

# Women in Leadership

Peoria Chapter

March 2007

## A Note from Your President

I don't know about you, but I went straight home (after a long afternoon at work of course) and starting looking my house over, room by room! I found several things I could easily change that would really freshen it up. Needless to say a lot of it was just getting rid of piles of stuff that I had just grown used to seeing.

Michelle Miller from "Inspired Redesign" did a great job and I'm seriously thinking of a color consultation.

I am so proud of everyone for remembering we were at WeaverRidge! Good thing Deb Sippel and I drove together because I was heading for the Country Club when Deb

asked me where we were going.

We're back to the Country Club of Peoria on March 8th (another early meeting) so please make sure you have the date on your calendar.

Joan and her committee have sure secured some wonderful speakers this year and next month will be no exception! Craig Hellinger from the Peoria EDC will be speaking on the "Warehouse District". I think this is all fascinating and am really looking forward to seeing what Craig has to say.

Please keep inviting guests - we love having them and sure hope they enjoy our meetings and join WIL. It's also

great to see so many coming early and enjoying our networking time!

It'll be March before we know it - looking forward to seeing you all (and your guests!) at our March 8th meeting at the Country Club of Peoria. Just a few short days after (March 11) we go on daylight savings time! Spring is just around the corner!

Emma Vandevener  
WIL President  
2006-2007

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## Next Meeting: March 8 at Country Club of Peoria

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 8, at the Country Club of Peoria.

Meal: Grilled Chicken (Sandwich)  
French Fries  
Tiramisu

*It is our pleasure to have Craig Harlan Hullinger, the Economic Development Director of the City of Peoria, as our speaker this month. He has over thirty*

*years of experience in planning and economic development.*

*He has led the economic development of several communities, developing and implementing industrial and commercial expansion. He also has planned the redevelopment of the downtowns for Frankfort and Tinley Park. Craig recently worked for FEMA, leading the economic revitalization of Utica, Illinois following severe damage from a*

*tornado.*

*Craig is married to Beth Ruyle; they have two children, Leigh Ann and Bret.*

Please be sure to RSVP to Marcia Cannon (mcannon@westaff.com) no later than Monday, March 5, to reserve your place.

Also if you purchased a season pass and will not be able to attend the meeting, please let Marcia know.

### Special Reminders:

- Be sure to arrive around 11:30 for 30 minutes of networking with your peers.
- WIL Award Application deadline: March 31!
- Next WIL Meeting: April 12, 2007

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## Welcome New Members and Member Renewals

Please join us in welcoming the following new members to WIL:

- Cindy Hermann of Commerce Bank
- Tracy Jackson of the Peoria Chiefs

## WIL Leader Luncheon Schedule

The following network luncheons are scheduled for March. If you have not been contacted to be a part of a network luncheon group, please email Betsy Yarcho at [byarcho@heiserinsurance.com](mailto:byarcho@heiserinsurance.com) or call (309)266-2117.

We encourage our members to attend any luncheon that they can,

not just for their assigned group!

*Mary Jane Johnson & Linda Martin* – Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at noon at Jonah's

*Cathy Thomatis* – Wednesday, March 28th @ 11:45 at Red Lobster

*Shawna Knapp* – Friday, March 2nd @ noon at

Rhythm Kitchen

*Beth Kolowski* – Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at noon at Beef O'Brady's in West Lake

*Sue Ann Billmack* – Thursday, March 15th @ noon at Antonios (formerly Lindsay's on Liberty)

## Happy Birthday to ALL Members with a February Birthday!

Thank you to Shelli Cowser, Henneman Engineering, Inc. for her generous donation of the following birthday auction item. We raised a total of **\$60.00** to be used for scholarships.

Basket with Lindt Truffles, Ghirardelli Chocolate Squares, Premier Designs Necklace and a bottle of Leaping Lizard

Cabernet Wine ~  
*purchased by Becky Davies, Mary Kay Cosmetics for \$60.00.*

## Next Meeting (cont'd from page 1)

We look forward to seeing each of you at our meeting on March 8 at the Country Club of Peoria.

\*If you haven't already done so, please see Allison Vershaw to pick up your 2006-2007 WIL directory.\*

## February Door Prizes

Lisa Saunders – EDR Lamas – Alpaca Fiber Valentine Bear  
 Carolynsue Wolf – ICC & Bethel Church – Valentine Mug with Candy  
 Debbie Sippel & Emma Vandever- South Side Bank – Ice Scrapers  
 Kathy Schaeffer - Stellar Systems – Necklace  
 Jeanne Buysee - American Family – Atlas  
 Dina Emser – Professional Development Coach - free 30 Minute Sessions  
 Diane Davis – Traders Realty – Mini Rose Plant



## WIL Awards NOW Available

There is still time to complete your application for the WIL Awards. Application deadline is **March 31, 2007**.

### *Award Categories:*

- ~Career Leader award
- ~Community Leader Award
- ~Woman Leader of the Year award

Contact Brenda Coates with questions @ 677-7306.

## Upcoming Event

### Wine 101 Wine Pairing with Food

Confused about which wines to serve with which foods? From the Field will be teaming up with local wine expert Jim Benckendorf to help you cut through the mystery. Jim will discuss various types of wines & which foods & courses they go best with. Then we get to taste the food & the wine together. This is sure to be a fun & informative evening!



*Come join us Tuesday, March 20  
 6-9 pm 2029 S. Main Street, Morton  
 Cost \$30.00*

*Space is limited so join the fun.. RSVP to Amy  
 apearson@hotelperemarquette.com by 3/16/2007*

## WIL Value Corner

If you are looking to sell, purchase, or even give away an item once treasured, please be sure to submit your item to Allison (avershaw@premierhealthcare.biz) to be placed in the monthly newsletter.

- **Black Silvertone Electric Guitar with Fender Bag,** green strap and tuner. Please call Cynthia at 256-4175.
- **Girl Scout Cookies:** Girl Scouts cookie delivery is presently occurring until March 1 to those who pre-ordered. If you were unable to order cookies from a Girl Scout in your community, they may be purchased at the Girl Scout Council Office, 1103 W. Lake Ave., Peoria. The council office is open Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., and Fridays 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

***You Can't Beat These Deals!***

A special thank you to Brenda Coates and Shawna Knapp for greeting each guest and member at the February luncheon!

## Personal Praise Moments

**Marcia Cannon:** *"Our (MY!) branch was named the Greater Midwest Regional Branch of the Year for Westaff. We also won a company-wide sales contest, Rocket to Profit, in January."*