



EWTG STAR

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Recently EWTG
completed a
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Our featured luncheon speaker for September will be Dr. Denise M. Trauth. Dr. Trauth began her tenure as President of Texas State University in August 2002. She came to San Marcos after nine years at The University of North Carolina at Charlotte where she had served as Provost. Dr. Trauth is very active both in civic projects in central Texas and in higher education organizations on the state and national levels.

She is a member and former president of the Austin Area Research Organization (better known as AARO). She serves on the Board of Trustees of the Southwest Research Institute and is a member of the Philosophical Society of Texas. She also serves on the Board of the United Way Capital Area Community and The Austin Leadership Forum and is a former member of the University of Texas at Austin's Donald D. Harrington Fellows Program.

Dr. Trauth is a Commissioner of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. She is past Chairman of the Texas Council of Public University Presidents and Chancellors, and of the Texas International Education Consortium.

Dr. Trauth earned her Bachelor of Arts at the College of Mount St. Joseph (Ohio), her Master of Arts at Ohio State University and her Ph.D. at the University of Iowa. She is married to Dr. John Huffman, professor emeritus at Bowling Green State University and UNC Charlotte. They have two daughters.

For information and reservations, contact EWTG by email at ewtg@ewtg.org or by telephone at 512.220.4298.

September 8 EWTG Mini-course - Gloria Brown Oliver,

information to an Access database. The new database is a significant improvement over our previous technology. Everything seems to be working smoothly, but a few issues surfaced when some incomplete data was transferred. If you believe you should have received a renewal notice by now, but have not, please email ewtg@ewtg.org and we will resolve the problem.

Third Quarter Scholarships



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

District Manager, Waddell & Reed, Inc. "Where is the American Economy Today?"

Just where does the domestic economy stand today? In many ways, right where the Founding Fathers left it: intact and unique. While the times around the world have changed, the United States of America largely remains a primary economic model that continues to capture the attention of the international community. In fact, across many critical economic categories the United States continues to rank highly, a status indicative of financial resiliency...and ongoing investment opportunity.



Gloria Brown Oliver began her career in the Telecom industry. She then chose a career in the financial services industry. For the last six years, she has been helping people who work for a living plan for that living to last their lifetime. Gloria, her husband and son have lived in Austin for 12 years. She has a business degree from Baylor University, an MBA from Rockhurst University and has obtained a CRPC®, (Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor) designation.

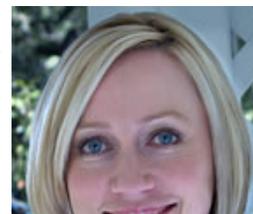
Please note that the mini-course will be held on Tuesday this month instead of Wednesday.

Join us for this exciting presentation at noon at the Carver Branch Library, 1161 Angelina. To help you make the most of your lunchtime, EWTG will again have Mangia pizza, fresh green salad, lemonade, iced tea and dessert for \$10 per person, or you can bring your own lunch. Pizza will be served from 11:30 a.m. to noon. The program begins at noon and ends by 1:00 p.m.

For information and reservations, contact EWTG by email at ewtg@ewtg.org or by telephone at 512.220.4298. Please state whether you want to purchase pizza when you make your reservation.

President's Corner - 2009 EWTG Annual Professional Development Conference Shannon Kelley, President

In 1984, by six visionary women who recognized the need for women in higher levels of state government to have an educational and networking support group founded Executive Women in Texas Government. The founders are



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.org. The Scholarship Committee will accept applications for this quarter until 5:00 p.m. on September 30th.

2009 EWTG Board Meetings



The 2009 EWTG Board holds its monthly meetings at the Carver Library in Austin 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 EWTG's website by noon on the Monday before the meeting.

A summary of the board meeting minutes is also

Evelyn Ireland, Karen Johnson, Tamara Shae-Oatman, Mary Polk, Nelda Wells Spears and Claudia Stravato. The first meeting was announced by word-of-mouth and over 100 women attended. These women recognized a need in state government for women to support each other's professional development. EWTG grew out of the founder's commitment to that vision.

This year, we are honored to celebrate the 25th anniversary of EWTG as part of our 23rd annual professional development conference, 25 Years of Developing Leaders. This year's annual conference, scheduled for Monday, November 23, will once again take place at the beautiful Hyatt Lost Pines near Bastrop, Texas. The conference committee has worked diligently all year to provide you with an outstanding day of professional development activities, including two dynamic keynote speakers, 40 workshops on professional and personal development topics, exhibitors featuring both professional and retail goods and services, and a silent auction to benefit EWTG's scholarship fund. Registration costs are the same as last year. From September 1 through October 16, registration fee is \$169 for members and \$199 for non-members. Registration fees increase after October 16. We expect the conference to sell out this year, so be sure to register early to reserve your preferred workshop choices.

Once again, the Hyatt is extending the amazing rate of \$99 a night plus resort fees, which totals approximately \$125. The rate allows you to stay at this wonderful resort hotel at a fraction of its standard rates. Conference participants will also have the opportunity to visit the Django spa and receive a 35 percent discount on all spa services (with rates good from Saturday, November 21 through Tuesday, November 24).

I invite you to do what I plan to do - arrive early and stay late - to fully enjoy everything the hotel has to offer, including casual and fine dining, horseback riding, golf and of course, the spa. This year I plan to get that massage that I passed up last year. EWTG will be hosting a reception at the hotel on Sunday evening, and all conference participants are invited to attend. I look forward to seeing you at this year's conference.

Shannon Kelley
President

New EWTG Website is Live!

EWTG is pleased to announce that our new website is now available at <http://ewtg.org>. Our site has been redesigned with a fresh new look and has been updated with new

posted on the website. You can view them by clicking on "Forms and Documents."

Committee Volunteers Needed



Please look over the Committee Descriptions on the EWTG website under Forms and Documents and consider becoming more active in the organization.

Participating on a committee is a great way to support EWTG, learn new skills and to meet other interesting executive women. As with so many things, "the more you give, the more you get."

Follow EWTG on Twitter



Twitter is a free service that lets you keep in touch with people or organizations through the exchange of

features and additional EWTG information that you might find interesting. Some of the most exciting features are:

- A clickable events calendar
- Online registration for all events (luncheons, mini-courses, the annual conference, etc.)
- Capability to join or renew membership online
- News and events page with EWTG announcements
- Search feature to help you find information on the site
- Secure, members-only portion of the site which allows for posting of information restricted to our members such as the membership directory
- Job bank which will allow any member to submit a job opportunity for review and posting to the members-only portion of the site (no more emails!)
- Lots of photo galleries

Thanks to the Communications Committee for their hard work on the site! Over the next few months, we will introduce new features including profiles of the EWTG founders, past-presidents and past Woman of the Year recipients. We look forward to hearing your feedback about the new site.

Summer Educational Event - Bat Cruise of Lady Bird Lake

Please join your EWTG friends and bring guests to experience a lovely cruise around the Lady Bird Lake and enjoy the Mexican free-tailed bats as they take flight at dusk from their summer home under the Ann Richards Bridge. The renowned bats migrate to Mexico in the fall, so this is a great time of year to see them before they leave.

According to Alida Madero, Latin American Coordinator of The Wild Ones (TWO), the Mexican free-tailed bat is a medium sized bat with fur that varies in color from dark brown to gray, with ears set far apart to help them find prey through echolocation, and is very important in insect pest population control. Ms. Madero writes on the TWO website, "Mexican free-tailed bats live in caves in the southern United States, Mexico, Central America, the West Indies, central Chile and Argentina. Their colonies are the largest congregations of mammals in the world! The largest colony is found at Bracken Cave, north of San Antonio, Texas, with nearly 20 million bats. The bats of Bracken Cave can eat up to 250 tons of insects per night! When baby free-tail bats are born, their mothers leave them behind in the cave while they go out to hunt insects. You would expect that a bat-mother would have trouble locating her own baby (called a pup) among millions of other noisy pups. But it only takes her a few minutes to do so. She remembers where she left her pup, and recognizes its cry and smell."

quick, short messages. Go to twitter.com/ewtg to sign up and start receiving EWTG's updates.

Bat Conservation, International makes its home in Austin and has a kiosk at the Ann Richards Bridge to help promote conservation of these important mammals. Their web site states: "As the quality and quantity of natural roosts such as caves and snags have diminished, the importance of artificial habitats such as bridges and culverts has increased. At this time, over half of the 47 species of bats in the United States have been documented to use highway structures as roosts, including some very large colonies such as the approximately 1.5 million Mexican free-tailed bats utilizing the Congress Avenue Bridge in Austin, Texas."

LOGISTICS:

Date: Thursday - September 17th

Time: 5:45pm to 8:00 pm

Location: The dock at the Hyatt Hotel to board the Boat

Cost: \$30 per person which includes the boat ride, snacks and beverages. You may purchase beer or wine for an additional \$3.

Please RSVP to ewtg@ewtg.org by Friday, September 11 so that we can provide a head count to the tour company. Please indicate if you plan to purchase beer or wine.

2009 EWTG Woman of the Year Nominations

It's time to start thinking about the 2009 EWTG Woman of the Year award. This prestigious award is given to a woman that has distinguished herself professionally, personally, within the community, and has been an active member of EWTG.

Submit a nomination for the person that you know deserves to be recognized. **Nominations are due September 15th.** The nomination form and criteria are located on the EWTG Website at ewtg.org.

If you need assistance locating the forms or have questions, please contact Jennifer Buaas, EWTG Public Relations Director, at pr@ewtg.org.

August Membership Social - Bowling!

On Thursday, August 20th the Membership Committee hosted a summer bowling social. The event was held after work at Dart Bowl. Twenty members participated in the social, enjoying bowling, fun, and refreshments.

Four teams bowled in the event. Two of the teams were made up of members from Execute Success Teams. Prizes

were awarded for highest team score, highest individual score, and lowest individual score. The winning team was awarded Starbucks gift cards for each of the members. A trophy was given to the lady with the highest individual score. The prize for lowest individual score was also a Starbucks gift card. The competition was fun and friendly.



Recap from the August Mini-Course Denise Pittard - "What Passed During the 81st Legislative Session"

How many bills passed during the 81st Regular Session? Try 1,459 or about 20% of the 7,144 bills filed. To compare this statistic with the 80th Regular Session, 5,921 bills were filed, of which 1,672 (or 28%) passed.

Denise Pittard, Chair of the EWTG Legislative Issues Committee and Legislative Liaison for the Texas Department of Transportation, provided a brief summary of the bills that passed during the 81st Session. Denise focused on bills that affect state agencies and state employees, but also talked about a few bills that might affect members' everyday lives. A link to the handout distributed that summarizes many of these bills, can be found on EWTG's web site at <http://ewtg.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=204>.

Some of the bill topics covered in the presentation related to state retirement, the ability to earn compensatory time at home, changes to the TexaSaver Program (the 401(k) and 457 plans offered to state employees), reimbursement for the number of miles traveled by a state employee, employment preferences for former foster children in the state foster care system, the creation of the new Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, and provisions of the Supplemental Appropriations Bill as well as the Appropriations Bill--which includes changes to the State Classification Schedule. Some of the other bills presented

provide changes for agencies that issue occupational licenses, the granting of up to 60 hours of time off from work without reduction in pay or leave to state employees who volunteer for the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program, breaches of computer security involving sensitive personal information maintained by a state agency or local government, and the increase of Capitol Complex parking fines from \$10 to \$25.

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