

F.E.W. NEWSLETTER



FORUM OF EXECUTIVE WOMEN

May 2008

President's Message - Journeys



Lisa Maurer
President of F.E.W.

As women, we experience many journeys. Some examples may be the journey from childhood to womanhood, and from the heights of success to the valleys of hardship. There are journeys throughout our career and often onto new careers. In this sense, journeys are a transformation. Sometimes a journey is an escape that takes us

places. Hopefully, we are all planning some journeys for this summer that will take us away from home to special places, whether near or far. It is a good idea for us to get away and refresh ourselves. An essential component of every journey is our companions. Sometimes the journeys of life are traveled with family, with significant others, with friends, and with strangers that quickly become acquaintances and then friends. Within FEW, we are all on a journey as executive women. We navigate the strategic plans of our respective organizations, taking us into the

uncharted territory of the future. We manage relationships with customers and colleagues, who are companions on our business journey. It is refreshing to escape to our monthly FEW meeting. It is a fact that FEW helps us meet people we might not otherwise get to know. In this monthly assemblance, watch for morsels of provision... whether it is a lead on a sale, an encouragement, an introduction, a brilliant idea, or a new skill. Thank you for being a member of FEW and for being a part of this valuable network.

Meeting Information

Our next meeting, "Getting to Know Somali Culture" is on **Wednesday, May 14th, 11:30 a.m -1:00 p.m. at the Radisson.** We welcome Edban Nooh as our speaker. She has made an incredible life journey from Somalia to Central Minnesota. We will benefit from learning about her relocation to

the United States in order to escape civil unrest in Somalia. Edbah will also help FEW members understand cultural differences between Somali and American culture, help us embrace the ongoing transformation of our country through diversity, and help foster a spirit of companionship in our communities. This

dialogue will help us personally and professionally, in our workplaces, marketplaces, neighborhoods, and homes. Please bring a guest.

The programming year of FEW is now fully planned. Please go to our website at www.fewstcloud.org to look ahead to future month's programs.

Meeting Dates and Locations:

*ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD FROM
11:30AM - 1:00PM*

MAY 14TH, 2008
RADISSON

JUNE 11TH, 2008
HOLIDAY INN

JULY 9TH, 2008
RADISSON

AUGUST 13TH, 2008
CSB GORECKI DINING CENTER

SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2008
HOLIDAY INN

OCTOBER 8TH, 2008
RADISSON

NOVEMBER 12TH, 2008
RADISSON

DECEMBER 10TH, 2008
HOLIDAY INN

F.E.W. NEWSLETTER



Roll out the
red carpet!

Welcome New Members!

We are excited to introduce two new members to Forum of Executive Women in May!

Please Welcome:

**Mary Gordon with All Occasion Floral &
Suzanne Mesna with Northern Star Therapy**

Please introduce yourselves at the next meeting to make them feel welcome and also make some new friends!

Guests

FEW welcomes guests and prospective new members to attend our meetings for a fee of \$15 (payable at the meeting.) Please email Brianna Kappel (brikapp@yahoo.com) by Friday, May 9th if you intend to bring a guest to our May 14th meeting. Late registrants pay a guest fee of \$20.

Web Site Update!

As you are aware, FEW has been working diligently on ironing out some of the past and current issues of the website. We have explored solutions and have come to the conclusion to perform maintenance on our existing site rather than replace it. Critical updates are being identified and prioritized, and members should see ongoing improvements in this critical mode of communication within FEW. If you have any questions about the website Please talk to Lisa Maurer, Doris Illies (dillies@wacosa.org), or April Jacques (april@inhproperties.com) if you would like an update on what the Task Force is accomplishing.

Vegetarian Meals

If you are a member who would prefer a Vegetarian Meal at our monthly meetings, please email Laura Supan (lasupan@bremer.com).

We're on the web!

www.fewstcloud.org

Check it out!

Scholarship Recipient!

The Forum of Executive Women is pleased to announce that this year's High School Scholarship has been awarded to Brooke Lynn Dunsmoor.

A student at St. Cloud Apollo High School, Brooke is a dedicated and highly motivated student.

Brooke is planning to continue her education at the Concordia College in Moorhead, MN and pursue a degree in Exercise Science or athletic training with a minor in coaching.

Brooke is a three sport varsity athlete and a musician in the Apollo High School Symphony Orchestra. She has volunteered many hours throughout her junior and high school years for her church youth group, soccer and floor hockey teams and the VA medical center just to name a few.

Brooke overcame several life challenges and credits her parents and her high school mentors for being by her side when she needed them the most. She finished her basketball season averaging 14.5 points a game while pulling down 10.5 rebounds a game, on top of bringing her GPA.

Congratulations Brooke for receiving this award!

**"TODAY IS A
NEW DAY.
YOU WILL GET
OUT OF IT,
JUST WHAT
YOU PUT
INTO IT."
- MARY
PICKFORD
(1892-1979)**

May Announcements!

- Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin Lakes and Pines Council encourages everyone to attend Dreams to Reality: An Evening of Inspiration! on Thursday, June 12, 2008 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at the Mulligan's Event Center in Sartell. This fundraising event includes Hors D'oeuvres, Wine Bar, Live Music, Silent Auction, a program on the leadership power of Girl Scouts, and a keynote address by Mary Ann Baenninger, President of the College of St. Benedict. For tickets, contact the following FEW Members: Leigh Ann Davis, Jan Bensen, Cindy Lanoue-Sauer, Kendra Geiger, and Lisa Maurer or purchase them at the Waite Park Regional Center.
- The Women's Fund of The Central Minnesota Community Foundation presents "Women on Stage - At the Ranch" on Tuesday, June 24th, 2008, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. located at the Ranch of Elaine and Jerry Bauerly. Registrations are being taken in May. To register, please view CMCF's website at www.communitygiving.org and Click on News/Events or call the CMCF at (320) 253-4380.



FEW members are welcomed to make an announcement about news in their business or the community. Announcements are shared through this monthly newsletter, during our monthly meetings, on the FEW website and on the display table at the back of the room at each FEW meeting. Please submit any announcements to the VP of Communications, Doris Illies (dillies@wacosa.org) or give a readable announcement to Lisa Maurer on the meeting date.

Featured Member of the Month!

Each month we will feature a member of FEW! The member was chosen at our last meeting and given a questionnaire to fill out which we show below. For the month of May we would like to feature **Laurie Strack!**



FEW Member since: **2008**

Business Name: **We'll Get It Done**

Office Phone Number: **#320-266-8634**

What FEW subgroups are you involved in? **None so far, I'd like special events**

Hometown? **Minneapolis**

Family? **Husband Bob, sons Ryan, Matt and daughter Katie**

How do you help others succeed? **By helping them see their own strengths and focusing on those**

Is your desk/office messy or organized? **Usually organized!**

Are you a task-oriented person or a people-oriented person? **People-oriented**

Last book read? **Beneath a Marble Sky by John Shor (fabulous)**

Last vacation spot? **Tucson, Arizona**

Biggest Indulgence? **Shoes!**

What do you do for fun? **Time at my cabin with family and friends**

What do you think you'll be doing in 5 years? **Living each day to its fullest**

What one word would friends say best describes you? **Faithful**

What green (energy savings) tip can you share? **Recycle**

When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up? **Psychologist**

I recommend (book, movie, show, activity, restaurant, website, etc.) and why?

Beneath a Marble Sky by John Shor and Pride and Prejudice

What is your favorite clean joke? **Don't have one**

What would other FEW members be surprised to learn about you? **That I am going to be 50 on my next birthday!**

What is your personal or business philosophy? **Service, service and more service!**

Thank you Laurie!

FEW Mission Statement

The Forum of Executive Women is a non-profit organization of managers and professionals who value the connection between and among women and affirm their gender. The Forum of Executive Women encourage women as leaders and serves as a resource for its members and community.