



Dallas

EWIConnect

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December 2023

President's Message

"For behold, I bring you good news of great joy for all the people."

Luke 2:10

Merry Christmas, EWI sisters! By the time you read this, you are likely in the throes of fun Christmas activities, shopping for that perfect gift, and decorating your home to look like a Hallmark movie. I love the Christmas season with all the festive lights, the scent of real Christmas trees, and cherished family traditions cultivated over the years. One of my favorite Christmas memories was making sugar cookies with my kids. They looked forward to making the dough, rolling it out and cutting different Christmas shapes and, the most fun part, decorating them! We had a myriad of icing colors, sprinkles galore and red hots for Rudolph's nose. We played kids Christmas music (think Alvin and the Chipmunks) as we carefully created our masterpieces with icing up to our elbows! Each decorated cookie was even more spectacular than the last with bragging rights whenever their cookie was chosen by the family to eat. I'm sure similar images come to mind when reminiscing about Christmas memories!

Amid watching our favorite Christmas movies, or singing beloved Christmas carols, we celebrate the real reason for the season, the birth of Jesus Christ, God's incredible gift. It is said the modern practice of gift giving at Christmas originated with the gifts of the Magi to the baby Jesus. Today, we not only exchange gifts with those we love but seek to give to people in need.



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That leads me to the wonderful opportunity our Chapter has to provide Christmas gifts for a single mother of two at [Exodus Ministries](#). We're told these gifts may be the only ones our chosen family receives this year. How humbling to know that we can give from our abundance to provide Christmas joy to a mother and her two small children. Not coincidentally, this mother is very similar to the women we help through our ASIST scholarship program. She, like the ASIST candidates, decided to make positive changes in her life to better provide for her family and become a more productive member of society. One of the most empowering pillars of our organization is to come alongside those who need a leg up and provide a "gift" that impacts the trajectory of their lives. *What a gift to us! It truly is more blessed to give than receive.*

We moved our Chapter meeting up to Dec. 5 this season to accommodate the gift wrapping in preparation for delivering those gifts to Exodus on Dec. 10. As promised, we will provide our quarterly "A Moment in History" from our historian, Janie Sandoval along with Shannon Smock and Deborah Tough. We hope you will join us as we plan for the time together being Merry and Bright!

The good news that brought great joy in Luke 2 was that the long-awaited Savior was born. In the world of deadlines and meetings, may this Christmas bring moments of peace and reflection, allowing us to remember the greatest gift of all.

May you find hope and peace this Christmas season,

Lisa Hall



2023 DECEMBER MEETING INFORMATION EWI® of Dallas

CHAPTER MEETING	BOARD MEETING
<p>Date: December 5, 2023</p> <p>Location: Farina's Winery 420 S Main Street Grapevine, TX 76051 Covered Patio (with heaters)</p> <p>Parking: Public Lots behind restaurant</p> <p>Program: 6:00 p.m. Reception 6:30 p.m. Program 7:30 p.m. Wrap gifts for Exodus **Please don't forget to bring your gifts!!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Speaker: EWI Members Past & Present</p>	<p>Date: December 14, 2023</p> <p>Host: Lisa Hall, Individual Member</p> <p>Meeting: 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Location: Your Living Room via Zoom</p> <p>To attend the Board Meeting RSVP by Noon, Friday, December 8, 2023</p> <p>Danielle Ford, Enterprise Holdings 2023-2024 Secretary Office: 314-928-3810 Email: danielle.t.ford@ehi.com</p>

AFTER THE MEETING PLEASE JOIN YOUR EWI® DALLAS SISTERS TO ENJOY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS IN DOWNTOWN GRAPEVINE!

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>\$50 In-Person PayPal Link</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>\$35 Sustaining In-Person PayPal Link</u></p> <p>or by using the link on our website:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>EWI Meetings & Events</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Checks made payable to Executive Women International can be received at the meeting or mailed prior to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Danielle Forney 105 Meadowbend Drive Cedar Hill, TX 75104</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*For advance invoices, please email: dforney1966@gmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">RSVP by 12 Noon Friday, December 1, 2023</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bailee Hoover, Bank of America 2023-2024 Sergeant-At-Arms Committee Cell: (469) 263-9362 Email: bailee.a.hoover@bofa.com</p> <p>Total number of Reservations @ \$50.00/pp: _____</p> <p>Total Amount Remitted: _____</p> <p>Would you like a receipt mailed to you? _____</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Firm: _____</p>
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NOTE: All Representatives have automatic standing reservations. Representatives **DO NOT** need to return this form unless canceling or responding with guest(s). **Cancellations must be received by the deadline, or your firm will be billed.** It is helpful to receive payment prior to the meeting. If you require a receipt for your payment, you may check the appropriate space on this form and your receipt will be mailed to you upon receipt of your check. Checks are not processed until after the meeting date; therefore, if you mail your check ahead and a change of plans requires you to cancel your reservation, as long as you cancel prior to the deadline, your original check will be returned to you.



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Danielle Ford was officially installed as Chapter Secretary.



**November 14, 2023
at Republic Title**

Our guest speaker, Tate Cruse spoke about the importance of life insurance.



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November 16, 2023, Reports & Board of Directors Recap

Location: Via Teams

Secretary's Report:

Minutes for August board meeting minutes were not presented for approval; they will be approved next month. September and October were approved. Secretary, Danielle Ford, reported two Courtesy Notices had been emailed since the last board meeting.

There were two firms celebrating an anniversary in November: Neuberger Berman, four years and State Fair of Texas. 10 years.

Treasurer's Report:

Chapter Treasurer, Danielle Forney, reported that the Chapter has a total of \$75,916.15. The Treasurer report is approved with conditions. Each board member posed at least one question to ensure we had a thorough understanding of the functions of the treasurer's report.

Sergeant-At-Arms:

Sergeant-At-Arms, Bailee Hoover, Bank of America, reported 12 representatives, one guest, and zero sustaining members attended. 50% of member firms were represented and 52% of members were represented.

B/C/DP:

Director Dawn Redmond, Ebby Halliday Realtors report on B/C/DP

Executive Women International Scholarship Program (EWISP)

There will be a scholarship information meeting on November 30th at 1 PM for the Chapter Presidents, Vice Presidents and BCDP Directors.

Adult Students in Scholastic Transition (ASIST)

No report.

Dallas Chapter Only Scholarship

No report.

Philanthropy

BCDP Chair, Dawn Redmond, shared some information about Exodus Ministries and presented the family that EWI Dallas is adopting – a mother and her two children (ages 1 and 2). Members signed up to bring presents from a Wish List to the December 5th meeting. Gifts will be distributed to the families on December 10th.

Literacy Initiative

No report.

Professional Development Award (LCAM) No report.

Retention and Recruitment

Jennifer Clark Dallas Hearing Foundation reported for the Retention and Recruitment Committee.

New Firms/Members: None. **Replacement Executives:** None. **Replacement Representatives:** None. **Resignation Firms:** None. **Resignation Executives:** None. **Representatives:** None. **Firms with Pending Executives:** None. **Firms with Pending Representatives:** None. **New Name Changes:** Enterprise Holdings Inc., now Enterprise Mobility. **New Chapter Life Members:** None. **New Sustaining Members:** None.

Membership Development:

No report

Chapter Membership:	
Total Member Firms	18
Total Representatives	22
Total Executives	17
Total Individuals	3
Total Sustaining	11
Total Transitional	0
Total Chapter or Corporate Life	3
Meeting Attendance:	
Firms Represented by Reps	9
Guests Present	1
Percentage of Firms Present	50%
Representatives Present	12
Executives Present	0
Sustaining/Transitional Members Present	0
Total Attendance:	13



Programs:

Christina Stephens, Realtor, reported the EWI® of Dallas November Chapter Meeting was held on November 14, 2023, in person at Republic Title of Texas near Preston and Frankford in North Dallas. Member Firm, High Profile Staffing provided some of the food for the meeting and EWI covered the rest. Christina Stephens, REALTOR®, Individual Member arranged for meeting space at Republic Title. There were 11 members/firms in attendance, 1 guest and speaker Tait Cruse for a total of 13 attendees.

Members and guests were welcomed by President, Lisa Hall, Individual Member, to the EWI November Chapter Meeting. Prior to the buffet-style dinner, Communications Director, Anne Quinn, Individual Member, gave the invocation. Jeanette Davis installed Danielle Ford as 2023-2024 Chapter Secretary. Lisa Hall introduced guest speaker Tait Cruse, Northwestern Mutual, who spoke to the group about the importance of insurance and explained why everyone should have life insurance, disability insurance and long-term care insurance. He shared his life's story which included various medical diagnoses and the loss of his son Connor at eight years old.

Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, December 5th, 2023 - 6:00 pm Chapter Meeting & Philanthropy Project
Farina's Winery
Guest Panel – EWI Sustaining Members

Thursday, December 14th, 2023 - 5:00 pm Chapter Board Meeting
Via Teams

Communications:

Communications Director, Anne Quinn, reported on Chapter communications.

Chapter Newsletter EWIconnect

The November edition of the EWIconnect Newsletter begins with Lisa Hall's President's message where she reminds the chapter to be thankful and to thank a Veteran. There is a recap of our October State Fair meeting as well as an invitation to November's meeting. This edition also includes information about a December webinar sponsored by the Corporate Board, the dates of upcoming meetings, and the True-Blue Referral Rewards Program.

Social Media: All social media sites are live and active.

Directory: Directory updates are ongoing. **Website:** Website updates are ongoing.

Fundraising: Open

Vice President/President-Elect: President-Elect Jeannette Davis, reported the follow:

Corporate Webinars: Will commence December 2023 bi-monthly on the first Friday of every other month.

Dates and Subjects of Professional Development:

FREE Webinar:

Coming December 1,2023 – Speaker will be Blake Hasting and the topic is Economic Update. The link is forth coming.

Dates for 2024 Conferences:

Tucson, AZ from September 18-21, 2024.

Operations Review Committee:

Budget – Danielle Forney – New bank signature cards were signed by the new board members on November 10,2023.
Bylaws and Rules – Jeannette Davis - No Report. **Ebby Halliday Executive Excellence Award – Jennifer Clark** - No Report.
Historian – Janie Sandoval - No Report. **Official Greeter/Courtesy – Open** – No Report. **Parliamentarian – Open** – No Report.
Ad-Hoc Long-Range Plan (Strategic Plan) – Jeannette Davis: No Report. **Member Engagement** – No Report.
Publicity – Open: No Report. **Sustaining – Cindy Langford** - No Report.



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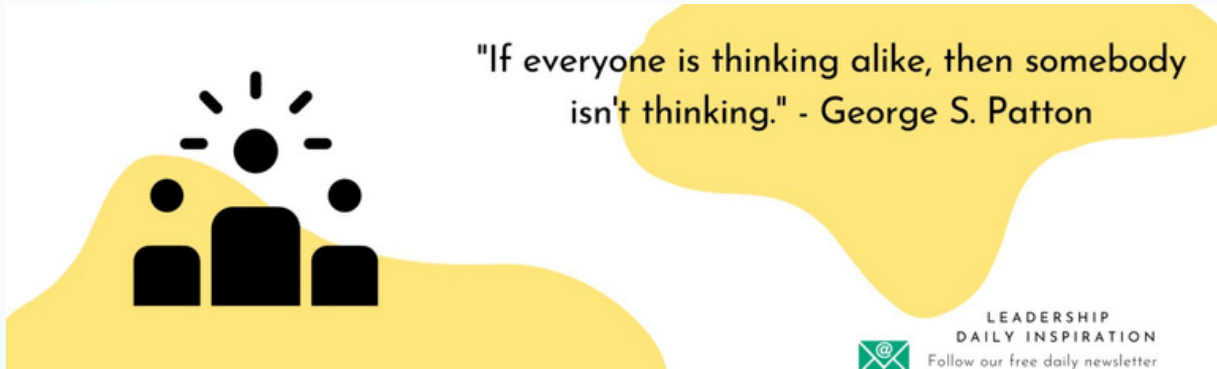
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Inspirational Article

submitted by Lisa Hall



The True Value of Contrary Voices in Leadership

"If everyone is thinking alike, then somebody isn't thinking." - George S. Patton

The best leaders are not those who sail smoothly on a tranquil sea of yes-men or yes-women; rather, they are those who navigate through the challenging waters of diverse opinions and contrasting perspectives. One of the most detrimental things in leadership is being surrounded by individuals who merely echo what one wishes to hear. Such a harmonious chorus might be pleasing to the ears, but it is often misleading, pushing the ship into the treacherous shallows of biased decisions and narrow viewpoints.

In the vast arena of business, where the tiniest error can lead to significant consequences, a leader's decisions need to be informed by a multitude of voices. It's these diverse voices that provide a safeguard against potential biases, ensuring that decisions are robust and thoroughly vetted. For instance, consider a company pondering a major strategic shift. If every team member nods in agreement without questioning the new direction, the company may barrel down a path that hasn't been properly analyzed. However, with a diverse team

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willing to voice disagreements, every potential pitfall and advantage is brought to light.

Moreover, a culture that encourages open communication and values diversity of thought is fertile ground for collaboration and innovation. Like a prism that refracts light into a myriad of colors, an inclusive environment allows the confluence of different ideas, leading to solutions and strategies that might never have been conceived in a homogenous setting.

By surrounding oneself with individuals who possess the courage and insight to voice disagreements, a leader not only ensures the strength and validity of decisions but also fosters an environment where every team member feels valued and heard. So, as you helm your organization or team, always remember: it's not the nodding heads around you that will steer you towards success, but the diverse voices that challenge, question, and collaborate for the betterment of all.

Dear reader, I want you to understand that the path to true greatness is not walked alone nor in the echo chambers of uniform thought. Every time you surround yourself with voices that only agree, you're trading comfort for growth. Growth thrives in discomfort, in being questioned, in navigating the diverse terrains of varying perspectives. Think about the most beautiful tapestries - they're woven from threads of numerous colors and textures, each adding its unique essence. Just like those threads, each voice of dissent, every differing opinion, adds richness and depth to your own understanding. By embracing these differing voices, you're not only strengthening your decisions but also cultivating a culture where every individual feels seen, heard, and valued.

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Now, imagine a world where everyone thought the same, where every decision went unchallenged because of the fear of disagreement. How stagnant and uninspiring that world would be! It's the challenges, the questions, the different perspectives that push us beyond our comfort zones, making us better leaders and better humans. **So, cherish those who challenge you, for they are the unsung heroes nudging you towards greatness. Embrace diversity of thought, foster open communication, and remember - it's the myriad of voices that together compose the most harmonious and impactful melodies.**

Holiday Fun Facts

- The best-selling Christmas single ever is Bing Crosby's "White Christmas," shifting more than **50 MILLION COPIES** worldwide since 1942.
- During the 2017 holiday shopping season, US shoppers bought an average of fourteen presents, spending an average of **\$1028**.
- US scientists calculated that Santa would have to visit 822 homes a second to deliver all the world's presents on Christmas Eve, traveling at approximately **650 MILES PER SECOND**.
- Electric tree lights were invented in the US by Edward Johnson in **1882**.
- Santa's traditional red suit originated from an ad by Coca Cola® during the **1930's**.
- The song **JINGLE BELLS** was first called One Horse Open Sleigh and was written for Thanksgiving.
- Hanging stockings comes from the Dutch custom of leaving shoes packed with food for St. Nicholas' donkeys. He would leave small gifts in return.
- First documented use of candy canes in Christmas celebrations was in **1847**.
- 221 ft** the height of the world's tallest Christmas Tree, erected in a Washington shopping mall in 1950.

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Dawn Redmond
Ebby Halliday Realtors
12/7

Sherry Andrus
VisitDallas (Sustaining)
12/10

Kathy Shannon Stone
Hoblitzelle Foundation
(Sustaining)
12/14

Anne Quinn
Individual Member
12/17



Amelie Brewer
High Profile Inc.
11 years

Katie Cowan
Vault Aviation
10 years

Anne Quinn
Individual Member
1 year



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"True-Blue" Referral Rewards Program

EWI Members are the life-blood of our organization. Our "True-Blue" Referral Rewards program recognizes members who are "True-Blue" EWI supporters. Beginning May 1, 2022, EWI is offering an opportunity for any EWI member to be rewarded for referring a new member to the organization.

Reveal your "True-Blue" loyalty for EWI by inviting a friend, co-worker, business partner, neighbor, networking contact or a connection from your social networks to join EWI. If your referral joins EWI, you will receive a \$25 "True-Blue" referral reward voucher redeemable towards any of the following EWI items:

- LCAM Registration
- Leadership Caucus Registration
- EWI Branded Merchandise in the EWI Online Store
- Corporate Membership Dues

As defined by Merriam-Webster's Dictionary, "True-Blue" is:

Unwavering in one's commitment; extremely loyal;

To show what one is really like: to reveal one's real nature or character

Synonyms: constant, dedicated, devoted, devout, down-the-line, faithful, fast, good, loyal, pious, steadfast, steady, true

To claim your referral reward, your name must be listed on the EWI Membership Application Form as the referring member. Your certificate will be emailed to you by the EWI Corporate Office once the application has been processed and paid in full. Certificates are redeemable upon receipt and expire 12 months from issue date.

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LCAM 2024



SAVE THE DATE!

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE & ANNUAL MEETING

September 18-21, 2024

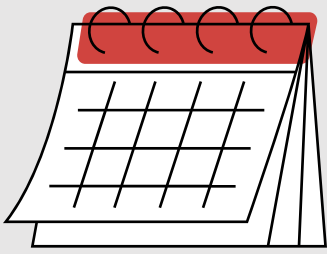
TUCSON, AZ



*How many elves are in the newsletter?
Count them and let Anne know to have
your name entered to win a prize!
anne.m.quinn@outlook.com*

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Save the Date

Chapter Meeting	Board Meeting
12/5/2023	12/14/2023
1/16/2024	1/24/2024
2/20/2024	2/28/2024
3/19/2024	3/27/2024
4/16/2024	4/24/2024
5/21/2024	5/29/2024
6/18/2024	6/26/2024
7/16/2024	7/24/2024
8/20/2024	8/28/2024
9/17/2024	9/25/2024

EWI of Dallas 2023-2024 Board of Directors

President

Lisa Hall
Individual Member
lrhall19@yahoo.com



Vice President/President Elect

Jeanette Davis
JLL
jeannette.davis@jll.com



 Secretary

Danielle Ford
Enterprise Mobility
danielle.t.ford@em.com



Treasurer

Danielle Forney
Neuberger Berman
Danielle.forney@nb.com



Sergeant at Arms Director

Bailee Hoover
Bank of America
bailee.a.hoover@bofa.com



Recruitment and Retention Director

Jennifer Clark
Dallas Hearing Foundation
jennifer.clark@dallashearingfoundation.org



B/C/D/P Director

Dawn Redmond
Ebby Halliday Realtors
dawnredmond@ebby.com



Program Director

Christina Stephens
Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate
Individual Member
christina@askmeabouthouses.com



 Communications Director

Anne Quinn
Individual Member
anne.m.quinn@outlook.com



Advisor

Denise Labrado
Arlington Convention & Visitors Bureau
Denise@arlington.org



Fundraising Director

Open



2023-2024

EXECUTIVE ADVISORY BOARD



Sherry Adams
Vice President of
Human Resources
Ebby Halliday Companies



Lindsay Jones
Financial Advisor
Ameriprise Financial
Services, Inc.



Melanie Linnear
Vice President of
Food Service
State Fair of Texas



Kim Loving
Operations Manager
McKinsey & Company

EWI Corporate Office
1288 Summit Ave. Ste. 107
PMB 124
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
262.269.5625

Mission

Executive Women International (EWI) brings together key individuals from diverse businesses for the purpose of promoting member firms, enhancing personal and professional development, and encouraging community involvement.

Vision

To enhance professional growth and development within a diverse group of women while empowering them to make a difference as they inspire others

Values

Integrity * Excellence * Respect * Collaboration

ewi How Member Firms Benefit from EWI: RESULTS

R RELATIONSHIPS
EWI is an organization that believes in long-term, highly valuable relationships. Member representatives build lasting, sustainable, and ultimately valuable business connections through trust and respect. Your employees form relationships that create associations between your organization and a diversity of other prestigious firms and executives in your city.

E EDUCATION
EWI offers professional development webinars and other resources each year on topics relevant to a member representative's professional and personal growth. Your investment provides affordable access to professionally produced training that would be difficult for many businesses to provide to their employees. To further your investment, member representatives are encouraged and expected to share their learning with other employees.

S SKILLS
EWI member representatives practice strong business ethics and build core skills such as public speaking, effective leadership, mentoring, strategic planning, and even how to effectively and efficiently run meetings with Robert's Rules of Order. There are additional opportunities for growth in EWI through Chapter and Corporate Board service such as preparing and managing a budget, managing a team, conflict resolution, and event planning.

U UNTAPPED POTENTIAL
Participation in EWI quickly raises your firm's visibility among your city's business community. This affords you the ability to promote your products and services to audiences you may not reach otherwise, both locally and throughout EWI's North American network. Your firm will also have the ability to build contacts by hosting Chapter Firm Nights or attending other Firm Nights and various business meetings throughout the year.

L LEADERSHIP
Many EWI member representatives cite leadership opportunities as a driving motivator for their participation. EWI offers a number of ways to build real-world leadership skills through Chapter leadership, Corporate Board participation, our Academy of Leadership program and other initiatives. Additionally, your membership positions your firm and your member representatives as leaders within your business community.

T TANGIBLE RETURNS
The EWI network is motivated to see your member representatives and your firm succeed. Representatives look to one another first when they need a specific product or service. Your firm will be listed in the EWI International Directory, which constitutes a network across the United States and Canada for the exchange of information and business matters. Member Representatives have immediate access to our online community to connect your firm with additional resources by delivering real time accessibility to all members through the EWI Mobile App.

S SUPPORT
Your member representatives will have a support structure of like-minded individuals outside of the office for career advice and other needs. EWI membership also provides you with an opportunity to support and recognize a top-ranking person within your firm by appointing her/him to represent your organization. Lastly, EWI offers your firm a number of ways to support your local community through good works, scholarship programs, and other philanthropic initiatives.

Member Firms

