

# Tulsa EWI Connect

CHARTERED 1956

January 2026



## 2025-2026 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we step into January, we find ourselves in a season of transition. The holidays have gently given way to quieter days, cooler mornings, and the promise of a brand new year. Winter has a way of inviting reflection—of encouraging us to pause, take stock, and look ahead with intention. It is in these moments that we're reminded how change, while sometimes subtle, often brings renewed clarity and opportunity.

I want to extend my warmest wishes to each of you for a healthy, joyful, and fulfilling 2026. May this year bring growth in your careers, meaningful connections within our chapter, and a continued sense of purpose in the community we serve together. I am deeply grateful for the passion, generosity, and dedication you bring to EWI, and I am excited for what we will accomplish side by side in the months ahead.

At Christmas, with family and friends around the Christmas tree, I had the profound honor of officiating the wedding of a beautiful older couple that found love again after loss. Watching them choose love again was a powerful reminder that hope does not have an expiration date. Their union was filled with grace, resilience, and the quiet confidence that companionship and joy can be rediscovered, no matter the season of life. It was a moment that will stay with me and one that perfectly reflects the spirit of renewal that a new year offers.

As we begin 2026, I encourage each of you to look forward with open hearts—to welcome change, embrace new possibilities, and trust that growth often follows moments of transition. Whether personal, professional, or within our chapter, the year ahead holds space for fresh beginnings and meaningful milestones.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your President. I look forward to all that we will share, build, and celebrate together in the new year ahead.

With gratitude and best wishes,

LaFonda

**2025-2026**

**EWI Tulsa Chapter President**

[WWW.EWITULSA.ORG](http://WWW.EWITULSA.ORG) [SAAEWITULSA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SAAEWITULSA@GMAIL.COM)



Tulsa  
**ewiConnect**  
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<https://www.facebook.com/ewitulsa>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ewi-tulsa>



<https://www.instagram.com/ewitula/>

## **EWI Corporate Web/Social Media**



<https://ewiconnect.com>



<https://www.facebook.com/ewicorp>

## ☀️ **Programs Committee Needs Your Input!** ☀️

EWI is gathering recommendations from our members, and we'd love to hear from you!

Your insight helps us create memorable events, strengthen connections, and highlight the talents within our community.

### **What We're Looking For:**

- Venue Recommendations (with no fee attached)
- Suggestions for a mini firm night venue
- Event Enhancements
- Speaker recommendations
- Theme ideas
- Caterer or restaurant suggestions
- Firms interested in hosting a member night
- Committee Listings

Please send your suggestions—your input truly makes a difference!  
Thank you!

**-Gina Shumard**  
**2025-2026 Programs Director**

# MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

## JANUARY 2026 CHAPTER MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, January 8

**Time:** 5:30 PM Social | 6:00 PM Meeting

**Venue:** Tulsa Tech- Client Service Center  
3638 S Memorial Dr, Tulsa, OK 74135 (Training Room 8)

**Parking:** Free parking available at meeting location

**Dress:** Business Professional

**Speaker:** Susan Brehm, American Heart Association

**Topic:** Health, Wellness, & the Workplace ❄️

**Cost:** \$50 Members & Guests | \$35 Sustaining

Do you have a door prize you wish to donate?

If so, please contact Debbie Stumps at  
d.stumps@purviewlife.com or (918)-520-0308 (cell)

As always, we appreciate your generosity!

Please [click here](#) to connect to the RSVP form.

RSVP by **noon on Monday, January 5** so that we may provide the appropriate seating arrangements and dinner servings. Please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions.

**No-RSVP and No-Shows** will be charged the full amount of the meeting fee. Please RSVP for regrets or attending!

# DECEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



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A special thank you to Clarehouse for their thoughtful and inspiring presentation. We greatly appreciate their time and the meaningful insight they shared about their mission and the important work they do in our community. If you would like additional information or wish to learn more about Clarehouse.

Please contact:  
Christian McLain at [CMclain@clarehouse.org](mailto:CMclain@clarehouse.org)  
(918) 898-6150

# DECEMBER MEETING FEEDBACK

## THE MEAL

Feedback on the food and service was mixed. While some guests enjoyed the meal and appreciated details like separate salad bowls and the pre-event offerings, others felt the food lacked flavor, was cold, or needed better serving utensils, healthier options, and clear ingredient labels. Several attendees also noted issues with service disruptions, including noisy staff, early plate clearing, and talking during the meeting, which was distracting to speakers.

## THE VENUE

Overall feedback on the venue was very positive, with attendees consistently praising the easy access, convenient location, ample parking, and festive atmosphere. Guests appreciated the attentive staff and overall space, but noted there was a lot of talking during the speaker; please make sure side conversations are minimized during presentations.

## THE PRESENTATION

Attendees overwhelmingly enjoyed the Clarehouse presentation, describing it as informative, touching, motivating, and heartwarming, with many appreciating the opportunity to learn about the organization and its mission.

Thank  
you

**Thank you to Pam and the Hilton Garden Inn, Broken Arrow for hosting our December meeting. We truly appreciate your warm hospitality, the welcoming and well-organized space, and the attentive staff who helped make the event run smoothly. Thank you as well for inviting all of us to the happy hour open house—it was a wonderful added touch and greatly enjoyed by our members.**

# Speaker

for January meeting



We are happy to welcome Susan Brehm of the American Heart Association as our January speaker. Susan has been with the American Heart Association since 2022, beginning as the Tulsa Executive Director, where she led local initiatives to advance heart health and strengthen community engagement. In May 2025, she was promoted to Senior Development Consultant for the Southwest Region, focusing on market expansion and building strong volunteer partnerships to further the organization's life-saving mission. Susan is passionate about connecting people to a cause that truly saves lives and creating meaningful partnerships that make a lasting impact on cardiovascular health across the region.

# Speaker

for February meeting



We are thrilled to announce Heather Turner as our February speaker! An Oklahoma native, Heather is a certified John Maxwell coach, author of *DreamTraders*, founder of Anthem Road Academy School of Music, and Executive Director of CORE at the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. She has held leadership roles in community and economic development, including President of the Jenks Chamber of Commerce. Heather will be sharing insights on *How Women Rise* and empowering women to reach their full potential. She enjoys life with her husband, two teenage sons, three dogs, and staying active in her community.

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



### Dr. J. Montana Cain

Dr. J. Montana Cain is a former classroom teacher turned evaluator, strategist, and entrepreneur. She founded JMC Consulting Firm to help nonprofits and foundations use data to deepen their impact while staying true to people and purpose. Dr. Cain leads evaluation projects, strategy workshops, and capacity-building efforts that make data a catalyst for change. She is also launching the GATES Academy—Getting to Action through Equity and Systems—a learning hub equipping mission-driven leaders to turn data into actionable strategies. A first-time mom at 40+, a recovering workaholic, and an East Coast native now proud to call Tulsa home, Dr. Cain enjoys psychological thrillers, true crime podcasts, and time outdoors. She is thrilled to be part of EWI and looks forward to connecting with women in the community.



# Want to be featured in the next Connect?

## EWI Tulsa Chapter – Member Bio Questionnaire

We love spotlighting our amazing members in the Connect newsletter! Take a few moments to answer as many of the questions below as you'd like—please try to keep your submission to 1–2 paragraphs. Don't forget to include a headshot so we can feature you properly!

**Submissions can be emailed to: [patherton@etscommercial.com](mailto:patherton@etscommercial.com)**

### **About You:**

1. Full Name:
2. Current Employer & Title:
3. Briefly describe your career path or current role – what do you love about it?

### **Personal Highlights**

4. What's something you're proud of – personally or professionally?
5. What's a fun fact or hidden talent most people don't know about you?
6. What's your favorite place to go or thing to do in Tulsa?
7. Do you have any hobbies, pets, or special traditions you'd like to share?
8. What's a quote or motto that inspires you?

**Don't forget to attach a headshot/photo with your submission.  
Thank you for helping us celebrate the women of EWI Tulsa!**



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## **Tuesday, January 6**

Communications Meeting – 11:00 AM (Virtual)

B/C/DP Meeting – 4:00 PM (Virtual)

## **Wednesday, January 7**

Corporate Chapter Leadership Call – 12:00 PM CST (Virtual)

SAA Meeting – 3:00 PM (Virtual)

## **Thursday, January 8**

Monthly Chapter Meeting – 5:30 PM (Tulsa Tech- Client Service Center)

## **Tuesday, January 13**

New Member Orientation – 10:30 AM (Virtual)

## **Wednesday, January 14**

Corporate Growth & Engagement Committee – 1:00 PM CST (Virtual)

## **Tuesday, January 20**

Programs Meeting – 11:30 AM (Virtual)

Membership Committee – 3:30 PM (Virtual)

## **Wednesday, January 21**

Corporate Webinar, Virtual, 12:00 PM CST

## **Friday, January 23**

January Birthday Lunch – 12:00 PM (Bar Serra)

## **Wednesday, January 28**

Board Meeting – 4:00 PM (Fitzgerald Funeral Services, Southwood Colonial Chapel, E 91st St)

# DECEMBER BIRTHDAY LUNCH HIGHLIGHT



**Pictured:**

Amanda Grace, Jan Ehrle, Roberta Montgomery,  
Aubry Walters Oehlberg, Brandy Bousquet, Judy Russell

## EVENTS



### WOMEN IN BUSINESS NIGHT

Empowering Women In Business: A Night for Growth and Inspiration! Join us for an evening of networking, learning and empowerment at the Tulsa Oilers Women In Business Night



**HOSTED BY:  
AMY HENDERSON**

**DATE: JANUARY 30<sup>TH</sup> 2026**

**LOCATION: BOK CENTER, DOORS AT 5:30, PUCK DROP AT 7:05**

For more information, **Contact Amy Henderson at 918-697-8316 or Amy@TulsaOilers.com**

Join us for networking, invitation only special events, cocktails, networking, and fellowship.

## EVENTS

**SAVE THE DATE**

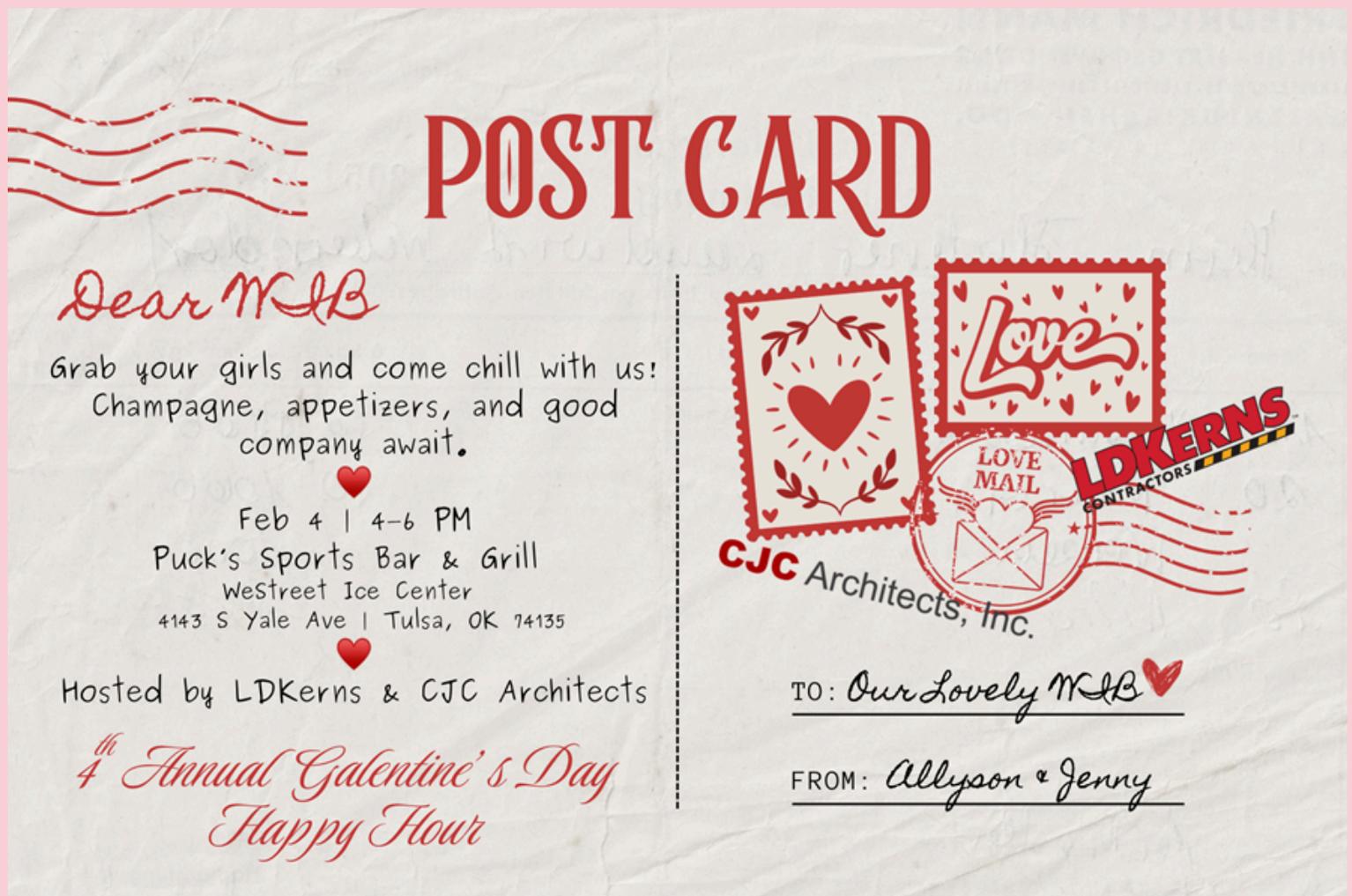
TEXOMA Corpus Christi

July 30<sup>th</sup> - August 1<sup>st</sup>



## EVENTS

### 4th Annual Galentine's Day Happy Hour with CJC Architects & LDKerns



[Click here to Register](#)



# HIGHLIGHTS

*Quarterly Social*

# PUCK'S AT WESTREET ICE CENTER



**Pictured:**

Heidi Garrett, Destiny Campos, Stefanie Phariss, Libby First,  
Amy Henderson, Lafonda Murphy

# BIRTHDAYS & FIRM ANNIVERSARIES

## January Birthdays

Jessica Barlow, Burnett Home Improvement – January 6  
Chelsea Duke, ONEOK – January 14  
Trevor Swanson, SJS Hospitality Hotels – January 22  
Courtnei Wilson, BOK Financial – January 24  
Darlene Adkins, KMS International – January 24  
Janis Cohlmiya, Tropical Plant Design – January 27

## January Anniversaries

Helmerich & Payne – since 1984  
TC Blair and Associates – since 2017  
BOK Financial – since 2024  
Just Catering by Orr – since 2024  
Hilton Garden Inn – since 2025

# INFORMATION



## COMMITTEES

YOU CAN JOIN A COMMITTEE AT ANY TIME! IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN JOINING A COMMITTEE, REACH OUT TO THE BOARD MEMBER WHOSE COMMITTEE YOU'D LIKE TO JOIN!

COMMITTEES ARE A GREAT WAY TO GET TO KNOW FELLOW EWI MEMBERS!

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR BOARD MEMBERS IS ON THE "CONTACT" PAGE!

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## DOOR PRIZES

DO YOU LOVE WINNING DOOR PRIZES? OF COURSE YOU DO! IF YOU HAVE WON A DOOR PRIZE THIS YEAR, WE HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER DONATING ONE FOR A FUTURE MEETING!

PAY IT FORWARD!

ALL DOOR PRIZE DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED AND APPRECIATED. PLEASE CONTACT DEBBIE STUMPS AT [D.STUMPS@PURVIEWLIFE.COM](mailto:D.STUMPS@PURVIEWLIFE.COM)



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## MENTORS

If you would like to serve as a mentor to new members, please reach out to Angie Walters to volunteer!

[angie@schsnake.com](mailto:angie@schsnake.com)



## MEMBER UPDATES



We want to share your news! Email us with updates and news, and include photos for us to include in the Connect!

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## EWI Tulsa Chapter Cares



If you are having any life events that you wish to share with the Chapter, please send them to Sarah Bowen at [\*\*sbowen@tulsazoo.org\*\*](mailto:sbowen@tulsazoo.org) We want to make sure the Chapter leadership and membership are kept informed of important happenings and are reaching out to support you! It is important to your Board of Directors that we celebrate your personal and professional accomplishments but also offer care and support in the event of surgery, illness or loss.

# CONTACT

## **President**

Dr. LaFonda Murphy, Moore Funeral Home, Inc  
lafonda@moorefuneral.com  
918-744-1202

## **Vice President**

Aubry Oehlberg, Transitional Member  
aubry.oehlberg@gmail.com  
918-853-2654

## **Secretary**

Patty Atherton, ETS Commercial Title Services  
patherton@etscommercial.com  
918-289-0235

## **Treasurer**

Destiny Campos, Oklahoma's Credit Union  
destiny.campos@okcu.org  
918-327-0369

## **Sergeant-at-Arms**

Jessica Vagin, The Stonehaven  
jessica.vagin@legendseniorliving.com  
918-203-0210

## **B/C/DP Director**

Sarah Alfred, Tata Consultancy Services  
sarah.alfred@tcs.com  
918-200-5025

## **Membership (Recruitment)**

Heidi Garrett, Trinity Woods  
hgarrett@trinitywoodstulsa.com  
918-513-1537

## **Membership (Retention)**

Trevor Swanson, SJS Hospitality  
tswanson@sjs hospitality.com  
918-361-5112

## **Communications**

Victoria Gordeyev, World Travel Services  
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612-384-6033

## **Programs**

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580-209-2066

## **Advisor**

Janis Cohlmia, Tropical Plant Design  
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918-622-3400

## **Advisor**

Jody Davis, Accent Moving, Storage & Logistics  
jodydavis@accentmoving.com  
918-671-5302

## **Advisor**

Kim Bowman, TD Williamson  
kim.bowman@tdwilliamson.com  
918-521-1415

## **Advisor**

Susan Miller, Warren Professional Building  
Corporation  
slmiller@wpbctulsa.com  
918-408-5882



**CONTACT US**

## ABOUT US

### OUR MISSION

EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL (EWI) BRINGS TOGETHER KEY INDIVIDUALS FROM DIVERSE BUSINESSES FOR THE PURPOSE OF: PROMOTING MEMBER FIRMS, ENHANCING PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND ENCOURAGING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

### OUR VISION

TO ENHANCE PROFESSIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT WITHIN A DIVERSE GROUP OF WOMEN WHILE EMPOWERING THEM TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AS THEY INSPIRE OTHERS.

### OUR VALUES

INTEGRITY | EXCELLENCE | RESPECT | COLLABORATION

### EWI

EWI OF TULSA IS A CHAPTER OF EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL ("EWI"). IF YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT EWI INCLUDING THE MANY DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES OR CONNECT WITH MEMBERS IN OTHER CHAPTERS, PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO REVIEW THE [EWI CORPORATE WEBSITE](http://WWW.EWITULSA.ORG).