

2012 - 2013 BOARD

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Debra Bonsel

Newsletter Editor

Paula Stahel

Network of Executive Women

Networkexecutivewomen@gmail.com

WEBSITE

www.networkexecwomen.com

Our website is updated monthly and provides information about upcoming programs. For updates to the website or to submit information about your upcoming events please submit all your information to networkexecutivewomen@gmail.com by the 15th of the month.

Speaker: Rhonda Shear Shear Enterprises LLC



Tuesday, March 12th, 11:15 am
Centre Club 123 Westshore Blvd.
Individual \$50 - Table \$350

RSVP by noon Friday, March 8th through NEW website

Rhonda Shear, president of Shear Enterprises LLC and *Tampa Bay Business Journal's* 2012 entrepreneur of the year, will present the keynote address at NEW's annual EWOTY event.

Having spent 25 years in the Hollywood spotlight as an actress, comedienne and host, Shear learned the art of illusion and camouflage from Hollywood's top costume designers. Now, with her fresh, innovative and glamorous line of intimates, Rhonda brings these tricks of the trade to women everywhere on shopping networks worldwide, where she combines Hollywood glamour and fashion with comfortable, beautiful support in her unique designs.

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President's Message

March has finally arrived, and with it, our annual Exceptional Woman of the Year Event is right around the corner. As you know, NEW and the Exceptional Woman Scholarship Fund will award four \$1,000 scholarships to deserving women pursuing their educational paths. We will also recognize one truly exceptional woman who balances career and community success while pioneering causes that support women by

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Learn how you can become a member by visiting our website and downloading a membership application.

Join us on:



www.networkexecwomen.com

Events This Month

Brew Crew

Thurs., March 7:

Brew Crew, 8:30 am, will be at the Age-Less Medicine office of Dr. Linda McClintock, who was a guest at our February luncheon and generously offered to host us. Age-Less Medicine is located on the Atrium Level of Intercontinental Hotel, 4830 W. Kennedy Blvd, Tampa 33609

Painting with a Twist

Thurs, March 21:

Painting with a Twist, an interactive painting class that also involves adult beverages, takes place from 6:30–8:30 pm, 2821 S. MacDill Ave., Tampa 33629. Space is limited ... sign up now! Register for this fun event at <http://www.networkexecwomen.com/events>.

Monthly Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 20th, noon–1 p.m.

Forizs & Dogali PL, 4301 Anchor Plaza Parkway, Suite 300

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mentoring and sponsoring other future executives. The event promises to be truly spectacular, and I look forward to celebrating it with all of you — the generous sponsors; the scholarship winners; the EWOTY finalists; our emcee, Laura Moody; and our speaker, Rhonda Shear. Congratulations to Kristi Campbell and her committee, along with everyone else who worked so hard to bring this event to life.

We are now approximately half way through our 2012–13 NEW year, with many more business and networking opportunities on the horizon. Looking back, we have already accomplished so much this year. We've welcomed many new members. We've rolled out a mentoring program that pairs seasoned members with new members, to introduce them

to our committees and members. We've expanded networking opportunities beyond our monthly luncheon programs.

Diane Whitney, our networking vice-president, has made it even easier with fun and productive events, such as "Painting with a Twist" later this month — do not forget to register on-line. Also, mark your calendars for our NEW Brew Crew (the first Thursday morning of each month) and our NEW Brew Crew 2 (the third Thursday evening of each month).

And don't forget about our annual retreat. Discussions are underway as to where and when we'll get together to kick off our shoes and let down our hair. It's always a great and fun time for us to get to know each other better.

Also coming up in the next few weeks is the unveiling of a new logo that celebrates our long history. That long history will be celebrated at our July program, which, at the request of many members, will focus on networking activities. Special invitations will be extended to all former NEW members. We're looking forward to reconnecting with many of these wonderful women — and maybe even bring them back into our fold.

Networking is what you make of it. To truly benefit from the relationships you build, you must invest and commit to networking. With our group, that investment is easy for me, as I truly enjoy our members and embrace the relationships we form.

Beyond our networking events and programs, other opportunities are available for you to make the most of your 2012–13 NEW membership. If you have any ideas or thoughts regarding this year and its progress, I invite you to contact me. Plus, opportunities to be more involved in committees are still available, and your participation and input is more than welcome. Here's to the balance of 2013

–Haley Maple, President

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In 2001, Rhonda reunited with and married her childhood sweetheart, Van Fagan. The couple settled in St Petersburg, where they launched Shear Enterprises, LLC. A true passion project, Rhonda set out to create a line of sexy, shaping intimates for women of all sizes, in designs that focus on comfort and support without sacrificing femininity or style. Her line has been featured in leading industry publications, and in fashion shows and events around the world. With tremendous success on HSN, TSC: Canada, and other shopping channels worldwide, Shear's line continues to grow as she continues her lifelong career of empowering women everywhere.

Shear has been a champion for women from the very start. With early success on the beauty pageant circuit, including as "Miss Louisiana," she proved that beauty and brains are an unbeatable combination. After earning a B.A. in Communications at Loyola University, she became the youngest woman ever to run for public office in New Orleans. Though she lost that election — by a mere 135 votes — she decided to try her hand in Hollywood. She quickly received a vote of confidence from Bob Hope, who recognized her immense talent and cast her on the spot for his show. What was meant as a summer in Hollywood turned into 26 years with a successful career in TV, film and comedy. Her numerous credits range from *Happy Days* and *The A Team*, to *Dallas* and *Cheers*.

Shear was eventually tapped by "USA: Up All Night," and hosted more than 400 episodes over eight years. Her catchy and charismatic role led to countless talk show appearances and print features everywhere from *People* to *PLAYBOY*. It was a natural transition when she made her way into standup comedy, headlining as a successful comedienne in Las Vegas, Los Angeles and New York, and eventually touring across the country with her popular "PJ Party," an on-stage slumber party with a number of comedic talents.

Shear has taken her experiences on shows and red carpets and made them accessible to her customers. Within a few short years of its launch, Rhonda Shear Intimates developed into a booming brand known for

innovation, color, and fit. The "Ahh Bra" broke the mold in the infomercial world and helped expand the brand worldwide. Because of the incredible growth of her business and her unique approach to design and management, Shear has received prestigious recognition over the last few years, including Entrepreneur of the Year, FL for Ernst & Young 2012, Gulf Coast Business Review's Entrepreneur of the Year 2012, Tampa Bay Business Journal's Entrepreneurial Business Woman of the Year 2012, Best Product at HSN 2012, 3rd of the Top 50 Fastest Women Owned Businesses 2012, 3rd Place Stevie Award for Most Innovative Company 2012, and Enterprising Women 2012 among others. A regular speaker for women's groups around the US, Shear strives to encourage women to go for their dreams at any age and not to fear change.

Upcoming Events!

APRIL:

April 9 Luncheon:

Crystal tuner, Reiki master, and energy flow practitioner Patricia Nielsen, founder of "Sound & Light Crystal Bowls Experience."

April 18, Brew Crew 2:

6 pm, Bar Louie, 2223 N. Westshore Blvd., Tampa 33607

Scholarship Funds

50/50 Fundraiser

This luncheon fundraiser helps raise money we award annually to financially and academically deserving women in the Tampa Bay area. Fifty percent of money raised each month goes to scholarship and 50% goes to the winning ticket holder.

50/50 Fundraiser raised \$66 at the February lunch.

Additional contributions can be made on our website.

Special Thanks!

February's lunch meeting drew an extensive number of donations for the raffle! Thank you to these generous contributors:

- Samantha Bond, SBRecommends
- Tina Bubb, Bubb's Business Basics
- Lisa K. Ford, Invent Your Image
- Jeannie Holliday and Jodi Perez, Independent Financial Services
- Arik Lindsay, Chimera Investigative Group Inc.
- Haley Maple, Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin
- Laura Rehbein, Ameriprise
- Paula Stahel, Breath & Shadows Productions

EWOTY

The Exceptional Woman of the Year/Scholarship Award Luncheon is our annual opportunity to salute one special woman for her combined career, community and personal achievement, as well as support and foster young women pursuing their higher education and dreams toward success. This year's event will take place at the Centre Club on Tuesday, March 12, beginning at 11:30 am and tickets can be purchased for \$50 on our website.

Your contributions make a true difference in the lives of these young women. Please support our endeavors by being a sponsor, purchasing a centerpiece or helping us by providing a raffle item, and most definitely by attending the EWOTY event on March 12.

Website Info!

Now on the website is a new "Help" section under "About Us." There are two email addresses for you to contact, one for N.E.W. and one for website issues or questions.

We are also adding a "Help" video section. Although it is not professional by any means, it is a tool to walk you through handling some of the issues that have come up. We will be adding to this library as time allows.

If you have any questions, please reply to this email or check out the new help section on the website. <http://networkexecwomen.com/help>

Just another reminder—please update your profile. It is how we know who you are. If possible, upload a photo, as it's helpful in identifying our members.

The website allows each member to update her own profile, pay her events and dues online (via Paypal), have a central location for newsletters, and keep current with the happenings of N.E.W.

If you haven't had a chance to give it a spin, go to <http://networkexecwomen.com> and access your account. If you are a member, type in your email address and type in "password" for the password. If you have trouble, you can go to <http://networkexecwomen.com/Sys/ForgottenPasswordRequest> and get help with the password. If all else fails, contact Karen@compasspointz.com for assistance.

Non-members will have access to many areas, but the member directory is private.



NETWORK of EXECUTIVE WOMEN

Create your business vantage point
through membership with NEW

- Be a part of the select group - diverse executive women, able to share knowledge and experience in many different fields
- Monthly programs providing valuable information on the community, business strategies, and much more
- There are many opportunities to give back through various committees, scholarship drives and other outreach projects improving the lives of women and children in our local area
- Members business' are promoted through our social media, web-site, and monthly newsletter
- Each month at our luncheons, one member will be spotlighted allowing for a presentation on their business
- Participate in after hours networking at various locations in the Tampa Bay Community