



# THE GAVEL

Newsletter of  
The Nebraska Women of Today  
November 2011

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



Hello Nebraska WOT Ladies!

November started out on a high note! Karen Gruber and her team hosted an Out of this World Convention in York! It was great to see everyone and share the awards from National Mid-Year and our 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester in Nebraska. The awards list is in this gavel.

We had two women compete in the OYW Competition at Fall Convention and they both are truly Outstanding Young Women! The judges had a hard time choosing but Sara Bird was awarded the prize! Thanks also to Frances Schoonveld for competing. Frances had such a good time at convention that she decided to join the Lincoln chapter! She was recruited by Jen Strohmeyer. Also, Shellie Haun from the Lincoln chapter recruited a new member in October – welcome to Anne Regelean! It's so exciting to have new members join our team!

As always please let me know of any special events that your chapter is holding and I will try to make it. I am still working on my goal of visiting each chapter. Also, please email me pictures of projects that your chapter has done. I am making a presentation for year end and want to make sure every chapter is represented.

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and it's time to count our blessings. Included in those blessings for me is Women of Today. Thank you all for your friendship! Have a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

**Don't forget... ...The Power of Teamwork!**

See you soon!

Kim Hermann  
State President



## Membership VP

Hello Ladies!

I included in the chapter packets a Membership Booklet. Just ask your local president and she will share it.

It was great seeing all of you at convention in York. If you haven't gone to a convention it is a great time to see all the ladies across the state. Please think about coming to the next one. It is our Annual Convention. This is where we elect new officers for next year. We also give all the year-end awards to all our members who have worked hard all year long. Come join us. It is an awesome experience. This is a great way to learn more about Women of Today and what you can do for your communities.

Don't forget December 1, 2011 is the deadline for 2nd trimester dues to be to me. This is very important. If we do not have them on time we will get charged \$50 for being late. I am so very proud of all chapter contacts for getting them to me on time last trimester. PLEASE LETS DO IT AGAIN!!!

November Emphasis is Focus on Women and Leadership. We also have Family Week.  
December Emphasis is Extensions and Membership.

Remember Debbie Funsch, our US Membership VP, Challenge!! Any chapter who recruits a new member in December gets their name in for a drawing for \$25. All December recruiters will get their name in a drawing for a spa gift basket.



With Thanksgiving just around the corner, we all have things we are thankful for. I want to tell you all I am very thankful for my health and my family. I am really blessed and thankful that we have such awesome Women of Today across Nebraska and the United States. I am very thankful to have all of you as a part of my life. Thank you all for what you do for your community and nation.

**“Let's Keep Our Star Members  
And Grow “**

Hello Ladies,

I included a S.T.E.P. booklet in the chapter packet. If you need your STEP form just ask your local president. I put one each in the packet. If you have any questions just call, text, or email. I will be glad to get the correct answers for you.



I received two S.T.E.P. I and one S.T.E.P. IV at convention. Please keep these coming. I want to give lots of awards at year-end. I know there are lots of you out there working hard. Just fill out your forms and send them to me. I will get some competition forms from National if anyone is interested in competing for national year-end.

## **S.T.E.P. Up and Be Heard** (your voice matters)

Roberta Smith  
Membership VP  
E-mail: [bkwot08@yahoo.com](mailto:bkwot08@yahoo.com)

## Chaplain

It's hard to think that Thanksgiving is only a few short weeks away....; however we are already seeing Christmas things popping up on shelves in stores. I have TUGGED at the meaning of both Thanksgiving and Christmas for many years.

Thanksgiving is a time when we should be thankful for what we have had and been given in life. A time to spend with family and friends.

Christmas is a time to reflect on the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ and again be thankful for not only His birth but for the things that He has given us. I remind myself that everything I have and everything I have been given is because of Him and really does belong to Him. If it wasn't for Him, neither I nor you would have the things we have today. Let's be thankful to Him for what He has given us. I am thankful for each and everyone of you for being a part of my life



and for sharing in the opportunity to grow together as Women of Today .....

May each of you have a blessed holiday with your family and friends.... Until next year.....

Kathy Morrow  
State Chaplain  
[talkingfingers@juno.com](mailto:talkingfingers@juno.com)

## Personal Enrichment

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. I was glad to see a lot of people at convention. I cannot believe third trimester is here already. Please send your second trimester work, or you can e-mail it to me. I hope to see a lot of writing competition for year end. The topic will be in this news letter. I will be traveling to your chapter soon.

For Effective Writing, I'm going to do something slightly different. It will be a reference to "The Apprentice." The candidates have to sell themselves with their unique or best qualities to have Donald Trump chose them. I want the participating WOT members to write to Donald Trump to say why they, for their service organization (e.g. US Women of Today), would be a perfect place to give his millions to. Guidelines: 600 - 800 words, double space, single sided. Send this proposal/ essay (5 copies) and Stat Sheet. Stat Sheet to include - your name, address, phone number, chapter/state, # of words in essay (every word counts) and title of essay.

If you have any questions please call or e-mail me.  
Good Luck

Julie Fogelman  
Personal Enrichment Program Manager  
[jfogleman@yahoo.com](mailto:jfogleman@yahoo.com)

## Local Presidents Association

Hello Ladies,  
It was great to see some of you at Fall Convention! If you were not able to attend convention, I hope you have received your chapter packet by now with

lots of information. Included in the chapter packets were my third trimester fast start, newsletter for local president and the new and updated success system. The explanation and verification list was also updated and included in the packets.

Thanks to Heartland, Kearney and Lincoln for completing my first trimester fast start.

Congratulations to the following chapters who participated in the Success System and received the following ribbons:

Fremont –Bronze  
Nebraska City- Bronze

Please remember to send in your success systems and fast starts by **DECEMBER 1ST**. You can either mail or e-mail me. I look forward to having a full mailbox/inbox!

I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving and that you all enjoy time with your families!

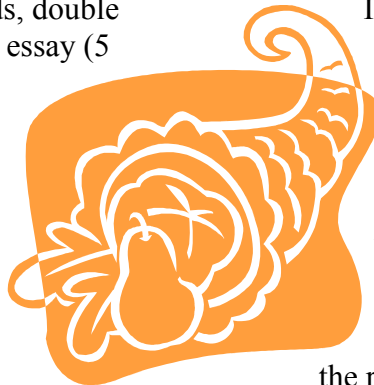
Jessica Cinnamon  
LPA President

## Chairman of the Board

I would like to “Thank” Karen Gruber and all of her helpers for doing such an awesome job with the convention in York. I do believe everyone had a great time!

Are you serving as a State Board member this year? Have you considered doing a folder for Outstanding State Board Personnel competition? Please look over the requirements on our website. It really isn't that hard and since I don't have a clue as to where you would buy a duo tang folder I would accept any type of folder covering that is inexpensive. It would be a great idea just so you could see how much you really have done in a year's time. All those articles and things add up quicker than you think!

On another note as US Domestic Violence Awareness PM I would like to “Thank” all of the chapters in the state who took up the challenge and



made tie blankets for the National Mid-Year convention. Your generosity is part of what makes this organization great! And think of all those little kids who will get a nice snuggly blanket! Together we DO make a difference!

I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving with your families!

Laura Wachter  
NE State President 2010-2011  
[lwachter@neb.rr.com](mailto:lwachter@neb.rr.com)

## Treasurer

It was great to see everyone at convention. Karen and her helpers did a great job. Congratulations to all the winners. This convention we did a 50/50 and it turned out great and also I would like to thank everyone for helping out with the store sales. I am still looking for new ideas for the State store. We have lots of items in the store. If you would like to purchase please let me know and I would be happy to send to you.

Just a reminder that I am the Domestic Violence Awareness and Aid to Foster Program Manager. For the month of October the emphasis is Domestic Violence and I know there were some chapters who have participated, so please send the paperwork to me and you will be recognized at year end.

In my Chapter packets at Convention I have the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester fast start which are due to me on December 1<sup>st</sup>. I would like to see many chapters participate.

I would like to thank all members for helping me planting the seed.

Cindy Urlacher  
State Treasurer  
[curlacher66@msn.com](mailto:curlacher66@msn.com)



## Region 3 Director

Thanks to Lincoln, NE City and Heartland, for participating in the Region 3 Bowl-a-thon on Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>. **We raised \$455 in pledges**, so thank you all! We have decided to donate the funds to a Shelter in

Omaha in honor of our dear friend Lori Rodriguez, as a memorial.

Local Presidents- Check your chapter packets from Convention for my 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester Fast Starts! These are personal incentives, for the Local Chapter President only. They are achievable, so I'd love to get some participants!

Kelley Rosburg  
Region 3 Director  
[krosburg2@cox.net](mailto:krosburg2@cox.net)

## Parliamentarian

Thanks to those of you who are participating in my Parliamentary "Question of the Month." I have four names in the drawing for annual convention so far, and one member is in there twice.



This month's "**Parli Tip of the Month**" is: **Main Motions**: Main motions are for the objective of bringing questions, or propositions, before the Assembly for consideration. Only the Assembly and such a motion, when introduced, can consider one main motion at a given time, excludes all other main motions until it has been disposed of.

## Local Parli's - Here is your Parliamentary "Question of the Month" – What is a Privileged Motion?

Kelley Rosburg  
Parliamentarian  
[krosburg2@cox.net](mailto:krosburg2@cox.net)

## CHAPTER CHATTER

### Heartland

The Heartland Chapter members are still making monthly donations to the Food Pantry. We will be doing a "Helping Hands" project in our community doing Fall yard work for an elderly senior. We recently held a Board Meeting, and are also planning on ringing bells for the Salvation Army and making dinner for the Rainbow House.

Kelley Rosburg

## **Nebraska City**

The Nebraska City ladies are making their plans for Family Week and will be holding their Annual Chapter Social on December 6, 2011 at Joyce Harpster's home. We will have an ornament exchange and wine & appetizers. Of course we will invite potential new members to join us for some fun! If you'd like to join us just drop me an email so we know you're coming! Have a Happy Thanksgiving!!

Laura Wachter, chapter president

## **Lincoln**

The Lincoln Chapter put together more "Buckets" for Habitat Houses, made Halloween Treat Bags for the Lincoln City Mission, and helped with the Lincoln-Lancaster Co. Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off. We will be participating in writing letters of appreciation to our members in the Armed Services and working with the "Blue Star Moms" to get them sent.

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## **Awards From Fall Convention**

### **Luncheon**

#### **Treasurer Fast Starts – Cindy**

Fremont Area  
Heartland  
Kearney  
Nebraska City

#### **LPA Fast Starts - Jessica**

Heartland  
Kearney

#### **Community Connections Report – Maxine**

Fremont Area  
Heartland  
Lincoln

#### **Top Community Fundraiser Chapter – Fremont Area**

Top Community Service Chapter – Fremont Area

#### **Membership Fast Starts – Roberta**

Fremont Area  
Heartland  
Kearney  
Nebraska City

#### **S.T.E.P. Fast Starts – Roberta**

Fremont Area  
Heartland  
Kearney  
Nebraska City

#### **State Board Fast Starts - Kim**

Laura Wachter  
Roberta Smith

### **Incentive Session**

#### **Submitting Dues Billing On Time – Roberta**

Beatrice  
Fremont Area  
Heartland  
Kearney  
Lincoln  
Monarch  
Nebraska City  
Sterling  
Wauneta

#### **Submitting Chapter Mailing fees - Cindy**

Fremont Area  
Heartland  
Kearney  
Lincoln  
Monarch  
Nebraska City  
Wauneta

#### **Aid To Foster Families - Cindy**

Fremont Area \$25.23  
Nebraska City \$15.89

**Domestic Violence Awareness - Cindy**

Lincoln – Educational  
Nebraska City – Educational  
Heartland – Service Project – donation to Lydia House (\$400.00)

**Roadrunner Recognition – Maxine**

Local Member – Angela Moody/Heartland – 48 miles  
Local President – Julie Fogelman/Heartland – 102 miles  
State Board Member – Cindy Urlacher/Heartland – 102 miles

**Health & Wellness – Kathy**

Linda Lenser  
Kathy Morrow

**Newsletter Submission – Amy**

Heartland  
Kearney  
Lincoln  
Nebraska City  
Fremont Area

**Public Relations Report – Amy**

Kearney  
Lincoln  
Nebraska City

**Team Building – Julie**

Heartland – Angela Moody, Cindy Urlacher  
Monarch – Karen Gruber, Deb Hale, Pam Matney, Charlene Johnson  
Lincoln – Kim Hermann, Kelley Rosburg, Terri Sherman, Sheena Ammon  
Nebraska City – Joyce Harpster, Laura Wachter  
Kearney – Jan Maaske

**Personal Development – Julie**

Kelley Rosburg

**Banquet**

**Success System – Jessica**

Bronze Ribbon – Fremont  
Bronze Ribbon – Nebraska City

**Outstanding Programming Chapter – Maxine**

Lincoln

**100% Retention 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester – Roberta**

Beatrice  
Fremont  
Kearney  
Lincoln  
Monarch  
Nebraska City  
Wauneta

**Presidential Pins – Kim**

Cindy Urlacher  
Laura Wachter  
Roberta Smith  
Joyce Harpster  
Donnette Hoyle