



USWT Women of Today
Tri 3 SIP
2024-2025 Membership VP
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Happy 2025 USWT Members!

Here we are in our 3rd Trimester. ***Congratulations to our chapters and states! Our membership has worked diligently to enrich our communities and at the same time extending a hand of friendship!*** I am grateful for the opportunity to play a small part in the successes of our organization this year as Membership VP and thankful for the many friends I have made.

As we approach March, it is time to start thinking about taking on an officer position and holding a key leadership role within the organization at chapter, state or national level. As an officer you actively oversee major aspects of the organizations operations and decision-making. Taking on a leadership role helps our membership to remain strong and gives members a reason to consider taking on a role.

Key points about taking on an officer position:

Leadership role:

As an officer, you will be responsible for guiding the chapters direction, setting goals, and making critical decisions alongside other members.

Defined responsibilities:

Each officer position has specific duties outlined in the bylaws, like the President overseeing overall operations, the Treasurer managing finances, and the Secretary maintaining records.

Talk to current chapter/state officers to gain insight into the position that you are interested in. At the national level reach out to the COB for information on the position and the procedures to run for that position.

- It's normal to feel apprehensive about new responsibilities, but don't let it paralyze you.
- **Focus on your strengths:**
Remind yourself of your skills and experience that qualify you for the position.
- **Seek support:**
Talk to trusted friends or mentors to address your concerns and gain guidance.
- **Prepare yourself:**
Actively learn and develop the necessary skills to feel confident in the role.
- **Embrace growth:**
View taking on an officer position as an opportunity to learn and help the organization move forward.

In friendship ~

What's Inside
3rd Trimester letter
Recognition opportunities
3rd Trimester challenges
Tips on R-O-A_R
Info on New Members
Ideas for recruiting
New Member Ceremony

How do we keep the excitement going?

Through the simple steps of R-O-A-R.

Once a new member is recruited, conduct an orientation as soon as possible. Then get the member activated—engage through inviting her to attend events, be involved. By doing this, retention will be a piece of cake!! (See page 3.)

USWT ADD & CHANGE FORM

Link to the online form can be found on MVP home page on the uswomenoftoday.org or under the Member Resources tab.

When to use:

- Adding a new member
- Changing a member's contact information (address, phone, email, etc.)
- A late renewal (renewing 1 or 2 trimesters after they were due)

When not to use:

- Trimester renewals

January Challenge

I will be focusing on the STEP program. The chapter and state that complete and submit the most STEP Certificates in the month of January will earn a \$10 gift card from Target. In the event of a tie, names will be placed in a basket and President Jane will draw the winner.

Watch the Membership Facebook page for helpful information on the different STEP levels along with links.

February Challenge

I will be posting two questions a week about the history of the USWT membership. The questions will be specific to Membership for example how many states, how many chapters, how many members. So be sure and read up on your History of the USWT – find link on the USWT website. Members who respond correctly will be placed in a drawing for a special basket to celebrate our 40th Anniversary.

USWT RECOGNITION

All American Chapter: This award recognizes those WT Chapters who have planned and accomplished a well-rounded program of projects and activities that exemplify the USWT Creed. Complete the form on the USWT website and submit by May 10.

Fellowship Builder: The Fellowship Builder Award is given to those chapters that take Friendship Day a step further by holding three more socials during the year. For chapter recognition, please complete the Fellowship Builder Form and return to mvp@uswomenoftoday.org no later than May 1.

In Chapter Extension: When a chapter signs 4 new in one month it is an In Chapter Extension. There isn't a form to complete, however the MVP will monitor this by trimester.

Gold Chapters: chapters with 75% retention and sign four new members during the trimester. There isn't a form to complete, the MVP will monitor this by trimester.

IDEAS FOR RECRUITING EVENTS

Programming/service events

- *Collection for a local or a Domestic Awareness organization (hygiene kits for women's or homeless shelter, Valentine's day cards, etc.); combine with chapter social*
- *Hold an M-night and invite the community*
- *Bring in a speaker on Women's Health topic and invite the community*

Social ideas

- *Book Club*
- *Game night*
- *Brewery/Winery tour*

PROMOTE, PUBLICIZE ON SOCIAL MEDIA, IN LOCAL NEWSPAPER, VIA FLYERS, BY WORD OF MOUTH!!!!

Check out page 4 for the March and April Challenges.

*****GETTING/KEEPING MEMBERS ENGAGED*****

Orientation

- Just signed a new member, now what? This can be a simple sit down and chat over coffee thing, or an organized chapter social.
- A New Member Orientation power point template can be found on the USWT website. Include the USWT mission and vision statements, our creed and benefits in your chapter orientation. You can also include USWT history, state structure, chapter history, chapter structure, and chapter relevant information all members should know. Invite your entire chapter to attend. Include a handout for attendees.

Greet the New Year with Purpose

If every member undertakes at least one item that you've been wanting and meaning to do for Women of Today – that can produce results well into the future.

Saying “yes” to a leadership role, chairing a project or presenting a program, helping a new member feel welcome. You will have made a difference.

Activation ABCs

- Include your new member in chapter activities.
- Co-chair projects with them. Invite them to carpool with you.
- Find them a Big Sis or a Buddy. (When more experience members activate our new members, we share our chapter's knowledge and increase the number of hands available.)
- Make sure your new member is on the email/group text list so that she can stay informed
- Encourage her to get as involved as little or as much as she is able

Tips for Retention

- We have members who we haven't seen in a while, now what? Share with them the highlights of the upcoming meeting. Offer them a ride. Give them a reason to show up.
- We have a lot of long-term members who don't contribute like they used to, now what? Include an information article each month in your newsletter. Keep topics positive and group orientated. Consider topics like the benefits of being a big sis, why co-chairs make volunteering fun, the benefits of having prepared reports at general meetings, and how volunteering is good for the body and mind.
- Some members seem to be losing interest. Personally invite members to participate in your chapter's socials and events. Ask them to co-chair projects with you. Send them a participation survey to see what they are interested in.
- Longtime members are only active part-time. Ask them if everything is okay, do they need anything. Ask them to co-chair projects with you. Make it a group effort. Each month have a different member call other members to participate in your chapter socials. Ask them to be a Big Sis/Buddy. Remind them that they have a lot to offer a new member.
- Announce and notify members at the beginning of each trimester that their renewal dues are coming up. Affirm their value to your chapter. Invite them to renew their membership.

New Member Installation Ceremony

- The rose I give you is a symbol of your beliefs and ideas, as stated in our beautiful creed. Let the shape of the rose, with its petals growing from a common source, remind you of the friendship that will bloom from each of us. May the stem remind you of the enthusiastic support you give this organization, the soil from which our organization takes root, grows and prospers. Let the thorns be a reminder of the needs of our community, which we must meet through the use of your talents, ideas, labors and contributions. Red symbolizes our commitment of heart and assistance of the unfortunate. Let green be reminiscent of the life and hope that we give as individuals and as an organization through our generous service to our community and our fellow Women of Today members. Please remember that you must always care, through dedication and action, for this delicate flower of service that could not live and beautify the earth if it were not for you, as a member of the (YOUR CHAPTER) Women of Today.
- (NAME MEMBERS JOINING), your decision to join the (YOUR CHAPTER) Women of Today is something to celebrate! Welcome to the (YOUR CHAPTER) Women of Today.
- As a Women of Today member, you will have a new opportunity to become involved in our community and to share the belief that volunteers working together can make this world a better place. Your fellow members will encourage you to grow as an individual, gain new and lasting friendships and discover the leadership abilities within you.
- Raise your right hand and repeat after me: “I (MEMBER’S NAME) will uphold the ideals of the (YOUR CHAPTER) Women of Today, and will, to the best of my ability, serve my community, strengthen my individual talents, extend a hand of fellowship to others and become a valuable member of this organization.

March Challenge

I will be posting St. Patrick’s Day trivia questions daily on the Membership Facebook page. Those members who respond with the correct answer will be placed in drawing for a “lucky” gift. Any member(s) that answer all the questions correctly will be placed in drawing for some “Leprechaun gold”.



April Challenge

Chapters that complete and submit a form by May 1 for either or both:

*Fellowship Builder or
All American Chapter*

In addition to the Certificate will receive an additional gift to acknowledge your accomplishment.