

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings from my office corner! Here I sit staring at a big bright screen, making little black letters silently appear, wondering how many of you are doing the same thing. It's a Friday afternoon, and I wonder how many of you, like me, are struggling to focus on the task at hand instead of planning the weekend's Christmas preparations and activities.

More New Connections! At our November Chapter meeting, we enjoyed the hospitality of another of our newer member firms, the Wichita Marriott, and continue to renew our friendship with representative Jessica Emrick. I especially appreciated Jessica's help to make me comfortable presenting the pro-

gram. And the food, oh my, the food was wonderful! The program would have just been a flop without the gracious assistance of Tracy Lucas, representative of High Touch, Inc., who brought her laptop computer and displayed the EWI Corporate and Chapter websites onscreen as I talked about them. Thank you, Tracy!

Staying Connected! I have only one child, and when he went away to college, I wanted to give him so much advice. One piece in particular I wanted to tattoo on his forehead, "Go to class!" He was perfectly capable of maintaining the grade point average on which his generous scholarship was conditioned, but skipping class would have hindered his success in so many ways. You're not my kids (although some are young enough), and EWI Chapter meetings are not equivalent to college classes. But receiving the benefits of your firm's commitment to membership in EWI begins with attendance at our monthly meetings. We all realize it takes a while to learn to know each other, and to understand all that goes on through a yearly cycle of Chapter activity. The first place to gain this familiarity is to attend as many meetings as possible. So this is my pitch to urge you to join us at the next one Wednesday, December 14, 2011. I hope you saw the publicity that was e-mailed about it, and just for giggles, it is also included in this newsletter. Except for the Board meeting, there are no other official Chapter gatherings planned in December at this time.

Regarding your firm's commitment to membership, payment of our annual dues will be requested in January, 2012. When the Chapter's budget was prepared a few months ago, it was agreed to keep both the dues and the meeting fees structure THE SAME for the coming year. The national Corporate annual dues and fees will also stay THE SAME. The dues notice will be sent to you by e-mail, and the membership renewal process is through the Chapter website, which leads to my next request.

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PRESIDENT MESSAGE (Continued)

Whether we resist or embrace it, our connections are increasingly electronic, both business and personal. So much information is now distributed through e-mail and the internet that our physical mailing address and dear old telephone land line are almost irrelevant for the purpose of communication. Therefore it is critical that we keep our e-mail addresses up to date everywhere. To maintain our EWI connections, please take time to review your e-mail address on both the Chapter's website www.ewiwichita.org, and the national Corporate's website www.ewiconnect.com. For the Chapter's site, please check everywhere including your roster page and the Committee lists. If you cannot log in on these sites, give me a shout.

One last connections bit, which I've copied from Connie Velghe's December, 2009, President's Message. It is not meant to be comprehensive; a review of the list of current member firms will give you even more ideas! "Remember the Power of EWI? Your EWI connections can help you during this busy season! Need something for your staff, boss or possibly a hostess gift – try Above and Beyond Corporate Gifts. If you need Christmas decorations or that special centerpiece – stop by J.R. Koontz Flowers. Send your husband to Carolyn Sayre's Fine Jewelry for something that sparkles. Check out the WSU bookstore – you can find lots of Shocker items for the whole family. Want a new look for the Holidays – call The Salon at Happiness Plaza. Too many relatives and not enough beds – send them to the Wichita Marriott or The Hyatt Regency Wichita. Just need to get away from it all - spend the day with the animals at the Sedgwick County Zoo, and while you're there, check out their gift shop with unique gifts and clothing for children and adults. You can even get started on next year - open a savings account at Commerce Bank or Meritrust Credit Union. Last, but certainly not least, you can make the Holidays brighter for someone less fortunate – contact the Wichita Children's Home or the United Way."

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to you and yours,
Helen Nicoli
President 2011-2012

(With my
new purse!!!!)



P.S. Please read to the bottom of the Connect to see special articles from "Dress for Success - Women of Distinction" Awards for Karen Smith and Sherry Moore received November 15, 2011 for their outstanding contributions!!

NOVEMBER MEETING



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Joan Wamsley 12/19
 Charley Lewis 12/21
 Angela Telford 12/23
 Shirley Smith 12/26
 Marg McAdams 12/29
 Donna Eastwood 12/30

Dates to Note

January Chapter Meeting
 January 18, 2012
 WSU - Marcus Welcome Center
 Shirley Beggs - Speaker

February Chapter Meeting
 Philanthropic Potluck Dinner
 Date: February 15, 2012
 Time: 6:00
 Place: J. P. Weigand Office – 6530 E. 13th St.
 The evening will be filled with candlelight, wine, music, food and lots of laughter! There will be prizes in all categories so ladies, dust off those favorite recipes and bring it on! Details to follow.

Leave a legacy gift and enhance financial security for those who will benefit from EWI's programs.



Call or go online for more details about how you can make a difference.



Dial Toll Free: 1-877-4-EWI-NOW or go to www.ewiconnect.com

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Incentive Program

The Corporate Board is pleased to announce a new incentive program for the remainder of 2011! We have designed the incentive to include all parties ... you, the new member firm, the existing firms and of course, the Chapter! Everyone has a chance to win and help grow our EWI network of members. The incentive plan will run from July 1 thru December 31, 2011. This incentive plan will take the place of the traditional 15 for 12 campaign.

Firms - New

Every New Member Firm that joins an EWI Chapter between July 1 and December 31, 2011, will have the \$50 Corporate administrative fee waived and will be entered into a drawing for a free 2012 EWI membership (Chapter and Corporate dues for all New Member Firms and their Representatives who joined during this time period).

Firms - Additional Representatives

Every Member Firm that adds an additional representative (maximum of three) between July 1 and December 31, 2011, will receive entrance into a drawing for a free 2012 EWI membership (Chapter and Corporate dues for all Representatives who joined during this time period).

Representatives

Every Representative who successfully recruits a new member firm (Complete membership application and funds must be received at the Corporate Office between July 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011) will receive an entry into a drawing for \$1,000 cash! (Representative's name can be entered multiple times – once for each new member firm recruited during this time period).

Chapters

The Chapter that recruits the most new member firms between July 1 and December 31, 2011, will receive a customized EWI Chapter banner stand or \$450 credit in the EWI Merchandise Shoppe. In the case of a tie, a drawing will be held to determine the one Chapter winner.

All winners will be announced in the January 18, 2012 EWI Connect.



fellows
EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
FELLOWS SCHOLARSHIP

Attention EWI Representatives pursuing an undergraduate, graduate, or post-graduate degree, EWI can help with your expenses.

Apply Today for an EWI Fellows Scholarship!

To Learn More Call Toll Free: 1-877-4EWI-NOW
or Go Online to www.ewiconnect.com



EWI of Wichita
Chapter Meeting
Wednesday, December 14, 2011

Rolling Hills Country Club
223 South Westlink

6:00 p.m. Networking
6:30 p.m. Dinner and Program

Holiday musical entertainment by the "Maize High Dynamics"
Maize High School premier vocal ensemble - this group is outstanding!

Our traditional **holiday ornament exchange** - bring a wrapped ornament or decoration with your name on it, and please limit the cost to \$10.

You may bring an unwrapped gift for member firm **The Wichita Childrens' Home**. The suggestion for this month is stocking stuffers for teenagers (gift cards, belts for boys, watches, costume jewelry, make-up, hair accessories, nail polish, scented lotions, body wash for men, yoyos, etc.).

The Fundraising Committee will have it's **Philanthropic Piggy Bank** available for you to share your extra change, and another **Monthly Mystery Prize** will be offered!

Secret Sisters - this evening is a convenient time to deliver a Christmas remembrance.

Oh yes, the menu:

Black Angus Bistro steak grilled, sliced and topped with a mushroom demi glaze, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables,
Mixed Green Salad with house vinaigrette
Dessert: choice of White Chocolate Mousse Cake or Italian Cream Cake

Please visit the Chapter website at www.ewiwichita.org
to RSVP by clicking the Member Info tab and then Member Calendar.

Karen Smith

Some people make a splash wherever they go, inspiring us with their genuine kindness and unbridled compassion. Karen Smith is one of them. As a wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, volunteer and account manager at Westar Energy, Karen is a woman beyond her roles. She devotes true passion and boundless energy into helping everyone around her.

Aside from pouring her heart into her work at Westar Energy, Karen puts extensive time and effort into organizations devoted to bettering our community, such as Bethel Life Center, Dress for Success and the American Heart Association, to name just a few. When she is not busy making the world a better place, Karen spends her time on Shocker baseball and gardening.

When asked what and who inspires her, Karen said, “Watching what God does in the lives of people who follow Him. There have been, and continue to be, many mentors in my personal, professional and spiritual walk, but there is a man — a brother, a son, a teacher, a carpenter — who inspires me most, and I strive to follow most. His name is Jesus.”

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Sherry Moore



Since 1956, J.P. Weigand and Sons has been blessed with the incredible talents that Sherry brings with her every day. Now serving as vice president of Administration, she has become an invaluable resource to everyone she meets.

“Sherry Moore is truly unique. She is not only smart, talented, capable and hard-working — she CARES and wants to leave everything she touches better than she received it. J.P. Weigand & Sons has been most fortunate to have had her talents the past 55 years.” — Nestor Weigand Jr.



“I don’t know how J.P. Weigand & Sons could have enjoyed the success we’ve had without Sherry. Her caring and commitment goes far beyond anything we could have hoped for or expected. Nobody has contributed more or given more of themselves than Sherry. We are a much better company because of her.” — Mike Weigand

“Sherry has been a leading force not only in making J.P. Weigand & Sons successful, but also in mentoring others to succeed. Thank you, Sherry, for setting the bar of excellence for the rest of us.”

— Dawn Truman, President