



Metro Women's Club

Just Between Friends

NEWSLETTER

metrowomensclub.org

January 2026

Extend the Hand of
Friendship

PRESIDENTS

Rosemary Bliss
LouAnn Norton

FIRST VICE PRESIDENTS

Patricia Thompson
Julie Dunn
Cella Best

SECOND VICE PRESIDENTS

Mary Ellen Anderson
Peggy Christ

RECORDING SECRETARY

Linda Cisar

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Linda Nelson

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Connie Gibb

ASSISTANT TREASURER

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Mary Beth Manninger

NEWSLETTER CIRCULATION

Julie Dunn

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Lorraine Mines

WEBSITE EDITOR

Lorraine Mines

DIRECTORY

Denise Shroyer

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Season's Greetings to everyone! Hope this message finds you all in the warmth and wonder of this beautiful time of year!

We started the month of December with a very fun Gift Exchange, followed by a wonderful luncheon, where we were serenaded by a Men's Group who beautifully harmonized many of our favorite Christmas songs. The Salvation Army Hat was passed around at the luncheon as well and **\$1,041.95** was collected. You ladies are very generous! We all kept busy celebrating the Season with a host of Club Activities.

Hope your Christmas and New Year's are filled with love and Holiday cheer. As we start a new calendar year, do keep your January Newsletter handy for all the event's. Both LouAnn & I send our very best wishes to you all and look forward to 2026 and all upcoming activities!
Fondly, Rosemary

2025—2026 CHARITY: CAROLE'S HOUSE OF HOPE \$8,230 has been raised so far!!

Carol's House of Hope January Toilet Paper Drive!!

Carol's House of Hope is always in need of multiple items, but at this time they can really use toilet paper! They house 16 women and numerous children, so you can imagine how much toilet paper is used! To answer that need, the Charity Committee (Geri Backora and Shirley Fey) is conducting a Toilet Paper Drive.

Geri and Shirley will collect toilet paper donations at the January luncheon and deliver them on behalf of the Metro Women's Club. Toilet paper can also be delivered personally to Carol's House of Hope, 7815 Harney Street. They are open 24/7. Bring your ID and identify yourself as being with Metro Women's Club.

Let's bring in the new year with a toilet paper frenzy!!!

DINE AND DONATE

Merry Christmas, ladies! What a wonderful season we are celebrating with family and Metro Women's Club friends! As this year is winding down, we look ahead to ways we can continue to support our friends at Carole's House of Hope. Our next Dine and Donate event will be a delicious meal at **Texas Roadhouse, 156th and Dodge, on Thursday, January 22nd**. Don't forget to add this to your new 2026 calendar! You can bring the attached flier with you, but just be sure to tell your server that you are with MWC. Happy holidays to you all!

SPRING SOCIAL AND GAME DAY

Join us for the annual **Spring Social and Game Day Luncheon**. Our theme is **"Come Fly with Us."** It is a wonderful opportunity to socialize, play games, and support our charity, **Carole's House of Hope**.

Location: **Arbor Hall - March 10th - Time: 10:30 am - 2:30pm - Lunch 11:30 (new time)**

Reservations: Must be paid in advance by February 28th. Reserve your table or individual spot soon! Forms are available in this newsletter (as an attachment in your email) and at luncheons.

Cost of Admission: \$25. Includes a Taco Bar (beef and chicken) lunch, coffee, tea, and dessert.

Raffle Tickets: 1 for \$10, or 3 for \$25. All proceeds will go to **Carole's House of Hope**.

Raffle Donations: We are seeking donations for raffle items! If you have a **NEW**, decorative item, gift basket, gift certificates, or contributions for our Money Tree, please consider donating. Donations will be accepted at all MWC functions until March 2nd. Make sure to put your name on your donation. If you need assistance, feel free to call a chairperson for pick-up.

Business Donations: If you know of a business that might be willing to donate an item or gift certificate, a request/solicitation form is included in this newsletter (an email attachment) and will also be available at luncheons.

Thank you for your generous support through donations and business contributions—your kindness helps us grow together in friendship and community!

We are in need of wire hangars—if you have some to donate, please reach out to Jean Cully.

-Chairperson Jean Cully, Co-chairs: Mary Ellen Anderson, Geri Backora, Rosemary Bliss, Karlene Currier, Barb Fazzini, Connie Gibb, Doris Helfrich, Judy Mumm, Judy Petersen, Kay Porter, Kay Prater, and Tricia Weathers.

For more information
regarding
Metro Women's Club
please call:
Marcelene Lewis
New Membership/
Renewals Director

MEMBERSHIP

Please help us keep our membership information up to date! If you have moved, changed your email address or phone number, you can let us know by completing "Change of Address" section on the Metro Women's Club website. The following link will take you directly to the form. www.metrowomensclub.org/change-of-address If you have any questions, please contact Marcelene Lewis. Thank you!

CARDS

If any of our members need a card of Cheer, Get Well, Congratulations or Sympathy sent, please contact Linda Nelson. She will send a card out to them. Staying connected is extremely important to us.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LUNCHEON 2nd Tuesday January 13th 11:30 am SOCIAL 12:00pm LUNCH

At: **Scott Conference Center 6450 Pine Street, Omaha**

Please do not call the Conference Center to make reservation, or to cancel reservation – call: Patricia Thompson, Julie Dunn or Cella Best

For members requiring assistance with mobility aids (canes, walkers etc) Patricia Thompson or Cella Best will valet your car.

MENU: Chef's Choice Buffet (Determined the week before)

- Two Entrees (chicken and typically beef entree)
- Two Salads (green salad and pasta salad)
- One Starch (potatoes or rice)
- One vegetable
- Desserts
- Iced Tea, water and Coffee

Cost: \$25.00 per person which includes lunch, taxes and service fee

Cash or Check only, **WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS.**

Please have your form of payment ready prior to heading to the cashiers, this makes for a faster check in and gives you more time to socialize before lunch is served.

Members: If you do not receive a call by January 5th and wish to attend, please call Patricia, Julie, or Cella. Final guest count is needed by the event center by the afternoon of January 6th. If you are bringing a guest, please give your caller, your guest's name. Must RSVP if you don't want to be turned away at the door.

Cancellations: Any cancellations must be made by January 6th, or you will be expected to pay for your luncheon. NO EXCEPTIONS

Callers: Please have your attendees choices to Cella, Julie or Patricia by noon on January 6th.

Luncheon co-chairs: Julie Dunn, Cella Best, and Patricia Thompson

Program: Our speaker is Troy Stolp from the Durham Museum. He conducts the Downtown historical walking tours. His topic will be the history of Downtown Omaha and how Omaha got started

Program co-chairs: Mary Ellen Anderson & Peggy Christ

BOARD MEETING 3rd Tuesday January 20th 10:00 am

At: **Millard Branch Omaha Public Library, 13214 Westwood Lane, Omaha**

BIRTHDAY BASH— 3rd Tuesday, January 20th 11:30 am

At: **Tanner's Bar and Grill 1202 S 119th St, Omaha**

ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME EACH MONTH NO MATTER WHEN YOUR BIRTHDAY IS!

Sign up at the Social Noon Luncheon, or call/text Judy Mumm or Dee Bigge to attend or cancel

GAD-A-BOUNTS — Last Tuesday, January 27th 11:15 am.

Let's start 2026 with some fun on Tuesday, January 27th! Ten-pin bowling with balls the size of a grapefruit and weighing only 2.5 lbs. No shoe rental. Lanes sit a foot above ground so less bending!!! Gutter guards available. Wonderbowl, 10730 Pacific Street Suite 150. Look for the door that says Blue Sky. Doors open at 11 am - let's try to be ready by 11:15 am. Lunch available on site. Bowling \$10 pp. No car-pooling. Contact Dorris Heaston.

LET'S GO PLACES

Chairperson: Barb Bures

Canadian Rockies August 2026 - I am still waiting for the pricing of this 9 day trip to the north. Many of you have expressed strong interest and want to "get the ball rolling." Me too!!! As soon as I get confirmed pricing from Caravan Tours, I will send emails to ALL members with details. If you want general information, without 2026 pricing, go to <https://www.caravan.com/tour/canada-rockies> Please keep in mind that this is 2025 info on prices, itineraries, and hotels. Any or all of these could be different for 2026.

LET'S GO PLACES (DAY TRIPS)

No day trips planned yet

Travel Club Chairperson: Cindy Carlson

HOLIDAY GIFT EXCHANGE

Our 2025 Gift Exchange was a wonderful success and a beautiful start to the holiday season. The colors of the season were everywhere in delightful finery and decorations. The weather was a bit of a challenge but things cleared for the big day. We did still have around 85 people in attendance.

We were able to get the festivities started after a Welcome from our President Rosemary Bliss and a helpful run down of our Game Rules by Juanita Hammen, thank you ladies.

You lived up to your past reputation in culinary skills and delights. From Shrimp dip, "Grinch" olives & cheese, (so cute) cinnamon rolls and peppermint bundt cake just everything you can imagine from sweet to tart. The ladies in our club know how to put on a great buffet.

Great taste was on display when it came to amazing gifts for exchange. Everything was First Class. Pillows were a big item and anything with reindeers or cardinals were crowd pleasers. The game went fairly fast and everyone did great with the new rules. I hope you got a prize you love.

Thank you to those that helped at the door to get everyone in the door with their treasures. Also you all were troopers in helping with cleaning up the tables and pitching the tablecloths and plates it went so fast. I truly was impressed with those that helped collect our committees decorations that were brought from home to decorate the hall. Your caring was so kind.

Please join me in thanking the committee that assists in putting this all together. Co-Chairman: Deborah Jones, Centerpieces: Bert & Dean Harrifeld, Juanita Hammen, Louann Norton, Chris Sagenbrecht, Roselyn Stick

Additional thanks to husband's Scott Jones, Dean Harrifeld, Richard Norton, Lenn Sagenbrecht and John Raleigh.

An extra note of thanks goes to: Mary & Margi who helped outside by the door to help get people in the right door with packages.

TO: Sarah in the kitchen for the 3rd year in a row. So many more that were noticed but not recorded. THANK YOU so much you made this all work.

Shirley Raleigh Chairman in name only. It's all about the team.

NEW ACTIVITY GROUP

Our new lunch group is set to go! Their name is **Potluck Pals**, since they all will be sharing the food to be served each month. The hostess will provide the main entrée and drinks. The rest will take salads, veggie dish, bread, etc. The group liked this idea since it shares the workload.

They will have their lunches on the 3rd Thursday of each month. There is room for 3 more ladies. Please call or text Chris Sagenbrecht if you are interested.

THE PERSONALS

THINKING ABOUT YOU

Linda Johnson	Sister Passing
Sharon Hartage	Hand Surgery
Lois Lentz	Hip Surgery
Jerry Anne Keown	Husband Passing
Sally Itschener	Sister Passing

THANK YOU

Thanks for all the contacts and good wishes related to my hip replacement surgery. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated.—Dorris Heaston

MEMBERS GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Karen Lidstrand December 5th

DIRECTORY UPDATES

MEMBERS	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
Dee Bigge		m: Updated	
Jan Johnson	Updated		
Vicki Riley			Updated
Margi Vice			Updated

MEMBERSHIP WAIT LIST FOR 2026

Hello Ladies, We are ending 2025 and moving on to 2026. We have added 2 new ladies to our waiting list since last months Newsletter. They are listed below. Just a reminder, we are a closed membership group. We can only add members up to 200. The number of new members we add is totally dependent on how many members do not renew their membership in May. However, if you have a friend that would like to Join Metro Women's please send me an email with your friends name and contact information, including a phone number. We will only be admitting new members again after May 31st 2026 but you certainly can get their name on the list. Note: Remember, we can only add new members to fill our membership rolls back to 200 members. If you have any questions please email me Marcelene Lewis

Wait List	Date Added	Sponsored By	Wait List	Date Added	Sponsored By
Shawn McCarville	05/13/2025	Project Pink'd	Becky Stephanie	10/09/2025	Website
Jeanette Bonaventura	06/08/2025	Deann Zens	Sandy Hite	10/09/2025	Cindy Popp
Denise Tharp	06/16/2025	Sandy Major	Connie Davis	10/14/2025	Website
Chris Gilmore	06/16/2025	Sandy Major	Cheril Comiser	10/17/2025	Sue Chavalier
Colleen Haack	06/20/2025	Jaunita Hammen	Pam Epstein	10/24/2025	Barb Bures
Dianne Armandus	07/15/2025	Sharon Price	Kathy Yakas	10/29/2025	Janet Morhing
Cheryl Henkenius	07/18/2025	Linda Flora	Deb Kinzer	10/30/2025	Lou Ann Norton
Jill Reisch	07/18/2025	Linda Flora	Sue Philbin	11/11/2025	Nanci Neal
Jane Hagebush	08/06/2025	Darlene Palmer	Kathy Powers	11/11/2025	Nanci Neal
Ellen Lake	08/15/2025	Past Member	Mary Sporcic	11/18/2025	Lou Ann Norton
Joan Miller	08/30/2025	Darlene Palmer	Shayne Fili	12/01/2025	Denise Shroyer
Gale Spatz	08/30/2025	Website			

BIRTHDAY GALS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY LADIES!

Member	Date	Member	Date	Member	Date	Member	Date
Marilyn Conner	01/02	Diane Stein	01/07	Carolyn Miller	01/22	Patricia Thompson	01/26
Susan Maher	01/03	Helene Lohman	01/13	Lois Lentz	01/23	Mary Morss	01/28
Barb Zabel	01/03	Carolyn Sliva	01/15	Carol Padon	01/23	Roselyn Stick	01/29
Kay Prater	01/07	Sarah Chvala	01/18	Antonette Lovejoy	01/25		
Sue Sammin	01/07	Marcelene Lewis	01/18	Mary Flodine	01/26		

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

<p>EVENING BUNCO 2nd Wednesday, 6:30pm Hostess: Not playing In January</p> <p>December Results: High Score: Jaunita Hammen Most Buncos: Carolyn Will Low Score: Diane Dobrinska Door Prize: Linda Davis, Monica Clark, LouAnn Norton, Doris Helfrich, Denise Shroyer</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Diane Dobrinska</p>	<p>LUNCH TIME BUNCO 2nd Friday, January 9th 11:00 am Hostess: Linda Davis</p> <p>December Results: Most Wins: Cheryl Rueb Most Buncos: Cheryl Rueb Most Losses: Sandy Erickson Door Prize: Deborah Jones</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Linda Davis</p>	<p>MORNING BUNCO 3rd Wednesday, January 21st 9:30 am Hostess: Mary Ellen Anderson</p> <p>December Results: To be published in February Newsletter</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Most Wins: Most Buncos: Low Score: Door Prize:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Diane Dobrinska</p>
<p>ROUND ROBIN MARATHON BRIDGE 1st Tuesday, 11:30 am</p> <p>NOT playing in JANUARY</p> <p>Oakview Red Lobster 2707 S 140th St, Omaha</p> <p>If you would like to play or learn more, please call Celeste Giery</p>	<p>AMERICAN MAHJONGG 2nd Thursday 1:00 pm—4:00 pm January 8th & January 22nd Converge Church 14515 Harvey Oaks Ave, Omaha</p> <p>Contact Sandy for lessons. Observers are welcome!!</p> <p><i>We are looking for new players! Come and join the fun, we'd love to have you!</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sandy Simpson</p>	<p>BRIDGE 2nd Wednesday, January 14th 11:00 am Zio's Pizzeria 12997 West Center Road, Omaha</p> <p>December Results First Place: Rosemary Bliss Second Place: Carole Thompson Third Place: Dianne Young Fourth Place: Sandi Hollenbeck</p> <p><i>This is NOT a closed group. All levels of players are accepted in this friendly group of ladies. Please, if you are a bridge player and want to play, call, text, or email: Anna Nelson .</i></p>
<p>DINING INN— GOURMET DINING CLUB - NOON DELIGHTS—1st Monday January 5th 12:00 pm</p> <p>Hostess: Dining out Location to be announced later</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pat Goodyear</p>	<p>DINING INN— GOURMET DINING CLUB - DINING DIVAS—3rd Monday January 19th 12:00 pm</p> <p>Hostess: Juanita Hammen</p>	<p>DINING INN— GOURMET DINING CLUB - LUNCH BUNCH—3rd Wednesday January 21st 12:30 pm</p> <p>Hostess: Denise Shroyer</p>
<p>BOOK CLUB 3rd Friday, January 16th 9:30 am Abrams Branch Omaha Public Library 5111 N. 90th Street, Omaha</p> <p>Book: WEST WITH GIRAFFES Author: Lynda Rutledge</p> <p>Voting on a new book list</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Juanita Hammen</p>	<p>POTLUCK PALS 3rd Thursday, 12:00 pm</p> <p>First lunch will be in February</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chris Sagenbrecht</p>	<p>SWEET PEA GARDEN CLUB</p> <p>It is time to take a break from the Sweet Pea's as we head into a busy fall and winter season. The garden club will pause for a break starting in October and will be back next year in March. Thank you to all who attended any of the events of the Sweet Peas. It has been fun!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Patricia Thompson</p>
<p>IMAGINE STORYTELLERS 4th Wednesday, January 28th Hostess: Jean Cully</p> <p>Imagine's Storytellers will meet on December 17 to read Christmas stories of past, present, or future. In addition, Yolie and David Martin will attend to talk about Fine Lines a book that publishes new authors of short stories and poems. Jean is excited two more poems will be published in the next addition, "Penthouse View," and "The Drink." Next meeting January 28, 2025.</p>	<p>IMAGINE WRITERS 1st Wednesday, December 3rd 1:00 PM Hostess: Jean Cully</p> <p>Imagine's Writers met on December 3, to enjoy the power of the spoken word. Dianne read her fantastic story of her aunt's tradition that started with a perfume box. The "Opium" box began as a gift for her nephew filled with socks and through the years the box has reappeared with many different gifts inside. Diane now holds the honor of keeping the box alive with mystery for the family. Jean read a new poem "Christmas Times." Writers will meet on January 28th as a joint meeting with the Storytellers.</p> <p>If interested in joining a writing group contact Jean Cully</p>	<p>SOCIAL HOUR 1st Thursday,</p> <p>No Activity for January</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Doris Helfrich</p> <hr/> <p>CINEMA CHICKS 4th Friday January 23rd</p> <p>Look for an email the last Tuesday of the month with the details: movie, location, & time.</p> <p><i>Suggestions for movies are welcome!</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Diane Stein and Angela Stoll</p>

How does a Gingerbread Man make his bed??? With Cookie Sheets!!



(402) 504-4449
520 N. 155th Plaza | Omaha

FUNDRAISING

DINE-IN OR TO-GO

»» *Support* ««

Metro Women's Club
January 22, 2026
3 pm– 10 pm



10%
DONATION NIGHT

Support this organization by
presenting this flyer to your server
and Texas Roadhouse will donate
10% of your total food purchases!
Also good on To-go and Gift Card
purchases!!



MWC

SPRINGSOCIAL&GAME DAY
A day of **Socializing, Raffles and Games!**



Come Fly with Us

Love without friendship is like a kite, aloft only when the winds are favorable. Friendship is what gives love its wings.

Sherry Thomas

Tuesday, March 10, 2026, Arbor Hall, 14040 Arbor Street, Omaha NE

10:30 AM Welcome with Cash Bar – **11:30 Lunch** (new time) – 12:00 Cards/Games

Admission: \$25 for Lunch: Taco bar(chicken/beef) w/ dessert, coffee, tea – tax/tip included.

Raffle Tickets will be available on Game Day - Cost \$10 each or 3 for \$25 - cash/check only.

Proceeds go to **Carole's House of Hope**. **Carole's House of Hope (CHH)** began in 2011, a transitional living program where women and their children could thrive. Their goal was to begin to meet the needs of homeless women and children, particularly the unique needs of young women who found themselves homeless after emancipating from foster care. In 2014, they opened the doors of

CHH and began this new chapter of serving young adults and children.

All reservations are to be paid in advance. Include money for you and your attendees with this form. We will seat you together. Remember to invite friends!

Any individual may sign up on her own, just sign up and send the money prior to the deadline.

We will seat you with other individuals to join in the fun.

The deadline for reservations is February 28, 2026.

Individual Attendee:	Game Likes:
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Name	Member Y/N

Table of 8

Name	Member Y/N	Name	Member Y/N

>>>>>>Make checks payable to MWC or Metro Women's Club<<<<<<<
Deliver or Mail to Jean Cully:

M W C

Metro Women's Club

Serving the Metro Community

Re: 2025/2026 Fundraiser request for **Carole's House of Hope**:

To: _____. The Metro Women's Club is organized for social and charitable causes, including the making of contributions to charitable organizations and/or participation in promotional support of community, civic and service projects. We began over 50 years ago and are currently a club of 200 members.

Every year, Metro Women's Club sponsors fundraising events in support of a local charity. This year, we have selected **Carole's House of Hope (CHH)**. CHH began in 2011, a transitional living program where women and their children could thrive. Their goal was to begin to meet the needs of homeless women and children, particularly the unique needs of young women who found themselves homeless after emancipating from foster care. In 2014, they opened the doors of **CHH** and began this new chapter of serving young adults and children.

On Tuesday, March 10, 2026, Metro Women's Club will conduct our Annual Spring Social and Game Day. Raffle tickets sold at this event will raise money for **Carole's House of Hope**. All funds raised will be contributed to **Carole's House of Hope**. We are asking for your support in the form of gift certificate(s), merchandise, or monetary donation.

We realize you receive many requests for assistance and deeply appreciate any contribution you may make to Metro Women's Club for our fundraiser. We are accepting donations up until March 5, 2026. Thank you in advance for your donation to help make Spring Social and Game Day a successful fundraiser for **Carole's House of Hope**.

Sincerely,

Jean Cully

Jean Cully, Chairman

Co-chairs: Mary Ellen Anderson, Geri Backora, Rosemary Bliss, Karlene Currier, Barb Fazzini, Connie Gibb, Doris Helfrich, Judy Mumm, Judy Petersen, Kay Porter, Kay Prater, and Tricia Weathers.

Deliver or Mail to: Jean Cully,

Member soliciting above business: _____

January 2026							February 2026						
January 2026							February 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31							

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 28	29	30	31	Jan 1, 26	2 Walking With the Animals	3
4	5 Noon Delights	6	7 Imagine Writers	8 American MahJong	9 Lunch Time Bunco Walking With the Animals	10
11	12	13 Monthly Luncheon	14 Bridge	15	16 Book Club Garden Club Walking With the Animals	17
18	19 Dining Divas	20 Birthday Bash Board Meeting	21 Lunch Bunch Morning Bunco	22 American MahJong	23 Cinema Chicks Walking With the Animals	24
25	26	27 Gad-a-bouts	28 Imagine Storytellers	29	30 Walking With the Animals	31

Metro Women’s Club

Here's your
Metro Women's Club
Newsletter