

**2009-2010
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President's Message by Jenny Daughetee, WLN President



Jenny Daughetee

Philanthropy is defined as the act of generosity associated with giving money, time or effort to a charitable cause or institution under the intention of improving the well being of humanity. Often, the term is used interchangeably with the word charity. Even with a difficult

economy, and many of us struggling with our own financial hardships, our support of charitable organizations has never been more important as it is today.

WLN is proud to be filled with members who give selflessly of their time and talent to all kinds of charities throughout the tri-state area. These volunteers spend countless hours to serve a common purpose. And although the organization is the intended recipient of our efforts, more often we find that the personal satisfaction of seeing the fruits of our labors is the greatest reward.

Just as important to many of these organizations is the donation of our treasures. Through our networking, we often hear of events that are being hosted in the hopes of raising funds required for these non-profit organizations. Without our financial support, the organizations would not have the supplies needed to help those most in need. The financial needs of area non-profit organizations do not go unnoticed by WLN or its members, as evidenced by the financial support that we have provided on an ongoing basis.

Thanksgiving is a time to feel gratitude for all of the good things in life. When things are going well for us, it can become very easy to "coast" and take these great things for granted. Conversely, during difficult times, we often get caught up in all of the stress and hardships that we endure, focusing more on what we do not have than what we

do have. Whether life is easy or difficult for you this month, remember to stop and reflect on what blessings that you do have. With the holidays approaching, it's the perfect time to share that appreciation with those most important to us.

Thanksgiving is the appointed time for focusing on the good in our lives.

In each of our days, we can find small blessings, but too often we overlook them, choosing instead to spend our time paying attention to problems.

We give our energy to those who cause us trouble instead of those who bring peace. Starting now, let's be on the lookout for the bits of pleasure in each hour, and appreciate the people who bring love and light to everyone who is blessed to know them.

You are one of those people. On Thanksgiving, we're thankful for you. Happy Thanksgiving!

By Joanna Fuchs

WLN is committed to the promotion and support of women, both personally and professionally. As part of that commitment, WLN donates to organizations in our community that will directly impact the mission of WLN. Over the past 16 months, WLN has donated to several charitable organizations, including Big Brother/Big Sister, Maria House, Dubuque Area Youth Leadership Council Scholarship, Dubuque Rotary Club Days of Caring, the Safe School Fund, Galena/Jo Daviess Historical Society, Sister Water Project and Hospice of Dubuque.

If you know of a local organization that is in need of support, consider submitting a donation request to the WLN Board. A request form and requirements can be found on our Web site at www.dubuquewln.org. Click on the menu option "Forms" then the document "Donation request."

November & Upcoming Events

The Juggling Act: Balancing Work and Life

This month we will hear from B'Ann Dittmar, market president for U.S. Bank, who will share strategies for "The Juggling Act: Balancing Work and Life." She will help us identify personal strengths in balancing work and our personal lives and indicate areas that could benefit from improvement. She will clarify the meaning of 'balance' as it relates to three areas of life and identify the keys to work and personal life satisfaction. She will also help us apply those tools in our own situations. If you want to learn how to put more "great days" in your life, please plan to attend this luncheon.



B'Ann Dittmar

Here are the details!

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, please bring a non-perishable food item to the November luncheon. WLN will donate all food items collected to the Dubuque Food Pantry. Thank you!

Date: Tuesday, November 24, 2009

Time: 11:30 - noon: Registration, Networking and Lunch
Noon - 1:00: Program

Where: Best Western Midway Hotel
3100 Dodge Street, Dubuque

Menu: Italian Bar - Chicken Spinach Penne Pasta, Spaghetti with Meatballs, Garlic Bread, Minestrone Soup, Caesar Salad, Peanut Butter Cookie Bar

Cost: Member price: \$12.00
Non-member price: \$15.00
and late RSVPs

RSVP: To avoid the \$3 late fee, register by Noon, Friday, Nov. 20. Use the online registration form at www.dubuquewln.org. E-mail cancellations to info@dubuquewln.org by Noon on Friday, Nov. 20.

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

- John F Kennedy

MERCY FESTIVAL OF TREES

NOVEMBER 20 - 28

Hotel Julien Dubuque • 200 Main Street • Dubuque

VIEWING OF THE TREES
8 A.M. - 10 P.M. DAILY
(including Thanksgiving)

Open to the public at no charge. The silent auction of the trees, wreaths and other holiday items continues until noon on Saturday, November 28.

Proceeds of the Festival will support the building of a new Intensive Care Unit at Mercy Medical Center - Dubuque.

For information visit
www.mercydubuque.com/FestivalofTrees

CALL (563) 589-8772 FOR INFORMATION

Upcoming Event

December Holiday Luncheon

Topic: Holiday Networking & Fun
Tuesday, December 15, 2009

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Hotel Julien

Register online at
www.dubuquewln.org

Member News

- **Shannon Lundgren** was elected to the Dubuque County Fair Association board. Also, Shannon has a new position with Queen B Radio. Way to go, Shannon!
- **Katie Lange** was promoted to accounting manager at Honkamp Krueger & Co., P.C. Congrats, Katie!

Meet A Member

Hillary Friedmann

1. Tell us about your family and social life.

I grew up in Guttenberg and now live in Farley with my husband, Karl. We have been married for just over a year and a half. I have an older brother who lives in Cedar Rapids with his family. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends and doing all sorts of outdoor activities, including spending time on the river, biking and walking. I am also a member of other organizations such as the Young Professionals and the Dubuque Jaycees, which present great opportunities to participate in new programs and activities.



2. Where do you work and what is your position?

I am an attorney with Kintzinger Law Firm, P.L.C., practicing primarily in the areas of estate planning, business and commercial law, and real estate, tax and employment law.

3. What did you enjoy most about the October luncheon on difficult conversations?

This was my first WLN meeting, so it was very nice to meet everyone and learn more about the group in general. I met quite a few interesting WLN members and picked up some valuable information on initiating and having difficult conversations, both personally and professionally.

4. How is being a member of WLN valuable to you?

In my profession I meet and interact with various members of the community here in Dubuque. It is also valuable to me to have the opportunity to meet with other professional women on a personal level. Much can be learned by interacting with other members from a wide spectrum of professions and learning from their varied experiences. From what I have seen so far, the WLN seems to be a terrific group that I am eager to learn more about.

5. Who do you think is a great leader and why?

There are far too many great leaders throughout history to choose just one. I think great leaders in general have the capacity to be innovative and inspire and facilitate change in others. When I think of a great leader, it is someone who leads by example, takes to heart what others have to offer, learns continuously and is not afraid to stand up for what they believe, while still remaining humble.

"Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving."

- W.T. Purkiser



The Board Recommends

- Web site: www.menus4moms.com
Music download: "Dream Big" by Ryan Shupe
Magazine: "SUCCESS"

REMINDER: Younkers Coupon Booklet Sales

Just a reminder that if you would like to purchase a Younker's Community Day coupon book from WLN, contact WLN president-elect, Jennifer Steines at jennifer.steines@usbank.com or 563-589-2234 by noon on Friday, Nov. 13. Booklets are \$5 each and include a \$10 off coupon, a 30% off early bird coupon, six 20% off coupons and much more. If you have any upcoming purchases that you know you will be making at Younker's, why not buy a booklet to support WLN and save some money at the same time? All proceeds will go toward WLN's Women of Achievement Awards.



October Recap

Difficult Conversations

On Tuesday, October 27, 2009, WLN's luncheon topic was "Difficult Conversations." Whether business related or personal, almost everyone has a challenging conversation they need to have with someone. Most do not know where to begin or how to conduct the conversation so they avoid it, stress out about it, lose sleep over it, etc. Pam Hillary, owner of Kneading Minds, a local business coaching organization, gave us an application-oriented presentation on this subject. Step by step, Pam introduced a process for setting up and handling difficult conversations. One major item the attendees learned is that you can never go wrong being sincere and being a good listener. Thank you Pam for your wise and useful information and thank you to the Best Western for being a wonderful host!



"Grace isn't a little prayer you chant before receiving a meal. It's a way to live."

- Jackie Windspear