

# Hill Country Women in Business

May 2007 Newsletter



## Upcoming Events

Friday May 4, 2007  
HCWIB Board Meeting  
The Huckabay Agency  
Allstate Insurance  
1411 South Main St.  
Boerne, TX 78006  
830-249-2987  
12pm, BYO Lunch

Thursday May 10, 2007  
HCWIB General Meeting  
Naples Restaurant  
215 West Bandera Rd  
Ste 106  
11:30am-12pm Social  
12pm-1pm Luncheon

Lunch is \$15  
Reservations required.

Please contact Shari Keyes  
210-478-6611  
[Skeyes35@msn.com](mailto:Skeyes35@msn.com)  
By 5pm Monday May 7 to  
reserve your spot.

May Menu  
Garden Salad  
Your choice of Chicken Par-  
mesan or Penne Primavera  
Ice tea, coffee and water

Remember, cancellations  
and "no shows" will be  
billed.

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A new *HCWIB Suggestion  
Box* will be at each meeting  
for your ideas & suggestions.  
This was contributed by  
Deanna Baker and deco-  
rated by Shari Keyes.  
A special thank you for your  
time & talents!!

## Carolyn's Corner...

WOW! The room was completely full at the April meeting. Thanks so much to our own Dr. Elizabeth McRae for a wonderful program!! She managed to make learning about laser skin rejuvenation both educational and fun. As an aging "boomer", (ooh - I hate that word *aging*) I felt better just listening to her and the many options available... .. maybe there's hope!

Members also selected their favorite ideas for programs this year - so stay tuned and I'm sure Misty and the program committee will have the results by our May meeting. I can tell you that the programs you selected look like we have a FUN year ahead.

Speaking of Fun, June is membership month for HCWIB. Please make plans to bring a guest to our June Social which will be a swim party at my home on June 14. Stay tuned for details, but the last time we did this, there were water guns & hula hoops involved.

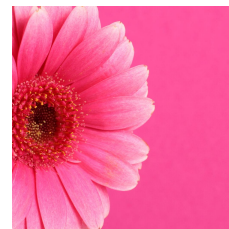
## Memorial Day--A day of Remembrance

Memorial Day used to be a sacred day that was reserved for the remembrance of those who paid the ultimate price for our freedoms. Businesses closed for the day. Towns held parades honoring the fallen, the parade routes often times ending at a local cemetery, where Memorial Day speeches were then given. People took the time that day to clean and deco-

The May meeting will be one of our very popular lunches. These lunches are the result of many members requesting day-time meetings. They provide an opportunity for us to network and get to know each other better in a relaxed setting. We will have one per quarter this year so please plan to attend on May 10<sup>th</sup> by making your reservations early.

I look forward to seeing you all at the lunch meeting in May,

Carolyn



Mother's Day is coming up! May 13<sup>th</sup>

rate with flowers and flags the graves of those who fell in service to their country. For many, this day has evolved into a time for cookouts, shopping or heading to the beach instead of the day of remembrance it was intended to be.

Now, more than ever, consider setting aside some time to remember our American soldiers and their families in your own special way. It's a great opportunity to take the time to teach our children and grandchildren what this day really means to each of us.

For additional info, try this site:  
[www.usmemorialday.org/observe.htm](http://www.usmemorialday.org/observe.htm)



*Members on the Move:*

*Gayle Eason will be holding a jewelry open house on Sat. May 19th from 11am to 4pm. Food and wine and shopping! Receive gifts with purchases. There will be 2 door prize drawings. Gayle notes that "beautiful jewelry has been arriving daily in gorgeous new summer colors.!" Credit cards are accepted. It is for adults only please. 29636 No Le Haze Dr. Fair Oaks Ranch. 830- 981-9641.*

*Patrice Davison of Davison Insurance Agency, LLC just became a member of IIAT (Independent Insurance Agency of Texas). Also, the agency is celebrating 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.*

*Cynthia McKenna, LPC, NCC, has been invited to be the guest speaker for the Methodist Hospital Blue Bird Auxiliary Awards Luncheon in May.*

*Misty Thomas of The Hair Company will be celebrating 10 years in business on May 6th.*

*Alena Morris of Prestige Carpet Cleaning and Floor Care just purchased a 2<sup>nd</sup> van- planning to use one for Tile Cleaning and the second for Carpet Cleaning.*

## Christian Women's Job Corps

A huge HCWIB "thank you" to Misty Thomas, Debi Lamb, Linda Tom, and Jessica Cullitan for providing the April lunch for Christian Women's Job Corp. The students and staff feasted on a main dish of Italian Shells, a fresh garden green salad, hot french bread, and a luscious Cherry Whip dessert.

Our next luncheon will be May 16th and we are always looking for a few good cooks. If you are interested in volunteering, please e-mail Leah Coyne at [coyne@qvtc.com](mailto:coyne@qvtc.com) or call 830.537.5658. It only takes an hour or so of your time and the women of CWJC are so appreciative!

All are invited to attend the CWJC Spring 2007 Graduation, Tuesday May 15 at 6pm. First Baptist Church, 631 South School Street, Boerne.

The following Boerne businesses have recently hired CWJC graduates:

- The Home Depot
- Green Bull Jewelry
- Nunley, Davis, Jolley, Cluck, Aelvoet Law Firm
- Albany Engineered Composites
- Flying Circle Bags
- Walmart
- Fiserve
- Land Design
- Home Instead
- Coyne Inc.
- Texas Department of Parks and Recreation
- Anderson Temporaries
- The Boerne Star

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### Other facts about CWJC...

- 100% of graduates who earnestly seek employment become employed
- 96% of employed graduates remain employed
- 80% of graduates seek employment
- CWJC has graduated 30 women to date
- Program cost for one student is approximately \$1,500.00

For additional info, visit the CWJC website: [www.cwjckendallcounty.org](http://www.cwjckendallcounty.org) From here you can also access their monthly newsletter!

## Calendar of Events

Mark your calendars!! Hill Country Women in Business (HCWIB), Boerne Chamber of Commerce (CC)

May 2- Wine Down Wednesday, Water 2 Wine (weekly event on Wednesdays) CC

May 3- Business after Hours Mixer hosted by Care Choice of Boerne 5p-7p, CC

May 3- Wine Not! Free wine tasting, Ye Kendall Inn, 530p-630p (weekly event on Thursdays) CC

May 4- HCWIB Board Meeting, 12p, Huckabay Insurance

May 5- Cibolo Songs & Stories Concert featuring Mesquite, 730p-930p, CC

May 10- HCWIB lunch at Naples, 1130a

May 12-13- Boerne Market Days, CC

May 12- 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Wine and Art, 5p-8p, CC

May 12- Historic Homes Tour, CC

May 17- Business after Hours Mixer, Main Plaza, 5p-7p, CC

May 19- Art in the Park, CC

May 19- Cibolo Songs & Stories Concert featuring Harry Wurzbach and 410's, 730p-930p, CC

May 22- May Networking Breakfast, CC

May 24- May Chamber Luncheon, CC

May 29- San Antonio Symphony Concert, Boerne Comm Center, 730p, CC



## Chaplain Chimes

Special intentions we need to pray for... ..

■ Deanne Baker's only sister, Arlene from Bayton, has an advanced stage of colon cancer. Please keep her & Deanne's family in your prayers.

■ The students, teachers, and families all involved in the terrible incident at Virginia Tech.

■ All of our Armed Forces & their families for a safe return home

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### May Birthdays !!!!

May 6- Terry Essman

May 17- Misty Thomas

May 21--Leah Coyne

May 23- Suzann Woodward

May 24- Sherry Moses

May 24- Wendy Wenger

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### Advertising Opportunity-

Did you know you can place a monthly ad for your business on the HCWIB Page of the Boerne Star? In addition, one member per month may place a feature bio article. For more info, contact Kolleen at the Boerne Star, 830-249-2441.

## Member in the Spotlight Mardi Collins, Ventures International



Mardi has been happily married for 30 years, and lives in Boerne with Gerry and their border collies. Last year their company Ventures International won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize at the Boerne Expo with their marketing team- DD(due diligence) and RET (higher returns) alias Patch and Tess! (See photo right)

Mardi is a Canadian Aggie! In the 70's she and husband Gerry attended graduate school at A&M and fell in love with Texas. In those days she was a vet, teaching and doing graduate work in the vet school. Later they lived in Washington DC, where she had her own practice. Eventually they moved back to Canada - to Ottawa, the nation's capital.

In her early 40s Mardi decided she needed to learn A LOT MORE about money. Although they had followed the "good education-work hard-save money" plan, they were not getting ahead as expected. Real estate had been a good investment for them, but in the late 80s it was a disaster. Deciding, it was *not fair to have worked so hard for poor results*, she determined to truly master money!

After making a career change, she became a Financial Planner and Certified Hedge Fund Specialist, eventually building a large practice. She had always been a natural teacher, and became well known for her adult education courses and radio program "Financial Self Defense". It became her mission to help as many "sweat soaked taxpayers" as she could to financial freedom!

During the "stock market meltdown" she watched, with disgust, as the fortunes of millions of good people were wiped out by the corruption of a few. . Again she decided, *it was not fair to have worked so hard for poor results*, and determined to

find a better way. She discovered that the very wealthy have access to MUCH better investments than regular folk. So with some friends and clients, she created "syndicated investing" which allowed them access to those investments without undue risk. Today through Ventures International she helps financially fit investors access exceptional investments.



## Donations Needed!!

The Seasons Gift and Thrift Shop for the Rainbow Center can use any and all donations of the following type. Kitchen items, clothing, shoes, dishes, knick knacks, etc. Please call Marie Hicks, Board President at 830-249-1036 and she will pick up the items from you or you can drop off M-F 10am - 4pm at the Thrift Shop on San Antonio Street. Their phone number is 830-249-1436.

# HCWIB General Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2007 Submitted by Lucy K. Ziegler

President Carolyn Dutson called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm. thirty members were present. Pam Lewis gave the invocation. Lorrie Hengel won the door prize donated by Misty Thomas. Minutes of the last general meeting were approved, after being amended to add Sue McCrary's birthday.

New member Rodda Yates-Durham was welcomed and all members briefly introduced themselves and their business.

Carolyn Dutson reported items from the previous board meeting including the following:

- Ø The budget for 2007-2008 was approved by the board.
- Ø The newsletter will go exclusively on-line except for those members who request Newsletter Committee Chairman, Laurie Stewart, to send them one via general mail delivery.
- Ø Members were asked to indicate their preference for future programs by marking a list provided by the program committee.
- Ø Membership benefits were reviewed regarding advertising with the Boerne Star: business card sized ad. HCWIB advertisers are also given the chance to be spotlighted by the paper in a large write up on the same page.
- Ø The board suggested member sponsorships for food and drinks for the June Membership Drive and Social (guests are no charge at this social) with the sponsors being recognized in the newsletter and a newspaper article. Contact Carolyn or Shari Keyes if you would like to be a sponsor.

Birthday girls included Kathleen McBride, Linda Tom, Cynthia McKenna, and Cynthia McMullan and they were recognized with a "rousing" version of Happy Birthday!

Carolyn also asked members make suggestions for local charities that may be candidates for monetary contributions by HCWIB later this budget year. A brand new lavender suggestion box donated by Deanne Baker and decorated by Shari Keyes' daughter, Sarah, was displayed and will be available for all ideas or email [cdutson@gtc.com](mailto:cdutson@gtc.com).

Vice President, Leah Coyne requested additional assistance with the CWJC luncheon and Jessica Cullitan and Misty Thomas volunteered to help with the April lunch.

Phyllis Baacke will also present on her specialty, accessorizing, to the CWJC students.

The audit committee, Leah Coyne, Kathy Hubbard and Suzanne Woodward reported that the audit was completed and were thanked by the President for their efforts.

Kathy Hubbard presented the treasurer's report with a balance of \$5414.99 and briefly reviewed changes from last year's budget. Membership was also advised that the treasurer will send courtesy reminder letters about annual dues in February. Kathy encouraged all to make reservations for the meetings and reported that no shows for General Meeting Lunches and Dinners will be billed. Lunch and Dinner prices are currently \$15.00 and \$17.00 respectively. There will be no charge for the Annual Christmas Social for members or their guest. Sharon Huckabay presented new HCWIB Membership Books to: Rodda Yates-Durham of Yates Insurance, Jessica Cullitan of Dream Dinners, Marlene Ring of Pawsitive Solution Dog & Puppy Training, LLC, Phyllis Baacke of Premier Designs, and Renee Hinson of Renee Hinson Insurance Agency.

It was also noted that all members should review the membership listing on the web site at [www.hcwib.net](http://www.hcwib.net) and let Lynne Hoppe or Sharon Huckabay know of any address or contact changes so that the membership list can be kept up to date.

The next Board Meeting will be Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at Huckabay Agency - 12:00 noon.

The next General Meeting is a Luncheon on Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at Naples - 11:30am.

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## 2007 Officers & Committee Members

President: Carolyn Dutson 830-981-8445  
Vice President: Leah Coyne 830-537-5658  
Secretary: Lucy Ziegler 830-249-4777  
Treasurer: Kathy Hubbard 830-248-1222  
X-Officio: Jeanne Buchanan 830-249-9566  
Hospitality/Reservations: Shari Keyes 210-478-6611  
Membership: Sharon Huckabay 830-249-2987  
Newsletter: Laurie Stewart 210-725-3955  
Programs: Misty Thomas 830-249-2246  
Publicity: Deanne Baker 830-537-3576  
Telephone: Cindy Ogle 210-317-6272  
Chaplain: Pam Lewis 830-249-6305  
Website: Lynn Hoppe 210-568-3618



2007-2008 HCWIB Officers: Lucy Ziegler (Secretary), Leah Coyne (Vice President), Carolyn Dutson (President), Kathy Hubbard (Treasurer)

Our Newest Members: Jessica Cullitan, Rhodda Yates-Dunham, Renee Hinson, Phyllis Baacke, Marlene Ring, Sharon Huckabay (Membership Committee) presenting New Member Books.



May 2007 Newsletter Publisher: Laurie Stewart