

President's Message



The word *March* is music to my ears this year!!! I can't wait to shed the coat, soak up some sun and get my travel trailer out of storage.

I hope you enjoyed our February speaker, Steve Warren from D.R.E.A.M. (*Developing Relationships through Education and Mentoring*). As he spoke you could feel the

passion he has to live out his dream of making a positive impact on the children in our community and in the communities where D.R.E.A.M. is located. Since I originally spoke with Steve, he has received support to expand his vision into the transitional age where youth age out of the system and have no where to go. Thanks to Baird Holm for hosting us and providing insight into their organization as well.

We had a good turnout for our first "Wine and Web" held at West Asset Management. Ed Mathis, an LCAM presenter, spoke about the differences between "Leaders vs. Losers." All of us have the capacity to be leaders or losers, but to be a leader you must think of ways to operate from a position of strength as much as possible, emphasizing your strengths over your weaknesses. Thanks to all who signed up to attend and those who have shown an interest in attending. Keep an eye out for our next educational development "Wine and Web" gathering.

I look forward to seeing you at Lincoln Financial for our March meeting and to hear from our member firm (Tero International) and representative Becky Rupiper-Greene. Becky will be speaking on "The Power of Professional Presence – Making an Impact with Body Language and a Polished Appearance."

Plans are shaping up for the Omaha Chapter to participate in the Habitat for Humanity Women Build. Also, to date, we have sent three photos of local fallen soldiers to the Education Center at the Wall in support of San Antonio's "Finding Your Hometown Hero." Thanks to each of you for your support of our Chapter's philanthropic endeavors.

We are, again, anticipating guests from some of the firms that have been posted. Please introduce yourselves, give them a warm EWICOM welcome, along with some insight into the organization, and encouragement to become a member firm.

Happy Spring!!!!

Darlis Vauble

LOCAL BOARD

Darlis Vauble, President
Woodmen of the World
402-661-8383

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

Lori Mitera, Secretary
West Asset Management
402-546-7177

Jennifer Chleboun, Treasurer
Ameristar Casino
712-328-8888

Sue Burkhard, Membership Director
McCarthy Group Advisors LLC
402-393-1300

Janet Schawang, Sgt-At-Arms
AOI Corporation
402-896-5520

Alecia Hartwig, Program Director
Greater Omaha Chamber
402-346-5000

Gwen Christensen, Publication Director
West Asset Management
402-384-5157

Connie Davis, Ways & Means Director
Baird Holm LLP
402-231-8534

Sheryl Martin, Director At Large
AAA Rents & Event Services
402-339-3707

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EWI Board Meeting:
West Asset Management
4:00pm, April 13, 2010

EWI Monthly Meeting:
Lincoln Financial
Wednesday, March 24,
8801 Indian Hills Drive, Omaha, NE
Agents Training Room A&B
5:30pm

Birthdays:

Hillary Allen	12
Ellie Morrow	18
Sue Beem	19
Mary Jane Taylor	25

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.ewi-omaha.org
www.ewiconnect.com



In the Spotlight! EWI Omaha Chapter Committee

Membership/Mentoring Committee

Director: Sue Burkhard 393-1300
sburkhard@mccarthyadvisors.com

The Membership Committee is charged with the responsibility of recruiting new member firms, retaining our existing member firms and helping to mentor new representatives. This year's committee is chaired by Sue Burkhard with top-notch assistance from Cathy Bodammer, Patty McElderry, Barb Ewer and Bobbie Tvrdik.

The committee has been diligently working on a list of prospective member firms to offer them the opportunity of membership in the Omaha Chapter. We have also studied the major/minor classifications of our current member firms and identified prospects in other industries that are not represented in our chapter now. We hope to add a minimum of 5 new member firms to the chapter roster in 2010.

Although we have a Membership Committee, every representative in the Omaha Chapter is considered to be a member of this committee. The Membership Committee encourages all chapter reps to help recruit new member firms – we all know at least one person who may be interested in learning more about EWI and the Omaha Chapter! Your prospect leads can be given to any committee member for follow up; membership packets are also available from Sue Burkhard at your request. We need everyone's help in growing our chapter through the addition of quality firms – bring on your referrals!

Meeting Highlights with D.R.E.A.M.



Thank you Baird Holm (Connie and Linda) for hosting our last monthly EWI meeting. It was a wonderful evening and thank you for introducing us to the D.R.E.A.M. They were so insightful and are working toward such a great cause. As we all know the minds of children are molded at a young age. Starting this foundation from the ground up is awe inspiring and astounding. We wish them all the best in their future.

SAVE THE DATE!

April Chapter Meeting
April 28

Please note change in date

Greater Omaha Chamber
1301 Harney Street



We would like to recognize *Gwen Christensen* for the upcoming Raffle Drawing prize.

Please keep in mind that if you, as Chapter Members, or your firm has anything they would like to donate for our monthly raffle, it would be greatly appreciated. The money generated from the raffles is deposited in our chapter's General Fund.

March Chapter Meeting

March 24, 2010

Lincoln Financial Group
8801 Indian Hills Drive, Omaha, NE 68114
Agents Training Room A&B

Starting at 5:30pm

**Program: The Power of Professional Presence –
making an impact with Body Language and a
Polished Appearance**
Presented by Becky-Rupiper Greene

Parking: Parking is available in the Visitors parking lot East of the building.

Menu: Create Your Own Salad – Chicken or Steak with assorted toppings and dressings.

Dessert: Double-chocolate raspberry Brownie with raspberry sauce.

\$25.00 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, March 19

Name: _____

Firm: _____

Guests: _____

Email: jschawang@aocorp.com

Subject Line: EWI RSVP

Mail: Janet Schawang

AOI Corporation

8801 South 137th Circle

Omaha, NE 68138

Membership Committee Request

If you will be bringing a prospective member to this month's chapter meeting, please notify Sue Burkhard, Membership Chair, in advance of the meeting. The Membership Committee members will then make certain that your guest is welcomed on behalf of the Omaha Chapter and can visit with her about the membership process and answer any questions. Membership information kits will also be available for your guest to take if she is interested. Thanks for your help in introducing prospective members to our chapter!

EWI Corporate News

EWI Chapter Treasurers Are Tops

EWI Chapter Treasurers proved, once again, to be on top of their game. Year-end Financial Forms were due February 16.

Only a handful of extensions were granted; all were met.

"We have the best Treasurers any organization could hope to have," Corporate Secretary/ Treasurer Nancy Harrison gushed. "They are conscientious and thorough, and they come through every time."

Kudos to our Chapter Treasurers!

SPECIAL OFFER FOR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS 2009-2010 Membership Campaign

PROGRAM ELEMENTS:

Start date of October 1, 2009 with the 15 for 12 Campaign.
Program ends August 31, 2010.

A supported public relations effort at the Corporate and Chapter level.

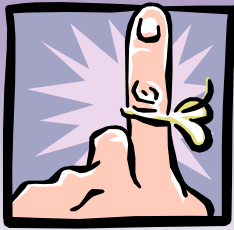
An incentive program for Chapters, representatives, and member firms.

RECRUITER/MEMBER FIRM INCENTIVES:

•The representative who recruits the most new member firms that join during the recruitment period will win the grand prize - payment of the recruiting representative's Chapter and Corporate annual dues for calendar year 2011, \$100 cash for the representative, feature article and announcement in the September 8, 2010, Corporate EWIconnect as well as special recognition during LCAM. (In the event of a tie, each of the tying recruiters will receive the award).

•For each new member firm that joins during the recruitment period, the recruiter's name will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win payment of Chapter and Corporate annual dues for her/his firm for calendar year 2011 and \$50 cash for the representative! There are no limits to the number of chances a representative can earn. To be eligible, the recruiter's name must appear on the membership application at the time of submission to the Corporate Office. Winner will be announced in the September 15, 2010, Corporate Connect, and receive special recognition during LCAM.

•During the campaign, the top five recruiters for each month will be featured in the EWIconnect as they share best practices on recruiting new firms.



**Reminders, Reminders, Reminders,
What would we do without them!**

Just a couple of items:

- If you have an email or information you would like sent to the Omaha EWI chapter, please remember to send it to the Publications Director, Gwen Christensen, for distribution. Gwen's email address is as follows: gchristensen@west.com.
- Don't forget that if you or your firm would like to donate to the monthly raffle drawing, we are still taking items. The funds from this are deposited into our General Fund account.

Thank you!

Committee Assistance!

Are you looking for a way to get more involved with our chapter? We've got a couple opportunities that would be a great way to do just that!

ASIST Scholarship Bags - Our ASIST Scholarship Committee has had their first meeting and they are asking for you and/or your firm's assistance. They are in need of items to fill the "goodie bags" for the scholarship recipients. Perhaps your firm has some trinkets or premiums they give to clients that would be perfect for these bags. The items are needed by the May 26th meeting and we will need enough of each item for three recipients. If you have any questions about the bags, please contact Janet Schawang or me.

Ways & Means/Philanthropy Committee - Connie Davis, chair of the Ways & Means/Philanthropy Committee, is looking for members to help with her committee. One of the main tasks of this committee is the chapter fundraiser. This year our big fundraiser will be "Party with a Purpose". Connie would greatly appreciate additional committee members to help with this year's event. As the saying goes, "many hands make the load lighter!" Please contact Connie if you are able to assist with her committee. Thank you for your consideration!



We Saw It Here

ConAgra Foods® Foundation Joins the Ellen DeGeneres Show to Donate \$100,000 to American Red Cross Haitian Relief Fund

February 3, 2010 – The ConAgra Foods® Foundation today announced another \$100,000 donation to the American Red Cross, in addition to its donation of \$100,000 made on January 13, 2010, during an appearance on The Ellen DeGeneres Show. Both donations benefit the American Red Cross' Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund.

"After the January 12 earthquake, it was clear that each of us needed to do what we could to immediately support the efforts of reputable relief agencies like the Red Cross," said Chris Kircher, president of the ConAgra Foods Foundation. "As we learn more about the scale of tragedy in Haiti, it's become apparent that the Red Cross will need even more support. For that reason, we're proud to join Ellen DeGeneres in bringing more attention to the plight of Haitians and have doubled our donation to the Red Cross' Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund."



Trivia Question

What year was the Canadian Chapter chartered?

Bring your answer to the next meeting to see if you're correct - a drawing will be held for all the correct answers.



FORM 18
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Omaha Chapter
EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL®
February 9, 2010

Call to Order:	West Assessment Management. Called to order at 4:15pm by Darlis Vauble.									
Roll Call:	Darlis Vauble, Ruth Utman, Jennifer Chleboun, Janet Schawang, Alecia Hartwig, Gwen Christensen, Sue Burkhard Excused: Lori Mitera, Sheryl Martin, Connie Davis									
Minutes:										
<p>The January Board Meeting Minutes are attached. Is there a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes? Motion made by Janet Schawang. Seconded by Sue Burkhard. All in favor.</p> <p>Are there any corrections? No</p> <p>Is there a motion to approve the January 2010 Board Meeting Minutes? Motion made by Sue Burkhard. Seconded by Janet Schawang. All in favor.</p>										
Treasurer's Report:										
<p>The Treasurers Report is attached. The balance in the General Account is \$3,763.37. The balance in the B/C/DP account is \$9,041.72 cash on hand and \$50,766.07 in investments, for a total of \$59,807.79.</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>EWI Corporate</td> <td>Chapter Insurance & Agent Fees</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$275.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EWI Corporate</td> <td>Annual Member Dues 2010</td> <td style="text-align: right;">final amount being computed</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Is there a motion to approve payment of these statements? Motion made by Ruth Utman. Seconded by Alecia Hartwig. All in favor.</p>		<u>Name</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>	EWI Corporate	Chapter Insurance & Agent Fees	\$275.00	EWI Corporate	Annual Member Dues 2010	final amount being computed
<u>Name</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>								
EWI Corporate	Chapter Insurance & Agent Fees	\$275.00								
EWI Corporate	Annual Member Dues 2010	final amount being computed								
Communications:										
<p>Form 2 due to the Corporate Office – Chapter Reporting and Historical Information</p> <p>Social Networking through New Media Webinar – February 4 at 6:00pm (will have 7-8 webinars this year).</p> <p>President's Chat – will occur every two months.</p> <p>"Finding your Hometown Hero" project</p>										

Committee Reports:

Publication – Gwen Christensen – Newsletter to go out this week. There will not be any pictures to share from the January meeting since it was cancelled due to weather. We have a lot of firm recognition to publish this month. Updated directory pages to be sent out in the near future with two recent new reps. Suggestion was made to add individual pages for life members and past presidents if we can locate their current contact information. The Publication Committee will look into this.

Membership Committee – Sue Burkhard – several member firms have been posted to the membership. The committee is continuing their contact with these prospects and some have indicated a desire to attend the February meeting. We look forward to seeing them and answering any questions they have regarding membership.

Sergeant-at-Arms – Janet Schawang - No attendance report to share since January's meeting was cancelled due to weather.

Program Committee – Alecia Hartwig – has program list through July confirmed and will be ready to publish.

Courtesy Committee – Janet Schawang - Did some research on new badges for members. We have nine blank badges left for new members. It was moved to hold off purchasing new badges for the time being.

Ways & Means/Philanthropy – Connie Davis – Connie received a gift certificate to Noodle Zoo that we can use for Ways & Means raffle at an upcoming chapter meeting. If anyone else has anything that can be used as raffle prizes, please let Connie know.

Long Range Planning/Marketing – Darlis Vauble – no report.

B/C/DP – Darlis Vauble – Need to start selection process next month for the EWI scholarship. Plan to give three \$1,000 scholarships this year. Janet Schawang volunteered to be on the scholarship committee. Motion made by Alecia Hartwig, seconded by Gwen Christensen.

Investment Committee – Jennifer Chleboun – no report.

Nominating Committee – Jane Allamong - no report. See notes below.

Unfinished Business:

2010 Annual Dues, Chapter Insurance, Registered Agent, 2009 Year-End Reports – need to be completed by the President and Treasurer by February 15.

On-line Chapter Roster – Corporate will be launching a new on-line service in February for the on-line chapter roster. Once that is launched, we will work diligently to update that roster.

Records Retention Guidelines and Disaster Recovery Plan – Lori was in contact with Corporate for clarification on the records retention requirements. Corporate will be sending communication to all chapters in the near future with clarification.

Chapter Website Update – we have a new person at OPPD working on the site. Hope to have some progress made soon.


Nominating Committee Member Recommendations (3 chapter members) – Jane Allamong, Chair – Ruth Utman and Linda Hutchens have both agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee with Jane.

New Business:

Chapter Life Member Approval – Cathy Bodammer will be retiring from OPPD on May 1. The board discussed and approved Life Membership in our chapter for Cathy. This will be presented to the membership at our April Business Meeting.

Habitat for Humanity Omaha Women Build – May 7 – July 31, 2010 – National build week first week of May, 2010. Discussed ideas for chapter participation in this endeavor.

Darlis reported on the Surety Bond that our chapter had. It was last paid in 2007 for 3 year coverage, expiring in 2010. We will not be renewing this bond as Corporate carries the same type of bond for us through the Chapter Officers and Directors Insurance which we pay each year to Corporate. Thanks to Darlis' research, we save \$500 by not renewing the Surety Bond.

Announcements:	
Publication Deadline: Thursday, February 11 Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 9 at 4pm at West Asset Management. Next Chapter Meeting: Wednesday, February 24 at Baird Holm.	
Adjournment:	
Time: 5:50pm	
Approved:	Submitted:
 Darlis Vauble, President	Lori Mitera, Secretary

**EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
OMAHA CHAPTER**

**TREASURER'S REPORT - GENERAL ACCOUNT
Board Meeting
March 9, 2010**

Period: February 1, 2010 to February 28, 2010

CASH ON HAND: FEBRUARY 1, 2010		\$ 3,763.37
 INCOME & RECEIPTS		
2010 Annual Dues	\$ 5,825.00	
Ewi pin JoAnne	11.00	
February Dinner Meeting	755.00	
 Bank Interest	 1.16	
Total Income & Receipts	\$ 6,592.16	
 EXPENSES		
EWI Corporate - Chapter Insurance & Agent Fee	\$ 275.00	
EWI Corporate - 2010 Annual Dues	\$ 5,660.00	
 Total Expenses	 \$ 5,935.00	
 Net Increase in Funds for Period Ended February 28, 2010		 <u>657.16</u>
 CASH ON HAND: FEBRUARY 28, 2010		 <u>\$ 4,420.53</u>

**EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
OMAHA CHAPTER**

**TREASURER'S REPORT - B/C/DP ACCOUNT
Board Meeting
March 9, 2010**

Period: February 1, 2010 to February 28, 2010

CASH ON HAND: FEBRUARY 1, 2010 **\$ 9,041.72**

INCOME & RECEIPTS

Interest Earned	\$ 1.73
Oct. Executive Night	10.00
Total Income & Receipts	\$ 11.73

EXPENSES

Total Expenses

\$ -

Net Increase in Funds for Period Ended February 28, 2010 **11.73**

CASH ON HAND: February 28, 2010 **\$ 9,053.45**

INVESTMENTS ON HAND: February 28, 2010

Clipper Fund	\$ 14,466.86
Vanguard Intermediate Bond Fund	15,385.09
Vanguard Balanced Index Fund	18,194.92
Vanguard Morgan Growth Fund	3,151.85

Total Investments **\$ 51,198.72**

Total Cash **9,053.45**

TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS ON HAND: February 28, 2010 **\$ 60,252.17**

**EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
OMAHA CHAPTER**

ATTENDANCE REPORT

February 2010 Dinner Attendance

Member Firms:	18
Representatives:	22
Life Members:	1
ASIST:	0
Guests:	<u>2</u>
Total Attendance:	25

*Percent of Total Firms: 35.7%

*Percent of Total Representatives: 43.6%

Submitted by:

**Janet Schawang
EWI Sergeant-at-Arms**

January 2010 Dinner Attendance – (January meeting cancelled due to weather)

Member Firms:	<u>0</u>
Representatives:	0
Life Members:	0
ASIST:	0
Guests:	<u>0</u>
Total Attendance:	0

*Percent of Total Firms: %

*Percent of Total Representatives: %

Submitted by:

**Janet Schawang
EWI Sergeant-at-Arms**

***Based from Membership Report (27 firms, 39 reps, 8 Life Members)**

EWI – Omaha Chapter Membership List

AAA Rents & Event Services – Sheryl Martin
Alegent Health – Linda Franco
Ameristar – Jennifer Chleboun, Misty Sessions
AOI Corporation – Janet Schawang
Baird Holm LLP – Linda Hammond, Connie Davis
Bland & Associates, P.C. – Hilary Allen
Burlington Capitol Group, LLC – Ruth Utman
College of Saint Mary – Shirley Gunderson, Gail Thompson, Carolyn Ziemann
ConAgra Foods – Michele Graham, Kathy Fry
Daugherty Foundation – Brianne Wilde
Doubletree Hotel Downtown – Lori Kaser
Embassy Suites Hotel – Gina Tielebein
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
McCarthy Group Advisors, LLC – Sue Burkhard
Methodist Health System – Sue Beem
North Central Group – Patti Bain
Northern Natural Gas Company – Carol Armstrong
OPPD – Cathy Bodammer, Linda Hutchens, Carolyn McClean
SilverStone Group, Inc. – Jeannie Aldredge
Tero International- Becky Rupiper-Greene
Travel and Transport – Barb Ewer
West Asset Management – Lori Mitera, Gwen Christensen, Stacie Robertson
Woodman of the World Life Insurance Society – Darlis Vauble, Cheryl Hahn
Life Members- Sharon Sacha, Sally Komrofske, Loy Flanagan, Sally Rose Burns, Patricia Leonard, Lenore Honke, Marlene Johnson, Ellie Morrow

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

515 South 700 East, Suite 2A
Salt Lake City, UT 84102-2801

Phone (801) 355-2800

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Email: ewi@executivewomen.org

Website: www.ewiconnect.com