

September 2009

## Letter from President



School bells ringing, football games, holiday decorations already out in the stores, and Starbucks offering their pumpkin spice lattes - all signs that fall is definitely upon us. I can't believe it's September already! This month will go by fast, too, since we have a lot going on in the chapter. First, on September 9, we'll have another chapter mixer at Panchitos Mexican Grill. I hope you will join us that night - it's a great way to get to know your EWI sisters in a setting other than our monthly meeting. As a reminder, all of our mixers are "dutch treat". Then, the following week on September 17, is our monthly membership meeting at the Doubletree Hotel. At that meeting, we'll be recognizing our past Chapter Presidents and also "looking for the laughter" with our guest speaker, Suzie Humphries. Suzie will show us how to find humor in the everyday chaos of our lives. We'll also have a brief business meeting that night to elect our officers/directors for the 2009-2010 board year to serve with incoming

President Letty Villarreal (Silver Eagle Distributors). As a reminder, those nominated to serve with Letty are: VP/President-elect - Monica Garza (YMCA of Greater San Antonio), Secretary - Diane Solarczyk (Bitterblue), Treasurer - Patty Wilkins (Security Service Federal Credit Union), Sergeant-at-Arms - Aida Belmares (St. Mary's University), Membership Director - Debbie Saldana (HEB), Program Director - Damita Pape (University of the Incarnate Word), Communication/Publication Director - Liz Perez (CPS Energy), Ways & Means Director - Lyn Pitman (SAWS), Director-at-Large - Cece Abel (KCI). These ladies will be officially installed at our October meeting. The week following our membership meeting, our chapter delegation will head to Louisville, KY to attend our Leadership Conference & Annual Meeting (LCAM) September 23-26. We'll report on our experience in the next issue of EWIconnect.

Our philanthropy committee has been busy preparing for our Reading Rally which will be held on Friday, October 3 at the Crestholm Boys & Girls Club. Reading Rally events are one of the ways EWI promotes literacy in the communities we represent. Everyone is invited to attend, so I hope you will take this opportunity to join us as we make a difference to some of the youth in San Antonio. I think you'll really enjoy it!

I hope all of you are selling your tickets for our "No Dirty Dishes for a Week" fundraiser. One lucky winner will win six restaurant gift cards and a gas card for a combined value of \$550. And as an incentive to sell the tickets, the representative who sells the most tickets over the eight required tickets, will win two Spurs tickets, one parking pass, and dinner for two at the Terrace Restaurant, compliments of Spurs Sports & Entertainment. The drawing will be held at our membership meeting on September 17. If you have any questions, please contact Cynthia Dalrymple, ASIST committee chair ([cynthiak@satx.rr.com](mailto:cynthiak@satx.rr.com)).

And while you're in the selling mode, please remember to promote our other fundraiser for this year. We'll be selling our **Tasteful Treasures** cookbooks comprised of favorite recipes submitted by our chapter representatives. The books should be in before Thanksgiving and will make perfect Christmas gifts for friends, family, and co-workers. The cookbooks will sell for \$20 each. As we anticipate a great demand for our cookbooks, we want to be sure we order enough, so we are asking that you reserve your copy now. Payment does not have to accompany the reservation. If you have any questions or want to reserve a copy, please contact Bobbi Lutz ([bobbi@gravesinterests.com](mailto:bobbi@gravesinterests.com)) or Connie Ross ([ross@marmonmok.com](mailto:ross@marmonmok.com)).

*"The miracle is not that we do this work, but that we are happy to do it."  
-Mother Teresa*

Vicki 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 and Means Director  
San Antonio Employers' Health Alliance 345-2450

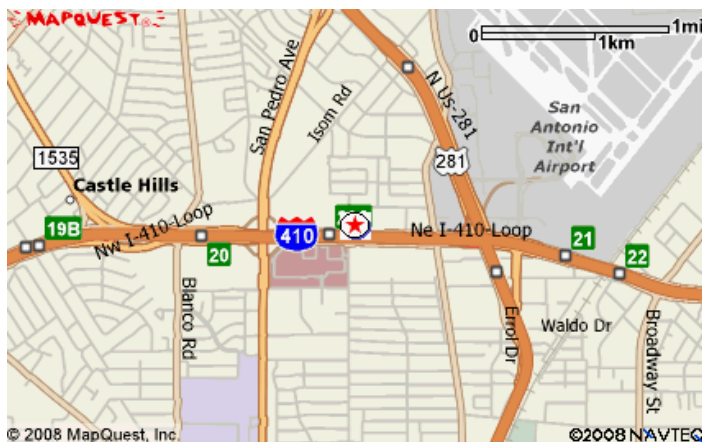
**Monica Garza**, Director-At-Large  
YMCA of Greater San Antonio  
246-9643

## Membership Meeting Notice

**Thursday, September 17, 2009**

**DoubleTree Hotel  
37 NE Loop 410 @ McCullough  
210.366.2424**

5:30 – 6:15 PM	Hospitality and Registration
6:15 – 6:40 PM	Welcome, Mission Statement, Roll Call
6:40 – 6:45 PM	Business Meeting
6:45 – 7:15 PM	Invocation and Dinner
7:15 – 8:00 PM	Suzie Humphreys
8:00 – 8:15 PM	Announcements, Fundraiser Drawing Adjournment



## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **OCTOBER**

**BUSINESS MEETING**  
**Thursday, October 15**  
2009-2010 Board Installation

**BOARD MEETING**  
**October 23 – 24**

*Ye Kendall Inn*  
128 W. Blanco Road  
Boerne, TX 78006

### **NOVEMBER**

**BUSINESS MEETING**  
**Thursday, November 19**

**BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, November 24**  
**Silver Eagle Distributors**  
4609 New Highway 90 West

## **SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING**

**DATE:** September 29, 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](mailto: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.

## NEWSREELS

### Member Firm Anniversaries – September 2009

AT&T Inc.	50 years
Morgan Stanley	32 years
San Antonio Employers' Health Alliance	12 years
C.H. Guenther & Son, Inc.	11 years
Project Control	5 years

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Best wishes to the following representatives in celebration of their September birthdays:

Sept 5	Maggie Hahn	USAA
Sept 14	Shana Prichard	realign, llc
Sept 14	Kathy Bishop	Zachry Holdings, Inc.
Sept 17	Hilda Ochoa	Transitional Member
Sept 19	Robin Sherrington	Robin's Nest
Sept 19	Joan Gase	Sustaining Member
Sept 20	Susie Salazar	St. Mary's University
Sept 28	Magdalena McCall	Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
Sept 28	Sylvia Rodriguez	Valero Energy Corporation

### Member Firm Postings

Al's Gourmet Nuts

Whataburger

## NEWSREELS continued

### “Top 10” Chapter Award Recipients

Rookie of the Year - Mitzi Pearson

The All American - Lyn Pitman

Jerry McGuire - Cynthia Rangel

Welcome Wagon - Cecy B. O’Keefe

Helping Hand - Patty Wilkins

Best Information Highway - Bobbi Lutz

Words of Wisdom - Connie Ross

The 2009 Spirit - Debbie Saldana

Top Gun - Bobbye Scott

MVP - Monica Garza



### Committee Recognition Award Recipients

**ASIST Committee**

Joyce Carothers  
Carol Crawford  
Carole Lanham  
Denise Cross

**EWISP Committee**

Lorri Mach

**Hospitality**

Lori Hakspiel

**Membership**

CeCe Abel

**Membership Retention**

Kathy Beaman

**Philanthropy**

Melissa Piña  
Linda Buck

**Program**

Diane Solarczyk

**Communication/Publication**

Rubby Santiago

**Ways & Means**

Debbie Lazarine

## NEWSREELS continued

### **This thank you note was received from Bobbye Scott in appreciation for receiving the TOP GUN award.**

August 25, 2009

To the Representatives of EWI of San Antonio:

It is always a humbling experience to be recognized by your peers, but it truly an awesome and inspiring happening to be honored by your friends. To be selected for the EWI of San Antonio TOP GUN award for 2009 was really a big surprise to me and I want to thank each and every one of you.

EWI has brought so much to my life, more than I could ever give. The women of our organization are all exceptional and each is unique in her own way. I have been fortunate to get to know most of you in one way or another and appreciate all the kindness you have shown me over the years.

We all share a mutual bond: to grow and to become not only better people, but also better citizens. Our EWI promotes the growth of integrity in all of us and hopefully we promote the strength of spirit in each other. Most of you have helped me in ways you will never ever realize.

Thank you all for allowing me in your lives and showing me that all of us are better than one of us and to have a friend, you must first be a friend.

I am truly flattered and sincerely amazed for this beautiful recognition.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart,

Bobbye Scott

(Holt Cat Representative)



## NEWSREELS continued

### In Our Thoughts and Prayers

June Poerner, one of our sustaining members, passed away on August 29 after an extended illness. June was chapter President in 1994 and represented Coca-Cola Bottling Company. Please keep June's family in your thoughts and prayers. Condolences to June's husband and family can be sent to:

Mr. Robert Poerner  
15110 Winged Foot  
Selma, TX 78154

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Please keep Linda Buck (rep for member firm Herff Travel) in your thoughts and prayers. Linda's brother Bill Hollingshead passed away on Thursday, September 3. Bill was a true friend of EWI of San Antonio. Last year when Linda was Philanthropy Chair, Bill, and his wife Mary, allowed her committee to have a "demolition sale" at their former home that was being demolished. Proceeds from that sale helped sponsor our chapter's Reading Rally. We very much appreciated their partnership with our Chapter to promote literacy and help encourage young people to get excited about reading.

If you'd like to send your condolences to Linda and her family, her contact info is:

23019 Blackwater Rd.  
San Antonio, TX 78258  
210-824-3942

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Please keep Jan Steger (representative for member firm UTSA) in your thoughts and prayers. Jan broke her leg in two places and underwent surgery. If you'd like to send get well wishes to Jan, you can send them to:

Heartland  
One Heartland Drive, Room 415  
San Antonio TX 78247

Direct line: 248-2091

## NEWSREELS continued

### Member Firm Spotlight – Zachry Corporation Zachry Corporation Earns International Safety Awards

Zachry Corporation is one of the premiere safety companies to work for safety wise in the world. For the third straight year, the World Safety Organization (WSO) awarded Zachry its **Concerned Company/Corporation Award**, which is given to a company or corporation that actively contributes to the protection of people, property, resources, and the environment through innovative programs and shows distinctive concern for the well-being of its employees and local community.

Also for the third year straight year, Zachry received the WSO's **Education Award** for a company, training entity or individual with an above-average educational program; one that actively contributes to the protection of people, property, resources, and the environment through innovative programs; and possesses a distinctive concern for the education of professionals and the general public in the disciplines of safety and allied fields.

Building Division Safety Manager **Dave Roberson** also received recognition, earning the WSO's James K. Williams Award. This award is given annually to a WSO member who has provided significant assistance with and support of the WSO's programs and a strong dedication to the protection of people, property, resources, and the environment. Roberson has spent several years developing a Construction Safety Manager certification sanctioned by the WSO to provide qualified safety professionals with a means to earn a worldwide recognized certification.

Roberson and several of his colleagues are now putting the finishing touches on a Certified Safety Managers for Construction exam, which should be available this fall.



Dave Roberson WSO-CSM,  
CSHM, Building Division Safety Manager  
and Don Hurley CSP,  
Corporate Director of Safety and Health

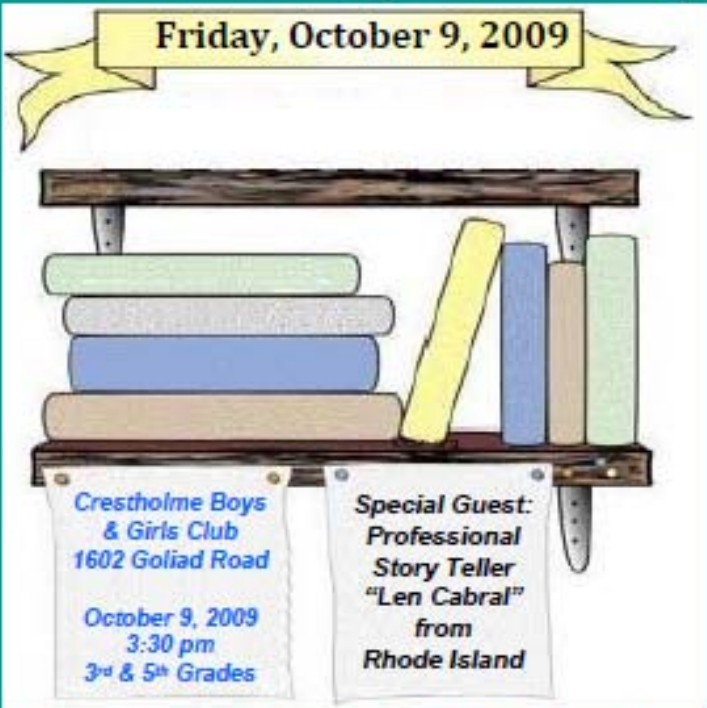


(left to right) Edward Houge WSO-Vice President,  
David Roberson WSO-CSM, CSHM,  
Dr. Vlado Senkovich, Ph.D., WSO-President Director General

## NEWSREELS continued

# EWI Reading Rally

Friday, October 9, 2009



*Crestholme Boys & Girls Club  
1602 Goliad Road*

*October 9, 2009  
3:30 pm  
3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grades*

*Special Guest:  
Professional  
Story Teller  
"Len Cabral"  
from  
Rhode Island*

Consider donating items for goodie bags that EWI will be handing out to each of the 100 children that will be attending! Please let someone on the committee know what you plan to donate so we can plan for storage.

**Items for Bags:**

- Markers
- Penolic
- Erasers
- Healthy Snacks
- Coloring Books,
- Rulers

**Volunteers Needed:**

We will need at least 15 EWI volunteers on Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> to greet, set-up, clean-up, etc.

Please contact Julie Lyssy at 351-6211 to sign up or for more information.

*This is a designed EWI event used to promote their literacy awareness campaign to help children to read and write.*

*Philanthropy Committee Members: Julie Lyssy, Kathy Bishop, Shirley Boatright, Clara Ernst, Gloria Eastwood, Bennie Foss, Joan Gase, Jelane Lodek, Frances Menjivar, Melissa Pina, Lynn Smasal, Barbara Trevino*



## NEWSREELS continued



# MONTDANI INTERNATIONAL

MONTDANI INTERNATIONAL LLC., is very pleased to invite you to our KICK-OFF event, showcasing our Wines, Spirits & Cavas from Europe, South America, Mexico and USA!!

## MONTDANI KICK OFF WINE & SPIRITS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th, 2009.

YE KENDALL INN, Texas Hill Country Spa & Conference Center

128 West Blanco, Boerne, TX. 78006

8:00 – 11:00 PM

RSVP to: [lovewine@montdani.com](mailto:lovewine@montdani.com)

No Later Than September 11th, 2009



Dear Wine Lover Ladies,

Just a little friendly reminder about Montdani's Kick Off Wine & Spirits Event. We are promoting the **NETWORKING within EWI home**, partnering with our members, such as **PORT OF SAN ANTONIO** (where our cargos from Europe and South America will be stored) and **YE KENDALL INN**, where this special event will take place!

Please bring your significant others for a delicious and relaxing night at beautiful Boerne and interact with our Wine Manufacturers from Europe and South America.

Hope to see you ALL on **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>**. More wine tastings to come at some of our member firm hotels.

Happy Day!

### MONTDANI INTERNATIONAL LLC.

Cecy BO.

International Business Development Director/GM

New Braunfels, TX 78131-2464

Web: [www.montdani.com](http://www.montdani.com)

Fax: (866) 376-6645

Phone: (830) 626-0468 or 627-9525

## NEW MEMBER

### Esther Luna

Batchelor, Cadillac, SAAB, Hummer Company

**by Pauline Villagran, Contributing Writer**



Esther Luna joined EWI as a new representative for Batchelor, Cadillac, SAAB, Hummer. She is the General Sales Manager and her manager is Ken Batchelor. Ken Batchelor Company (GMC, Lexus, and Buick) was founded in 1980 and they are part of the Sewell Family of car dealerships, with 10 locations and growing. Their industry is automotive sales and services with 150 plus employees. Esther's office is located at the Huebner location. She just celebrated her five year anniversary. As General Sales Manager, Esther works closely with new and pre-owned departments as well as their Business/Finance department.

Esther was born in Matamoros, Mexico and grew up in Harlingen, Texas and as a youth spent almost every weekend in South Padre Island. Esther is the oldest of eight siblings and is fortunate to have a phenomenal mother. Esther attended St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas. Currently divorced and no children, Esther enjoys spending time with her wonderful nieces and nephews. Esther has some enjoyable hobbies which include Bikram Yoga, running and scuba diving.

Esther joined EWI to become more involved in supporting her community, and to meet and learn from other professional women. Esther has been assigned to the Ways and Means Committee.

## NEW MEMBER

### Christine Mitchell

#### Omni La Mansion del Rio Hotel

by Pauline Villagran, Contributing Writer



Christine Mitchell joined EWI in April 2009 as a representative replacement for the Omni La Mansion Hotel & Watermark Hotel & Spa. Christine is a Business & Leisure Travel Sales Manager for the Omni Hotels. The Omni Hotel is a national upscale hotel chain owned by Bob Rowlings with TRT Holdings in Irving, Texas.

Founded in 1996, they have over 40 hotels and 2000 employees. Christine works at the Crockett Street location in San Antonio. She has been there one year and is responsible for generating national and local corporate transient business along with marketing to vacationers. She has a total of 15 years in the hospitality industry. She has also been a Texas Realtor since 1996.

Christine was born in Arlington, Virginia, moved to England at the age of four, attended Clarendon College in Nottingham, England and lived there for 20 years. She then moved back to the States. She has been in San Antonio for 25 years. Christine is married and has three beautiful daughters. Her favorite hobbies are deep sea fishing and cooking.

Christine would like to partner with many clients, and offer her services on the Ways and Means Committee to help the community and support the organization in a constructive manner.

# AUGUST MEETING PHOTOS by Linda Villarreal-Gonzales



Kathie Geleta, Raba-Kistner Consultants, Inc.  
Carol Crawford, TETCO, Inc.



Yolanda Treviño, Spurs Sports & Entertainment  
Bobby Scott, HOLT CAT  
Carolyn Wallace, Spurs Sports & Entertainment



Gena Brown, HOLT CAT  
Linda Buck, Herff Travel, Inc.



Pauline Villagran, San Antonio Water System  
Debbie Barnwell, SWBC  
Mitzi Pearson, Morton's The Steakhouse  
Elizabeth Perez, CPS Energy



Jelane Lodek, Sustaining Member  
Clara Ernst, Port Authority of San Antonio  
Melissa Piña, CPS Energy  
Norma Del Toro, Pape-Dawson Engineers



Kathy Beaman, Julian Gold  
Joyce Stuart, Nix Health Care System



# AUGUST MEETING PHOTOS by Linda Villarreal-Gonzales



Debbie Saldana, H-E-B



Melissa Piña, CPS Energy  
Linda Buck, Herff Travel



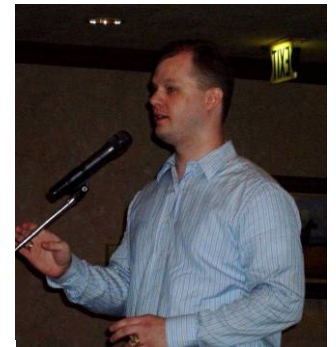
Letty Villarreal, Silver Eagle Distributors LP  
Mitzi Pearson, Morton's The Steakhouse



Vicki Chapman, SWBC  
Rubby Santiago, Montdani International LLC



Diane Solarczyk, Bitterblue, Inc.  
Damita Pape, The University of the Incarnate Word



Guest Art Williams, chapter website administrator



Diane Flack, Transitional Member  
Lynn Smasal, Ernst & Young LLP



Joyce Carothers, Sustaining Member  
Carole Lanham, KCI  
Cynthia Dalrymple, Ray Ellison Grandchildren Trust  
Denise Cross, Arthur Pfeil Smart Flowers  
Carol Crawford, TETCO, Inc.

## BOARD MEETING RECAP

EWI of San Antonio Board Recap	
Submitted by: Leticia Villarreal Silver Eagle Distributors, LP	Date: August 27, 2009 Location: SWBC
Secretary's Report	New Business / Correspondence
Minutes Approved: July 21 BOD Meeting August 20 Membership Meeting	<p>\$25.00 Contribution to EWISP in memory of Charlie Barrett, father of member Suzanne Worley of Batchelor Cadillac SAAB Hummer.</p> <p>Advisor Lutz asked each board member to provide favorite recipes for the cookbook fundraiser and to solicit other chapter members to do the same. Deadline for submitting recipes is September 9, 2009.</p> <p>President Chapman presented the lapel pins that will be distributed at the 2009 LCAM.</p>
Treasurer's Report	Membership Retention
July 31, 2009 Account Balances:	Firms needing a replacement rep. – Animal Defense League and StreetFund, LLC.
<b>GENERAL</b>	Firms needing a second rep. – none.
General Account: \$42,032.24	Firms needing a third rep. – Spurs Sports & Entertainment.
Investment Account: <u>\$13,091.19</u>	
\$55,123.43	EWI Mixer scheduled for Wednesday, September 9, 2009, at Panchitos Mexican Grill, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. We hope to see you there!
<b>BCDP (EWISP &amp; ASIST)</b>	
Scholarship Account: \$41,960.26	
Outstanding Scholarships: <u>\$22,000.00</u>	
Funds Available \$19,960.26	
Sergeant-At-Arms Report	Programs
August Attendance:	September Membership Meeting:
58 firms represented (82%)	Date: Thursday, September 17, 2009
69 representatives (70%)	Time: 5:30 – 8:00 pm
3 sustaining (20%)	Location: DoubleTree Hotel
2 life	37 NE Loop 410 @ McCullough
3 transitional	San Antonio, Texas
<u>9</u> guests	
86 TOTAL	
Ways & Means	Membership
August door prizes - \$320.00.	August Installations:
Total fundraising dollars collected to-date - \$5,882.44 (estimated). (January – August 2009).	REPLACEMENT REP.
	- <b>Magdalena McCall</b> of Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce. Her mentor is Becky Turgeon
	- <b>Ginger Ramos</b> of Omni Hotel San Antonio. Her mentor is Valerie Manns.
	SECOND REP.
	- <b>Stacy Crabb</b> of Omni Hotel San Antonio. Her mentor is Valerie Manns.
Publication	Philanthropy
The August EWICONNECT newsletter was distributed on Tuesday, August 18, 2009.	Event: 2009 Reading Really is scheduled
The September EWICONNECT newsletter is scheduled for distribution on Monday, September 14, 2009.	Date: October 9, 2009
	Time: 3:30 pm
	Location: Crestholme Boys & Girls Club (1602 Goliad Rd.)
	Audience: 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> grade students

## 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 this year (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><b>Thursday, January 15</b> Topic: Chapter Orientation Venue: Plaza Marriott</p>	<p>The Board meets at SWBC unless otherwise stated.</p>	
<p><b>Thursday, February 19</b> Topic: Poise in Dining Situations Venue: Plaza Club</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, December 16</b></p>	<p><b>April 24-26, 2009</b> Leaders Summit San Francisco, CA</p>
<p><b>Thursday, March 19</b> Topic: Business Meeting Venue: Omni Hotel</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, January 20</b></p>	<p><b>August 7-8, 2009</b> TEXOMA board forum Houston, TX</p>
<p><b>Thursday, April 16</b> Topic: Executive Recognition Luncheon Venue: Skyroom at The University of the Incarnate Word</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, February 24</b></p>	<p><b>September 24-26, 2009</b> 2009 Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting Louisville, KY</p>
<p><b>Thursday, May 21</b> Topic: Scholarship Banquet Venue: DoubleTree Hotel</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, March 24</b></p>	
<p><b>Thursday, June 18</b> Topic: Firm Trade Show Venue: La Mansion del Rio Hotel</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, April 21</b></p>	
<p><b>Thursday, July 16</b> Non-Meeting Fundraiser</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, May 26</b></p>	
<p><b>Thursday, August 20</b> Topic: Chapter Awards Venue: Petroleum Club</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, June 23</b></p>	
<p><b>Thursday, September 17</b> Topic: Business Meeting Venue: DoubleTree Hotel</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, July 21</b></p>	
<p><b>Thursday, October 15</b> Topic: Business Meeting 2009-2010 Board Installation</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, August 25</b></p>	
	<p><b>Tuesday, September 29</b></p> <p><b>Board Retreat</b> <b>October 23 - 24</b> Venue: Ye Kendall Inn, Boerne, TX</p>	