

**Amicus – Spring 2008**  
Newsletter of the Kansas Women Attorneys Association

**From the President**

Kellie E. Hogan  
KWAA President 2007-2008

A recent column in the Wall Street Journal by Jonathan Clements examines the question of happiness. Despite the sharp rise in our standard of living in recent decades, Americans today are little or no happier than earlier generations according to a new study. Essentially, there are three components to happiness. The first is one's general disposition- whether you are by nature a happy person or not. The second element addresses life's circumstances: age, health, marital status, and income. Surprisingly, the study found that our life circumstances aren't nearly as important to our feeling of happiness as once believed. For example, if your income doubled, you would experience initial euphoria. However, you would quickly become accustomed to the extra income and the initial euphoria would diminish. The final element is how you spend your time.

Over 4,000 people were surveyed about how they spent their time. The activities were grouped into 6 categories and participants gauged their level of happiness. The study found that people are the most happy when engaging in activities in the category called, "engaging leisure and spiritual activities". This includes things like, visiting friends, reading a book, or going to a party. When we spend time engaged in these activities, we are typically happy, engrossed and not especially stressed.

The obvious implication is that if we devote more time to these activities we will be more satisfied with our lives. Take the opportunity to boost your overall level of happiness by blocking off July 17, 18, and 19 to attend the annual Lindsborg conference. You've worked hard all year and you owe it to yourself and your loved ones to take a break from your daily grind. Attend engaging CLE, meet other women attorneys from across the state, and have fun!

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## **Lindsborg Conference 2008**

**by Linda Graham, Conference Chair**

The Lindsborg Conference will be July 17 - 19, 2008. If you have not attended prior conferences you are in for a real treat! KU Law Dean Gail Agrawal calls the Lindsborg gathering "The most fun conference you will ever attend." Attendance to the conference provides up to a full year's worth of Continuing Legal Education credits. **Fun plus CLE !**

The conference typically gathers approximately 150 attorneys from across Kansas, some from Missouri and a few other states. Our attendees and speakers include state and federal judges, prosecutors, solo practitioners, government attorneys, in-house counsel, practitioners in every area of law, and more than a few men

**"Of Women, War and the Practice of Law"** the theme chosen for this year's conference promises to be thought-provoking and relevant. The topics that will be covered involve how the present state of war has affected all areas of legal practice and how we can address those issues. The Keynote Address will be delivered by Brigadier General Malinda E. Dunn, an Army JAG officer who has served in Iraq. Other speakers include the Judges and Justices in the Appellate All-Star Review.

Social activities include: Coronado Heights Fun Run & City Walk, Swedish Smorgasbord dinner, receptions for WU and KU Law Schools, vendors and exhibits, a banquet on Friday night with Casino Night and the Silent auction, Lindsborg Chamber of Commerce Reception, and great shopping and wonderful cuisine in downtown Lindsborg. Don't miss this conference! Come enjoy building your brain trust, renew old acquaintances and meet a new Portia or two.

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## Jennie Mitchell Kellogg Award

A conference highlight is the presentation of the Jennie Mitchell Kellogg Award, given to an individual who has achieved professional excellence in her field; and influenced other women to pursue legal careers; opened doors for women lawyers in a variety of job settings that historically were closed to them; or advanced opportunities for women within a practice area or segment of the profession. The first award was presented in 1999, the tenth anniversary of the Lindsborg Conference.

Prior winners are:

1999	Hon. Christel E. Marquardt
2000	Linda Parks
2001	Hon. Marla Luckert
2002	Hon. Karen Humphreys
2003	no award given
2004	Lori Callahan
2005	Martha Hodgesmith
2006	Hon. Carol Beier
2007	Hon. Janice Russell

## **SHOPPING -- DID SOMEONE SAY SHOPPING?!?!**

by Patricia Hamilton

The return of warm weather is a lovely reminder that the Lindsborg Conference is just around the corner. The Silent Auction has become a mainstay at the Conference and each year it seems to gain in popularity. This year promises to be better than ever with your continuing support. LuAnn Dixon and Ann Branden graciously agreed to lend their talents to organizing and orchestrating the Silent Auction again this year. Their work last year helped KWAA reach an amazing level in terms of both talent-laden treasures and oh-so generous bids. KWAA members have many, many talents. Perhaps one of our best is shopping. So, ladies, please roll up your pretty little sleeves and put some sweet-scented elbow grease into it – make this year’s Silent Auction one for the record books!

To make it even easier, we’ve developed the “***Easy Shop***” option. It is a fabulous way to support the Silent Auction **and** the local Lindsborg merchants. If you don’t have time to shop before the Conference or, heaven forbid, you can’t attend this year, then leave the pesky Silent Auction donation details to your team of personal KWAA shoppers. If you will: (1) contact me with specifics about how much you want to

spend on an item for the Silent Auction, (2) choose the merchant and/or item(s) you want for your donation or just say “get something wonderful,” and (3) write a check, then we’ll do the rest. There no handling charges, no complications. Participating in the Silent Auction has never been so easy! You can provide me with a message (including a photo and/or business card would be even better) and it will be proudly displayed with your Silent Auction donation. We’ll also be sure to give credit to the local merchant. It’s a win-win proposition.

The Silent Auction donations will be on display in the Levin Room in the Union (same room as last year; it’s just across the hall from the cafeteria). We’ll close bidding on Friday evening after dinner at the McPherson Country Club. Proceeds from the Silent Auction fund scholarships at the University of Kansas School of Law and the Washburn School of Law.

Easy Shoppers – contact Patricia Hamilton at [phamilton@hensonlawoffice.com](mailto:phamilton@hensonlawoffice.com); office 785-232-2200, or cell 785-550-5817. Anyone interested in volunteering, please contact me. Please don’t be shy; we can always use extra help.

### **Ethics CLE and Solo Practice Group**

**Saturday, May 31, 2008**  
**Washburn Law School, Room 120**

You don't have to wait until the Lindsborg Conference to see your KWAA pals. KWAA is sponsoring an event on Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> (the weekend after Memorial Day weekend), which will include one (1) hour of ethics CLE and an opportunity for solo and small firm practitioners to network and exchange tips on what has helped them in their practices. The event is open to all attorneys regardless of whether they are solo and small firm practitioners or members of KWAA. **Angel Zimmerman**, KWAA member and law practice management guru, will be the featured speaker.

The cost is \$20.00, and lunch will be provided to those who stay for the networking portion of the gathering. Walk-ins are welcome, but anyone who wants a lunch needs to sign up by noon on Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. To sign up send an email to Nancy Ogle: [nancy@ogle-law.com](mailto:nancy@ogle-law.com)

KWAA is considering forming a section for solo and small firm practitioners, and it is hoped that this meeting will help determine whether there is a need or interest.

## Member News

**Amy Fellows Cline** became a partner in the Wichita firm of Triplett, Woolf & Garretson, LLC on January 1, 2008. On March 4, 2008 Amy gave birth to daughter Olivia Kathleen Cline (19 inches, weight 6' 13"). Olivia joins a brother, Ethan, 19 months, and two sisters, Madison and Amanda.

**Kimberly Corum** announces the closing of her solo immigration practice in Manhattan. Kim has accepted a position with the Department of Homeland Security in Lincoln, Nebraska.

**Janine Cox** was re-elected to the 7th Judicial District Nominating Commission. Janine's daughter Jesse, age 7, played a key role in the campaign mailing efforts by putting stamps on a "bazillion" envelopes.

**Holly Dyer** of Foulston, Siefkin was elected to a two year term on the Wichita Bar Association Board of Directors.

**Tracie England** is now a partner with Hite, Fanning & Honeyman, LLP in Wichita.

**Mary Feighny** was elected to serve on the 3rd Judicial Nominating Commission (Shawnee Co).

**Gloria Farha Flentje** will receive the KBA's Distinguished Service Award during the annual meeting in Topeka June 19-21, 2008. Gloria

was nominated by the Wichita Women Attorneys Association.

**Joni Franklin** was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Wichita Bar Association.

**Natalie Haag**, Topeka, will receive the KBA's Outstanding Service Award during the annual meeting in Topeka June 19-21, 2008.

**Jennifer Hill** will receive the KBA's Outstanding Young Lawyer Award during the annual meeting in Topeka June 19-21, 2008. Jennifer was nominated for the award by the Wichita Women Attorneys. Husband Scott was selected as a co-awardee.

**Laura Ice**, Cessna Finance, will be working in Guildford (30 miles outside of London) from June 4 to Labor Day. She reports plans for a holiday in Paris in July, in time for the Tour de France.

**Peggy Kittel** was sworn in as a District Judge for the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. Peggy was appointed by Gov. Sebelius to the position vacated by Attorney General Stephen Six. Peggy had been serving as a Pro tem judge in Douglas County since 2001.

**Carolyn** and Bill **Matthews**, both of Foulston Siefkin LLP in Wichita, welcomed their first child, George, on January 7, 2008.

**Leyla Galmarini McMullen**, an immigration attorney with the Mdivanil Law Firm, has been elected President of the Hispanic Bar Association of Greater Kansas City.

**Nancy Ogle** will receive the KBA's Outstanding Service Award during the annual meeting in Topeka June 19-21, 2008. Nancy was nominated for the award by the Wichita Women Attorneys.

**Linda Parks** is finishing her year as President of the Kansas Bar Association. Linda has been an outstanding leader of the organization, and an inspiration to lawyers across the state. Thank-you and Congratulations from the KWAA!

**Trish Rose** became Mayor of Hutchinson on April 15.

**Ann Ruselowski** has been selected to serve as Kansas Health Policy Authority General Counsel.

**Hon. Jan Russell** will be retiring from her position as district court judge in Johnson County after 23 years on the bench. Judge Russell received the JMK award in 2007. Congratulations and thanks for a job well done!

**Rebecca Sanders** has been appointed to serve a 4 year term as a Workers Compensation Judge with the Kansas Department of Labor.

**Kari Schmidt** was elected Vice-President of the Wichita Bar Association.

**Laura Shaneyfelt**. was quoted in the Spring 2008 issue of Ms. Magazine. The quotes appear in an article dealing with reproductive rights and Operation Rescue. (pages 12-14)

**Melissa Taylor Standridge** , Overland Park, was appointed to the Kansas Court of Appeals by Governor Kathleen Sebelius. Melissa fills a new position created by the Legislature in 2007. Melissa has served as Chambers Counsel to United States Magistrate Judge David Waxse for the past 8 years. Melissa has been a foster mother since 2000, and is an adoptive mother to three children who were initially her foster children: Sergio, Clinton and Anna

**Susana Valdovinos** accepted the position of Director of Academic Personnel at Kansas State University; she will be advising the Provost and Senior Vice President of the university on all matters relating to the employment of academic personnel and internal university policies and procedures. Governor Sebelius recently appointed Susana to the Kansas Hispanic and Latino American Affairs Commission, an advisory commission to the Governor's Office.

**Marcia Wood** is now a partner at Martin, Pringle, Oliver, Wallace & Bauer, LLP, in Wichita.

**Marcia Yates** , attorney with the Kansas Health Policy Authority, has been selected to serve as a Workers Compensation Judge in Overland Park.

## **Announcements of Interest**

The Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence is pleased to present upcoming CLE opportunities:

Friday, June 13, 2008, Lawrence, KS, "Tools for Mediators working with Domestic Violence Clients," presented by Julie Field, J.D. Domestic Violence consultant

### **KWAA Officers 2007-2008**

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