

## Chapter Mailing



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### **Greetings Chapters!!**

I hope that everyone has been able to stay warm. It has been a whirlwind since convention here in January and I am thrilled with all that has happened in the 2nd trimester. We say over 100 people log into the zoom for Tevyan's fantastic membership event and the programming bingo as well. We changed up the forums so that everyone would be able to attend them and it was met with resounding success as well. Although we had a couple of technical hiccups, I am proud of the staff and exec council for making this one of the best conventions.

We honored four outstanding people in our community with all three outstanding awards and I am looking forward to traveling around to personally deliver the awards. Our most exciting news was that in regards to membership. With your help and the help of our membership team we did something that has never been done in our organization's history: 81% retention!!! Let that sink in.

We have been talking all year about rising above this pandemic and that we are all in this together. The 81% retention numbers show that we are all finding ways to make it through this time. You are all extending hands of fellowship to your community as we also welcomed 39 new members. As state president, my heart was bursting at the seams seeing the numbers coming in. This just proves to me that we see a need in our communities and are delivering it.

In the coming months we will see more of our members receiving vaccinations and opportunities will begin to come where we can meet in person, attend more events, and get out in the communities more. My hope is that you seize this opportunity to reflect on what YOU have accomplished so far this year and see how you can continue to rise.

We are seeming more hopeful of having our convention in person in Alexandria. We are working to ensure that all safety protocols are in place, social distancing, and working within the CDC, MDH, and the state guidelines to ensure that we are making the best decisions possible. The Burnsville Chapter has been hard at working coming up with a blast of a time for us to all celebrate emerging stronger than ever before from this.

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone for their support during the second trimester. It was a tough one for us all mentally, physically, and emotionally. Without the help of one another we would not be here today. I hope that everyone is finding ways to stay warm, staying active, and staying mentally healthy through this cold winter. If you are needing anything at all, please do not hesitate to reach out to myself or any member of staff. We are here to help however we can!!

In fellowship,  
Illeana Miller

## Membership Team

### **Chapter Membership VP**

#### **Jenise Teske**

Hi everybody! Wasn't the Winter State Convention exciting! We have gotten a lot of positive feedback for those attending. One of the big highlights was the passing of the vote to suspend the bylaw regarding TLC chapters until the end of 1st Trimester 2021 (8/31/21). I or MVP will be contacting chapters that might need help with recruitment, fundraisers, membership events. Registration forms will be emailed at the end of February for LOTS which will be held 5/1. I strongly encourage board members and LPMs to participate. You will not regret it! Also, Chapter Presidents start thinking of your Year-End evaluations due 4/24/21.

### **Membership VP**

#### **Tevyan Sorensen**

Happy March!! Its Membership month and we are celebrating! Join me for a Membership Chat on March 7th at 7pm to hear what others chapters are doing and get support from the Membership Team.

We are celebrating President Illeana's birthday on March 30th. Help us get at least 30 New Members in March and the Membership Team will host a Silly Supper for one lucky supper who signs at least one new member. Lets make it a great March for President Illeana!

What else is March all about? It ends with Membership Week, March 28 - April 3rd. Hold a recruiting event and send MVP Tevyan an email([mvp@mnwt.org](mailto:mvp@mnwt.org)) or message on Facebook with a photo from your event and be entered into a drawing for a Fun Box at Annual Convention. Sign 1 or more members at your event, give me a call or send me a text and you will also receive a fun thank you gift.

If you are looking for recruiting or retention ideas, make sure to check out the MVP CIP from Winter State or follow the MNWT Membership page. Not on FB, you can see all of our posts from the MVP or CMVP pages on mnwt.org. Let's finish Tri 3 strong by Gathering Your Flock and be ready to rock the new year!

### **Administrative VP**

#### **Michelle Kocak Jones**

There are many important dates to remember this trimester:

- ★ March 26th, 7pm- Area 2 and 3 Meeting will be virtual
- ★ March 27th, 10am- Area 1 and 4 Meeting will be virtual
- ★ April 24th- State Delegate and District Director Year-End Evaluations due, but remember if you get them to me BEFORE that day, you will be entered into an incentive basket drawing!
- ★ April 30th-State Delegate 3rd trimester reports due-chance to win a gift card by completing your report!

## ORGANIZATIONAL RULES & RECORDS

### **Secretary**

#### **Barb Monsrud**

Holy Moly! Wasn't the winter convention just amazing?? Did it amp everyone up to start planning socials and membership nights? As I talked about at the Winter Convention I am so close to completing my goal for chapters and districts to send me there Monthly Meeting mins. So keep sending them - I am going to have an amazing gift at our IN PERSON convention in May. I also **LOVE** receiving your newsletters. Who knew there was so much talent out there!?! Keep up the good work ladies and remember, all your efforts are not going unnoticed!!

**Parliamentarian**  
**Melissa Redzuan**

We have voted and approved the Marketing VP staff position starting next term 2021. We have also voted on bylaw and policies changes at Winter State. Are we tired of looking at the screen and not having in person contact? I sometimes find myself feeling restless, fatigued after sitting down for Zoom. How do we combat this fatigue or zoom fatigue? Well, why don't check out my Winter CIP available online or if your chapter still does paper copies, that will be coming to you soon. Participate in my 3rd trimester challenge, and win a little incentives from me at the Annual Convention. I will get it to your chapter one way or another where there be in person or mail.

## Programming

**Programming VP**  
**Anna Nichols**

Calling all members! Have you completed the Outstanding Achievement in Programming Certification offered by the USWT. The requirements for this certification are;

- Complete the Wellness and Personal Development Certification.
- Participate in a local (chapter or state) DVA project.
- Participate in a local (chapter or state) service, educational, or fundraising project.
- Participate in one competition on the state or national level, such as impromptu, writing, speaking, evaluations (mid-year or year end, and other competitions offered by the MNWT LL SPM.

<https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/2uO770fxqla4fajko>

**Living and Learning**  
**Melanie Chenoweth**

It was awesome to see so many of you at the winter state convention! Thank you for attending my brain dumping fellowship and the impromptu!

**Here are my third trimester challenges:**

**Chapter:** Have a zoom certification night where you fill out your forms while chatting with each other.

**Individual:** Write a letter to yourself saying what you wish for yourself this year. Put it away to read at the end of the year.

**Mini Challenges:**

**February:** Drink water! Track how much you are getting. Is it enough? No? Set a goal to drink just 8oz more a day. Let me know how much you are drinking and what your goal is.

**March:** Declutter – go through a drawer, a cabinet, or a closet. What can you donate? What can you repurpose? Let me know what you did!

**April:** It is my birthday month and I challenge you to mail a card to someone just to say hello. Let me know when you do.

**Priority Area - Wishes & More**  
**Jennifer Auger**

The Wishes & More T-shirt fundraiser is continuing to the end of this trimester.....let's keep them close to our hearts with one of their Heart Logo t-shirts for \$10 [T-Shirt Order Form](#) or email me at [priority-area@mnwt.org](mailto:priority-area@mnwt.org)

Way to go MNWT.....we collected over 100,000 stickers for Wishes & More! They will be using our stickers for many years to come after our official time with them have ended! Thank you for adding the SUNSHINE to this first combined Bucket of Sunshine and Priority Area joint Winter State Project!

## Youth of Today Glorie Balfanz

Hello Young at Heart. Thank you for all you did in Trimester 2.

Thank you to those of you who stayed with me during my forum Saturday afternoon at the convention. We had a lot of great information for you. I will be sharing it with you on the Facebook Programming Page. If you would like the information sent to you I will be happy to send it. **Congratulations to Connie Fink** from Monticello, **Sally Koltes from Melrose** and **Jenise Teske** from St Joseph for winning the incentives for participating. I will be delivering your prizes. For Youth of Today project ideas please see this link from the Children's MN. It is their In Kind gift wish list. [Children's MN Wish List](#)  
If you need more ideas I have been referencing Parents Magazine and Scholastic.com.

1. Organize a park clean up for families.
2. Put together activity boxes. Children decorate shoe boxes including things like a deck of cards, small games, puzzle books. Check out the In Kind wish list for ideas.
3. Visit a Nursing Home. One of our chapters was in their local newspaper because they hosted children from a local daycare to draw messages on the sidewalk for residents to see. What a way to think out of the box during Covid.

If you ever need any help with anything please contact me at [yt@mnwt.org](mailto:yt@mnwt.org)

I am so excited to see all of the wonderful projects in Trimester 3. If you want me to visit your chapter please let me know.

## Community Connections Tawn Hanson

It was great to see everyone at the convention. Thank you to everyone who participated in bingo and attended the forum. My 3rd trimester challenge is to support your local food shelf and to send me an email at [cc@mnwt.org](mailto:cc@mnwt.org).

Please consider nominating one of your chapters awesome projects for a Community Connections award. Nomination forms can be found at MNWT.org and are due **April 15** to me.

## Women's Wellness Jeny Ohr

Happy February! Hopefully everyone had fun at Winter State Convention. Thank you to those who attended my forum with Maureen Edstrom. Her willingness to share her story is inspiring.

**February** is Teen Dating Violence Prevention month. Remember to wear ORANGE to your chapter meeting and send the picture to [ww@mnwt.org](mailto:ww@mnwt.org). Your name will be entered into the Women's Wellness Tri 3 Participation Incentive Basket at Annual. I will also forward the picture to USWT DVA Kathy so you are entered into her incentive at USWT Annual convention as well.

Here are some questions and conversation prompts to get the conversation started with either your own children or youth you may work with. Make sure that you have liked MNWT Programming on Facebook to find more information throughout the month of Feb. I will be sharing information from [Love Is Respect](#) as well as sending chapters information to their chapter email as well. Be on the lookout!

- What's the culture like at your school in regards to dating? What would you change?
- What assumptions related to gender do you think people might have when it comes to dating?
- When do you feel safest, healthiest and most supported in your close relationships (dating or otherwise)?
- What can those people do to encourage these positive feelings? What can you do?
- What is it like to talk about dating with adults in your life?
- Has there been a time when you have felt disrespected by a significant other, online or offline? How did you respond?
- What is it like for you when you notice that a friend's significant other is not treating them well? What do you do?

The focus for March is March of Dimes. The March of Dimes leads the fight for the health of all moms and babies. They support research, lead programs and provide education and advocacy so that every mom and baby have the best possible start.

#### **Some ways your chapter can help:**

##### Do-it-yourself Fundraiser

- Create your fundraiser.
- Share with your friends.
- Celebrate your success.

##### Chapter Donation:

- At your Feb. or March general meeting have a lucky buck with proceeds going to March of Dimes.
- Donate your loose change to your chapter and send that to March of Dimes.

##### March:

- Create a chapter team.
- Share your team with family and friends.
- Raise funds for your team.

##### Virtual and At Home Volunteer Opportunities:

- [Gratitude Gifts for Healthcare Providers](#)
- [Send Postcards to Policy Makers](#)

Make sure to send me an email [ww@mnwt.org](mailto:ww@mnwt.org) to let me know if your chapter or members do anything for March of Dimes. Your name will be entered into the Women's Wellness Tri 3 Participation Incentive Basket at Annual.

## Chapter & District Support

### **Financial VP**

#### **Mary Hanson**

Thank you to the chapters and individuals who have supported MNWT this year through Ways & Means donations. Without our regular fundraisers we are really looking for your support.

Due to the COVID situation the Finance committee determined that holding our usual raffle was not feasible so we have a new fundraiser "Passport Through Minnesota". There is a flyer in my Winter State CIP, information on the MNWT website and a flyer included with this mailing. Please support MNWT and contribute to this fundraiser. President Illeana will draw the winner's name at our "In-Person" Annual Convention

### **Chairman of the Board**

#### **Cat Shuman**

Welcome and thank you to our 2021-2022 Elections Team members who are busy reviewing candidate filings and getting ready for upcoming election activities:



**Area 1 Carolyn Fortier, Area 2 Sandy Trossen,  
Area 3 Mary Sobczak, and Area 4 Amy Pumper.**

Area Meetings are just ahead and all members are invited to attend one of the virtual meetings.

- Area 2 and 3 will meet together on Friday, March 26 at 7 pm
- Area 1 and 4 meet together on Saturday, March 27 at 10 am.

Online meeting information and links will be sent out by the Chapter Service Center during the week ahead of the meetings. Hear from President Illeana and state president candidate(s), participate in an online activity, and you might even win a door prize. Look for flyers and more information on the MNWT website.

Are you interested in helping shape the future of our organization? You might want to attend March Planning on March 13th at 10 am. The Exec Council is invited to attend in person at Resurrection Church in Monticello and other members can either attend virtually or in person (might be limited). To participate, you must register online through the MNWT website.

**MARK this DATE:**

**June 10-12, 2021** - for the USWT Annual Convention to be held at the Ramada Tropical Resort in Urbandale IA. Registration form and other convention information can be found on the USWT website - use this link and select the Events tab: [Click Here](#)

## Committee & Foundation

### **Membership Management Committee Michelle Cloutier**

Thank you to all of our First Timers who joined us at the Convention for our Social! Looking forward to seeing you in person (fingers crossed) at the Annual Convention!

There is still work to be done with our Membership Team! If you have a passion for membership, please join us on March 20th for our next Committee Meeting. Check out my CIP for Tri 3 Challenge!

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### FEBRUARY | MARCH CALENDAR EVENTS

#### **FEBRUARY: Emphasis: NEWSLET (MN), Extensions (MN & US); STEP (US); Domestic Violence Awareness (US)**

2 NEWSLET Personals due to Newsletter Editor for Post Winter State Issue

5 MN State Sales Tax due to MN Dept of Revenue

15 March Planning Recommendations due to COB

24 Trimester III MNWT Webinar

28 Chapter President monthly reports due to DD

28 NMAs due IN HAND to Chapter Service Center

#### **March 2021: Emphasis: STEP (MN); Membership (MN & US); USWT Foundation (US); Health & Wellness (US)**

2 Presidential Pin and Medallion Nominations for Area Meetings due to State President

5 NEWSLET articles/personals due to Editor for elections issue

6 Finance Committee Meeting -- TBD

13 March Planning -- Monticello  
 15 Early Bird Renewals due POSTMARKED to Chapter Service Center  
 20 MNWT State Committee Meetings -- 10:00  
 MMC 12pm Marketing, 1:30pm Future Directions  
 26 Area 2 Meeting -- TBD  
 27 Area 1 Meeting -- TBD  
 28 - 4/5 MNWT Membership Week 3

**30 President Illeana's birthday**

31 Chapter President monthly reports due to DD  
 31 NMAs due IN HAND to Chapter Service Center

**TRI 3 WEBINAR**

**CM 011: 2020-2021 Tri 2 Webinar Series - February 24, 2021 at 6:00 PM**

- 6:00 Programming Crescent Cove with PVP Anna
- 6:30 Success Program with CMVP Jenise
- 7:00 Succession Planning with COB Cat
- 7:30 Q&A Session with Exec Director Katie

*The times may shift due to availability of the presenters.*

**REGISTER BY CLICKING HERE**

**2021 March Planning**

Saturday, March 13, 2021 10 am to 2 pm at Resurrection Lutheran Church 9300 Jason Ave NE, Monticello, MN

March Planning is a one-day opportunity for any member to share recommendations where Exec Council and other members discuss recommendations for improvements submitted by MNWT members. It is an excellent way to learn more about our organization. Anyone is welcome to participate and provide feedback.

Pre-registration to attend is required and can be done online through the MNWT website - Chairman of the Board webpage. Both in person and online attendance is available. Please register online by March 1st. If you cannot attend, you can still send recommendations to Chairman of the Board, Cathy Shuman.

**FINANCE FUNDRAISER**



**"Passport Through Minnesota"  
 MNWT Annual Convention Fundraiser**

- We know that you would love to get out and do some traveling
- And it's a great time to support Minnesota "small" businesses
- So here's a chance to do both!

**Make a DONATION to MN Women of Today, and you could be the lucky winner of the "Passport Through Minnesota" basket full of surprises to use as you travel around the state!**

*The basket contains a free night stay at both Arrowwood in Baxter and Arrowwood in Alexandria as well as gift certificates to restaurants, wineries, stores from all over the state to give you a chance to make new memories enjoying your "Passport Through Minnesota" with friends.*

**Every \$10 that members or chapters contribute for this fundraiser, earns a chance in the drawing for the "Passport Through Minnesota" basket to be awarded at Annual Convention on May 22, 2021.**

You can mail a check made payable to MN Women of Today or make your donation online with Paypal through the link on the Financial Vice President staff page.

What kind of surprises would you like to find in the basket?  
 Make your \$\$ donation \$\$ today and don't miss out on the fun!  
 (Pictures do not necessarily represent items in the basket, but the winner takes all!)



**Passport Item #1**  
 Suggested Donation - \$5



**Passport Item #2**  
 Suggested Donation - \$10



**Passport Item #3**  
 Suggested Donation - \$20



**Passport Item #4**  
 Suggested Donation - \$50

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount of Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (please make donations by April 30, 2021)

Make check payable to "MN Women of Today" and mail to:  
 MN Women of Today, Chapter Service Center  
 PO BOX 44242, Eden Prairie MN 55344

Questions? Contact the finance committee at [fvp@mnwLore](mailto:fvp@mnwLore)

# AREA MEETING INFORMATION



## MINNESOTA WOMEN OF TODAY

### WHAT:

Area Meeting

QUESTIONS? Contact [DD02@mnwt.org](mailto:DD02@mnwt.org),  
[DD03@mnwt.org](mailto:DD03@mnwt.org), [DD10@mnwt.org](mailto:DD10@mnwt.org), or  
[DD11@mnwt.org](mailto:DD11@mnwt.org).

### WHEN:

Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>  
10 am

### WHERE:

Via ZOOM

Brew your favorite morning indulgence & join MNWT members to meet presidential candidates and be enlightened by

**STATE PRESIDENT ILLEANA**

Enjoy a virtual group activity too!

Make yourself seen with your favorite mug...

for chances to win multiple gift cards!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
PRESIDENT ILLEANA!**

Alternate Meeting: Area 2 & 3 - Fri, Mar 26 - 7 PM



You're Invited to be a  
**"Queen For A Day"**  
at the MNWT Area 2 &  
Area 3 Virtual Meeting

Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm  
(login info will be sent out during the week before)

Meet the 2021-2022  
MNWT Presidential  
Candidates

Wear your crown  
(or hat) and get  
your name in a  
drawing!

Hear from President Illeana and Enjoy a virtual group activity!

Contact your District Director with Questions:  
District 4 - Sally 320-291-2994, District 5 - Shirley 320-298-5162  
District 6 - Sherry 763-229-6084, District 7 - Shellee 612-749-9538  
District 8 - Angela 612-462-9238  
Or email them at [DD###@mnwt.org](mailto:DD###@mnwt.org)

Alternate Meeting: Area 1 & 4 - Sat, Mar 27 - 10 AM



Q: How can you tell  
if an Irishman  
is having  
a good time?

A: He's Dublin over  
with laughter!



# *Join the MNWT Foundation for a Virtual Visit to Margaritaville*

## National Margarita Day

### Monday, February 22, 2021

Mix your favorite alcoholic or non-alcoholic Margarita and join Thelma

and Louise on a zoom call at 7pm CST



This will also be MNWT Foundation Fundraiser – donations will be gladly accepted. Anyone giving a donation to the foundation for \$25 or more will be in a drawing for a Margarita Basket.

*Join us for fun, games and puzzles:*

- *Participants will vote on the person with the most creative margarita*
- *Decorate up your area with palm trees, cactus, wear your beach wear – prize will be given for the most creative ambiance!*
- *There will be games and lots of fun.*



Email [foundation@mnwt.org](mailto:foundation@mnwt.org) for the zoom link  
Hope you join us!

# DIGI-SENSE ARTICLE by JESSICA SCHULTZ

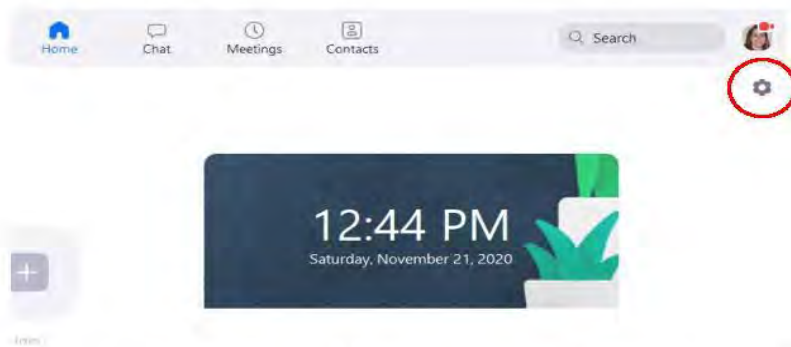
Before you begin - you must have Window 10 to use the MNWT Backgrounds, some computers require a greenscreen background to use downloaded images for your background.

Use the provided link to download the virtual background

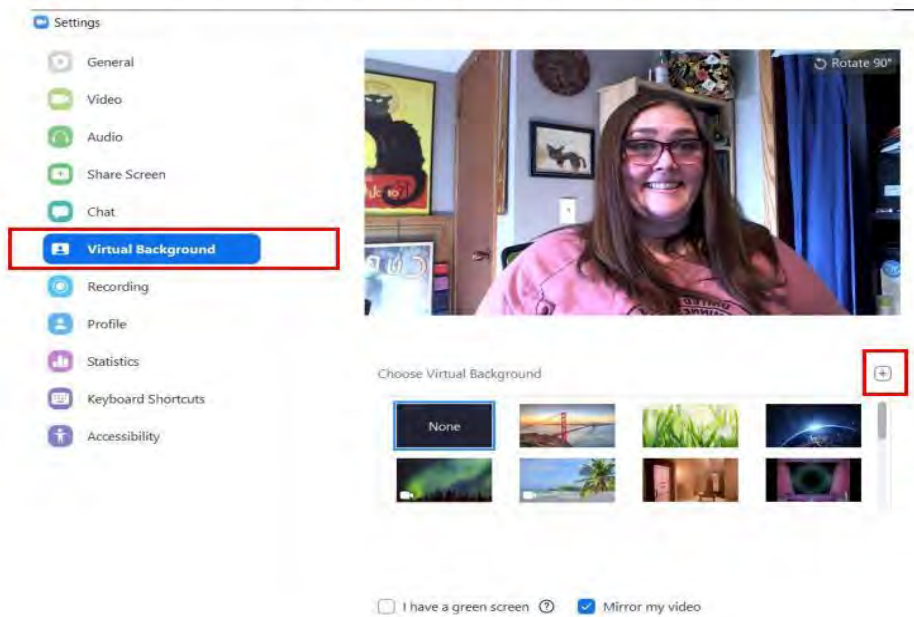
Got to the Zoom App on your Desktop



Click the Settings icon



Click the Virtual Background Option, click the Add button, then click Add Image.



Navigate to the folder where you downloaded the background, then select your image.



Choose your virtual background and make sure to Mirror your video. It will look reverse to you, but it will face the right way for the attendees of your meeting.



I have a green screen (?)     Mirror my video

In a few moments, your new background should appear. It will look reverse to you, but it will face the right way for the attendees of your meeting. Have fun with the backgrounds and have a good meeting!



I have a green screen (?)     Mirror my video



**Winter State Executive Council Meeting  
Minutes - Minnesota Women of Today  
Eden Prairie and ZOOM  
Friday January 29, 2021**

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President Illeana Miller called the Winter State Executive Council meeting of the Minnesota Women of Today to order at 2:00pm. Melanie Chenoweth, Living & Learning State Program Manager, read an invocation. Anna Nichols, PVP led the Pledge of Allegiance and Michelle Kocak-Jones led the United States Women of Today Creed. Parliamentarian Melissa Redzuan read the Order of the Day. A quorum has been established. The minutes of the Mid-Year Executive Council meeting on November 7, 2020 were approved in the December Chapter Mailing Highlights. .

**Secretary – Barb Monsrud ([secretary@mnwt.org](mailto:secretary@mnwt.org))**

- ❑ EC please remember to go in and fill out the Business Meeting Minutes. I need to complete the mins by a certain date - you ALL have been doing a great job. Sorry that I am so needy.
- ❑ Illeana picks the two winners by drawing numbers - I'll announce at Business Mtg.

**Administrative Vice President – Michelle Kocak Jones ([avp@mnwt.org](mailto:avp@mnwt.org))**

- ❑ Only have had one person interested (D5)
- ❑ COB Cat and AVP Michelle have met with all DDs to begin planning virtual Area Meetings

**Membership Vice President – Tevyan Sorensen ([mvp@mnwt.org](mailto:mvp@mnwt.org))**

- ❑ 2nd and 3rd Trimester Numbers: We ended 1st Trimester with the highest 1st Tri retention since 2009. I set an incredible goal for you all and I challenged you to inspire our membership to reach higher in Tri 2 than we have in a very long time...80% Retention and 70 New Member Adds. While we fell a little short of our goal for New Members, we gladly welcomed 39 members to our ranks!! And this at a time when chapters could barely have any in person events! As for Retention, you blew me out of the water with 81%!! We have never had at least 80% 2nd Tri retention since becoming Minnesota Women of Today in 1985. Give yourselves all a huge round of applause!! I am going to again ask you all to

step up and encourage your chapters to grow. In the 3rd Trimester, we have 346 up for renewal. Our goal for retention this trimester is again 80% and New Member Adds is 70. These are lofty goals, but if we can make both of these we will have Trimester growth! We will need to work together as a team for us to succeed in this goal. Chapters and members are looking for ideas and encouragement which I know you each have buckets of. Remember, we do what we can, when we can. This year it is up to us to make sure the local chapters and members feel appreciated for what they do and where we can be supportive and clear a path. Let's help the chapters to RISE up!

- ❑ Membership Awards: We will be announcing our Chapter Membership awards tomorrow. Continuing with a new trend, we will present the District awards, now. Four districts had 1<sup>st</sup> trimester growth. Join me in celebrating District 6 with growth +1, District 7 with growth +1, and District 8 with growth +1 and the highest percentage of growth in the 1st trimester with 2% and Growth +2 is District 2. Let's make some noise for the following districts with 75% retention or higher; District 8 with 81%, District 3 with 82%, District 2 with 83%, District 10 with 84%, District 6 with 85%, District 4 with 88% and with the highest retention for 2nd trimester is District 7 with 90%. We have some amazing districts in our state. I am looking forward to recognizing ALL nine of you in the 3rd trimester.
- ❑ Membership Event Reminders: If you haven't already, please make plans to join the Membership Team tonight online at 7:30 for our Charcuterie Board social. We will be chatting with each other while demonstrating how to build a Charcuterie Board. This is a great idea for a virtual social. I am also hosting an online Membership Chat on Sunday, March 7th at 7:00 pm. We have had great conversations and idea sharing on these calls so please encourage your chapter's Membership VP or membership contacts or anyone interested in membership to attend. Lastly, Membership Week this Trimester is March 28th-Apr 3rd. It's a great



way to wrap up March which is Membership Emphasis month.

- ❑ **Closeout:** We will be meeting on April 30th at 6 pm for a fun fabulous time of food and phone calls. We will most likely be back with the Membership Team at the CSC and staff supporting virtually. More info to come. Even though 2nd Trimester was virtual, it was still a lot of fun and great to talk with so many chapters. We called all of our chapters and received positive feedback and questions from many. And we will be continuing gift card giveaways for chapter members who call in so please encourage Presidents and MVPs to give us a call.
- ❑ **Exec Council Membership Challenge:** Thank you to everyone who participated in my 2nd trimester M-Event challenge. The winner of the fun prize is District 2 Director Andrea Schuel! To go along with our lofty Membership goals, I am calling on each of you to support your District or Chapter with your sleeves rolled up. I am asking each of you to recruit or help recruit a new member this Trimester. Let me know you if you completed the challenge and I will put your name in a drawing for a really fun gift box.

### **Chapter Management Vice President – Jenise Teske ([cmvp@mnwt.org](mailto:cmvp@mnwt.org))**

- ❑ Mid-Year evaluations completed and returned to Anna, PVP
- ❑ LOTS in beginning stages--met with Restructuring Task Force to incorporate changes approved by Future Directions Committee
- ❑ Continue to keep an eye on members with less than 15 members to offer help with retention/engagement
- ❑ Looking for evaluators for Year-End Evaluations, due 4/24/21 to PVP
- ❑ TLC chapters--7 chapters; Folded chapters - 4

### **Extensions Director – OPEN ([extensions@mnwt.org](mailto:extensions@mnwt.org))**

- **None**

### **Programming Vice President – Anna Nichols ([pvp@mnwt.org](mailto:pvp@mnwt.org))**

- ❑ For my 2nd trimester challenge; everyone in exec council who completed the MNWT Annual Programming Review Form was entered into a drawing for something fun. Mary, our amazing FVP won and received her gift at Mid-Year.
- ❑ My third trimester District Director and District Rep challenge is a big one. Every one of you who has 100% of your chapters complete the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester programming report during the last two weeks of April will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card. This is not a drawing. Everyone who completes the challenge wins.
- ❑ Calling all DDs, Reps, SPMs, and most of staff... Your Year Evaluation is due April 24th. It needs to be sent to me, not your supervisor. This can be done using the online form or simply email me the word form. Please remember to include the entire year from May 1<sup>st</sup> You can complete the Year End regardless if you turned in a Mid-Year. DD's and Reps, please encourage your chapter presidents and state delegates to complete a Year end.

### **Living and Learning SPM—Melanie Chenoweth ([ll@mnwt.org](mailto:ll@mnwt.org))**

- ❑ **Chapter:** Have a zoom certification night where you fill out your forms while chatting with each other.
  - ❑ Individual: Write a letter to yourself saying what you wish for yourself this year. Put it away to read at the end of the year.
- ❑ **Mini Challenges:**
  - ❑ February: Drink water! Track how much you are getting. Is it enough? No? Set a goal to drink just 8oz more a day. Let me know how much you are drinking and what your goal is.
  - ❑ March: Declutter – go through a drawer, a cabinet, or a closet. What can you donate? What can you repurpose? Let me know what you did!
  - ❑ April: It is my birthday month and I challenge you to mail a card to someone just to say hello. Let me know when you do.

- ★ **M/S/P (LL/FVP) move that we suspend Policy T10 B1 for Winter State 2021. Since convention is virtual I don't think people should have to pay to participate. (M/S/P - Mary Hansen - FVP)**

**Priority Area SPM / Wishes and More - Jennifer Auger ([priority-area@mnwt.org](mailto:priority-area@mnwt.org))**

- ❑ Each chapter that donated at least \$100 monetary or in-kind donation to WAM this trimester was entered into a drawing for a snack basket. I've assigned them each a number and would like President Ileana to pick a number 1 through 16 to determine the winner.
- ❑ Since the convention is all virtual, I will be extending the deadline and drawing for my sticker challenge as well as the t-shirt fundraiser to allow for more participation.

★ **I move to extend the Wishes and More T-shirt sales through the end of the 2020 – 2021 Women of Today year. (M/S/P Priority Area/FVP-Mary Hansen)**

- ❑ Cheryl Watson from the Savage Chapter has made 100 masks as part of President Biden's 100 Day Plan, in which she is seeking 100 Wishes & More donations in the final 100 days of them being our priority project. She is inviting other chapters to participate in the fundraiser and will send masks to members that want to participate. For a \$5 donation she is giving 1 mask and a \$10 donation 3 masks. I will be helping promote this event on our Facebook page and we can send information to district directors if it is something you are interested in with your own district.

**Women's Wellness SPM - Jeny Ohr ([ww@mnwt.org](mailto:ww@mnwt.org))**

- ❑ Thank you to the three district directors who had a chapter submit a Women Who Impact Award nomination. Congratulations to District 3 Director Linda Nindorf. A gift card will be sent to you.
- ❑ After reviewing the Programming results, I have decided to approach the 3rd Trimester a little differently. Instead of having one main focus, there will be a different focus each month. You will hear more about this tomorrow at the business meeting.

**Youth of Today SPM - Glorie Balfanz ([yt@mnwt.org](mailto:yt@mnwt.org))**

- ❑ **NONE**

**Community Connection SPM - Tawn Hanson ([cc@mnwt.org](mailto:cc@mnwt.org))**

- ❑ There are three CC Awards that chapters can submit their projects for. I need everyone in this room to help encourage their chapter to consider making a nomination. All nominations are due to me by April 15, 2021
- ❑ My 3<sup>rd</sup> Tri challenge is to find a way to support your local food bank. Send me an email about what you did to be entered into a drawing for a basket.

**Financial Vice President - Mary Hansen ([fvp@mnwt.org](mailto:fvp@mnwt.org))**

- ❑ Expense vouchers – if you submitted an expense voucher, your check will be mailed, and everyone will get an updated budget sheet via email
- ❑ Finance meeting highlights – We approved a revised budget for mid-year, a motion will be presented at the business meeting tomorrow. The next finance meeting is **March 6<sup>th</sup>**, most likely via zoom.
- ❑ State Store Manager – 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester – The new items are refrigerator magnets. With COVID sales from the state store have been way down. I have done some promotions through Facebook, but this does not seem to generate any sales. Suggestions are welcome – please email me at [fvp@mnwt.org](mailto:fvp@mnwt.org). We still do not have the state store up and running on the MNWT website, this is being worked on.
- ❑ Finance Committee fundraiser – with COVID restrictions the finance committee decided that the normal raffle sale with drawings would not be practical so we are having a "Passport to Minnesota" fundraiser to replace. Donations towards the prize basket (such as gift certificates to local attractions) would be welcome.
- ❑ Zoom-a-thon Fundraiser from Fall State Convention raised \$995. Winners of drawings to be announced at a Business meeting tomorrow.

- ❑ My CIP does include the minutes from the January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting and a copy of the revised budget.

### **Parliamentarian – Melissa Redzuan**

[\(parli@mnwt.org\)](mailto:parli@mnwt.org)

- ❑ Priority Area Motion
- ❑ Suspend Bylaws and vote
- ❑ Check out Parliamentarian CIP on etiquette of online meetings and meeting fatigue.

### **Chairman of the Board – Cathy Schuman**

[\(cob@mnwt.org\)](mailto:cob@mnwt.org)

- ❑ Thanks to AVP Michelle Kocak Jones and her 9 District Directors for working with me on the planning and flyers for the upcoming area meetings. It was decided to hold the area meetings in a virtual format again this year due to the pandemic. We also changed things up and will be merging Area 2 & 3 into one meeting on Friday, March 26 at 7 pm. Area 1 & 4 will merge into one meeting on Saturday, March 27 at 10 am. DDs are busy getting flyers out to their chapters and members. You will find the flyers in my CIP and they are fabulous! Each group selected a theme and will be offering door prizes to meeting guests that participate in the fun. We will be meeting again in February to finalize the agendas and scripts, and staff is working on a group activity to hold during the area meetings. The meeting links and materials will be distributed by the chapter service center during the week prior to area meetings.
- ❑ March Planning is scheduled for Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 10 am with a virtual meeting option. The workshop will probably include a break for lunch and last into the afternoon. Every participant will need to register online through the website in order to get the meeting materials (and link, if needed). We are looking for a location where exec council members that are interested could meet in person. To do that, we will need to work out the logistics for pandemic guidelines and the technology to conduct the workshop. Exec Council members are asked to review their year and look for possible areas of improvement, which can be submitted as March Planning recommendations. Please use the new online

form to submit your recommendations by February 15<sup>th</sup>. All submissions will be included in a booklet format and only submissions received in advance will be discussed during the workshop.

- ❑ Did you know that you could have filed for a position on exec council for 2021-2022 starting December 1<sup>st</sup>? That includes state program manager bids, state staff appointments, and even state president. It is well after December 1<sup>st</sup> and I sure could use members with your experience to step forward and submit your filing. Please don't hesitate to give me a call if you have any questions. And please promise that you will return my call, as there is a strong possibility that I could be leaving a message for you in the near future.
- ❑ P.S. AVP Michelle is also looking for members to serve as District Directors in the coming year.
- ❑ MNWT State Committee will meet on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup> in a virtual meeting format as we have done in the past trimesters. Membership Management will start at 9:30 am, Marketing at 10:30 am, and Future Directions around noon. We are not making arrangements for an in-person option, but members are welcome to join together and participate in the virtual meetings from a site of their choice. Meeting information will be distributed by the committee chairs and to chapters through the official state emails.

### **Executive Director – Katie Castro ([csc@mnwt.org](mailto:csc@mnwt.org))**

- ❑ We are keenly aware of email issues that are occurring, especially the bounce backs even when sending from within Network Solutions. At this point in time, I need everyone on the Executive Council to check their black lists and remove any official email addresses that are listed there and then add all Exec Council addresses individually to your white list. All chapter email addresses should also be added. We had a major issue with getting convention info out because of this, and I apologize for everyone's patience while we tried to find a work around.
- ❑ Please be sure that you are utilizing your position's Google Drive Folder to store all documents from your year. Be sure you are

logged in using your position email address and this year's password and that the documents are owned by your position and not by your personal Google account to ensure that next year's position holder has access to them.

- ❑ I am looking for hosts for Fall State 2021 at Arrowwood Lodge Brainerd and Annual 2022 at Arrowwood Resort Alexandria. If your district or chapter is interested in more information please contact me.

**Presidential Assistant – Wendy Lindberg**  
([pa@mnwt.org](mailto:pa@mnwt.org))

- ❑ If you have not yet sent in your donation to President Illeana's Gifts, I am still taking them! Thank you to those who added to this last trimester. A card is coming your way with a little treat inside. Anyone on Exec Council still donating to the cause until April 1 can get a little treat from me and help Illeana get lots of great treats all year! I take paypal, Venmo, Zelle, Cashapp, Mail checks... HECK! I even have a square and can process your credit card!

**Foundation Chair - Nicky Anderson**  
([foundation@mnwt.org](mailto:foundation@mnwt.org))

- ❑ Tomorrow we will be awarding a Chapter Grant.
- ❑ We will be holding our Lucky Buck Auction at Annual Convention to fund the Chapter Grants Fund.
- ❑ Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 17th, 2021 held by zoom beginning at 10:00. Please let me know if you would like to attend.
- ❑ The foundation will be Having a fun Fundraiser on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>. – Interested ??? find out more at the business meeting for the details. Hint – Margaritaville – Thelma and Lousie.

**Future Directions Committee Chair - Jen Kinzer** ([fdc@mnwt.org](mailto:fdc@mnwt.org))

- ❑ The next Future Directions meeting will be March 20 at noon. Everyone is welcome. Let me know if you would like to attend.
- ❑ Motions about district/area meeting policies

**District meeting Policy motions**

- ★ **\*I move that we delete policy G.1 and replace with a new Policy G.1**

**To read: Each district will hold three (3) meetings throughout the year after the state meetings, to be held in June, October and March or April.**

**Discussion: Each district shall hold a district orientation to be held in June (after MNJOTS) and three (3) other meetings throughout the year, to be held no more than 60 days prior to state meetings with the third trimester meeting to be held no later than April 30. (MSP - FDC/CC - Tawn Hanson)**

- ★ **I move that we delete Policy G.2 "District board training should be held after MNJOTS" and number accordingly. (M/S/P FDC/FVP-Mary Hansen)**

**Area meeting Policy motions**

- ★ **\*I move that we replace "Area" with "Regional" in Policy H Area Meeting Registration to read: Regional Meeting Registration. (M/S/P FDC/WW - Jeny Ohr)**
- ★ **\*I move that we replace "Area" with "Regional" in Policy H.2 Area meeting reports are due within two (2) weeks of the area meeting to the Administrative Vice President, Financial Vice President, and Chairman of the Board. To read: Regional meeting reports are due within two (2) weeks of the Regional meeting to the Administrative Vice President, Financial Vice President, and Chairman of the Board. (M/S/P - FDC/CC-Tawn Hanson)**
- ★ **I move that we replace "Area" with "Regional" in Policy L.8 Candidates for State President are not allowed to travel for campaign purposes other than to spring caucuses at the Area meetings. To read: Candidates for State President are not allowed to travel for campaign purposes other than to spring caucuses at the Regional meetings. (M/S/P FDC/LL - Melanie Chenoweth)**



**Marketing Committee Chair - Christine Sibilleau** ([marketing@mnwt.org](mailto:marketing@mnwt.org))

❑ NONE

**Membership Management Committee Chair - Michelle Cloutier** ([mmc@mnwt.org](mailto:mmc@mnwt.org))

- ❑ The focus group has met and is starting the work on going through Orientation Materials. We have submitted an updated Orientation packet that chapters can start using that has current information.
- ❑ Friday night there will be a First Timers Social on Zoom.
- ❑ Promote Tri 3 MMC Challenge. Using posts you have seen with ideas for new events/socials or maybe something your chapter has done before but with a new spin. Send MMC Michelle an email or post your new event/social on the Membership page on FaceBook tagging me. Each chapter that does in Tri 3 will be entered into a drawing at Annual in May 2021.
- ❑ Continue working with MVP and the focus group on Strategic Plan.

Melanie Chenoweth, Living & Learning State Program Manager, read the benediction. COB Cat Shuman, led the MM Women of Today Creed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

**Meeting Minutes submitted by Barb Monsrud, 2020-21 State Secretary**

**Business Meeting Minutes - Minnesota Women of Today**

**Eden Prairie and ZOOM**

**Saturday January 30, 2021**

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President Illeana Miller called the Business meeting of the Minnesota Women of Today to order at 9:00 am. Melanie Chenoweth, Living & Learning State Program Manager, read an invocation. Andrea Schue District 2 Director, led the Pledge of Allegiance and Wendy Lindberg, PA, led the United States Women of Today Creed. Parliamentarian Melissa Redzuan read the Order of the Day. A quorum has been established. The minutes of the Fall State Business Meeting on September 19, 2020 were approved in the October Chapter Mailing Highlights.

**Secretary – Barb Monsrud** ([secretary@mnwt.org](mailto:secretary@mnwt.org))

- REMINDER to send in your chapters/districts meeting mins. Please remind your secretaries to send them to me [secretary@mnwt.org](mailto:secretary@mnwt.org) I am so close to completing my goal for the end of the year.
- Thanks to the 4 chapters and 2 district that had sent in their mins. The winner of the gift card is **Shellie Lemmerman-Morris Area**.
- We are in need of NEWSLET articles and pictures. IF your chapter has done any socials, projects or events please send your pictures to [NEWSLET@mnwt.org](mailto:NEWSLET@mnwt.org)
- I also did a drawing for chapters/districts who sent me their Newsletters. **The winner of the gift card is Daina M. from the Duluth Chapter.**

**Administrative Vice President – Michelle Kocak Jones** ([avp@mnwt.org](mailto:avp@mnwt.org))

- One of nine districts has a potential DD.
- Thank you to the 16 state delegates and 7 DDs for submitting a mid-year evaluation. SD Jennifer Wulff, Anoka won the incentive basket.
- There will be an incentive basket drawing for SDs and DDs who submit a year-end eval before the deadline date.

**Chapter Management Vice President – Jenise Teske** ([cmvp@mnwt.org](mailto:cmvp@mnwt.org))

- Thank you to the 10 Chapter Presidents who submitted their Mid-Year Evaluations to the PVP and me; they will be returned to you after convention.

- LOTS (Local Officer Trainings) is scheduled for 5/1; whether Zoom or in person still to be determined; changes--there will be Zoom options regardless of how held. New this year will be an opportunity for LPMs (Local Program Managers) to receive training to do away with the need for District orientation. Registration forms will be sent out in February. Any chapter President who registers for LOTS will be entered in a drawing for a prize at the Annual Convention.
- I continue to offer assistance and guidance to chapters with 15 or less members; any chapter President in such chapter who reaches out to me to let me know how you are doing or for some help will be entered in a drawing for a prize at Annual Convention
- Chapter Presidents, start thinking on your Year-End evaluation--this is a valuable tool to hand down to your successor and, better yet is evaluated by the State President to determine your Key pin at Annual Convention
- TLC chapters: Rice, Jackson, and Byron on 1st trimester; Savage Area, Straight River on 2nd trimester; and Staples-Motley, Hawley on 3rd Trimester. The TLC status will be frozen pending today. As always, the Membership team will be working with them to help in any way they can. Four chapters have folded the 2nd Trimester: Eden Prairie, Thief River Falls, Virginia, and Willma.

★ **I move to suspend Bylaw III, Section 1, Subsection G and freeze the TLC status of chapters through 8/31/2021, reinstating the same bylaw on 9/1/2021. (M/S/P CMVP/FVP - Mary Hansen)**

**Discussion: This bylaw states: Chapters must have a minimum of ten (10) members. If the chapter remains under ten members for two consecutive trimesters, the chapter shall automatically be removed from the rolls of Minnesota Women of Today on September 1, January 1, or May 1, whichever is applicable. All records of the chapter shall be turned over to the District Director who shall then forward them to the Chapter Service Center. A chapter wishing to reinstate their membership must do so as a new chapter with a minimum of ten (10) members in good standing.**

**Extensions Director – OPEN ([extensions@mnwt.org](mailto:extensions@mnwt.org))**

- NONE

**Programming Vice President – Anna Nichols ([pvp@mnwt.org](mailto:pvp@mnwt.org))**

- I have a very exciting announcement. Yesterday at the Exec Council Meeting several brave members bid to become our 2021 – 2022 SPMs. In the Living and Learning area, please welcome Shirley Viesselman. As our Crescent Cove SPM, we have Jennifer Auger. If you are interested in being a 2021-2022 SPM, please contact me.
- What an amazing 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester we have had. Yes, it was different and difficult at times, but still amazing. In the second trimester we increased our reported programming in-kind and monetary donation totals by over 50%. This tells me that we can find ways to support our communities with programming, even during a pandemic, one project at a time. A heartfelt Thank you to everyone one who has been doing what they can this year to support programming. Please keep sending in your trimester programming reports and sharing what your chapters are doing. If your chapter is struggling, please reach out to me. I am here to help you make a difference in your local community.
- It would not be a Business meeting without a PVP awards. The chapter winning my Mini Facebook programming/membership challenge is Coon Rapids. A \$20 Amazon gift card was mailed to your chapter PO box. The chapter winning my second trimester Programming report challenge is Eastern Carver County. A \$20 Target gift card was mailed to your chapter PO box. AND something fun was emailed to each of the chapter PVPs completing my 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester challenge. Thank you. For more information on my 3rd trimester challenges and fun programming updates, read my CIP and keep an eye out for monthly PVP updates coming directly to your MNWT chapter email.

- A huge shout out to all of the chapter presidents and State Delegates that sent me a Mid-year Evaluation. Those will be returned to you in the next week. Your Year End evaluations are due April 24<sup>th</sup>. You did not need to complete the mid-year to submit a year end evaluation. All chapter presidents and State Delegates are encouraged to complete this.

**Living and Learning SPM—Melanie Chenoweth**  
([ll@mnwt.org](mailto:ll@mnwt.org))

- **The winner of my October challenge is \_Char Ostenburg\_\_\_, the winner of my November challenge is \_Maggie Holmberg\_, and the winner of my December challenge is \_Stefany Nikolaus\_\_\_.**
- I have new challenges for you.
- Chapter: Have a zoom certification night where you fill out your forms while chatting with each other.
- Individual: Write a letter to yourself saying what you wish for yourself this year. Put it away to read at the end of the year.
- Mini Challenges: February: Drink water! Track how much you are getting. Is it enough? No? Set a goal to drink just 8oz more a day. Let me know how much you are drinking and what your goal is. March: Declutter – go through a drawer, a cabinet, or a closet. What can you donate? What can you repurpose? Let me know what you did! April: It is my birthday month and I challenge you to mail a card to someone just to say hello. Let me know when you do.

**Priority Area SPM / Wishes and More - Jennifer Auger**  
([priority-area@mnwt.org](mailto:priority-area@mnwt.org))

- So excited to announce the success of our fundraiser at Thor's Taproom in Stillwater that was completely organized and ran by us. Over the 2 days we raised \$1,072.26 including a \$500 cash donation from Thor's. We had members volunteer from 3 chapters. Thank you to Diana and Phyllis from Maple Grove; Katie from ECC; Julie, Dottie, Deb, Rita, and Kathy from New Hope. We also had several other chapters that came to the event to

support Wishes & More. It was a very fun and rewarding weekend.

- The Wishes & More Ball was moved to April 10th. Volunteers will be needed before as well as the day of the event. The event is at the Marriott City Center Minneapolis. Watch our Facebook Programming page and chapter email for more information about volunteering.
- Thank you to 8 members who volunteered this trimester at an official Wishes & More event. Each will receive a special token of appreciation from me. Thank you to the chapters that participated in my trimester challenge of donating at least \$100 in monetary or in-kind donations (separate than the stickers) to Wishes & More. The names of these chapters were entered into a drawing for a snack basket. The winner is Savage. My final challenge was the donation of 1000 stickers. Due to the convention being virtual, I am allowing a little extra time for members and chapters to get the sticker donations to me and will be announcing the winner of this challenge by March Planning.
- My final large fundraiser for Wishes & More is giving us the opportunity to purchase a Wishes & More t-shirt. I am selling the t-shirts for \$10; a \$5 profit from each shirt will go towards a wish of a child. They are available in youth size small-adult size 3XL. Check my CIP.

**Women's Wellness SPM - Jeny Ohr** ([www.mnwt.org](http://www.mnwt.org))

- Thank you to all the members, districts and chapters that participated in Women's Wellness during Trimester Two. The incentive winner was **Diane Carr from New Hope**. I will be sending you your gift card.
- Thank you to the three chapters who submitted a Women Who Impact Award. Aitkin, Burnsville and New Hope. We will find out during the award ceremony who won.
- My third trimester is going to be a little different. I am going to have a different focus each month. January is ending the Stigma surrounding mental health, February is domestic violence prevention, March is March of Dimes and April is Family Support. See my CIP for more information.

- There will be a different challenge each month throughout Trimester Three. Make sure to email me, [yw@mnwt.org](mailto:yw@mnwt.org), each time you complete a challenge and you will be entered into an incentive at annual. You can find the challenges in my CIP.
- Thank you to the 8 chapters who donated their loose change. The chapter that donated the most was Aitkin. Congratulations! I will reach out to your chapter to see where you would like your gift card sent to. All together we raised 667.91 to the National Alliance on Mental Health. Thank you all for supporting my fundraiser and helping bet my goal of \$200.

### **Youth of Today SPM - Glorie Balfanz** ([yt@mnwt.org](mailto:yt@mnwt.org))

- Youth of Today project includes teaching the value of volunteering to children. An article from Scholastic.com suggests to parents that an easy way to get started volunteering is to connect with a volunteer organization that you are familiar with. One that already has connections and experience. Women of Today can be that organization for parents. I have a lot of good information to share that I found reading the article from Scholastic .com and an article from Parents Magazine. If you need ideas please contact me. A few ideas will be in my CIP and I will also share some of them on the Programming Facebook Page.
- Incentives for Trimester 2 challenges will be sent to you via the mail. The first challenge was to submit a Youth of Today Project of the Trimester and a Youth of Today Outstanding Program Manager Nomination. The second challenge was to submit an Outstanding Young Adult Scholarship Nomination. Thank you to those that participated in these challenges.
- The Trimester 3 challenge will be to participate in the Outstanding Awards Card Fundraiser. Please look for order forms, flyers, and information in my CIP and your chapter and district emails. Information and reminders will also be on the Programming Facebook Page.

- I hope you have found Children's MN a worthwhile organization to learn about and donate to. If you have already donated, thank you very much. I posted a thank you note from them on the Programming Facebook Page. If you are still interested in donating to them please send a check written to MNWT with Children's MN in the memo line. Send the check to me. Email [yt@mnwt.org](mailto:yt@mnwt.org) for my address.
- Congratulations to the chapters that submitted Outstanding Young Adult nominations. Please know that because you honored your young adult with a nomination means they are already a winner. As a chapter please let them know how special they are just by being nominated by you.

### **Community Connection SPM - Tawn Hanson** ([cc@mnwt.org](mailto:cc@mnwt.org))

- Thank you to the 3 chapters who submitted a PWD nomination. They are Coon Rapids, New Hope, and Sauk Rapids. We will find out the winner later today.
- Thank you to the three chapters and two individuals who made a donation to the Person With
- Determination challenge. The winner is **Maple Grove**.
- Thank you to the three chapters that stepped up to the second trimester Habitat for Humanity donation/event challenge. The winner is Burnsville.
- Please consider nominating one of your amazing chapter projects for the Community Connections Awards. Information can be found in my CIP and nomination forms can be found on the member page of MNWT.org. Nominations are due to me April 15, 2021.
- My 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester challenge is to find a way to support your local food shelf. Send me an email at, [cc@MNWT.org](mailto:cc@MNWT.org) to be entered in a drawing for a basket.

### **Financial Vice President - Mary Hansen** ([fvp@mnwt.org](mailto:fvp@mnwt.org))

- State Store featured items: new item is a refrigerator magnet. There are still plenty of President Illeana's mugs available as well as Past-president Cathy Shumans' mugs. Contact Jane Holmberg via email at



statestore@mnwt.org to place an order. The online state store is still being worked on. MNWT branded clothing can be purchased through the Warroad Threads website. To date MNWT has earned a commission of \$111.99 from clothing sales.

- For the third trimester, we have a new fundraiser, to replace the traditional raffle. Information regarding "Passport to Minnesota" fundraiser can be found in my CIP with the drawing to be held at Annual Convention
- I am pleased to announce that the Zoom-a-thon Fundraiser held at Fall convention raised \$995.00. Thelma and Louise did a fantastic job. Winner of the \$25.00 gift card is Barb Shade from Warroad.  
**The winner of the Thelma and Louise "chapter fun night" is White Bear Lake.**
- Thank you to the members that purchased sheets from our Sheets Galore Fundraiser. MNWT earned a commission of \$350.00 from those sales.
- The due date for filing your Minnesota State sales tax is February 5<sup>th</sup>. I am happy to help with any questions you may have on this.
- Next Finance Committee meeting is Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. Any member may attend just let me know so that I can send you an invite.
- The Finance Committee met on January 9<sup>th</sup> to review the budget and make adjustments.  
[*Motion to approve 2020-2021 Mid-Year Budget*]

★ **I move to accept a revised budget for MNWT 2020-2021 year with a gross income of \$67,400.00, expenses of \$66,048.00 and a net income of \$1,352.00 (M/S/P FVP/MVP - Tevyan Sorensen)**

**DISCUSSION: A copy of the Mid-Year Budget as proposed is included in my Winter State CIP. Finance worked to balance the budget and feels this is realistic with income of \$67,400.00, expenses of \$66,048.00 leaving a net profit of \$1,352.00. It is very important that we strive to reach our fundraising and membership goals – that is the**

**main source of our revenue to run our organization. I would like to thank everyone who is supporting the various fundraisers and making Ways & Means donations throughout the year.**

### **Parliamentarian – Melissa Redzuan**

**([parli@mnwt.org](mailto:parli@mnwt.org))**

- We have approved two programming area motions-
  - Wishes and More- t-shirt sales through the end of 2020-21.
  - Living and Learning- suspend Policy T10 B1 for winter state since the convention is virtual ( impromptu speaking competitions)
- We have approved Bylaw and Policy regarding Marketing VP.
- We also have approved to suspend Bylaw III, Section 1, Subsection G through 8/31/2021, reinstating on 9/1/2021 (TLC Chapter)
- Parliamentarian CIP- Please check my CIP for my new 3rd trimester challenge -Fighting Zoom Fatigue.

### **Executive Director - Katie Castro ([csc@mnwt.org](mailto:csc@mnwt.org))**

- We are keenly aware of email issues that are occurring, especially the bounce backs even when sending from within Network Solutions. At this point in time, I need all chapters to check their black lists and remove any official email addresses that are listed there and then, ideally, add all Exec Council addresses individually to your white list. Other chapter email addresses should also be added if possible. During the 6:30-7:00 position of the upcoming webinar on February 24th. I will be available to show & tell how to do this, as well as other email navigation questions. We had a major issue with getting convention info out because of this, and I apologize for everyone's patience while we tried to find a work around.
- I am looking for hosts for Fall State 2021 at Arrowwood Lodge Brainerd and Annual 2022 at Arrowwood Resort Alexandria. If your district or chapter is interested in more information please contact me.

- I have received the 3rd trimester dues billing from USWT and will begin reviewing them for accuracy next week. Please watch for them to be emailed to chapter remains the week of February 8th. If you do not see one by February 12, please let me know.
- The insurance billing for March 2021 - March 2022 will be \$185.00 and will be emailed out to all chapters next week.
- It's hard to believe it's already the third trimester, but that means Officer sheets will need to be updated as your chapter elects new board members for the 2021-2022 year. Please be sure to use the link on the Member Home Page to submit your new officers for the year.

**Chairman of the Board – Cathy Schuman**  
([cob@mnwt.org](mailto:cob@mnwt.org))

- ★ The 2021 Area Meetings will be held virtually again this year, but we will have a combined format with Area 2 & 3 meeting on Friday, March 26 at 7 pm and Area 1 & 4 meeting on Saturday, March 27 at 10 am. There is no cost to participate and members do not need to register. Flyers and information about the area meetings can be found in the Chairman of the Board CIP, on the MNWT website, by MNWT Facebook, and through your district directors. These meetings will be informative, interesting, educational, and fun! The chapter service center will be distributing meeting links and materials during the week prior to the area meetings.
- ★ March Planning will take place on March 13, 2021 with a remote option and potential for in-person attendance. In order to participate, interested members will need to register online through the MNWT website by March 1st. All members are welcome to submit recommendations for improvements, which will be discussed at March Planning. An online form is available on the website to submit entries.
- ★ As Chairman of the Board, I am seeking candidates for state president for 2021-2022 year. The election for president takes place at the Annual Convention in May and includes a caucus and speeches for members to hear from candidates. The

newly-elected president and her staff will be sworn in at the Annual Banquet and Awards.

- ★ The 3rd trimester state committee meetings will be held virtually on Saturday, March 20, 2021 starting at 9:30 am (Membership Management), 10:30 am (Marketing), and Noon (Future Directions). Check the COB CIP for more information about the state committees. Meeting information will be sent to chapters through motion?\*
- ★ **I move that we go into a Committee of the Whole to consider motions of support for members that may seek USWT positions for 2021-2022.the official state emails.**

**I move that we go out of the Committee of the Whole.**

**Presidential Assistant – Wendy Lindberg**  
([pa@mnwt.org](mailto:pa@mnwt.org))

- I am still looking for donations from Chapters and Districts to donate to President Illeana's year-end gift. I would love to get yours. The Districts and Chapters that give a donation by the end of the trimester, sent to the CSC earmarked for President Illeana's Gift, will go into a drawing for a M-event or social basket. The winning chapter this trimester was **MELROSE AREA.**
- I REALLY REALLY REALLY want your quilt squares and chapter tshirts for president Illeana's quilt. I would like ANYTHING washable for your design. So embroider, paint, cricut, cross stitch! WHATEVER! Please make them a 7x7 material size with the design being no bigger than 6x6.
- Have you taken great pictures of your events? Did you have an awesome membership night? Are your meetings super creative and fun? TAKE A PICTURE and tag me on facebook or email it to me and I can add it to President Illeana's scrapbooks!
- Last trimester I asked the membership to submit to me what they thought was the lie of three "facts" I provided about President Illeana... Those who got it right then went into a drawing for a prize. The three things were:
  1. When younger, Illeana wanted to be on Broadway.
  2. When she was little she was in commercials in Miami

and competed in Little Kids' Pageants all over Florida.

3. Illeana feels that most at home as soon as she crosses into any southern state and her southern accent returns.

**The lie? NUMBER TWO!** Illeana has never competed in a kids' pageant (Or been in a commercial as far as I know) **The winner was Amy Pumper!**

**Foundation Chair - Nicky Anderson**  
([foundation@mnwt.org](mailto:foundation@mnwt.org))

- Today we will be awarding a Chapter Grant.
- We will be holding a Lucky Buck Auction at the Annual Convention. This funds the Chapter Grants Fund. Our baskets are:  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
- Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 17th, 2021 held by zoom beginning at 10:00. Please let me know if you would like to attend.
- The Foundation donated funds to the MNWT for sound equipment to be used for conventions etc.
- Join the MNWT Foundation for a virtual visit to Margaritaville on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 p.m. This is a foundation social / fundraiser. Thelma and Louise are hosting. Yeah!! Mix your favorite Margarita (with or without alcohol) and decorate your area up with your favorite beach wear etc. We will have some fun things, plans and prizes to give away. Email foundation at [foundation@mnwt.org](mailto:foundation@mnwt.org) for the zoom link.

**Future Directions Committee Chair - Jen Kinzer** ([fdc@mnwt.org](mailto:fdc@mnwt.org))

- Policies were approved yesterday to make changes to the district and area meetings.
- The last webinar series of the year will be held on Feb 24 beginning at 6:00. Please sign up for the series in advance. The topics for the webinar are: Crescent Cove, Success System, Succession Planning and Q & A: Anything Women of Today.
- The next FD meeting will be held on March 20th beginning at noon. Please contact Jen if you would like to attend. Everyone is welcome.

**MOTIONS:**

- ★ I move to add Marketing Vice President after Programming Vice President to ARTICLE VII. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Section 1. to read: ARTICLE VII. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Section 1. The Executive Council of this corporation shall be composed of the State President, Administrative Vice President, Membership Vice President, Chapter Management Vice President, Programming Vice President, Marketing Vice President, State Secretary, Financial Vice President, State Parliamentarian, Extensions Director, Chairman of the Board, District Directors, State Program Managers, Executive Director and the Presidential Assistant. Voting members of this Council shall be the State President, Chairman of the Board, and District Directors. State Program Managers shall vote on bids for programming areas only. (M/S/P FDC/Champlin)
- ★ I move to add Marketing Vice President after Programming Vice President to ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS AND DUTIES Section 1. and add a new letter F. that states: "Marketing Vice President shall be responsible for overseeing marketing activities, supervise the Public Relations Assistant and Newsletter Editor and chair the Marketing committee. He/she shall assist the president at his/her request." and re letter accordingly.

**ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS AND DUTIES Section 1. The officers of this corporation shall be the President, Administrative Vice President, Membership Vice President, Chapter Management Vice President, Programming Vice President, Marketing Vice President, Extensions Director, State Secretary, Financial**

**Vice President, State Parliamentarian, Chairman of the Board, District Directors and State Program Managers. Section 2. The duties of the officers shall be as follows:**  
**F. Marketing Vice President shall be responsible for overseeing marketing activities, supervise the Public Relations Assistant and Newsletter Editor and chair the Marketing committee. He/she shall assist the president at his/her request. (M/S/P FDC/St.Cloud)**

- ★ **I move to add Marketing Vice President after Programming Vice President to ARTICLE IX. ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS Section 10 to read:**

**ARTICLE IX. ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS**  
**Section 10 The Administrative Vice President, Membership Vice President, Chapter Management Vice President, Programming Vice President, Marketing Vice President, Financial Vice President, State Parliamentarian, Extensions Director and State Secretary shall be appointed by the State President, subject to the approval of the membership. (M/S/P FDC/Duluth)**

**Policy Motions**  
**Proposed Policy Changes**

1. Delete Policy J 7 i which reads "shall supervise the Newsletter Editor".  
**Discussion: This is now under the area of Secretary and it would be moved to the Marketing Vice President (M/S/P FDC/Byron)**
2. Add J 6 and renumber accordingly:
6. Marketing Vice President
  - a. Shall be responsible for the overall marketing results of Minnesota Women of Today
  - b. Shall develop and/or maintain a marketing strategy in support of the current MNWT strategic plan
  - c. Shall be the chair of the Marketing Committee
  - d. Shall supervise the NEWSLET Editor and PR Assistant.
  - e. Shall be a member of the Web Team and

- responsible for social media communication
- f. Shall be responsible for any other activities that the State President deems necessary.
- g. Shall be a member of staff.
- h. Shall serve on the Future Directions Committee and be an ex officio member of Membership Management And Finance Committees.

**Discussion: This is listing the position in the Officer Duty section of the policies. (M/S/P FDC/ Aitkin)**

3. In Policy J 13, 3d Replace Executive Director with Marketing Vice President. To read Shall report to the Marketing Vice President in the Public Relations Assistant position.

**Discussion: Public Relations Assistant will report to the Marketing Vice President rather than the Executive Director as in the past. (M/S/P FDC/ Champlin)**

4. In Policy J 13, 5d Replace State Secretary with Marketing

To read Shall report to the Marketing Vice President in the Newsletter Editor position.

**Discussion: Newsletter Editor will report to the Marketing Vice President rather than the State Secretary as in the past. (M/S/P FDC/Coon Rapids)**

5. In Policy O 3, a, 1 Add Marketing Vice President as ex officio member of the Finance Committee.

**Discussion: recommending that the Marketing Vice President be a member of the finance committee both for Marketing Budget and networking marketing strategies. (M/S/P FDC/Anoka)**

6. In Policy O 3 b 2) Replace chair with Vice President.

**Discussion: This changes the language from Marketing Chair to Marketing Vice President as a member of Future Directions. (M/S/P FDC/Champlin)**

7. Delete current O 3 c 1) and replace with O 3 c 1)  
 The Marketing Vice President shall be chair of the Marketing Committee.

**Discussion: This defines that the Marketing Vice President will chair the Marketing**

8. In Policy O 3 c 2) Replace Marketing Chair(s) with marketing Vice President(s).

**Discussion: Shall read Additional committee members shall be the current and immediate past Marketing Vice Presidents, defining committee members for Marketing Committee. Discussion: Shall read General members shall be appointed by the Marketing Vice President and approved by the Executive Council no later than MNJOTS. (M/S/P FDC/Duluth)**



9. In Policy O 3 c 4) Replace Statewide Committee chair Marketing Vice President.

**Discussion: Shall read Subcommittee chairs shall be appointed by the Marketing Vice President with the approval committee. (M/S/P FDC/Anoka)**

10. In Policy O 3 c 4) a) ii Replace chair with Vice President.

**Discussion: Shall read ii. Expo Coordinator(s) may be appointed by the Marketing Vice President to host the Fall State Expo. (M/S/P FDC/Champlin)**

11. In Policy O 3 c 4) c) ii Add Marketing Vice President as member of the Web Team and delete Marketing chair.

**Discussion: Shall read ii. Expo Coordinator(s) may be appointed by the Marketing Vice President to host the Fall State Expo. (M/S/P FDC/Champlin)**

12. In Policy O 3 c 4) d) Replace Committee Chair with Vice President.

**Discussion: Shall read Additional subcommittees may be added at the discretion of the Marketing Vice President with approval of the Marketing Committee. (M/S/P FDC/Aitkin)**

13. In Policy O 3 d 2) Add Marketing Vice President as a Membership Management Committee.

**Discussion: Marketing Vice President is a member of Membership Management Committee MMC (M/S/P FDC/Anoka)**

**Marketing Committee Chair - Christine Sibilleau**  
([mcc@mnwt.org](mailto:mcc@mnwt.org))

- NONE

**Membership Management Committee Chair - Michelle Cloutier** ([mmc@mnwt.org](mailto:mmc@mnwt.org))

- The focus group has met and is starting the work on going through Orientation Materials. You can find online updated materials to start using with your chapters. If you have not conducted a New Member Orientation in a while, now is the perfect time. Orientations can be open to anyone in your chapter to attend.
- Thank you to the chapters who submitted their Orientation Materials. This helped us to see what chapters are using and what they may need additionally. The winner of my prize is\_\_\_\_\_.
- I will be having a Tri 3 Challenge. Using posts you have seen with ideas for new

events/socials or maybe something your chapter has done before but with a new spin. When you hold your event/social send MMC Michelle an email or post your new event/social on the Membership page on FaceBook tagging me. Each chapter that does in Tri 3 will be entered into a drawing at Annual in May 2021.

- MMC will continue to work with MVP and our task force on the Strategic Plan. We are always looking for more members to participate. If you are interested and have a passion for membership, reach out to me at [mmc@mnwt.org](mailto:mmc@mnwt.org)
- Just a reminder to check in on your members. Make a call, send a card, send an email - stay connected. Make sure your new members know when events are happening online and how to attend when we are able to do so in person.

Melanie Chenoweth, Living & Learning State Program Manager, read the benediction. Secretary, Barb Monsrud, led the MM Women of Today Creed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 am

**Meeting Minutes submitted by Barb Monsrud, 2020-21 State Secretary**