

EWI Long Beach Celebrates 60 Years

EWI members relate what this organization means to them.

Sustaining Member Martha Ustick – Martha was recruited (or “railroaded” as Martha refers to it) to join EWI while she was working for the city of Long Beach by Esther Ross and Trudy Engstrom. She had no idea what she was getting into when she was handed a cardboard box, similar to a filing box, and was told, “Okay, you are the Membership Director!” The current director had dropped out and Martha was pulled in. This was her first Board assignment and things just went on from there, including a term as President of the Chapter in 1996. The friends and acquaintances that she has made through EWI are far and above any others she has made in any walk of her life. Some she only sees once a year at LCAM and it is if she had just seen them yesterday. “A chat, a drink or just a quick hug reminds me of all the people I have in my life,” says Martha. “From the Corporate Office, Corporate Board, Chapter Members both from Long Beach and our sister Chapters far and wide, are a wonderful group of people. I would never have visited some of the places I have been to because of LCAM and met the people I have met, even just over the phone while making reservations while working for my boss or for trips I have taken on my own. EWI has truly transformed my life!”

Sustaining Member Mary Slusser – Mary Slusser came to us when the Orange County Chapter dissolved and has been an asset to the Long Beach Chapter ever since. Mary is sad not to have been able to join in the celebrations but extended her best wishes. “Congratulations to the Long Beach Chapter of Executive Women International on its 60th Anniversary celebration. I truly regret not being able to attend as I was in North Carolina until Feb 19th.”

“I have so many fond memories of this Chapter. I joined in the early 1980’s as representative of Long Beach Memorial Medical Center (LBMMC). I became President of the Chapter in 1986. When I was recruited to work for Bay Harbor Hospital in Harbor City in 1994, I represented them in the Long Beach Chapter as well. Then, I went to work for Anaheim Memorial Medical Center (AMMC) in 1999 and transferred to the Orange County Chapter. AMMC is owned by LBMMC. At all these places, I was able to host several memorable Firm Nights. I cherish these times as well as the education and camaraderie we all shared at numerous meetings, events and conventions. It has always been such a special support group, both professionally and personally.

Now that I am finally retired (2007). I am enjoying being a Sustaining Member of the Long Beach Chapter."

"God bless all of you and thank you for being my friends. The wonderful work you accomplish together goes a long way in benefitting both the community and each other. Here's to another GREAT 60 years!"