

Message from the President



"Follow Your Bliss". If you have chosen to take this to heart, you are one that is following your higher destiny, doing what you feel on the inside and what you are most inclined to do. If everyone followed their bliss, the world would be an entirely different place, one in which inhabitants lived their authentic lives. These thoughts were shared by our EWI Corporate Trainer, Lori Giovannoni, at the spring conference in Memphis this weekend. I was fortunate to

have the opportunity to represent our chapter, along with our dedicated VP/President Elect, Vanessa Akins (Huntsville Utilities) at the conference. And wow, was I once again amazed at the level of professionalism and enthusiasm that our Corporate Team exhibited.

Lori reminded us that all of the "networking" we each need to fulfill our dreams is right here, awaiting us from our EWI connections. Whether your dream is a personal or a professional one, all you have to do is reach out and connect with others who are ready and able to assist you. Visualize it, talk about it, dream about it, talk about it some more and be open to accept what comes to you. This is powerful information and 100% true.

Whether we are a part of EWI for the Career, Connection, or Community aspect (or all three) what we get from it is in part determined by what we give. Are you getting what you want from your membership? I certainly wish that for each of you. If not, what can you do to reach out and connect with others to make this a joyful experience for yourself and others? At the conference, Lori also reminded us that EWI is lucky to have us! That's a different way of looking at it, isn't it? Instead of thinking "I'm lucky to have EWI", start realizing that EWI is lucky to have you! You each make a difference and impact on our chapter. Whether you are a new member, seasoned veteran, past board member or current board member, we are lucky to have you! Embrace that realization and remember to "Follow Your Bliss" along the way.

Don't miss the wonderful board member and committee chair recaps that are in this edition of *EWIConnect*. I believe that I speak for all of them

when I say that we are proud to serve you and excited to share what we have accomplished with your involvement this first half of our 2009-2010 year in EWI of Huntsville.

Many thanks to each of you,
Nancy

2009-2010 Chapter Board

President

Nancy Gauldin, SyleWise, Inc.

Vice President

Vanessa Akins, Huntsville Utilities

Secretary

Kimberlee Wacker, HEMSI

Treasurer

Faith Miller, iBERIA Bank

Ways & Means

Tammy Harper, The Westin

Membership Director

Lisa Sparks, First Commercial Bank

Sergeant-at-Arms

Jennifer Lutrick, Financial Strategies Group

Programs

Patty Barron, VT Group

Director At Large

Diann Ward, Bill Ward
Real Estate Team

Communications

Director

Melanie Steele, M Decor

Advisory Council Chair

Pam Holtzclaw, Wells Fargo Advisors

May Scholarship Banquet

The essays have been written, evaluated, scored and now it's time to reward two deserving individuals.

EWI-Huntsville has awarded over \$35,000 through the Adult Student in Scholastic Transition (ASIST) and Executive Women International Scholarship Program (EWISP) over the past 18 years. That is legacy we can all be proud of!

Our guest speaker for this very special event is Susan Turner, Assistant to the Engineering Director at NASA Marshall Space Flight Center. The Marshall Space Flight Center, one of NASA's largest field installations, has more than 7,600 on- and near-site civil service and contractor employees engaged in safely flying the Space Shuttle; building and operating the International Space Station; developing launch vehicles; and contributing to scientific spacecraft development.

Previously, Ms. Turner was the deputy project manager for the Shuttle's reusable solid rocket boosters and served as deputy chief engineer for Science and Mission Systems at Marshall. She also managed the X-37 flight demonstrator project, which proved advanced technologies for the automatic flight and landing of a space plane.

Ms. Turner's undergraduate degree is in chemical engineering from Auburn University and her graduate degree is in engineering from the University of Alabama in Huntsville, where she is completing her doctoral dissertation in industrial engineering. She has won many achievement awards during her career, including NASA's Exceptional Service Medal. *(Continued on page 4)*

Quarterly VIP Award goes to....

Pam Holtzclaw, Wells Fargo Advisors.
Honorary VIP awarded to Sydney
Holtzclaw for her hard work on EWTC.

~Congratulations~

Meeting Details

Date

May 4, 2010

Location

ADTRAN, Inc.
Mark Smith Conf. Ctr.
901 Explorer Blvd.

Catered by

ADTRAN, Inc.

Menu

Green Salad
Baked Chicken
Chef's Potatoes
Green Beans
Dessert

Reservation Deadline

April 28, 2010

Contact Jennifer Lutrick
Jennifer.Lutrick@RaymondJames.com
rsvp@ewihsv.org



Susan Turner
Marshall Space Flight Center
NASA

Welcome New Firms

Faith Miller
Iberia Bank

Marsha Garner and Stacy Ikard, ITT CAS



Member Minute

Lynn Brown, LogiCore

LogiCore is a small woman owned business targeting System Engineering and Logistics. Their strengths are core competencies, values and results.

Treasurer's Report Financial Summary April 2010	
General Operating Funds:	
First Commercial Bank – Checking	\$ 6,695.18
First Commercial Bank – Savings	\$ 96.16
Total General Funds	\$ 6,791.34
Business/Career/Development Program (BCDP):	
First Commercial Bank – Checking	\$ 7,177.55
First Commercial Bank – Savings	\$ 24,493.52
Wells Fargo Advisors	\$13,614.69
Total BCDP Accounts	\$45,285.76

DATES TO NOTE

May 4, 2010
Scholarship Banquet
ADTRAN, Inc.
5:30 pm

May 12, 2010
Board Meeting, The Westin
11:30 am

May 20, 2010
Quarterly Social 5:30 pm
Colleen Cain-Buckner's
Home
108 Danika Drive

May 26, 2010
Deadline to cancel
reservation for June 1
Meeting

May 30, 2010
Deadline to turn in Fellows
Applications to Corporate

June 1, 2010
Monthly Meeting
Downtown Rescue Mission
Networking 5:30pm
Program & Dinner 6:00pm

June 9, 2010
Board Meeting, The Westin
11:30 am

Membership & Attendance April 2010

MEMBERSHIP	
Member Firms	37
Firm Representatives	39
Life Members	1
Firms not Represented by Reps	1
Total Membership	41
ATTENDANCE	
Firms Represented	25
Reps Present	27
Guests	13
April Attendance	40

May Scholarship Banquet

(continued from page 2)

Our May meeting is a wonderful celebration of our commitment to assist others in achieving their goals through educational scholarships. Joy Boldling, last year's EWISP winner, spoke at our Executive Women of Tomorrow Conference (EWTC) this past February. It is heartwarming and gratifying to know that we had such a positive impact in Joy's life. Don't miss one of our most exciting and rewarding functions of the year!

Special thanks to the Scholarship Committee; Angela Moulton, Chair, Nancy Covert, Patty Demos, Kimberlee Wacker, Diann Ward and Margaret Watson.

Firm Postings

~There are currently no firm postings~

Note: Objections to proposed firm(s) must be received in writing from a member firm executive within ten (10) days of posting. If no objections are received the membership committee will contact the firm(s) for membership. *Direct questions/objections to Lisa Sparks at LisaSparks@fcb-hsv.com.*

News from Corporate

The Corporate Marketing Committee of EWI announced its intention to solicit EWI Members for proposals for EWI logo merchandise to be sold in the official "EWI Merchandise Shoppe" online and at the Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting (LCAM).

Check out the details and Request for Proposal in the April 14 issue of Corporate *EWI Connect*.

Swirls & Sips For Scholarships

It's not too early to start thinking about Swirls & Sips for Scholarships. This year's event will be held at the Westin Huntsville and is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, August 26th.

Contact Melanie Steele at M_Decor@comcast.net if you'd like to serve on the committee.



Let your utility bill be rounded up to the next highest dollar, with that extra amount going to help your schools. Your pocket change has never been so powerful!

Contact Vanessa Akins at Vanessa.Akins@hsvutil.org for details.

Have you lost or forgotten your Corporate Website login ID and password?

Contact Heather Hans at heather@ewiconnect.com

Board Reflections

Vanessa Akins, Huntsville Utilities Vice President/President Elect

Wow! The past six months have been incredibly fast-paced yet, very productive. I have spent the majority of my time learning from the President, Nancy Gauldin. Initially, when Nancy approached me about accepting this position, she informed me it would be an uncomplicated year of learning and shadowing the President, preparing me for my presidency ... NOT!

Nancy quickly charged me with implementing a New Member mentoring program for all newly installed representatives. December 2009, we kicked off that program. Soon thereafter, with Board approval, I changed the scope of the New Member Orientation. We now have a 30-minute session prior to the regular monthly meeting and a Friendship Luncheon serves as a complement to the session. The Friendship Luncheon pairs a veteran EWI representative with a rookie representative. This pairing gives the new representative personal insight into the organization, establishing a strong bond and gaining a new friend for life.

As Vice President, I have had the honor of working with and gently guiding several wonderful women on the Hospitality Committee. Together we have established a program to provide special welcome gifts for all guests that attend the monthly meetings. A member of the Hospitality Committee is assigned to personally greet the guest and present them with a welcome greeting card and a flower. This representative is responsible for introducing the guest to the membership, taking care to ensure they feel welcome and a part of the evening's activities.

In February, we hosted our first quarterly social, a new activity for our Chapter this year. During the social, we spend time mingling with our colleagues outside of a structured meeting. This is an excellent opportunity to invite potential new members to an informal meet and greet thereby getting to know them on a casual basis, in a relaxed atmosphere. It has been my privilege to be a part of numerous committees, consequently increasing my knowledge of EWI and giving me additional insight into the intricate details of the organization.

Overall, the past six months have been great and I eagerly look forward to the next six-months and the challenges that lie ahead for me.

Tammy Harper, The Westin Ways & Means

The Ways and Means committee has been working to raise as many funds as possible for EWI Huntsville. The committee is working together to bring some fun and creative ideas to spark interest within the chapter. We continue to do the monthly wine sales and door prizes for meetings and we are still planning 2010 projects

Some of the completed projects we've completed so far this year include a silent auction in February, an Easter basket raffle in March and a Honey Baked Ham sale went very well.

Upcoming projects include a Chef's luncheon and wine pairing in May and Swirls & Sips for Scholarships in the August/September timeframe. Other ideas we're thinking about include a Rummage/Bake Sale, a Cook Book filled with favorite recipes from the Huntsville Chapter and possibly a baking contest.

Lisa Sparks, First Commercial Bank Membership

The membership committee is proud to announce that we have installed five new corporate members with seven new representatives. Our new corporate members are Stylewise represented by Nancy Gauldin, Virginia College represented by Shea Terricin and Tammy Gilliam, Convention and Visitor Bureau represented by Sharon Snell, CAS/ITT represented by Marsha Garner and Stacey Ikard, and iBeria bank represented by Faith Miller. A special thanks for all the members that continue to invite guest to our meetings. It is the best way for companies to learn what we are all about "promoting member firms, enhancing personal and professional development, and encouraging community involvement."

Jennifer Lutrick, Financial Strategies Group Sergeant-at-Arms

I can't believe the year is already half over! It seems like just yesterday that I spent all day worrying about getting my first roll call right! This has been such a great year and we are making some huge steps in the right direction with attendance. Our number of cancellations has increased therefore, our number of last minute no shows has dropped significantly! We are bringing guests to every meeting and last month 13 guests attended! You ladies are doing a wonderful job! Thank you for allowing me to be your Sergeant- At- Arms this year. It has been wonderful to get to know each of you as you check into the meetings!

Patty Barron, VT Group Programs

The Programs Committee is trying to focus most of the programs on the 3 C's of EWI: Connection, Career, and Community. We began our year at Embassy Suites Huntsville with "Toy Box Leadership," presented by our own Lisa Sparks, First Commercial Bank. This program focused on career and professional development. Ruth's Chris provided the catering.

In February, we met at the Crestwood Medical Center Women's Center Community Room. Jenny Johnson, Independent Chocolatier with Dove Chocolate Discoveries™, demonstrated truffle making and shared some ideas for garnishing desserts. Bubba's Silver Spoon Catering provided the meal.

The March program was about Social Media and our guest speaker was Ryan Waldron. Cyn Shea's Complete Catering provided the meal at the Chamber of Commerce of Huntsville / Madison County. The content of his presentation provided information on using social media for personal and business connections, career, and sharing with the community. Wells Fargo Advisors hosted a Firm Night in April at the SAIC facility in Cummings Research Park. Patrick White, Director, Global Consulting, Janus Capital Group, presented "Energy for Performance" and provided all the attendees the program brochure, pedometer and Dynaband Workout. Bubba's Silver Spoon Catering provided our meal.

Future programs include the Scholarship Banquet at ADTRAN in May, Downtown Rescue Mission Firm Night in June, "Christmas In July" at the Von Braun Center in July, Member Firm and Executive Recognition Dinner at the Westin in August, Sci-Quest Firm Night in September, and the Installation of Officers at The Ledges in October. The November meeting will be at the Huntsville Marriott Hotel and we are returning to The Arbor at the Huntsville Botanical Garden for our December meeting. The Programs Committee welcomes suggestions for future programs and/or speakers.

Diann Ward, Bill Ward Real Estate Team Director-at-Large

It is hard to believe that the year is half over and the scholarship and philanthropy committees have been busy.

The members of EWI of Huntsville have been very generous this year. We have helped our member firm, Downtown Rescue Mission, at Christmas with shoes for the residents and at Easter we collected baskets for the children. We have also helped Hospice by providing stuffed stockings at Christmas for families who were going through very tough times. Our Philanthropy Committee works hard to help meet the needs of people in our area. If you know of a situation, or an organization we may be able to help, we would love to hear your suggestions. Colette McGill with Crestwood Medical Center is our Philanthropy Chair and I know she would love to hear from you.

Currently the scholarship committee is feverishly working to provide much needed scholarship money to two well deserving students in our community. In early February applications were sent to area high schools along with a letter requesting their participation in the EWISP scholarship program. Our EWISP scholarship program offers a \$2500 scholarship to an outstanding high school junior. We received 15 applications and will have to wait until May 4th to find out the winner. Our ASIST (The Adult Students in Scholastic Transition) is a flexible scholarship program designed to help adults who are working to improve their situation in life through education. The applicants are either single parents just entering the workforce or displaced workers.

I encourage each of you to attend the May 4th program because you will be inspired and uplifted by our selections for the 2010 EWISP and ASIST scholarships.

It is so easy to get caught up in your own world, but I encourage each of you to open your eyes to the world around you and offer a helping hand to those in need. I look forward to working with you in the coming months and don't forget the Reading Rally in October. It promises to be a FANTASTIC day with FANTASTIC girls.

Melanie Steele, M Décor Communications

Preparing Huntsville's *EWIConnect* each month has given me the opportunity to work with and get to know many of our members which has been a lot of fun. Our April *EWIConnect* included a short EWTC re-cap, which Corporate included in their March 31 issue. Also, Corporate is holding a contest in July for the three best Chapter newsletters and we are submitting our April issue - keep your fingers crossed! When you see in black and white what we've been up to each month you realize how much EWI of Huntsville does for our community - I'm so proud to be part of this great organization! With six newsletters behind me I'm looking forward to the next six and hope as I learn more about publications they will keep getting better and better. I want our newsletter to be informative and useful to our Chapter, Prospective and Corporate members so any suggestions for improvement are welcome!

We've had a couple of major technological breakthroughs in our communications process this year - Donna Corbett was instrumental in developing our Chapter website which she continuously maintains. The website contains a lot of good information and is a great resource for our Chapter - I hope you are utilizing it! To keep things fun and current, Sydney Holtzclaw developed our Chapter Facebook page which we should all add to our list of friends.

You all know EWI's core identity is Connections, Careers, and Community - but do you know what that means?

Connections - EWI brings people in the business world together. Being connected through EWI means you have member firms close at hand, and representatives of these firms on-call on a first-name, collegial basis.

Careers - We offer individuals the chance to better themselves through career training, business interconnectivity, and sheer networking.

Community - Our community includes our members, member representatives, and areas in which we live. Through outreach programs, scholarships, and other outreach, EWI connects with its community and better it.

Communication is integral to these core values and the Communications Committee is dedicated to doing the best job possible to ensure we not only achieve but possibly exceed our goals.

Donna Corbett, SAIC Website Chair

On September 1, 2009, EWI of Huntsville launched its new website. We created this website to comply with the new brand standards set forth by Corporate. Additionally we wanted to improve our website to attract and retain members by ensuring the site has engaging content, up-to-date EWI news and information, easy visibility of chapter meetings and events, and resources to help members make the most out of their EWI of Huntsville membership.

There are two components to the site: the public facing pages and a "Members Only" section. The members' page is password-protected. If you need the password, please contact me or a member of the board.

Some features and benefits of the site include:

- Calendar of events, including automated event reminder emails
- Online versions of our monthly EWI Connect newsletter
- News headlines on the home page
- Member testimonials (we need more please)
- Informative and functional pages for our major events and activities, including PayPal payment processing capability
- Online "Join EWI" form, utilizing Google Docs
- Members' only pages that provide tools and resources for members, including online copies of chapter meeting minutes.
- EWI email accounts for board members

Possible future enhancements include:

- Enhanced Member Directory: Would like to revamp our member directory from Excel to a more user-friendly format.
- Member photos: Hoping to include photos of our members as part of our directory.
- Member firm information and links to websites to further provide value to our members.
- More event photos so we can show off all the fun we have in EWI!

Thank you for your support of this project and please contact me if you have any ideas for how we can improve the site.



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

Mission - Executive Women International® is an organization, which brings together key individuals from diverse businesses for the purpose of:

- Promoting member firms
- Enhancing personal and professional development
- Encouraging community involvement

Vision - “The Leading Connection for Business Professionals”

HUNTSVILLE CHAPTER MEMBER FIRMS

AAA-Alabama ♦ ADTRAN, Inc.

Armstrong Relocation ♦ Belzon, Inc.

Berney Office Solutions ♦ Bill Ward Real Estate Team

COLSA Corporation ♦ Costco Wholesale

Crestwood Medical Center ♦ Dale Carnegie Training

Downtown Rescue ♦ Enterprise Holdings, Inc.

Financial Strategies Group ♦ First Commercial Bank

Innerspace Architectural Interiors ♦ HEMSI

Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce

Huntsville Utilities ♦ iBERIA Bank ♦ ITT CAS

J.R. Enterprises ♦ Life Enrichment Group

LogiCore Corporation ♦ M Décor

Northwestern Mutual Financial Network

Patty Demos, Attorney At Law

Publix Super Markets, Inc. ♦ SAIC ♦ Sci-Quest

Select Solutions, ♦ LLC State Farm Insurance

StyleWise, Inc. ♦ The westin-Huntsville

Virginia College ♦ Von Braun Center

VT Group ♦ Wells Fargo Advisors