



# THE GAVEL

Newsletter of  
The Nebraska Women of Today  
March 2011

[www.nbwt.org](http://www.nbwt.org)  
[www.uswomenoftoday.org](http://www.uswomenoftoday.org)



Hello ladies!

Where has the time gone? A year seems like a long time at the beginning but it goes so much faster than we can ever imagine. Next month we will be having our convention in Kearney and electing new officers. If you haven't already thought about it please consider taking an office on the State Board. Yes there is some work to it but the rewards are well worth it. I haven't held an office yet that I didn't enjoy. This past year as President was a lot of fun and I enjoyed getting out to the chapters to attend M-Nights, meetings & parades and the best part was having the pleasure of getting to know members that I hadn't met before. Nebraska Women of Today are some of the best ladies I know!! And it has been an honor serving as President. Thank you all for the opportunity! And don't forget my membership challenge! At last count I was up to 3 inches so we need some more members so I can get more than a trim!! ☺

As we all know the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester is coming up very quickly. All certifications, project folders, Road Runner miles, essays for competition and Success System forms need to be postmarked by April 1, 2011. If you only have one more item to do on a certification- finish it up and send it in! And don't forget to let your chapter president &/ or Programming VP know about it so they can count it on their paperwork!!



As the end of our year approaches we also need to think about the National Buckets of Sunshine Project. This year's recipient is **Gilda's Club of Western Pennsylvania**. I have received a packet which I will bring to convention from our National PR officer Judy Herrala and it contains a wealth of information on the organization which helps the entire family when there is a loved one diagnosed with cancer. Last year they logged over 18,000 visits to the facility. Their wish list is long but for ease of transport to convention- we are flying- it would be best if we donated gift cards. Their list included: Sam's Club, Wal-Mart and Target gift cards which are available in our area. Please talk to your chapter about this and bring your donation to Annual Convention in Kearney & we will deliver it in Pittsburgh!

And last but not least it would be awesome if your chapters could make a donation to the Kearney area Domestic Abuse Center which will be doing a seminar at annual for us. Again gift cards are the most welcome due to space issues and these will be presented at the seminar on April 16, 2011.

Thanks for all your generosity, Laura Wachter State President 2010-2011

***“Working Together For Our Future!”***

All the Best,

Laura Wachter  
State President  
[lwachter@neb.rr.com](mailto:lwachter@neb.rr.com)



## Membership VP

Hello Ladies!

It's March Madness time! I hope every chapter has a fun Membership Night planned. Any chapter that signs a new member in March will receive a treat at convention. Let's end the year on a high note with new members! President Laura has issued a challenge to recruit! Let's do our best to get a few inches of her hair cut!

Don't forget that Volunteer Week is April 10-16. There are so many people that give their time including all of you Women of Today members. Thank you for making your community a better place!



Everyone should have their Membership Dues information. Don't forget these are due to me by April 1<sup>st</sup>. I must get these turned in to National on time or we will be charged a \$50 late fee. Every chapter was on time last trimester, let's make it twice in a row!

Hope to see you at convention in April. Thanks for all you do!

## Let's Keep Growing

### STEP

We are in the home stretch ladies! Please make sure to get those S.T.E.P. forms filled out and sent to me by April 1<sup>st</sup>!

My goals at the beginning of the year were to beat last year's numbers:

#### Last Year:

S.T.E.P. I - 3

S.T.E.P. II - 0

S.T.E.P. III - 5



I know that we can beat these numbers!

If you have any questions about certifications or need forms, let me know.

## Let's S.T.E.P. High in 2010!

Kim Hermann  
Membership VP  
[kherrmann@horizonholding.com](mailto:kherrmann@horizonholding.com)



## Local Presidents Association

Hello Ladies!  
Please send me your 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester Fast Starts, and make sure your chapter sends in the Success System for your final trimester- both postmarked by April 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be only a short time to prepare for convention, so your timeliness will help! Working on your Success System together as a group, at your membership meeting or Board meeting, is a great way to not only get your Success System done, but it involves others in your chapter, and helps them understand how it works.

If you cannot locate a copy of the current success system form, please let me know, and I will email the forms to you. I included my Fast Start information in last month's Gavel in case you need it again. Thanks to the chapters that are participating in the Success System; Your chapter members deserve recognition for all their hard work, so please take the time to document it and send it in! As a chapter, it is motivating to see just how much you have done "together as one" throughout the year.

As your year as local President winds down, take it upon yourself to encourage others in your chapter to step up to a leadership position. Help mentor another, to fill your shoes next year.

I have enjoyed serving as your LPA President this year, and I want to thank each local President for serving your local chapter this year, as Well as the Nebraska Women of Today. I look forward to seeing you All at Annual Convention in Kearney.

Kelley Rosburg, LPA President  
[krosburg2@cox.net](mailto:krosburg2@cox.net)

**Be Ewe'r Best!**



## Programming Vice President

Wow how time flies when you're having fun! I know we all are starting to look over our year &

thinking about what certifications to send in. I also know everyone has been very productive over the year, so let's not forget project folders. (Hint, Hint) You can also just email me your Roadrunner miles & I will be happy to add them up for you. Thanks for all your hard work & I'll see you at convention!

Karen Gruber  
Programming VP

## Delicious Deliveries

Don't forget to email me about any first timers that you have coming to convention. So far Monarch chapter has 2 tentative first timers coming. They have to be emailed to me the Thursday before convention to be eligible for the drawing. Thanks for all your help!

Karen Gruber

## Presidents Scrapbook

If you have any pictures or event info for President Laura's scrapbook, I would appreciate them!

Chris Rice

## CHAPTER CHATTER

### Lincoln

Hello from Lincoln! Elections are coming up, and our year is drawing to a close, but... We're planning activities straight through the end of the year! We're hosting a guest night on Monday, March 21, complete with a craft activity that will be donated to a local nursing home. We're working our best to make sure that Laura has to get her hair cut! :) If anyone would like to join us, please let us know and we'll get you the particulars! Enjoy spring, and we'll see you in the next year!

Jen Strohmeyer

### Nebraska City

Happy Spring! Nebraska City is hosting a March m-night, hoping to sign new members, let's see how many inches President Laura's hair cut will be! Hope to see you at convention!

Chris Rice



## Attention!!

Please send your nominations for Presidential Medallions in to Laura as soon as possible. There are a limited number to be given out this year so if you have someone deserving in mind please send her an email. Her best email at this time is: [laura.wachter@americanmeter.com](mailto:laura.wachter@americanmeter.com)

THANKS!!

**Nebraska Women of Today  
Future Directions Meeting Minutes  
Fall Conference, November 6, 2010 York, NE**

The meeting was called to order at 8:07pm by Cindy Urlacher, Chairman of the Board.

Laura Wachter, President was appointed as secretary.

Members in attendance were: Roberta Smith, Amy Hardy, Kim Hermann, Cindy Urlacher, Chris Rice, Maxine Turner, Kelley Rosburg, Joyce Harpster, Karen Gruber, Julie Fogleman, Terica Hudson, Jan Maaske, Angela Moody, Laura Wachter and special guest National President Deb Stein.

The minutes of the July meeting minutes were approved.

There was an addition to the agenda- Non-sufficient check fees.

**Old Business:**

Guide and Operations Manuals- work will be started on these.

LOTS- travel will begin in March to go to chapters and go over the new programming areas. This will be assigned to people and will not be in your own chapters.

Programming- chaplain: send thoughts, prayers, etc to Maxine Turner to be included in manual. This will be ready at next convention.

Website- work will be done on updating the website.

US Programming Restructure was passed. Programs & forms will go into effect May 1, 2011.

State Project- Governor's mansion: Maxine is working on this.

Convention bid contract- this is being worked on this weekend.

Future Directions & General membership meeting minutes will be published in the March edition of the Gavel.

Increase Membership: Recruitment, Retention, our commitment to growth and Public Relations venues were discussed. Websites and cable channels will be checked for community service announcements.

Communication between State Board and Local board/ members: Survey local board and members to improve communication.

Non-sufficient funds check fees- there will be a standing rule proposed tomorrow.

**New Business:**

Membership late fee increase- there has been an increase in the late fee for each chapter for late membership dues to the National MVP of \$50 effective immediately. This will be related to the individual chapters.

Bylaws/ Standing rules- there will be some housekeeping done tomorrow. The standing rule pertaining to the President sending in all forms to National will be struck.

Convention registration- there will be a late registration fee proposed.

The consensus was a minimum of \$15.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:22pm.

Respectfully submitted, Laura Wachter Future Directions secretary / State President



**Nebraska Women of Today**  
**Working Together For Our Future**  
 2010-2011 State Annual Convention  
 April 15-18, 2011

Country Inn & Suites  
 105 Talmadge Road, Kearney, NE  
 Reserve your room before April 1, 2011  
 Rates 1-4 people - \$72.95  
 308-236-7500

Friday Evening

7:30 p.m. Executive Board Meeting  
 8:00 Registration  
 8:15 State Board Meeting  
 9:00 Future Directions  
 Hall of Fame  
 Hospitality Room

Sunday Morning

8:00 a.m. New LPA Meeting  
 8:45 New/Old Board  
 9:30 Fellowship Worship Service

Saturday

7:30 a.m. LPA Meeting  
 8:30 Registration and Credentials  
 8:45 Region Meeting  
 9:00 Incentive Session  
 10:00 Business Meeting  
 12:00 p.m. Awards Luncheon  
 2:30 Seminar – Family Advocacy Network (FAN)  
 3:45 ONTO  
 6:00 President’s Reception  
 7:00 Awards Banquet  
 PARTY!!

Name _____	Chapter _____	First Timer _____
<u>Registration Early</u>	<u>Late (After April 1, 2011)</u>	
Business Meeting \$4.00 _____	Business Meeting \$4.00 _____	
Luncheon \$15.00 _____	Luncheon \$25.00 _____	
Banquet \$25.00 _____	Banquet \$35.00 _____	
Parties \$6.00 _____	Parties \$6.00 _____	
<b>TOTAL \$50.00</b>	<b>TOTAL \$70.00</b>	

**Registrations due April 1, 2011**  
**Make checks payable to: Kearney Women of Today**  
**Mail to:** Carol Porter  
 48060 175<sup>th</sup> Road  
 Gibbon, NE 68840  
 308-468-5464

**Nebraska Women of Today**  
**“Working Together for Our Future”**  
**General Membership Meeting**  
**November 6, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 1:37 p.m. by State President Laura Wachter.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Christine Rice.  
Chaplain’s thought was read.  
Roll call: 6 chapters and 15 members in attendance.  
Rules of the day were read by Parliamentarian Angela Moody.

**SECRETARY**

The following corrections were made to the July 17, 2010 minutes: under COB-Future Directions recommended that there be no state board meeting at Summer State Meeting; under Chaplain-all competitions must be mailed and all certifications can be emailed; under Hall of Fame-fundraiser to help defray travel expenses to National convention and HOF gave money to state president to help with medallion expense; time of adjournment was 10:45 a.m.

**TREASURER**

Treasurer’s report was distributed. Treasurer books have been audited. State and national store items are available. There will be a \$ auction at the noon luncheon. Goals for Aid to Foster Children and Domestic Abuse Awareness were also discussed.

**PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANTS**

Please submit any photos to Chris for the memory book. Secret Sister gifts will be distributed after lunch.

**PARLIAMENTARIAN:**

Several changes were proposed: All proposed changes were passed with the exception of #7 which failed.

**CONVENTION CHAIRMAN**

Delicious Deliveries is available.  
Convention bid has been received from Monarchs for the Summer State Meeting. Bid was accepted by membership.

**CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

Future Directions: M/S/P Gruber/Kearney that convention late registration fee no longer be less than \$15 more than the early registration fee. If individuals do not contact convention chair prior to convention you may not be included in the meal counts depending on food availability.  
Budget & Finance: M/S/P Turner/Monarch to delete \$15 from LOTS line items and add \$5 S.T.E.P. line item; \$5 to PEP line item; and \$5 to External line item.  
ONTO – members can make payments to a savings account for USWT Annual Convention in Pittsburgh, PA.  
Filing deadline for elections is February 15<sup>th</sup>.

**MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT**

Kim Hermann reported that 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester had 20 members up for renewal, 15 members renewed and 1 NMA in June. Our base is 89 after 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester. As of this date we have 3 NMA for 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester and 1 NMA today so our base today is 93. Next deadline for dues is December 1<sup>st</sup>.  
STEP – There have been 3 STEP I certifications to date. Goals for this year were presented and Fast Starts are in the chapter packets.

**REGION DIRECTORS**

Region 1 report was given by Roberta Smith for Wauneta and Kearney.  
Region 2 & 3 report was given by Cindy Urlacher and Kelley Rosburg. Possible extension to be worked on in Syracuse.

**PROGRAMMING VICE PRESIDENT**

Karen Gruber reported that road runner will be presented at year end. There have been no fizzle submissions and no governmental certifications received. Be sure and send in Trimester Summary Reports.

**CHAPLAIN**

There will be year end recognition. Be sure and send Focus on Women, Women in General and Chaplain certifications to Linda.

#### PERSONAL ENRICHMENT

Amy Hardy reported that she has received a few certifications so far. She will be giving awards at year end. There were no participants in the Effective Speaking competition this weekend. Effective Writing theme for year end is the same as the National theme.

#### TODAY'S PROMISE FOR TOMORROW'S YOUTH

Articles have been in each Gavel. Make sure necessary forms are postmarked December 1<sup>st</sup>. During January there will be a Read-A-Thon fundraiser for each book ready by participating children. Send checks to Maxine by February 15<sup>th</sup>. Funds will go to Aid to Foster Children.

#### LPA

Kelley Rosburg reported that there were several changes to the Success System. Deadline for next submission is December 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### HALL OF FAME

Jan Maaske reported that the next deadline for any nominees is February 15, 2011 and the form is available. The theme for the basket to be auctioned at Annual Convention in April is "Travel".

#### PRESIDENT

Laura reported that she has made several chapter visits and has signed 1 new member so far this year.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Spirit Trophy is missing. If anyone knows where it might be please contact that person and bring it to the meeting in April.

#### NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

Following announcements and good and welfare the meeting adjourned with the creed at 2:50 p.m.

Joyce Harpster  
Acting Secretary

Happy   
St. Patrick's Day