

# ewi CONNECT

Chartered 1970

August 2016

## Into the Wild West



There was a surge of positive energy at the Wild West Forum held earlier this month in Denver, Colorado. The purpose of WWF is to exchange best practices and share ideas that have been successful and challenging for the respective chapters. This year's event didn't disappoint. Dawn Truman, incoming president and representative of firm JP Weigand and Sons and myself returned from the well-attended event armed with some ah-ha moments and good ideas for consideration and/or implementation.

Highlights from the Corporate discussion:

- Since the report in June, numbers to attend LCAM have risen from 185 to 225. To break even on the event a total of 250 attendees are needed
- The proposed budget for FY 2016-2017 is <\$7,000>. This is after cutting an access of \$100K from expenses. To break even corporately, an estimated 30 new firms are needed – less than one firm per chapter
- There is a new Academy of Leadership (AOL) Course: ***Lessons of Leadership and How to Motivate People to Action***

Dialog that raised interesting questions and action:

- The timing of when our scholarships take place doesn't lend itself to promoting EWI through the high schools. The question was raised about changing the deadlines and timing of the awards to coincide with students being recognized by their school during the end of year ceremonies.
- An encouragement to post scholarship applications online was heard, but not well-received
- A request was made to put the AOL courses (about 7) online and charge a nominal fee. This would allow those members that can't attend LCAM to still earn the AOL certificate (you need 4 classes) and generate additional revenue for corporate.

As the event was coming to a close, Dawn and I were approached to host the next Wild West Forum. Hosting this event would be a great opportunity for our membership to participate and develop a connection with other EWI Chapters to experience the great information exchange. I would anticipate more discussion and opportunity regarding this initiative.

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## From Your EWI Wichita Board of Directors



### Karen Smith | Director at Large

Both ASIST and EWISP recipients will be present at our August chapter meeting (Executive Night) in addition several of our judges will be attending that night.

Our scholarship chairs, Nancy Umholtz and Stacy Guinn did a great job this year, please be sure and thank them the next time you see them.

I look forward to showcasing our scholarship recipients in a couple of weeks.



### Davna Gould | Treasurer

Bank Balances at of 7/31/2016  
Commerce Operating \$16,573.00  
Meritrust Savings \$24,201.16  
BCDP Commerce \$3810.49  
BCDP TCK Trust \$52,475.26

Remember to check out the EWI website for the current monthly treasurer's reports.



Please Join Us

## EWI Executive Night

The Wichita Chapter of Executive Women International is pleased to invite you to attend our annual Executive's Night.

Come enjoy an evening to network with the EWI of Wichita Business leaders.



August 17, 2016

Hyatt Regency  
400 W Waterman

Social - 6:00 pm Dinner - 6:30 pm

RSVP - ewiwichita.org, click on the RSVP Link on the home page

### Dawn Truman | Vice President



There were 24 attendees at the Wild West Forum this year. They included representatives from the Omaha, Colorado Springs, Kansas City, Denver, and Wichita chapters. The agenda for the meeting included a very positive update on Corporate from Darlis Vauble. Our President, Tracy Lucas, will address comments from Darlis.



Following the Corporate update was a guest speaker, Philip Pelto, of My Firestorm, who discussed the importance of relationship building versus the act of networking.

Philip grew up with 22 biological siblings and his presentation style was entertaining as well as educational. Connections are the key to all facets of business and life and he shared ideas on how to strengthen our connections. If you would like to hear his presentation please email Dawn at [truman@weigand.com](mailto:truman@weigand.com) and request a copy.

Following lunch we covered best practice topics such as membership/recruiting; program ideas; orientation/retention; B/C/D/P and funding options for scholarships.

The Wild West Forum certainly strengthens bonds between chapter members and also reminded us of how much we have in common in both challenges and opportunities.

**Still time to register for LCAM 2016! Come join us for a time of connection and growth.**





## 2016 Reading Rally – Thursday, October 20

It's that time again for the 2016 Reading Rally! EWI member Jessica Emrick is this year's Chair. EWI of Wichita is planning and hosting a local Reading Rally event at USD #259's Colvin Elementary school, with 150 - 3rd grade students participating. Students will enjoy hearing about this year's featured book - "**Mr. President Goes to School**", write and illustrate their own book and enjoy a snack of pizza, cookies and juice. Each child will receive a signed copy of the featured book, a T-shirt, and a bag of school supplies to take home. Additionally, as a gift to Colvin Elementary, we will present each 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher with a gift card to purchase supplies as needed throughout the school year.

This year we are focusing on the **illustrator** rather than the author. Brad Sneed, the illustrator for this book will give a 30 minute presentation about illustrating and writing picture books. He will interact with the children to shed light on how a book is created. The presentation will focus on: Reading the Manuscript, Using the most important tool he has---his imagination! Creating a Storyboard, Reference and Research, Doodles to Dummy Book, Revising and Final Artwork. He has also agreed to sign the books for each child.

Nearly \$1400 in corporate support is still needed to help cover the cost of the T-shirts gift cards for the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers. Please let us know if your company is willing to support the 2016 Reading Rally.

### ***Several Firms have already committed and I am very grateful for their support!***

- JP Weigand (Dawn Truman) has graciously agreed to provide the Pizza!
- Hyatt Regency (Tami Barker) has graciously agreed to donate the cookies again this year!
- Commerce Bank has graciously agreed to cover the cost of the school supplies that we will hand out to each child- *donated by Marilyn Pauly on behalf of Commerce Bank*. Those supplies have already been purchased by Jeanetta Bolin and Teresa Arthur!
- The Specialist Group (Joan Rapp) has graciously agreed to cover the cost of the barrel drinks from Sam's Club!
- The Wichita Marriott (Jessica Emrick) has graciously agreed to cover the cost of the plates, napkins and ice!
- Delta Dental (Nancy Umholtz) have graciously agreed to provide a Smile Kit (toothbrush, floss and paste) for each child! That's new this year!

Please don't hesitate to call with any questions. If you or members of your firm would like to volunteer on the day of the event or donate an item and/or money for the Reading Rally, Jessica can be reached directly at 316-462-3164. We are very excited to partner with the school again this year to promote literacy to the children of Colvin Elementary!



We need your help! Our #Pathway2Prosperity program has been several years in the making. It is designed to help survivors of sex- and labor-trafficking reclaim their lives, become self-sufficient, and use their unique experiences to help fight trafficking.

To better serve these survivors we are gathering a number of items. Please consider donating or organizing a donation drive. For more information, call us at [316-680-9917](tel:316-680-9917).

Karen Countryman Roswurm is former EWI Chapter meeting speaker. She serves as the Founder and Executive Director to the Wichita State University, Center for Combating Human Trafficking (CCHT).

### **Items needed:**

Hygiene - shampoo, conditioner, body wash, feminine products, etc; Emergency clothes - t-shirts, sweets, sports bras, panties, socks, etc; Emergency food - easy to make or packaged food; Items for comfort/stress relief - lotion, gum, lip gloss, chap stick, journal, coloring books, colored pencils, etc.