



A look at: EO Knoxville

Feeling alone in the world of entrepreneurship? You have access to powerful owners and entrepreneurs in East Tennessee and across the world through the Entrepreneurs' Organization Knoxville chapter.

What is EO?

As the world's only peer-to-peer network created exclusively for entrepreneurs, EO and its local chapter, EO Knoxville, help business owners learn and grow as leaders in their companies.

EO has grown to a global membership of more than 13,000 members who employ more than 2.8 million people across 173 chapters in 54 countries, responsible for revenues that would equate to the world's 23rd largest economy.

What is EO Knoxville?

The Knoxville chapter has 31 members who employ 1,359 people and represent nearly a \$1 billion contribution into the local economy and beyond. Its members band together to learn and grow through experience sharing and learning.

How does EO benefit entrepreneurs?

No entrepreneur is immune from challenges in business, family or personal life, and that's the common bond that each member has with one another. EO members share, encourage and support each other in a non-competitive, confidential setting by sharing experiences and best practices applicable to the real-life scenarios that owners are facing in the moment.

THREE BENEFITS TO AN ENTREPRENEURIAL FORUM:

Confidentiality

EO offers peer-to-peer learning and support through monthly meetings. EO focuses on creating a trusting environment in which they can safely explore business and personal growth issues.

Most people can share 95 percent of their lives with anyone. During forum meetings, members discuss the other 5 percent – the successes and misfortunes of life as an entrepreneur. Trained EO members guide the sessions, which emphasize confidentiality, personal responsibility and the sharing of lessons learned.

EO Knoxville also offers a Key Executive Forum for members' second-in-command and a Spousal Forum, designed to facilitate growth within entrepreneurial families.

Learning and social events

EO provides learning experiences on topics like increasing profits, defining culture, effective leader-level communications and work-life balance. These presentations and workshops are geared to provide the fuel that entrepreneurs need to create opportunities for growth.

Entrepreneurs breathe, sleep and eat their businesses, and when they are socializing, they are still talking shop. EO offers social events with like-minded people, with events like tailgates, Christmas cruises on the Tennessee River and annual family picnics.

Leadership development

EO's leadership approach not

only empowers fellow entrepreneurs, but the style transforms the entrepreneur's method of leading within their organization, their families and themselves. Through learning, entrepreneurs can overcome challenges like reluctance to delegate work, so they can focus on the big picture of growing their company.

With leadership opportunities on a local, regional and global level, EO members can hone their leadership skills even further by leading fellow leaders.

EO Knoxville's 2018-19 board traveled to Toronto in late April and last year's board convened alongside 170+ chapters in Germany for advanced training and

evaluation of presenters to bring to local events. Members expand cultural horizons, learn leadership best practices, and talk shop to apply into their business ventures.

If you are an entrepreneur always looking for ways to learn and grow, contact EO Knoxville today for more information about the benefits outlined above – and more.

Tom Gallaher is the outgoing president of EO Knoxville. He is the CEO of Gallaher, a leading asset protection and life safety company headquartered in Alcoa. For more information on EO Knoxville, go to www.eonet-work.org/knoxville or email admin@eoknoxville.com.

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