

# LAW OF POLK COUNTY, INC.

## THE BRIEF

SUMMER/FALL 2012

### PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

LAW Friends,

Our work this upcoming year will benefit one of Des Moines' most critical, caring and competent organizations when it comes to assisting children and families in need. This organization operates 24 – 7 – 365. Make that 366 this year. This organization serves newborn – 17. This organization can utilize donations of any type – money, time, gift cards, diapers... anything and everything related to raising a child. LAW worked for this program years ago, and we are amazed how much they now do.

**Youth Emergency Services & Shelter YESS Healing Families. Changing Lives. Every Day.**

A group of about 12 LAW members and spouses visited the shelter this summer. Our **October General Membership meeting will be held at the shelter**. Come. The children, staff, and facility will make you smile.

The year will begin with our traditional **September Fall Fashions**. This is an opportunity to catch up with old friends and to meet some new friends. The common thread in LAW is that our spouse is an attorney – unique thinkers

they are, and we get to live with them! Not all spouses are in a traditional law practice. Professions in financial services, insurance, broadcasting, legislation, and others are represented... by the spouse or the LAW member! We are a diverse group. I challenge veteran members to print (or email) a copy of The Brief and offer it to someone who is married to an attorney. Help get the message out that **LAW of Polk County is a great avenue to meet others and to serve our community**. Look for September Dinner information in another section of this edition of The Brief.

The November General Meeting will be Vom Fass which will offer us a chance to Learn about exclusive cask-aged vinegars, exquisite culinary oils, as well as rare spirits and liqueurs and select wines. Look ~ Taste ~ Enjoy is the VOM FASS motto

And in December, my husband and I are looking forward to seeing you (and your spouse too!) at the LAW Holiday Open House at our home. It can be a busy time of year, but please make time to stop by.

Yours

Karen Leibold

### LAW BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011

*President*

**Karen Leibold**

*President-Elect*

**Denise McAfee**

*VP for Membership*

**Barb Norton**

*Secretary*

**April Poulsen**

*Treasurer*

**Val Witt**

*Courtesy/ Historian*

**Ellen Hansing**

*Hospitality/ Program*

**Deanne Gummert**

*May Wine Dinner*

**Juli Margolin**

*Nominating*

**Kathy Poetting**

*Philanthropy*

**TBA**

*Communications*

**Lynne Updegraff**

*Scholarship*

**Liz Hodgson**

*Service Project*

**Kari Holth**

*Targeted Needs*

**Darlene Brickman**

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**FALL 2011 LAW MEETING SCHEDULE**

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DATE	MEETING	TIME	LOCATION
Tuesday, August 28	Board	7 pm	Home of Denise McAfee, 3000 School Street, Des Moines Treats: Denise
Thursday, September 6	General	6:30 pm	Talbots at Jordan Creek Jordan Creek Town Center 101 Jordan Creek Pky, WDM
Tuesday, September 25	Board	7 pm	Barb Norton 241 Thornhill Rd, Norwalk Treats: Ellen Hansing
Thursday, October 4	General	7 pm	YESS Office 918 SE 11th St Des Moines
Tuesday, October 23	Board	7 pm	Val Witt 4342 Oakwood Lane, WDM Treats: Juli Margolin
Thursday, November 1	General	7 pm	Vom Fass The Shops at Roosevelt 833 42nd St Des Moines
Tuesday, November 22	Board	7 pm	Lynne Updegraff 1740 NW 103rd St, Clive Treats: Deanne Gummert
Thursday, December 6	General	6:30 pm	Home of Karen Leibold 1550 NW 75th St Clive

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS - FALL 2012

### **Thursday, September 6 at 6:30pm**

Talbots at Jordan Creek  
Jordan Creek Town Center  
101 Jordan Creek Parkway,  
West Des Moines

Join us as we kick off the LAW 2012-13 year at Talbots. WE will enjoy getting together with old and new LAW friends while the staff at Talbots show us what's HOT fashion wise for the Fall season. They will show us how to "mix and match" clothing and accessories to create new looks for our closets and busy lives.

Please bring ONE clothing/accessory item from your closet that you would like the ladies of Talbots to show you NEW ways to wear that piece. Do a little shopping for yourself and receive 20% off certain items courtesy of Talbots.

We'll be having appetizers/desserts catered by Barattas. Cost will be \$19.95. Please RSVP by Monday, September 3 by sending a check, written out to LAW of Polk County, Inc., to

Deanne Gummert  
6672 NW 4th Court  
Des Moines, Iowa 50313

### **Thursday, October 4 at 7pm**

Y.E.S.S. (Youth Emergency Services and Shelter of Iowa)  
918 SE 11th St, Des Moines

Come learn more about Y.E.S.S. and how we will be supporting and raising money for their work with troubled youth and their families.

"Youth Emergency Services and Shelter of Iowa"—commonly referred to as YESS— is a private, non-profit organization in Des Moines, IA.

YESS has helped kids and parents be families since 1973. From its beginning as a small drop-in center for teens, YESS has grown into a well-established and highly regarded agency designed to keep children continues to be a vital safety-net in the community. Providing safety, care and support for children, newborn through age 17, and their families during times of crisis in their lives.

Youth Emergency Services & Shelters provides emergency shelter, respite, crisis care and counseling for these children.

### **Thursday, November 1 at 7pm**

Vom Fass  
The Shops at Roosevelt  
833 42nd St  
Des Moines



VOM FASS literally translates "from the cask," VOM FASS offers a truly novel experience for all who love to sample the finest and most flavorful products from around the globe.

VOM FASS offers exclusive cask-aged vinegars, exquisite culinary oils, as well as rare spirits and liqueurs and select wines. Look ~ Taste ~ Enjoy is the VOM FASS motto!

### **Thursday, December 6 at 6:30pm**

LAW Annual Holiday Party  
Home of Karen & Chuck Liebold  
1550 NW 75th St  
Clive

Take a break from all your holiday festivities and join fellow LAW members and their spouses. LAW president Karen Liebold and her husband Chuck welcome us into their home for an evening of food, fun and friendship.

## VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEMBERSHIP REPORT

LAW of Polk County continually seeks out individuals who want to make a difference in the Des Moines community through our philanthropic endeavors. If you know of anyone who would be interested in joining LAW, please contact me at 953-5444 or email me at [ganorton15@mchsi.com](mailto:ganorton15@mchsi.com) with names and contact information. Also, we would like to welcome back former members who haven't been active in awhile.

Please watch for emails announcing membership activities that will occur throughout the year. These will be fun events that will sometimes include the whole family. We hope to see you at one of these events.

Barb Norton

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## FUTURE PLANNING UPDATE

Get involved in the future of our great organization by attending the Future Planning meeting. Anyone, from "vintage" members to new members, are welcome. Topics will include future activities and ways to increase membership and participation. This is the time to share all your great ideas on speakers, fundraisers, and small interest groups that you would like to see formed.

We will meet at the home of President-Elect Denise McAfee. The date and time are tentatively set for Thursday, October 25, 2012, 7 pm. We will email a reminder with confirmation of date and time. Daytime is an option too if there is interest. Another session will be held in January or February 2013. You may attend either or both sessions.

Come brainstorm and be a part of the future of LAW!

Denise McAfee , President-Elect

## PHILANTHROPIC COMMITTEE

LAW of Polk County has a long history of supporting charities in Polk County that help women and children. The Philanthropic Committee is charged with the responsibility of choosing a group to receive funds raised in 2011-2012. The committee also discusses and decides possible fundraisers for the following year.

If you would like to help choose next year's recipient and decide on our fundraising efforts, please come to the Philanthropic Committee meetings. Meetings will

be held in January and will be announced in the winter issue of the Brief as well as through e-mail. Finally, if you know of a worthy group interested in applying to be our recipient, please notify send an email to: [lawpolkcounty@gmail.com](mailto:lawpolkcounty@gmail.com).

A copy of the grant form can be found on our website [www.lawpolkcounty.com](http://www.lawpolkcounty.com).

## COURTESY UPDATE

As Courtesy-Historian chair, please contact me with any news about yourself or any LAW of Polk County members so that the information can be acknowledged and or shared with our membership. I also have the happy duty of making bibs for the latest legal issues and I will probably need a full 9 month notice to complete one! Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Ellen Hansing  
[hansing@raccoon.com](mailto:hansing@raccoon.com)  
 515-250-7118

## SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

The 2012 Cristine Swanson Wilson Scholarship was awarded to University of Iowa student Jennifer Terry. Jennifer was among a group of deserving candidates who all fit the qualifications of having a commitment to public service while being a non-traditional law student.

Jennifer was born and raised on a dairy farm in Hardin County. Jennifer is a non-traditional law student as she decided to pursue her undergraduate degree and juris doctorate after over 20 years in the corporate world and she is the mother to two daughters. As an undergrad, Jennifer volunteered for projects helping children, people in crisis and poverty, and victims of violent crimes in Johnson County. Jennifer is an intern at the University's Legal Clinic, assisting in the representation of clients who are experiencing the potential loss of their parental rights. She has interned with the Area Prosecutions Division of the Iowa Attorney General's office and this summer is prosecuting cases

as a certified legal intern with the Scott County Attorney's office. We are very pleased to award Jennifer the \$2,000 Cristine Swanson Wilson Scholarship.

The scholarship funds is administered by the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines. A portion of your annual dues is a tax-deductible donation that supports the scholarship fund, and we welcome all additional donations that keep this scholarship fund growing. I look forward to chairing the committee this coming year. Please contact me if you are interested in being on the committee to help determine next year's recipient.

Liz Hodgson, Scholarship Chair

## BOOK CLUB AND GROUPS

Book Club meets at 7:00 pm the second Thursday of the month at Panera Bread restaurant, 4150 Westown Pkwy Ste 202, West Des Moines.

The Group will be forming for the fall so please let them know if you are interested. Books will be chosen in September after the General meeting.

If you are interested please contact Darlene Brickman, her email is: [darbrick@msn.com](mailto:darbrick@msn.com)

If you are interested in starting a group or finding others that share an interest please send an email to:

[lawpolkcounty@gmail.com](mailto:lawpolkcounty@gmail.com).

Ideas for groups might include

- Dinner Club— Garden Club
- Card Club
- Games Club
- Needlework or sewing
- Movie Night
- Mothers Night Out

## NOMINATING UPDATE

Elections were held at the May Wine Dinner for the three non-board positions for the Nominating Committee. Those elected and agreeing to serve this year are Liz Brennan, Rita Pray, and Nancy Strater. Thank You, Ladies!! These three members, along with the President-Elect, Denise McAfee; VP for Membership, Barb Norton; and Nominating Chair, Kathy Poetting will be responsible for proposing the executive board for the year 2013-2014. All committee members need to attend one Board Meeting before January 2013.

If you are interested in an executive position (President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer or Vice President for Membership) for the 2013-2014 board please contact one of the people listed above. Thank you to the Nominating Committee members for their willingness to serve on the Nominating Committee.

2012 Nominating Chair  
Kathy Poetting

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## MAY WINE DINNER

The May Wine Dinner Committee is beginning to plan for the 2013 event! I would love to have input from you. If you want to be part of the May Wine Dinner Committee please contact me at [jjmargolin@msn.com](mailto:jjmargolin@msn.com). The committee will gladly consider locations, caterers, and ideas and suggestions for this annual end of year gathering.

2012 Committee Chair  
Julie Margolin

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## SERVICE PROJECT UPDATE

This year our recipient is YESS - Youth Emergency Services & Shelter Of Iowa. Every day, kids and their families turn to YESS during times of uncertainty and crisis. Without YESS, many kids and parents would have no place to turn. YESS offers hope, healing and help to change lives.

Like 2012 we will have a Non-Event Fundraiser for 2013. Even though we do not have a set goal for the amount raised we hope to raise about \$5,000 for this very worthy cause. We will aim to have pledge cards available prior to the end of the year to allow individuals and firms the ability to have their gift counted for the 2012 tax year, or allow them to budget for their 2013 tax year.

Our deadline for pledges will be in early February 2013. We hope to have a reveal party in February to announce the final amount. This event was cancelled this year because of a snowstorm, so lets hope for great weather this time around. I welcome any other additional ideas for how to maximize this fundraising effort.

Kari Holth  
Service Project Chair  
[515.490.1404](tel:515.490.1404)  
[kariholth@firsttreatyhomes.com](mailto:kariholth@firsttreatyhomes.com)

## YOUTH EMERGENCY SERVICES & SHELTER OF IOWA-2012 RECIPIENT

“Youth Emergency Services and Shelter of Iowa”—commonly referred to as YESS—is a private, non-profit organization in Des Moines, IA and LAW 2012 Service Project Recipient.

YESS has helped kids and parents be families since 1973. From its beginning as a small drop-n center for teens, YESS has grown into a well-established and highly regarded agency designed to keep children continues to be a vital safety-net in the community. Providing safety, car and support for children, newborn through age 17, and their families during times of crisis in their lives.

Youth Emergency Services & Shelters provides emergency shelter, respite, crisis care and counseling for these children. LAW of Polk County will support YESS through funds raised by their Service Project and by fulfilling daily needs of these children through our monthly targeted needs drive. Please see the list of items needed in the article below. We will also be going to the Shelter to provide some one on one and group project time with the children. If you are interested in these activities join LAW and keep watching your emails.

### TARGETED NEEDS

The recipient this year is the Youth Emergency Services and Shelter at 918 SE 11<sup>th</sup> Street in Des Moines. They provide over 1,000 children each year shelter, respite, crisis care, counseling and education for children from birth through age 17. Causes of the need for shelter and services include problems such as trouble at school, physical, sexual or psychological abuse in the home, running away from home, drug and alcohol abuse, lack of a family support system, severe illness in the family, anger problems, and homelessness.

LAW members and their husbands had the first activity with some of the teen-aged young people in July. We had a pizza party and then some of us played games with the boys and some of us did a button craft, led by Karen Leibold, with the girls. We and the young people all had a good time!

There will be further activities scheduled such as reading books to the younger children and a Christmas party that you will receive information about and be asked for help.

And as we do every year, we will bring items to the meetings for the recipient.

#### **The list of items that YESS has requested is as follows:**

Deodorant  
Bar Soap/Body Wash  
Hair brushes/combs  
Hand and Body Lotion  
Hair Gel/Grease  
Shampoo & Conditioner  
Kleenex/tissues  
Baby Wipes  
Pull Ups (boys' size 4-5)  
Toddler Underwear  
New Men's Undershirts  
New Teen Girls' Underwear  
New Sweat Suits & PJ's (all sizes)

Athletic Socks (toddler & teen sizes)  
Tempera Paints  
Construction Paper  
Bath Rugs/Mats  
Kitchen Towels and Hot Pads  
Financial Gifts  
Gift Certificates

The shelter really appreciates tickets to games or other entertainment events. There will be staff to take the young people to these.

I will also obtain a list of any particular timely needs before each meeting and provide that to you.  
Thank you in advance for your participation and contributions—

Your Targeted Needs Chair,  
Darlene Brickman

## MORE ABOUT YESS THE 2012 SERVICE PROJECT RECIPIENT



Youth Emergency Services & Shelter meets the critical needs of the community by providing a continuum of quality programs designed to keep children safe and families together.

### Description:

YESS has helped kids and parents be families since 1973. From its beginning as a small drop-in center for teens, YESS has grown into a well-established and highly regarded agency designed to keep children safe and families together. The range of YESS' programs and services for children continues to be a vital safety-net in the community, providing safety, care and support for children, newborn through age 17, and their families during times of crisis.

### History:

Since incorporation in 1973 as the Iowa Runaway Service, YESS has grown in response to the changing needs of our community. In the early 1970's community leaders established a drop-in counseling center at the Downtown YMCA to address growing concerns about youth and their problems. Counseling led to an understanding of the complex problems runaways face, and the community came to the realization that home wasn't always a safe place. A volunteer network of "host home" families was established to provide short-term emergency shelter while drop-in center staff provided counseling. In the late 70's, as the need for emergency shelter outgrew the volunteer "host home" network, Don & Margo Blumenthal generously donated two houses to the agency. Here, counseling and shelter were combined, and the program was able to focus on the family as a whole, not just the runaway.

By 1985, the demand for emergency shelter had outgrown the capacity of the houses and the agency leased space in Hawthorn Hill, an old multi-service building near Downtown Des Moines. The agency's name was changed to Youth Emergency Services & Shelter (YESS), reflecting a commitment to all youth, not just runaways. Family reunification became the primary goal of the shelter and counseling services whenever possible. An overwhelming growth in the number of young people in need of the emergency shelter program and the impending closure of Hawthorn Hill forced YESS to move once again.

After an exhaustive facility search and renovation, (supported by a \$2.75 million dollar capital campaign), YESS relocated to its current location – The Steven N. Blank Variety Club Youth Center – in 1996. At this facility, YESS has been able to expand critical programming and develop new collaborative services in response to community needs and demands.

In response to the growing community need to provide crisis care to very young children, YESS established Iowa's first site-based 24-hour crisis nursery for babies and young children. Named in honor of Don & Margo Blumenthal's decades of commitment to children, The Blumenthal Crisis Nursery opened in 1999. The establishment of the crisis nursery was a natural and logical extension of the agency's mission, core values and services YESS had been providing to youth and families since 1973. With the establishment of the crisis nursery, children – newborn through age 17, could now find safety at YESS.

**Web Site:** <http://www.yessiowa.org>

**LAW of Polk County will be supporting YESS** through funds raised by the service project, items gathered by our monthly Targeted Needs drive and by periodic visits to the shelter to interact with the residents. If you would like to read to the residents, do crafts, play games or other activities let us know by emailing: [lawpolkcounty@gmail.com](mailto:lawpolkcounty@gmail.com)



# 2012-2013 LAW MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Mail to: PO Box 65502, West Des Moines, IA 50265**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Firm or Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

You will receive The Brief via email and a directory of all members via email. (If you do not have email, please contact Karen Leibold at 255-2592.) You will be part of an organization that promotes women, children, and families in Iowa!

- New address                       New phone number                       New e-mail.

**I would like to receive the LAW Brief (newsletter) via email instead of a printed copy.**

Contact me via e-mail to remind me of upcoming meetings & events.

I would like a phone call to remind me about LAW events.

I would like to be contacted to serve on a committee this year.

Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to host a General Meeting

I would bring treats to a General Meeting

Payment of dues offers entrance to the Holiday Party and all General Meetings. You will receive The Brief and a directory of all members. You will also be part of an organization that promotes women and children in Iowa through our Service Projects and Scholarship.

### 2012-2013 LAW FEES

**\$40.....Yearly Dues** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Dues include a \$5 tax-deductible donation to Scholarship Fund.)

**\$10.....Student Dues \$10** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(If you are a spouse of a Law student, use this lower membership fee.)

**.....Additional Donation to Scholarship Fund** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make check payable to: LAW of Polk County**  
**Mail to: PO Box 65502, West Des Moines, IA 50265**



LAW OF POLK COUNTY, INC.

PO Box 65502  
West Des Moines, IA 50265

The mission of LAW is  
to enrich the greater  
Des Moines community  
and our membership  
through philanthropy  
and fellowship.



*Healing Families.  
Changing Lives.  
Every Day.*



**We're here to help.**

You may just be going through a rough time or you might be facing a crisis of staggering proportions. Either way, YESS can offer safety for kids and provide the support the whole family needs to come back together again in a healthier way.

Every day, kids and their families turn to YESS during times of uncertainty and crisis. Without YESS, many kids and parents would have no place to turn. We offer hope, healing and help to change lives.

It doesn't matter where you live or how much you earn, family crisis can strike any time.

It's OK to ask for help.  
Call 515-282-YESS