

LAW OF POLK COUNTY, INC.

THE BRIEF

WINTER/SPRING 2013

PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

Dear LAW Friends,

Our organization has 90 years of great history of service to women, children and families!

This year we continue the tradition of fundraising with efforts being directed to Youth Emergency Services and Shelter (YESS).



Kari Holth has set up an online contribution avenue! It is very convenient and you can contribute in 2012 and/or 2013. You may access the link through www.lawpolkcounty.com, or via our Facebook page. Of course contributions can be mailed also.

Another "Non-event Event" has been scheduled for Friday evening, February 2nd. The total amount raised will be revealed! Last year over \$4000 was raised for Lutheran Services of Iowa. Perhaps we will actually get to celebrate this year – snow forced us to cancel the event last year. Watch for information.

Another long time component of LAW's contributions to the community has been through the Christine Swanson Wilson Scholarship. We continue to fund scholarships for law students who plan to

focus on service to women and children. Contributions can be made at any time, and are in a fund managed by the Greater Des Moines Community Foundation.

LAW has always found ways to combine service with friendship. Creating some fun memories, while learning something, at a general membership meeting fits the bill. Deanne Gummert put together wonderful programs last fall. We had fun at Talbot's, visited YESS, and sampled at Vom Foss. Check this newsletter for the winter/spring line up.

As I was reflecting on our history it occurred to me that a history section on our website might be fun to have, and fun to put together. Let me know if you are interested in leading or helping with such a project.

My goodness... 90 years!!! We should celebrate our years of evolution, service, and friendship. Contact me if you want to help plan a celebration.

A new year is at hand... plan to include LAW as you choose your activities!

Sincerely,

Karen Leibold

2012-2013 LAW President

kcleibold@aol.com

LAW BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012-13

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

Board

Communications

Lynne Updegraff

Scholarship

Liz Hodgson

Service Project

Kari Holth

Targeted Needs

Darlene Brickman

WINTER- SPRING 2012 LAW MEETING SCHEDULE

January~

3~ "Ladies' Night Out"

Mezzodi's @ 7p
4519 Fleur Dr. DM

22~ Board Meeting @ 7p

Home of Kari Holth
620 42nd St. DM
265.9185
Treats~ Barb Norton

February~

2~ "Non-Event Event/Victory Party"

Home of Kari Holth and Richard Vam
620 42nd St. DM
265.9185
Watch your mail for invite, LAW website & Facebook for details!

26~ Board Meeting @7p

Home of Kathy Poetting
2807 SW Wolcott DM
285.3620
Treats~ Juli Margolin

March~

7~ General Meeting @7p

Home of Rita Pray
8878 NW 71st Ct. Johnston
252.1967
Treats~ Lynne Updegraff

Admit it...we've all at one time or another dreamed about being crowned the most beautiful, the smartest, the most talented, the most charismatic...in a pageant. Come hear first hand from LAW's own Michelle Walke with her daughter Bailey (Miss Greater Des Moines Li'l Miss) along with Rita Pray, mother of Jessica Pray (former Miss Iowa/Miss America contestant) the

"real story" inside their pageant experiences. If her Spring schedule at college allows Jessica will be joining us. So break out your tiaras and sashes and join us for a fun night!

April ~

4~ Board/General Meeting @ 6:30p and 7p respectively

"Fitness by Design"
4715 Grand Ave. DM
277.9721
Treats~ Val Witt

"FITNESS By Design" strives every day to motivate, educate, and inspire people to go out of their comfort zone to be their best. Our team of trainers is driven to transform lives by empowering people to reach their full potential. We achieve this through personal training, small group classes, massage, and legendary customer service which includes on-going support, motivation, and accountability. Our upscale studio environment reflects positive energy, a welcoming environment and a friendly spirit which empowers you to reach your potential in all areas-physical, mental, spiritual and emotional."

Former LAW member Julie Hall/staff will speak to us and show us what their facility offers the community and can offer us. Dress comfortably!

23~ Joint Board Meeting @7p

Home of Karen Leibold
1550 NW 75th St. Clive
255.2592

May ~

2~ LAW May Wine Dinner

"Exciting details to be announced!"

BOOK CLUB NEWS

2013 BOOK LIST

Book Club meets the second Monday of the month at 6:30.

Meetings will be held at the Panera Bread, 4150 Westown Pky, West Des Moines, IA, except in March, as noted below. If there is any change in location all members will be sent an email with the information.

February 11: *UNBROKEN* by Laura Hillenbrand

The *New York Times* bestseller has been named by *TIME* magazine as the best nonfiction book of the year. It is the story of a man who as a youth achieved athletic glory, in World War II suffered excruciating trauma, after the war experimented with escape from reality then a mission of retribution, and at the conclusion he discovered the glory of peace with oneself.

March: *A YEAR IN PROVENCE* by Pete Mayle

The Book Club will meet on the **!second TUESDAY March 12!**

At the Bistro Montage 2724 Ingersoll Avenue in Des Moines.

The author ate lunch in a quaint French restaurant and decided right then to go live in south eastern France on the border of Italy for a year. The book is a record by month of the events, the neighbors, the joy and the chagrin experienced living in the 200 year-old farmhouse with thick stone walls and well-tended vines, a wine cave, wells and swimming pool. Live vicariously! Read the book! Come to the meeting at the Bistro! Make a split second decision to go to France!

April 8: *THE LIKENESS* by Tanya French

The detective in this psychological thriller is the headstrong protagonist from the author's first book *In the Woods*. Assuming the identity of a murdered young woman and working undercover to obtain leads, she becomes emotionally involved and dangerously compromised.

May 13: *THE GARGOYLE* by Andrew Davidson

A traffic accident and fire ruin the handsome appearance of the hero. He now looks like a monster. But a psychotic artist that sculpts gargoyles discovers him and relates a bizarre tale of their former lives as lovers in medieval Germany as well as mesmerizing stories of deathless love in Japan, Greenland, Italy and England. The publisher of this book paid the highest price for it ever paid for a novel in Canada.

June 10: *THUNDERSTRUCK* by Erik Larson

The true stories of two men are interwoven—the obsessive creator of a seemingly supernatural means of communication, Guglielmo Marconi, and Dr. Hawley Crippen, who apparently had a harmonious marriage but friends noticed that his wife had not been seen for several days when he began taking strolls with a young woman who was adorned with his wife's jewelry. Wireless transmission enabled news of the murder to be publicized on both sides of the Atlantic and attract the notice of the captain of the ship on which the doctor and young woman were sailing away from America to England.

August 12: *ANNA KARENINA* by Leo Tolstoy

YES, it is a BIG book with two plots and lots of characters. But look, no book club in July and the long lazy days of summer to browse through the tome will give you ample time. The new movie (Keira Knightly and Jude Law) was just released in the U.S. November 9, 2012, and you can be on the cutting edge of scintillating conversation at all the summer parties.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Please join me in welcoming our newest LAW member, Jennifer Joensen. Her husband, Tom, is with the Bradshaw firm. Jennifer is in medical sales with Karl Storz Endoscopy. Tom and Jennifer have two children, Michael is 10 and Olivia is 7. Tom is originally from Ames and Jennifer is from Mason City. Tom graduated from Iowa Law School in 2003. The Joensen's have lived in Ankeny since 2003. Activities and interests include golf, swimming, running, cycling, basketball, music, cooking & movies.

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 with names and contact information. Also, we would like to welcome back former members who haven't been active in awhile. Please encourage them to rejoin LAW.

We hope to have a fun event sometime this spring. Please watch for emails announcing a fun membership activity.

Barb Norton

SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

The Cristine Swanson Wilson Memorial Scholarship will be awarded this spring to a deserving University of Iowa woman law student. The scholarship application deadline is March 15, 2013 and the application can be found at www.lawpolkcounty.org. The scholarship fund, administered by the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, is currently maintaining a balance of around \$52,000. A portion of your annual dues is a tax-deductible donation that supports the scholarship fund, but we welcome all additional donations that keep this scholarship fund growing even in hard economic times. Your tax-deductible contributions can be made at anytime to LAW of Polk County, Inc.

Liz Hodgson, Scholarship Chair

MAY WINE DINNER

The May Wine Dinner Committee is beginning to plan for the 2013 event! We would love to have input from you. We will gladly consider locations, caterers, and ideas and suggestions for this annual end of year gathering. Also, each of you is welcome to join our committee, please contact us. Date Thursday, May 2at 6:30 PM. We will be celebrating 90 years of LAW!

2013 May Wine Dinner Chair
Juli Margolin

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.

Kathy Poetting

GET ON BOARD FOR 2013-2014

Help LAW accomplish another year of service to our community, and get to know some great people! Please let me know what interests you.

Denise McAfee @ mcafee@mchsi.com

COMMUNICATIONS:

Do you love to send emails and communicate on the internet? This is a great way to be in the know for all LAW events. Responsible for publishing and mailing two newsletters to announce all meetings, events and projects of LAW of Polk County.

COURTESY/HISTORIAN:

Do you like to take pictures and scrapbook? Can you do a little cross stitching or want to meet members who stitch? Well this is the committee for you. Responsible for sending cards to members for appropriate occasions, making and sending bibs to new mothers, purchasing stationery supplies, keeping a scrapbook of all newspaper articles, pictures and other memorabilia of LAW of Polk County, preparing an annual report of the transactions and conditions of LAW of Polk County and coordinating a new mother's social activity in the Spring.

HOSPITALITY/PROGRAM:

Needed — a member who loves to plan speakers and events. Responsible for arranging locations of board and general meetings, securing speakers for general meeting programs, appointing a Refreshment Chair for the regular meetings when needed, and serving on the May Wine Dinner committee.

MAY WINE DINNER:

Do you want to chair a fun committee or plan a party? Then this is the committee for you. Responsible for arranging the location, invitations, meal, and all other incidentals involved with the annual May Wine Dinner. Plus you are not required to attend board meetings until after the new year, unless of course you want to!

NOMINATING:

This committee helps to shape the direction of LAW . Responsible for conducting an election at the annual meeting for the three at-large positions of the nominating committee, and chairing the committee to select the slate of officers for the following year.

PHILANTHROPY:

Responsible for chairing a committee to choose the fundraising event for the following year's service project and the service project recipient.

SERVICE PROJECT:

Responsible for chairing a committee to organize the annual fundraising service project.

TARGETED NEEDS:

Organize and deliver collection of items needed by the organization receiving our service project funds.

SCHOLARSHIP:

Responsible for coordinating the scholarship fundraising activity, and choosing the recipient for the LAW of Polk County scholarship.

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

515-250-7118

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 me. A copy of the grant form can be found on our website www.lawpolkcounty.com.

SERVICE PROJECT

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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 11th 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

LAW OF POLK COUNTY 2ND ANNUAL NON-EVENT EVENT

This is a very special invitation! You are being invited to attend our first-ever Non-Event Event

This is **NOT** an invite to a Silent Auction!

This is **NOT** an invite to a Jewelry party!

This is **NOT** an invite to a Candle party!

This is **NOT** an invite to a Bag party!

This is **NOT** an invite to a Gourmet Food party!

This is **NOT** an invite to a Kitchenware party!

This is **NOT** an invite to a Romantic Aid party!

This is **NOT** an invite to a Make-up party!

This is **NOT** an invite to a House Decorating party!

AND, this is **NOT** an invite to a Scrapbooking party!!

Aren't you relieved? Especially this time of year?!

Well, at LAW's event this year, you don't have to worry about finding a day and time that works best to host a party, you don't have to worry about making a guest list for the consultant, and you definitely do not have to clean your house or get dressed up for this event!! Nor do you have to worry about going to one of these parties and buying items you might or might not use!!

If you are excited about this event, all we ask is that you might donate \$10.00 for every party you'd rather not be invited to, maybe \$20.00 or more if you feel real passionate about not coming....you know...those romantic aid parties *can* be pretty embarrassing! At this event, all proceeds will be going to LAW of Polk County's charity of the year, the Youth Emergency Services and Shelter (YESS).

Please relax at home Kari Holth has set up an online contribution avenue! It is very convenient and you can contribute in 2012 and/or 2013. You may access the link through www.lawpolkcounty.com, or via our Facebook page. Of course contributions can be mailed also.

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"We do not mean to offend or disrespect anyone who actually sells products like these or host parties like these.

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.