



Lori Haney
President 2019-2020
To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow

When I decided to assume the role of president again, I was tasked with creating a vision for my year as president, but also a vision that would carry our club forward past my time as president. As I searched for ideas I came across a quote from Audrey Hepburn that would become my theme for this year, “To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.” As soon as I read this quote, I knew this would be the theme for my year that guides the vision I have for Sedalia Business Women. A garden is great metaphor for the future of our organization.

- **Have a vision for your garden.** You can’t just grab a bunch of random seeds and throw them around willy-nilly, and hope for the best. Instead you have to know what type of garden you want. Just as you must have a vision for your garden, we must have a vision for our club. What kind of organization do we want to be? What’s our mission? What do we hope to achieve?
- **You need to prioritize.** When planning a garden, you start with a wish list of everything you would like to grow. However, when planting a garden there are certain limitations like available space, climate, season, and your time. If you try to plant everything at once, you’ll end up with a huge mess that will soon be unmanageable. In much the same way, when planning for our club’s future, we must start by creating a list of everything we want to do, but then we must prioritize that list by determining what we want most. We must plant the seeds that will bear the fruit that are most important to us.
- **You need good soil.** Whatever it is you want to plant in your garden, it won’t grow well unless you have healthy soil. The soil is the very foundation that promotes vibrant growth. Fortunately for our organization, the very foundation that our club was built upon in 1923, is rich in history and tradition that bore the fruit of the organization that remains today. It is our duty as a club to nurture that foundation to ensure continued growth.
- **You reap what you sow.** If you want tomatoes, you plant tomato seeds. You don’t plant hemlock seeds and then wonder why there’s a poisonous plant growing in your garden instead of delicious, bright red tomatoes. We have to ask ourselves what kind of organization we want to be, and then make sure we are planting the seeds that will produce those results.
- **Assess your garden’s conditions.** Different plants need different environments to thrive. How well your garden grows depends upon climate, sunlight, water, etc. As a club, we must take into account our strengths, our weaknesses, and the varied personalities that make up our organization.
- **A garden needs constant tending.** After preparing the soil and planting seeds, there’s still a lot of work to do from watering to pulling weeds to pruning to fertilizing. Just as a garden needs tending, so does our club. We must devote time to tending to the needs of our organization to allow for healthy growth.
- **Reap your harvest.** After all your hard work, your garden should start producing a bountiful crop. Much like a garden, we have a strong foundation. We have planted seeds that

have produced strong roots that have thrived season after season. We have planted new seeds that have changed the face of our organization, and with tending, guidance, and vision, we have produced, year after year, a crop of women ready to lead the organization into the future that can continue to nurture the growth of members to come.

As I consider this metaphor in reference to my presidency, I asked myself what seeds I wanted to plant to yield a harvest for the future of this club. These will be my goals as your president.

1. Restore organization, order, and communication

As your president, I am committed to enriching the soil, the very foundation that is Sedalia Business Women. My goal is to place emphasis on our mission which is to achieve equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education, and information. To do that I plan to ensure that our committees know what is expected of them and what deadlines they need to adhere to while promoting communication through weekly presidential updates to the membership.

2. Promoting women in business

What are the seeds we want to plant today for the garden we hope to grow in the future? My answer is to invest in the women in our community, the women that aren't members of Sedalia Business Women, but should be. When people think of women business leaders in our area, Sedalia Business Women is one of the first things that should come to their minds. It is my aim to build a speakers' list that highlights women business owners and/or community leaders. And I strongly encourage committees to use this list when selecting speakers for monthly meetings. This a great way for women in our community to get to know us and the benefits they would reap by being affiliated with Sedalia Business Women.

3. Member retention

As a previously said, a garden needs constant tending. It's not enough to just get women to join our organization. We must tend to that crop. It is our duty to introduce new members to all the activities and connections available to them through membership. We must help them find the places they feel most comfortable within our club. I am tasking the individuals on the membership committee to serve as mentors to our newly installed members. Reach out to newly installed members to introduce them to SBW and promote a greater understanding of their role within our organization.

4. Sustainability

I want a garden that continues to flourish year after year. To do so, we have to plan for the future. We have to plan for the years to come, not just this year in front of us. From the presidency all the way to the 2nd Vice President, 4 years of the future of this club are represented in our Executive Committee. But who will take our places in the years to come? Who will help to ensure this club can continue to be a place for professional women to flourish? This starts with each Executive Committee officer installed this year. As an Executive Committee, we must be looking to the future and your plans for your presidency, creating goals and agendas that can be built upon from year to year. As a club, we must start communicating openly and early to the

membership about the importance of joining the Executive Committee. We must identify members that have exhibited leadership skills and encourage their participation on committees, at board meetings, and future Executive Committee officers' positions. Who are the leaders of our future? What changes would you like to make to promote growth? What impact do you want to have on this club?

I don't claim to be a master gardener, but I have found that when I set my mind to it, and plan for and tend to a garden, I'm pretty good at it. Each year, whether it be vegetables or flowers, I try to plant something. I get on my hands and knees, digging in the soil, planting seeds, hoping the fruits of my labor would produce a hearty, plentiful crop. It took time and patience and a lot of work to make those gardens grow, but as I sat back and enjoyed the beauty of the blooms in my flower beds and the sweetness of my cherry tomatoes, I knew all my hard work was worth it. So I ask of each of you to look at Sedalia Business Women as a garden and each of you as a gardener. Please help our club to grow. I promise you the fruits of our combined labor will yield a bountiful crop that will nurture our future members of tomorrow.

Lori Haney
SBW President 2019-20



Donna Hirner Gardner, director; Della Schnakenberg, treasurer; Lori Haney, president; Debra Andresen, president elect; Amanda Davis, 2nd VP; Debbie Ulmer, secretary; (not pictured Robin Balke, 1st VP).

SBW Paddle Party June 6, 2019



The June 6 meeting was under the direction of the Finance Committee, Debra Andresen, chair. Spirited bidding on the donated items raised funds for the special projects committee.

Denise Jaegers introduced the guests. Carolyn Green was the hostess. The written spotlight was on LaDonna Meuschke, a member and consultant with Style Dots.



President Lori Haney

President Lori Haney conducted the business portion of the meeting. Debbie Ulmer, secretary, read the correspondence and action items from the June Board Meeting.

The BWM Legislative Conference will be August 2 and 3 in Columbia. The registration deadline is July 22.

Sally Lockett won the birthday drawing.

The July 11 meeting will be under the direction of the Issues Management Committee, Robin Balke, chair.



Amanda Davis

Issues Management July 11, 2019



President Lori Haney called the July 11 SBW meeting to order. The meeting was under the direction of the Issues Management Committee, Robin Balke, chair. Guest speaker was Dr. Doug Kiburz who spoke on the upcoming Annual Wheelmen Meet, being held July 25-27 in downtown Sedalia. His presentation included the history of the bicycle, including the importance of the bicycle on women's liberation.



Dr. Doug Kiburz and Robin Balke

I will tell you what I think of the bicycle. I think it has done more to emancipate women than anything else in the world. It gives women a feeling of freedom and self-reliance. I stand and rejoice every time I see a woman ride by on a wheel. The picture of free, untrammelled womanhood.

Susan B. Anthony



Linda Fisher, historian, presented the president's scrapbook to Donna-Hirner Gardner, the club's 2018-2019 President

**Membership Meeting
August 1, 2019**



President Lori Haney

The august meeting was under the direction of the telephone committee, Debbie Ulmer, chair. Guest speaker was Amy Epple, with the Sedalia Parks and Recreation. She explained the upcoming ballot issue for the Heckart Community Center. The project requires two “Yes” votes. One is for the removal of the June 30, 2026 sunset provision of the existing one-half of one

percent sales tax that was put in place to fund capital improvements. The second “Yes” vote is to increase the sales tax rate to fund parks and storm water control for Sedalia.



Debbie Ulmer and Amy Epple

SBW gained two new members. Membership chair, Amanda Davis installed Jada Weaver and Lori Wightman.



Amanda Davis, Jada Weaver, Lori Wightman, and President Lori Haney

**Career Advancement
September 5, 2019**



Congratulations, Kelsey Ehlers and Jessica Hofheins

The Sedalia Business Women's September meeting was under the direction of the Career Advancement Committee, Valerie Dent, chair.

The club awarded two scholarships this year. A scholarship was awarded to Jessica Hofheins, who is in the nursing program at SFCC. The other scholarship was awarded to Kelsey Ehlers, who is pursuing a degree in Health Information and Technology as well as a professional certificate in Medical Coding. Congratulations to the worthy recipients!

Announcements included the October 20-26 Business Women's Week. The mayoral proclamation will be signed at 11:30 p.m. on October 14. Members are encouraged to attend.

The Northwest Regional meeting will be in Kansas City on September 28.

The October meeting will be under the direction of the Legislative Committee, Dianne Simon, chair.

Legislative Meeting October 3, 2019



Dianne Simon, Betty Albrecht, Nicole Cooke, and bob Satnan

The October dinner meeting was under the direction of the Legislative Committee, Dianne Simon, Chair. Mary Merritt introduced the guests. Dianne Simon was the hostess. The Written Spotlight focused on the Legislative Committee.

Bob Satnan, former editor and columnist for the *Sedalia Democrat*, talked about how everyone receives messages in different ways. He talked about the importance of fact checking news stories through three different sources. Broadcast TV and online videos are often opinion rather than news. We tend to watch the news that aligns with our own biases. We have moved away from print media at a time we need it most. Too often, the best source is the one that requires payment. You get what you pay for!

Nicole Cooke, editor of the *Sedalia Democrat*, talked about the news selection for the newspaper: Community first, state news, and national news. The local staff has been narrowed to a five person news department. The news department is open to newsworthy suggestions. People are invited to call, email, or drop in at the office with their suggestions.



Carmon Loveland, Sue Parrish, Melissa Marksberry

Two new members were installed: Carmon Loveland and Melissa Marksberry. Their sponsor is Sue Parrish.



**President Lori Haney
(right) presents the birthday
gift to Valerie Dent.**

Public Relations Dinner November 7, 2019



The November dinner meeting was under the direction of the Public Relations Committee, Amanda Herrick, chair. Guestbook was Debbie Ulmer. Paula Walter was the hostess.

The business portion of the meeting was suspended as this was our meeting to announce our Business of the Year and Woman of the Year.

Krista Dicks introduced Gardner Denver, SBW's 2019-2020 Business of the Year. Michelle Sparks introduced SBW's 2019-2020 Woman of the Year, Shirley McCown. Shirley was not able to attend the meeting, and Carolyn Green accepted on her behalf. Shirley will be honored at the January meeting.

Carolyn Green presented the items and donations collected during Business Women's Week to Mary Asbury, Director of Child Safe, our Service Project for the week.

Melissa Moore, BMW state president, gave an update of State events. Vicki Silkwood, past state president, thanked SBW for the friendship that have come from locals throughout the state.

Members made several announcements.

Red Purse raffle tickets are available. The purse is already valued at over \$500. The drawing will be held at February meeting.

Carol Sawyer won the November birthday drawing.

The December 5 dinner meeting will be under the direction of the Socials Committee, Carolyn Green, chair.



Carol Sawyer won the birthday prize



State President Melissa Moore, Past State President Vicki Silkwood, Amanda Herrick

Socials Meeting December 5, 2019



Lori Haney, President, called the Sedalia Business Women's December dinner meeting to order. Debbie Ulmer, Chaplain, gave the invocation. Lori Haney led the club in the Club Collect followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Debbie Ulmer introduced the guests.

The December dinner meeting was under the direction of the Socials Committee, Debra Andresen, Chairman. Guestbook was Debbie Ulmer. Hostesses were Shirley McCown and Julie Slocum. Debbie Fillinger presented the program for the evening in the absence of Debra Andresen. The program was annual Christmas party and gift exchange. Shirley McCown read a Christmas story.

Lori Haney discussed the Red Purse Raffle to be held February 2020. The purse has surpassed a value of \$500.

Carolyn Green, Bell Ringing chairman, discussed SBW Bell Ringing that took place at JC Penney. We collected \$363.47. Amanda Herrick live streamed on Facebook. The Salvation Army reported SBW collected one of the higher amounts.

Mike Kissel, the new General Manager of the Country Club, introduced himself to the Club and said to contact him if we needed anything.

Lori Haney discussed that the family selected for our holiday basket is a single mother of 3 children, ages 7, 5 and 1. The budget from December meeting is being donated to the holiday basket as there is no speaker or special music.

Katie Kirby and Mary Beegle were installed as new members.



Mary Beegle, Katie Kirby, and Amanda Davis



**SBW Members Katie Kirby and Amanda Davis
were honored as Sedalia's 20 Under 40**

**Membership Meeting
January 9, 2020**



**Shirley McCown
SBW 2019-20 Woman of the Year**

SBW honored Shirley McCown as the 2019-2020 Woman of the Year. Several of Shirley's family members and friends were in attendance to join the SBW members to celebrate this coveted award. Shirley is a volunteer extraordinaire! She



volunteers for her church, Bothwell Regional Health Center, SBW, for Lub Dub and other community events.

The guest speaker was Victoria Weaver, Curator of the Daum Museum of Contemporary Art. Weaver is a qualified Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) trainer and facilitator. VTS is an innovative, student centered, and researched based teaching method. She showed slides of the museum's collections.



SBW Installed Two New Members

**Membership Chair Amanda Davis, Melissa Boyer and her sponsor La Sondra Marsch;
Penny Taylor and her sponsor Denise Jaegers, and SBW President Lori Haney**

February Foundation Meeting Cancelled Due to Weather



**The Red Purse Raffle will be held at the
March meeting.**

Individual Growth Meeting March 5, 2020



The March meeting was called to order by President Lori Haney.

The Individual Growth Chair, Dianne Simon, introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Michael Carozza, OB/GYN at Bothwell Regional Health Center. His topic was Menopause: New Perspective on an Old Problem for Still Young People.

Donna Hirner-Gardner is to be installed as president at the BWM State Conference to be held at Harrah's in Kansas City, April 25.

The Northwest Regional Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 21, in St. Joseph.

President Lori Haney appointed a nominating committee: Linda Fisher, Michelle Sparks, and Carolyn Green. Nominations are needed for second vice-president and secretary.

Due to the cancellation of the February Foundation Meeting, a silent auction was held throughout the evening with several nice items available. The Red Purse Raffle and Members Clutch were awarded. The winner of the Red Purse was Amanda Davis. Michelle Sparks won the Members Only Clutch. A grand total of \$2,125 was raised for local and state scholarships.



Michelle Sparks (above) won the Members Only Clutch, and Amanda Davis won the Red Purse. Congratulations!





Lori Wightman, BRHC, Dr. Carozza, and Dianne Simon, Individual Growth chair



Amanda Davis, Angela Boone, Cindy Weaver, Lori Haney



April 2, 2020 Special Projects Meeting

May 7, 2020 Music Committee (Installation)

Due to COVID-19 concerns, the April and May Meetings were cancelled. The Nomination Committee submitted the following nominations:

President - Debbie Ulmer
President-Elect - Robin Balke
1st Vice President - Amanda Davis
2nd Vice President - Betty Albrecht
Secretary - Katie Kirby
Treasurer - Della Schnakenberg
Director - Lori Haney

The slate of officers was approved by the membership by electronic vote. Installation will be at the June 4 meeting.

Also approved by electronic vote was \$4,000 for Special Project recipients.

