

April 25 Luncheon

Elizabeth Ames Jones, Railroad Commission Chair

Joelyn Weeks, Program Director



Elizabeth Ames Jones will be the keynote speaker at the monthly EWTG luncheon on April 25. Chairperson Jones serves as the state's 44th Railroad Commissioner and is the second woman elected to the post.

Commission Chair Jones was elected three times to the Texas House of Representatives before her 2005 appointment to the Texas Railroad Commission. In November 2006, she was elected to serve a six-year term at the Railroad Commission.

She also serves as the Railroad Commission's representative to the Coastal Coordination Council (CCC), the Coastal Land Advisory Board, and is a member of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC).

Ms. Jones was appointed by the IOGCC to represent its interest in the Research Partnership to Secure Energy for America (RPSEA). A non-profit corporation, RPSEA partners with energy-related entities and research organizations to help meet the nation's need for hydrocarbon resources. Commission Chair Jones was also selected to receive the 2006 Public Official Award by the Texas Public Power Association (TPPA).

The recipient of many awards recognizing her work ethic in the Legislature, Commission Chair Jones understands the importance of industries regulated by the Railroad Commission to our state's economy and to our national security. She works steadfastly to ensure the protection of our state's natural resources, as well as foster the growth of a strong domestic energy industry.

A graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, Ms. Jones and her husband are the parents of two college-age children.

The Railroad Commission of Texas was established in 1891 and has several regulatory divisions that oversee the Texas oil and gas industry, natural gas utilities, pipeline safety, safety in the liquefied petroleum gas industry, and surface mining of coal.

Make your reservations for the monthly luncheon by emailing ewtg@ewtg.org or calling 512.248.2044. EWTG luncheons are \$20 and are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Austin Woman's Club, 708 San Antonio Street.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



April 11 April Mini-Course
Carver Branch Library, 1161 Angelina, at Noon. Speaker: Speaker: Joelyn Weeks. Topic: Problem Solving - Tool, Skill and Process
For information and lunch option reservations, contact ewtg@ewtg.org or call 512.248.2044.

April 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.

April 12 Dallas Affiliate Meeting
The Dallas EWTG Affiliate meets on the second Thursday of each month 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 pm, followed by dinner and a business meeting at 6:30 pm. The program begins at 7:00 pm. 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.

April 12 Houston Affiliate Meeting
The Houston EWTG Affiliate meets on the second Thursday of each month, Noon - 1:00 pm, in a conference room of the Elias Ramirez Building (5425 Polk St). The conference room location will vary, but information will be posted each month, directing participants to the proper room. This is a brown bag affair, though beverages are provided. For information, contact Rosa Wilks Broussard, Houston Affiliate Chair, at 713.748.2816 or email: rmbroussard@hotmail.com.

April 25 April Luncheon
Austin Woman's Club, 708 San Antonio, at Noon. Speaker: Elizabeth Ames Jones, Railroad Commission Chair. For information and reservations, contact ewtg@ewtg.org or call 512.248.2044.

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President's Corner Get On Board!

Connie Williams, President

As executive women, working in Texas government and in business, it is vital to ask one another and ourselves this question: How can we help meet the challenges facing our state, now and in the future? The issues and challenges in Texas today are more numerous, complex, and varied than ever before. Rapid changes in recent years require specific competencies, in combination with professional expertise.

One of EWTG's Statements of Purpose – the reasons for EWTG's existence – is “creating a vehicle for elected and appointed officials to recruit women for executive positions in Texas government and higher education.” There are some positions that include seats on state boards and commissions that are designated by law or by rule for state employee appointments. In fact, board service is a significant opportunity for both advancing your career and working to provide excellent service – and it is too often overlooked.

Corporate governance reforms and pressure for more accountability are causing boards of all types to take new steps to transform their member composition and recruit new, independent directors. These boards are seeking highly qualified individuals whose experience and skills will contribute to their organizations and companies; and they want the service of such members to be extremely effective. Boards, commissions and councils in state government, business and non-profit organizations want members who possess relevant experience, knowledge, and leadership skills – combined with savvy interpersonal relations.

Remember the popular television show, *MacGyver*? The fictitious character, MacGyver, was a resourceful secret agent who used science, critical thinking and wit, rather than violence, to solve practically any problem. The character's ingenuity for solving intricate problems and using only the tools at hand are what made him in-demand and an influence among parents, teachers, and critics alike.

How can you *Get On Board* and become the type of leader that is most in demand today? Identify your strengths and expertise and how these combine in a way that is unique to you. Then make sure that you are maximizing your core strengths and continually building your professional expertise. When using your natural strengths and sharpest skills you *are* an asset to others. This is what it means to “be authentic” – and it's really quite practical and even simple to do; when you ‘bring your best self to the table’ you bring value to any group you work with, including boards. *Get On Board* with your authentic self!

EWTG is preparing its members to catch this train to a new destination– board service – and make meaningful contributions to our great state! Are you allowing yourself to take advantage of the ways that EWTG prepares you for this level of leadership? Have you thought about diversifying your range of knowledge and experience by attending the monthly luncheons, mini-courses, Executive Success Team meetings, educational events and our Annual Professional Development Conference? Embracing these member benefit opportunities in EWTG keeps you current with trends and events that prepare you to become a state leader and achieve the competitive edge in your career.

Another way that EWTG helps members to *Get On Board* is by serving as your source for information about related opportunities: The Texas Governor's office has an Appointments Division that serves as a portal for information about and application to state boards. Their website lists all of the state boards, commissions and councils with appointed members, has information on current and imminent vacancies, and provides a downloadable application form: <http://www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/appointments>. There are also numerous corporate and non-profit board service opportunities throughout Texas. For information on Texas non-profit organization boards, look at the website for the Texas Association of Nonprofit Organizations: <http://www.tano.org>. Catalyst, the research and advisory organization I referenced in my article last month, has information specifically to support women interested in corporate board service: <http://www.catalyst.org/services/cbs/womenseeking.shtml>. Seek out

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board management and other continuing education workshops and apply for an **EWTG Scholarship**: click on the menu to Forms and Documents on our website to download an application (www.ewtg.org). These resources for information, support and access can position you to take advantage of opportunities, serving as your ticket to *Get On Board*.

The following competencies will help you make the mental shift from a local level (a station platform) to global thinking (Grand Central Station!) where you can have an impact on broader issues and prepare for board service:

- **Improve visibility** – A wonderful way to be recognized as knowledgeable and to increase your business acumen is by contacting the EWTG Communications Director about writing an article for the newsletter. You already have the professional expertise to share; propose a topic that you think will interest the EWTG membership and help you become known for your expertise.
- **Be solution-oriented** — Focus on isolating a problem that is presented, and find alternative solutions when collaborating with others. Hearing and analyzing the various perspectives that people have about a problem will help you decide on the best solution.
- **Manage conflict** — Whether in a personal or professional environment, conflict is unavoidable, and handling it well is necessary to be perceived as a capable and results-oriented leader. Usually, conflict arises when two or more people have expectations that have not been clarified. Seeking to understand these expectations and finding a “win-win” outcome will increase respect from others.
- **Improvise critical thinking skills** — The ability to think on your feet, under pressure, is really about focusing on listening, being open to different perspectives, and trusting your intuition. (Remember the *MacGyver* character.)
- **Embrace negotiations** — One technique for negotiating effectively is to focus on addressing *interests* rather than *positions*. What results are positive actions, progress and increased camaraderie among board members or whatever group composition you work with.
- **Increase and refine fiduciary knowledge** — EWTG members who work in senior management positions have expertise in this area, which gives them increased autonomy and heightens their visibility. EWTG members desiring to be considered for senior management can improve and expand their financial and budgeting responsibilities within EWTG service and/or through internal assignments at work.
- **Volunteer on committees** — Most board applications include a section for describing your volunteer and community service experience. An excellent way to increase your profile is to volunteer within EWTG and participate in community service activities.

EWTG is calling you to *Get On Board* — to raise your profile for board service and other professional opportunities. I encourage each one of you to let EWTG serve as a “Conductor”: within this organization are numerous learning experiences and personal growth that give you the knowledge and confidence to help solve our state’s challenges and experience your personal power to make a difference. All aboard!

“Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us. Your playing small does not serve the world. We are all meant to shine, not just some of us; it is in everyone.”

Marianne Williamson – excerpted from a 13-sentence paragraph in her book, A Return to Love (1992)



Program Committee: April 11 Mini-Course

Joelyn Weeks: Problem Solving – Tool, Skill and Process

Joelyn Weeks, Program Director

Problem solving is a tool, a skill and a process: It is a tool, because it can help you solve an immediate problem or achieve a goal. It is a skill, because once you have learned it, you can use it repeatedly. It is also a process, because it involves taking a number of steps. Emphasis on initiative in the workplace requires one to recognize, define, and analyze problems and then develop workable solutions to correct them. Job interviews often include questions about one’s experiences in problem solving.

The April mini-course will focus on problem solving tools and processes and provide participants with a starting point in business problem solving (and other problem solving situations) where other people would just feel helpless and intimidated by the situation. Joelyn Weeks, 2007 EWTG Program Director, will facilitate the April mini-course.

Mark your calendars for interactive sessions scheduled for Wednesday, April 11 at the Carver Branch Library, 1161 Angelina, (just off East 11th Street).

To help you make the most of your lunchtime, EWTG will have Mangia pizza, loads of fresh green salad and cookies for \$6 per person (or \$3 for salad only). You also are welcome to bring your own lunch. Pizza serving begins at 11:30 am, the program begins at Noon, and it ends by 1:00 pm.

For information and reservations, contact EWTG by email at ewtg@ewtg.org, or by telephone at 512.248.2044. 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.



March Luncheon Recap: Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson

Joelyn Weeks, Program Director

Jerry Patterson, General Land Office Commissioner, demonstrated his fabulous story-telling skills as he shared wonderful, historical stories about Texas and the General Land Office at the March 28 EWTG Luncheon.

Commissioner Patterson described the establishment of the General Land Office (GLO) by the first Congress of the Republic of Texas. John P. Borden was the first commissioner and opened the GLO in October 1837. The second land commissioner, "Thomas "Peg Leg" Ward, was appointed in January. Ward presided over the land office for the next seven years. Throughout his term he struggled to make sense of the often unclear and tangled land laws, as well as the nightmare of conflicting surveys and untrained surveyors. The commissioner also had to combat rampant fraud and wrestle with dishonorable land speculators. Early on, Ward discovered that the job of land commissioner could be quite hazardous to one's health. In 1841 he lost his right arm when a cannon misfired during the official celebration of San Jacinto Day. Ward later was elected mayor of Austin in 1853.

On entering the Union in 1845, Texas' constitution charged the General Land Office with supervising and managing the state's millions of acres of public lands. Since then GLO duties have evolved, but its core mission remains managing state lands and mineral-right properties.

Commissioner Patterson also described the various GLO responsibilities – including the management of the more than 12 million acres dedicated to the Permanent School Fund. The GLO collects nearly a billion dollars a year for the Public School Fund from income generated by state land, making the GLO the second-largest revenue-producing agency in Texas state government.

The agency also administers a soil conservation program to prevent the erosion of Texas beaches. The Adopt-A-Beach program started by Land Commissioner Garry Mauro draws thousands of volunteers every spring and fall to gather trash from Texas beaches. The GLO promotes natural gas as a fuel to help keep the air clean. The agency also administers the Veterans Land Programs. The commissioner chairs the Texas Veterans Land Board, which makes low-interest loans to eligible veterans so they can buy privately owned land or houses or make home improvements.

Attendees at the March EWTG luncheon received a terrific treat as Commissioner Patterson shared his genuine interest in his office and its mission, as well as Texas history.

Meet the New EWTG Public Relations Director

The EWTG Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Wanda M. Thompson, Ph.D. as 2007 Public Relations Director. Wanda has graciously agreed to fill the remaining term previously held by Reni Johnson. Reni vacated her Board seat in March due to professional and personal circumstances. We thank her for her innovative hard work and dedication to EWTG in this important capacity.

Wanda, currently Deputy Executive Commissioner, System Support Services for the Health and Human Services Commission, brings to EWTG a wealth of experience and professional resources. The EWTG Public Relations Director is responsible for promoting EWTG to prospective members, state agencies, local organizations and the community at large; works with the Conference Committee to develop and implement promotional efforts for the Annual Professional Development Conference; administers the Woman of the Year award program and helps develop and promote the public face of the organization.

We wish Wanda and the Public Relations Committee great success for the remainder of 2007!

If you would like to receive the current adopted minutes from EWTG Board meetings, please contact EWTG's Executive Director, Jennifer Royster, at ewtg@ewtg.org or 512.248.2044.

Mentorship Committee News

Executive Success Teams: Sign Up Now!

Susan Durso, President-Elect

All current and new Team members are invited to the **Executive Success Team Annual Reception** on Wednesday, May 2, 2007, from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm at the Carver Branch Library, 1161 Angelina. Current members of Teams will share ideas with new members and all will get the opportunity to network. Join us for snacks and camaraderie!

Interested EWTG members, there is still time to sign up to join a Team or change the team you are on. (If you are currently an EST member and want to continue your participation, no action is needed.) Team member profile forms are on the EWTG website. Complete the Word document and send it by email to Jennifer Royster, EWTG Executive Director, at ewtg@ewtg.org or to Susan Durso at susan.durso@trcc.state.tx.us.

Open enrollment ends Friday, April 6, 2006. Make a decision to JOIN TODAY!

Conference Committee News

Call For Presenters

Carol Jackson, Vice President

The EWTG 21st Annual Conference planning continues – and you are still welcome to join one of the conference committees. (Please see last month's "Conference Committee News" for detailed information.)

The Conference Program Committee needs your help with getting the word out on our Call For Presenters. We are currently seeking presenters for our conference sessions who have interesting and useful information to share with EWTG members – and are able to present this information in a dynamic, engaging style. Please alert those you know who may fit this description – and share with them the elated proposal information, below. And don't forget to include yourself: EWTG members are especially encouraged to propose conference session presentations!

– CALL FOR PRESENTERS –

Have you heard a vibrant, motivating speaker lately?

If so, please inform the 21st Annual Conference Program Committee.

We are seeking dynamic speakers

who can present information that furthers our mission of leadership development.

Interested presenters with these credentials (or those recommending presenters)

may download the Call for Presenters form,

available at the "Forms and Documents" link on the EWTG website.

The call for presenters at the November EWTG Conference remains open until May 31.

But don't wait!

Respond now to help us put together the most informative and exciting conference yet.

For more information, please contact

Diana Maldonado (diana.maldonado@cpa.state.tx.us) or Anna Dunn (anna.dunn@tdi.state.tx.us).

Dallas Affiliate News

Chris McDaniel

The Dallas EWTG Affiliate came out of the gate slowly this year but fell into stride with back-to-normal attendance at the March meeting. Affiliates Director (and Fort Worth native) Mary Castleberry visited us from Austin. We were honored to have Mary join us, and she was a great help as we assembled Easter Baskets as part of our spring community service project. Twenty-seven baskets were prepared and donated to Community Partners of Dallas, who will distribute them to abused and neglected children.

Our guest speaker was Katy Perkins, MSSW, from Community Partners of Dallas, a non-profit advocacy organization that provides support to abused and neglected children served by Child Protective Services (CPS). Founded in Dallas in 1989 by citizens concerned about the limited resources available to CPS caseworkers and clients, the organization has served as a model to more than 100 other cities in Texas that have replicated this support, under the umbrella of Greater Texas Community Partners. According to Ms. Perkins, the CPS caseload in Texas is three to four times the national average. Dallas County alone receives 16,000 referrals per year. Through its six programs, Community Partners seeks to restore hope and dignity for children in Dallas County, and provide monetary and moral support for caseworkers otherwise spending valuable time (and sometimes their own money) procuring simple, but necessary, items that the children in their care need.

One program is The Rainbow Room, an emergency resource center that provides clothing, shoes, hygiene items, and even birthday presents for children served by CPS. Snacks and "removal bags" are also available for children who are abruptly separated from their families and homes. As Director of the Rainbow Room, Ms. Perkins is responsible for organizing four charity drives per year, and coordinating and maintaining constantly revolving supply of donations in their warehouse. Other programs for clients include StoryLine, a free telephone service for children hear stories read aloud by volunteers and celebrities, as well as group treatment programs for survivors of any age who have experienced sexual abuse.

Special programs for caseworkers include "Adopt-A-Caseworker" partnerships and caseworker appreciation events, which are meant to help recognize caseworkers' dedication and alleviate stress associated with their emotionally challenging job. Ms. Perkins sees her job as "helping children by helping caseworkers."

To learn more about Greater Texas Community Partners, log on to <http://www.gtcp.org/>. For information about volunteering in the Dallas area or making donations to Community Partners of Dallas, visit www.communitypartnersdallas.org.

The Dallas Affiliate meets on the second Thursday of each month at the A.W. Harris Faculty Club, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd, Dallas (214.688.2653). Meetings begin with an informal social at 6:00 pm, followed by dinner and a business meeting at 6:30 pm. The program begins at 7:00 pm. The cost is \$20 per person. If you would like to receive the Dallas Affiliate monthly email program announcement or RSVP regarding your attendance, please call Chris McDaniel at 817.792.7259 or email chris.mcdaniel@dads.state.tx.us.

2007 Affiliate Officers

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Katy Perkins from Community Partners of Dallas (center) helps put the final touches on Easter baskets; she is flanked by Dallas Chair Susan Rossiter (l), Sally Fernandez and Shirley Zwinggi (r).



Dallas Affiliate members show off their Easter baskets.

2007 Affiliate Officers

Houston Affiliate:

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Carolyn Kirkwood, Public Relations Chair
carolyn.kirkwood@dads.state.tx.us

Holly Faison, Treasurer
holly.faison@txdps.state.tx.us

Houston Affiliate News

Rebecca Rae

Participants at the Houston EWTG Affiliate meeting in March continued to solidify plans for the year. Some of the topics that the programs committee is working on include meeting facilitation, leadership skills, conflict in the office, and honing computer skills. Brenda McCoy volunteered to look into possible service projects that would fit within the guidelines set out by the Houston Affiliate. Charlotte Booker and Marline Boyd are looking into several social activities that group members will enjoy.

The Houston EWTG Affiliate meets on the second Thursday of each month, from Noon to 1:00 pm, at the Elias Ramirez Building (5425 Polk St). The conference room location will vary, but information will be posted each month, directing participants to the proper room. Everyone is welcome to bring lunch to the meeting. The Houston Affiliate will furnish iced tea, for the convenience of its members and guests.

Special Observations for April:

Administrative Professionals Week/Day & Informed Woman Month

Marci Spivey, Communications Director

Administrative Professionals Week[®]

Always observed annually during the last week in April – **April 22-28, 2007**

Administrative Professionals Day[®]

Observed annually the Wednesday of Administrative Professionals Week – **April 25, 2007**

Traditionally, a secretary was one who supported an executive by helping to manage their schedules, handle visitors and callers, and produce documents and communications. Today, with more managers keying their own correspondence and more files electronically stored, **managers are doing more clerical work; administrative assistants and secretaries are doing more professional work.** In today's downsized and restructured businesses, everyone is called upon to do more. Job descriptions are expanding and new titles are being created, such as administrative coordinator, office administrator, administrative specialist and information manager, to name just a few.

Administrative assistants have moved into training, supervision, desktop publishing, information management and research. They are involved with equipment purchase and maintenance, customer service, project management, public relations and supervision of outside vendors.

According to research by the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP), **most administrative professionals want to remain in their field and advance into higher support positions or become office managers. Many say they are finally receiving recognition for what they do, and they are becoming members of the management team.**

IAAP suggests that employers consider these ideas for observances:

- Hold a company-wide observance or special event for administrative staff, such as a professional development presentation, or a group event where the chief executive recognizes administrative professionals.
- Provide registration for a professional development seminar to build the individual's technical, interpersonal or business skills.
- Support membership in appropriate networking and professional associations.
- Encourage study for and attainment of professional certification.

Interestingly, while IAAP an research poll reveals that **administrative professionals prefer a company-wide observance or a training session or educational event; yet the most common observances of Administrative Professionals Week in respondents' offices are optional recognition by individual departments or managers (36.9%), lunch (18.9%), and candy or flowers (12.7%)**

It's always wise for employers, managers, supervisors or executives to ask their administrative staff how they would prefer to observe Administrative

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(Special Observations continued from page 7)

Professionals Week. It's especially appropriate that executive women model the respect and recognition that were likely hard-won as they advanced to their current leadership positions.

Formerly known as Professional Secretaries Week, Administrative Professionals Week (and Administrative Professionals Day, held on Wednesday – in the middle of this week) has been sponsored by the Kansas City, Missouri-based IAAP annually since 1952.

Sources: *International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP) website – <http://www.iaap-hq.org>: (1) /apw/APW2006_Recommendations.htm; and (2) /ResearchTrends/21centuryadmin.htm*

Informed Woman Month

Women seem to always have a lot on their plates. Not that men don't, of course; it's just that the types of roles and areas of responsibility that women take on tend to be diverse, requiring almost daily schedule juggling. Another tendency among women is to chronically postpone self-care, in order to accommodate their many priorities – which often include caring for children, parents and others. Because of this tendency, women may neglect their health: they may forget to schedule wellness check-ups, put off exercise or seeking treatment for a minor ailment, and skip meals.

Informed Woman Month — encouraging women to learn more about health topics that affect them – is observed during April, when business, family and community activities typically gear up. To keep up with increased activity and busier schedules, staying healthy during this season is important."

Women must prioritize time to reflect on their own health. One of the most important elements of a healthier lifestyle is regular check-ups. Here are just some of the screenings women should obtain:

- Pelvic exam and Pap smear once a year to detect gynecologic cancers as well as other conditions.
- Mammogram each year, starting at age 40 if you have no family history of breast cancer. Women of all ages should perform monthly self-exams and report any unusual changes or lumps to their doctor.
- Colorectal cancer tests each year, beginning at age 50 if there is no family history or personal history of colon cancer or intestinal polyps.
- Another key component to staying healthy is proper nutrition – a healthy diet, including a variety of foods.
- Finally, don't neglect physical activity. Exercise must become part of each woman's overall daily lifestyle.

Other Health-Related Observations in April

Women's Eye Health and Safety Month, Alcohol Awareness Month, Cancer Control Month, National Child Abuse Prevention Month, Workplace Conflict Awareness Month, National Women's Nutrition Week, Rekindle Your Romantic Self Day.

Other April Observations of Note for Women

Empowered Women Entrepreneurs Day (April 7),

*Anne Hutchinson Memorial Day (April 22), Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day (April 26).

*** The core American concepts of freedom of religion and freedom of speech had one of their earliest advocates in Anne Marbury Hutchinson**, "courageous exponent of civil liberty and religious toleration" (Born: 1591; Died: August/September 1643). A member of the Massachusetts Bay Colony (today's Boston), she was **the first woman in American history** who left an impression in our history books (Pocahontas of the Jamestown Colony notwithstanding), and the first one **to really challenge male control over affairs in America**. Many consider Anne Hutchinson to be our country's first feminist.

Well-educated and not afraid to speak her mind, Anne Hutchinson began inviting devout women to her home to reflect on weekly sermons. As her reputation grew, the gatherings attracted men, too, including the governor, Henry Vane. In addition to stepping outside the bounds of conventional women's behavior, her denunciation of the colony's ministers and her belief that "he who has God's grace in his heart cannot go astray" set her at odds with the religious establishment. **They moved to prosecute the woman Massachusetts's new governor, John Winthrop, criticized for having "a very voluble tongue, more bold than a man."**

According to Harvard professor Rev. Peter J. Gomes, **at her trial "she bested the best of the Colony's male preachers, theologians, and magistrates."** Knowing that the magistrates had no religious or political grounds to convict her, since a woman was not a subject of the law, Hutchinson stymied their questioning. **Despite her vigorous defense of her beliefs, she was excommunicated and banished in 1638**, and moved with her family and other followers to Rhode Island. **She is considered one of the founders of the Rhode Island colony, the first to establish complete separation of church and state and freedom of religion in what would become the United States.**

After her husband's death in 1642, Anne Hutchinson moved to Long Island, in New York. Tragically, she and all of her children save one were killed there in an Indian raid. The Hutchinson River Parkway in the Bronx is named for her. **But the most fitting tribute to Anne Hutchinson's influence — proof that her ideals ultimately prevailed over her opponents' — is the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution:** "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

Source: *U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Information Programs, Women of Influence – <http://usinfo.state.gov/products/pubs/womeninfl/hutchinson.htm>*

Center for Public Policy Dispute Resolution 2007 Training Opportunities

Basic information on the following courses is presented here for your information. (MCLE hours are requested from the State Bar of Texas.) All courses are held at The University of Texas School of Law's Center for Public Policy Dispute Resolution, 727 E. Dean Keeton St., Austin, Texas 78705. For more information, please call the Center at 512.471.3507.

April 30, 2007

The Heart of Conflict Resolution: Advanced Skills for the Dispute Resolution Practitioner

Trainer: Bernard Mayer, PhD
 \$195 "early-bird" rate; \$245 after 04.09.07
 \$195 government / non-profit rate

May 1, 2007

Clinic for Conflict Specialists with Bernie Mayer

Trainer: Bernard Mayer, PhD
 \$225 "early-bird" rate; \$275 after 04.09.07
 \$225 government / non-profit rate

June 4-8, 2007

40-Hour Basic Mediation

Trainer: Kimberlee Kovach, JD
 \$1,095 private rate
 \$945 government / non-profit rate

July 18-20, 2007

Resolving Public Policy Conflicts & Managing Contention in Public Meetings

Trainer: John B. Stephens, Ph.D.
 \$400 "early-bird" rate; \$450 after 06.26.07
 \$400 government / non-profit rate

July 27, 2007

Managing the Difficult Conversation: An Introduction to Dialogue Processes for Facilitators, Mediators & Community Leaders

Trainer: John B. Stephens, Ph.D.
 \$175 "early-bird" rate; \$225 after 07.06.07
 \$175 government / non-profit rate

EWTG Member Announcement

MPA Graduate Student Needs Interviewees: Future Demand for PhD Public Administrators in Texas

Marci Spivey, Communications Director

Rebecca Berryhill announces an opportunity for fellow EWTG members to help with a research project: assessing demand for PhD-level public administrators in Texas.

Dr. Patricia Shields, Professor and Director of the Texas State University MPA Program, contacted Rebecca and other MPA alumni of (Southwest) Texas State University to help boost participation in this graduate project that lays the groundwork for establishing a Public Administration PhD Program at Texas State University.

Here are the specifics on how you can help – from Dr. Shields:

"Genevieve Valera, a current MPA student working on her ARP, wants to interview state agency leaders that would have the sense of the demand for public administration PhDs in Texas. If you know someone that she could interview please drop her a line at gv1009@txstate.edu."

First Year Members

Abigail Bailey
Sarah Evans

Office of the Attorney General
Texas Building & Procurement Commission

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sarah.evans@tbpc.state.tx.us

Renewing Members

Cynthia DeRoch
Lillie Gilligan
Martha Whiting-Goddard
Susan Heck
Jennifer Hinojosa
Pamela Kopfer
Jeanette Washington
Sharon Williams
Mercie Zapata

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Retired, Governor's Commission for Women
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Grainger Inc.
State Office of Risk Management
Office of Court Administration
Comptroller of Public Accounts
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Returning Members

Jennifer Hamilton
Leticia Kappel

Comptroller of Public Accounts
Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists

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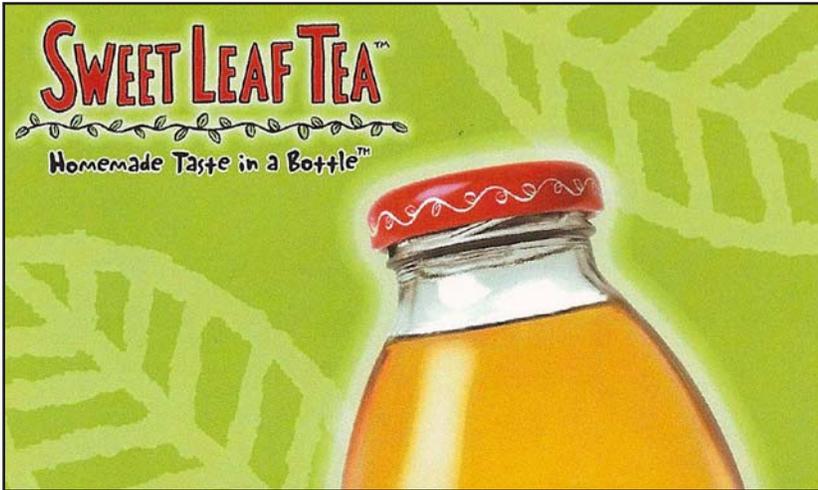
Stars Over Texas

Sandra Serna, Workforce Policy Analyst with the Texas Workforce Commission, has recently been appointed Chair of the City of Austin Human Rights Commission. Contact Sandra at sandra.serna@twc.state.tx.us to learn more about the important work of the AHRC.

Gail Anderson has transferred to the Texas Racing Commission as a Staff Services Officer. She can be reached at 512.490.4028 or gail@txrc.state.tx.us.

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