

# Tulsa EWI Connect

CHARTERED 1956

May 2026

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

May brings a season of growth, renewal, and reflection—an ideal time to pause and recognize the momentum within our chapter.

At our recent mid-year Board Retreat, we took a thoughtful look at our strategic plan and the progress we've made so far this year. I am proud to share that we are on track and meeting our goals. This success is a direct reflection of your engagement and commitment to our core pillars: Connections, Careers, and Community.

In Tulsa, opportunities to live out these pillars are all around us. Whether through building meaningful relationships at our meetings, supporting one another's professional growth, or giving back through community initiatives, each of you plays a role in strengthening the impact of EWI in our city.

I would also like to extend a special congratulations to our Tulsa Membership Team for earning 3rd place in Corporate's FOMO Promo Event! This is an outstanding accomplishment, and a testament to your dedication, creativity, and drive to grow our chapter.

As we move through May, we also take time to celebrate and reflect. Mother's Day allows us to honor the women who lead, support, and inspire in so many ways, while Memorial Day reminds us to reflect with gratitude for those who have served and sacrificed for our country.

We are also excited to recognize our scholarship recipients this month at our B/C/DP Banquet, highlighting the powerful impact we continue to make in supporting education and future leaders. This is a meaningful reflection of our commitment to "Community" and to investing in the next generation.

As we look ahead, I encourage each of you to stay engaged—invite a vetted guest, make a new connection, or participate in a community effort. It is through these small but intentional actions that we continue to grow stronger together.

Thank you for your continued dedication to EWI of Tulsa. I am honored to serve alongside such an inspiring group of women.

With appreciation,  
LaFonda

**2025-2026**

**EWI Tulsa Chapter President**

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



### 2025-2026 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT**

DR. LAFONDA MURPHY, MOORE FUNERAL HOME, INC

**VICE PRESIDENT / PRESIDENT-ELECT**

AUBRY WALTERS, MABREY BANK

**SECRETARY**

PATTY ATHERTON, ETS COMMERCIAL TITLE SERVICES

**TREASURER**

DESTINY CAMPOS, OKLAHOMA'S CREDIT UNION

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS, OPERATIONS DIRECTOR**

JESSICA VAGIN, THE STONEHAVEN, A LEGEND SENIOR LIVING RESIDENCE

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS, ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR**

SARAH BOWEN, TULSA ZOO

**B/C/DP DIRECTOR**

SARAH ALFRED, TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES

**MEMBERSHIP – RECRUITMENT DIRECTOR**

HEIDI GARRETT, TRINITY WOODS

**MEMBERSHIP – RETENTION DIRECTOR**

TREVOR SWANSON, SJS HOSPITALITY HOTELS

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

GINA SHUMARD, CHEROKEE NATION BUSINESSES

**COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR**

VICTORIA GORDEYEV, WORLD TRAVEL

**ADVISOR**

KIM BOWMAN, TD WILLIAMSON

**ADVISOR**

JANIS COHLMIA, TROPICAL PLANT DESIGN

**ADVISOR**

JODY DAVIS, ACCENT MOVING & STORAGE

**ADVISOR**

SUSAN MILLER, WARREN PROFESSIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION



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>

# MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING



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!

**NOTE:** All gifts are appreciated. Please do not feel obligated to bring anything expensive. Gift cards of any value are also welcomed. Anything helps!

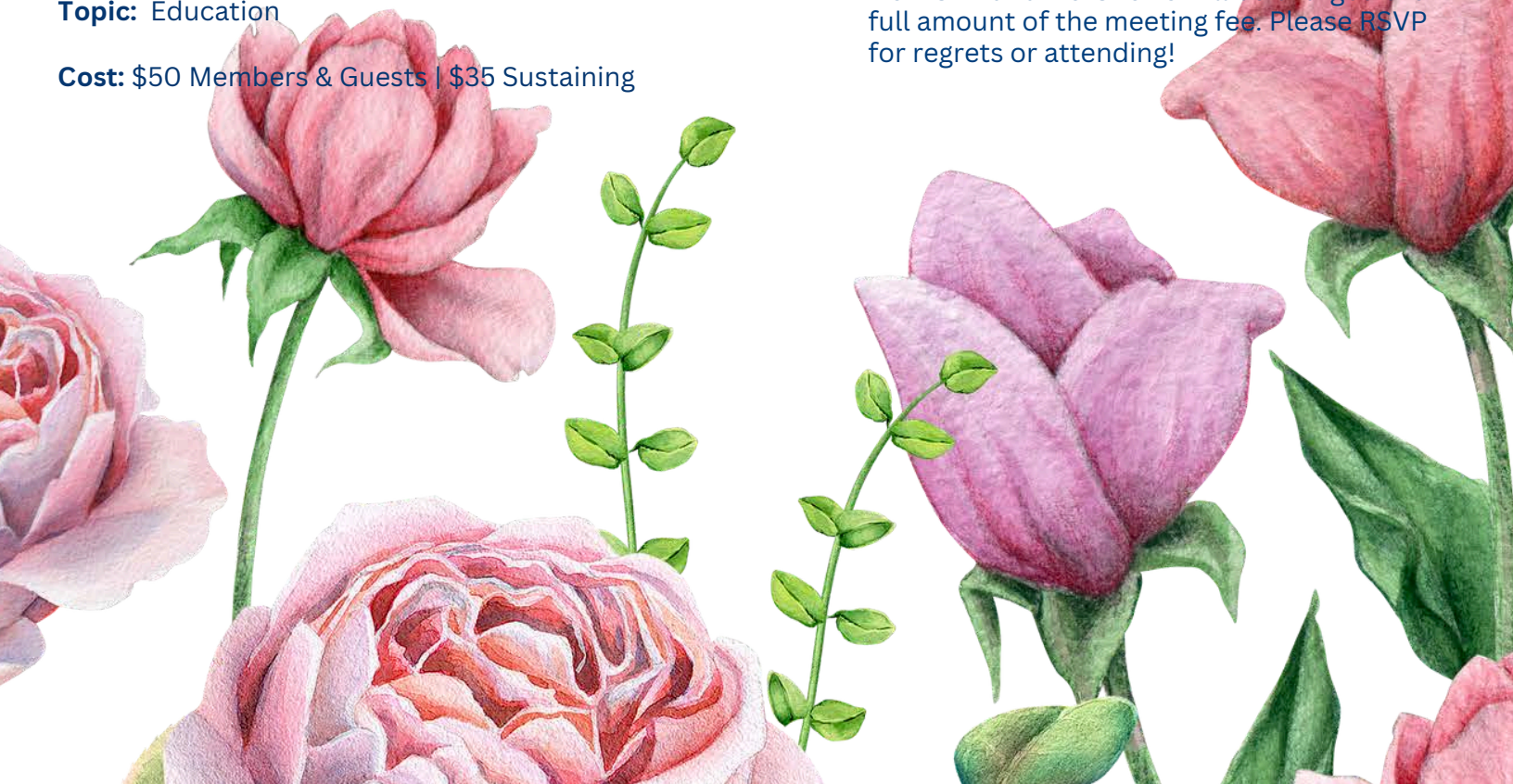
## MAY CHAPTER MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, May 14, 2026  
**Time:** 5:30 PM Social | 6:00 PM Meeting  
**Venue:** Tulsa Dream Center  
200 W 46th St N, Tulsa, OK 74126  
**Parking:** Free parking available at meeting location  
**Dress:** Business Professional  
**Theme:**  
**Speaker:** Tim Newton, Executive Director at Tulsa Dream Center  
**Topic:** Education  
**Cost:** \$50 Members & Guests | \$35 Sustaining

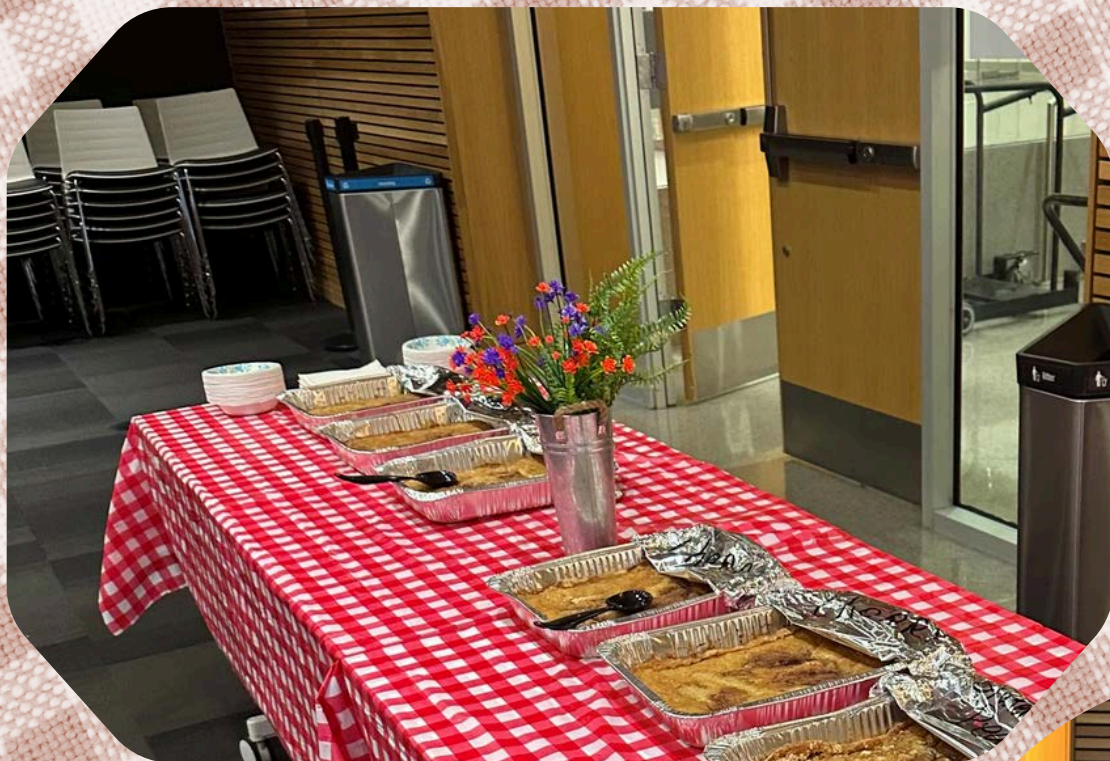
Please [click here](#) to connect to the RSVP form.

RSVP by **noon on Monday, May 11** 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!



# APRIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



# APRIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



# APRIL MEETING FEEDBACK

## THE MEAL

Overall, attendees enjoyed the food, noting great flavor, variety, and appreciation for options like salad, grilled vegetables, fruit, and gluten-free dessert. Many said they would happily have it again. The main feedback was that the food could have been served warmer, as several mentioned it was not very hot by the time they ate.

## THE VENUE

Overall, attendees found the venue to be very nice, with a great size for the group, an open layout, and strong AV that made it easy to see and hear. Several also appreciated the secure parking and parking passes when they worked well.

The main challenge noted was parking, with many mentioning difficulty finding spots, navigating the garage, or exiting due to issues like QR code access and delays.

## THE PRESENTATION

Overall, attendees thought the speaker did an excellent job and found her knowledgeable, engaging, and informative, especially on AI, with many feeling more open to the topic after her presentation. The meeting had great energy and was enjoyable overall, though some felt the introductions and icebreaker were too long for a group of that size and caused the meeting to run over. A few also noted minor improvements such as better mic quality and staying more on schedule.

**Thank you so much to the Tulsa City–County Library for hosting us for our April chapter meeting. We truly appreciate your support and the beautiful space.**

**A special thank you as well to Pamela Jean Brady — thank you so much for speaking and for sharing your insights on Artificial Intelligence. We're grateful for such a meaningful and engaging presentation!**



# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



## Laura Gamble

My name is Laura Gamble (pronounced lar-ruh like the word car, not lor-ruh like the word or). I was named by my father for the song "Laura" which is the title song from the film Laura, composed by David Raksin in 1944, with lyrics added later by Johnny Mercer in 1945. My father was a jazz musician and "Laura" was one of his favorite songs. There's a YouTube version by Frank Sinatra if you want to listen.

My husband, James and I own Ann Arthur Outerwear and this year we celebrate 16 years in business in Tulsa. Ann Arthur is a luxury outerwear boutique specializing in furs, leathers, and fine wools. James is a Master Furrier, and we have been in the fur business for 40 years. In addition to sales we provide cold storage, cleaning, repairs, restyles and custom designed furs. One of the most frequently asked questions is where we got the name Ann Arthur. It's our middle names! I'm Laura Ann and he is James Arthur.

I've not always been actively employed in the fur business. Most of my business career has been in the nonprofit sector. For 30 plus years I was a Development Director at a few different nonprofits in both St. Louis and Oklahoma City. I also served as Executive Director for an OKC nonprofit for 8 years. I retired from nonprofit work in mid-2019 and did some consulting work before joining James as the COO at Ann Arthur.

James and I have been married for 44 years and have one son, Jack who is 27 and lives in OKC. The fur business has taken us to El Paso, St. Louis, Cleveland, Ohio, Oklahoma City before we came home to Tulsa in 2020. We both grew up here and couldn't think of a better place to open our business.

I adore Tulsa and all it has to offer -- museums, vibrant communities, and an amazing food scene. One of my favorite things to do in Tulsa is to attend a special event at Philbrook as well as brunch on the patio at Waterfront Grill.

One thing that keeps me going and will always get me out of a slump is Ephesians 3:20 in The Passion Translation:

"Never doubt God's mighty power to work in you and accomplish all this. He will achieve infinitely more than your greatest request, your most unbelievable dream, and exceed your wildest imagination! He will outdo them all, for his miraculous power constantly energizes you."

# 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](mailto: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?

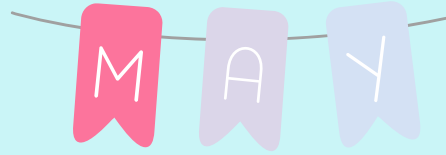
### **Personal Highlights**

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



**Tuesday, May 5**

Communications Meeting – 11:30 AM (Virtual)

**Thursday, May 7**

B/C/DP – 4:00 PM (Virtual)

New Member Connection Cafe – 8:00 AM (Collab Coffee, 4532 E 51<sup>st</sup> St, Suite E, Tulsa, OK 74135)

**Tuesday, May 12**

Membership Retention – 10:30 AM (Virtual)

**Thursday, May 14**

Monthly Chapter Meeting – 5:30 PM

**Wednesday, May 13**

Corporate Chapter Leadership Call – 12:00 PM CST

**Tuesday May 19<sup>th</sup>**

Programs Meeting – 11:00 AM (Taziki’s, 4929 E 71<sup>st</sup> St, Tulsa, OK, 74136)

**Wednesday, May 20**

Professional Development Webinar: From Upended to Unstoppable! Solutionary Strategies for Leaders. To register, visit [https://ewiconnect.com/events/event\\_list.asp](https://ewiconnect.com/events/event_list.asp)

**Note:** To view previous webinars, please visit: <https://ewiconnect.com/page/PDWebinars>

SAA Meeting – 3:00 PM (Virtual)

**Thursday, May 21**

Quarterly After Hours Event – 6:30 PM (Tulsa Zoo’s “Zoolightful”, 6421 E 36th St N, Tulsa, OK 74115)

**Thursday, May 28**

May Birthday Lunch – 12:00 PM (Charlestons on Yale, 6839 S Yale Ave, Tulsa, OK 74136)

**Wednesday, May 27**

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

## EVENTS

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SAVE THE DATE


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### EWI QUARTERLY LUNCH

Join us for an afternoon of connection,  
conversation, and community.

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 Thursday, June 4  
 12:00 PM

 P.F. Chang's  
Utica Square, Tulsa

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More details coming soon.  
We look forward to seeing you there!

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS



# LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE & ANNUAL MEETING

**SEPTEMBER 16-19, 2026 | MOBILE, AL**

EWI's Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting ("LCAM") is an annual professional development conference where members from our Chapters gather to connect, network and grow professionally. Keynote speakers, workshops, seminars, group discussions, and more offer diverse learning opportunities. Social gatherings provide networking and establish new connections. Reading Rally events and other philanthropic activities reach the local community and help the Chapters learn how to implement programming in their communities. Our annual Celebration Gala allows recognition of our members and the many successes of our Chapters. Delegates representing each Chapter meet to approve the budget, elect the slate of officers and conduct the business of the organization during our annual business meeting.

#### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

\$950 – Early Bird Registration ends June 30  
 \$1,000 – Regular Registration  
 \$1,250 – Non-Members

#### REGISTRATION + LEADERSHIP CAUCUS:

\$1,100 – Early Bird Registration ends June 30  
 \$1,150 – Regular Registration

#### GALA ONLY:

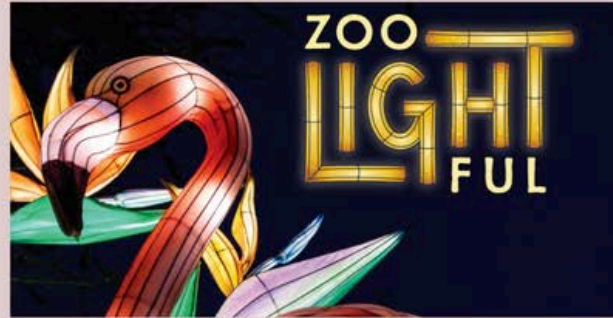
\$125 per person

#### HOTEL REGISTRATION

The Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel  
 64 South Water Street, Mobile, AL 36602  
 \$189 – per night

To read more about LCAM in Mobile visit [www.ewiconnect.com](http://www.ewiconnect.com) and click on the LCAM 2026 tab on the top of the page. You'll be glad you did - See you there!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Quarterly After Hours ZooLIGHTful Thursday, May 21st

When: 6:30PM  
Where: Tulsa Zoo, GPS Address:  
4099 Chickasaw Drive,  
Tulsa, OK 74115

Meet in the parking lot of the zoo **at 6:30 PM** for snacks and drinks, then we'll enter the zoo as a group at **7 PM**.

**IMPORTANT:** Please purchase your ticket online in advance for ZooLIGHTful (select May 21, 2026) for \$19.99 using the QR code below:



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



A MONTHLY COFFEE MEETUP FOR  
NEW EWI MEMBERS  
TO CONNECT, ASK, & LEARN.

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026

COLLAB COFFEE

4532 E 51ST ST SUITE E, TULSA, OK 74135

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



Dear EWI Members,

We are excited to announce the winners of our recent FOMO PROMO membership contest. Thank you to all participating chapters—your enthusiasm and dedication made this promotion a great success.

A total of 21 chapters participated, bringing in an impressive 82 new members between January 1 and March 31.

### **Congratulations to our top performers:**

**1st Place** – *EWI of Birmingham*

Recipient of one complimentary LCAM registration  
13 new members

**2nd Place** – *EWI of Harrisburg*

Recipient of one complimentary Leadership Caucus registration  
8 new members

**3rd Place (Tie)** – *EWI of Omaha & EWI of Tulsa*

Each chapter will receive a \$50 gift card to the EWI Store  
7 new members each

Thank you again to everyone who participated. We look forward to your continued involvement in future contests and initiatives.

Executive Women International – Corpus Christi

IS THRILLED TO WELCOME YOU TO

# TEXOMA

## 2026

this summer!

This year, we will be  **Rising with the Tide: Leading, Connecting, Advancing**  as we come together for two days of learning, inspiration, and connection.

We are preparing a dynamic program featuring illuminating speakers, networking opportunities, and a fun Friday evening experience you won't want to miss.

**TEXOMA CONFERENCE:**



- Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup> & Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>
- **Venue:**  
Omni Corpus Christi Hotel

**PLEASE JOIN US! CHAPTER MEETING & DINNER:**




- Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM
- **Venue:**  
Omni Corpus Christi Hotel

**REGISTRATION DETAILS:**





- Early Registration (by July 1st): \$250
- Standard Registration: \$300
- Chapter Meeting & Dinner: \$50
  - add-on available through the RSVP link

 Early registration is now open, and we encourage you to secure your spot and take advantage of the discount.

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We're excited to welcome you to Corpus Christi, where we will rise with the tide as we connect and advance together.

Scan me! 



 **LINK TO OUR REGISTRATION PAGE:**  
<https://www.corpuschristiewi.org/2026-ewi-texoma-conference/>

**HOTEL INFORMATION & LINKS:**

 <p><b>Omni Corpus Christi Hotel</b>                  900 North Shoreline Blvd.,                  Corpus Christi, Texas 78401  <a href="#">Omni Corpus Christi Hotel!</a>  <a href="#">Hotels in Corpus Christi, TX</a></p>	 <p><b>Holiday Inn Corpus Christi Downtown Marina</b>                  707 North Shoreline Blvd.,                  Corpus Christi, Texas 78401  <a href="#">Corpus Christi Hotel!</a>  <a href="#">Holiday Inn Corpus Christi Downtown Marina</a></p>	 <p><b>Residence Inn by Marriott Corpus Christi Downtown</b>                  309 S. Shoreline Blvd.,                  Corpus Christi, Texas 78401  <a href="#">Residence Inn Corpus Christi Downtown   Long-Stay Hotel with In-room Kitchens</a></p>
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# BIRTHDAYS

## **May Representative Birthdays**

Amanda Richardson, Helmerich & Payne - May 2  
Susan Miller, Warren Professional Building Corporation - May 3  
Felicia Senter, Tulsa Tech - May 12  
Chloe Williams, Tulsa Police Department - May 14  
Sara Shaklee, Trust Company of Oklahoma - May 14  
Joy Toburan, NextGen Tax - May 15  
Marnie Choisnard, HealthZone at Saint Francis - May 19

## **May Executive Birthdays**

Joseph Schnetzer, Tulsa Community College - May 2  
Jeremy Lunsford, ONEOK - May 3  
Mike Melega, Tulsa Drillers - May 14  
Lindsay Hutchison, Tulsa Zoo - May 21  
Jennifer Cummings, Merrill Lynch - May 28  
Dave Kollmann, Flintco - May 29

## **May Member Firm Anniversaries**

cabi Independent Stylist - Joined May 2024  
J Montana Cain Consulting Firm - Joined 2025  
NextGen Tax - Joined May 2025  
T. D. Williamson - Joined May 1975  
The University of Oklahoma Foundation - Joined May 2022  
Tropical Plant Design - Joined May 2008  
Tulsa Tech - Joined May 1998

# APRIL BIRTHDAY LUNCH



**Pictured:**

Aubry Walters, Mabrey Bank  
Autavia Sharp, Oklahoma Chiller LLC  
Patty Atherton, ETS Commercial Title Services  
Lori Heerlyn, T.D. Williamson;  
Jeannie Murphy, Grimsleys Janitorial Supplies  
Kim Bowman, T.D. Williamson

# 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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## 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](mailto:hgarrett@trinitywoodstulsa.com)  
[tswanson@sjshospitality.com](mailto: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!

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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 Walters, Mabrey Bank  
aubry.walters@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, Operations Director**

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

## **Sergeant-at-Arms, Administrative Director**

Sarah Bowen, Tulsa Zoo  
sbowen@tulsazoo.org  
918-669-6224

## **Membership (Recruitment)**

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

## **Membership (Retention)**

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

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

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

## **Communications**

Victoria Gordeyev, World Travel Services  
vgordeyev@worldtvl.com  
612-384-6033

## **Programs**

Gina Shumard, Cherokee Nation Businesses  
gina.shumard@cnbglobal.com  
580-209-2066

## **Advisor**

Janis Cohlmiia, Tropical Plant Design  
janis@tropicalplantdesign.com  
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).