

NEWSLETTER OF THE

May 2017

Volume 1, Issue 1

STMA Women of Today

Year End Banquet

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New Board Installation



Celebrating together at the Year End Banquet





Fun time at the succulent plant class m-night



PROGRAMING VP – Susie Lish

LPM (local program managers) needed for 2017-2018 year.

I want to thank Lisa H for signing up to do YT (Youth of Today), Abbi B for doing PR (Public Relations) and Kris for signing up to do our chapter newsletter.

I am looking for members to do the following LPM positions.

Community Connections: Program to encourage involvement in our local community with projects such as senior citizen events and adopt a family. This area promotes Friendship Ventures, the Outstanding Person with Developmental Challenges Award & Community Connections Awards.

Women’s Wellness: Educate members on current health issues & support the March of Dimes March for Babies. PROGRAMING VP – SUSIE LISH

Living and Learning: Promotes participation and provides information and ideas in the areas of personal growth of members; intellectually, spiritually, civically, and through family. Also promotes the Effective Writing, Speaking, and Impromptu competitions as well as the Women Who Impact Awards.

Records and Recognition (R & R): Program to encourage good recordkeeping for chapter projects; project recognition; mid-year and year-end entries; Projects of the Trimester & Success.

Breaking Free: This is the third and final year for this three-year priority area. Program to encourage involvement with Breaking Free to reach strategic goals to service women and girls in “breaking free” from abuse and sexual exploitation.

I will set up LPM training once more of the positions are filled. Agreeing to be a Local Program Manager for an area doesn’t mean that you are in charge of projects that fall in that area just that you need to report on what happens under the area. For example, reporting how many members worked at event or how much money was raised, or how many members certified in Living & Learning areas. You can be creative and come up with new ideas, and there are also records on all projects that have been done that are there for all members to use.

Book Recommendations

Have you read a good book lately?

Share the title and author with other members here.

Submit by the Friday after the general meeting to be included in the newsletter to Kris at kgoodin22@embarqmail.com.

STATE DELEGATE CORNER – Carol Gore

I am looking forward to a great successful year for the STMA WT Chapter. As your State Delegate I want to keep you all informed on what is happening at the Chapter, District and State level. I'm hoping some will join me at one/two/or many district and state events. I'll keep you posted on what is happening.

The Annual Convention will be held May 19-21 "up North." Kathy Hansen will be in attendance representing our Chapter and our District 6. The Presidential candidate for this year is Shelli Struzyk of the Rice WT. Please go to the MNWT.org website for information on Shelli and her proposed Board.

The State is still searching for a Treasurer candidate so please keep that in mind. I know some of you like to "start big" so why not.

I will have more information once I receive my CIP which I will get shortly after the annual convention. So remember to keep looking for this section in our chapter newsletter.



Better Together

MNWT Logo wear

The MNWT online clothing store is now open again until May 26th. There are 11 different clothing items and a very nice logo bag. You select the item you want and then choose the size and color. All items are women's sizing except for the Adult Poly T-shirt (men's sizing). When you are done shopping, you check the box for shipping (\$5 fee) and enter your address. You can make your payment through PayPal or with any credit card. It's quick and easy and you will love the clothing. (It's okay to combine chapter orders and ship them to one address.)

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>> Simply go to the home page of <http://www.mnwt.org> and scroll down to the store - click anywhere. OR you can click on the following link to go directly to the store.

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>> [http://www.rallygear.net/store/c87/MN Women of Today.html](http://www.rallygear.net/store/c87/MN_Women_of_Today.html)

>>

>> Thanks so much for shopping with MN Women of Today!!

>>

>> Cathy Shuman

>> State Treasurer 2016-17

>> Minnesota Women of Today

>> treasurer@mnwt.orgmailto:treasurer@mnwt.org

>> [612.812.9198](tel:612.812.9198)

Upcoming Projects

Coborn's Dairy Days

June 6 from 4-7pm

Work shifts: 3:30-5:30

Or 5:30-7:30

Or whatever hours work

Contact Patti at

612-388-3610



Hamel Rodeo

July 7th from

8-10 volunteers needed

Chairs Heather & Kathy

Contact Kathy at

763-227-5561



National Night Out

August 1st at Kathy's front yard

From 4-8pm

Bouncy house, visit from the AFD
fire truck, ice cream



Chapter Cheer

Congratulations to Debbie Pool-Serves U Right winner of \$3.75

Julie & Abbie- Thanks for getting everything on FB.....it's working!!! Candi

Thank you to the board members for the walking taco dinner at the May general meeting. Kris

Welcome to the chapter Pam, Nicole, Gretchen & Sherri! We're happy to have you! Candi

Thank you to all the members who came to the social at Willie McCoy's, so fun! Can't wait until the next one, Candi

Carin- Thank you for answering all my questions @ the social, I was so intrigued.... Candi



Shoot
for the moon.
Even if you miss,
you'll land
among the stars.



HOW FAIRMONT WOMEN OF TODAY CHANGED MY LIFE – BY SUE BAY

Have you ever wondered how powerful an organization can be? I would like to share my story about joining my local Women of **Today** chapter so you know how much it improved my life.

I have lived in this community for 24 years and my life was consumed with raising my 2 children and trying to be a good wife in a small town. I was the very active mom in my children's Lutheran schools by being on committees, volunteering for every event and trying to hide my depression by keeping active. Depression haunted me more often than I care to admit. It began to break me down and I let it ruin my ability to communicate with my husband. After 13 years of marriage, we were doomed and divorce was the result.

I moved from Truman to Fairmont and started to pick up the pieces. My life would not be the same with my children. They were entering their early teen years and I ruined their life. That guilt to add to my depression. Time heals and forgiveness started to show its face. As time passed and they matured, things improved. I had a new husband and a job I loved. But depression knows how to find me too easily. It would sneak back into my life and attack me when I least expected it.

With my children grown, and a husband that was over the road truck driving, I found the darkness often. Tears were a nightly occurrence and I longed for friendships. It occurred to me that after 20+ years in my community, I had very few friends that I could confide in and turn to when I needed help.

Then one day, I received a Facebook invite from a woman that I only met a month earlier. She invited me to a Woman of **Today** event for an evening of card making. I love making homemade cards. I was excited to attend the event. The event was a recruiting tool for new members. I didn't know that but I was there, making cards, and I enjoyed it. So, I thought why not; I could use more friends.

Little did I know that day would change my life. Being a part of the WOT has given me a sense of purpose again. I am back volunteering, but this time, it is for our community. This time, I am working along with my new "sisters".

I am so grateful to have joined the WOT. I never knew how powerful the friendships would be for me. I still have dark moments with depression, but this time, my sisters are there to support me. I look forward to our adventures and our community service projects.

Depression is a part of me. I don't think I will ever be free from its grip. But I am getting stronger and I can talk to my husband when I feel the darkness surrounding me. This time, it won't destroy my marriage. And my WOT chapter, they embrace me. They accept me for the person I am and what I achieve to be. I don't know what I would do if I didn't know these amazing women in my life.

If someone asks me about WOT, without hesitation, I can say it changed my life for the better.

Sue Bay-
Fairmont Women of **Today** Member since 2015



St. Michael-Albertville Women of Today
General Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2017

Attendance: Abbi Baker, Joanna Bolduc, Julie Davis, Bobbi Fehrmann, Kris Goodin, Lori Goutermont, Kathy Hansen, Kathy Kessler, Susie Lish, Heather Pomeroy, Debbie Pool, Michelle Skrypec, Candi Testa, Patti Weber, Pauline Meyer, Carol Gore

Call to Order: 7:02 pm

MN Women of Today Creed – Kathy Hansen

Pledge of Allegiance – Pauline Meyer

Orders of the Day/Establish Quorum – Bobbi

Quorum was met with 16 members present

Perspectives: Julie introduced three guests, Sherri Streff, Gretchen Pearce, Nicole Jockisch, visiting our meeting today to observe and see what Women of Today is all about, and if they would consider joining our chapter.

Serves You Right box went around for collection

Acts of Kindness: (new title; previously called Old Business/Recaps):

4/20 Terrarium m-event, Candi: 11 people attended plus 2 perspectives, \$75.00 spent; Kenda instructed everyone on how to make their terrarium which they paid for in advance and took home with them.

4/22 Coffee Social, Bobbi: Only Bobbi and Julie were there; Krista came and will be joining.

4/24 Orientation, Carol: Joanna, Pam and Krista were there – Candi and Carol too.

4/25 Year End Banquet, Candi: 23 members attended at the Liberty Bar and Restaurant in St. Michael; had fun; everyone received \$10.00 towards their meal and a beautiful flower plant to take home.

4/27 Senior High Scholarships, Julie: Candi, Pauline and Julie met at Dunn Bros. to review and pick recipients. 55 applicants, very hard to pick. Each receiving a \$500 scholarships. 10 hours.

4/29 Just Drive, Bobbi: 7 members helped - Bobbi Fehrmann, Sue Lish, Michelle Skrypec, Debbie Pool, Julie Davis, Joanna Bolduc, Lori Goutermont; 4 non-members helped - Pat Hackman, Doug Hackman, Makayla Hackman, Jeff Davis; Total hours spent: 40. Money spent: \$250 out of \$250 budgeted; gave out chip clips. Put up signs to advertise and along the walking route, cheered the walkers on, about 20 people walked, gave out 4 raffles for prizes; had snacks and pop/water for the helpers and walkers.

5/6 Open Streets, Julie: Great turnout. Approximately 130 people planted seeds. Great event. Recommend that we do in the future. Joanna co-chaired. Lisabet, Debbie and Jill helped. \$300.00 spent, met lots of people. 22 hours total.

Secretary - Michelle

Approval of April General Meeting Minutes – minutes approved as written

Year End Banquet – meeting minutes – Bobbi wrote and submitted the minutes via email in advance. Minutes were approved as written.

May birthdays – Jill on the 1st

Officers Reports

State Delegate – Kathy/Lisa

Convention: Annual May 19-21, Kathy Hansen reported out: Annual convention is May 19-21. Kathy Hansen will be representing STMA at this convention. Shelli Struzyk of the Rice WT is the Presidential candidate. State is still searching for a Treasurer so if you have any interest please speak up. Congratulations to JoAnn Miller (Byron Women of Today) in her bid for US Women of Today Secretary 2017-2018! The election will take place at National Convention in Las Vegas, June 8-11. Please join me in wishing JoAnn "all the best!" as she shares "Opening the Mystery of Meeting Minutes". More information will come at our June meeting regarding upcoming events and happenings.

MN WT State president candidate – Shelley Struzyk vote: Kathy passed around a brochure with Shelli's bio, experience and background. Shelley was at the recent LOTS Training and was the trainer for Michelle's group for Secretary training. Michelle and Kathy H. both talked with Shelley and had good things to say about her. All members at today's meeting took a vote and all voted yes for Shelli Struzyk for President. Kathy will bring our vote to the annual convention.

LOTS May 6 – Michelle and Kathy Hansen attended. We carpooled – Kathy drove. Training was good, food for lunch was good too. We shopped in the WT Store. Kathy picked up and brought back the individual manuals for each of the new Board positions for STMA.

Membership VP – Julie

Socials: Saturday coffee, 5/12 Willy McCoy's at 4:30 PM

M events: Let Julie know if you have an m-event or a social you would like to do. She mentioned that she has an idea book for m-events & socials. Also, check out Pinterest WT for ideas. Heather suggested going to the "Shout House" in downtown Minneapolis. Many members were interested, so she will check into a possible date in June.

Name tags: Printing is done by Elk River Printing for our name tags. Let Julie know if you need a name tag, and she will order you one.

Logo wear: Members get \$10.00 towards their order. Let Julie know if you want to order a shirt. She will even embellish with the lettering and font you choose. See Julie to see chart.

1st tri Renewals: Four have renewed; 4 others are up for renewal – Julie will contact each one.

Internal & External VP – Susie

LPM's for 2017/2018

LPM orientation date

Community Connections

Senior Citizen events: Carol/Debbie doing bingo at Engel Haus on 5/22 at 5:30. Be there at 5:30 (bingo starts at 6:00); need more volunteers. Contact Debbie or Carol.

Spring Highway Cleanup – Bobbi 5/18 6 PM weather permitting – meet at Marketplace at 6 PM

Coborn's Dairy Day – June 6 – Patti: 4 to 7PM, need volunteers to sign up

July 6-9, Hamel Rodeo: Need volunteers to help with selling tickets and pass out programs; is a fun event.

Kathy Hansen volunteered to chair and Heather to co-chair. We will volunteer on Friday night.

July 11, Ice cream social/Founder's day/July general meeting – Lori

August 1, National Night Out/board meeting – host? Kathy Hansen said she might host.

Fall Craft Show: Signed up for already: Parking – Candi; Crafters – Julie; still need chairs for PR, Concessions, Set-up, and Clean-up.

Newsletter – Kris

Kris needs articles by Friday, 5/12 to get newsletter out by 5/19 – send anything for the newsletter; i.e. good book reads, good movies, etc.

Treasurer – Pauline

Financial Report: Checking: \$3,516.27

Savings: \$13,082.41

Donation Requests: Hold off until June meeting; (waiting for last year's budget to be finalized first, since this is a new year).

Motions: Also, hold off until June general meeting (need last year's budget finalized).

3rd tri audit – Julie, Carol and Michelle will meet soon and give audit report to Lori

President – Candi

2017/2018 proposed budget & calendar – Board has a proposed calendar and working on budget. Clean out shed date? The shed door has been fixed. We need to do an inventory of what is in the shed so we are not duplicating anything; and throw old stuff away. We need a chair for this.

Serves you Right drawing – Julie: Debbie Pool's name was drawn. Debbie was present at the meeting so she won \$3.75 in cash and a \$5.00 Coborn's gift card!

GOOD & WELFARE:

Thank you board members for dinner!

Pauline – Informed all she will be moving to Iowa as husband is transferring. We wish Pauline luck in her move with her family and we will miss her!

Lori – Daughter, Jacquie, has graduated from college in fashion merchandising and business management. Congratulations Jacquie!

Julie – Daughter, Cassy, has been accepted into her PhD program! And, she will be coming home May 20th for 1 month!

Everyone have a Happy Mother's Day!

Candi invited the three perspectives to join. They will be thinking about it, and may join at next meeting.

US Women of Today Creed – Carol

Adjourned at 8:50 PM

Respectfully submitted

Michelle Skrypec, Secretary



\$500 Scholarships Available!

If you are a member of Minnesota Women of [Today](#), you may be eligible to apply for a \$500 Cheryl L. Anderson Scholarship. These funds are awarded annually by the Minnesota Women of [Today](#) Foundation, and we are currently looking for applicants. Deadline for application is [July 1](#).

Eligible applicants have been members of the Minnesota Women of [Today](#) for at least two years, and are currently a member. They are also enrolled in a vocational or college approved program and live in Minnesota.

The required forms can be found at www.mnwt.org. Click on the "mnwt foundation" tab next to the search bar, and then select the .pdf for the Cheryl L. Anderson Scholarship. Applications are due postmarked by [July 1](#). Successful applicants will receive their scholarship at Fall State.

Take advantage of this funding opportunity, or share this email with a chapter member that may qualify. Additional details are available by emailing foundation@mnwt.org.

**Annual Banquet Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2017
Liberty Bar & Grill 6:30-9:00pm**

Members attending: Pam, Krista, Julie Davis, Carol Gore, Lisabet Thomas, Carin Christle, Marnette Hoisve, Susie Lish, Angela Hennen, Lori Goutermont, Christine Konz, Kathy Kessler, Kathy Hansen, Kris Goodin, Candi Testa, Lisa Haines, Gretchen Huettelman, Joanna Bolduc, Debbie Pool, Bobbi Fehrmann, Abbi Baker, Pauline Meyer, Michelle Skrypec

Dinner and Social Hour began at 6:30pm

Carol passed around the ‘Serves you right’ box and passed out awards.

Pauline and Candi discussed the donations provided throughout the year. Total donations were \$16,287.49.

Abbi, Kathy, Lisa, and Candi gave thanks to LPMs, members who conducted site visits, members who assisted with events, and all general members for the successful year.

Two new members, Pam and Krista, were installed as members.

All present members stood together and renewed their membership.

A quorum was met with 23 members present.

A motion was put on the floor to suspend Bylaw Article 7 Section 5 so Candi Testa could be nominated and elected as president for 2017-2018. Gretchen Huettelman seconded the motion and it passed.

A motion to elect Candi Testa as president was made and seconded by Kathy Hansen. Motion was passed.

Carol Gore and Susie Lish asked to be nominated and elected as State Delegate and VP of Programming. A motion was made to elect Carol Gore as State Delegate and Susie Lish as VP of Programming for 2017-2018. The motion was seconded by Candi Testa and it was passed.

The annual banquet concluded with the officer installation of for the 2017-2018 board.

Michelle Skrypec-Secretary

Lori Goutermont-Treasurer

Julie Davis-Membership

Carol Gore-State Delegate

Susie Lish-VP Programming

Candi Testa-President

Nancy Thompson-Past President/Parliamentarian

Minutes taken by Bobbi Fehrmann

Membership

Please let Julie/Candi know what you'd like to plan for the next social & membership-event, We're open to anything & new ideas are always welcome.

Candi

1st TRIMESTER**MAY 2017**

2 - Board Meeting
 6 - LOTS
 9 - General Meeting
 6 - FYCC-Open Streets -St.M
 9- General Meeting
 18- Highway Clean up
 19- 21 Annual Convention
 22- Senior Citizen bingo/
 Engel Haus
 24 - STMA HS Scholarship
 ceremony
 LPM Training

JUNE 2017

Chapter Management

6 - Board Meeting
 6 – Coborn’s Dairy Days
 13 - General Meeting
 7-11 AFCD
 9-12 Nat’l Conv. Las Vegas
 District Orientation/Mtg

JULY 2017

*Community Connections/ True Friends
 Public Relations*

6-9 Hamel Rodeo
 11- General Meeting
 Founder’s Day/
 Ice Cream Social
 22- President/
 State Delegate retreat

AUGUST 2017

Youth of Today

1 – Board Meeting/
 National Night Out
 8 – General Meeting
 10-13 STM Daze & Knights
 Senior Citizen Event
 M-Event
 Socials

Certifications

In-Chapter Financial Audit
 PR Sub-committee Mtg.
 New Member Orientation

2nd TRIMESTER**SEPTEMBER 2017**

*Community Connections/
 Isaac’s Journey
 Public Relations
 Women of Today Week
 Membership*

3- Day at Diamond Target Field
 5– Board Meeting
 9- FYCC Open St.-Albertville
 12 – General Meeting
 17-23 Women of Today Week

District Meeting
 Fall State Convention
 School Donations

OCTOBER 2017

Records & Recognition

3 – Board Meeting
 10 – General Meeting
 Certification Night
 PDC Olympics
 Highway Clean up
 In Chapter Mid Year Evaluation

NOVEMBER 2017

Women’s Wellness

7 – Board Meeting
 14 – General Meeting
 17 – Fall Craft Set Up
 18 – Fall Craft Show

DECEMBER 2017

5 – Board Meeting
 Holiday Party
 Adopt a Family/holiday
 Senior Citizen Event
 M-Events
 Socials

Certifications

In-Chapter Financial Audit
 PR Sub-committee Mtg.
 New member orientation

3rd TRIMESTER**JANUARY 2018**

Living and Learning

2 – Board Meeting
 9 – General Meeting
 Senior High Scholarships
 District Meeting
 Winter State Convention
 Bylaw/Policy Review

FEBRUARY 2018

Newslet

Extensions

6 – Board Meeting
 13 – General Meeting
 Senior Scholarships
 Senior Grad Party Donation

MARCH 2018

Membership

STEP

6 – Board Meeting
 13 – General Meeting
 Year end donations

APRIL 2018

Volunteer Recognition

3 – Board Meeting
 10 – General Meeting
 23-29 Volunteer Week
 28- Just Drive Day
 National Volunteer month
 Year End Banquet
 Senior Citizen Event
 M-Events/ Socials
 Certifications
 In-Chapter Financial Audit
 PR Sub-committee Mtg.
 New member orientation