

## Letter from the President



Last Sunday, I had the opportunity to attend Mass at San Fernando Cathedral where Father Vilano's message focused on the importance of preparation. Coincidentally, he based his analogy on how his mom prepared for her family's annual Thanksgiving meal by shopping well before the holiday at her neighborhood H-E-B! She did not want to chance not having the necessary ingredients to make all of their favorite recipes. On the flip side, he noted how those who waited until the day before to shop became irritable because of various reasons ranging from a crowded parking lot, products no longer on the shelves and long lines. Oh, how their experience could have been so different had they been prepared!

There are so many times during an average week when I could be more prepared. The morning when the snooze button is hit too many times and my outfit isn't ready...yikes! ...or the morning that my gas gauge is low because I was just too tired to stop on my way home the evening before...oh **my!** Of course, there are more serious issues in any given week that preparation is absolutely key, and like you, I strive to address those issues **as timely as possible.**

As our Chapter *prepares* for renewals in January, rest assured that your Board of Directors are indeed working diligently to ensure that the organization's needs are met. Our top priorities include planning quality programs, scheduling opportunities for representatives to serve our community through philanthropic projects, finding innovative ways to stay connected, raising funds to meet our scholarship commitments and increasing our membership roster! We anticipate adding 3 – 5 new member firms in January alone!

We would obviously be thrilled with a 100% renewal rate, **but know the challenge that comes with meeting this goal. Should you have concerns about renewing your membership, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any one of the Board members. After all, we want everyone to experience everything EWI has to offer in 2012!**

I look forward to seeing each of you on Thursday when we meet at member firm, The Omni San Antonio Hotel at the Colonnade. If we do not have a chance to chat, please know that I wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Yours sincerely,  
Debbie Saldaña



### SAN ANTONIO BOARD

**Debbie Saldaña**  
President  
H-E-B  
210.938.8382

**Joyce Stuart**  
Vice President/President-Elect  
Nix Health  
210.271.2025

**Liana J. Greenberg**  
Secretary  
Purina Care Insurance  
Services  
210.471.0480

**Suzanne Worley**  
Treasurer  
Batchelor Cadillac  
210.595.2513

**Carolyn Wallace**  
Sergeant-At-Arms  
Spurs Sports & Entertainment  
210.444.5513

**Kathy Jones**  
Membership Director  
Touchstone Communities  
210.828.5686

**Becky Gentry**  
Program Director  
Fernandez Honda  
210.928.1500

**Melissa Piña**  
Publication Director  
CPS Energy  
210.353.4480

**Rebecca Martinez**  
Fundraising Director  
Nix Health  
210.579-3299

**Rebecca Rabel**  
Director-At-Large  
Texas Biomedical Research  
Institute  
210-258.9419



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

**MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS**

**Mission**

Executive Women International® brings together key individuals from diverse businesses for the purpose of:

- Promoting Member Firms
- Enhancing Personal and Professional Development
- Encouraging Community Involvement

**Vision**

To be the leading connection for business professionals



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

- **Mary Alice Campos**  
Sustaining Member (9<sup>th</sup>)
- **Valerie Jackson**  
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney (11<sup>th</sup>)
- **Leona Pappas**  
Life Member (11<sup>th</sup>)
- **Emily Kopecky**  
Omni La Mansion del Rio Hotel (11<sup>th</sup>)
- **Edda Petiton**  
UTSA (11<sup>th</sup>)
- **Jelane Lodek**  
Sustaining Member (14<sup>th</sup>)
- **Melissa Piña**  
CPS Energy (17<sup>th</sup>)
- **Connie Ross**  
Marmon Mok Architecture (21<sup>st</sup>)
- **Sue Ouimette**  
Valero Energy Corp. (21<sup>st</sup>)
- **Liana Greenberg**  
Purina Care Insurance Services (23<sup>rd</sup>)
- **Joyce Houston**  
Sustaining Member (26<sup>th</sup>)
- **Lulu Hui**  
Batchelor Cadillac (30<sup>th</sup>)

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- **Raba-Kistner Consultants, Inc**  
(12 years)
- **Omni Hotel San Antonio at the Colonnade**  
(9 years)
- **YMCA of Greater San Antonio**  
(7 years)
- **San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Inc**  
(6 years)
- **Koontz-McCombs**  
(6 years)
- **Fernandez Honda**  
(2 years)

**Membership Meeting**

**Thursday, November 17, 2011**

**Guest Speaker: Major General Rubenstein,  
Ft. Sam Houston  
“Leadership in a Changing Environment”**

Omni San Antonio Hotel at the Colonnade  
9821 Colonnade Blvd., San Antonio, Tx 78230

**November Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, November 22, 2011**

**5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

H-E-B Headquarters (Arsenal)  
646 S. Main, San Antonio, Texas 78204

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**December Membership Meeting**  
Thursday, December 8, 2011  
Artesa at The Quarry

**December Board Meeting**  
Tuesday, December 13, 2011  
H-E-B Headquarters (Arsenal)

## Leona Pappas 90th Birthday



### “No Time for a Rocking Chair” By Connie Ross

The date 11-11-11 has a special significance to EWI of San Antonio life member, Leona Pappas. It's the day she turned 90 years young.

Being with Leona makes me want to skip the elevator ride to the 16<sup>th</sup> floor of my office building and climb the stairs! Her energy and enthusiasm for life is that *contagious*.

During a recent interview, in typical Leona fashion, she said, *“even though I retired from a newspaper career 26 years ago, I'm still not ready to retire to the rocking chair.”*

The hour interview passed much too quickly, but I learned an interesting discovery about how her courage, confidence, convictions and compassion fuel her zest for life and inspire us to be better.

**We can learn from her courage.** During World War II, nearly 40 percent of the workers at Kelly Air Force Base were women. Leona Pappas was one of the "Kelly Katies," who worked at Kelly field while her husband served overseas. These women's efforts contributed greatly to the successful war effort.

Her son, Chris, was born in 1944, a few months after her husband shipped out, and when the war ended in 1946 Leona found herself without a job and raising a two-year old alone. She reached deep inside herself to find the courage to build a good life for she and her son.

She was hired at Express Publishing Company shortly after the war, during a time in history when very few women were in the workforce. After two years working as a bookkeeper in the classified department, Leona was moved to the editorial department, and eventually became executive secretary to the executive editor, Charles O. Kilpatrick.

*“I didn't know anything about editorials or the job I was assigned to do,”* reflects Pappas, *“so I didn't know how it was going to work out.”* She served in that position for the next 11 years.

It was her boss, Kilpatrick, who asked Leona to become a representative in Executives' Secretaries, Inc., a non-profit organization forming a Chapter in San Antonio in 1958. As one of the 21 charter representatives, she helped blaze the path for future professional women in San Antonio.

**We can learn from her confidence.** When the publishing firm decided to open a new editorial position reporting TV and Radio news, Kilpatrick asked Leona to take the job. Leona's first response was *"but I don't have any experience doing that! I haven't studied journalism, and I'm not sure I would know how to do the job."* It was then that Kilpatrick said something that changed her life; **"I wouldn't have asked you, if I didn't think you could do it."**

It was at this pivotal moment that Leona began believing in herself. By trusting her boss's instincts she became an active participant in the most wonderful adventure of her life. Tasked with interviewing stars like Bob Hope, George Burns, Lucille Ball, and many others about TV shows premiering in the upcoming season and other topics relating to television, Leona would write about the interview in a daily column, "On the Air."

Her career also enabled her to travel to Europe, to three Olympic Games, and to just about every state in the United States. It gave her opportunities to play basketball with the Harlem Globetrotters (there are pictures to prove it!), cover the Long Beach Grand Prix, and attend ABC, NBC and CBS functions in Los Angeles, New Orleans, Las Vegas, and New York.

She gained confidence to take necessary risks to try something she had never done before in order to reach her full potential.

**We can learn from her convictions.** Perhaps Leona's convictions served to strengthen her determination, leading her to a revolving door of opportunities where she continued to gain knowledge and experience.

A belief in good work ethics served her well — a principle demonstrated to her by a carpenter father who successfully provided for a wife and nine children. She has never been afraid of hard work, earning her own way, or "seizing the moment." She believes in responsibility, accountability, and always treating people with respect.

These convictions helped her to excel in a career as the first woman TV Editor in San Antonio. She was awarded the prestigious Texas Communication of Achievement Award by the National Federation of Professional Women Communicators, an organization she is a member of today. Are you familiar with the TV magazine we get in our Sunday papers each week? This was the brainchild of Leona Pappas.

By the time she retired from the San Antonio Express News in 1985, Leona had made it easier for young women to aspire to a career in journalism.

**We can learn from her compassion.** Leona has a compassionate heart as well as true humility, which was very transparent in our interview. She demonstrates through her actions a servant heart, putting the needs of others before her own.

I imagine her gift of service was developed in those formative childhood years while growing up with eight siblings — seven sisters and a brother. Of course, my perception is based on the TV show “The Waltons,” since, as an only child, I would not be able to relate otherwise!

Her compassion comes naturally because of a deep faith in God. A member of Central Christian Church since 1955, she has held every position from Sunday school teacher to chairman of the church board, and is now an Elder Emeritus – a recognition of her extraordinary contributions to the church through many years of faithful and loving service. Leona is still very active in CWF (Christian Women’s Fellowship), Bible study, and women’s ministry.

Leona sows compassion and reaps the same. She has a loving and caring son, Chris. She brags about his accomplishments in music, and was thrilled when Chris moved from California to San Antonio last year accepting a position as professor of music at St. Philip’s College. She is a proud mother and enjoys having her son home.

**As a number one supporter of EWI,** Leona values the organization and wants to stay connected to her EWI sisters, who she considers priceless treasures. *“EWI is the love of my life,”* reveals Leona. *“It has brought me joy and happiness. It has taught me about the business world, and helped me to grow in my career roles. I just can’t tell you how much I have learned through my membership. And, I certainly want to stay connected to everyone in EWI.”*

The first position Leona held in a Chapter leadership role was “Chair of the Notebook” (the Chapter newsletter, back in the day.) She also served on the Board as Treasurer, Secretary, and Vice President, culminating to service as Chapter President in 1965.

To this day, she remains active on EWI committees, rarely ever missing a meeting!

Leona is a jewel in the crown of EWI, and loved by all who know her. She has taught us how to hear the music before the song ends — a very valuable lesson indeed.

**Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Leona!**



### Q&A with Leona Pappas

**Question:** From your point of view, how far have women come from the time of your first job?

**Answer:** *“Women have come a long way since my first job in the 1940’s. Even though I was blessed with a successful career, women today are accepted more easily into leadership roles and have more opportunities for advancement.”*

**Question:** What has been the biggest change in the work force since 1940?

**Answer:** *“It has to be technology. I used to type my articles on a typewriter. Today, people use computers, faxes, emails — it’s a whole new world out there.”*

**Question:** What event did you witness while working for the newspaper that you wished didn’t happen?

**Answer:** *“Three major things come to mind. The first would be President Kennedy’s assassination, which was a terrible day in history. The second was the Vietnam War that cost so many lives. And, the third was on a local level — the Battle of Flowers Parade sniper. Working for a newspaper, I felt like I was caught up in the middle of these things. I wish they had never happened.”*

**Question:** What do you do in your spare time?

**Answer:** *“About four years ago I took up painting. I have done so many that I may run out of wall space. Some of my paintings were recently displayed at the Bihl Haus Art Space.” “Oh, and I also serve as a docent for the complex where I live.”*

## Best Wishes...

From: *EWI San Antonio Chapter*

**We will never forget you Barbara Johnson!**



## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

2012 SPRING CONFERENCE  
LOCATION IDENTIFIED

Spring Conference will be hosted by EWI of Richmond  
in the beautiful and historic city of Richmond, Virginia

**Save the date ~ March 29 - 31, 2012**

Experience a *new* Academy of Leadership course, presented by Colette Carlson, tour the historic Richmond Region, and network with EWI friends!

Registration information will be available in December. Remember,  
*Richmond is Easy to Love!*



## Al's Gourmet Nuts

Your local gourmet nut connection with a national reach.

*The Holiday Season is Upon Us  
At least, the Planning Aspects are.....*

It is time to start planning for great and hassle free gifts for your clients, customers, vendors and team members. Why purchase gifts that have been sitting on store shelves for months or years when you can enjoy our fresh and delicious gourmet nut gifts made to order?

Let's start planning now by considering a few things...

1. **Choose your timeline.** Determine when you want to distribute your gifts to maximize your best exposure. Remember your goal is to stay ahead of your competition! Best dates: The week *before* and/during Thanksgiving plus the first two weeks *after* Thanksgiving. These are great days because most recipients are in their office and are not saturated with gifts.
2. **Determine your budget needs.** Since no two clients are alike and all of your clients are special, maximize your budget. For example, you may need twenty \$25 gifts, ten \$50 gifts and thirty \$100 gifts.
3. **EWI Member Special.** Order now for the holidays before December 1<sup>st</sup>, elect your special delivery date, and receive the following complimentary value added benefits with all orders over \$250:
  - Custom label setup fee
  - Custom label fees
  - Shipping to one designated location

### Call Al's Gourmet Nuts!

We offer a large array of gift options. Please allow our customer service team to help you create **custom gifts** that will brand your business and provide a proven **return on your investment!**

[Margaret@AlsGourmetNuts.com](mailto:Margaret@AlsGourmetNuts.com)

210-822-9121



Alamo  
Breast  
Cancer  
Foundation  
San Antonio, Texas

[www.alamobreastcancer.org](http://www.alamobreastcancer.org)

COME JOIN US!

## HOLIDAY GIFT BAZAAR

### TO BENEFIT

*Breast Cancer Outreach,  
Education and Low-Income  
Patient Assistance*

Sun. Nov. 13

1-5 p.m.

Lee & Beth Emery's Home

### FEATURING

115 E. Hermosa 787212

Unique works of art (including food safe bowls,  
cups, etc. —  
for Christmas or Hanukkah— from  
**Sunin Clay Studio's**  
artists-in-residence, including

Beth Emery, Linda Pope, Judi Tepperman,  
Lena Lee, Julie Ann McKnight, Michelle  
Bushey, Margaret Koors, Molly Lowry  
& others



### Jewelry Trunk Show

20% of all proceeds go to ABCF  
[Including any on-line orders!]

Elizabeth Gutierrez  
[sajewelry@earthlink.net](mailto:sajewelry@earthlink.net)

Fine Teas & Accessories from  
Tea for Two—15% to ABCF  
[www.tealightfultreasures.net/tea4two](http://www.tealightfultreasures.net/tea4two)

For more information contact: - Beth Emery  
[beth.emery@huschblackwell.com](mailto:beth.emery@huschblackwell.com)  
244-8802 (work) or 380-6599 (cell)

## EWI of San Antonio Chapter Board



**PRESIDENT**  
**Debbie Saldaña**  
H-E-B  
[saldana.debra@heb.com](mailto:saldana.debra@heb.com)  
210-938-8382



**PROGRAM DIRECTOR**  
**Becky Gentry**  
Fernandez Honda  
[beckyg@mikeshawauto.net](mailto:beckyg@mikeshawauto.net)  
(210) 928-1500



**VICE PRESIDENT**  
**Joyce Stuart**  
Nix Health  
[jstuart@nixhealth.com](mailto:jstuart@nixhealth.com)  
210-271-2025



**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR**  
**Kathy Jones**  
Touchstone Communities  
[kjones@touchstone-communities.com](mailto:kjones@touchstone-communities.com)  
(210) 828-5686



**TREASURER**  
**Suzanne Worley**  
Batchelor Cadillac  
[sworley@kbcad.com](mailto:sworley@kbcad.com)  
210-595-2513



**PUBLICATION DIRECTOR**  
**Melissa Piña**  
CPS Energy  
[mspina@cpsenergy.com](mailto:mspina@cpsenergy.com)  
(210) 353-4480



**SECRETARY**  
**Liana Greenberg**  
Purina Care Insurance Services  
[Liana.greenberg@purinacare.com](mailto:Liana.greenberg@purinacare.com)  
(210) 471-0480



**FUNDRAISING DIRECTOR**  
**Rebecca Martinez**  
Nix Health  
[rmartinez@nixhealth.com](mailto:rmartinez@nixhealth.com)  
210-579-3299



**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**  
**Carolyn Wallace**  
Spurs Sports & Entertainment  
[cwallace@attcenter.com](mailto:cwallace@attcenter.com)  
(210) 444-5513



**DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE**  
**Rebecca Rabel**  
Texas Biomedical Research Institute  
[rrabel@txbiomed.org](mailto:rrabel@txbiomed.org)  
210-258-9419

## EWI of San Antonio Chapter Advisors



ADVISOR  
**Monica Garza**  
YMCA of Greater San Antonio  
[monicag@ymcasatx.org](mailto:monicag@ymcasatx.org)  
210-246-9671



ADVISOR  
**Vicki Chapman**  
SWBC  
[vchapman@swbc.com](mailto:vchapman@swbc.com)  
210-321-7535



ADVISOR  
Gloria Eastwood  
HEB  
[Eastwood.gloria@heb.com](mailto:Eastwood.gloria@heb.com)  
210-938-8229

## EWI of San Antonio Chapter Meeting Photos

By Barbara Gault



**Todd Piland (H-E-B)**  
Executive Vice President, Real Estate, Facility  
Alliance & Petroleum Marketing



**Debbie Saldaña**



**Vicki Chapman, Teri Perez**



**(L-R) Jimmie Joffe, Lynn Smasal, Linda Buck,  
Joyce Stuart, Diane Solarczyk, Margaret Woods**

## EWI of San Antonio Chapter Meeting Photos

By Barbara Gault



Monica Garza, Debbie Saldaña, Vicki Chapman



Monica Garza



Debbie Saldaña, Kathy Jones



L-R Vicki Chapman, Joyce Carothers,  
Lynn Smasal, Kathy Beaman, Gena Brown,  
Gloria Eastwood



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

### 2010-2011 Calendar Year at a Glance

<u>General Membership Meeting</u>	<u>Board Meeting</u>	<u>Topics/Conferences/Special Events</u>
	<b>H-E-B Headquarters 646 Main St, 78204 5:30pm</b>	
Thursday, October 20	Tuesday, October 25	Food and Wine Pairing/Committee Planning Session At Witte Museum
Thursday, November 17	<b>Tuesday</b> , November 22	General Rubenstein from Ft. Sam Houston
<b>SECOND</b> Thursday, December 8	Tuesday, December 13	Holiday Celebration
Thursday, January 19	Tuesday, January 24	SA Economic Foundation, Mario Hernandez
Thursday, February 16	Tuesday, February 21	
Thursday, March 15	Tuesday, March 20	Pot-Luck
Thursday, April 19	Tuesday, April 24	Executive Recognition and Award Dinner at SAMA
Thursday, May 17	Tuesday, May 22	EWISP & ASIST Scholarship Banquet
Thursday, June 21	Tuesday, June 26	Non-meeting fundraiser
Thursday, July 19	Tuesday, July 24	Bring a Young Person
Thursday, August 16	Tuesday, August 21	Reading Rally- Lunch meeting
Thursday, September 20	Tuesday, September 25	Chapter Board Installation

## Board Recap

By: *Liana Greenberg*

October 2011

# EWI OF SAN ANTONIO BOARD RECAP

### TREASURER REPORT

**Suzanne Worley, Treasurer**

*September 30, 2011 Account Balances:*

**GENERAL ACCOUNT**

General Account \$ 40,283.91

Investment Account \$ 13,121.18

**BCDP (EWISP & ASIST)**

Scholarship Account \$42,809.02

- Payment for membership meetings is due to the chapter when an RSVP is received for the meeting even if a last minute cancellation is necessary.
- In the future payment must be made prior to or at the meetings.

### SECRETARY REPORT

**Liana Greenberg, Secretary**

- Minutes Approved: August and September 2011 Board of Directors Meetings
- Minutes Approved: October 20, 2011 Membership Meeting

### PROGRAM REPORT

**Becky Gentry, Director**

November membership meeting

- Date: Thursday November 17, 2011
- Time: 5:30- 8:00 pm
- Location: Omni Colonnade Hotel
- Fee not to exceed \$35.00 per person (\$15.00 for sustaining members)

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

**Kathy Jones, Director**

- There were no installations at the October meeting.
- The following were guests of membership at the October membership meeting: Alisam Freight Management; Biglari Holdings and YPO.
- VIA Metropolitan Transit has a replacement representative, Rasheda L. Gundy. There were no objections by membership to the postings of the following three firms: 1. Magic Communications (Jennifer Webb) 2. Alisam Freight management (MJ Willis and Debbie Doyle) 3. YPO (Maureen Hillman).
- A New member orientation will be held in February or March of 2012.

### DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE REPORT

**Rebecca Rabel, Director**

- Changes to the chapter website include wording changes to coincide with the new Corporate EWI wording and the addition of a list of 2011-2012 Board Members and Committee Chairs.
- The October CONNECT has been uploaded to the website.
- A link to the PayPal account that Treasurer Worley set up was added to the website and is now available. A 4% convenience fee is charged when utilizing PayPal for payment.
- Monthly meeting sign-up will still need to be made online. Payment through PayPal does not denote registration for the monthly meeting.
- EWI San Antonio will create a Facebook page as opposed to a Facebook Group page. Director Rabel will create and maintain the Facebook page.
- Our current web designer is not able to devote the time to our page that we would like so the committee is considering hiring a new web designer.
- E-mails have started going out to representatives who do not currently have profile photos on the chapter website. The committee has a goal of having a profile photo for every representative.

## Board Recap

By: *Liana Greenberg*

October 2011

## EWI OF SAN ANTONIO BOARD RECAP

### SERGEANT-AT-ARMS REPORT

**Carolyn Wallace, Director**

October Attendance:	49 Firms Represented	66%
	64 Representatives	66%
	4 Sustaining	29 %
	1 Life	33 %
	<u>10 Guests</u>	
	<b>128 Total</b>	

### FUNDRAISING REPORT

**Vice President Stuart on behalf of the Fundraising Committee**

- Norma Del Toro has stepped down as Director due to work and family demands
- Rebecca Martinez (Nix Health) has been appointed the new director of Fundraising
- On October 13<sup>th</sup> Norma Del Toro and Joyce Stuart met with Sharima Bulchak of Strategic Staffing Solutions Detroit, Michigan member of the Detroit-Windsor Chapter. Sharima is in charge of her company's sponsorships and has decided to partner with EWI chapters. Strategic Staffing Solutions will donate \$2,000 to the San Antonio chapter to be used for scholarship dinners and/or the Reading Rally and they will donate a gift package to the silent auction at the Executive Recognition Dinner.

### PUBLICATION REPORT

**Melissa Piña, Director**

- November 7, 2011 is the deadline for submissions for the November newsletter
- November 14, 2011 the November CONNECT will be distributed

### PHILANTHROPY

**Charito Lincoln, Chair**

- The committee plans to have quarterly volunteer efforts beginning next year including opportunities for family members to participate.
- Possible philanthropy projects include a food drive for the Good Samaritan Center and cash donations for Boysville.
- The Fundraising and Philanthropy committees will co-ordinate their efforts so that the two committees are not always competing for funds.

### NEW BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE

- Honorariums were approved for Todd Piland (H-E-B) and Major General David A. Rubenstein (Ft. Sam Houston) in appreciation for being our guest speakers at the October and November membership meetings
- Memorials were approved for James Marconi (Debbie Saldaña's Father) and Eleanor Brown (Frances Booker's Mother).
- Barbara Johnson will be moving to Houston in the near future. The Board would like to send a housewarming gift to her to express our gratitude for her service to the chapter over the years.