

## Message from the President



How many of us have said that we will never act like our parents and yet you realized one day you were just like them. This is referred to as **INFLUENCE** and it has powerful life changing effect on others.

Others influence you and you influence others all around you without ever realizing it's occurring. Test the theory: ask someone close to you to be completely honest on what they've learned the most from you. You may or may not like what you hear.

I want to challenge you to be the type of Influencer that is relational, trustworthy, compassionate, and positive. What are you willing to do to be that kind of Influencer?

Sincerely,  
Michelle Withorn  
EMJ Corporation  
Your Chapter President

### 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 Gratias**,  
Communications Director  
MBG Organizing Solutions

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

## February Chapter Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 14

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Doubletree Hotel  
407 Chestnut Street



**Vicki Nord Petzko, Ph.D.**  
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Learning your Strengths:  
Strengths Finder 2.0  
by Tom Rath

Dr. Petzko came to UTC in 1998 to join the Graduate Studies Division of the College of Education as a faculty member in School Leadership.

She has conducted workshops throughout the state on the change process, implementation of IDEA, and legal issues for teachers. She teaches various leadership courses at the masters and doctoral level, as well as courses in school law and those related to the principalship.

### EWI To-Do List:

- Email your reservations for the February meeting to Barbara Tawater.
- Bring door prizes to the chapter meeting. The theme is Valentines Day.
- Read Michelle's book of the month: The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership.
- Email your Top 5 Strengths from the Strengths Finder book to Michelle Withorn.
- Do the website trivia!



### **Philanthropy:**

There is not a philanthropy project for February.

Start collecting gift cards for our No Dirty Dishes fundraiser!

## Luken Holdings, Inc.

Our philosophy is simple -- Excellence and Integrity in everything we do.

Luken Holdings' core business is real estate, comprised of over 40 major properties throughout the city. Our portfolio has expanded and diversified over the past 3 years. We manage a couple of golf courses now, Montlake Golf Course and Battlefield Golf Club, have branched out into residential sales and we have an interest in a shipyard facility in Loudon County.

We own and operate approximately 3 million square feet of space in Chattanooga, including such landmarks as the Tivoli Building, the Krystal Building, the Tallan Building and the James Building in downtown and the Osborne Office Park in the suburbs. We lease to leading local, regional and national companies and have over 500 tenants. In addition, we also manage prominent downtown landmarks for other owners, including the Volunteer Building for Senator Bob Corker and the Chattanooga Times Building for Mike Walden and act as third party brokers for commercial property throughout the city.

### Lynda (Childress) Hawks President & CEO

In a world of stuffy, buttoned-up CEOs, Lynda Childress is a breath of fresh air. She has a big genuine smile that instantly puts people at ease and diffuses stereotypes. "After much prayer and knowing this was exactly what I was supposed to do, I took on this role and I am knocking it out," she said. Lynda started as an accounts payable clerk with Osborne Building Corp. in 1990. She stayed with the company when former mayor Bob Corker purchased it. Today, Lynda is responsible for the firm's 21 employees and approx. 3 million sq. ft. of real estate.



### Beth Robertson Controller

Beth began her real estate career at Osborne Building Corporation in the late eighties as an assistant to the Director of Leasing. In 1990 she was promoted to the Leasing Administrator for Osborne Bldg Corp and then went on to become a Leasing Broker. In July, 2009, Beth joined Luken Holdings as Controller. She is a dedicated employee who works diligently to learn and grow and is a definite asset to our company.

### Carolyn Stringer Office Administrator, Executive Assistant to CEO

Carolyn's motto is "whatever it takes to get the job done." Follow-through is mandatory to the success of any assignment. My BS degree in Business has served me well in my various jobs in administration and management from oil wells to hamburgers to real estate, broadening my knowledge in each industry. Lynda Childress, President/CEO says "Carolyn Stringer is priceless. She is very professional in everything that she does and we all depend on her to keep things flowing."



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

### Raffle Table

Our January Wine and Cheese Raffle brought in \$202. I wonder if Catherine has already finished off all the wine she won?

Thanks to all of you for the ongoing success of our raffle tables! Our theme for February is, of course, Valentine's Day. So please bring your love and romance-themed items to our February 14 meeting. I'm sure we'll have some fun things to raffle off!

### No Dirty Dishes for a Week

We are gearing up for our No Dirty Dishes for a Week drawing. We are seeking donations of cash or restaurant/gas gift cards which will be packaged into at least two prize packages to be won. Can we get enough to make a third prize package?? Let's go, ladies!

A couple of ideas: If any of you participate in online surveys that reward you with points or cash, how about turning those rewards into gift cards for this fundraiser? I've been able to redeem points for two restaurant gift cards to donate to the drawing. Or how about your credit card points? Please give a thought to redeeming yours for restaurant or gas gift cards.

A big thank you for all you do to support EWI's fundraising efforts. You are wonderful!



## Sergeant-at-Arms: Barbara Tawater, Northgate Title Escrow, Inc

### Last Month's Meeting Attendance:

Members Present:	40
Guests Present:	6



## Website Committee: Kristina Smith, First Tennessee Bank

Please add:

- auth.ccsend.com (please note, this does not include an @ symbol)
  - ewi@ewiconnect.com
  - ChattanoogaChapter@my.ewiconnect.com
- to your email contacts. This will help ensure you receive both Corporate Connects and Chapter communications.

## EWI Care Corner

Please keep the following requests in your thoughts and prayers:

Karen Hannifin (Surgery)  
 Bertha Lloyd & Betty Doss (Delores Lewis' sister)  
 Karen Collins (Co-owner of MCA – battling Ovarian Cancer)  
 Sharon Diegel (Gallbladder surgery)  
 Priscilla Williams' husband (Stroke; is at Siskin)  
 Elaine Peterson (Mother passed away)

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



## Website Trivia Contest: Win 3 raffle tickets!

On the front page of our website, there is a special milestone for EWI Chattanooga that will be celebrated on May 8th. What is it?

Email your answer to Kelly McCoy ([kelly.mccoy@cumulus.com](mailto:kelly.mccoy@cumulus.com)) and you might win 3 raffle tickets!

## EWI Corporate: Development Opportunities

### EWI Corporate Spring Conference

March 29—31  
 Richmond, Virginia

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



Congrats to Kelly McCoy and KZ106 for grabbing an important demographic!

<http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/2012/jan/20/kz106-tops-us101-important-demographic-first-time/>

*Note: All announcements need to be sent to Melissa Gratias of MBG Organizing Solutions ([melissa@mbgorganizing.com](mailto:melissa@mbgorganizing.com)) 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.

Does your business have a Facebook page? Post it on our wall at [www.facebook.com/EWICHattanooga](http://www.facebook.com/EWICHattanooga)

**Quick Links:**

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