



Message from the President: Who Packs Yours?



Shari Maloney

As we begin our year of "living fearlessly," it is important to acknowledge those who support us on our journey. The members of Lakes Area Professional Women are a great support system for all of us. As I thought of this, I thought of a great story I heard years ago that continues to have an impact on me and thought I would share it with you.

Charles Plumb was a US Navy jet pilot in Vietnam. After 75 combat missions, his plane was destroyed by a surface-to-air missile. Plumb ejected and parachuted into enemy hands. He was captured and spent six years in a Communist Vietnamese prison. He survived the ordeal and now lectures on lessons learned from that experience!

One day, when Plumb and his wife were sitting in a restaurant, a man at another table came up and said, "You're Plumb! You flew jet fighters in Vietnam from the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk. You were shot down!" "How in the world did you know that?" asked Plumb. "I packed your parachute," the man replied. Plumb gasped in surprise and gratitude. The man pumped his hand and said, "I guess it worked!" Plumb assured him, "It sure did. If your chute hadn't worked, I wouldn't be here today."

Plumb couldn't sleep that night, thinking about that man. Plumb says, "I kept wondering what he had looked like in a Navy uniform: a white hat; a bib in the back; and bell-bottom trousers. I wonder how many times I might have seen him and not even said, 'Good morning, how are you?' or anything because, you see, I was a fighter pilot and he was just a sailor." Plumb thought of the many hours the sailor had spent at a long wooden table in the bowels of the ship, carefully weaving the shrouds and folding the silks of each chute, holding in his hands each time the fate of someone he didn't know.

Now, Plumb asks his audience, "Who's packing your parachute?"

Everyone has someone who provides what they need to make it through the day. Plumb also points out that he needed many kinds of parachutes when his plane was shot down over enemy territory — he needed his physical parachute, his mental parachute, his emotional parachute and his spiritual parachute. He called on all these supports before reaching safety.

Sometimes in the daily challenges that life gives us, we miss what is really important. We may fail to say hello, please, or thank you, congratulate someone on something wonderful that has happened to them, give a compliment, or just do something nice for no reason. As you go through this week, this month, this year, recognize people who pack your parachutes.

Join us on August 24 and 25 for our August LAPW activities so we can continue "packing each other's parachutes!"

Shari Maloney

CALENDAR

- August 25**
Annual Summer Social
4:30-7:00 pm
Maritime Museum
- September 8**
Leadership Team Meeting
Alexandria Technical College
4:00 pm
- September 16**
Deadline to submit newsletter content
- September 28**
Monthly Membership Meeting
11:30 am-noon - networking
noon-1:00 pm - lunch/program
Program: Lakes Area Theatre
Holiday Inn
- October 13**
Leadership Team Meeting
Alexandria Technical College
4:00 pm
- October 19**
Professional Women's
Recognition Dinner
Holiday Inn
- October 19**
Deadline to submit newsletter content

THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

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Business *Spotlight!*



2011-12 LEADERSHIP TEAM

President Shari Maloney
320.762.4466
sharim@alextech.edu

President-Elect Jenniffer Rugani
320.763.6577
jrugani@hialexandria.com

Past President LaTresse Snead
320.763.1063
latresse.snead@tastefullysimple.com

Treasurer Joyce Moe
320.491.4518
jmmoe@mainstreetcom.com

Secretary Nancy Doebbert
320.283.5692
ndcpa@runestone.net

Membership Secretary Keri Mohror
320.808-1465
keri.mohror@tastefullysimple.com

Events Liaison Donna Wilberg
320.766.9047
donnawilberg@earthlink.net

Jul Feuling & Associates About Face by Jul

Jul Feuling's professional story is one of reinvention. Six years ago, after some serious soul-searching, she voluntarily left what many considered a great job as Vice President and Director of Membership Development at Independent Community Bankers of America. She describes the 18 years spent at the association as a "good ride," where she grew up professionally and traveled extensively. But she felt burned out and knew it was time to become the captain of her own ship.



In 2006, she studied life coaching with Coach Training Alliance and the U of M's Center for Spirituality and Healing, then launched Jul Feuling & Associates. Since then, Celebrations by Jul has evolved and she officiates weddings and special occasions. Jul says, "It's great fun marrying couples and I've performed ceremonies all over the state, including many at Carlos Creek Winery."

Also in 2006, Jul ran into an acquaintance with poorly

done cosmetic tattoo and thought, "I'd really like permanent eyeliner but I'll find a better artist, even if I have to go out of state." The search for a good artist was disappointing, yet opened a new door.

Jul's experience selling cosmetics throughout high school and college, her love of drawing faces, and her unexplainable fascination with tattoo contributed to her decision to train in Texas to become an artist. She launched About Face by Jul — cosmetic tattoo artistry — and works



full time helping clients "stay beautiful!" During the last five years, she's taught cosmetic tattoo as a MNSCU instructor, and has performed nearly 4,000 procedures in her shop. Tattoo is now regulated by the MN Dept. of Health and licensed artists are few and far between.

Although she's lived in Alexandria since 1989, working locally these last six years has allowed Jul to finally get acquainted with her fellow residents via her businesses, serving as a supervisor on the Alexandria Township board and her involvement in LAPW.

To learn more, visit: www.julfeuling.com or www.celebrationsbyjul.com or www.aboutfacebyjul.com

LAPW Newsbytes

Upcoming
Events!

Correction ...



There was an error in the identifications of our one-year members in last month's issue. The correct identifications are: (Front row) Verna Winter, Sue Justice, Laura Knudson. (Back row) Susan Keehn, Kathryn Liesemeyer, Rachel Barduson.

September Meeting PREVIEW!



Our September membership meeting will be Wednesday, September 28 at the Holiday Inn. Networking will begin at 11:30 am, and our meeting will be from noon to 1:00 pm.

Our program will be Lakes Area Theatre, presented by Ann Hermes.

impact Alexandria®

Event to be Held
October 4, 2011
3:00-4:30 pm
Geneva Christian
Center



This year's speaker is David Horsager, a Minnesota author, business strategist and keynote speaker. Combining humor, illustrations and memorable stories with research and insight, David sheds light on personal and professional success.

In his book, *The Trust Edge*, Horsager reveals the single uniqueness of the greatest leaders and organizers of all time: Trust. With research made practical for today's leader, Horsager shows that trust is a measurable competency that brings dramatic results. When leaders learn how to implement the Eight Pillars of Trust, they change relationships, retention, reputation and the bottom line.

LAPW has 10 tickets for this event. If you are interested in receiving one of these tickets, please contact **Shari Maloney**. If there are more than 10 members interested, names will be drawn from a hat.



Summer Social is August 25!

All members are invited to our LAPW Summer Social event sponsored by the Leadership Team. The event will be Thursday, August 25 from 4:30-7:00 pm at the Minnesota Lakes Maritime Museum at 205 W 3rd Avenue, Alexandria.

Snacks will be provided by the Leadership Team, and there will be a cash bar available. Please join us and feel free to bring a friend to check out Lakes Area Professional Women!

2011-2012 TEAM ROSTERS

Listed below are the new team rosters for the year. Thanks to everyone who signed up for one of our teams. We still have room for additional volunteers. Contact Donna Wilberg, Events Liaison (donnawilberg@earthlink.net) to get involved!

MEMBERSHIP TEAMS

MEMBERSHIP/MARKETING

*Jenniffer Rugani
Kathryn Liesmeyer
Nicole Fernholz
Keri Mohror
LaTresse Snead
Mary Yaw

TASK: Promote, expand, stabilize and orient the membership. Publicize local organization activities and member accomplishments.

MENTORSHIP

*Karen Meuwissen
*Sue Justice
Christie Boutain
Leah Gulbrandson
Mavis Pattee

TASK: Coordinate mentorship programs within the organization and the community.

COMMUNICATION

*Kathryn Liesmeyer (webmaster)
*Keri Mohror (newsletter editor)
* OPEN (historian)

TASKS: Webmaster maintains LAPW website. Newsletter Editor produces monthly newsletter. Historian creates a product to preserve the history of LAPW.

EVENTS TEAMS

EVENTS

*Tammy Brown
*Shelli-Kae Foster
Mary Butler
Lynette Kluver
Verna Winter
Michele Neale

TASK:

Monthly Membership Meetings. Determine monthly meeting format and program topics for the year. Keep members informed of current and proposed legislative issues on local, state and national levels.

Growth Events. Plan three growth events for the year, based on LAPW mission statement of connecting women personally, professionally and philanthropically.

Social Gatherings. Plan three social gatherings for the year, based on LAPW mission statement.

STYLE SHOW

*Brenda Solum
*Becky Zwilling
Sara Gronholz
Jenniffer Rugani
Karla Brummond
Barb Nelson
Nicole Pfeffer
Joyce Moe
Karen Gunvalson
Sue Jung
Jodi Seidl
Niki Mohr
Jody Dahlseid
Ashley Trousil

TASK: Coordinate and implement the annual spring style show fundraiser.

SUMMER THEATRE 2011

*Sara Jirik
Irene Vagle
Stacy James
Del Mari Runck
Sherry Bruckner

TASK: Coordinate and implement the annual theatre dinner and show.

*designates Team Chair(s)

FINANCE TEAMS

FINANCE

*Nancy Doebbert
Mary Butler
Tudor Ledum

PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITY

*Carol Wenner
Nancy Doebbert
Jennifer Guenther
Bernice Wimmer
Sara Stadtherr
Linda Baltes
Sabrina Hoppe

TASK: Research and recommend philanthropic opportunities for our organization and present to Leadership Team.

SCHOLARSHIP

*Sara Gronholz
Mary Butler
Jaci Stepan
Julie Zuehlke
Heidi Schultz
Sara Carlson

TASK: Review applications and select recipient of membership scholarship.

EVENTS TEAMS

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK RECOGNITION DINNER

*Rachel Barduson
*Jessica Hjelle
Karla Brummond
Lori Anderson
Kathryn Liesemeyer
Patty Peterson
Joyce Moe
Jessica Boyer
Jeanne Batesole
Michele Neale

TASK: Plan for the observance of Lakes Area Professional Women's Recognition event in October, and arrange the dinner to honor Professional Woman of the Year and the Businesses of the Year.

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

*Claudia Weiers
*Tara Bitzan
Katie Perry
Peggy Angell
Sharon Schulz
Jul Feuling

TASK: This subcommittee gathers nominations for Small/Large Business of the Year awards, makes the selection and facilitates the award presentation.

PROFESSIONAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR

*Nancy Klepetka
Lynn Grueneich
Katie Perry
Nancy Doebbert

TASK: This subcommittee, made up of the past five Professional Women of the Year recipients, gathers nominations, makes the selection and facilitates the award presentation

National Business Women's Week

The week of October 17-21 marks National Business Women's Week — and to celebrate, Lakes Area Professional Women will hold its annual recognition on Wednesday, October 19. The event will include a social time and dinner and program at the Holiday Inn in Alexandria.

As you know, our celebration is important for many reasons — but most of all, during this recognition event we announce the LAPW Professional Woman of the Year and the Small & Large Employer of the Year.

Professional Woman of the Year Nominations Sought

Call for Nominations. Professional Women's Week is approaching — and so is the search for this year's Professional Woman of the Year! This year's honoree will be announced during the Professional Women's Week Recognition event on Wednesday, October 19 at the Holiday Inn.

This honor recognizes one of our members on the journey of:

- Exploration, fulfillment and intention
- Joy, hope and celebration
- Affirmation and advocacy for women

To nominate a fellow LAPW member for this prestigious honor, complete the nomination form and submit to Committee Chair **Nancy Klepetka** at nanklepetka@gmail.com or send by mail to Nancy Klepetka, 418 3rd Ave. E., Alexandria, MN 56308; phone 320.763.1738.

This form is just a guideline for submissions. We will accept any and all nominations via email with as much information as you can provide as to why you feel the person you are nominating should be recognized.

Nominations are due by September 7.

Employers of the Year Nominations Sought

Lakes Area Professional Women (LAPW) is currently seeking nominations to honor two local employers who support and promote fairness and leadership opportunities for women in the workplace.

Each year, LAPW, formerly known as Alexandria Area Business and Professional Women, selects two Employers of the Year—businesses that promote fairness in the workplace and offer leadership opportunities to female employees. Employers are honored in two categories—large employer (those with more than 25 employees) and small employer (those with 25 or fewer employees). Employers of the Year can be for-profit businesses, non-profit organizations, or government entities.

These deserving employers support and promote fairness in the workplace; demonstrate sensitivity to the needs of female employees; provide upward mobility and training; recruit, retain and develop leadership; develops guidelines for parental leave and child care; and demonstrates philanthropic support of the Alexandria area community. Employers of the Year will be recognized by LAPW and receive a plaque at the annual Lakes Area Professional Women's Recognition Dinner to be held at Holiday Inn on Wednesday, October 19, 2011.

The mission of Lakes Area Professional Women is to connect women personally, professionally, and philanthropically.

If you would like to bring recognition to your employer and show appreciation for their efforts as advocates for working women, contact **Claudia Weiers**, Employer of the Year Chair, for a nomination form at 320-762-3658 or claudiaw@vikingsavings.com.

The nomination deadline is September 19, 2011.