

## **EWI Roanoke Chapter Membership Meeting Minutes**

**October 10, 2007**

The October meeting was held at The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center starting with a cocktail networking reception at 5:30 p.m. Leslie Coty, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Leslie Coty, Charlene Hudson, Lana Seale, Wanda Hatchett, Libby Camper, Anna Karbassiyoon, Angie Baughman, Tracie Ragone, Tonya Harper, Michelle Chambers, Linda Mack, Becky Beard, Libby Newton, Helen Deyerle, Corrie Bowers, Amanda Schaal and Jo Lynn Seifert. **Guests: None**

**Leslie** opened the meeting by welcoming all. It was announced that 2008's budget was unanimously approved. Everyone experienced their first "table mixer" drawing designed to help members get to know other members better and all members made self-introductions. Leslie then invited 2 members to do their "**5 Minutes of Fame**". It was emphasized this year's mission is to promote Member Firms and help "bring business to you". Leslie encouraged all to see Corrie Bowers (Program Manager) to schedule their company presentations soon.

**Wanda Hatchett, Brown, Edwards & Company-** Everyone received a very nice company pin as a gift and informative brochure of all their specialized service offerings. This impressive accounting company provides world-class service and is a regional firm with 60 employees in 5 locations with a history dating back to the 1920's. Main attributes are extensive financial knowledge, close personal assistance and a commitment to excellence. Wanda offered her personal assistance in answering any question, anytime.

**Corrie Bowers, Frito-Lay-** Corrie came bearing gifts too but in the form of "futuristic goodies" and coupons to introduce the new brand of healthy snacks "Flat Earth" which are made from real fruit and veggies. The main purpose is to provide healthy alternatives to junk food that moms can feed their children. This historically "mostly men" company has "mainly moms" as the team heading up this worthy endeavor. The company is motivated to increase hiring of more women.

**Committee Reports** were passed around for sign-ups which included the **Reading Rally**.

**Anna Karbassiyoon, Membership -** Anna reported on this year's main goal of 1) Retaining 100% Membership and 2) Recruiting New Members. We need 100% membership renewal (25) by January. When looking for new recruits, be cautious about inviting guest that are "non-competes" with member firms and to seek more diversity to build a more powerful networking chapter. The committee will be pro-active this year and will be contacting us about recruiting.

**Libby Camper/Amanda Schaal - Ways & Means –** Ladies teamed up to report on the November 7<sup>th</sup> fundraiser "Boutique Night" at Schaal's new location "Metamorphosis". The hope is with this downtown new location there will be more walk-in's and everyone should be inviting lots of guests now. The flyer is being worked on now. Details include a cash bar and food this year and selected vendors will be Claire V, Davidson's, Minere Jewelry, Calhoun & Kipp and

one more is being sought. Everyone is expected to be there to set up and help throughout the evening.

**Leslie Coty** (for Ashley Austin), **Publications, PULSE**– Help was requested from all members to submit articles and testimonials as well as signing up to help with PULSE. As Ashley is “very pregnant” it will be very helpful in producing a great newsletter with increased value for all. Contact Ashley with new ideas for the website.

**Corrie Bowers, Programs** – Corrie passed out “Program Information Request Forms” to solicit new exciting ideas for speakers and programs. One idea could be to have a speaker from Advance Auto to teach about what women can do for their car maintenance, etc. **Tonya** suggested going through client lists for potential guest speakers and new member prospects. Also, it was suggested to invite a speaker to teach on how to pair up the right wines with certain foods.

**Wanda Hatchett, Reading Rally** – (substituted for Becky Beard who was on crutches) Wanda encouraged everyone to sign up for Reading Rally at Hurt Park Elementary this year. The chapter has been involved with this program for 4-5 years and has been instrumental in helping the school become accredited with the state. It starts January and goes through May and is only a 30 minute (11:15 – 11:45) commitment each time you volunteer. The school and children love us and invite participants to everything they do. It’s a heartwarming experience that is very rewarding personally.

**Amanda Schaal, Director-at-Large on Scholarships**- Amanda needs 2 volunteers to sign up for this easy and straight forward program with the purpose of soliciting candidates of deserving women to award the scholarship this year. There will be 3 judges who make the decision of the recipient.

**Linda Mack, Angie Baughman, Sergeant-at-Arms** – Requested members to be diligent about inviting guests and to RSVP about attending monthly meetings. Also, when invited to be a monthly meeting greeter, please sign up to participate and it’s very easy too.

**Lana Seale, LCAM Report** – Lana thanked the membership for sending her and she had a wonderful time. The speakers were great and there were 500 attendees from across the U.S.A. and Canada. She learned a lot about the 3 C’s - Contacts, Career and Community. The Chapter’s donated pins were a great hit. Next year’s LCAM will be in Palm Springs and now is the time to think about attending.

**Helen Deyerle** gave the invocation and all present enjoyed yet another delicious meal provided by The Hotel Roanoke and its great wait staff.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Lynn Seifert,  
Secretary