

**2014-15 PROGRAMMING EVALUATION SUMMARY**  
**AREA: Ways & Means**

**15 Reviews Received [11 individual; 4 chapter compilations]**

1. What is the level of participation by your chapter's members in the Ways & Means programming area in the last three (3) years? Have you submitted articles for any of the following?

• Local projects?	Low	1	2	3	4	5 High
		<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>
• District projects?	Low	1	2	3	4	5 High
		<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
• State projects?	Low	1	2	3	4	5 High
		<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>

2. Does the information from the state program manager get passed on to the members in your chapter?  
**15 Yes [13 Local Program Manager, 0 Programming Vice President, 2 President, 3 Other]**  
**0 No**

3. How does the information get disbursed to chapter members?  
**15 Report at meetings**      **6 Chapter Newsletter**      **2 Email**      **1 Other**

4. Do chapters at the local level understand how to use the Ways & Means program to benefit their members?  
**8 Yes**      **0 No**      **0 Do not use**      **7 Could be improved**

5. What are the area's strengths?

- Really like the items offered through the state store. Great way to give incentives to other members.
- IT allows us to run and participate in the organization
- Different fundraising ideas chosen ~ no food.
- The fact that chapters can keep part of the proceeds of state promotionals. This helps with their incentive to participate.
- "Our chapter has often participated in the State's promotionals - we love them!
- We're doing a lot of fundraising this year as we did not achieve much income last year and had a rough year because of it. We're quite focussed on it this year and so far, it's going well!
- Our District seems to have funds, but I'm not sure where they come from as I don't recall having much in the way of fundraisers other than our Lucky Buck Auctions at the district meetings. Maybe that is all we need to do.
- What I really like is getting W&M's fundraising ideas from other chapters at district meetings as well as at the State Conventions! It is easily shared with us when we know which chapter to contact regarding their ideas."
- The many different types of fundraisers offered.
- The state store has some great stuff.
- "Raises money - we need that!
- Like the coffee (consider Cameron's Coffee in the future - a MN company)"

- This type of activity allows us to not have to raise dues, and keeps the organization going.
- trimester promotional fundraisers
- It's a necessary piece to the puzzle to keep the organization and our chapters afloat. Like to good ideas shared for fundraising ideas.
- State Store offerings
- everything

#### 6. What are the area's weaknesses? How can they be improved upon?

- Think it is very good the way it is. Maybe get more relevant state sales items each trimester. I did like the last one with the coffee, but wasn't the easiest to sell.
- New things are sometimes a gamble, but the same old gets boring, so I can not say one thing or the other.
- Too much time goes by when you get the order form and the order ~ people wait to pass around the order forms because of the timing and then forget.
- It does get hard to always sell something but not sure how else we could change that.
- "I think often our chapter's fundraisers aren't open to the public so we end up nickel-and-diming our members at chapter meetings for things. We're currently coming up with fundraisers that don't involve our members buying anything.
- I think the State Store is run well and carries good supplies. And the items are also priced reasonably well.
- I think the MNWT Clothing Sales could be better promoted and shipments made in a more timely fashion - but I love the items available and the more recent promotion of these items (i vividly recall Vicki's daughter wearing MNWT clothing at one of the last conventions! Great promoting!)
- I also think that a PayPal option should be made available to purchase items from the State Store - and clothing especially!"
- "There are too many fundraisers in a year. Also, need new ideas.
- Timing of fundraisers - Pasta Fundraiser should have been closer to fall/winter. As the weather turns cooler members could use the chili and chicken noodle mixes and people will purchase as gifts for teachers, friends, coaches etc.
- What about a chocolate fundraiser from Christmas gifts?"
- It needs to have an online store so people can order more often than conventions.
- "Consider trying new/different promotionals.
- Have we ever tried partnering with a local restaurant/bar near the convention location to donate a portion of their sales for a night or weekend of convention? Typically dinner isn't provided on Friday - but a lot of members go out to dinner - if ONE restaurant donated 5 or 10% of their sales for the night - even from just members - we could make some extra cash!
- The zoo does an event with Chilis every year - all the Chilis locations participate.
- What about a wine promotional??? EVERY ONE LOVES WINE (am I right)?
- How about an online auction?
- How about members auctioning off stuff they do (crafts, resume writing, cooking, baking, etc). Auction it off ahead of convention and have members bring it to convention.
- smile.amazon.com is another great fundraiser option (more for the foundation because they are the 401c3). Evaluate other options like this and you can always fundraise for the foundation - it is all organization money."
- The activities are really dependent on when the CIP gets distributed, and the LPM for Ways and Means. Many of the promotions are the same that our local schools use, most members make it a point to buy from them to support the local schools. Have had several complaints that the pasta does not taste good.

- would love to see more turn over in the state store inventory. make room for new items! too much inventory - possibly turns off potential WM SPMs?
- Lack of variety & value offered through trimester promotional
- "there is no spm this year - so that is a weakness, definitely.
- Maybe better fundraisers."

7. To meet the changing needs of our members, where do you see the Ways & Means area in the next 3 - 5 years?

- Continuing as it is.
- Credit Card processing and an online store.
- New fundraising ops taken advantage of.
- Not sure.
- "I see a PayPal option being available and more online options.
- I think the idea of the Online Silent Auction that Mary K (past treasurer) had was a great idea - just needed more participation - more donors and more bidders."
- Fundraising is always going to be needed, but it will probably change with the times and become somehow part of the social media culture.
- Move to online. you could even put in pages at the online store for current items like pasta that people could link to. I think this would dramatically increase sales.
- "More online options
- Put the state store online
- Consider MNWT branded flash drives, cell phone chargers, etc. Could we create one of those stores online where members could put their logo on anything? CafePress.com is one example, <http://www.shopify.com/nonprofit> is another example."
- Include more hand made, craft items, maybe items made locally or by other members instead of the same promotions used by schools. Need more creative ways to get message and product information out than just part of the CIP.
- offer fewer items at the state store, items that are more "in the times"
- Online store; online donations/funding
- Look at increasing the value to the members of what is offered in the trimester promotional. We are competing against chapter fundraisers (amongst everything else) and these need to be really unique &/or valuable
- still existant...we need this program to help chapters funds along with the MNWT funds.

8. What new ideas could be developed in this area?

- I think it is very good the way it is now.
- New, but functional things. The umbrellas and pocket knives are great. We may want to look into things like usb drives
- Committee to look at new ideas on ways to fundraise - or promoting each member donate a certain amount if they do not wish to fundraise each year.
- Possible alternative ideas of how to raise money without having to sell something. For example, partner with another organization on an event and receive part of the profits.
- "I think MNWT should hold an event that is open to the public and would include ticket sales. At the event, we could hold different projects that fall under Service, Growth & Fellowship. It could include many of the things we have already one at conventions:
- Project Fair with vendors
- Service Projects (365 Sandwiches, Project Linus blanket making, etc)
- Collection of items (the current Buckets of Sunshine)
- PE Course or two

- Dance/Social time
- Exercise/Yoga session
- How-To (webinar materials or ""how to start a chapter"")
- This could be held from Saturday until Saturday evening or Sunday morning and be similar to a convention, but it would be OUTSIDE of any of our convention times and it would be open to the public and members. We'd have swag-bags and several options of things to do at any given moment."
- Need fresh opportunities that are reasonable and appeal to a mass market.
- See last answer
- See above for several ideas :)
- See above.
- "offer other methods of payment (credit/debit card)
- have a suggestion box for new items to bring to the state store"
- A 50/50 raffle?? Simple raffle and whoever wins gets half of the pot
- Need to think about this one.

9. How have you purchased items through the State Store?

**10 Personally**

**7 Chapter**

**3 Both, personally and Chapter**

10. Does your chapter purchase and/or sell promotional provided by the state program manager?

**11 Yes**

**0 No**

**3 Sometimes**

11. Does your chapter purchase clothing items at the state store?

**8 Yes**

**4 No**

**2 Personally**

12. Does your chapter traditionally make donations to the state ways and means?

**9 Yes**

**3 No**

**1 In the past**

**2 Unknown**

13. Do you feel this area should continue in our programming?

**14 Yes**

**0 No**

14. Any other comments, ideas or suggestions?

- None at this time.
- I would like to see an option given to members that would allow each individual person to donate a certain amount every year so they do not have to fundraise. Some people are already fundraising with kids and their chapter for many different items and would rather just give money to the state and opt out of fundraising all together.
- "Just need fresh ideas and coordinate the timing of products with the calendar.
- Fresh fruit fundraiser would be nice in the winter months - what about See's candies for Easter time?"
- See above.
- It would be nice if there was a way to purchase these items on-line instead of specifically at the state conventions for the state store.
- have sufficient inventory for the year with the WM SPM but keep overstock inventory (like manuals, pens, pencils, notepads, cards, etc) at CSC for replenishing as needed. would keep items in better condition and less changing hands from year to year (some items have been in inventory since pre-2006/07 - that's 7 SPMs!!)

- Need to improve the value of the offerings in this area to be competitive with chapter (and other) fundraisers