

# SPWP News



This month's meeting will be held January 10th, 2019 at the Norris Conference Center, beginning at 7:30 a.m.

Please respond to the PunchBowl Invite letting us know if you will be joining us or not. Regrets and RSVPs should be sent to Suzanne Short via email or the PunchBowl Invite. If you do not RSVP, we may not have the space to accommodate you. If you RSVP yes and do not attend, you will be charged the cost of the breakfast.

Reservations can be made by credit card (MasterCard, Visa or American Express) at the breakfast meeting or via PayPal on our Web site: [www.spwp.org](http://www.spwp.org).

Please remember to turn cell phones off or to silent during meetings.



## PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Hello Ladies,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays. As we move into 2019 I am so excited to see what the year ahead holds for SPWP.

First off, I would like to thank all of you for placing your trust in me to lead SPWP this year. I am truly honored, and I look forward to serving you. We have a fantastic group of ladies on our 2019 Board of Directors, and our aim is to continue providing our members with educational, professional development, and networking opportunities, while also growing our membership and increasing participation.

We plan to bring back our Derricks & Dice Casino event in 2019 after taking a year off, and we will need the full support and participation of our membership to make it, in addition to our golf tournament later in the year, a success! Remember that all funds raised through these two fundraising events go towards our scholarship program, which has just kicked off. We will be searching for volunteers for both our scholarship and casino committees in the near future so please stay tuned. Both committees provide a wonderful opportunity to become more engaged with SPWP and other members, either through helping to make our casino fundraising event a success or through meeting the deserving young women to whom we award scholarships.

If you haven't already done so, please connect with us on Facebook at the "Society of Professional Women in Petroleum, Houston" as well as on LinkedIn at "Society of Professional Women in Petroleum". Not only will this help you stay updated on our upcoming events, it will also help to grow our social media presence and to expose our organization to potential new members.

Sincerely,

Erin Stroud

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## DECEMBER MINUTES

President Sylvia Garcia called the meeting to order at 7:41 am on December 13, 2018 at the Norris Conference Centre. Sylvia welcomed all SPWP members and then introduced the 2018 Board of Directors.

Sylvia asked for a motion to approve the November 2018 minutes as written in the newsletter. Kim Gonzales approved and Renee' Brown seconded. No one opposed, so the minutes were approved as written.

Sylvia wished a happy birthday to all of the members born in December and requested that all members consider submitting 2019 speaker suggestions to the board.

Sylvia announced that the 2019 Scholarship Application is available online for all Houston area female high school seniors planning to attend a Texas university and encouraged attendees to share with their contacts.

Member at Large, Kadie Rose, announced the Volunteers of the Month as the 2018 Golf Committee for their efforts in ensuring another successful golf tournament benefitting our scholarship fund. Kadie also acknowledged the Featured Member of the Month as President Sylvia Garcia and thanked her for her service to SPWP.

Sylvia turned the meeting over to First VP Erin Stroud to lead the Holiday Party Games which included Christmas Song Pictionary, Christmas themed bingo and ornament exchange.

Sylvia opened the floor to announcements, but there weren't any.

Sylvia asked guests to introduce themselves. There were nine guests in attendance.

Sylvia thanked the outgoing board for their service and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sylvia reminded everyone that our next breakfast meeting is January 10th, 2019 and to like and share SPWP on Facebook.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 am. Some members and guest remained after the meeting to play more rounds of Christmas themed bingo.

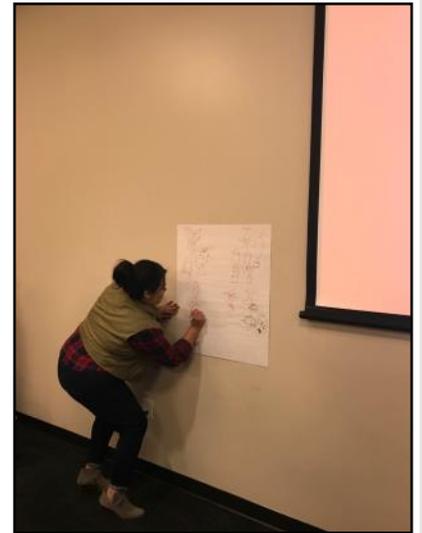
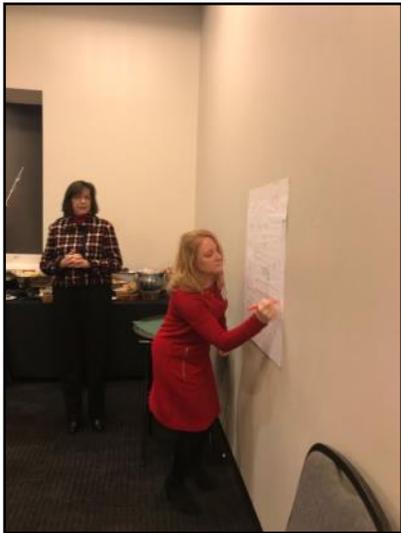
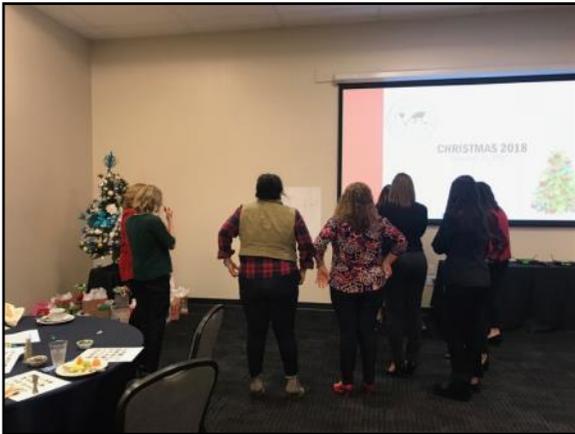
Respectfully submitted,  
Gina McGinn



# DECEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY



Thanks to Erin Stroud and Becky Lamson for coordinating another fun event for all in attendance!



# JANUARY FEATURED MEMBER

## Erin Stroud

1 How did you get started in the Oil & Gas Industry? *After I graduated from university I began applying for jobs that were posted in my faculty's career center. One of the jobs I applied to was National Oilwell Varco's Next Generation Program, and as luck would have it, I was chosen to be a part of the program's 5th class. I am from an Oil & Gas-centric city (Calgary) so a job in the industry was somewhat of a given.*

2 Area of Specialty (i.e. Sales, Engineering, Accounting, etc.)? *Proposals*

3 When people come to you for help, what do they usually want help with? *At work, I am looked to for help with writing and editing. In my personal life, it is help with trip planning (I am known amongst family/friends for my detailed trip itinerary spreadsheets!)*

4 Most influential person in your career and why? *I've been very lucky to have a number of people in my career who have been mentors to me and who have been role models, showing me what a great manager looks like and helping to guide me.*

5 Best career advice you've received? *You have to be your own advocate - own your value!*

6 Were you born in Houston? If not, what brought you here? *I was born in Calgary, Alberta, Canada and was transferred to Houston for work.*

7 Favorite place in the world? *Italy, Denmark, and the Canadia Rocky Mountains*

8 Favorite book or movie? *"A Fine Balance" by Rohinton Mistry is one of the most beautiful books I've ever read*

9 What hobby would you get into if time and money weren't an issue? *I would travel full-time. My bucket list is endless!*

10 How did you become involved with SPWP? *One of my team members, Kim Gonzales, is part of SPWP and after approving the breakfast meeting fees on her expense reports for several months I got curious and asked to tag along to the next meeting!*

Photos include Erin and husband in Amsterdam, Iceland, and San Miguel de Allende.



# JANUARY SPEAKER

## Suzanne Short



Suzanne specializes in retirement planning, wealth management and educational savings. She previously worked ten years as a petroleum engineer in various locations across North America.

Suzanne's presentation "Putting Your Retirement to Work" will discuss working with a financial advisor, vehicles for retirement savings and crucial steps to ensure a comfortable future.

# SPWP ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATES

Be expecting an email communication from the scholarship committee co-chairs requesting volunteers to grade applications and interview candidates, check references and/ or greet candidates on interview day.

## CASINO COMMITTEE UPDATES

Please let President Erin Stroud know if you are interested in co-chairing the 2019 Casino Committee.



**January 2**

**Rhonda Bean**

**January 17**

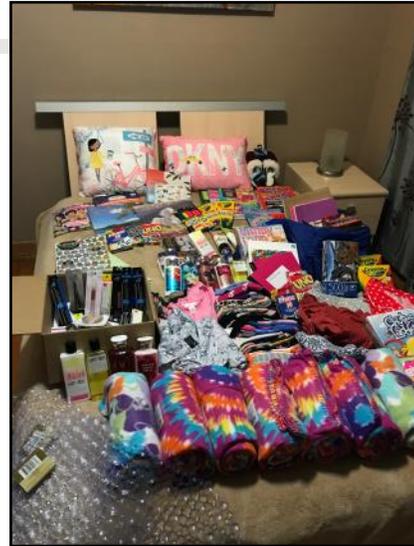
**Michelle Vincent**

# SPWP SCOOP

So what is going on with you?



SPWP's Annual December charity donation drive benefiting the Krause Children's Center for 2018 was a huge success. Sylvia Garcia purchased additional gifts with the monetary donations received from members and guests and was able to drop off many well received items for the children. The organizers expressed their gratitude to SPWP.

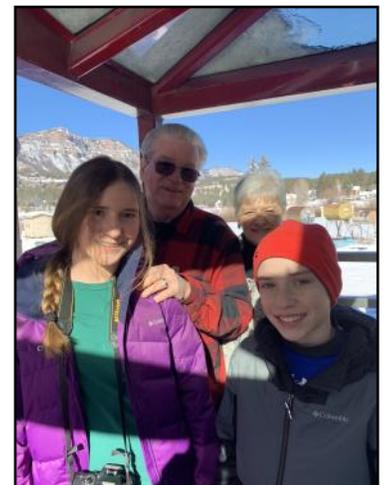


Erin Stroud and her husband spent the holidays exploring the Christmas markets of Amsterdam and Bruges.



Gina McGinn has a new role as Lead Proposals Specialist with Baker Hughes, a GE Company, focusing on BOP Overhauls and Repairs.

Sherry Adams, her mother and her husband, Bill, traveled to see Bill's youngest son's family in Pagosa Springs, CO. The rest of the family enjoyed skiing while Sherry enjoyed the scenery. The best part of the trip was the narrow-gauge train ride from Durango to Cascade, CO. Photos include Sherry and her mom and Bill and Sherry with their granddaughter, Emily, and grandson, Brayden.



# SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

## An update from one of our 2017 Scholarship Recipients...

*The Society of Professional Women in Petroleum's support has been incredibly meaningful to me throughout my career at the University of Texas at Austin. Having just finished my third semester, I have realized how being a first-generation college student has been both a blessing and a challenge. While it has been difficult navigating university life without the familial guidance many of my peers have, the passion and gratitude I have towards education has never wavered!*

*My first year at UT Austin was an important foundation for growth. I immediately found a home in several organizations, particularly Student Government and the Multicultural Engagement Center. Within Student Government, I was one of 21 Longhorn Legislative Aides, an incredibly competitive mentorship/internship program that connects me to several student leaders and initiatives designed to improve student life on-campus. Some of the projects I've worked on include the McCombs Mental Health Week, the Black Indigenous Women of Color Committee, and increasing ADA accessibility in West Campus. I was also an intern with the Multicultural Engagement Center, which armed me with the framework and knowledge to focus on advocacy and leadership. This internship led to me securing a Director of Operations position within the Multicultural Engagement Center, a position that allows me to work with several community leaders to develop programs focused on expanding resources to marginalized communities. With hard work and dedication, I also got to finish my freshman year with University Honors!*

*Through both these organizations, I found several best friends from every corner of campus. It's made university life a lot easier for me knowing that these people will be by my side for all four years of it. It's both inspiring and moving to see the directions my friends grow in while making memories for ourselves. We've done everything from pulling all-nighters together to going on hiking trips (one of the attached photos is from an excursion to Enchanted Rock where we blindly made our way through a forest in the dark for over an hour because we didn't think to use a hiking trail). From exploring study abroad opportunities to chasing dream internships, the connections I've made here have grounded me while helping me grow in confidence and self-awareness.*

*This past semester, I've also grown and adopted many new interests so that I'm constantly expanding. Since taking a course in Women's & Gender Studies (WGS) about feminism in pop culture, I have realized that I have a passion for academia and research in that particular field. Since then, I have added on a second major in WGS with specific interests in the politics of beauty and consumerism. I've also realized a passion for creative direction and design thinking, which are both growing fields that are beginning to shape many emerging industries today.*

*As we go into 2019, I look forward to cultivating these interests towards the field of marketing, the business concentration I have decided to pursue professionally. I also am on the search for potential summer internships with companies that I look up to. I am really excited for these future prospects and am immensely grateful for the support of SPWP!*

Lynn Huynh  
University of Texas  
Class of 2021



# CAREER CORNER

## The Three Phases Of Networking: What To Do Before, During And After An Event

You hear a lot that your network is your net worth, and about the importance of having influential people in your corner. And it's true, your network can be your gateway to opportunities you wouldn't necessarily have access to otherwise. So yes, networking (read: organic relationship building) is important.

What is lesser known is how to actually build meaningful relationships and remain consistent with people you meet at networking events. That's where Jamie Broderick's experience comes in; she is the founder of Jamie Broderick—a women's entrepreneurship coaching platform that shares what to do before, during and after an event to get the most out of it and to stand out from the crowd. After a successful 10-year career in corporate finance, Jamie leveraged her extensive network, business intuition and drive, to launch a business that has not only helped hundreds of women, but that fulfills her career dreams. She is an astute observer and connector, and the ideal expert to chat with about networking:

### **Before**

Do your homework. Find out who will be attending ahead of time. Some invitations come with a registration list, and others unfortunately don't. If the list isn't available, you may have some luck by checking the event site (for example, Facebook events typically show the list of attendees).

Once you have an idea of who will be there, research their background. Make a list of who you want to meet and develop preliminary ideas on how you can provide value to them. Start networking by engaging or connecting on social media, and also emailing to let them know you look forward to meeting them at the event.

To take it a step further, send a personal note to the organizers to tell them what you're looking forward to at the event. That will make you stand out in their eyes, and they'll likely facilitate introductions.

### **During**

Arrive early to meet the event organizers and mingle with the speakers. Ask them about their interests and projects, and figure out how you can be of help. Listen, pay attention and think creatively to determine how you can provide value to prospects and strategic partners.

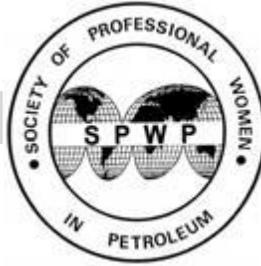
For successful networking, be less focused on the number of people you talk to and more on the quality of conversations. That said, don't be the person monopolizing speakers' time. If you want to take the relationship further, ask for their business card so you can follow up. This works better than handing out your info and hoping they will contact you. Be proactive and send them a message after the event. But before you leave, be sure to catch the people you talked to and say thank you and/or goodbye.

### **After**

Follow up with everyone you met immediately on LinkedIn with a note, a connection request and some helpful information. This is the first step before sending an email. Connect with everyone you met on any other social media platform they use. Share photos and videos from the event and talk about it on social media. Be sure to tag everyone in the photos to give them publicity and expand your visibility.

If you'd like to go the extra mile, blog about the experience. Be sure to link to as many people and companies as possible to increase the likelihood that they share it. Send photos to the event organizers, speakers and sponsors along with a message about your biggest takeaways. This will make you a memorable guest and position you to be invited to — and perhaps be involved in — the next event somehow.

*This information has been adapted from an article by Shelcy V. Joseph, which can be found at <https://www.forbes.com/sites/shelcyvjoseph/2018/12/21/the-3-phases-of-networking-what-to-do-before-during-and-after-an-event/#26c251356feb>*



The **Society of Professional Women in Petroleum** was formed in early 1981 to support professional career women in the Petroleum Industry through networking, education and the distribution of technology and information. SPWP is incorporated as a non-profit organization.

All aspects of drilling and production operations are covered through topical monthly breakfast meetings and industry speakers, and we constantly seek to further expand the knowledge of our members. We also feature professional development speakers and hold roundtable discussions on a rotating basis.

SPWP's membership consists of women who have active careers in the Oil & Gas Industry in fields including Engineering, Geology, Sales, Research, Finance, Law, Quality Assurance, Purchasing, Advertising and Marketing.

SPWP is dedicated to furthering the careers of women in the Oil & Gas Industry and as part of our mission, we have a merit-based scholarship program that provides financial assistance to female Houston-area high school seniors entering a Texas college. Our annual fundraisers on behalf of this program are made possible through the tremendous support of companies within the industry, as well as through the tireless dedication of our members.

### **Mission Statement**

*Supporting career women in the petroleum industry through technology and information.*



**February Breakfast Meeting      02/14**

**March Breakfast Meeting        03/14**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

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### Golf Committee

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### By-Laws Committee

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Co-Chair – Jerri Babin      Jerri.Babin@nov.com

**Please forward newsletter updates,  
comments, or questions to Gina McGinn at  
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