

# MNWT Chapter Mailing

**June 2024  
Issue 9**



**Staff & SPM News  
Foundation News  
Committee News  
Important Dates  
Exec Council Minutes  
Business Mtg. Minutes  
Elections Mtg. Minutes  
Special Exec. Minutes**

Minnesota Women of Today Members,

Thank you for an amazing year as we shared “Visions of Success”. Your efforts helped the Minnesota Women of Today to grow +5 and had an exciting 81 percent retention! Not only that but reported totals of in-kind, monetary, and service hours were over \$730,000. The most important thing that I saw was an engagement of members and working together within the chapters, districts and the Minnesota Women of Today!

When we work together, we achieve more and that is evident by what we were able to celebrate at Annual Convention. I truly believe that when our members feel a part and are able to contribute, we are ensuring that all have a voice and will want to be a part of what the chapter is doing.

I applaud all of you and thank you for an awesome year. It was an honor to serve you and help you be the best you can be. We do need to keep that momentum moving forward and continue to engage with each other to bring about even more successes. I know that Tevyan and her team will do an awesome job and I look forward to seeing all they do as they share how “We Go Together”!

Thank you for sharing your vision to help the Minnesota Women of Today achieve many successes!

*Amy*

*“Cherish your visions and your dreams as they are the children of your soul, the blueprints of your ultimate achievements”.*

*~ Napoleon Hill*



What a fun Annual Convention.... It was so exciting to celebrate all the accomplishments of the Minnesota Women of Today chapters and members. You are truly an incredible group of people to be a part of.

Thank you so much for your support over the past year. I feel so fortunate to have had the opportunity to serve as your Administrative VP. I've enjoyed every minute of time I've spent with members, chapters, and districts. I love hearing from you through text messages, emails and your, reporting.

The District Directors really sparkled with all the change this year. They dealt not only with the redistricting and welcoming new chapters, combining bylaws, etc. but also changing the district meeting formats. I hope you were able to bring something back to your chapters after your district meetings. That you learned something new, were inspired by a speaker or made a new friend.

The State Delegates sparkled too.... I'm amazed at the ways they bring excitement and encouragement to their members and help them get to meetings at the district and state levels. Their creativity was really fun to watch.

I hope that each of you continues to sparkle in your chapters....Remember to "Leave A Little Sparkle Wherever We Go."

***"Leave A Little Sparkle Wherever You Go"***  
***Shirley Viesselman, AVP***

## *Don't be Afraid to Sparkle a Little Brighter*



I am so proud to have had been on the membership journey with you this past MNWT year. Thank all of you for all your hard work. If you haven't heard yet in Trimester 3 you signed up over 70 new members and MNWT grew by 5 new members for the year. Please celebrate that with your chapter. Whether your chapter signed new members or not we all have a part in this accomplishment.

I hope you are enjoying getting to know your newest members. I hope you are all feeling appreciated by your chapter and you do the same for them. I hope your chapter is feeling like it has grown not just in membership but in being a happy place for everyone to be. Excitement breeds excitement. I hope you continue to use the tools that MNWT has for you when needed.

I hope that you remember that we are all membership Vice Presidents at all times! To all of the MVPs out there congratulations on a great year.

***"Believe in Your Vision"***  
***Glorie Balfanz, MVP***

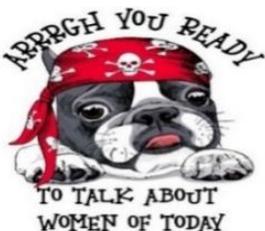
Happy June! Congratulations on your new chapter positions! Your predecessors did a great job building up your chapters and working on improving chapter operations. Here are a few ideas to keep the momentum going forward. If you or others in your chapter need support, please continue to reach out to the Chapter Management VP at [cmvp@mnwt.org](mailto:cmvp@mnwt.org).

### **Getting the Women of Today Year Started**

- Chapter Information Sheet - Report key information about your chapter meeting & contact that is shared by MNWT publicly. This is how others find out when & where you are meeting to visit you.
- Chapter Officer Sheet - Report to the state staff who your local officers are so we can support you. This is how we keep members informed and share ideas to help us all do our jobs better.
- Fast Start - Available for almost all officer positions. This is a set of tasks that make sense to complete in the first two months of a new year to get going. It's a great checklist to get your year off to a Fast Start and save on frustrations down the road. Do as much as you can, even if you can't complete everything.
- Local President Monthly Report - This is the only report we ask a chapter to do every month and this is more for you to let us know how great you are rocking it or how we can support you. However, if you really need help, don't wait to do this report. Reach out today!
- Success System Form & Guidelines - I know...biggest paperwork drain ever! WRONG!! Success is truly an awesome planning tool if you use it from the beginning of your trimester or year, not at the end to just document. Take a look through the form and see what you could be doing that you aren't.

***“Building for Success”***  
***Tevyan Sorensen, CMVP***

*The Harder You Work for Something, The Greater You'll Feel When You Achieve it.*



Thank you all for a great year of extending a hand of fellowship across Minnesota! I am hopeful about where the incoming Director will be starting.

Thank you again for donations made to the Annual Lucky Buck baskets. Without all your kindness and generosity, they would not be as successful as they were.

***“Arrrgh You Ready To Talk About Women of Today”***  
***Andrea Schue, Extensions Director***



The SPMs and I were humbled and amazed by the year-end donations and service hours announced at Annual Convention. We received information from 28 of 48 chapters. The monetary and in-kind donations reported by chapters in each external programming area were as follows:

Priority Area (Crescent Cove): \$6,554.63

Women's Wellness: \$10,839.22

Youth of Today: \$63,680.66

Community Connections: \$130,825.22

The total volunteer hours across all reporting areas were 16,300.50. We used a volunteer hourly rate of \$31.80. That translates to \$518,355.90. The total of money, in-kind and service hour value was \$730,255.63.

We often discount the value of time that we dedicate to our community involvement. Remember that EVERY hour, minute and second counts!

I encourage ALL chapters to track and communicate their totals. Everyone member should be honored and CELEBRATED for their kindness and dedication to communities and projects that inspire them. It's a new MNWT year and a new beginning, start collecting your totals now, so one year from now, the impact we all report will be more impressive!

Congratulations to the newly elected PVP, Michelle Koczak-Jones from Monticello. I am excited to see her reach her goals, inspire the new SPMs, and encourage chapters to continue and share their amazing impact in their communities.

Thank you for Living, Giving & Sharing!

***Keep on "Living, Giving & Sharing"  
Mary Kaminski, PVP***

### **Community Connections-PVP Mary Kaminski**

#### **Community Connections Awards:**

The following projects were awarded at the Annual Convention Banquet.

#### **Civic or Environmental Project**

This project brings together the community for an event to show support and appreciation in the community. This project has entertainment and activities by many community groups.

About three years ago, the National Night Out was in danger of being cancelled because of a lack of help. The Avon Women of Today stepped up to keep the event going. The chapter runs the food stand and the kids' games. Through this event the chapter has been recognized as an asset to the community.

The chapter feels privileged to assist with a rewarding community event that helps everyone appreciate the small things that make life in a small community great.

Congratulations to the Avon Women of Today, "National Night Out" project for the Civic Project

#### **Joint Ventures Award:**

This project brought awareness to the issue of trafficking in the community and how women can empower other women.

The St. Joseph chapter collaborated with local business owners to sponsor a fundraiser for Terebinth Refuge. The speakers at the event included a client of Terebinth Refuge telling her story of survival and recovery, a personal trainer speaking about women's health, MNWT Past-President Jenise Teske about the benefits that Women of Today offers to members to form lasting friendships, find their individual talents and the personal growth.

In addition, members served dinner, cleaned up and distributed marketing materials to businesses.

Congratulations to the St. Joseph Chapter's "Terebinth Refuge Fundraiser" for the Joint Venture Award.

### **Community Impact Award:**

This project was a result of a mom reaching out to the chapter with the idea of creating an indoor play experience for kids with stay-at-home parents. The Warroad Area Chapter ran with the idea and created the "Kid Zone at Warroad Community Center" and held on 9 Mondays between March and May.

Funds raised from the Community Bingo were used to rent the Warroad Community Center, purchase activity rugs, bouncy toys, small indoor slide, foam mats, pop-up tunnels, foam blocks, coloring books and crayons, and balance beam pieces that can be rearranged.

The community benefitted from this project because it created an opportunity for kids to socialize with each other, learn to interact with other kids and adults, share toys and play new games and activities. Adult family members benefitted by meeting other adults and gathering ideas for new activities. The group plans to stay connected and schedule play dates at a local park. In April, an article appeared in the Roseau Times Region and the mom who brought the project to Warroad Women of Today became a member. Congratulations to "Kid Zone at Warroad Community Center" for the Community Impact Award.

*To Build an Effective Community, Everyone Must Realize that Their*

*Community is Bigger Than Them.*



Thank you for allowing me to be your MNWT Living & Learning State Program Manager for the 2023-2024 year. It was an honor, and I hope I fulfilled the job to the best of my ability. I received 94 USWT Wellness & Personal Development Certifications, and 78 MNWT Living & Learning Certifications in Trimester 3, for a "Year End Total" of 146 USWT Wellness Certifications, and 114 MNWT Living & Learning Certifications (260). GREAT JOB EVERYONE!

You should be proud of yourselves for taking the time to chart your health, personal development, civic duties, and family conversations and events. Also, 18 chapters completed a PEP Course this year, with 2 chapters designing and holding their own PEP Course.

The US Women of Today have updated their Wellness & Personal Development Certification, so all you Presidents, please copy and pass it to your members so they can start filling those out for the new year. MNWT had 172 certifications completed in Trimester 3, compared to 28 in Trimester 1 and 56 in Trimester 2. Let's try to complete those certifications as soon as we hold our projects and conversations and attend our events.

Since I am writing this 2 days before Mother's Day, I found this quote (author unknown) to share with you: "A Mother's job is to teach her children not to need her anymore. The hardest part of that job is accepting success."

***"Live Simply, BEE Grateful"***

***Pat Undersander, Living and Learning***



Whew! This year has flown by and here we are beginning another year in Minnesota Women of Today! Congratulations to the new Executive Board!

During this past year, it has been my honor to serve as the Women's Wellness State Program Manager for 2023-2024. With a focus of "The Beat Goes On" and women's heart disease, I hope you found the information presented helpful.

Thank you to each of you as members and chapters. I could not have done anything without you. It was you who purchased "red dress pins" and donated your spare change so that we could donate to the American Heart Association!

Thanks again and thank you for all you do!

***"The Beat Goes On"***  
***Sharon Bergquist, Women's Wellness***

***When the Heart is at Ease the Body is Healthy — Chinese Proverb***

The 2023-24 WT year has come to a conclusion. As your Youth of Today State Program Manager, I would like to let you know how much I have enjoyed working with you and hearing about the many projects your chapters have done. My goals were met because of your great work. I thank the many WT members in their chapters, districts, and on the state level who supported the YT area this year. Some of our accomplishments were: 15 chapters participating in Kids Week, 15 or more submissions for Project of the Trimester each trimester, and 5 nominations for the OYA scholarship, with two honorees awarded \$500 scholarships. Fundraising efforts for the OYA scholarship fund were successful also. With your help \$1,147.00 was raised this year through the project fair, card sales, and your YT donations. I am especially thankful for your promotion of my emphasis area, "Homeless Youth". Many communities have become educated and aware of the need to help support homeless youth. It is because of the work your chapters have done. To me, that is priceless! I welcome our new YT SPM, Cheryl Watson, and wish her continued success in the Youth of Today Programming area!



***"Youth Building Their Future"***  
***Sandy Trossen, Youth of Today***

***"Homelessness is not a choice, but rather a journey that many find themselves in."***

*Asa Don Brown*



Thank you to all the fantastic Chapters and Districts that sent me their Bylaws and Policies. You helped me smash my goal.

Here are the USWT proposed Bylaw motions:

1. I move that in Article III, Section 1 Letter B be deleted and renumber accordingly.

There should be 3 classes of membership, and this is a duplicate of letter D (Individual Members)

2. I move that in Article X, Section 6 the words President, Chairman of the Board and Treasurer be replaced by Executive Committee.

Purpose to redefine who gives approval for use of name and logo.

3. I move that in Article X, Section 6 that letter B be deleted.

This is not needed as it seems a duplicate of Section 5 and letter A

Here are the proposed USWT proposed policy motions:

I move that in Policy 1 Elections, Section 2 Budget that the word "Campaign" be inserted before the word Budget in the heading.

Clarification

I move that in Policy 2, Section 1 Letter A the words "Domestic Violence Awareness" be inserted before Program Manager. Would then read "The external programming area shall have a Domestic Violence Awareness Program Manager.

Clarification

I move that in Policy 2, Section 1, Letter B should be reworded to read as follows: "The internal programming area shall have a Wellness and Personal Development Program Manager." Clarification of wording

I move that in Policy 2, Section 3, Section B be deleted and renumber accordingly.

This information is being proposed to be included in Policy 9 Committees under Membership.

I move that in Policy 2, Section 3, Letter C, Number 1 Letter A "Effective Speaking" be eliminated.

Purpose to match Programming Manual as this is normally only held at Annual Convention.

I move that in Policy 2, Section 3, Letter C, Number 1, Letter A should be "Writing Competition \$5.00 – Optional."

Purpose to match Programming Manual

I move that in Policy 2, Section 3, Letter C, Number 1, Add Letter B – Impromptu Competition \$5.00

Purpose to match Programming Manual

I move that in Policy 2, Section 3, Letter C, Number 2, Letter A & B – Replace Effective Speaking and Effective Writing with Speaking Competition and Writing Competition.

Purpose to match Programming Manual

I move that in Policy 5, Section 3 be reformatted to list as follows

1. 2022-2023 Programming Vice President Manual (WWPD and DVA)

2. 2022-2023 President Manual

3. 2023-2024 Membership Manual (Public Relations/Media Kit/Buckets of Sunshine)

4. 2023-2024 Extensions Manual (State Guide and Chapter Guide)

5. 2023-2024 Operations Manual

6. 2024-2025 Secretary, Treasurer and Parliamentarian Manuals

7. 2024-2025 Book of Forms Purpose is for clarification.

I move that in Policy 13, Section 1, Letter A replace 1998-1999 with August 2026 with contract effective date of 01/01/2027.

Clarification of when the next dues billing contract will be due going forward.

I move that in Policy 13, Section 2, Letter A replace Mid-year 2012 with August 2025 with contract effective date of 01/01/2026.

Clarification of when next Webmaster contract will be due going forward.

***"Succeed with Bob and Coffee"***  
***Tawn Hanson, Parliamentarian***



Thank you to all the Chapter, Districts, and individuals who donated to State Ways & Means!  
Thank you to everyone who purchased fudge, raffle tickets or 50/50 tickets this year!  
Thank you to everyone who has shopped at the State Store!  
Thank you all for "Showing Me the Money this Year!"  
Your generosity is humbling and greatly appreciated! Continue being awesome!

***"Show Me the Money"***  
**Jane Holmberg, FVP**

***"GREAT LEADERS FIND WAYS TO CONNECT WITH THEIR PEOPLE  
AND HELP THEM FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL." – STEVEN J STOWELL***

Thank you all for allowing me to serve as your State Secretary. I enjoyed compiling the Chapter Mailing and Minutes for you this year. I hope you found the Chapter Mailings interesting and informative. I would like to thank all of you who participated in finding the icon in each issue. I tried to make it challenging but not too hard.



Also, I'd like to thank all the chapter and district secretaries for sending me their minutes. It was great to see what your chapters are doing. Keep up the fantastic work.

***"The Magic of Minutes"***  
**Candi Frick, Secretary**

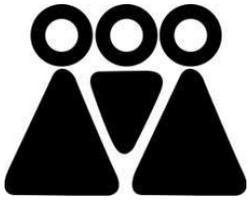
***"Behind Every Successful Team there is an Efficient Secretary."***



**Hi past Chapter Presidents and MNWT members!**

I wish to thank everybody who purchased ONTO shirts and/or flowers, participated in March Planning, attended a Regional meeting and/or supported President Amy throughout the year. It was a pleasure serving as your Chairman of the Board this year. You are invited to attend the USWT National Year-End Convention hosted by the Iowa Women of Today at the Baymont Inn & Suites in Des Moines, Iowa on June 7-8. Here is the link to the USWT website for registration and schedule:  
<https://sites.google.com/view/uswt/News-Events/USWT-Conventions>.

***"Finding Your Piece"***  
**Jenise Teske, COB**



## **MNWT FOUNDATION**

### ***Cheryl L. Anderson Scholarship***

Cheryl was a member of the Anoka Women of Today for 9 years. She served her chapter and the state organization in many positions including President of the Key Women Club. She was an art teacher and unfortunately passed away in 1989. One of Cheryl's unfulfilled goals was to return to school and further her education in school counseling. Her goal lives on in this scholarship.

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To be eligible, you must be a member in good standing for 2 or more years and entered in college with an approved program. You must show a need for financial assistance. Applications are due by **August 1st** and will be awarded at Fall State.

At Fall State we will again be holding a Lucky Buck Auction to benefit the Chapter Grants Program. We will be auctioning off 3 Baskets: 1. Made in Minnesota Basket 2. Technology Basket (donated by the Past Presidents) 3. Gift Card/Cash Basket. If you have any donations you would like to make please contact the new Foundation Chairperson, Laura Gaylord.

***Nicky Anderson, MNWT Foundation Chairperson***

## **FUTURE DIRECTIONS COMMITTEE**

I enjoyed serving as your Future Directions chair this year. Welcome to Cathy Shuman, FD Chair for 2024-2025, The next meeting will be announced for summer.

Everyone is welcome to attend FD. It is a great way to have a voice in Women of Today. There were several recommendations from March Planning that will be worked on and decided this upcoming year.

***Jane Hanson, Future Directions Committee Chairperson***

## **MEMBERSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

This is my last article as the 2023-2024 MMC Chair. I had my last First Timer's Meeting at Annual Convention in May. I've enjoyed getting to meet so many members who were attending their first MNWT convention this year. I hope you all got to meet a lot of them as they came around asking for autographs on their First Timer's Booklets!

I'd like to thank everyone who came to the committee meetings this year and especially to those of you who headed task forces and sub-committees this year. I could not have made it without you and your support!

Again, welcome to Anna Nichols as the new MMC Chair for the 2024-2025 year!!

***JoAnn Miller, Membership Management Committee Chairperson***

## **Important Dates**

**June 6-9 USWT National Year-End Convention**

**June 12 MNWT Tri 1 Webinar**

**June 26 President's Fast Start via Zoom**

**June 30 Chapter Presidents Reports Due**

**July 1 USWT Founder's Day**

**July 11 MNWT Orientation via Zoom**

**July 15 All Fast Starts Due**

**1<sup>st</sup> Tri Early Bird Renewals Due**

**July 28-August 3 Membership Week**

**July 31 Chapter Presidents Reports Due**

**August 3 President/State Delegate Retreat**

The meeting was called to order by President Amy Pumper at 1:04 p.m.  
The invocation was given by Living and Learning SPM Pat Undersander.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Priority Area SPM Sara Rocksted.  
The United States of Today Creed was led by Chapter Management Vice President Tevyan Sorensen.  
Introduction of Guests:  
Orders of the Day were given by Parliamentarian Tawn Hanson. A quorum has been established.  
The minutes of the Winter State Executive Council meeting held on January 26, 2024, were approved as printed.

**Secretary, Candi Frick ([secretary@mnwt.org](mailto:secretary@mnwt.org))**

- The last Chapter Mailing articles are due by the end of this weekend.
- Cards were sent around to sign for our Sister States. Will have a small basket for each of them at National Year-End.
- Reminder to DDs to take the DD bags for distribution to their chapters.
- The winners of my Exec Council challenge were Tawn and Tevyan.

**Administrative Vice President, Shirley Viesselman ([avp@mnwt.org](mailto:avp@mnwt.org))**

- Talked about what to expect this weekend at convention.
- Thank you to those who attended a District Meeting or Social in Tri 3.
- Your District Directors and Tri 3 Representatives are here to share with you their successes this trimester.
  - **Christine Sibelleau, DD2:** District 2 had a good mix of working and playing hard. The biggest success this trimester was getting to present Brenda her USWT Ambassador Award from 2020-2021.
  - **Linda Nindorf, DD3:** Many thanks to District 3 board members and all the chapter members who continue to use my theme this past year. District 3 third trimester meeting had all five chapters in attendance. Tri 3 district 3 had 3 of 5 chapters with 100% retention 4 of 5 chapters had growth with 3<sup>rd</sup> tri retention of 90% and overall, 85% retention for the year.
  - **Open, DD4:** District 4 had an amazing Tri 3 meeting in Benson. Amy and Cat helped with the meeting and by the end of the meeting District 4 had a Board elected for 2024/25 year.
  - **Anita Smoley, DD5 Tri 3 Rep:** The district has had its ups and downs over the year, but we finished on a very positive note. We had a successful district 5 meeting with a great speaker and voted in a full new board. Did trivia on butterflies with prizes. I was able to visit a couple of chapters new to our district this year.
  - **Connie Fink, DD6:** District meeting went well. Everyone liked the enrichment activity that President Amy presented and enjoyed the “Power of One” speech by Rose G. We had 5 members attend for the first time. The district had growth during 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester.
  - **Jennifer Wulff, DD7 (absent):** In Trimester 3 we combined and updated the District Bylaws, opened a new bank account and created a new district budget. Had district growth.
  - **Theresa Carpenter DD8 Tri 3 Rep:** Tri 3 district meeting had 27 members including 3 first timers in attendance. Had our district wellness event, the Hot Chocolate 5k. One of the biggest successes this year was the impact the district had with Hugs from Hunter. Together the district prepped/tied 300 blankets.
  - **Sue Bay, DD9 Tri 3 Rep:** District meeting was in Hanska in March with brainstorming and sharing M events to host. There were 6 new members in our district 3<sup>rd</sup> Tri.

**Membership Vice President, Glorie Balfanz ([mvp@mnwt.org](mailto:mvp@mnwt.org))**

- Thank you for the fun this year. I enjoyed seeing all your great accomplishments. The Membership Team shared a lot of good information with the chapters.
- Close Out was held on Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. We talked to 27 chapters. Amy, Tevyan, Connie, Cat and Tanya helped me out that night. We gave out gift cards to 6 of the chapters that called in that night.
- Congratulations to all the districts for their hard work this trimester. Here are their accomplishments for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tri: District 2 – 78% retention; District 3 – 90% retention; District 4 – 75% retention; District 5 – 87% retention; District 6 – 93% retention; District 7 – 82% retention; District 8 – 90% retention; District 9 – 85% retention. District 4 – Growth +4; District 5 – Growth +2; District 6 - Growth +17; District 7 – Growth +13

**Chapter Management Vice President, Tevyan Sorensen ([cmvp@mnwt.org](mailto:cmvp@mnwt.org))**

- Thank you to all of you who made calls, sent notes, of encouragement, completed visitations and spent time coaching and mentoring your sister leaders across this organization this trimester.
- The New Ulm chapter signed 3 new members this Tri for Growth plus 2 for the year and are no longer on TLC. The St. James chapter dropped to 9 and is on their 1<sup>st</sup> Tri. The Fridley chapter has dropped to 8 and is on TLC for their 1<sup>st</sup> Tri. Fridley gave their 90-day notice of intent to close in April.
- We held two successful sessions of Chapter Operations training following the regional meetings. We look forward to continuing this offering for chapters in the future.
- On May 4, we hosted 90 members in Rice for Local Officer Training. We provided another 40 members with printed materials. Thank you to all Trainers. We had 7 members attend the pilot for Leadership training and it was well received.

- We had 17 chapters submit Success this trimester. Congratulations to District 6 Director Connie Fink for adding at least one chapter submitting Success and District 8 Director Theresa Carpenter for growing their chapter submitting Success this year.

**Extensions Director, Andrea Shue ([extensions@mnwt.org](mailto:extensions@mnwt.org))**

- Most participation all year challenges. Winners will be announced at the Business meeting.
- Sadly, no extensions this year but will be setting the incoming director up for success.
- Thank you for all your support this year.

**Programming Vice President, Mary Kaminski ([ivp@mnwt.org](mailto:ivp@mnwt.org))**

- SPMs did a great job this year. Thank you to all executive council members for your support. The awesome year-end programming numbers will be announced at the luncheon.
- The winner of my DD Challenge Basket is District 6.

**Community Connections, Open ([cc@mnwt.org](mailto:cc@mnwt.org))**

- ✓ No Report

**Living and Learning, Pat Undersander ([ll@mnwt.org](mailto:ll@mnwt.org))**

- ✓ I received 94 USWT Wellness & Personal Development Certifications, 78 MNWT Living and Learning Certifications and 11 chapters completed a PEP course.
- ✓ Consider entering the Impromptu Speaking Competition this weekend.

**Priority Area (Crescent Cove), Sara Rocksted ([priority-area@mnwt.org](mailto:priority-area@mnwt.org))**

- ✓ It's been a year of mistakes, improvements, growth, and learning. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Tri focus was on fundraising. It's been a great year.

**Women's Wellness, Sharon Bergquist ([ww@mnwt.org](mailto:ww@mnwt.org))**

- ✓ The Red Dress Campaign collected \$119 at Fall State and an additional \$133 at Winter State for a total of \$252. My goal was to raise \$200.
- ✓ Spare Change Fundraiser for the American Heart Association raised \$311.88.

**Youth of Today, Sandy Trossen ([yt@mnwt.org](mailto:yt@mnwt.org))**

- ✓ Stay tuned during the business meeting for 3<sup>rd</sup> Tri challenges and basket winners.
- ✓ Total raised for the OYA will be announced tomorrow.
- ✓ Goals accomplished – 15 chapters held Kid's Week activities, exceeded goal for OYA fundraising, and chapters embraced the youth homelessness programming.

**Marketing Vice President, Allie Staley ([mkvp@mnwt.org](mailto:mkvp@mnwt.org))**

- Thank you to all that helped me this year with achieving goals.
- We will be moving to a new website host. Please be patient with us if the website goes down for a bit. We are trying to make the transition as smooth as possible.

**Financial Vice President, Jane Holmberg ([fvp@mnwt.org](mailto:fvp@mnwt.org))**

- *M/S/P (FVP/PA)* I move to delete Policy N (Financial Policies) #3 and renumber accordingly.
- Thank you to 3 districts, 4 individuals and 14 chapters who donated to Ways and Means and helped fill the Visionopoly Board.
- 50/50 Raffle will be during the Banquet tomorrow. Half the Pot to the winner and Half the Pot to the State. \$1 a ticket or 6 for \$5.
- Tax will no longer be added to State Store items.
- Next Budget meeting will be Thursday May 23 @ 6:30 and the Finance Meeting Friday May 24 @ 6:30. Both via Zoom. Ask for link.

**Parliamentarian, Tawn Hanson ([parli@mnwt.org](mailto:parli@mnwt.org))**

- We will vote on the bylaw change at the Business meeting.
- 6 Chapters and 2 Districts sent their Bylaws and Policies for review. The challenge winner will be announced at the business meeting.
- Thank you for your support this year.

**Chairman of the Board, Jenise Teske ([cob@mnwt.org](mailto:cob@mnwt.org))**

- *M/S/P (COB/CMVP)* I move to Add to Policy D. Membership, "6. TLC Chapters, a. A TLC chapter is defined as any chapter that ends the trimester with less than 10 members and/or has non-payment of dues over 120 days."
- *M/S/P (COB/DD6)* I move to Add to Policy D. Membership, "7. Watch List, a. Defined as a tool for the membership team to address concerns, brainstorm solutions and offer support. Any chapter who ends a trimester with 15 or less members and/or has had zero contact with either the district or state level for one entire trimester and/or has any known internal conflicts and/or any chapter that requests extra support shall be placed on the Watch List."
- *M/S/P (COB/DD5)* I move to Add the Policy J. Officers' Duties, 4. Chapter Management Vice President, "c. Shall be in charge of Watch List," and re-letter accordingly.
- *M/S/P (COB/PA)* I move to approve Suzanne LaLond for the NEWSLET Editor coordinator position for 2024-2025.
- There were 7 participants in my 3<sup>rd</sup> Tri Challenge. The winner will be announced at the business meeting.
- Thank you for a great final year on Exec Council and Staff.

**Future Directions Committee Chair, Jane Hanson ([fdc@mnwt.org](mailto:fdc@mnwt.org))**

- No Report

**Membership Management Committee Chair, JoAnn Miller ([mmc@mnwt.org](mailto:mmc@mnwt.org))**

- No Report

**Executive Director, Tanya Rothstein ([csc@mnwt.org](mailto:csc@mnwt.org))**

- Looking for Convention host for Fall State 2024, Fall State 2025 and Annual 2025. Please note Winter State 2025 will be in Burnsville this year.
- Remind chapters to complete the chapter officer sheet online ASAP. This is how I report chapter presidents for the year to USWT for dues billing. This is where you elect to receive paper or electronic versions of CIPS and State POA. Encourage use of the chapter information sheet to make changes to meeting night, time, location, etc. Both forms are in the important items on the website section of the members' home page.
- Remind chapters that they can start filing the 990 and Annual Renewals as of June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Presidential Assistant, Cat Shuman ([pa@mnwt.org](mailto:pa@mnwt.org))**

- Thank you to greeters Linda and Jenise.
- Room list is being passed. Secret Sis gifts will be handed out at break.
- Awards set up discussed for Business meeting and Luncheon.
- Cocktail reception for medallion winners will be after the banquet around 10:15 followed by President Amy's year end Open House around 10:45.
- Thank you to Exec Council members who submitted scrapbook pages.

**MNWT Foundation, Nicky Anderson ([foundation@mnwt.org](mailto:foundation@mnwt.org)) Given by COB Jenise Teske**

- Our annual meeting will be held today following Exec Council as you are the primary body you are required to attend. If you would like to be a member of the Foundation, let me know. We are always looking for new members to join us.

**President, Amy Pumper ([president@mnwt.org](mailto:president@mnwt.org))**

**Ongoing Business:**

The benediction was led by Living and Learning SPM Pat Undersander.

The Minnesota Women of Today Creed was led by Financial Vice President Jane Holmberg.

The 2024 Annual Convention Executive Council Meeting of the Minnesota Women of Today was adjourned at 2:52 p.m. by Amy Pumper.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Candi Frick, Secretary MNWT**

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**Minnesota Women of Today  
Annual Convention –Arrowwood, Alexandria, MN**

**Business Meeting Minutes  
May 18, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by President Amy Pumper at 8:34 a.m.

The invocation was given by Living and Learning SPM Pat Undersander.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Women's Wellness SPM Sharon Bergquist.

The United States of Today Creed was led by Programming Vice President Mary Kaminski.

Orders of the Day were given by Parliamentarian Tawn Hanson. A quorum has been established.

The minutes of the Winter State Business meeting held on January 27, 2024, were approved as printed.

**Secretary, Candi Frick ([secretary@mnwt.org](mailto:secretary@mnwt.org))**

- I hope you found the Chapter Mailings interesting and informative this year. The winner of the drawing for finding the icons 3 Tri is Becky Hale from Brainerd Lakes Area.
- I also offered a basket drawing for those secretaries that sent their minutes. The winner is Bonnie Marten from Maple Grove.
- Thank you for allowing me to spread the Magic of Minutes as your State Secretary this year.

**Administrative Vice President, Shirley Viesselman ([avp@mnwt.org](mailto:avp@mnwt.org))**

- I'm very excited to be here with the 7 District Directors from across the state. We hope you are enjoying the new District meeting format. The judges are on the lookout for District Excitement. Please show that District sparkle and we will announce a winner at the Banquet.
- Our Sparkling District Directors are:
  - **DD 2: Christine Sibelleau** - leading Greenbush, Lake of the Woods, Red Lake Falls, Roseau and Warroad Area
  - **DD 3: Linda Nindorf** - leading Aitkin, Brainerd Lakes Area, Duluth, Longville, and Staples-Motley Area
  - **DD 4: Open** – leading Benson, Hawley, Montevideo, and Morris Area
  - **DD 5: Anita Smoley** – leading Albany, Avon, Melrose Area, Rice, Sauk Rapids, St. Cloud, and St. Joseph

- **DD 6: Connie Fink** – leading Big Lake, Elk River Area, Hutchinson Area, Monticello, Rogers-Otsego-Dayton, and St. Michael-Albertville
- **DD 7: Jennifer Wulff** – leading Anoka, Brooklyn Park, Champlin, Coon Rapids, Fridley, Maple Grove, & White Bear Lake
- **DD 8, Tri 3 Rep.: Theresa Carpenter** – leading Blooming Prairie, Burnsville, Byron, Eastern Carver County, Glenville, and New Hope
- **DD 9, Tri 3 Rep.: Sue Bay**– leading Fairmont, Hanska, Madelis, New Ulm, Slayton, St. James, and Windom
- The State Delegates hold a fun position in their chapters. We’ve had great conversations and learned a lot from each other. They embraced the idea of hosting this convention. You will see some changes and a couple of surprises today. State Delegates stand to be recognized.
- I had a drawing for state delegates who completed their Tri 3 report. The two winners are Cheryl Watson from Burnsville and Cindy Golbuff from Blooming Prairie. Thank you to each state delegate that completed the trimester reports this year.

**Membership Vice President, Glorie Balfanz ([mvp@mnwt.org](mailto:mvp@mnwt.org))**

- Each of you helped MNWT be the best it can be this Trimester. I cannot wait to be a part of handing out awards regarding membership at this convention. Thank you for all your efforts.
- For 3<sup>rd</sup> Tri we had: about 30 chapters we connected with at Close Out on April 29<sup>th</sup>; 7 chapters that participated in the Membership Vice President Challenge of those 3 had growth for 3<sup>rd</sup> Tri; 26 Chapters were given Rebates or State Store Gift Certificates or both provided by the MNWT Foundation; 25 Chapters completed Early Bird; 18 Chapters had 100% retention; 15 Chapters had growth for 3<sup>rd</sup> Tri; 4 Chapters had an in Chapter Extension; 4 Districts had growth in 3<sup>rd</sup> Tri; we signed 72 new members in Tri 3; MNWT now has 924 members. Which means we have growth of +5 for the year.
- Thank you to the 6 chapters that participated in the Trimester 3 MVP Challenges. The winner of the basket is Maple Grove.
- I am proud to have worked with all of you on your membership goals. Thank you for the opportunity.

**Chapter Management Vice President, Tevyan Sorensen ([cmvp@mnwt.org](mailto:cmvp@mnwt.org))**

- Thank you to the 17 chapters who submitted Success this trimester. We had 3 chapters submit in Tri 3 for the first time this year. St. Michael/Albertville, Brooklyn Park, and Blooming Prairie. The winner of the drawing from all participating chapters is Aitkin and the winner from all first-time participants in 2023-2024 is Glenville. Thank you to Cindy Sanders for serving as Success Coordinator this year. The 2024-2025 Coordinator is Sarah Sundine. The Tri 3 Success march will be held at the luncheon and the Success march for the full year at the Banquet.
- Congratulations to New Ulm on growing their membership by 3 this Trimester. We have two chapters now on their first trimester of TLC, St. James, and Fridley.
- We held Chapter Operations training following the regional meetings. We had someone from 7 districts attend representing 17 chapters. We are working to make this a permanent train course for the future.
- The Rice Women of Today hosted LOTS on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to the 90 members who attended or trained at this event. We provided training or materials to members from 23 chapters. We introduced a new Leadership training course for experienced members that was attended by 7 members. The winner of my drawing from all chapters attending LOTS is Hutchinson.

**Extensions Director, Andrea Shue ([extensions@mnwt.org](mailto:extensions@mnwt.org))**

- I had the most participation this trimester for my challenges, which included lucky buck baskets, Facebook interaction, and sending in a description of what your chapter officers do. Winners of Tri 3 Challenges and Incentives are Anna Nichols, New Hope; Carolyn Hawk, Warroad Area; and Bonnie Marten, Maple Grove.
- No extensions at this time, will pass on information for 11 towns with emails and phone contacts for the incoming director.
- Thank you for the support this year and the kind, generous donations to the luck buck baskets that will be raffled at the luncheon.

**Programming Vice President, Mary Kaminski ([ivp@mnwt.org](mailto:ivp@mnwt.org))**

- Thank you to the 22 chapters reporting service hours and donations this trimester. For the year we had 28 chapters report. Thank you to the 13 chapters that nominated numerous projects of the trimester. Thank you to the 13 chapters that nominated outstanding program managers across all programming areas.
- There were 13 chapter Programming Vice Presidents that completed all three trimester challenges. The winner of the basket is Duluth.
- We are still searching for a Women’s Wellness SPM for the 2024-2025 year. If you are interested see me or the newly elected PVP after the elections meeting.
- Thank you for allowing the SPMs and me with Living, Giving & Sharing.

**Community Connections, open ([cc@mnwt.org](mailto:cc@mnwt.org))**

- ✓ Thank you to the 14 chapters that nominated projects of the trimester and the 1 chapter that nominated program managers of the trimester. Winners will be announced at the luncheon.
- ✓ Thank you for submitting 10 Joint Ventures projects, 4 Community Impact projects and 6 Civic or Environment Projects. The awards in each category will be given at the banquet.

**Living and Learning, Pat Undersander ([ll@mnwt.org](mailto:ll@mnwt.org))**

- ✓ This year I received 146 USWT Wellness & Personal Development Certificates, 114 MNWT Living & Learning Certifications, and 18 chapters completed a Personal Enrichment Course.
- ✓ For 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester Challenges 2 chapters nominated a Program Manager of the Trimester for Living & Learning. 11 chapters completed and submitted a PEP Course to be put in a drawing for a basket. The winner is Rita Johnson from New Hope.
- ✓ The Impromptu Speaking Competition will be held at 4:30 this afternoon. The cost is \$5.00.

**Priority Area (Crescent Cove), Sara Rocksted ([priority-area@mnwt.org](mailto:priority-area@mnwt.org))**

- ✓ Thank you to the 5 program managers that submitted reports.
- ✓ Thank you for all the donations I have received so far. The winner of my drawing is Alexis Bunnell from Burnsville.
- ✓ Fundraising totals for 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester were 31 service hours and \$2,273.00 in cash and in-kind donations.

**Women's Wellness, Sharon Bergquist ([ww@mnwt.org](mailto:ww@mnwt.org))**

- ✓ I hope you enjoyed and found useful the items shared in my CPs and at the Project Fair. Thank you to Cindy Sanders from Duluth for teaching the Hands Only CPR class at Fall State. The total raised for the Red Dress Pin sales at Fall & Winter state \$252.00.
- ✓ Unfortunately, no chapters hosted an event focusing on heart health.
- ✓ Thank you to the 6 chapters who participated in the Wear Red to a Chapter Meeting Challenge. The winner of the drawing for a gift card is Burnsville.
- ✓ 6 chapters conducted spare change fundraisers. \$286.88 was raised for the American Heart Association. The winner of the challenge is Byron.
- ✓ 2 chapters conducted the spare change fundraiser three months in a row. A second drawing was held, and the winner is Aitkin.
- ✓ Thank you to district 3 who contributed to the AHA. The grand total raised for the American Heart Association is \$563.88.

**Youth of Today, Sandy Trossen ([yt@mnwt.org](mailto:yt@mnwt.org))**

- ✓ Projects of the Trimester were submitted by 15 chapters. The award will be presented at the luncheon.
- ✓ The following chapters reported they met my challenge to donate hats, gloves, socks, and blankets to youth shelters. They were Fairmont, Burnsville, Coon Rapids, and STMA. The winner of the basket drawing is Coon Rapids.
- ✓ 11 chapters reported donations of food and/or money to food shelves or shelters. The basket drawing winner is Aitkin.
- ✓ Due to inclement weather in April, no "Homeless Encampments" were completed. However, Rice did complete one in May with Sauk Rapids joining in. They raised a total of \$1,117.00.
- ✓ The greeting card fundraiser raised \$522.00. Districts 2, 5, and 6 donated a total of \$375.00 during 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester. The total raised for the OYA scholarship for the year was \$1,147.00.

**Marketing Vice President, Allie Staley ([mkvp@mnwt.org](mailto:mkvp@mnwt.org))(absent)**

- I am looking for WT Members to do testimonials. Please direct members to me and we will set up a time this weekend to record.
- Thank you to Suzanne LaLond for doing an amazing job with the Newslet. You truly stepped up to the plate.
- Our incentive winner for Shouting pout With Pride basket goes to Anna Nichols from New Hope. Thank you for helping to support not only your chapter but the state as well.

**Financial Vice President, Jane Holmberg ([fvp@mnwt.org](mailto:fvp@mnwt.org)) (absent)**

- Thank you to the 3 individuals who completed my CIP Challenge. The winners of the drawing were Tabitha from Duluth, Cathy Olson from Aitkin, and Jenise Teske from St. Joseph. They will each receive a \$10 state store gift certificate.
- Thank you to 3 District, 4 individuals, and 14 chapters who donated to Ways & Means and our Visionopoly Board.
- At the last Finance Meeting the committee agreed to eliminate the sales tax to store items; Mary Hansen was approved to continue on as our Accountant and Jane Holmberg was approved to continue on as State Store Manager. The committee also sent a motion that was approved at Exec Council to delete Policy #3. This eliminates finance charges for late payments.
- Next Finance Committee meeting is Friday, May 24 at 6:30pm via Zoom - Budget Meeting is Thursday, May 23 at 6:30pm via Zoom.
- The 50/50 raffle will be held at the banquet tonight.

**Parliamentarian, Tawn Hanson ([parli@mnwt.org](mailto:parli@mnwt.org))**

- Thank you to the 6 amazing chapters and 2 fantastic district parliamentarians that sent me their bylaws and Policies. Your gift is in the DD bag. The winner of my basket is Hutchinson Area.
- Proposed USWT By-Law Motions:
  - A. I move that in Article III, Section 1 Letter B be deleted and renumber accordingly.  
There should be 3 classes of membership, and this as a duplicate of letter D (Individual Members)
  - B. I move that in Article X, Section 6 the words President, Chairman of the Board and Treasurer be replaced by Executive Committee.  
Purpose to redefine who gives approval for use of name and logo.
  - C. I move that in Article X, Section 6 that letter B be deleted.  
This is not needed as it seems a duplicate of Section 5 and letter A
- The proposed USWT policy changes were read.
  - USWT proposed Policy Motions:
    - I move that in Policy 1 Elections, Section 2 Budget that the word "Campaign" be inserted before the word Budget in the heading.  
Clarification
    - I move that in Policy 2, Section 1 Letter A the words" Domestic Violence Awareness be inserted before Program Manager.  
Would then read "The external programming area shall have a Domestic Violence Awareness Program Manager.  
Clarification
    - I move that in Policy 2, Section 1, Letter B should be reworded to read as follows: "The internal programming area shall have a Wellness and Personal Development Program Manager." Clarification of wording
    - I move that in Policy 2, Section 3, Section B be deleted and renumber accordingly.  
This information is being proposed to be included in Policy 9 Committees under Membership.
    - I move that in Policy 2, Section 3, Letter C, Number 1 Letter A "Effective Speaking" be eliminated.  
Purpose to match Programming Manual as this is normally only held at Annual Convention.
    - I move that in Policy 2, Section 3, Letter C, Number 1, Letter A should be "Writing Competition \$5.00 – Optional."

Purpose to match Programming Manual

I move that in Policy 2, Section 3, Letter C, Number 1, Add Letter B – Impromptu Competition \$5.00

Purpose to match Programming Manual

I move that in Policy 2, Section 3, Letter C, Number 2, Letter A & B – Replace Effective Speaking and Effective Writing with Speaking Competition and Writing Competition.

Purpose to match Programming Manual

I move that in Policy 5, Section 3 be reformatted to list as follows

1. 2022-2023 Programming Vice President Manual (WWPD and DVA)
2. 2022-2023 President Manual
3. 2023-2024 Membership Manual (Public Relations/Media Kit/Buckets of Sunshine)
4. 2023-2024 Extensions Manual (State Guide and Chapter Guide)
5. 2023-2024 Operations Manual
6. 2024-2025 Secretary, Treasurer and Parliamentarian Manuals
7. 2024-2025 Book of Forms Purpose is for clarification.

I move that in Policy 13, Section 1, Letter A replace 1998-1999 with August 2026 with contract effective date of 01/01/2027.

Clarification of when the next dues billing contract will be due going forward.

I move that in Policy 13, Section 2, Letter A replace Mid-year 2012 with August 2025 with contract effective date of 01/01/2026.

Clarification of when next Webmaster contract will be due going forward.

- Thank you to the Chapters and Districts that sent me their bylaws and policies for review this year. You helped me exceed my goal.

#### **Chairman of the Board, Jenise Teske ([cob@mnwt.org](mailto:cob@mnwt.org))**

- There were 7 participants in the Past President challenge for Tri 3. The winner of the drawing is Frances Nelson from St. Joseph.
- The Elections meeting will be held in this room. Following the end of the business meeting there will be a 10-minute break. Once the meeting starts the doors will be closed and stay closed until the end of the Elections Meeting.
- *M/S/P (COB/St. Cloud)* I move we enter into a Committee of the Whole.
- *M/S/P (COB/St. Cloud)* I move we leave the Committee of the Whole.
- Thank you to everyone who has supported me through my 8 years on Exec Council. Be sure to approach one of the PPs to get one of their trading cards.

#### **Future Directions Committee Chair, Jane Hanson ([fdc@mnwt.org](mailto:fdc@mnwt.org))**

- Next webinar will be June 12 from 6-8. Topics are: USWT President and her goals/updates about USWT, REACH Speaker, and Stress Management. Note this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in June and not the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday.
- Manual is working hard to update many of the manuals. Cathy Shuman and Mary Hansen will be working on manuals next year. Please reach out to them if you are willing to help. There were several recommendations from March Planning that came to FD and were assigned to many task forces.
- Welcome to the new FD Chair Cathy Shuman. The summer meeting dates will be announced. Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### **Membership Management Committee Chair, JoAnn Miller ([mmc@mnwt.org](mailto:mmc@mnwt.org))**

- We have approved the New Member Information Form, and the task force has been eliminated.
- Under the Leadership Sub-Committee, the following were approved this year:
  - ✓ Leadership Training Materials for Chapters: the three existing documents have been updated and clerical errors corrected.
  - ✓ MNWT Succession Planning Handout: the existing succession planning document has been updated with language more consistent with the current MNWT climate.
  - ✓ Positive Reporting Training: the new training document can be used to support reporting on all levels of MNWT. The hope is to create a more uplifting dynamic at state, district, and chapter meetings.
  - ✓ Leadership Toolbox: The toolbox has two new documents and two activities added to it.
- The Membership Orientation/Training Task Force has approved the following:
  - ✓ Updates to New Member Letter process: Now have three letters that will be mailed to new members following each of their first three trimesters. The MMC committee is responsible for this process with oversight by the Membership VP (MVP).
  - ✓ Chapter Level Orientations: A Chapter level Membership Orientation has been drafted that gives instruction on timing and how to update the slides. The MVP will be responsible for updating the slides each year as necessary.
- Membership Recognition: Chapter rosters sent to each chapter asking them to review and update years of service for current members.
- Define TLC and Watch List: Both have been defined and updates to the MNWT Policies have been updated to be voted on at Annual.
- A new task force has been created to establish a unified process to handle member deaths. Glorie Balfanz will be heading this task force.
- Congratulations to Anna Nichols on being the MMC chair 2024-25. Our next meeting will be Saturday, July 13, 2024. The place will be announced later.

#### **Executive Director, Tanya Rothstein ([csc@mnwt.org](mailto:csc@mnwt.org))**

- Please complete the chapter officer sheet with your chapters 2024-2025 officers. This is where you indicate if your chapter wishes to receive paper or electronic copies of CIPs and the State POA. If you do not request printed copies, your chapter will have to look on the website for information. Please use the chapter information sheet link to update your chapters information.
- You may begin filing your chapters 990N postcard with the IRS after June 1<sup>st</sup>. This must be done prior to Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> to avoid a late filing fee. It is a good time to file your chapter's annual renewal with the MN Secretary of State's office as well. This is also due by Sept 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The first trimester dues billing will be sent out shortly. They will be emailed to the chapters. If you need a copy, contact me. Early Birds are due postmarked by July 15<sup>th</sup> and final renewals due postmarked by August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- I am seeking a convention host for Fall State 2024, Annual and Fall State 2025. Contact me for more information.
- Official chapter emails are increasingly used for major communications, so be sure you are checking your email frequently. If you have any questions, please email me at CSC@mnwt.org.

**Presidential Assistant, Cat Shuman ([pa@mnwt.org](mailto:pa@mnwt.org))**

- President Amy's year end Open House will be tonight after the medallion reception from 10:45 to midnight. Everyone is welcome to stop by and visit. Amy's quilt and scrapbooks will be on display, and we will serve beverages and snacks.
- Thank you to the chapters and exec council members that submitted a scrapbook page for Amy. The winner of the wonderama basket is MVP Glorie Balfanz.
- Thank you to the chapters and districts that sent a donation towards President Amy's year end gift. The winner of the wonderama basket is Duluth.

**MNWT Foundation, Nicky Anderson ([foundation@mnwt.org](mailto:foundation@mnwt.org)) Given by COB Jenise Teske**

- Our Lucky Buck Auction to benefit Chapter Grants will be held at Fall State. We are now seeking donations for our baskets, Made in Minnesota and Gift Cards/Cash.
- The Cheryl L. Anderson Scholarship deadline is August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The Annual Report form 2024 can be found on the website. Yesterday we approved the following new members as part of the Foundation board: Jenise Teske, Connie Fink and Pat Undersander.
- The New Officers of the MNWT Foundation are: Chair, Laura Gaylord; Vice Chair, Cindy Umland; Treasurer, Mary Kaminski; Secretary, Wendy Homiak/Sharon Ericson.
- Our next meeting is tentative scheduled for Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

**President, Amy Pumper ([president@mnwt.org](mailto:president@mnwt.org))**

New Business:

*M/S/A/P (Parliamentarian/St. Cloud/Nicky Anderson)* I move that Article X, section 5 should read:

Section 5. A member must meet all the following qualifications to be eligible to serve as a State Program Manager:

- A. Be a member in good standing in his/her local Minnesota Women of Today chapter for at least two (2) years.
- B. Have personal backing of his/her chapter, as indicated by a letter of support.
- C. Have served as a (LPM), served on a local board and or district board, a minimum of one (1) year. (can be concurrent)

The benediction was led by Living and Learning SPM Pat Undersander.

The Minnesota Women of Today Creed was led by Membership Vice President Glorie Balfanz.

The 2024 Annual Convention Business Meeting of the Minnesota Women of Today was adjourned at 10:23 a.m. by Amy Pumper.

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Candi Frick, Secretary MNWT**

## MNWT 2024-2025 Elections Meeting Minutes

**May 18, 2024**

- The meeting was called to order by COB Jenise Teske at 10:23 am.
- Past State Presidents in attendance:
  - Cindy Sanders 2011-2012
  - Nicky Anderson 2012-2013
  - Laura Gaylord 2014-2015
  - Jane Hanson 2016-2017
  - Cathy Shuman 2019-2020
  - Anna Nichols 2021-2022
  - Jenise Teske 2022-2023
  - Amy Pumper 2023-2024
- Area Election Representatives in attendance:

- Area 1—Char Osteburg, Duluth
  - Area 2—Lisa Hahn, Sauk Rapids
  - Area 3—Deb Froemming, Hutchinson area
- A quorum was established with 31 of 47 chapters present.
  - The Elections Committee met to approve campaign materials, actions and budgets. The committee has found all necessary information to be in order and approves Tevyan Sorensen’s from Burnsville Chapter as a 2024-2025 Presidential candidate.
  - M/S/P (Burnsville/Staples Motley) To begin the nomination process, Albany was called on. They passed the nomination to Burnsville. Christine Knirk from Burnsville nominated Tevyan Sorensen as a Candidate for 2024-2025 MNWT President and Nicky Anderson of Staples-Motley seconded the motion.
  - 2024-2025 Presidential Candidate Tevyan Sorensen accepted the nomination.
  - No other nominations were presented. According to Policy I, 19, if the election for State President is not contested, the five-minute caucus shall be waived, and a voice vote taken.
  - M/S/P (COB/Burnsville) All those in favor of approving Tevyan Sorensen for 2024-2025 State President say yes/opposed say no.
  - Tevyan Sorensen from the Burnsville chapter was introduced as the 2024-2025 and 75<sup>th</sup> State President of the Minnesota Women of Today.
  - Nominations regarding State staff positions:
    - M/S/P (COB/Roseau) I move to approve Andrea Schue of Roseau as Administrative Vice President.
    - M/S/P (COB/Maple Grove) I move to approve Carla Hanson of Maple Grove as Membership Vice President.
    - M/S/P (COB/Hutchinson) I move to approve Shirley Viesselman of Hutchinson area as Chapter Management Vice President.
    - M/S/P (COB/Monticello) I move to approve Michelle Kocak Jones of Monticello as Programming Vice President.
    - M/S/P (COB/Burnsville) I move to approve Michelle Cloutier of Burnsville as Marketing Vice President.
    - M/S/P (COB/Monticello) I move to approve Connie Fink of Monticello as Financial Vice President.
    - M/S/P (COB/STMA) I move to approve Kathy Hansen of St. Michael-Albertville area as Extensions Director.
    - M/S/P (COB/Roseau) I move to approve Liz Weigel of Lake of the Woods as Secretary.
    - M/S/P (COB/Burnsville) I move to approve Mary Sobczak of Burnsville as Presidential Assistant.
    - M/S/P (COB/Coon Rapids) I move to approve Jeny Ohr of Coon Rapids as Parliamentarian.
  - Announcements: None
  - The meeting was adjourned by COB Jenise Teske at 10:57 am.

The meeting was called to order by President Tevyan Sorensen at 11:20 am.

The invocation was given by Priority Area SPM, Deb Froeming.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Youth of Today SPM, Cheryl Watson.

The United States of Today Creed was led by District 5 Director Anita Smoley.

Guests were introduced by President Tevyan: 2012-2013 MNWT President Nicky Anderson, 2014-2015 MNWT President Laura Gaylord, 2016-2017 MNWT President Jane Hanson, 2019-2020 MNWT President Cat Schuman, 2021-2022 MNWT President Anna Nichols, and 2022 - 2023 MNWT President Jenise Teske.

Orders of the Day were given by Parliamentarian Jeny Ohr & quorum was established.

**Secretary, Liz Weigel [secretary@mnwt.org]**

- Theme: Stick To It
- Staff report template will be emailed
- Please fill out emailed versus printed sheet.

**Administrative Vice President, Andrea Schue [avp@mnwt.org]**

- Theme: You are Solid Gold

- The District Directors are starting their year off with planning their 1st Trimester District Meetings. If you are interested in visiting a meeting in an official capacity, please try to connect with the DDs. It is also possible that they may contact you to be part of their enrichment sessions.
- District Directors:
  - **District 2:** Tami Borgen, Bloom & Grow (No report)
  - **District 3:** Contacts are Nicky Anderson (T1), Jo Jo Larson, and Cindy Sanders.
    - Tri 1 Meeting: June 29th, Staples @ 10am (Given by Andrea Schue)
  - **District 4:** Tracy Neyens (No report)
  - **District 5:** Anita Smoley, Everyday Heroes
    - Tri 1 Meeting: June 17th, Rice.
    - Looking forward to having all the chapters working together on a project.
  - **District 6:** Representatives are Connie Fink (T1), Kathy Hansen (T2), and Jessalyn Hegland (T3), Grow Together
    - Tri 1 Meeting: Tentatively June 27th, Monticello Pizza Ranch @ 6pm.
    - Looking forward to continuing to grow excitement in D6.
  - **District 7:** Laurie Lilli (No report)
  - **District 8:** Kenya Czerwinski, Coming Together, One Stitch at a Time
    - Tri 1 Meeting: June 22nd, Location TBD
    - Looking forward to possibilities in the district. Focusing on growth & how to support those efforts and come up with ideas on getting the district together for more socials & service events.
  - **District 9:** Allie Staley, Adventure is Out There
    - Tri 1 Meeting: Windom Library, BRAC Building. 5:30 pm Dinner, 6:30/7 pm Meeting
    - Excited to get more chapters involved on the district & state level.

**Membership Vice President, Carla Hanson [[mvp@mnwt.org](mailto:mvp@mnwt.org)] (Presented by Tevyan Sorensen)**

- Theme: You Matter

**Chapter Management Vice President, Shirley Viesselman [[cmvp@mnwt.org](mailto:cmvp@mnwt.org)]**

- Theme: Success with Sparkle
- Goal: To help create sparkle and fun in chapters that may be struggling through zoom meetings, roundtables, chapter visits, President-State Delegate Retreat... and end the year with all chapters having 15 or more members.
- Two TLC Chapters: St James & Fridley
- We are working on the calendar, please review & provide feedback on dates related to your position.

**Extensions Director, Kathy Hansen [[extensions@mnwt.org](mailto:extensions@mnwt.org)]**

- Theme: Stand Together & Shine

**Programming Vice President, Michelle Kocak-Jones [[pvp@mnwt.org](mailto:pvp@mnwt.org)]**

- Theme: Shaking it Up
- SPM Bid from Sue Bay for Women's Wellness was heard.
- Goal: help promote programming areas with a focus on new ideas and effective reporting to include the 5 W's-who, what, when, where and why.
- Goal: report a million dollars in all areas combined next spring
- **SPMs**
  - **Community Connections SPM:** Sara Rocksted ([cc@mnwt.org](mailto:cc@mnwt.org)), Beautiful Things Come Together One Stitch at a Time
    - Focus on bringing the excitement back to Community Connections and also promote True Friends and awards in that area.
  - **Living & Learning SPM:** Sharon Scholl ([ll@mnwt.org](mailto:ll@mnwt.org)) Taking a Journey Down Life Street
  - **Priority Area SPM:** Deb Froemming ([priority-area@mnwt.org](mailto:priority-area@mnwt.org)), Reaching out hand to hand
    - Goal: educate members about the REACH program & then become involved with schools around the state.
  - **Women's Wellness SPM:** Sue Bay ([ww@mnwt.org](mailto:ww@mnwt.org)), Wiggle to Wellness
    - Introduce members on different ways to achieve physical activities
    - Goals: received 2 Lois M Christensen WWI award, fundraise \$500 toward award & 10,000 total monetary/in-kind reported to this Area
    - Highlighting March of Dimes "March for Babies"
  - **Youth of Today SPM:** Cheryl Watson ([yt@mnwt.org](mailto:yt@mnwt.org)), Connecting with Children

**Marketing Vice President, Michelle Cloutier [[mkvp@mnwt.org](mailto:mkvp@mnwt.org)] (Marketing Committee Chair [[marketing@mnwt.org](mailto:marketing@mnwt.org)])**

- Theme: Recipe for Success: Baking a Difference for All

- Some key things we will be working on in Tri 1:
  - Training on social media
  - Positive communication/professionalism
  - The difference between internal and external communications
  - Photo challenge once we are able to update the main pages photos.

**Financial Vice President, Connie Fink [fvp@mnwt.org]**

- Theme: Wheel of Treasure
- Look for fun ways to spin the wheel & win prizes!

**Parliamentarian, Jeny Ohr [parli@mnwt.org]**

- Theme: Tips with Bob & Me
- Challenge for DDs: Send in their district's bylaws and policies. I am creating a District Repository where all District Bylaws and Policies will be held. We want a place where DDs can go in case their districts bylaws/policies are lost.

**Chairman of the Board, Amy Pumper [cob@mnwt.org]**

- Theme: Keeping the Vision Alive
- I am looking for ONTO committee members. We will be launching an ONTO quilt fundraiser using ONTO shirts. More to come.
- My trading cards are available

**Membership Management Committee Chair, Anna Nichols [mmc@mnwt.org] (Given by Amy Pumper)**

- Theme: Collaborate & Connect with MMC

**Executive Director, Tanya Rothstein [csc@mnwt.org]**

- Theme: You are the Magic
- Email – Watch your Blacklist and remove any mnwt.org addresses. Make sure to keep your email clean so you don't miss any emails. Do Not change your email password.
- Everyone is in the process of being added as editor on your Facebook page. Make sure you can post, if not let me know. Profile pictures need to stay as MNWT logo.
- Google drive is NOT personal so don't do two-step verification.
- MNJOTS registration forms (\$145) available and nametags (\$15) will be ordered. Will be emailed out as a google form.
- Would appreciate it if you would email me if anything is needed. That way I will have a record of what needs to be done. Office hours are 4-8 M/W and 10-2 Fridays. Would prefer not to get text messages or phone calls on my cell phone.
- I will not be answering messages or emails during non-office days. Mail stuff to the PO Box 216, Albany, MN 56307 (not home address). The Messenger group is not an official request for stuff. Please email or call the office phone 320-845-2250.

**Presidential Assistant, Mary Sobczak [pa@mnwt.org]**

- Theme: Live & Learn
- See info packets for the following:
  - Order form for polos
  - MNWT Information/Secret Sis form, please fill out
  - Presidential Gift information
  - Quilt Square info-cross stitched logo 6" square w/ 1/2" border to make 7" sq. Due at Winter State
  - Scrap Book pages 12" x 12" double sided. Due April 1st, 2025
  - Uniform info
  - Roster

**Committee Chairs:**

- **Foundation Chair: Laura Gaylord [foundation@mnwt.org]**
- **Future Directions Committee Chair: Cat Shuman [fdc@mnwt.org]**
  - FDC is one of the three state committees along with Membership Management and Marketing. Each meets once per trimester.
  - Meeting dates are July 13, November 16 and March 2.
  - The July 13 meeting will be held in the Staples/Motley area with the place to be determined also a zoom option.

**President, Tevyan Sorensen [president@mnwt.org]**

- Theme: We Go Together
- Welcome to Exec Council comments.

The benediction was led by Community Connections SPM, Sara Rocksted.

The Minnesota Women of Today Creed was led by COB, Amy Pumper.

The 2024 Special Executive Council Meeting of the Minnesota Women of Today was adjourned at 12:52 pm by President Tevyan Sorensen.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
**Liz Weigel, Secretary MNWT**