



FINANCIAL WOMEN
IN TEXAS

helping women succeed

Leadership
Development
& Networking

Find a Group Near You: fwitexas.org



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

2020 was an unprecedented year full of unexpected plot twists, however the women of FWIT were successful in Crossing the Finish Line and celebrated in Houston at our 2021 Annual Conference. After challenging times and personal or professional milestones, there is often a pause before life goes on. The pause is an inflection point where many often think “what now”.

This post-pandemic inflection point is where the idea for this year’s theme **Choose Your Next** began.

While the variables of life cannot be controlled, each of us can actively choose our attitudes, goals, and level of investment in ourselves and others. These choices individually are our “next”.

Financial Women in Texas is here to support you and your personal Next by:

- Bringing together women in finance for the exchange of ideas, experiences and interests;
- Furthering the meaningful professions or careers of its members and women in general;
- Encouraging women to choose finance as a career and to advance the career opportunities for all women in finance; and
- Serving as an advocate of, and to promote improvements in the professional development, leadership skills, education and training of women in finance.

It is an honor to serve as your 2021-2022 FWIT Association President. Whether you are just beginning your career in finance, or are retired and committed to helping other women succeed, I look forward to our year together as you **Choose Your Next!**

WHAT'S INSIDE:

President's Message

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Group News



2021 ANNUAL CONFERENCE WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

- Over 150 attendees *Crossed the Finish Line* in Houston! This included 115 full Conference registrations; 10 non-member registrations, and 39 guests attending the luncheons on Thursday and Friday.
- We had **58 First Time Attendees!**
- **\$79,300** in sponsorships were received from over 60 sponsors.

We'd like to extend a big **THANK YOU** to all who attended and helped make the conference a huge success!





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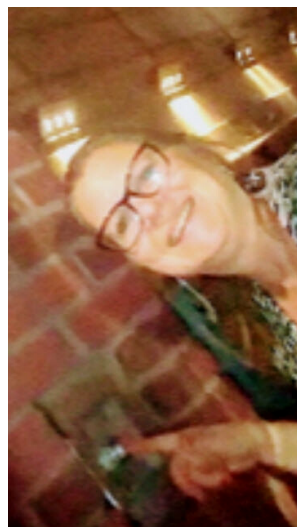
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More Conference Highlights



SELFIE SCAVENGER HUNT FUN!



BONUS!

THANKS AGAIN TO OUR AMAZING CONFERENCE SPONSORS!



3PR is SBA Certified as a Woman Owned Small Business!



Lynda Huffaker



Sandy Dixon & Associates, LLC



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Regan's Riches! Looking Ahead to 2022 Annual Conference!

If you were not at the FWIT Conference in Houston, or you missed them, Regan Shaw has her FWIT earrings on sale on Etsy! The pricing is great and Regan is donating the funds to our conference next year in San Antonio! Check them out - you may need more than one pair!



Financial Women in Texas 2020 - 2021



Has successfully ~~Crossing~~ The Finish Line !
Crossed

**See you next year in San Antonio -
The Historic Menger Hotel:
September 8 - 9, 2022 - Save The Date!**



Benefits of Membership:

- Professional Development
- Networking
- Mentoring
- Fun & Fellowship!

BIG COUNTRY GROUP NEWS:

Big Country had an amazing luncheon on October 21st at Cypress Street Station in Abilene featuring a program by Berkshire Hathaway Home Services. Pictured are guest speakers Vicki Head and Natalie Benavides from Berkshire Hathaway and Big Country Group President, D'Lynn Lane.



EAST TEXAS GROUP NEWS:

A lot has been going on in East Texas. We held our Annual Transition meeting in August where we installed our new officers and made plans for the upcoming 2021-2022 year. In September, eleven of us headed to Houston for an outstanding conference. Five of those were first-timers and they all gave raving reviews – no surprise there! We know this was the first of many conferences for these ladies. Also in September, several of us met at Heartisans Marketplace to volunteer in the kitchen to bag a variety of items to stock in their retail store for the Christmas season. We all enjoyed serving together and helping a wonderful organization.

Our first meeting of the year was held October 19th at Tele's Mexican Restaurant in Gladewater, TX where we had several guests and three speakers from non-profit organizations in the area. The agencies represented were East Texas Casa, Longview Child Development and One Love Longview and they shared with us the amazing things they are doing in our communities. Throughout the year, we will be collecting items to donate to each of these agencies. New member, Dorrie Deland was presented with her FWIT pin.



Our volunteers are the heart of Heartisans



Upcoming meetings:

- **November 16, 2021** – Our Annual CEO Night and Dessert Auction will be held at Pinecrest County Club with guest speaker Christopher Williston VI, President and CEO of IBAT. This is our primary fundraiser to provide scholarships to young women who are high school seniors and interested in pursuing a degree in finance. This will be a fun night for us to show appreciation to our CEOs and Senior Management for their support and for raising money for scholarships.
- **December, 2021** – Christmas Party. We will provide Christmas gifts for a child through East Texas CASA.
- **January 18, 2022** – Dr. Sarah Gough will be speaking on Women's Health Issues. FWIT Association President, Hazel Davis, will be our special guest, and we will be collecting prom dresses, shoes and accessories for the Zonta Prom Boutique as our community service project.

GULF COAST GROUP NEWS:

The Gulf Coast Group kicked off the new year with their first meeting on Thursday, Oct 21st. Guest Speaker Dora Ann Gostecnik, The Gostecnik Law Firm, educated and reminded guests of the importance of Wills, Powers of Attorney, and other important documents we all need. She also shared how these documents pertain to the banking industry and what we should or should not accept.

The Group also announced its charitable partner for the 2021-2022 year: **Reach Unlimited**. Reach Unlimited is dedicated to providing quality support services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Through their motto, *LIVE, LEARN AND EARN!*, Reach Unlimited creates a sustainable, secure environment where people with developmental disabilities may become all they are created to be. The Group's own Patricia Swagerty serves on the board of Reach Unlimited. The Gulf Coast Group was honored to present Reach Unlimited with a monetary contribution. Patricia was also able to bring beautiful glassware, handmade by the clients of Reach Unlimited. Meeting attendees were able to do a little holiday shopping, while supporting Reach Unlimited at the same time! For more information on Reach Unlimited and their Glass Shop, visit their website - <https://www.reachunlimitedglass.org>.

Special thanks to Kathy Holloman and Citizen's State Bank – Sealy for hosting the October meeting.

The next Gulf Coast Group meeting is scheduled for December 9th. The meeting will be hosted by First State Bank – Louise, and is planned to be a membership social/membership drive.

HOUSTON GROUP NEWS:

Houston had its first meeting of the year today at Bucca di Peppo. NContracts' Stephanie Lyon was our speaker. The presentation was Managing Complaints to Achieve Better Results.



LLANO ESTACADO GROUP NEWS:

Llano Estacado Group met in September at the Texas Tech Club for a presentation on Professional Communication by Jacob Gordon, Unit Manager of the Georgie Snyder Center for Business Communications at TTU University. In October, we met at Lubbock Christian University for a presentation from Monica J. Williams, Asst. Professor in the Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences at LCU for an enlightening presentation on Women's Health Issues and Finding Balance in a busy world.

In November, we will have a Volunteer Event at the Lubbock Ronald McDonald House.

Paso del Norte Group News:

Paso del Norte was excited to hold our first in-person event since COVID with a Wine Tasting Night to celebrate lots of fun and laughter.., and a little wine!



San Antonio Group News:

Planning has begun for the **2022 FWIT Annual Conference!** The San Antonio Group will be hosting the association's signature event September 8-9, 2022 at the historic Menger Hotel. On August 26th, the group held a planning social that included preparation for the Call to Conference 2022 that was to be presented at the close of this year's conference in Houston.

Nine group members attended Annual Conference 2021 in Houston. We celebrated Hazel Davis' installation as FWIT Association President and presented the official call to Conference 2022. It was an amazing conference and we are all hyped for the coming year!

This year's group meetings have begun. Our first group meeting of the 2021-2022 FWIT year was on September 16th. Thirteen women attended the virtual meeting including two guests. The program focus was on our community, Workforce Development San Antonio: A Project QUEST Story with David J. Zammiello, President & CEO. This non-profit is improving the training level of our workforce and placing unemployed and underemployed in jobs through a nationally acclaimed program which includes mentorship and training in "soft" work place skills and trade skills.

On October 14th we hosted a social for members and guests. FWIT Association President Hazel Davis talked about FWIT, membership pins were presented to those who had not gotten them during the pandemic, and attendees enjoyed networking and door prizes. The 41 attendees included 26 guests!



San Antonio Group Upcoming meetings:

November 4, 2021 –
How to Sell Yourself with
Coach Tranelle
Jones of TDJ
Consulting

December 9, 2021 –
Holiday Social

2021 - 2022 Association Officers & Board of Directors:

President: Hazel Davis

Vice President: Melody Hess

Treasurer: Jennifer Friesz

Secretary: Roxanne Crawford

- **Nominating Chair/Past President:** Lori Victory
- **Director-At-Large:** Kristen Ueckert
- **Director of Membership:** Courtney Yeatman
- **Director of Marketing:** Judy Helm
- **Director of Education:** Zelda Morales
- **By-Laws:** Ellen Parsons
- **Awards & Scholarships:** D'Lynn Lane
- **Social Media Chairs:** Amanda Dondiego & Shirley Coe
- **Historian:** B.J. Cary
- **Technology Chair:** Katelyn Miller
- **Conference Chairs:** Nancy Kinder & Hazel Davis
- **Virtual Member Liaison:** Lynda Huffaker

2021 - 2022 Group Presidents:

- **Austin:** Koren Bowie
- **Big Country:** D'Lynn Lane
- **Dallas:** Brenda Dennis
- **East Texas:** Laura Rogers
- **Gulf Coast:** Cheryl Linder
- **Hill Country:** Laura Kaderli-Stocks
- **Houston:** Carmen Bates
- **Llano Estacado:** Shari Straley
- **Paso Del Norte:** Bernadette Ramos
- **San Antonio:** Nancy Kinder