

## Letter from the President



*"Laughter is an instant vacation" Milton Berle*

Wow! It's hard to believe that it's already June. When I was young, the days of summer were endless. Now they seem like the pages of a flip book, gone in a matter of seconds. I hope each of you have a little laughter carved out for your summer, be it in your backyard with family and friends or somewhere far away and exotic.

As we all know, in spite of summer, life does go on in the working world. I hope business is good for all of you! At our last board meeting, Gracie announced that she and her committee had set the date and theme for this year's Reading Rally. It will be held Saturday, October 21 and the theme is #snap roll and read.

Sheri, Bunny and I will be meeting to put together a slate for next year's executive board. If you are interested in serving in a position, please let one of us know. We're always looking for a few good women!

Our June luncheon was held at Citrus this past Wednesday. It was my first time to attend at the new meeting facilities. It was a beautiful June day and the view was amazing! Mary Jane Hamilton presented one of our scholarships to Lisa West and acknowledged our second recipient, Sarah Salazar. All the best to these two well-deserving women!

Newly-elected Mayor Joe McComb spoke and updated us on city issues since he's taken the reins. I do believe that he and City Manager Margie Rose have things under control!

I hope each of you enjoy your summer.

All the Best,

**Kathryn Dirks**  
**Casuals ETCETERA**  
 EWI Corpus Christi  
 President 2016-2017

## 2016-2017 Officers, Directors & Committee Chairs

**PRESIDENT** *Kathryn Dirks*  
 Casuals ETCETERA

**VICE-PRESIDENT** *Bunny Forgione*  
 Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

**SECRETARY** *Stephanie Price*  
 Four Star Health and Safety

**TREASURER** *Christine Salch*  
 Swank, Salch, and Henderson P.C.

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS** *Lisa Wright*  
 Your Personal Best Training Studio

**MEMBERSHIP** *Tracy Trevino*  
 Restorative Healthcare of South Texas

**FUNDRAISING** *Carla Hoffman*  
 Hearing Aid Company of Texas

**PROGRAMS**  
*Janet Maxwell*  
 Wittigs

*Donna Patterson*  
 South Texas Money Management

**DIRECTOR -AT-LARGE** *Sheri Emerick*  
 Art Museum of South Texas

**WEBSITE** *Gracie Martin*  
 Ensemble Group

**SCHOLARSHIP** *Laura Hausman*  
 Northern Beef Industries

**PUBLICATION** *Sharon Trott*  
 Trott Communications

**PUBLIC RELATIONS** *Debbie Lindsey-Opel*  
 Three Dimensional Development

**READING RALLY**  
*Gracie Martin*      *Linda Calhoun*  
 Ensemble Group      Marlin Works

## Announcements

**From Donna Patterson and Mary Hime, South Texas Money Management:** Jeanie Wyatt, CFA, CEO and Chief Investment Officer of South Texas Money Management (STMM) was named to Barron's Magazine's prestigious national list of the Top 100 Women Advisors for the third consecutive year. Ms. Wyatt is the highest ranked woman from Texas. The Barron's list was also featured in The Wall Street Journal on June 6, 2017.

"I am so proud to be included in this elite list of women advisors in the US," said Wyatt. "Women have long been underrepresented in the industry and I am pleased not only to represent as an advisor, but also as an investment firm owner."

The national ranking by Barron's reflects the volume of assets overseen by the advisors and their teams, revenues generated by the firms and the quality of the advisors practices. "We congratulate Jeanie and are proud of her success and that of South Texas Money Management," said Jim Kee, President and Chief Economist. "The majority of our professionals are women at STMM and we take pride in their integrity, professionalism and dedication to our clients."

South Texas Money Management (STMM) is a registered investment advisory (RIA) firm that helps clients build wealth over time so they can accomplish important goals. STMM was founded in 2000 by Jeanie Wyatt, CFA®.

**From Biby Dykema, Dykema Architects:** This is an article in the *Financial Times* on my company. <https://howtospentit.ft.com/watches-jewellery/200937-a-colour-drenched-e-store-of-statement-jewels>.



Lisa West (l) and Mary Jane Hamilton

### *Women in Transition Scholarships Awarded*

**Lisa West and Sarah Salazar** are the recipients of EWI Women in Transition Scholarships for 2017.

Lisa received the Bobbi Sims Scholarship. She is an agri-business major at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Her vision is to obtain her Ph.D., become a permaculture consultant, and develop an international ministry to address hunger. **Mary Jane Hamilton** presented her a certificate at the June meeting.

Mary Jane also acknowledged Sarah Salazar who received the H-E-B Scholarship. Sarah, who could not be in attendance, is an electrical engineering major at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Newly-elected Mayor **Joe McComb** was the guest speaker at the June general meeting. Water supply and changes in the water restrictions were the focus of his comments.



We can  
do it!

Do What?

Volunteer for a Board  
Position!  
Call or email Sheri Emerick  
for more info!



Board service is one of the best ways to be engaged in the mission of EWI Corpus Christi. As an active board member, you learn first-hand about the goals of the organization and have an opportunity to guide its direction. Best of all, you get to know your fellow "Wonder Women" even better, which is what we're all about! Call or email Sheri Emerick to learn more: 825-3512, [sheriemerick@yahoo.com](mailto:sheriemerick@yahoo.com).

### ***Mark Your Calendars!***

EWI Board Meeting  
**Wednesday, June 28, 2017**  
Noon, CC Yacht Club

EWI General Meeting  
**Wednesday, July 5, 2017**  
11:30 a.m., Citrus Bayfront Bistro  
100 N. Shoreline Blvd.  
in the Art Center of Corpus Christi

Reading Rally!  
**Saturday, October 21, 2017**  
YWCA Corpus Christi

### ***Reading Rally Save the Date October 21, 2017!!***

Chairwoman Gracie Martin reports that the EWI annual Reading Rally will be held Saturday, October 21 at the YWCA. Plans are being made now and if you want to help, contact Gracie, 884-6396, [gmartin@ensemblegroup.net](mailto:gmartin@ensemblegroup.net).

"We encourage ALL members (especially new members) to join us. We need your help with planning and of course on the day of the event. It is always very rewarding to see all the girls so thankful and happy to take home a bag of books and goodies after an afternoon of fun and inspiration," said Gracie.

"I found on the EWI corporate website the saying that EWI is "Changing Lives with Literacy." Please come help us change lives!"



## From Courtney Ihde, EWI Corporate

# Why You May Not Be Receiving EWI Connect-Corporate

The EWI Corporate Office has been notified by many members across our organization that they have not been receiving the monthly EWI Connect newsletter, or other communications that we send to our members through Constant Contact. After researching the cause, we have identified that many organizations white list or black list mass communications from online communication programs, such as Constant Contact.

We've been able to collect some instructions for our member firms to review and implement which should help alleviate the issue. Please note that action must be taken on behalf of your organization to allow our communications to come through to you. We have attached the instructions for you to provide to your IT department or service provider to help remedy this issue.

If this solution does not work for you, we recommend logging into your EWI Member profile and adding your personal, or an alternative, email address. You may also email a change in email address to ewi@ewiconnect.com and we will update your communication settings per your request.

We ask that you share this with any member of your chapter that is not getting communications and has mentioned it to you in passing. If you have any questions, please contact us at 262-269-5625.

## From Your CC EWI Board of Directors:

**REMINDER:** Please remember to make timely reservations each month for our general meetings. Be sure to state if you will or will not be attending, and also if you will be bringing a guest. The number of lunches ordered is based on the number of RSVP's.

We strive to provide as accurate a count as possible to our host venue to ensure that there are enough meals for all who attend. Sometimes we have run short when reservations have not been made. Your help in ensuring an enjoyable EWI experience for everyone will be appreciated!

### *June / July Birthdays*

|                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Shannon Bartkowiak       | June 4  |
| Bunny Forgione           | June 4  |
| Janet Maxwell            | June 8  |
| Norma Herrera            | June 8  |
| Michelle Flower          | June 24 |
| Betty Baxter             | June 28 |
| Karen Barnes             | July 6  |
| Bam Benning              | July 7  |
| Annette Berry-Cottingham | July 24 |
| Susie Nemec Lee          | July 28 |

## From President Kathryn Dirks:

Secretary Stephanie Price has turned in her letter of resignation from the board and from EWI due to accepting employment with a different company.

"We will miss Stephanie. She has done a great job as secretary and has been a terrific asset to our organization," said Kathryn.

"We will need to fill her position promptly. If you are interested in stepping up to serve or know someone who might be, please contact Bunny Forgione, Sheri Emerick or me."



**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**  
**EWI of Corpus Christi**  
**EWI®**  
**May 30, 2017**

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 11:59 a.m. by President Kathryn Dirks.

**Roll Call:** Attending were: Kathryn Dirks, Bunny Forgoine, Christine Salch, Sheri Emerick, Donna Patterson, Gracie Martin, Janet Maxwell, Laura Hausman, Debbie Lindsey Opel

**Minutes:** April 26, 2017 minutes were reviewed. Christine Salch moved to accept; Debbie Lindsey-Opel seconded. Minutes approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Christine Salch gave our financial report as follows: Cash Position down \$10,000 due to no fundraiser this year. There is still \$1,141 in donations that were raised for women's needs that still needs to be spent and donated. Kathryn was going to get in touch with Mildred. Dues are still backlogged from EWI Corporate. Discussion about having dues paid locally and remitting to corporate. Also, discussion about scheduling dues to be billed twice a year (June/December) and pro-rating new membership dues so they fall in the twice a year cycle. Christine talked about reshaping Treasurer role. Her firm would do the accounting portion at no charge leaving the Treasurer responsible for more management duties, i.e. dues collection, budgeting. Motion was made by Sheri Emerick and seconded by Debbie Lindsey Opel to accept the treasurer's report.

**President's Report:** Kathryn Dirks discussed LCAM event. Bunny Forgoine, Linda Allen and Kathryn will be attending. Kathryn talked about needs for membership assistance as Tracey is incredibly busy and unable to keep up. Discussed contacting Karen Barnes to see if she could help and also if she would be willing to serve again in the coming year.

**Vice President's Report:** No report.

**Sergeant at Arms Report:** It was reported that at the last meeting there were 22 members and 3 guests in attendance at the General Meeting.

**Website:** No report.

**Scholarship:** Laura reported that two recipients were selected. They are invited to attend our next meeting. One was a definite. Laura will provide the application information so they can be introduced at the meeting. Debbie recommended certificates be made and Bunny said she can assist with that. Debbie also recommended that we take pictures, submit information to the Caller-Times and get some mileage. Also, need information in newsletter. Laura had concerns about CBCF scholarship account. Trying to contact Susan Hutchinson and discuss. Trying to obtain copy of original agreement to decide future of fund. Discussion about future scholarships and whether or not they should be limited to one university.

**Membership:** No report.

**Membership Orientation:** No report.

**Nominating Committee:** Sheri Emerick, Bunny Forgoine and Kathryn Dirks plan to meet after June 15th. Welcome recommendations for officers.

**Public Relations:** No report.

**Reading Rally:** Gracie Martin stated that the Reading Rally will be held on October 21st. The theme is #Snap, Roll & Read. Program is going to be more health/nutrition oriented. Presentations will be made by a salsa outfit.

**Standards of Excellence:** No report.

**Ways & Means:** No report.

**Publications:** No report.

**Programs:** Program for June is new mayor, Joe McComb. Direction provided for time needed to conduct chapter business at the regular meetings and for the installation of officers. Asked for suggestions for September, November & December meetings. Debbie Lindsey Opel recommended we have a speaker to address every work issues many of us face or skill set development we can utilize. Sheri Emerick suggested we consider a member firm host a meeting. Possibly will use the December meeting as a fundraiser with a raffle, etc. More discussion to follow.

**Unfinished Business:** No report. **New Business:** No report. **Announcements:** No report.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m. by Kathryn Dirks.

**Submitted:** Donna Patterson