

February, 2018

### Letter from the President



Dear EWI Members

Hope you are having a very “loving month” that comes from your “heart”. When we look at all the events surrounding our community this month “love” and “heart” are most prominent. Which made me reflect on our own organization and what we have offered to the community and how we have increased our own self-growth as an organization.

This growth is due to the active participation of our membership. Our membership and dedicated committees are advancing the

mission of EWI. CONNECTIONS/CAREERS/ COMMUNITY ! For this month, I would like to particularly thank from my “heart” and acknowledge the dedication of those who are serving on the Board – they and our committees are truly the “heart” of our organization. And there lies the success and growth of EWI Corpus Christi. And I would like to thank our program committee for a wonderful presentation this month!! The information presented by John La Rue about the Port was informative and exciting and really illustrated the vibrancy of Corpus Christi!! I would also like to thank **you** the members for sending prospective members to Karen Barnes – she has been very busy processing these requests – and she is doing a great job!!! Since increasing membership is one of my goals for this year, I am especially thankful for the membership’s and Karen’s efforts!!!!

So from the bottom of my “heart” – a “loving thank you” to all this month of February.

Bunny



### 2017-2018 Officers & Directors

#### President

Bunny Forgione,  
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

#### Vice President

Donna Patterson,  
South Texas Money Management

#### Secretary

Betty Baxter, Keetch and Associates

#### Treasurer

Mary Jane Hamilton  
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

#### Ways & Means

Carla Hoffman, Individual  
Charlotte Hintz, Orion Drilling

#### Membership Director

Karen Barnes, L.K. Jordan and Assoc.

#### Sergeant-at-Arms

Lisa Wright,  
Your Personal Best Training Studio

#### Programs

Janet Maxwell, Wittigs Office Interiors

#### Director At Large

Kathryn Dirks, Etcetera

#### Publications Director

Sheri Emerick,  
Art Museum of South Texas

## Kudos and Announcements:

### From the YWCA:



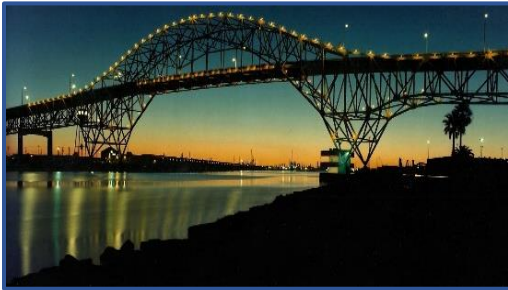
The 2018 Y Women in Careers Celebration will be held at the Ortiz Center. Call 857-5661 or go to [www.ywcacc.org](http://www.ywcacc.org) for ticket information.

### KUDOS TO Michelle Flower of Valero as a “Y-Woman” Honoree!

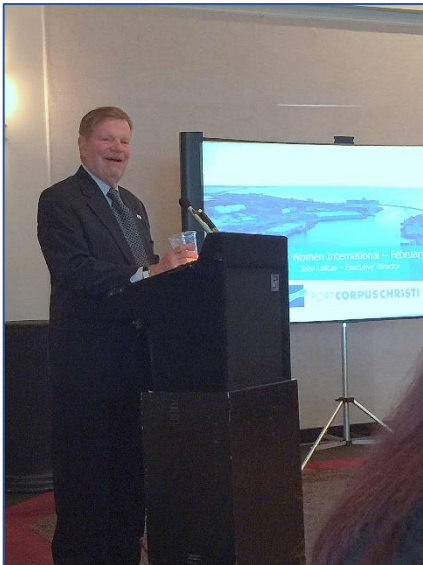
Other member firms with honorees include:  
**Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi**  
 College of Nursing & Health Sciences  
 Assistant Professor and Health Science Coordinator  
**Sherdeana Owens, DDS**  
 &  
**The Art Museum of South Texas**  
 Curator of Exhibitions  
**Deborah Fullerton**

### **MORE KUDOS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS...**

- Thank you and congratulations to new member **Amanda Snyder** of Barcom Construction who is taking on the Reading Rally!
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- EWI welcomes back **Charlotte Hintz** with her member firm Human Resources Safety, LLC
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- Don't forget to send your tax questions to **Christine Salch** who will be our program presenter on **March 7<sup>th</sup>**. It's all about (what else?) TAXES!



February Meeting with Port of Corpus Christi Director John LaRue



Left to Right:  
John LaRue, Matt Garcia Communications Coordinator and Sami Ortega, TAMU-CC intern

John LaRue gives a Port of Corpus Christi Update. Wow! There is a LOT happening with the Port, new port industries and the new Harbor Bridge.

- Some stuff bet you didn't know about the Port of Corpus Christi:
- ✚ **Port of Corpus Christi** is the fourth-largest port in the United States in total tonnage.
  - ✚ Opened September 14, 1926
  - ✚ 100 MILLION TONS of cargo go through the Port annually
  - ✚ The Port has 48 docks
  - ✚ Port related industries provide over 76,000 jobs in the region
  - ✚ In the coming years the ship channel will be deeper and the Harbor Bridge will be taller allowing for even more GIANT ships to use the port.
  - ✚ There really is a ship called "Boaty McBoatface" Look it up! (Just checking to see if you're still reading the newsletter.)