



Developing leaders to
create positive results
in Texas government.



PUBLISHED BY EXECUTIVE WOMEN IN TEXAS GOVERNMENT

MARCH 2009

March 25, 2009 - EWTG Luncheon

Hannah O'Donoghue, CCVI, RN, MS: "Managing Challenges by Addressing Mental, Physical, Emotional, and Spiritual Balance"



As leaders we deal with accepting, denying and reconciling forces that enable us to be successful. In order to do this skillfully we need to take time to identify ways we can better balance our mental, physical, emotional and spiritual resources.

Hannah O'Donoghue, CCVI, RN, MS will address how the mind denies what it does not understand so as human beings we need to listen to our whole selves of emotions, body and spirit. Women in leadership can be true to their unique capacity to lead from within. She will also discuss what happens when we are driven by fear

and how to nourish ways of being true to who we are in leadership.

Ms. O'Donoghue is a nurse, spiritual director and former health care executive who focuses her ministry on holistic approaches to healing. She works with individuals and groups who seek balance in their lives. Her focus addresses the mental, emotional, and spiritual dynamics that arise in managing the challenges of caring for self while serving others in complex environments.

Ms. O'Donoghue began her career as a nursing supervisor of pediatrics in Alexandria, Louisiana. She gained experience and served as the President of the Sisters of Charity Houston Health Care System in

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Wed, Mar 11 Austin Mini-Course

When - Noon to 1 p.m.

Where - Carver Branch Library, 1161 Angelina.

Speaker - Barrie Cogburn, RLA, Director, Landscape Design & Enhancement Section, Design Division, Texas Department of Transportation.

Wed, Mar 25 Austin Monthly Luncheon

When - 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (program begins at noon, lunch is served at 11:45 a.m.).

Where - Austin Woman's Club, 708 San Antonio at noon.

Speaker - Hannah O'Donoghue, CCVI, RN, MS.

Mon, Mar 30 Deadline for 1st Quarter Scholarships

Thu, Apr 02 EWTG booth at the All State Employee Celebration

When - 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Where - Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto.

Fri, Apr 03 Executive Success Team Open Enrollment Ends

EWTG 2009 Membership Directory – Updates Requested

The new EWTG Membership Directory is coming soon. If you have a new title, have changed jobs, or have other information, please email us at ewtg@ewtg.org. We'll be sure to update our records and include any changes in the 2009 edition.

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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President's Corner

It's Almost Spring – and Change is in the Air

Shannon Kelley, President

Every year, the Board of Directors reviews the current processes and their costs, and determines whether or not to maintain the status quo or move in a different direction. This year the Communications Committee, led by Heather Hall, has lots

of changes in the works to help take our newsletter and website to another level. Beginning in April, you will receive the EWTG Star newsletter delivered to your email in-box as usual, but instead of a .pdf document, the newsletter will arrive embedded in your email. For those you who prefer to print the newsletter rather than read it on your computers, you will still be able to do that.

This change will save the organization approximately \$3,000 per year in development costs. More importantly, it will provide volunteers with the opportunity to learn and sharpen the skills associated with newsletter production. This kind of on-the-job training is one of the many ways that EWTG is invaluable to its members.

The Communications Committee is also working on several ideas to make our website more robust. Last year's committee, led by Clare Dyer and working with our web developer, designed the outstanding microsite for the annual conference. It is our hope this year to continue those improvements to the rest of the site, adding content as well as a "members only" area. The board is also committed to posting its meeting agendas and minutes on the website, as I promised at the January luncheon. We are benchmarking with other similar organizations prior to doing so to ensure we do not jeopardize our members' privacy in any way.

In addition to being a time of change, spring is also a time of renewal. Often we women spend our lives and careers looking after everyone but ourselves. How often do you find yourself wishing you could just have a couple of hours for you? Our March luncheon speaker, Hannah O'Donoghue, will talk to us about finding balance - mental, physical, emotional and spiritual - in our busy lives. I can't think of a more perfect topic for the onset of spring. I hope to see you there!

Luncheon: Continued from page 1

Houston, Texas for six years where she led in the development of a strategic plan for the health care system. She also served as Director of the Health Partners Clinic in Waldorf, Maryland where she coordinated all volunteer physicians, nurses, and support personnel. Ms. O'Donoghue became Case Manager at the Community of Hope in Washington, D.C. in 1994 and Associate Director of Seton Cove in Austin in September 1996.

“Getting Started on Your Own Landscape”

Barrie Cogburn, RLA, Director, Landscape Design & Enhancement Section, Design Division,
Texas Department of Transportation

March 11, 2009 – EWTG Mini-course

The weather is turning warm and you're ready to get outdoors and plant something! Join us for the March mini-course where EWTG member Barrie Cogburn will share tips and tricks on how to begin a project of your own. She will come ready with plenty of suggestions on hardy plant materials as well as her favorite local sources for native plants, soils and compost.

Barrie began her career with TxDOT in 1986 as the landscape architect for TxDOT's Austin District. She currently holds the position of Landscape Design and Enhancement Section Director and is responsible for developing, directing and overseeing statewide policies, procedures and administrative rules for landscape architecture and aesthetic design for TxDOT.

In 1998, she began a partnership with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) which focused on the research, development and implementation of utilizing compost as an effective erosion control alternative in highway construction and maintenance. This partnership utilized the largest Clean Water Act grant ever awarded by the EPA and the effort was awarded the 2002 American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials President's Transportation Award. Today, TxDOT is the nation's largest market for compost.

Barrie received her Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture from Texas A&M University in 1983 and became a Registered Landscape Architect in 1987. She is an active member of Executive Women in Texas Government, serving on numerous committees and holding past positions as Membership Director, Public Relations Director and Vice-President. She served on the Professional Advisory Board for the Department of Landscape Architecture at Texas A&M University. Barrie was the recipient of the 2003 Raymond E. Stotzer Jr. Award for outstanding leadership, dedication and service to the state in the field of transportation. She is a member of the Leadership Texas Class of 2008.

Are you receiving the EWTG emails?

If you're having trouble receiving some email messages, please make sure you ask your IT department or professionals to WHITELIST the email address ewtg@ewtg.org

You can also alert Executive Director, Michele Schwartz, to the problem for investigation at ewtg@ewtg.org or 248-2044.

February Mini-course Recap - Kim Khan, Texas State Securities Board

“Education and Awareness: The Best Defense against Financial Exploitation”

At the February mini-course, Kim Khan presented “Education and Awareness: The Best Defense against Financial Exploitation.” Ms. Khan is currently an investor education specialist in the Investor Education Program at the Texas State Securities Board (TSSB). Throughout her presentation, Ms. Khan shared insights regarding investor fraud which she has gained from her 24 years of experience at the TSSB.

The TSSB is the state agency responsible for regulating the securities industry and protecting consumers from investment fraud. The agency’s Enforcement Division secured \$97 million in fraud prosecution during Fiscal Year 2008. Ms. Khan pointed out that 78% of older Americans are targeted for investment fraud.

At the mini-course, Ms. Khan distributed reusable bags containing several brochures covering various topics relating to protecting investors before and after they make investments. Also included was the “Texas Family Guide to Personal Money Management,” an 85-page guide published by the TSSB that covers several topics including: budgeting tips, investing guides, and how time effects the value of money.

After showing a short video that discussed the various tactics used to lure consumers into fraudulent schemes (including direct mailing of official looking pamphlets, classified ads, and internet marketing), Ms. Khan discussed the handout “Texas ‘Top 10’ List of Investor Traps.” These investor traps include: investment seminars, unlicensed individuals & unregistered products, affinity fraud, energy scams, internet fraud, unsuitable sales, real estate investment contracts, foreign exchange trading, prime bank schemes, and private securities offerings.

Ms. Khan also covered the following 10 tips to avoid investment fraud:

- Check out the person touting investment deals.
- Beware of high-pressure tactics.
- Exercise particular caution if you lack financial experience.
- Keep in mind that good manners don’t indicate personal integrity.
- Watch out for salespeople who prey on your fears.
- Exercise particular caution if you are an older citizen.
- Monitor your investments and ask tough questions.
- Look out for trouble when retrieving your principal or cashing out profits.
- Report investment fraud or abuse immediately, despite any embarrassment or fear you may feel.
- Beware of “reload” scams, where con artists take advantage of the panic of investment losses by targeting victims to invest in scams that promise to recoup losses and offer higher returns.

To check investments and the people selling them before you invest, call the Texas State Securities Board at (512) 305-8300. To obtain additional information about investment fraud or to request a group presentation on this topic, visit the Investor Education Program’s website: <http://www.texasinvestored.org/>.

JOIN TODAY! EXECUTIVE SUCCESS TEAMS

Mentors...Friends...Confidantes...Support...Motivation...Laughter

These are all benefits of the EWTG Executive Success Team experience.

Treat yourself to this unique members-only opportunity to learn from and share knowledge with your peers. It is time to sign up for your Executive Success Team.

Obtain a Team Member Profile form from our website: www.ewtg.org by clicking on Forms and Documents. Send your completed form to Preselect@ewtg.org. You can also e-mail Carol Lauder @ that same address if you have any questions about joining. Open enrollment ends Friday, April 3, 2009. Make a decision to JOIN TODAY!

2009 Membership Drive

The Membership Committee, chaired by Membership Director Laura Johannsen, is coordinating several membership drive activities including the following:

- Every month at the luncheon, each member who brings a guest (or more than one) will have her name go into a drawing for each guest they bring. A door prize will be awarded at the luncheon to the lucky member whose name is drawn. (e.g., three guests, three chances to win)
- Any guest who joins EWTG at their first luncheon gets \$10.00 off the first year's membership fee. (e.g., annual dues are \$50.00 for state employees or \$100.00 for partners. If a guest joins at their first luncheon, it is \$40.00 or \$90.00, respectively)

EWTG booth at the All State Employee Celebration

Don't forget to stop by the EWTG booth at the All State Employee Celebration being held April 2, 2009 at the Scholz Garten in Austin. The celebration will feature live music, complimentary appetizers and drinks from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. The event is co-hosted by the Texas Public Employees Association and the Department of Public Safety Officers Association. Scholz Garten is located at 1607 San Jacinto. For more information about the event, contact TPEA at mail@tpea.org.

MEMBERSHIP

New Members

Jo Virgil	TX Office of the Governor
Mary McKeown-Moak	MGT of America, Inc.
Margo Frasier	MGT of America, Inc.
Suzanne Bradford	MGT of America, Inc.
Nancy Van Loan	TX Office of the Governor
Greta Cantwell	TX State Securities Board

Renewing Members

Patricia Moore	Retired
Christina Crain	TX Board of Criminal Justice-Dallas
Madeleine Draeger Manigold	Retired
Laurie Najjar	
Carolyn Nunley	Retired
Heidi Negaard	UT Southwestern
Mary Castleberry	HHSC
Brenda McCoy	DIR
Robin Scott	Retired
Shirley Zwinggi	UT Southwestern
Mary Helen Davis	Retired

A Note from Carolyn... 2009 Vice President and Conference Chair

2008 Conference Committee,

I want to congratulate you on doing a fantastic job on the 2008 EWTG conference.

Attendees,

Thank you for your attendance to and feedback on the conference. Summarizing, below are a few of your comments.

You thought: Conference was well organized; new conference facility and location were excellent; food was great; workshops were good; speakers were inspirational; and there was plenty of parking.

We also heard your ideas to make things even better: Traffic flow in the hallways and vendor areas was congested; not enough restroom facilities; and traffic control incoming and outgoing at Highway 71 could be helped by hiring a dedicated officer.

92.1% of attendees are planning to attend next year and 96.8% would recommend the conference to a co-worker or friend.

So with that said ... Mark your calendars for the 2009 EWTG Conference!

23rd Annual Professional Development Conference

Monday, November 23, 2009

Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort in Bastrop, Texas

Your 2009 conference committee members are listed below and are enthusiastic about this year's conference!

Conference Chair - Carolyn Fry, Retired, Employees Retirement System

Evaluation Committee Chair - Jennifer Dormer, Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services

Exhibits Committee Chair - Della Williamson, Employees Retirement System

Facilities Committee Chair - Mercie Zapata, Department of Information Resources

Program Committee Chair - Frances Torres, Comptroller of Public Accounts

Registration Committee Chair - Trina Edwards, Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services

Silent Auction Committee Chair - Sarah Evans, Texas Facilities Commission

As the conference develops look for upcoming news.

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Meet other members, learn new skills, and make EWTG even better!

Please circle choice(s).

Sign me up! I'll volunteer for a committee.

Affiliates	Community Service	Development	Educational Events	Legislative Issues
Member Services	Mentorship	Newsletter	Public Relations	Retiree
Scholarship Program	Strategic Planning	Website		

Name _____

Agency _____

Email _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

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Austin, Texas 78701-9996

Phone: 512.248-2044
Fax to: 512.276.6586
Email to: ewtg@ewtg.org

Deadline for 1st Quarter Scholarships -- March 30th

EWTG scholarships are awarded on a quarterly basis to those wanting an opportunity for professional advancement or personal growth. All interested members are encouraged to apply; financial need is not a factor. Take a moment to treat yourself to a course you have been putting off or a conference you would love to attend. Guidelines for qualifying for a scholarship and applications are available on the EWTG website in the Forms and Documents section at ewtg@ewtg.org. The Scholarship Committee will accept applications for this quarter on a continuous basis until 5:00 p.m. on March 30th.

EWTG Austin Board Meetings

The 2009 EWTG Board holds its monthly meetings at the Carver Library, Austin, Texas, on the third Wednesday of each month from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The agenda for each meeting will be posted on the EWTG website by noon on the Monday before the meeting. Additionally, once we have the capability to create a members-only area on the website, copies of approved minutes will be posted following the meeting at which the minutes are approved. Until the members-only area is available on the website, you may request copies of approved board meeting minutes directly from Michele Schwartz, Executive Director, at ewtg@ewtg.org or 512.248.2044.

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