

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, APRIL 21

Mama Lacona's

3825 121st Street
Urbandale

Agenda

5:30 - Social hour
6:00 - Dinner
6:45 - Business
7:00 - Program

Menu

Select one:

- **Grilled salmon** with coconut white rice and sauteed vegetables;
- 5 oz **beef filet** with baby red potatoes and sauteed vegetables; or
- **Lasagna.**

Includes salad, rolls, chocolate cake and iced tea.
Cash bar.

A gift certificate will be awarded to the member who brings the most guests!



Sign up by Monday, April 18 at <http://mwniowa.org/calendar/>. Member fee: \$25

Janette Larkin, publisher at Business Publications Corporation (*Des Moines Business Record*, *dsm Magazine*, *See Des Moines Visitors Guide* and other niche media), will speak to us about her career. Janette holds a B.S. in journalism and political science from Iowa State University, and has previously worked for Meredith Corporation, the Iowa State University journalism department, the *Des Moines Register*, the *Daily Tribune* (Ames), and the *Nevada Evening Journal*. She serves on several boards and councils, including the Des Moines AM Rotary, Hoyt Sherman Place, Nexus Executive Women's Alliance, Animal Rescue League of Iowa, Urbandale, Ankeny and Ames Chambers of Commerce, and Story County United Way.

Events Calendar

2011 meeting dates: May 19, June 16, Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20 and Dec. 1.

Door prizes: [Contact us](#) if you'd like to sponsor/donate a door prize for an upcoming meeting. Promote your business or other worthy cause!

Networking table: Don't forget your business cards/brochures to share with members and guests at our monthly meetings - we'll set up a table where everyone can place their information, highlighting one business with a brief speech before the scheduled program.

GUEST POLICY

Invite and encourage your guests to join MWN today! Guests may attend two meetings in a 12-month period at the member rate of \$25. Any additional programs attended during that period will be \$35. Annual dues cover a period of 12 months from your sign-up/renewal date. Make new friends and build a strong professional network!



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello all,

How can it be April already? April is a month of new beginnings (yeah spring) and with a couple of days above 70, the yards have all “greened up” and the tulips and daffodils are poking through. Easter will soon be upon us! It’s Cadbury Egg time.

Lots of things going on this month – I attended the Bubble Ball event to support ChildServe. What a cool concept – a fashion show of clothing made from bubble wrap, with a meal of “round” items (peas with pearl onions, scallops, a mozzarella ball, etc.). It was a sold-out event that helped ChildServe raise more than \$60,000. I’ve posted some pictures on my Facebook page if you get a chance to check it out. Anyone interested in signing up as a designer for next year?

I was also able to attend an event supporting Orchard Place – Sean and LeeAnn Toughy (upon whom “The Blind Side” was based) spoke at Hoyt Sherman Auditorium. Their message was a strong one – each of us has the capacity to make a difference in someone’s life. It was a great presentation (lot of laughs with a serious message). Congratulations to Orchard Place for their celebrating 125 years of service to the children in our community!

I feel blessed to be able to attend these types of functions. I know how much time and energy it takes to put something together to support a great cause and really appreciate the effort for both of these events. We CAN make a difference in our community by participating – I encourage everyone to join at least one event a year. Whether you help behind the scenes or buy a ticket, your participation DOES matter! Cheerful giving of your time, talent or treasure is rewarding for both you and the recipients!

I’m really looking forward to our meeting this month – I haven’t been to Mama Lacona’s new location, and our speaker should be very interesting. I also want to hear about everyone’s St. Paddy’s Day fun since we didn’t have a meeting in March!

Best regards,

Becky Patton-Quigley

Happy Birthday!

Kristin Wicks	April 3	Karen Clayton	May 9
Amy Jo Johnson	April 4	Dee Paddock	May 19
Michelle Engler	April 22	Donna Drees-Haman	May 21
Meg Husen	May 1	Marilyn Harden	May 22
Angela Sapp	May 4	Lindsey Calvert	May 25
Sonya Heishusen	May 6	Bonita Clark	May 30

STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES

The steering committee met April 7 at Gateway Market. Becky Patton-Quigley, Melissa Read, Sherri Johnson, Connie Blodgett, Casey Polk, Pamela Henkel, Donna Drees-Haman and Diana Dubuisson attended.

President Becky Patton-Quigley called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Secretary

No formal report was made.

Treasurer

The bank balance is \$1,714.62. Another reminder will be made about paying yearly dues to those who have fees due now. Pamela has also created a new link on the MWN calendar page that will make sending an RSVP and making payment through PayPal easier. Payment by PayPal will continue to be optional. The committee will do a yearly review of online payment options to find the method most suitable for Metro.

Programs

Connie Blodgett and Sherri Johnson reported most meeting places and speakers have been scheduled for the year. April's meeting will be at Mama Lacona's in West Des Moines (in the former Maverick Grill location). The speaker will be Janette Larkin from the Business record. A gift certificate will be given to the member bringing the most guests. Future meetings include May at Christopher's, June at Gino's West, and July at Famous Dave's, and September at Sam & Gabes. Several other options for locations and speakers are being considered. The committee discussed changing up the beginning of the meetings to spot light a member each night. A questionnaire may be made available for members to list topics they are

passionate about, and might consider sharing with our group.

Newsletter/Web Site

It was announced at the meeting that our wonderful publicity chair, Pamela Henkel, will be moving to Cedar Rapids to take a position with Rockwell Collins. The committee decided that it would be best to separate the public relations duties into several pieces, and ask for volunteers to take over some of the tasks. This discussion will be held at the April meeting. It was agreed that we will be losing a gifted and dedicated member of Metro and we all wish Pam well.

Old Business

Due to the fact that we did not have a March meeting, the deadline for submitting an Opportunity Grant will be extended until April 20th. The steering committee hopes to make a decision concerning all applications and announce the winners of the Opportunity Grants at the April meeting. This was motioned by Becky and seconded by Sherri and all approved.

New Business: None.

Next meeting: The next steering committee meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. June 2 at Palmer's Deli and Market, 2843 Ingersoll Ave., Des Moines.

There will be a meeting of those taking over the public relations duties in early May, date and time to be determined later.

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Submitted by Melissa Read, vice president and acting secretary.

Annual Dues

Thank you to all members who have renewed their annual dues! If you have not renewed and your dues are set to expire soon, we'll send you a link to renew online - or you may pay cash/check at a meeting or by mail (no cash).

2011 Steering Committee

President/Past President: Becky Patton-Quigley
 Vice President, Acting Secretary: Melissa Read
 Treasurer: Diana Dubuisson
 Secretary: Open
 Programs: Sherri Johnson, Connie Blodgett
 Publicity: Pamela Henkel
 At-Large: Casey Polk, Janet Seeberger, Donna Drees-Haman

DO YOU KNOW... AMY JO JOHNSON?

Amy Jo joined MWN in January 2008.

Where were you born and raised?

Amy Jo was raised on a farm in southwest Iowa and went to high school in Atlantic.

Tell us about your family.

Husband Russ, married 19 years this October; Niklas, 11; Nineth, 7; Tanner, our golden retriever; Tiger, a yellow tabby; Sophie, a Siamese; and Kosmo, a yellow tabby. Nineth was born in Guatemala, and her name is pronounced NeeNet. My husband says, "Amy is allergic to cats; that's why we only have three."

Describe your current occupation.

I am an account rep for a local company that offers printers, copiers and service for machines from a small desktop printer to a large production type printer in a print shop. I started in December 2010. This is a totally new industry for me so it has been a real learning experience. I love it, my coworkers and managers are really great, and I have had some good success, so that helps. Our account list includes Mercy Hospital, Casey's Corp, West Des Moines schools, Ankeny schools, and several other local school districts.

What are your hobbies and interests?

I have two children who play lots of sports, so that takes much of my time. I love to cook, so we make a point to have a family meal every night together. I enjoy reading fiction and gardening, mostly flowers and a few tomatoes.

Have you read a good book or seen a good movie lately?

I love the author C.J. Box; he lives in Wyoming and writes a series about a game warden. He always addresses a current issue, like natural gas retrieving, endangered species, and wind energy. The author was just in Des Moines; his daughter goes to Drake, and he did a reading at Barnes & Noble. I love his books - they are a good mystery and give you something to think about.



Movies: I have to admit, I cannot wait for Friday the 15th when the newest Harry Potter is available to purchase!

What are you most proud of?

That I am a good mother. I take very good care of my family, plus I am able to work and provide a good living.

Tell us something none of us would know about you.

I have five big brothers and one sister. We are very close, even as adults.

What is your favorite thing to do in the area?

I love to go to the Civic Center Broadway shows.

What do you enjoy most about MWN?

Seeing my friends and hearing a good speaker and the different places to eat.

See Amy Jo at mwniowa.org/doyouknow!



Members: Submit your ad or announcement to admin@mwniowa.org by the first Thursday of each month.

COUNTRY CLUB MARKET

CUSTOMIZED CATERING, BAKERY & CULINARY ARTS CLASSES

Chef Terrie Kohl, Instructor/Owner/Chef

Now scheduling private classes, special events and group and staff workshops!
Gift certificates available.

Eating in is the new dining out!

Demonstration classes include meal, recipes, instruction, bottled water and a snack (BYOB).

April Class Menu

Easter Family Dinner - April 19

Piquant Double Lamb Chop in Rosemary Lemon Sauce
Oven-roasted Fingerling Potatoes with Sea Salt
Springtime Goat Cheese with Asparagus and Leek Tart
(Register by April 16)

Easter Treats

Frosted, decorated bunny cutout sugar cookies - baker's dozen, \$14.95

Hot cross buns - dozen \$6.95

Blueberry, lemon and white chocolate scones - 16 small \$11.95, 8 large \$15.95

Cranberry, orange and white chocolate scones - 16 small \$11.95, 8 large \$15.95

8" Carrot layer cake with pineapple, nuts, raisins and cream cheese icing - \$25.95

Lemon curd tart with fresh blueberries - \$12.95

Coconut layer cake with coconut frosting - \$18.95

Focaccia round - \$3.95

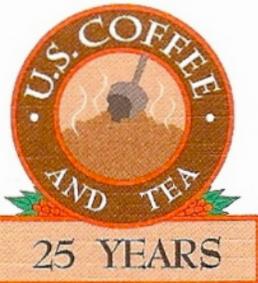
Place orders by April 19, for pickup April 21-22 from 8-10 a.m. or April 23 from 12-2 p.m.
Food may contain allergens and is prepared with equipment used to make recipes including nuts and other allergens.

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Demonstration classes begin promptly at 6 p.m., ending between 8 and 9 p.m. Arrive at 5:50 p.m.

Classes are \$45 per person paid in advance (\$25 return check fee).

Cancel at least 72 hours in advance (7 days for groups of 3+) to transfer or refund payment.

2624 NW 157th Street, Clive - (515) 987-5957 www.countryclubmkt.com terrie@countryclubmkt.com



Connie Blodgett
Sales

5140 Park Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50321
Direct: (515) 243-4409x6
Fax: (515) 243-4921

CBlodgett@uscoffeeandtea.com
www.uscoffeeandtea.com
www.linkedin.com/in/connieblodgett