



### Why I Brought Savannah with Me on TIAW's Chile Trip

By Stephanie Boyles, Former VP Technology, TIAW

I want my daughter Savannah to seek perspective that extends beyond her day-to-day American life and to know that she can make a difference in the world. I also wanted 10 days to be and learn and do with my 15 year old daughter. So when the opportunity surfaced to participate in TIAW's 2006 International Conference in Chile and while there to visit some recipients of TIAW-sponsored micro-loans, I asked Savannah if she would be interested in joining me. Our trip exceeded expectations in great measure. Both of us got to know women from all walks of life who are actively making the world a better place - these women ranged from my colleagues in TIAW, to political, business, social leaders in Chile, to the micro-loan recipients themselves.

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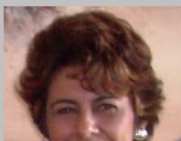
### AIWF Conference in Paris

By Silvia Cambié, Second Vice President, TIAW

In the midst of the current geopolitical crisis, the Middle East is sending a message of hope for the future of female economic empowerment in the region.

According to a recent study by the World Bank, in eight Arab countries, 13% of all companies are owned by women. These are no small start-ups, but rather medium to large-size companies which do not differ significantly - in terms of sector, exports or foreign direct investment - from those owned by men.

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### Committed Women's Groups Working Together Can Make a

# TIAW eConnections

TIAW eConnections is a Publication of The International Alliance for Women

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## No One Succeeds Alone

By Avil Beckford, Editor

There is truth to the adage that no one succeeds alone. And, many times, all that's needed is a little support in the right places. This issue of e-Connections focuses on supporting each other to achieve greater success.

TIAW's microenterprise program supports impoverished women in developing countries to start their own micro business. Kate Laneve, Director of TIAW's Corporate Women's Leadership Network developed a concept to support female university students. TIAW, OWIT (Organization of Women in International Trade), CWN (City Women's Network) and EPWN (European Professional Women's Network) are finding ways to work together to support professional women.

Each of us, in our own way can offer support to make a difference. It could be offering to be a mentor, volunteering, sponsoring a village bank or simply sharing knowledge. The possibilities are endless. Like the Beatles song says "Oh, I get by with a little help from my friends."



### President's Message

#### Supporting each other

It is clear that in this economic crisis, there has never been a greater need for women to support and encourage each other. In a great example of TIAW as a connector, the Rotman

School of Business, Toronto is collaborating with City Women's Network, London UK providing for their members a workshop on 'Women Affected by Downsizing' as well as a panel discussion 'Finance Crisis & Rescue: Lessons Learned'. At TIAW, we are preparing for the launch of our entrepreneurship teleseminars which will draw on the expertise of our members. They will highlight the practicalities and principles behind starting a business and help those who are established to successfully meet the challenges and minimize risks that accompany business success.

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### What you Learn in the Most Unexpected Places

By Sherry Fotheringham Gysler

Last November I attended the TIAW Global Partnership forum in Toronto, not as a member but as one of the inaugural winners of the TIAW World of Difference 100 Award. I was extremely impressed by the calibre of the conference, and the level of speakers that were



### Difference

By

Lilia Navarrete, President, OWIT

During a recent visit to Paris to attend the Arab International Women's Forum (AIWF) Conference, Diane Morris, President of The International Alliance for Women (TIAW), led a group of women leaders including Roz Morris, Vice President of City Women's Network in London and Lilia Navarrete, President & CEO of the Organization of Women in International Trade (OWIT) to a gathering where they were graciously invited to a luncheon hosted at the home of European Professional Women's Network Paris President, Marie Claude Peyrache.

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Conference, and the level of speakers that were in attendance that I decided to become a member. The award has inspired me to continue to make a difference, however I have decided to focus on young women starting their own careers.

I have researched the various online mentoring programs available for young women at the university level and noticed that while women's organizations have become quite prolific over the past fifteen years, little has been done to support and mentor young women. Thus integrating this idea with the TIAW's Daughters program that prepares young girls for financial independence could create countless opportunities.

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### Congratulations!



Juanita Woodward,

TIAW's Regional Director Asia Pacific wins award.

Juanita will be awarded the American Women's Association - **International Woman of the Year**- award for her work with PrimeTime and the benefits to the Singapore community.



### Real Stories from the Trenches – Taking Your Place on the Workforce Frontline

By

Kate Laneve, Chair, CWLN

*"It is so inspiring to see women of all ages not only being successful in the work place, but also doing so much to benefit others." Anonymous University of Georgia at Athens Student, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009*

Current research and trends indicate that women are leaving the global workforce at an alarming rate, many choosing to "opt out" just as they are entering their most productive years. The reasons for, and responses to this trend vary, but many of us agree that intervention is needed to encourage women to persevere.

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The International Alliance for Women is a global umbrella organization whose members encourage, develop, fund and implement programs that foster the economic empowerment and advancement of women.

TIAW eConnections is a monthly online newsletter publication of The International Alliance for Women. Please direct editorial submissions to TIAW at [info@tiaw.org](mailto:info@tiaw.org).

[www.TIAW.org](http://www.TIAW.org)

Tell A Friend

### TIAW & WLF (Women Leaders Forum) of the Coachella Valley in the News Today's Good News: Women's group lends helping hand

By K Kaufmann

#### The Desert Sun

Five thousand dollars goes a long way in San Bartolomé Actopan, a village of about 3,700 in central Mexico, where the Women Leaders Forum of the Coachella Valley has funded a microfinancing bank to help poor women open their own businesses.

Started last year with a \$5,000 donation from the Women Leaders, the communal bank has given small loans, ranging from \$50 to \$1,000 to a group of 16 women who call themselves "Las Optimistas" — the Optimists.

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