



A Word from our Chapter President

A sincere thank you to Sharon Hewitt for hosting our September business meeting at her KPMG

office overlooking the beautiful University of Tampa and Hillsborough River.

Fall is finally here! Another new season will also begin for our Tampa Bay EWI Chapter with the installation of the 2011-2012 Officers this month at the Sheraton Riverwalk Hotel.

LCAM 2011 was held in Minneapolis, MN September 21 thru 24. The various meetings and workshops were full of information which provided new insights, excitement and ideas for empowerment for growing our membership, holding meetings, literacy programs, etc.

It was great seeing friends we hadn't seen since the last LCAM. Each one I've attended has been a wonderful experience and it is my dream that our chapter will have at least six members attend next year's Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting in Dallas, Texas. The relationships formed at LCAM go deep and are long lasting. It helps so much to share other ideas and learn from other EWI sisters. No matter which chapter one belongs to, there are many things we have in common.

I'm looking forward to a GREAT 2012 as we do our strategic planning and get everyone excited and involved in our Chapter's events and programs for the coming year. Let's strive to make 2012 a year of restoration and renewal for our Tampa Bay EWI Chapter!

Results from the Annual Meeting are as follows: the proposal to remove the non-complete amendment Failed; the amendment for not limiting more than 3 members from one firm also Failed, but the amendment to that amendment for allowing only two members of the

same firm to hold board positions at the same time Passed, and the proposal to provide 30-days written notice to executives in case of dissolution of a chapter also Passed. These topics made for a very long but lively meeting.

Happy Fall,
Bonnie

2010-2011 Officers & Directors

President

Bonnie Smith, Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum, Inc. (HOK)

Secretary

Marla Mancini, The University of Tampa

Treasurer

Patti Jako, Humana, Inc.

Membership Director

Melissa Gross, Sheraton Tampa Riverwalk

Sergeant-at-Arms

Sharon Hewitt, KPMG

Publications Director

Terry Lundquist, Syniverse Technologies, Inc.

Advisor, Past President

Linda Helton, Carey Limousine of Tampa Bay

September Chapter Meeting:

During September's business meeting the slate of officers for the next year was finally concluded and submitted to the corporate office as follows:

PRESIDENT: Bonnie Smith
 FIRM NAME: HOK
 EMAIL: bonnie.smith@hok.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Sharon Hewitt
 FIRM NAME: KPMG, LLP
 EMAIL: shewittrogers@kpmg.com

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR: Sharon Hewitt
 FIRM NAME: KPMG, LLP
 EMAIL: shewittrogers@kpmg.com

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Linda Helton
 FIRM NAME: Carey Limousine of Tampa Bay
 EMAIL: lkcareyflw@earthlink.net

PUBLICATION DIRECTOR: Terry Lundquist
 FIRM NAME: Syniverse Technologies, Inc.
 EMAIL: terry.lundquist@syniverse.com

SECRETARY: Marla Mancini
 FIRM NAME: University of Tampa
 EMAIL: mmancini@ut.edu

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Carol Talone
 FIRM NAME: Yale Lift Trucks of FL & GA
 EMAIL: ctalone@yaleflorida.com

TREASURER: Patti Jako
 FIRM NAME: Humana, Inc.
 EMAIL: pjako@humana.com

WAYS AND MEANS DIRECTOR: N/A
 FIRM NAME:
 EMAIL:

ADVISOR: Vicki Boyle
 FIRM NAME: TECO Energy, Inc.
 EMAIL: vkboyle@tecoenergy.com

EWISP CHAIR: Phyllis Corr
 FIRM NAME: Sykes Enterprises, Inc.
 EMAIL: Phyllis.corr@sykes.com

CHAPTER CALENDAR:

October 12
 Board Installation
 Sheraton Riverwalk

October 22 (Saturday)
 Board Retreat for
 Incoming and Outgoing
 Officers at Sharon
 Hewitt's home.
 Call 230-6866 to RSVP
 and for additional
 information

November 9
 Chapter Meeting at
 MacDill Air Force Base

October Birthdays:

14 Wendy Solmonson

November Birthday:

03 Marilyn Madson
 05 Sharon Hewitt
 07 Linda Helton

Historical Lesson about Life Member, Oni Hess

By Steve Otto | The Tampa Tribune

Published: September 2, 2011

It's a half-century late, but now John Hess has his medal, and maybe it will help him rest in peace.

It isn't as if he did anything heroic, although the measure of heroism is not always that easy. Sometimes it is as simple as showing up. And if the year is 1951 and you show up on the Korean peninsula willing and able in America's forgotten war, then in my book you already have qualified for some kind of medal.

On Wednesday, Hess's wife, Oni Hess, accepted that medal in a presentation at the convention center, largely thanks to Rep. Kathy Castor's office, which pursued the matter for months. Their story is a Tampa story, one that varies here and there, but was repeated hundreds of times.

Onelia Vallina grew up in Ybor City and Tampa Heights and was a member of that first senior class at the old Jefferson High School on Highland Avenue. "It was a good place to grow up," says ("please call me") Oni. It was a time when nobody had that much but life seemed simpler. "We used to go to dances, especially at the Cuban Club, although we always went in groups of girls."

But World War II brought changes to Tampa, including young from all over the country, to train at MacDill and other military facilities around town. One of those was John Hess from Martinsburg, W.Va., which on the culture scale might have been from another planet.

Three months before Pearl Harbor, he enlisted and was assigned to a military police group. He was part of a motorcycle unit stationed at the old fairgrounds now on the University of Tampa campus. Much of his job was escorting convoys into the new MacDill Field still under construction.

So it was that the young man from West Virginia and the woman from Ybor, who by then was working at the pharmacy at St. Joseph's Hospital, met at a USO club dance. "Oh, he could dance," remembers Oni. "In fact, that night we won the jitterbug contest." Oni won't say if that jitterbugging sealed the romance, but the military policeman and his dancing partner got married and had the first of their eight children. After the war, Hess was discharged and the couple moved to West Virginia.

"Oh it was different," Oni says. "I had never seen snow. He got a job as a police detective." A few years later they moved to Washington, D.C., where Hess hooked up with his old Army boss and he went into the reserves. And then came Korea.

"John actually went to Japan, where he worked at the stockade. His job was to fly to Korea and pick up prisoners. For almost a year, he would go back and forth and to different Korean posts getting prisoners and taking them back to Japan." Suffering from a fungus, Hess was flown back to the States and admitted to Walter Reed Hospital where he stayed for another 11 months before being separated from the Army. The family returned to Tampa. Hess battled his illness for several more years but died in 1965 at age 45.

Before his death, he fought the system, trying to get the service medal he was due, not so much for himself, says Oni, but so his children and his grandchildren would know his story and that Korea had been a part of it.

Turned down repeatedly, Oni went to Castor's office and finally the medal came through.

Today, Oni flies a large American flag outside her North Tampa house. Inside the house, in display boxes, she has all of her husband's service medals displayed for her children and the generations to come.



October Chapter Meeting - A Must Attend!

Installation of the 2011-2012 Board of Directors

Time: 5:30 PM Social
6:00 PM Dinner and Installation

Location: The Sheraton Tampa Riverwalk Hotel
200 N. Tampa Street
Tampa, FL 33602

RSVP by Oct 7: [Brenda Enfinger](#) or 361-9788

Corporate News:

The new website is available and you are encouraged to visit www.ewiconnect.com to check out the new user friendly site. Please note the Procedure Manual is now called the Resource Guide and Forms are now “named” instead of referred to by Form number; it should be accessible by the end of the month. There will be groups or forums created for each board position so you can access and share information with others holding similar jobs throughout the organization. This is where you should go when you have questions as it contains procedures, guidelines, samples of event planning time lines, and various other good tips. No need to reinvent the wheel – it’s all here for us.

All chapters will now adhere to the new corporate calendar making the new fiscal year official term beginning October 1 through September 30. Dues for existing members will continue to renew by February 15 but new members will renew annually during the month they joined. More explicit details will follow on this but be sure to make note of the official change in calendar from annual to fiscal.

Log-in here for professional development webinars offered by corporate - upcoming and past! <http://www.ewiconnect.com>

LCAM Highlights:

Gone are the days of the “chapter pin exchange.” Instead, pin exchanges were encouraged throughout the week to be used in any setting as a networking opportunity to have personal one-on-one chat with a representative. The traditional “pin” has morphed into book marks, pens, golf tees, emery boards and various other exchange tokens. This new method did allow for more in-depth conversations and business card exchange than in the past.

The opening breakfast keynote speaker and author was Marilyn Carlson Nelson, CEO of the global Carlson brand hotels, restaurants, travel and marketing services. Marilyn’s teachings on leadership are inspiring and from the heart....treat people with respect, don’t be afraid to let them know you love them, take ownership and be proud.

I was particularly inspired by her quote “live each day in a way that we would be proud to ‘sign our name to it’, just as an artist signs his or her work with pride of accomplishment”. I can’t wait to finish reading the rest of her book, *How We Lead Matters*.



The Academy of Leadership Alumni morning session was facilitated by renowned author of six books, Jon Gordon, who resides in Jacksonville. Jon taught us the four principles based on his book *The Seed...Prepare, Plant, Prune and Harvest*.

During the later part of the day, the Alumni were bused to the historical Mill Museum where we learned that Minneapolis was once the home of all flour mills for Pillsbury, Gold Medal and General Foods. Touring the remnants of the mill was interesting to learn how flour was manufactured and how flammable it can be, hence the two fires that basically gutted the buildings. The skytower at the top of the museum provided a fantastic view of the Mississippi River, the St. Anthony Falls, the greenway and the bustling downtown landscape of Minneapolis and St. Paul.



The annual Literacy Initiative Luncheon featured a video highlighting local children enrolled at Maxwell Magnet Elementary School. A \$5,000 check from the EWI Corporate Scholarship Fund was donated to them during a visit this week.

In addition to the school visit, an optional Running for Reading 5K Race was also held to raise funds for literacy. Several EWI members ran through the University of Minnesota on a chilly Saturday morning.

Ms. Kim Schaller, Executive Vice President, Hershey Enterprises shared “all about herself” and in a colorful way how SHE is US. Kim took us to intimate places in her childhood, college, marriage, children and moves from state to state while improving her career and how she fits in with all the powerful men wearing black suits. Her lasting words of advice were...”do not let naysayers tell you that you can’t do something, quit being your own enemy and never, never, never give up on your dreams.”

This year’s Annual Meeting on Saturday afternoon became a historical time for EWI. It is the first time that Delegates have ever used electronic voting machines! Founder, Lucille Perkins would be proud! There were 103 Delegates with as many Alternates in attendance. For those who haven’t attended LCAM this is the most impressive meeting I have ever witnessed. Picture this: 103 people seated at tables with each Chapter name posted high on the table, a dais for the EWI Board, Executive Director, Parliamentarian, Corporate Counsel flanked by Tellers and Timekeepers, two standing microphones and large video screens on each side of the room with Minutes being taken by a Stenographer. Ladies, this is not your ordinary chapter meeting! These are our peers and they are amazing, powerful and passionate women, most who would boast achieving confidence in themselves as a result of learning in a “chapter safe environment.” This is where I plan to stay and grow and hopefully you will too.



There were four proposed amendments to the by-laws; two passed and two failed as Bonnie mentioned above. Discussions were long and tedious but necessary to hear all sides of the table. In addition to these amendments, the 2011-2012 budget was approved and the meeting concluded with voting in the new corporate board of directors. Refer to <http://www.ewiconnect.com> for the updated listing.

The conference concluded Saturday night with chapter photos, an elegant dinner with music by a Bette Midler impersonator, and introduction of the new board and a preview by the Dallas Chapter of what to look forward to at next year’s LCAM in their exciting city.



(story by Terry Lundquist)

Save The Date

September 13-15, 2012
Dallas, Texas

**Leadership Conference &
Annual Meeting
(LCAM)**

**Mark Your Calendar
Now!**



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

**The Tampa Bay Chapter
Of Executive Women International**

**Cordially invites you
To attend**

**The
Installation of the 2011-2012
Board of Officers and Directors**

**To be held
October 12, 2011
Wednesday evening**

**At
The Sheraton Tampa Riverwalk Hotel
200 N. Ashley Drive
Tampa, Florida 33602**

5:30 p.m. - Reception (Cash Bar)

6:00 p.m. - Dinner and Installation Ceremony

Cost: \$40.00

Valet parking is complimentary

**Please RSVP by October 7th
to Brenda Enfinger
enfingerba@aol.com or 813-361-9788**