



December 2010

January Chapter Meeting

Thursday, January 27, 2011

MCM Elegante Hotel

6:00pm – Networking

6:30pm - Meeting Begins

The La Luz Lamplighter

La Luz Shines at National!



La Luz President, MyChelle Andrews, poses with La Luz's award for Best Practices Level 3, during the November chapter meeting. MyChelle was also recognized as a 2011 Top Ten Business Woman of ABWA during the conference held in Chattanooga, Tenn. October 28-30.

ABWA Mission Statement

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.

VOLUME 43

ISSUE 5

Woman of the Year

Barbara Torres

2011 Top Ten Business

Woman of ABWA

MyChelle Andrews

American Business Womens' Association
The association for all women in all occupations



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

President's Message

Dear La Luz Chapter Members,

I hope everyone has a happy holiday season. I can hardly believe its December. Boy has our year gone by fast. As I look back on the year, I realize how much I have to be thankful for. The La Luz Chapter has achieved so much. We hit the trifecta in 2010, in April we won the District VI newsletter award, in July we won the Best Practices Level III award and in September, I was selected as a 2011 Top Ten. Who would have thought back in January that we would have such a successful year?

This month we do not have a chapter meeting. I hope everyone is able to attend the Area Council Holiday Party on Sunday, December 12 at 6 pm. This year Area Council is adopting a family rather than doing a gift exchange. La Luz is responsible for purchasing the gifts for the mom. If you would like to donate an item or cash, please let me know.

ABWA National is running a promotion call "Give the Gift of ABWA". See the flyer in the newsletter for more details. I can't think of a better gift for a colleague or for someone I am mentoring than a membership to ABWA.

As 2010 comes to an end, please remember our ABWA sisters that we have lost this year, keep our sisters that are not able to attend our meeting in your heart and give thanks for all our members that work hard to make La Luz and ABWA a success.

In ABWA Love,

MyChelle

The most important thing one woman can do for another is to illuminate and expand her sense of actual possibilities.

-Adrienne Rich, poet

[New Mexico Flag Salute](#)

I salute the flag of the State of New Mexico and the Zia symbol of perfect friendship among united cultures.

[ABWA Proud Code of Conduct](#)

1. All members will serve as goodwill ambassadors for ABWA
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
6. 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

[Benediction](#)

Guiding Spirit, Guardian of our days
Be with us 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



Committee Square



La Luz's November Meeting Program Committee Report Summary December 2010

La Luz Meeting Evaluation Summary

PROGRAM: Ralph Wallace, "How We Survived the Future"

LOCATION: MCM Eleganté

DATE: November 18, 2010

Attendees: members- 17 Guests- 3

Respondents: 14

Rating scale of (5) for the most favorable impression gradating to (1) for the poorest impression

Relevant for the Chapter	4.57
Quality of Presenter Material?	4.71
Quality of Presenter?	4.86
Overall Meeting	4.71

Comments:

1. Excellent speaker.
2. Speaker and topic was excellent. (Articulate, knowledgeable, friendly and professional) enjoyed it thoroughly. Thank you!
3. The Lessons for today, change slide to add: "The Challenges of the 1990's). Very engaging topic.
4. Excellent speaker, timely topic.

Suggestions to improve the La Luz meetings:

1. Many of the speakers are not of interest or relevant to my current career path.
2. Loved it!
3. Vegetable lasagna—NO!
4. Keep up the good work.
5. No, this was perfect!
6. Haven't a clue. Really enjoyed the group and the meeting (guest).
7. Didn't like the meal.

Future Scheduled Speakers are as Follows:

- **January 27** – John Freisinger "Why You Suck at PowerPoint: And How to Suck Less"
- **February 24** – Keri Stewart, Results 4 Business, "Ten Commandments of a Good Organization"
- **March 25** – James Masica, All Things Laughter, "Laughter, Mirror Neurons and You: Why science encourages you to laugh for no reason – and how to do it"



Submit Articles for the La Luz Lamplighter to:
ingamass@comcast.net



Calendar of Events

1. Saturday, December 25, 2010
Merry Christmas!
2. Saturday, January 1, 2011
Happy New Year!
3. Thursday, January 13, 2011
Executive Board Meeting
4. Thursday, January 27, 2011
Chapter Meeting
5. Fri. & Sat., April 29-30, 2011
2011 Western Regional Conference in Santa Fe, NM.



Our La Luz Chapter scholarship has been established. Tax deductible donations may be made by sending a check to:

University of New Mexico Foundation, Inc.
MSC07 4260
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001

Be sure to provide the following information on your check:

La Luz Chapter, ABWA Scholarship





Committee Square



2010 National Conference in Chattanooga Tennessee Summary

When you attend a national conference, you experience ABWA from a completely different perspective. Being in a ballroom with 500 other women is electrifying. The energy is incredible and you realize that you are a part of a much bigger organization. As the National President Casey Coven walked out on to the stage to announce that the opening session of the National Conference is called to order, you know you are in for a very special weekend.

Electing the new National Officers is an important part of the conference events. The candidates for each of the district vice-president are introduced. Then you hear from the candidates for Secretary/Treasurer, Vice-President, and President. That evening you have time to meet all of the candidates. The next day you vote, what an experience that is. Everyone lines up by district, and then each member goes into the voting area, one at a time. All voting is done electronically, as you page through the screens, you select the candidate you want for the position. After all of the votes are tallied, it is determined if a run-off is needed. If a candidate does not receive a majority of the votes then we have to vote again. This often happens when there are 3 women running for the same office.

Recognition is also a big part of the National Conference experience. The 25-Year Member / Inner Circle Luncheon was extra special this year as we honored Carolyn Elman's retirement. Meeting members that have sponsored 40, 50, over 100 new members is very inspiring. The Best Practices Ceremony is very beautiful; everyone in their Red. Seeing all of those chapters that have earned Level I, II or III, the member going on stage to represent



La Luz president, MyChelle Andrews poses with her 2011 Top Ten Business Woman of ABWA Award and the Geico Gecko stuffed animal. Both were awarded at the 2010 ABWA National Conference in Chattanooga.

chapters and receive their Best Practice Trophy and knowing that La Luz is part of that elite group makes you very proud. The 2011 Top Ten members were honored several times; once when we were on stage to receive our Top Ten Trophy, once when they announced the Women of the Year and then again during the Women of the Year / Top Ten Recognition Luncheon where we each gave our Top Ten Speeches.

National Conference is not just about having fun however. The educational Seminar Tracks are the best. Track A – ABWA – KU MBA Essentials provided three classes each a semesters worth of info during the three day conference. Each class earns .04 CEU credits. Track B – provides business training from Franklin

Covey and Color Accounting. If you take either of these tracks you are eligible for Business Skills Reimbursement. Track A - \$100, Track B \$75. Track C – ABWA tools, what's happening and career development

During the general sessions we had two wonderful keynote speakers, Wayne Lee and Robin Crow. Wayne Lee delivered an electrifying performance as he combined inspiration and entertainment that empowered the audiences. Robin Crow emphasized the importance of having a multidimensional career plan, telling the story of his journey through the music industry.

To cap off a great conference we had wonderful entertainment. The Water Cools keep us entertained as the Best Practices Chapters were honored and during the Saturday Evening Banquet we were all entertained by The Four Bitchin' Babes.



The 2010 Best Practices Award was proudly displayed at the November chapter meeting on November 18, 2010.

If you want to work the conference in Santa Fe, email Kerri Craven at KCraven@abwa.org. They are looking for 20 people



Committee Square



Getting to Know Our... October Member of the Month Better... Anne Descour

Hello, I am Anne Descour and I was both surprised and flattered to be the La Luz Member of the Month for October. Thank you!

In the short time I've belonged to La Luz I have met many wonderful women. ABWA has so much to offer all of us -I am thrilled to be a part of this vibrant organization. I thank Betty Jo de Maes Carter for introducing me to all of you!

My husband, Mike, and I moved to Albuquerque at the beginning of April of 2010 from Tucson, Arizona. Later that same month I had the good fortune of attending the Lt. Governor's Summit on Financial Literacy where I met not only Betty Jo who invited me to attend an ABWA meeting, but also a woman destined to become an Albuquerque colleague. What a lucky day!

November's La Luz presentation about 'Surviving the Future' resonated with me. I've moved through numerous careers as I've followed Mike around the Four Corner states. I was born and educated in Boulder, Colorado; worked for Chevron Corporation in Utah; then I spent 16 fabulous years in Tucson, Arizona as we both worked for the University of Arizona. Now I'm enjoying what I hope to be my last career in my last Four Corner state, the Land of Enchantment.

I look forward to learning more about La Luz, ABWA and all the interesting people involved in this great organization. And as part of the membership committee, I hope to introduce new women into our ranks – so they too can 'turn blue'! (Talk to MyChelle about what that means!)



October member of the Month, Anne Descour (c), is seen here with chapter member Betty Jo Maes de Carter and chapter president MyChelle Andrews at the July Board Surprise Meeting.



November speaker, Ralph Wallace, poses with La Luz president, MyChelle Andrews, after his presentation on November 18, 2010.

Member Birthdays and ABWA Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to the following La Luz members celebrating a birthday in December!

- Shirley Dean 12/21
- Ursula Garduno 12/29

The following members are celebrating Anniversaries in December!

- Betty Jo Maes de Carter





Committee Square



Getting to Know ... New Mexico Better ...

Ah-Shi-Sle-Pah Wilderness Study Area

The Saturday after Thanksgiving, my Husband Ted, my brother Joe and I visited the Ah-Shi-Sle-Pah Wilderness Study Area located between Chaco Canyon and De-Na-Zin. As it is about a three hour drive from our home we chose to drive as far as Cuba on Friday so we could get an early start Saturday morning.

We were rewarded with amazing HooDoo's, Petrified Wood and Dinosaur Bones! We hiked from 10:30 AM until 3:00 PM and covered about five miles.

Below I have printed the area's description from www.americansouthwest.net.

I hope you get the chance to see and explore this magical area!

Judi Anderson

Like the Bisti and De-Na-Zin wildernesses a short distance northwest, **Ah-Shi-Sle-Pah Wilderness Study Area** is a little known region of fantastic eroded rocks in the high desert of northwest New Mexico, a generally flat, sandy and uninhabited land drained by shallow washes that eventually meet the San Juan River. Some of the land is part of the Navajo Indian Reservation, and other areas are used for oil and gas drilling, but most is empty, yet access is quite easy since a network of dirt roads criss-cross the desert, many in good condition except after recent rainfall when some become impassable. The WSA is centered on **Ah-Shi-Sle-Pah Wash**, a minor drainage running through a wide, barren



Dinosaur Bones found at Ah Shi SlePah Wilderness Study Area

but lined to the north and south by a strip of eroded cliffs, ravines and badlands containing innumerable hoodoos, balanced rocks and other strange formations, plus much petrified wood including stumps still in an upright position, complete with roots. The rocks (a mixture of sandstones, mudstones and shales, from the **Fruitland Formation**) have a great variety of colors, especially distinctive being the brown-ochre of the badlands and yellow-orange of some of the hoodoos; other dominant shades are



La Luz Member, Judi Anderson (l), her husband Ted (c), and Judi's brother Joe (r), at Ah ShiSle Pah Wilderness Study Area.

grey-white of the mud hills lining the valley floor, and deep black both of the badlands higher up, and scattered coal beds closer to the wash. Although the formations extend for 6 miles, the best and most easily reached section of the WSA next to the official trailhead is just 1.5 miles across



so the majority can be seen in half a day; other interesting areas on the north side of the valley and downstream to the west would need a day or more to explore fully. Besides the petrified wood, the Ah-Shi-Sle-Pah region is a fruitful source of animal fossils, and many dinosaur bones have been collected here over the last hundred years; some may still be seen in situ.



La Luz – November, 2010 Meeting Minutes

La Luz Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2010

No. of Attendees:

Members – 17

Guests – 3

6:30 p.m. MyChelle Andrews, President, opened the meeting with the Pledge of Alliance and the New Mexico Flag Salute

6:35 Introductions - Michelle Tabacchi

6:40 Dinner - Board Meeting Recap and Top Ten experience at National - MyChelle Andrews
Reminder of Regional Spring Conference to be held in Santa Fe April 29-30 at Santa Fe Hilton
National Conference to be held in Irvine, Texas, September 22,23 & 24.
Fiesta will be held the third weekend in July.

7:00 Guest Speaker – Ralph Wallace, DTM, Presbyterian Hospital Executive
“How We Survived the Future”

7:45 Break

7:55 Business Meeting

Member of the Month for October was Holly Sylvester. Holly became a committee chair as a new member to the La Luz chapter. She attended the National Conference and assisted MyChelle with scheduling while there.

National Convention Recap – Jeanne, Barbara, Margaret, Holly, MyChelle.

SBMEF Scholarship program changes – Barbara Torres stated there are changes to the program wherein applicants will apply directly to National. Barbara will submit an article for the newsletter.

WIN – New contest announced. Members who sign up and access La Luz chapter website turn blue. All “blue” members will have name entered in a drawing to win an ABWA coin purse.

Holiday Party – Jeanne sent out an Evite. Cost is \$25, held 12/12/10. All attendees are asked to participate in an edible auction. The proceeds will go to SBMEF in honor of Bea Gallegos.

Safe House family adopted for the holidays – MyChelle encouraged donations or participation.

Member update regarding Ursula Garduno. MyChelle asked that flowers be sent to Ursula, her daughter Helen, and husband, Guadalupe.

Top Ten and Woman of the Year Application Process – Holly and Marlene will send an informational email to members and post qualifications in the January newsletter.

8:15 Door Prizes – Michelle Tabacchi

8:20 Benediction



Great Things Come in Small Packages

***ABWA—One Membership,
A Lifetime of Possibilities***

This holiday season, take a moment to reflect on our collective experiences, celebrate our successes, and look to a new and exciting year in ABWA!

In ABWA, we ...

- ...connect with lifelong friends;
- ...have never stopped learning;
- ...are inspired by women who help us fulfill our dreams;
- ...have been part of a leading women's organization that has changed thousands of lives—one woman at a time!

***Now through Jan. 15th, give the gift
of ABWA to a woman in your life and
receive a \$10 merchandise certificate!***

To purchase your "Give-a-Gift" Membership from ABWA, call 1-800-228-0007 or shop online at www.abwa.org today!

*Gift includes a one-year Basic or Express Network membership, a limited edition ABWA gift, membership card, pin and a holiday card from you!

**Give the
Gift of
ABWA!**

Your gift
membership*
includes a
limited edition
ABWA gift and a
holiday card
from you!

Receive
a \$10 ABWA
merchandise
certificate with
your gift!

Executive Board Meeting Minutes- November

La Luz Board Meeting
November 11, 2010

Meeting Began at 5:30 p.m.

Attendees: MyChelle Andrews, Michelle Tabacchi, Marlene Hall, JoAnn Torres, Holly Sylvester, Ann Descour

>Secretary Report – Marlene

Marlene committed to sending out minutes to meeting attendees November 11, to allow time for review. Attendees were asked to review and vote on the minutes within 24 hours so the final report can be forwarded to Inga by Saturday night, November 13, for the newsletter.

>Member of the Month was chosen.

>Area Council – Mychelle reviewed on behalf of Kathy.

- Holiday Party Dec 12 – Details reviewed.
- A family is being sponsored for the holidays. Each chapter is contributing to specific family members. LaLuz obligations reviewed. Specifics will be published in the newsletter.

>Website Updates – JoAnn will review and address revising front page of chapter website.

>November Treasurer Report - JoAnn

- Report reviewed. Cost to chapter of RSVP's who do not show for dinners was discussed. Members will be responsible for the cost of their specific guests if not cancelled by Monday evening the week of the dinner meeting.
- Concessions earnings reviewed.
- JoAnn to review members who have not yet paid local dues and provide a list to the Board.
This topic will be addressed at next chapter meeting.

>Review Chapter Officer and Committee Guide – MyChelle created and distributed a list of important dates as outlined in the guide. The guide was reviewed.

>Review Standing Rules – MyChelle. La Luz Chapter Standing Rules do not match some of the National Guidelines. Adjustments to bring Chapter rules into alignment with National will be made in June for the start of the next fiscal year.

>Business Plan – MyChelle provided final draft of the La Luz Chapter Business Plan for 2010-2011. JoAnn is proofreading for accuracy and Michelle will provide final Vision Statement by January meeting. Ideas for the Vision Statement were discussed. The list of Business Plan timelines will be kept in the meeting minutes manual.

>Publicity Plan – MyChelle presented a Publicity Plan as part of her final Top 10 Award presentation. She will follow-through with her goal of creating U-Tube interviews of members and a Blog for the Chapter. Members will be asked to e-mail their charity involvement and successes to MyChelle.

>Fund Raising Committee Report - E-mailed by Jeanne. Reviewed in conjunction with the Treasurer's Report by JoAnn.

>Program Committee Report - Holly provided a list of Speakers and Meals through the remainder of the fiscal year. Holly and Marlene discussed planning for Woman of the Year/Top Ten Candidate Selection and will have this completed for review at the January 2011 meeting.

- Program and meal for November are finalized. Evite sent out today, 11/10/10.

>Membership Committee Report – E-mailed by Sharon accompanied by several discussions with MyChelle prior to Board meeting. Marlene will print meeting agenda on letterhead for guests.

- Social Events are being planned.
- Orientation presentation by Jeanne will be scheduled.

>Professional Development Committee Report – No report received prior to meeting. JoAnne submitted an article for November newsletter. Only members with local chapter dues paid for six months are eligible for monetary support from LaLuz Chapter.

>Review La Luz Chapter Meeting Agenda-Adjustments made by MyChelle.

Next Board Meeting – December 9, 2010

Meeting adjourned: 8:00 p.m.

Professional Development Opportunities Check List

La Luz Business Skills Tuition Reimbursement

Qualification

- Max of 1 per fiscal year one half (1/2) of the tuition up \$80
- Female US Citizen
- Must be a member of La Luz ABWA
- Enhances Life Skills and / or Career Skills

Process

- Submit application to Dana Roberson at least 2 weeks prior to the registration deadline. Email to g_d_roberson@msn.com or snail mail to: PO Box 923, Sandia Park, NM 87047. Include:
 - a. course description
 - b. rationale for attendance
 - c. date, time and location of class
2. Professional Development committee will vote on approval, requires a majority vote
3. Applicant will be notified of approval
4. After attending the class:
 - a. submit a written report for publication in the newsletter
 - b. receipt

SBMEF Business Skills Tuition Reimbursement

Qualification

- Max Per fiscal year one half (1/2) of the tuition up \$500
- Minimum per reimbursement \$50
- Must attend a licensed, accredited or state-approved institution in the United States or its possessions, territories, or districts
- Female US Citizen
- Does not need to be a member of ABWA

Process

1. Submit application within 90 days of attending the course. Include:
 - c. course description
 - d. rationale for attendance
 - e. verification of the institution's or organization's credentials

Outright Grants Program Qualifications

- Max Per fiscal year \$1,500
- Funds are to be used only for tuition, books and fees.
- Female US Citizen
- Must be at least at the sophomore level in college (completed 45 credit hours) applying for funds to be used the following year.
- Does not need to be a member of ABWA
- Have a 2.5 or better GPA on a 4.0 scale
- Must be seeking a baccalaureate degree or higher

Process

1. Complete the candidate information section of the SBMEF application in full.
2. Provide official transcripts of grades from all colleges attended.
3. Write a one-page biographical summary
4. Submit three current letters of reference from persons other than relatives.



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Rene' Street

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ABWA 2010-2011 National Officers

President –Lynn Drowne
Vice President – Tina Gandy
Secretary/Treasurer – Tracy Sweet
District VI Vice President - Pattie Vargas

La Luz 2010-2011 Officers and Committee Chairs

Executive Board

President – MyChelle Andrews
Vice President – Michelle Tabacchi
Secretary – Marlene Hall
Treasurer – JoAnn Torres
Board Delegate – Kathy Elrick

Committee Chairs

Professional Development Committee Chair – Dana Roberson
Program Committee Chair – Holly Sylvester
Fund Raising Committee Chair –Jeanne Banks
Membership Committee Chair – Sharon Winings

La Luz Lamplighter Editor

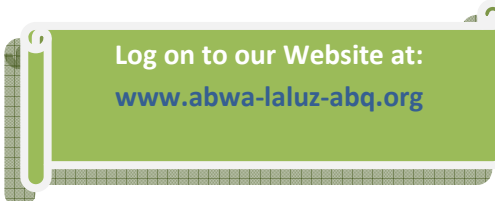
Inga Mass
6111 Dungan NE.
Albuquerque, NM 87109
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Do you have an idea or story for the Lamplighter?

Do you have accomplishments you would like to share with other chapter members?

Do you have pictures or an event to share with the Chapter?

Send your articles, pictures, or ideas to Inga Mass at [ingamass@comcast.net](mailto:ingamass@comcast.net)



**ABWA – Albuquerque and Santa Fe Chapters Meeting Nights and 2010-2011 Presidents**

|                             | Meeting Night                                          | President        | Phone | E-Mail                                                                 |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Albuquerque Charter Chapter | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday<br>MCM Elegante                | Vivien Lahiri    |       | <a href="mailto:vivienharvey@hotmail.com">vivienharvey@hotmail.com</a> |
| High Noon Chapter           | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday<br>Shoneys/Louisiana<br>11:30 | Susan Starnes    |       | <a href="mailto:ron.l.schmidt@att.net">ron.l.schmidt@att.net</a>       |
| La Luz Chapter              | 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday<br>MCM Elegante               | MyChelle Andrews |       | <a href="mailto:mkandrews@cabq.gov">mkandrews@cabq.gov</a>             |
| Tierra Encantada Chapter    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday<br>Santa Fe                    |                  |       |                                                                        |

All Meetings in the evening unless noted otherwise.