



# THE GAVEL

Newsletter of  
The Nebraska Women of Today  
June/July 2003

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



Nebraska Women of Today:

Our first quarter of the new year has really flown by. By the time you receive this I will be getting ready to attend the National Women of Today Convention in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. There are five members from Nebraska attending and we hope to end Past President Kim's year with a bang! GO NEBRASKA!! We also wish the best of luck to our own Maxine Turner who is seeking the position of National Membership Vice President.

Each chapter president will be receiving a special mailing toward the end of June. This will have information from various state board members including fast starts and other helpful items.

Founder's Day is July 1<sup>st</sup>. I hope that every chapter has the opportunity to celebrate in some way the founding of our organization. The month of July is also the United States Women of Today emphasis month for both Extensions and Public Relations. Be sure that you send any newspaper articles to our State Secretary who is also our Public Relations Chairwoman.

Our summer convention will be held July 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> in Nebraska City at the Apple Inn. Plan to come and spend a little time in my hometown "The Home of Arbor Day". The convention will end in the afternoon on the 19<sup>th</sup> so there will plenty of time to see some of the area attractions.

I hope that you are all having a great summer. Be sure and invite me to any event or meeting that you would like. An extra set of hands seems to always help and traveling in the summer will work well with my schedule.

As always if you have any questions or need any help with anything please be sure to let me know. I am eager to be of assistance to you. Keep searching for those rainbows!

Joyce Harpster  
"A Promise for Tomorrow"  
411 S. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Nebraska City, NE 68410  
(402) 873-6521  
[chefsmom2000@yahoo.com](mailto:chefsmom2000@yahoo.com)



## MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT

Ladies,

The membership team is building solar rays, as they are busy working with membership and working to add new rays to our universe. One region has all ready held a region meeting and two regions have set theirs for June and July. So, please take time out of your busy schedules to attend, as everyone needs time to relax. And I know if you want to visit another region, just let the regional director know that you are coming. Remember, this year we are going to have **FUN** in the membership.

I have heard of chapters all ready holding M-Nights, a great opportunity for your chapter to recruit new members. And these M-

Nights are also great for your chapter members, as your members can take time to relax and have **FUN!**

I hope each new chapter president knows what their base was at the beginning of their year. We need to look at the members we will be losing throughout the year. And what members we are going to pursue on recruiting this year. As, I have stated in my last article that we want each chapter to be at growth at year-end (2004).

The last paragraph leads me into the topic of retention, as we need to find the reason why we are losing these members. Many times a member quits, because the change of their lifestyle, such as jobs, family activities, etc. Sometimes, members quit because they cannot attend meetings for the next nine months, in return suggest to the member to work on chapter projects until they can come back to chapter meetings. Maybe a member does not feel they are

contributing enough time, as they can only work on one project every other month and cannot attend the membership meeting. Here, again explain to them that whatever they can do will help the chapter. I feel many times if we take the time and visit with our members, we could save them from dropping their membership. So, let's have **FUN** and retain those members, so that in the future they can attend those meetings or work on those projects.

Remember that Founder's Day (July 1<sup>st</sup>) is just around the corner; make this an opportunity to "**Shout out with Pride**" about our Women of Today organization. We all need to start talking about Women of Today everywhere we go. Make people curious to know what this group is all about. This would be a good opportunity to host a M-Night.

The first quarter is over as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, be sure to attend summer convention to celebrate, as we will be "Having **FUN** in the *sun* with "**Rising Membership**".

Maxine Turner  
"Raising Membership  
Fun in the Sun"  
2446 E. 19th  
Fremont, NE 68025  
402-721-6608  
[maxtaj@yahoo.com](mailto:maxtaj@yahoo.com)



## Happy Founder's Day July 1<sup>st</sup>!!!!

### Secretary

Hello Ladies,

Just a reminder that July 1<sup>st</sup> is Founder's Day. Please fill out the founder's Day participation form and send to me by July 10<sup>th</sup> to be recognized at summer convention in Nebraska City. My first quarter Fast Start is due to me by July 10<sup>th</sup> They are; Send me your Secretary's name and address, (if possible email would be helpful too), Send your Founder's day activity, Send me the name and address of your local Newspaper, Have your secretary attend LOTS, Send a chapter chatter to the GAVEL, Send me pictures of a local project or event for PR. You need to complete 4 out of 6. I will be compiling a book for all the local secretaries to be distributed at Summer Convention.

Cindy Urlacher  
"The Minutes of Our Lives"  
5820 South 107th St.  
Omaha, NE 68127  
402-891-8697  
[curlacher66@msn.com](mailto:curlacher66@msn.com)



### Webmaster

Webmaster

I would like to welcome Joyce as the new president, and I look forward to working with her and her board. A new poll question has been posted and we would like to have as many responses as possible. The board would like to make a decision on closing part of the site off to the general public so more sensitive information can be made available to the membership. The

convention drawing graphic has been relocated for the month of June, so go hunting again.

I look forward to working with local chapters as they plan their own website. Get your committee together today!



### LPA President

Hello Ladies,

I am going to get a chapter mailing out very soon! Success System is due the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. If you need help or have questions about the Success System, contact me: My home phone is 402-488-9527 or I can be reached by email: [nise\\_deter@yahoo.com](mailto:nise_deter@yahoo.com). I hope to see all of you at the Summer Convention!!

Denise Deter  
"Retrieving Success"  
402-488-9527  
[nise\\_deter@yahoo.com](mailto:nise_deter@yahoo.com)



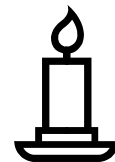
### Chaplain/Focus on Women/Women in General

Hi Ladies

I am so excited this year to be your new Chaplain/FOW/WIG. We are going to do alot of fun and exciting things this year. My theme for this year is going to be GOD IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD I am going to use candles. I don't have much information for you at this time.

I can't wait to get my year started if you have any question or concerns about the family area or FOW and WIG, please feel free to call me. The next gavel article that I will have will have more information about the Chaplain area so I am looking forward in working with each and every chapter this year.

Vickie Penner  
God is the Light of the World  
41531 State HWY 112  
Wymore Ne 68466  
402-645-3760  
[penney2@web-unwired.com](mailto:penney2@web-unwired.com)



### SUCCESS THROUGH ENTHUSIASTIC PARTICIPATION

Hello Ladies;

I just wanted to introduce myself as I will be serving as your S.T.E.P. program manager this year. I know it will be a fun and exciting year. I do hope that everyone takes time to look at the forms in all of the areas as well as S.T.E.P. and fills them out and sends them to the various program managers. My mailbox will be ready and waiting. If anyone has any questions as to what they need to do or questions on the form please feel free to contact me. My phone and email address will be at the end of this short note. Again, everyone should be getting those forms out at every meeting to see if they can fill anything out

on any of the forms. Remember, it only takes a small amount of time if you just check them once a month. Again, I know this will be a fun year as Joyce and all of her wonderful exec board are great leaders.

Diane Lux  
113 South Sumner  
Beatrice, NE 68310  
402-228-2363  
[bl30428@alltel.net](mailto:bl30428@alltel.net)



## effective speaking/effective writing

Hi All-----

I am Lynn Ploeger and I will be the ES/EW Program Manager for the 2003-04 year. I hope that all the Nebraska members will consider certifying in both Effective Speaking and Effective Writing. The form for certifying are in the Programming Area of the Guide for Action. All chapters should have a Guide, check with your chapter president. The form for ES is on page 48 and page 52 for EW. To certify in Effective Speaking you need to participate in four areas. They include 1) Ice Breakers, 2) Impromptu speech, 3) Reports, and 4) Prepared Speech. Ice Breakers are the easy to complete. They can be done by simply introducing your self at the next chapter meeting or by leading the Nebraska Creed. The next area--Impromptu can also be done at your local meeting. It can be a FUN activity where everyone can join in. Subjects for the speeches can be tossed in a hat then at random members can pick a subject and VIOLA the talking can begin!!! Giving a report is another easy area to complete--- Have a project that needs to be presented to the group or an officers report on how that area is doing and that easily YOU have finish the REPORT section. Finally the LAST area----The Prepared Speech. Usually the most dreaded area. But it can be Fun also!!!! Pick an area of Interest and do a little research, jot down some thoughts, practice a time or two, then give your informative speech to the group. You can kill two birds with one stone if your speech is in an area that can work for either orientation or a Women in General program. But please remember that it doesn't need to be done at a Women of Today function or meeting. Yes can be given for any organization you belong to, or for a presentation on the job. I hope that this will helps everyone and that I have lots of certifications in the Effective Speaking area.

In my next article look for how to certify in the Effective Writing Area. Remember as always that I will try to help any one with problems they may encounter in this area and can be reach by snail mail, e-mail, or phone. Just give me a holler.

Lynn Ploeger  
"Getting a Leg Up  
with ES/EW"  
4503 Linden Drive  
Kearney, NE 68847  
308-237-4039  
[jbl@kearney.net](mailto:jbl@kearney.net)



## MAKE-A-WISH/AID TO FOSTER Children

Hi,  
My name is Peggy Doering and I am serving as a your Aid to foster children and Make-a-wish contact person. I have been a member of the Beatrice Chapter since 1987 and have served several positions on the local as well as state. I am not sure that I can be quite as crafty as Janet but will do my best. I know that each chapter knows that these programs are very important and touch many lives. Therefore "I need ewe" to help keep the funds coming in. I chose this theme because I collect sheep things. I suppose many of you will be taking a vacation

of some sort this summer so I am asking that members put in 10 cents for every 100 miles they travel. This could go towards make-a-wish. Don't forget about collecting those pennies for Aid to foster children as "I need ewe".

Peggy Doering  
"I need ewe"  
1403 S. 5th  
Beatrice, NE 68310  
[Peggy\\_Doering@beatrice.k12.ne.us](mailto:Peggy_Doering@beatrice.k12.ne.us)



## Region Directors

### Region II

Hello There,

It's me, Cyndi Bahler your Region II Director. I am here to help you in any way possible with WOT activities, training, socials, and recruitment. I was thrilled to have 2 chapters represented at our first Pizza Hut social. I look forward to meeting the rest of you. I wanted to pass along some upcoming activities, June 20, 7:00 Margaritas, Senioritis, and More!! at Janet Keisers home. June 29, 4:30 Sunday Fun Day for the whole family at my home. Also if any chapter in region II would like to spread the word about a project or social feel free to let me know and I will get the word out for you. There are plenty of state board members just itching to come out when invited. Also the state web site [www.nbwt.org](http://www.nbwt.org) is a great way to post your happenings for all to see. We hope to provide you with many opportunities to find out all that Women of Today has to offer. There has also been interest in starting a chapter in Sumner. Do you want to come with me, and share with them, sometime, all of your thoughts?

If you ever need anything please do not hesitate to contact me! Hope to see you all real soon!

Cyndi Bahler  
73662 314 Ave.  
Lamar, NE 69023  
308-882-5969  
[bahler@chase3000.com](mailto:bahler@chase3000.com)

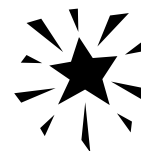


### Region IV

Hello twinkling stars,

Region IV will be holding our first PEP Day on June 28. I have planned 3 programs for the afternoon. We will start out at 1:00 PM with Beer Tasting from Around the World. We will then have a PEP program on Personal Goal Setting. We will finish the afternoon in the back yard with gardening/landscaping basics. I would like to invite everyone from the state to attend. The cost for the day has not yet been determined, if you are interested please contact me. Please RSVP by June 24 so I know how much supplies to purchase. I challenge everyone in attendance to bring a friend.

Pamela England  
Keep Shining  
2075 E 2<sup>nd</sup> St.  
Fremont, NE 68025  
402-727-5991



### Region VI

Hello Ladies:

I'm really excited to be serving as Region VI Director this year! Our first Region Meeting will be a celebration of Founder's Day on July 2

at Mahoney State Park. We will be enjoying a buffet dinner at the lodge followed by an evening of entertainment at the Melodrama. I am looking forward to visiting all the chapters in Region VI and I hope to see many of you at Summer Convention in Nebraska City in July. I'm planning some fun and informative activities for the coming year. Watch my newsletters for more information.

Judy Lukehart  
 "Golden Treasures"  
 4833 N 20<sup>th</sup>  
 Lincoln, NE 68521  
 402-742-0497  
[jjjakacggd@nebrr.com](mailto:jjjakacggd@nebrr.com)



**CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

Ladies,  
 No, I have not dropped off the face of the earth, I am in the process of moving my family back to Nebraska. We will be in Kearney very soon, and hopefully will have email service SOON!!!!!!!  
*UPDATE IN TIME FOR THE GAVEL*  
 Greetings everyone,  
 We have successfully moved to Kearney, Nebraska and are back on line. Our new email address is [troudt@charter.net](mailto:troudt@charter.net)  
 Keep in touch.

Kim Troud



"A Work of Heart"  
 308-238-0756  
[troudt@charter.net](mailto:troudt@charter.net)

**GAVEL EDITOR**

Ladies,  
 Some of you are receiving this via email, please let me know what you think! If you did not receive this issue via email, but would like to in the future, please send me your email address and I will put you on the email list.  
 I would also like you to put my name on your mailing list for your local chapter newsletters, I will be recognizing an outstanding local newsletter this year. It is a way to reward all the hard work that goes into keeping your members informed.  
 State Board members, will you please include me in your newsletters too, as I will recognize an outstanding state board newsletter as well.

Angela Moody  
 3105 S 157<sup>th</sup> St  
 Omaha, NE 68130  
 402-330-4593  
[angela-moody@cox.net](mailto:angela-moody@cox.net)



**Chapter chatter/Friendship Corner**

**Heartland**

Three + of our members will be attending National Convention in Harrisburg PA this month, Joyce, Maxine, Angela and we are still claiming Kim! They will bring back lots of information to share with the entire state. We are planning lots of activities to keep us busy during the summer, starting with sharing Founders Day with Region VI at the Melodrama, then we will be working with the Fremont Area ladies on John C. Fremont Days, working a water station for the MS Bike tour, as well as continuing our work to get the Nebraska City extension completed.  
 Sonya Hurkman

**Beatrice,**

We had our annual Mother-Daughter salad supper. Afterwards a program was given by Roselyn Shaffer about carousel horses and brought some of her collection. Thanks mom for sharing! Ashley Cullison was chosen as our scholarship recipient this year and we will be purchasing a library book for the local library using the birthday bank money. We look forward to the new year!  
 Diane Lux

**This issue is serving as our June/July Newsletter  
 The next issue will be out in early August  
 Articles will be due to me on August 1st**

**UNITED STATES WOMEN OF TODAY CREED**

We The United States Women of Today,  
 Are dedicated to serving  
 our community and nation;  
 Are committed to strengthening  
 our individual talents;  
 And stand united by our friendship



**NEBRASKA WOMEN OF TODAY CREED**

We believe that faith in God,  
 gives meaning and purpose to human endeavor:  
 that for every wrong, there is a right,  
 for every foe, there is a friend;  
 that listening to all, then searching for truth,  
 and learning to lose, makes winning sweeter;  
 for we work with our hands as well as our hearts;  
 and we know as well the work that is done when

