

TODAY'S LEADER



Greeting to the Women of Today Members,



Tracey Pierson
United States
Women of Today
2023-2024 President

Wow where did the first trimester go? The United States Women of Today Staff has been busy getting information out there to your states and chapters. They have held regular zoom meetings to get to know the members and the committee's members, there are many challenges out there please look through them and have some fun. Each officer has information on their pages. This is where you would also find the All-Chapter Mailing and Today's Leaders.

We had a staff retreat in July at Scharnberg Park, Spencer Iowa. I could not have planned for a better weekend; we ate and held our meetings outside. We took a break and went to Lake Okoboji to take a 90-minute ride on the Queen II. Many laughs were had.

Women of Today Week is approaching. It is September 24th-30th, 2023. What is your chapter planning for Women of Today Week? This is a week to truly be proud of our United States Women of Today organization celebrate it and make sure to fill out the "Shout out With Pride" form. Our PR Director, Shellie, can assist with filling out the forms if you need assistance.

Convention is Omaha, NE Oct 6th & 7th, 2023 "Midway Fun at the County Fair". Plan to come and have some fun with Singo, Style Show, Zoom, Membership and Programming training. Friday and Saturday we will be having donations for a beverage. Speaking of convention, the registration form is online at our website, www.uswomenoftoday.org under the convention registration form(s) link, I will include it in the Today's Leader publication along with a tentative schedule for mid-year.

Remember to send nominations for the Angel Award. This is an award given to a non-Women of Today member. It can be to any business that has helped you in any way. The award is on the website. Award nominations need to be to me by September 20th.

Be sure and make yourself familiar with the website. If there is something that you can't find on the website, please let me know and I will work with Kevin Sanders, our Webmaster, to get it there.

I began my state visits in August with my first being Illinois. I can't wait to meet you as I visit your states. I look forward to connecting with you on my travels.

In Friendship,
Tracey Pierson
President



In this issue:
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LAURA MORRIS - CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
 CONTACT: cob@uswomenoftoday.org
 “Keep Inspiring”



I hope I can inspire a state or a chapter to step up and host National Midyear in October 2024! While I am at it, I need to inspire someone to host National Annual in June of 2025. Please reach out to me if you are interested. There is information, including the contracts, available on the website. We are in the process of reviewing the contracts and policies for both meetings, but those changes will not be complete until next year. So, for now, please use the ones on the website. We would normally approve Midyear next year at Midyear this year, therefore I would need your bid by the end of September.

Hosting is fun and rewarding. It is a great way to bring your state or chapter together to work and a way to show the rest of the country what you can do! My state hosted last year and we really enjoyed it.

The other bid I need is for Dues Billing. The Dues billing is lined out in Policy 13, Section 1: An acceptable bid shall include the following information: dues billing proposal introductory letter, a copy of all forms to be used in the proposed dues billing system, completed Supplemental/Exception Services form, and completed Service Provider Proposal form describing the proposed dues billing system. I would also need your proposal bid for Dues Billing by the end of September.

I have committees getting started with working on reviewing the Book of Forms, with reviewing the Annual and Midyear Contracts and policies, as well as reviewing manuals. If anyone is interested in working on any of these, please drop me an email. I would love to have more help and input.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions. cob@uswomenoftoday.org

In Friendship,
 Laura Morris, COB



***Do you like trivia?** Throughout this edition of the Today's Leader, you will find trivia questions pertaining to the months of September and October. The answers will be at the end of this issue.*

Trivia was obtained from www.triviaquestionquiz.com



MARY HANSEN – PARLIAMENTARIAN
CONTACT: parli@uswomenoftoday.org

Hello fellow Women of Today Members and fellow Parli's,

I hope that you are having a wonderful year so far and have gotten off to a good start. Thank you to everyone who sent me a Fast Start.

One of my unofficial goals this year is to receive a copy of your By-Laws and Policies (or the equivalent). I have received one so far.

So, for my 2nd Trimester challenge – I would challenge each chapter, district and state to send me a copy. I really learn a lot about this organization when I see how everyone does some things differently.

I am also looking for some additional at-large members for the By-Law Committee. Obligations include meetings at the conventions and a review to be held in early February, so easy peasy. Please let me know if you would like to be added to this committee.

Mary Hansen – USWT Parliamentarian

Frequently Asked Questions

What happens if no one seconds a motion?

If no one seconds a motion, it can be reintroduced another time. If a motion requires a second but didn't receive one and was still discussed or voted on, it's too late to object or rescind the vote based on that.

Does the chairperson have the authority to move a motion?

Yes. Don't forget that the chairperson is a member of the assembly and has a right to make a motion, second a motion, debate a motion or vote on a motion. However, ideally, the chairperson is an impartial figure. So, while they can do those things, they shouldn't. In cases of a split vote, the chairperson may exercise a casting vote to decide on a motion (if the organization's bylaws allow for this).

How do you write motions in meeting minutes?

Meeting minutes shouldn't include detailed notes on who said what in each of the debates. Instead, include the top-line details:

- The specific motion. Who was the motion moved by and seconded by. Did the motion carry or fail. For ballot votes, the number of votes for and against
- Example one (1)

Motion: I move to {enter full motion as read here} ({first and last name of who moved motion}/{first and last name of who second motion}/{Passed (P)/Failed (F)/ or other result of Vote}.)

- Example two (2)

Motion: I move to make a motion to purchase 50 pens for the USWT Store at a cost of \$0.82 each and a sale price of \$1.50. (Jane Doe/Doe Jane/P)

Why do we need a parliamentarian?

It is important that all Women of Today organizations, on all levels have a parliamentarian. A parliamentarian has a duty to impartially advise on the rules, so the parliamentarian who is also a member, typically, forgoes the right to make motions, debate, and vote (except on a ballot vote). When you have an impartial member, all members can be reassured their opinions were heard and the vote is fair.

- When there are five (5) to nine (9) members, consider appointing the president the parliamentarian duties.
- When there are 10 to 50 members, consider appointing the past president with the parliamentary duties.
- When there are 51 or more members, consider creating a position for the parliamentarian.



Jane Hanson – USWT TREASURER

CONTACT: treasurer@uswomenoftoday.org

Dear Treasurers

Thank you to those of you who have completed your fast start. It's not too late...email me and introduce yourself, show that you are promoting one of my fundraisers.

FILL UP MY GREEN POT WITH "GOLD": \$315 Raised so far!

- ❖ As you know, dues don't cover the entire budget and so additional fund raising is necessary. A major focus of mine will be to encourage ways and means donations from individual members, chapters, districts/regions and states. I am encouraging donations of at least \$10 each trimester or a one-time donation of at least \$25.
- ❖ For each donation, you will be put into a drawing a \$30 Bath and Body gift card at mid-year.
- ❖ This will be an entire year promotion. My goal is to raise at least \$1,000.



WE ARE DOING A SEVERAL VERY FUN FUNDRAISERS AT MIDYEAR CONVENTION:

- **SINGO – musical bingo** will be held on Friday night. This can also be used as a membership event and we will have handouts to take back to your chapters and state. We held this in my local chapter and we had a blast! You don't want to miss this very fun event.
- During this event Friday night, I will be sharing **adult beverages** with my friends for a ways and means donation (I don't have a license to sell alcohol).
- We have several excellent 31 and other items for a **raffle on Saturday**.
- We will be sharing **wine** with our friends before the banquet on Saturday night for a ways and means donation.
- There are many **new items in the National Store**; Cell phone holder for your desk, USWT Candles, canvas coin and small pouches, new pens, small notebooks, small clipboards and President Tracey's glasses and ornaments!



Join us for Singo – Musical Bingo at Midyear Convention

Finance Fundraiser ~ Friday Night, October 7th at 7:30pm

Cost: \$4 per Singo Card or 3 cards for \$10

Adult Beverages will be available for a ways and means donation.

Take this back to your chapter/state and use as a membership event or fundraiser! Packets will be available with guides.

REMINDER: 990N is due by October 15th! Please send proof by email or picture by text that you have completed your 990 and you will be recognized at midyear convention.

The 990-N is due for most chapters/states by October 15th!

The IRS requires all non-profits with less than \$50,000 in revenue to file a 990-N every year. This is also known as the ePostcard. It lets the IRS know that you are still an active organization. We are supposed to file every year, but if you have not filed for more than 3 years, the IRS lists you as "auto revoked" which means you have lost your tax-exempt status. If your chapter and/or state has reached this revocation status, you will need to go thru an involved process and pay a fee to get reactivated. If you continue to operate without your tax-exempt status, then the IRS could make you pay taxes on your revenue and fine you for back taxes not paid. So please take care of this. **Most are due October 15th!**

I am including detailed instructions on how to set up an online account on the IRS site and to complete the 990-N. Here is the link to file: <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/annual-electronic-filing-requirement-for-small-exempt-organizations-form-990-n-e-postcard> . Here are a few tips below:

- Whoever is responsible for filing the 990-N can set up their own personal login, you do not need to pass this on to another person and I would not suggest that since it includes personal information. Multiple people can have a login, they just must tie into the organization's EIN (Federal ID number).
- Your EIN number looks like XX-XXXXXXX and will be located on your IRS exempt notification letter which should be in your historical records, or it will be on previous 990-Ns which should be saved in historical records. If you still can't find it, you can check with your bank. You would have been required to put the EIN on the paperwork for the organization's checking account.
- You can look at your organizations status by doing a search at <https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/>
- If your status says "Auto-revocation list" you will probably get an error when you try to complete your 990-N which means you will have to follow the instructions for the Form 1024A at <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i1024a.pdf> and the form is located at <https://www.pay.gov/public/form/start/850735545> , but again you will only need this if you are in Revocation status.
- You will also need to check with your state to see what is required for tax-exempt organizations. Most have some sort of annual or possibly bi-annual registration requirements, and some have a small fee with it. Usually these can be filed online.

Mid-Year Budget Review

As treasurer, I think one of the most important functions in your position is to monitor and forecast for your chapter. Don't get scared...it's not difficult. You probably do it every month with your household budget.

As the treasurer you should always be looking ahead several months and asking yourself:

- How much money do we have in our checking account?
- Is any of that designated for a specific purpose and not available for general expense?
- What expenses do we have coming up that will need to be paid and do we have enough money to pay them?
- Is the balance in your checking getting low? If so, bring this up to your chapter/state in plenty of time to look at scheduling a fund raiser to bring money back into your account.
- Always be looking several months ahead so that your chapter is prepared with the money needed to pay the bills.

Support President Tracey



T-Shirts are available in Men's and Women's Sizes in Green or Grey!

Men's Long Sleeve Shirt and Hoodie Available in Green or Grey!

Current Ordering Window will close on Sept. 24th for delivery at Midyear Convention. Ordering will re-open again in second Trimester for 1 month and we will keep you updated.

Order shirts online and have them shipped to you (shipping charge will apply) or mark them as pick up and President Tracey will pick up and bring to Mid-Year convention in Omaha!

Click on this hyperlink or copy into your address window:

<https://uswot24.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

New link for ordering shirts

Costs:
\$22 (all sizes) - T-Shirts
\$25 (all sizes) - Long-Sleeved Shirts
\$30 (all sizes) - Hoodies

This is also a National Fund Raiser as a portion of the profits will benefit Ways and Means.

If you have any questions or issues, please contact Jane at treasurer@uswomenoftoday.org or President Tracey at president@uswomenoftoday.org



CATHY SNYDER - MEMBERSHIP VP

CONTACT: mvp@uswomenoftoday.org

I would like to start out by saying "Thank You" for supporting Selfie Saturday. We will continue with that in the 2nd trimester. Thanks for completing your fast start. I was so happy to see so many friendship certificates for my 1st trimester. My challenge for 2nd trimester is to have your renewals and new members into me by December 20th, if you have them to me by December 20 your state will be entered into a drawing for a gift card. Make sure you're going to attend the Mid-year Convention in October to come and check out the Singo, musical Bingo. A quick reminder, my team and I are here for you if you need any kind of training or just questions on how to fill out a form, please reach out, we don't know if you need help, if you don't reach out.

In Friendship,
Cathy Snyder
Membership Vice President
2023-2024

JOANN MILLER - EXTENSIONS DIRECTOR

CONTACT: extensions@uswomenoftoday.org



In order for our organization to grow, we need help from you. If you know of anyone in a city or town without a Women of Today chapter that is looking to help with service projects or to make their community better, have them contact me. Or you could file an Intent to Extend, and I will do all I can to help out, but it takes all of us to make it happen.

Every time we talk about Women of Today, we spread the word. We may not get a member for our chapter, but the person you talked to might join another chapter or spread the word to their friends. Or we may be able to get them to help start a new chapter. So, keep talking to others about WT and telling them about the wonderful things we do!

JoAnn



1. *In the Harry Potter books, what is the day on which the Hogwarts Express departs for the start of school?*

Spread the Word



SHELLIE MATTHES - PR DIRECTOR

“Spread the Word”

CONTACT: pr@uswomenoftoday.org

Spaces are limited! Be the first to sponsor a letter at convention! The letters U, S, W and T are available to sponsor for \$20 for Mid-Year and for another \$10 (total \$30) you can sponsor the letter for both Mid-Year and Annual convention. Letters can be sponsored by a state, chapter, individual or group of friends. The letters will have name plates to listing sponsor names. Each letter can be sponsored by up to 3 groups. You probably saw the letters in the USWT Treasurer's video. But here is what they look like and will be displayed at both conventions – great photo ops!! Just send me an email with the letter you want to sponsor and the name you want on the name plate, and I will advise where to send the money! You don't want to miss out on this Sponsorship opportunity.



September 24th-30th is time to **CELEBRATE WOMEN OF TODAY WEEK!** Post pictures to your Facebook page and tag me to earn a chance to win a Spectacular gift basket at Mid-Year convention! Better yet, request a Proclamation from your City's Mayor (attached is a sample to submit and if you make the request earlier around the end of July/early August, you will have a better chance of success) tag me in the presentation photo or email me a picture of the proclamation to earn a 2nd entry to win the basket!!

I wanted to bring up an issue regarding using images or music on your Facebook page or website. Below are some basic guidelines along with a site that offers free images for use:

TRADEMARKS

Trademark infringement is defined as the “unauthorized use of a trademark or service mark”. It is not a criminal act, however, can be prosecuted under civil laws. Generally, you will be requested to stop using the trademark and if you made any profits from the use of said trademark you will need to return any profits or pay damages for the use.

COPYRIGHT

Creative Commons is a huge database of photos whose authors waive the right to a fee for granting the license to use.

Creative Commons licenses have different levels of restrictions and some authors request credit by linking back to their site or simply stating their name.

Embedding a link that contains copyrighted material you want to share is the safest way to go. Use this for Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook posts.

Live Streams warning:

Live streaming is considered creating own work. However, if there is background music and it is copyrighted then you are committing copyright infringement. Be aware of background music, video, images that are part of your live streaming event and confirm that you are allowed to use it before posting to Facebook.

If you cannot identify the author for permission, don't use the work.

**SAMPLE FOUNDERS DAY or WOMEN of TODAY WEEK PROCLAMATION
PROCLAMATION WOMEN OF TODAY**

Whereas: The (fill in with states name) Women of Today and the (city of chapter) Women of Today have set aside insert date(s) to recognize the many community activities of dedicated Women of Today across the state; and

Whereas: The United States Women of Today is an organization of over 1,700 members in over 13 states; and

Whereas: The United States Women of Today and the (city) Women of Today are dedicated to actively promoting such public awareness and service programs as: Domestic Violence; as well as (list local projects); and

Whereas: The (insert chapters name) Women of Today and the (city) Women of Today provide personal enrichment and leadership training for members of all ages; and

Whereas: The Women of Today believe that "Through us Great Lessons Can Be Learned, Worthy Deeds Performed, and a Hand of Fellowship Extended to Millions of Women Everywhere".

I DO HEREBY PROCLAIM (Add date), 20__ TO BE (add your state) WOMEN OF TODAY FOUNDERS DAY/WOMEN OF TODAY WEEK IN (your city).

(Signed)_____ (Date)_____ Mayor's Signature

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!

To everyone who sent in their Fast Start, Founder's Day Participation form and the Shout Out with Pride form. My email box was overflowing with all the great news!!

I need to know if you are attending the Mid-Year convention October 6-7, 2023, in Omaha, Nebraska!! Send me an "I am" email or note on Facebook. I will have a surprise on a stick for you at convention!!

We will see how many people read through to the end of the newsletter. The best part of any document is the ending – you never know what "twists and turns" are going to happen!!

LAURA BENTLEY - PROGRAMMING VICE PRESIDENT***"Don't worry about tomorrow"*****CONTACT: pvp@uswomenoftoday.org**

Happy Fall!

- ❖ USWT Programming Facebook page
- ❖ Project library pvpuswomentoday.com
- ❖ Community Connections uswomentoday.org
- ❖ Outstanding Achievement

It is almost fall time and I am not sure how that happened so quickly. We are gearing up for our fabulous Mid-year event with our wonderful Nebraska past presidents as our hosts. I would encourage you to sign up for that if you have not already. I have been working on contacting all the states and am excited to report I am making headway with snail mail and emailing you all a greeting to get to know you and your needs.

Let's focus a little this time on Community Connections. As we all know this is a collaboration of reporting our time and money within our chapters, states and as a nation. To date I have received only a small number of reports. I know from looking at Facebook that there are many of you that have items to report to me. I encourage you reach out to your chapters and push this so we can have an incredible number at Mid-Year.

<https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/d5eidGpBVfad95oDs>

Challenge!!

Submit a project library report for a chance to have your project featured on our website!

Laura



2. What was the name of the first Beatles release on October 5, 1962?

JULIE HUTCHINSON - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS PROGRAM MGR

CONTACT: dva@uswomenoftoday.org

What is Domestic Violence?

“Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as a part of systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, psychological violence, and emotional abuse. The frequency and severity of domestic violence can vary dramatically; however, the one constant component of domestic violence is one partner’s consistent efforts to maintain power and control over the other.

It is not always easy to determine in the early stages of a relationship if one person will become abusive. Domestic violence intensifies over time. Abusers may often seem wonderful and perfect initially, but gradually become more aggressive and controlling as the relationship continues. Abuse may begin with behaviors that may easily be dismissed or downplayed such as name-calling, threats, possessiveness, or distrust. Abusers may apologize profusely for their actions or try to convince the person they are abusing that they do these things out of love or care. However, violence and control always intensifies over time with an abuser, despite the apologies. What may start out as something that was first believed to be harmless (e.g., wanting the victim to spend all their time only with them because they love them so much) escalates into extreme control and abuse (e.g., threatening to kill or hurt the victim or others if they speak to family, friends, etc.). *“ provided by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence.*



Domestic violence can destroy the home and leave lasting scars for the entire family. No one should have to live in fear of violence or being controlled and that is the goal for the USWT as we promote awareness & education and fundraise to support our various domestic violence shelters or programs. In an effort to raise awareness, USWT has selected the following emphasis months – August, October and February where chapters are encouraged to do something for Domestic Violence Awareness (educational or awareness campaigns and fundraising) with special incentives given for participation.

Who doesn’t like to rise to the challenge? I am giving you an opportunity to help raise awareness for Domestic Violence, participate in the first emphasis month and get an incentive for getting involved – just fill out the DVA Transmittal Form and send it my way. Here is my challenge to you:

- ❖ Host, present or participate in an educational opportunity in support of DVA in the months of August or September. This could be as simple as sharing an article on DVA at your local chapter meeting, handing out purple ribbons to event attendees along with flyers (these can be obtained from your local DVA agency) or even working with the local DVA agency learning ways to spread the awareness and on ways to prevent the varying types of abuse.



3. According to US stats, more babies on average are born in which month than any other month of the year?

Our next emphasis month will be October which happens to be Domestic Violence Awareness Month. So, if you haven't already included an activity in your planned year – I have plenty of ideas that I would be happy to share. The USWT will join the nation in bringing awareness to this epidemic of violence effecting our families throughout the month of October. Keep tuned to the USWT Facebook pages for more information. I will be sharing all this information with your state programming contact, so don't hesitate to use them as a resource. We are here for you and I look forward to working with all of you. With your help, we can help stop the violence.

Julie Hutchinson, USWT DVA PM



LOVE SHOULDN'T HURT

Common signs of abusive behavior in a partner include:

Additionally, even one or two of these behaviors in a relationship is a red flag that abuse may be present.

Telling you that you never do anything right.

Showing extreme jealousy of your friends or time spent away from them.

Preventing or discouraging you from spending time with others, particularly friends, family members, or peers.

Insulting, demeaning, or shaming you, especially in front of other people.

Preventing you from making your own decisions, including about working or attending school.

Controlling finances in the household without discussion, such as taking your money or refusing to provide money for necessary expenses.

Pressuring you to have sex or perform sexual acts you're not comfortable with.

Pressuring you to use drugs or alcohol.

Intimidating you through threatening looks or actions.

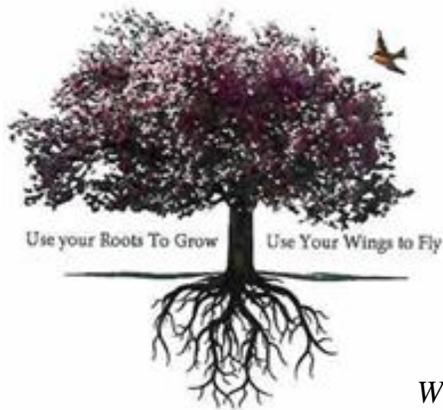
Insulting your parenting or threatening to harm or take away your children or pets.

Intimidating you with weapons like guns, knives, bats, or mace.

Destroying your belongings or your home.



Provided by National Domestic Violence Hotline



**DEB MCDONALD - WELLNESS & PERSONAL
DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM MANAGER**

Wellness and Personal Development

Challenge 1st Trimester

Everyone who submits a WPD certification by September 1

Will be put in a drawing for a gift basket.

So far, I have received around 20. Good job members!

Writing Competition

– The theme is “What Did You Learn About Yourself During the Pandemic?” How it affected your job, family, and life in general. It should be 600 – 800 words. The deadline to register is September 15th. You can e-mail your entry to WPD@uswomenoftoday.org The registration fee is \$5.00. Mail your registration form and fee (made out to USWT and writing competition on memo line)

to: Deb McDonald 2709 NE Lyndon Ct Lee's Summit MO 64086

Every participant will get an incentive!

So far, I have received 2 effective writings.

Help me reach my goal of 5 entries.

If you are attending the October Mid-Year, there will be an Impromptu event.

Same rules as writing competition.



True happiness consists not

In the multitude of friends,

But in the worth and choice.

Samuel Johnson

Deb McDonald Wellness and Personal Development



4. *Why is October the perfect time to go stargazing?*

SUE BEATTIE - SECRETARY
 CONTACT: secretary@uswomenoftoday.org



Can you believe it's September already? That means we are in the 2nd trimester of the Women of Today year. I would love to hear from local and state secretaries and newsletter editors if you haven't yet introduced yourself to me. Secretaries can email me a set of their minutes. Newsletter editors, please add me to your mailing list. I will recognize a local and state secretary as well as a local and state newsletter at mid-year then again at year end.

I have completed the 2023-2024 National Directory. The directory is a valuable resource with information on the national staff, state boards, the USWT budget, committee assignments, USWT Ambassadors, Founder's Charities, past presidents, USWT By laws and Policies, and installation ceremonies. An order form is included in this newsletter.

Keep an eye out for my 2nd trimester SIP with information and helpful tips on taking minutes and creating your newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns regarding secretary or your newsletters, please let me know.

Sue

USWT DIRECTORY ORDER FORM

Order due by 9/20/2023 for delivery at mid-year convention

NAME _____ CHAPTER _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

OPTION	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
Directory-delivered to mid-year		\$13 each	
Directory-email to address above		\$1 each	
Directory-ship to address above		\$18 each	

Please mail the order form with check made payable to USWT to:

Sue Beattie, 30 Brisson Street, Bellingham, MA 02019



UNITED STATES WOMEN OF TODAY

2023 National Mid-Year Convention
October 6-7, 2023

Midway Fun at the County Fair

Comfort Inn ● 10729 J Street ● Omaha Nebraska ● 402-339-8111

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

E-mail _____ Fax _____

_____ Women of Today _____ Guest _____ First Timer

Arrival: Date: _____ Means of Transportation: _____

If by air: Airline _____ Flight # _____ E.T.A. _____

Sunday Departure Time: _____

ROOMS ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!! CONVENTION RATE UNTIL 09/23/23.

Comfort Inn: **\$88.20** Thursday per night plus tax – 1-4 people per room
\$99.90 Friday & Saturday per night plus tax – 1-4 people per room
 Mention that you are with the Women of Today meeting when making reservations.
 Ask for the front desk, don't go to the Comfort Inn corporate site.

<u>Registration</u>	<u>Advance</u>	<u>Late</u>
FULL	_____ \$100.00	_____ \$115.00
Includes all meetings, forums and meals (except Friday noon lunch – that is optional)		
INDIVIDUAL EVENTS		
Friday Noon lunch (in addition to full regi)	_____ \$5.00	_____ \$5.00
Friday Forums / Meetings	_____ \$5.00	_____ 5.00
Friday Night Party	_____ \$25.00	_____ 30.00
Saturday Forums / Meetings	_____ \$10.00	_____ \$10.00
Saturday Luncheon	_____ \$30.00	_____ \$35.00
Saturday Banquet	_____ \$30.00	_____ \$35.00
Total	_____	Total _____
SATURDAY ONLY	_____ \$70.00	_____ \$80.00

ADVANCE REGISTRATION DEADLINE – POSTMARKED BY September 7, 2023

Make check payable to
Fremont Area Women of Today
 Send registration form and check to:
 Maxine Turner
 2446 E 19th
 Fremont NE 68025



Any questions please contact:
 Maxine Turner 402-719-8332
 maxine.turner.3@outlook.com

Terri Sherman 402-525-6008
 Terrisherman99@gmail.com



UNITED STATES WOMEN OF TODAY

2023 National Mid-Year Convention
October 6-7, 2023

Midway Fun at the County Fair

We invite you to attend our County Fair on October 6-7 in Omaha Nebraska. Registration deadline is September 7th.

Our Friday night will be full of midway games and food. We have chosen the Omaha Open Door Mission for our Buckets of Sunshine organization. On Friday night we will be making Halloween bags for the kids that are staying at the Open Door Mission. We will decorate lunch bags and fill them with candy and small toys. We will ask you to bring items to fill the bags. Candy, stickers, tattoo's, rings, small memo notepads, etc.

When you call to make your room reservations ask for the front desk. Do not ask to be connected to the corporate folks. The locals can get you the correct room rate.

If you have any questions, please email me at terrisherman99@gmail.com. This is a new email for me. We look forward to seeing you in Nebraska in October.

See you at the FAIR.

Terri Sherman



5. Shakespeare never mentioned which month in any of his plays or sonnets?

SERVICE PROJECT FOR MID-YEAR

Our service project for our Mid-Year meeting will be decorating Halloween Bags and filling them with goodies for the children at the Lydia House that is part of the Open Door Mission in Omaha, Nebraska. The hosting Past National Presidents from Nebraska will be providing the bags and art supplies, we are asking everyone attending to bring candy or items to put in the bags after they are decorated. We will be hosting a speaker for the noon luncheon and will present the filled decorated bags at that time.

The following is some history on Open Door Mission:

Open Door Mission Provides Services for Men

In 1954, thousands of men swarmed the city of Omaha searching for work on the city's 10 railroads. They congregated in bars and slept in flophouses. Garland Thompson, a student at the Omaha Bible Institute, wanted to reach out to these men with Christ's love and compassion. Fueled by faith, guided by his vision for an evangelical mission, and assisted by Pastor Jerry Dunn and a group of Christian businessmen, Thompson unveiled Open Door Mission in the Ballenger Building at 13th and Douglas Streets on November 1, 1954.

Lydia House Opens for Women and Children

In the 1990s, homeless families began seeking shelter at missions across the United States. In response to the need for family shelter and rehabilitation, we expanded our services to include families, and developed the New Life Recovery Program of Christian Rehabilitation. The program graduated 12 families at the beginning of 2000. Also in 2000, Open Door Mission began seeking partner organizations to provide therapeutic and educational services for Omaha's homeless.

Open Door Mission Opens Art Therapy Program

In 2021, Open Door Mission successfully implemented an Art Therapy program for children and adults experiencing homelessness in a newly renovated art studio within our Omaha campus. Art Therapy, facilitated by a professional art therapist, effectively supports personal and relational treatment goals as well as community concerns.

Open Door Mission Offers Weekly Animal Therapy

In 2022, they started to offer weekly Animal Therapy for children living at Open Door Mission while experiencing homelessness with their families.

If you would like some more information, you may search the following website:

www.opendoormission.org



**UNITED STATES
WOMEN OF TODAY
2024 National Year-End Convention
June 7-8, 2024**

**Come UP UP & AWAY
With Iowa Women of Today**

♣ Baymont Inn & Suites
Des Moines Airport Hotel & Conference Center
6221 Willow Creek Avenue, Des Moines IA 50321

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

E-mail _____ Fax _____

_____ Women of Today _____ Guest _____ First Timer. Home Chapter _____

Arrival: Date: _____ Means of Transportation: _____

If by air: Airline _____ Flight # _____ E.T.A. _____

Sunday Departure Time: afternoon _____

NOTE: There is airport shuttle service to the hotel (from Des Moines airport, @2 mi away)

ROOMS ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!! CONVENTION RATE UNTIL 5/1/2024

\$114+tax per night – 1-4 people per room: **515-285-0654**

Mention that you are with the **Iowa Women of Today** meeting when making reservations.

<u>Registration</u>	<u>Advance</u>	<u>Late</u>
FULL Includes all meetings, forums and meals	_____ \$100	_____ \$115
INDIVIDUAL EVENTS		
Friday Night Party	_____ \$25.00	_____ \$30.00
Saturday Forums / Meetings	_____ \$30.00	_____ \$30.00
Saturday Luncheon	_____ \$20.00	_____ \$25.00
Saturday Banquet	_____ \$25.00	_____ \$30.00
	Total _____	Total _____
SATURDAY ONLY	_____ \$75.00	_____
	\$85.00	



ADVANCE REGISTRATION DEADLINE - POSTMARKED BY May 1, 2024

Make check payable to [Iowa Women of Today 2024](#) Any questions please contact
Send registration form and check to:

Michele Thompson
6908 Wentworth Ave
Richfield MN 55423

Michele Thompson , Chair
New Hampton IA WT
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New Hampton IA WT
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Welcome to our continued “Journey to USWT Year-End 2024”.

Having left ARIZONA on June 11th, we spent July over NEBRASKA and then flew into MISSOURI airspace in August! In September we “visited” some of the beautiful sights of ILLINOIS and in October—after a quick “detour” back to Omaha NE for Mid-Year meeting, we will be UP, UP, & AWAY over Pennsylvania!! So far, we have NINE members from FOUR States who have answered some or all our state trivia questions! However, there is still plenty of time for others to “catch up” – and hopefully win free registration for USWT Year-End 2024. To bring you all up-to-date: questions for ARIZONA (June), NEBRASKA (July) and MISSOURI (August) are:

ARIZONA:

*Official state motto

*State Nickname

*Two-letter/Postal Abbrev for state

**Flying to our next month destination – Nebraska – we will actually fly over **“Four Corners”: the only spot in the US where a person can stand in FOUR states – all at the same time? Along with Arizona: name the other three states that make up this “Four corner” experience.

NEBRASKA:

*Official state motto

*State Nickname

*This skinny stone spire in Scottsbluff NE was a famous landmark for pioneers traveling to the west. NAME THE STONE.

**England has Stonehenge -- famous mystical circle of stones. Alliance NE has ??-henge, a Stonehenge replica made out of old ??????

MISSOURI:

*Official State Motto

*State Nickname

**The most powerful earthquake in US occurred in 1811 and was centered in MO and was felt as far as 1000 mi away. NAME THE CITY.

**Who was the only US President born/raised in Missouri? (EXTRA POINTS: What year and what city?)

EXTRA POINTS THIS MONTH: Aside from Laura Morris, only one other MOWT has served as USWT President: for 3 extra points: her name, year served, and theme.

Feel free to email any or all answers to: kentsmom86@yahoo.com – to be in the running for free registration. In each upcoming Today’s Leader, I will update everyone on our “travel location”, and list the state trivia questions for the two states for those two months!! Current/upcoming states are:

ILLINOIS (sept)

*Official State Motto

*State Nickname

**The first McDonalds was built in which Illinois city?

**This historic highway starts in Chicago.....

EXTRA POINTS THIS MONTH: There have been Six Illinois WT serve as USWT President: for one point each (total of 18 extra points): give me their name-year served—theme

PENNSYLVANIA (oct)

*Official State Motto

*State Nickname

*The “chocolate capital of the US” is in Pennsylvania. Name the city

**The first public library was founded by this “Founding Father” in 1731 (extra point: in what city?)

EXTRA POINTS THIS MONTH: There have been Five PA WT serve as USWT President: for one point each (total of 15 extra points): give me their name-year served—theme

Year-End 2024 BUCKETS OF SUNSHINE RECEIPT



Children & Families of Iowa (CFI) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children and families throughout Iowa. Headquartered in Des Moines with offices in Ankeny, Osceola and Ottumwa, CFI provides services such as domestic violence prevention and intervention, teen programs, family support, early childhood development, mental health and substance abuse. As part of their Domestic Violence Services, CFI sponsors SAFE SHELTER.

For the second time in three years, the US Women of Today Year-End Buckets of Sunshine recipient will be SAFE SHELTER, Iowa’s largest domestic violence shelter and the only one in Polk County, offering a safe place to heal and begin building a life free from violence. Located just about 10 miles from our 2024 Year-End convention site, SAFE SHELTER was also the recipient of our 2021 Buckets of Sunshine donation back in June 2021. They are SUPER EXCITED to be working with us again!

Following is a short “WISH LIST” of items the shelter can use. Please feel free to start collecting items – and bring them to Year-end 2024 next June. In addition, monetary donations are also being accepted. Checks, made out to “US Women of Today” and earmarked “Buckets of Sunshine 2024” in the memo line, can be sent to USWT Public Relations Director Shellie Matthes. She will keep track of all monetary donations, and we will be presenting a hopefully LARGE” check to Children & Family Services at our June 2024 Year-End meeting!!

Wish/Want/Need List for DVS

❖ Gas cards	❖ Battery Operated Candles
❖ Sheets – twin	❖ Yoga Mats
❖ Blankets	❖ Shampoo
❖ Towels	❖ Conditioner
❖ Pillows	❖ Lotion
❖ Ethnic Hair products (for African American Hair)	❖ Diapers (all sizes but big sizes are needed most)
❖ Piggy Banks – to give clients when they get housing	❖ Wipes
❖ Key Chains – to give clients when they get housing	

Driving Test

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and asked his dad if he could start using the family car.

The Dad said he'd make a deal with his son, "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car"

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer and they agreed on it.

After about six weeks, the dad said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut."

The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

His Dad replied, "Did you also notice that they all walked everywhere they went?"

From: laffgaff.com/funny-short-stories/

State of the States

Hello from Iowa!

The Iowa Women of Today held a meeting at the beginning of August with the Spencer Chapter hosting. It was a fun filled day with ants all over the tables at our picnic style meeting. We are currently hosting a popcorn fundraiser for the state and I cannot wait to taste the different flavored popcorns which can be delivered right to your doorstep. If you are interested in ordering, please check it out on our Facebook page or contact one of our members.



We are also selling bracelets and pins. All proceeds will be donated to help victims of sex trafficking. This is a problem across the world not only in the big cities but also in our rural areas. The Sound of Freedom movie is a great example of how fast things can change at a moment's notice.

At the first meeting as State President, it was a stressful situation and I just wanted to make sure everything went well. With the help of all my friends and board members but I am glad I took the chance to help not only my Nashua Chapter but also our Iowa Chapter. Dream of what you want, Believe you can make your dreams come true and Shine while living your dreams. Have a great end of the trimester and remember to get all the paperwork in to SHINE in Nebraska at our Mid-Year meeting.



Jennifer Lantz
Iowa Women of Today President



6. *When is Patriot Day in the USA?*

Hello from Massachusetts -

The summer is wrapping up and the chapters are beginning September with a jump start. Three chapters celebrated Founder's this past July. Bellingham had a fun Ice cream Social, Easton a pool party and Mansfield had a Tropical themed get together, with fun drinks.

Mansfield and Bellingham enjoyed Salad Suppers in honor of Friendship Day in August. The weather was perfect for both occasions.

Greater Attleboro enjoyed a June Ice Cream Social and their Annual Christmas in July at a member's house.

Greater Bridgewater hosted Women's Self Defense class with a local Martial Arts studio.

Looking forward to the cooler weather and the exciting projects from the chapters.

If you are ever in Massachusetts look us up!

Kathy Griffin
MAWT State President



"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples."

- September 4 is Labor Day*
- September 24 is National Punctuation Day*
- October 1 is National Homemade Cookies Day*
- October 5 is National Do Something Nice Day*
- October 15 is World Animal Day*
- October 28 is National Chocolate Day*
- October 30 is Halloween*



Amy Pumper
MNWT State President 2023-2024
president@mnwt.org
www.mnwt.org

United States Women of Today Friends,

This month, we are sharing how we promote Women of Today and our successful Public Relations. We have a Marketing Vice President who has a theme of “Let’s Get Famous MN Ducks” and she is helping us to do that. She will be having a Duck fundraiser at our Fall State Convention where members can buy ducks to duck someone else – proceeds will be going towards revamping our brochures and business cards and hopefully trademarking a new logo by year end. She is going to introduce us to the world of Tik Tok too! We also have a Public Relations assistant that helps in many ways to get our name out also.

We are attending the Saint Paul Saints game on August 19th where I get to throw out a first pitch and we will be filling up the stands with red (my color). On August 27th, the bench that was purchased at the state fair this past year will be dedicated when we meet at the bench at 12:00 pm. For Women of Today Week, we will have the 35W Bridge lit up on Sunday, September 24th. We utilize Facebook with MNWT Administration, MNWT Membership, MNWT Programming, MNWT Finance, MN Women of Today pages along with each district having a page to promote on. Most chapters also have pages they use to promote themselves. Events are created and shared.

We also have a great website that is always a work in progress, with updated information including upcoming events, fundraisers, staff and state program manager information as well as forms and project ideas. A state NEWSLET is put out five times a year to every member and this year, we are looking to put out a fully digital edition for what we call the candidate issue. We are always looking for new ideas and ways to promote the great things our chapters, districts and state organization do.

These are just a few of the ways we utilize Public Relations.

Amy

“Team spirit is knowing and living the belief that what a group of people can accomplish together is much larger, far greater, and will exceed that which an individual can accomplish alone.” —Diane Arias



7. Halloween is better known by what name?



Greetings from Nebraska!

Our First Trimester is complete, and we had a great summer! Our Kearney Chapter had a successful Membership Night in June and recruited a new member to start off the new year. Way to go Kearney! Our Lincoln Chapter hosted Founder's Day for the state at Mahoney State Park with a potluck picnic and a Melodrama Play, members from at least 3 chapters attended. Most chapters celebrated Friendship Day in some form or another. A few invited other chapters to join as well. We have several chapters that are within 45 minutes of each other so we often can visit/attend events.

We have a strong focus on membership and attendance this year. Our overall membership has dropped over the years, so discussions on how to recruit and retain have been at the forefront. We've also made goals of increasing attendance at State Meetings. Our State Board is dedicated to getting members to attend the meetings, so they are more involved in decisions that get made. This helps keep them informed and feeling part of the process and more invested in our organization.

In Women of Today, we ARE Better Together!

Shellie Haun

Nebraska Women of Today President

"Better Together"

GREETINGS FROM NEW JERSEY



Be a Guiding Light – Volunteer

Life for all of us has certainly changed since Covid. Although it is not in the news as much, it does still exist. I wonder if my aches and pains are old age or did I do it to myself with the Covid vaccines. I would love to travel to visit my girlfriend in Montana but the fear of getting Covid from flying is a trip stopper. I am really trying to move on with life.

I can only speak for the Central New Jersey Chapter. We enjoy each other's company and get together monthly for dinner. We will hopefully plan some social activities. We are doing our charitable work with organizations near and dear to our members. I will add an agenda item for ideas to attract new members. There are not as many opportunities to reach out in the community. We will put our great minds together.

I hope everyone enjoys the remainder of the summer. I am hoping for another wave runner ride to Atlantic City. It is a long, beautiful ride with dolphins and rays.

Hugs, Diane



The chapter has been fairly quiet so far this summer. The one big fundraiser we planned with the home and garden people was cancelled because, unfortunately, not enough people signed up. We are investigating other possible fundraisers.

We do have a full board and we are becoming a cohesive board. We are looking forward to a silly supper, which is always fun. We will be considering all events and all meetings. as membership "nights". Our goal is to get new members who are not in the over 65 age bracket.

We are "growing in sunshine" in North Dakota!

Pat Fern

Greetings from Pennsylvania,

This summer has been hot and so were the chapters here in PA. They have been so busy serving their local communities.

I had the pleasure of attending many of their meetings, social events, and projects. We also held our first trimester State Meeting on August 19th. The Womelsdorf chapter did a wonderful job hosting this meeting. Thank you to Womelsdorf for a great time. At this meeting, we had a guest speaker for Opportunity House, a homeless shelter located in Reading, PA. Our chapters and members donated personal care items for this cause. I would estimate that together, we collected around \$500 worth of supplies. Thank you to everyone for donating to this great organization.

Our Dover chapter celebrated Founder's Day, held a family picnic on July 3rd as well as provided bingo at a local nursing home. Recently they held a very successful Meat and Seafood bingo where they raised about \$5000 for their scholarship fund. They will be hosting their annual Taste teaser meeting with a secret bake sale. They will be auctioning off homemade baked goods that are wrapped. So, who knows what you will be winning! They are having a Friendship Day luncheon on August 26th and a new "Fairy Jar" fundraiser on September 15th.

The Lititz chapter started having monthly meetings again. On August 8th, they celebrated Friendship Day at a local Hibachi restaurant. It was a wonderful evening, and the food was wonderful. At their next meeting, they will be planning activities for the fall.

The Northeastern chapter celebrated both Founder's Day and Friendship Day. They have been making friendship bracelet craft kits for Caitlin Smiles. Some members are also working on Cuddle hearts for the NICU unit for their local hospital. They continue collecting books for a free library as well as pet food and supplies for Speranza Animal Rescue. They also donated to Oliva's House, a local organization that deals with children who have lost a loved one.

I'm not sure if the Womelsdorf area chapter ever stops. In July, they were busy with their annual 4-day Community carnival and vender show where they raised \$4000. They continue to help raise funds for "A Slash for Davie" project. The total raised so far is \$125,000. They celebrated Founder's Day and will be celebrating Friendship Day in early September.

Our next statewide event will be attending an Amish Meal on Sept. 30 to celebrate Women of Today Week. Our 2nd trimester State meeting will be Nov 3-5. We have rented the Canna Country Inn for this weekend. We are very excited that President Tracey and some of her staff will be joining us. If you are also interested in attending, please contact President Cindy for all the details.

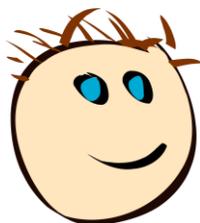
Cindy Hilbert



Trivia Answers

1. The Hogwarts Express departs on 9/1.
2. The Beatles released "Love Me Do" on 10/05/1962.
3. On average, more babies are born in the month of September.
4. October is perfect for stargazing because the night sky is much clearer.
5. Shakespeare never mentioned October in any of his plays or sonnets.
6. Patriot Day, a day to remember/thank veterans for their service is September 11.
7. Halloween is also known as All Hallows' Eve.

How did you do? Are you ready to play trivia?



Did you know that World Smile Day is celebrated on the first Friday in October? So, go throughout the day with a big smile on your face – people will wonder what you've been up to!