

A Note From the Master Chef!



I cannot believe that we are just a couple months away from closing out another Women of Today year. While I will save the sappy comments for my final letter and year end, I just want to say how grateful I am for having the ability to meet such a diverse and amazing group of women.

February is the month of love and whether it is a significant other or friend love can mean many different things to people. To me loving someone is always being there for them through the hard times and celebrating with

them the best of times. Another aspect of love is being passionate. This year the focus has been unlocking your passion. I can honestly say that I have

loved watching our membership grow and the passion of everyone coming through on projects.

I am beyond excited to see what the next couple of months hold and

hope that everyone was able to celebrate this month of love with someone they love.

Live. Laugh. Bake.

Pres. Illeana

... the focus has been unlocking your passion...

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Nominating Committee

By Pam P, Mercy T, Lauren H

The slate of officers that will be voted on at the March meeting are:

- o President – Dawn Hendricks.
- o Internal Vice President – Lana Gilberts
- o External Vice President – Michelle Kocak Jones
- o Co-Membership Vice Presidents – Mercedes Turner and Trina Hedquist
- o State Delegate – Sarah Sundine
- o Secretary – Lauren Henderson
- o Treasurer – Glorie Balfanz

Past President/Parliamentarian will be Illeana Miller.

Nominations will still be accepted until voting at the March meeting, just let one the nominating committee members know if you would like to run for an office.



With State Delegate Lauren

Upcoming Events:

- 2/20 Newslet articles for March issue due to Newslet SPM
- 2/23 Newslet Personals for March issue due to Newslet SPM
- 2/25 Extension Encouragement Day
- 2/28 MNWT Foundation Fundraiser – Stevie Ray Vaughn's Comedy Cabaret
- 3/1 Passion Excitement Month
- 3/3 MNWT 1st Tuesday Webinar Series
- 3/7 Finance Committee Meeting - Location TBD
- 3/12 Out and About Night
- 3/14 March Planning Meeting in Staples/Motley
- 3/21 3rd Trimester State Committee Meetings – Nisswa
- 3/22 Chili Cook-Off
- 3/22-28 Change the World Week
- 3/25 Extension Encouragement Day
- 3/27 Area 2 Meeting – Lion's Building in Rice
- 4/12-18 Volunteer Week
- 4/23 Advance Registration for Annual Convention must be postmarked
- 4/23 District Meeting in St. Cloud
- 5/2 LOTS and Train the Trainer
- 5/15-17 Annual Convention at Arrowwood Resort, Alexandria

District Meeting 1/9/15:

The meeting was hosted by Rice WT at Rice Lions Building, and was attended by Ille Miller, Sarah Sundine, Pam Peterson, Annette Schaufler, Dawn Hendricks, and Lauren Henderson. Minutes of the fall District Meeting were approved. The winner of drawing for \$10 refund for attending winter convention was Lauren Henderson. The District will host a Silly Supper in April; date TBD. Chapter Presidents and State Delegates reported on past and future events and M-nights in their chapters. A motion was made and passed for the District to donate an additional \$50 to Isaac's Journey. March Planning will be held 3/14 at Landmark Inn in Staples. Area Meeting will be held 3/27 at Rice Lion's Building. Next District Meeting will be held 4/23 in St. Cloud. LOTS and "Train the Trainer" will be held 5/2. Day at the Diamond date is 8/30. March emphasis is STEP. Pam Peterson won a \$10 cash Lucky Buck. An extra Lucky Buck raised \$65 for Buckets of Sunshine.

The following District Certificates and Awards were presented:

- * Early Bird Renewals – Linda Buchmann, Michelle Kocak-Jones
- * Growth +2 – Linda Buchmann, Michelle Kocak-Jones
- * Living & Learning LPM of Trimester – Trina Hedquist
- * Completing 2nd Trimester LPM report for Ways & Means – Sara Wiitala
- * Ways & Means LPM of 1st Trimester – Sara Wiitala
- * Thank you to Nancy Flesch, LPM Women's Wellness
- * State Delegate of the Trimester – Lauren Henderson
- * Board Member of the Trimester – Pam Peterson

MNWT Awards:

- * Completing 2nd Trimester President's Challenge: Ille Miller

ANNUAL CONVENTION

Minnesota Women of Today holds three conventions each year. Fall State Convention celebrates 1st trimester and is held in September. Winter State Convention is held in January and celebrates 2nd trimester. Annual Convention is held in May and celebrates 3rd trimester and our year-end. The Annual Convention for the 2014-2015 year will be hosted by New Hope Women of Today May 15-17 at the Arrowwood Resort in Alexandria. This beautiful resort is on a lake and has a water park in addition to an indoor pool and whirlpool, indoor tennis courts, fitness center, spa, lounge, restaurant and golf club. Advanced registration is \$80 (due 4/23) and includes the Friday Night Party, Business Meeting on Saturday, Saturday Luncheon, Saturday Banquet, and a Continental Breakfast on Sunday. There will be many other things to do and see while you are there and opportunities to get to know fabulous women from around the state. Our chapter pays the registration fee for the outgoing and incoming Chapter Presidents and State Delegates to attend Annual Convention. We also pay \$10 of the registration for "First-Timers" and have a drawing for two \$10 discounts for members attending conventions. The cost of staying at the Arrowwood Resort will be determined when we know how many members will be attending Annual Convention. I hope you will decide to attend and share in the fun and excitement!



- ◇ Trina, congratulations on your Presidential Pin, you are doing a great job. – Sarah S
- ◇ Lauren, congratulations on your U.S. Pin what an accomplishment. – Sarah S
- ◇ Dawn, it was great meeting you at Caribou. I can't wait for our taste testing night! – Sarah S
- ◇ Sara and Mercedes, thank you for co-chairing the member/partner appreciation dinner with me. – Sarah S
- ◇ Cathy, thank you for all your help with UMC's Arbor Day activities we really appreciate it. – Sarah S
- ◇ Applebees Gang – it was really nice to see everyone and get a chance to chat. – Rylee
- ◇ Lana – it was really nice to chat with you at Applebees. – Rylee
- ◇ Mom – Thanks for supporting me in all of my endeavors! – Rylee
- ◇ Pam P., Sarah S., Lauren, & Cat - You are all awesome! When I wasn't sure how to handle a few things recently, you were all extremely helpful! I really appreciate how receptive you all are to my questions as I (finally) learn the LPM routine. – Nancy
- ◇ Happy Valentines Day to the ladies of MWOT. This is truly a great organization and chapter. – Mercy
- ◇ Thank you to Sarah S and Sara W -- I am looking forward to the partner appreciation dinner. – Mercy
- ◇ Lauren, great job at the last meeting going over all the awards. – Mercy
- ◇ Danielle – super excited to have you as a new member. – Illeana
- ◇ Karen – welcome to our chapter! I am excited to getting to know you and finding out what your passions are. – Illeana
- ◇ Dawn and Lauren – thank you for being a sounding board on our walks! – Illeana
- ◇ Lauren – thank you for being my state delegate this year!! I have had a blast so far and can't wait to see what the next couple months hold for us. – Illeana
- ◇ Pam P – thank you so much for all you have done for newsletter. You are doing such a great job!! – Illeana
- ◇ Lauren—Congrats on your US Presidential Pin!!! You are doing an amazing job. - Pam P
- ◇ Rylee—Congrats on being accepted to the UofM Crookston!! Go Golden Eagles!! ;) - Mom
- ◇ Trina—Congrats on your Presidential Pin. Nice job on all the projects you have been chairing!! - Pam P
- ◇ Tammy—Great job on the Mardi Gras food. Yum! - Pam P
- ◇ Mercy, Sarah, & Sara—The Partner Appreciation was so fun! Thanks! - Pam P
- ◇ Karen and Danielle—Welcome to the chapter!! Looking forward to getting to know you both better. - Pam P
- ◇ Barb B—It was nice to chat with you at the M-night. We need to do a coke sometime and really catch up! - Pam P
- ◇ Kelsey—How is it going back in Monticello? I hope you get a chance to make it to a meeting or event soon. - Pam P
- ◇ Lauren—Good job getting us set up with meeting at Community Methodist. I think it could be a really good option for us! - Pam P



MONTICELLO WOMEN OF TODAY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Thursday February 4, 2015

Members Present: Illeana, Mercedes, Glorie, Barb B, Linda B, Maribel, Pam B, Maribel, Nancy, Lana, Trina, Lauren, Dawn, Trsita, Michelle, Debby, Pam P, Annette, Kay S, Cathy S, Sharon, Sarah S, Arlis, Sara W

Meeting called to order: 6:33pm p.m. by Illeana Miller, Past President/Parliamentarian

Invocation: Dawn

Pledge: Mercy

MNWT Creed: Kay

Orders of the Day/Quorum. Pam Peterson/A quorum was established: 23/39

On Time Drawing: Barb B

Icebreaker. Trina: You are a candy heart what does your message say?

Guest(s): Karen

SECRETARY: Mercedes Turner “Just in Thyme”

* Slips & Report Forms are available. * January meeting minutes approved. * Reminder that reports and motions should be provided to Secretary and President prior to the meeting.

TREASURER: Glorie Balfanz “Half Baked” (emailed)

* Taxes were filed for the chapter. * Checking Account Balance as of 01/31/2015 is \$741.01 * Savings Account Balance as of 01/31/2015 is \$4109.00 * Treasurer has check requisition forms and receipt forms available if needed. There are copies on the website to copy also. On website, go to member info, then to forms for members. * Dues may be paid in installments with the full payment due by the member's anniversary date. * The treasurer is not able to reimburse over the budget written in the approved 2014-2015 budget. * I would like to request that anyone turning in a check requisition form to turn it into the chairman of the project before turning it into the treasurer. It would help the chairman of the project with the final report and she will also know how much is being spent on project. If any chairman needs to know how much they have to spend they can always look at the budgets available at each meeting or email the treasurer for the information.

PAST PRESIDENT: Pam Peterson “A Cup of Sugar”

* Plan of Action Challenge – Please stamp your POA if you brought it with you * Newsletter Bylaw Challenge – Thank you to Sarah S for answering the newsletter bylaw challenge * Nominating Committee – The slate of officers are: Internal Vice President - Lana Gilberts, External Vice President – Michelle Kocak Jones, Co-Membership Vice Presidents – Mercedes Turner and Trina Hedquist, State Delegate – Sarah Sundine, Secretary – Lauren Henderson, Treasurer – Glorie Balfanz, President – Dawn Hendricks. Past President/Parliamentarian will be Illeana Miller. Nominations will still be accepted until voting at the March meeting.

PRESIDENT: Illeana Miller “Live Laugh Bake”

* Board Member of the Month – January Board Member of the Month: Michelle /February Member of the Month: Sara S * General Member of the Month – January Member of the Month: Nancy / February Member of the Month: Sara W * The next Board Meeting will be on **2/18/15 at Kjellbergs at 6:30pm** * The next General Meeting will be held on March 5 at Community United Methodist Church 8 at 7:00 p.m. * Year End Banquet will be on the 25th of April at the Best Western from 6:30-9. As of right now we are looking at \$10 per person and that will include food. Formal invitation will be coming out in March. Please let Sarah S, Debby or myself know as soon as possible if you will be attending.

STATE DELEGATE: Lauren Henderson “Shake N’ Bake”

* District Meeting 1/9/15 FR: Rice Lions Building. Attended: Ille Miller, Sarah Sundine, Pam Peterson, Annette Schaufler, Dawn Hendricks, Lauren Henderson. See newsletter for details and Awards. LPMs of trimester: Trina Hedquist/Living & Learning, Sara Wiitala/Ways & Means. State Delegate of trimester: Lauren Henderson. Board Member of trimester: Pam Peterson. * Winter State Convention 1/23-25/15 FR: DoubleTree Park Place in St. Louis Park. Attended: Ille Miller, Sarah Sundine, Sara Wiitala, Cathy Shuman, Annette Schaufler, Lauren Henderson. Motion to change MNWT Bylaw Article IX, Elections and Appointment of Officers, Section 4, passed. Raising dues to \$50 has been proposed. See newsletter for details and Awards. Fired-Up DPMs: Arlis Thielke/Ways & Means, Annette Schaufler/Isaac's Journey. Project of Trimester: Pam Peterson, Shed Clean-up/Records & Recognition. First Timer's Award: Sara Wiitala. Presidential Pin: Trina Hedquist. Success: 1st Place, Ille Miller. * Extension Encouragement Day 1/25 FR: cards were sent to 4 chapters. Next date is 2/25. * Foundation Fundraiser 2/28: Stevie Ray Vaughn's Comedy Cabaret at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater. Tickets \$65. See flyer for more details if interested. * Area Meeting: 3/27 at Rice Lion's Building. * District Meeting 4/23 in St. Cloud. Award recipients to be included in next month's minutes.

MEMBERSHIP: Linda Buchmann & Michelle Kocak-Jones "Baker's Dozen"

* **Member/Partner Appreciation** - Sarah S/Sara W/Mercedes - Due to popular demand we will be doing another progressive dinner for the Member/Partner Appreciation. It will be held on Saturday 2/21. The first house will be Mercedes where we will be having dinner. Then at 6:30 we will walk over to Sarah Sundine's house for desert and maybe some square dancing. That is if we can figure it out before than! Due to the cost of food we are asking for \$5 per person, which will include dinner, dessert, snacks, and non-alcoholic beverages. If you would like an alcoholic beverage please bring it with you. Please RSVP by 2/14 to Sarah S so we can figure out the food. We look forward to seeing you and don't forget to wear your country western attire.* **Feb 17 M-Night** - Feb. 17th from 6:30-8:30 hosted by Tammy Torborg at Eastview. Tammy will prepare Mardi Gras themed food items asking for audience assistance and taste testing. Flyers have been emailed and an ad in the Times will be placed. * **Craft Day - Ille/Debbie** - Date to be confirmed - at MCC Academy room -. Ille will send out an email. * **Caribou - 1/10** - Members attending the caribou coffee social on 1/10: Cathy, rose, nancy, Sara w, Melanie, Julie m, Pam p, Krisie and family. T * **Caribou 2/7** - 10:00am Caribou by Target * **Craft Show Membership Table** - Linda - Need 3 more people to help with the craft show * **New Member Installation:** **3rd Trimester Renewals:** Karla, Krisie, Rose, Dawn, Jennifer, Debby, Barb M., Ille, Suzie, Beth, Pam P., Rylee, Annette, Sharon, Cat, Brenda, Mercedes.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTIONS:

M/S/P (Pam P/Mercy) I move that the Monticello Women of Today have a team in the Insane Inflatables 5K Course and Obstacles in Kimble, MN on June 6.

Discussion: Run or Walk Cost is \$52 by 3/13. Times from 9am to 1pm. A team of 20 or more will count as a fundraiser.

M/S/P (Lauren/Barb) I move that we move our meeting place to the Community United Methodist church beginning March 5th. I have the room reserved starting at 6 pm in case we permanently change the start time to 6:30.

Discussion: There may be sometimes where we may need to move due to unforeseen situations such as funeral. Lauren is person with the key and would open and close. Could potentially use the downstairs in the event of not being able to use the room. Discussion had regarding back-up plans and consistency of using the room. Discussed back-up plan.

OLD BUSINESS:

EXTERNAL PROGRAMMING: Debby Manthei "Nothing' Says Lovin' Like Somethin' from the Oven"

Community Connections: Sara Sundine "Dash of Fun"

* **Parents Night Out** - Michelle - February drawing for \$75 in gift cards and caregiver check goes to: Melissa and Kay Baxter from Big Lake. We have one more drawing in April * **Operation Valentine** - Ille/Cat/Trina - 2/15, 3-7 pm - Operation Valentine -- Feb 15th @ 3pm at the Best Western here in Monticello. Maribel, Kay, Michelle, Kayla (MKJ daughter), Annette, Trina, Cat and Ille will be attending. If you are interested in helping we may need one more person. * **Spring Craft Show Booths** - Sara W/Cat/Melanie - Our committee has met a couple of times for training and going through registrations. We have about 40 booths so far so we are on track to fill up by the show on March 14th. Melanie and Sara are both new to the craft show committee and are doing great. Melanie has been checking voice mails and collecting registrations. Sara has been organizing the marketing and PR for the show. Thanks to Annette and Linda for offering their help with training. * **Food Shelf Raffle** - Arlis - Donation received so far: Homemade Quilt, Gift Certificate from Von Hanson Meats and a donation from Loch Jewelry. Tickets are printed. If you would like a book to sell see me.

Women's Wellness: Nancy Flesch "Recipe for Wellness"

* **Wellness Walk** - on hold no report * **Food Shelf Bags** - Trista Items including shampoo, conditioner, lotions, etc were donated to the food shelf on January 25. Thanks to Debby and Michelle for their contributions. Please remember that I will collect these items at each meeting. Thanks * **Game Night** - Mercy - no report. * **Dues Scholarship Committee** - Pam P/Ille - no report. * **Women's Day** - Sarah S - Women's Day was held on Sunday January 18th. We meet at Applebee's where we had lunch and visited for a couple hours. It was a lot of fun to catch up with everyone. Those attending were: Lauren, Ille, Karma, Sarah S, Lana, Mercedes, Trina, Arlis, Sharon, Pam P, Rylee, Nancy and Debby. * **Yogurt Labels** - Cat - Just a reminder to turn in your pink Yoplait yogurt labels by the March meeting. The deadline for entries is March 31st. I have entered 75 labels so far for a total value of \$7.50 to be donated to foundations that promote breast cancer awareness and research. * **Women's Wellness Retreat** 2/21/15 10:30 - 3pm held at Resurrection Lutheran Church - a sign up sheet was passed around if interested * **Sock it to them Challenge:** On your honor system you will gain and lose points according to physical mental and wellness activities. Email will be sent out to Chapter

Youth of Today: Rose Goetti

* **Family Day** - Trina/Mercedes/Dawn - 3/1 - at Dawns house from 2-4pm for Minute to Win it games. * **Kids Christmas Bingo 12/20 FR** - Michelle- A FR was given at the last meeting minus financial portion so here it is. Expenses totaled \$490.24 and our income (profit) for the event was **\$641.83!!** * **Spring Kids Party:** Trina/Lana - No Report - Looking at March or April

Isaac's Journey: Arlis Thielke "Baking up Love" - No Report

INTERNAL PROGRAMMING: Sarah Sundine "You Bake Me Happy"

Thank you to Sara W, Pam P, Cathy, and Trina for submitting LPM reports. LPM of Tri: Pam P. Thank you for the great newsletter every month!

Living and Learning: Trina Hedquist “Oh for Goodness Bake”

* **The View FR** – In January 5 of us got together to watch the 100 Foot Journey. Attending were: Lana, Pam, Annette, Glorie and Nancy. * **The View in February** - will be meeting again next Thursday at 2/12/15 at Sarah S at 6:30pm, * **View in March**: the play “Steel Magnolias” at the Pioneer Place on 5th in St. Cloud on Saturday, March 21st at 7:30pm. Cost is \$22. Arrangements to have dinner prior or drinks after may be made as well. * **Certifications** – Trina – Pam P, Mercedes, Sarah, Michelle, Trista, Ryley P - Next certification night is on 2/19 at 7pm.

Funshine: Michelle Kocak-Jones “A Recipe for Fun”

* **Big Lake/St Michael PALS** - Ille/Michelle: plan to invite them to the Chili Cook Off when it is scheduled. * **Birthdays** - Bonita-7, Glorie-19, Rylee-23 * **Pals Gathering** – STMA/Monticello/Big Lake at Beef of Bradys Tuesday 2/24 from 6:30 – 8:30pm.

Newsletter: Pam Peterson “Gourmet Gazette”

Newsletter – Pam P * Thank you to Ille, Glorie, Lauren, Trina, Mercy, Sarah S, Nancy, Michelle, Sara W, Arlis, Karma, Sandy, Annette, & Debby for contributing to the January Gourmet Gazette ~ Due date for the next newsletter is February 13th.

Records and Recognition: Cathy Shuman “Recipe Box” - No Report

* **Projects & Reports** - Remember to send/email all reports to Cat. District 5 DPM Judy Moldenhauer provided information about family genealogy and shared a form want.

Public Relations: Kay Schroden “Rise and Shine”

* **Website**: I’m a little behind in getting the website updated but have been busy referring crafters to the craft show page. I’m in the process of switching to a new computer so I’ll get caught up on the website after that. April 12-18 is National Volunteer Recognition Week. Emerge Mother’s Academy will be the project of focus replacing New Beginnings. Everyone is invited to the March finance meetings. New ideas welcome. Received a donation from Hallmark for toys to use as gifts for events such as toy bingo

Ways & Means: Sara Wiitala

* **Lucky Buck** – Sarah S – Arlis * **Coins for a Cause** – \$74.06 on 2/5/15 * **Chili Cook Off** - The Chili Cook-off will be held at the Methodist Church on Sunday, March 22nd. More details to come soon * **Craft Show Concessions** – Lana/Kay – working on items for concessions for craft show concessions. Sign up sheet was sent around. * **Coffee Fundraiser** – Sara W – Coffee fundraiser for state ways and means.

CLOSING

Helping Hands: Tammy, Glorie B, Pam P – No Report

Good & Welfare: Donation jar brought for Danielle Enbergg to help with her membership. Dues were covered at the meeting.

Thank you to our Hostesses: Sarah S, Dawn, Kay

Thank you to our Greeter: Linda

March Hosts: Arlis, Pam P and Lauren

Benediction: Sarah S

US Women of Today Creed: Dawn

Adjourn at 8:28pm

Editor’s Note

By Pam P

Thank you to Ille, Glorie, Lauren, Trina, Mercy, Sarah S, Nancy, Michelle, Sara W, Arlis, Karma, Sandy, Annette, & Debby for contributing to the January Gourmet Gazette!!!

Chilli Cook-Off Fundraiser

By Pam P, Dawn H, Lauren H,

A location for the Chili Cook-off has finally been found!! We will be holding it at the Methodist Church on Sunday, March 22nd. More details will be coming soon—so start perfecting your recipes!!



Member Tidbits

CATHY SHUMAN

Cathy Shuman attended her first meeting in October of 1991. She was interested in joining and she was also looking for helpers with the Hockey Associations Halloween Party - which several members volunteered to help with. That was the year of the Halloween Blizzard; so if you remember that, you can imagine how it ended. But they all became friends as WT members.

Cathy has been married to Ed for forty years! Ed is retired from law enforcement and currently runs parts for Hoglund Bus and Truck. Cathy and Ed have one son - Greg (38). They also have two cats: Lucky and Tuxedo.

After 26 years of working for the City of Monticello, Cathy will be retiring on March 16th! Besides WT, she also belongs to: MN Government Finance Officers Assn, MN Clerks and Finance Officers Assn, and Monticello Riverfest Committee. In her free time Cat enjoys reading, walking, sports (watching mostly), bowling and visiting because she really likes people.

PAM PETERSON

Pam Peterson has been a member of the chapter for 19 years. Before joining, Pam's sister Brenda (a member of the Thief River Falls WT) had encouraged her to check out the Monticello chapter. It wasn't until a fellow member of the Early Childhood Family Education Task Force invited Pam to an M-event that she pursued it. She invited Tammy Torborg (a friend from ECFE classes) to go with her. After that they both attended the March meeting - where Pam found out she knew at least 4 other members! She had a great time, went home and talked it over with her husband - and then joined at the April 1996 meeting.

Pam and Mark are high school sweethearts that have been married for 26 years. Mark works at Remmele Engineering in Big Lake. They have two children: Jacob Reis - 21 - is a junior at St. John's University, is in the Army ROTC, and is a decathlete on the Track and Field team; Rylee Jessica - 20 - is a sophomore at Vermilion Community College (she is also featured in the Member Tidbits). Three felines complete the family: sisters Smudge and Domino - 13, and Dizney - 9.

Pam has her bachelors from the University of North Dakota, but after Jacob was born, became (as she referred to herself) a Full Time Mom and Professional Volunteer J for fourteen years. In 2007 Pam started working for the Monticello School District as a Title One Para - the hours were ideal for still being able to attend all of Jacob and Rylee's sport events. In 2012 she moved into the Media Paraprofessional position and is enjoying that still. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with Mark and the kids, playing games, reading, flower/herb gardening, doing crafts, and wood working.

JENNIFER LEWIS KANNEGIETER

Jennifer Lewis Kannegieter joined in April of 2008. She had lived in Monticello for about only 6 months and was feeling isolated not knowing anyone. So, she saw an M-event listed in the paper that was being held at the Rand House and decided to check it out. It was a nice March day and she decided to wear a skirt and heels. She got her car horribly stuck in the snow on the driveway and needed all sorts of help trying to get out. Her husband even had to come and help. She says, "everyone was so nice and welcoming, even though I felt like an idiot." Jennifer joined at the next meeting!!

June will mark the 9th wedding anniversary for Jennifer and Josh. Josh is a criminal prosecutor for Stearns County. They have two sons: Pete will be 4 in May and Sam will be 1 in March. The rest of the family consists of their two dogs Willie and Waylon.

Jennifer has been an Estate Planning and Family Lawyer with her own firm, Lewis Kannegieter Law, since 2007. Of course, she is also a Mom J. Jennifer belongs to Monticello At Home Moms Network, Business Among Moms Networking Group, and MN Bar Association. What are Jennifer's hobbies? Keeping up with the boys, working, and car seats - she is also a Child Passenger Safety Technician certified by SafeKids Worldwide.

Continued on page 8



Half Baked

Let Them Eat Cake

Treasurer's Report By Glorie B

Checking Account Balance as of 01/31/2015 is \$741.01

Savings Account Balance as of 01/31/2015 is \$4109.00

Treasurer has check requisition forms and receipt forms available if needed. There are copies on the website to copy also. On website, go to member info, then to forms for members.

Dues may be paid in installments with the full payment due by the member's anniversary date.

The treasurer is not able to reimburse over the budget written in the approved 2014-2015 budget.

I would like to request that anyone turning in a check requisition form to turn it into the chairman of the project before turning it into the treasurer. It would help the chairman of the project with the final report and she will also know how much is being spent on project. Every chairman should know how much they have to spend before they start a project. They can always look at the budgets available at each meeting or email the treasurer for the information.

Every good chapter is made with old and new members alike.



Member Tidbits continued ...

(Jennifer continued)

"I'm still here", says this busy lady. She loves coffee and spends a lot of time at 'her' Caribou (the one by Target). When the weather is nice, she is always looking for someone to walk with her and the kids. And a tidbit you might now know about Jen - she loves classic country music. They always have Waylon and Willie and the Boys in the house (wink wink!!)

RYLEE PETERSON

Rylee Peterson joined the Monticello Women of Today two years ago this month. Paying dues was just a formality because WT had been a part of her life as long as she could remember. Her mom, Pam, joined when she was only 14 months old.

Currently attending Vermilion Community College in Ely, Rylee will be receiving her Associ

ates in Wilderness and Park Management in May. She plans on working at Superior National Forest in Grand Marais for her second summer. Then in the fall attend the University of Minnesota - Crookston to work on her degree in Park Management.

In her spare time, Rylee enjoys longboarding, kayaking, camping, fishing, 4 wheeling, ice fishing, snowmobiling, and cross-country skiing. She is the Vice President of Wilderness Club where she gets the chance to do volunteer work and also volunteers at the Ely Food Shelf and any other opportunities that come along. When she can, Rylee likes to go home for visits to spend time with family and see her cats: Smudge, Domino and Dizney.

Coins for a Cause

By Nancy F

Deposit on 2/5 was \$74.06

Wellness Walk

By Nancy F

Still on hold till further notice!



THE VIEW

January By Nancy F:

The View - Our January gathering was at Nancy's house, where we watch The Hundred Foot Journey. Attending were Pam P., Glorie, Lana, Annette & Nancy. We all enjoyed the movie.

February By Sarah S:

February's book club was held on February 12th at Sarah S's house to discuss "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn". We tried something different this month by renting a book club kit from the library and it seemed to be enjoyed by everyone. Those attending were; Cathy S, Kay, Sarah S, Dawn, Linda, Karma, Pam P and Nancy. We had a great time discussing the book and socializing. Make sure to attend the March meeting Linda is going to rent another kit so she will have books to hand out. We will then discuss it the second Thursday in April.

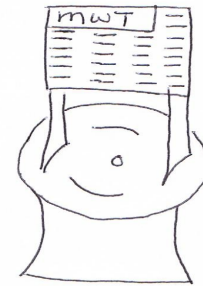
March By Pam P:

For the View in March, we are planning an outing to the play "Steel Magnolias" at the Pioneer Place on 5th in St. Cloud on Saturday, March 21st at 7:30pm. Cost is \$22. Arrangements to have dinner prior or drinks after may be made as well.

The Monticello Women of Today would like to thank the following businesses for supporting our
Coins for a Cause Fundraiser:

- ◇ Hoglund Body & Equipment, Inc.
- ◇ Inrange
- ◇ Omni Vision & Learning Center
- ◇ Schlenner Wenner & Co.
- ◇ State Farm—Dan Olson
- ◇ West Metro Buick—GMC
- ◇ Wright Hennepin Cooperative Electric Assoc.

Please consider utilizing services offered at these businesses.



Happy Baking Days



WOMEN'S DAY

By Sarah S

Women's Day was held on Sunday January 18th. We met at Applebee's where we had lunch and visited for a couple hours. It was a lot of fun to catch up with everyone. Those attending were: Lauren, Ille, Karma, Sarah S, Lana, Mercedes, Trina, Arlis, Sharon, Pam P, Rylee, Nancy and Debby.

Winter State Convention 1/23-25/15:

Convention was held at the DoubleTree Park Place in St. Louis Park. There was a Mardi Gras theme and a celebration of the 65th anniversary of MNWT. It was attended by Ille Miller, Sara Sundine, Sara Wiitala, Cathy Shuman, Annette Schaufler, and Lauren Henderson. Goodie bags were provided to attendees and we decorated Mardi Gras masks to wear to the Friday Night Party. There was a Mardi Gras trivia contest and Ille and Lauren were winners, each receiving a mask. At Let's Make A Deal our chapter won a set of wine charms. At the Business meeting the motion to change the MNWT Bylaw Article IX, Elections and Appointment of Officers, Section 4, passed allowing members to serve on Executive Council 8 years instead of 6. A motion was made and passed to accept Aitkin WT's bid for Fall State Convention; theme Octoberfest. There is a proposed Bylaw change to increase annual dues from \$45 to \$50. The last increase was in 2007 for an additional \$10. There has been an overall decrease in membership resulting in decreased revenue. The increase in membership dues is intended to recapture revenue. This will be addressed at the next Annual Convention. After reviewing the redistricting survey it was decided there would not be redistricting this year. A Women's Wellness Retreat will be held 2/21 in Monticello. Out and About will be on 3/12. March Planning is on 3/14 in Staples/Motley. State Committee meetings are 3/21 in Nisswa. Volunteer Week is 4/12-18. LOTS will be held 5/2 in Rice, MN. Annual Convention will be 5/15-17 at Arrowwood Lodge in Alexandria. National Convention will be 6/11-14 in Fargo, ND. Day at the Diamond will be 8/30.

District 5 Certificates and Awards presented:

Thank you to Pam Peterson for completing the Programming Report.

MNWT Certificates and Awards presented:

Certificate of Participation in Impromptu Speaking Competition: Dawn Hendricks, Illeana Miller.

Certificates of Completion in Living and Learning: Trista Kleinstuber, Sharon Scholl, Sarah Sundine, Rylee Peterson, Pam Peterson, Michelle Kocak-Jones, Mercedes Turner, Lauren Henderson, Illeana Miller.

Thank you for completing the 2nd trimester Treasurer's Challenge – Glorie Balfanz.

2nd Tri Change the World Weeks Membership Challenge: Linda Buchmann and Michelle Kocak-Jones.

Certificate of Award for 75% Retention 2nd trimester: Linda Buchmann, Michelle Kocak-Jones.

Certificates of Award for Fired-Up DPM's: Arlis Thielke/Ways & Means, Annette Schaufler/Isaac's Journey.

Project of the Trimester: Shed Clean-Up/Records & Recognition: Pam Peterson, Sara Wiitala, Dawn Hendricks.

First Timer's Award: Sara Wiitala

Presidential Pin: Trina Hedquist

Success: 1st Place – Illeana Miller

USWT Certificates and Awards:

Recognition for Growth +1 in 1st Trimester: Linda Buchmann, Michelle Kocak-Jones

Recognition for 100% Retention in 1st Trimester: Linda Buchmann, Michelle Kocak-Jones

Recognition for outstanding accomplishments in Health and Wellness: Bonita Klein

Recognition for outstanding accomplishments for Founder's Day 1st trimester: Lauren Henderson

Presidential Pin: Lauren Henderson

Insane Inflatables 5K Course and Obstacles By Pam P, Rylee P

We are organizing a chapter team to participate in the Insane Inflatables 5K and Obstacles on Saturday, June 6th at Powder Ridge in Kimble, MN. The time slots are from 9am to 1pm.

The cost is \$52 if you register by March 13th.

The course consists of 11 inflatable obstacles that you climb, crawl under, slide down, etc. You can run or walk the course.

If we have a team of 20 or more, we can designate it as a fundraiser with \$5/entrant going to the charity of our choice.



Monticello Women of Today

PO Box 1202

Monticello, Minnesota 55362



A non-profit, volunteer organization designed for women 18 years of age and older.

Service  Growth  Fellowship

Meetings are the first Thursday of every month, 7:00 PM at the Monticello Super 8 Hotel located on 1114 Cedar Street. Meetings are open to the public.



We're on the web!

[Www.monticellowomenoftoday.org](http://www.monticellowomenoftoday.org)

Check us out on Facebook and Twitter, too!!

Monticellowomenoftoday@gmail.com

Please mail to:

Bylaw Challenge by Pam P

Under what Bylaw/Policy would you find which board position can hold a consecutive two year term?

Thank you to Sarah S for completing the January Bylaw Challenge.

What's Baking? February/March 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
15 3—7 Operation Valentine	16	17 6:30 M-Event	18 6:30—Board Meeting	19	20	21 5:30 Member/ Partner Appreciation
22	23 Rylee P	24 6:30—Pals & Beef O'Brady's	25	26	27	28
1	2	3	4	5 6:30—General Meeting	6	7 10—Caribou
8	9	10	11	12	13 Newsletter Dead-line	14 Valentine's Day
15	16	17	18 6:30 Board Mtg	19	20	21 7:30—View/Play 'Steel Magnolias'