



The Official Communication Tool of the Minnesota Women of Today

NEWSLET



Minnesota Women of Today Members,

Some are content with memories
That play and never change
But others look to the future
And try to stretch their range

What things may be possible
And tasks as not yet done
What future days are dreamed of
Underneath the sun

These visions of the future
Await those who would dream
For thought creates reality
Things aren't just as they seem

The possibilities are endless
The future open wide
Let your imagination wander
Through the dreams you have inside

This poem captured my feelings about this past year and all we have achieved as an organization! Don't stop as the possibilities are still there and we can reach beyond and make an even bigger impact. Keep dreaming, sharing your visions and making those possibilities become realities!

It has been an honor to serve as your president this past year! Thank you for helping me to learn and grow while sharing with all of you! It has been an incredible year that I will treasure. You have made an imprint on my life that I will cherish forever!

Amy



GROWTH

The MN Women of Today were excited to attain growth plus 5 and 81% pretention. We began the year with 919 members and ended with 924. Great job to all of us on this great achievement!

Amy Pumper
2024-2025 Chairman of the Board
"Keeping the Vision Alive"

Minnesota Women of Today

Chapter Service Center
PO Box 216
Albany, MN 56307

President
Amy Pumper

Administrative VP
Shirley Viesselman

Membership VP
Glorie Balfanz

Marketing VP
Allie Staley

Chapter Management VP
Tevyan Sorensen

Programming VP
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Andrea Schue

Secretary
Candi Frick

Financial VP
Jane Holmberg

Parliamentarian
Tawn Hanson

Presidential Assistant
Cathy Shuman

Chairman of the Board
Jenise Teske

Executive Director
Tanya Rothstein

STAFF REPORTS

Sue Bay, SPM WW

Welcome to another MNWT calendar year. I will be your Women's Wellness program manager this year with a theme of Wiggle to Wellness. I hope I can help promote fun ways to stay active for your body's wellness to you.

But today I want to share about one of the overlooked honors that MNWT offers to magnificent members of our community and/or organization. The Women Who Impact award was named after the first President of the Mrs. Jaycee's, Lois M. Christensen, back in 2009. Lois was a driving force behind the founding of the Mrs. Jaycee's, which developed into the MNWT. Naming this award after her states how impactful the honor is to win this award.

This award is given to recipients at the Winter State convention. There are three winners selected; one for each category of service. Youth Outreach, Women's Advocacy, and Non-Profit are the areas honored for service.

To nominate a deserving woman, download the form from the MNWT webpage under Women's Wellness. The nomination does require a signature from the nominator and the Nominee. Each nomination carries a \$ 25 fee for administrative costs. Nominations are due November 1st. It is a great time to begin the nomination process to honor someone for the Lois M. Christensen Women Who Impact award.

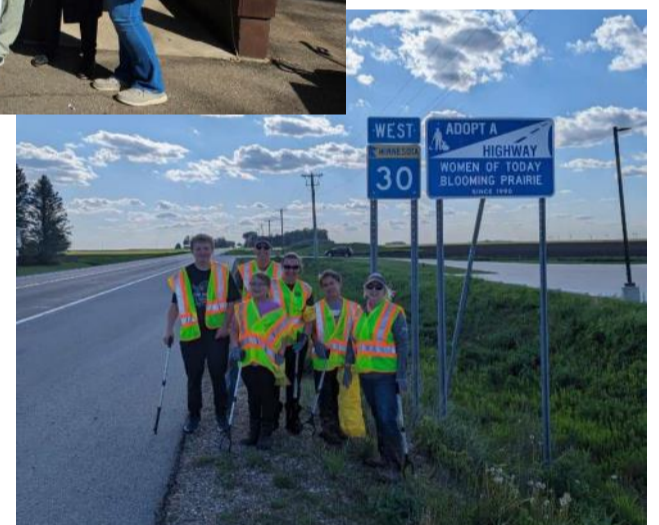
Chapter Happenings

Blooming Prairie Women of Today

The first is the BPWT Easter Egg hunt. This has been in place for several years and is a big success! It is a wonderful time for families and kiddos. We estimated there were over 325 kids in attendance this year with each child receiving a treat bag.

We stuffed over 4000 eggs, there were 115+ prizes, community donations, Gift cards, DQ free coupons and 350 treat bags. We start the planning in the fall and have great support with the businesses in the area.

The BPWT members have done this project since 1990 and is a 2 miles stretch of road. It is done in the spring and the fall with members and their families helping out. The chapter is truly making a difference in the community with these two projects. This year I walked the ditch with little Josie (3rd grade). She told me " I'm glad to clean up these ditches. It is Fun!"



Aitkin Women of Today

Our annual Easter Carnival was hosted on Sunday March 17. We had about 150 children come through the doors. Atwater GM donated the game prizes and egg fillers. We sell filled easter eggs in to-go packages. Awesome deal for busy parents. We raised over \$1500! Which we turned around and donated back to the Aitkin community.



Sauk Rapids Chapter

The Sauk Rapids chapter held a social during membership week in March that many members attended. A group met at WACOSA thrift store for a tour and enjoyed some shopping. Afterwards several joined at Applebee's for dinner and fellowship. We also had our Pizza Ranch fundraiser and membership social on April 1. Other chapters joined us as well!

Our chapter collected cards that were donated to a local nursing home for an activity project. We also made donations to Catholic Charities for Pack the Porches and a donation to Tri-County Humane Society for needed supplies. So many good things happening!

Annual State Awards

Success System

Trimester 3

1. Duluth
2. Anoka
3. Monticello
4. St. Joseph
5. Maple Grove
6. New Hope
7. Burnsville
8. Aitkin
9. Sauk Rapids
10. Coon Rapids



Presidential Pins

Rose Swenson	Anoka
Leanne Mickley	Anoka
Bonnie Funk	Avon
Jessica Lust	Avon
Linda Walters	Brainerd Lakes Area
Haylee Cloutier	Burnsville
Kerry Frank	Burnsville
Marily Eells	Burnsville
Phyllis Harris	Champlin
Becky Carlson	Duluth
Ronda Wagner	Duluth
Kaitlin Bormann	Fairmont
Karen Hagen	Glenville
Krista Johnson	Glenville
Deb Froemming	Hutchinson Area
Terry Earl	Maple Grove
RoseAnn Jahnz	Maple Grove
Kelly Neu	Melrose Area
Denise Kociemba	Melrose Area
Betsy Froemming	New Hope
Sandy Dinndorf	Sauk Rapids
Melissa Brown	St. James
Shellie Matthes	White Bear Lake



Top 5 Success Chapters!!!



District with Highest Percentage of Growth
District 6 Director—
Connie Fink



District with Highest Percent of Retention
District 6 Director—

Outstanding Program Managers

Community Connections

Avenlee Schul—St Joseph Chapter

Living & Learning

Shelly Zaffke—Stapes Motley Area Chapter

Women's Wellness

Marie Pedigo—Aitkin Chapter

Youth of Today

Kristen Barott—Hutchinson Area Chapter

Priority Area—Crescent Cove

Alexis Bunnell—Burnsville Chapter

Projects of the Trimester

Community Connections

Maple Grove Chapter—Homemade Cards for Veterans

Living and Learning

Hutchinson Area Chapter—Brainstorming & Bingo

Priority Area—Crescent Cove

Duluth Chapter—Dragonfly Basket

Women's Wellness

Sauk Rapids Chapter—Walk Together Against Sex Trafficking

Youth of Today

Fairmont Chapter—Creative Tea Project



Success System

2023-2024 Year

1. Monticello
2. Burnsville
3. Anoka
4. Sauk Rapids
5. Duluth
6. Aitkin
7. New Hope
8. St. Joseph
9. Maple Grove
10. Champlin
11. Brainerd Lakes Area
12. Coon Rapids
13. Avon
14. Hutchinson
15. Rice



Spot Light

Brandy Mausbach—Blooming Prairie

First Timer Overall

Sandy Dinndorf—Sauk Rapids

Chapter Mile Award

Duluth

Chapter Attendance Award

Albany

District Excitement

District 6

Annual State Awards



Chapter Presidents Medallions—Rachal Mueller—Anoka, Kandy Dorlack – Champlin, Arlene Feldewerd—Avon, Sarah Midas—Rice



State Delegate Medallions—Diane Grant—Byron Janet Reed—Anoka



Programming Award Of Excellence
Sandy Trossen
Presidential Award of Excellence—
Glorie Balfanz

SERVICE

Year End Results

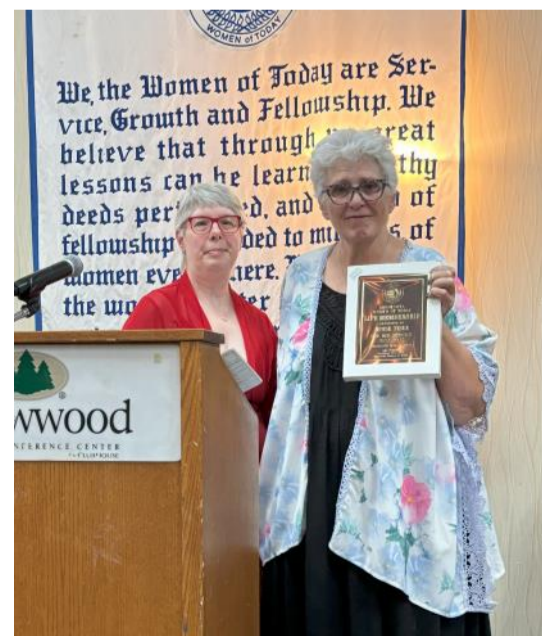
Check represents the total in-kind and monetary donations made by our districts, chapters, and members for this past 2023-2024 year.



Impromptu Speaking—
Sandy Dinndorf –Sauk Rapids—3rd
Jean Wayne—Coon Rapids—2nd
Sandy Trossen—Sauk Rapids—1st

**Life Membership
in the Minnesota
Women of Today**

Janise Teske



Annual State Awards



Key Women Award—
Allie Staley



Key Women Award—
Shirley Viesselman



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AWARDS

Civic or Environmental Project

This project brings together the community for an event to show support and appreciation in the community. This project has entertainment and activities by many community groups.

About three years ago, the National Night Out was in danger of being cancelled because of a lack of help. The Avon Women of Today stepped up to keep the event going. The chapter runs the food stand and the kids' games. Through this event the chapter has been recognized as an asset to the community.

The chapter feels privileged to assist with a rewarding community event that helps everyone appreciate the small things that make life in a small community great. Congratulations to the Avon Women of Today, "National Night Out" project for the Civic Project

Joint Ventures Award:

This project brought awareness to the issue of trafficking in the community and how women can empower other women.

The St. Joseph chapter collaborated with local business owners to sponsor a fundraiser for Terebinth Refuge. The speakers at the event included a client of Terebinth Refuge telling her story of survival and recovery, a personal trainer speaking about women's health, MNWT Past-President Jenise Teske about the benefits that Women of Today offers to members to form lasting friendships, find their individual talents and the personal growth.

In addition, members served dinner, cleaned up and distributed marketing materials to businesses. Congratulations to the St. Joseph Chapter's "Terebinth Refuge Fundraiser" for the Joint Venture Award.

Community Impact Award:

This project was a result of a mom reaching out to the chapter with the idea of creating an indoor play experience for kids with stay-at-home parents. The Warroad Area Chapter ran with the idea and created the "Kid Zone at Warroad Community Center" and held on 9 Mondays between March and May.

Funds raised from the Community Bingo were used to rent the Warroad Community Center, purchase activity rugs, bouncy toys, small indoor slide, foam mats, pop-up tunnels, foam blocks, coloring books and crayons, and balance beam pieces that can be rearranged.

The community benefitted from this project because it created an opportunity for kids to socialize with each other, learn to interact with other kids and adults, share toys and play new games and activities. Adult family members benefitted by meeting other adults and gathering ideas for new activities. The group plans to stay connected and schedule play dates at a local park. In April, an article appeared in the Roseau Times Region and the mom who brought the project to Warroad Women of Today became a member. Congratulations to "Kid Zone at Warroad Community Center" for the Community Impact Award.



Community Impact Award
Warroad Chapter—
Kid Zone at the Warroad
Community Center

Civic or Environmental
Project Award
Avon Chapter—
National Night Out



Joint Ventures Award
St. Joseph Chapter—
Terebinth Refuge Fundraiser

2024—2025 MNWT State Staff



MNWT State Staff 2024-2025

- Tevyan Sorensen—President
- Amy Pumper—Chairman of the Board
- Mary Sobczak—Presidential Assistant
- Andrea Schue— Administrative VP
- Connie Fink —Financial VP
- Carla Hanson—Membership VP
- Shirley Viesselman—Chapter Management VP
- Michelle Cloutier—Marketing VP
- Michelle Kocak-Jones—Programming VP
- Liz Weigel—Secretary
- Jeny Ohr—Parliamentarian
- Tanya Rothstein—Executive Director



Happy June Minnesota Women of Today!

It's truly an honor to be elected as the 75th President of the Minnesota Women of Today. I'm deeply grateful for the trust and confidence you've placed in me and this staff. This year, my focus is on connecting with women across the state, spreading our message of unity with the theme "We Go Together." I'm excited for this year and to see our organization come alive with renewed energy and positivity.

Our state staff and I are hitting the ground running. We're reaching out to chapters, assisting officers to kickstart their year, and collaborating with district directors on summer meetings. The entire Executive Council is here as a resource for you, whether you need information, training, project assistance, or just a supportive presence. Don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or requests!

At the recent Regional Meetings, I emphasized three requests: to be a connector, to be present, and to be positive. I firmly believe that through these actions, we can empower and elevate our chapters to reach their full potential. Stay tuned for more updates as we embark on this journey TOGETHER!

In friendship,

Tevyan Sorensen

MNWT President 2024-2025



Annual Convention Pictures

Friday Night Hoe-Down



Amy riding off into the sunset ...



Name that Country Music Singer



Awesome line dancers!

Butterfly Messages

Tawn,
Thank you for being my room buddy this year. I am so blessed to have you as a friend!
Candi

President Amy,
Thank you for leading us to another successful year. I am so honored to have served with you!
Candi

Flora,
You have done such an awesome job as chapter president. Thank you for all you do. You are awesome!
Candi

State Staff,
It was a great pleasure serving with you this year. I loved getting to know you all.
Candi

Jane Holmberg,
I's so glad were able to serve together again. I look forward to attending more "shows" with you in the future.
Candi

Staff,
What can I say but you are awesome! We had a great year and you were all an inspiration to me!
Amy

SPMs,
You did a wonderful job promoting your areas! Thank you for sharing of yourselves to help our membership gain information!
Amy

District Directors and Reps,
You are an amazing group of leaders that worked

wonders within your districts and it shows! I am in awe of your successes!
Amy

Members,
You are the backbone of our organization, and you are the ones that truly made the difference this year! Thank you for giving of yourselves!
Amy

Cat,
Thank you for being your and all your help. I value our friendship!
Amy

Chapter Presidents,
I so enjoyed working with you and having the opportunity to learn and share with you throughout the year. We will continue our conversation!
Amy

Linda Nindorf,
Thank you for the secret sis gits throughout the year, especially the shawl and the wonderful butterfly. Both are gorgeous!
Amy

Byron WT,
Thank you for your support and help this year – especially Diane. I could not have done this without you!
Amy

Shenanigan Sisters,
Your support and friendship mean the world to me. Thank you for being by my side and helping me to laugh when I needed it the most! Amy

Jane, JoAnn, Allie, Jane and Nicky,
Thank you for all you did in leading your committees and helping the organization be the best it can

be!
Amy

Past Presidents,
Thank you for your nudge to take on the presidency. Your support, ideas, texts, messages and help have left an impact. Thank you for the wonderful gifts too!
Amy

Tevyan,
I am excited on where you will take the Minnesota Women of Today! I know you will lead us well. I look forward to seeing you shine!
Amy

NEWSLET Personal Messages

Your Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Chapter: _____ District: _____

Name message is for: _____

Your Message (25 word limit):

Personals are due . Send this form with \$2 per message or you can buy in bulk of 12 messages for \$20 or 25 for \$40. Make checks payable to MNWT. Mail to: Suzanne LaLond, 6920 Lombardy Lane, Crystal MN 55428 Email personals will be accepted (NEWSLET@mnwt.org). They will not be published until payment is received.

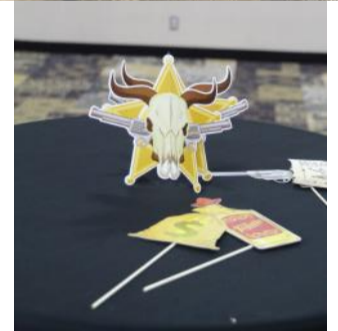
Annual Convention Fun



Fun at our business meeting!



FELLOWSHIP



You guys said this would be fun!



LUCKY BUCK BASKETS
You could say that again.....
over \$1200 raised!