

Letter from President



Can you believe it...

*Spring has sprung,
the grass is ris,
I wonder where
the birdies is?*

OK. Not great English but I got your attention anyway. It's April already! The year is one-quarter over. How can that be????

Since last I wrote, we did make our visit to the Open Door Mission and served in various ways; some made 414 sack lunches...assembly-line style, some served in the dining room, some wrapped silverware, some worked in the "Blessing from Above" room categorizing and stocking donated items. It is quite an organization and they need many, many volunteer hours to make it work. We were told that summertime is especially difficult as folks are on vacation, kids participate in sports, etc. and their volunteer hours are way down. In light of that fact, we have committed to go back in the "good ole summertime" for another evening of serving our community. If you missed out last time, you will have another opportunity. ☺

Also, since our last "visit," we had a wonderful meal at Woodmen with a phenomenal speaker, Matt Ellis who is with Woodmen of the World but is also with the Business Ethics Alliance. We all just hung on his every word and couldn't believe when it was time for him to stop. We thank Darlis Vauble for putting together the menu and inviting our speaker, Woodmen for hosting our refreshments & sharing their facility, and to Matt for inspiring us. We concluded the evening with our Chapter Business meeting.

And now on to the next event....our **50th Anniversary Gala** is just weeks away. Your Gala Committee has been working very hard to make sure this is an evening you won't want to miss nor will you soon forget. The venue is beautiful at the prestigious Omaha Country Club, the food will be delicious and the company stimulating. What are you waiting for? **GET YOUR RSVP IN TODAY!** I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, April 27th.

Wishing you a blessed Easter.

Ruth

Where do Bunnies like to eat?

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

Answer: I-Hop

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EWI Board Meeting: **May 2011**

Brulington Capitol
28th Floor Woodmen Tower
4:00pm, May 10, 2011

EWI Monthly Meeting: **May 2011**

May 25, 2011 Chapter Meeting
Double Tree
ASSIST Scholarship Program

Birthdays:

April

Cathy Bodammer	4
Shirley Gunderson	6
Kathy Fry	13
Marlene Johnson	26
Becky Rupiper-Greene	29

May

Michele Graham	18
Brianne Wilde	26
Loy Flanagan	26

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.

Mark your calendars

Our meeting dates are set for the 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.)

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.ewi-omaha.org

www.ewiconnect.com

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OPEN DOOR MISSION



April Chapter Meeting

Omaha Chapter 50th Anniversary Gala

Wednesday, April 27, 2011

Omaha Country Club
6900 Country Club Road
Omaha, NE

\$35 per person

Please RSVP to Sue Beem using your response card that you received in the mail with your invitation. RSVPs are due by Monday, April 18.

We have a very exciting evening planned!

OPEN DOOR MISSION

Thank you to all who came out and helped! The turnout was fantastic! We were able to accomplish a lot in the short time we were there. Look for more opportunities to help at the Open Door Mission in the near future. Thanks to our organizers as well!

Arbor's Closet

At the ASIST scholarship banquet on May 25, we would like to collect good used professional clothing for men and women to donate to Arbor's Closet again this year. Please bring gently used items such as suits, skirts, trousers, purses, briefcases or satchels, etc. Arbor's Closet is a program sponsored by the Omaha Chamber of Commerce. Thank you!"



Dates to Remember

April 27, 2011 Omaha Chapter's 50th Anniversary Gala
Omaha Country Club

May 25, 2011 ASIST Banquet
Doubletree Hotel

June 22, 2011 Firm Night
Goodwill Industries

July 27, 2011 Lunch Meeting - Millionaires & Mansions Tour
Durham Museum

Professional Development

MONTHLY CORPORATE WEBINAR



JANE HIGHT MCMURRAY

COMMUNICATION AT A DISTANCE

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

3:00 PM (ET), 2:00 PM (CT), 1:00 PM (MT), NOON (PT), 10:00 AM (HAWAII)

PRESENTER: JANE HIGHT MCMURRAY

** OPEN TO ALL EMPLOYEES OF EWI MEMBER FIRMS **

For More Information / Registration:

Go Online To www.ewiconnect.com or
Check Your Corporate Connect E-mail



Say "Thank You" to a co-worker or Chapter guest with a beautiful keychain from the EWI Merchandise Shoppe at ewiconnect.com

SHOP NOW!

ASIST Scholarship Event

The ASIST scholarship banquet is coming up on May 25! The ASIST committee will be collecting items for gift bags for the scholarship winners throughout the rest of April and all of the month of May, right up to the evening of the banquet! If you would like to bring your items to the Gala event on April 27, the ASIST committee members can collect them from you at the end of the meeting as it will be a busy evening and with so much going on we would rather not have you bring items into the building. If you are unable to bring them to the Gala, please contact Janet Schawang at jschawang@aoicorp.com and we will make arrangements to pick them up. Again, we are looking for tablets, spiral notebooks, 3 ring binders, pens, pencils, sports bottles, book bags or anything that a student can use for college classes. Thank you!"

March Meeting Highlights
 Matt Ellis, Member of Business Ethics Alliance



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



New Member Firm Spotlight

SilverStone Group Julie Narans Representative



Julie Narans has worked in insurance for six years. She is currently working as a "Client Advocate" in the Private Client Services Department at SilverStone Group and has been there for a year. Julie has a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from UNO. After college, she went to work for RGI Insurance Services in Laguna Hills, CA doing medical malpractice. Julie is an avid horseback rider doing English style riding and jumping on her beloved horse Austin. She currently resides in the Omaha area with her dog Flynn, a pure-breed Canaan Dog.

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT

Karin Holmes Representative

Karin Holmes started as a Meeting & Incentive Planner with Meeting Trends in January of 2011. She brings with her 25 years of corporate travel and event planning experience. Prior to joining Meeting Trends, she was a corporate event planner at MSI Systems Integrators and Central States Health & Life Co. of Omaha where she was responsible for designing, implementing and managing meetings, tradeshow, domestic and international sales incentive trips, client appreciation events, golf tournaments and corporate celebrations. Karin and her husband Bob, have two grown children and a bichon-poo, Lexy, who is the queen of the castle. Karin and her husband have enjoyed years of traveling, and also like gardening, golf, Nebraska football and spending time with family.

Prestige Resorts & Destinations

Barb Ewer Representative

Prestige Resorts & Destinations serves as a true hospitality advocate and resource for our clients by providing best-in-class service, selection and solutions. Our clients benefit from our portfolio of independent, luxury hotels, resorts, destination management companies and cruise partners. We are honored to have Fairmont, Raffles and Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts, Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts and The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company available to our clients as Preferred Brand partners. Our Preferred Brand partnerships assure our clients excellent meeting solutions across the globe.


Barb Ewer is Regional Director of Sales and has recently opened Prestige's Omaha office, servicing our clients in the Nebraska and Iowa market. Barb has 18 years experience in the hospitality field, both as a meeting planner and as a hotel sales professional. Barb has a Bachelors of Science from the University of Wisconsin – Stout in Hotel / Restaurant Management, and a minor in Tourism. Barb is also a member of Executive Women Golf Association and a dedicated volunteer for the Iowa Cookie Crumbs chapter of Treats for Troops. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, scrapbooking, golf and spending time with her husband Scott and two dogs, Dozer and Sierra.



Candy Becker Representative

You are already familiar with ConAgra Foods and their products since they are already an EWI member firm. However, Candy Becker works for the philanthropic arm of ConAgra Foods. The ConAgra Foods Foundation supports worthy causes that reflect the company's social responsibility efforts. The key focus areas of the Foundation are child hunger and nutrition education. They work to ensure children have access to both food and facts about food to eat nutritiously, to live balanced lifestyles, and to succeed in school and life. Nationally they partner with Feeding America, the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity, and Share Our Strength/Cooking Matters, a cooking-based nutrition education program that teaches families how to prepare healthy and affordable meals. Locally some of their many partners include the Food Bank for the Heartland, and the Visiting Nurse Association who operates the Cooking Matters program here in Omaha. They are also a key partner in the Hunger Free Heartland initiative to bring community organizations, individuals and corporations around the table to collectively end childhood hunger in the metro.

Candy is the Foundation Coordinator of the ConAgra Foods Foundation and manages the grant and employee programs. She came to ConAgra Foods ten years ago after 20 years as corporate meeting planner with Catholic Health Corporation (later Catholic Health Initiatives) when a merger closed the Omaha location. She volunteers at numerous nonprofit organizations across the community who are involved in feeding the hungry. In her free time she enjoys reading, walking her Bearded Collie, Angel, and relaxing with her husband at their camper in Iowa.

	<p>FORM 18 Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting Omaha Chapter EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL® March 8, 2011</p>									
Call to Order:	At West Asset Management. Called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Ruth Utman.									
Roll Call:	Ruth Utman, Janet Schawang, Doreen Shapiro, Lori Mitera, Jennifer Chleboun, Gwen Christensen, Mindy Begley, Alecia Hartwig, Gail Thompson, Darlis Vauble Excused: Kathy Fry									
Minutes:										
<p>The February Board Meeting Minutes are attached. Is there a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes? Motion made by Alecia Hartwig. Seconded by Jenny Chleboun. All in favor.</p> <p>Are there any corrections?</p> <p>Is there a motion to approve the February 2011 Board Meeting Minutes? Motion made by Jenny Chleboun. Seconded by Gail Thompson. All in favor.</p>										
Treasurer's Report:										
<p>The Treasurers Report is attached. The balance in the General Account is \$5,147.34. The balance in the B/C/DP account is \$6,426.34 cash on hand and \$58,777.24 in investments, for a total of \$65,293.58.</p> <p>Presentation of Statements:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <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>Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society</td> <td>March dinner (Treat America)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 874.82</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paper products for the Gala</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 94.10</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Is there a motion to approve payment of these statements? Motion made by Mindy Begley. Seconded by Gail Thompson. All in favor.</p>		<u>Name</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>	Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society	March dinner (Treat America)	\$ 874.82	Paper products for the Gala		\$ 94.10
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Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society	March dinner (Treat America)	\$ 874.82								
Paper products for the Gala		\$ 94.10								
Communications:										
<p>Fellows Scholarships due May 31, 2011</p> <p>Corporate Board applications may now be submitted</p> <p>Corporate office has moved: 7414 South State Street, Midvale, UT 84047</p> <p>EWI Spring Conference in Tulsa, OK - April 14-16, 2011</p> <p>LCAM in Minneapolis, MN – September 22-24, 2011</p> <p>The Memphis Chapter of EWI has asked all EWI Chapters to approve or disapprove new language in our By-Laws. Alecia Hartwig made a motion to support the change and Gwen Christensen second the motion. All in favor.</p>										

Committee Reports:

50th Anniversary Gala – Darlis Vauble – Sponsorships from firms doing extremely well.

Membership – Alecia Hartwig - The Membership Committee is working on current leads for new members.

Publication – Gwen Christensen – Discussion was had regarding putting the newsletter on LinkedIn.

Program – Lori Mitera – Programs have been finalized through July.

Sergeant-at-Arms/Courtesy Committee – Mindy Begley - It was decided that we would go with The J. P. Cooke Company for new name badges. A motion was made to approve this decision. Alecia Hartwig approved the motion and Doreen Shapiro seconded the motion. All in favor.

Ways & Means/Philanthropy – Gail Thompson – Hot Shops has been secured for Party with a Purpose set for October 26, 2011. Raffle tickets were discussed and it was decided that we would distribute the tickets in July and sell them through September.

Long Range Planning/Marketing – Darlis Vauble – Banner will not be ready for several months yet.

B/C/DP – Janet Schawang – Regarding ASIST, various speakers were discussed.

Investment Committee – Jennifer Chleboun - No report.

Unfinished Business:

Discuss results of survey.

Banner or Poster – Darlis working on – progress? We will not have by April 27th Gala.

Date to go do service project at Open Door Mission - Set for March 16, 2011 @ 5:30 pm – 24 attending so far

New Business:

As our March 23rd meeting is a business meeting, all Board members should get their reports out by March 21st.

Announcements:

Publication Deadline: March 11, 2011

Next Board Meeting: April 12, 2011 @ College of St. Mary

Next Chapter Meeting: March 23, 2011 @ Woodmen Tower, 5th Floor – Business meeting

Adjournment:

Time: 5:40pm

Approved:

Ruth L. Utman, President

Submitted:

Doreen Shapiro, Secretary

**EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
OMAHA CHAPTER**

**TREASURER'S REPORT - GENERAL ACCOUNT
Board Meeting
April 12, 2011**

Period: March 1, 2011 to March 31, 2011

CASH ON HAND: MARCH 1, 2011		\$ 5,147.34
 INCOME & RECEIPTS		
Annual Dues	1,275.00	
February Dinner Meeting	679.10	
 Bank Interest	 1.46	
Total Income & Receipts	\$ 1,955.56	
 EXPENSES		
Kathy Fry - December Mtg supplies	\$ 30.10	
Darlis Vauble - 50th Gala expenses	\$ 94.10	
 Total Expenses	 \$ 124.20	
 Net Decrease in Funds for Period Ended March 31, 2011		 <u>1,831.36</u>
 CASH ON HAND: MARCH 31, 2011		 <u><u>\$ 6,978.70</u></u>

**EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
OMAHA CHAPTER**

**TREASURER'S REPORT - B/C/DP ACCOUNT
Board Meeting
April 12, 2011**

Period: March 1, 2011 to March 31, 2011

CASH ON HAND: MARCH 1, 2011 **\$ 6,426.34**

INCOME & RECEIPTS

Interest Earned	\$ 1.36
Total Income & Receipts	\$ 1.36

EXPENSES

Total Expenses	\$ -
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Net Increase in Funds for Period Ended March 31, 2011 **1.36**

CASH ON HAND: MARCH 31, 2011 **\$ 6,427.70**

INVESTMENTS ON HAND: MARCH 31, 2011

Clipper Fund	\$ 17,713.28
Vanguard Intermediate Bond Fund	17,155.24
Vanguard Balanced Index Fund	21,398.48
Vanguard Morgan Growth Fund	<u>3,965.46</u>

Total Investments **\$ 60,232.46**

Total Cash **6,427.70**

TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS ON HAND: MARCH 31, 2011 **\$ 66,660.16**

INCOME & RECEIPTS

**EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
OMAHA CHAPTER**

ATTENDANCE REPORT

March 23, 2011 Attendance

Member Firms:	<u>22</u>
Representatives:	27
Life Members:	1
ASIST:	0
Guests:	<u>4</u>
Total Attendance:	32

*Percent of Total Firms: 71%

*Percent of Total Representatives: 68%

Submitted by:

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

*Based from Membership Report (31 firms, 40 reps, 9 Life Members, 1 Sustaining Member).

February 24, 2011 Attendance

Member Firms:	<u>20</u>
Representatives:	24
Life Members:	0
ASIST:	0
Guests:	<u>1</u>
Total Attendance:	25

*Percent of Total Firms: 67%

*Percent of Total Representatives: 62%

Submitted by:

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

*Based from Membership Report (30 firms, 39 reps, 9 Life Members, 1 Sustaining Member).

EWI – Omaha Chapter Membership List

Access Bank – Cheryl McCall
 Alegent Health – Linda Franco
 Ameristar – Jennifer Chleboun
 AOI Corporation – Janet Schawang
 Baird Holm LLP – Linda Hammond, 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, Candy Becker
 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

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 – Carolyn McClean, Deb Emerson
 Prestige Resorts & Destinations – Barb Ewer
 SilverStone Group, Inc. – Julie Ann Narans
 Tero International- Becky Rupiper-Greene
 Travel and Transport – Karin Holmes
 West Asset Management – Lori Mitera, Gwen Christensen, Stacie Robertson
 Westwood Holdings Group Inc. – Sue Burkhard
 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
 Sustaining Members – Linda Hutchens

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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