

## Message from the President



What an amazing journey this year has been for our chapter! We started out the year with our 2011-2012 Strategic Plan based on feedback from you our members and I believe it was so successful because our firms and members are so dedicated to EWI and its mission.

Over the past year, we've heard from some fantastic and engaging guest speakers that covered topics on numerous ways to help us to develop both personally and professionally all focused around the EWI three C's: Connections | Careers | Community. In May, we celebrated our 25th Anniversary – our legacy, our present and our future. Throughout the year, we learned considerably more about our firms and continually highlighted the value of EWI to our Firms, Executives and Member Reps. We also participated in several very special philanthropic opportunities where many sacrificially gave to help others in our community. In September, our 15th annual Barnyard Auction was another huge success by raising \$18,000 towards our single Mom's scholarship funds. You consistently exemplify Servant Leadership!

It has been an honor to serve as your Chapter President yet I am very excited to support our new Chapter President, Ani Yacoubian, and serve alongside our new chapter board. May each of you never forget - You are smart, you are amazing and you are important! May God richly bless each of you and your firms abundantly above all you can ask or imagine.

Michelle Withorn  
Chapter President  
EMJ Corporation

### 2011-2012 Officers and Directors

**Michelle Withorn**, President  
EMJ Corporation

**Ani Yacoubian**,  
Vice President/President Elect  
Yacoubian Tailors

**Lori Slatton**, Secretary  
Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce

**Nena Powell**, Treasurer  
Lattimore, Black, Morgan & Cain, PC

**Barbara Tawater**, Sgt-At-Arms  
Northgate Title Escrow, Inc.

**Sandy Saylor**,  
Retention and Recruitment Director  
Robert Half International

**Kate Pinson**, Professional  
Development Director  
CMC Publications

**Sharon Diegel**, Fundraising Director  
Miller & Martin PLLC

**Melissa Grati**,  
Communications Director  
MBG Organizing Solutions

**Margaret Browning**, Director-at-Large  
Coca Cola Bottling Co.

## October Chapter Meeting

Date: Tuesday, October 9

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Doubletree Hotel  
407 Chestnut Street

## Officer Installation

**President** – Ani Yacoubian, Yacoubian Tailors

**Vice President/President-Elect** – Kristina Smith,  
First Tennessee

**Secretary** – Barbara Verhine, University of  
Tennessee at Chattanooga

**Treasurer** – Nena Powell, Lattimore Black Morgan  
Cain, PC

**Sergeant-at-Arms** – Cindy Ward, Courtyard &  
Residence Inn by Marriott

**Recruitment & Retention Director** – Tammy Loper,  
Office Furniture Warehouse

**Professional Development** – Melissa Gratias, MBG  
Organizing Solutions

**Communications Director** – Emily Kurlinski,  
WSMC, Classical 90.5

**Fundraising Director** – Sharon Diegel, Miller &  
Martin, PLLC

**Director-at-Large** – Michelle Withorn, EMJ  
Corporation

### EWI To-Do List:

- Email your reservations for the October meeting to Cindy Ward
- Email khsmith@ftb.com with the number of employees at your firm, the executive's email address, and your logo
- Update your profile on ewichattanooga.org
- Attend the webinar on October 11



### Philanthropy:

There is no philanthropy project for October.

## MILLER & MARTIN PLLC

Since 1867, Miller & Martin PLLC has helped businesses and individuals achieve their goals practically and efficiently. Today, we are a leading Southeastern law firm with attorneys in two offices that practice in more than 35 areas of law. Our clients range from individuals to multi-national corporations, and one of our early clients was the original bottler of Coca-Cola

Miller & Martin remains committed to achieving a diverse workplace and was ranked in the 'Top 100 Law Firms for Diversity' by MultiCultural Law Magazine in 2009, 2010 and 2011 for its "contributions to enhance diversity and professional success."

Following in the tradition of our firm's founders, Miller & Martin seeks to serve and support the community. It is our belief that by strengthening the community in which we work and live, we enrich the quality of life for everyone. Our attorneys and staff are leaders in many civic, charitable and governmental institutions. Collectively and individually, we support education, public health, the needs of children, and the arts, among other concerns. We also believe in helping the poor to access justice. In that spirit, we provide a substantial amount of pro bono legal services for those who cannot afford legal representation.

### THE EXECUTIVE

Nicholas W. Whittenburg joined the firm in 1990, became a partner in 1996, and is currently the Chairperson for the firm's Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Practice Group.

His practice is the representation of a variety of creditors and stakeholders in commercial bankruptcy related litigation before the Bankruptcy Courts across the United States, including New York, Delaware, Virginia, Texas, Georgia and Tennessee. He regularly represents business clients, financial institutions, commercial property management companies, manufacturers, landlords and municipal and cooperative utilities respecting Chapter 11 cases filed throughout the country.



Nick holds a Bachelor of Science, magna cum laude, from Vanderbilt University and Juris Doctor, with Distinction, from Emory University School of Law.

### THE REPRESENTATIVE



Sharon Diegel is a paralegal in the Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Group and holds a Bachelor of Science in English.

She's been a member of EWI since 2010. After serving on the Ways and Means Committee for two years, Sharon took on the role of Fundraising Director. She enjoys reading. Sharon has two children – one working towards an undergrad degree and one attending law school – one cranky old dog, two parakeets and twelve fish.



### Fundraising: Sharon Diegel, Miller & Martin, PLLC

Our 15th Annual Barnyard Auction was held on September 20 and from the looks of it, everyone had a great time. And besides that, we hit our scholarship fund goal of \$18,000! Thank you to all Chattanooga reps, your executives, member firms, donors and attendees for your support for our scholarship efforts. And an enormous thank you to the Fundraising Committee for giving 110% and taking on whatever was asked of you. It's because of ALL of you that we had a successful night.

Get ready for the Pecan Sale and the Pasta Sale!

## Thank You to our Barnyard Auction Sponsors!

### Platinum Sponsors



### Gold Sponsors



## EWI Care Corner

Please keep the following requests in your thoughts and prayers:

**Frances Cannon** (broken hip)

**Wanda Lacy** (good friend of Carolyn Stringer in Memorial CCU)

**Kathy Sok** (Mother-in-law passed away)

**Barbara Verhine** (Recent Hospitalization)

**Baby Alley Kate** and her family (from Lori Slatton)

**Bill Slatton** (Lori Slatton's father-in-law)

**Sheila Thompson** (home repairs from the storms)

**Autumn Duggan** (Fighting Cancer at Age 8, from Sheila Thompson)

**Wilma Bramble** (Dottie Jones mother at Memorial Northpark Hospital)

**Joyce Harlin** (cancer-free) PRAISE

**Bertha Lloyd & Betty Doss** (Delores Lewis' sister)



Thanks for your support of EWI members and families. If you have a request to add this list, please send it to Carolyn Stringer ([cstringer@LukenHoldings.com](mailto:cstringer@LukenHoldings.com)) by the Friday following our monthly meeting.

Dear Ladies of EWI,  
Thank you so much for  
the beautiful flowers you  
sent during my recent illness.  
It was so thoughtful.  
You are awesome ladies.  
Barbara  
Verhine



## Director At Large: Margaret Browning, Coca Cola Bottling Co.

I wish to thank each and every member of EWI of Chattanooga for the opportunity to serve our organization. It has been three precious years in my life as I journeyed from Vice President/President Elect, President 2011-2012 and Advisor of EWI. I love each and every one of you fabulous ladies. ~ Margaret



## Website Committee: Kristina Smith, First Tennessee Bank

We are developing the new website and I need for each of you to email me the number of employees you have at your member firm, your Executive's email, and your firm logo [khsmith@ftb.com](mailto:khsmith@ftb.com). As always, please make sure your information is up-to-date and correct in your profile. Let me know if you have any questions or problems accessing the current site. Thank you.



## Website Trivia: Win 3 Door Prize Tickets!

The Chattanooga Chapter of EWI was chartered in 1987. Who was our Chartering Officer?

Email your answer to [kelly.mccoy@cumulus.com](mailto:kelly.mccoy@cumulus.com) for a chance to win 3 door prize tickets.

## EWI Corporate: Webinar

### The 4 E's of an Excellent Leader



**Date:** Thursday, October 11, 2012

**Time:** 3:00 PM (ET)

**Presenter:** Diane Windingland

Leaders do not command excellence. They build excellence. In this presentation, The 4 Es of an Excellent Leader, integrity is the base upon which excellence is built and communicated through 4 approaches:

- Expectations--Get results with positive expectations.
- Encouragement--Build your business/organization by building up people.
- Empathy--Conquer apathy with empathy.
- Empowerment--Release the power within people.



Register at [www.ewiconnect.com](http://www.ewiconnect.com)

All announcements need to be sent to Emily Kurlinski of WSMC Classical 90.5 ([emilyk@southern.edu](mailto:emilyk@southern.edu)) by close of business on the Friday following our monthly chapter meeting.



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

Executive Women International® brings together key individuals from diverse businesses for the purpose of:

- **Connections** - Promoting member firms
- **Careers** - Enhancing personal and professional development
- **Community** - Encouraging community involvement



“Like” our Facebook page to view meeting photos and receive updates about our chapter.



Follow us on Twitter @EWIChattanooga

### Quick Links:

- Member Firm Listing  
<http://www.ewichattanooga.org/index.php?mode=directorybrowse&sortby=alpha&toshow=999>
- EWI Corporate  
<http://www.ewiconnect.com/>