

Wichita ewiConnect



2022-2023 President Allison Walden
Downing & Lahey Mortuary

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"Life is short, and it is up to you to make it sweet." -

Sarah Louise Delany

Life is short, and so is this President's letter!

This month I bring to you a few short, but **VERY IMPORTANT** reminders.

- ◆ Please remember that you must RSVP for every month's meeting using the SquadUp link: <https://www.squadup.com/events/ewi-of-wichita-february-chapter-meeting>. Please RSVP by noon the Friday before the meeting.
- ◆ We are in need of one more person for our new Investment Committee. This person cannot be employed by an EWI member firm and does not need to have financial background. Please contact Emma Hahn if you know someone who would be a good fit.
- ◆ A big thank you and welcome to our new board Secretary, Jessica Buettgenbach of Visit Wichita!

Please enjoy the rest of the Connect!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Allison Walden".

Allison

**HII WE ARE CHARLIE & ELLIE WALDEN— ALLISON'S
DAUGHTERS—AND WE ARE GIRL SCOUTS!
WE WILL HAVE A COOKIE BOOTH AT THE FEBRUARY
MEETING AND WE WOULD LOVE TO SELL YOU COOKIES!
IF YOU WON'T BE AT THE MEETING, BUT WOULD LIKE TO
MAKE AN ORDER, PLEASE TALK TO
ALLISON. THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US!**
(WE CAN ACCEPT PAYMENT IN THE FORM OF CHECK, CASH, OR CREDIT CARD)



SAVE THE DATE

ALL MEMBERS MUST RSVP. YOU WILL BE BILLED FOR THE MEETING FEE IF YOU DO NOT.

<https://www.squadup.com/events/ewi-of-wichita-february-chapter-meeting>

B2B FEBRUARY MEETING

*FEBRUARY 15TH, 5:30-7:30PM
REFLECTION RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB,
7700 W. REFLECTION RIDGE RD.*

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

APPETIZER & DESSERT BUFFET

MEET, GREET & REPEAT!



**BRING PROMO ITEMS/
MARKETING MATERIAL TO SHARE!**

RSVP ON SQUAD UP BY FEBUARY 10TH



SAVE THE DATE

ALL MEMBERS MUST RSVP. YOU WILL BE BILLED FOR THE MEETING FEE IF YOU DO NOT.

<https://www.squadup.com/events/ewi-of-wichita-march-chapter-meeting>

EWI March Meeting - Join us for an inspiring evening of
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



MARCH 15TH, 5:30 -7:30 PM
Candle Club, Prairie Village Center
6135 E 13th St N

5:30pm Committee Meetings

6:00pm Taco Bar

Soft Flour Tortilla, Ground Beef and Pulled Chicken, Spanish Rice, Refried Beans, Chips, Salsa & Queso, Iced Tea and Coffee. Cash Bar.

6:30 pm Speaker

Jennifer Whipple-Griffin

Fear Cycle - How to combat fear and take control of your thoughts & actions.

Jennifer is a Leadership Coach to executives who know they are ready to make a leap but find themselves holding back. Using skills from extensive experience in high-stakes negotiation, fundraising, law, and business to build high-performance teams and braver professionals. Her specialty is coaching clients through the fear-based mindsets that limit their results and their happiness, so they can train themselves to take bigger risks.

Voted one of the Top 20 Coaches in Dallas by Influence Digest. "Jennifer is one of the best coaches in Dallas and focuses on supporting executives to leap they are ready for but have failed to jump. Her specialty is coaching clients to take enormous risks".



**RSVP ON
SQUAD UP
BY
MARCH
10TH**

You will learn:

- How fear is part of our natural evolution
- To recognize when you are in the fear cycle & how this affects your decisions & growth {personally & professionally}
- How fear can hold us back from emotional happiness, ideas, and innovation in our work
- To Kick your primitive brain out of your way
- Ways to remove yourself from the cycle and take control of your thoughts and actions

MEETING RECAP

January 2023 Chapter Meeting



- ♦ Held at the United Way of the Plains on January 18, 2023
- ♦ Firm Night provided by the United Way where Vice President and Chief Community Engagement Officer Angie Prather (pictured second from left), President and CEO Pete Najera, and Director of Philanthropy Gwen Kochman, provided a review of the United Way's impact during the last year and how Wichitans can volunteer and be involved with the United Way.
- ♦ “We want to make sure everyone has the opportunity to thrive and be the best version of themselves,” Prather said.

MEETING RECAP

February 2023 Board Meeting

- ♦ Held at HealthCore Clinic on February 2, 2023
 - ♦ Jessica Buettegenbach is new secretary for board, welcome.
- ♦ Investment Committee still needs one more member not affiliated with EWI firms; let Emma Hahn know of any ideas. Want to meet in February if possible.
 - ♦ Review of Chapter of Excellence application—plan to apply this year.
 - ♦ Update on Firesides; east side firms to host. More info to follow.
- ♦ Members are encouraged to find a second representative at their company if possible. and utilize the [True Blue Referral Rewards](#) program!

MEMBER FIRM SPOTLIGHT



Executives and Representatives from your company:

Teresa Arthur & Jeanetta Bolin, Representatives | Monte Cook, Executive

- ◆ *How long has your company been in the Wichita area and what size is your organization?* Commerce Bank was founded in 1865 and has been in the Wichita area since 1995 when it acquired Union National Bank.
- ◆ *What is the size of your organization?* Commerce Bancshares, Inc. has total assets of \$31.9 billion and its subsidiary, Commerce Bank, operates in approximately 300 branch and ATM locations across Missouri, Kansas, Illinois, Oklahoma, and Colorado. It also maintains commercial offices in Dallas, Houston, Cincinnati, Nashville, Des Moines, Indianapolis, and Grand Rapids.
- ◆ *What is your company's mission?* "We take the time to understand our customers' financial challenges and accept them as our own. We do this by getting to know our customers and providing sophisticated advice along with capital and industry-leading solutions personalized for them. At Commerce Bank, we know life's best moments can come with financial challenges. Our mission? To help people and businesses solve financial challenges so they can focus on the things that matter most. For over 157 years, we've provided individuals, businesses and communities with the innovative solutions and personal attention they need to achieve the things that matter to them. We provide both the high-touch personal service and innovative solutions our customers need to allow them to bank when, where and how they prefer."
- ◆ *How can your company assist other EWI firms?* We can assist with any personal or commercial banking needs that may arise.
- ◆ *What has EWI provided for your company?* One of the key components is the connections, which provides us with the accessibility to the key individuals who work for our member firms.
- ◆ *How is your company involved in the Wichita community?* Commerce Bank's strong commitment to our community is reflected by our contribution of funds and volunteer hours. We have made contributions to and/or provided volunteers to more than 35 of our local organizations. Our support adds to the quality of life within our community.
- ◆ *What's an interesting fact about your business that others may not know?* In the hot summer of 1904, the Bank hired a bright young bank clerk named Harry S. Truman. He performed his job so well that his supervisor noted, "...I do not know of a better young man in the bank than Truman." Harry roomed with Arthur Eisenhower while he worked at Commerce and went on to become a U.S. President, as did Arthur's brother, Dwight.
- ◆ *What makes you stand apart from your competitors?* Commerce operates as a super-community bank, offering an array of sophisticated financial products delivered with high-quality, personal customer service. Our customer promise is not just our brand, but also our corporate focus. We also take pride in our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) efforts. Through our Employee Resources Groups (ERGs), we help team members from diverse backgrounds feel welcome, make personal connections, and further their careers. Commerce currently has five ERGs: VIBE for multicultural team members, PRIDE for LGBTQIA+ team members, RISE for women, EMERGE for young professionals, and SALUTE for military. Each of these groups is open to all Commerce team members, and allies are encouraged to participate.
- ◆ *Who are your mentors and how have they influenced your career?* There have been several individuals who have mentored us over the years, even when they didn't realize they were doing so. Marilyn Pauly has been the one that has had the greatest influence. Not only did she provide encouragement and guidance, but she also set an example with her leadership skills and strong work ethic. Marilyn is the person who brought Commerce Bank and EWI together!



Jeanetta Bolin
First Representative



Monte Cook
Executive



Teresa Arthur
Second Representative

Director Messages

Treasurer's Report
Emma Hahn, Treasurer
Stoutheart Financial Group

Commerce Bank Chapter Operating Account:

1/1/23 Opening Balance: \$17,342.43

1/31/23 Reconciled Balance: \$19,685.16

Deposits:

1. Regular Meeting Dues: \$1,710.00

2. Firm Dues: \$1,150.00

3. Fundraising: \$216.75

Expenses:

1. Operating Expenses: \$291.52

2. Colvin Food Drive Expense: \$298.76 (Covered by donations to operating account in December)

3. Web Hosting: \$129.74

4. Service Fees: \$14.50

Commerce Bank BCDP Account:

1/1/2023 Opening Balance: \$1,288.85

1/31/2023 Reconciled Balance: \$1,288.85

No expenses or deposits.

Meritrust Credit Union Savings Account:

1/1/2023 Opening Balance: \$24,279.16

1/31/2023 Reconciled Balance: \$24,280.19

Deposits:

1. January interest: \$1.03

No expenses.

Ameriprise BCDP Account (Stoutheart Financial/Korol Financial):

1/1/2023 Opening Balance: \$67,197.36

1/31/2023 Reconciled Balance: \$70,757.43



Please send payments to:

Emma Hahn

Stoutheart Financial Group

8621 E. 21st St. N.

Ste. 130

Wichita, KS 67206

Reminder! We need one more Investment Committee member. This individual cannot be affiliated with any EWI firm. Financial experience not necessary. Email Emma with potential names at Emma.Hahn@ampf.com

Director Messages



Hello, EWI! Our Wichita Chapter is hosting a Membership Drive this summer! The Board will be providing more info in the coming months, but start wracking your brain about what firms or professionals might best benefit from a membership with us. Please reach out to me anytime with questions or suggestions. I am available by email or phone (stuttle@deltadentalks.com or 316.633.0261). I'm looking forward to seeing you all at my favorite event, B2B Meet, Greet & Repeat!

Sydney Tuttle, Membership Director, Delta Dental of Kansas

Delta Dental of Kansas is hiring!

<https://careers.deltadentalks.com/Job/OpenJobs.aspx>

Emails to surrounding school counselors have been sent and I received nice comments from them and also responses that students will be applying—yay!

March 24, 2023—Application submissions deadline

May 7, 2023—Chapter judging closes

I am now recruiting for EWISP scholarship judges, if you have ideas on who would be a great judge for the committee, please let me know!

Annie Murach, Director-at-Large, United Way of the Plains



Emerging Executive Women Opportunity

The 2022-2023 Corporate Board of Directors and Member Experience Committee is pleased to announce the creation of the Emerging Executive Women program. Any EWI member is welcome to apply for this grant to participate in a training or leadership program, certificate program, or specialized conference. Applicants must have at least four years of professional experience. Applications are due March 31, 2023. Please reach out to Allison Morris Walden, President, or Sydney Tuttle, Director of Membership for more information.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE



New Replacement Representative

Sara Jantz

Sedgwick County Zoo

Sara is the Chief Financial Officer of Sedgwick County Zoo, having been with them for six years. She has 20 years of government and not-for-profit finance experience. She is active in her community, having serviced six years as her church treasurer and is currently on the Hesston USD 460 School Board. She has been married to her husband, Troy, for 16 years. They have two sons, Hudson (12) and Harrison (2).

New Additional Representative

Shilpa Hebsur

HealthCore Clinic



Welcome to ELWI—Wichita Chapter!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Just a heartfelt thank you to our member firms!

Allen, Gibbs and Houlik, L.C.
Berry Companies, Inc.
Butler Community College Foundation
Chicken N Pickle
City of Wichita
Commerce Bank
Delta Dental of Kansas
Derby Plaza Theaters
Downing & Lahey Mortuaries & Crematory
Evergy
HealthCore Clinic, Inc.
Hyatt Regency
Murfin Drilling Company, Inc.
Northrock, Inc.
Professional Engineering Consultants, P.A.

ReeceNichols South Central Kansas
Schaefer Johnson Cox Frey Architecture
Sedgwick County Zoo
Spirit AeroSystems, Inc.
Stoutheart Financial Group—Ameriprise
Textron Aviation
Textron eAviation
United Way of the Plains, Inc.
Visit Wichita
Western Associates
Wichita Children's Home
Wichita Marriott
Wichita Police & Fire Foundation
Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce
Wichita State University Foundation



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

Thank you for strengthening our community!

Future Meeting Dates

- ♦ February Chapter Meeting: February 15, 2023, 5:30 p.m. at Reflection Ridge Country Club
- ♦ March Board Meeting: March 2, 2023, 3:00 p.m. at HealthCore Clinic
- ♦ March Chapter Meeting: March 15, 2023, 5:30 p.m. at Candle Club, Prairie Village Center

You can view all of our upcoming meeting dates on our website via the [Chapter Calendar](#)

Follow us on social media!

Facebook: EWI of Wichita

Instagram: @ewiofwichita



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS!

February 14—Donna Jestmore, Alumni Member

February 28—Hayley Hobbs, Butler Community College Foundation



Contact us!

*Below you'll find information to contact your 2022-2023
Board of Directors as well as Corporate EWI*

Allison Walden—President | waldena@dlwichita.com | 316.682.4553

Ashley Goodman—Vice President | ashley.goodman@pec1.com | 316.206.1315

Jessica Buettgenbach—Secretary | jbuettgenbach@visitwichita.com | 316.660.6302

Emma Hahn—Treasurer | emma.hahn@ampf.com | 316.630.8118

Davna Gould—Advisor and Fundraising Director | dgould@healthcoreclinic.com

Pam Dinwiddie—Sergeant-at-Arms | pdinwiddie@e-aviation.com

Annie Murach—Director-at-Large | amurach@unitedwayplains.org

Hayley Hobbs—Communications Director | hhobbs@butlercc.edu

Sydney Tuttle—Membership Director | stuttle@deltadentalks.com

Jennifer Clark—Programs Director | jennifer@wichitapolicefoundation.org

EWI Corporate Office

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ewi@ewiconnect.com

262.269.5625