

Tulsa EwiConnect

CHARTERED 1956

March 2026

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

March brings a sense of renewal—fresh energy, longer days, and new opportunities to grow together. I hope you're feeling that same momentum as we step into an exciting and meaningful month for EWI of Tulsa.

Our February Galentine gathering at RiverSpirit Casino & Resort was absolutely fantastic! The evening was filled with connection, laughter, and celebration. A special thank you to Tonya Shanks for arranging such wonderful prizes and for sharing your beautiful venue and warm hospitality. I truly hope everyone enjoyed their Galentine gifts, it was such a joy to celebrate together.

March is bringing more fun and connections at the Executive Breakfast — March 3 at our member firm Hilton Garden Inn Broken Arrow, graciously hosted by Pam Carlson. Our Monthly Chapter Meeting — March 12 will proudly honor our Sustaining Members and recognize the lasting impact of their dedication and support. Then we will connect with our new members at the newly created EWI Connection Café — March 5 at She Brews Coffee; we are excited to welcome anyone who would like to learn more, ask questions, and connect in a relaxed setting.

I also hope everyone is enjoying the birthday lunch outings! A heartfelt thank you to our Vice President, Aubry Walters for organizing these special celebrations! What a wonderful way to celebrate one another and strengthen the connections that make our chapter so special.

March also marks the official 70th anniversary of our chapter—a remarkable milestone reflecting decades of leadership, connection, and community impact. While this anniversary falls in March, we look forward to celebrating this extraordinary legacy in a grand way in August. An amazing committee is putting together a program that will honor EWI of Tulsa's legacy, all past executives, and past chapter presidents in August so you won't want to miss it!

As we welcome this season of growth and new beginnings, thank you for being part of the legacy we continue to build together.

With appreciation and excitement for what's ahead,

LaFonda

2025-2026

EWI Tulsa Chapter President

WWW.EWITULSA.ORG SAAEWITULSA@GMAIL.COM



2025-2026 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
DR. LAFONDA MURPHY, MOORE FUNERAL HOME, INC

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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>



Hello EWI members!

The corporate board is pleased to offer the **Emerging Executive Women program** again for 2026! Here's what a couple of our 2025 winners had to say about the program and their experiences:

Tia Scott (EWI of Harrisburg) sees the award as a catalyst for personal transformation, explaining, "I'm truly honored to be selected as one of the 2025 Emerging Executive Women program winners. I will be using the funds to deepen my own coaching journey – investing in transformational inner work that will enable me to develop powerful, actionable strategies for success. This investment will not only help me continue to grow personally but will also amplify the success of my clients, creating ripple effects across the communities I serve."

Molly Murphy (EWI of Omaha) shared how this opportunity will directly impact her educational goals and career advancement, "With the help of this grant and the leadership coaching that accompanies it, I will have the tools and support needed to finally take the plunge and invest in myself by pursuing a Master's in Legal Studies. This degree will allow me to assist our HR team in navigating complex legal challenges while broadening my overall impact as a leader within our company. I'm excited to embark on this next chapter and grateful for the support that makes it possible."

The program is launching today, and winners will be announced in April. The links to the program guidelines and the application are listed below.

If you have any questions, please contact the Growth and Engagement Director, **Lesley Cornathan** at lcornathan@columbusconventions.com or 614-827-2661.

[CLICK HERE FOR PROGRAM GUIDELINES & APPLICATION](#)

☀️ 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

IN NEED OF ADDITIONAL PRIZES**

Do you have a door prize you wish to donate?
If so, please contact Debbie Stumps at
d.stumps@purview.com or (918)-520-0308 (cell)
As always, we appreciate your generosity!



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

MARCH CHAPTER MEETING EWI Of Tulsa March 1956 - 2026

Date: Thursday, March 12
Time: 5:30 PM Social | 6:00 PM Meeting
Venue: The Bishops Medical Building
10507 E 91st Street, 5th floor
Parking: Parking available at location
Dress: Business Professional with EWI colors!
Theme: EWI of Tulsa celebrates an evening of Legacy
and Leadership
Topic: Honoring our Sustaining Members

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

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

RSVP by **noon on Monday, March 9** 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!

FEBRUARY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



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FEBRUARY MEETING FEEDBACK

THE MEAL

Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many calling the meal delicious, amazing, and the best EWI dinner so far. Guests loved the variety, standout items like the chocolate cake and Street Corn Grits, and the thoughtful attention to dietary restrictions. A small number felt it was good but not as flavorful as other catering they've had.

THE VENUE

Feedback on the venue was extremely positive, with many calling it excellent, beautiful, and one of the best meetings in years. Attendees loved the decor, spaciousness, easy access, valet parking, and special touches like the tour and photo booth. A few noted minor audio issues at the start, but overall the experience and hospitality were highly praised.

THE PRESENTATION

Feedback on the speaker and meeting was largely very positive, with many describing Heather as inspiring, engaging, and excellent. Attendees enjoyed the topic and overall experience, saying it was a great and fun meeting. A few noted that parts felt too long or overly focused on her personally, and one mentioned the dinner activity felt a bit awkward.

Thank
you

Thank you so much for allowing us to host our EWI meeting at River Spirit Casino. It was such a fun and beautiful Galentine's party and gift exchange! We truly appreciate your hospitality and the support from you and your team that made everything run so smoothly.

Our members had a wonderful time, and we are so grateful for your partnership in making it such a special event.

RIVER SPIRT CASINO RESORT

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Janis Cohlma

Tropical Plant Design was invited to attend the EWI Chapter meeting as a guest of membership in April of 2008. From the moment we walked through the door, we were warmly welcomed by Jan Ehrle and Myra Trahern, who immediately introduced us to others in the room. It didn't feel intimidating or exclusive—it felt inviting, like we belonged there.

That evening at dinner, Myra shared something that has stayed with me ever since. She said, "There are three types of representatives: those who join and attend chapter meetings, those who join and sign up for a committee, and those who join to serve. Which one will you be?" At the time, I didn't fully grasp how much those words would matter—but they planted a seed. It wasn't until the following month, after attending the EWISP Scholarship Banquet, that I knew without a doubt I had made the right decision by joining EWI. I was blown away by the passion, generosity, and genuine connection among these women. What an incredible group. Some of my fondest memories have been created through my relationships in EWI—road trips, LCAM, chapter meetings, committee work, and countless moments filled with love, laughter, and shared wisdom. Those experiences will always be cherished.

I quickly learned that committee service is where EWI truly comes alive. It's the best way to dig in, grow, and feel connected on a deeper level. My very first committee was Programs, and Linda Polson signed me up as the Executive of the Year Function Leader—before I even knew what that role involved! Through her guidance and mentorship, I learned as I went, and the evening turned out to be a wonderful success. That experience gave me confidence and reinforced the value of saying "yes" and stepping up to serve.

Outside of EWI, my life is happily full. Mark and I have been married for 22 years, and we have three daughters and six grandchildren who keep us constantly on the move. Between sports, church activities, and overnight slumber parties, there's never a dull moment. These days, my go-to bedtime trick is telling the kids, "I'll give you \$5 if you can fall asleep before me." It works—sometimes. They definitely keep us young, and we wouldn't have it any other way.

EWI has been an important part of my journey—one that has shaped friendships, leadership, and memories I'll carry with me always.

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: vgordeyev@worldtvl.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

MARCH

Tuesday, March 3

Communications Meeting – 11:30 AM (Virtual)

Thursday, March 5

B/C/DP – 4:00 PM (Virtual)

New Member Connection Cafe – 8:00 AM (*She Brews Coffee*, 1 N Lewis Ave, Tulsa, OK 74110)

Tuesday March 10

Membership Retention – 10:30 AM (Virtual)

Wednesday, March 11

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

SAA Meeting – 3:00 PM (Virtual)

Thursday, March 12

Monthly Chapter Meeting – 5:30 PM (*Bishops Medical Building*)

Tuesday, March 17

Programs Meeting – 11:30 AM (Virtual)

Friday, March 24th

February Birthday Lunch – 12:00 PM (*McGills*, 6058 S Yale Ave, Tulsa, OK 74135)

Wednesday, March 25

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


SAVE THE DATE:


Executive Breakfast (for Executives, Co-Executives and Exec/Reps only):
March 3rd at 7:15am at Hilton Garden Inn Tulsa-Broken Arrow

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

 Thursday, April 30, 2026

 4:00 PM

 Holiday Inn Express

Are you new to the organization or looking to get more involved?

This is your chance to get connected, informed, and inspired!

- ✓ **Meet fellow members**
- ✓ **Learn about committees and leadership opportunities**
- ✓ **Discover upcoming events and initiatives**
 - ✓ **Get your questions answered**
- ✓ **Start building meaningful connections**

Whether you're brand new or just ready to dive deeper, this session will help you make the most of your membership.

EVENTS



**THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026
SHE BREWS COFFEE
1 NORTH LEWIS | TULSA, OK 74110**

**Please email Trevor Swanson if you are able to
join us at: tswanson@sjshospitality.com.**

We will save you a seat!



EVENTS



EXECUTIVE BREAKFAST

For Executives, Co-Executives & Exec/Reps
Only



March 3rd, 2026



7:15 AM

- Hilton Garden Inn Tulsa-Broken Arrow

Start your morning with leadership,
connection, and conversation.

Join fellow executives for a focused and
energizing breakfast gathering.

EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

TEXOMA Corpus Christi

July 30th - August 1st



EVENTS

Women in Business Night

Hosted by Amy Henderson, Tulsa Oilers
January 30th



BIRTHDAYS

March Birthdays

Dr. LaFonda Murphy, Moore Funeral Home, Inc. - March 18

Lori Heerlyn, TD Williamson - March 19

Tamara Conner-Lunsford, ONEOK - March 24

Zoya Allen, Mark Allen Chevrolet - March 28

March Firm Anniversaries

Centre Technologies - March 2024

Health Zone at Saint Francis - March 2022

JPMorgan Chase & Co - March 1956 - Charter Member

LDKerns Contractors - March 2017

ONEOK, Inc. - March 1958

Roark Landscape - March 2025

Schnake Turnbo Frank - March 2011

The Stonehaven, A Legend Senior Living Residence -
March 2023

Trinity Woods - March 2024

Tulsa Tech - March 1998

Tulsa Zoo - March 2023

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!

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



CONSIDERING INVITING A GUEST

If you wish to bring a guest to a chapter meeting, you must first contact our Membership Directors – Heidi Garrett and Trevor Swanson. They will assist you in vetting your guest for membership.

hgarrett@trinitywoodstulsa.com
tswanson@sjshospitality.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!

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

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Vice President

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918-853-2654

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Sergeant-at-Arms, Operations Director

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Sergeant-at-Arms, Administrative Director

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Membership (Retention)

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B/C/DP Director

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Advisor

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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).