

BUSINESS NAME

F.E.W. Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2008



Lisa Mauer
2008 President of FEW

President's Message - We Give Thanks

In the month of November, Americans have the great tradition of celebrating Thanksgiving. In November of 2008, there should be no exception.

Admittedly, this month has certain realities that can make us wince. We have donned our coats and have no hope of traveling without one for a few months. We face the last of Campaign 2008 advertisements in virtually every type of media, and we hesitate to think of the dollars that have been lost in our investment portfolios. I need not go on, and certainly you could add another couple thoughts that bring a furrow to your brow. Headlines have loomed heavier in Fall 2008 than for many years.

Nevertheless, it is November and we unconditionally give thanks. In spite of all that we may have lost, we pause to give thanks for all that we have. If you drove through the countryside of Minnesota over the past couple months, you noticed the farmlands delivered record crops. Gas prices have come down! We assign a special value to things that can be taken for granted: good health, the love of family and friends, enriching work, comfortable homes, and life in a good country. Surely we can have our health issues, financial concerns, and family matters, but we can always find someone who has a greater challenge than we have and we can identify blessings all around us.

I wish all of you many reasons to give thanks this Thanksgiving. May all that we have be all that we need.

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

**NOVEMBER 12TH, 2008
RADISSON**

**DECEMBER 10TH, 2008
HOLIDAY INN**

New Member Welcome!

FEW is proud to welcome the following new members:

Valerie Amberg, CDS Administrative Services LLC,
Lori Amundson, Quarry Title & Closing, LLC
Brenda Brown, St. John's Prep School
Wendy Hulsebus, Mission Consulting
Geri Randall, HELPS International
Eileen Bitzan, Central MN Task Force on Battered Women
Brenda Schermerhorn, Agency 128
Maretta Johannes, Midsota Plastic Surgeons

Please introduce yourself and welcome them to FEW.

Meeting Information

FEW's next meeting is to be held at the **Radisson Suites Hotel from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on Wed., November 12, 2008.** In addition to conducting the business of the FEW Annual Meeting, all members will enjoy a "Speed Networking" experience facilitated by Jill LaBorde of the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce.

Any FEW member who is unable to attend the Annual Meeting but would like to cast an absentee ballot can obtain one by sending an email to Kendra Hagen at Kendra.hagen@gpmlaw.com by Friday, Nov. 7, Kendra may also be reached by phone at (320) 252-4414.

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

Meeting Dates and Locations

November 12, 2008	Radisson	FEW Annual Business Meeting and Networking
December 10, 2008	Holiday Inn	FEW Holiday Party 2008

We have wonderful programs lined up for 2009, which we will be announcing soon!

Guests

FEW welcomes guests and prospective new members to attend our meetings for a fee of \$15 (payable at the meeting.) Please email Debbie Spaniol at wellgetitdone@aol.com by Thursday, November 6th, if you intend to bring a guest to our November 12th meeting. Late registrants pay a guest fee of \$20.

Web Site!



Did you know that you can have access to all of the FEW members contact information through the FEW website? If you haven't created a username and password for yourself simply go to the website at www.fewstcloud.org, click "Sign In" on the left hand side and create your profile. This is one of the many benefits offered to you as a member of FEW, so utilize it!

Thankful For You, Our Members

The FEW Board would like to thank you all for being members of the Forum of Executive Women. Every woman brings perspectives, experience, and connections that shape this great organization.

We appreciate your membership, and encourage you to renew your membership in FEW for 2009. An exciting year of programming and other benefits await you. Through email and traditional mail, you will receive a letter and invoice to help you process your renewal. Membership renewals for 2009 are being accepted through December 31, 2008.

Thankful For FEW Volunteers

As the 2008 President of FEW, I would like to take a moment to thank all of the volunteers who have diligently carried out the mission of FEW this past year. First of all, to the Board of Directors, who have generously given of their time to lead. Also, a note of thanks to their employers and colleagues who have supported their volunteerism.

FEW 2008 Board of Directors

VP of Programs and Incoming President 2009: Carol Howe-Veenstra, College of St. Benedict
 AVP of Programs: Jill Magelssen, Express Employment Professionals
 Past President 2008: Kris Smith, Creative Memories
 Treasurer: Lori Johnson, Schlenner Wenner
 Historian/Secretary of the Board: April Mastey, Stifel Nicolaus
 VP of Bylaws: Kendra Hagen, Gray Plant Mooty
 VP of Communications: Doris Illies, Productive Alternatives
 AVP of Communications: April Jacques, INH Commercial Real Estate
 VP of Meeting Coordination: Laura Supan, USBank
 AVP of Meeting Coordination: Debbie Spaniol, We'll Get It Done
 VP of Membership: Julie Nelson, Wells Fargo
 VP of Scholarship: Pam McIntosh, Rasmussen College
 AVP of Scholarship: Katie Kustritz, College of St. Scholastica
 VP of Special Projects: Susan Saetre, StillPointe Natural Health Center

“There’s always something to be thankful for. If you can’t pay your bills, you can be thankful you’re not one of your creditors.”

Secondly, to the 2008 FEW Program Committee, who have met monthly and carefully developed and delivered our powerful programs in 2008.

FEW Program Committee 2008

Carol Howe-Veenstra, Chair
 Jill Magelssen, Vice Chair
 Sandy Cordie
 Joy Doke
 LaVonne Rykhus
 Linda Hutchinson
 Laura Supan

Finally, to all other volunteers (too numerous to name) who have helped with the Nominations Committee and other projects throughout this past year. Many hands make light work.

Thankful for those who will serve on the 2009 FEW Board

Over the past several weeks, many of you have answered the call and thoughtfully considered serving on the FEW Board in 2009. We appreciate the pool of talent that we draw from, and will proudly announce the nominees for the 2009 Board at the next FEW Meeting.





Get to Know Us!

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 June we would like to feature **April A. Mastey!**

Name: **April A. Mastey**
 Business Name: **Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc.**
 FEW Member Since: **2002**
 Office Phone Number: **(320) 253-1300 or (800) 755-1150**
 Hometown: **Mason City, Iowa**

Family: **Patrick Mastey and I were recently married on August 11, 2007 and reside in St. Cloud. We are the owners of a 1 ½ year old Black Lab/Springer Spaniel mix named Tux.**

What FEW subgroups are you involved with? **Golf**

How do you help others succeed? (What do you do for work?): **I am a financial advisor and help my clients to accomplish many of their financial goals. It's a challenging yet rewarding career that I look forward to enjoying for many years to come.**

Is your desk/office messy or organized? **Organized**

Are you a task oriented person or a people-oriented person? **I feel my job requires me to be good at both skills.**

Last vacation spot:: **Our honeymoon in Alaska. We sailed the inside passage and it is truly breathtaking. We can't wait to go back for more exploring and site-seeing.**

Biggest indulgence: **Pedicures and manicures**

What do you do for fun? **We like to get together with friends/family and play card games and board games. We also enjoy going to concerts and plays. We enjoy supporting many of the local event centers/theatres.**

What do you think you'll be doing in 5 years? **Professionally: Assisting many retirees with retirement planning and working with those individuals going through life changes. Personally: Maybe we'll be blessed with a little one. Time will tell.**

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

What green (energy savings) tip can you share? **Turn the temperature down while you are not at home. Each degree you turn down saves approximately 3 percent of heating costs.**

When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up? **A medical doctor. I always wanted to help people. Working in the financial industry, I am able to help individuals/corporations every day with many of their financial matters.**

I recommend (book, movie, show, activity, restaurant, website, ect) and why? **I recommend watching Pursuit of Happiness. Don't take life or relationships for granted. The grass isn't always greener on the other side. Appreciate all that you have been blessed with.**

What would other FEW members be surprised to learn about you? **I know how to pour concrete and shingle roofs. I enjoy decorative concrete because when you are finished you have a beautiful piece of artwork.**

What is your personal or business philosophy? **I apply my personal philosophy to business. I treat all people with the same amount of respect as I would expect from them.**

Have You
Heard?



Announcements!

The **Gather the Women** event, which is a celebration of International Women's Day, will be celebrated again at the College of St. Benedict on Saturday, March 21. This day promotes the development of feminine leadership and supports networking with women of all cultures in our community.

If you are interested in purchasing a coupon booklet for Community Days at Herberger's for \$5, which in turn gives you a \$10 coupon towards your purchase, please see FEW member, Marilyn Brinkman in the back after the meeting. All funds raised will help keep this event free of charge.

Time to Renew Your Membership!

It is time to renew your FEW membership for 2009! Attached is a copy of the invoice. The cost of membership for the entire year is \$170.00. You can either send your check in or bring payment to the next FEW meeting! Please pay your 2009 membership dues by **December 31st, 2008.**



Member:

INVOICE

2009 Membership Dues \$ 170.00

Please remit payment to:

Lori R. Johnson – Treasurer
Forum of Executive Women
PO Box 1451
St. Cloud, MN 56302

(Please include name of member with payment.)

Please pay your 2009 dues by December 31st, 2008. You can either send it in or bring your invoice and check to the next FEW meeting!