

Letter from President



Another snow storm? It must be time for another EWI Board meeting! Your board has had a terrible time scheduling meetings this year. In January weather prevented us from getting together for a face-to-face so finally settled on a telephonic board conference call. The good news was that we had 100% attendance. ☺ Our February board meeting was scheduled for February 1st and if you remember, we had freezing rain all day follow

followed by 6 inches of snow. But we are a tenacious bunch and we forged ahead and met on the 3rd instead. We have too many great things going on to just sit idly by and let the weather discourage us! For instance, we had a very informative meeting in January on Skin Cancer Prevention & Early Detection from Amber Leed-Kelly of Alegent. Thanks to Linda Franco for lining up our speaker and Patty Bain for the nice facility and delicious dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn. Linda Reinard was nice to attend on Patty's behalf since she had to be out of town. We had a new representative Karin Holmes from Travel & Transport join us, as well as Karen Snow, a guest from CFO Inc. If you didn't have a chance to meet them, make it a point to do so at our next meeting.

Other happenings: Our survey results are in and it looks like your board has been and is moving in the right direction as you have requested. There is always room for improvement, however, and we are taking all your comments into consideration as we plan this coming year. In that planning is our 50 Year Anniversary Gala on April 27th. Time to celebrate US! Following that in May is the ASIST Scholarship Banquet which is a "Don't Miss" as well. Time to celebrate our scholarship recipients then. Another item to be sure and start planning now to attend is LCAM in Minneapolis held on September 22-24. I never believed it before I went, but it is a great experience and tons of fun as well. (Naturally, we are just a fun bunch of folks!) Plan now to attend. It would be great to have a good showing from Omaha.

In this month dedicated to love, let's show our love to our fellow man and attend the dinner and tour at the Open Door Mission, February 23rd. Don't forget to bring your travel size personal care items to share. We will have a date soon for our chapter to perform a service project to "Give from the Heart."

Happy Valentine's Day!

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: March 2011
 West Asset Management
 4:00pm, March 8, 2011

EWI Monthly Meeting: March 2011
 March 23, 2011 Chapter Meeting
 Woodmen of the World

Our program for March will be "What Would You Do" presented by Matt Ellis, a member of the Business Ethics Alliance. This will also be a Business Meeting.

Birthdays:

February

Bobbie Tvrdik February 9

March

Melissa Travis	March 1
Sharon Sacha	March 10
Hilary Allen	March 12
Ellie Morrow	March 18
Sue Beem	March 19

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.)

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.

Give EWT a
 Gift from the Heart



The Corporate Planned Giving Committee rolled out their Program at this year's Spring Conference and also touched upon it last year at LCAM.

We are all proud of this organization and all that it stands for - especially its philanthropic side. By giving a "Gift from the Heart" you can help give scholarships, help with literacy initiatives and enhance personal and professional development.

This is an opportunity to remember your loved one or a friend's loved one or honoring someone who has touched your life while making a difference in the organization that you love. These names will be listed in the LCAM program and you will also be part of the Planned Giving Club and be recognized at LCAM. Please visit the EWI Corporate website for more information.

2011 LCAM
SAVE THE DATE!
September 22-24, 2011
Minneapolis, MN

As Ruth mentioned in her President's Letter, it would be great to have a good showing from Omaha!

February Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, February 23, 2011

**Open Door Mission – Lydia House
(Single Women’s Cafeteria)
2809 N. 20th Street East
Omaha, NE 68110**

Directions:

From Abbott Drive (near Eppley Airfield)
Travel East onto Locust Street (Near the Budget Rental Car)
Turn Right onto 20th Street East (Lydia House is the new brown/black brick building)

- Parking is available at the front of the Lydia House and in between buildings.
- You’ll need to be buzzed in as it is a secured building.
- The Single Women’s Cafeteria is located in the right wing of the building, just past the stair case.

Agenda:

5:30-6:00pm – Coffee/refreshments/networking
6:00-6:15pm – Roll call/inspirational reading/announcements
6:15-6:45pm – Dinner
6:45-7:45pm – Tour of the Open Door Mission Campus
(wear comfortable walking shoes)

Please bring any sample size toiletries/personal items you are able to donate to the Open Door Mission. Donations will be greatly appreciated!

Menu:

Spaghetti & Garlic Bread
Salad
Vegetable
Dessert
Coffee, Tea, Lemonade

\$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, February 18, 2011

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



Dates to Remember

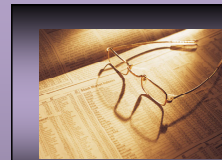
February 23, 2011 Open Door Mission Tour of Facilities
Open Door Mission

March 23, 2011 “What Would You Do?” by Matt Ellis,
Member of the Business Ethics Alliance
Woodmen of the World

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



We Saw It here

Look in this edition for the MBJ article featuring Ruth Utman. What a wonderful representation of our organization. Thank you goes out to Ruth for doing such a wonderful job.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.ewi-omaha.org

www.ewiconnect.com

January Meeting Highlights

“Skin Cancer Prevention & Early Detection”



Midlands Business Journal • FEBRUARY 11, 2011 • 7

Executive Women International’s Omaha chapter expands membership, programs

by **Matrissa Leggett**

Executive Women International, Omaha Chapter has increased its membership by seven firms during the past two years, according to Ruth Utman, 2010-2011 president.

“We had been concerned that with the economic downturn companies might decide to not spend money on memberships,” Utman said. “We made sure that businesses saw memberships as an investment in their employees and as something that would bring them value.”

The Omaha Chapter, founded in April 1961, is comprised of professionals from Omaha, western Iowa and Lincoln. It currently has 32 member firms, 42 representatives and seven life members. Member firms vary from finance and industry to hospitality and nonprofits.

Utman said EWI has three main goals: connections, careers and community. She said the group promotes networking and mentoring as well as holds an annual leadership conference, a spring conference and twice-monthly webinars on a corporate level. Additionally, the organization holds chapter meetings once a month with speakers on various topics of interest to women.

“We try to provide all kinds of information at different levels,” Utman said.

According to Utman, the organization’s main community effort is its Adult Students in Scholastic Transition Scholarship program. Three scholarships were awarded in 2010, and recipients are also invited to attend

meetings and are mentored by members. The scholarships are based on financial need with applications being evaluated by one member of the organization and two judges associated with academia.

“There are not a lot of other scholarships available for adults,” Utman said.

The chapter also holds an annual Reading Rally to promote literacy and is currently working with the Open Door Mission and Lydia House performing service projects as well as collections and donations to help meet the nonprofit’s needs.

While the organization draws revenue from annual membership fees paid by its member firms, it also holds fundraising events to provide the scholarships.

In 2009 and 2010, it held Party with a Purpose for members and the community, with plans to have the event again this year. The event is a shopping extravaganza, Utman said, with vendors paying for booths and many also donating a percentage of the proceeds back to the group. Utman said that while people watched their money more closely in 2009, the 2010 event raised approximately \$2,000.

Goals for EWI of Omaha for 2011 include continuing fundraising efforts and increasing membership, Utman said. Because people are busy and there are many organizations available for membership, she explained the outlook for organizations such as Executive Women International becomes based on what the organization has to offer.

“It comes down to us providing the pro-



President Ruth Utman ... Member firms vary from finance and industry to hospitality and nonprofits.

grams, education and networking that make it valuable for people to belong,” she said.

Executive Women International originated 73 years ago in San Francisco as Executive Secretaries. The name changed in 1977. There are a total of 2,500 member firms and 2,700 representatives through the U.S., Canada and Europe, with some chapters now having male members as well, according to Utman.

Utman became involved with the group at age 18 and has been associated with the organization through three member firms.


“These women have mentored me, and

although some have retired, they still check in on me,” she said. “I’ve gotten a lot out of it on a lot of different levels.”

Utman’s term as president runs from September 2010 to September 2011. The previous president was Darlis Vauble.

“We tag-team and have supported each other as president,” Utman said.

Vauble is an executive assistant to the executive vice president of finance for Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society. Utman works for The Burlington Capital Group as office manager and assistant to the chairman emeritus.

	<p>FORM 18 Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting Omaha Chapter EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL® January 11, 2011</p>	
Call to Order:	A conference call was had due to inclement weather and all Board members participated. Called to order at 4:10 pm 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, Kathy Fry	
Minutes:		
<p>The December Board Meeting Minutes are attached. Is there a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes? Motion made by Jennifer Chleboun. Seconded by Janet Schawang. All in favor.</p> <p>Are there any corrections? Yes, to the program committee and membership committee reports. The changes were:</p> <p>1) Membership - we decided that we probably should not list all the prospects that Alecia was working with, but instead say "discussed other membership leads"; and</p> <p>2) Under Program Committee report - we decided to re-word the part about "eliminating Executive's Night" but instead say "combine Executive's Night with our Chapter's 50th Anniversary". A couple of sentences in that section were eliminated and replaced it with a sentence similar to this.</p> <p>Is there a motion to approve the December 2010 Board Meeting Minutes as corrected? Motion made by Jennifer Chleboun. Seconded by Alecia Hartwig. All in favor.</p>		
Treasurer's Report:		
<p>The Treasurers Report is attached. The balance in the General Account is \$5,181.43. The balance in the B/C/DP account is \$6,423.74 cash on hand and \$58,777.24 in investments, for a total of \$65,200.98.</p>		
Presentation of Statements:		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
GENERAL ACCT		
Celestial Foods	December Dinner	\$349.33
Kathy Fry	December Decoration Supplies	30.10
Alecia Hartwig	Membership Folders	53.30
College of Saint Mary	Reading Rally Books	187.00
<p>Is there a motion to approve payment of these statements? Motion made by Janet Schawang. Seconded by Mindy Begley. All in favor.</p>		
Communications:		
<p>Form 29 (B/C/DP Projects Participation form (for coming year) & Form 30 (Chapter Final Report on Reading Rally & Philanthropic B/C/DP Projects) due to Corporate by December 31, 2010. (done)</p>		

Committee Reports:

Membership – Alecia Hartwig - Alecia is working on obtaining new members and is currently working on new member packets. She is also working on a mentoring program for the new members as well as an incentive program for recruiting members.

Program – Lori Mitera – Discussion was had regarding our upcoming visit to the Open Door Mission, and a question was raised as to whether we should make this a one-day event or two. A venue for our March meeting is still needed.

Publication – Gwen Christensen – Gwen brought up the idea that we could create and distribute a one-page handout/flier for the monthly meetings to email to guests and prospective new members.

Sergeant-at-Arms/Courtesy Committee – Mindy Begley gave the attendance report from December's meeting. Discussion was had regarding whether we should buy new name tags so that all the tags match in design. Tabled until next meeting once we had additional pricing information.

Ways & Means/Philanthropy – Gail Thompson – Gail inquired into what the budget might be for this year's Party with a Purpose. The committee is meeting next week.

Long Range Planning/Marketing – Darlis Vauble – Darlis mentioned that Woodman is working on the Chapter's Banner/Poster and a template is currently being created by EWI Corporate.

B/C/DP – Janet Schawang – The B/C/DP Committee has four new volunteers: Mindy Begley, Cheryl Hahn, Barb Ewer and Sue Beem.

Investment Committee – Jennifer Chleboun – two accounts went up, one went down and they are doing okay.

Unfinished Business:

The survey to members for feedback on the year's programs, events, newsletter information has been sent out and we are awaiting the results.

New Business:

Ruth Utman will be interviewed for a future article by the Midlands Business Journal on Thursday, January 13, 2011.

Announcements:

Publication Deadline: Friday, January 14, 2011
 Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, February 1, 2011 @ AOI, 8801 South 137th Circle, Omaha, NE 68138 at 4 p.m.
 Next Chapter Meeting: Wednesday, January 26, 2011 @ Hilton Garden Inn Old Market, 10th & Dodge Streets

Adjournment:

Time: 5:13pm

Approved:

Ruth L. Utman, President

Submitted:

Doreen Shapiro, Secretary

**EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
OMAHA CHAPTER****TREASURER'S REPORT - GENERAL ACCOUNT
Board Meeting
February 3, 2011****Period: January 1, 2011 to January 31, 2011****CASH ON HAND: JANUARY 1, 2011** **\$ 5,181.43****INCOME & RECEIPTS**Annual Dues 3,855.00Bank Interest 1.49**Total Income & Receipts** **\$ 3,856.49****EXPENSES**Celestial Cuisine - December Dinner \$ 349.33Kathy Fry - December cake decorating supplies \$ 30.10College of Saint Mary - Reading Rally Books \$ 187.00Alecia Hartwig - Membership Folders \$ 53.30**Total Expenses** **\$ 619.73****Net Increase in Funds for Period Ended January 31, 2011** **3,236.76****CASH ON HAND: JANUARY 31, 2011** **\$ 8,418.19**

**EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
OMAHA CHAPTER**

**TREASURER'S REPORT - B/C/DP ACCOUNT
Board Meeting
February 3, 2011**

Period: January 1, 2011 to January 31, 2011

CASH ON HAND: JANUARY 1, 2011 **\$ 6,423.74**

INCOME & RECEIPTS

Interest Earned	\$	1.37
Total Income & Receipts	\$	1.37

EXPENSES

Total Expenses	\$	-
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Net Increase in Funds for Period Ended January 31, 2011 **1.37**

CASH ON HAND: JANUARY 31, 2011 **\$ 6,425.11**

INVESTMENTS ON HAND: JANUARY 31, 2011

Clipper Fund	\$	16,649.97
Vanguard Intermediate Bond Fund		17,602.42
Vanguard Balanced Index Fund		20,725.40
Vanguard Morgan Growth Fund		3,799.45

Total Investments **\$ 58,777.24**

Total Cash **6,425.11**

TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS ON HAND: JANUARY 31, 2011 **\$ 65,202.35**

**EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
OMAHA CHAPTER****ATTENDANCE REPORT****January 26, 2011 Attendance**

Member Firms:	17
Representatives:	21
Life Members:	0
ASIST:	0
Guests:	4
Total Attendance:	25

***Percent of Total Firms: 53%**

***Percent of Total Representatives: 50%**

Submitted by:

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

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

December 15, 2010 Attendance

Member Firms:	17
Representatives:	20
Life Members:	0
ASIST:	0
Guests:	2
Total Attendance:	22

***Percent of Total Firms: 53%**

***Percent of Total Representatives: 48%**

Submitted by:

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

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

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 – Linda Hutchens, Carolyn McClean, Deb Emerson
 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, Barb Ewer
 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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 Website: www.ewiconnect.com