Each year the age has changed. In 2004 the first Xers will reach 40.

After about 15 minutes of discussion, I have the boomers report first. I've listened to these reports for over ten years and they nearly always say the same thing. It most often sounds like this:

Xers are not committed. They often come late, leave early, and they work on their own time schedule. They show no respect for authority. They don't want to do any more than is expected and will jump ship as soon as a more lucrative offer is on the table. They are much more knowledgeable about hi-tech stuff and keep wanting to change things, but you can't depend on them when you need to get a job done.

Then the Xer stands up to give a report. I had one Xer who gave the following report, which is very typical of the reports I hear.

What you have just said is true. We are exactly what you said because that is the way you brought us up. We watched you work for 70-80 hours a week for the same company for the last 40 years, and then that company dumped you. We watched you divorce each other and leave us home alone while you tried to make a living on your own. We were shuffled from one home to another, and we learned to be independent. We grew up with Presidents that lie (Nixon and Clinton) and company presidents who get rich while the rest of you make money for them. We have learned to look at work as a job to support a life style while you look at work as a career. Don't ask us to work overtime, because we have a life outside of work. Don't expect us to devote our lives to your goals.

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When the young man gave that report, the room was quiet. The boomers were looking at each other and finally one woman spoke up and said, "Wow, what an indictment!" I asked if they thought it was true. And everyone agreed that it was pretty much right on.

After listening to these reports for almost a decade, I have come to the following conclusions, which have a great impact on recruiting the Generation X volunteer. Actually, most volunteer organizations are made up of four very specific generations. Each are different because during their younger years their lives were impacted with certain historical events such as the Great Depression, World War II, The Viet Nam War, government, religious, and business scandals, Columbine and September 11th. Each of these events helped shape the way each generation frames the volunteer organization.

The Radio Babies, often called the Veteran Generation, born prior to 1927, won World War II with a gigantic military organization. They trust the chain of command hierarchical systems to decide what changes to make. They are quick to volunteer and do the tasks that are assigned them.

The TV Babies, called Baby Boomers, born between 1946-1964, do not trust hierarchical systems. These children of the '60s were taught to challenge the systems. Those of us who are boomers grew up in an age of growth and prosperity. Our parents worked very hard and made sure that we had enough to go to college. In the early 60's we heard President Kennedy say, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." And we did. We volunteered for the Peace Corps and were going to have a great impact on the "Great Society." We actively volunteered to make a difference.

But Viet Nam and the assassinations of the Kennedys and Martin Luther King and Watergate changed that. We turned inward and in the 70s and 80s followed the advice of EST and Self magazine and read best sellers like *Looking out for Number 1* as we self actualized. All this time we were raising generation X.

Boomers, however, still volunteer because the "I want to change the world," of the 60s still beats in our hearts. Many have found that living for self has not been the fulfilling life they expected. Recently we have seen a "graying of the peace corps." People in their 50s and 60s are leaving lucrative careers to join the Peace Corps and organizations with a social or spiritual mission. And volunteering is a way to fulfill that passion.

The Computer Babies, called Gen-X, born 1965—1981, experienced a childhood of uncertainty. Many were latchkey kids and grew up in single-parent households. They were raised on video games, TV, MTV, and computers. As they watched corporate downsizing and the demise of career employment, many chose to say, "Not Me." And they reacted with a unique idea, one that the Boomers forgot — that commitment is mutual.

Generation X values competence in the leader who leads an organization or a volunteer team. X-ers do not go along with leadership simply because their supervisor decided it. Some X-ers also have the maddening habit of disregarding the leadership and not telling anyone, or going ahead on their own and not telling anyone.

The Digital Babies – Called the Nexter Generation or Gen Y, born after 1981, have grown up using technology all of their lives. This generation grew up on video games ("twitch speed"), MTV (more than 1000 images a minute), and the ultra-fast speed of action films. They grew up processing information more quickly than any other generation and therefore are much better at it.

The Bottom Line: We are Different.

Many organizations have a difficult time recruiting the younger generation because of denial. I was there. I doubted all the studies and information that the generations are different. But I have learned that I was wrong. The organizations that accept the difference and then apply the following strategies to create a Gen-X friendly culture are having success.



Philosophical Questions

This is a collection of deep, philosophical questions that are even more important than the question of what life really is.

- Do Lipton employees take coffee breaks?
- What hair color do they put on the driver's licenses of bald men?
- Why do they put up pictures of criminals in the post office? What are we supposed to do, write to these men? Why don't they just put their pictures on postage stamps so the mailmen could look for them while they delivered the mail?
- Did you ever notice when you blow in a dog's face he gets mad at you? But when you take him in a car he sticks his head out the window.
- Have you ever noticed that anybody going slower than you is an idiot, and anyone going faster than you is a maniac?
- Ever wonder if illiterate people get the full effect of alphabet soup?
- Why do kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

The Shoes

My alarm went off...It was Sunday again.
I was sleepy and tired, my one day to sleep in.

But the guilt I would feel also I'd go and I'd pray. I got there and sat in a pew just in time.

Bowing my head in prayer as I closed my eyes,
I saw the shoe of the man next to me touching my own. I sighed.
With plenty of room on either side, I thought, "Why must our soles touch?" It bothered me, his shoe touching mine, but it didn't bother him much. A prayer began: "Our Father "I thought, "This man with the shoes has no pride.

They're dusty, worn, and scratched even worse; there are holes on the side!"
Thank You for blessings," the prayer went on. The shoe man said a quiet "Amen." I tried to focus on the prayer, but my thoughts were on his shoes again. Aren't we supposed to look our best when walking through that door?

Well, this certainly isn't it," I thought, Glancing toward the floor. Then the prayer was ended and the songs of praise began.

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The shoe man was certainly loud, sounding proud as he sang. His voice lifted the rafters, His hands were raised high,
and The Lord could surely hear the shoe man's voice from the sky.

It was time for the offering and what I threw in was steep.
I watched as the shoe man reached into his pockets so deep.
I saw what was pulled out, what the shoe man put in,
and then I heard a soft "clink" As when silver hits tin...

The sermon really bored me to tears, and that's no lie
it was the same for the shoe man, for tears fell from his eyes.
At the end of the service, as is the custom here,
we must greet new visitors and show them all good cheer.

But I felt moved somehow and wanted to meet shoe man so after the closing prayer,
I reached over and shook his hand. He was old and his skin was dark, and his hair was truly a mess but I thanked him for
coming, for being our guest.

He said, "My names' Charlie, I'm glad to meet you, my friend." There were tears in his eyes but he had a large, wide grin

Let me explain," he said Wiping tears from his eyes. I've been coming here for months,
and you're the first to say 'Hi.' "I know that my appearance is not like all the rest,
but I really do try to always look my best."

I always clean and polish my shoes before my very long walk
but by the time I get here, they're dirty and dusty, like chalk."

My heart filled with pain and I swallowed to hide my tears
as he continued to apologize for daring to sit so near.
He said, "When I get here, I know I must look a sight.
But I thought if I could touch you, then maybe our souls might unite."

I was silent for a moment knowing whatever was said
would pale in comparison .I spoke from my heart, not my head

Oh, you've touched me," I said, and taught me, in part,
that the best of any man is what is found in his heart."
The rest, I thought, this shoe man will never know.
Like just how thankful I really am that his dirty old shoe touched my soul...

You might be best friends one year, pretty good friends the next year,
don't talk that often the next year, don't want to talk at all the year after that.
So, I just wanted to say, even if I never talk to you again in my life,
you are special to me and you have made a difference in my life.
I respect you, and truly cherish you. Let old friends know you haven't forgotten them,
and tell new friends you never will. Remember, everyone needs a friend,
someday you might feel like you have no friends at all. Just remember this e-mail and take comfort in knowing
somebody out there cares about you and always will.