



EWTG STAR

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President's Corner - Happy New Year! Carol Lauder, President



Happy New Year! I am very excited to be serving as your President this year and hope you will put EWTG events on your calendar so we continue our journey of continual learning.

EWTG continued to celebrate its 25th anniversary at the "members only" holiday luncheon on December 15th at Green Pastures. With Shannon Kelley as the 2009 President, the board and membership did an exemplary job of moving EWTG forward. In addition to hiring an association management company to strengthen the administrative support of EWTG, we have a new Website with on-line registration for all events, and a long awaited "members only" section. When you have a minute, you might take a stroll down memory lane and visit the archives of the organization's past, which are also the Website.

The theme of the luncheon was set by Candace O'Keefe Mathis, the CEO of The Foundation for Women's Resources. Before swearing in the new board, Candace shared her observations of great leaders "To Be and To Do." I have taken Candace's list and expanded on what it means to me.

To Be and To Do

Be Kind - This, as Candace points out, is not the same as being nice. To be nice is to be agreeable and pleasing. Being kind is defined as being of a sympathetic nature; disposed to be helpful and to control one-self when provoked.

Be resilient - Are you capable of withstanding shock and or disappointment without permanent deformation or rupture? Being ready to make new decisions requires the ability to accept the circumstances and stay focused.

First 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 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 at ewtg.org. The Scholarship Committee will accept applications for this quarter until 5:00 p.m. on March 31st.

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

Be grateful - Be appreciative of the benefits you receive and let your gratitude show.

Be quiet - Do others experience you as "free from noise and uproar?" There is a time to talk, but it is almost always after you have listened and understood.

Do credit others - Recognize and acknowledge others' contributions, however small. What we feed grows.

Do be willing to change your mind - Life is full of choices and as we grow, we see situations differently, and understand circumstances that once eluded us. If broccoli didn't taste good at 7 years old, they say it might at 24. Our taste buds and the information available to us, like knowing how to prepare it and that broccoli prevents cancer... changes. As with broccoli, the information we obtain over a lifetime should alter our ideas and change the way we see things. So, good leaders should be willing to change their minds.

Do grow yourself and others - Learn from your actions, hire a coach, and mentor others. You will learn from all of these.

Do pace yourself - We are all going to live a long time and taking on too much too soon will be counter-productive.

There is much to be done and according to Candace's research, Generations X, Y and the Millennials could live to be an average age of 100 years old. So, you have more time than you think. Don't be in too big a hurry!

These were Candace's observations of great leaders. As leaders in our own organizations, whether we lead a team of hundreds or we help lead our bosses and co-workers to make good decisions, we all have something to offer.

As I begin to think about what this year might hold for our organization, I delight in the thought of accomplishing the following goals:

- To ask the Governor to sanction EWTG education events as training so agencies can embrace employee participation.
- To increase attendance at monthly luncheons by 20 percent.
- To launch affiliate chapters in College Station, San Antonio and Tyler since conference attendees from those communities have expressed an interest.
- To increase Dallas and Houston affiliates membership and participation.
- For sponsors to view supporting EWTG as a MUST DO in 2010!

board meeting minutes is also posted on the website.

Committee Volunteers Needed



Please look over the Committee Descriptions on the EWTG website 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."

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- That the Executive Success Teams continue to make a difference for those participating.
- To partner with the Foundation for Women's Resources on at least one event in 2010.
- To give out a record number of scholarships to our members.
- To create an activity at each monthly luncheon to engage the participation of attendees.

These are a few things I'd like to see happen this year. The board will be working hard to see these and other goals become reality. What are your goals for yourself and for your family? Think about them, write them down, and take steps to begin. You might surprise yourself. Let's keep track of our list and see how we do!

Carol Lauder
President

January 27 EWTG Luncheon - Rosemary Lehmborg, Travis County District Attorney

Rosemary Lehmborg is a native of Taylor, Texas. She received a BA degree in Natural Sciences from the University of Texas at Austin and her Juris Doctor degree from St. Mary's University School of Law.



She maintained a private law practice before joining the staff of the Travis County District Attorney in 1976.

Rosemary began her career with the District Attorney working with the Grand Jury and then as a trial attorney in the 167th District Court, presided over by Judge Tom Blackwell.

She later became chief of that court and then the chief of the trial division. She has served as the chief of the career criminal, major crimes and public integrity divisions.

In 1988, Rosemary became director of the Family Justice Division. While director, she was a founder of the Travis County Children's Advocacy Center, now the Center for Child Protection, which opened its new campus in September 2008. The Center provides state-of-the-art, collaborative investigations of child abuse cases in a child-friendly environment. During her tenure with the Family Justice Division, the Austin Chronicle named Rosemary the Best Lawyer for Children's Issues.

Rosemary served as First Assistant District Attorney from

twitter.com/ewtg
to sign up and
start receiving
EWTG's updates.

1997 until 2008, when she was elected District Attorney. She took office in January 2009, the first woman District Attorney in Travis County history.

Registration and networking begin at 11:30a.m., lunch is served at 11:45, program begins at noon at the Austin Women's Club, 708 San Antonio Street. For additional event information, please visit the EWTG website at www.ewtg.org or contact EWTG at ewtg@ewtg.org or 512-220-4298.

Dallas Affiliate EWTG Meeting - String Bead Jewelry Basics, Moira Allen from Designs by M

We will learn the basic steps to create a string bead jewelry project. Each person will complete a bracelet in class. Please bring \$5.00 for the supplies.

Logistics

When: Thursday January 14, 2010 at 6:30pm

Where: laMadeleine at 3906 Lemmon Ave. (Dinner - Order from menu)

We hope to see everyone to help get our new year off to a great start.

Houston Affiliate Ends the Year with a Holiday Celebration!

The Houston Affiliate was excited that two members who joined during our recent membership initiative volunteered to spearhead our contribution for the Silent Auction at EWTG's 25th Annual Professional Development Conference. Thanks to Ronda Tewell for her keen shopping eye in selecting items for the basket and Patricia Clark for packaging them into a beautiful arrangement. Ronda also represented The Affiliate on the dais at the opening session of the conference. They are great examples of new members coming in strong!

Personal and family illness prevented several members from participating with the Affiliate this year or attending the conference. However, we were pleased that five members were present. Again this year the conference provided excellent speakers and workshop presenters. Lost Pines is a wonderful setting for the conference. It is picturesque, the staff is accommodating and they seem vested in conference participants having an enjoyable stay.

We had a time of fellowship and fun on December 10th. The room was festively decorated by Charlotte Booker. A wonderful assortment of food and beverages were provided by various members for the 14 persons in attendance.

Included in this number were two ladies from TXDOT who were seated with member Brenda McCoy during the recent conference. Brenda explained the benefits of membership and highlighted activities of our Affiliate, so they decided they had to attend our very next meeting. Way to go Brenda!

The Affiliate is energized by the number of new members that have joined and looks forward to a productive 2010. We are also prayerful that members who have been plagued with illness will be able to return to active participation. Please come to our first meeting of the year, January 14th, in Conference Rm. 2E/2F at the Elias Ramirez State Office Building, 5425 Polk Street, Houston, from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM. For additional information, please contact Carolyn Kirkwood, Affiliate Chair at 713-767-2306.

December Bears Just Keep on Smiling...



It was indeed a "Beary" Merry Christmas for the **Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin and Central Texas!** Jan Gunter, Communications Manager, of Ronald McDonald House Charities sent us a beautiful thank you saying:

"Thank you so much for the gift of bears, bears and more bears for our Ronald McDonald House families. I am having such a good time sharing them. You are helping brighten children's lives in what is a very difficult time for them. Please share our gratitude with all of the women in Executive Women in Texas Government. Thank you all for being such good friends of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin and Central Texas."

The Community Service Committee also sends a huge "Thank You" for the 60+ bears donated at our December holiday luncheon!



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