

President's Message



Hello Ladies!

I would like to thank all of the firms that participated in our mini-firm night to make it such a great success. What an incredible way to network and learn more about our member firms. Emily Cox and her committee did a great job planning this meeting at The Four

Points Sheraton, and the Sheraton served us well. Remember, when possible, to refer fellow member firms if you or others you know are looking for services or products they specialize in.

On a different note, many firms have already renewed their membership for 2010. Thank you for your continued support of EWI. As for growing our membership this year, Kim Alt and her membership team are hard at work recruiting new members who will be actively engaged in EWI. However, please remember that recruiting is every member's responsibility, so continue to invite prospects monthly in the categories that remain vacant. Please give Kim Alt a call if you are unsure whether a prospect you are discussing EWI with might conflict with a current member firm. Unfortunately, two of our three guests last month were in conflict with current member firms.

Our next board meeting will be held Thursday, February 11th at 11:30 a.m. at LBMC. Even if you are not a board member, you are always welcome to bring your lunch and attend.

I look forward to the February meeting on Tuesday, February 16th at Peerless Steakhouse beginning at 11:30 a.m. Our presenter will be Paula Pavelka who will speak to us on "Body, Mind & Soul Living – a Guide to a Healthier You." Sounds exciting and informative!

As we look ahead, remember the golf tournament is in June. Talk this tournament up now since our goal is to have two tee times this year. We thank Pilot and Xinergy for being our sponsors again this year.

LOCAL BOARD

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Terrye Whitaker,
Advisor/Philanthropy
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Technology

You will hear more from Val Beers and Linda Austin about the tournament in the coming weeks.

Additionally, it is never too early to talk to restaurants and other places of business you frequent about the possibility of donating to our auction. Connie Leggett has already been hard at work sending out corporate letters and getting letters ready for a large mailing as soon as tax season ends. She is one step ahead of the game! Also, it is not too late to join this fun committee. Contact Connie if you would like to work with her on this event.

I hope everyone has a Happy Valentine's Day! As always, thank you for all that you do for EWI – Knoxville.

Sandy

January Meeting Summary

Our January meeting was a firm night at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel. We had great participation from our member firms. Firms showcasing their products and services were Appalachian Business Communications, FastFrames, Knoxville Tourism and Sports Corporation, Bertelkamp Automation, McKibbon Hotels, National College, In10sity, Pureline Printing, and Tillman Companies. Thanks to all the firms that participated. It was great to learn more about what our member firms do.

After dinner, Sandy introduced our guests, Carol Smith of Michael Brady Inc., Paula Solomon of Designsensory, and Tiffany Midyett of DFA.

Sandy announced that the Board voted Sherry Ellis, Home Federal Bank, as the new treasurer for 2010.

Kristi Jones, In10sity, gave the membership an update on our new website www.ewiknoxville.org. Thanks, Kristi, for all your hard work to make that happen. We will continue to add information to the site, so be sure to bookmark it and check it often for updates.

Kay Wright provided an update on the scholarship process. Applications have been sent to all Knoxville area schools. Completed applications are due February 1. We still need two external judges for our panel. If anyone knows someone they would like to recommend, please contact Kay.



Philanthropy

Our philanthropy donation for January was to Remote Area Medical (RAM). Our donation will assist them with their relief efforts in Haiti in addition to their local efforts.

The Remote Area Medical® (RAM) Volunteer Corps is a non-profit, volunteer, airborne relief corps dedicated to serving mankind by providing free health care, dental care, eye care, veterinary services, and technical and educational assistance to people in remote areas of the United States and the world.

For more information on RAM see the article in this month's Business Tennessee magazine at businessstn.com/content/201001/there-doctor-state.

Upcoming Events

The EWI chapters in Tennessee will hold a conference February 26-27 in Nashville. Attendance is open to current board members and past presidents.

EWI of Memphis will host a Spring Conference on April 22-24. The theme is Leadership – The Power of Relationships. Attached is a copy of the agenda. Cost is \$290.

The Leadership and Annual Conference (LCAM) will be September 23-26 in Kansas City.

Anyone interested in attending any of these events should contact Sandy Richards.

February Meeting

The February meeting will be a lunch meeting at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 16, at Peerless Steakhouse on North Peters Road. This will be our first Tuesday meeting. Our presenter will be Paula Pavelka who will speak to us on "Body, Mind & Soul Living – a Guide to a Healthier You." Please RSVP to Jana Davison at jdavison@humana.com or call her at 670-7006.

MEETING SCHEDULE

February 16, 2010

Lunch 11:30 am

Peerless Steakhouse

320 North Peters Road
Knoxville, TN 37922

March 16, 2010

Firm Night, Humana

Evening 5:30 pm

April 20, 2010

Scholarship Night

Evening 5:30 pm

May 18, 2010

Business Meeting

Lunch 11:30 am

June 7, 2010

Golf Tournament

Gettysvue Country Club

Evening 5:30 pm

July 20, 2010

Fun Night

Volunteer Princess

Evening 5:30 pm

August 17, 2010

Auction

Bearden Banquet Hall

Evening 5:30 pm

September 21, 2010

Board Installation

Hunter Valley Farms

Evening 5:30pm

October 19, 2010

Firm Night

Home Federal Bank of TN

Evening 5:30 pm

November 16, 2010

Breakfast 7:30 am

December 14, 2010

Ornament Exchange

Lunch 11:30 am

Auction Items Needed

The Auction Committee is preparing letters to send to past and prospective donors soliciting items for the 2010 Auction. If you know of any individuals or businesses that might donate items, please send their name and contact information to Connie Leggett at cleggett@lbmc.com

Golfers Needed

The Golf Committee is also looking for sponsors and golfers for the Golf Tournament in June. The tournament raises the funds for our scholarship program. If you know of any individuals or businesses that may be interested in being a sponsor or golfer, please send their name and contact information to Valorie Beers at vebeers@bwsc.net.

Raffle Items Needed

We would like to continue our monthly raffle, but we need items. If you or your firm have any items they would like to donate, please contact Connie Leggett.

Membership

Thanks to everyone that invited a guest to the January meeting. Please keep it up as we have lost some firms for 2010. Unfortunately, Dollywood, Windrock, and Privette Insurance Group were not able to renew. Please think about open categories for potential new members. Let me know if I can help.

Thanks,
Kim Alt

We were host to three prospective members at our January meeting.



Left to right: Kim Alt – Membership Director, Carol Smith – Michael Brady, Inc., Paula Solomon – Designsensory, and Tiffany Midyett – DFA



Happy Valentine's Day

The sending of Valentines was a fashion in nineteenth-century Great Britain. In 1847 Esther Howland developed a successful business in her Worcester, MA home with hand-made Valentine cards based on British models. The popularity of Valentine cards in 19th century America, where many Valentine cards are now general greeting cards rather than declarations of love, was a harbinger of the future commercialization of holidays in the U.S. It's considered one of the Hallmark holidays.

The U.S. Greeting Card Assoc estimates that approximately one billion valentines are sent each year worldwide, making the day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year, behind Christmas. The association estimates that in the US men spend twice as much money as women!

