



Minnesota Women of Today
2024-2025 FALL CIP
Living & Learning State Program Manager
“Taking a Journey Down Life Street”

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Autumn Greetings to Everyone!

It’s the time of the year for flannels, pumpkins & football. It seems like only yesterday I was writing the MNJOTS CIP. It seems Tri 1 always goes by much too rapidly, but now as we approach the fall/winter season, hopefully everyone can find some time to slow down and enjoy LIFE!

I’ve been truly encouraged by the fast starts and certifications that I received in Tri 1. As we move into 2nd Trimester, let’s keep working on meeting goals by completing the Minnesota Women of Today (MNWT) Living and Learning certifications, the United States Women of Today (USWT) certifications, conducting a chapter PEP course and getting involved. Make sure to check out the LIFE STREET Passport – perfect way to become involved and have some fun also.

Have you started your journey yet this year? It’s not too late to jump abroad – check out Trimester 2 challenges and get your LIFE STREET Passport ready for the trip. I received many positive comments on using the passport as a tactic to challenge themselves – to step out of their comfort zone trying something new. That is truly what the Living & Learning portion of being a MNWT member is – growing as an individual.

I hope you will join me on this year’s JOURNEY. Please share with me either via email ll@mnwt.org or text/phone 320.761.1188 your Life’s journey accomplishments this year. I’m also available for questions, or to help you brainstorm on PEP ideas. Of course, I’d love to also visit your chapter or district meetings.



Happy Trails to Everyone!

Sharon

IMPORTANT DATE



Sept 22-28 – Women of Today Week
 Oct 4-6 – USWT National Mid-Year Convention
 Nov. 3-9 MNWT Membership Week
 Dec. 15 – L & L Writing Essays due
 Dec. 31 – L&L/USWT WPD Certifications due
***Consult MNWT official calendar at mnwt.org under “EVENTS” to ensure other key dates are not missed.*

Table of Contents

- Introduction
- Effective Writing
- Collaboration = Sharon's Book Club + Convention Chit-Chat
- Second Trimester Challenges
- Passport Intro



EFFECTIVE WRITING COMPETITION

Topic:

Who is the most influential woman you know? How did/does she inspire you?

Is there someone in your life who has inspired or influenced you? Did they become your role model to shape you into the woman you are? We all have someone special in our lives – here is an opportunity for you to share their inspiration.

Essays due: December 15

Essay Guidelines:

1. Length should be 600-800 words.
2. Entry fee is \$5
3. Essay should be typed, double-spaced and on one side of the paper only.

Essay Submission: All essay submissions must be postmarked by December 15, 2024. Mail essay along with \$5 entry fee to: Sharon Scholl, L&L SPM, 17119 172nd Ave SE, Big Lake, MN 55309



TRIMESTER 2 – “Sharon’s Book Club”

Each trimester I will be selecting a book each trimester about a Minnesota resident who has faced challenges, risen above them and achieved goals. For those who read the select book, I invite you to join me at Winter State Convention for the L&L Chat session to discuss and share your thoughts about how this book can inspire or be applied to today’s society.

Trimester 2 Book: MISDIAGNOSED by Jean Sharon Abbott

Imagine living thirty-three years imprisoned in a disabled body, only to discover you had been misdiagnosed all along. As a young girl, Jean watched her classmates run across the playground and wondered. . .How to they do that? As a teenager, she watched her friends go on dates and thought. . .Will anyone ever love me? Jean Abbott's journey from wheels to heels is a powerful and uplifting story of faith and perseverance. . . As a yong child Jean was diagnosed with spastic diplegia, a form of cerebral palsy. After enduring 3 decades of countless doctor visits, medicaql procedures, unnecessary medications and surgeries, she heard the words that changed her life: “You’ve, been MISDIAGNOSED.”



PERSONAL ENRICHMENT COURSES (PEP)

There are many Personal Enrichment Programs (PEP) available to help your chapter members to learn and grow on their personal journey! A complete list of courses available can be found at mnwt.org/pdfs/otherPDFs/officers/ll_pep-courses.pdf. REMEMBER – PEP courses that are not on the approved list must be approved prior to course completion/submission. If you have suggestions for additional PEP courses, please contact the Living & Learning SPM at ll@mnwt.org.

➔ Submit before 12/31/24 to fulfill another LIFE Passport checkpoint. ⬅



TRI 2 CHALLENGES



PASSPORT

This year there will be challenges for both the chapter LPM and the individual chapter members. Each LPM is to encourage their chapter members to participate in the **LIFE STREET PASSPORT** challenges. Both LPMs and chapter members who participate by providing the required completed passport will be entered into a **LIFE STREET JOURNEY** drawing. Refer to attached Passport to distribute to participating chapter members.

LPM Challenges:

1. Host a Chapter PEP course.
2. Submit a 2nd Trimester L&L Project of the Trimester Nomination.

Chapter Member Challenges: *To participate in Life Street Passport activity, must complete all three challenges listed below or any two plus one bonus challenge (total of 3 must be completed), record on Passport and submit per instructions below.*

1. Vote in the 2024 US elections on November 5th.
2. Participate or create a new Holiday Family tradition.
3. Read Trimester 2 suggested book which will be reflected upon during Winter convention chit-chat gathering.

***BONUS Challenges *** - *In addition to the basic sections of the **Living and Learning Certification**, each year the State Program Manager may add two additional items of their choice. Bonus Challenges are Optional.*

1. Set a "stretch" goal to grow as an individual on the journey down Life Street. Start a journal to record your journey of individual growth.
2. Visit an individual in your neighborhood and/or community who is new in your community, a neighbor or community members who may have lost a loved one or an elderly shut-in person, especially during special holidays. Record what you did to make brighten their day.

How To Participate?

Participating is very easy – chapters can work together as a group or on an individual base. Provide each chapter member with the challenges along with a copy of the **LIFE STREET PASSPORT**. Completed Passports must be submitted either via email to ll@mnwt.org or texting to 320.761.1188 by the due date. Each trimester the participants will continue to fill out their passport. There will be drawings each trimester for those submitting their completed trimester passport PLUS a year-end drawing for those who complete all three trimester challenges.



Fast Starts

Cindy Golbuff, Blooming Prairie
Sherry Laing, Albany
Diana Johnson, Monticello
Tara Soule, Duluth
Rose Swenson, Anoka
Christine Knirk, Burnsville,
Melanie Chenoweth, Coon Rapids
Lori Goutermont, STMA
Andrea Williams, Aitkin
Judy Moldenhauer, Sauk Rapids

MNWT L&L

Sandy Trossen, Sauk Rapids
Cindy Golbuff, Blooming Prairie
Lorissa Hanson, Blooming Prairie
Brandy Mausbach, Blooming Prairie
Ronda Wagner, Duluth

USWT WPD

Connie Fink, Monticello
Amy Solinger, Hutchinson
Emmy Koch, Hutchinson
Daris Fraser, Hutchinson
Shirley Viesselman, Hutchinson
Jane Hanson, Madelia,
Lori Goutermont, STMA
Barbara Shade, Warroad
Sharon Scholl, Monticello
Michelle Kocak-Jones, Monticello
Tawn Hanson, New Hope
Deborah Campion, New Hope
Ronda Wagner, Duluth



PASSPORT

Name _____

Chapter _____

Tri 1 Challenges

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Due Date: Sept. 5



2

Tri 2 Challenges:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Due Date: Jan. 5

3

Tri 3 Challenges:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Due Date: May 5

Journey with MNWWT Down Life Street

- Complete Challenges each Trimester
- Email photo of completed Passport by due date to be entered into drawing
- Send photo or scanned copy to:

Email: Wmnwwt.org or
Text: 320-761-1188



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