



August 2026 PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Greetings EWI of Omaha,

As we move into a busy and exciting fall season, I want to take a moment to celebrate the tremendous success of our Executive Night Dollars for Scholars Fundraiser held on August 26.

With 110 registered attendees, the event was a resounding success, raising just under \$24,000 for our ASIST scholarship program. More importantly, it was a wonderful evening that was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone in attendance. One of the highlights of the night was hearing from Alayshia White, a two-time ASIST Scholarship recipient, who shared her personal story and the impact the ASIST program has had on her educational journey. Her heartfelt remarks were a powerful reminder of why we do what we do and the difference our support makes in the lives of deserving students.

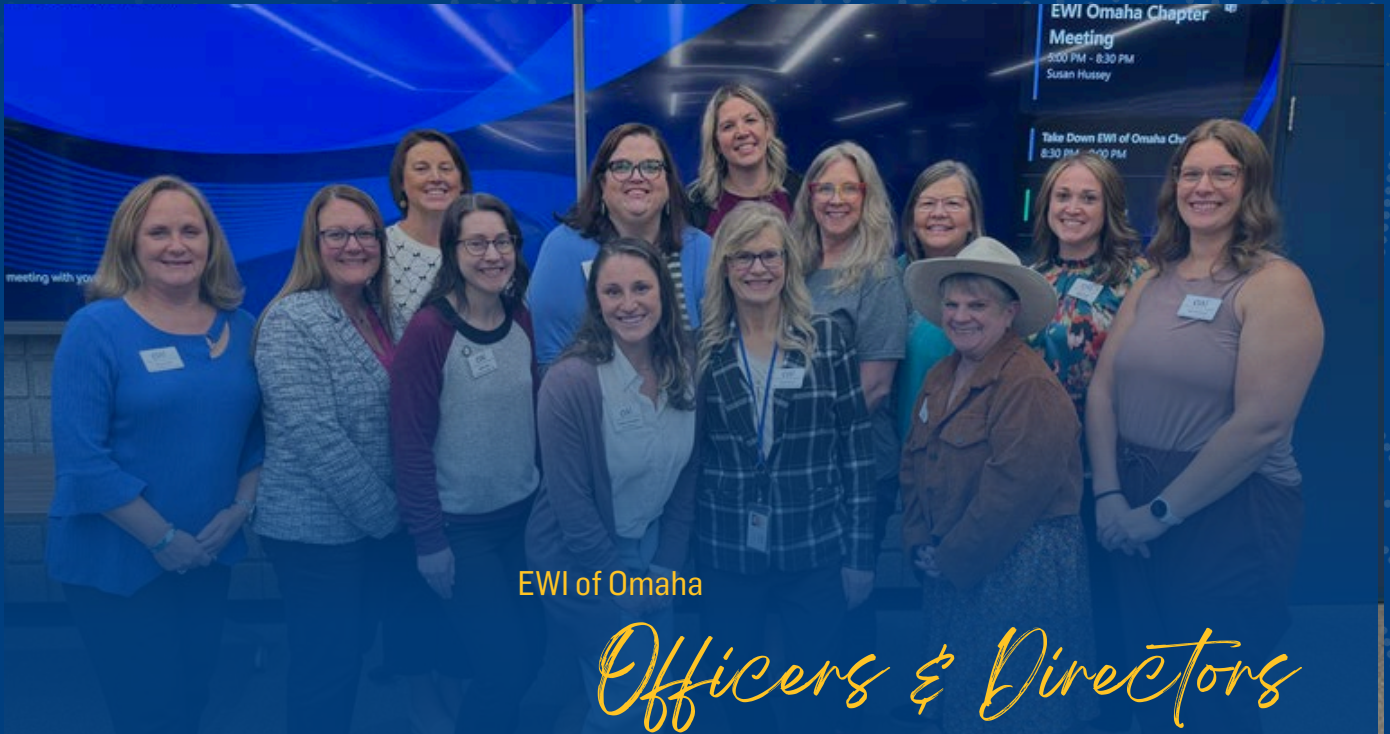
A huge thank you goes to Amy Bodenner and the Ways & Means committee for their hard work in planning and executing such a successful event. Thank you as well to our member firms and representatives for their generous support through sponsorships, donations of silent auction baskets, and raffle items. We are also grateful to everyone who participated in the silent auction, purchased raffle tickets, and placed bids throughout the evening. Your generosity and enthusiasm helped make this event a tremendous success. What a win for our scholarship program!

Next on the horizon is LCAM in Mobile, Alabama. I am proud to share that our chapter will be represented by 13 members at this year's conference. Even more exciting, Sandy Spady and Amy Bodenner will be presenting as conference workshop speakers! What a wonderful recognition of their expertise, leadership, and commitment to our profession. Please join me in congratulating them and wishing all of our attendees a rewarding and successful conference experience.

Looking ahead to September, we will gather for our 2026-2027 Board Installation Program and Business Meeting at Dvorak Law Group. This is an important evening as we install Amy Ayer and her board. Please plan to attend, as it is also our Chapter Business Meeting and will require a quorum. I hope all of you are able to join us to support our incoming leadership and help ensure we can successfully carry out the business of our chapter.

Thank you for your continued support, dedication, and commitment to our chapter. I look forward to seeing many of you in Mobile and at the September Chapter meeting.

Warmest regards,
Susan Hussey
2025-2026 Chapter President



President

Susan Hussey – Dvorak Law Group
shussey@ddlawgroup.com

Secretary

Pam Yenke – Access Bank
pyenke@accessbank.com

Sergeant-At-Arms

Alisha Nash – Pinnacle Bank
alisha.nash@pinnbank.com

Program Director

Natalie Kotrc – Elegant Edge Events
natalie.kotrc@yahoo.com

Communications Director

Lindsay Christiansen – Green Plains Inc.
lindsay.christiansen@gpreinc.com

Board Advisor

Molly Murphy – Omaha Steaks
mollym@omahasteaks.com

President-Elect

Amy Ayer – Dvorak Law Group
aayer@ddlawgroup.com

Treasurer

Angie Peters – Bankers Trust Company
apeters@bankerstrust.com

Retention & Recruitment Director

Kristen Cummings – Talking Rain
kcummings@talkingrain.com

Ways & Means Director

Amy Bodenner – Sunflower Advisors
amy@sunfloweradvisors.com

Director At-Large

Sharon Mize – Suzanne & Walter Scott Foundation
smize@swscottfdn.org

Parliamentarian

Hilary Allen – Bland & Associates, PC
hallen@blandgovconsulting.com

Chapter News



Don't forget to get your EWI
Swag before midnight on
September 30th !

Members, use your first initial +last
name to receive your \$50 discount

[CLICK HERE](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

16 **LCAM**

23 **Chapter Meeting**
5:30pm

Happy
Birthdays

Wish You All The Best

September 11 - Molly Murphy
September 15 - Angie Peters
September 20 - Lori Mitera
September 21 - Amy Bodenner



Follow Us On
SOCIAL MEDIA

www.facebook.com/ewiomaha
www.instagram.com/ewiomaha
www.linkedin.com/company/ewi-of-omaha

Help raise funds for EWI of
Omaha by buying gift cards
from 750+ brands!

[Click here to learn more!](#)



RaiseRight.

LCAM Speaker Spotlight



Sandy Spady

The Power of Your Voice: Finding Confidence Through Public Speaking

Your voice is one of the most powerful tools you have, especially when it comes to leadership, communication, and sharing your expertise. This presentation goes beyond simply learning how to present or facilitate a meeting. It's about discovering the confidence to communicate your information in a way that connects, inspires, and makes an impact. When you know your message, understand your value, and learn to use your voice with confidence, people don't just hear your words, they hear your passion, knowledge, and leadership. Public speaking isn't about being perfect; it's about having the courage to step forward, share what you know, tell your story, and let your voice be heard.

LCAM Speaker Spotlight



Amy Bodenner

Have you ever walked away from a conversation thinking, Well...that did not go the way I thought it would? Or caught yourself halfway through someone talking and realized you weren't actually listening...you were busy preparing your brilliant response? Yep! Me too!

We spend so much time learning how to communicate well, but very little time learning how to listen well. And if we are being really truthful, some of what was modeled for us probably wasn't all that great either. That is what we will dig into during my LCAM session, *The Listening Advantage: A Leadership Skill That Changes Conversation*. We will take an honest and hopefully pretty funny look at some of the habits that get in our way: fixing when no one asked us to fix, defending before we have really heard what was said, making assumptions, dismissing feelings, jumping to conclusions, and my personal favorite...turning someone else's story into our opportunity to tell an even better one. But this isn't a session about pointing out everything we are doing wrong. It is about realizing that once we know better, we can choose differently. We will practice simple, practical ways to slow down, get curious, ask better questions, and listen to understand instead of just waiting for our turn to talk.

My hope is that you leave LCAM noticing conversations differently. That you will catch yourself in an old habit and think, Wait. I can do this differently. Because becoming a better listener doesn't just make us better professionals or better leaders. It makes us better friends, partners, parents, coworkers...and humans. When we change the way we listen, we don't just change conversations. We change relationships.

See ya there!

CHAPTER EVENTS

DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS EXECUTIVE NIGHT

What a night! Trivia, 50/50 Games, Prizes, Silent Auctions, (and lots of spirits)! We hope those of you who were able to attend enjoyed our Annual Executive Night and Fundraiser. With your attendance and donations we collected just under \$24,000 for our ASIST Scholarship Program! You have helped make a lasting impact and we could not have done it without you.

Not able to attend but would still like to contribute? Use the QR codes!



ASIST DONATION



DAR VAUBLE DONATION



↪ Scan or click

CHAPTER EVENTS

Darlis Vauble Fundraiser Vino Mas Wine Tasting

October 22nd - 5-8pm

\$20/tasting

Bring your friends, family and acquaintances!
Tasting and Sales will contribute toward fundraising goal



EWI SEPTEMBER CHAPTER MEETING

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

2026/2027 Installation of Officers & Business Meeting

Please join us at
Dvorak Law Group
9500 West Dodge Road
Cottonwood A & B

2026/2027 Focusing on Positivity, Growth and Prosperity

the Spider Plant invites:

Positivity: Clears negative energy and brings fresh, harmonious vibes to a space/environment

Growth and new beginnings: Symbolizes resilience, health, and fresh starts

Prosperity: invites abundance

5:30PM – Registration/Networking

6:00PM – Introductions, Inspiration & Dinner

6:30PM – Board Installation Ceremony,
Business Meeting (Quorum needed)

\$30.00 per person

RSVP by **Thursday, September 17th**

EWI of Omaha Representatives,

Please join us for the
September Chapter Business
Meeting and Installation of
Officers!

As with all Business Meetings,
we must have a quorum.

If you have any questions,
please feel free to reach out
to a current board member.

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS



Green Plains Inc.
Celebrates 20 Years
as a Publicly Traded
Company and Rings
the Nasdaq Opening
Bell

Dvorak Law Group

is collecting gently used coats and winter items plus new socks for Society of St. Vincent De Paul. Please bring any donations to the September meeting or connect with Susan Hussey and/or Amy Ayer!



Corporate News



LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE & ANNUAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 16-19, 2026 | MOBILE, AL

SEPTEMBER

CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT WEBINAR SERIES



90 DAYS. ONE GOAL. REAL SUPPORT.

Mondays Starting September 28, 2026 | 10:00 AM CT

Tia Scott, Growth and Engagement Corporate Committee

[Register Here](#)

ONGOING

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEBINAR SERIES



The Happiest of Hours with EWI: A Different Kind of Happy Hour

The Last Friday of the Month Through November 2026 | 06:00 PM CT

Lesley Cornathan, EWI Corporate's Growth and Engagement Director

Guest: Francesca Reyes, Marketing Major at The Ohio State University

Corporate News

**90 Days.
One Goal.
Real Support.**



What could change if you gave one meaningful goal your focused attention for the next 90 days?



YOU CHOOSE YOUR GOAL



Personal



Business



EWI

Boards and Committees are welcome to participate together on a shared Chapter goal.

WHAT YOU'LL EXPERIENCE

- ✓ Kickoff goal-setting webinar
- ✓ Weekly accountability
- ✓ Coaching when you get stuck
- ✓ Connection with fellow EWI members



G.E.M. 90-Day Goal Series

Mondays | September 28 – December 21

11:00 am ET / 10:00 am CT



Attend the first session to set your goal, then join the weekly calls as needed for accountability, coaching, or Q&A.



REGISTER AT [EWICONNECT.COM](https://ewiconnect.com)

*Your next 90 days are going to happen anyway.
What would you love to be able to say you moved forward?*



Member Firms and Representatives

A View Venues – Brooke Johnsen
Access Bank – Pam Yenke
Agile Mindfulness – Nora Plambeck
Bankers Trust Company – Angie Peters
Bland & Associates, PC – Hilary Allen, Diana Busche
Borsheims – Chris Buckingham
Burlington Capital – Jordan Stocking
Doubletree Downtown Omaha – Sara Freeman
Dvorak Law Group – Amy Ayer, Susan Hussey
Elegant Edge Events – Natalie Kotrc
Green Plains Inc. – Lindsay Christiansen
HDR – Denise Beideck
Hemphill Search Group – Susie Hemphill
Hyatt Omaha – Trish Bauermeister
Lund Company, The – Jessica Diamond, Jonna Radtke
Marriott Downtown at the Capitol District – Maggie Rasmussen
McFarlin & Brokke, P.C. – Melissa Travis
Midlands Business Journal – Andee Hoig
MK Swan, Inc. – Melissa Swan
Omaha Steaks – Kristin Gochenour, Molly Murphy, Stephanie Skavdahl
Outlook Collaborative – Lori Mitera, Susanne Waltermeyer

Partnership 4 Kids – Open
Party Bar, The – Jodi Carper
Pinnacle Bank – Alisha Nash, Christina Dizona
Power UP Leadership Coaching – Sandy Spady
Standard Heating & Air – Jody DuRee
Sunflower Advisors – Amy Bodenner
Suzanne & Walter Scott Foundation – Sharon Mize
Talking Rain – Kristen Cummings
Thrivent – Open
United Republic Bank – Anne Riley
Venue 1883 – Brenda Ulven

Individual Members – Cindy Brickey, Reem Rawashdeh, Sarah Madsen

Member in Transition – Amber Stroh
Sustaining Members- Stacie Robertson, Jane Heath

Life Members – Jane Allamong, Carol Armstrong, Patty Bain, Cathy Bodammer, Sue Burkhard, Loy Flanagan, Lenore Honke, Sally Komrofske, Cheryl McCall, Patty McElderry, Ellie Morrow, Janet Schawang, Ruth Utman