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In the Spotlight



Carol Johnson

by Katrina L. Smeltzer

Carol Johnson is this month's featured attorney. Carol recently graduated from law school at Creighton University School of Law and passed the July 2007 Iowa Bar exam. Although she may be a new attorney, she is already making waves in her hometown of Odebolt, Iowa, where she has opened her new private practice. Carol primarily creates wills, durable powers of attorney, trusts, and other transactional documents for women in the area. She operates the practice out of her home and is in the process of building a new addition onto her home for her office. By working out of her home, Carol is able to keep up with the needs of her clients and help operate her family farm at the same time.

Carol was a non-traditional student in law school. When she was younger she had the opportunity to attend law school, but chose to spend the time raising her girls and helping with the family farm instead. Thirty years later, after her girls were grown and the farm was well established, Carol decided to pursue her dream to become an attorney. At the age of fifty she attended law school and was one of the most well liked students in school. She was busy in organizations such as the Public Interest Forum, the Women's Law School Association, and Phi Delta Phi. She also founded the Fellowship of Christian Law Students—an organization created to promote Christian fellowship and growth. At graduation, with her family watching, both the law school faculty and the students honored Carol with awards for her service to the law school and the community.

Carol's message to all is to never give up on your dreams. She has lived her life in layers, but was eventually able to fulfill all of her dreams—she raised her girls, she established a successful farm, she became a lawyer, and she now enjoys being a grandmother. Her motto is that "happiness is a choice—you have to choose it for yourself everyday...so choose to be happy!" This is a valuable motto we could all live by. Carol may be contacted at 3830 Fox Avenue, Odebolt, Iowa 51458; phone 712-675-4570; fax 712-675-4570; or email at zcj@netllcwb.net.



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Great Holiday Gift Idea for IOWA Members

As the busy holiday shopping season starts, consider ordering an "Arabella Bear" as a stocking stuffer or as a gift for your support professionals.



* Code of Iowa not included

The bears are red and feature the scales of justice on the front. Each bear has a tag noting that it is named after Arabella Mansfield, Iowa native and the first female attorney in the nation to pass a bar examination. The attached fliers have pictures of the bears.

The bears are \$10 each or 3 for \$25. You may order bears in several ways:

1. Email Alison Werner Smith at awsmith@hhbmlaw.com with your order and address and she will mail your bears with an invoice for payment;
2. Send a check to the I.O.W.A., P.O. Box 10098, Iowa City IA 52242 with your order and mailing address; *or*
3. Call Alison Werner Smith's office at 319-337-9606 and place your order directly with her.

Please order early to ensure arrival of your bears before the holidays.

All proceeds from the sale of Arabella bears go to support the charitable contributions of the I.O.W.A. throughout the year. I.O.W.A. also has a limited number of I.O.W.A. sweatshirts and T-shirts (\$20/\$10 call for sizes and colors) and I.O.W.A. coffee mugs (\$5).

Newsletter Submissions

Do you have an idea for the I.O.W.A. newsletter?



Do you have a job to advertise, news about an I.O.W.A. member, or an upcoming event to announce?

Contact Kathy Law at kklaw@nyemaster.com.

In the Spotlight



If you know of a female Iowa attorney who would like to appear in this section of this newsletter, please contact Kathy Law at kklaw@nyemaster.com.



Welcome to New IOWA Members

- Reyna Lynn Wilkens
- Candi Chadwick
- Michelle Synarong
- Andrea M. Diaz
- Ann Smisek
- Tara Lawrence