

## Letter from President



Happy Fall to Everyone!

I hope each of you is enjoying the recent weather we are having and taking advantage of it however that might be.

The 2014/2015 board is in place and ready to make this coming year exciting and eventful for the chapter.

We had our first board meeting Wednesday evening. The ideas that came from the conversations from everyone were very exciting. The members of our board are the key to the success of our chapter. Every one of them were engaged in the decisions at one point or another. I want to thank them all for their support and enthusiasm.

Darlene Banogon has our Corp EWI President has declared her One Word for EWI this year **"ENGAGE"** and this year's theme is **ENGAGE EWI**. How does this apply to EWI membership?

- *By having members interest through strong and relevant programs and events, you retain your members*
- *As member's become more engaged at the Chapter level, their attention is held and they become engrossed in EWI*
- *Involved members at the chapter level through committees. Share experiences from EWI conferences and Academy of Leadership courses, and webinars*
- *An engaged member will participate more*
- *It's important to find out what your members want from their membership and what attracted them to EWI in the first place*

*The Corporate Board rephrased the strategic plan to focus on rebuilding the core membership in North America. It's a huge vision and it's going to take each and every one of us to make it happen.*

*Gail Sheely, author of Passages said "If we don't change, we don't grow. If we don't grow we are not really living. Growth demands a temporary surrender of security."*

I want to thank Darlene and the Corporate Board for having and holding this vision for our organization.

I also wanted to share with you a new position that each Corporate Board member is supporting. Each chapter is now part of a group of chapters with a Corporate Board Liaison. Our chapter Liaison is Dianne Luckett, Corporate Boards Vice President. She will be reaching out to the Presidents of the chapters she supports for monthly conference call so we can share best practices, ask questions, share exciting news, or concerns. So I would ask that if any of you

have anything that you may me to cover with the group and Dianne, to shoot me an email or call me. I'll be glad to do so.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. And remember to take a moment to reflect what we are truly thankful for in our lives.

**Linda Allen**

**EWI Corpus Christi President 2014-15**

**H-E-B**

### 2013-2014 Officers, Directors & Committee Chairs

#### President

Linda Allen, H-E-B

#### Vice President

Sheri Emerick, Art Museum of South Texas

#### Secretary

Mary Beth Riley, D & R Sales Company, Inc.

#### Treasurer

Christine Salch, Swank & Salch, P.C.

#### Ways & Means

Charlotte Hintz, Orion Drilling Company, LLC

#### Membership Director

Karen Barnes, L. K. Jordan and Associates

#### Sergeant-at-Arms

Susie Nemec, Land Clearing Solutions, LLC

#### Programs

Bunny Forgione, Texas A & M University  
Corpus Christi

#### Director At Large

Linda Jordan, L. K. Jordan and Associates

#### Scholarship

Laura Hausman, Northern Beef Industries

#### Public Relations

Irene Davila, Corpus Christi Caller Times

#### Reading Rally

Linda Calhoun, Marlin Works

#### Membership Orientation

Carla Hoffman, Hearing Aid Company of Texas

#### Website

Gracie Martin, Ensemble Group

#### Publications Director

Kathryn Dirks, ETCETERA

## Reading Rally 2014

Hello Everyone,

The EWI sponsored Y-Reading Rally at the YWCA on Saturday October 18th was Incredible!

We had 43 girls attend from 12 different schools. Once they arrived they were ready for action. Each of the girls received a T-shirt, a picture of themselves which they got to take home with them, and a personalized name tag.

Once all the girls arrived we gathered them together and had the girls do a "Shout Out" for their school as I went through our listing of attendees. We explained what was in store for them and you could tell they were ready to do it all! Maria Iyescas the Y-Teen coordinator visited the area schools to let them know about the Reading Rally, and how the first 55 girls registered and attended would receive a Kindle e-reader. We had a few girls show up at 10:00 to make sure they were the first to arrive, to receive a Kindle. They wanted to know if we really had the Kindle e-readers. When I explained that it would be given to them before they left, they were so excited they could hardly sit still.

The winner of the EWI chapter art context for 2014 Y-Reading Rally logo- Samantha Encinia who attends Mathis school participated as well. She was very excited that she had won. And to see her art on everyone's t-shirts, name tags, and the poster that everyone signed she thought was just so cool.

Gracie Martin our very own EWI member demonstrated how the Kindle e-reader looked and worked to the Y-Teens. They had lots of questions; Gracie did a fantastic job challenging them to see if they can find out what it can do once they take it home.

We split the group into two teams; orange team went to the craft table where Wendy Freeman and volunteers were ready for the girls to do their crafts. They made bracelets with charms that stated "I love to Read" and another to add fun charms to it. Each girl had a messenger bag to decorate with jewels and duct tape that would hold their Kindles when they took them home.

The green team stayed on the gym floor to listen to Grace Buchanan; our career presenter. She works for Gills nursery as a Landscape Designer Assistant, she is currently attending Del Mar to get her Architectural Design degree, and she coaches, referees, and participates in Fencing.

The Y-Teens were amazed how she could make a scribbled picture of a yard turn into a beautiful landscape for a home using a computer program. She had each girl draw a house, then some trees and flowers around the house they drew. That's when it came together for the girls when she explained that they just did the job she does as a Landscape Designer. She also showed them how she is learning to use the "CAD" program to measure and draw a tiny little computer gear into a picture. All they could say was "WOW" how can you do that?

Well, Grace was not done yet. Next, she explained how she got involved in Fencing. She demonstrated the three different types of swords – Saber, Epee, and Foil. Each girl got to hold the swords to see what they really felt like. Then Grace passed around the helmets and explained how and why they were used.

Grace invited some students who are involved in the Fencing League at TX A&M. Richard Schreiber, Kelsey Brownrigg, Andrew Frost, and Brook Hughey. The students demonstrated sparring and how they are judged when they are touched with a sword for a point in competition. I was very cool to see them in action; I wonder how many girls decided to be Pirates of the Caribbean for Halloween after those sessions!

Next was the big moment they all had been waiting for----TO PICK OUT THEIR BOOKS! Talk about some excited girls, they rushed to the tables to pick out their very own books. It was hard to pull them away from the tables when it was time to change places with team orange and go to the craft table.

The orange team had just as much fun with Grace, and where just as excited about the books.

Wow! What a great time for all.

Then it was time to announce that pizza was ready! The girls were in line real quick for a good snack of pizza, cupcakes, and juice.

Before they left the event we had the girls and parents gather together so that Gracie Martin could review the Kindle e-reader again. We called each girl up to receive their Kindle e-reader and their bag of accessories for the Kindle. Then they were out the door with their Kindle, books, charm bracelets, decorated messenger bags, pictures, a bluebonnet plant, and goodie bag. Needless to say, their hands where full!

We had several young ladies state "They loved the books and receiving the e-reader" One Y-Teen Heaven Hitt who attends Houston elementary, was so excited to have a e-reader to take home and share with her sibling's. She explained that they don't watch TV, so they read a lot and that the e-reader will be really great for their family.

As Nancy stated in her Reading Rally feedback email – "The Y-Teens are reading instructions how to use their e-reader without even realizing they are reading"!

\*\*\*Volunteers for event: "**The Real Heroes**" - EWI Chapter Members, YWCA, Navy Army Community Credit Union, Islanders Ladies Basketball members of Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, Career Presenter, and friends and family of volunteers. Without the support and dedication from these people, it would not have been the success it was.

For those of you who missed out this year, we hope to see you at Y-Reading Rally 2015.

THANK YOU ALL!!!!

Linda Allen  
EWI Reading Rally Chair 2014  
EWI President – Corpus Christi Chapter  
H-E-B  
Office of Rob Hall  
Group VP - Gulf Coast Region  
Ph: 361.857.1706  
Fax: 361.857.1717



## 2014-2015 Corpus Christi EWI Board



Pictured Left to Right:

Susie Nemec - Sergeant-At-Arms – Land Clearing Solutions, LLC  
Kathryn Dirks – Publication – Casual ETCETERA, Inc  
Karen Barnes - Membership / Recruitment – L. K. Jordan and Associates  
Bunny Forgiore – Programs – Texas A & M Univ. CC  
Mary Beth Riley – Secretary – D & R Sales Company, Inc.  
Christine Salch –Treasurer - Swank & Salch, P.C.  
Linda Allen – President - H-E-B

Not Pictured:

Charlotte Hintz – Ways & Means – Orion Drilling Company, LLC  
Linda Jordan - Director-At-Large / Nominating Committee – L. K. Jordan and Associates  
Laura Housman – Scholarship – Northern Beef Industries  
Michelle Flower – Public Relations – Valero Refining  
Linda Calhoun – Reading Rally – Marlin Works  
Carla Hoffman - Membership Orientation – Hearing Aid Company of Texas  
Gracie Martin – Website – Ensemble Group

## November Birthdays

Mary Beth Riley	November 6
Myra Lombardo	November 12
Gracie Martin	November 17
Linda Calhoun	November 23

## Kudos!

**From Elaine Hoffman:**

**Barcom** is celebrating 28 years in business!!!

**From Nancy Wesson-Dodd:**

Thank you for the EWI impact on the **YWTeens**. The girls love their E-Readers, though not so aware that they are reading when using them! It's all a matter of perception. EWI has put them in a new and preferred way of taking in information. The girls feel so special! Thanks to everyone who helped make this happen.

Also, thank you to all who supported the **YWCA's 2014 Yuletide Market!** It was a success and will bring continuation to the YWTeen Program.

## Announcements

**From Sheri Emerick:** Thursday, November 13, Art Museum of South Texas Gala 2014 with Lyle Lovett  
<http://corpuschristiewi.org/pdf/gottalovettgala.pdf>

**From Shannon Bartkowiak:** *Shannon's Distinctive Fashion* would like to invite everyone to our  
**Jon Hart Trunk Show and Sale**  
**Tuesday November 18th**  
**11am-7pm**

**From Carla Hoffman:**

**The Hearing Aid Company of Texas** is having an open-house event in **November** and **December** featuring the new **ReSound LiNX technology**. We will be offering complimentary hearing evaluations and 31-day trial periods on all new hearing technology. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to hear your loved ones this holiday season!

**From Gracie Martin:**

**Our new website is now live!** Our website address is <http://www.corpuschristiewi.org/> Please let everyone know and ask them to take a look and help us update the Member Firm member pictures. Have them send the pictures to me at [ggmartin@ensemblegroup.net](mailto:ggmartin@ensemblegroup.net) thanks!

**From Mary Helen Johnston:**

**M & J Photography** is offering all EWI members a **50% discount on studio portrait sessions** through the month of November! Portraits make such personalized gifts for family. We also have **Christmas cards** and **photo gifts** to offer as well.

**From Nancy Wesson-Dodd:**

**Nominate an accomplished, professional woman** for a **YWomen in Careers Award**. **For Nomination Form and Requirements, [CLICK HERE](#)**. **Deadline for Y Women in Career Nominations Thursday, December 4, 2014**



**Luncheon fees went up to \$25 effective October 2014.** This amount will include lunch and one entry for door prizes.

**Know your EWI Corporate Board**

**2014-2015 Corporate Board**



**PRESIDENT**  
Darlene Banogon  
*North Island Credit Union  
EWI of San Diego*



**VICE PRESIDENT / PRESIDENT-ELECT**  
Dianne Luckett  
*Irby Electrical Distributor  
EWI of Jackson*



**SECRETARY / TREASURER**  
Cheryl Hawkins  
*American Clinical Laboratory Association  
EWI of Washington DC*



**DIRECTOR**  
Diane Barber  
*Capital Region Benefits  
EWI of Harrisburg*



**DIRECTOR**  
Cortney Ihde  
*ViSalus Inc.  
EWI of Milwaukee*



**DIRECTOR**  
Jill Gaffney  
*Greenleaf Landscaping, Inc.  
EWI of Spokane*



**ADVISOR**  
Ronwyn Anderson  
*Soft-Lite Windows  
EWI of Nashville*

## Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

 <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 5px;">CONNECTIONS   CAREERS   COMMUNITY</p>	<p><b>Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting</b></p> <p><b>EWI of Corpus Christi</b></p> <p><b>EWI ®</b></p> <p><b>October 1, 2014</b></p>
<b>Call to Order</b>	Linda Jordan called meeting to order at 12:05 P.M.
<b>Roll Call</b>	Linda Jordan, Linda Allen, Sheri Emerick, Christine Salch, Betty Baxter, Kathryn Dirks, Susie Nemece
<b>Minutes:</b>	Motion made by Sheri Emerick that minutes be accepted as distributed, seconded by Kathryn Dirks, motion carried.
<b>Treasurer's Report:</b>	Christine Salch presented financial statements for both August & September, 2014, as follows: August: Cash position - Checking Account - \$23,185.87; B/C/DP Account - \$10,996.51; Share Account - \$25.00; CD - \$14,086.78. September: Cash Position - Checking Account - \$14,391.26; B/C/DP - \$10,996.51; Share Account - \$25.00; CD - \$14,104.61. Motion made by Sheri Emerick that August financial statements be accepted as presented, second by Susie Nemece, Motion carried. Motion made by Susie Nemece that September financial statements be accepted as presented, second by Sheri Emerick, motion carried. Christine also reported that she is currently in the process of furnishing to Corporate a review of the financial position of the Corpus Christi Chapter of EWI as is required annually.
<b>President's Report</b>	As this was the last meeting for the 2013-2014 Board, Linda thanked all the Board Members for serving with her and stated that the year had been a year of growth for her personally and for the Chapter.
<b>Vice President's Report:</b>	No Report
<b>Communications:</b>	No Report
<b>Committee Reports:</b>	
<b>Sergeant at Arms Report:</b>	Susie reported that the number in attendance at the August meeting was 17. ( Several of our members were at L-Cam, and there were other conflicting meeting dates for members).
<b>Website</b>	New Website is up and running and can be viewed at our CC Chapter Website.
<b>Scholarship:</b>	No Report

<b>Membership:</b>	
We have 3 new Member Firms this year.	
<b>Membership Orientation:</b>	
No Report	
<b>Nominating Committee:</b>	
No Report	
<b>Public Relations:</b>	
No Report	
<b>Reading Rally:</b>	
Linda reported that Reading Rally plans are nearly complete and asked for volunteers to help get room set up day prior to event and also for volunteers to work at the Event. She planned to email all members asking for volunteers.	
<b>Standards of Excellence:</b>	
No Report	
<b>Ways &amp; Means:</b>	
No Report	
<b>Publications:</b>	
Kathryn reported that October Newsletter would be forth coming in a couple of days and asked for announcements, kudos, etc. to include.	
<b>Programs:</b>	
October Program will be Installation of Officers for 2014-2015 term. Myra Lombardo will be Hosting the installation.	
<b>Unfinished Business:</b>	
None	
<b>New Business:</b>	
Linda Jordan will be presenting information from a Special Committee Report furnished at L-Cam on a change of Chapter By-Laws to allow Individual Membership in addition to Firm Membership. This information will be discussed at the general membership monthly meeting on October 8. P.S. Information was emailed to general membership and then discussed at the monthly meeting. Vote was taken by "show of hands" to allow Individual Memberships within the criteria set by the Chapter.	
<b>Announcements:</b>	
<b>Adjournment:</b>	
Meeting adjourned at 1:05 P.M.	
<b>Approved:</b>	<b>Submitted:</b>
	Betty Baxter