

Developing leaders to  
create positive results  
in Texas government.

# STAR

PUBLISHED BY EXECUTIVE WOMEN IN TEXAS GOVERNMENT

OCTOBER 2006

## Showcase Luncheon

### Showcase Luncheon Committee

**Amy Mifflin, Marathon Oil Company Manager for Corporate Social Responsibility**  
"Fighting Malaria in Africa"



Houston-based Marathon Oil Corporation, the fourth-largest U.S.-based fully integrated energy company, is one of the unsung heroes in the fight against malaria in Equatorial Guinea, Africa. The company is now a model of hands-on corporate humanitarianism and responsibility through the Bioko Island Malaria Control Project (BIMCP).

When Marathon acquired production interests in Equatorial Guinea in 2002, the Company quickly identified malaria as the key health issue facing employees and local communities. It became clear that elimination or at least drastic reduction of malaria on Bioko Island would not only protect the Company's workforce, it would also reduce the healthcare and economic burden of this devastating disease and make a significant difference in the lives of Equatoguineans.

By working to control mosquitoes that spread the disease, improving the diagnosis and case management of malaria victims, and reducing the proportion of children with malarial parasites, Marathon and its partners have drastically reduced the number of mosquitoes and infected humans.

As the Manager for Corporate Social Responsibility, Amy Mifflin is responsible for seeing that Marathon is a global leader in community and social welfare development, human rights, education and training. She is also responsible for ensuring that Marathon is accountable to these communities by depending on respect, cooperation, stewardship and sustainable investment.

Continued on page 3

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



**Oct 11** Austin Minicourse  
Carver Branch Library, 1161 Angelina, at noon. Speaker: Connie Barron, Registered Nurse and Certified Personal Trainer. Topic: Healthy Living in an Unhealthy Environment. For information and reservations, contact [ewtg@ewtg.org](mailto:ewtg@ewtg.org) or call 512.894.4370.

**Oct 12** Retirees Committee Meeting  
Bennigan's, 7604 North IH 35 (just south of Hwy 183 on the west side of IH 35), at 5:15 pm. This monthly meeting is open to any EWTG member who is retired or who is interested in retirement issues.

**Oct 12** Project Mgmt Institute - Professional Development  
From 8 to 5, at the Renaissance Hotel, 9721 Arboretum Blvd., Austin. Topic: Professional Customer Care. Cost for PMI Members: \$225 by September 15, \$250 afterwards. Cost for non-PMI Members: \$275 by September 15, \$300 afterwards. Register online today at [www.austinpmi.org](http://www.austinpmi.org).

**Oct 14** Dallas Affiliate Meeting  
A.W. Harris Faculty Club, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, at 6 pm. (214.688.2653). 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).

**Oct 20** 2006 EWTG Conference - Call for Moderators  
Moderators are needed for the 2006 EWTG Professional Development Conference on Nov. 20! Send an e-mail to [Pam@PersuasionCommunication.com](mailto:Pam@PersuasionCommunication.com) for a copy of the Call for Moderators form, which can also be found in the September and October newsletters.

**Oct 25** Austin Showcase Luncheon  
Austin Woman's Club, 708 San Antonio, at noon. Speaker: Amy Mifflin, Marathon Oil Company, Manager for Corporate Social Responsibility. Topic: Fighting Malaria in Africa. For information and reservations, contact [ewtg@ewtg.org](mailto:ewtg@ewtg.org) or call 512.894.4370.

**Nov 20** 20th Annual Professional Development Conference  
From 8 to 5, at the Renaissance Hotel, 9721 Arboretum Blvd., Austin. Conference Theme: Taking the Lead - Developing Leaders. Register online on this site today! For more information, contact [ewtg@ewtg.org](mailto:ewtg@ewtg.org) or call 512.894.4370.

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## A Note from the President

by Beverly Bavousett

A lot of EWTG activity has been going on during this month of September! The conference activities are picking up, the Nominating Committee met and developed a slate of nominees for the board positions, the by-laws were reviewed and revisions considered (stay tuned!), and the Search Committee has been searching!

Speaking of the Search Committee, it is on track and surging forward. I am genuinely impressed with the very talented and experienced women who are on the committee. They have brought to the committee a great variety of skills which have been and continue to be extremely valuable. It is a wonderful, gifted group and I thank them for the time and effort they are putting forth.

During Search Committee discussions, it was decided that "Executive Director" did not align with the actual job responsibilities. This led the committee to look for a title that more clearly represented what the person actually does. We wanted a title that fairly represented the roles and responsibilities to an outsider who might be considering submitting an application.

An Executive Director leads an agency/organization, develops strategic plans and makes executive decisions for it. That is not the case with EWTG where the Board of Directors, and sometimes the membership, lead, develop and make the final decisions for EWTG. When you read the responsibilities for the EWTG position, they do not reflect activities of an Executive Director.

The committee brainstormed for alternatives to Executive Director, came up with several titles and submitted these to the Board of Directors. Administrative Director was supported by Board and the Search Committee. This title is often used among other nonprofit organizations.

Some have voiced a concern that Administrative Director does not carry the same prestige as Executive Director. State government often has two titles for a job, a classification title and a functional title. An example would be advertising for and hiring a program administrator whose functional title is project administrator. EWTG is not a state agency and does not adhere to the State Classification Office rules. However, nothing would preclude EWTG from using an "official" title of Executive Director and a functional title of Administrative Director.

So, we received 51 applications! These have gone through an initial screening process and five very qualified applicants will be interviewed on 9/30/06 with final interviews to take place on 10/07/06. If all goes as planned, Penny's replacement will start in mid October and will work with her through the end of the year. Then EWTG will begin a new chapter in 2007!

**The EWTG by-laws are being revisited, and we would like to invite you to take a look at them. Copies of the revisions can be obtained by sending an email to [ewtg@ewtg.org](mailto:ewtg@ewtg.org) or by calling 512.894.4370. The bylaw revisions are now also available for download on the home page of the website.**

## COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

### **It's Time to Clean Out Your Closet for Lisa's HOPE Chest (special need for coats, shoes, purses, and accessories)**

As promised, the Community Service Committee will be collecting cleaned, gently-worn fall and winter career clothing, coats, and gently used accessories, purses, and shoes at the EWTG October luncheon. The HOPE Chest accepts professional clothing and accessories for women and anything wearable for men, including suits, shoes, and work clothes such as blue jeans and t-shirts. If you prefer, a check made out to Lisa's H.O.P.E. Chest is always welcome for items like new hose and undergarments. Tax donation receipts will be available. To find out more about this worthwhile organization, visit <http://www.lisashopechest.org/>.

### **Race for the Cure News**

EWTG's Community Service Committee wants to remind you about this year's Susan G. Komen – Austin Race for the Cure: Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Whether you run it, walk it, or just show up to encourage the participants – your support for this worthy cause is appreciated. Register online at [www.komenaustin.org](http://www.komenaustin.org)

Plan to celebrate this event with other EWTG members by meeting us after the race at El Mercado (S. First Street location) – 11:00. Hope to see you there!

## **Program Committee**

### **October 11 Minicourse**

#### **Connie Barron, Registered Nurse and Certified Personal Trainer**

#### **“Healthy Living in an Unhealthy Environment”**

by Laure McLaughlin

'Tis the football, soccer, school, end-of-fiscal-year, election, pre-legislative, report wrap-up, pre-holiday shopping, baking, cooking and wrapping season...and if you're not tired by now, you will be.

For the final minicourse of the year, EWTG is offering an opportunity for you to get to know other EWTG members, break bread (well, actually it's pizza) and learn some life-coping, body-trimming tips to help you through.

Enter Connie Barron, a registered nurse, certified personal trainer and owner of the GoddessFit fitness studio who caters to “exercise phobic, mid-life ladies who are working on establishing healthier lifestyles.” If you are such a goddess, think you could be such a goddess or think this sounds just like a goddess you know, then come to the EWTG minicourse on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. at the Carver Branch Library, 1161 Angelina, just off East 11<sup>th</sup> Street. Connie will help us all with stress management, tips on exercising more than our plate-lifting skills and healthier living.

To help you make the most of your lunchtime, EWTG will again have Mangia pizza, salad and cookies (no irony there) for \$6 per person or \$3 for salad only, or you can bring your own lunch. Pizza serving begins at 11:30a, the program begins at noon and it ends by 1pm.

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.

## **Showcase Luncheon**

### **Continued from page 1**

Mifflin joined Marathon in 2002 as the Diversity Manager and was instrumental in developing and managing corporate Diversity Councils domestically and internationally. She also oversaw communications and marketing campaigns for the Diversity Organization. Mifflin has over 11 years experience in Diversity Management. She currently serves on the board and an inaugural committee at the Holocaust Museum in Houston. She obtained a Bachelors of Science in Marketing and earned a second major in Management in 1990 from Indiana University. She obtained an MBA with a concentration in Organizational Leadership in 2000 from Butler University in Indianapolis.

Please help us welcome Amy Mifflin to EWTG and hear how one oil company is doing something good for its neighbors. Make your reservations now by emailing [ewtg@ewtg.org](mailto:ewtg@ewtg.org) or calling 512.894.4370. EWTG luncheons are \$17 and are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Austin Woman's Club, 708 San Antonio Street.

## Program Committee

### Showcase Luncheon

#### Former Austin Mayor and School Board President Gus Garcia, “Austin—Past, Present and Future”

by Laure McLaughlin

Did you know that Austin’s now famous “Keep Austin Weird” slogan is a product of the Austin Chamber of Commerce? And that former Governor Ann Richards was instrumental in the Mayor and the City Council unanimously approving the Nokonah downtown apartment project, even though the project’s sponsor ran a very contentious race against the Mayor, because she wanted to live in it? Or that 450,000 Hispanics live in the greater Austin area, far more than previously thought?

All are true, former Mayor Gus Garcia, a resident of Austin for almost 50 years, told EWTG members as he related his insider’s view of Austin’s recent political history, complete with stories about Austin’s famous and infamous residents.

Asked what he was most proud of, given all of his service on the Austin Independent School Board, the Austin City Council and as Austin’s mayor, Mr. Garcia had a simple, perhaps surprising answer: “That we found Austin’s true spirit and make people want to be here.”

Where Austin needs to improve, he said, is in its education of minority children. “We need to challenge these young students and light that spark in them,” he said. Too often, he said, he goes to these schools and the kids have bored faces and a dull look in their eye. “We have to help these kids,” he pleaded.

In the 1960’s and 1970’s, Garcia said, Austin leaders looked around and saw that the city’s 100,000 residents had only two main industries—state government and the University of Texas. “We can’t have a wheel with only two spokes,” Garcia said. “Even in the early 1990s, our downtown looked like a ghost town. It was the hole in the doughnut.”

So, city leaders decided to court Silicon Valley and the high tech industry to support Austin’s economy. “When the word went out to Silicon Valley about Austin, they came here and they liked it here,” he said. “And as IBM and Motorola executives began retiring, they started their own businesses here.” The music industry also loves Austin, he said. Some major music business conferences chose Austin for their 2007 and their 2008 meetings.

Perhaps most inspiring, however, was the Mayor’s challenge to EWTG members to get involved in city government. Volunteer for boards and commissions, he urged, because Austin has a lot of them and it needs its citizens’ help. And support the upcoming bond proposals to rebuild Austin’s aging infrastructure. “Instead of building nice new facilities in the outskirts of town, we need to remember that our older communities need our help and attention, too.”

## Program Committee

### September 13 Minicourse: Kathy Lansford, founder of the Launch Pad Job Club for job seekers in Austin “What To Do If It Happens To You”

by Reni Johnson



In today’s job market, there is always the possibility of a layoff, Kathy Lansford, an employment counselor and trainer for WorkSource and founder of the very successful Launch Pad Job Club, told EWTG members at her recent workshop. But being without work is not a crisis. You can make it a great experience, but it all depends on what you do to prepare, educate and involve yourself during your job hunt. Write or rewrite your resume, get out in the community, and network, network, network

According to Ms. Lansford, the best places for networking are professional organizations such as EWTG. Once you join an organization that interests you, then you can conduct your own informational interviews and volunteer for committees which gets you in a network of people that can help you get the right job.

Help in a job search can come from the most unexpected places. Ms. Lansford told a true story of a man in the high tech field who had just lost his job. As he was sitting at a traffic light, a homeless man came to the car, begging. When the man in the car said he had no money to give because he was unemployed and looking for work in the high tech field, the homeless man went back to his backpack and gave the man in the car a business card. The homeless man explained that his ex-wife was the hiring manager for a local high tech firm and told him to call her without saying how he got her number. The man did, got an interview and eventually landed an excellent job.

I have my own networking story to share with you. At one of the early planning meetings of the Program Committee this year, I visited with a new committee member. As we talked, I told her that I was a paralegal seeking new employment. Immediately, she informed me that her husband’s company was looking for someone. In no time, I sent her my resume, received a call back, interviewed for and finally won my current position at Texas Gas Service Company.

Many people, particularly women, are often afraid to ask for what they want, Ms. Lansford said. Professional, capable women need to learn to do it. Our future success both professionally and personally depends on it.

## EWTG 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE NEWS!

### Ladies!

Our 20th annual Professional Development Conference scheduled for November 20, 2006 at the Renaissance Austin Hotel in the Arboretum is upon us.

Registration for our celebration has already begun. We are encouraging online registration this year, so if you have not already registered, please visit our website at [www.ewtg.org](http://www.ewtg.org) to register.

The conference will begin with a light breakfast before the 8:30 a.m. opening session, so make your plans to arrive early!

Try to carpool to ensure parking for all attendees.

The silent auction committee has a great list of items to choose from; so make sure you visit the auction table!

The Registration Committee has promised some great parting gifts.

Our scheduled Keynote and Session Speakers have promised a show like none other.

Don't miss this opportunity to meet and greet such an interesting array of outstanding women like yourself.

See you at the Conference!!

### Get a Front-Row Seat for Your Favorite Speaker!

Volunteers are needed to be moderators for the 2006 EWTG Professional Development Conference Nov. 20. It's a great way to contribute to the organization, have fun, and not have to commit to a lot of time.

Moderators will be given information in advance about their speaker and will be asked to call and introduce yourself to the speaker. At the conference, your responsibility will be to help the speaker get set up, introduce him/her, and collect appraisal sheets at the end of the session. How easy is that?!

Interested? Please send an e-mail to [Pam@PersuasionCommunication.com](mailto:Pam@PersuasionCommunication.com) to get a copy of the Call for Moderators form, which can also be found in the September and October newsletters. The conference information is also posted online at [www.ewtg.org](http://www.ewtg.org), please take a look at the outstanding list of workshops and let us know your preferences.

Please Note: Moderators must register for the conference. Every effort will be made to assign moderators to a workshop for which they would normally register. Information will be e-mailed to you to help you prepared for this important task. Use the session numbers noted in the registration brochure.

Thanks VERY much from all the 2006 Program Committee members.

### Women In History - October

- 1789 – On October 4<sup>th</sup>, the Women's March On Versailles began. Women were demanding bread for their families.
- 1910 – On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, Blanche Scott became the first woman to solo in an airplane.
- 1916 – On October 16, Margaret Sanger opened the first United States public health clinic.
- 1922 – On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, the first woman U.S. Senator, Mrs. W. H. Felton, age 87 of Cartersville, Georgia, was appointed by Governor Thomas W. Hardwick to the seat vacated by the death of Senator Thomas E. Watson.
- 1943 – On October 19<sup>th</sup>, Hattie Caraway became the first woman to preside over the U.S. Senate.
- 1949 – On October 12<sup>th</sup>, Eugenie Moore Anderson was appointed U.S. ambassador - the first woman in that role. She was appointed by President Harry S Truman as ambassador to Denmark, served 1949-53; in 1962, she was appointed ambassador to Bulgaria.
- 1979 – On October 21<sup>st</sup>, Greta Waitz won the New York City Marathon. This was the first time women participated.
- 1984 – On October 11<sup>th</sup>, Kathy Sullivan became the first woman to walk in space.
- 1985 – On October 7<sup>th</sup>, Lynette Woodward was selected as the first woman to play for the Harlem Globetrotters.

# CALL FOR WORKSHOP MODERATORS

**Executive Women in Texas Government  
20th Annual Professional Development Conference  
Monday, November 20, 2006 - Renaissance Hotel (Arboretum) - Austin, Texas**

## **Taking the Lead - Developing Leaders**

A Leadership Development Seminar for Executive Women in Texas Government

### **I WANT TO VOLUNTEER!**

I want to be involved with EWTG! I would like to support the 2006 EWTG Professional Development Conference by serving as a Moderator for a workshop. Please find my information listed below:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop Preferences: \_\_\_\_\_

As a moderator, you will be the **KEY CONTACT PERSON** for your presenter(s). Once you have been confirmed as a moderator, you will receive your workshop assignment, instructions for contacting your presenter(s), and a brief task list to help provide better service to the presenter. You will play a vital role in making sure the presenter you are assigned to feels that she/he is a vital part of our conference.

Your volunteer time is greatly appreciated!

Please mail or e-mail completed form to:

**EWTG**  
**c/o Pamela Baggett-Wallis**  
**3506 Denbar Court**  
**Austin, TX 78739**  
[\*\*pam@persuasion-communication.com\*\*](mailto:pam@persuasion-communication.com)

Instructions: Moderators must register for and pay to attend the conference. Every effort will be made to assign moderators to a workshop for which they would normally register. Please indicate in the space above for Workshop Preferences the workshops you prefer to attend and moderate. Use the session numbers noted in the registration brochure.

**The purpose of a woman's life is just the same as the purpose of a man's life:  
that she may make the best possible contribution to her generation.**

**— Louise McKinney**  
**a Canadian activist for the rights of women**

**General Information**  
**EWTG Conference**

The Conference Planning Committee and the Renaissance Hotel are awaiting your arrival in November.

**Renaissance Austin Hotel**

9721 Arboretum Blvd.  
512.343.2626 or 1.800.HOTELS.1  
Deadline for special is November 2.  
\$85 – Single \* \$130 – Double \*

\* Rates are only available for November 19, 2006.

Free parking is limited in the Renaissance Austin Hotel parking lot. Limited Valet Parking is available for \$14. We encourage that you arrive early and car pool if possible.

**Optional Hotels (State rate available):**

- Amerisuites, Arboretum x (800) 722-1516 / 512.231.8491 x 3612 Tudor Boulevard, Austin, TX 78759  
[www.amerisuites.com](http://www.amerisuites.com)
- Candlewood Suites Northwest x (888) 822-6353 / (512) 388-1611 x 9701 Stonelake Blvd, Austin, TX 78759
- Fairfield Inn & Suites Northwest x (800) 228-2800 / (512) 527-0734 x 11201 North Mopac Expressway, Austin, TX 78759  
[www.marriott/auspb](http://www.marriott/auspb)
- Bradford Homesuites Austin Northwest x 10001 North Capital of Texas Highway x (512) 342-8080 x  
[www.bradfordsuites.com](http://www.bradfordsuites.com)
- Holiday Inn – Northwest/Arboretum x 8901 Business Park Drive, Austin, TX 78759 x 800.465.4329 / 512.343.0888,  
[www.hotelaustin.com](http://www.hotelaustin.com)
- Springhill Suites by Marriott Austin NW x 10936 Stonelake Blvd., Austin, TX 78759 x 888.287.9400 / 512.349.0444;  
[www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com)

Please check your Texas Statewide Hotel Directory for additional hotels that provide the state rate.

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**Houston Affiliate  
“Meet and Greet” Event**  
by Rebecca Rae, Chair



Sam Manning hosted a “Meet and Greet” event on September 14<sup>th</sup>, for prospective members at the “state building” on Polk Street to get to know more about Executive Women in Texas Government and the Houston Affiliate. Ms. Manning opened the meeting, and Julie Atchison, Membership Director from Austin, provided background history of EWTG, an overview of membership benefits, and information on the 2006 Professional Development Conference.

A facilitation of ideas for future programs resulted in a lengthy list of topics for future meetings. The room was filled with exchanges of conversation and one attendee submitted her membership application. An information poster of OAG’s Medicaid Fraud Control program was given-out to attendees from employees of the Office of Attorney General, Office of Special Investigations. This networking to inform others (notably HHSC affiliated agencies) will assist awareness and possibly the effectiveness of the program.

Other agencies represented in the building include Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Department of Agriculture. Details of the next meeting will be communicated as soon as a speaker has been confirmed.

**“Battles in life are never won. I mean, you don’t have your household budget permanently balanced; you have to balance it every year. Life’s a continuous business, and so is success, and requires continuous effort.” — Margaret Thatcher, 1989**

## 2006 Affiliate Officers Dallas Affiliate:

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### **Rosalyn Beyince, Public Affairs Director**

UT Southwestern Medical Center  
214.648.4343

## Dallas Affiliate News

by Chris McDaniel, Communications Director

As a change of pace and in order to tap into membership potential on the other side of the Trinity River, the Dallas Affiliate held its September meeting for the first time ever in Arlington at the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS). The mission and goals of DADS include enabling older Texans to live healthy, dignified, independent and productive lives. So, in keeping with this philosophy, the September speaker was Dr. Pat Gleason-Wynn, who presented: "Aging is a Women's Issue."

Using her sharp (and sometimes brutal) wit, Dr. Gleason-Wynn addressed the challenges women face as we grow older as well as the importance of taking responsibility now for our own financial, social and ethical decisions. For instance, long-term care insurance is a crucial consideration to maintaining a financially independent lifestyle without depleting personal savings if home, nursing, or long-term care assistance is needed. Advance Directives are legal documents that clearly establish a woman's end-of-life preferences with regard to healthcare decisions and/or surrogate decision-makers. Most Advance Directives do not require an attorney to make them valid. For more information on Advance Directives in Texas, visit <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/statutes/hs.toc.htm>.

Dr. Gleason-Wynn also provided information on several advocacy organizations for women, including the Older Women's League, which is a grassroots organization seeking to improve the status and quality of life for women aged 40 and over (<http://www.owl-national.org/index.htm>) and the National Women's Health Information Center, which is a government organization that provides education and promotes women's health through motivating healthful behavior changes (<http://www.4woman.gov>).

Dr. Gleason-Wynn has a Ph.D. and a Master's degree in social work and is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. She has worked with older adults in various settings for the past twenty-five years and is currently completing her Bachelor's degree in Nursing.

Despite the heavy traffic on the way into Arlington, member turnout was good and a dozen guests were in attendance. A drawing was held for three half-price memberships, which were awarded to new members joining EWTG.

Next month's business meeting will be back in Dallas in October 12<sup>th</sup> at the A.W. Harris Faculty Club. Also, the Dallas Affiliate of EWTG is registered as a team during the annual Komen Dallas Race for the Cure® on October 21<sup>st</sup> at NorthPark Center. More information about the Susan G. Komen foundation and its Dallas Affiliate can be located at <http://www.komen-dallas.org>. If you are interested in supporting an individual or making a general donation in the fight against breast cancer, please contact a participating EWTG member or Public Affairs Director Rosalyn Beyince @ [roz.beyince@utsouthwestern.edu](mailto:roz.beyince@utsouthwestern.edu).

General meeting information: Dallas Affiliate meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for April 13, 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 e-mail program announcement, or to RSVP regarding your attendance, please call Chris McDaniel at 817-792-7259 or send an e-mail to [chris.mcdaniel@dads.state.tx.us](mailto:chris.mcdaniel@dads.state.tx.us).



## Memoriam to Governor Ann Richards

by Laure McLaughlin



Many wonderful stories have been told about the late Ann Richards, each one funnier than the last. But one thing EWTG members may not know is that former EWTG president Lynn Whitten, a close family friend of Governor Richards, invited the Governor earlier this year to speak at EWTG's June 2006 luncheon. The Governor quickly accepted. The EWTG board and the Program Committee were absolutely thrilled, but we decided to keep it quiet for a while, just in case something changed and she couldn't come.

Unfortunately, something did. After the Governor announced her illness in April, we didn't hear from her office for several weeks, leading me to hope that this ugly, ugly disease was easily treated and she would be up and going in no time. Finally, though, her office called to cancel in time for us to ask Liz Carpenter to substitute for her, which Mrs. Carpenter did very graciously.

I intended to ask the Governor if I could introduce her at our luncheon with my own story of her, using a line from a speech she gave in Washington, D.C. several years ago. Her point was that women needed to learn to take care of themselves, including their personal finances, instead of depending on husbands or parents. Richards' closing line was memorable: "Ladies, think about it," she said. "More people have seen you naked than have seen your bank statement." After long, uproarious laughter, there wasn't one woman in the room who could dispute her.

Goodbye, Governor. We'll miss you. And I'm working on those bank statements.

I did not want my tombstone to read, "She kept a really clean house." I think I'd like them to remember me by saying, "She opened government to everyone."  
*-- Ann Richards, 1995*



### Here are some little-known, very interesting facts about Texas.

1. Beaumont to El Paso : 742 miles
2. Beaumont to Chicago : 770 miles
3. El Paso is closer to California than to Dallas.
4. World's first rodeo was in Pecos, July 4, 1883.
5. The Flagship Hotel in Galveston is the only hotel in North America built over water.
6. The Heisman Trophy was named after John William Heisman who was the first full-time coach for Rice University in Houston.
7. Aransas Wildlife Refuge is the winter home of North America's only remaining flock of whooping cranes.
8. Jalapeno jelly originated in Lake Jackson in 1978.
9. The worst natural disaster in U.S. history was in 1900 caused by a hurricane in which over 8000 lives were lost on Galveston Island.
10. Texas is the only state to enter the U.S. by TREATY (known as Constitution of 1845 by Republic of Texas to enter the union) instead of by annexation. This allows the Texas flag to fly at the same height as the US flag, and Texas may divide into 4 States.
11. A Live Oak tree near Fulton is estimated to be 1500 years old.
12. Caddo Lake is the only natural lake in the state.
13. Texas has had six capital cities:
  - Washington on the Brazos
  - Harrisburg
  - Galveston
  - Velasco
  - West Columbia
  - Austin
14. The Capitol dome in Austin is the only dome in the U.S. that is taller than the Capitol Building in Washington D.C. (by 7 feet).
15. The name "Texas" comes from the Hasini Indian word "tejas" meaning friends. Tejas is not Spanish for Texas

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## Fun Facts About Halloween

The celebration of Halloween started in the United States as an autumn harvest festival. In pioneer days, some Americans celebrated Halloween with corn-popping parties, taffy pulls and hayrides.

Jack-o-lanterns are an Irish tradition. In Ireland, oversized rutabagas, turnips and potatoes were hollowed-out, carved into faces and illuminated with candles to be used as lanterns during Halloween celebrations.



The pumpkin originated in Mexico about 9,000 years ago. It is one of America's oldest known vegetables. Pumpkins generally weigh from 15-to-30 pounds, although some weigh as much as 200 pounds. The majority of pumpkins are orange, but they also can be white or yellow. They are rich in vitamin A, beta-carotene and potassium, and their seeds provide protein and iron.

According to legend, the jack-o'-lantern began with a fellow named Jack, who was too stingy to be allowed into Heaven and too mischievous to join the Devil in hell. As consolation, the Devil threw Jack a lighted coal, which Jack placed inside a turnip he was eating. It is said that Jack continues to use the coal to light his path as he searches for a final resting place.

93 percent of children will go trick-or-treating.

Kids tell us that their favorite treats to receive when trick-or-treating are candy and gum. Eighty-four percent of kids said candy and gum are their favorites. Kids' least favorite items to get in their trick-or-treat bags were fruit and salty snacks like chips and pretzels.

Ninety percent of parents admit to sneaking goodies from their kids' Halloween trick-or-treat bags. Parents' favorite treats to sneak from their kids' trick-or-treat bags are snack-size chocolate bars (70% sneak these), candy-coated chocolate pieces (40%), caramels (37%) and gum (26%). Parents least favorite goodie to take from their kids' trick-or-treat bags is licorice (18%).

# MEMBERSHIP



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## Returning Members

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## Stars Over Texas



**Jebron McCue** retired from TX Department of Aging & Disability Services on July 31, 2006 with 24.5 years of service. She is working on her future now – walking the beaches of the world, learning to fly ultralights and play the banjo, resume working in theatre and get back to brush painting. Her email is [jebronmccue@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jebronmccue@sbcglobal.net).

**Diana Maldonado** was nominated for the YWCA Women of the Year Award in the Education category. The award ceremony will be held October 6, 2006, at the University of Texas at Austin Alumni Center.

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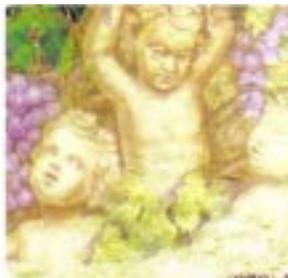
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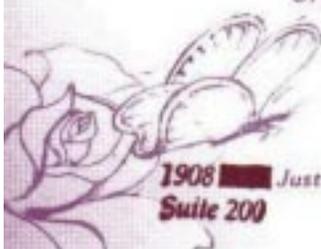
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