



THE GAVEL

Newsletter of
The Nebraska Women of Today
July 2010

www.nbwt.org
www.uswomenoftoday.org



Happy Founder's Day to everyone! I hope that each chapter was able to have a special celebration or get together to commemorate this special day in Women of Today history. Don't forget to fill out your form & send it in for recognition at National convention! I feel that if you are doing the project or get together it doesn't take much more time to fill out the paperwork and let the National staff know what we are doing or participating in.

Our next celebration will be Friendship Day in August. If you don't have access to either of these forms email me so we can get it out to you! I have asked the state board members to bring their 2nd trimester fast starts for distribution in the chapter packets at summer meeting so you will have them on August 1st. Don't forget to meet the August 1st deadline for Success system & fast starts for recognition at Fall Convention in York!



This has been a fun month for me. I was able to participate in the Papillion Days parade with the Monarch's chapter & attended the Lincoln chapter's M-Night on June 28th. I haven't laughed that hard in quite a while! Thanks to Kelley & the Lincoln chapter for hosting such a wonderful get together. And be sure to ask Terri Sherman about the "Junk in Her Trunk" the next time you see her!! Up coming events are on my calendar for visitations in July & August so I hope to meet more of our State members while I am "Out & About" across our great state! I hope to see many of you at our State Summer meeting in Nebraska City on July 16th & 17th.

All the Best!

Laura Wachter
State President
lwachter@neb.rr.com



"Working Together For Our Future"

MEMBERSHIP VP

Hello Ladies!

I hope you are all having a great summer!

You should have recently received your Due Billing for the 1st Trimester. These are due to me by August 1st. If you get these postmarked no later than the 1st your chapter will receive a Sweet Reward! Also, in the Dues Billing I included another copy of my Fast Start and a reminder about S.T.E.P. forms. Please make sure to get everything in on time so you get recognized!

How is your recruiting going? Have you had an M Night? I was looking through some old membership materials and found some ideas for M Night themes so I thought I would pass along some “oldies but goodies.”

- Membership & Memories – Display scrapbooks from former Presidents and construct a page for the scrapbook of the current President.
- PJ Party – Wear your PJs and have fun snacks.
- WOTG! – Same as Bingo but with information about Women of Today.
- Amazing Race – Based on the TV show. Give clues that take you to different destinations. End at your meeting place for food and social time.
- Ice Cream Social – Have ice cream and lots of different toppings.
- Chicken Soup for the Soul – Serve chicken soup and share reading from the Chicken Soup for the Soul books.

Whatever you do for M-Night make sure you share how important your Women of Today group is to you and your community!

S.T.E.P.

Hello Ladies!

S.T.E.P. (Success Through Enthusiastic Participation) is a great opportunity of our new and experienced members to be recognized.

Are your new members working on their S.T.E.P. I certification? Please make sure you have S.T.E.P.



on your monthly meeting agenda. This will help keep it top of mind! Not only for the new members but also the ones who are working on S.T.E.P. II and III. Everyone has busy lives but if we all take a few minutes at our meetings to work on this we can get a lot done!

Don't forget the goal this year is to increase S.T.E.P. participation over last year:

My overall goal for 2010-11 is to improve S.T.E.P. certifications over last year. These are the numbers we need to beat:

Last Year:

S.T.E.P. I - 3

S.T.E.P. II - 0

S.T.E.P. III - 5



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

Kim Herman

Membership Vice President

“Let's Get Growing”

KHermann@horizonholding.com

Local Presidents Association (LPA)

Hello Local Presidents! I hope by now you have received the State President's packet with lots of useful information, fast starts and forms. You should all have my first trimester fast start and the revised Success System (unchanged from what I emailed earlier), along with explanations and the verification list. The National convention on June 11-13th in Rochester, MN was awesome! The pride of this organization was evident, and the rich history was relived. Please plan to come to the summer State convention in Nebraska City on July 17th, and see for yourself!



There are many awards to share and your chapters are very deserving of these honors.

Remember that “Quarterly Donation Summary Form” from Last year? Well it is now a “Trimesterly Donation Summary Form,” and this

year-you will need to mail it to the State Programming VP, not the Treasurer. Just a reminder....

Hoping to see you all at Summer Convention this weekend!

Kelley Rosburg, LPA President
krosburg2@cox.net

Be Ewe'r Best!



External PM

Fellow Members,
Deadline is nearing!!! Be sure that your chapter completes the **Form 990** for the Federal government by the end of this month. It is easy to do, if you have questions please feel free to contact me and I will walk you through it. The Executive Director at Annual Convention asked that each chapter contact her with their Federal ID Number, and she also would like to know who is responsible in your chapter for filing the Form 990. It is also a good idea, to have on record the name of the person that filed for your Federal ID Number. At this time I have received reports from Nebraska City, Fremont Area, Heartland, Lincoln, Sterling. Please be sure to get your Federal ID Number, who is responsible for filing the Form 990. And also who filed for your Federal ID Number. She will keep this on file, just in case your chapter needs this information at a later date.

Chapter Mailing Fees were due to me by July 1st, the cost is \$30.00. At this time I have received the following chapters mailing fees: Wauneta, Fremont Area, Sterling, Nebraska City, Kearney and Lincoln's.

Budgets, were due to me by July 1st. If you have not sent it, please do so as soon as possible by July 1st. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, I will be glad to help you.

As I stated before, this year I will be overseeing **Aid to Foster Children** and the **National External Program** which is **Abuse**. I would like to see each chapter run an educational and fundraiser for each program. I would like our state to set our goal of raising \$560 for each area in the coming year. This averages \$70 per chapter in each area,

I know we can do it! August, February and April are the Emphasis Months for our National External Program. During my year, I would like July, January and March to be Emphasis Months for Aid to Foster Children.

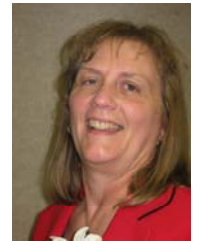
I would like each chapter to plan something during the month of July for Aid to Foster Children and to let me know what you did. Remember, it can be educational or a fundraiser.



August is Emphasis Month for our national program **Domestic Abuse**, your chapter can run an educational or a fundraiser for this program. Please send me your certification postmarked September 1st.

“Raising Dough”

Maxine Turner
Treasurer
External Program Manager



Chaplain

Hello Everyone.
I haven't heard from many chapters regarding any Chaplain certifications that you may have completed. Please send them through the snail mail or e-mail to me. Also I need to know who the chaplains are for each chapter so if you could please email the names so I can contact them when I have information to disseminate. Of course, if you have any prayer requests or other concerns that you want the other gals to know about, just let me know. Thanks and I hope you're having a fun, relaxing summer!

Linda Lenser surlal@aol.com

PEP Program Manager

We are definitely in the dog days of summer.... Whew! Sounds like a good time to stay INSIDE to work on some personal enrichment! I want to

remind everyone that we have an emphasis month coming up. August is the emphasis month for Team Building. Does your family operate like a team? Does your workplace operate as a team? Does your chapter operate like a team? A smooth running machine has many parts working together for the common good. A team has members working together for the common good.

I haven't had too many certifications, but I'll blame that on everyone being caught up in summer activities. I hope to see lots of certifications come in at the end of the trimester – where did the time go?! Start with a drop of water and watch the ripple effect.



Amy Hardy
teameffort.amy@charter.net
“Start a Ripple Effect”

Today's Youth

My fellow members,

During the month of August, we will be celebrating Friendship Day and Kids Week (held during the third full week). Please be sure to send your certification form to me by September 1st.

As our future leaders are out enjoying themselves this summer, please sit down and talk with them about Bicycle Safety.

The following are ***Important Bicycling Safety Tips***: 1) Make it a habit! Six point safety check your bike every time; 2) Protect your head. Wear a helmet; 3) See and be seen. Be visible; 4) Stay alert. Listen and look; 5) Obey the rules of the road; 6) Use your hand signals; 7) Remember that some drivers just don't see you; 8) Don't ride in traffic until you can safely negotiate it; 9) Avoid riding at night, but if you do, be visible; 10) Be predictable. Don't surprise anyone else on the road; 11) Prevent bicycle theft. Lock up your bike.

If you need more information on Bicycle Safety, please go to website: <http://www.be-safe.org>

After spending time talking with your child about Bicycle Safety, Please send me the certification form.

Don't forget to involve youth in helping with your projects, remember our youth are the future leaders of our organizations and in fact our country.



If you have any questions about this area, please feel free to contact me.

“Planting the Seeds for the Future”

Maxine Turner
Program Manager

Chapter Chatter

Fremont

Fremont Area Women of Today Chapter is busy getting ready for their annual rodeo concession stand for John C Fremont Days, which is held July 9th and 10th. This year they will also be doing a concession stand for the Garden Tractor Pull, which is held on July 11th. They are also gearing up to serve coffee and lunch for the Fremont Area Habitant Humanity on July 10th.

Fremont Area Youth are busy with their first project of cleaning up Clemmons Park and along Luther Road, as the community is getting ready for Company for John C Fremont Days. They will also be helping with the rodeo concession stand both days.

Maxine Turner

LINCOLN

We had nine members help with Celebrate Lincoln June 19. We had an awesome Guest Night. Thank you to Angela (and Tracy) Moody for bringing Sheena Ammon along! We also had a visit from Laura Wachter and Cindy Urlacher. We had some awesome “Minute to Win It” games, orchestrated by Kelley and Diana. I think we can all agree that we haven't laughed that much in quite a while. Tears, tears and more tears! Be sure to ask Diana

about the junk in her trunk, and ask around to see who put Ms. Sherman DOWN in the color-coded M&M game!

We held our annual Founders Day event by attending the Melodrama at Mahoney State Park. We were glad President Laura and her son were able to attend. Several members went to Fremont to help out with the John C Fremont Day rodeo concession stand. Terri brought her husband and grandson who enjoyed the rodeo while Terri worked. You are all invited to come to Lincoln to attend a Saltdogs game with us on August 10th. Let Terri Sherman know if you plan to attend. Tailgating starts at 5:45 game is at 7:05.

Jen Strohmeyer, President
BE EXCITED!



National Mid Year

October 1-3, 2010

IOWA WT invite all USWT back to Des Moines IA – for a
“FAMILY REUNION”

Baymont Inn & Suites Airport Conference Center ✦
6221 SW Army Post Rd ✦ Des Moines IA ✦ 515-285-0654

Friday & Saturday breakfast: Complimentary continental breakfast, for hotel guests
Friday night dinner: pizza/pop: available in the hospitality room



Friday night party (Oct 1): FAMILY “BONDING”/GAME NIGHT: Seventh inning stretch buffet: *Take time to reconnect with “family” members from other states -- and meet new family members. There will be time to learn about what each “branch” of our USWT family has been doing, as well as some time for fun & GAMES*

Saturday lunch (Oct 2): FAMILY “PICNIC”: Potato Bar Buffet

Saturday dinner (Oct 2): “CELEBRATE FAMILY” DINNER: Hot Roast Beef sandwich bar

Sunday breakfast: (Oct 3): “FELLOWSHIP WITH THE FAMILY”: Country breakfast buffet

JOIN US as we continue the celebration that started in Rochester in June – carrying our commitment and service into our 26th year as an organization!

CONVENTION RATE UNTIL 09/09/10.
\$82.88 per night – 1-4 people per room – 515-285-0654

Full Registration due by Sept 9th is \$84 and \$95 for late registration.