

# San Antonio ewiConnect

Chartered 1958

January 2026

## President's Message



**Lauren Costley**  
Deacon Recruiting  
2025/2026 Chapter President  
EWI of San Antonio®

Happy New Year EWI Sisters,

As we step into a brand-new year, I am filled with excitement and gratitude for each of you. A new year brings fresh opportunities, renewed energy, and the chance to elevate how we connect, grow, and support one another. Again, our theme is all about **rolling out the carpet to elevate the experience for our members**—and you are at the heart of everything we do.

We are committed to creating meaningful moments, valuable connections, and inspiring programs that make you feel welcomed, celebrated, and empowered every time you engage with EWI. Whether it's through our monthly meetings, leadership development, or events, our goal is to ensure every member feels like a VIP.

As we look ahead, I encourage you to mark your calendars and join us for our upcoming events:

### **Membership Meeting – Thursday, February 19th**

This will be a truly special meeting you won't want to miss. We are honored to welcome two outstanding guest speakers: **Ernie Zuniga of KSAT 12** and **Jenna Saucedo Herrera of USAA**. Their insights, leadership experience, and perspectives promise to inspire and energize our membership. Please make plans to attend and be part of this impactful event.

### **Save the Date – Annual Fundraising Event & Concert**

Join us on **Friday, March 20th at Magnolia Gardens** for our annual fundraising event and concert. This year's theme is pure Hollywood glamour - **Lights, Camera, Give! A Hollywood Night Supporting Our Future Stars**. It will be an unforgettable evening filled with glitz, entertainment, and purpose—all in support of our mission and the future leaders we proudly invest in with our annual scholarships.

Thank you for your continued involvement, enthusiasm, and support of Executive Women's International. Together, let's make this a year of elevated experiences, meaningful connections, and unforgettable moments.

Wishing you a prosperous, inspiring, and successful New Year. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Warm regards,

Lauren Costley

**President**

Executive Women International - San Antonio



San Antonio  
ewi  
CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

EWI of San Antonio, 719 Carnoustie, San Antonio, Texas 78258  
ewisanantonio.org or ewiconnect.com  
Email: ewisapublications@gmail.com

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Page #	Table of Contents
1	President's Message
2	Table of Contents & Social Media Links
3-4	December Meeting Recap
5	January Meeting Announcement
6-7	Fundraising Event
8	Member Firm Spotlight
9	Inspiration Article
10	Board of Directors Member Spotlight
11	New Member Spotlight
12	Anniversaries and Birthdays
13	Membership and Board Meetings Dates/Locations
14	Officers and Directors Contact Info
15	2025/2026 Committee Chairs



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Share your news and photos in the next *CONNECT*

Submit info to:

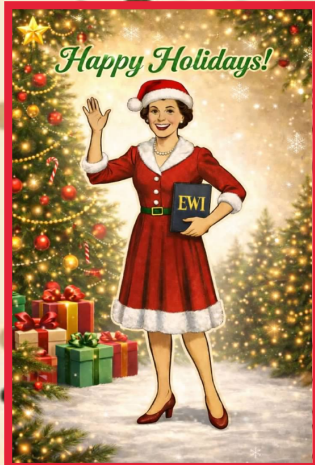
[jennifer.uecker@affiniuscaptial.com](mailto:jennifer.uecker@affiniuscaptial.com)

Next issue deadline: February 6, 2026

# December Meeting Recap



# December Meeting Recap



EWI January Membership Meeting

**WHEN**

January 15, 2026  
5:30 PM - 8:00 PM  
[Add to Calendar](#)

**WHERE**

Maggiano's Little Italy  
17603 IH 10W  
San Antonio, TX 78257  
[Get Directions](#)

**TICKETS**

\$65 Member Ticket  
\$65 Non-Member/Guest  
\$33 Sustaining Member

**PAYMENT OPTIONS**

1. StarChapter Pay\* - via website
2. Cash or Checks\*\* - payable to Executive Women International San Antonio

\*Please note that credit card transactions through the website will include a \$4.00 transaction fee. If you wish to pay by cash or check, you can still register but click the "Bypass Payment" button under where you enter your credit card information.

\*\*Checks accepted at meeting or mailed. Please reach out to a current board member to get the address on where to mail.

**Join us for our upcoming meeting on Thursday, January 15 at 5:30pm at Maggiano's at the Rim for our speaker, Kim Carpenter!**

**Reservations can be made by using the "Register Now" button no later than Monday, January 12th at 12:00pm.**

**Agenda:**

- 5:30 pm Registrations and Reception
- 6:00 pm President's Welcome, Mission Statement, Installations, Roll Call, Inspiration, Dinner
- 7:00 pm Guest Speaker: Kim Carpenter, Communicating with Confidence: Leveraging the Power of Disc
- 7:50 pm Fundraising, Announcements, & Adjournment

**Menu (Served family style):**

- First Course - Italian Chopped Salad, Zucchini Fritte, & Crispy Mozzarella
- Second Course - Spaghetti & Wagyu Beef Meatball, Four Cheese Ravioli & Chicken Piccata
- Dessert - Cheesecake & Chocolate Layered Cake

**Speaker:**



Kim Carpenter, PCC, is the founder of People at the Center®, a leadership consultancy that partners with leaders and teams to create trust-rich, high-performing cultures. Grounded in research, neuroscience, and real-world results, her work helps organizations build environments where people feel valued, and business outcomes accelerate. Over the past two decades, Kim has delivered keynotes and training for thousands of professionals and worked closely with hundreds of senior leaders across industries, including Apple, Netflix, Hershey, and PBS. She partners with HR and executive teams to strengthen leadership, navigate complexity, and lead change with clarity, humanity, and measurable impact.

*live  
love  
inspire*



EXECUTIVE WOMENS INTERNATIONAL  
PROUDLY PRESENTS

20 MARCH 2026

LIGHTS CAMERA  
GIVE

A HOLLYWOOD NIGHT SUPPORTING OUR FUTURE STARS

NATE RODRIGUEZ

REED BROTHERS

RUSTY NAILS

**MAGNOLIA GARDEN**  
DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM, FUN STARTS AT 6:30 PM  
\$100 Entry Ticket, Sponsorship Tickets Are Available  
Purchase Tickets Online [www.ewisanantonio.org](http://www.ewisanantonio.org)  
Magnolia Garden- 2030 North Main Avenue SA TX 78212  
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT EWI OF SAN ANTONIO & OUR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

January 2026

# LIGHTS CAMERA GIVE

**A HOLLYWOOD NIGHT  
SUPPORTING OUR FUTURE STARS**

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### PLATINUM SPONSOR: \$10,000

- 20 TICKETS TO EVENT (2 TABLES), UNLIMITED DRINKS ALL NIGHT, 20 MEAL TICKETS
- RECOGNITION THROUGHOUT EVENT AS THE EVENT SPONSOR
- RECOGNITION ON SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS
- RECOGNITION ON THE EWI WEBSITE
- RECOGNITION DURING PRESENTATION AND THROUGHOUT EVENT
- INDIVIDUAL SIGN WITH LOGO/NAME ON STAGE

### GOLD SPONSOR: \$5,000

- 10 TICKETS TO EVENT(1 TABLE), 20 DRINK TICKETS, 10 MEAL TICKETS
- RECOGNITION ON SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS
- RECOGNITION ON THE EWI WEBSITE
- RECOGNITION DURING PRESENTATION AND THROUGHOUT EVENT
- SIGN WITH LOGO/NAME ON STAGE



### SILVER SPONSOR: \$2,500

- 4 TICKETS TO EVENT, 8 DRINK TICKETS, 4 MEAL TICKETS
- RECOGNITION ON SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS
- RECOGNITION ON THE EWI WEBSITE
- RECOGNITION DURING PRESENTATION AND THROUGHOUT EVENT
- SIGN WITH LOGO/NAME ON STAGE

### BRONZE SPONSOR: \$1,000

- 2 TICKETS TO EVENT (OPEN SEATING), 4 DRINK TICKETS, 2 MEAL TICKETS
- RECOGNITION ON SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS
- RECOGNITION ON THE EWI WEBSITE
- RECOGNITION DURING PRESENTATION AND THROUGHOUT EVENT
- SIGN WITH LOGO/NAME ON STAGE

### SILENT AUCTION/RAFFLE SPONSOR

- SIGN UNDER EACH DONATION
- RECOGNITION DURING RAFFLE FOR QUALIFYING LIVE AUCTION ITEMS

For more information contact  
Kathryn Shelton  
kathryn@thewatermarkgroup.com  
910-709-2618

**Magnolia Gardens**  
2030 North Main Avenue  
San Antonio TX 78212

**March 20, 2026**  
6 PM - 10 PM

**FIRM SPOTLIGHT: PORT SAN ANTONIO**

Port San Antonio is represented by Caroline Diaz, past President of San Antonio EWI 2023-2024, has been a member of EWI San Antonio for 21 years.



**Port San Antonio recently announced their role in Boeing’s \$2 billion B-52 modernization program.**

Port San Antonio has landed a pivotal role in Boeing’s \$2.04 billion contract to modernize the U.S. Air Force’s fleet of B-52 Stratofortress bombers, ensuring the aircraft remain mission-ready well into the 2050s. The project, known as the Commercial Engine Replacement Program (CERP), focuses on upgrading the B-52 with new Rolls-Royce F130 engines and advanced radar systems. Boeing will integrate and test these systems on two aircraft as part of the modernization effort. This phase of work is funded by fiscal 2026 research and development allocations totaling approximately \$35.8 million, with the overall contract extending through May 31, 2033. This contract underscores Port San Antonio’s growing role as a hub for aerospace innovation and defense modernization, reinforcing its position as a key contributor to national security initiatives.

Port San Antonio has successfully transformed a former military base into a thriving innovation ecosystem, integrating aerospace, defense, cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing, logistics, and education—all under one strategic campus located on the former grounds of Kelly Air Force Base in southwest San Antonio. It’s Aerospace, Defense & MRO hosts major aerospace operations with tenants like Boeing, StandardAero, Chromalloy, and Knight Aerospace. Services include engine testing, aircraft maintenance, repair & overhaul, air transport module development, and painting/de-painting.

The campus is a hub for cybersecurity firms, robotics, and space-based manufacturing enterprises. Port San Antonio supports global logistics, advanced manufacturing, and supply chain industries, with rail, road, and air access enabling seamless operations.

Additionally, “Tech Port San Antonio” serves as a platform to connect education with employers, fostering innovation clusters in aerospace, cybersecurity, energy, defense, and more. It is home to the San Antonio Museum of Science and Technology, along with STEM/STEAM programs that engage students across the region. Over 80 tenant companies collectively employ around 16,000–19,000 people, generating between \$5.6 billion and \$20 billion in annual economic activity.



December Reflection

*"The fruit of silence is prayer, the fruit of prayer is faith, the fruit of faith is love, the fruit of love is service, the fruit of service is peace."*

*-St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

*These attributes are all present here today.*

*During the holidays, when the hustle and bustle of daily life often overshadows what matters most, practicing gratitude allows us to reflect on the true spirit of the holidays, connection, kindness, and the chance to give back.*

*Thank you for this wonderful time that we can all be together. What a reminder that Christmas is not about expensive gifts or grand parties, but instead, great joy is in celebrating each other and spending quality time together.*

*Help us remember the most important thing, the joy of your birth.*

*Bless this celebration tonight and throughout the holiday season.*

*Amen*

Submitted by Margaret Eckhardt

## *Board Member Spotlight*

**Cali Beeman, SHRM-CP**  
**Director of Broker Services**  
**The ETC Companies**

Cali Beeman is a licensed Texas Life & Health professional and certified HR professional with a focus on helping organizations design, administer, and remain compliant with employee benefits and HR strategies. She is passionate about supporting businesses of all sizes as they balance growth, risk management, compliance, and employee retention.

Cali is also the spouse of a retired U.S. Air Force veteran with over 20 years of service who continues to support the USAF and serves as a custom home builder within their community. She is the proud mother of a 23-year-old Texas State University graduate who is married to an active-duty USAF servicemember, and a devoted grandmother to a 9-year-old granddaughter whom the family lovingly helps raise in memory of their late son.

### *Favorite Quote:*

“Blessings are provided throughout your life, even though you may lose some along the way, focus on the new ones coming to you every day and never stop trying to create more.” ... *Cali Beeman*

### *EWI Service:*

Cali is currently serving her second consecutive year as Membership Director for the San Antonio Chapter. She joined EWI in October 2023 and was inspired to become involved by the strong women leaders within the organization—many of whom she had known prior to joining.

### *Hobbies & Goals:*

As the oldest of seven siblings, family remains a central part of Cali’s life. Outside of networking and community service, she is deeply committed to professional growth and lifelong learning. At age 50, she enrolled in Texas A&M University School of Law to pursue a Master of Legal Studies with a concentration in Health Policy—an achievement that reflects her belief in continuous learning and personal development.

### *Favorite San Antonio Experiences:*

- Mokara Spa at the Omni La Mansión del Rio
- La Hacienda de Los Barrios (Redland` Road)
- Durty Nelly’s Irish Pub
- Chart House at the Tower of the Americas
- San Antonio Spurs games and the San Antonio Rodeo



Jessica grew up in El Paso, Texas, where she spent most of her life. Her entire professional career has been in higher education, beginning with nearly 15 years at the University of Phoenix. During her time there, she earned three degrees: a Bachelor of Science in Marketing, an MBA with a concentration in Human Resource Management, and a Master of Science in Administration of Justice and Security. She ultimately served as the Director of Finance & Student Services before leaving the institution.

Her family and her relocated to San Antonio in June 2015, where she joined the University of the Incarnate Word as the Director of Business Strategies. Since then, she has advanced through several

roles—including Director of Student Success and Director of Career Services—and currently serves as the Director of Development.

She is married to her husband, Sean Wilson, and they have four beautiful children—two who are already out of the home and two who are currently in high school and middle school. Her oldest son is in New York and youngest is currently earning a degree in Communications at UIW. In her free time, she spends time with her girls, including driving them to all their extracurricular activities, such as her daughter’s softball. She truly enjoys attending every practice and game, watching her grow into an amazing athlete. She also enjoys hiking—nothing too aggressive—and spending time outdoors whenever I can.

She loves what the EWI represents—supporting women in their professional journeys and helping build a strong network of professionals who can learn and grow together. Although she has only been able to attend one meeting, the warm welcome she received and the high level of professionalism she observed was incredibly appealing and left a strong impression on her.

She hopes to develop new friendships, learn from others in their respective professions, and build a strong professional network.

## Happy Anniversary

St. Mary's Unversity	38 years
H-E-B	32 years
SWBC	22 years
Affinius Capital	7 years
The Watermark Group	4 years
Methodist Healthcare Ministries	4 years
Solely By Design	1 year

## Happy Birthday

Gloriane Quintanilla, <i>Bank of Texas</i>	January	6
Ronnette Pittman, <i>Sustaining Member</i>	January	24
Patty Wilkins, <i>Sustaining Member</i>	January	27
Amanda Avendano, <i>Enterprise Fleet Management</i>	February	5
Joyce Stuart, <i>Sustaining Member</i>	February	17
Vicki Chapman, <i>SWBC</i>	Februray	27
Julie Lyssy, <i>Sustaining Member</i>	February	28



**2025–2026 MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATES & LOCATIONS**

January 15, 2026	Maggianos
February 19, 2026	Pico De Gallo
March 20, 2026	Magnolia Gardens
April 16, 2026	Alamo Cafe 281

**BOARD MEETING DATES & LOCATIONS**

January 28, 2026	Virtual
February 25, 2026	Deacon Recruiting
March 25, 2026	TBD
April 22, 2026	TBD





***If you would like to see the previous General Meeting or Board Meeting minutes please reach out to our Chapter Secretary.***

## 2025-2026 Officers & Directors

<p><b>President</b>  <b>Lauren Costley</b>                  Deacon Recruiting                  210-807-5627                  lcostley@deaconrecruiting.com</p>		<p><b>Membership Director</b>  <b>Cali Beeman</b>                  The ETC Companies                  210-323-7846                  cali@eligibilitytrackingcalculators.com</p>	
<p><b>Vice President/President Elect</b>  <b>Melissa Molina</b>                  University of the Incarnate Word                  210-832-2125                  mcmolin1@uiwtx.edu</p>		<p><b>Program Director</b>  <b>Pat Nava</b>                  USAA                  210-913-7033                  patricia.nava@usaa.com</p>	
<p><b>Secretary</b>  <b>Marsha Garza</b>                  USAA                  210-859-4650                  marsha.garza@usaa.com</p>		<p><b>Publications Director</b>  <b>Jennifer Uecker</b>                  Affinius Capital                  210-254-2849                  jennifer.uecker@affiniuscapital.com</p>	
<p><b>Treasurer</b>  <b>Melissa Molina</b>                  University of the Incarnate Word                  210-832-2125                  mcmolin1@uiwtx.edu</p>		<p><b>Fundraising Directors</b>  <b>Kathryn Shelton / Lauren Costley</b>                  Watermark Group / Deacon Recruiting                  210-599-0400 / 210-807-5627                  kathryn@thewatermarkgroup.com                  lcostley@deaconrecruiting.com</p>	
<p><b>Sergeant-At-Arms</b>  <b>Gloriane Quintanilla</b>                  Bank of Texas                  210-639-6397                  gquintanilla@bankoftexas.com</p>		<p><b>Director-at-Large</b>  <b>Kathryn Shelton</b>                  Watermark Group                  210-599-0400                  kathryn@thewatermarkgroup.com</p>	

## 2025-2026 Chapter Advisors

<p><b>Advisor</b>  <b>Alicia Clark</b>                  Ernst and Young                  210-606-5866                  alicia.clark@ey.com</p>		<p><b>Advisor</b>  <b>Kelsey Hankins</b>                  Porter Loring                  210-227-8221                  khankins@porterloring.com</p>	
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## **2025–2026 Committee Chairs**

ASIST/EWISP	Chloe Knauer
Philanthropy	Debbie Saldana, Christina Cardenas
Hospitality	Frances Dominguez, Sylvia Spanos
Budget	Melissa Molina
Parliamentarian	Frances Dominguez
Historian	Lorie Lopez
Nominating	Alicia Clark
Bylaws	Caroline Diaz
Social Media	Lauren Costley, Cali Beeman
Membership	Cali Beeman
Membership Retention	Cheri Wiese
Chaplain	Margaret Eckhardt
Care & Concern	Joyce Carothers, Diane Skillrud

### **OUR MISSION**

Executive Women International (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.

### **OUR VALUES**

Integrity | Excellence | Respect | Collaboration