

TODAY'S LEADER



Laura Morris
United States
Women of Today
2022-2023 President



INSPIRE

In this issue:

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- ◆ National Staff Updates
- ◆ Inspire T-shirt Order Info
- ◆ Registration/info for Annual Convention in Arizona
- ◆ State of the States

Hello USWT Friends:

Hard to believe we are going into the 3rd Trimester already. How are you doing with meeting your goals for the year? Have you filled out your certifications? Have you donated to the National Store, or turned in your bylaws to Parli Anna, or sent your minutes and newsletters to Secretary Jane? Check out the many challenges the USWT Staff is offering for you to participate in for the final part of the year. Check out the rest of the articles to learn more!

I have been working hard on my goals this year. My main goal is to work on rebranding and marketing plan. Public Relations Director Laura Bentley has come up with a proposed logo. We have been talking about it at meetings such as Midyear and state visits. We also now have a survey for members to complete. We have been getting some really good feedback that will be taken to the Marketing Committee and tallied, and where the results and suggestions will be considered. The finalized plan for the logo will then be taken to the Future Directions Committee. This committee will decide whether or not to take it to Annual for a final vote. This is only the beginning of a long process. If it is decided to adopt a new logo, there will need to be lots of changes to the bylaws, policies and forms. Stay tuned for more information.

I have also been busy visiting several states:

August: Iowa State meeting -Treasurer Mary and I.

October: Missouri Fall State - Sunday after Midyear, several staff members attended.

Massachusetts Fall State – PA Deb and I.

November: Pennsylvania Fall State -PA Deb and I.

Illinois Fall Meeting - MVP Tracey, Treasurer Mary and PR Director Laura B and I.

December: South Dakota (Hartford) - PA Deb and I (and my husband) helped them decorate hundreds of Christmas cookies for a fundraiser.

Next up will be Minnesota Winter State in January, which most of the USWT Staff will attend followed by our Staff Retreat. I also plan to attend Nebraska's year end in April, then of course we will all be going to Arizona in June for National Annual. I have really enjoyed the state visits. I am so impressed with each state and everything you do. It really INSPIRES me! One thing for sure that I have learned is that we are made up of so many kind, wonderful, and caring members, who also like to have fun! Just like that first impression that I had at my first chapter meeting. Imagine that!

Happy New Year, and may 2023 bring much success and happiness to you and yours!

In Friendship,
Laura Morris, President



CINDY UMLAND - CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

"Leaf Your Mark"

CONTACT: cob@uswomenoftoday.org

Greetings USWT,

I hope you each had a special holiday season and that you each were able to enjoy time with your family and friends.

As I look back on 2022 I have many memories, I remember traveling to meet many of you and wish I could've made it to see more of you. I just want to update you on what I've been doing, I'm still at Costco being the St. Cloud Outside Marketer, where I call businesses to see if I can come share information with their employees about being a Costco Member. Most weekends I have traveled to Wadena to spend time with my parents making memories with them while I can, over the last few months they both have survived Covid and other health issues along with the changes that happen with Alzheimer's, I know many of you also deal with this disease and understand how important it is having the special times as I know soon that this will change just like a leaf does during the year.

Have you thought about how you want to make a next Year memorable?? If you are interested in sharing your memories with others in Women of Today please reach out to me and let's visit, I'm more than happy to help you leaf your mark on the USWT, there are both elected and positions to bid for. AS A REMINDER YOU CAN ONLY DISCUSS THIS WITH ME, before filing and until approved by the Elections Committee.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Cindy Umland
Chairman of the Board 22-23

Order your t-shirts on line today!

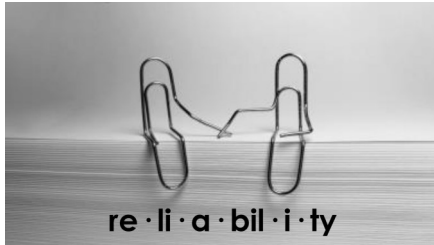
Order your Inspire shirt today in either purple or black. Order on line and it will be shipped to you. The shirts are \$20 plus shipping.



Click on this link to go to the order screens:
<https://swot22-23.itemorder.com/>



Place your order and the shirts will be shipped directly to you. This is also a National Fund Raiser as a portion of the profits will benefit Ways and Means.



ANNA NICHOLS - PARLIAMENTARIAN

"Reliability"

CONTACT: parli@uswomenoftoday.org

Hello Women of Today Members,

Thank you to all the parliamentarians who completed my 2nd trimester challenge. I will mail you your incentive in January. I truly appreciate everything you do for USWT, your state, and your chapter. We will be holding a USWT Bylaws and Policies review on February 11th at 10:00 AM via Zoom. For more information or to be added to the zoom link invitation, email me.

Sincerely, Anna Nichols

Parliamentarian 3rd Trimester Challenge –Open to all parliamentarians on all levels

Hold a Bylaw and Policy review once during the 2022 – 2023 year. Email me the date and time of your meeting and new information you learned. This meeting could have been held at any time during the year. Information due April 15th.

Motion Rules

- Only one subject should be discussed at a time. The topic of the motion should be what members are voting on. If the motion needs to be amended, follow flow sheet provided at the end of this manual.
- All motions should be kept in the positive. Motions should be made for items that will result in a positive action being taken.
- Only one person may speak at a time. Members should take turns speaking for or against the motion being discussed. The member making the motion is the first to speak once the chapter president calls for discussion.
- Any member in good standing can make a motion and discuss a motion. Non-official members or guests are not able to make a formal motion. Refer to the Women of Today by-laws for clear definition of what a member in good standing is.
- Motions should be discussed. When a second is made it does not mean that you agree with the motion being made, it means that there is a request for discussion.
- When a call to vote is made, the majority will determine if the chapter will approve or deny the motion.


TRACEY PIERSON - MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT

"Growing Together"

CONTACT: mvp@uswomenoftoday.org

I hope everyone had a Great Holiday Season, getting to spend time with family is the best!

Wow! How can it be the 3rd trimester already? Thank you to everyone that responded to my challenge for 2nd trimester, turning in membership dues by December 15th. You will be entered into the drawing that will be handed out at year end.

Challenge for the whole year, every 8th new member that is signed they will be going into a drawing each trimester.

Membership Meetings

January 11th @ 6:30 committee members

February 8th @ 6:30

March 8th @ 6:30 committee members

April 12th @ 6:30

For those that attend the membership monthly zoom meeting will be put in a drawing each trimester

How are those STEP Certification forms coming along? Why wait to fill those forms out later, get them done now. One thing checked off your list.

National Presidential Challenge:

President Laura Morris' son is on the Autism Spectrum (Aspergers to be exact), therefore she is challenging you to hold an educational forum, and/or to do a fundraising or service project for a local or national organization that provides support to individuals with Autism.

She strongly suggests that you find a local or area organization to support. Many of these are small and not only tend to really be in need of financial support but they can also help you provide an educational forum. Participating in this will help you qualify for STEP IV.



MARY HANSEN - TREASURER

"Support"

CONTACT: treasurer@uswomenoftoday.org

Time sure has flown. I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season and were able to celebrate with family and friends.

The highlight for me has been doing some traveling and the meeting of new people. I am looking forward to traveling to Arizona for year end, wrapping everything up and handing it off to some new person so that they can expand their Women of Today experiences.

3rd Trimester Challenge

US Women of Today depends upon its individual members, chapters, and states to support and fund the budget. We all contribute with dues, purchases through the USWT store and fundraisers.

Unfortunately, that isn't always enough to keep our budget balanced.

My 3rd trimester challenge is to participate in our "Margarita Day" celebration event. Those attending and donating at the Staff sponsored Zoom event will be entered into a drawing at year end.

I look forward to seeing your smiling faces on February 22.



Happy National Margarita Day!

Set aside the evening of February 22, 2023, to celebrate National Margarita Day and US Women of Today. Staff and I are going to host a Zoom fundraiser for US Women of Today Ways & Means. More details to follow.



KANDY DORLACK - EXTENSIONS DIRECTOR
 "Finding Unity in Your Community"
 CONTACT: extensions@uswomenoftoday.org

Hello to all my Women of Today Friends,
 Do you remember the first time someone asked you to join the Women of Today? Remember the feeling of being special, wanted, people extending the gift of friendship to you? How warm and wonderful that made you feel? I want to challenge you to introduce Women of Today to two of your friends. Share the gifts you have received by our organization lasting friendships, community involvement and leadership opportunities, and share those with others in your town or in a new town. When you meet a prospective member, the personal touch is the best way to go. Invite them to a social or m-event and encourage them to bring a friend. Offer them a ride so they don't have to go alone. And don't be afraid to ask them to join.

Extensions are good for you as well as your chapter. Many chapters have found that while doing an extension, they also find that their own chapter begins to flourish and gain new members. It is exciting and rewarding to do an extension and experience the new chapter form, begin their community service work and watch their friendships grow. It is especially rewarding to watch other women grow while being a member of a chapter that has just formed. Wouldn't you like to be a part of this excitement and rewards with me?

<p>Update on Marietta, GA</p> <p>We are anticipating receiving dues of 5 new members.</p>	<p>Update on Olathe, KS</p> <p>Olathe, KS has sent in their Intent to Extend. YEAH!</p>
<p>Wild West Women of Today Tempe, AZ</p> <p>I am EXCITED to say that Wild West, AZ has filed an Intent to Extend!!!!</p>	
<p>Update on Richfield, MN</p> <p>Richfield, MN is working on fundraisers and recruitment.</p>	<p>Update on Stillwater, MN</p> <p>Stillwater, MN is working on fundraisers and recruitment</p>

EMPHASIS MONTH**February is emphasis month for Extensions**

Anyone that fills out an intent to extend in the emphasis month will receive an incentive from me.

I have some FUN challenges and incentives!

INCENTIVE:

Teams that send me an Intent to Extend **AND** have 2 events scheduled on or before March 15th will receive an incentive.

CHALLENGE:

Teams that send me an Intent to Extend **AND** complete the extension by March 15th will receive a gift card to purchase supplies for a membership night **AND** you will be placed in a drawing for **\$25.00 cash** to be given at Annual Convention.

See my 3rd Trimester SIP for information on how to start an extension.



LAURA BENTLEY - PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

"Speak Up"

CONTACT: pr@uswomenoftoday.org

A large, light blue graphic with a white border. The border is decorated with various snowflake and star patterns. In the bottom left corner, there is a cartoon snowman wearing a black hat and holding a broom. The text is centered within the graphic.

Speak Up!

Public Relations Director:
Laura Bentley
prdirector@uswomenoftoday.org

Welcome to the third trimester! It has been a great year so far with many of you submitting lots of great articles and social media announcements. Keep up the great work and submit to me via email and posting when you see the opportunity on Facebook!

Several of you have seen the new logo suggestion. We will be announcing at the end of the year the final design and voting on the official look of the new logo. Please attend end year in Arizona to have your vote count.

Happy New Year to you and yours, may your trimester 3 be the best yet!

**CATHY SNYDER - PROGRAMMING VICE PRESIDENT**

"Reach High to Follow Your Dreams"

CONTACT: pvp@uswomenoftoday.org

Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year,

Hope you all had a great Holiday. Thank you to those of you who attended my certification night - thank you for hopping on.

Just want to remind you that January is Emphasis month for Wellness and Personal Development. If you haven't already completed it, go on the US web site, and fill out the certification form. Also, February is Emphasis month for DVA - continue to wear your purple on the 3rd Thursday. Your name will go into a drawing at the end of the year.

Make sure to check out my 3rd trimester SIP for the 3rd trimester challenge. Would you like to know now? Well here it is; I will be giving out an arrow award at year end for those of you who will complete my challenge:

My Last and final challenge

- Send me one thing you were proud of this year in your chapter.
- Send me one challenge you had this past year.
- Tell me what makes you happy with Women of Today.
- Send me an email to Csnyder698@gmail.com

Please do my fun challenge - I would love to hear from you!



**THERESA JOHNSON - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS PROGRAM MANAGER**

"Stop Domestic Violence—Don't Look Away"

CONTACT: dva@uswomenoftoday.org

Hello United States Women of Today members!

There are only 4 purple Thursdays left for this year!

Don't forget to wear purple and post it on the Programming page, for your name to go into a year end drawing. Make sure to check out the article about the collection at year end for the Bucket of Sunshine.

If you make any donation for DVA, let me know either by sending me an email or filling out a transmittal form found on the USWT page under Programming resource. If you need help, please let me know. I am here if you have any questions.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year

Cathy Snyder
Programming VP

Purple Thursday Challenge

Everyone who wears purple on the 3rd Thursday of each month throughout the year, their name will go into a drawing for Purple Thursday basket at annual. Please post your picture to programming page and send to pvp@uswomenoftoday.org.



Do It Together For A Happier You!

**JILL KIRSCHNER - WELLNESS & PERSONAL
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM MANAGER**

“Do it Together for a Happier You!”

CONTACT: pvp@uswomenoftoday.org

Greetings Women of Today!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Fellowship Service	Effective Speaking Competition
USWT Annual Convention in June (Time & Location – TBD)	USWT Annual Convention in June (Time & Location – TBD)

**EMPHASIS MONTHS:
June ~ September ~ January**

My 3rd TRIMESTER CHALLENGE is to interview a member of an older generation (does not have to be a relative, it can be anyone) about changes they have seen in their life span. Then write an essay or short story (300-500 words) about what you found out from this interview. I would love to hear what you learned. This is not a competition but writing an essay or short story is one of the items listed on the Wellness and Personal Development certification form. **NOTE:** *This was my 2nd Trimester challenge but has now been extended.* **Send me your essay or short story by May 1st 2023 to be entered into a drawing.** My email address is: wpd@uswomenoftoday.org

My MAY CHALLENGE is to participate in the Effective Speaking Competition at USWT Annual Convention in June. **The time/location are TBD.** In addition to the competition, all names will be entered into a drawing.

Speaking competition will be held in person at USWT Year End Convention

Topic: ***“I am the person I am today because of a special person or event that changed my life.”***
5 Minutes/\$5 Entry Fee
(Make check payable to: **“US Women of Today”** with **“SPEAKING Competition”** in the memo.)
DEADLINE: May 1, 2023

Click on the link below and fill out the "WPD Competition Stat Sheet".
<https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/bsby6YqRn6f4Jdb0>

You can then mail your \$5 check to me.

Please email me at: wpd@uswomenoftoday.org for my mailing address.

Each trimester State Information Packet has focused on different areas of the Wellness and Personal Development Certification form.

Certifications can be submitted between now and May 1, 2023.

PLEASE NOTE: On our website, you will find a Wellness & Personal Development ONLINE form as well as the OLD VERSION of the Health and Wellness Certification and Personal Development Certification forms in pdf format. They are slightly different. I will accept all versions as long as they are the USWT forms. *If you choose to submit the older forms, both the Health and Wellness and Personal Development forms would need to be submitted together.* **The ONLINE version is preferred.** [WPD Certification Form](#)

These forms can be found at:

[USWT](#)

[Awards & Resources](#)

[Forms & Manuals](#)

[Programming Resources](#)

[Wellness & Personal Development Manual](#) Page 13 (pdf)

[WPD Certification Form - PDF](#) This the ONLINE version

[USWT Operations Manual](#)

[USWT Book of Forms \(complete set of all forms\) - PDF](#)

NOTE: If you choose to use the OLD versions below, they must be submitted together.

Health & Wellness Certification form (This is the old PDF version but still accepted. (Form #47/Page 50)

Personal Development Certification form (This is the old PDF version but still accepted. (Form #48/Page 51)

Below are just a few of the many reference links:

American Heart Association www.heart.org

American Red Cross www.redcross.org

International Diabetes Federation <https://www.idf.org/>

National Kidney Foundation <https://www.kidney.org/>

Multiple Sclerosis Society <https://www.nationalmssociety.org/>

American Cancer Society <https://www.cancer.org>

National Liver Foundation <https://liverfoundation.org>

Mayo Clinic for Additional Resource Information <https://www.mayoclinic.org>

I encourage each of you that are either employed or looking to become employed, keep your resume updated and include your volunteer work as that is as important as paid employment. You never know when an opportunity may present itself. Volunteerism shows your willingness to want to help and commitment to going above and beyond. If you haven't already tried serving in a leadership position, consider taking on the challenge. This too will look good on your resume.

If you have an interest on serving on national staff next year and have questions, you can reach out to me or any one of the board members. Elections and bidding are just around the corner for 2023-2024.

I am challenging you to strive towards Betterment, Enrichment, and Empowerment as you achieve personal growth.

*****DO IT TOGETHER FOR A HAPPIER YOU*****



JANE HANSON - SECRETARY

"Just the Colorful Facts"

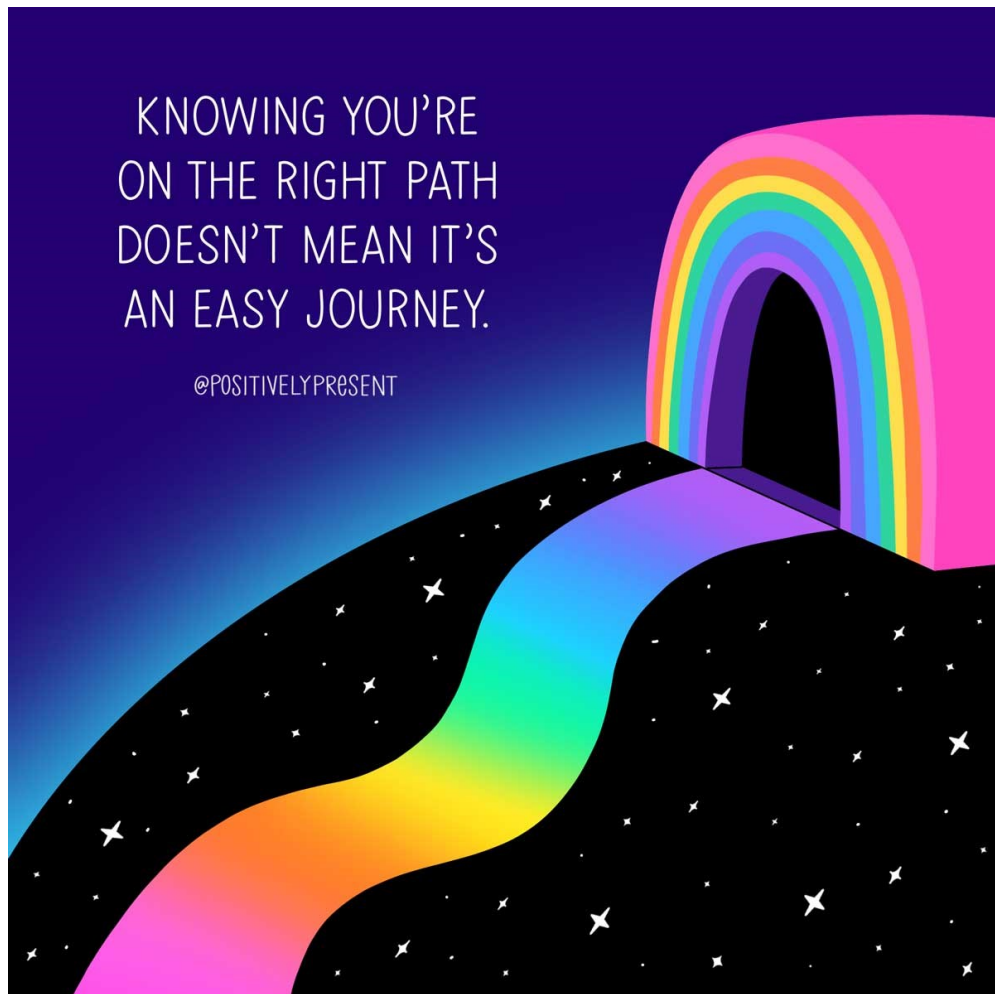
CONTACT: secretary@uswomenoftoday.org

Dear State Secretaries and Newsletter Editors:

It's now third trimester for our Women of Today year. I hope you are accomplishing your goals. Now is the time to review those goals; and make changes as needed. The holidays are over; now it's time to get back into the swing of Women of Today! I will be working to try to achieve all of my goals before the end of the WT year. As part of our looking at our goals for this year, it's time to look at what we want to do next year. I hope you plan to continue to share your leadership with Women of Today, be it on the local, state or national level. You are needed to help the organization grow and strengthen!

Continue sending me your minutes and newsletters. I enjoy them!

Jane



USWT 2023 National Convention

June 9-10, 2023 Tempe, Arizona

Warm Welcome to the Wild West



Embassy Suites by Hilton ♦ 4400 South Rural Rd. ♦ Tempe, Arizona ♦ 480-897-7444
The block is under Mongold Social Event

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____
 E-mail _____ First Timer _____
 If Flying Arrival Date/time: _____ Flight #: _____
 Sunday Departure Time: _____
 Dietary Restrictions: _____

ROOMS ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!! ROOMS HELD UNTIL 5-8-2023
\$119 per night plus tax – 1-4 people per room

<u>Registration</u>	<u>Advance</u>	<u>Late</u>
FULL	_____ \$135.00	_____ \$165.00
(Includes all meetings, forums and meals)	By May 1, 2023	
INDIVIDUAL EVENTS		
Friday Mtgs / Opening Ceremonies / Party	_____ \$45.00	_____ \$55.00
Saturday Forums / Meetings	_____ \$35.00	_____ \$40.00
Saturday Luncheon	_____ \$40.00	_____ \$50.00
Saturday Banquet	_____ \$55.00	_____ \$65.00
SATURDAY ONLY	_____ \$130.00	_____ \$155.00
	Total _____	Total _____

ADVANCE REGISTRATION DEADLINE – POSTMARKED BY May 1, 2023

Make check payable to Carmella Mongold

Send registration form and check to:
 Pat Saulina
 2122 E. Dunbar Dr.
 Tempe, AZ 85282-7453
 480-332-2944

Any questions please contact co-chairmen:

Carmella Mongold 816-438-2776
carmellamongold@gmail.com

Pat Saulina 480-332-2944
psaulina@gmail.com

USWT 2023 National Convention

June 9-10, 2023 Tempe, Arizona

Warm Welcome to the Wild West

Embassy Suites by Hilton ♦ 4400 South Rural Rd. ♦ Tempe, Arizona ♦ 480-897-7444

The block is under Mongold Social Event



Arizona June 2023!

Join us June 9-10, 2023 for USWT National Convention in Tempe, AZ. The registration form is in this newsletter. What does the hotel have to offer? Complimentary breakfast including an omelet station, two complimentary drinks each day during happy hour, all sleeping rooms are suites, and more!

On Thursday, June 8, a one day bus trip is planned to Sedona. More information will follow and you are welcome to invite spouses and friends on this adventure!



We have so many fun things planned. Please let us know if you have any questions. Note: the block of sleeping rooms is held under MONGOLD SOCIAL EVENT. Make reservations early so we will have plenty of rooms available. Please join us for a “Warm Welcome to the Wild West!”

Carmella Mongold
Pat Saulina
Co-chairmen



State of the States



Greetings from Arizona!



What?! It's time to write another Today's Leader article already?! You'd think it was already 2023 and this Women of Today year seems to be zipping by! Oh....my mistake....it is 2023 and 2022 did zip past me. I must have taken an unusually long nap back there in August or September! The suggested topic for this newsletter is to share a membership event. Unfortunately, I haven't got anything that you probably haven't heard and/or tried before. There are so many ways to attract prospective members to join your chapter. And I'm sure we have already tried them all. But the biggest draw for getting new members (*and it doesn't need to be a Christmas miracle*) is to offer them a good reason to join.

Think back to why you joined Women of Today. For some of us it was in the last century and memories tend to fade over the decades. But if you think **REALLY** hard, you might remember that it was because you wanted to meet new people, perhaps be a part of something that enhances your community, or benefit from the personal development opportunities that Women of Today has to offer. You probably didn't join because you wanted "seasoned" members to point out all the mistakes you're making by not doing the exact same things they've been doing for years ("We never used to do it THAT way"....sound familiar?) or sitting at a meeting to listen to members nit-picking their grievances with each other, or sucking the life out of a chapter by having some members try to control the direction the chapter is moving. We can all get that at our jobs if we're **unlucky**, and at least - at work - we get paid for putting up with all the *baloney*. And (*for some of us*) anyone who has reached those golden retirement years, we want nothing to do with conflict. None of that sounds very enticing, does it? On top of all that hostility, how do we expect to recruit new members, activate them and then keep them on our roster? You can't and you won't. "But, how," you ask, "do you recruit and keep those members?"

You already know the answer to that, don't you?! You make being a member of your chapter something they **WANT** to be. Here's the recipe for that:

Be welcoming....Be kind....

Be encouraging....Be helpful....

Be inclusive....Be open....

Offer incentives to join....Offer peace....

Offer recognition....Offer friendship....

Be the good person that you see and most respect in others!

**Joey Hedstrom, President
2022-2023 VSWT/AZWT**

ILLINOIS WOMEN OF TODAY
"GROWING OUR GARDEN"
2022-2023



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ILLINOIS

Illinois was honored to have President Laura and three of her board members attend our State Meeting in Pawnee. Thank you, President Laura, Treasurer Mary, MVP Tracy and PR Laura. We had an awesome weekend making new friends and reconnecting with seasoned friends.

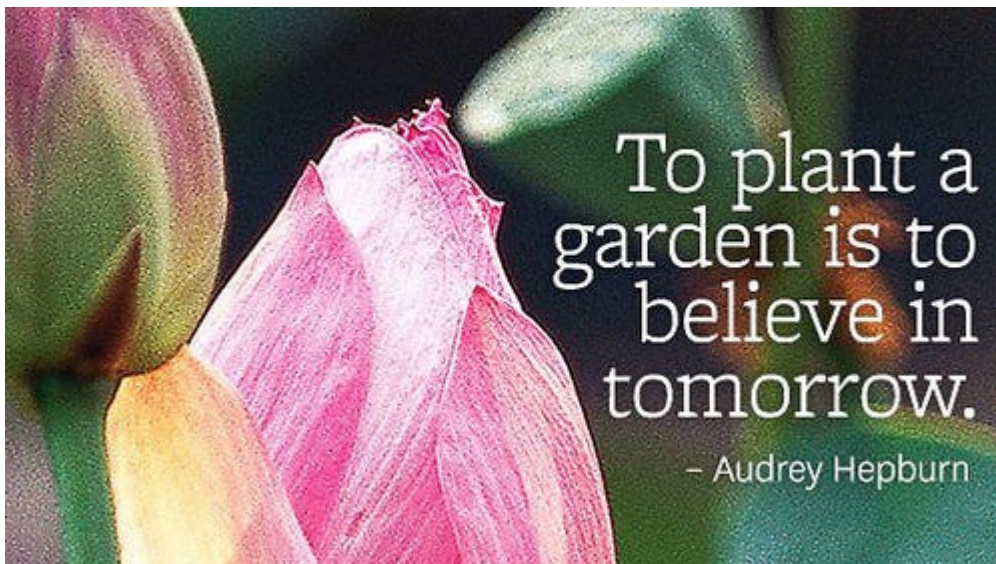
We lost our dear friend, Janet Esper on November 19, 2022. Janet was a very active member in Women of Today, serving Springfield Chapter, Illinois State Board and USWT board. Janet was honored to serve as USWT President 2008-2009. She will be missed.

As we move on to a new year, we look forward to many Chapter events, projects and fellowship. Hopefully, Illinois weather will cooperate with our plans.

Wishing you all a Very Happy Prosperous New Year

"Growing Our Garden"

Terri Hebda IWT President





Name: _____

Iowa Word Search

F C K O I W B A L L O O N M U S E U M Y
 J A Q G Q Y W R Q X E X F U M R M P N T
 O O D V H G M A O U A A P I L L H K Q G
 H U E M A W C O R N A F U X U J W D P D
 I H S T A T E F A I R K G X J X X H J R
 I Z M M L Y O H I U K H E V F D M V I U
 S A O E U T J E A F M E V R E I K U O E
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 R P N Q M U I Q R E A B A J K A M J A A
 G A E S U P L G I L S E P S R N T X G W
 E G S I Z F D G C D P R J I B B V S E Z
 A A G O E W R W U O X T G U R P K D S J
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 D E Y Y D M A N Y S E H P E L T R F M N
 K E G V G X O L Z W I N N E B A G O A E

Iowa
 Des Moines
 Oak
 Eastern
 Goldfinch

Agriculture
 Dairy
 Mining
 Herbert Hoover
 John Wayne

Sioux
 Wind Farm
 Quaker Oats
 Sergeant Floyd
 Winnebago

Balloon Museum
 Field of Dreams
 Corn
 Hay
 State Fair



Together WE can do so much



Greetings from Massachusetts!

2022 is ending on a high note for our 6 chapters. Fire Truck Santa, Photos with Santa, Comedy Nights, Quarter Auctions, Tree decorating are just a few fun fundraisers and events that were held.

New members are joining and staying and volunteering. Facebook is the go to venue for chapters to post events, invite new members and post on other pages. All chapters bring chapter banners to all events and many have chapter T shirts to wear.

Check out MAWT Facebook book page to see the banners some of the chapters use. They are vertical, light weight and make a statement and go to all events.

Happy Joyful New Year from all of us,
Kathy Griffin MAWT President

**TOGETHER WE CAN
DO SO MUCH MORE.**



Greetings from Minnesota,

Winter is definitely upon us here in Minnesota. In this week before Christmas, we have had temperatures in the 30's but over 12" of snow in a matter of 2 days in many parts of the state. But the frigid cold is coming soon. The cold temperatures and unpredictable weather make it difficult for chapters to plan membership socials and recruiting events. On the other hand, us Minnesotans are looking for a way to connect with others, even though we would rather hibernate for the duration. Some chapters have held coffee chats or game nights.

Our MNWT membership VP came up with a unique idea to not only encourage holiday activities but also have a countdown to the State President's birthday on Christmas Day. There is a different activity every day and proof of participation must be posted on Facebook or emailed to the MVP to get a chance in a drawing at our Winter State meeting in January. Some of the activities include the following: take a video of yourself singing a holiday song; take a photo of your Christmas tree; email the title of your favorite Christmas movie; send me a photo of you with Santa; treat yourself to your favorite hot beverage and send a photo; color a Christmas picture; give someone a compliment; wear festive pajamas; and send the state President birthday wishes on 12/25. It has been a lot of fun seeing the photos and posts on Facebook,

We also have a Membership Week every trimester, encouraging chapters to hold a special social or do a project during that week and post on Facebook. It keeps members excited and there is a bit of competitive aspect to it as well.

"Don't wait for PERFECT moment; take the moment and make it perfect."

Jenise Teske
MNWT State President
2022-2023



Hello Everyone,
Missouri wants to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

We look forward to 2023 and what the future holds. Thank you to all members for your hard work and dedication to Women of Today.

Katie Nelson
Missouri State President





**WE ARE
STRONG**



Hello from the great state of Nebraska!

This month we were asked to write an article on our state's membership event. I don't believe the state of Nebraska has one event for membership.

Our chapters use Friendship Day, Women of Today, Personal Enrichment Day and Socials for their events to promote membership. This last Fall, we had a chapter present a **fantastic** Personal Enrichment Day with speakers and invited prospective members from their community. All our chapters invite prospective members to any type of function that they are hosting.

As for State this year, I have put a challenge out to our chapters to recruit new members each trimester. My second trimester, I had a challenge to recruit a new member during Women of Today week. Each chapter that recruited a member had their name put into a drawing for a wine basket to be used for their next membership drive. I did have one chapter accept this challenge.

Maxine Turner
State President
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“It is a “Gnome” fact, we are the Best!”



Greetings from Pennsylvania,

Winter has arrived with vengeance here in Pennsylvania. We have record low temperatures with below zero wind chills. We now know how it feels in some of our sister states like North Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. All our chapters have been extremely busy spreading holiday cheer while making a difference in their communities. Here's just a few projects complete around our state. Goodie boxes sent to our service members, food and gifts for those needing an extra hand, bingo and visits to nursing homes, Santa on the fire truck and annual community Christmas programs. I'm so proud of all the things we do to make our world better. “It is a “Gnome” fact, we are the Best!”

To celebrate the season, we are holding a statewide “Reverse Advent Calendar”. Members were asked to collect food items each day for the first 24 days of December. These baskets of food are then going to be donated to a local church, food bank or homeless shelter in their area. I can't wait see how many boxes of food we collected.

Our state meeting in November was a great success, thanks to my hole chapter Northeastern. Everyone had a great time and are asking to do this overnight event again next year. We were honor to have President Laura and President assistant Deb join us. In addition to our business meeting, we held informative forums, had way too much food, and even made Santa Gnomes for a craft. It was so great to have all 4 of our chapters represented and to have time to just chill out and enjoy everyone's company.

Our next state meeting will be April 29th in the Lititz area. You are all welcome to join us!

From here in PA, we wish each of you a safe and healthy New Year!

Cynthia Hilbert
President