

Letter from President



What a wonderful Executive and Firm Appreciation Night we had last month at the Omni San Antonio Hotel at the Colonnade. The room was beautifully appointed and the food was excellent – Pam Hudec, Stacey Crabb and Erin Sheehey made it a very pleasant and memorable evening for everyone. Jack and Denise Cross of Arthur Pfeil Smart Flowers provided the centerpieces and they were exquisite. What great member firms we have in the San Antonio Chapter!

Speaking of member firms, all of us at Nix Health are proud to have been named 2013 EWI of San Antonio Firm of the Year. What an honor – and to receive the Firm of the Year award while serving as the chapter president representing Nix Health is awesome! And, congratulations to the H-E-B partners and Chairman Charlie Amato and President Gary Dudley of SWBC for their induction to the Texas Business Hall of Fame, Class of 2013.

May brings a hint of summer and also brings with it opportunities to grow professionally and personally.

Installation of the 2013-2014 Board of Directors is just four months away. Debbie Saldana of H-E-B, our Nominating Committee Chair, has sent out the board of directors nomination form. I encourage you to complete and return the form to Debbie; your input is important to the Nominating Committee. This is an excellent opportunity to make a difference – consider serving on the board or as a committee chair.

In addition, if you want to be considered for 2013-2014 Corporate Board service, it is not too late to submit Form 3 Application for Corporate Board service. The deadline is May 15, 2013. A candidate for the Corporate Board must be a past Chapter President and an active representative of a member firm.

2012-2013 Officers & Directors

President

Joyce Stuart
Nix Health

Vice President

Lori Reed
Quadrangle Press, Inc.

Secretary

Carolyn Wallace
Spurs Sports & Entertainment

Treasurer

Valerie Manns
Project Control

Fundraising

Linda Buck
Herff Travel, Inc.

Membership Director

Bobbi Lutz
San Antonio Economic
Development Foundation

Sergeant-at-Arms

Gena Brown
HOLT CAT

Programs

Liana J. Greenberg
Purina Care Insurance Services

Director At Large

Denise Blackmer
Bank of America

Publications Director

Rebecca Martinez
Nix Health

May is our scholarship month – when we honor our EWISP and ASIST scholarship recipients. They will be showcased at our Annual Scholarship Banquet on May 16, 2013 at the DoubleTree Hotel. Our EWISP scholarship winners are some of the San Antonio area's best and brightest high school seniors. And the ASIST scholarship winners' stories will touch your heart. The Scholarship Banquet is one of my favorite meetings of the year.

It is not too early to start making plans to attend the 66th Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting in San Diego, September 18-21, 2013. This is a wonderful opportunity to network and the numerous workshops and seminars will “enhance personal and professional development.” And, of course, we will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of Executive Women International.

I look forward to seeing you at the Scholarship Banquet on May 16.

Good Health,

Joyce Stuart
2012-2013 President
Nix Health

Professional Development

Save the date

2103 Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting
celebrating EWI's 75th Anniversary
September 18 – 21, 2013
San Diego, CA

EWI Corporate

Inaugural Annual Report Released

EWI is pleased to release the inaugural Annual Report for the October 1, 2011 - September 31, 2012 fiscal year. It is our hope that you will find this document of great interest and that it will assist you in sharing the EWI story within your firm, community and with prospective member firms. You can find the annual report by clicking on

http://www.ewiconnect.com/ewiconnect/About/News/ewiconnect/About_EWI/News.aspx#annualreport.

InsideEWI

Don't forget to follow the EWI blog InsideEWI, The Original Blog of the EWI Corporate President, Karen Skirten. <http://ewipres.blogspot.com/>

"All that it takes for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing."

- Sir Edmund Burke

Membership Meeting

EWISP and ASIST Scholarship Banquet

Thursday, May 16, 2013

5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

DoubleTree Hotel, 37 NE Loop 410

May Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 21, 2013

5:30 p.m.

Nix Health, 414 Navarro

EWI MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

Mission

Executive Women International® brings together key individuals from diverse businesses for the purpose of:

- Promoting Member Firms
- Enhancing Personal and Professional Development
- Encouraging Community Involvement

Vision

To be the leading connection for business professionals

Representatives' Birthdays & Firm Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following in celebration of their May Anniversaries.

USAA	40 years
Quadrangle Press, Inc.	22 years
DoubleTree Hotel	13 years
Fresh Horizons Catering	8 years
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.	4 years
Resources Global Professionals	4 years
Deacon Recruiting	1 year

Best Wishes to the following in celebration of their June Birthdays.

Denise Blackmer	Bank of America	June 4
Karen Carawan	San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Inc.	June 4
MJ Willis	Alisam Transportation Solutions	June 8
Barbara Jordan	Bank of America	June 9
Christina Casiano	Bill Miller Bar-B-Q	June 9
Kathie Geleta	Raba Kistner, Inc.	June 9
Stacy Lumpkin	Petco Animal Supplies, Inc.	June 20
Anna Brackett	SA2020	June 29

Being a good listener is a top business skill

Updated 8:25 pm, Monday, April 29, 2013

Read more: <http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/article/Being-a-good-listener-is-a-top-business-skill-4473616.php#ixzz2RxrNLd8q>

Not long ago, I was discussing with a client the value of asking questions. But do we always listen to the answers?

Do we listen to people in general? How many times have you been in a conversation when a person asked you a question as simple as “How have you been?” When you started to answer, you realized he wasn't listening, or his attention had already shifted to something else.

How did that make you feel? What opinion did you develop of that person ... especially if he was your boss or someone more senior in your organization?

How well you listen in your professional life and in your role as a business leader is a prime factor in your and your organization's success.

Often your people have valuable points of view and ideas they want to share. If you don't listen, the flow of information will dwindle and die because people know when you are not listening.

When you think about it, ideas drive productivity and growth. They also grow financial capital through new-product development, innovative marketing, sales and cost-saving measures. Where do those ideas come from? Could it be people? The obvious answer is yes, but you have to listen in order to benefit.

To be sure, not all ideas or suggestions are workable or profitable. However, as a business leader, you still should listen, even if only to keep the flow of communication open with your employees.

As it happens, listening also is a significant contributor to many of the facets of job satisfaction that people find in their work. Listening contributes to a more personal connection to both you and the organization. It also contributes to a person's sense of achievement, recognition for having made a contribution, added enjoyment of the work and a growing sense of responsibility within the organization.

Listening is not always about you; it often is about the other person. Obviously, people appreciate being heard. As a leader, you can enhance that appreciation and the value of communications by staying focused on the topic at hand. That means eliminating or ignoring distractions and giving your full attention to the person to whom you are speaking.

While you are engaged in a conversation, don't answer your phone, work on your computer or smart phone, allow other people to interrupt or daydream. Always give people your full attention and expect the same from them.

Here are some suggestions for being a better listener:

1. Make a list of all of the ways in which attentive listening would make you a better leader.
2. Ask yourself if you practice attentive listening as you interact with your peers and subordinates.

3. Ask others to tell you about instances or ways in which you do not listen as well as you should.
4. Make a note of the circumstances or situations in which you don't listen and ways to improve in each area. At a minimum, include the following ideas for improvement:
 - a) Provide your full attention when listening. Don't multitask; don't try to formulate your counterpoints while the other person is speaking.
 - b) Provide your full engagement. Allow your body language to convey that you are paying attention; periodically seek clarification by paraphrasing what you have just heard.
 - c) Be courteous. Do not interrupt, minimize distractions and respect other points of view.
5. Establish a plan to improve and practice these behaviors at every opportunity.
6. Act as a role model for good listening behaviors for your people.

Michael J. Farlow is a partner with Wolf Leadership Development LLC.

Philanthropy Committee

EWI - San Antonio 2013 Reading Rally

July 18, 2013

11:30 a.m. Location - TriPoint

Reading Rally events are one of the ways EWI promotes literacy in the community. As part of EWI's ongoing literacy campaign, the San Antonio Chapter hosts an annual Reading Rally each year for children ages K-4th grade. This year we will host a group of children from one of the YMCA programs in San Antonio. This is a time for elementary school children to participate in fun and exciting reading activities as well as have the opportunity to compete for prizes. Towards the end of the event, EWI members gather around and distribute backpacks filled with school supplies and books to the children, all donated by EWI San Antonio and its members. ***Please bring all donations to the May meeting. If you can't attend the May meeting and would like to make a donation, please call Amanda Avendano 210-889-3604 to make alternate arrangements.***

Donations for this year's Reading Rally include:

Firm specific supplies are welcome!

- Children's Scissors (blunt end and pointed end)
- Non-toxic markers (8 basic colors)
- Jumbo crayons (8ct.)
- Crayons (24 ct.)
- #2 pencils
- Ballpoint pens (blue or black)
- Colored map pencils
- Bottle of glue (8 oz.)
- *Pocket Folders with brads (various SOLID colors)
- *Pocket Folders (various SOLID colors)
- 12" ruler
- Eraser
- *Spiral notebooks (70 pages, wide ruled, SOLID colors)
- Package of loose-leaf notebook paper (wide ruled)
- Age appropriate books (K-4th grade)
- Gift cards and monetary donations accepted - The Philanthropy Committee will use these to buy the remainder of supplies needed.



***Due to the uncertainty of the number of children attending the Reading Rally, we ask that you keep the pocket folders and spiral notebooks solid in color in order to keep the backpacks gender neutral in case a replacement is needed.**

Thank you for your continued support.
The Philanthropy Committee

Website & Communications Committee

A friendly reminder to all representatives, please check the EWI San Antonio website (ewisanantonio.org) and update any information that has changed on your page. If you are unable to upload your photo, please email the photo you would like posted to Rebecca Rabel at rrabel@txbiomed.org.

Don't forget to go to your Facebook account and 'like' EWI San Antonio so you can receive the latest updates! We now have 36 representatives signed up on their Facebook



accounts. Let us hear from you! If you have any trouble with the website or 'liking EWI San Antonio' on your Facebook account, please email denise.w.blackmer@ustrust.com. Check out EWI San Antonio on Twitter!



Happy Mother's Day



From our Representatives:

*With grateful thanks to all our Mothers,
Grandmothers, Step-mothers, and friends who have been
like mothers to us....*

Here is the list of our EWI San Antonio Members who responded to our survey questions about their number of children, grandchildren, and total mothering years (to children, step-children, and foster children).



	<u># of Children</u>	<u># of Grandchildren</u>	<u>Total Years Mothering</u>
Amanda Avendano	2	0	7
Amanda Stewart	1	0	1
Bobbi Lutz	4	3	103
Christina Casiano	3	0	14
Diane Solarczyk	2	0	42
Joyce Stuart	2	4	84
Karen Carawan	1	0	2
Linda Buck	1	2 (in Heaven)	41
Lori Reed	2	0	56
Lynn Smasal	1	0	44
Pam Hudec	0	0	30
Patti Wilkens	2	1	69
Sue Ouimette	2	2	57
Susan Mossberger	0	0	3
Erin Sheehy	0	0	0
Liana Greenberg	1	0	25
Margaret Woods	2	5	67
Denise Cross	2	0	41
Emily Kopecky	0	0	0
Lisa Chapa	1	0	3
Maryellen Owen	1	0	21
Stacey Crabb	2	0	18
Carolyn Wallace	3	7	167
Debbie Saldana	3	0	67
Kelsey Hankins	0	0	0
Sylvia Rodriguez	3	3	31

New Member Representatives

Firm: Visionworks & Davis Vision
Representative: Frances Menjivar

Frances Menjivar is no stranger to EWI of San Antonio and we are so happy to have her back in our chapter. She is the Executive Assistant to the CFO of HVHC and two subsidiary businesses, Visionworks & Davis Vision. She also supports three other financial team members who report to the HVHC CFO, as well as the Legal Counsel and VP of Administrative Services.

Frances graduated from the American Catholic High School in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and attended and graduated from the University of Miami (Florida). Her previous work experience ranges from working with the U.S. State Department in Central America, the Hearst Corporation in San Francisco, and 18 years with Harte-Hanks, Inc. in San Antonio. It was during her tenure at Harte-Hanks that she was an EWI representative in our chapter (for 12 years). She said she didn't need convincing to come back to our chapter.

Frances is single and has two wonderful grown sons, Michael and Mark. Mark and his beautiful wife, Rachel, have graced her family with two amazing and gorgeous little boys, Asa (5 years old) and Eilan (3 years old). For most of her life, Frances' passion has been designing and sewing wedding dresses. Unfortunately though, she hasn't had much free time to do that. She also enjoys reading, gardening and traveling. And as of late, she loves riding her bike around San Antonio's many bike paths that connect our suburbs.

When asked what she hopes to gain as a member of EWI, Frances said she looks forward to seeing old friends and meeting the new members who have joined since she left. She says this organization is truly exceptional for building professional and personal relationships and she is excited about promoting Visionworks and Davis Vision to our members!

Welcome back, Frances!

Firm: Visionworks & Davis Vision
Representative: Patty Classy

We are so pleased to welcome Patty Classy back to EWI San Antonio. Years ago, she represented member firm Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce in our chapter. She always knew she wanted to come back and was recently given the chance when her firm Visionworks and Davis Vision became a member firm. Patty is the executive assistant to the President & CEO of HVHC, Inc. which oversees Visionworks, Davis Vision, Viva International, HM Insurance Group and United Concordia Dental.

Patty grew up in San Antonio, graduated from Mac Arthur High School and attended Our Lady of the Lake University. In her previous role at the Greater Chamber (where she was employed for 13 years), she lead the Leadership San Antonio program. She is the proud mother to Jessica Marie Classy who is 20 years old, in her sophomore year at Texas State University and just entered the management program at Victoria Secret. Patty states "Jessica is by far my greatest accomplishment."

Patty says she is a home body and loves to read, as well as do projects around her home. Something very few people know about her is that she has a love for photography. She also enjoys building business relationships and, as a member of EWI, she hopes to build strong friendships with the firm representatives, and also give back by bridging her firm with other member firms so other business relationships can be established.

Welcome back, Patty!

EWI Executive Recognition Dinner

Omni San Antonio Hotel at the Colonnade, April 18, 2013



Amanda Stewart and her executive Susan Hough (Resources Global Professionals)



Blake Hubbard, John Strieby and Tom O'Brien with Nix Health



Teri Hill, Guest Speaker



Lynn Smasal (Ernst Young LLP), Carolyn Wallace (Spurs Sports & Entertainment) and guest Yolanda Trevino



Nix Health representatives Blake Hubbard, Tom O'Brien, Margaret Woods, Joyce Stuart, Rebecca Martinez and John Strieby



Erin Sheehey and Pam Hudec (Omni San Antonio Hotel at the Colonnade) and guest Madeleine Dionne

2012-2013 Calendar Year at a Glance

<u>General Membership Meeting</u>	<u>Board Meeting</u>	<u>Topics/Conferences/Special Events</u>
	Nix Health 414 Navarro, 78205 5:30p.m.	
Thursday, October 18	Tuesday, October 23	Planning Session at Alamo Café, 14250 San Pedro
Thursday, November 15	Tuesday, November 20	Firm Night, Creer-Believe, 10919 Wurzbach
SECOND Thursday, December 13	Tuesday, December 18	Holiday Social and White Elephant Gift Exchange Anne Marie's Catering, 12475 Starcrest
Thursday, January 17	Monday, January 28	Social Media Night: Speaker Jody Newman Maggiano's Little Italy, 17603 W IH 10
Thursday, February 21	Tuesday, February 26	Clarity Guidance Center: Rebecca Helterbrand Norris Conference Center, 4522 Fredericksburg
Thursday, March 21	Tuesday, April 2	Weldon G. Riggs, Palo Alto College Instructor of Agriculture & Horticulture Spring Gardening The Petroleum Club, 8620 N. New Braunfels Ave., Suite 700
Thursday, April 18	Tuesday, April 23	Guest speaker Teri Hill Executive and Firm Recognition Dinner Omni San Antonio Hotel at the Colonnade
Thursday, May 16	Tuesday, May 21	EWISP and ASIST Scholarship Banquet DoubleTree Hotel, 37 NE Loop 410
Thursday, June 20	Tuesday, June 25	Non-meeting fundraiser
Thursday, July 18	Tuesday, July 23	Reading Rally, TriPoint, 3233 N. St. Mary's
Thursday, August 15	Tuesday, August 20	Firm Night at Muzak
Thursday, September 19	Friday, September 24	Chapter Board Installation DoubleTree Hotel

Chapter Board



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