

Debra Andresen
President 2017-2018
Holding on to Our Heritage & Moving Forward



To my SBW sisters, it is my greatest delight for your trust and faith you bestowed in me as the incoming President of the Sedalia Business Women, and thank you!

I would also like to thank Dianne Simon for inviting me to join the Sedalia Business Women, and for being an exceptional mentor. I would also like to thank my family for all of their support in everything that I do: my husband Rick, my children Mickayla, Cody, and Chloe, as well as my son-in-law Derek.

I took several months to decide what I would like my theme to be this year. As I reflected upon the Sedalia Business Women and what this club

means to me, I started looking to the history of women in the workplace and our rights that we hold dearly. As I started digging deeper, I came across a Youtube video about Suffragists, and their fight to vote. As I watched the video and saw their faces, and the imprisonment that they endured and the beatings that they took, it gave me a stronger desire to hold on to what they did for myself, my daughters, and granddaughter's rights. My theme for 2017-18 is "Holding on to Our Heritage & Moving Forward."

As your president, I have a strong, rich history that was established by my Great Grandmother Hazel F. Deckman Shockey. What you don't know is that my Grandmother Shockey felt her calling from God to be a minister, but in 1960 that was not such an easy task as it is today. She had to fight to get her minister's licenses, and ultimately became a pastor. I have an awesome example from her that we can accomplish anything if we put our mind to it, and not let anyone stand in our way of our calling. I am sure that each and every one of you have a heritage that you hold onto.

We owe it to our daughters, granddaughters, and all women to make sure that they remember all that was sacrificed for them. We need to educate, support, and move forward with Women's Rights-not backwards. It is my goal and heartbeat to work together with all women in our community to educate and learn from each other so that we all can be successful in life. I would like to share my goals with you this evening.

My goals for SBW for the year 2017-18 are in line with the State goals and they are as follows:

- Empower Women through education by using the scholarships that the Sedalia Business Women award each year to help them attend college. Also keep promoting our scholarships on social media as well as in the newspaper.
- Raise awareness of the increase in Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking, and Child Abuse.
- Get involved in our community; make our club visible.
- Continue to support women and the families of Women in the Military.
- Support both local and state Foundations. We also need to continue to support our non-profit organizations in our community through special projects.
- I would like to keep “Pay it Forward.” Instead of just sponsoring one non-profit organization, each month, I would like for us to bring items for the non-profit that is designated for that month. The non-profits that I would like to support are Child Safe, CASA, Literacy Counsel, Open Door, Show-Me Christian Youth Home, Meals on Wheels, and Activity Builders for Children.
- Mentoring Goals: I would like our seasoned members to mentor our new members and help them achieve growth in our club, but also in the work place. We all have life experiences that we can share with each other. I would like for us to share information on new and upcoming technology that can help our business, or the business that we work for. Also I would like to reach out to our local high schools to start a mentoring program for the young ladies in our community.
- Membership Goals: I don’t want us to just retain our current membership, but build upon it. Invite your friends, coworkers, the lady that you meet in a doctor’s office, or your waitress who is working her way through college. Invite them to become part of our club.
- Finally, I would like to keep promoting our SBW scholarships and activities on social media (i.e. Facebook) and in the local newspaper while focusing on promoting who we are and our mission within our community.

Thank you again for allowing me the privilege to serve as your SBW president for the 2017-2018 year. Together we can keep “Holding onto Our Heritage and Moving Forward,” with educating and giving strength one to another.

Debra Andresen
SBW President 2017-18

2017– 2018 Sedalia Business Women Officers



Michelle Sparks, director; Debbie Ulmer, secretary; Della Schnakenberg, treasurer; Mickalya Peters, 2nd VP; Jessica Buesing, 1st VP; Donna Hirner-Gardner, president elect; Debra Andresen, president

May 4, 2017—Installation of Officers!

The May 2017 meeting was a time of change for Sedalia Business Women! We installed our new officers at a new meeting location. This was the club's first meeting at Sedalia Country Club. We are looking forward to an exciting year.

Donna Hirner-Gardner opened the meeting. Music was provided by four talented members of Smith-Cotton Junior High Sound Effects.

Dianne Simon installed the new officers: Debra Andresen, president; Donna Hirner-Gardner, president-elect; Jessica Buesing, 1st VP, Mickalya Peters, 2nd VP; Della Schnakenberg, treasurer; Debbie Ulmer, secretary; and Michelle Sparks, director.

Debra received proclamations and congratulations from officials. Her family presented her with a lovely floral bouquet.

Debra chose "Holding on to Our Heritage & Moving Forward" as her theme. Her acceptance speech outlined her goals for her term and is published on the SBW home page.

Donna Hirner-Gardner closed the meeting by announcing the awards Sedalia Business Women received at the State Conference. She distributed individual awards to the recipients.

June 1 SBW Meeting – Paddle Party!



The June dinner meeting was under the direction of the Finance Committee, Donna Hirner-Gardner, Chair. Guestbook was Lori Haney. Hostesses were Jessica Buesing and Cathy Hammons.



Guest speakers were Carol Guier and Steve Nichols of Thrivent Financial. They spoke on Women's Finances for Retirement.



Lori Haney served as the MC for the Paddle Party. Area businesses and club members donated around thirty baskets! Members and guest had fun while raising approximately \$550 for special projects. Vendors who had made donations were also in attendance for those members who wanted to shop.

Donna Hirner-Gardner, President-Elect, presented the budget for the 2017-2018 to membership.

Michelle Sparks, Northwest Regional Director, discussed that participants are needed for Individual Growth competition at Northwest Regional Meeting. Participant will compete against other locals in Northwest Region. Winner will go on to compete at State Competition in April 2018.

Linda Fisher, Historian, presented Donna Hirner-Gardner, 2016-2017 President, with her President's scrapbook.

Debra Andresen, President, announced that the deadline for SBW Scholarship applications is June 30.

Linda Fisher won the June birthday drawing consisting of a Starbucks gift certificate.



One of the Vendor Tables

July 6, 2017 SBW Meeting – Issues Management



Kris Wade, KC Justice Project

The July 6 Issues Management meeting was called to order by president-elect Donna Hirner-Gardner at the Sedalia Country Club. The meeting was under the direction of the Issues Management committee, Jessica Buesing, chair.

Kris Wade, with the Justice Project, gave a spellbinding presentation on human trafficking. She explained that the two most common types of human trafficking are sex trafficking and labor trafficking. The underlying similarity according to Kris is “once they get you where you are going, they won’t let you go.” As a survivor of sex trafficking, Kris spoke about the undeniable power traffickers have over their victims. She credits the critical thinking skills instilled by her

parents that she was able to escape and return to a normal life. Kris has turned her negative experience into a positive through her work with the Kansas City Justice Project.

Please take fifteen minutes to watch her [Ted Talk “Hiding in Plain Sight.”](#)



The next meeting will be under the direction of the Telephone Committee, Debbie Ulmer, chair.



August 3, 2017 Sedalia Business Women Meeting



The August SBW meeting was under the direction of the Telephone Committee, Debbie Ulmer, chair.

Our guest speaker was Carolyn Crooker, Sedalia Convention and Visitor's Bureau who gave a presentation on the impact the events at the Missouri State Fairgrounds has on the local economy. She also highlighted the schedule of events that will be held on the Fairgrounds in conjunction with the solar

eclipse on August 21.

Mickalya Peters, membership chair installed a new member, Megan Page. Her sponsor was Jessica Buesing. Welcome, Megan!

The Thompson Family was on hand for a memorial for our beloved member Betty Rose Thompson.

Special guests in attendance were Stephanie Nissan and Cheryl Cantwell from Three Rivers. We were pleased to have Sandra Shermuly, state recording secretary, join us for the evening.



Chip and Mark Thompson

September 7, 2017, SBW



Tammie Thornton and Karly McAllister

The September 7, 2017, Sedalia Business Women's meeting was under the direction of the Career Advancement Committee, Robin Balke, chair.

The two recipients of the 2017-18 Sedalia Business Women Foundation scholarships were the guest speakers. Tammie Thornton is a junior at Central Methodist University working on a Bachelor of Science in Education. Karly McAllister is attending State Fair Community College working toward a nursing degree.



Chicken dinner tickets were distributed to members and flyers were placed on the sharing table. Sue Parrish stressed the importance of promoting the October 22 chicken dinner.

In preparation for the Northwest Region Meeting speak off, Jessica Buesing and Robin Balke gave impromptu speeches on issues management topics drawn randomly. Jessica's topic was how the club could

attract new members and Robin's was on human trafficking. Both did an excellent job and SBW would be proud to have either represent us at NW Region meeting or at BWM State Conference.

Robin Balke



Jessica Buesing



October 5, 2017 SBW Pajama Party



Debra Andresen, President, called the Sedalia Business Women's August dinner meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Debbie Ulmer, Chaplain, gave the invocation. Debra Andresen led the club in the Club Collect followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Linda Fisher introduced the guests.

The October dinner meeting was under the direction of the Legislative Committee, Linda Fisher, Chairman. Guestbook was Linda Fisher. Hostess was Mary Merritt. Guest speaker was Tony Axton, Sexual Assault Victim Advocate at Whiteman Air Force Base. Written Spotlight focused on Citizens Against Spouse Abuse, Inc. (CASA). Items were collected for CASA.

Jeff Leeman, Sedalia Mayor Pro Tem presented the Proclamation for National Business Women's Week of October 15 – 20, 2017.

Amanda Herrick and Kelly Asbury were installed as new members.



Amanda Herrick and Debra Andresen



Della Schnakenberg and Kelly Asbury

November 2, 2017 Public Relations Meeting



The November dinner meeting was under the direction of the Public Relations Committee, Lori Haney and Emily Jarrett, co-chairs.

Lori Haney, executive director of CASA was awarded Woman of the Year. Lori is dedicated to bettering the lives of all abused persons and is a mentor to some of our area's most vulnerable women. She is a dynamic speaker and uses her skills to benefit women. She presented a simulation to SBW that walked participants through an abuse scenario with choices at each step. This was an eye-opening experience about the limited choices of domestic abuse victims. For her outstanding leadership and community involvement, Lori is a deserving candidate for Woman of the Year. Congratulations, Lori!

Business of the Year was awarded to Don's

Truck Towing and Truck Wash. Don's was founded by Don A. Weaver in 1977, getting his start washing tractor-trailer trucks and steaming engines on a concrete pad behind Trans Central Suppliers, a truck repair facility, located on South Limit Avenue in Sedalia. In 1980, Don's wife, Cindy, joined the company as bookkeeper and manages the office. They purchased seventeen acres and built their first shop building and started offering a body and repair service for large trucks. Don and Cindy agree that their employees are their



greatest asset. Brenda White and Pat Moore have worked with Cindy in the office for twenty years. Don's drivers have been to Rescue and Recovery training and have the experience to handle any situation; giving Don's their slogan, "We Can Handle It!"



Special guests were Melissa Moore and Vicki Silkwood from Business Women of Missouri and state representative Dean Dohrman and Jessica.



Photos courtesy of Randy Kirby

SBW December 7, 2017 Christmas Dinner Meeting



December 2017 meeting was under the direction of the Socials Committee, Carolyn Green and Marge Lumpe, co-chairs. The meeting was held at the Sedalia Country Club. President Debra Andresen called the meeting to order. Debbie Ulmer gave the invocation followed by the Club Collect and the pledge of allegiance.



Arpeggio Unplugged got the evening off to a celebratory beginning with several musical selections.

After dinner, Shirley McCown read a holiday story while gifts were passed to the right, the left, and across the table. At the end of the story, each person opened her gift.

November and December birthdays were recognized. The evening ended with the emblem benediction.



January Meeting Cancelled

The January SBW Meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

SBW Foundation Meeting – February 1



Cindy Goalder, chair; Robin Balke, red purse winner

The February 1, Foundation Meeting was under the direction of the Foundation Committee, Cindy Goalder, chair.

The 2018 Red Purse Raffle was a success!

Congratulations to Robin Balke on winning the Coach purse and all the other goodies.

Congratulations to Lalene Harrison on winning the clutch and all its goodies. Silent Auction winners were Dianne Simon the clay bowl from Julie Sieving, Marge Lumpe and Diana Eckhoff won the Perkins Pies.

Unfortunately, our speaker was absent due to the flu bug that has hit all over, but members and guests maybe left a little more informed about how the scholarship/ fundraising works.



Cindy and Lalene Harrison

Over \$2,000 was raised for scholarships! Seventy businesses and individuals contributed goods and products for a combined total value of \$3,070. We are grateful to the participation of so many area businesses and to the community for purchasing tickets.

The club installed new member, Betty Albrecht, sponsored by Cindy Weaver. Welcome to SBW, Betty!



Cindy Weaver, Betty Albrecht, Debra Andresen

March 1 Meeting– Individual Growth Committee



The March 1 SBW meeting was under the direction of the Individual Growth Committee.

Guest speaker was Dr. Ty Nance, the new admissions and outreach director for State Fair Community College. Dr. Nance gave a compelling story about “breaking the glass ceiling” in a male dominated industry. Her presentation was often amusing, but at the same time a wake up call that women were still fighting an uphill battle.

Lumpe won the birthday gift.

During the business meeting, President Debra Andresen asked for three members to serve on a nominating committee. Officers need to be elected in April for May installation.

The next meeting is under the direction of the special projects committee.



April 5 Meeting – SBW Gives Back to Community

The April 5, 2018 meeting was under the direction of the Special Projects Meeting. This year SBW made \$500 donations to six different local charitable organizations!



Sedalia Business Women donated \$500 to Sedalia Police Dept Ballistic Fund (Sue Parrish presenting check to Derek Peters, Casey DeVorss, and Larry Ward), Sedalia Senior Center (Donna Hirner Gardner presenting check to Shery Fogle), and Meals on Wheels (Cindy Weaver presenting check to Jill Haney).



SBW donated \$500 each to Activity Builders for Children (Sue Parrish presenting check to Julie Slocum), CACTUS (Donna Hirner Gardner presenting check to Mary Jo Sartin), and Open Door Food Pantry (Cindy Weaver presenting check to Sally Lockett.)



The guest speaker was Trisha Rooda, Sedalia-Pettis County Emergency Management Director. Her presentation covered several of the aspects of her career advancement as a woman. She spoke about being prepared for an emergency with a “go bag.” She spoke about the items to keep in the bag—water, medicine, non-perishable foods, flashlight, blanket, clothing, shoes, and other necessary items to withstand three days during a disaster. She said there are eight shelters in the county and that they are open during tornado watches and warnings.

Membership Chair Mikayla Peters installed new member, Dr. Joanna Anderson. Dianne Simon is her sponsor. Welcome to SBW, Joanna!



Dr. Joanna Anderson, Dianne Simon, Mikayla Peters