

Minnesota Women of Today Chapter Mailing



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November 2010

Inside this Issue

Executive Council
Highlights

September Membership
Leader Board

Calendar Highlights

Board Pull Out
Section:

•Sales Tax Facts

•Activation/Retention
Tips

ONTO Flower Sale

Upcoming State Events

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,

“There’s a difference between interest and commitment.

When you’re interested in doing something, you do it only when circumstance permit.

When you’re committed to something, you accept no excuses, only results.”

It’s hard to believe that we are already at the half-way point in our Women of Today year, isn’t it? Compliment yourself and your members on all that they have accomplished. Review and revise your plan for what you still need to get done. This is a great time to evaluate your attitude. I’m sure most of you have heard Charles R. Swindoll’s saying, “Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it.” Attitude plays a role in all we do, especially in a non-profit organization, where positive attitudes are needed to seek creative solutions and new paths for growth. Internet leadership resource, “Walk the Talk” (www.walkthetalk.com) lists 10 Reasons Why Leaders Should Model the Commitment and Positive Attitudes They Expect From Others:

1. It improves trust and respect at all levels.
 2. It protects leadership’s reputation.
 3. It increases team members’ willingness to make and keep their commitments.
 4. It eliminates inconsistencies that become obstacles to good team member attitudes.
 5. It increases team members’ cooperation with leadership.
 6. It fosters a positive work culture.
 7. It enhances customer service.
 8. It increases pride, professionalism, and productivity.
 9. It enhances the organization’s ability to attract and retain high-quality and diverse team members.
 10. It helps ensure the short-term AND long-term success of the enterprise.
- And a Bonus Reason ...It’s purely and simply the right thing to do!

From 180 Ways to Build Commitment and Positive Attitudes, used with Permission from TheWALK THE TALK Company.

Do we model commitment and positive attitude in our chapters? Do we model commitment and positive attitude in our communities, representing ourselves as Women of Today? As you begin the 2nd half of the year, make a commitment that attitude matters.

***“Individual commitment to a group effort –
that is what makes a team work, a company work,
a society work, a civilization work.”*** Vince Lombardi

Today is where your book begins,

Anne Johnson, President Minnesota Women of Today 2010-2011

Terri Dahlberg
Administrative VP

Hello Shining State Delegates! It's November already! Raise your hand if you've completed your mid-year entry?!? If you're still working on it, I've got news and help for you: First State Delegate Google Chat Room, scheduled for November 16th, 8:00pm. TOPIC: Mid-Year Entries. I'll be sending out instructions soon, just make sure you sign up for a 'gmail' account. Mid-years are due postmarked Nov. 12th to RR SPM, Janice; email me a copy too if you'd like me to look at it. Happy fall everyone, and have a warm, fun and family-filled Thanksgiving!

Marie Robinson
Chapter Management VP

It was great to everyone at the President and State Delegate retreat. I hope that you all found your "cheese" that weekend! You should have received an email containing a survey. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey and let us know what you thought. Mid-year evaluations are due post marked to the R&R SPM by November 12th. If you have questions on how to complete your evaluation, please contact me, your District Director or the R&R SPM.

Nicky Anderson
Membership VP

I'm so excited on how we are doing so far this year. Let's keep this motivation going. Clues for this month are:

1. Early bird deadline for renewals is Nov 15th.
2. Renewal dues are Dec 15th. Take out your growth plans and review them.
3. Mystery Monday Nov. 29th If you hold an event on Monday Nov 29th call Nicky that night and tell her about it, and your chapter president will be in a drawing for a make over at Winter State Convention. Don't worry chapter members you will be pampered your selves. So call Nicky at 507-381-0786.
4. Have you scheduled your murder mystery m-event yet? If not contact me and lets get one booked. Either myself or another

staff member would love to come to your chapter and facilitate a murder mystery. It can be a membership night or a social.

5. Send in all your new members adds for the trimester. Let me know if you need anything, I will be here.

Sue Schoenborn
External VP

PVP's – don't forget to encourage the LPMs in your chapter to complete their trimester reports. Are your LPMs new members? Do they need help? Get them on the phone and ask them how you can help make their job easier! Remember, I am here to help you! Please ask if you need my assistance. Don't forget to be thinking about a bid for our 3 year priority project. Due date is Dec. 1, 2010 to the evp@mnwt.org. We will vote on the new priority project at Fall State 2011, and the new priority area will begin in May of 2012-2013.

Dana Hoenigschmidt
Internal VP

Now is the time to be looking at certifications. Have a party and fill them out. Don't forget about STEP. All are located on the website.

Cindy Sanders
Extensions Director

Welcome to the Andover Women of Today! Congratulations to the Fridley Women of Today for this great accomplishment on completing an extension! Did you know that you can get 100 bonus success points by completing an extension this trimester? Also, if you file an intent and complete an extension this trimester, you will receive something special at Winter State. Consider stepping outside your box and taking on the challenge of working on an extension. There is no better way to achieve growth, both personally and for the organization. Have a happy Thanksgiving!

Katie Castro
Treasurer

GOBBLE GOBBLE GOBBLE!
\$65/\$65/\$65 Remember my 65/65/65/ rule this year! In order for me to meet my fundraising goals for 2010-2011, each chapter needs

to donate to Ways & Means, participating in the trimester promotionals and making purchases at the State Store at a rate of \$65 in each area, or any combination thereof. If you have questions about this, please let me know.

Be sure to take time to complete my 2nd Trimester Treasurer's Challenge to be entered into a drawing for a fabulous office supply gift bag; details are given in my Fall State CIP. Thank you to all of the chapters that filed their Annual Business Registration before October 1st! We only had one chapter that did not meet this deadline. **Thank you to all of you who submitted transmittals first trimester** – the donations your chapters are making are exciting to see! **Keep them coming, and remember that transmittals, whether paper or online, should be sent to the Treasurer.** The 2nd trimester transmittal deadline is January 14th.

The deadline for the Finance Committee Drawing has been extended to December 30th; the entry form can be found on my webpage and attached to the Ways & Means Fall State CIP!

Enter today for a chance to win 2 full registrations to Winter State convention AND one night's hotel stay!

Don't forget to use **iGive & GoodShop** for all of your online holiday shopping needs; a portion of your purchase will be donated back to MNWT. And if you haven't already done so, set up **GoodSearch** as your search engine and a donation will be made to MNWT everytime you do a search. **Details for iGive, GoodShop and GoodSearch are in this mailing.** As always, if you have any questions about anything, feel free to contact me!

Pam Przybilla
Parliamentarian

Thank you to everyone who submitted their bylaws to me for review. If you have not yet held your chapter or district Bylaw Review it's not too late. When you have it done, email me your Bylaws and Policies and I will review them and put your name in a drawing for a basket at Winter State.

Kelly Porter
Secretary

We are still looking for donations for the printing of the State Plan of Action! Has your chapter donated yet? If not, help your district be eligible to win a Year End Party basket! Send your donation to the State Treasurer and earmark it "State Plan of Action" in the memo area. Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family!

Jen Kinzer
Chairman of the Board

ONTO Flowers are for sale for Winter State. Now is the time to think about purchasing a flower with a message to be given at Winter State. Flowers are only \$2.00 each and contain a personal message from you. Recognize your chapter president, WT friend, President Anne, your secret sis, etc. Advance sales are due to me January 1st. Contact me if you have any questions or need a personal message tag.

Christine Harkess
Presidential Assistant

I have been receiving chapter donations for President Anne's year end gift. Won't you send in your \$10 chapter donation today? Thank you.

Mary Ann Johnson
Community Connections

I'd like your chapters to see if you can **adopt a highway**. As we have some left to be taken. Check out their web site at "<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/adopt/>". It's a good PR for WT and a great service. Work with your Civic Organizations to help your community through the Jaycees, Town & Country, Lions and the Legion, the Bank and many more. The holidays are coming the food shelves will need help, wrapping gifts for the less fortunate, or taking a name from a Christmas tree and finding a gift for a boy or girl. There's a new area for you to check into at "**CLUTCH for Cause. Org**" they help single parents with children. Let's try and remember Friendship Ventures by collecting Campbell soup labels, and

donating to their Scholarship Fund. We need nominations from one or all three **Community Connections Areas**. They are the Joint Ventures, Civic or Environmental Project and Impact Award. The **Joint Ventures Award** is a chapter that has successfully collaborated with another community organization to sponsor a successful community project (ex. Halloween party with Girl Scouts). Next one is **Civic or Environmental Project** that has had an impact in their community either civically, or on the environment (ex. Picking up garbage after a party or having information on recycling). The next one is the **Impact Award** is a project that the WT do on their own that would impact your community (ex. ladies luncheon, having a pumpkin patch, Willie Walleye Day). These awards each have a five dollar entry fee to help judging expenses. They will be awarded at Annual Convention. The winner will receive a certificate suitable for framing.

Heidi Westerlund
Can Do Canines

Second Trimester project, "Name A Puppy" is under way! How is your chapter going to participate?? Are you having a bake sale, having a garage sale, or coming up with your own wonderful idea? The puppies don't care how you do it. They are just looking for someone to raise money to get them trained to help someone. The end result for us is to be able to name one of these fantastic puppies and follow their progress to graduation and beyond. What a wonderful gift for President Anne to have a puppy named in her year. What a wonderful gift for someone to get our puppy and watch, that now grown dog, help that person in whatever way our dog received training for them. We need your help on this. Put your thinking caps on and come up with ideas on how to raise money. Our goal is \$2500 (as an entire organization) and we can do it!

Julie Hammel
Newslet

Articles needed for the February 2011 NEWSLET. Chapters in **Districts 2, 6, 9 and 14** have priority printing -

send in info on your winter events. Need to stay warm? Submit some "Hot Flashes".

Michelle Gag
Living and Learning

Women Who Impact Award

- The Women Who Impact Award is given at the Winter State Convention.
- The purpose: to recognize women who show excellence in leadership abilities, are involved in their local community, and possess the ability to initiate ideas and innovations for new and existing project a programs. A Women Who Impact Award nominee can be nominated in one of three categories:

- Non-profit (community service, volunteer, spiritual),
- Youth Outreach (special education, mentoring, 4-H, scouting, working with youth),
- Women Advocacy (women's shelters, government, adult education, healthcare).

- Chapters can submit one entry per category each year.

- Individuals are judged on their involvement and contributions to others and the community as listed in the entries.

- Steps to take:

1. Select your local nominee
2. Publicize your nominee and the Women Who Impact Award program
3. Prepare your entry
4. Submit your entry
5. Be certain a budget is prepared and approved by your chapter/ district Submit nominees for judging. For more information, please review the Women Who Impact Award manual. Nominations are due postmarked to Michelle Gag, L&L SPM by November 1, 2010.

Sue Renz
Public Relations

Wishing all of you a wonderful holiday season! As Christmas approaches, many chapters will be collecting money or gifts, or doing some kind of service project for others less fortunate. Make sure you publicize your activities in your local newspapers, TV, cable, radio, or Facebook. Good publicity can benefit your chapter and attract new members, too!

Activation / Retention Tips

Data Collected from President /State Delegate Retreat 2010

Activation:

- New member orientation
- Buddy system at meetings
- Encourage Social events
- Contest / Incentives (chairing projects or on time drawings)
- First timers incentives
- Asking for everyone's feedback
- Offer to pick up / ride share to events or meetings
- Ask them to co-chair a project with you.
- Big Sis / Little Sis program (check on website for this program)
- Hold socials / M-Nights on routine schedule
- Monthly membership award
- Setting expectations
- Encourage them to do what activities really inspire them
- Communication
- New member social
- Survey new members / highlight them in chapter newsletter
- Flexible dues payments
- Offer different types of Challenges to members
- Personal invite

Retention:

- Monthly Socials
- Make meeting fun
- Personal phone calls to members
- Be Specific – ask them to chair / tell them what you are needing from them
- Big Sis / Little Sis (have them be the mentors)
- Fun Social Activities
- Send cards
- Send note with highlights to members who missed the last meeting. Keep them informed.
- Chapter evaluations
- Location? Is it inviting / comfortable
- Say “Thank you”!
- Ask them to help on projects
- Incentives (different things)



Dollars & Sense II About Sales Tax

It is that time of year to be thinking about filing those State Sales Tax returns. Here are a few pointers to help you out. Remember, I am only a phone call or email away, and I am here to help you. Let me know if you have any questions. Good Luck!

- Sales tax return covers January 1 – December 31st
- Sales tax returns need to be filed on or before February 5th, 2011
- The state wide sales tax rate is 6.875%; remember to add any county or city tax that is applicable in your area.
- You can access a Step by Step guide to filing on-line or paying electronically:
http://www.taxes.state.mn.us/taxes/sales/publications/fact_sheets_by_name/sales_fact_sheet_by_name.shtml
- Returns can be filed on-line at www.taxes.state.mn.us, click on e-file
 - a. You will need your 7 digit Minnesota tax ID number
 - b. Password
 - c. Gross Receipts of all taxable projects held in 2010
- A simple rule of thumb to use is: if you would pay sales tax in a store, you should collect and plan to pay sales tax as a chapter
- Fundraising project sales that may normally be taxable, are exempt if **all** of the profits from the project are donated out
- If you have questions about your taxes, you can request information from the Minnesota Department of Revenue – Sales and Use Tax Division by calling is 651-296-6181 or 800-657-3777 or by email salesuse.tax@state.mn.us
- See my Fall State CIP for more detailed information

The \$65/\$65/\$65 Guideline

MNWT's main income comes from four sources: member dues, donations, fundraisers and fees (for things such as PE Courses, training materials, registration fees, etc.). When we plan the state budget each year, we rely on these sources of income to remain fairly stable. **If each chapter donates a minimum of \$65 to Ways & Means, raises \$65 for the state by participating in the trimester promotional sales, and makes \$65 in purchases at the State Store, then our financial fundraising goals will be met for the year. 65/65/65 makes it easy to remember, but any combination of these that totals \$195 for the year would work too!** If you have any questions about this, please contact me. Thanks!

Dollars & Sense II about Chapter Statements

What is a chapter statement?

Chapter statements are mailed monthly. A chapter statement is simply a statement showing any money owed to the Minnesota Women of Today. Your chapter will receive a statement only if: You have a balance due and/or if the balance due is over \$3.00. Chapter statements are currently mailed to the official chapter address, and I am trying to use e-mail where I have information to do so. For balances less than \$3, emails are sent. When I do not have chapter specific information, an e-mail will be sent through your District Director.

Why would my chapter owe money?

- Charges are added to your account when a new member is added without payment
- A check for renewals, new members, insurance is made for the incorrect amount
- Insurance has not been paid on time
- Renewals are paid late (\$10 fee **per chapter**)
- NEWSLET return (\$1 fee per return)
- NSF check (\$25 fee **plus bank fee**)
- Finance charges on balances over 30 days past due
- You do not complete your Annual Business Registration by October 1st

Why was my chapter charged a late fee? Am I charged a late fee even if no one is renewing?

Late fees occur when the Chapter Service Center has not received your renewal payment and renewal form postmarked by the 15th of the last month of the trimester. A \$10.00 late fee is applied to your account. **Even if no one on your renewal list is renewing membership for the trimester, a \$10.00 late charge will occur on your account if the renewal form is not returned.**

Why does an extra charge appear on my statement?

All monthly balances of \$3 or more are assessed a 1% finance fee or at least \$0.50, whichever is greater. If your balance is not paid by the date marked on the statement, a finance fee will apply. Finance fees help to offset the cost of printing and mailing a statement and serve as a good reminder to pay your bill.

****If you have a question on your statement, contact me at 952-476-2342 or treasurer@mnwt.org for more information.**



Don't forget to use **iGive & GoodShop** for all of your online holiday shopping needs; a portion of your purchase will be donated back to MNWT. And if you haven't already done so, set up **GoodSearch** as your search engine and a donation will be made to MNWT everytime you do a search. **Details for iGive, GoodShop and GoodSearch are in my Fall State CIP.**

Use GoodSearch and GoodShop

How can we easily earn MONEY for the Minnesota Women of Today?

How often do you use a search engine –OR- shop on the internet? Why not use GoodSearch and the newly added GoodShop and help the Minnesota Women of Today earn funds in the process?

Just go to www.goodsearch.com

Go to "Who do you GoodSearch For". Type in: Minnesota Women of Today. And then click on "Verify". You can click on "Make GoodSearch your homepage" GoodSearch has now become your search engine.

A penny will be donated to the Minnesota Women of Today each time you do a search!!

Also: do all of your online holiday shopping by clicking on "**Who do you GoodShop for?**" Each retailer will donate a percentage of your total purchase to the Minnesota Women of Today.

By using any of the internet sites above, we are earning Money. It's easy. Start searching and shopping today!!



Use iGive.com

There are literally hundreds of stores to shop from through iGive.com. When you make a purchase through the iGive.com stores, a percentage of the sale is donated to the Minnesota Women of Today. They will also donate an extra \$5 to our organization for each person that registers and makes their first purchase within the first 45 days of joining.



SERVICE PROJECT DONATIONS NEEDED

A new tradition has been started at our conventions. On Friday night, we do a service project! It's been a very fun a rewarding experience for those of us that have been able to participate. In 2009 we made tie blankets for the Shriners Hospitals, and in 2010 we made sandwiches for the Project "363" for the homeless. We are looking for donations to cover the cost of this project and to create a fund to help with the service project in future years. In order to encourage donations, SUCCESS points are being offered to chapters making a donation of \$50.00 or more.

Please send your donation payable to Minnesota Women of Today to the Chapter Service Center, PO Box 232, Anoka, MN 55303. Thank you!

**ONTO
FLOWER
SALES**



Once again the ONTO committee will be selling flowers to be distributed at Winter State convention. Please see the order form below. Pre-order by January 1 to ensure that flowers are available for all the special people you know in the Minnesota Women of Today. Proceeds from the flower sale offset costs related to National Conventions. Return money and flower tags with messages to Jen Kinzer.

ONLY \$2

MAKE CHECKS TO MNWT

Don't forget to buy one for:

Your secret sis

Your chapter president

Your district director

Your PALS chapter

President Anne

Your Name and Chapter:

NAME	Number of Tags	Amount Due	PD?	Tags Rec'd (Y/N?)

Send the above information to:
 Jen Kinzer, Chairman of the Board
 259 Ripple River Dr.
 Aitkin, MN 56431
 218-927-4337 or cob@mnwt.org



Winter at the Cabin

**Minnesota Women of Today
Winter State Convention
January 28th – 30th, 2011**
DoubleTree Park Place
1500 Park Place Blvd.
Minneapolis, MN 55416

Friday Night Party:

Friday night flannel pajama party! Prizes will be awarded for the lady with the most outrageous flannel attire! Dance the night away with your friends, but don't forget to take a hot cocoa break!

Saturday Luncheon:

Take yourself to the warmth of the fireplace with good old-fashioned comfort food. Start off with tomato basil soup with cornbread, beef pot roast with potatoes & veggies, followed by heart-warming apple pie.

Saturday Night Banquet:

Fresh salad followed by a tantalizing chicken marsala served with wild rice pilaf, cranberry chutney & veggies. Top it all off with a sure-to-please campfire treat, S'mores Cheesecake!!!

Room Reservation Info: You are responsible for your own room reservations.

Reservations need to be made by January 11, 2011.

Mention "Women of Today" to receive a preferred rate. Standard room: Single/Double: \$89; Triple \$104; Quad \$119. One bedroom suite: Single/Double \$129; Triple \$144; Quad \$159. These rates are per night.

Contact the DoubleTree at 952-542-8600 or reserve online at

http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/MSPPHDT-MWO-20110123/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Code: MWO (effective October 9, 2010).



MINNESOTA WOMEN OF TODAY WINTER STATE 2011

Name: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Chapter: _____ District: _____ Area: _____

Email Address: _____

Advance registration must be postmarked by January 12, 2011. Any registration refunds must be requested before January 21, 2011. A \$5.00 cancellation fee will apply. Registrations received at Winter State Convention are not guaranteed meals.

Advance Registration (by Jan 12th):

___ Full Registration	\$68
___ Friday Night Party	\$13
___ Business Meeting	\$ 7
___ Saturday Luncheon	\$29
___ Saturday Banquet	\$38



Late Registration (after Jan 12th):

___ Full Registration	\$83
___ Friday Night Party	\$16
___ Business Meeting	\$10
___ Saturday Luncheon	\$32
___ Saturday Banquet	\$41

Women of Today Information (check one):

Member First Timer Guest Nominee Nominee's Guest

Make checks payable to: "Winter State 2011"

and mail to: Sue Ellen Toppings, 15010 Hillside Drive, Eden Prairie, MN 55347

For General Information, contact: Sue Ellen T 952.974.7926 or Erin T 952.412.3959

Email: Sue Ellen toppings17@gmail.com or Erin T erin.trader.epwt@gmail.com

Contact Sue Ellen Toppings (952.974.7926) for Registration Information



Minnesota
Women of Today

PO Box 232

Anoka, MN 55303

Upcoming State Events

Committee Meetings

****All Meetings at Billy's in
Anoka, MN****

Marketing Committee Meeting:

December 4, 2010

12:00 p.m.

Membership Management

Committee Meeting:

December 4, 2010

10:30 p.m.

Future Directions Meeting

December 4, 2010

2:30 p.m.

ONTO Flower Sale



Flower orders are now being taken to be delivered at the luncheon at Winter State. Each flower costs \$2 and you can fill out a tag for the special person you are sending a flower to.

Please check with any ONTO Committee member or contact Chairman of the Board Jen Kinzer at cob@mnwt.org to purchase your flowers.

MN Gopher Women's

Basketball Game



Outstanding Young Adult

Scholarship Fundraiser!

Date: Sunday February 13,
2011

Time: 2:00 pm

Place: Williams Arena

Minnesota vs Ohio State

Cost: \$10 per ticket

Please find the registration
form in the Youth of Today
CIP!