

Hill Country Women in Business



May 2005 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

Thursday, May 5, 2005
HCWIB Board Meeting
The Huckabay Agency
Allstate Insurance
1411 S. Main Street
Boerne, TX 78006
830-249-2987
12:30 p.m.
BYO lunch

Thursday, May 12, 2005
HCWIB General Meeting
MorRi Do Tae Kwon Do
1414 E. Blanco Rd, Suite 10
Boerne, TX 78006
830-249-8737
Social 5:30 p.m.
Meeting 6:00 p.m.

For reservations, contact
Carolyn Dutson by 5:00 p.m.
on Monday, May 9, at
cdutson@gvtc.com or 830-
981-8445. Reservations are
extra important at this off-site
event. No-shows will be
billed.

Don't forget to wear casual
clothes.

May Menu

Sandwiches & chips from
Bumdoolders
Soft drinks & iced tea
BYO wine

Inside:

Minutes from April meeting

Member in the Spotlight: Leah
Coyne

Members on the Move

A message from the president

Dear HCWIB Members,

The April meeting has come and gone. I was delighted at the turnout (18 people), and even more delighted with the attitudes of everyone present. The air was electrified with anticipation of the coming year. Well, I may exaggerate a bit, but not much.

We had a wonderful program presented by Paula White of the Boerne Chamber. Thanks to Paula for taking time from her busy schedule to speak to us.

Some good ideas were shared for the coming year. Our Web site is almost completed. Jeanne is working hand-in-hand with Amy to have a cohesive newsletter and website. As of this moment we have 44 renewing members and some prospective new members.

The proposed amendment to the by-laws to add a new category of member was passed. We now have a new membership category, "Retired Member." If you have

been a member in good standing for three years or more and retire, you have the opportunity to continue with HCWIB. One of our members, Linda Tom, fits this category. Glad to have you aboard, Linda.

Our May 14 meeting promises to be fun and informative. It will be at the MorRi Do Tae Kwon Do studio at 141 Blanco Road in Boerne, starting at 5:30 p.m. We can learn the art of self-defense and enjoy networking at the same time. Remember to dress down for the occasion (shorts are appropriate). We will serve sandwiches and you may BYO wine.

I want to thank everyone who has been so gracious in supporting the club this year with your membership renewal and volunteering to help.

See you soon,
Sharon

MorRi Do Tae Kwon Do to host May meeting

Interested in a lean, powerful and healthy body? Wish you possessed more agility and grace? Want to reduce stress? If so, you'll want to be front and center at our May 12 meeting at MorRi Do Tae Kwon Do. With 15 years of instruction experience, manager Gerald Goble will demonstrate the world's most popular martial art and how it promotes good health, self-confidence and well-being.

Developed 2,000 years ago by the indigenous people of the Korean peninsula to defend their country, Tae Kwon Do, which literally means, "bare foot, bare hand," also

promotes loyalty, respect and harmonious living. It incorporates a strict code based on discipline, perseverance and integrity.

Regardless of physical condition, age or athletic background, members are invited to participate in this ancient system of self-defense. Be sure to wear sweats, shorts, t-shirts or other comfortable clothing so that you can give Tae Kwon Do your best shot!



Members on the Move

The Boerne Chamber of Commerce and the Boerne Convention and Visitors Bureau have contracted with Amy Anderson, Shutter Happy Photography, to use her photographs on their new Websites. Amy is currently running around town snapping photos representative of Boerne. If anyone has suggestions for a great photo op, Amy would welcome the input.

Kathy Hubbard, Suzann Woodward and Judy Droste attended the Rotary District Conference in Corpus Christi. Their club received the Best in District Award, which is the highest award given to a Rotary Club in District 5840. There are 52 clubs in the District. This marks the first time their Rotary Club has received this award, and it was extra special because this is the Rotary's Centennial year. Other HCWIB members in their Rotary Club are Misty Thomas, Marie Hicks and Liz McRae. Judy was named a Paul Harris Fellow. Named for the founder of Rotary, this designation recognizes those individuals who contribute \$1,000 to Rotary International.

General meeting minutes

April 14, 2005

President Sharon Tschirhart called the meeting to order. Eighteen members and guests were present. Chaplain Leah Coyne opened the meeting with a brief invocation.

Board Reports

President – Sharon asked for a motion to approve the proposed amendment to the bylaws to establish a "Retired" membership category. Members unanimously approved the amendment, following a motion by Rebecca Boles, which was seconded by Patrice Davison.

Treasurer - In Suzann Woodward's absence, Jeanne Buchanan read the following treasurer's report: Donna-Michelle Werner turned over the books to Suzann on April 1, 2005. After depositing \$820 from dues collected, the balance in the checking account was \$2389.27. On April 4, 2005, \$20 was put into petty cash. On April 5, 2005, a deposit of \$450 was made. Another deposit was made on April 7 in the amount of \$300. The checking account balance as of April 12, 2005 was \$3119.27. The balance for the savings account was not available at the time of the meeting.

Susan Whipple moved that the treasurer's report be approved as read. Patrice Davison seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Committee Reports

Chaplain – Leah Coyne solicited prayers for Bobbi French and Susan Flanagan.

Phone – Susan Whipple has recruited a phone committee to call members the week before the general meeting to remind them to attend.

Newsletter – Information for the newsletter needs to be sent to editor Jeanne Buchanan by the 20th of each month. Jeanne encouraged the membership to submit news, because the more members know about each other's business, the better able they are to support and recommend them.

Publicity – Amy Anderson reported that the HCWIB Website should be finalized by the end of April. Following a review by the board, the site should be up and running by the end of May. Amy also mentioned a new publication, *Hill Country Women* magazine. She will contact the magazine to learn more about it and potential advertising opportunities for HCWIB.

Membership – Reservations for the monthly general meeting must be made with Carolyn Dutson by the close of business on Monday preceding the meeting on Thursday.

There will be a membership drive in June. Ads will be placed in the local papers soliciting new members. The June meeting will be a membership social at Carolyn Dutson's house. Everyone is encouraged to bring a prospective member.

Bylaws – This newly formed committee, chaired by Kera Dutton, will meet this summer to review club bylaws.

Sharon Tschirhart encouraged members to share ideas about how to promote HCWIB, or how HCWIB could help in the community.

/s/ Patrice Davison-Marshall for Sharon Huckabay
Secretary

HCWIB Officers and Committee Chairs: President Sharon Tschirhart 830-249-0283; Vice President Debra Rodriguez 210-497-2753; Secretary Sharon Huckabay 830-249-2987; Treasurer Suzann Woodward 830-249-4159; Website/Publicity Amy Anderson 830-249-7591; Chaplain Leah Coyne 830-537-5658; Membership Carolyn Dutson 830-981-8445; Programs Patrice Davison-Marshall 830-249-6112; Telephone Susan Whipple 830-816-4769; and Newsletter Jeanne Buchanan 830-249-9566.

Member in the spotlight: Leah Coyne, Coyne Trucking

She went from strappy five-inch, high-heel sandals hawking cosmetics and hair care products for L'Oreal to raising hogs seventeen miles from the nearest town and five miles down a caliche road. She went from teaching kindergarteners how to read to slinging one-hundred-pound bags of Southern dried cowpeas onto eighteen-wheeler trucks. She went from selling computer services in the medical field to "hotshotting" cattle onto double-deck cattle trailers for shipping. Hers is an eclectic mixture of occupations and a really strange resume to review!

Leah Coyne is president of Coyne, Inc., a logistics planning firm--better known to the general public as an over-the-road trucking company. She and her husband, Mike, incorporated in 1984 and have been running trucks interstate and intrastate since that time; delivering virtually every agricultural product available--cantaloupe, watermelon, peas, peanuts, cukes (cucumbers to the lay person), cabbage, mungbeans, farm equipment, and many, many, many head of cattle. Currently, the company is hauling general dry and reefer (refrigerated) grocery products.

Marrying in 1981, the newlyweds honeymooned by taking a load of cattle to Califor-

nia and returning with hogs. Leah's suspicion that life would be anything but dull with her new husband was confirmed! Nine years later, their son, Dillon, was born and the fun continued. Today, the Coyne family is complete with two dogs, Butch, a walk-up black Lab, and Bad News, a Catahoula/Leopard hog dog. When the phone is not ringing, life consists of dirt bikes, football, basketball, baseball, gardening, and cruising in the family Model T.

Leah's business is not a glamorous one. She deals daily with the "salt of the earth," men and women who do not lead a genteel lifestyle, generally living paycheck to paycheck. Higher education eludes most of them, and the top rungs of the social ladder are not theirs for the climbing. But Leah believes they are just like us all. Made in God's image, they desire and deserve to be treated with the utmost respect and dignity. That, in a nutshell, is Leah's corporate philosophy.

When the last call of the day comes in (usually in the very late hours of the night), Leah considers it a good day when that truck driver, load planner, customer, or dispatcher thanks her and tells her to sleep well.

Four steps to motivate workers

Incentive magazine gives four inexpensive ways to promote employee retention at a time when many employees say they are looking for a new job:

Offer individual rewards. Wondering what would motivate your employees the best? Ask them. Companies that try to tailor incentive awards to the wants of their employees often perform better than the organizations that offer one-size-fits-all rewards.

Give them a purpose. When employees feel connected to their company, they tend to work harder and stay longer. Create a bond with them by sharing goals, asking them for input, providing adequate re-

sources, and offering to help them when their workload is stretched.

Say thank you. It sounds easy, but it's often forgotten. When management adequately recognizes a good job, employees instinctively feel better about the place they work.

Provide balance between home and the office. When pressure and workloads increase, employees need a release. Whether it's half-day Fridays, flexible schedules, or simply an extra day off when necessary, companies must make an effort to help balance their employees' lives.



More Members on the Move:

Debra Rodriguez, BPI Laboratories, will be attending the Lutheran Via De Cristo (Way of the Cross) at Luther Hill in LaGrange, Texas the last weekend in April for a little spiritual food for the soul. Sharon Tschirhart will be serving at the weekend.

At The Hair Company, Misty Thomas is launching her own makeup line. Details to follow. She will also be attending a color class hosted by Framesi this month.

Following her graduation from cosmetology school, Katie Carroll will be on board The Hair Company as a stylist.

Get well, Sharon!

Please keep Sharon Huckabay, The Huckabay Agency, in your thoughts and prayers. She has been sick for much too long with "crud" bordering on bronchial pneumonia.

May Birthdays

Terry Essman 5/06
Misty Thomas 5/17
Leah Coyne 5/21
Suzann Woodward 5/23
Wendy Jones 5/24
Sherry Moses 5/24

White Recaps Boerne Chamber Activity

"Some people think all we do is eat, drink and party," laughed Paula White, president and CEO of the Greater Boerne Chamber of Commerce. "But let me tell you, it's all we can do to catch our breath with all we have going on."

White, who addressed HCWIB members at the April meeting, heads the sixth-largest Chamber in the San Antonio metroplex. The Boerne Chamber has some 600 members. The Chamber relies on a combination of member dues and money generated by special projects like the Business Expo, golf tournament, annual auction and antique show to fund its annual work program.

In addition to hosting business luncheons, networking breakfasts and after-hour mixers, the Chamber operates with the help of numerous member-run committees, including membership, education, governmental affairs and retail. The Chamber's staff of six also works with an active volunteer corps of more than 100 individuals to answer thousands of phone calls and mail thousands of information packets, always presenting Boerne in its best light.

The Chamber focuses on advancing responsible and progressive economic development in the community. One of its primary initiatives is generating Boerne tourism. Tourism director Meredith Wendele carries the Boerne banner to numerous travel shows every year. Later this year, the newly named Boerne Convention and Visitor Center will relocate from the Chamber offices to the easy-to-find historic buildings adjacent to Wal-Mart. It will be one of the first things visitors see when entering town on Highway 87.

As the voice of business in the Boerne area, the Chamber strives to improve the business environment and quality of life in the community. HCWIB member Misty Thomas, owner of The Hair Company, is a firm believer in the Chamber's effectiveness. "I have had numerous referrals from my participation at Chamber-sponsored networking breakfasts."