

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Last month I talked about taking care of oneself and keeping oil in your lamp. This past month has been a really rough month for me and I would like to thank those EWI friends that helped me refill my lamp and put a smile on my face and made me laugh.

This month's message consists of a potpourri of items:

At the Leadership Conference & Annual Meeting (LCAM) in Kansas City last September, the Corporate Board mentioned that they want to visit with each Chapter Board via in person if at all possible or participate by conference call. This past week the Wichita Chapter Board met, by conference call, with the Corporate Board. Corpo-

porate members included Sharon Bennett, President, Lisa Stokes, Vice President, Ronwyn Anderson, Professional Development Director, Karen Skirten, Marketing Director, Kerry Feltenberg, Chapter Development Director, Lynne Shaffer, Executive Director and Judy Russell, the new Corporate Advisor, joined later. The Wichita Board consisted of me, Risa Carter, Vice President, calling in, Carla Rae Pitcher, Sergeant-at-Arms, Jeanetta Bolin, Secretary, Jenny Stephens, Treasurer, Jan Baggett, Program Director, Pat Campbell, Fundraising Director, Sonia McClintic, Membership Director, Lynne Smith, Retention & Orientation Director, and Connie Velghe, Advisor.

I was very nervous and anxious about the meeting with Corporate. They wanted to hear what was going on in the Chapter; all of our successes and any issues/concerns we might have. After visiting with them for 35 minutes, I felt it was a very worthwhile meeting. They got to know us and we got to know them. They were quite excited about our website. EWI of Wichita will be one of the "pilot sites" to test the new corporate template that rolls out next month. We are excited to get that ball rolling and Sharon Phillips, Website Chair, has done a very good job staying on top of it. I know she too will be excited to get the new website template.

Pat Campbell reported on the success of the fundraising event the night before, *ewi*, *The Perfect Accessory*. Sharon Bennett asked Pat to submit a news story and pictures to go into the Corporate Connect.

We talked about retention within the chapter. So far, having lost only one firm, Airport Hilton, we have been able to keep our retention at 98%, which will put us in the drawing for the Corporate Retention Incentive program.

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On another note, I encourage the representatives of EWI of Wichita to seriously think about attending the 2011 Spring Conference hosted by EWI of Tulsa on April 14-16. They have invited any registrant to be their guest at their Chapter meeting held on Thursday, April 14. If you cannot attend the Leadership Conference & Annual Meeting in September, in Minneapolis, this would be a great conference to attend and it's close to home. If you plan to attend please turn in your own registration but be sure to let Risa Carter know for planning purposes.

March is going to be a busy month.

- March 13 is the beginning of Daylight Savings Time. So don't forget to move your clocks forward an hour before going to bed.
- TCK – the Trust Company of Kansas will host Firm Night on Wednesday, March 16 at Abode Venue. You should have received your invitation. Be sure to turn in your reservations for yourself, guests and executive by going to the Chapter website under Member Calendar.
- March 17 – St. Patrick's Day for all you Irish!
- If you haven't signed up for the Kansas City "Shop til you Drop" trip on March 18, contact Lynne Smith at Above & Beyond Corporate Gifts.
- Spring Break for all kiddos, big and small.
- Angela Telford, Sedgwick County Zoo, will give the next Chapter Development Training webinar on Thursday, March 24 at 12 Noon (DST). It will be a Sergeant-at-Arms training on "Putting the Pieces Together". Let's support Angela by registering for this webinar.

If I or any member of the Board can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to let us know. We are here for you.

Have a great month and see you soon!

Candace

PRESIDENTS CHAT

The Corporate Board held their second communication with Chapter Presidents on February 22, 2011. Sharon Bennett, Corporate President, presented the following information:

Changes in the Corporate Board:

Louise Anderson, Advisor, lost her executive, Mr. Joseph, and has taken on more responsibilities since his death. Judy Russell, EWI of Tulsa, has taken over that role.

Due to health issues, Renea Callery resigned as Secretary a couple of weeks ago. Carolyn Woodmansee, EWI of Spokane, is the new Corporate Secretary.

Updates:

There have been four (4) Professional Development webinars. Ronwyn Anderson has been coordinating them. To date there have been seven (7) Chapter Development training webinars. Recordings are available and may be helpful for training when Risa selects her new Board.

Corporate Board to Chapter Board calls. The Corporate Board has visited with 24 out of 68 chapters. It has been great dialogue with great ideas.

There are two Chapters merging effective February 23, 2011. EWI of Dayton and EWI of Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky and will go by the name of EWI of Cincinnati.

PRESIDENTS CHAT (Continued)

Chapter renewals have been turned in for most chapters. Corporate observed little loss in chapters due to the economy.

Nancy Harrison stressed the importance of retention first. She reported on the Corporate Retention Incentive program in that the chapter with the highest retention percentage will be provided a professional speaker at a chapter meeting. This will be a good time to invite executives, employees of firms and respective members.

Janis Cohlmia, Tulsa President, talked about the upcoming Spring Conference. Lori Giovannoni will present a new Academy of Leadership (AOL) module, “*Finding your Voice and Experiencing your Leadership*”. Heather Rumley will talk about “*Maximizing your Performance*” on Saturday morning, April 16.

Leadership Conference & Annual Meeting (LCAM) – September 22-24 in Minneapolis. Corporate is revising the format and it will be a meeting like none before. The Presidents’ Caucus will start the evening of September 20 and into the next day, September 21. This will be for the new Presidents and open to incoming Vice President. The keynote speaker for Friday, September 23 will be Jon Gordon, a very high energy speaker and author of *Soup, a Recipe to Nourish your Team and Culture*.

My EWIPage is about ready to give birth. It will be out the end of April. You can put links to Facebook, LinkedIn, and even your company website.

The corporate website will have a new look soon. The corporate website template for the chapters will be content driven and user friendly.

EWI FELLOWS campaign – applications are due May 31.

The Corporate Board is looking for candidates to serve next year. If you would like to serve on the Corporate level, ballots will go out in April.

FIRM FEATURE

United Way - New GIV Warehouse

United Way of the Plains has a new GIV warehouse, a 10,800 square foot facility at 432 N. Washington.



The GIV warehouse serves as a distribution center for the thousands of donated items provided by local companies through United Way’s Give Items of Value program. Companies donate new or used items, such as office supplies, furniture and household goods. Those items are then given to area nonprofit agencies at no charge.

Wendy Prue, a repeat customer from YMCA but first-timer at the new warehouse, arrived with a single item on her list: three-ring binders and left with three shopping carts full of donated merchandise. “I never know what I’m going to need until I see it,” said Prue. She loaded up with coloring books and markers, flashlights, story and puzzle books, a stapler, a half dozen green felt baskets and several rolls of gift wrapping. She said she planned to use the items at YMCA’s children center.

The warehouse is 800 square feet larger than the previous space, and features retail-like shelves and shopping carts. “Everyone absolutely loves it,” said Mark Stump, director of direct services for United Way. “Better lighting, improved location. It just feels lighter and cleaner.”

Area nonprofits must call to make an appointment to shop the warehouse by calling 2-1-1.

To donate items, call Mark Stump: 267-1321, ext. 4216.

Personal Note



Please accept my thanks for your support during the loss of my brother. The kindness of my EWI friends meant so much – it was almost uncanny how many times a card or encouraging words came just when I needed help.

Connie Velghe

March Birthdays

Dawn Truman 3/5	Sharon Thomas 3/18
Diana McLeod 3/8	Debbie Pfingsten 3/21
Sonia McClintic 3/10	Jan Baggett 3/25
Charlene Dreiling 3/11	Pat Campbell 3/31
Becca Riley-May 3/12	

Successful Fund Raising Event!!!

“ewi – The Perfect Accessory”

A night of grand fun was had by all attendees of the EWI – Wichita, Feb. 16, 2011, fundraising event. Amazing quantities of gently used accessories were contributed by representatives: hats, scarves galore, glamorous jewelry, really fun jewelry, purses, evening bags and so much more. Approximately 75 auction packages were displayed for bidding with each package containing 4-8 items. It was the perfect setting for mulling around, visiting with one another and getting to know each other in a non-structured environment. Heavy hors d' oeuvres were served along with a complimentary bar. If bidders won a package that had items in it they didn't want they were able to contribute to Dress for Success.



DATES TO NOTE

MARCH LUNCH BUNCH

Larkspur
Friday, March 18 at
11:30 a.m. RSVP to
SoniaMcclintic@westucglobal.com

RETENTION/ ORIENTATION

March 18, Retention/
Orientation is planning a trip
to KC . We will be taking
care of some serious busi-
ness – shopping. KC has so
many different avenues of
shopping to offer. We have
rooms reserved at Home-
wood Suites at 435 and
Metcalf for only 90.00/ night.
We will return late Saturday.
This will be a great opportu-
nity to enjoy the company of
your ewi friends outside of a
monthly meeting. We hope
many can join us. RSVP to
Lynne@aboveandbeyondgift
s.com

Upcoming Events

Firm Night

Wednesday, March 16 at ABODE Venue - 6:00 PM Social - 6:30 PM Dinner / Program

Highlights of the evening will be:

- Shelli Nestelroad – TCK Administrative Assistant - will be giving the invocation.
- Stephen A. English, C.T.F.A. TCK CEO & Chairman - will be our guest speaker.
- Mr. Bill Foshee –TCK Client and Friend - will be featured.

The program will speak of what TCK can do for you and our theme is “You Can See The Future From Here.” Mr. Foshee opened the very first McDonalds restaurant in Kansas and subsequently opened several more restaurants.

Denim & Bling - April 20

Just 8 short weeks away - Call for Trivia Night Silent Bid Auction Items

The Fundraising Committee is asking for your help in securing auction items. It would be great if each representative could secure at least one item from their company, executive, or other means available to them. Trivia Night will be lots of fun and we hope to have lots of competitive, but friendly, betting on our silent bid items. As we put the list of items together we will post them and credit the contributors.

Also, be thinking about putting together your teams of 8.

Please forward information about teams and silent bid contributions to Pat Campbell.
pat.campbell@wichita.edu

Items donated as of Feb. 23:

Kansas Heart Hospital – two Karg art glass pieces
WSU President’s Office – baseball game in Skybox for 10 with Shirley and Don Beggs
Pat Campbell – Autographed book by “Maxine” creator, John Wagner



EWI 2011 Spring Conference

Date: April 14-16, 2011

Location: Tulsa, Oklahoma

Go to the Corporate Connect for registration form and hotel information

Events of Note

Mentoring lunch - Cafe Moderne

Julie Roberts

Lynne Smith

Karen Smith

Pat Jones

Carol Schwarz

Jan Baggett



My New Addition Joan Rapp

Grandson Aiden Alexander Vaughn



Please feel free to supply pictures or any other personal information you would like to share with our fellow EWI ladies!!!



**Big Sister Jade
& Big Brother Mason**

