



November 2011 Newsletter

President's Message

By Lori Lewandowski, Wells Fargo

Thanksgiving will be here in a few short weeks. I hope you all take the time to be thankful for all of your blessings. Personally, I am thankful for all of you that have made my year as President of FEW a very rewarding and enjoyable 12 months. Thank you!

The other day on TV I heard them say it was Thanksgiving Day in Canada, so that made me wonder about the history of our holiday in the United States. I didn't even know Canada had Thanksgiving.

Believe it or not there is actually a "mother" of Thanksgiving. Sarah Josepha Hale is the woman responsible for getting the 4th Thursday in November a national holiday. Abraham Lincoln declared the holiday in 1863 in his Thanksgiving Proclamation. She was also the editor of the first women's magazine and fought tirelessly for equal education for girls. As if that isn't enough, she was a writer and wrote the words to "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

Our November meeting will be our annual business meeting, but it will also be full of fun. We will have the regular approval of the amendments to the by-laws, treasurer's report and election of officers. The fun will come with the unveiling of our new marketing plan – "My FEW" and a connecting exercise. Remember post-its from last year? See you all on November 9!



Lori Lewandowski
2011 Forum of
Executive Women
President

Exciting Meetings Ahead

November 9: It's Not All Takin' Care of Business!

Please join us for our annual business meeting where we will approve amendments to the by-laws, get the treasurer's report and hold the election of officers. But that's not all! We will also share the exciting results of our Focus Group sessions and enjoy an interactive networking activity using sticky notes. Start thinking about personal or business needs you might have ...



The meeting starts at 11:30 a.m. at the Le St-Germain Suite Hotel (formally the Radisson) in St. Cloud and includes lunch.

PLEASE PARK IN THE HOTEL SIDE OF THE PARKING LOT, THERE WILL BE SPACE AVAILABLE ON THAT SIDE EVEN IF THE LOT SIGN SAYS FULL. REMEMBER: PARKING IS FREE AT THE LE ST-GERMAIN SUITE HOTEL IF YOU ASK THE FRONT DESK TO VALIDATE YOUR BLUE PARKING TICKET!

2011 Meetings—Only One Left!

Join us December 14th at the Saint Cloud Country Club for our Holiday Social, featuring the vocal stylings of "Semi-Suite" with our own FEW member, Pam Nelson. The food is fun and delicious and the atmosphere is relaxed!

To share in the spirit of giving, please consider a gift of food or checks for the Catholic Charities food shelf. And if you'd like to unwrap a treasure for yourself, be sure to bring a gift for someone else to exchange (\$10-!5 suggested). As always, the gathering will begin at 11:30 a.m. We'll see you with bells on!



Featured FEW: Meet Our Academic Members

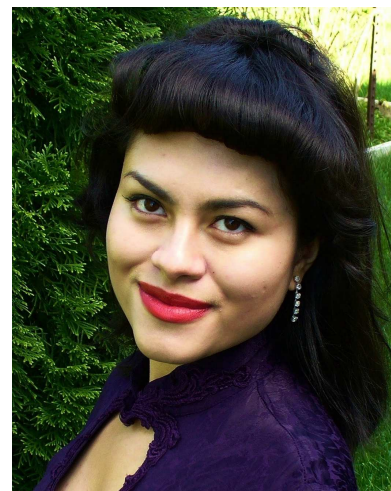


Kate Austad

"Going to school full-time, while maintaining a 4.0 GPA and working full-time, has helped me realize my high capacity for responsibility and achievement. Through applying what I have learned in school to my current organizational leadership position, I have developed a passion for coaching teams and individuals to maximize their potential while aligning with strategic organizational goals and outcomes. Post-graduation, I hope to find fulfillment in a leadership role that adds value to an organization and its most valuable asset: its employees."

Davina Schaetz

"I am a Senior Management major with a Business Administration concentration at the College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University in St. Cloud, Minnesota. After I graduate this year I hope to pursue a career in financial management or business consultation. My ultimate goal is to have my own business [or have my own firm] of my own one day."



Kelci Reiner

"I am a senior double majoring in Spanish and Economics at the College of Saint Benedict. After graduation, I hope to work in budget and financial policy in both the public and private sector."

Featured FEW: Meet Our Academic Members



Alyssia Pickstock

"I am a Senior at the College of Saint Benedict's/ Saint John's University. My major is Accounting/ Pre-Law with a minor in Asian Studies & Management. I will be graduating in May of 2012 and I plan on taking my CPA in 2012-2013 as well as attend law school with a concentration in Maritime Law."

Bethany Joy Huhta

"I will be a senior this fall at St. Cloud State University. I am a Human Resource Management Major with a Minor in Human Relations. Once I graduate I hope to further my education, hopefully by attending law school."



Jessica Town Gunderson

"I am completing my master's in Mass Communications and hope to become a world-class inspirational speaker. Currently I co-own and operate two businesses. The first is the Olive Branch Retreat in Grey Eagle, MN; a restorative getaway. My second business is MoXie Ladies; a historic home upcycling company. I also co-founded ShiFT the World; a happiness movement."

Upcoming Events

Join us for the next
**BREAKFAST
 with the B.E.S.T.**

(A bi-monthly training series presented by
 choice business leaders)

Date: November 9th, 2011

Time: 7:00 to 8:30 a.m.

Cost: \$25/per session

Place: MN Workforce Center, St. Cloud
 Technical & Community College, Door 2,
 St. Cloud, MN (Parking Lot B)

LEARN FROM THE PROS

- Which new technologies are expected to impact businesses most and how
- Understanding your IT needs
- The relationship among computers, phones, tablets, smart phones, etc.
- Allocation of IT resources
- Data security
- Processes that need adjusting
- What's next in business technology
- Group Share – what it means to you



TECHNOLOGY FOR BUSINESS ~ TODAY AND TOMORROW

Where to Begin with *Your* Company

Join us on November 9th to hear a panel of local experts explain how the fast changes in technology affect real businesses in our area. Pros from Marco, eBureau and NetGain will address what new technologies are emerging and how companies are responding.

Attendees will learn just how much of the need for new technology is perception instead of reality. This seminar is ideal for small business owners and operations managers who want to discover what to expect and where to begin when it comes to assessing a company's technology needs.



**Register now for breakfast and
 this great seminar!**

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Brought to you by Stearns-Benton Employment & Training Council
 in partnership with Stearns-Benton Workforce Council

FEW Announcements

Update your profile today

In the early days of FEW, each member received a coveted printed directory of members. This was your direct link to the other members of the group. That directory still exists, but it is now a members-only online directory, found on our website. If you have not yet created your personal profile, please make a point to do that soon. And if you have set up your profile, but haven't visited it in awhile, please review your information to make sure it is current and PLEASE upload a photo.

Want to get together outside of the meeting?

In the last online meeting survey, we asked about participation in Fireside with FEW. The majority of our members felt that they just couldn't schedule one more gathering, although they appreciated the gesture. Several people responded saying that they would like to get together for specific activities (book club, golf, drinks), but that the FEW Board does not need to schedule them. Got an idea of how to facilitate that? Please contact either Rebecca Kurowski at RKurowski@gw.stcdio.org or Brenda Brown at bbrown@sjprep.net.

Make the most of your membership: get involved!

We need someone who is handy with the camera to take digital photos at FEW events and meetings! If you are a shutterbug, or just don't mind snapping a few shots, please contact Brenda Brown, AVP Communications at bbrown@sjprep.net.



Mission Statement

The Forum of Executive Women is a non-profit organization that promotes growth and connection among professional women.