

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT



Dear EWI, Ladies!

This time of the year is so exciting for EWI! There is so much happening at EWI both at the local and national level. In today's letter, I am going to highlight some of what's going on in the next couple of months. And I invite and encourage you to participate in all of the activities.

Reading Rally will be celebrating 20 YEARS! 20 years of helping inspire

girls to read more and see a world of opportunities. Each year the girls are treated to an afternoon of fun, crafts, positive role models, and dynamic speakers. This year the activities may look slightly different, but they will have the same general theme, literacy, and inspiration. In this year of COVID, I truly believe the girls need our inspiration and support more than ever. Mark your calendars; our tentative date is set for October 17, 2020. But the RR committee still needs your help, and we will have more info in future emails.

Our national **Leadership Conference & Annual Meeting (LCAM)** is Virtual this year and FREE! Yes, I said FREE! It is scheduled for September 18 – 19, 2020. Although we don't know the exact schedule of events, I am positive it will be a great experience. Past conferences have been full of great programming, great speakers, and great leadership training. I am looking forward to attending!

Our big annual fundraiser is usually scheduled for September. The money raised goes towards our Scholarship and Reading Rally activities. This year we will be having a **EWI shirt fundraiser**. There has been lots of work to select the beautiful and fun shirts; buy 1, 2, or 3 and help support our efforts. We thank all our members who have always been so generous in the past and ask you to help this year too. Shop at our website e-store from the comfort of your home or right from your phone. More details further on this newsletter.

And in our October Monthly meeting, the new board will be taking the reins, and we will mark another year as complete with some great accomplishments and many memories and COVID stories.

Until next time, stay safe, everyone!

We are EWI!
Gracie Martin
Ensemble Group

2019-2020 Officers & Directors

President

Gracie Martin, Ensemble Group

Vice-President/President-Elect

Virginia Whitham,
Navy Army Community Credit Union

Secretary- Karen Barnes,
LK Jordan and Associates

Treasurer - Marcia Keener,
MJKeener Coaching

Sergeant-at-Arms

Jessica Nesblett, High Touch
Technologies

Programs

Janet Maxwell, Wittigs Office
Interiors

Scholarships - Laura Hausman,
Northern Beef Industries

Publications- Lisa Wright,
Your Personal Best Training Studio

Website PR – Barbie Baker
JBBM Marketing

Membership - Sharon Trott

Ways & Means

Carla Hoffman,
Hoffman Hearing Solutions, LLC
Taylor Cravey
Taylor Cravey Photography

Reading Rally – Gracie DeRusse

Director At Large

Donna Patterson,
CAPTRUST Financial Advisors



I was thinking... in 1983, 37 years ago, Joan Rivers was the first EWI Corpus Christi Chapter President, and was also our second President! Having back to back presidents is not new to our Chapter, Mary Helen Johnson, was our 28 and 29 president. It's actually amazing that this has only happened twice in our Chapter!! We are indeed the best!! Ok, now back to my thinking...

So, where was I in 1983?! Why was I not involved with EWI?! And what were my priorities then?! Was I not interested in networking?! I felt I had to go deeper into my thoughts... In 1983, I have been with KEDT for 9 years. In 1974 I had a temporary position with KEDT for the week of their TV Auction, and by the end of the Auction, I was hired to be their Auction Manager. I had no idea what fundraising was all about, but my immediate supervisor saw something in me and felt I was perfect for the job. I was indeed very happy with my job in 1983, focusing on the task at hand and not interested in joining any organization.



Until 1995, when a KEDT Board Member, Janis Williams, approached me and said, "Myra, you need to join Executive Women International, it'll be good for you and for KEDT." She invited me to the monthly meeting, which was the installation of officers meeting. Rebecca Stone was the outgoing President and Jackie McLain, the incoming President. Well, what can I say; it was love at first sight. Everyone was so friendly and made me feel so good that I thanked Janis on the spot, for recommending EWI to me.

I was born in Panama, attended a Catholic Private School, moved to New York in 1967 to finish my senior year at a public school in Brooklyn, New York. At the time, I had minimal knowledge of the English language. My senior year was a challenge, but thanks to my athletic skills, I was able to join the Tennis and Volleyball Teams, and the English language was no longer an obstacle!!

I arrived in Corpus Christi in 1970, right after Hurricane Celia, and welcomed by very friendly students and faculty at the University of Corpus Christi (UCC). After graduation, I spent about a year trying to figure out what to do. Well, KEDT ended up being the only job in my professional career where I just recently celebrated my 47th Anniversary!

I became president of the EWI Chapter in 1996 and served on the EWI Corporate Board in 1998. Joining EWI was the best thing that happened in my professional career. I thank our EWI Corpus Christi Chapter, for the leadership skills and networking opportunities I acquired through my 24 years with the Chapter and I also thank EWI Corporate, for the many resources they made available to me, through their Annual Meetings, Regional Meetings, and Professional Webinars, to keep expanding those skills.

This is WHY I'm a proud member of EWI!!!

Myra

Myra A. Lombardo
Vice President
Philanthropy and Corporate Partnership [KEDT](#)

AUGUST ONLINE NOON SPEAKER

Dr. Stephen Ramirez

<http://www.stoneoakfamilypractice.com/dr.-ramirez.html>

He is sought out by media and others for his knowledge and expertise regarding the coronavirus.

Facts vs Fear in the Age of COVID: A discussion of the 2020 Pandemic

Wednesday, August 5th, Online



Meet Dr. Ramirez

Dr. Stephen F. Ramirez loves his job. And it shows! Recognized repeatedly by his peers in the Super Doctors issue of Texas Monthly and as a Scene in SA "Top Doc," Dr. Ramirez strongly believes in developing a personal relationship with each and every patient. His emphasis on preventative care and women's health encourages early detection and treatment.

Dr. Ramirez served as Chief of Family Practice at North Central Baptist Hospital for seven years and continues to serve as a clinical instructor for medical students, physician assistant students, and nurse practitioner students from universities around the country. He has also acted as a consultant for several local news stations covering various medical topics.

A native Texan, Dr. Ramirez received his bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Texas at Austin, attended Harvard and Rice University, and finished his medical training at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston. [Read more ...](#)

DATES TO NOTE

August 5th, 2020

*EWI ZOOM Monthly Meeting /
Speaker: Dr. Stephen Ramirez

ZOOM info:

Gracie Martin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: EWI August Lunch Meeting

Time: Aug 5, 2020 11:30 AM
Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99347107064?pwd=RFIzUG56U3VzQmdRUzd0bHZrNG9KQT09>

Meeting ID: 993 4710
7064Passcode: 859103

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,99347107064#,,,,,
,0#,,859103# US (Houston)

+12532158782,,99347107064#,,,,,
,0#,,859103# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US
(Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 993 4710
7064Passcode: 859103

Aug 26th, 2020

*EWI Board Meeting

Sept 18 – 19, 2020

Leadership Conference & Annual
Meeting (LCAM)

Will You Serve on the Board?

We are preparing for the coming fiscal year with the election of a new board. We need someone to serve in the Secretary capacity. This board position is not a demanding time commitment.

Duties:

- Attend monthly board meeting (virtual at this time)
- Record attendance for the board meeting
- Take minutes during the meeting of the committee reports and record board discussions and action items
- Type the minutes in a template and submit to President to be voted on for approval at next board meeting

Our fiscal year is October 1st - September 30th.

Serving on the board is an excellent opportunity to learn the inner workings of our local Chapter's management. It is also an opportunity to learn the various board positions and to see if YOU want to go on and provide future leadership to our Chapter.

Please contact Donna Patterson (361) 779-4828 to volunteer!

We are trying to present our officer slate at this upcoming membership meeting for consideration and will vote on the slate at our September meeting.



MISSION

Executive Women International (EWI) 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 enhance professional growth and development within a diverse group of women while empowering them to make a difference.

VALUES

Integrity | Excellence | Respect | Collaboration

CALLING ALL EWI MEMBERS



5 | Page



Leadership Conference & Annual Meeting (LCAM)

September 18 – 19, 2020

All EWI members are invited to this year's virtual Leadership Conference & Annual Meeting—referred to as LCAM. This will be a two-day event beginning at 11 a.m. on Friday, September 18 and ending at 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 19. Registration will be available soon.

Free for all members, this year's virtual event will include:

- An all-member town hall meeting
- Leadership Caucus training for all chapter members
- Award recognition celebration
- 2020 Annual Meeting


Access to this year's programming will be available through the Eventsential App offered through EWI partner RD Mobile. All members are encouraged to download the mobile app through the App Store or Google Play on your devices.

"This year's LCAM event presents a unique opportunity for all of us to participate without charge," said Gracie Martin, EWI CC chapter president. "I encourage you to make room on your calendar now to attend as much of LCAM as you can. We will keep you updated on the details as soon as they become available from corporate."

LCAM testimonial from former chapter president Nancy Wesson-Dodd, YWCA Corpus Christi:

"I have attended many trainings in my career. They've been on various topics, in various locations, taught by various presenters/experts. I've been eager to go and to return and try out my new learnings. By far, the highest quality trainings have been the ones presented at EWI Leadership Conference & Annual Meeting, often referred to as "LCAM." Other highlights of these trainings have been the women I've met, networking, learning how other chapters do things, and hearing from and about Scholarship recipients and Reading Rally Programs from around the country. Each time I've attended, I've come away empowered, energized and more knowledgeable! I hope you'll participate and find the same excellence and fun that I have."

APPROVED Minutes of the Board of Directors 7.29.20

	Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting EWI of Corpus Christi EWI @ June 24, 2020
Call to Order	12:05 pm, Gracie Martin called to order
Roll Call	Gracie Martin, Marcie Keener, Virginia Whitham, Jessica Nesblett, Laura Hausman, Carla Hoffman, Janet Maxwell, Sharon Trott, Donna Patterson
Vice President's Report:	
Virginia: Reading Rally: Gracie met with Nancy and looking to get a chair for the committee. Has some names. Since COVID exploded they may to move the meeting to July 30th now. Since the YWCA is closed will have to move the meeting. Donna asked how is the format? Virginia said will give books to kids as they come in the door unless things drastically change and sending them with a packet on their way out the door. Trying to remain nimble. Still want to do it but it may be modified. Donna said it sounds like they are still going to be coming onsite. Virginia said yes they will come in to get their packets. Virginia said however they want to do it the safest way possible.	
Sergeant at Arms Report:	
Jessica: 25 people in attendance last month in Zoom meeting	
Scholarship:	
Laura: Finally got the situation settled. We have to make up the difference. We gave one scholarship. We have to follow up with HEB. We are considering giving a portion to the CBCF this year and rolling the difference to next years foundation.	
Membership:	
Sharon: Not much to report. Having a meeting tomorrow to discuss having a Chapter Connect in these odd times. Tomorrow at 4:30 pm - everyone welcome. Cheryl Body and Lisa Wright join. Last Chapter Connect in February - HEB supplied a great spread. Offered to reimburse and they said it was donation. We are lucky to have HEB.	
Ways & Means:	
The W&M committee met earlier this month. In addition, Carla, Taylor, Gracie and Virginia met earlier this month to discuss the challenges of fundraising during the COVID 19 epidemic. The Ways and Means committee has been facing a lot of challenges of how to raise money for EWI without taxing the membership. The W&M committee also asked what dollar amount the Board thought needed to be raised in order to continue funding scholarships and Reading Rally, based on the current operating budget and funds available. Donna suggested \$3,000. The rest of the Board acknowledged that due to LCAM and TEXOMA going virtual this year, that some of those budgeted funds could be used to fund Reading Rally and Scholarships. At this time, W&M is working on EWI shirts, a community movie night and a virtual cooking demonstration.	
Publications:	
Lisa is doing the newsletter this weekend. Why EWI? Sharon had a thought - one word - COVID opportunity - something positive that has come out of COVID for you. Hopefully membership will be able to add something from their meeting. Gracie hopefully will have something from their meeting. Lisa is going to do it Saturday.	
Nominating Committee:	
Donna: Virginia President, if anyone has anything to add or nominate - please add. Gracie will present the slate in the meeting. Donna, Mary Helen, Myra, and Laura are the nominating committee.	
Other items:	
Gracie asked if anyone had any suggestions about the next Zoom meeting. Janet suggested when the speaker was through we could not applaud. Lisa suggested we could write applause or thank you. Lisa said this could be added in the newsletter. Someone suggested writing it in the "chat."	
Programs:	
Janet: Barbara Canales is the speaker.	
Announcements:	
The next Board meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, 7/29/2020.	
Adjournment:	
1:05 PM	
Approved:	Submitted:
	Karen Barnes