

Houston eViConnect

April 2023



From Our President

Spring is in the air, although it's been a little wet and on the cool side. This is always a busy time of year for most people. There are graduations, end of the school year events, sporting events, concerts, and summer planning.

Everyone in the Houston Chapter should be extremely proud! We just had our biggest event of the year - - Executive Appreciation Night at member firm The Ballroom at Bayou Place. Through the generosity of executive Craig Howard underwriting this event, all funds collected will go into our B/C/DP funds.

Under the direction of Fundraising Director, Rebekah Wesley, representing Jackson and Company, she and her committee along with the help from the entire Membership, we were able to make many dreams come true because we raised a total of \$70,000 - - WOW! I am incredibly proud of this accomplishment and blown away by the tremendous work and generous donations that went into making this year a huge success.

In addition, I want to recognize Program Director Debra Crabtree, Westpark Communications; President-Elect LaTonya Perez, The Rose; Sergeant-at-Arms Carole Pitts, John Daugherty, Realtors; Secretary and B/C/DP Director Linda Petticrew, Shell Energy Resources Company; Advisor Marji Zamora, Speedy Printing-Katy Freeway; and Official Photographer David Jones, D. Jones Photography, for their contributions to make Executive Appreciation Night very special.

I am thankful for each of you and to everyone that contributed to our Dollars for Scholars and Business/Career/ Development Programs. Next year's Leadership team will be able to continue to make dreams come true with our continued support and contributions to our community.

Under the direction of Mary Margaret Carroll, MM Carroll & Associates, ASIST chair; Elisa Garcia, Houston First Corporate, EWISP chair; and Director-at-Large Linda Petticrew, we are in full swing with our scholarship applicants. Judges interviews and video interviews will take place in April and May.

The fun does not stop there. The Houston Chapter will partner with the Barbara Bush Literacy Foundation to sponsor their Curiosity Cruiser as well as donate books. Philanthropy chair, Patti Strawther, representing James J. Postl Interests, is in the process of organizing this event to be held by the end of August. There are other projects still in the planning stages. The Houston Chapter representatives are encouraged to participate in these special events.

I also want to encourage each of you to welcome our new member firms and representatives. Look for their blue name tag: Cosmo Cool Concepts, Juliana Wathen; Daikin Comfort Technologies, N.A., Patti McLean; Imagen Venues, Lana O'Neil; Hyatt Regency Downtown, Jayson Garcia; Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty, Cristina Barron and Holly Borham; and The Palm Restaurant, Jan Bonuglia.

The Houston Chapter continues to be a very strong T-E-A-M: together look what our chapter has achieved and more to come!

Kay



2022-2023 Officers & Directors

President

Kay Bart
Skerl & Associates

President Elect

LaTonya Perez
The Rose

Secretary and Director-at-Large B/C/DP

Linda Petticrew
Shell Energy
Resources Company

Treasurer and Membership Director

Cindy Baker
Black Haw Group

Sergeant-at-Arms

Carole Pitts
John Daugherty, Realtors

Communications Director

Sanela Hasagic
Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam,
Inc.

Fundraising Director

Rebekah Wesley
Jackson & Company

Program Director

Debra Crabtree
Westpark Communications

Save the Date!

Thursday, May 11th

Adair Kitchen

Thursday, June 8th

Business Meeting and Past Presidents' Night - TBD

Friday and Saturday, June 23rd & 24th

TEXOMA Board Forum - Oklahoma City, OK

Thursday, July 13th

Firm Night - The Palm Restaurant

Thursday, August 10th

Annual Scholarship Celebration Night - Amegy Bank

Thursday, September 7th

Annual Business Meeting - TBD

Thursday, September 13th – 16th

Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting (LCAM) - Chattanooga, TN

Representative Birthdays

<i>Don Jordan</i>	<i>May 9</i>
<i>Kay Bart</i>	<i>May 18</i>
<i>Jayson Garcia</i>	<i>June 18</i>
<i>Mary Margaret Carroll</i>	<i>June 18</i>
<i>Jeannette Stoller Woods</i>	<i>June 28</i>



Company Anniversaries

<i>Westpark Communications</i>	<i>May - 2 years</i>
<i>Speedy Printing - Katy Freeway</i>	<i>May - 4 years</i>
<i>QL Capital Partners</i>	<i>May - 4 years</i>
<i>The Plaza Group</i>	<i>May - 5 years</i>
<i>Let It Fly Events, L.P.</i>	<i>May - 14 years</i>
<i>Harvest Midstream</i>	<i>May - 16 years</i>
<i>Skerl & Associates</i>	<i>May - 22 years</i>
<i>HEB</i>	<i>June - 1 year</i>
<i>Douglas Elliman Real Estate-Texas</i>	<i>June - 3 years</i>
<i>Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam, Inc.</i>	<i>June - 20 years</i>
<i>Jackson and Company</i>	<i>June - 31 years</i>

EWI of Houston Mission Statement

EWI of Houston aspires to be the premier business organization of choice for member firms and their key individuals. Recognized by the Houston community as an avenue to achieve personal and professional excellence, every activity of the Houston Chapter will fulfill at least one of the objectives of the EWI Mission Statement.

Our Strategic Goals

- To strengthen, expand, and broaden membership.
- To provide member firms with meaningful benefits.
- To actively promote education for all representatives.
- To achieve a high level of community visibility through service.

Our Mission

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.

Corporate Office

1288 Summit Avenue, Ste. 107, PMB124
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

Direct: 262-269-5625
ewi@ewiconnect.com
www.ewiconnect.com

EWI of Houston Executive Appreciation Night and Annual Fundraiser Meeting Recap

Submitted by Carole Pitts, representing John Daugherty, Realtors



EWI of Houston's Executive Appreciation Night is always one of our most special evenings and this year was no exception. EWI member firm, The Ballroom at Bayou Place, represented by owner/executive, Craig Howard, is the perfect place for our annual fundraiser and Craig and his team are flawless hosts. The grand staircase leading up to The Ballroom set the mood for the evening having been decorated with the names of generous underwriters of the evening, both personal donors and member firms.

Check-in was quick and easy thanks to the dedicated staff of Qtego. They

made the SAA's job effortless! Once checked in, attendees made their way into the large ballroom that was surrounded by tables full of silent auction treasures. From the purse bar to the wine pull, to the awesome Golden Ticket items, everyone was busy trying to look at every item, bidding and being outbid, watching the bids, and buying Golden Tickets. Not only that, but the large crowd made great use of the happy hour time, chatting, and greeting the many guests and executives in attendance, many for the very first time. It was also so nice to welcome member firms and representatives back to EWI of Houston, Hilcorp Energy Company represented by Lily Portales, H-E-B represented by Anna Bryant, Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty represented by Cristina Barrios and Holly Borham, and new member firm, Daikin Comfort Technologies, N.A. represented by returning representative, Patti McLean.

It seems like we had just arrived when it was time to be seated for dinner and the program. The tables were lovely, each with absolutely gorgeous centerpieces which were available to be purchased. What a great idea! The chatting continued and our President, Kay Bart, representing Skerl and Associates, had no small challenge in calling the room to order!





Kay began by welcoming everyone, including our executives who were in attendance, inviting them all to stand. Standing amidst our applause were Chuck Amerson, Atlantic Relocation Systems; Stephanie Cleary and Paul Kilian, Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty; Katie Cottingim, Shell Energy Resources Company; John A. Daugherty, Jr., John Daugherty, Realtors; Wendy Hall, Daikin Comfort Technologies, N.A.; Shannon Lecoq, The Rose; Catherine Lee, Douglas Elliman Real Estate; Damir Skerl, Skerl & Associates; Lisa Helfman, HEB; and



Steve Stephens, Amegy Bank. Not only were these executives in attendance, but our executive/representatives were there as well. Mary Margaret Carroll, MMC Carroll & Associates; David Jones, D. Jones Photography; and Ellen Ramsey, Let It Fly Events, L.P. Our chapter is very lucky to be so well supported by these executives, as well as the executives who could not attend.



Kay welcomed a very special attendee--- 2022 EWISP scholarship recipient (and Patti Strawther's niece), April Cano. She drove in from the University of Texas at Austin especially for the event, and she would be driving back to Austin afterwards. It was perfect to have one of our scholarship recipients there . . . a living, breathing example of why we raise funds.



Continuing with the program, Kay then announced the 2023 EWI of Houston Executive of the Year . . . Paul Kilian with Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty! Paul's leadership of MTSIR, as well as his dedication to the goals and ideals of EWI of Houston, made him a hands-down favorite to win the award. It was thrilling to see Paul's surprise when the distinction was announced.

Kay explained that each year every chapter in EWI nominates an outstanding small, medium, and large firm, as well as an outstanding non-profit and a representative, to receive the Lucille Johnson Perkin's award.

She founded this organization in 1937. The Houston Chapter nominated the following for the 2022 award:

- Large Firm - Amegy Bank
- Medium Firm - The Ballroom at Bayou Place
- Small Firm - Speedy Printing – Katy Freeway
- Representative - Patti Strawther, James J. Postl Interests

Kay announced that she was proud to share that Amegy Bank won Large Firm and Speedy Printing-Katy Freeway won Small Firm. It is a great honor to be nominated by the chapter, and an even greater honor to be recognized by EWI Corporate.

Steve Stephens, Chief Executive Officer of Amegy Bank, and guest speaker for the evening, was welcomed to the podium. Steve gave a heart-felt speech, giving much credit to his executive administrator, Barbara Stokes; his mentor, Amegy Bank's





Founder and Chairman, Walter Johnson; and his “corporate mother,” Walter’s wife, Yvonne Johnson who was in attendance. He told a very funny story of how one can be humbled just when everything is going great. Steve was driving to LCAM in September of 2022 (EWI’s Leadership Caucus and Annual Meeting) in Corpus Christi to receive the Large Firm award for Amegy Bank when he

had a flat tire. He changed from his suit into his gym clothes in his SUV and got the tire changed but arrived just after they announced the award. Nevertheless, he said that he and Barbara had a wonderful time that evening at the conference!

Catherine Lee, Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel of Douglas Elliman Real Estate, gave a beautiful invocation after which we enjoyed a delicious dinner.

LaTonya Perez, our President Elect, gave us an update on the number of Golden Tickets sold and encouraged everyone to buy one as there were some really good opportunities remaining. Towards the end of dinner, our 2022-2023 Fundraising Director Rebekah Wesley, representing Jackson and Company, came to the podium to let us know that the silent auction and the wine pull would be closing shortly. Once the silent auction closed, there were many celebratory exclamations heard throughout the room! The Golden Tickets closed 15 minutes later; Rebekah announced those winners after which there were even louder exclamations!

Kay thanked all of the sponsors and donors without which the event would not have been possible. She also especially thanked Rebekah Wesley, along with her Fundraising Committee, had made the evening an undeniably incredible success!



EWI of Houston Executive Appreciation Night and Annual Fundraiser



*Carolyn Toriggino, Sustaining Member
Malcolm Chatham, Guest
Lori Alleman Wash, Guest*



*Katie Cottingim, Shell Energy Resources Company
Linda Petticrew, Shell Energy Resources Company*



*Stephanie Cleary, Paul Kilian, Holly Borham & Cristina
Barron, Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty*



*Rebekah Wesley, Jackson & Company
Larry Wesley, Guest*



*Marilyn DeSimone, Landry's, Inc. - Downtown Aquarium
Marji Zamora, Speedy Printing - Katy Freeway*



*Cristina Barron, Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty
Cindy Baker, Black Haw Group
Bill Stokes, Guest*

EWI of Houston Executive Appreciation Night and Annual Fundraiser



*Jennifer Lopez, Guest
Lily Portales, Hilcorp*



*Carolyn Noack, Sustaining Member
Lisa Noack, Guest*



*Cindy Baker, Black Haw Group
Lisa Anhauser, Guest*

Holly Borham, Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty



*Paul Killian, Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty
Yvonne Johnson, Guest
Steve Stephens, Amegy Bank*



*Candace Sanchez, Guest
Jessica Sebesta, Guest*



*Larry Wesley, Guest
Anthony Tran, Guest
Dylan Flosi, Guest*

Houston EviConnect

EWI of Houston Executive Appreciation Night and Annual Fundraiser



*Michele Votano, Atlantic Relocation Systems
Chuck Amerson, Atlantic Relocation Systems*



*Stephanie Cleary, Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty
Kori Peters, Guest*



*LaTonya Perez, The Rose
Margo Faulkner, Guest
Shannon McNair, The Rose*



*Delynn Waker, Guest
Holly Borham, Martha Turner Sotheby's International Realty*



*LaTonya Perez, The Rose
Robin Castellanos, Guest
Courtney Castellanos, Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam, Inc.*



*Yvonne Johnson, Guest
Steve Stephens, Amegy Bank
Barbara Stokes, Amegy Bank*

EWI of Houston Executive Appreciation Night and Annual Fundraiser



*Deborah Jones, CenterPoint Energy, Inc.
Cheri Ferguson, Sustaining Member*



Catherine Lee, Douglas Elliman Real Estate



*Barbara Stokes, Amegy Bank
Bill Stokes, Guest*



*Carole Pitts, John Daugherty, Realtors
John A. Daugherty, Jr., John Daugherty, Realtors*



*Lily Portales, Hilcorp
LaTonya Perez, The Rose
Mary Alaniz, Guest*



*Lisa Helfman, HEB
Patti McLean, Daikin Comfort Technologies, N.A.
Wendy Hall, Daikin Comfort Technologies, N.A.*

EWI of Houston Membership Update

As of April 18, 2023

36 Member Firms
38 Representatives

10 Sustaining Members
3 Honorary Members



Did You Know?

D. Jones Photography will be offering complimentary headshots at the June Meeting!**Professional Headshot Tips:**

Don't:

- Try a new hair color or cut the day before your picture.
- Spend too much time in the sun without your sunscreen, sunglasses, and a big, floppy hat.
- Don't Worry – David always makes us look amazing!

Do:

- Avoid extremely bright colors and busy/distracting patterns.
- Keep jewelry timeless, classic, and understated.
- Get plenty of sleep the night before.
- Look at the camera and think of someone/something you love. Your smile will seem authentic!

Houston
eviConnect

*EWI of Houston Executive Appreciation Night and Annual
Fundraiser*

Thank You To Our Generous Sponsors!

UNDERWRITING SPONSOR



SILVER SPONSORS



James J. Postl
Interests

BRONZE SPONSORS



Rosanna & Myron
Blalock



Josette M. George
Diana Skerl

CRYSTAL SPONSORS



Skerl & Associates
Marji Zamora

SPECIAL THANKS



Bari Ross



EWI of Houston Executive Appreciation Night and Annual Fundraiser

Thank You To Our Auction Donors!

Abejas Boutique

Abuelas

Al's Handmade Boots

Amy's Ice Cream

Aquinas Companies, LLC

Avenida Brazil Churrascaria Steakhouse

Barbara & Bill Stokes

Becky Dunn

Benjamin Dougharty

Brenda Bishop

Carolyn Noack

Cheri Ferguson

Chipotle

Christina Greene Jewelry

Chuck Brown

ConocoPhillips

Courtney & Robin Castellanos

D. Jones Photography

Deborah Jones

Debra Crabtree

Diane Bart

Ellen Ramsey

GITTINGS

Gringos

H-E-B

Hilcorp

Houston Arboretum & Nature Center

Houston Texans

Hyatt Regency Houston

Imagen Venues

Jackson & Company

Jessica Pavliska

John A. Daugherty, Jr.

Katherine & Keith Brown | The Brown Group | Compass

Kay & Louis Bart

Kendra Scott

Kori Peters

Lana O'Neil

Linda & Paul Petticrew

Patti McLean

Marji Zamora

Martha Ceballos

Mary Sue Patronella

Megan Mangini

Melissa & Doug Schnitzer | Senterra, LLC

Messina Hof Winery

Michele Votano

MMcCarroll & Associates

Momentum BMW

My Drink Bomb

Nice Winery

Omni Hotels

Rebekah & Larry Wesley

Robin Jackson Photography

Sanela Hasagic

Shannon McNair

Shari Schiffman

Spec's Liquor Store

Stephanie Gusmeri

Strom Rinzen

Texas Road House

The Ballroom at Bayou Place

The Hobby Center for the Performing Arts

The Palm

The Rose

Tim & Gigi Wark

Topgolf Webster



***EWI of Houston Executive Appreciation Night and Annual
Fundraiser***

A Heart-Felt And Sincere Thank You For Your Generosity!

ALCOHOL/FOOD/VALET/VENUE

The Ballroom at Bayou Place

AUDIO/VISUAL

Allshow Events, Inc.

EXECUTIVE RECOGNITION

PRESENTATION

Linda Petticrew

Shell Energy Resources Company

FLORAL/LINENS/DECOR

Kirksey Gregg Productions

PHOTOGRAPHY

David Jones

D. Jones Photography

PRINTING

Marji Zamora

Speedy Printing - Katy Freeway



***EWI of Houston Executive Appreciation Night and Annual
Fundraiser***

Fundraising Committee

REBEKAH WESLEY
Fundraising Director
Jackson & Company

BARBARA STOKES
Amegy Bank

CAROLYN TORIGGINO
Sustaining Member

CRAIG HOWARD
The Ballroom at Bayou
Place

DAVID JONES
D. Jones Photography

ELLEN RAMSEY
Let It Fly Events, LP

GEORGIA GRAUGNARD
Omni Hotels

MARJI ZAMORA
Speedy Printing - Katy
Freeway

MARTHA CEBALLOS
ELP Enterprises, Inc.
dba MC Business
Products

PATTI STRAWTHER
James J. Postl Inerests

PRISCILLA MASSEY
Past President
Sustaining Member

SHANNON MCNAIR
The Rose

PLEASE SUPPORT

EWI OF HOUSTON



RaiseRight™

Formerly ShopWithScrip

<https://www.raiseright.com>

ENROLLMENT CODE: UX7RB2FICCU8

Simply use gift cards on everyday purchases to raise funds for EWI of Houston!

Select from 750+ popular brands of gift cards and EWI of Houston receives up to 20% of your purchase at no additional charge to you!

Please contact Rebekah Wesley for further assistance.
Rebekah@jacksonandcompany.com



2022 – 2023 Board of Directors



PRESIDENT
Kay Bart
Skerl & Associates
713.858.6200
kbart@bartcohou.com



COMMUNICATIONS
Sanela Hasagic
Lockwood, Andrews &
Newnam, Inc.
713.821.0301 (w)
shasagic@lan-inc.com



**TREASURER AND
MEMBERSHIP**
Cindy Baker
Black Haw Group
713.965.2909 (w)
cindyb@BlackHawGroup.com



PRESIDENT ELECT
LaTonya Perez
The Rose
281.464.5158 (w)
lperez@therose.org



**SECRETARY AND
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE**
Linda Petticrew
Shell Energy Resources
Company
832.337.3121 (w)
linda.petticrew@shell.com



PROGRAM
Debra Crabtree
Westpark
Communications
281.851.2212 (w)
dcrabtree@westparkcom.net



FUNDRAISING
Rebekah Wesley
Jackson & Company
713.523.5780 (w)
rebekah@jacksonandcompany.com



SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
Carole Pitts
John Daugherty,
Realtors
713-626-3930 (w)
carolep@johndaugherty.com

Advisors



Marji Zamora
Speedy Printing - Katy Freeway
713.942.1511 (w)
marji@speedyprintingtx.com
Past President 2018



Shari Schiffman
Douglas Elliman Real Estate
832.320.2057 (w)
Shari.Schiffman@elliman.com
Past President 2022

2022 – 2023 Leadership Team



ASIST
Mary Margaret Carroll
MM Carroll &
Associates
713.263.7005 (w)
mmcarroll1@msn.com



MENTOR/RETENTION
Barbara Stokes
Amegy Bank
713.232.2114 (w)
barbara.stokes@amegybank.com

SOCIAL MEDIA/PUBLIC RELATIONS
Martha Ceballos
ELP Enterprises, Inc. dba MC Business
Products
832-969-9947 (w)
martha@elpenterprisesinc.com



BYLAWS
Cindy Joutraw
CenterPoint Energy, Inc.
713.207.5706 (w)
cindy.joutraw@centerpointenergy.com



NOMINATING
Shari Schiffman
Douglas Elliman Real
Estate
832.320.2057 (w)
Shari.Schiffman@elliman.com



STRATEGIC
PLANNING
Rebekah Wesley
Jackson & Company
713.523.5780 (w)
rebekah@jacksonandcompany.com



COURTESY
LaTonya Perez
The Rose
281.464.5158 (w)
lperez@therose.org



PARLIAMENTARIAN
Marji Zamora
Speedy Printing - Katy
Freeway
713.942.1511 (w)
marji@speedyprintingtx.com



WEB COMMITTEE
CHAIR/OFFICIAL
PHOTOGRAPHER
David Jones
D. Jones Photography
713.202.3633
studio@djonesphoto.com



DIRECTORY
Cindy Baker
Black Haw Group
713.965.2909 (w)
cindyb@BlackHawGroup.com



PHILANTHROPY
Patti Strawther
James J. Postl Interests
713.222.7333 (w)
patti.strawther@shell.com



EWISP
Elisa Garcia
Houston First
Corporation
713.853.8918 (w)
elisa.garcia@houstonfirst.com



PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
Debra Crabtree
Westpark
Communications
281.851.2212 (w)
dcrabtree@westparkcom.net

Please contact Sanela Hasagic at shasagic@lan-inc.com for corrections, edits, and feedback about the newsletter. Thank you,