

FROM THE PRESIDENT

October is just around the corner, and I find myself wondering, *where did the year go?* While leading this chapter has presented its share of challenges, I am incredibly proud of the amazing people who make up our chapter. Your dedication, support, and teamwork continue to make us strong. Together, we can accomplish great things.

What a delightful evening we had at Recognition Night! Our guest speaker, Tracey Garvis Graves, was both entertaining and inspiring. I hope many of you have added a few of her books to your TBR (To Be Read) list. It was also a privilege to honor our scholarship recipients and hear the unique stories that have shaped their journeys.

The Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting (LCAM) was another highlight. Our keynote speaker, Grace Key, brought energy, enthusiasm, and inspiration to the stage. Her story was both moving and motivating. Although born from difficult circumstances, her business, Candidly Kind, is a testament to turning adversity into opportunity. Grace is a speaker, entrepreneur, business owner, and philanthropist whose message reminded us of the power of resilience and kindness.

The LCAM Gala was especially exciting for our chapter. Princess Winters received her \$4,000 grant from EWI Corporate and was surprised with an additional \$5,000 award from EWI of Tulsa. The look on her face was priceless and a moment I will never forget. Princess, we are so proud of you and honored to be part of your journey toward an even brighter future.

We also received wonderful news for our chapter. EWI of Des Moines was awarded one of the Literacy Grants in the amount of \$1,000. I was able to submit a successful grant application with the help of Robin Taylor and the support of our chapter's accomplishments over the past year. As a result of this award, we will once again support the Blank Children's Hospital's Festival of Trees & Lights this holiday season, in addition to continuing our important work with Capitol View Elementary School.

Thank you all for your continued commitment to our chapter and our community. The impact we make together is meaningful, and I look forward to all we will accomplish during the remainder of the year.

Deb Longseth
President, EWI of Des Moines
Representing Syverson Strege



Thursday, September 10
The Rewind Hotel in West Des Moines



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EVERYONE WANTS TO GET AWAY BUT WHAT'S THE BEST WAY?

With several members that book travel for work, and others that love to explore the world, we will be sharing our tips and tricks for finding, booking and packing for a trip. Come with your tips and questions.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 5
5:30 PM TO 7:30 PM**

SHAZAM

6109 Willomere Drive
Des Moines, IA 50321



RSVP by
Thurs, Oct. 1
www.EWIDSM.org

Meal provided by
In the Bag

LCAM September 16-19, 2026 Mobile, Alabama



**See you at LCAM next
year in Las Vegas!**

EWI Des Moines Committee Chairs 2025-2026

President (Officer)

Deb Longseth

Vice President (Officer)

Robin Taylor

Secretary (Officer)

Beth Kneeskern

Treasurer (Officer)

Rhonda Huegerich

Sergeant-At-Arms/ Membership (Director)

Christine Healy

Programs (Director)

Robin Taylor

Marla Wylie

Marketing & Communications (Director)

Mary Ann Moore

Fundraising (Director)

Marla Wylie

Scholarship Selection/ASIST

Committee Co-Chairs:

Christine Healy

Kim Fankhauser

Kelly Betts

3 non-EWI participants

Hospitality/Lunch Bunch

Committee Chair:

Gloria Criswell

Philanthropy

Committee Chair:

Kelly Betts

B/C/DP Investments

Committee Chair:

Chris Harvey

Parliamentarian

Michelle Cook

Advisor

Robin Taylor

Budget

Deb Longseth

Robin Taylor

Rhonda Huegerich

Strategic Plan

Chris Harvey

Deb Longseth

Robin Taylor

Advisory Council (Past 6 Years)

Kelly Betts

Chris Harvey

Barb Hobson

Deb Longseth

Robin Taylor

President, EWI Corporate

Vicki Chapman



MISSION

Executive Women International brings together key individuals from diverse businesses for the purpose of; promoting member firms, enhancing personal and professional development, and encouraging community involvement.

VISION

To enhance professional growth and development within a diverse group of women while empowering them to make a difference as they inspire others.

VALUES

Integrity Excellence Respect Collaboration

Member Firms:

- ~Catch Des Moines
- ~Delta Dental of Iowa
- ~Hubbell Realty Company
- ~Iowa Realty
- ~Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation
- ~KPMG LLP
- ~Meredith Family Offices
- ~Shazam
- ~Syverson Strege
- ~The Printer Inc. (TPI)
- ~TrueNorth Companies
- ~Waldinger Corp.
- ~Velera



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vchapman@swbc.com

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lori.heerlyn@tdwilliamson.com

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jenniferclark@dallashearingflundation.org

Advisor – Kathy Scott, Balls Food Stores, Inc., EWI of Kansas City,
35Director@ballsfoods.com

Birthdays



October 1 – Janette House
October 8 – Kim Fankhauser
October 12 – Marla Wylie



Lunch Bunch
Wednesday, October 21
Gateway Market
2002 Woodland Avenue
Des Moines

2025-2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Deb Longseth
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Vice President

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Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation
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Robin Taylor
Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation
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Fundraising Director

Marla Wylie
Delta Dental of Iowa
mwylie@deltadentalia.com

2026 LUNCH BUNCH

Beginning in 2026, Lunch Bunch will be held the third Wednesday of each month.

<u>Restaurant</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>
Star Bar	2811 Ingersoll Avenue Des Moines	Wednesday, January 21
Urban Cellar	640 South 50th Street West Des Moines	Wednesday, February 18
Machine Shed	11151 Hickman Road Urbandale	Wednesday, March 18
Ted's Coney Island	3020 Ingersoll Avenue Des Moines	Wednesday, April 15
Gilroy's	1238 8th Street West Des Moines	Wednesday, May 20
Jethro's BBQ 'N Bacon Bacon	1480 22nd Street West Des Moines	Wednesday, June 17
Cosi Cucina	1975 NW 86th Street Clive	Wednesday, July 15
Noah's Ark	2400 Ingersoll Avenue Des Moines	Wednesday, August 19
The Tavern Valley Junction	205 5th Street West Des Moines	Wednesday, September 16
Gateway Market	2002 Woodland Avenue Des Moines	Wednesday, October 21
Cooper's on 5th Valley Junction	227 5th Street West Des Moines	Wednesday, November 18
Club Car	13435 University Avenue, Suite 200, Clive	Wednesday, December 16