

## President's Message



As I sat with my 89-year old mother-in-law recently, I realized that our elders have given so much to us. Not only do they share their knowledge and experiences, but also their leadership skills and their expertise as well. I enjoyed sitting with my mother-in-law, learning how she grew up on the Big Island, what she went through when the “big wave” came many years ago, and

how she raised her four children in the camp they lived in Hilo. Those were challenging times but they faced it head on and took each challenge as they came.

On February 5, 2011, we will have a chance to give back to our elders as we play BINGO with them at the Pearl City Nursing Home. Not only is this a member firm (represented by Cathy Iwai), but this event is such a worthwhile endeavor. We get to spend a day making men and women smile, give them something fun to do, and brighten their day for a few hours. We’ve been playing BINGO at the Pearl City Nursing Home for a number of years and all who have volunteered have said what fun they have had.

If you are able, I encourage you to contact the Philanthropy Chair, Fay Kauanoë and volunteer your time. You will be happy you did! There are other philanthropic events forthcoming throughout the year and you will hear more about them soon. Thank you in advance for taking the time to get out into the community and to promote Executive Women International.

Warmest Aloha,

*Shelley T. Okubo*

President  
EWI of Honolulu 2010-2011

### EWI® Mission and Vision

#### Mission

Executive Women International is an organization which 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 Be the Leading Connection for Business Professionals.

## CHAPTER BOARD

**Shelley Okubo**, President  
Aqua Hotels & Resorts

**Tracy Wong**, VP/President-elect  
Insurance Solutions LLC

**Ada Iwasaki**, Secretary  
SH Consulting LLC

**Lauralei Tanaka**, Treasurer  
HTH Corporation

**Mary Ann Sullivan**, Sergeant-at-Arms  
Current Affairs

**Pattie Furtado**, Membership Director  
Outrigger Enterprises Group

**Maegan Brandt**, Program Director  
Insurance Solutions LLC

**Miki Hwang**,  
Communications & Marketing Director  
Cowabunga! Computers

**Cathy Iwai**, Ways & Means Director  
Ito Healthcare Group

**Cora Kim**, EWISP Director-at-Large  
Hawaii Prince Hotel Waikiki

## APPOINTED POSITIONS

**Sherilyn Tamayose**, Advisor  
First Hawaiian Bank

**Brenda Kanno**, Bylaws/Parliamentarian  
Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i

**Naomi Amuro**, ASIST Chair  
Aloha United Way

**Fay Kauanoë**, Philanthropy Chair  
Seasons Quest Insurance & Financial Services

## IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
AMEC Earth & Environmental	2
Open Forum Conference	3-4
Important Dates	4
Red, White & Brew	5-7
February Membership Meeting	8-9
Save the Date Golf Tournament	10
Women Who Change the World	10

# AMEC Firm Night

Wednesday, February 9, 2011

*The Need to Be Nimble in a Changing Economic Landscape*



## AMEC Earth & Environmental (AMEC E&E)

EWI Representative **Vernelle McElfresh**

AMEC Earth & Environmental is one of three divisions of AMEC plc, a global engineering and services firm with 23,000 employees worldwide that is traded on the London Stock Exchange. At AMEC, we supply high-value consultancy, engineering, and project management services to the world's natural resources, nuclear, clean energy, water and environmental sectors. We not only design, deliver and maintain some of the most complex assets in the world but also are able to provide localized small scale consultancy to meet the needs of our regional clients. Engineering News Record magazine ranks AMEC as the world's 5<sup>th</sup> leading international design firm in 2010.

AMEC Earth & Environmental's Honolulu office was established in 1989, and maintains a staff with extensive experience providing environmental, engineering and construction management services to federal, state, county, city and commercial clients. Our staff includes engineers, geologists, scientists, certified hazardous materials managers, LEED accredited professionals, construction managers, risk assessors, permitting specialists, auditors, GIS technologists and support personnel. Our local Earth & Environmental staff can draw support from 4,500 employees in 150 offices. To learn more about AMEC, please visit [www.amec.com](http://www.amec.com)

### EWI Executive

**Birte Kersting-Wilson, CHMM**

**Associate/Environmental Group Manager**

Ms. Kersting-Wilson joined AMEC Earth & Environmental's Canadian operations in 1990 after earning degrees in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry. In 2005, she was offered a position in AMEC's Southeastern USA operations. Birte specializes in high-end environmental, health and safety assessment and management services. She has developed environmental management programs for commercial and government clients in Europe, Mexico, Central and South America, as well as throughout North America. She has direct experience with diverse range of clients including government agencies, the armed forces, heavy and light manufacturing, pulp and paper, food processing, mining, power generation, telecommunications and design/build construction. Ms. Kersting-Wilson is a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager and has provided training programs and presentations for several thousand individuals. Birte joined AMEC's Honolulu office in 2009, and is currently the Environmental Group Manager. She can be reached at 808-791-0361 or by email at [birte.kersting-wilson@amec.com](mailto:birte.kersting-wilson@amec.com)



## EWI Open Forum Conference Call Notes

### Thursday, January 6, 2011

1. Chapter Training
  - The Corporate Board has offered various training sessions for specific board directors. So far they have had training for Treasurers, Membership, and Publication for 337 participants. There will be more to come. The next chapter development training webinar is scheduled for B/C/DP directors (EWISP and ASIST) with VP/President-Elect Lisa Stokes on Thursday, January 27, 2011 at 1 p.m. or 7 p.m. EST. That would be 8 a.m. or 2 p.m. Hawaii Time. You will be notified through the corporate eConnect for registration information. In February, the chapter development training webinar will be for Membership. Details to follow in future eConnects.
  - The Professional Development webinar scheduled for Tuesday, January 11, 2011, “Crave Your Goals” will start at 3 p.m. EST, not 4 p.m. EST as stated in the most recent Corporate eConnect. The recording of the webinar can be accessed via the following link:  
[www.myeventpartner.com/WebConference/RecordingDefault.aspx?c\\_psrId=E152DF8989](http://www.myeventpartner.com/WebConference/RecordingDefault.aspx?c_psrId=E152DF8989)
  - The Corporate Board is making an effort to either meet with us in person, or call in to Chapter Board or membership meetings. We are fortunate that Karen Skirten, EWI – Calgary, will be in the islands and will be our guest at our next membership meeting on Wednesday, January 12, 2011.
2. Corporate Website and Database
  - The corporate website as well as the database is currently being updated. Everyone is excited about that and more details will follow.
3. Chapter Website Template
  - The Chapter website template is being revised to make it user friendly. Once the template is finished, it will be able to link directly to the corporate database so when Chapters update their database, it will automatically update the corporate database. The Chapter template will be hosted by Corporate.
4. “My EWI” (Internet social media tool for EWI)
  - My EWI was discussed at LCAM. “My EWI” is an internal social media tool that will enable chapters to “chat” with each other. We will be able to share ideas with other Chapters or all members of EWI. MY EWI will be rolled out to the Presidents and the Corporate Board first and then to membership hopefully by April.
5. Renewal Forms
  - Next week, Corporate will be emailing the electronic renewal forms as discussed on the last chapter development webinar for Presidents and Treasurers. The form has been simplified to just click on the firms who are renewing or not and will calculate automatically. This should simplify the process. **Renewals are due Friday, February 18, 2011 into the Corporate office. Treasurers may email the form and then send the hard copy along with a check to Corporate by February 18, 2011.**
6. Chapter News
  - The Roanoke (Virginia) Chapter is folding due to low renewals/not enough member firms. They have been a chapter for 10 years. It will be a member-at-large, but not an active Chapter.

7. Alumni Summit (Hershey, PA) and Spring Conference (Tulsa, OK)
  - The Alumni Summit in Hershey, PA is scheduled for February 24-26, 2011. The Harrisburg Chapter will be hosting the evening reception on Thursday evening. There will be full day sessions on Friday and Saturday. An email will go out to all Alumni shortly. Registration is \$300.00.
  - The Spring Conference will be held in Tulsa, OK on April 14-16, 2011. Lori Giovannoni of Giovannoni & Associates, EWI of Salt Lake City, will be presenting "Leadership Experience".
8. LCAM 2012
  - The exciting news was that Dallas, Texas has been selected for the 2012 LCAM. Lynne Shaffer, EWI Executive Director and Sharon Bennett of Lifetouch, Corporate President and EWI of Cincinnati/N. Kentucky are meeting with two hotels to establish a special room rate for participants. The two airlines that are in Dallas are American and Southwest Airlines. The 2012 LCAM will be in early September. They are looking at the week of September 8th vs. late September. More details to follow.
9. LCAM 2011
  - As you know the 2011 LCAM will be held in the Twin Cities, Minneapolis, Minnesota. There will be a special room rate for participants. Details to follow in the coming months.

### Important Dates

- February 5: Bingo Game Day 10:00am at Pearl City Nursing Home
- February 9: Membership dinner meeting 5:30pm at Cupola, Honolulu Design Center
- February 23: Board of Directors meeting 5:30pm at Insurance Solutions
- March 9: Membership dinner meeting 5:30pm



### Happy Birthday!

Miki Hwang	Feb 3
Naomi Amuro	Feb 24

# Red, White & Brew

EWI of Honolulu partnered with Hawaii Literacy to hold its first wine tasting fundraiser on November 10, 2010 at the beautiful and newly renovated Plaza Club downtown.

There was an interesting selection of wines, craft beers, and sakes being offered for tasting by JMD Beverages (including Look Me in the Eye by Lanai), Mehana Brewing Company, Anheuser Busch, Barefoot Wine & Bubbly, Better Brands, Johnson Brothers Liquor Company, and the Sake Shop. The Plaza Club also prepared a delectable pūpū buffet for the attendees to graze on.

The evening started out with a warm welcome by President Shelley Okubo, and Hawaii Literacy's President, R. Scott Simon. Local TV and radio personality, Lanai Tabura, was the lively master of ceremonies for the evening and Glenn Wong provided soft contemporary background music for the event. There was even a Chinese fortune teller, Marion Yuen, who interpreted I-ching sticks.

There were over 50 silent auction items offered for sale ranging from jewelry and artwork to fine wines and accommodations at fabulous hotels and resorts such as the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel, Castaway Island Hotel in Fiji, Hāpuna Beach Prince Hotel, and the Hawai'i Prince Hotel Waikiki. Guests commented on the variety of items that were offered and the affordable prices. Throughout the evening, Lanai called out the lucky number drawings. The grand prize was a night stay in a deluxe ocean view room at the new Waikiki Edition Hotel.

All who attended enjoyed the food, wines, sakes and craft beers, not to mention the festive atmosphere and excellent networking opportunities.

Thank you 2009-2010 Board, EWI member firms, fellow representatives and their executives for your continued support of EWI's scholarship programs!



Marion Yuen, Fay Kauanoë, Lanai Tabura and Tessa Ahsing

# Red, White & Brew



Naomi Amuro and JoAnn Okawa chatting with vendors from Better Brands



Lauralei Tanaka and Adele Tsukamoto collecting monies for the silent auction



Happy 45th Anniversary EWI of Honolulu!



Lillian Lee and Chinese fortune teller, Marion Yuen



Vendors from Anheuser-Busch

# Red, White & Brew



MC Lanai Tabura calling lucky numbers



Glenn Wong provided the music



Julie and Anton Krucky



Julie Loo and Dulce Sanders



Jennifer Shiraki, Allen Uyeda, Tracy Wong and John Shigenaga



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

**Executive Women International®  
Honolulu Chapter Membership Meeting  
Wednesday, February 9, 2011**

**Please join us at our February meeting as we feature  
AMEC's Firm Night!**



**HONOLULU DESIGN CENTER  
1250 Kapiolani Blvd., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

**5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Networking & Registration  
6:00 p.m. Dinner & Presentation**

**Heavy Pupu Menu**

*~ Quesadillas ~ Kalbi Beef Skewers ~ Vegetable Spring Rolls  
~ Chicken Skewers ~ Asian Seafood Skewers ~ Mini Flat Bread  
Pizza ~ Assorted Vegetables ~ Fried Rice ~ Dessert Platters ~*

**Cost: \$38 per person  
Free parking**

**Please R.S.V.P. if you will NOT be attending or if you are bringing a guest to Mary Ann Sullivan by noon, Wednesday, February 2, 2011 via e-mail to [maryann@current-affairs.net](mailto:maryann@current-affairs.net) or call 808-732-9666 ext. 222.**

**A standing reservation is made for every representative at all EWI monthly meetings. It is your responsibility to inform the Sergeant-At-Arms by email or telephone by the RSVP deadline if you are not able to attend. You will be billed for any missed meetings unless prior notice is received.**



## **Directions to Cupola Theater:**

### **How to Find Us**

We are located at 1250 Kapiolani Blvd. on the second floor of the Honolulu Design Center. This contemporary (orange) building is between Pensacola & Piikoi St.

### **Parking**

The Honolulu Design Center main parking entrance is located on Piikoi St.

Take the first left turn after crossing Kapiolani Blvd. A secondary entrance to the parking structure is available on Pensacola St.

The parking entrance is located on the left, last driveway before Kapiolani Blvd.

Pensacola St. may be closed without prior notice due to special parking arrangements for large events.

Additional parking is available at the Blackfield Building (1221 Kapiolani Blvd) located directly across from the Honolulu Design Center. The parking garage entrance is on Kapiolani Blvd. Cost is \$5 with HDC validation stamp.



## Women Who Change the World

There are women who make things better...simply by showing up.

There are women who make things happen.

There are women who make their way.

There are women who make a difference.

And women who make us smile.

There are women of wit and wisdom who,  
through strength and courage, make it through.

There are women who change the world every day...women like you.

*Ashley Rice*