

PINOY PERSPECTIVES



A FILIPINO AMERICAN SOCIETY BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
MARCH 2025

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to our revamped Pinoy Perspectives newsletter. It is part of our mission at FAS to provide resources for Filipino Americans, and this newsletter accomplishes just that. We hope you'll use this bi-monthly newsletter as your one place to learn about upcoming events and ways to get involved. We also want to hear from you- what do you care about and what do you want covered in the newsletter? Do you have a story to share? If so, be sure to reach out! We would love to hear from you.



RECENT EVENT: Iowa Wolves Game

Thank you to all who came out to support the FAS Night fundraising event. All donations support orphanages in the Philippines.

On February 28, family and friends supported the Iowa Wolves on their Timberwolves Day against Osceola Magic at the Wells Fargo Arena. The first 150 attendees received an Iowa Wolves and Filipino American Society of Iowa hat. Email us to buy a hat for \$20 or get yours at the Filipino Fiesta in June.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 5 -
Scholarship
Spring Potluck
Urbandale Sr. Recreation Center

7305 NW Aurora Ave.,
Urbandale, IA 50322

SAVE THE DATE

June 14 - **Filipino Fiesta**

Sept. 13 - **FAS Annual Gala**

Dec. 6 - **FAS Annual Christmas**

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Email: fas.iowa@gmail.com

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www.facebook.com/FASIOWA/

MEET MEL BARLAW NEWLY ELECTED FAS CO-VICE PRESIDENT



Where are you from?

"I am a first-generation Filipino-American, born and raised in the Philippines. Iowa has been my home for many years, and I've built my life and community here."

When/ how did you join FAS?

"I joined the Filipino-American Society because I wanted to connect with my roots, meet fellow Filipinos, and contribute to our growing community. Over time, I became more involved, and now I proudly serve as a Board member."

What does FAS mean to you?

"FAS is more than just an organization—it's a family. It represents culture, connection, and community. It's a place where we celebrate our heritage, support one another, and create opportunities for the next generation of Filipino-Americans. Through my work in FAS, I hope to preserve our culture and encourage future generations of Filipino-American women to be proud of their heritage and take on leadership roles."

What are your interests/hobbies?

"I'm an entrepreneur at heart, running Knockout Nails Salon and working in real estate. I love organizing events, uplifting others, and being a leader in the community. Outside of work, I enjoy cooking, traveling, and spending time with my three kids."

CURRENT EVENTS

Recently there have been a lot of uncertainty around executive orders, deportation orders and ICE.

Be sure to know your rights, regardless of your immigration status.

Helpful Resources:

- **Catherine McAuley Center** - This nonprofit provides educational and supportive services to refugees, immigrants, adult workers.
- **Iowa Migrant Movement for Justice** - This non-profit provides low-cost and high-quality legal services
- **Diversity Service Center of Iowa** - DSCI provides assistance with a variety of immigration services.



CALL TO ACTION

FAS is offering a scholarship for the 2025-2026 school year. The deadline to apply is March 31, 2025. Learn more and apply today at <https://www.fasiowa.org/scholarship>

Encourage Your Friends to Join at www.fasiowa.org/membership

\$20

Individual

\$30

Couple

\$35

Family

Advertising With Us!

For a small fee FAS members are encouraged to share their business or nonprofit and advertise here.

Options:

\$25 per newsletter

\$150 a year (6 newsletters)

Send your Ideas to fas.iowa@gmail.com

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