



# NETWORK NEWS

Monthly Newsletter of the  
DES MOINES LEADERSHIP NETWORK

OCTOBER 2008

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Greater Des Moines Partnership  
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235-4401

**LEADERSHIP NETWORK**  
P.O. Box 30128  
Des Moines, IA 50310  
515-286-4953  
[www.dmladershipnetwork.org](http://www.dmladershipnetwork.org)  
[desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com](mailto:desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com)

## BUSINESS LUNCHEON FACTS

DATE: **Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**

TIME: **11:45 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.**

PLACE: **The Des Moines Embassy Club, 801 Grand Avenue  
40<sup>th</sup> Floor -- Downtown Des Moines**

COST: **\$20.00** cash or check payable to **Leadership Network**

**RSVP (OR CANCELLATION): By noon on Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>**

- E-mail to [desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com](mailto:desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com)
- Contact Us page at [www.dmladershipnetwork.org](http://www.dmladershipnetwork.org)
- Phone Marlena at 515-286-4953

## OCTOBER LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

### **“THE FIVE W’S OF THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU”**

The Leadership Network is really getting down to business this month with a presentation by **Chris Coleman, President of the Better Business Bureau of Greater Iowa**. We will leave our meeting with answers to five questions that affect our financial security and educate us as consumers:

- **What** is the BBB
- **Who** it serves
- **Why** the BBB exists
- **When** their services are needed
- **Where** – Did you know that BBB serves more than the Des Moines area?

Chris is also a well-known Des Moines City Council member. Although Council activities are not part of the presentation, Chris promises to respond to such questions as time allows.



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**OCTOBER SPEAKER CONTINUED****SPEAKER BIO**

Chris Coleman is the President of the Better Business Bureau of Greater Iowa, one of Iowa's largest business associations. In his role, Chris builds our economy by promoting honesty and integrity in the marketplace, holding consumers and businesses accountable to fair business practices, and ensuring accountability in the not-for profit sector. He and his wife Marcie make their home in Beaverdale and are the proud parents of five children. Chris is also a city-wide Des Moines City Council member, first elected in 1998, who has been re-elected city-wide twice since then. Chris has been active in city leadership as Chair of the Board of the Metro Waste Authority, member of the Board and Executive Committee of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Convention and Visitors Bureau of Greater Des Moines, Greater Des Moines Partnership's Government Policy Council, the Affordable Housing and Homelessness Partnership, Des Moines Legislative Committee, and Gateway Steering Committee. He has received the Human Rights Champion award, was a member of the inaugural 40 Under 40 Class of Iowa's emerging leaders, and was the recipient of the 2003 Civic Leadership Award in Iowa as an advocate of tourism, culture and recreational activities. Earlier in his career, Chris worked as a VISTA Volunteer in Appalachia, Kentucky, at the David School, where he now serves on the National Board. He also directed programming at St. Thomas More Center in Panora Iowa, home to Catholic Youth Camp, which serves 1,500 youth each summer. Chris was the top fundraising and marketing professional at United Way of Central Iowa, the state's largest charity, before joining the BBB. Chris enjoys his time with his family, as a youth soccer, basketball, track, and baseball coach, and his time in his church and school communities.

**SPOTLIGHTERS BOOKED!**

Second Vice President Deborah Stearns thanks you for filling this year's roster of Spotlight Members at the September meeting.

**PRESIDENT'S NOTE**

October is already here, marking the start of harvest, apple orchards, fall colors, hayrack rides, pumpkins, and Halloween. This is my favorite time of year. The air becomes crisp and our first frost looms (a reprieve for those with allergies). It seems only yesterday we had Deja Vu of 1993 and now the days and nights are getting cooler, the kids are back at school, and football is in full swing. It's a great time for family activities around the area.

Mary Ann Nielsen has already slated some great speakers through February 2009. We started the year with guest speaker Ron Litterer, president of the National Corn Growers Association, and this month we will hear from Chris Coleman, president of the Better Business Bureau of Greater Iowa. If anyone has suggestions for speakers to help finish the year (March, April, or May), please contact Mary Ann with the recommendation at 697-5938 or [nielsenma@aib.edu](mailto:nielsenma@aib.edu).

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**PRESIDENT'S NOTE CONTINUED**

As you may know, the Leadership Network is a non-profit organization, and each year we fund a scholarship for an AIB College of Business student and consider donations to other local charitable organizations. You do not have to be a member of Leadership Network to attend, as guests are always welcome. If you are interested in more information about the group, contact any member or visit our website at [www.dmlleadershipnetwork.org](http://www.dmlleadershipnetwork.org).

I look forward to serving as the 2008-2009 President of the Leadership Network. On behalf of the Board of Directors, we look forward to a year of growth and development, both in the Leadership Network and as professionals.

Dennis Sensenbrenner

**WE ARE GROWING!**

Sam Ayres of the Iowa Heart Center and Jill Boyle from Freedom Financial Bank both joined the Leadership Network recently. Jill and Marlana Bandurski met at the Freedom Financial Bank Regional Business After Hours event, where Jill mentioned she was new to the area.

A growing membership means a greater exchange of information and a nice showing for the speakers who contribute their time and expertise for luncheon presentations. Please attend the meetings as often as you can and spread the word to your colleagues. If you would like to carry meeting details in a nutshell, send a message to [desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com](mailto:desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com) asking for a few "Meeting Cards." You may also have someone added to our "Interested" e-mail list to receive a few get-acquainted newsletters. (E-mail addresses are not shared with others).

**TRANSITIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Have you read "Baker Electric lights up a productive trend" in the September 27 *Des Moines Business Record*? See how they get things done at John Irving's place of business. Here's the link.

<http://businessrecord.com/main.asp?SectionID=5&SubSectionID=9&ArticleID=6914>

(And, yes, that was also John being quoted in the *Des Moines Register* after the Presidential running mate debate).

Please send *your* professional news to [desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com](mailto:desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com) for publication in the November edition of **Network News**.

## Leadership Network Membership Application

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New Member Referred by \_\_\_\_\_  Renewing Member

**Regular Member Annual Dues: \$95.00.** Retirees may join for half price.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Company or employer \_\_\_\_\_

Street address or postal address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile #, if different \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_

Professional certification \_\_\_\_\_

Company/employer Web address (for Leadership Network Web links)

\_\_\_\_\_

**LEADERSHIP NETWORK** P.O. Box 30128 Des Moines, IA 50310  
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*Preparing Tomorrow's Leadership Team Today.*

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Mission: To enhance the leadership experience, knowledge, growth, and commitment to ethical practices and professionalism of our members through program meetings and networking with one another.