

January 2009



Letter from President

When traveling down life's highway, I'd rather be looking through the windshield than through the rear view mirror. That's the attitude I have as I start each new year. I eagerly look ahead to the goals I'm hoping to achieve, rather than looking back at the mistakes I made and worrying about them. Happy New Year everyone and welcome to 2009! Another year has started, and if you're like me, you're already working on your list of resolutions. Number one on my list...*try* to stay enthusiastic about my New Year's resolutions, at least until the end of January (the one about exercising more and losing a few pounds is always the hardest, but each year it's at the top of my list). A new year brings new excitement in my life. Although I'm looking forward to a new year of challenges and milestones, I also look back on the past year with a sigh and a pleasing sense of accomplishment. Unfortunately, I have had some personal challenges this past year (as I know some of you have also had), but I have never lost faith that the new year would bring new beginnings, and I welcome this new year with open arms and an open heart and I'm ready to tackle whatever comes my way. I've also had many blessings this past year, and that's what I'll focus on if I happen to glance in the rear view mirror.

We have a lot of exciting programs scheduled for this year. To start, our Membership Retention Committee, led by Chairman Monica Garza (YMCA of Greater San Antonio), will conduct a mini orientation at our January 15 membership meeting. This will be a great refresher (with a fun twist) for our long-term members and a crash course in EWI history and procedures for our newer members, so please plan to join us. That night, our Ways & Means Committee, led by Chairman Cynthia Rangel (San Antonio Employers' Health Alliance), will conduct a "Bring & Buy" fundraiser. You should have received a courtesy e-mail with all the details (and it's also printed in this newsletter), but if you have any questions, please call Cynthia. I hope you will participate! In April, our monthly meeting will be a luncheon to honor our executives and will be held on our regularly scheduled meeting date – the 3rd Thursday of the month. So please mark April 16 on your calendar and your executive's calendar and invite him/her to attend with you (we'll let you know the venue once it has been confirmed). In May, we'll have a scholarship banquet, and this year, we'll be honoring our EWISP and ASIST winners simultaneously. Recognizing these outstanding students will be rewarding for all of us, I have no doubt.

The 2009 chapter dues invoices have been e-mailed to you (or mailed to those members who do not have e-mail) by our Chapter Treasurer, Valerie Manns (Project Control). If you have not received your invoice yet, or if you have any questions about your invoice, contact Valerie at Valerie@projectcontrol.com or 210-545-0008. Please adhere to the deadline and get your payment in on time.

As the new year dawns, may it bring for you promises of...
new dreams to fulfill,
new goals to reach,
and new joys to discover.

Vicki L. Chapman
Representing SWBC

SAN ANTONIO BOARD

Vicki Chapman, President
SWBC
321-7535

Leticia Villarreal, Vice President
Silver Eagle Distributors, L.P.
475-6900

Diane Solarczyk, Secretary
Bitterblue, Inc.
828-6131 ext. 104

Valerie Manns, Treasurer
Project Control
545-0008

Patty Wilkins, Sergeant-At-Arms
Security Service Federal Credit Union
476-4599

Debbie Saldana, Membership Director
H-E-B
938-8382

Damita Pape, Program Director
University of the Incarnate Word
829-3900

Aida Belmares, Publication Director
St. Mary's University
436-3712

Cynthia Rangel, Ways & Means Director
San Antonio Employers' Health Alliance
345-2450

Monica Garza, Director-At-Large
YMCA of Greater San Antonio
246-9643

Membership Meeting Notice

Thursday, January 15, 2009

**Plaza Marriott San Antonio
555 S. Alamo**

5:30 – 6:15 PM	Hospitality and Registration
6:15 – 6:40 PM	Welcome, Mission Statement, Installations, Roll Call
6:40 – 7:15 PM	Invocation and Dinner
7:15 – 8:00 PM	Program
8:00 – 8:15 PM	Door Prizes and Adjournment



DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING**
Thursday, Feb. 19th

BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, Feb. 24th
SWBC

9311 San Pedro Avenue,
Room 401

MARCH

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING**
Thursday, Mar. 19th

BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, Mar. 24th
SWBC

9311 San Pedro Avenue
Room 401

JANUARY BOARD MEETING

DATE: January 20, 2009
TIME: 5:45 PM
**PLACE: SWBC, 9311 San Pedro Avenue,
Room 401**

The Board meeting is open to the membership. If you would like to attend, please notify Secretary Diane Solarczyk at dianesolarczyk@bitterblue.com

EWI® MISSION AND VISION

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.

NEWS REELS

In our thoughts and prayers

Alexander Lopez, son of Elizabeth Perez (CPS Energy) passed away on January 7. Please keep Liz and her family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

A special account has been established at the CPS/IBEW Federal Credit Union for those who wish to assist the family.

Notes/cards of condolences may be sent to Liz at:

644 Darby Blvd.
San Antonio, TX 78201



This thank you note was received from Linda Villarreal Gonzales in appreciation for the contribution that the chapter made to the EWISP account, in her mother's memory.

*Dora O. Villarreal
June 15, 1930
to
October 29, 2008
Blessings from the
Family*

*EWI SA Chapter Board,
Words can not express how
you have touched my heart. I
am proud and honored to be
part of wonderful giving and
spiritual women. My mother/
my angel watches over with
tears in her eyes and a smile on
her face. Blessings Linda V Gonzalez*

NEWS REELS continued

Bring & Buy – a “re-gifting” experience

Are you ready to have some fun at the January 15th EWI meeting? Last January the Ways & Means committee did a twist on the traditional monthly door prizes by holding a “Bring & Buy” activity that allowed each of us to walk out the door with a prize. We were ALL winners! Please join us again this year for the fun experience of the “gift that just keeps on giving”! Remember, re-gifting is not only acceptable but encouraged.

Rules of Play:

1. Bring an unwrapped gift valued at \$20.00 to the meeting. Your re-gift may be from Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanza or from any other occasion.
2. Buy a \$10.00 ticket to participate. For a \$10 purchase, you get to choose a door prize to take home. **Only those who bring a gift will be able to “buy” a ticket** so, don't be left out in the cold!
3. When you purchase a ticket, draw a number from the fishbowl. Since gift selections will be made numerically, whoever draws #1 will get to choose their prize first! This is NOT a white elephant game, where you take gifts from each other . . . you actually keep the gift you select.

If you bring a gift and choose not to buy a ticket, left over door prizes will be used in future door prize drawings.

Give the gift that keeps on giving,
Cynthia Rangel
Ways & Means Committee



Holiday Greetings to EWI San Antonio Chapter, with special Best Wishes for continued quality growth in the New Year. Happiness and best health to each.

Erline H. Ward, 1958 Chapter President, and Chapter Life Member

NEWS REELS continued

FIRM SLOGANS

For a fun twist at our December meeting, roll call was conducted using a firm slogan instead of the rep's name. Thank you to all who participated! Here is a list of all the clever slogans.

Animal Defense League: "We've gone to the dogs...and cats!"

Arthur Pfeil Smart Flowers: "When you've met a nice gal or guy, When you laugh or hear a new baby cry, When saying hello or wishing good-bye, When having a party or when you die...We do all in our powers to get you extra special flowers."

AT&T Inc.: "At AT&T, we've got your number."

Baggett Consulting: "When you want your meeting to be the best, invite Byrd into your nest."

Bitterblue, Inc.: "Creating places where we shop, play, worship and live."

C. H. Guenther & Son, Inc.: "We're Shakers, Bakers and Biscuit Makers!"

CPS Energy: "Windtricity – The answer, my friend, is blowing in the wind!"

"Power to the people!"

"Electricity – *Socket* to me!"

"We light up your life (and give you charge)!"

DoubleTree Hotel: - Jackie Contreras sang her slogan...very entertaining!!!!!!

Fresh Horizons Catering: "Can you top it?"

Graves Interests, Ltd: "The Family with Trusts!"

Harte-Hanks, Inc.: "From the *Harte*, we wish you a very Merry Christmas!"

H-E-B: "At H-E-B, every time a register rings, an angel gets its wings!"

HOLT CAT: "We will move the earth for you!"

"We are the *other* CAT house!"

"If it isn't a CAT, it must be a dog!"

NEWSREELS continued

FIRM SLOGANS continued

KCI: “The VAC (Vacuum Assisted Closure) – IT SUCKS!”

Marmon Mok Architecture: “From GREEN to BLING, Marmon Mok can design ANYTHING!”

McMarr Properties, Inc.: “As we like it!”

Montdani International LLP: “Nuestro vino como tu baño, se toma todo el año!”
(Our wine – as your shower – is taken every day!)

“If you don’t need it, we don’t have it!”

Nix Health Care System: “For all your body part needs.”

“Have an annoying leak? Visit the Nix Urology Clinic...we’re only a drip away!”

NuStar Energy LP: “Shining brightly in the communities and industry we serve.”

Porter Loring Mortuaries: “We specialize in *return to sender!*”

Purina Pet Care Health Insurance: “Who’s covering *your* tail?”

Raba-Kistner Consultants, Inc.: “Raba-Kistner gets the dirt on you!”

San Antonio Water System: “Only a flush away!”

Security Service Federal Credit Union: “Security you need these days, and Service you deserve!”

Silver Eagle Distributors, L.P.: “We want to be your ‘Bud’ for life!”

Spurs Sports and Entertainment: “Your grin is our goal!”

“We’ve got balls!”

St. Mary’s University: “So what if we’re not ALL saints!”

SWBC: “Insuring your ass..ets are covered.”

TETCO, Inc.: “We’ve got gas – and we want to share it with you!”

The University of Texas at San Antonio: “The next great Texas University.”

The University of the Incarnate Word: “Incarnate Word will *Enlighten Your Way.*”

NEWSREELS continued

FIRM SLOGANS continued

YMCA of Greater San Antonio: "Sweat often, live longer!"

Zachry Corporation: "Gravel, dirt and steel – Zachry building for the future!"

Zachry Holdings: "Hard hats are hot...we build the world."

Sustaining Members

Kathy Borg: "Natural GAS – Cookin' up good things for Greater San Antonio!"

Barbara Johnson: "Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle all the way, my slogan now is sleep, eat, and have fun every day!"

Leona Pappas: "All the news that's fit to print, and a little bit that's not."

June Poerner: "Retired, but not tired!"

IT WILL BE AN HONOR TO HIGHLIGHT YOUR FIRM DURING 2009!

PROMOTING MEMBER FIRMS is part of EWI's mission. Pay tribute to your firm by highlighting and raising awareness of your industry's history, accomplishments, and business practices.

If you would like your firm highlighted in EWIconnect, please e-mail Rubby Santiago, with Montdani International LLC. Her e-mail is rubby.santiago@montdani.com.

Member Firm Anniversaries - January:

Zachry Corporation	40 years
Zachry Holdings, Inc.	40 years
Valero Energy Corporation	29 years
St. Mary's University	21 years
H-E-B	15 years
AT&T	9 years
Dependable Express LLP	5 years
SWBC	5 years
Silver Eagle Distributors	5 years
Argonaut Group, Inc.	4 years
UnitedHealth Group	1 year

NEWS REELS continued**Special Thanks from the Philanthropy Committee**

SAMMinstries is very appreciative for the donation of 159 coats and \$75 from our membership at the December EWI meeting.

Also, a total of 49 Christmas cards were mailed to American Soldiers in Iraq from our EWI members. They arrived by Christmas.

Thank you again for all your generous support! We couldn't have done it without your kindness.



David Martinez, University of the Incarnate Word, Frances Menjivar - Harte-Hanks, Inc.
Julie Lyssy - C.H. Guenther & Son, Inc., Gloria Eastwood - H-E-B, and Amber Sizer - SAMMinistries

NEW MEMBERS

Deanna Zuniga Purina Care Insurance Services

by Rubby Santiago, Contributing Writer



Deanna Zuniga, a Policy and Compliance Manager for Purina Care Insurance Services, was installed as a new representative in December of 2008.

Purina Care is a brand new agency that opened in San Antonio in June 2008. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of Nestle Purina which has been in business for over 100 years.

Deanna has been with the company since June 2008. She keeps very busy with the regulatory compliance for over 51 jurisdictions for sales & claims. She also administers and monitors agency policies and procedures. Her aspirations include pursuing a career in Insurance Agency Management.

Deanna was born in Miami, OK. She fell in love with Texas and quickly made it her home. She has lived in San Antonio for the past 8 years. She believes this city is one of the friendliest cities in the world. She has two daughters ages 27 and 19, and a lovely granddaughter that is now 4. Her most favorite thing to do is to be grandma to Gwenn!

Deanna is a two time cancer survivor and has learned to live life to the fullest. Her hobbies include arts and craft, and she enjoys making quilts for family and friends.

Deanna will be mentored by Frances Menjivar, with Harte-Hanks, member representative of Harte-Hanks and is assigned to the Ways & Means Committee. She believes that EWI is a strong organization where she can come out being a stronger person and a better business woman. She can hardly wait to learn so many things from such a diversified group.

Welcome Deanna! We look forward to sharing new experiences with you.

DECEMBER MEETING PHOTOS by Linda Villarreal



Elena Hurst, guest of Cecy Bellacetin-O'Keefe, Montdani International LLP, Jan Hargrave of Hargrave & Associates, December's guest speaker, and Rebecca Gonzales, guest of Cecy Bellacetin-O'Keefe



Lori Reed, Quadrangle Press, Leona Pappas, sustaining member, Kathie Geleta, Raba-Kistner Consultants, Inc.



Cindy Vyvlecka with Koontz-McCombs and Jimmie Joffe, McMarr Properties, Inc



President Vicki Chapman, SWBC

DECEMBER MEETING PHOTOS by Linda Villarreal Gonzales



Jan Hargrave, and Jackie Contreras,
Doubletree Hotel



Roger Ross, guest of
Connie Ross, Marmon Mok Architecture
and Jan Hargrave



Deanna Zuniga, Purina Care Insurance
Services, and guest Liana Greenberg



Roger Ross, guest of
Connie Ross, Marmon Mok Architecture
and Carl Chapman, guest of Vicki Chapman,
SWBC

BOARD MEETING RECAP

EWI San Antonio Board Meeting Recap

Submitted by: Leticia Villarreal
Silver Eagle Distributors, LP

Date: December 16, 2008
Location: SWBC

Secretary's Report

Minutes Approved:
November 25 BOD Meeting
December 11 General Meeting

Treasurer's Report

November 30, 2008 Account Balances:

GENERAL

General Account: \$28,973.84
Investment account: \$13,042.59
\$42,016.43

BCDP (EWISP & ASIST)

Scholarship Account: \$42,158.95
Outstanding Scholarships: \$ 6,500.00
Funds Available \$35,658.95

Sergeant-At-Arms Report

December's Attendance:

46 firms represented (61%)
61 representatives (61%)
8 sustaining (50%)
25 guests
94 TOTAL

Ways & Means

Birdies for Charity pledges to date - \$135.00

December Door Prizes - \$290.00

Total fundraising dollars collected to date - \$13,449.00
(January – December 2008)

Committee meeting via phone conference scheduled for 1/5/09
@ 5:00 pm.

Publication

Newsreel deadline is Friday, January 2, 2009.

The January EWICONNECT newsletter is scheduled for
distribution on Monday, January 12, 2009.

New Business / Correspondence

A banner with our new logo will be purchased. We are currently comparing pricing and formatting. We are hoping to have it displayed at our January meeting.

Business Career Development Program (BCDP)

Philanthropy

Thanks to our chapter's generosity, the following items were collected at our December meeting:

159 coats for SAMMinistries

\$75.00 in monetary donations for SAMMinistries

49 Christmas cards to be mailed to our soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington

Programs

January Membership Meeting

Date: Thursday, January 15, 2009
Time: 5:30 – 8:00 pm
Location: Plaza Marriott San Antonio
555 S. Alamo
San Antonio, Texas

Membership

December Installation – Purina Care Insurance Services represented by Deanna Zuniga.

Potential January installations: Ye Kendall Inn and FlightTime Business Jets.

Discussions ongoing with potential member firms: San Antonio Fire Department; San Antonio Police Department; Standard Aero; and Walton Signage.

MEMBERSHIP RETENTION

Replacement representatives scheduled for installation in January:

Diane E. Vallejo, TRPSA
Kristi Hennessey, Deacon Recruiting
Karen Carawan, San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo

Firms currently without representative(s):

Bradfield Properties
Tapatio Springs
United Health Group, Inc.

YEAR AT A GLANCE

To help you with your executive's calendar and your own, we are including the dates of the General Membership meetings (with topics and locations if available), the conferences scheduled for 2008-2009 (including the annual meeting), and the Board of Directors meetings.

<u>General Membership Meetings</u>	<u>Board Meetings</u>	<u>Conferences/Special Events</u>
<p><u>Second</u> Thursday, December 11 Topic: Importance of Non-Verbal Communication Venue: UIW Skyroom</p> <p>Thursday, January 15 Topic: Chapter Orientation</p> <p>Thursday, February 19</p> <p>Thursday, March 19 Topic: Business Meeting</p> <p>Thursday, April 16 Topic: Executive Recognition Luncheon</p> <p>Thursday, May 21 Topic: Scholarship Banquet</p> <p>Thursday, June 18</p> <p>Thursday, July 16 Non-Meeting Fundraiser</p> <p>Thursday, August 20</p> <p>Thursday, September 17</p> <p>Thursday, October 15 Topic: Business Meeting 2009-2010 Board Installation</p>	<p>The Board meets at SWBC unless otherwise stated.</p> <p>Tuesday, December 16</p> <p>Tuesday, January 20</p> <p>Tuesday, February 24</p> <p>Tuesday, March 24</p> <p>Tuesday, April 21</p> <p>Tuesday, May 26</p> <p>Tuesday, June 23</p> <p>Tuesday, July 21</p> <p>Tuesday, August 25</p> <p>Tuesday, September 29</p> <p>October Board Retreat Venue: TBD by Letty Villarreal</p>	<p>April 24-26, 2009 Leaders Summit San Francisco, CA</p> <p>August 2009 TEXOMA board forum Houston, TX</p> <p>September 24-26, 2009 2009 Leadership Conference & Annual Meeting Louisville, KY</p>