

Letter from President



Dear EWI, Ladies!

We know Christmas can be a lot of things — overwhelming, exhilarating, stressful, festive, and tiring, to name a few. But Christmas is also a time for family, for friends, and for spirit and joy that is bigger than just us. During Christmas, it feels like the whole world pauses, and everything is

softer, lovelier and more beautiful. Jesus is my reason for the season, whatever is your reason for the season, I encourage you to pause and enjoy the beauty.

As we close out one year and start a new one, I am excited as we seek to live out our EWI mission “...to promote member firms (*connections*), enhancing personal and professional development (*careers*), and encourage community involvement (*community*)”.

We kick-off 2020 with several exciting events, all in line with our mission. Our January 8th luncheon will feature Peter Zanoni, the Corpus Christi City Manager as our speaker (*community*)! In early February, we will have our first **Chapter Connect** honoring our new members' event (*connections*). And this is just the beginning -

In this newsletter, we will start a new series called “EWI Why”. Through the newsletters or meetings, I would like to feature a different member’s WHY. We will hear, read and learn about our “EWI Whys”. Why do you value your membership with EWI? Why is EWI important to you?

Buckle up. We have lots to look forward to in 2020. It’s an honor to journey this upcoming year with each of you.

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 -

Ways & Means

Carla Hoffman,
Hoffman Hearing Solutions, LLC

Taylor Cravey
Taylor Cravey Photography

Reading Rally -

Director At Large

Donna Patterson,
CAPTRUST Financial Advisors

In closing, I wish you and your families a Blessed Festive Christmas and a prosperous New Year. May these days be filled with joy, peace, hope, and beauty. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

We are EWII!

Gracie Martin



~ by Gracie Martin

I remember it like it was yesterday. I was a senior in high school and was walking into a dinner of the Professional Women's Association. I was invited to attend since I had been awarded their 2-year scholarship.

The women were all dressed in their business attire, and I received a warm welcome from each lady I meet. I remember being so humbled and impressed by their professionalism, confidence and kindness and most especially their willingness to help me achieve my dream of going to college.

That scholarship helped me financially for 4 semesters of college but most importantly, it changed **my future**. This change helped propel me and helped me achieve great things throughout my college life and through my professional career. This change was made possible through the kindness and generosity of those ladies of the Professional Women's Association.

Now so many years later, when I remember that high school senior, I know my EWI WHY because it can change someone's future (through our scholarships and Readying Rally).

What is your EWI WHY?

DATES TO NOTE

January 8, 2020

EWI Monthly Luncheon

January 23, 2020

KEDT Food & Wine Classic

February 6, 2020

Chapter Connect

October '19 – August '20

Chapter Champion's
Challenge - Ongoing

PLEASE NOTE

Starting with the February luncheon, you will be able to pay the lunch fees by credit card when you RSVP.

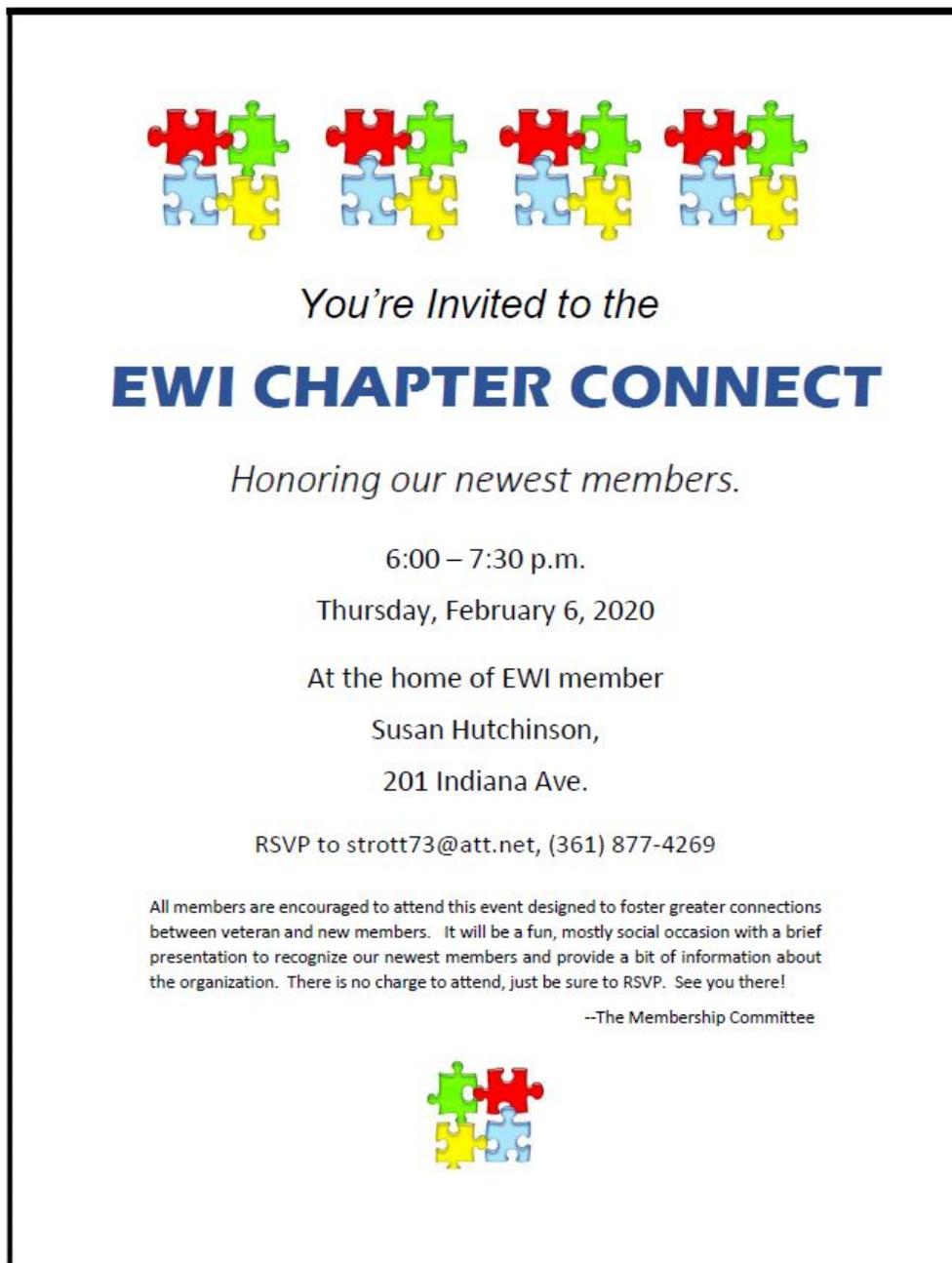
There will be an additional \$1 fee for credit card processing, or you can pay as normal at the door.

MEMBERSHIP MOMENT - Sharon Trott

The Membership Committee will be hosting the first-ever “**Chapter Connect**” event in honor of our new member firms and their representatives. **Susan Hutchinson** has generously agreed to hold this event at her beautiful home at **201 Indiana Ave.** Thank you, Susan!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for 6 p.m, Thursday, February 6, 2020. See the invitation image below.

This event is a way for veteran EWI members to connect with new members to welcome them to the organization and provide information about our operations. A fun, mostly social, event with a brief presentation, it will be just one step toward strengthening and sustaining our chapter in 2020.



JANUARY SPEAKER



Peter Zanoni is the City Manager of Corpus Christi, and one of four national finalists, who was unanimously appointed to the position on April 23, 2019, by the Mayor and City Council and officially started on May 20, 2019.

Hailing from a nationally recognized city management team, Zanoni served the City of San Antonio for more than two decades and was the Deputy City Manager, a second-in-command position, and Assistant City Manager for nine years.

Zanoni, along with his wife of 21 years, LaJuana Hill Zanoni, and their three sons, Tanner (19), Anello (15), and Nicoli (11), have enjoyed the Coastal Bend region for over a decade from their family property in the farmlands of St Paul near Sinton. They know first-hand that Corpus Christi is a city on the rise with unprecedented opportunities for families and businesses.

Zanoni will serve our community to improve city services, city streets and infrastructure, public safety, and emergency preparedness while reducing waste and building a strong professional team. As City Manager, Zanoni is committed to working hard every day to make Corpus Christi the very best place to live, work, and raise a family.

Zanoni earned a Master of Public Administration from Florida State University and a Bachelor of Arts from Jacksonville University.

The Gift of EWI

What if we all put on our Santa (aka “thinking”) hats this season to offer the gift of attending our NEXT EWI Luncheon with a business executive woman who might be interested in our organization.

In my own business, I invite people to “give us a try” all the time even if so they can tell others about who we are and what we do. Couldn’t this also apply to those we invite to be our guests for EWI?

Even if the category is full, people are coming and going, and wouldn’t a waiting list be awesome? Just a thought! ~Lisa G. Wright



DECEMBER FIRM NIGHT

Thanks to Taylor Cravey for hosting Firm Night this year! This was a great opportunity to get to know one of our newest members and her business, as well as to get to know one another better.

Firm night is a less structured occasion and great time to socialize! Members were welcome to bring spouses and friends to Taylor Cravey Photography located in the Water Street Market area. This was a fun night with a few surprises!



Pictures Courtesy of -Taylor Cravey
www.TaylorCraveyPhotography.com

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING

A	B
	<p style="text-align: right;">Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting EWI of Corpus Christi EWI 8 11.18.19</p>
Call to Order	12:10pm
Roll Call	Gracie Martin, Virginia Whitham, Marcia Kenner, Jessica Neblett, Sharon Trott, Donna Patterson and Janet Maxwell. Carla Hoffman via phone conference.
Minutes:	<p>Gracie Martin presented the minutes of the October Board Meeting. Correct to remove Carla Hoffman as attending. Janet Maxwell moved to approve as amended, Donna Patterson second. Motion passed.</p>
Treasurer's Report:	<p>Treasurer's report for October pending will present at next board meeting. Chapter Annual financials (balance sheet/profit and loss reports) distributed. Marica verified recently received \$1,000 check from Navy Army Community Credit Union, Virginia Whitham affirmed. Also agreement to only keep one credit/debit card at this time with the Treasurer. PO Box was purchase, Gracie Martin has key.</p>
President's Report:	<p>President Gracie Martin covered the following topics: Annual financial report was submitted to EWI corporate, Gracie thanked everyone for assisting. Virginia Whitham has agreed to move to Vice President position. Marcia Kenner moved to approve, Jessica Neblett second. Motion passed. Gracie Martin will reach out to Sheri Emerick and Judith Cutright regarding Secretary position. Request that Virginia Whitham create separate minutes documenting the discussion and passing of motion to rescind Standing Rule #19 thereby eliminating the Individual Members category of membership. Gracie Martin distributed committee sign up sheets and will distribute to other committee chairs. Suggestion was made on the member survey to provide member nametags at meetings. Sargent of Arms Jessica Neblett has agreed to coordinate at registration table. Gracie will provide printed badges at the next event. Reminder of the next EWI meeting is a Firm Meeting - at hosted by Taylor Cravey at Taylor Cravey Photography, Wed., December 4th 5:30pm, 309 N. Water Street, Ste F. Additional minutes will need to be drafted regarding the vote to resend the Individual membership at monthly meeting. Virginia Whitham will draft for review and approval.</p>
Vice President's Report:	<p>No report</p>
Communications:	<p>No report</p>
Committee Reports:	<p>Wage and Means - Carla Hoffman called in at 12:30pm to discuss handout provided, attached. There was difficulting tracking the gift cards and donations as some brought to the event rather than sending in as requested. There should not be any additional expenses from Alamo Draffhouse. Still affirming the overall reporting. As there has not been a consistent process for the financial reporting, all agreed to set a specific process - standard operating procedure (SOP) which will be helpful in the future. Maia will do additional review once we have all the information. Currently we will take Carla's report as preliminary. Carla recommended that we consider a small Spring event. The committee has an opening for a co-chair, Taylor agrees to be co-chair - Carla motioned, Sharon Trott second. Sharon Trott distributed membership list and Membership Changes for 2019. Further discussed lack of response from pending members, i.e. Erin Wilder at American Heart Association and others not responding. Agreed to let membership expire if no response. Janet Maxwell will be moving her membership to MicroSeal business.</p>
Announcements:	<p>December board meeting will be at YWCA, 12/19. Next monthly meeting will be at Citrus Bistro on 1/8.</p>
Adjournment:	<p>1:17pm</p>
Approved:	Submitted: