



Letter From the President

I am having Spring Fever, are you? I hope everyone is getting to a point in the year where things might slow down a bit but if you are like me that point is not in near sight!

Our February Membership Meeting at Trustmark was a success. Of course, I may be a little biased. Our speaker, Laura Polk, Corporate Trainer for Trustmark, gave a wonderful presentation titled *Motivating*

Yourself to Motivate Others. I hope that those who attended the meeting have been refilling your basket! During the meeting we installed a second representative for Trustmark Corporation, Kim Dubuisson. I know you will join me in welcoming her to our Chapter as she becomes more involved.

We also had a business session during the February meeting in which the membership voted to change the April meeting date to Tuesday, April 12 as the original date conflicted with the dates of EWI Spring Conference in Tulsa, OK. The membership also voted on the Spring Philanthropy Project as participating in the Habitat Women's Build on Friday, May 6. Please mark your calendars for these dates, and look for more information coming soon regarding the Spring Project.

I am really looking forward to our March 10 Business meeting at the MS Crafts Center in Ridgeland where our very own Sandra Spengler, representative for Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance, Co. will give our professional development presentation titled *Generations and Communication*. I hope each of you will make every effort to attend. As a reminder the Chapter encourages your attendance at all meetings but at the least six meetings with one of those being a business meeting.

Our renewals are complete and we had three firms that did not renew; Colonial Country Club, Dunamis Technologies and International Business Machines. This gave us a retention rate of 94%, and EWI of Jackson is proud for each and every member firm. Please be sure your Executive knows of our appreciation in their continued support. Penny Danford, our Membership Director, and her Committee continue to pursue opportunities for additions to our Chapter. Should you have a referral or idea of someone who would like to join EWI of Jackson, please call or email Penny or someone on her Committee, they will be delighted to hear from you. I have challenged the Board of Directors to bring one additional

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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 Luckett

Letter From the President (*continued*)

member firm to the Chapter before this year ends in September. EWI Corporate asked us to set a reasonable growth goal, and we set a goal of adding 11 member firms. Please join me in helping us reach this goal!

The Spring Conference this year will be in Tulsa, OK on April 14-16; and Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting (LCAM) will be held in Minneapolis, MN on September 22-24. Please go ahead and make plans to attend these leadership conferences, and be sure to let our Vice President, Suzanne Sullivan, know if you are planning to attend either conference. There are scholarship opportunities made available on behalf of EWI of Jackson to its representatives for attending these leadership opportunities, please look for more information on applications for these scholarships to be posted to the website soon! We would love to have each of you attend one if not both of the conferences; it is an excellent opportunity to grow professionally and personally and to learn more about the organization and your fellow EWI representatives locally and nationally as well as internationally.

I would like to thank everyone for your continued involvement in EWI of Jackson, the friendships we share and connections that are made during our meetings. See you soon!

Tara

March Birthday Wishes

Representatives:

Joy Griffith	3/7	Sustaining Member
Suzanne Sullivan	3/15	Belhaven University

Executives:

Doyle Warrington	3/11	Ridgeland Tourism Development
Carolyn Boteler	3/30	TempStaff, Inc.

March Door Prize Assignments

Theme: *Spring Surprise*

Firms assigned to bring door prizes each month are asked to select a "Prize" that goes along with the "Theme". Costs of Door Prizes should be around \$25.00.

Tickets for Door Prizes are now: 5 tickets for \$5.00

Firms assigned for this month:

<i>Atmos</i>	<i>Jackson Preparatory School</i>
<i>Stuart C. Irby</i>	<i>MS Children's Home Services</i>
<i>Miss. Dept. of Employment Security</i>	



DATES TO NOTE

March 15, 2011

The next Board meeting will be hosted by Cherrita Speech at the Mississippi Department of Employment Security at 11:30 a.m.

April 12, 2011

Membership Meeting to be held at Eventful in Ridgeland



***March Business Meeting
March 10, 2011***

Mississippi Crafts Center

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

Dinner Fees - \$30/person
Standing Reservations apply, regrets only by noon
Monday, March 7, 2011 to
Cherrita Speech at
601-321-6040 or
cspeech@mdes.ms.gov

February 2011 Board Meeting Highlights

EWI of Jackson held the February Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at Old Capitol Inn hosted by member Penny Danford representative for TempStaff.

Treasurer's Report:

General Account	\$30,346.92
Investment Account	<u>\$43,144.41</u>
Sub-Total	\$73,491.33
B/C/D/P	<u>\$10,957.73</u>
Total	\$84,449.06

The Sergeant-At-Arms report listed 46 member firms with 55 representatives. There were a total of 34 representatives in attendance at the February membership meeting. This number includes representatives, our speaker and guests.

Membership Director, Penny Danford continues to network with Prudential, Ann Prewitt Realty regarding joining EWI. Director Danford is planning a Membership Committee meeting for early March.

Philanthropy spring project will be Habitat Women's Build held on Friday, May 6, 2011.

Program Director, Georganna Keenum reminded the Board that the March business meeting will be held at the Mississippi Craft Center with Sandra Spengler, representative for Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co. giving the professional development presentation for the evening.

Publication Director, Rhonda DuBois noted the due date for submissions for the March Connect will be February 23, 2011 with publication date of February 28, 2011.

Fund-Raising Director, Brandy McCoy stated the Fund-Raising Committee will hold a meeting on February 22, 2011 to discuss the golf tournament.

Prayer Requests

- Rita Parker's mother in hospice care
- Wanda Park's husband, Bob-chemo treatments
- Jean Miesse's son-in-law, Joe McNair - cancer treatments
- Rhonda DuBois friend, Jenny Mills - ovarian cancer
- Teresia Gray - pain in her arm
- Leslie Weaver with Harrisburg Chapter-nephew has brain cancer
- Sylvia Napper family in the recent death of her mother
- Maurice Joseph Family - recently deceased
- Vickie Butler - friend of Gloria Deister recovering from brain aneurysm
- Cherrita Speech's Administrative Assistant, Deidra Turner recovering from heart attack
- Georganna Keenum's family—recent death of aunt, Katherine Jurgens
- Terry Wray Family—recently deceased
- Diane Bass' mom—pulmonary embolism in left lung



Attention EWI Representatives pursuing an undergraduate, graduate, or post-graduate degree, EWI can help with your expenses.

Apply Today for an EWI Fellows Scholarship!

To Learn More Call Toll Free: 1-877-4EWI-NOW
or Go Online to www.ewiconnect.com





Our Speaker for March Meeting

Generations and Communication

Our very own, Sandra Spengler will be our speaker for the March membership meeting. Sandra will be discussing characteristics, needs, and wants of each generation in the workplace. The focus of the presentation will be on the Millennials that are currently entering the workforce.

Sandra has worked for member firm, Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company for 26 years. She is currently manager of the corporate communication department in addition to corporate training and development.

Sandra holds several certifications within the training industry including Development Dimensions and Franklin Covey. She is also qualified to administer the Myers Briggs Type Indicator. Sandra conducts workshops primarily in leadership and professional development. She also provides individual employee development as requested.



SAVE THE DATE.....

**Sept. 22-24, 2011
Minneapolis, MN
64th LCAM**

You don't want to miss out!

Leave a legacy gift and enhance financial security for those who will benefit from EWI's programs.



Call or go online for more details about how you can make a difference.

Toll Free: 1-877-4-EWI-NOW
or Go to www.ewiconnect.com



Don't forget to apply for one of our Chapter's Leadership Development Awards to help cover costs of attending either the Spring Conference or LCAM!! Applications can be found on our website!

EWI 2011 Spring Conference "Leadership: A Growth Experience"

Date: April 14-16, 2011

Location: Tulsa, Oklahoma

Registration Cost: \$295

Hotel: Tulsa Marriott Southern Hills

Cost: \$89.00 per night, double Marriott reward points

And FREE internet.



Founded in 1957, Enterprise Rent-A-Car is an internationally recognized brand with more than 6,000 neighborhood and airport locations in the United States, Canada, the U.K., Ireland and Germany. Through tremendous leadership and the entrepreneurial spirit of our employees, we have built the largest car rental brand in North America, known for exceptionally low rates and outstanding customer service. With more than 5,000 offices located within 15 miles of 90 percent of the U.S. population, Enterprise Rent-A-Car offers a wide variety of car leasing, vanpooling, car sharing and hourly rental programs – and local car rental customers are picked up at no extra cost.

We've expanded our operations beyond Enterprise car rental to include fleet management, used car sales, car sharing, vanpool, and commercial truck rental. Our adaptability and our insistence that we put our customers' needs first, the foundation of Enterprise Rent-A-Car customer service, have enabled us to lead the market in an increasing number of areas. Though we've been around for more than 50 years, we're confident that this is just the beginning.

**EWI of Jackson
Philanthropy Director
April McClung**



April McClung began her career with Enterprise as a manager trainee. She was quickly promoted to Assistant Branch Manager of the Columbus and Starkville branches. After two years in the rental division, she was promoted to her current position as Talent Acquisition Manager for Enterprise's South Central Region--Mississippi. April oversees the recruiting efforts and hiring needs for over 40 different locations in the Mississippi territory with the exception of Southaven, Horn Lake, and Pascagoula, MS.

April is also a member of Mississippi Association of Colleges and Employers (MACE) where she serves as vice president of employers for the MACE organization. She enjoys shopping, traveling and giving to others.

April is a native of Columbus, MS and currently resides in Pearl, MS with her husband and two children. April holds a Bachelor's degree in business administration with an emphasis in marketing from Mississippi State University. She has been employed with Enterprise Rent A Car for 12 years.



**SOUTHERN FARM BUREAU
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY**

Founded in 1946, Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company has been serving the life insurance needs of its members and customers for over 60 years. Farm Bureau Insurance offices are located in counties and parishes in Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia with over 4,200 agents providing competitively priced life insurance products. Its motto is "Helping You Is What We Do Best". At the end of 2008, the company had over \$91 billion of life insurance in-force and \$10 billion of total assets. The Corporate office of Southern Farm Bureau Life is located in Jackson, Mississippi.

**EWI of Jackson
Secretary
Joyce Plunkett**



Joyce began her career at Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company in 1981 after earning a degree in business education from Mississippi State University. She worked for two years as an office assistant in our corporate training department before moving to human resources. During her years in human resources, Joyce has held several positions and was named human resources manager in 2002. She is responsible for recruiting, payroll, employee relations, benefits, compensation, and EEO compliance.

Joyce is accredited by the Human Resources Certification Institute and earned the PHR designation. Other credentials held by Joyce include the Fellow Life Management Institute (FLMI designation) and the Associate Customer Service designation (ACS).

Joyce was named 2010 Human Resources Professional of the Year for the state of Mississippi. Also Joyce was named one of the 50 Leading Business Women in Mississippi for 2010 by the Mississippi Business Journal.

She is active in Executive Women International, serves on the auxiliary board for the Mustard Seed and devotes herself to church and her family. Joyce lives in Madison with her husband Bruce, daughter, Emily and son, Jackson.



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

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.
 Drs. Tramel & Brown
 Entergy Mississippi*
 Enterprise Leasing Company South Central, LLC.*
 Equity Solutions
 Eubank & Betts, PLLC
 Gray-Daniels Auto Family
 Geiger Midsouth
 Hilton – Jackson Convention Center
 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

**firm has two representatives*

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

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