

Letter from President



Another WOW goes out this month to Patty Bain, Lori Mitera and the Executive Night Committee for putting together such a nice evening at Embassy Suites for our executives. Tara Stark did a wonderful job with the menu. It was delicious and the presentation was beautiful. The video from the Chamber made us all want to visit that great city of *Omaha* and our entertainer, Joyce Chleboun aka JD Diamond, did a very nice job of recognizing all our firms. We all left saying "How did she do that?" as Rick Putnam sat on an envelope of cards that changed

throughout the evening. It was a night of fascination! It was also a night of generosity with many of our firms donating baskets for our Silent Auction to support our ASIST program and many others bidding on the variety of wonderful prizes. It was a great success all the way around! Thank you all!

Many of you made the decision to serve on a committee that evening as well. Thanks for that too! You will not regret it! Your Committee Chair will be contacting you to set up a meeting or let you know how you can help. If you did not have an opportunity to sign up, it is not too late! You may contact the Committee Chairs as listed to the right of this article or you may sign up at the next meeting.

Now, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.....As I write this, it is snowing & blowing, the lights are twinkling on the Mall downtown and I find myself wondering where another year has gone. I vividly remember worrying if our computers would all crash at the turn of the millennium and here we are 10 years past that. The retailers try to rush every season past us...the Sales are in full swing trying to lure us into the stores with Christmas on our minds while the pumpkins are still on the vine. But now that Christmas is truly upon us, we will be celebrating the season together on Wednesday, December 15, with a true Wilton Instructor, Kathy Fry, teaching us the fine art of decorating Christmas cookies. Bring your favorite Christmas cookie recipe and your favorite bottle of wine to share and join us for the festivities.

This truly is the most wonderful time of the year, if you can only let yourself take the time to enjoy it. We are a group of professional, driven women who always have a "to do" list & a "deadline" to get things done, so this is not an easy thing for us to do. (I'm speaking for myself first & foremost when I say this as I have a terrible time even sitting down, let alone relaxing.) Try to remember that life is short and we never know if we will have these precious moments with our friends and loved ones again, so we need to take advantage of every opportunity. Merry Christmas and may 2011 bring you every happiness!

Ruth

2010-2011 Officers & Directors

President

Ruth Utman, Burlington Capital Group LLC
402-930-3068

Vice President

Janet Schawang, AOI Corporation
402-896-5520

Secretary

Doreen Shapiro, Fraser Stryker
402-978-5279

Treasurer

Jennifer Chleboun, Ameristar Casino
712-328-8888

Ways & Means

Gail Thompson, College of Saint Mary
402-399-2453

Membership Director

Alecia Hartwig, Greater Omaha Chamber
402-346-5000

Sergeant-at-Arms

Mindy Begley, Kelly Services
402-496-4656

Programs

Lori Mitera, West Asset Management
402-546-7177

Publications Director

Gwen Christensen, West Asset Management
402-384-5157

Director At Large

Kathy Fry, ConAgra Foods
402-240-4484

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EWI Board Meeting: January 2011

AOI

4:00pm, January 11, 2011

EWI Monthly Meeting: January

January 26, 2011 Chapter Meeting

In the spirit of kicking off the New Year with a health conscious theme, our January program will be "Skin Cancer Prevention and Early Detection", presented by Amber Leed-Kelly, MA, CHES, Community Outreach Coordinator of Alegant Health Cancer Center. Our meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Old Market Area, 1005 Dodge Street. **Watch for more details in the January newsletter!**

Birthdays:

December

Darlis Vauble	12
Tara Stark	13
Patty McElderry	17
Cheryl Hahn	21

January

Connie Davis	6
Stacie Robertson	9
Sally Rose Burns	11
Lori Kaser	31

This past year was a wonderful year for our members to show off their firms by hosting our monthly meetings at their locations. We would love to keep this going this year as well. If you would like to host a monthly meeting please contact Lori Mitera our Program Director at lmitera@west.com or (402)546-7177

"15 for 12" Membership Recruitment Incentive

It is back starting October 1, 2010!

Now is the time to start posting new members and inviting prospective new members to your Chapter meetings so they are ready to join October 1, 2010 and able to enjoy the full advantage of those three free months at the end of the year.

The "15 for 12" deal means that if a new member firm joins October 1, 2010 its membership dues cover the cost through December 31, 2011. This deal also includes the 2nd and 3rd representatives.

What a value-packed opportunity!

[READ MORE >>](#)

<http://ewiconnect.com/pdf/membership-recruiting/Connection-Memo-15-for-12.pdf>

Mark your calendars

Our meeting dates are set for the upcoming year, Locations and event information will be released at a later date, once we have all our venues set. All of our meeting will be on Wednesday unless otherwise noted.

January 26, 2011	July 27, 2011
February 23, 2011	August 24, 2011
March 23, 2011	September 28, 2011
April 27, 2011	October 26, 2011
May 25, 2011	November 16, 2011
June 22, 2011	December 14, 2011

(November & December are not the usual 4th Wednesday of each month due to the holidays.)



Dates to Remember

December 15, 2010 Holiday Party: Cake Decorating with Kathy Fry and Wine Tasting – West Asset Management

January 26, 2011 Skin Cancer Prevention & Early Detection
Hilton Garden Old Market

December Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, December 15, 2010

Celebrate the Holidays with your EWI friends!

West Asset Management
7171 Mercy Road, Ste 225
Omaha, NE 68106

5:30pm – Networking-Heavy Hors d'oeuvres

6:00pm – Introductions-Inspirational Reading -
Announcements

6:15pm - Cookie Decorating Demonstration by Kathy Fry

- Kathy will demonstrate various decorating techniques and then you will get your chance to try it out for yourself!
- Please bring your favorite cookie recipe to share with the group. Copies will be made at the meeting to distribute.
- Please also bring your favorite bottle of wine to share. Soda will be provided.
- After talking to the Open Door Mission about having one of our events being held there it was discovered that there is a If you would like to bring a gift to donate to the Open Door Mission, for their Christmas give drive, we will be gathering these together to help them with their families that are in need of help this season.

\$20.00 per person

Checks payable to: Executive Women International

If you do not cancel your reservation with 48 hours of the event, you will be responsible for payment of the meal.

RSVP by Friday, December 10, 2010

Name: _____

Firm: _____

Guests: _____

Email: beglemk@kellyservices.com

Subject Line: EWI RSVP

Mail: Mindy Begley
Kelly Services

14301 First National Bank Pkwy
Suite 112
Omaha, NE 68154

It's that time again..

Your member renewal notices will be coming soon in the mail. These are due back by January 15th. Please contact Jennifer Chleboun should you have any questions.

Chapter Committee Directors

In keeping with last year's success as a chapter, we are again asking our members to join a committee. Please see the list below and speak to a Director to see if you would like to join a committee. There are so many ways to help a committee, for example, Publications needs a photographer to take pictures at our Chapter meetings. Or Programs has a need for members to help with finding speakers for our meetings. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the directors listed below.

A big thank you to all of you who sat on a committee this past year, and thank you to those who will be volunteering for the coming year.

Membership/Mentoring Committee – Director: Alecia Hartwig
978-7936 ahartwig@omahachamber.org

Program Committee – Director: Lori Mitera
546-7177 lmitera@west.com

Hospitality Committee – Director: Mindy Begley
496-4656 beglemk@kellyservices.com

Publication Committee – Director: Gwen Christensen
384-5157 gchristensen@west.com

Ways & Means/Philanthropy Committee – Director: Gail Thompson
399-2453 gthompson@csm.edu

B/C/DP - Director: Janet Schawang
896-5520 jschawang@aocorp.com

Budget Committee – Director: Jennifer Chleboun

Nominating Committee – Chairman: Darlis Vauble

CONGRATUALATIONS!

She's finally here!

Melissa Travis of McFarlin & Brokke, P.C., and her husband Mark, Welcomed *Madeleine Leona Travis* on Sunday, November 21, at 9:07am, weighing 8lbs.1 oz, & was 21" long! .

If you would like to send something to Melissa please contact Gwen Christensen for the information.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.ewi-omaha.org


www.ewiconnect.com

November Meeting Highlights

Executives Night – A Night of Magic



*We wish you Peace, Love, Joy and a Safe and Happy Holiday Season.
May all your lights shine bright and bells ring loudly.
May you hear the sounds of laughter and joy all through the coming year.*

	<p>FORM 18 Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting Omaha Chapter EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL® October 18, 2010</p>															
Call to Order:	Fraser Stryker. Called to order at 4:25 pm by Ruth Utman.															
Roll Call:	Ruth Utman, Doreen Shapiro, Lori Mitera, Jennifer Chleboun, Janet Schawang, Gwen Christensen, Gail Thompson, Darlis Vauble, Kathy Fry Excused: Alecia Hartwig, Mindy Begley															
Minutes:																
<p>The September Board Meeting Minutes are attached. Is there a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes? Motion made by Alecia Hartwig. Seconded by Jennifer Chleboun. All in favor.</p> <p>Are there any corrections? No</p> <p>Is there a motion to approve the September 2010 Board Meeting Minutes? Motion made by Gail Thompson. Seconded by Gwen Christensen. All in favor.</p>																
Treasurer's Report:																
<p>The Treasurers Report is attached. The balance in the General Account is \$5,395.94. The balance in the B/C/DP account is \$4,731.32 cash on hand and \$55,092.99 in investments, for a total of \$59,824.31.</p> <p>Presentation of Statements:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Name</u></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Purpose</u></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><u>Amount</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>JD Diamond</td> <td>Executive Night Entertainment Deposit</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>United Rent-All</td> <td>Party with a purpose linen rental</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$171.74</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EWI Corporate</td> <td>Blooms New Member Firm</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$220.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shirley Gunderson</td> <td>Reading Rally – Expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 38.13</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Is there a motion to approve payment of these statements? Motion made by Darlis Vauble. Seconded by Lori Mitera. All in favor.</p> <p>Jennifer Chleboun to bring the proposed budget for 2011 to the December Board meeting for review.</p>		<u>Name</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>	JD Diamond	Executive Night Entertainment Deposit	\$100.00	United Rent-All	Party with a purpose linen rental	\$171.74	EWI Corporate	Blooms New Member Firm	\$220.00	Shirley Gunderson	Reading Rally – Expenses	\$ 38.13
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Communications:																
None																

committee Reports:

Membership Committee – Ruth Utman (in Alecia Hartwig's absence) – New members: Sheila Fitzgerald with Blooms. Prospective new members: Joni Belair with COO Candles; Julia Parker with Building a Bright Future; Kim Folm with ConAgra Foods and Linda Jensen with IKON.

Program – Lori Mitera – Working on upcoming meeting dates and programs. Honoring Past Presidents is every two years and we don't need to do it in 2011. Executive's Night will be on November 17 at the Embassy Suites Downtown. Regarding speakers: Linda Hutchen's husband is on the Board of the Literacy Center and offered to have one of their directors come to our meeting and talk about that program and Bobbie Tvrdik offered to do a firm night. Darlis Vauble has a chiropractor who does healthy learning lessons too and he has volunteered to do something. Our chapter's 50th Anniversary Gala is coming up in April 2011. Invitations are out for Executive's Night and Patty Bain sent an email regarding the hot buttons. Discussed going to Open Door Mission early next year as a service project. Ruth Utman mentioned the possibility of a Mardi Gras theme for February or March.

Publication – Gwen Christensen – Working on November newsletter.

Sergeant-at-Arms/Courtesy Committee – Ruth Utman gave attendance report from the October meeting in Mindy Begley's absence.

Ways & Means/Philanthropy – Gail Thompson – Party With a Purpose was a huge success and it was decided that October was the perfect time for the Party With a Purpose due to the upcoming holidays. A big thanks to Spirit World for donating their service charge for labor, delivery, portion of their proceeds on the sale of their wine by the glass and the dessert tray (approx. \$500 value). Discussion was had whether to continue to have the Party at the Hot Shops or to have it at the College of St. Mary because of its central location.

Long Range Planning/Marketing – Darlis Vauble – no report

B/C/DP – Janet Schawang – no report

Investment Committee – Jennifer Chleboun – no report

Unfinished Business:

We will be doing a survey to members for feedback on the year's programs, events, newsletter information, etc. Board members to submit questions to Darlis by November 5. Want to get results from the survey back within a few weeks.

We will be submitting articles for the Midlands Business Journal on Jennifer Chleboun's and Frelima Gaines' scholarships and the installation of new officers. Darlis mentioned we should take caution with copying anything from the Midlands Business Journal as this is no longer allowed.

New Business:

Need volunteers for Program, Ways & Means and Membership committees. Notice will be put in November newsletter and we will have a sign-up sheet at the November meeting.

Membership renewal notices will be going out in December.

Discussion was had regarding whether Costco might donate a t.v. which we could raffle off around February, March or April as an additional fundraiser in 2011.

Nominating Committee: It was decided that since Past Presidents chair the Nominating Committee, Darlis Vauble will be chairing the Committee this year. Janet Schawang, Vice President, will assist. If anyone else is interested, please contact Darlis.

Woodmen will do a banner or poster for EWI events. The Sergeant-At-Arms will maintain this banner/poster.

At the December chapter meeting, Kathy Fry will demonstrate cookie decorating. Will be asking members to bring their favorite bottle of wine and favorite cookie recipe to share.

Announcements:

Publication Deadline: November 5 by 5:00 p.m. due to chapter meeting being held early in November

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 7 at Burlington Capital Group, LLC, 1700 Farnam Street, Suite 2850 at 4pm.

Corporate Webinar on Presentation Skills: November 17, 2010 at 2pm. Presenter is Lori Giovannoni. See corporate website for more details.

Next Chapter Meeting: November 17, 2010 Executives Night at Embassy Suites Downtown.

Adjournment:

Time: 5:48pm

Approved:	Submitted:
Ruth L. Utman, President	Doreen Shapiro, Secretary

**EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
OMAHA CHAPTER**

**TREASURER'S REPORT - GENERAL ACCOUNT
Board Meeting
December 7, 2010**

Period: November 1, 2010 to November 30, 2010

CASH ON HAND: NOVEMBER 1, 2010 **\$ 5,395.94**

INCOME & RECEIPTS

November Executive Night	880.00
Reading Rally - books	83.00
November Executive Night	\$ 1,140.00

Bank Interest	1.15
Total Income & Receipts	\$ 2,104.15

EXPENSES

Baird Holm - Party with a Purpose postage & Raffle tickets	\$ 90.84
United Rent-all Party with a Purpose Linens	\$ 171.74
Shirley Gunderson - Reading Rally Markers	\$ 38.13
Darlis Vauble - Flowers for Installation	\$ 14.98
JD Diamond Magic - Entertainment Executive Night Deposit	\$ 100.00
EWI Corporate - New Firm Blooms	220.00
Embassy Suites - November Executive Night	2,247.94
United Rent-all - Lost Linen from Party with a Purpose	17.48

Total Expenses **\$ 2,901.11**

Net Decrease in Funds for Period Ended November 30, 2010 **(796.96)**

CASH ON HAND: NOVEMBER 30, 2010 **\$ 4,598.98**

**EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
OMAHA CHAPTER**

**TREASURER'S REPORT - B/C/DP ACCOUNT
Board Meeting
December 7, 2010**

Period: November 1, 2010 to November 30, 2010

CASH ON HAND: NOVEMBER 1, 2010		\$ 4,731.32
INCOME & RECEIPTS		
Party with a purpose	76.00	
Executive Night Baskets	1,445.00	
Interest Earned	\$ 1.07	
Total Income & Receipts	\$ 1,522.07	
EXPENSES		
Fee	\$ 41.00	
Total Expenses	\$ 41.00	
Net Increase in Funds for Period Ended November 30, 2010		<u>1,481.07</u>
CASH ON HAND: NOVEMBER 30, 2010		<u><u>\$ 6,212.39</u></u>
INVESTMENTS ON HAND: NOVEMBER 30, 2010		
Clipper Fund	\$ 15,158.91	
Vanguard Intermediate Bond Fund	17,282.07	
Vanguard Balanced Index Fund	19,341.23	
Vanguard Morgan Growth Fund	3,310.78	
Total Investments		\$55,092.99
Total Cash		<u>6,212.39</u>
TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS ON HAND: NOVEMBER 30, 2010		<u><u>\$61,305.38</u></u>

**EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
OMAHA CHAPTER**

ATTENDANCE REPORT

November 17, 2010 Attendance

Member Firms:	23
Representatives:	28
Life Members:	1
ASIST:	0
Guests:	39
Total Attendance:	68

***Percent of Total Firms: 72%**
***Percent of Total Representatives: 67%**

Submitted by:

**Mindy K. Begley
EWI Sergeant-at-Arms**

**Based from Membership Report (32 firms, 42 reps, 9 Life Members).*

October 27, 2010 Attendance

Member Firms:	24
Representatives:	33
Life Members:	1
ASIST:	1
Guests:	0
Total Attendance:	35

***Percent of Total Firms: 77%**
***Percent of Total Representatives: 80%**

Submitted by:

**Mindy K. Begley
EWI Sergeant-at-Arms**

Based from Membership Report (31 firms, 41 reps, 9 Life Members) Blooms has been included in this month's totals

EWI – Omaha Chapter Membership List

AAA Rents & Event Services – Sheryl Martin
 Access Bank – Cheryl McCall
 Alegent Health – Linda Franco
 Ameristar – Jennifer Chleboun
 AOI Corporation – Janet Schawang
 Baird Holm LLP – Linda Hammond, Connie Davis,
 Marny Stricklin
 Bland & Associates, P.C. – Hilary Allen
 Blooms – Sheila Fitzgerald
 Burlington Capital Group, LLC – Ruth Utman
 College of Saint Mary – Shirley Gunderson, Gail
 Thompson, Carolyn Ziemann
 ConAgra Foods – Kathy Fry
 Daugherty Foundation – Brianne Wilde
 Doubletree Hotel Downtown – Lori Kaser
 Embassy Suites Hotel – Tara Stark
 Fraser Stryker, P.C., LLC – Doreen Shapiro
 Girls Incorporated of Omaha – Jane Allamong
 Goodwill Industries, Inc. – Bobbie Tvrdik
 Greater Omaha Chamber – Alecia Hartwig
 Kelly Services – Mindy Begley

Lincoln Financial Group – Patty McElderry, Jo Anne
 Drefs
 Westwood Holdings Group Inc. – Sue Burkhard
 McFarlin & Brokke, P.C. – Melissa Travis
 Methodist Health System – Sue Beem
 Mid America Center – Kimberly Martin
 North Central Group – Patty Bain
 Northern Natural Gas Company – Carol Armstrong
 OPPD – Linda Hutchens, Carolyn McClean, Deb
 Emerson
 SilverStone Group, Inc. – Jeannie Aldredge
 Tero International- Becky Rupiper-Greene
 Travel and Transport – Barb Ewer
 West Asset Management – Lori Mitera, Gwen
 Christensen, Stacie Robertson
 Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society – Darlis
 Vauble, Cheryl Hahn
 Transitional Members - Michele Graham
 Life Members- Sharon Sacha, Sally Komrofske, Loy
 Flanagan, Sally Rose Burns, Patricia Leonard,
 Lenore Honke, Marlene Johnson, Ellie Morrow,
 Cathy Bodammer

EWI® Mission and Vision

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, and
- ❑ Encouraging community involvement

Vision

To be the Leading Connection for Business Professionals

SHARE THE NEWS!

Send submissions for the Chapter Newsletter to:

Contact: Gwen Christensen
 Phone: 402-384-5157
 Fax: 402-384-6651
 E-mail: gchristensen@west.com

EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL® Corporate Office

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 Salt Lake City, UT 84102-2801
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