

Developing leaders to  
create positive results  
in Texas government.



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JUNE 2006

## Showcase Luncheon Committee

**June 28<sup>th</sup> Luncheon: Liz Carpenter, author and former White House insider**  
**"Start With a Laugh"**

by Laure McLaughlin, 2006 Program Chair



Everybody in Austin has heard of Liz Carpenter, whether it's because of her career as a speechwriter for President Lyndon Johnson and press secretary to Lady Bird Johnson during the White House years, or her very successful career as an author, speaker and commentator on the political scene. Mrs. Carpenter is well known for her acerbic wit, her intellect, her insight and her plain, lay-it-all-out-there approach to living.

Four U.S. Presidents have appointed Mrs. Carpenter to positions of trust. Under President Johnson she served as executive assistant to the vice president and later as White House staff director and press secretary to First Lady Claudia Taylor Johnson. Under President Gerald Ford, Mrs. Carpenter served on the International Women's Year Commission, and President Jimmy Carter appointed her Assistant Secretary of Education for Public Affairs. President Bill Clinton named her to the advisory committee of the White House Conference on Aging.

This University of Texas journalism school graduate and a recipient of UT's Distinguished Alumnus Award was a founding member of the National Women's Political Caucus. In 1977, Ladies Home Journal named her Woman of the Year in Government and Public Affairs. She was inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame at Texas Woman's University in Denton in 1985.

Mrs. Carpenter is the author of several best selling books, among them *Unplanned Parenthood: The Confessions of a Seventy-something Surrogate Mother*. Her most recent, *Start with a Laugh: An Insider's Guide to Roasts, Toasts, Eulogies, and Other Speeches*, will be available for sale at the conclusion of the luncheon.

We are extremely pleased and honored to have Liz Carpenter share with us her vast knowledge of state government. Make your reservations now by emailing [ewtg@ewtg.org](mailto:ewtg@ewtg.org) or calling 512.894.4370. EWTG luncheons are scheduled on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Austin Woman's Club, 708 San Antonio Street.



**June 8 EWTG HAPPY HOUR.** Serrano's, 1111 Red River, from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm. Purpose: Fun! Topic: Fun! For information (on selecting the Designated Driver) and (dismissing your) reservations, contact at least two EWTG members: someone who works too hard and needs to relax; and a reliable attendee who'll remind you to Come Join Us!

**June 8 Dallas Affiliate Meeting.** A.W. Harris Faculty Club, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd, Dallas (214.688.2653). Speaker: Victoria Hawkins. Topic: "National Nurse Campaign : A National Nurse for All Americans." To receive the Dallas Affiliate monthly email program announcement, or RSVP regarding your attendance, please contact Chris McDaniel at 817.792.7259 or [chris.mcdaniel@dads.state.tx.us](mailto:chris.mcdaniel@dads.state.tx.us).

**June 14 Austin Minicourse.** Carver Branch Library, 1161 Angelina, at Noon. Speaker: Cheri Butler. Topic: "Developing Your Personal Portfolio." For information and reservations, contact [ewtg@ewtg.org](mailto:ewtg@ewtg.org) or call 512.894.4370.

**June 28 Austin Showcase Luncheon.** Austin Woman's Club, 708 San Antonio, at noon. Speaker: Liz Carpenter. Topic: "Start With a Laugh." For information and reservations, contact [ewtg@ewtg.org](mailto:ewtg@ewtg.org) or call 512.894.4370.

**July 13 Community Service Opportunity.** Capitol Area Food Bank, 8201 S. Congress (between William Cannon and Slaughter Lane), from 6 to 9 pm. For information or to sign up, please contact Paula Griffin at [paula.griffin@cpa.state.tx.us](mailto:paula.griffin@cpa.state.tx.us).

**If you would like to receive the current minutes from this month's EWTG Board meeting, please contact Penny Johnson at [ewtg@ewtg.org](mailto:ewtg@ewtg.org) or 512.894.4370.**

Executive Women in Texas Government is a non-partisan organization that promotes leadership in service to Texas by offering professional development opportunities.

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## A Note from the President

by Beverly Bavousett

### Benefits of Professional Networking

Recently I was asked to speak at an EWTG function on the benefits of professional networking. Since networking is a major reason for EWTG's existence, it seems appropriate to share the information with you.

By definition, networking means mixing, mingling, associating, contacting, exchanging, and interacting. My five talking points (TIMES) are shown below.



#### Training

Through interaction with other professionals, you hear about and can share with others opportunities to learn and grow. For example, EWTG member Susan Durso recently told us about some excellent and free UT Law School classes. I happen to know that some of us attended! I did some networking and enticed a judge to serve on our Woman of the Year selection committee.

#### Interpersonal Skills

Professional networking offers you an opportunity to try out different conversational approaches with people in a safe environment. You can experience and learn from dealing with different personalities and responses. Books and audiotapes can help you with mingling techniques.

#### Means (Resources)

On a one-to-one level, you can get help or advice. Professional outreaching can net training for all EWTG members and can also provide opportunities for you to develop your skills as a speaker. My own networking through Leadership Texas has resulted in some of our mini-course and conference speakers and the opportunity for me to speak at a Leadership Texas function.

#### Employment Opportunities

If you are looking to hire someone, EWTG is a prime organization to make known your need to find a qualified candidate. Or, if you are seeking a different position for yourself, networking can often lead you to job openings. Right or wrong, finding these opportunities is often related to "who you know."

#### Synergy

Meeting new people and developing new relationships can cause you to be more effective, more creative, and even more productive. It's the whole idea of being better – coming up with better ideas when you are involved with others.

The acronym for these talking points is "TIMES." Times, times, times! The more times (opportunities, events) you participate in and the more times (literally minutes, hours) you put into it, the more you times (multiply) the probability of reaping benefits from professional networking.

Professional networking can be done one-on-one, at group functions, through email (set up a group and choose some who think differently than you do), telephone or letters. Network with new people, people who in some way interest you – by what they do, where they work, how they behave – people who other people say you should get to know.

Professional networking takes time, effort, and often makes you get out of your comfort zone. Be realistic in your expectations, as not all efforts are successful. Everyone has a different point of view, and some views may be contrary to your own. But even experiencing contrary point of views can be worthwhile learning situations. You won't get to know everybody at a group function. Consider two to three meaningful conversations a success! Many efforts will be successful, and you'll be surprised at some of the outcomes. Expanding your horizons through professional networking by connecting to a group different than your normal peers can take you places you never dreamed of.

*"There is no such thing as a "self-made" man. We are made up of thousands of others. Everyone who has ever done a kind deed for us, or spoken one word of encouragement to us, has entered into the make-up of our character and of our thoughts, as well as our success."*

— George Matthew Adams, Philosopher

## Program Committee

### May 24 Showcase Luncheon: Billy Hamilton, Chief Deputy Comptroller of Public Accounts

#### “School Finance – Problem Solved?”

by Lynn Whitten and Clare Dyer, Secretary-Treasurer

The May luncheon program offered a rare treat – to have an important subject, complex and often dry, presented in plain language. Long-time Deputy Comptroller Billy Hamilton used the full force of his national reputation as a tax policy expert, his in-depth familiarity with the issues, and his passion for public service to shine a bright light on the sometimes murky issue of public school finance. He discussed several significant aspects of the legislation that was just passed this month.

In the first year property taxes will be reduced by 17 cents per \$100 valuation. Local governments can increase the rate by 4 cents without going to the voters, though, so the relief may be down to 13 cents, instead of 17. The problem with property tax relief is that it doesn't last.

Another problem is that the property tax relief that the Legislature just passed isn't paid for. The changes increased state income by \$18 billion and spending by \$43 billion, leaving a \$25 billion gap over the next five years. The Texas constitution allows us to carry debt on the books, but not in the budget, so we will be facing a problem right away – how to deal with a \$5 billion yearly gap. Unlike the federal government, Texas is not allowed to borrow to cover the difference, at least under current law.

The Legislature also shifted some of the responsibility from local governments, which have been providing about 60 percent of school funding, to increase the state's funding percentage from 40 percent to 50.

Since the Legislature is understandably hesitant to pass new taxes, the budget will have to be balanced by cuts of an estimated \$10 billion per biennium. It is also possible that other taxes will have to be raised. Many expect a ½ cent sales tax increase in the next session. With the state now committed to funding 50% of the cost of public education the long term implication is that property tax rates in three years will be right back up where they were, while the state will still have a commitment to fund a greater portion of public education than before.

Hamilton also discussed Texas' fiscal capacity; that is, the state's ability to raise additional money. Bonding companies in New York consider Texas a good risk, because we still have the option to pass an income tax to increase public funding. It is unlikely that such a change will occur, however, because the political will for such an initiative is not there.

Speaking with feeling, Hamilton left us with a few final thoughts and fundamental questions:

- Some Texans need a social safety net. Consider that children of disabled or “deadbeat” parents can't help what family they were born into. These kids need good schools and decent medical care. If they don't receive these services when they are young, we will be billed later – in the form of prison costs, welfare costs, and treatment for even worse medical problems.
- Governing is very difficult. It is easy to talk about cutting budgets, but very difficult to actually cut them. Where do you cut: Schools? Highways? Hamilton noted, however, that even back in the days when Texas had lots of money, the legislature didn't necessarily spend it wisely. Having money is not the answer in itself.
- Public schools are important because they are the fabric of our society. “Schools are at the center of communities,” Hamilton said. They bring people together over common concerns. Texas has already reached the point where 30-40% of kids in Texas don't graduate from public schools. And it would be a terrible loss, he feels, if Texas goes to the Louisiana model, which is to rely on private schools to educate our kids.

In the end, how we address and solve our school finance problems comes down to our answers to these questions: Who are we as a people? What do we want to do? Who do we want to take care of?

*If you cry “Forward” you must be sure to make clear the direction in which to go. Don't you see that if you fail to do that and simply call out the work to a monk and a revolutionary, they will go in precisely opposite directions?*

– Anton Chekhov

*“Onward, through the fog!”*

– Oat Willie

## Program Committee

### June 14 Minicourse: Cheri Butler of the University of Texas at Arlington

#### “Developing Your Personal Portfolio”

by Laure McLaughlin, 2006 Program Committee



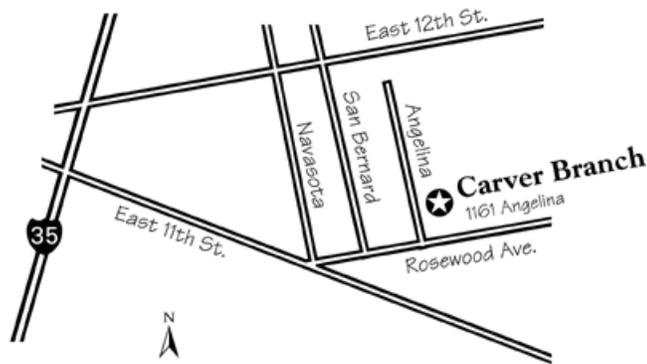
If you're a member of EWTG, or you are thinking about joining, then you have already demonstrated a commitment to be the very best person you can be. Part of that commitment is continually enriching your life, and sometimes we all need a little nudge in that department. And EWTG has just the nudge – a presentation from Cheri Butler of the University of Texas at Arlington, an expert on career and personal development.

Ms. Butler is a career counselor and educator with over 15 years of experience and expertise in job search skills training, assessment interpretation, resume writing and interviewing. She has been a featured speaker in local, state, national, and international conferences on a variety of career topics, most recently at the Counseling Arabia Conference in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

An adjunct instructor teaching an undergraduate College Learning class and assisting in a Graduate MBA Career class, Ms. Butler is also a Licensed Professional Counselor and the Associate Director of Career Services at UT-Arlington. She has served in leadership roles in many state and national professional organizations including President of Texas Career Development Association and President of National Employment Counseling Association.

Come join us for the minicourse and get “nudged” in a new direction! To help you make the most of your lunchtime, Mangia Pizza and salad will be available for \$6 per person (salad only is \$3) for the first 25 people who RSVP. Networking (and eating!) begin at 11:30 a.m., the program begins at Noon and ends by 1 p.m.

For information and reservations, contact EWTG by email at [ewtg@ewtg.org](mailto:ewtg@ewtg.org) or by telephone at 512.894.4370. Please state whether you want to purchase pizza and/or salad when you make your reservation. Also, because EWTG provides the pizza at-cost based on reservations, please be mindful that EWTG may have to invoice those who order pizza but are unable to attend.



*There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly.”*

— R. Buckminster Fuller

## Program Committee

### May 10 Minicourse: Pam Owens of Edge of Your Seat Consulting

#### Part 2: Road Trip or Commute? How do you handle changes in your work environment?

by Laure McLaughlin, 2006 Program Committee



Once again, EWTG members were treated to Pam Owens' witty, intelligent and fun presentation on what it takes to improve the way we all view the world and the people (read: problematic coworkers or supervisors) in it. Owens' approach is to think of the difference between a commute, with all its stress and gotta-get-there-now approach, and a road trip that reaches the same destination, but in a less stressful, more collaborative way.

Some of Owens' advice: Never put on your brakes when entering the highway. Watch your speed and pace. When other drivers tell you that they don't drive well, BELIEVE THEM! Know that other drivers are judging you at all times. Cultivate your verbal and non-verbal driving language. Pay attention to road signs. Know that the trip may end at a destination totally different from the original one. Know when to invite passengers on your journey, and when to ride solo.

Owens encouraged EWTG members, through various exercises, to ask others for permission to engage with them. Be consistent in your message, have a cooperative tone, and be careful not to use red-flag words such as "problem" or back others into a corner with phrases like "you're against (blank)" or "you don't want to (blank)".

Coach the change, Owens said, don't force the change. Sometimes, that means breaking up the trip into smaller side trips. Invest yourself into the change up front by saying things like "So, talk to me about (blank)," "It sounds like (blank)," or "Would you allow me to (blank)." But, Owens cautioned, don't let somebody else's problems take the lead. Stay in charge, but be flexible.

Above all, approach matters, Owens reiterated. As change approaches, think through the potential roadblocks and work through potential responses. And finally, realize that some drivers may just never get in the car – and it's not your problem.



## Membership Committee

### New Member Mentorship Program: A special opportunity for our new EWTG members

by Julie Atchison, Membership Director

As a new member, you may find it difficult as you try to decide which EWTG activity to become involved in. We understand that you are busy and want to make the most of your personal time. This is where our specially-created mentoring program can facilitate a positive experience – by offering personalized assistance from your very own EWTG mentor throughout your first year of membership.

The New Member Mentorship pairs-up those who've recently joined EWTG with seasoned members:

- We want our new members to feel free to ask questions.
- We want our mentors to guide the new member in activities that will help her reach for success via our EWTG programs.

Seasoned EWTG members are strongly encouraged to volunteer for mentorship by sending Julie an email at [jatchiso@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:jatchiso@tceq.state.tx.us). Many new members have already joined this program; but if you became a member during this past year and would like to join this program now, please email Julie.

This adventure is more fun with a buddy!

## Successful 2006-2007 Executive Success Team Annual Celebration!

by Connie Williams, President-Elect

Your Mentoring Committee hosted this year's annual celebration and reception for EWTG's Executive Success Team members at the Carver Branch Library on May 17. New Team members and continuing participants met to enjoy refreshments, network, share ideas, and plan for their new teams' year.

The purpose of the Annual Celebration was to recognize the successes of current Team participants throughout the past year and to welcome new Team members. The celebration provided an opportunity for new Team members to become acquainted with other Team members and seek ideas for getting started on new teams.

The Executive Success Team program began in 1998 with five Teams. Currently, there are 14 Teams comprised of 90 members – 30 of those are new participants. This year, five new Teams were created; and some continuing Teams added new members.

Many thanks to the successful committee work in recruiting, planning the program, and matching participants. The Mentoring Committee members include Susan Heck, Carol Jackson, Jebron McCue, Joelyn Weeks, and Connie Williams. We especially appreciate the support of Grainger, Inc. and Susan Heck as the Executive Success Team Celebration Sponsor. Thank you for your generous donation.



*New and returning EWTG Executive Success Team members enjoy the celebration program*



*Jebron McCue addresses the celebrants*

## News from your Communications Committees

by Cindy Hale, Communications Director

### NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR EWTG!

The Website Committee is finishing up the process of moving the EWTG website to a new web host! This is being done to add some new capabilities that weren't available to us at our old host site – primarily, to allow us to set up an online registration system for EWTG events like our Conference in November.

A new registration system will be a welcome change, but there are also some other changes that go along with the move. Part of the process includes a change in the email addresses we'll be using for EWTG business.

The old EWTG main address, [ewtg@onr.org](mailto:ewtg@onr.org), is changing to [ewtg@ewtg.org](mailto:ewtg@ewtg.org), so mark your address books! We'll be keeping the old email address for a month or two, but would like for everyone to switch to the new one as quickly as possible. You can start using the new [ewtg@ewtg.org](mailto:ewtg@ewtg.org) address right away.

We have also added three new addresses to give you even greater access to EWTG:

[conference@ewtg.org](mailto:conference@ewtg.org) – This mailbox is for conference-related emails. Whether you're asking for information, sending in a Call for Presenters form, or volunteering, this mailbox is your first stop for conference business.

[newsletter@ewtg.org](mailto:newsletter@ewtg.org) - EWTG is all about its members, and we want to hear more about you! If you have a story to share, the Newsletter Committee would like to hear it. No guarantees, but you may find yourself a published author in the EWTG Star.

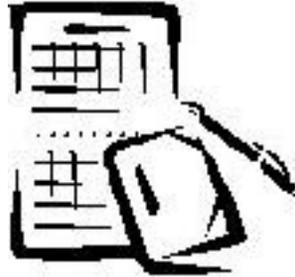
[website@ewtg.org](mailto:website@ewtg.org) – The Website Committee wants to hear from you too! If you have suggestions or updates for our website, or recommendations for additions to our bookstore, this is the place to send them.

All of these new email addresses are ready to use starting right now, and we encourage all of you to make the change as quickly as possible. Thanks for your help as we enter the newest phase of development on our EWTG website.

### SHOP THE NEW EWTG E-BOOKSTORE!

The Website Committee is very pleased to announce that our EWTG Bookstore is now open for business! The EWTG Bookstore contains reviews and links to books written by recent speakers and those recommended by our members. By agreement with Amazon.com, EWTG will receive a small percent of the proceeds from the sale of books through our website. Support EWTG and your own pursuit of knowledge and insight by purchasing through our Bookstore link: <http://www.ewtg.org/bookstore.htm>

## Ladies!!! Mark Your Calendars



Plan NOW to attend the  
2006 EWTG Professional Development Conference!!!

Join the EWTG as we celebrate 20 years of  
Taking the Lead - Developing Leaders

**November 20, 2006**

*Your Conference Committee promises an array of dynamic speakers  
for your personal and professional development.*

**L**   **K for additional conference information  
in upcoming EWTG newsletters**

... including how to register early at a discounted conference rate!

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EWTG is an organization of dedicated individuals devoted to developing and encouraging women in Texas government and higher education by providing members with the skills and knowledge necessary to excel.

## Conference Evaluation Committee

### Call For Members

by Sandra Tate, Conference Evaluation Committee Chair

Would you like to have input in what all the 2006 conference evaluation forms look like? The Conference Evaluation Committee is in the process of designing all the conference evaluation forms and is looking for members to lend their talents to us.

The committee also establishes procedures for collection of the forms at the conference, analyzes the data obtained in the weeks following the conference, shares data with speakers and workshop presenters, then provides a written report to the Board. Evaluation of the conference is an important task as it helps determine what worked and what can be improved – making each year's conference better than the last.

If you would like to take part in assisting the committee complete this task, please contact the Conference Evaluation Committee Chair, Sandra Tate at [Sandra.Tate@tea.state.tx.us](mailto:Sandra.Tate@tea.state.tx.us) and join the committee today.

### The Longevity Strategy: How to Live to 100 Using the Brain-Body Connection

*Most of us are interested in learning how we can make the most of our lives – extending not only our professional careers, but opportunities for increasing our 'quality of longevity'... and even enhancing how we enjoy the present moment. By now, we all know to pay attention to our particular health risks, diet, and exercise. Most of us are also aware of the importance of brain stimulation in subverting memory loss, even Alzheimer's disease: the "use it, or lose it" maxim. No matter our particular chronological age, there is more we can do to plan for a good, long life... and most of it is mental.*

Medical research is rapidly extending our life spans, but what kind of long life can we anticipate? "You have the power to redefine aging as joyfully spending the gift of more time to do all that is important to you," argue the authors of *The Longevity Strategy*, which combines the unique perspectives of a leading brain expert and a highly successful CEO to identify the key traits that link centenarians. The authors reveal how the discoveries of brain research—together with personal action—will make longer life not just worthwhile, but a genuine gift. Not another "mind over matter" story, this book sets forth no-nonsense advice based in hard science for people planning the "fourth quarter" of their lives.

"None of us can stop aging, but we don't have to grow old," assert the authors. They make convincing arguments for novel ways of planning for a longer and better life, including:

- keep up with the latest brain research, which is leading to major advances in longevity
- build in a back-up plan; diversify your vocation from the very beginning
- spice up your life with risk
- erase the word "retire" from your vocabulary
- don't be fooled into thinking longevity can be found in a bottle (... this includes alcohol, Botox, and hair color!)

The authors say that your sensible preparations for a fourth quarter and your positive attitude toward the real possibility of longer life will enliven and enrich your every day. "You don't have to be a brain scientist to figure out why that makes sense," comments William Safire in his foreword to *The Longevity Strategy*. "Use your head."

*The Longevity Strategy*, published March 13, 1998, is the first book produced under a partnership between the [Dana Press](#) and [John Wiley & Sons](#).

*(The article above can be found at The DANA Foundation website: <http://www.dana.org/books/press/danabook/longevity/> The Dana Foundation is a private philanthropic organization with interests in brain science, immunology, and arts education. It was founded in 1950. Dana Press, a division of the Dana Foundation, publishes health and popular science books about the brain for the general reader. It also publishes periodicals and educational material, as well as informational material on behalf of the Dana Foundation and Dana Alliance.)*

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## Dallas Affiliate News

by Chris McDaniel, Communications Director

May was an exciting month for the Dallas Affiliate as we celebrated our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with EWTG. Our Spring Luncheon on May 5<sup>th</sup> featured Lynn Flint Shaw's "Women Now." Mrs. Shaw is an expert consultant on educational and business development who has been recognized as the Elite News Woman of the Year and is the recipient of the TACA Silver Cup Award for the Arts. Lynn shared her knowledge of the importance of women acquiring and maintaining their professional skills and the advantages of women finding mentors in the workplace. Eleven attendees expressed interest in joining EWTG.

After much anticipation, we were honored to have Affiliates Director Lori Field and her secret guest, EWTG President Bev Bavousett, join us for the regular dinner meeting on 05/11/06. Lori talked to us about Executive Success Teams and the importance (and rewards) of mentoring each other. She taught us that female fusion occurs when women come together in a group and gave us ideas for team activities and discussions.

Bev helped us realize the benefits of professional networking, including the development of synergy, interpersonal skills, training, employment opportunities and resources. She taught us about "Times, times, times!" and reminded us that the more times we participate in activities and events, and the more time we put into each endeavor, the more times we will benefit from professional networking. We were thrilled to meet Lori and Bev and found them both to be inspirational and motivational leaders.

When doing your spring cleaning this year please keep in mind "Attitudes and Attire" for donations of professional clothing. A non-profit agency, Attitudes and Attire is dedicated to promoting personal growth for women seeking self-sufficiency. Marketing Director Debi Forester will be our guest speaker in August and will kick off our fall public service project to provide interview-appropriate attire and accessories

(purses, scarves, jewelry, money for new shoes, etc). for underprivileged women entering the workforce. More information about donations sites will be provided as it becomes available.

The June meeting in Dallas will host Victoria Hawkins, DrPH, RN, from the National Nurse Campaign. This grassroots movement that began with one nurse's editorial in the New York Times a year ago, has snowballed into a legislative initiative that, if passed by Congress, will create an office of a National Nurse, who will be key to delivering the message of prevention and health promotion to every single American through education and massive community outreach efforts.

General meeting information: Dallas Affiliate meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2006 at the A.W. Harris Faculty Club, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd, Dallas (214.688.2653). The regular meetings begin with an informal social at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner and a business meeting at 6:30 p.m. The program begins at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person. If you would like to receive the Dallas Affiliate monthly email program announcement, or to RSVP regarding your attendance, please call Chris McDaniel at 817.792.7259 or email [chris.mcdaniel@dads.state.tx.us](mailto:chris.mcdaniel@dads.state.tx.us).

## Houston Affiliate News

### Building Our Virtual Bookshelf

by Rebecca Rae, Houston Affiliate Chair

May was the kick-off month for the Houston Affiliate's "Bookshelf". Utilizing "E-Share" members will share information on books that they recommend for professional or personal growth. The first book on the "Bookshelf" is *Soar with your Strengths* by Donald O. Clifton and Paula Nelson. The authors encourage you to build on your strengths and learn to manage your weaknesses.

## 2006 Affiliate Officers Houston Affiliate:

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### Holly Faison, Secretary-Treasurer

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## Community Service Committee Joins Capital Area Food Bank Effort

You already know that the Capital Area Food Bank (CAFB), provides food to the needy families of Austin. But did you know that the CAFB is facing a crisis as a result of Hurricane Katrina and Rita?

Resources and donations to the food bank have been stretched by the high demand from those natural disaster victims who relocated to Central Texas. More families than ever need your help.

The EWTG Community Service Committee offers three ways for you to get involved!

1. Bring non-perishable food items to the June luncheon.
2. Make a monetary donation to CAFB at your luncheon table.
3. Join your fellow EWTG members for a fun evening of sorting and boxing food donations at the Capital Area Food Bank Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup> from 6 - 9 pm.

The Capital Area Food Bank of Texas is located at 8201 South Congress between William Cannon Drive & Slaughter Lane

You must remember to wear close-toed shoes!

Please plan to arrive by 6:00pm and stay until 9:00pm – the time goes by quickly!

Please email Paula Griffin at [paula.griffin@cpa.state.tx.us](mailto:paula.griffin@cpa.state.tx.us) to sign up for this fun event.

### FATHER'S DAY is always the third Sunday in June. This year Father's Day is June 18.

*Whether our fathers are living or have passed on, whether our relationships with them are supportive or strained, we are affected and influenced – by the fathers we have, and by the father-figures we've chosen.*

*"A father is always making his baby into a little woman. And when she is a woman he turns her back again." – Enid Bagnold*

*"The thing to remember about fathers is... they're men. A girl has to keep it in mind: They are dragon-seekers, bent on improbable rescues. Scratch any father, you find someone chock-full of qualms and romantic terrors, believing change is a threat, like your first shoes with heels on, like your first bicycle..." – Phyllis McGinley*

*"All fathers are invisible in daytime; daytime is ruled by mothers and fathers come out at night. Darkness brings home fathers, with their real, unspeakable power. There is more to fathers than meets the eye" – Margaret Atwood*

*"It doesn't matter who my father was; it matters who I remember he was." – Anne Sexton*

*"The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother." – Henry Ward Beecher*

Work-life balance has been a hot topic in the media for years. But whether it's opting out of the work force, cutting back on hours or learning how to balance priorities, most of the coverage has been about mothers.

The truth is, dads are concerned about juggling work and family, too. A 2000 study by the Radcliffe Public Policy Center found that most men ages 21 to 39 would give up some of their pay for more time with their families, says Rob Palkovitz, professor of individual and Family Studies at the University of Delaware.

Palkovitz, who interviewed 40 dads for an upcoming book about fatherhood, asked them about the challenges of being a father and "balance was the No. 1 issue."

Brian Reid, a stay-at-home dad from the Washington, D.C., area who runs the blog RebelDad.com, says it can be difficult for men to focus on achieving that balance because stereotypes persist.

"There is the question of family economics, of temperament, of career trajectory, but these are all the same for men and women," Reid says. "If the calculus is any different for dads, it's because they have to break free of some outdated and unfortunately social expectations about what society thinks they should be doing."

*(The above is excerpted from an article by Jennifer Powel Acord, "Finding the Right Balance: Dads also struggle to give both work and family 'good quality time', " DelawareOnline: The News Journal, 05.29.06)*

# MEMBERSHIP



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