

THE GAVEL



Newsletter of
The Nebraska Women of Today

August 2010

www.nbwt.org

www.uswomenoftoday.org



Hello Friends!

I am amazed that the First Trimester is over already! It seems like we just got the year started and here we are running to the mailbox to get our fast starts, dues billings, Success System and board reports sent off in time! WOW! (I hope you all made it in time! ☺)

I have received information from the National officer's about themes for Effective Writing competitions, Effective Speaking, membership challenges and many other items. These were forwarded to your chapter presidents and the state board so if you have an interest please contact them for more information. We also have the registration form for the National Mid-Year convention on the website. It will be in Des Moines, IA on October 1-3, 2010 and the theme is "Family Reunion". Many of us will be driving over so if you would like to ride along with someone please let Cindy Urlacher know. She is making the room reservations for us.

I traveled to a couple chapter events in July. I attended the Lincoln chapter's Founder's Day Melodrama at Mahoney State Park with my son. He loved throwing popcorn at the villain! And I helped the Fremont Area chapter with their concession stand at the rodeo for John C. Fremont Days. And of course we had a great time at the Summer Meeting here in Nebraska City! Sadly I missed an M-Night for the Heartland chapter last week. If you have a project or event coming up please shoot me an email or call- I would love to go to everything that I can this year!



I would like to wish all of you a "Happy Friendship Day"! Many chapters are hosting events for this in August. Lincoln & Fremont are going out to the Ball Games, Monarch's are having an M-Night and Nebraska City is having a Family picnic Interclub- more details will be sent for this.

And last but not least a BIG "Congratulations" to the Wauneta chapter for being chosen to be the Grand Marshall's in the Harvest Fest parade this past weekend. They were honored for their community service work that they do! **Way To Go Ladies!!**

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 surviving the heat!

Thank you to the following chapters for getting your dues in on time:

Fremont, Heartland, Kearney, Lincoln, Monarch, and Nebraska City!

By now you all should have received my Fast Start for second trimester. If you have any questions, let me know. I would really love to have all 9 chapters participate!

There are many things to focus on in August. We have Project Recognition, Aid to Foster Children, Team Building and Domestic Violence. Also, it's time to elect an OYW candidate. It would be incredible to have each chapter send a nominee to convention! I know there are lots of women out there who deserve this honor!

Thanks for all you do!

S.T.E.P.

Hello Ladies!

S.T.E.P. (Success Through Enthusiastic Participation) is a great way to get our new members involved in our chapters and for our tenured members to get enthused again about what we do.

I was excited to get 2 S.T.E.P. I certifications in the first trimester. Hopefully this trimester I will get even more! As I mentioned last month, please make sure you have S.T.E.P. on your monthly meeting agenda. If it is a regular part of our meetings it should help us keep it going.

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

Chaplain

Hello ladies!

Isn't the summer going by quickly? I would love to hear from you and your chapters as to what you've been doing in the Chaplain area. I haven't received many certifications yet so I hope to get more second quarter. You can email them or snail mail them to me. I still don't have the names of all the Chaplains from each chapter so please let me know who you are. Also if there are any prayer requests or anything else you want to let others know about. let me know. Here are a few thoughts from comedian Steven Wright: "Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it". "You can't have everything. Where would you put it?" and "Plan to be spontaneous tomorrow!" Take care and enjoy the rest of the summer.

Linda Lenser

surlal@aol.com

PEP Program Manager

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"

Programming

How did we get to August already?

One trimester down, two to go... Now that we are gearing up for a productive 2nd trimester, let's not forget a couple of things. I know everyone has been putting miles on their vehicles doing all the WOT stuff that we do, don't forget to keep track of these & shoot me an email with your totals. I know all of us love our trimester summary reports, but they are great ways to keep track of projects. They also make doing project folders a lot easier. I will be happy to take them off your hands either by mail or email.

Thanks to Laura, I will have a certification table at November's convention. This will also be a great time to ask any questions that you have about filling them out. Of course you can always ask me & I will be happy to help you. I know a couple chapters have started having "certification nights". These are fun times to get together & relax while you fill out the paperwork. It's amazing how much most of us have done already without even counting our stuff that we do in our chapters. (hint, hint) Have a great rest of the summer & I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Karen Gruber
Programming VP
karen.gruber7@gmail.com

External PM/Treasurer

The month of August is Emphasis month for our National Program "Domestic Violence". I hope each chapter is completing an educational program or fundraiser for this program.

One way to help in anyway is to check with your Domestic Violence office in your community, I know our local chapter has a wish list. Our local Domestic Violence chapter has about twenty different items on their "Wish List". They even asked



for Birthday Packs for Children.

If your chapter runs a program for this area during August, please email me so that I can get it turned into National by August 31st.

"Raising Dough"

Maxine Turner, Treasurer
External Program Manager
mturner3@neb.rr.com



Parliamentarian

Dear Nebraska Women of Today,
Summer is about over and fall activities are just around the corner. I want to wish everyone Happy Friendship Day! Friendship is one of the greatest things about Women of Today. I hope all chapters planned an event to celebrate our friendships.

The next celebration is Women of Today Week. Remember it's the last full week of September; hopefully every chapter is planning a membership event. I encourage this but have one caution... When recruiting try to choose potential members who will make the commitment to participate. It doesn't help your chapter to have higher numbers if they are not involved. We want to bring Personal Enrichment and Leadership to them, but **we** need **them** to be involved as well. If your chapter has a lot of "paper members" it affects your quorum at meetings. Remember, unless your bylaws state specific quorum numbers you automatically must abide by **Roberts Rules of Order** which states a **quorum is a majority of all members**, so this mean more than half. If you have 12 members your meetings NEED 7 members to conduct business. That's why it is important that members attend meetings. Yes, we want them for projects, and yes, they would enjoy the socials, but meetings are an important part of membership. So think hard before you recruit a potential member who says, "I'd love to join and help with community service... but I probably won't be at meetings..." The other danger is, that if they don't attend meetings they tend to feel like an outsider and usually don't help much with the projects. But with that in

mind, we can still be successful recruiting those members who WILL feel that commitment!

Hoping for **O**rder & **P**arliamentary Procedures **E**verywhere!

Angela Moody
Parliamentarian
angela-moody@cox.net

OYW Chairman

It's that time to start getting our OYW candidates. Deadline for paperwork is October 1st. If we start now, chapters can have plenty of time to vote on who they would like to bring to convention. This is also an excellent recruiting tool for chapters. I know that we all know a very deserving woman between 18 & 40, & this way we acknowledge their accomplishments. It's always a fun experience for all of us when we interact with the candidates. Any questions please let me know & I will be happy to help you. See you at convention.

Karen Gruber
Programming VP
karen.gruber7@gmail.com.

Today's Youth

I can't believe that school is around the corner. I know there are schools that will be starting around August 11th. Please be sure to speak to your youth about safety rules for Walking to School, such as: 1) Don't talk to strangers and don't go anywhere with strangers; 2) Find a safe route to school; 3) Be sure your child knows your phone number including the area code and address.

Did your chapter youth celebrate Kids Week, which was celebrated the full third week in August? If so, please send me the certification form for this. What about Friendship Day? If your youth celebrated this program, please complete the certification and email or mail to me.

"Planting the Seeds for the Future"

Maxine Turner
Program Manager
mturner3@neb.rr.com

Delicious Deliveries

Sorry Ladies, They discontinued the Butterfinger Cocoa mix. I think I was the only one buying it. If you have a particular craving for particular drink, please let me know so that I can see about getting it. I'm curious to know if I should bring Bagels or Cinnamon Rolls to convention. Whoever is interested in my bringing them, please let me know. (This isn't a preorder unless you want it to be.) Please let me know which 1st timers that are coming to convention so that I can get their names entered in the drawing. I need the names by the Wednesday before convention so that I can have it ready for Maxine. Thanks for your support, Karen

Hello everyone,
Thanks for a very successful convention in Nebraska City, hosted by the Nebraska City chapter. They did a great job. We will be having a "Freaky Tikki Weekend" in York, Ne this November. We will be having a Hula Hoop seminar on Saturday morning of convention. I work with the founder of Halo Hoops, who not only does hoop dancing but also builds custom hoops. Lucie has been promoting the exercise benefits of this activity. It will be a lot of fun & you will get to see some great performers. She has performed at the Village Point Farmer's Market in Omaha & at Wakarusa music festival to name a couple events. Since we will be in a library, she won't be fire hooping. But it will still be quite a performance. We will be having banquet at the Chances R again this year & I'm sure it will be just as good. I'll be seeing you at convention!

Karen Gruber
Programming VP
karen.gruber7@gmail.com.

Chairman of the Board

Hello ladies,
We had a fun convention in July and I would like to congratulate all of the award winners. Great job. Enclosed in the last gavel is the mid year Meeting for National and beings this is so close to home I would like to see lots of us go. I am in charge of rooms so I will need to know how many members will be attending. Please let me know asap. I have heard from a few of you and thanks very much.

If you plan on to attend and need some help we can set up an onto account. If interested please let me know. As Chairman of the Board I will be in charge of the future Directions. If there is anything that you would like to discuss please let me know. This is for our future. I will be looking forward to hearing from you.

Cindy Urlacher



Chapter Chatter

Fremont

Fremont Area just finished their big fundraiser for this year. We would like to thank the Lincoln chapter for their support. Our chapter is promoting a new program this year “Stepping into Wellness”, we would like to challenge any member to get involved in this program. If we would like to be put on a team, and count your steps please email Maxine, she will send you the details. This program is similar to the one that was offered by Cindy Umland last year on National. Also, Fremont Area is offering a Friendship Day at a Royals Ball Game, please contact your chapter president if interested, to get the details.

Maxine Turner

LINCOLN

It was so HOT last week we had to postpone out Friendship Day event. Hope to do it next week instead. Hope some on you can attend.

Jen Strohmyer, President

BE EXCITED!

Nebraska City

Nebraska City is hosting a family picnic on Sunday, August 15 at 1p.m. at American Meter Park, if you are able to join us, call or email for more info!!

Keep Cool!!

Chris Rice

Heartland

Can you believe this weather??? We are planning to have an indoor activity to celebrate Friendship Day; we’re going to a Chick Flick! We’ve been busy planning the Millard Days Parade, where State President Laura will join us. We are looking forward to her participation. We changed our meeting night to the 2nd Tuesday of the month so we are looking for a new meeting place because the meeting room at the Millard Library is not available. Our “Minute to Win It” M-Nite was successful and we welcome our new member, Autumn Bernady!

We have a full week planned for Women of Today Week.

Angela Moody, Secretary

Monarch

State President Laura and State Treasurer Maxine visited us at our August Meeting, which was combined; with an M-Night where we recruited our new Member, Deb Hale. We are baking cookies for the annual Mosaic Picnic. Our next big project is the Career Fair at the YWCA. We are asking all of you to help with this project; the YWCA has a career closet that they fill with clothes suitable for job interviews and women who need clothes to re enter the work force. Most people donate used clothes, and since no one would donate used panty hose, this is a real need. So we are conducting a Panty Hose drive. (any size) If you can help contact Karen Gruber

karen.gruber7@gmail.com

Angela Moody, Secretary

NATIONAL YEAR END AWARDS

World Class Hero Award

Horizon Food Service, Inc- Lincoln
Nebraska

Arnie Urlacher-Heartland Nebraska
Ace awards-Heartland Nebraska
The Ambassador-Nebraska City,
Nebraska

Strong Finish Awards –Staff

Kim Troudt

Strong Finish Award

Cindy Urlacher-State President

Presidential Pins

Maxine Turner, Fremont
Kim Hermann, Lincoln
Roberta Smith, Kearney
Angela Moody, Heartland

Staff Medallions

Kim Troudt, Step Program Manager

Presidential Award of Excellence

Joyce Harpster, PVP

Outstanding Local Officers

Amy Hardy, Chapter President, Kearney
Christine Rice, Chapter President,
Nebraska City
Jessica Urlacher, Chapter President,
Heartland

Outstanding State officers

Laura Wachter, Programming VP
Joyce Hapster, Membership VP
Kim Hermann, LPA President

Outstanding State President

Cindy Urlacher, State president

Fellowship Builder Award

Nebraska City

Chapters 100 % retention – 2nd tri

Nebraska (5)

Beatrice

Kearney

Nebraska City

Sterling

Wauneta

Chapters with Growth 2nd Trimester

Nebraska (1)

Kearney

Outstanding State Contact for 2nd tri

Joyce Harpster

Chapters with 100% Retention- 3rd Tri

Nebraska (5)

Beatrice

Fremont Area

Heartland

Sterling

Wauneta

Chapters with Growth 3rd Trimester

Nebraska

Beatrice

Fremont Area

Sterling

Wauneta

States with year end Growth

Nebraska

States with Growth- 3rd Trimester
Nebraska +4

Chapters with Year End Growth

Nebraska (3)
Fremont Area
Kearney
Wauneta

USWT Treasurer Awards

2nd Trimester Donation Report
Nebraska (3 chapters)

3rd trimester Donation report
Nebraska (3 chapters)

Secretary Awards

Strong Finish

Terri Sherman, State Newsletter Editor

Newsletter Submissions for second/third

Trimester State and Local
State - Nebraska
Local - Kearney
Lincoln
Nebraska City

Outstanding State Contacts for 2nd tri

Terri Sherman, Nebraska

Step Awards

Step Contacts

Joyce Harpster

Strong Finish- State contact

Joyce Harpster

Step 3 Certification

Cindy Urlacher, Heartland
Amy Hardy, Roberta Smith, Kim Troutd
-Kearney
Nebraska City, Joyce Harpster

External Programming

Participation 2nd trimester
Kearney – Buckets of Sunshine for dva
Lincoln-EducationFundraiser

Participation 3rd trimester

Nebraska State Organization -Education
Heartland-Education
Lincoln-Education/donation
Nebraska City-Education/donation

Participation during Emphasis month

Nebraska
Heartland
Lincoln
Nebraska City

Outstanding state Contact 3rd Trimester

Christine Rice

Focus on Women/ Chaplain Awards

Focus on Women emphasis month

Deb Schauer- Kearney Nebraska

Overall Drawing for certifying

Cindy Urlacher, Heartland

Fishing Tour

Top Team for april- Purple Team
Top team for May- Purple Team
Top Individual- Terri Sherman of orange
fish with 723,417 steps
Purple fish-Amy Hardy, Maxine Turner

3rd Trimester Outstanding contact

Linda Lenser, Chaplain

Personal Enrichment Awards

Nebraska total 78 20 leadership, 12
teambuilding, 17 listening, 17 speaking
and 12 writing

Entering competition
Nebraska(3)
Cindy Urlacher-Project Recognition
Joyce Harpster- Project recognition
Lorie Lambrecht
Certifying in all 5 Personal Enrichment
Areas
Nebraska (7)
Angela Moody
Cindy Urlacher
Jessica Urlacher
Joyce harpster
Julie fogleman
Kim Troudt
Maxine Turner

Gifts for Judges for Effective Writing
Angela Moody

Personal Enrichment Challenge

Cindy Urlacher-Nebraska
Joyce Harpster- Nebraska

Programming Awards

Project Recognition Participation-sticky
notes and pen
Fremont Area-1
Lincoln-1
Nebraska (state)-2

Judges

Angela Moody
Terri Sherman

Programming Year End Challenge

Laura Wachter

Program Managers

Kim Troudt-STEP

**Outstanding Achievement in
Programming**

Maxine Turner- Fremont Area
Cindy Urlacher- Heartland
Joyce Harpster-Nebraska City

Project Recognition Winners

External Education
2nd place- Todays Promise for Tomorrow
Youth Group-Fremont area
1st Place- women's Expo Booth- Lincoln

State

External Education
1st place- Todays Promise For
Tomorrows Youth Group

Internal Member Enrichment

1st place- Celebrating Silver- Nebraska

Public Relations

States/chapters who submitted pr
material or donations to USWT
Kearney-Kim Troudt
Nebraska City-Laura Wachter
Nebraska city- Joyce Harpster
Heartland- Angela Moody

Shout Out With Pride

Nebraska City- Laura Wachter
Kearney- Kim Troudt

Public Relations Activity Report

Nebraska City- Laura Wachter
Kearney- Kim Troudt

Buckets of Sunshine Project Forms
turned in
October- \$50.00 Cleaning Supplies-
Kearney Nebraska