

# Minnesota Women of Today

## Chapter Mailing



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### Inside this Issue

Executive Council Highlights

June Membership Leader Board

Calendar Highlights

Board Pull Out Section:

- Recruitment & Retention
- President/State Delegate Retreat
- Women of Today Week

What is a healthy chapter?

USWT Mid-Year registration

Upcoming State Events

Encouragement is more potent than any drug on the market. It imparts something no chemical company can: real, genuine hope."

Tommy Barnett, co-founder of the Los Angeles Dream Center

#### MNWT Creed

We, the Women of Today, are service, growth and fellowship. We believe that through us great lessons can be learned, worthy deeds performed and a hand of fellowship extended to millions of women everywhere. May we leave the world a better place because we lived and served within it.

Dear Minnesota Women of Today!

For the past few months, thanks to my friend, Kayla Hermann, I've been receiving an interesting internet newsletter called "The Tuesday Tip," from a Minnesota man named Dr. Alan Zimmerman. It's free and easy to subscribe to at <http://srv.ezinedirector.net/?n=3768915&s=110932461> Recently, Dr. Zimmerman's Tuesday Tip focused on "How to Tap into the Power of Enthusiasm." The following is an excerpt from his May edition:

*There is a mighty power in words. Words set people up for success, or words bring them down to defeat. And as much as I hate to say it, the world is filled with people eager and ready to spew out words of defeat. Turn on television or read the newspaper, and you are certain to see and hear a litany of bad news and dire predictions. The world is filled with cynics, discouragers, and dream-killers. Of course, this isn't a "modern" phenomenon. Throughout history, dream-killers have tried to shout down dreams. When the "Boston Post" heard back in 1865 that some inventors were working on a device that would transmit voices over great distances using wires, it wrote, "Well-informed people know it is impossible to transmit the voice over wires, and that were it possible to do so, the thing would be of no practical value." I wonder how encouraged or discouraged Alexander Graham Bell must have been when he read that! Darryl Zanuck, the producer at Twentieth-Century Fox, said in 1946, "Television won't last because people will soon get tired of staring at a plywood box every night." Elvis Presley was even told by a successful performer at the Grand Ole Opry, "You ain't going nowhere, son. You ought to go back to driving a truck."*

*The mistake, of course, is for you, me, or anyone else to listen to the dream-killers. But it's so easy, so natural to do so. "That's why encouragement is so important." says Tommy Barnett, co-founder of the Los Angeles Dream Center. "It holds open the possibility that the future may be more exciting, more mind-boggling than we think. Here are 5 ways to become an ENCOURAGER of those around you:*

- 1. Help people discover their "talent zones" – volunteer and work experiences that people enjoy and feel great about. When people are working in their talent zones, they consistently contribute high value and they receive the appreciation of others.*
- 2. Help people use their strengths - once people understand their strengths, then encourage them to USE those strengths. Encourage them to find projects where their strengths could be utilized, and encourage them to get involved in those projects.*
- 3. Share strength feedback - when you see someone using their strengths, make a comment. When you see someone's strengths making a difference, make a comment. Sometimes people don't even notice how their talents are impacting the projects and people around them. So point out the good they are doing. It will increase their awareness of their strengths, and it will boost their confidence.*
- 4. Give regular praise - everyone wants and everyone needs to receive some praise, and yet all too many (leaders) and all too many parents do not know how to meaningfully affirm others. That's why the number one job complaint continues to be, "You can do a hundred things right and not hear a darn thing about it. You do one thing wrong, and they're right on your back."*
- 5. Give occasional public recognition - one of the most powerful ways to encourage someone else is the occasional use of public praise. Recognize and thank an individual ... in front of others ... for the specific strength or character quality he/she demonstrated. Explain how your organization has benefited from his/her actions.*

*Action: Make it your mission this week to pick out one person to encourage, encourage, and then encourage some more. Reprinted with permission from Dr. Alan Zimmerman's Internet newsletter, the "Tuesday Tip."*

When I was a kid, there was a popular saying that found its way onto bumper stickers, t-shirts, and the like, that said, "Have you hugged your kid today?" As (chapter, district, and state) leaders, let's pledge to regularly ask ourselves, "Have we encouraged our members today?"

*Today is where your book begins,*

Anne Johnson, President Minnesota Women of Today 2010-2011

**Terri Dahlberg**  
**Administrative VP**

Hello State Delegates! Thank you to everyone who participated in our first Chat Room! I hope you were able to get some useful information from others involved in our conversation. Shine Bright and encourage fellow chapter members to attend Fall State! Also – your first State Delegate report is due at the end of the month; if you're unsure of the due date contact your District Director. Enjoy the end of Summer =)

**Marie Robinson**

**Chapter Management VP**

Thank you to all who have joined the Gold Team Network! Applications are available on the website and are always being accepted. Chapters - We're here if you need a speaker at your meeting, facilitators for personal enrichment courses, ideas for projects and so much more! Contact me to learn more about the Gold Team.

**Nicky Anderson**  
**Membership VP**

Here are some more clues for helping you take they mystery out of membership. Clue 1 are you going to participate in the mystery Monday on Aug. 30<sup>th</sup>. Remember if you participate call president Anne and she will give you clues to a mystery member hunt that will be held at fall state convention Friday evening. Clue 2 Don't forget about our rebate program for this trimester, check out my CIP for details. Clue 3 if you signed a new member this trimester your chapter will be in the butter carving contest at Fall state. Clue 4 have you checked out the new m-event kits out yet? If you need help with finding which is the hottest new event for the trimester look at my web page or email me at [mvp@mnwt.org](mailto:mvp@mnwt.org). Also if you would like me to come and visit your chapter / district with one of the exciting new m-night kits let me know I would love to visit.

**Sue Schoenborn**  
**External VP**

Fall State is right around the corner! Be sure to plan to attend the Project Fair! The SPM's have exciting things to share with you about their

programming areas! Don't forget to send in your transmittals to help Treasurer Katie and me reach our goals! If you have any questions, I am here to help and I check my email on a regular basis. [evp@mnwt.org](mailto:evp@mnwt.org).

The MNWT will be looking for a new three year Priority Project. We are currently in our 2nd year with our current priority project; Can Do Canines. If you have ideas or suggestions, please email Sue Schoenborn at [evp@mnwt.org](mailto:evp@mnwt.org).

**Dana Hoenigschmidt**  
**Internal VP**

Now is a great time to get started on your certifications. See the website for all the forms needed. Have a certification party to get your chapter certified! Help the SPMs reach their goals... don't forget STEP certifications also!

**Cindy Sanders**  
**Extensions Director**

Do you know anyone in the following communities? Breckenridge/Wahpeton, Hermantown, Hibbing, Owatona, Savage or Stillwater? If you do, please pass their names on to me, so I can get them to the chair people of those extensions in progress. Have you ever wondered what it was like to share this organization with women in another city? Now is the time to find out what a rewarding and exciting experience it can be. Give me a call and I will tell you how to get started. The chairs of the above extensions stepped out of their comfort zone to share this organization with another community and you can to! Just ask me how.

**Pam Przybilla**  
**Parliamentarian**

I want say thank you to the chapters and districts who have already submitted their bylaws and policies for review. I look forward to having many more of you submit them. If you submit them to me by August 31st you will be in a drawing for a Fall State basket. Remember that our state bylaw and policy review will be held on November 6th at 2 pm in Burnsville. I am asking anyone who can attend to please let me know by October 15th. There

will be a drawing for an incentive to be given out at Fall State.

**Kelly Porter**  
**Secretary**

Are you interested in being a PALS chapter? I have 20 chapters signed up right now and will always take more applications! It is not too late. You can find the application on my webpage or in my MNJOTS CIP. Also, you can earn Success points if you donate to the State Plan of Action during 1st Trimester. For more details please see my MNJOTS CIP.

**Katie Castro**  
**Treasurer**

Thank you to each of you who completed either the Treasurer's Checklist or my Treasurer's Challenge; incentives will be distributed at Fall State. Keep in mind that your chapter will receive 50 SUCCESS Bonus Points for a donation of \$25 or more to the State Plan Of Action; donation scan be mailed to me. I'm also excited to see many transmittals rolling in – it is great to see the good work our chapters are doing this trimester.

The next Finance Committee is set for Saturday, September 11th at 10:00 AM in Zimmerman – all members are welcome to attend. Please drop me an e-mail if you wish to attend.

Just a friendly reminder to file your Annual Registration with the MN Secretary of State at [www.sos.state.mn.us](http://www.sos.state.mn.us). Click on Annual Business Renewal, and follow the instructions to complete your filing. Your File number and Entity Type can both be located by using the "search your entity name" link on this page. If you need assistance, please let me know; it should take you no more than 5 minutes to complete this online. This must be done by October 1st to avoid a late fee of \$10.00.

Thanks for all you do for your chapters! Keep your ideas and questions coming – I'm always happy to help, and I look forward to seeing you at Fall State!

### **JenKinzer**

#### **Chairman of the Board**

National Midyear Convention location has been announced and we are headed to Iowa; to Des Moines to be exact and the theme is a Family Reunion. More details and the registration form will be on the website soon or you can email me directly for details. Hope you can all make it October 1-3, 2010.

Deadline for the redistricting surveys was August 1st. I will compiling this information and make my recommendations at Fall State. If you have any ideas or comments, please contact me by email at cob@mnwt.org.

Election reps are still needed. Do you want to know more about the MNWT election process? Here is your chance. Contact me if you are interested in serving an elections rep or for more information.

### **Christine Harkess**

#### **Presidential Assistant**

Did President Anne visit your chapter or district this trimester? Did you take pictures? Did she attend a chapter or district event and did you get in the local paper? If so, please forward copies of news articles, and pictures to me for Anne's scrapbook.

### **Community Connections**

Send your transmittals in for first trimester to our State Treasurer, Katie Castro. Also, do not forget to send your reports to cc@mnwt.org.

### **Heidi Westerlund**

#### **Can Do Canines**

Hello Lovely Ladies! First trimester is upon us and so is my first trimester project which is Heel & Wheel Walk! There are two ways to participate. You can either attend the walk on Sunday, September 19th, at Clifton French Park in Plymouth or have your own walk on whatever date and place you choose. How simple is that?!? Please check my website for information or e-mail me directly. Let's make our first trimester fund raiser a success! Puppy Power!

### **Michelle Gag**

#### **Living and Learning**

Refine your ROAR as you Tame the Beast in your life! Enter the Impromptu speaking Competition at Fall State. RECIPE FOR A GOOD SPEECH: Tell the audience what you are going to say, say it, and tell the audience what you just said. Go to the L&L webpage for more information on this competition. DEADLINE for LPM Fast Start is August 1st. Have you completed your L&L Certifications? They are available ON-LINE!!!! Invite me to promote the certification process and PE courses at your fall meeting. Sign-up by August 30th and have your name put in a drawing for a prize!

### **Sue Renz**

#### **Public Relations**

Did you have a great Founder's Day event? I'm waiting to hear about all the chapters who celebrated and what they did. Keep those reports coming in! Check the website for more press releases and ideas for Kid's Week (Aug. 15-23); Women of Today Week (Sept. 19-25); Fall State Convention (Sept. 24-26); & more. Get your ticket orders in for WT "Day at the Diamond" on Sun., Sept. 19th! Let's make a whole section of red shirts for all to see! Come watch President Anne throw the first pitch, see the new Target Field, and enjoy the game with your WT friends. Make sure you plan some events during the week to get the message out about who we are and what we do! And then join us at Convention to find out how our first trimester went!

### **Janice Schwartz**

#### **Records and Recognition**

I can't believe all of the great Chapter activities I have been invited to via Facebook. Don't forget to submit your Projects of the Trimester. The form can be found on the MNWT website in the Book of Forms. You can also submit your project to the USWT Project Recognition; the information can be found on the MNWT Records and Recognition State Program Manager webpage. Be sure to take advantage of these great opportunities for your chapter to be recognized.

### **Johnette Jacobs**

#### **Ways and Means**

August is the emphasis month for Ways & Means. What better way to emphasize this programming area than by promoting this state-wide fundraiser and invest in our organization's future. Consider having a contest in your chapter or district for the top seller. Don't forget to ask your friends and family to place an order as well.

### **Dawn Scouton**

#### **Women's Wellness**

Hi wonderful Women of Today! How has your summer gone so far? Are you reducing stress in your life and spending more time to take care of yourself? Don't forget that you can't take care of others if you aren't taking care of yourself. Have you looked into the Cancurables Foundation yet? This wonderful organization needs your help to get the word out about ovarian cancer and to raise funds for research and education. You can check them out at [www.cancurables.org](http://www.cancurables.org). Reach for your Dreams!!

### **Wendy Lindberg**

#### **Youth of Today**

Don't forget to put together a great duct tape fashion for fall state's contest to benefit the Outstanding Young Adult Scholarships! Childhood cancer awareness is in September and Isaac's Foundation is committed to making some great stuff for a buck events then! Please contact me or see my CIP for more details.

### **MNWT Foundation**

#### **Candi Frick**

I hope you are all enjoying the Summer. It is now time to start thinking about the Cheryl L. Anderson Art Auction which will be held at Fall State. The Art Auction funds the scholarship program of the Foundation. Patsy Ajax is chairing this event and needs lots of help from you. She is looking for art items that we can auction off. If you are able to help with donations, please contact Patsy Ajax at [patsyajax@msn.com](mailto:patsyajax@msn.com) or Candi Frick at [cmdcfrick@aol.com](mailto:cmdcfrick@aol.com). Let's try to make this the biggest and best auction ever.



# Could Your Chapter Use A Little More R&R?

## *(Recruitment & Retention)*

Why do women join Women of Today? The reason is different for everyone, so it's important for your chapter to plan a variety of activities that will appeal to all of your members. This will not only give your members an opportunity to know each other better, but it will offer new opportunities for potential members. By just picking a quick activity (like one of those listed below) you will easily bring a little R&R to your chapter.

**Pajama Social:** Have a slumber party with just the girls, complete with party games and snacks.

**Pamper Yourself Night:** Locate a massage therapist, manicurist, yoga teacher and more to have a fun evening of relaxation and pampering!

**Stamping Night:** Find a demonstrator who will come in to instruct members on how to rubber stamp, as well as supply stamps for the members to use while making cards. Go a step further and donate the cards you make to a local nursing home.

**Recognition Social:** Thank those members who have renewed their membership, or will be renewing by having a night of activities just for them.

**Book Club:** Every two months have a book discussion evening. The member, who hosts the next meeting, gets to pick the book to be read.

**Walking Club:** Find an indoor and outdoor location to get fit. When the weather doesn't cooperate, there will be no reason to cancel your plans.

**Day at the Club:** Find a local fitness center will who donate free passes to your organization and spend a morning or afternoon exercising together before you hit the pool and hot tub.

**Crop 'Til You Drop:** Ask a consultant to instruct members on the basics of scrap booking, new techniques and fresh layout ideas.

**Lucky Strike:** Invite members and guests to attend an evening of bowling.

**S'More the Merrier:** Meet at a local park or back yard that provides a campfire. Bring marshmallows, chocolate bars and graham crackers. Invite attendees to join in a sing-a-long.

**Wine Tasting:** Ask a wine representative to give a personal presentation and introduce wines for tasting. You could also do a little research yourself!

Contact me for details regarding the above events, more ideas, or to work together to plan your chapter's next activity. Marie Robinson [cmvp@mnwt.org](mailto:cmvp@mnwt.org).

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## SAVE THE DATE

### President/State Delegate Retreat

The President and State Delegate Retreat being held on October 16 – 17<sup>th</sup> is an excellent training and bonding opportunity. This will be 24 hours of fun, fellowship and learning that you don't want to miss out on. You and your state delegate will meet others that have the same concerns you do. Staff members will be available to answer your questions and brainstorming. You'll realize that many others are facing the same challenges as you!

It is a very refreshing and rejuvenating weekend. This event is held at Camp Friendship in Annandale. Watch for the registration form in my Fall State CIP. Mark your calendars and make sure to register early.





# **WOMEN of TODAYweek:**

## ***Sept. 19 - 25, 2010***



Women of Today week is coming up fast! Time to start planning special events in your chapters across the state to celebrate the existence of our organization and the many benefits provided to and by its members. It's so special that we set aside a whole week at the end of September for this! It's a great opportunity to tell people who we are; socialize and enjoy our membership; and advertise for new members at the same time. (Look at the MNWT website and the PR area for a proclamation that the mayor can sign and a sample news release.) This year we already have two special events planned for this week and you can fill in the rest of the week with your own special events! Mark your calendars and start planning!



### **JOIN US for "DAY at the DIAMOND" TWINS' GAME!**

Kick-off "Women of Today week" on **Sunday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>**, by joining us for the Twins game vs. the Athletics at the new Target field! Watch as our own MNWT President, Anne Johnson, throws out the first pitch! Wear red or your WT shirts to show your support for WT! Won't you help me reach my goal of 150 tickets sold? Carpool, get a bus-full, take the light-rail -- just join us for the game at 1:00 PM!

Use this opportunity to show 'em how special you are by planning your own events during WT

week! Try some of these (or plan your own):

- M-event
- Pep-course
- Certification night
- Scavenger hunt
- Picnic/social
- Volleyball or softball game
- Speaker/ demonstrator
- Fundraiser
- Scrapbooking time
- Volunteer at a nursing home or local charity
- "Buckets of Sunshine" event
- Ice Cream social (or make "Root Beer Floats")
- Campfire or cookout



### ***"MINNESOTA FALL STATE FAIR"***

***FALL STATE CONVENTION:***

***SEPT. 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> at***

***Ramada Inn,***

***Brooklyn Park***

*(Water Park tickets also available @ \$ 9.95)*

\* \* \* \*

**Full Registration: \$ 73**

**(due by Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>)**

**PROJECT FAIR &**

**FUN BOOTHS**

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**SATURDAY NIGHT PARTY**

**SUNDAY BRUNCH**

**What a great way to finish out a great**

**WT week**





**UNITED STATES WOMEN OF TODAY  
2010 National Mid-Year Convention**

October 1-3, 2010

*Iowa WT (home of first USWT President Vicki Fisher)*

*invite you back to Des Moines for a . . .*

**FAMILY REUNION**

**Baymont Inn & Suites Airport Conference Center <sup>a</sup>**

6221 SW Army Post Rd <sup>a</sup> Des Moines IA <sup>a</sup> 515-285-0654

**REGISTRATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Women of Today \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_ First Timer. Home Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival: Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Means of Transportation: \_\_\_\_\_

If by air: Airline \_\_\_\_\_ Flight # \_\_\_\_\_ E.T.A. \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Departure Time: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: There is airport shuttle service to the hotel.

**ROOMS ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!! CONVENTION RATE UNTIL 09/09/10.**

\$82.88 per night – 1-4 people per room – 515-285-0654

Mention that you are with the U.S. Women of Today meeting when making reservations.

**Registration**

**Advance**

**Late**

FULL \_\_\_\_\_ \$84.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$95.00

Includes all meetings, forums and meals

**INDIVIDUAL EVENTS**

Friday Night Party \_\_\_\_\_ \$18.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00

Saturday Forums / Meetings \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00

Saturday Luncheon \_\_\_\_\_ \$18.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00

Saturday Banquet \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00

Sunday Breakfast \_\_\_\_\_ \$18.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00

Total \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_

SATURDAY ONLY \_\_\_\_\_ \$48.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$55.00

**ADVANCE REGISTRATION DEADLINE – POSTMARKED BY September 9, 2010**

Make check payable to Iowa Women of Today 2010

And send registration form and check to:

Any questions please contact:

Michele Thompson 612-869-6320  
kentsmom86@yahoo.com

Michele Thompson  
Mid-Year Convention Chair  
6908 Wentworth Ave  
Richfield MN 55423

IA WT President Tracey Pierson 712-580-5711  
trac@smunet.net

# What is a Healthy Chapter?

By Stacy Pearson/Jen Kinzer

In April 2009, a Membership Study Committee met to discuss the makeup of a healthy chapter. There were many thoughts about what makes a chapter healthy. Some of those included a chapter having a full board, holding monthly events, keeping a high retention rate (75%), maintaining good finances, and signing new members regularly (4-6 per year).

A healthy chapter is also well-rounded, including all aspects of Women of Today: Service, Growth & Fellowship. They hold community events, m-events, fundraisers, personal growth opportunities, and socials. According to the Minnesota Women of Today Bylaws, a chapter must maintain seven members under the age of 40 to be a chapter “in good standing.” But is a chapter with only seven members really healthy? Seven members are barely enough to fill the board or run a project. Perhaps a better number for members in a chapter is 10-15.

New members and new leaders are also important to the health of a chapter. New members are inclined to (and should be encouraged to) question events that might have become “tradition” adding a new twist to a project or suggesting new project opportunities. Rotating leadership positions and encouraging new members to choose new leadership roles keep members from getting burned out.

Diversity in a chapter is also important. This could be diversity in age, marital status and working status, as well as racial diversity. Take a look at your chapter. Are you healthy? Look at the aforementioned topics and determine areas that you need to improve. Work with your chapter board to setup an action plan to become healthier. Like our own bodies, we need to be healthy to not only survive, but to thrive ourselves and be able to help those around us.

## Women of Today Week!! September 19-25

This week in the MN Women of Today is an awesome opportunity to hold membership events, chapter socials, submit news releases about your chapter and share your chapter successes with your community! Historically, Women of Today Week has been a big membership event across the state.

Please email our Public Relations SPM for press releases and other public Relations ideas.

The United States Women of Today has a special recognition for chapters who participate in activities during Women of Today Week. The form is called “Shout Out With Pride” and is available in the Book of Forms.

Has your chapter filed your Annual Registration with the Secretary of State for 2010? This must be completed by October 15. Check with the Chapter Service Center if uncertain about this.

## Goodsearch and Goodshop

Help Minnesota Women of Today every time you shop online and search the web by downloading the GoodSearch/GoodShop toolbar! Each time you shop at one of more than 1,000 participating top stores (from Amazon to Zazzle!), Minnesota Women of Today will earn a percentage of the purchase price – at no extra cost to you! It also includes a search box and each time you search the web, about a penny is donated to MNWT.

<http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbars.aspx?charityID=815295>



Minnesota  
Women of Today

PO Box 232

Anoka, MN 55303

## Upcoming State Events

### **Kids Week** August 16-22

Celebrate the Kids in your community by hosting an event for kids in your community during this week! Some ideas: Hold a story time at your local library, decorate placemats with children to donate to the local Meals on Wheels program. Please see the Youth of Today webpage for more information or Email the Youth of Today SPM at [yt@mnwt.org](mailto:yt@mnwt.org).

### **Fall State Convention**

Join the rest of the MNWT at the Fair in Brooklyn Park on September 24-26, 2009!

This convention is hosted by District 11 Women of Today.

See the registration information in the MNJOTS CIP.

Advanced registration deadline is September 3, 2010.

- Project Fair
- Fun Booths
- Saturday Night Party
- Water Park

For questions call or email Colleen T. at 763-694-0705 or [c\\_mtodd@msn.com](mailto:c_mtodd@msn.com) or Rita J. At 612-770-1330 or [zucarita@comcast.net](mailto:zucarita@comcast.net)

### **President/State Delegate Retreat!!**

October 16 – 17, 2010

The President and State Delegate Retreat being held on October 16 – 17<sup>th</sup> is an excellent training and bonding opportunity. This will be 24 hours of fun, fellowship and learning that you don't want to miss out on. You and your state delegate will meet others that have the same concerns you do. Staff members will be available to answer your questions and brainstorming. You'll realize that many others are facing the same challenges as you!

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