

### Letter from President



*I hope that everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving enjoying time with family, friends, food and shopping! I know that I am blessed by being a part of our great EWJ chapter, and I am thankful for each of the member firms and their representatives. Our Firm Night at Entergy Mississippi was a terrific evening of building tours and networking thanks to the hard*

*work of both Sandy Powlett and Suzanne Sullivan! Mr. John E. Mullins, Vice President of Customer Operations, shared with us Entergy's investment in the renovation of the 308 Electric Building with Jackson Downtown Partners. He also shared in detail Entergy's commitment and investment in EWJ of Jackson and spoke that he had seen true development within Sandy in her personal and professional life through being a part of EWJ of Jackson. What an honor to hear this testimony from an executive!*

*In November, there were two webinars offered through EWJ Corporate. One entitled, "Juggling as Fast as You Can" and a second entitled "Presentation Skills". If you were unable to listen to these on the scheduled dates, they were recorded and are available to you or any employee of your firm. I encourage each of you to not let this opportunity for personal and professional development pass!*

*Our December meeting will be held at the Capital Club, and the Program and Philanthropy Committees have worked diligently to prepare our program for the evening. We will enjoy entertainment from two music majors currently enrolled at Belhaven University, Rebekah Saks and Maggie McLinden. The Philanthropy Committee will*

#### 2010-2011 Officers & Board of Directors

##### President

Tara Raynes, Trustmark Corporation

##### Vice President

Suzanne Sullivan, Belhaven University

##### Secretary

Joyce Plunkett, Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company

##### Treasurer

Teresa Davidson, Equity Solutions

##### Fund Raising Director

Brandy McCoy, ServiceMaster OneCall

##### Membership Director

Penny Danford, TempStaff, Inc

##### Sergeant-at-Arms

Cherrita Speech, Mississippi Department of Employment Security

##### Programs

Georganna Keenum, Gray-Daniels Auto Family

##### Philanthropy Director

April McClung, Enterprise Leasing Company South Central, LLC

##### Communications Director

Rhonda DuBois, AT&T Mississippi

##### Advisors

Carolyn Rogers, Gloria Deister, and Dianne Lockett

## Letter from President (cont'd)

present to you information within this Connect on EWI's adoption of three angels from the Salvation Army's Angel Tree program and we will present our donations at the meeting. Teresa Davidson and the Budget Committee have worked very hard in preparing the 2011 budget and it will be presented for approval at our December business meeting. Once the notice of our business meeting has been distributed, please take time to review the prepared budget and feel free to ask Teresa, myself or any member of the budget committee if you have any questions prior to the meeting. I look forward to seeing you all at the Capital Club.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to wish each of you and your firms a happy holiday season and a very Merry Christmas!

*Tara*

## Birthday Wishes December Birthdays

12/1	Teresa Johns	Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance
12/5	Maurice Joseph	Maurice H. Joseph, Inc.
12/8	Scott Eddy	Barlow Eddy Jenkins, PA
12/8	Claude Harbarger	St. Dominic Jackson-Memorial Hospital
12/17	Janis Harden	Morningside Partnership
12/27	Faye Fife	St. Dominic Jackson-Memorial Hospital
12/29	Rhonda DuBois	AT&T Mississippi
12/31	Nick Strickland, Sr.	Alliance Business Services

### DATES TO NOTE

**December 9, 2010**  
Business Meeting  
Capital Club

**December 14, 2010**  
Board Meeting - 11:30 a.m.  
Belhaven University  
Lunch provided by Belhaven

**January 13, 2011**  
Membership Meeting  
Ruths' Chris Steakhouse



## December Business/Membership Meeting December 9, 2010

*The Capital Club*  
125 S. Congress St.  
Jackson, MS

5:30 pm - Networking  
6:00 pm - Meeting

Dinner Fees - \$30/person  
Standing Reservations apply,  
regrets only by noon  
Monday, December 6, 2010 to  
Cherrita Speech at  
601-321-6040 or  
[cspeech@mdes.ms.gov](mailto:cspeech@mdes.ms.gov)

## November 2010 Board Meeting Highlights

EWI of Jackson held the November Board of Directors meeting at 8:00 a.m., Monday, November 22, 2010 at member firm Gray-Daniels Auto Family. President Raynes thanked Georganna Keenum, representative for Gray-Daniels Auto Family for hosting the meeting.

A quorum of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors was confirmed.

The minutes from the October joint Board meeting and October Membership meeting were approved.

### Treasurer's Report:

General Account	\$18,031.80
Investment Account	<u>\$42,584.49</u>
Sub-Total	\$60,616.29
B/C/D/P	<u>\$ 5,217.73</u>
Total	\$65,834.02

The Sergeant-At-Arms report listed 49 member firms with 56 representatives. With guests, there was a total of 95 in attendance at firm night.

Membership Director, Penny Danford presented updates on potential new firm postings.

Philanthropy Director, April McClung made a motion on behalf of the Philanthropy Committee to approve the Angel Tree Adoption as our philanthropic project in conjunction with our December program.

Program Director Georganna Keenum presented potential venues and speakers for upcoming meetings and will inform the Membership via the CONNECT. Proposed budget for 2011 was discussed and approved.

Teresa Davidson, Treasurer, on behalf of the Budget Committee, will submit 2011 budget to the membership at the December Business meeting for approval.

December Membership/Business meeting will be held December 9 at the Capital Club. Next Board meeting will be at Belhaven University on December 14 at 11:30 a.m.

## Prayer Requests

- Roger Anderson, recovering from back surgery
- Rita Parker's mother, hospice care
- Wanda Park's husband, Bob, chemo therapy treatments
- Jean Miesse's son-in-law. Joe McNair, cancer treatments
- Michael Walker and family, AT&T co-worker, son diagnosed with malignant tumor.
- Rhonda Dubois' former neighbor, Jenny Mills, ovarian cancer diagnosis
- Peggy Howard, former EWI representative, pancreatic cancer
- Teresia Gray, recovering from surgery and now undergoing tests for severe pain in her arm
- Leslie Weaver, Harrisburg Chapter, nephew diagnosed with brain cancer
- Berte Thompson's family, long time Gray-Daniels Auto Family passed away unexpectedly



## Christmas Philanthropy Project

In lieu of an ornament or gift swap, EWI of Jackson will participate in the Salvation Army's Angel Tree. This is a voluntary project for those who wish to participate. Below is a list of our "angels" and their individual needs.



The Angels and their wish lists are below. Please respond via email with the items you/your firm would like to donate. All donations are to be submitted no later than the December 9<sup>th</sup> membership meeting

**Brandon (boy) age 2**

Pants size: 3T  
 Shirt: 3T  
 Shoes: 9 child

**Wish list:**

- Tricycle
- Trucks
- Basketball
- Educational toys
- Movies
- Power wheel

**Neveah (girl) age 8**

Pants size: 7child  
 Shirt size: 7 child  
 Shoes: 1 ½ child

**Wish list:**

- Bike
- Easy-bake oven
- Dolls
- Skates

**Nakyla (girl) age 8**

Pants size: 8 child  
 Shirt size: 8 child  
 Shoes: 13 child

**Wish list:**

- Baby doll
- Bratz doll
- Doll House
- Coat

All items need to be unwrapped and placed separately in bags with the child's name.

If you would like to arrange an earlier drop off/pickup, please contact April McClung, Philanthropy Director. [Courtney.L.McClung@ehi.com](mailto:Courtney.L.McClung@ehi.com)

Also forward your emails designating the Angel and Gift/s you have selected to bring to April as well.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at the December Meeting and joining EWI of Jackson in giving to those less fortunate.



## Firm Night sponsored by Member Firm

### Entergy Mississippi



President Tara Raynes Welcomes everyone to the beautiful Electric Building



Representatives and Executives network, enjoy delicious food and have the opportunity to tour the newly renovated facility.



John Mullins of Entergy Mississippi expounded on the value of EWI membership and what it has meant to his company over the years, as Entergy was a Charter Member Firm of EWI of Jackson. He also acknowledged the personal and professional growth that he has seen in Representative Sandy Powlett as a result of her participation in the Chapter.



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## Orientation Page

We will try to feature Board and/or Committee Positions each month so that you will better understand who does what and "why".

### Board Position: Program Director

The Program Director is responsible for planning all monthly programs, including firm night, executive night and business meetings. They are responsible for securing a meeting venue, menu selection and guest speaker for the program. All within budget previously set by the board and approved by the Membership. With assistance from the Sergeant-at-Arms, they communicate the number of attendees to the venue to insure an accurate head count.

Speakers are selected in accordance with EWI's Mission Statement:

- Promoting Member Firms
- Enhancing personal and professional development
- Encouraging community involvement

Monthly membership is normally held on the 2nd Thursday of each month unless otherwise determined by the Board. According to Chapter Standing Rules, each representative is to attend a minimum of 6 meetings per year, one of which shall be a Business Meeting.

The Chapter Board welcomes your comments and any ideas you'd like to share for Program subjects or venues. Send to President Tara Raynes at [traynes@trustmark.com](mailto:traynes@trustmark.com) or [gkeenum@graydaniels.com](mailto:gkeenum@graydaniels.com) for consideration.

2010-2011 Program Director is Georganna Keenum, representative for Gray Daniels Auto Family

### Committee Position: Hospitality/Official Greeter

One of our Committee Positions that goes hand in hand with our programs each month is the Hospitality Chair and Official Greeter.

Our Hospitality Chair is responsible for greeting representatives and guests for each monthly meeting. They are in charge of distributing name badges prior to the meeting and collecting them afterwards. They will also insure that guests have appropriate name badges as well.

This committee may also coordinate icebreakers and/or networking activities in order to promote relationship-building and fun!

Our 2010 Hospitality Chair is Sherry Bullock, representative for Eubank and Betts, and can be contacted at: [www.sbullock@eubankbetts.com](mailto:www.sbullock@eubankbetts.com)

#### **How We Can Help....**

- One way that we can make Sherry's job easier and much more pleasant, is to be on time (or even early) for the scheduled meetings, pick up our badges and return them to her as we depart.
- We should each seek out a person that we do not know as well as others and make everyone feel welcome.

And to insure that each program is the best that it can be, we always remember that we are Professional Business Women and conduct ourselves accordingly; giving our full attention when speakers are at the platform.

The City of Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit organization comprised of corporations, service businesses, non-profit organizations and individuals who share the Chamber's goal of promoting and maintaining a healthy business environment for businesses to succeed. If it's important to business, it's important to the Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber, which represents more than 800 businesses in the metro Jackson area, is celebrating 17 years of service to the community.

The Chamber Board of Directors work with the City and civic leaders to help ensure economic growth and stability for Ridgeland. This partnership makes Ridgeland an economic leader and one of the fastest growing cities in Mississippi.

Popular Chamber events include Business After Hours held each month; Denim & Diamonds Ladies Night Out; the Cellular South – Ridgeland Chamber Golf Tournament; Shop Ridgeland First! a three-week pre-holiday shopping extravaganza; Make A Difference Day; the Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast; quarterly New Member Breakfasts; ribbon cuttings, ground breakings and grand openings and the Chamber's Annual Awards Banquet.



**Member Firm:**  
**The City of Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce**  
**Executive and Representative: Linda Bynum**

Linda Bynum has served as Executive Director of the City of Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce since 1996. She is a 1999 College of Charleston graduate of the Institutes for Organization Management sponsored by the U. S. Chamber of Commerce. She is also a 1996 graduate of Leadership Madison County.

Linda is a graduate of Mississippi University for Women where she majored in journalism. Her career path includes writing for Southern Living in Birmingham, Alabama; news and feature writer for The Clarion-Ledger; Newsletter Editor for the National Recreation & Park Association in Washington, D.C., and College Information Officer for Northern Virginia Community College in Annandale, Virginia.

Linda is Rotary Paul Harris Fellow; 2009 President of the Hinds/Madison Kiwanis Club and attends St. Columb's Episcopal Church in Ridgeland. She has a daughter, Sarah Roman, who lives with her husband Alex in Paducah, KY and a Maltese named Sunny who is the sweetest dog in the world!

Linda enjoys antiques, reading, traveling, music and collecting Herend china.



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# Jackson

## Member Firm

- Alliance Business Services
- A T & T Mississippi
- Atmos Energy Corporation
- BankFirst Financial Services
- BankPlus
- Barlow Eddy Jenkins, PA
- Belhaven University
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of MS
- Broderick Advertising, Inc.
- Business Communications, Inc.
- Colonial Country Club
- Drs. Tramel & Brown
- Dunamis Technologies, LLC.
- Entergy Mississippi
- Enterprise Leasing Company South Central, LLC.
- Equity Solutions
- Eubank & Betts, PLLC
- Gray-Daniels Auto Family
- Geiger Midsouth
- Hilton – Jackson Convention Center
- International Business Machines Corporation
- Jackson Preparatory School Foundation, Inc.
- L-3 Vertex Aerospace
- Maurice H. Joseph, Inc.
- McDade’s Markets
- Mississippi Children’s Home Services
- Mississippi Department of Employment Security
- Mississippi State Personnel Board
- Morningside Partnership
- Old Capitol Inn
- Regions
- Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce
- Ridgeland Tourism Commission
- Ruth's Chris Steakhouse
- ServiceMaster OneCall
- Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co.
- Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Co.
- St. Dominic Health Services
- St. Dominic – Jackson Memorial Hospital
- Stuart C. Irby Company
- TEC
- TempStaff, Inc.
- Todd & Associates, Inc.
- Trustmark Corporation
- University of Mississippi Medical Center
- WAPT-TV
- Watkins, Ludlam Winter & Stennis, PA
- Wells Fargo Advisors
- YMCA of Metropolitan Jackson

# Executive Women International®

## ***EWI® Mission and Vision***

### *Mission*

Executive Women International® is an organization which 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

### **Corporate Office Contact Information**

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Website: [www.ewiconnect.com](http://www.ewiconnect.com)

### **Jackson Chapter Contact Information**

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