


 iwil

 Illinois women
in leadership

together we will

IWIL CALENDAR 2006

FEBRUARY

Date: Tuesday, February 7
Time: 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Location: Panther Creek
Program: IWIL New Member
 Valentine Chocolate
 Fondue Social

Date: Thursday, February 16
Time: Breakfast (7:30 a.m.)
Location: Sangamo Club
Program: "Soaring to New Heights
 – Springfield at 20,000
 Feet" with Gary
 Plummer, President &
 CEO, Greater Springfield
 Chamber of Commerce

MARCH

Date: Thursday, March 16
Time: 5:15 – 6:55 p.m.
Location: Inn at 835
Program: "Soaring to New
 Heights by Dancing
 the Sister Twist" with
 Ann Leach, co-author of
*Goal Sisters: Live the Life
 You Want with a Little
 Help from Your Friends!*
 Hors d'oeuvres will be
 served.

APRIL

Date: Thursday, April 20
Time: Breakfast (7:30 a.m.)
Location: Sangamo Club
Program: Scholarship and GEM
 Awards

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Courage and Perseverance

Val Yazell, IWIL President

Join us at the Sangamo Club this month for our meeting on February 16th. We have many exciting events coming up so be sure to get them on your calendar. You can always find out anything you need to know by checking the Web site at www.iwil.biz.

This month we will host the New Member Reception and if you haven't heard, we are having it at Panther Creek on Tuesday, February 7th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Now the best part is that it is a chocolate fondue social and includes one drink ticket. Does **Susan Wilcockson**, IWIL Membership Chair, know the membership or what? Nice choice! We have also decided that we will combine this social with the After Hours with the Board. Please join us and get to know other members of the organization. In April, we will return to the Inn at 835 for After Hours with the Board on Jazz night, Thursday the 13th.

The IWIL directories are completed and everyone should have received their copy in the mail. A big THANK YOU to **Mary Kay Allison**, chair of the Directory Committee for all her hard work. If you have not received your copy, please let Mary Kay know at mka4131@yahoo.com. Also, please remember that the most up-to-date information can be found on the Web site under the Members Only section.

Courage and perseverance are the two words that I would like you to think about this month. Our speaker last month, Lisa Schmidt, showed us what those two words meant to her when she told her story. Courage is not just about doing something extraordinary. Some days, it is just about making it through one more day. Look at yourself and see the courage you display each and every day.

Welcome New IWIL Member!

Please welcome our new member who officially joined Illinois Women in Leadership this past December.

Susan Boehler

Director of Advising and Registration
 Springfield College in Illinois

DIRECTORY UPDATES CORRECTIONS AND UPDATES AVAILABLE ONLINE

Please remember to contact us at info@iwil.biz with any changes to your contact information listed in the IWIL Membership Directory. Each month, we will try to inform you of changes by directing you to the Web site (for security reasons). Keeping a current database is a challenge and we need your help. A mistake was made in the Directory under **Janice Hahn's** name. Her employment is at Renaissance Architects, Inc. and not Richardson Manufacturing Company. Please update your directory accordingly.

YOU GO GIRLS! CENSUS REPORTS WOMEN- OWNED BIZ UP 20 PERCENT

The number of women-owned businesses grew 20 percent between 1997 and 2002, twice the national average for all businesses, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's new "2002 Survey of Business Owners: Women-Owned Firms." The nearly 6.5 million businesses generated more than \$940 billion in revenue, up 15 percent from 1997. States with the highest number of women-owned firms were Los Angeles, Cal.; Cook County, Ill.; Miami-Dade County, Fla.; New York County, NY; and Harris County, Texas. Learn more at www.census.gov.

IWIL CREDO

"I WILL...make things happen, promote professionalism, seek educational opportunities, mentor, participate, encourage others, climb the ladder, empower others, educate the world, make a difference, do more than my part, provide the initiative, take action, implement ideas, be involved in the process, give back to the community, and leave a legacy."

IWIL NEWS

Calling All Women Who've Said "I WILL" "Dream the Dream" Takes Place May 3rd

IWIL presents "Dream the Dream" at Southeast High School on May 3rd for freshman and sophomore girls (and their family members) who seek information and guidance about potential careers. MAKE YOUR CAREER ONE OF THEM! The Mentoring SIG is coordinating the event. We have room for up to 30 tables the young women will visit at the end of the school day. It's a great opportunity to reach out, to give back, to explain why you have the greatest job in the world and how you prepared for it. Plus there will be other special events at the opening presentation and the close. If that's not enough, the girls can win prizes!

Be part of this once-a-year opportunity to do a little mentoring on your own. We hope to have 30 different professions represented! Details about table/display space are available from **Sharon Theison** or **Kate Hein**. **Nora Sansone Hoover** is the In-Charge of the event. See your new directory for contact information, please. — *Kate Hein, IWIL Programs Chair*

Illinois Women in Leadership Expands Scholarship Program

Chrysalis Scholarship benefits women returning to school

IWIL continues to offer a college scholarship program for high school seniors with funds raised by member donations. Each year three \$1,000 high school scholarships are awarded with additional awards presented as available. In 2005, nine high school seniors received scholarship assistance totaling over \$4,000 in the pursuit of their dreams.

Now IWIL is expanding the scholarship program and has developed an additional gift for the woman returning to school. This award is called the IWIL Chrysalis Scholarship, representing a woman who is evolving and transforming her life.

Scholarship chair **Diane Hillard-Sembell, M.D.**, says: "Our goal is to award an additional scholarship of at least \$1,000 to women who for a variety of reasons did not pursue a college education in the 'traditional' path; that is did not go to college directly out of high school."

This award will be available to any mature woman who is either returning to or entering college for the first time to pursue a first baccalaureate degree. (The scholarship is not intended for advanced degrees.) IWIL members and their immediate relatives are not eligible to receive this award. IWIL hopes that the Springfield business community will embrace this scholarship since this is another means to improve our community by helping others help themselves. In addition to funds from the IWIL membership donations, local businesses may be contacted for donations to this scholarship. If businesses would like to contribute they may mail their donations to "IWIL Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 5612, Springfield, Illinois 62705."

Questions relating to the scholarship may be sent to info@iwil.biz, and further information and scholarship applications can be obtained from the Website www.iwil.biz, under Resources, scroll down to Scholarships.

— *Dr. Diane Hillard-Sembell, IWIL Scholarship Chair*

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

Want to network more with other IWIL members by sharing a more personal side of yourself?

Volunteers have started small special interest groups (SIGs) that meet outside the time constraints of our monthly meetings. If you want to join or start a group, contact **Rachel Broughton** at 793-0262.

Book Club

Val Yazell, 546-3860
See IWIL online calendar for schedule and current reading selection.

Gardening

JoAnn Abrams, 546-2249
e-mail jabrams@rmc-bigenc.com

Golf

Rachel Broughton, 793-0262

Gourmet

Susan Wilcockson, 483-2774

Hiking

Viv Bennett, 622-8976
e-mail viv@springnet1.com

Scrapbooking

Julie Krehbiel, 546-6112 (work) or
546-0576 (home)

Support Group for Members with Aging Parents - LOVE

Marianne Jackson, 498-8962

The Underwires

Kate Hein, 498-8077
e-mail hein535@springnet1.com

Watercolor Painting

Shirley Caldwell Smith, 529-6959
e-mail caldwellsmith@sbcglobal.net

"Thank you to the many IWIL members who called, sent a card, visited and extended sympathy to me at the death of my dad." - Kate Hein

IWIL NEWS AND RESOURCES

GEM Awards Set for April 20

Nominations were submitted in January

Applications will be sent in February to those nominated for the IWIL GEM Awards. The awards honor three women who have demonstrated extraordinary standards of professional excellence, vision and dedication within the business arena and community. Link to www.iwil.biz, Communications, to read about the 2004-2005 GEM recipients.



Come Welcome IWIL'S 32

New Members! All IWIL are invited to join us for a New Member Valentine Chocolate Fondue Reception on Tuesday, February 7, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at Panther Creek Country Club. New members are free! The \$10 reservation for all other members is due by February 3; walk-ins, \$20 at the door. Price includes one drink ticket. You can find a registration form at www.iwil.biz, Calendar & Activities.

Something to Talk About

Did you see IWIL in the *Springfield Scene Magazine*? The January-February 2006 issue showcased 10 photos from the IWIL Holiday Social and highlighted IWIL's scholarship program for women.

Kate Hein says mark your calendar for the **Rochester Public Library Annual Book Sale** on March 4, 2006. Doors open promptly at 9 a.m. No limits. Load up on good books priced to sell!

JoAnn Abrams is pleased to share her success representing "**Private Quarters**," the only Party Plan selling high-end, quality luxury linens for bed and bath. Call JoAnn at 546-2249.

Come to **Sparc's Sugar and Spice Chili Supper** on Saturday, February 11, noon to 6 p.m. at Sacred Heart Griffin West Campus.

Paula Ryan of **Ryan Homes and Development** announces the 2006 Showcase of Homes will be held in their development, Centennial Park, this June. If anyone is interested in building a new home, this is the time to do it! You would get thousands of dollars of upgrades, an original plan designed by architect John Shafer and work with a decorator for free! Contact Paula at 523-3976 or visit www.centennialparkplace.com.

Rogers HR Consulting—which services primarily small to medium-sized businesses with all their human resources needs—is celebrating five years in business this month. New logo and Web site at www.rogershr.com are among the special changes. Also a quarterly drawing for all referrals who turn into paid clients. You could win \$50 gift certificates to shop or dine.

Patti Roseboom of **MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company** placed in the top 300 Agents Circle from Mega's over 3,000 agents in 2005. Patti is excited about the three new plans Mega is offering this year for individuals and families to also include Small Employer Group plans! Call Patti at 793-7211.

("Something to Talk About" continues on page 4)

P.O. Box 5612
Springfield, IL 62705-5612
info@iwil.biz
www.iwil.biz

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President - Val Yazell

Immediate Past President -

Kathleen Stevens

President Elect - Rachel Broughton

Secretary - JoDeen Roley

Treasurer - Sally Quinn

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Communications - Ann Londrigan

Directory - Mary Kay Allison

Hospitality - Annette Piper

Membership - Susan Wilcockson

Mentoring - Karen Westbrook

Program - Kate Hein

Public Relations - Cheryl Snyder

Registration/Nametags -

Sally Sevenser

Scholarship - Diane Hillard-Sembell

Website - Stephanie Sapetti

Newsletter design by IWIL member
Sharon Hewitt, Hewitt Graphic Design



"Soaring to New Heights"

Send your **IWIL news** to
info@iwil.biz!

If you wish to opt-out of future e-mail communications, please let us know by sending a message to info@iwil.biz and you will be added to the snail mail list.

SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT continued

Resource One Office Furnishings and Design is the distribution partner for DIRT moveable floor-to-ceiling walls for the state of Illinois, south of Chicago. "Doing It Right This Time" (DIRTT) is manufactured in Calgary, Canada. Its agile architectural solutions are built on the philosophy of combining simplicity, self-expression, and sustainability. Resource One will be installing a fabulous DIRT conference room this spring. Come see the latest in flexible corporate environments.

Don't forget the **Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce's** annual Business Connections, a trade show on Thursday, March 30, at the Prairie Capitol Convention Center. Exhibitors, food, and networking from morning til night! For info on exhibiting or advertising in the "Official Guide to Business Connections" in the State Journal-Register on March 28, contact **Adrienne Schwartz**, 525-1173.

Sally Sevenser, owner of **Sally's Organizing Service** wants to let you know she will be glad to help you honor your New Year's resolution to become better organized. It is an easy goal to accomplish and will make for less stress in your life. And, remember, there is no better time to get organized than to get organized now! Call Sally at 741-0433.

Linda Castor, a counselor and registered nurse, announces that she now takes health insurance to make sessions affordable for weight loss or any other issues. In addition, she is offering a special 50 percent discount to any IWIL members who would like to start losing weight and learn how to keep it off. For more information, contact Linda Castor at 544-0388.

Tiffany Beane is a portrait artist who specializes in portraits of people and animals and offers photography and art classes. She was a recipient of the 2005 Mayoral Rosie Richmond artist award and will be featured in an Australia pet magazine "Unborn Animal" this February.

The **Springfield Chapter of NAWBO** invites you to Step Up To The Plate! - A landmark rally Wednesday, February 8, 2006, hosted by the Chicago, Peoria and Springfield chapters. Attending Step Up to the Plate is a chance for you to proactively affect policy and make a difference in your business. A Rally will be held at the North Hall of the Capitol Rotunda from 9-11:30 a.m. in Springfield. A luncheon with Illinois legislators at the Inn at 835 will be held from noon-2 p.m. (835 S. Second Street). Ticket prices are \$50. You may order tickets by calling 753-6100.

Pay to Say forms can be found on the IWIL Website, www.iwil.biz, Resource Center. The cost is \$1 with a limit of two per IWIL meeting. Or email your Pay to Say to info@iwil.biz. Please stick to the basics and keep it brief!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

NEXT IWIL PROGRAM

When: 7:30 a.m., Thursday, February 16, 2006

Where: Sangamo Club, 227 East Adams, Springfield

Topic: "Soaring to New Heights – Springfield at 20,000 Feet"

Speaker: **Gary Plummer, President & CEO, Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce**

Gary Plummer, the new "In Charge" at the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, uprooted from California, talks in general about taking the same job to several different communities and making it a success but also specifically about what he has in mind for our area!

Cost: \$14 Members, \$15 Guests, \$20 at the door

Reservation forms can be found on the IWIL Website, www.iwil.biz, Calendar & Activities. A link to the form was included in this e-newsletter.