

Women In Leadership

Central Illinois

February 2008

A Note from Your President

PLEASE READ REGARDING OUR LUNCHEON FEES

Dear WIL Members,

At the board meeting on January 15, 2008, we had a very hard decision to make for our entire membership. One of the responsibilities as a board member is to make sure we are stewards of our monies and that we make the right decisions for the membership.

We plan for the new year during May and June to be ready to mail out the renewals. At that time in 2007, we were not aware the Country Club of Peoria was going to raise their fees for the luncheons. We have tried to have drink, entrée, and dessert at each luncheon. Due to the increase, as of December 31, 2007, we have subsidized the monthly luncheons \$2400. This means we have had to pull from the general fund (or membership dues) to cover the increased cost. We all know the cost of going out to eat has increased plus we are fortunate to have our luncheons at the Country Club of Peoria.

Therefore, with great trepidation, we are increasing our charge for the luncheon effective with the February luncheon. *As a member the cost is \$20, and a guest will be \$25.*

Another quick note...our Women In Leadership Scholarship deadline is **March 15**. We are very passionate about the scholarship and want to make sure we get the word out to have women apply!

Shawna Knapp has been working very hard on the Women In Leadership Awards. If you have been nominated, please complete the application by March 13, 2008 and return to Shawna. Our May luncheon will be very exciting as she reveals who has won this year's awards.

Women in Leadership has a great opportunity to network with other women in our community, please take advantage of this today!

Your President,
Donna Cimino

Next Meeting: February 14 (Weaver Ridge)

Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 14 at Weaver Ridge.

Meal: Cupid's Salad
Strawberry Passion

Our February speaker is Certified Professional Development Coach Dina Emser, who works with individuals and organiza-

tions to help them reach their goals. Since being certified in 1999, Dina has coached business leaders and educators to better utilize their natural strengths to improve performance and satisfaction.

Her presentations focus on career and life topics such as leadership, what it means

to be a professional, creating respectful relationships, communicating more clearly, motivation, passion, and more.

Dina is an Adjunct Faculty Member at the Adler School of Professional Psychology

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SPECIAL REMINDERS:

- To help avoid congestion at the registration table, please have your check ready when you get to the door!
- If you make a reservation for the luncheon and are unable to attend, you are still responsible for payment of your reservation.
- Don't forget—the cost of meals has gone up as of February 1. Members \$20 and Guests \$25.



Board of Directors

President:

Donna Cimino
dcimino@hbcpcas.com

Immediate Past President:

Emma Vandever
evandever@southsidebank.com

President-Elect:

Marcia Cannon
mcannon@westaff.com

President-Elect Presumptive:

Allison Vershaw
allisonvershaw@sbcglobal.net

Secretary:

Joan Vierhout
Joan.vierhout@sts.aecom.com

Treasurer:

Becky Davies
beckycd@sbcglobal.net

VP/Membership:

Beth Kolowski
beth@heart.net

VP/Programs:

Brenda Coates
bcoates@pha.peoria.il.us

VP/Monthly Luncheons

Debbie Sippel
djsippel@southsidebank.com

VP/Public Relations:

Allison Vershaw
allisonvershaw@sbcglobal.net

Assistant VP Membership:

Julie Morales
jmorales@peoriomagazines.com

Director/Awards:

Shawna Knapp
Shawnak@fgmarchitects.com

Director/Reservations:

Kathy Schaeffer
kls@ssinet.com

Director/Special Projects:

Amy Pearson
APearson@hotelpermarquette.com

Director/ Network Luncheons:

Betsy Yarcho
byarcho@envisions.com

Welcome New WIL Members

Please join us in welcoming our newest members to the WIL family. We are excited to have each of you!

- Maureen Bartels – Clifton Gunderson Technology Solutions
- Jacklyn Betteridge – Coyle Insurance Agency
- Deb Johnson – FOTH Infrastructure and Environment
- Camy McLaren – McLaren Appraisal Service
- Holly Mosack – Advanced Technology Services (ATS)
- Michelle Miller – Inspired Redesigns
- Jody Owens – Hampton Inn, East Peoria
- Debra Paul – Exit Heart of IL Realtors
- Pam Perrilles – CASA of Peoria County
- Wendi Ramsay – Ramsay & Associates
- Christine Schauble – Schauble Homes

Membership Drive Success!!!

Thanks to all those who invited guests to WIL recently. Because of your efforts our membership drive was a big success and as a result we have added 24 new members since our contest began in September. We now have **112** WIL members!

Congratulations to the following winners:

- December drawing for the 1-6 guest category for a \$30 gift card to Grand Prairie – Marcia Cannon
- December drawing for the 7+ guest category for a \$60 gift card to Grand Prairie – Marcia Cannon
- Members who had two guests join WIL between September and December and earned a \$50 gift card to Grand Prairie : Allison Vershaw, Kathy Schaeffer & Marcia Cannon

Way to go!

Next Meeting (cont'd from pg 1)

in Chicago and is a member of the International Speakers' Network, the International Coach Federation, and Women in Leadership of Central Illinois. She writes monthly for Numero magazine in Peoria, and has written a chapter in the book, Roadmap to Success, which will be published in late spring.

Dina will discuss the top three skills we need to be more effective as leaders in our professional and personal lives.

The RSVP deadline is February 8. Please be sure to send your reservation form to Kathy Schaeffer (kls@ssinet.com) to reserve your place.

We look forward to seeing you at the **February 14th** luncheon/meeting at **Weaver Ridge**.

Birthday Auction & Door Prizes

Thank you to the following people who were generous in donating birthday auction items during the month of January. Also thank you to the people who purchased those items. We raised a total of **\$115.00** to be used for scholarships.

- Flower Arrangement donated by Joan Vierhout, STS Consultants, LTD purchased by Roxanne Heiser, Aventine Renewable Energy, Inc. for \$65.00
- Traci Johnston – American Red Cross donated \$40.00 to the Birthday Fund!

Door Prizes:

- Becky Cobb – Reflexology by Becky (January speaker) 3 Gift Certificates for free Reflexology Session
- Roxanne Heiser – Aventine Renewable Energy – Leather Portfolio
- Kathy Schaeffer - Stellar Systems – 2 coffee mugs
- Jeanne Buysee - American Family – Atlas
- Amanda Beadles – FGM Architects – The Giant Cookie Treats
- Denise McMahan – Oberlander Communications – 1 pound of fudge

WIL Scholarship Applications

The Women in Leadership of Central Illinois is targeted at assisting women in the Tri-County area who are pursuing college/university, post graduate, or accreditation/certification for business management/professional or entrepreneurial education. The award is intended to defer tuition, fees, books, and other academic expenses. The amount of the award will not exceed **\$1,000** per academic year and may vary from year to year. Scholarships may be renewed pending re application and approval from the Board of Directors of Women in Leadership of Central Illinois.

Eligibility:

The scholarship will be available to qualified women who are residents of the Illinois Tri-County area as well as being a graduate of a high school or a recipient of GED. The applicant should have motivation to accomplish a career and leadership goals. Financial need will be considered only when other factors are equal among applications. The applicant should also be a non-traditional student...in the workforce a minimum of three years.

Application Deadline:

The Scholarship deadline will be **March 15th**

Calendar of Events

Date: Thursday, February 14

Time: Luncheon (11:30am)

Location: ****Weaver Ridge****

Speaker: Dina Emser

Topic: "Leadership, Top 3 Skills Required"

Date: Saturday, February 23

Time: 9:00am (departure)

Location: Oriental Theatre—Chicago,

Event: "Wicked"

Contact: Amy Pearson

Date: Thursday, March 13

Time: Luncheon (11:30am)

Location: Country Club of Peoria

Speaker: Pam Schubach, YWCA

Topic: "Empowering Women, Strengthening Our Community"

Date: Thursday, March 13

Event: WIL Award Applications are due

Contact: Shawna Knapp

Date: Thursday, April 10

Time: Luncheon (11:30am)

Location: Country Club of Peoria

Speaker: Ketra Mytich, Attorney

Topic: "Estate Planning"

Date: Thursday, May 8

Time: Luncheon (11:30am)

Location: Country Club of Peoria

Event: WIL Awards Banquet

Pay To “Toot Your Horn”

The guidelines for “Toot Your Horn” state *these announcements are for member recognition or upcoming events; not business advertisement. This will take the place of our “30 Second Celebration.”*

Just provide your written information on the space provided below to our Awards Chair, Shawna Knapp, along with \$2 per announcement and she will share your news at the next WILCI meeting. Would you like to “toot” someone else’s horn who may be shy? Same rules apply. Proceeds will go towards the Scholarship Fund.

Pay to “Toot Your Horn” Guidelines:

- Announcements should be limited to 50 words.
- The first 10 submissions will be read at the meeting; all others will be included in the following month’s newsletter.
- You may email your announcement to our Awards Chair, Shawna Knapp (shawnak@fgmarchitects.com) one week prior to each meeting.
- The Cost per each Announcement will be \$2.
- No more than (2) Announcements per month.
- The Awards Committee shall have final say.
- Submissions shall be made each month – no repeats.

Thank you and we look forward to sharing your Great Achievements!

Toot Your Horn January Announcements

Traci Johnston: The Central Illinois Chapter of the American Red Cross was recognized by receiving a "Highly Performing Chapter" award for the Third year in a row! The chapter is now in the top 1% of all Red Cross in the Nation!! Her team also scored a "Perfect Score" for the 2nd year in the performance scale that determines if a chapter is highly performing.

Linda Martin, Clifton Gunderson LLP Senior Tax Manager: Received the "2007 Women to Watch" award from the Illinois CPA Society's Women's Executive Committee and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' Work/Life and Womens' Leadership Executive Committees at the annual Women's Leadership breakfast in Chicago. This award is given annually to honor women who have made significant contributions to the accounting profession, their organizations, and the development of women as leaders.

WIL Special Events

WICKED February 23

Amy Pearson will have more information available soon on the specifics of this fun bus trip to Chicago to see one of Broadway's best musicals ...WICKED!

NOTE: 2 tickets available to either purchase individually or together. Ticket price: \$144 each. This includes roundtrip transportation from Peoria to Chicago and back, your ticket to this awesome show, and wonderful networking and friendships!

Please contact: Allison Vershaw (allisonvershaw@sbcglobal.net) to get your tickets to this great afternoon with your WIL friends!



Get Ready to Cook....

Amy is currently "cooking up" the details at Cyd's in Junction City for a fun filled evening of cooking with the girl's.

Stay tuned for another Girl's Night Out to take place in April.

WIL Website

Check out your WIL Website (www.peoriawomeninleadership.com). How can we make it more informativie for you, our members. Send your suggestions to Kathy Schaeffer (kls@ssinet.com).

If you haven't checked out our website in awhile, please do! There are past newsletters, reservation forms, pictures and so much more!



* WIL Value Section

- * • FREE high chair. Contact Joan Vierhout for more information: 309-495-6541.
- * • I have one Nigerian Dwarf Goat for Sale. He was born Tuesday, January 22. He's all white and very adorable. His name is Samson. Contact Shelli Cowser at 309-360-5864.
- * • 1 ticket to see WICKED—cost \$144. Please contact Amy Pearson (apearson@hotelperemarquette.com)



Awards Program (coming in May)

Dear WILCI Member:

We are always looking for ways to make WIL bigger and better than ever! So, we have come up with a new process to receive applicants for the WIL awards presented every May. We are providing each WIL member a way to cast their personal vote in the form of nominations.

The Awards Program provides an opportunity for each of us to reflect upon and celebrate not only our own accomplishments, but those of our membership. The WIL leadership asks you to join in this celebration by nominating either yourself or another WIL member for one of the awards.

Please take the time to review the Awards and their descriptions. Then nominate up to 3 WIL members by January 31, 2008. We will then provide the application to each of the nominees to fill out and return by March 13, 2008. To apply, you and your nominee must be a member in good standing for at least one year. Please note: members of the WIL board are eligible for all awards except the Outstanding new Member awards which the executive board determines.

Please refer to your WIL membership directory for previous winners.

Important Dates:

January 31, 2008—

Final collection of nominee forms

February 4, 2007—

Present application to the nominees

March 13, 2008—

Collect submitted applications from nominees

May 8, 2008—

Awards presented

We hope you will take this opportunity to share more about yourself and your accomplishment by participating in the Awards Program. At the same time, we hope you will encourage others by nominating them for recognition. Please call or email if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Shawna Knapp
Director of Awards
309.669.0012 or shawnak@fgmarchitects.com

Award Nomination Form

WOMAN LEADER OF THE YEAR

This award provides recognition to a member who is outstanding in her business profession, community service and in her leadership and participation as a WIL member.

Nominee: _____

Nominee: _____

Nominee: _____

COMMUNITY LEADER AWARD

This award provides recognition to a member who is outstanding by volunteering in her community through service and leadership and participation in WIL.

Nominee: _____

Nominee: _____

Nominee: _____

CAREER LEADER AWARD

This award provides recognition to a member who is outstanding in her business or profession and participation in WIL.

Nominee: _____

Nominee: _____

Nominee: _____

PLEASE RETURN YOUR NOMINATION FORM

BY JANUARY 31, 2008 TO:

Shawna Knapp
Director of Awards
c/o FGM Architects
202 NE Madison, Ste 102
Peoria, IL 61602
email: shawnak@fgmarchitects.com
Fax: 309.669.0013



Happy February Birthday(s)

Nellie Gould 2/2
 Peggy Smith – 2/3
 Jodi Tarter – 2/3
 Katie Arnholdt Kim – 2/7
 Penny Kramer – 2/7
 Shelli Cowser – 2/10
 Roxanne Heiser – 2/10
 Camy McLaren – 2/18

A special thank you to Amanda Hahn and Allison Vershaw for being our greeters at the January luncheon!

Network Lunches

Network Luncheon Leaders have been scheduled for most of the year and we hope all members will take this opportunity to get involved! Network lunches are smaller groups that are the perfect setting to get to know each other better and exchange information and ideas. Please remember we encourage you to attend the luncheon for your group as well as any of the other luncheons scheduled.

Any questions, please contact Betsy Yarcho at Envision Insurance, 266-2117 or byarcho@envisions.com

Shawna Knapp (lunches at 12:00 noon)

February 1: Kelleher's
 March 7: Jalapeño's (in the Metro Center)
 April 4: Rizzi's Downtown
 May 2: Eamon Patrick's (downtown by Jim's Steakhouse)
 June 6: Rhythm Kitchen (my birthday! No presents please....just dessert! Haha...)
 July 2: Carnegie's 501 (Pere Marquette) (Note: this is a Wednesday since July 4th is the first Friday)
 August 1: 401 Café

Cathy Thomatis & Kathy Schaeffer

February 26: Rhythm Kitchen

Stacy Frederking

February 20: Olive Garden
 March 19: Eamon Patrick's
 April 23: Cyd's
 May 21: Kelleher's
 June 18: Flat Top Grill
 July 23: Riverstation
 August 20: Copperworks
 September 17: Ponte Vecchio

Linda Martin

February 22: Bistro 320
 March 21: Rizzi's
 April 18: River Station
 May 16: Rhythm Kitchen
 June 20: Fahey's Downtown (old F Scotts)
 July 18: Kelleher's
 August 22: Jonah's Seafood House
 September 19: Carnegies 501

Beth Kolowski (lunches at 12:00 noon)

February 22: Carnegie's 501 (Pere Marquette)
 March 28: Basta (Peoria Heights)
 April 23: Avanti's (North Knoxville)
 May 21: Uno's (Mark Twain Hotel)
 June 18: Rizzi's (Downtown)