



FINANCIAL WOMEN
IN TEXAS

helping women succeed

Leadership
Development
& Networking

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

As I am writing this, we are 40 days away from our 12th Annual Conference in Houston! As Conference Co-Chair, I can assure you that this year's gathering is going to be worth the two years wait! The Houston Group is going above and beyond to make sure our two days together will be worth every second you are away from your daily routine. It will be a time to recharge, reconnect and refocus. We will celebrate the hurdles we jumped to make it through a worldwide lockdown, I will pass the baton to Hazel Davis, our elected 2021-2022 Association President, and we will finish strong by Crossing the Finish Line together, in person, as an Association! My theme for the past two years was based on Jon Acuff's book *Finish* and there are two lessons I hope you carry with you. First, don't ever let perfectionism ruin any goal you have set for yourself. "It's not supposed to be perfect; it's supposed to be finished." Nothing is ever going to go as planned. That doesn't mean you give up. Forget about being perfect and focus on getting it done.

Second, and my personal favorite, is "to make it fun if you want it done." Having fun is a critical part to obtaining any goal. Lots of goals are not naturally fun, but we can deliberately add fun to whatever goal we are working on. Enjoy the process! In closing, I want to thank you for allowing me to lead this Association and for allowing me to have fun while I did it. I had a blast! I look forward to watching future leaders emerge from this Association, and I will be cheering for each of you in your individual races and celebrating you at the finish line!

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Crossing The Finish Line
FWIT CONFERENCE 2021

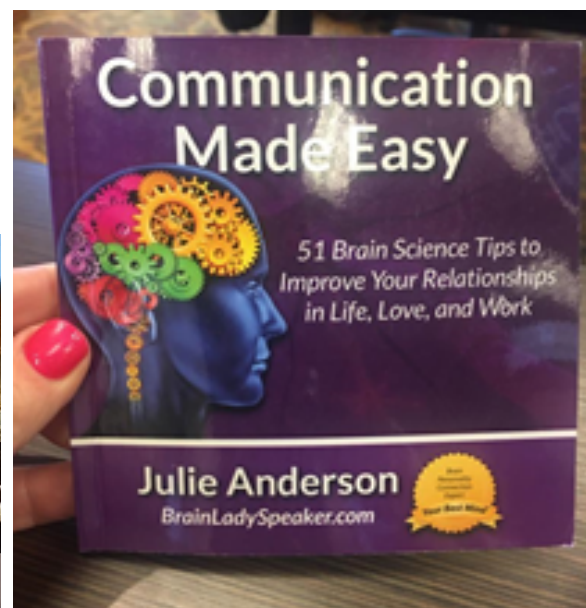
Houston Marriott Marquis
September 9-10, 2021

2021 SUMMER LEADERSHIP FORUM IS IN THE BOOKS

Forum VII was held on Saturday, June 12, 2021 at the Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center in Grapevine, TX. We had a great attendance of over 30 members and guests. For those arriving on Friday evening, great fun was had at dinner at the hotel.

Julie Anderson, AKA The Brain Lady, was a fascinating speaker for the morning, and we had a hybrid in-person / conference call Board meeting and 2020-2021 / 2021-2022 transition meeting in the afternoon.

Pictures have been added to the **Events** page on FWITexas.org and Julie's presentation will be added soon to the **Members Only** page.



LAST CALL TO REGISTER FOR CROSSING THE FINISH LINE: FWIT CONFERENCE 2021

August 8th is the last day to register at regular rates for our 12th Annual Conference and get in on all the fun and special surprises! Speakers will include:

Kim Becking, Kansas City, MO – "Epic Leadership – Impact, Influence & Create Momentum to Get Results"

Lisa Fey, Atlanta GA – "Say WHAT?- Core Communication Skills to Increase Effectiveness"

Traci Brown, Denver, CO – "Liar, Liar, Pants on Fire - Detecting Lies, Fraud & Identity Theft"

Jennifer Darling, San Francisco, CA – "Finish Strong - Online Branding, Perceptions, and Crossing the Digital Finish Line"

CJ Coolidge, Houston, TX – "Finishing Well – The Art of Managing a Killer Career Without Killing Yourself"

The Thursday luncheon is a panel of 3 female financial executive who will share their stories of "Jumping Hurdles and Crossing the Finish Line"

Moderator: **Hazel Davis**, CERP, CRCM, CCBCO - Jefferson Bank, Vice President, Compliance & Community Development Officer

Panelists: **T.D. Winters**- EVP - Austin Commercial Banking Manager, Lone Star Capital Bank; **Lauren Sparks** - Agility Bank (In Organization) Chairwoman, President CEO & Director; **Jessica Pelache** - First National Bank Texas, EVP & Director of Customer Experience

The Friday luncheon will feature a legislative update by **Celeste M. Embrey**, SVP Government Relations & Deputy General Counsel, Texas Bankers Association

August 8th is also the last day to make reservations at the Marriott Marquis Houston with the discounted FWIT rate of \$229, [Click Here](#)

August 8th is also the last day to preorder the official FWIT Conference 2021 Crossing the Finish Line T-Shirt with our "Make It Fun If You Want It Done" mantra and "Crossing The Finish Line" logo will be displayed on the back with the FWIT star logo on the front left. Only \$20!

Don't delay – Do it today! It's all at www.FWITexas.org



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CONGRATULATIONS

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS:

As a benefit of membership, FWIT awards 10 Conference Scholarships each year. Five are offered to first time attendees and five for returning. The value of each scholarship equals the cost of Conference each year. This year's winners are:

1st Time Attendees: Miranda Fortneberry, Aydee De Leon, Wendy Albers, Jennifer Wilson & Natalie Torbet.

Returning Attendees: Melody Hess, Cheryl Linder, Courtney Yeatman, Laura Rogers & Barbara McMillen

Auto Renewal Now Available for your FWIT Membership

You can now set up your FWIT membership with an auto renewal feature! Never miss another renewal period!

To opt-in, just login to www.FWITexas.org and select VIEW PROFILE. In the first section you will see:

Membership details:

Membership level: **Member - Retired** - \$25.00 (USD) Change Subscription period: 1 year, on: September 1st No automatically recurring payments

OR

Membership level: **Member** - \$75.00 (USD) Change Subscription period: 1 year, on: September 1st No automatically recurring payments

Click **Change**, and on the next page select the Auto Renewal option and click NEXT. On the next page, click **UPDATE AND NEXT**. You will receive a confirmation screen. Follow the prompts to complete the change. Your credit card will be charged the applicable amount for your 2021-2022 dues.

In subsequent years you will receive a notice 14 days prior to September 1st, and your membership will automatically renew, and your card will be charged, on September 1st. You can always opt back out at any time.

The auto renewal option is available for both regular and retired members. Multi-Members, whose companies have 10 or more members will continue to be invoiced annually.

Take one more thing off your to-do list!

SAY GOODBYE TO CHILLY MEETING ROOMS, OFFICES & AIRPLANES, FWIT HAS YOU COVERED!



Introducing our newest FWIT logo item - a soft, fluffy blanket just right for those chilly times - even when it is 90 outside!

It is a generous 50" x 60" in a classy light grey color with the FWIT star logo embroidered in white in the corner and comes in a clear plastic bag with handle for carrying or storage,

They will be on sale exclusively at FWIT Conference 2021 in Houston in September at the FWIT table and all proceeds go to the Association for programming & scholarships.

Quantities are limited and at just \$35, they will go fast!

Please be sure to plan for your Silent Auction item for Conference. Board Members and each Group contribute one auction item each with a value of \$50 or greater.

All proceeds help fund our scholarships!
Descriptions, value and pictures can be sent to Carol Troy: Ctroy@ibat.org.

**DON'T
FORGET!**



BIG COUNTRY GROUP NEWS:

Big Country President, Lindsey Dickerson, welcomed beautiful baby girl, Journee Catalina on Thursday, January 24th!



EAST TEXAS GROUP NEWS:

Hello from East Texas! We are so excited to see our group continue to grow and add new members! As of 07-01-2021 we are up to 21 members! We are excited to have at least 12 of our members attending the conference in Houston in September! FWIT East Texas is building the momentum and working to Cross the Finish Line Strong for 2021!

Several of our members were able to attend the Leadership Forum held June 12th in Grapevine, TX. Each of them were excited to be there and reported back this was a great event and encourage attendance at future forums!



EAST TEXAS GROUP NEWS - CONTINUED

We are a little behind on finalizing our officers for the coming year but are close to wrapping that up. We are excited to have Laura Rodgers as our President for 2021-2022 and looking forward to a fantastic year!

Upcoming meetings will include -

- **October 19, 2021** - Outreach Event - we will have representatives from 2-3 local non-profit agencies speak to our group about their organization and we will collect items for those agencies to be given at that meeting
- **November 16, 2021** - Annual CEO Night and Dessert Auction - key speaker will be Christopher L. Williston VI, President and CEO IBAT. He is excited about FWIT and looking forward to joining us. He was scheduled for last November, but we had to postpone due to COVID. We are looking forward to this fun night to raise funds for scholarships!

HOUSTON GROUP NEWS:

Congratulations to D'Lynn Lane on her promotion from Senior Auditor to Audit Manager with Eide Bailly. We are so proud of her!

★CONGRATULATIONS★

The Houston Group also hosted a FREE Social Event on June 30th at Hugh O'Connor's for a fun time of networking, drinks and lite bites. The first 5 members to RSVP for the event were awarded a prize. We also gave away two door prizes at the event. We had 15 attendees, including 4 new members!



LLANO ESTACADO GROUP NEWS:

Llano Group membership continues to grow at a total of 18 members currently. We recently volunteered at the South Plains Food Bank and enjoyed our time together packing food items for those in need.

We are also excited to welcome Association President, Lori Victory to Lubbock next month. The program will be held at Burklee Hill Vineyards in the iconic Kress building downtown. Snacks and two glasses of wine will be provided.



GULF COAST GROUP NEWS:

Gulf Coast recently met at Spring Creek BBQ, Katy TX and a presentation was made by the Alzheimer's Association. The topic was "10 warning signs of Alzheimer's Disease".

Sheryl Mayers was the presenter and the experience was both educational and very personal to some of the attendees. We were able to share experiences and ask questions. We held a silent auction for a variety of items which raised \$100 donation for the association. The annual "Walk to End Alzheimer's" is scheduled for September 25, 2021 and the FWIT/Gulf Coast Chapter has committed to have a team represent.

This was the first "in person" event since February 2021 and a good time was had by all!

San Antonio Group News:

We held our last meeting of the 2020-2021 year on May 13th. The program featured Traci Uribe, an Underwriting Director on the Regulatory Management and Research team at USAA, who brought the attendees valuable information on Emotional Intelligence. Did you know that emotional intelligence has been credited for 80% of the success in our lives?

Accomplishments for the year include successfully holding monthly virtual meetings, thanks to the generous donation of Zoom access and management by Zelda Perez-Morales; greatly increasing our social media presence on Facebook and LinkedIn, thanks to the team leadership by Wendy Albers; and gaining some members to achieve third largest group in the association. Now, on to 2021-2022!



The Group also held our 2021-2022 planning meeting on July 20th at la Madeleine. It was a great meeting – brainstorming, budgeting, discussing costs and benefits, and framing a plan for the year. A huge benefit – we were able to meet in person!



Yes, we are running a different race on an unfamiliar track and having to think about how to jump lots of hurdles, but together, we still have the power to Cross The Finish Line!

Save the date! FWIT 12th Annual Conference!

► September 9 - 10, 2021



- Marriott Marquis Houston
 - Link for special rate:
<https://book.passkey.com/e/50142497>
- Registration & Exhibit Hall open @ 5PM Wed Sept 8
- + Optional Wed dinner off-site