

LOMA Society of Greater Des Moines

December 2004

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT . . .

By Denna Large

December 2004

Happy Holidays to all of our members! I know this is a busy time of year for everybody. So thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter.

Also with the Holidays, people tend to be more generous and giving. Several of us witnessed that when we volunteered at St. Mary's Emergency Food Pantry on Friday, December 11, 2004. Thank you to everybody who came out to help. This is a great opportunity to help those less fortunate!

- The LOMA Society of Greater Des Moines was recently contacted by the Des Moines Life and Health Claim Association. They have decided to dissolve their association due to low membership and attendance at meetings. I had a chance to talk to them and get some ideas so that hopefully we don't ever have to face this decision. They were also generous enough to give our Society any leftover money, which will be used for our Scholarship Program. What a great decision and for a

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Editor: Linda Agan

Spotlight on 2004 – 2005 Scholarship Winner

By Sheryl Parker

Our 2004-2005 scholarship winner is Ann Wingerter from the Principal Financial Group. Ann is returning to college to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in Business/Accounting from the University of Phoenix, Online. Ann is a past graduate from Des Moines Area Community College with 2 AA Degrees. The first in Fashion Merchandising and the second in Accounting. I had the opportunity to talk to Ann about her online college courses and her future plans.

Q - Ann, when will you expect to graduate from the University of Phoenix? **AW - February 2007**

Q - What classes are you taking this semester? How many hours? **AW - I don't have specific semesters. Each class lasts five weeks and is 3 credits. My next class is CRITICAL THINKING: STRATEGIES IN DECISION MAKING. My next two classes are ECONOMICS FOR BUSINESS and FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING I. I am finished with my electives and am starting my core classes.**

Q -This is a fast paced schedule. What are the Advantages and Disadvantages of taking online classes?

AW - The advantages are what I listed above. The disadvantages are waiting for responses from team members (from the learning teams we are assigned to where we do projects with other students) or instructors. Occasionally there are problems with the server overloading - being really slow - on Wednesday nights when most assignments are due.

Q - What is your GPA?

AW - 3.86 for the first seven classes. I don't have my final grade yet for Human Nutrition, but I expect my GPA will be about the same or possibly a little higher as a result.

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great cause.

Also with this decision is the need for the LOMA Society of Greater Des Moines to try and incorporate the claims and health side of the financial services business into our planning.

The board members are planning to meet January 11, 2005, to start planning activities for the 2005 calendar year. If you have suggestions or ideas that you'd like us to try and do for 2005, I would be interested in hearing from you. New ideas are always welcome!

Sincerely,
Denna Large
515-248-2556
Large.denna@principal.com



Fall Dinner Highlights

By Sheryl Parker

On November 4, 2004, President, Denna Large welcomed the attendees to the LOMA Society of Greater Des Moines Fall Dinner Meeting, commemorating the Society's 35th Anniversary and new FLMI recognition. There were 21 people in attendance at the Raccoon River Nature Lodge located in West Des Moines, IA.

Kirk Tibbetts, Director of the Risk Management practice at RSM McGladrey, Inc., spoke on the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

Anna Williams was presented the Distinguished Member Award in recognition of all her service to our society.

The 2005 Outstanding Ed Rep of the Year Award is Kathy Betzer from Homesteaders Life.

New FLMI's were recognized and honored for their achievement.

The society also voted in the following Board Members for 2005: Denna Large, President; Sheryl Parker, Vice President; Joni Burrell, Treasurer; and Farhad Mian, Secretary.

New FLMI Designees for 2004

Mark Anderson	Crystal Barr
Wanda Brooks	Eugene Burson
Leigh Cook	Candy Frei
Iris Fung	Steven Gross
Lisa Hardersen	William Hughes
John Hyde	Troy Johnson
Rhonda Jones	Jeffrey LeMay
Daisy Lemke	Pamela Nelson
Rebecca Newton	Twyla Niska
James Percival	David Perrine
Donald Perschall, III	Kevin Pevestorf
Cindy Skelton	Brian Stanley
Christine Vortherms	Matthew Whipps
John Wright	

New LOMA Designees for 2004

Mark Anderson	Susan Bales
Steven Brown	Joni Burrell
Billie Bush-Gerjets	Jaime Campbell
Karen Cannell	Michelle Carmody
Dennis Chartier	Anna Siu Man Cheng
Heather Childers	Edward Croushore
Margaret Crowe	Michelle Davies
Leanne Davis	Janel Dejoode
Karen Dilling	Angelea Drahozal
Lon Dyer	Melinda Fisher
Timothy Fitzgerald	Candy Frei
Iris Fung	Janice Gajewsky
Karen Garza	Jaime Gertsen
Lisa Gordon	Radhamani Guda
Barbara Guske	Carol Hagler
Scott Haglund	Gayle Hanke
Cynthia Harn	Julie Hay
Amanda Henderson	Nathan Henn
Sheila Hewitt	John Hyde
Connie Johnson	Jessica Kilker
Brenda King	Pam Knight
Jean Anne Kompsie	Denna Ann Large
Doreen Larson	Corriene Leaf
Daisy Lemke	Debbie Lewis
Angela Milewsky	Sandra Miner
Jamie Morgan	Aimee Nelson
Michael O'Donnell	Kirk Patten

Be sure to send your news for future issues to editor agan.linda@principal.com or through the web site at www.loma-dsm.com

Spotlight on 2004-2005 Scholarship winner, continued from page 1

Q - Do you recommend online classes?

AW – Yes, I love it. I have the freedom to "attend" class when it is convenient for me. When traveling, I can still log in and attend class. I get to attend school and still be at home.

Q - Can you give us any more insight on your online course?

AW - It has been a great experience. If I go on to take Masters level classes, so I can sit for the CPA exams, I will take them online also if possible. I really would prefer to never take a class in a normal classroom setting again.

This is the second year the LOMA Society of Greater Des Moines has awarded a scholarship to a LOMA Society member. **Keep this scholarship in mind for next year if you're going back to school, either full time or part time. April 1 is the deadline to submit scholarship applications.** Plan ahead, this date will be here before you know it! If you have questions about eligibility or how to apply, see our web site www.loma-dsm.com or contact any Board member.

LOMA Society of Greater Des Moines Day November 5, 2004

In honor of our 35th anniversary, Governor Tom Vilsack proclaimed November 5, 2004, as LOMA Society of Greater Des Moines day. We received a Governor's Proclamation, which was displayed at the fall dinner meeting.

Membership Drive

The new year is will soon be upon us, don't forget to get your membership forms submitted for 2005! We hope this year will be a strong year for the society, with your participation it will be! [Become a member](#), cost to join is \$20 per year.

Fall Dinner Caterer

*Special kudos to our caterer for the evening, several members inquired for further info - **Uniquely Catered, Jackie Parker, 515-988-6408***

UPCOMING EVENTS

LOMA Society of Greater DSM Board Planning Meeting, 5:30 pm January 11, 2005, Des Moines, IA
large.denna@principal.com

LOMA Customer Service Conference, February 23-25, 2005, Las Vegas, Nevada
www.loma.org

New LOMA Designees for 2004, continued from page 2

Lisa Paytash	James Percival
Debra Peters	Diane Pohlmeier
Florence Poole	Terri Poortinga
Tina Pritchett	Douglas Rogers
Debra Schaffer	Annette Shader
Julie Simmons	Cindy Skelton
Sheiry Slycord	Sherri Spence
Brian Stanley	Craig Stewart
Brad Untiedt	Waylon Vogl
Kathy Voss	Ted Wakefield
Jonathan Weaver	Chris Weber
Denies Whetstone	Lindsey Wilson



Board Positions Open

We have a few openings on the Board, such as Membership Committee and Education Committee. Volunteers are needed for these positions as well as to help with special projects. Whether you can help a little or a lot, call Denna Large at 248.2556, email her at large.denna@principal.com or contact any current board member.

2005 BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT, DENNA LARGE

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VICE PRESIDENT, SHERYL PARKER

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SECRETARY, FARHAD MIAN

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TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

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Treasurer's Report

July 1, 2004 to Sept 30, 2004

SUBMITTED BY TREASURER, JONI BURRELL

Revenues

Membership dues for 2004	\$	40.00
Interest earned on Money Market account		5.80
Total Revenue	\$	45.80

Expenditures

Website Domain Charge		34.99
LOMA Conference AirFare		167.00
Conference Expenses Lodging and Board		1,140.61
Total Expenditures		\$1,343.50
Net Increase (Decrease)		(\$1303.50)
Checkbook balance on Sept 30, 2004	\$	333.27
Money Market balance on Sept 30, 2004	\$	7,693.20
Cash balance on Sept 30, 2004	\$	8,026.47

LOMA is a non-profit trade association in the financial services industry, committed to a business partnership with its worldwide members in the insurance and financial services industry—to improve their management and operations through quality employee development, research, information sharing, and related products and services. To find out more about LOMA and the learning opportunities the Association offers, visit LOMA's Web site at www.loma.org

HOW TO CONTACT US

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL OR E-MAIL ANY OFFICER OR VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.LOMA-DSM.COM. OR YOU CAN WRITE TO US AT:

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Seasons Greetings