

OCTOBER, 2003



THE FLMI SOCIETY OF THE TWIN CITIES

FELLOW TALK

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



**Mary Smythe, Twin Cities FLMI Society President
Underwriting Consultant, Hartford Life**

Why do Minnesota summers go by so fast! I can't believe that it's already September, and we are getting ready for the October dinner meeting.

In the Twin Cities area, there were 72 new FLMI designations earned between September, 2002 and January 1, 2003! My congratulations goes out to those people, and we hope many of them will attend our next meeting to be recognized for their accomplishment, and get to know our Society. If you work with someone who obtained their designation during the past year, please encourage them to attend.

We are pleased to have Mr. John Gilbert, Chairman of the Board of Thrivent Financial, and Chairman of LOMA's board of directors, as

our speaker. He will give us an update on some new initiatives from LOMA, including a new designation encompassing the financial services industry!

Do you have a son, daughter, or grandchild that is attending college? Are you taking college courses? If so, consider applying for the FLMI Society Scholarship! It is for \$500.00 and would be a great help for books and supplies. Details on how to apply can be found later in this newsletter. The deadline is coming up fast!

The LOMA Annual Conference and Conferment is September 28—30, 2003 in San Antonio. Terry Teske and Lori Webb will be at the conference representing our Society. If you will be in San Antonio, please stop by the hospitality suite and say hello!

Bob Coleman will be leaving the Board due to increased personal and business responsibilities. I'd like to thank him for the time and input he has given us over the past few years. The current board members will take over the secretary duties for the remainder of 2003, and a new Secretary will be elected for 2004. Please see the slate of candidates for all the 2004 Board positions. Elections will be held at the October meeting.

I'd like to thank the Board for all the hard work they did over the past year organizing our meetings, newsletters and activities. I really enjoy working with this group of people, and I'm glad I had the opportunity to serve as President of this Society!

Mary Smythe, FLMI, FALU, CLU, ACS, AIAA
President, FLMI Society of the Twin Cities

FALL DINNER MEETING

Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Location: Jax Café
1928 University Ave. NE
Mpls, MN
(612) 789-7297
JaxCafe.com

Cost: \$30 Members
\$35 Nonmembers

Speaker: Mr. John Gilbert, Chairman of the Board

Mr. Gilbert is Chairman of the Board for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans as well as for LOMA. He was President and CEO of Aid Association for Lutherans and was then named Chairman of Thrivent Financial when AAL and Lutheran Brotherhood merged on January 1, 2002.

Mr. Gilbert will talk to us about the many things LOMA does other than just the examinations that lead to the FLMI and associate designations, as well as some new initiatives including the new FFSI designation program!

Agenda:

5:00 – 6:00 Registration and Cash Bar
6:00 – 6:30 Speaker
6:30 – 7:15 Dinner
7:15 – 7:30 Business meeting/ elections
7:30 New FLMI Recognition

Dinner:

Choice of:

Broiled Beef Tenderloin; Garlic Whipped Potatoes; Chef's Vegetable

Or

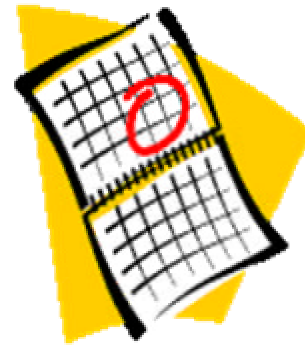
Baked Filet of Salmon; Pineapple Relish; New Potatoes; Chef's Vegetable

AND

Chocolate Chip Cheesecake

Reminder: we will be collecting for the Food Shelf, so any nonperishable food items or cash donations will be appreciated.

Please register with your company representative no later than Wednesday, October 15th



Mark your calendar for
October 21.

Emergency Food Shelf Network

By Paul Lindemann, Member At Large

The Twin Cities FLMI Society will once again sponsor food donations to the Emergency Food Shelf Network. A food donation barrel will be in place at Jax.

Please bring non-perishable food items to our October 21st dinner meeting. Cash donations are also welcome. You can make your check payable to the Emergency Food Shelf Network.

Thank you for considering others in our community who may not share the same good fortunes as many of us.

Scholarship Applications

Due 10/03/2003

By Jennifer Victor-Larsen, Educational Representative



\$500 for college!

The FLMI Society of the Twin Cities Scholarship program awards \$500.00 annually for post-secondary education. Students may be an accepted first year or continuing student.

Eligible students are members of the FLMI Society of the Twin Cities in good standing, their children, grandchildren or spouse.

New FLMI designees eligible for membership in the FLMI Society of the Twin Cities are also eligible if they received their designation before September 1, 2003.

A statement of personal goals or development plan must be submitted for students. Members or associate members must submit a statement of how their LOMA educational achievements or society membership has helped them.

Details are included in the Scholarship Program Guidelines available from any FLMI Society of the Twin Cities board member, or contact the Education Chair, Jennifer Victor-Larsen. at (651) 490-0170 or

JVactorLarsen@CatholicAid.com

Beginning in 2004, the application date will be changed to Spring in order to award the scholarship prior to the start of the school year. More details will follow.

Spread Some Holidazzle Cheer!

By Paul Lindemann, Member At Large

Fall has just begun, but as you can see by the store shelves already loaded with Christmas decorations, it's not too early to think about the holiday season.

As you make your holiday plans, be sure to set aside the evening of Thursday, December 4th. That's the night our Society will be participating in the Holidazzle parade on the Nicollet Mall. We'll be collecting donations of food and cash for the Emergency Foodshelf Network.

We had a lot of fun at Holidazzle last year, and we'd love to have you join us!

Contact Paul Lindemann at (651-490-0170, plindemann@catholicaid.com) for details.

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!



Now you can receive **Fellow Talk** by mail or email. Just send your name and home or business mailing address or email address to:

Terry Teske, Minnesota Life Insurance Company, 401 North Robert Street, St. Paul, MN, 55101

Or

teresa.teske@minnesotamutual.com

Recap of May Spring Seminar

By Jennifer Victor-Larsen, Educational Representative

The FLMI Society of the Twin Cities was honored to welcome three excellent speakers at the Society's Spring Conference.

Dennis Olson, FLMI, CLU, ChFC, REBC, ACS, Senior Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer for The Catholic Aid Association opened the conference with a presentation about the importance of industry education. He cited his own experiences and detailed the benefits it has given him professionally and personally. These strong beliefs in continuing industry education have translated into exceptional support within his organization for all employees, of which over 80% participated last year. To conclude, he stressed the value of reading professional publications to broaden one's professional horizon and keep current in the industry.

Jim Vetch shared his over 40 years of professional management experience and spoke about Job Enrichment. He spoke about ways in which to create a satisfying job situation. He highlighted ways to make changes, such as in attitude and professional development, that allow for advancement to the most ideal professional place for each individual.

Michelle Neujahr, author, and personal and professional development expert, gave an uplifting and upbeat two-part presentation. Her topics were Developing Personal and Professional Excellence and Selling Yourself. Complimenting the topics of Mr. Vetch, she focused on setting goals, searching out the assistance needed, and taking the steps to reach those goals. She emphasized finding a mentor or group to support the pursuit of excellence.

This article also appears in the August issue of Resource magazine, on page 48.

www.LOMA.org

In addition to the speakers, the Society collected donations for the Cancer Kids Fund to help families of young cancer patients.

Thanks to the heartfelt words of member Peter Bonde, who spoke about the benefits his family received from the organization, the Society was able to raise nearly \$600.00. Many thanks to The Catholic Aid Association for their generous donations to the prize drawing for those who gave to the Cancer Kids.

Trivia Question #1

In what year did the FLMI Society of the Twin Cities celebrate its' 25th anniversary?

Guess correctly at our Fall Dinner Meeting and your name will be entered into a prize drawing.

Important Dates

Tuesday, October 21
Fall Dinner Meeting at Jax

Sunday, October 26th
Daylight Savings Time Ends
Set clocks back one hour.

Friday, October 31st
Halloween

Meet A Member: Lori Webb

By Lori Webb, Treasurer



Lori Webb, Treasurer

Meet our treasurer, Lori Webb, who has worked for Lutheran Brotherhood (now Thrivent Financial for Lutherans) since she was only 18 years old! Lori says:

I started working for an insurance company right out of high school. Since I didn't have a college education, I found the LOMA exams very beneficial. They not only helped me to quickly learn about the industry, they looked impressive on the resumes, as I was moving up in the company. Now, with the merger, it seems likely I will be in the job market once again. I know that having my LOMA designations will be helpful for me.

I have three children, one in each of the elementary, middle and high schools, so I keep pretty busy with their activities, and my job at Thrivent. In my free time I enjoy reading and writing and spending time outdoors.

I would greatly encourage anyone who might be interested to make a point to volunteer for industry organizations. Being part of a committee, or a Board of Directors, is a great way to find new friends, make new connections and learn new things, both about yourself and your industry!

2004 Nominations Slate of Candidates

The nominating committee makes the following recommendations for Officers of the FLMI Society of the Twin Cities Board of Directors:

For a one year term:

President:

Terry Teske, FLMI/M, ACS, AIAA, ARP
Minnesota Life

Vice President:

Lori Webb, FLMI, ACS, AIAA
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Treasurer:

Rolf Anderson, FLMI
New York Life

Secretary:

Mary Rausch, FLMI
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Member At Large:

Paul Lindemann, FLMI, ACS
Catholic Aid Association

For a three year term:

Society Committee Representative:

LuAnn Maxfield, FLMI, ACS
Hartford Life

Elections will take place at the dinner meeting on October 21, 2003.

Twin Cities FLMI SOCIETY
2003 Officers and Board of
Directors

Mary Smythe, President

Terry Teske, Vice President

Lori Webb, Treasurer

Paul Lindemann, Member At Large

LuAnn Maxfield, Society Representative

Carole Hanson-Grue, Program Chair

Jennifer Victor-Larsen, Education
Representative

Mike Orr, Past President

We're On The Web

www.flmi-tc.com

Visit our website, for a list of your Officers and Board of Directors, newsletters, events and more.