

President's Message

By Lori Lewandowski

I am so pleased and proud to be your 2011 FEW President. I have a few goals this year and look forward to your help in support in attaining them. FEW is nothing without its members, so that is what my primary goal is centered around - MEMBERSHIP. In the past few years we have seen a decline in membership from 2007, when we were more than 150 strong; 2010 closed out with 100. That is still a wonderful size, but I would like to see that number grow. FEW provides a great opportunity for professional women to connect with other professional women, both personally and professionally. I know that there are women you know who would benefit from our organization, so my challenge to you is to bring them to a meeting in the first quarter of 2011.

Another, yet companion, goal is to increase our exposure in the professional world. Wouldn't it be great if a male manager hired or promoted a female professional and suggested that the one organizations she should join is ours, Forum of Executive Women?

In thinking about my newsletter columns for this year, I decided that I would like to have a theme that would both be informative and inspirational. I've always been inspired by the powerful and influential women who came before us and helped pave the way for us as professional women, so every month I will tell you a little bit about a woman in American history who has been influential to me.

I couldn't start my year of presidency without paying tribute to The Founding Mothers of Forum of Executive Women. I had the pleasure of talking to two of the three - Sally Jo Baumgartner and Kathleen Crawford Bernick, who are both still members of FEW. The third founder was Peg Meyer. Those three all were executives in the early 1980s and were looking for opportunities to connect with other professional women. Because they were women, they could not join Rotary, Kiwanis and other all-male organizations, so like strong women that they were and are, they decided to start FEW. The first meeting was in January 1982 with about 50 women attending. What is so inspirational is that their purpose lives on today - connecting with other professional women and presenting provocative educational speakers. Thank you, Peg, Sally Jo and Kathleen!

See you at the January meeting when we will have Terry Gips presenting "The Business Case for Sustainability: Saving Money, Improving Performance and Gaining Competitive Advantage." Have I mentioned that we would love for you to bring a guest?



Lori Lewandowski
2011 Forum of
Executive Women
President

Exciting Meetings Ahead

January 12: The Business Case for Sustainability



Can business thrive during tough economic times? Is it possible to save money, improve performance and gain market advantage while becoming socially and environmentally responsible? Can business do well by doing good? Why are leading businesses building sustainability into their core strategy?

Come find out at this inspiring, interactive introductory look at a powerful, proven educational approach to sustainability called the Natural Step Framework (NSF), presented by Terry Gips.



2011 Meetings

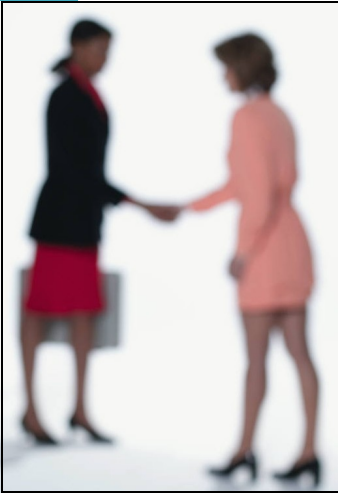
<i>January 12</i>	Terry Gips – The Business Case for Sustainability: Saving Money, Improving Performance and Gaining Competitive Advantage
<i>February 9</i>	Erin Bonitto - Alzheimers
<i>March 9</i>	Tara Tollefson – Social Media Part 1
<i>April 13</i>	Tara Tollefson – Social Media Part 2 (can attend 2 if you miss 1!)
<i>May 11</i>	Audrey Thomas, Organized Audrey – “Do’s and Don’ts of Gas in the Office” About Workplace Etiquette
<i>June 8</i>	Penny Beattie – “Spirit of Women” & Update on Women’s and Children’s Clinic Building Project
<i>July 13</i>	Hot Topic of the Month
<i>August 10</i>	Kate Hopper, Author – Motherhood, Memoir Writing and Tips for Getting Published
<i>September 14</i>	Cyrus International – Human Trafficking: “They’re Bringing Terror, We’re Bringing Hope”
<i>October 12</i>	MaryBeth Overland – Enneagram Inventory and Tapping Your Potential as a Leader
<i>November 9</i>	Business Meeting
<i>December 14</i>	Holiday Social

F.E.W. Announcements



E-Surveys replace paper

We want your feedback on your F.E.W. experience! After each meeting, you will be receiving an email with a link to a survey that will replace the paper survey at the table. There are several reasons for this switch, including saving time on tabulation and surveying our members who did not attend the meeting. When you return to your office following the meeting, your survey will be waiting for you in your email inbox, please take a few moments to share your thoughts with the Program Committee and the Board, so we can continue to improve your F.E.W. experience.



Share your F.E.W. links!

If you have done business or supported a member of F.E.W., share with other members how the experience went! We will start publishing your links in this newsletter next month. The mission of the Forum of Executive Women is that it is a non-profit organization that promotes growth and connection among professional women. Let's share how we are making great connections through F.E.W! Please email Brenda Brown (bbrown@csbsju.edu) a few sentences describing how you linked up with another F.E.W. member.



Fireside with F.E.W.

Some come for networking, some come to just relax with old and new friends. Either way, it's a great way to get to know your fellow F.E.W. members. We look forward to seeing you at Fireside with F.E.W.

Join us each Third Thursday at the Red Carpet Martini Lounge from 4:30—7:00 p.m. Our next gathering will be **Thurs., January 20th**.



F.E.W. Announcements

Keep your resolution to renew your F.E.W. Membership!

The deadline is fast approaching, be sure to renew your membership by January 31, 2011 to avoid becoming inactive.

Renew online by clicking "Renew Membership" on the Member's Section of the website, or use the membership form on the next page. We look forward to having you as a F.E.W. member in 2011 and beyond!

Catch up on F.E.W. *Minutes are on Website*

The monthly Board meeting minutes are on our the home page of the Member's Section of the F.E.W. website. You are invited to read up on what's happening with this great organization.

To see the minutes from the December Board Meeting, visit www.fewstcloud.org.





INVOICE – 2011 Membership Dues

Name of Member: _____

2011 Membership Dues \$ 170.00

Membership follows a calendar year (January 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011).

2011 membership dues are due and payable by December 15, 2010.

Include the name of the member on this invoice or somewhere on the check.

Please send this signed form and payment (by check) to:

Forum of Executive Women
PO Box 1451
St. Cloud, MN 56302

(Your membership dues payment may also be presented to the Meeting Coordinators, Treasurer, or Membership Vice-Presidents at our monthly meeting.)

Please complete the following required information regarding electronic communications:

As a FEW member/director, I consent to receive meeting notices at the following email address: _____ **or the following fax number** _____.

Name

Wednesday, January 19 Wake Up Call: Effective Strategies to Expand Your Career



Within this interactive session, we will review each of the best practices used to expand your career, including: building a strong network, refining career goals, establishing a personal brand, and developing new skills. This session will focus on expanding your career in your current organization.

Join facilitator Dr. Kurt Lindberg, Dean of the School of Business and Technology at The College of St. Scholastica for an energizing discussion about this timely topic.

Date: Wednesday, January 19, 7:30-9 a.m.
Where: The College of St. Scholastica St. Cloud Campus
4150 2nd Street South, Suite 330
Event is free, but registration is required by Jan. 18
RSVP Katie Wayne (320)529-6663 / kwayne@css.edu



The College of
St. Scholastica stcloud.css.edu