

A Note From the Master Chef!

I can't believe it is 2015 and we only have one trimester to go. I can honestly say that this has flown by. With all the hustle and bustle of the holiday season I fell so far behind 2nd tri just blew right past me! I for one am looking forward to having some time to catch up this month and get back on track. I hope that everyone is starting to find their groove for the new year.

As we enter third tri this month, I want to let everyone know that we are going strong and I hope that we are able to finish up our year with a bang. It is such an amazing feeling to go to convention and see how all of our hard work as a chapter has paid off with all we are able to do together. I am truly blessed to be

a part of such a strong and diverse chapter! I know I say this a lot, but I truly love our chapter.

As we look to year end, I am hoping that everyone is thinking about how they can contribute to the chapter. Please consider helping out in an area you haven't before and don't be afraid to jump into something. I

...and see how all of our hard work as a chapter has paid off...

can say from experience it is a scary feeling, but one of such reward when you really get into the groove of it.

Thank you for all you have done for our chapter so far this year and I cannot wait to see what we can do for this final tri of the year.

Live. Laugh. Bake.

Pres. Illeana



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Half Baked

Let Them Eat Cake



Treasurer's Report By Glorie B

Monticello Women of Today Meeting Treasurer Report

Checking Account Balance as of 12/31/2014 is 1313.38

Savings Account Balance as of 12/31/2014 is 4108.44

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.



With State Delegate Lauren

Upcoming Events:

- 1/25 Extension Encouragement Day
- 1/26 Newslet Personals due to Newslet SPM for Post Winter State Convention Issue
- 2/3 MNWT 1st Tuesday Webinar Series
- 2/14 HandsOn Twin Cities - Volunteer Expo at MOA, 10am-3pm
- 2/20 Newslet articles for March issue due to Newslet SPM
- 2/23 Newslet Personals for March issue due to Newslet SPM
- TBD Chili Cook-off
- 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
- 3/22-28 Change the World Week
- 3/25 Extension Encouragement Day
- 3/27 Area 2 Meeting – Lion's Building in Rice

Area 2 Meeting

2020 by 2020

President Laura will be there and we will find out how MNWT will grow to 2,020 members by 2020.

This is an opportunity to hear from the candidates running for the offices of State President and Treasurer.

Attention 2015-2016 Prospective Board Members

LOTS will be held 5/2 in Rice

Local Officer Training Sessions a.k.a. LOTS

There are training sessions to provide incoming board members with understanding of their main responsibilities in their positions. Large group training is also planned to coach and guide the board to work together as a team.

Continental breakfast and lunch are provided.

(The chapter will pay for board member's registration)

2014-2015 MNWT Statewide Project

Due to the closure of New Beginnings last October, Emerge Mothers Academy (EMA) has been selected as this year's Statewide Project. Our chapter donated \$50 to EMA at Winter State Convention.

HandsOn Twin Cities

MNWT is an affiliate of HOTC, which is a non-profit organization dedicated to volunteering. A booth has been reserved for MNWT at the expo on 2/14 and volunteers are needed to help man the booth. If interested, please email mktg-promotions@mnwt.org.

Extensions In Progress

There are now four extensions in progress instead of two! We will continue to participate in Extension Encouragement Day by sending cards on the 25th of each month to:

Byron extending to Kenyon/Wannamingo

MMC extending to Silver Creek/Maple Lake

Extension team extending to Owatonna

Extension team extending to Coon Rapids

Who can nominate someone for a Presidential Pin or Medallion?

The Presidential Pin is designed to show a member's commitment to her local chapter and her local membership. It exemplifies dedication and belief in our creed, service to our local chapter, and enhancing our Women of Today image. Only 100 pins are given in a year by the state president. Any member may nominate another member for this honor. A Medallion can be awarded to the President and State Delegate positions in the local chapter. They cannot receive both a Presidential Pin and Medallion. You know who those deserving people are, so why not nominate them? It is highly suggested that you talk to your local president or board if you want to recommend someone or submit a nomination yourself. The nomination forms can be found in the Book of Forms on the state website.



- ◇ Thanks to all the ladies who helped make the Kids Christmas Bingo a success. - Trina
- ◇ Thank you to Michelle for your hard work on the Kids Christmas Bingo. - Trina
- ◇ Sending love and wishes of laughter to all in the New Year. - Trina
- ◇ Thank you for all of you who emailed/texted/messaged and stopped by the apotheosis studio on Thursday Jan 8. I was so humbled and warmed by the support and the friendship. This women in this group are so amazing. - Mercy
- ◇ Thank you to Lauren for stepping in and taking the minutes for me this month. I felt so calm and reassured knowing that was in your hands. Thank you to Linda for also volunteering to take the minutes. - Mercy
- ◇ Thank you to everyone who sent in their reports ahead of time, this was a great help to me and Lauren. - Mercy
- ◇ Sara W - I am so excited that you are joining us at convention, I can't wait to spend the weekend with you! - Sarah S
- ◇ Sandy - Welcome to the chapter I am looking forward to getting to know you better. - Sarah S
- ◇ Sara W, Trina, Pam P & Cat - Thank you so much for turning in your LPM reports. - Sarah S
- ◇ Nancy - Thanks for asking me to do book club this month. I am really excited and love how many people took the book at the meeting. - Sarah S
- ◇ Dawn - Congrats on putting your name down for President, it will be a fun year of smoke and fire! - Sarah S
- ◇ Dawn - Thanks for driving to the district meeting, it was nice being a passenger. - Sarah S
- ◇ Mercy & Karma - What a great new business you've brought to Monticello. By the looks of it, apotheosis is doing great! Thanks for the inspiration. - Nancy
- ◇ Dawn - I'm glad you were next to me at yoga, so we could NOT look at each other! :-) - Nancy
- ◇ Pam, Cat & Sarah - Thanks so much for helping me re-vamp The View. I'm looking forward to the next few months. - Nancy
- ◇ Debby - Thank you, again, for the cards to send out on Extension Encouragement Day in January. They are, as usual, very cute! - Lauren
- ◇ Sandy - Welcome to our chapter! I'm sorry I was busy with filling in as secretary and didn't find time to greet you. - Lauren
- ◇ Sara W -- Congrats on getting first timer at convention!!! Can't wait to make a splash at annual ;) - Ille
- ◇ Sarah S, Sara W, Lauren, Cat, Annette -- Thanks for an awesome weekend at convention!! - Ille
- ◇ Karma ~ Welcome to the chapter! - Ille
- ◇ Sandy S. ~ Welcome to the chapter! - Ille
- ◇ Shelly ~ Welcome to the chapter! - Ille
- ◇ Barb B ~ Congrats on the new job! - Ille
- ◇ Pam P ~ Thank you for all the hard work you have put into our newsletter to make it amazing. - Ille



MONTICELLO WOMEN OF TODAY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Thursday January 8, 2015

Members Present: Pam P, Lauren H, Cathy S, Annette S, Lana G, Barb B, Dawn H, Nancy F, Debby M, Maribel CL, Sara W, Sarah S, Glorie B, Karla B, Kay S, Michelle KJ, Trista K, Trina H, Krisie G, Linda B, Sharon S, Arlis T, Sandy S.

Meeting called to order: 7:04 by Past President/Parliamentarian Pam Peterson

Invocation: Linda

Pledge: Lauren

MNWT Creed: Sara W.

Orders of the Day/Quorum. Pam Peterson/A quorum was established: 21/39.

On Time Drawing: Barb B

Icebreaker: Trina: tell about a woman who was influential in your life, but was not your mother.

Guest(s): none.

SECRETARY: Mercedes Turner "Just in Thyme"

Motion Slips & Report Forms are available. December meeting minutes to be amended to include FR for the Nursing Home Christmas Tree Decorating. Approved as amended. Thank you note received from High School student, Madyson Turner, for allowing her to observe the chapter for school report. Reminder that reports and motions should be provided to Secretary and President prior to the meeting.

TREASURER: Glorie Balfanz "Half Baked"

Checking Account Balance as of 12/31/2014 is **1313.38**. Savings Account Balance as of 12/31/2014 is 4108.44. 12/14 \$500 was transferred from savings to checking. Check requisition forms and receipt forms are available from the Treasurer or on the website. 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. If you have donated items, please use the new Donations-Transmittal forms available from Treasurer or on the website. These are used if you donated any items to Make a Difference Day, Baby Shower items at Convention, Birthday Bags, etc. Please turn in coupons during the same Monticello Women of Today year that you earned them, between June 1 and May 31. You may turn them in anytime. Treasurer will write you a check. Thank you to Cat and Arlis from Glorie for their training her. Mid-Year Budget Review: No Report

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 - None for December. Nominating Committee - Members have accepted nominations for over half of the board positions. Please contact the nominating committee if you are interested in holding a 2015-16 board position. Sign-up sheet for board and LMP positions was passed around. Dawn H has been nominated for President and her theme would be "Where There's Smoke There's Fire!" Officer Elections will be in March.

PRESIDENT: Illeana Miller "Live Laugh Bake"

Board Member of the Month and General Member of the Month - will be presented in February. The next Board Meeting will be on 1/21/15 at Debby's 6:30pm. The next General Meeting will be held on February 5 at Super 8 with a trial starting time of **6:30**

STATE DELEGATE: Lauren Henderson "Shake N' Bake"

Chapter Mailing Book has been created and is available for members to view during general meetings. STMA WT Craft Show Visitation 11/22 - FR - Attended by Ille, Lauren, Dawn, Lana. District Xmas Party 12/5/14 - FR: Held in Rice and attended by Cathy Shuman, Lana Gilberts, Annette Schaufler. MNWT State Committee Meetings 12/13 - FR: 2nd Tri meetings held at Resurrection Lutheran Church, Monticello. About 40 members from around the state attended, plus several online. Sarah S and Barb B attended. Thanks to Barb B for taking minutes at the Marketing meeting. Thanks to Pam B, Lana G, Sarah S, Barb B and Lauren H for helping with food preparation and registration. Extension Encouragement Day 12/25 FR: 3 cards were sent. Next date is 1/25. District Winter Meeting 1/9 - 6:15 in Rice. Planning to attend: Illeana, Dawn, Sarah S, Pam P, Annette, Lauren. Carpool 5:20 from MCC rear parking lot. Winter State Convention 1/23-25: Double Tree Park Place, St. Louis Park. Registered to attend are Ille M, Lauren H, Sarah S, Sara W as a 1st Timer, Annette S, and Cathy S. Theme: Mardi Gras. Drawing for \$10 discount on Winter State Convention registration winners: Sara W, Sarah S. ONTO Shirts and ONTO Flowers - available for order. Proposed Bylaw Change and Voting: Explanation of proposed change, discussion, voting. Results: 15 yes; 8 no. Total votes: 23. Percentage: 65% yes, 35% no. Applying to 6 votes at convention, we will vote 4 yes, 2 no. 2nd Trimester Drawing - for members who participated in events with other chapters, district or state. Winner: Tammy T,

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

Xmas Social - 12/4 - FR - Mercedes - The MWT holiday party was held at Mercedes' house following the December General Meeting. The following members attended: Illeana, Mercedes, Melanie, Glorie, Pam B, Linda, Maribel, Nancy, Lana, Rose, Trina, Lauren, Dawn, Trista, Michelle, Pam P, Annette, Cathy, Sarah S, Tammy, Sara W, Sharon, Shelley,

Krisie, Karla. All had a good time wearing ugly holiday sweaters and enjoying each other's company. Social Media M-Event - FR - 12/12, 6:30-8:30 - at Kjellberg Business Center. President Ille shared information about media profiles, updating security and privacy settings, other features. Members attending: Linda, Lana, Cat, Glorie, Trista, Michelle, Ille, Nancy. Guests: Donna Finnell, Sandy Stachowicz. Member/Partner Appreciation - Sarah S/Sara W/Mercedes - 2/21 A progressive dinner with a country theme will be held at the homes of Sarah S and Mercedes. Wear country attire and learn square dancing. Feb 17 M-Night - Michelle - 6:30-8:30 hosted by Tammy T at Eastview Elementary to prepare Mardi Gras food with audience assistance and taste testing. Save the date email was sent. Ad will be placed in Monticello Times under Community Events. Craft Day 2/21, 12:30 - at MCC Academy room - no report. Caribou - 12/6 FR - Linda - attended by Lana, Nancy, Lauren, Cat and Linda. Caribou 1/10 - Linda 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Cookie Exchange 12/8 FR - Debbie M/Sarah S - Held 12/8, 6:30 p.m. at Debby's home. Members who participated: Debby, Sarah S, Pam B and daughter, Trina, Krisie, Karla, Lana, Arlis, Mercedes, Melanie, Ille, Barb, Pam P and Lauren. Appetizers, cookies and beverages were enjoyed, followed by several Christmas games, including 2-person speed wrapping, team Kiss relay and charades. New Member Installation: Sandy Stachowicz.

3rd Trimester Renewals: Karla Brandt, Krisie Garvin, Rose Goettl, Dawn Hendricks, Jennifer Lewis Kannegieter, Debby Manthei, Barb McNabb, Illeana Miller, Suzie O'Brien, Beth Osiek, Pam Peterson, Rylee Peterson, Annette Schauler, Sharon Scholl, Cat Shuman, Brenda Skime, Mercedes Turner

NEW BUSINESS: Spring Kids Party - Chairs Trina, Lana - TBD, March. ROH Pillowcases - Sharon - gathering information.

MOTIONS:

M/S/P - (Lauren/N/A/withdrawn) I move the Monticello Chapter use \$400 from Coins for A Cause to pay for a portion of hotel rooms for members attending Winter State Convention 1/23-25/2015. (budget line 321) Use funds from dance concessions. I would just eliminate - never made. Also - you don't need the passed after names because the P in M/S/P = Motion/Second/Passed

M/S/P (Lauren/ ?) I move the Monticello Chapter members attending Winter State Convention have an uncommitted voting delegation.

M/S/P - (Lauren/Dawn) I move the Monticello Chapter collaborate with the Rotary Club of Monticello with the building of a natural playground at the Bertram Chain of Lakes Park and donate \$200 to the building of the playground with a budget of \$200.

M/S/P - (Arlis/Kay) I move the Monticello Chapter purchase two luminary bags at the Luminary Walk at Winter Convention with a budget of \$10.00.

M/S/P - (Lauren/Arlis) I move the Monticello chapter change the time of our February general meeting to 6:30 p.m. for a trial run.

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 - no report. ROH Wrapping - 12/9 - FR - Debby - Members volunteered to help Rivers of Hope with gift wrapping for their Holiday Gift Drive. Members went to Rivers of Hope Center throughout the day on 12/9 with several members attending from 5:30 - 7:00. Participating: Debby, Dawn, Nancy, Lana, Pam P, Ille, Tammy, Sharon, Maribel. Operation Valentine - Ille/Cat/Trina - Cat - 2/15, 3-7 pm. 9th annual Operation Valentine at Chelsea Inn and Suites for those serving in the military and their families. We will provide assistance in the kids' area: face painting, games, activities. If interested in helping let us know. Xmas Tree Decorating - FR - Sara W - Trina, Megan and Sara W met at Caribou then decorated the tree at the nursing home. Spring Craft Show Booths - Sara W/Cat/Melanie - meeting this week to train. Thanks to Linda and Annette who will help train. Craft Show forms and flyer are on our website. Food Shelf Raffle - Arlis has purchased a quilt and is looking for other donations for the raffle.

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

Wellness Walk - Nancy - Lana, Glorie, Cat and Nancy participated most Mondays in December. Due to a scheduling conflict no Wellness Walks for the next 8 weeks. We might meet another time and an email will be sent one day in advance with time, date, location of walks. We hope to continue walking frequently. Food Shelf Bags - Trista - no report. Game Night - Mercy - no report. Dues Scholarship Committee - Pam P/Ille - no report. Women's Day - Sarah S - Sunday, 1/18. Meet at Applebee's 11 a.m. for lunch; then go to movie Wild. Yogurt Labels - Cat - Entered 25 labels at \$.10 each for \$2.50 donation. Please turn in more labels to be entered, or enter them yourselves and email number/date to Cat. We have until March 31 to donate.

Youth of Today: Rose Goettl

Family Day - Trina/Mercedes/Dawn - no report. Kids Christmas Bingo 12/20 FR - Trina/Michelle - 1:00-4:00 p.m. at Monticello VFW with an overflowing crowd. Need to decide what to do with remaining toys rather than return them to stores. Ideas included more door prizes at end of day, donating toys to upcoming event. There are outstanding receipts, so a final total of expenditures and income will be reported at the February meeting. Thank you to members who volunteered: Sara S, Melanie, Trina, Ille, Sharon, Cat, Trista, Michelle, Lauren, Maribel, Dawn and Debby. Also, thanks to Michelle's family, Mike and Kayla, and Cassie Carlson for helping.

Isaac's Journey: Arlis Thielke "Baking up Love"

Meat Raffle FR – 11/26 at Hawk's Bar and Grill. Annette, Sara W, and Arlis sold 30 rounds of tickets for \$300 to be donated to Isaac's Journey. Luminary Walk at Winter State Convention – 2 luminary bags are available for suggested donation of \$5/each; proceeds to Isaac's Journey. SPM has asked each chapter to purchase 2 bags and decorate them with children from our community (motion passed). See Arlis if interested in doing this. Isaac's Journey tin canister: \$2.75 to be deposited and donated to Isaac's Journey. Checking into another meat raffle or Pizza Ranch tip night for 3rd tri to donate to U of M. Card Sales – Debby - \$30 to donate.

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 - Nancy - 11/20 Sarah S, Cat, Pam P, and Nancy discussed new ideas. No meeting in December. Next meeting 1/15 6:30 p.m. at Nancy's house to watch the movie The Hundred Foot Journey. Everyone is welcome whether you've read the book or not. We're kicking off a new idea at the 1/8 meeting by handing out books from the Monticello Library Book Club Kit. You're encouraged to take a copy of A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith and join us 2/12 at Sarah S's house for discussion. Please bring the books so they can be returned to the library on time. Watch for new ideas, including outings.

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 - Happy Birthday to: 1st Kelsey; 13th Dawn; 28th Tammy

Newsletter: Pam Peterson "Gourmet Gazette"

Thank you to: Trina, Nancy, Sarah S, Glorie, Mercy, Lauren, Linda, Ille, Cat and Annette for contributing to the December Gourmet Gazette. Trimester Drawing winner for submitting to the newsletter is Lauren. Due date to submit for the next newsletter is 1/16.

Records and Recognition: Cathy Shuman "Recipe Box"

Projects & Reports - Remember to send/email all reports to Cat. District 5 DPM Judy Moldenhauer provided information about family genealogy and shared a form that can be used to trace a family history. District Tri 2 newsletter passed around; take Family History form if you want.

Public Relations: Kay Schroden "Rise and Shine"

Website: Tammy/Cat -Tammy is trained on the website. Email Cathy S and Tammy any questions for the website. The chapter website was updated one week ago, including Upcoming Events, Member Information, Craft Show forms. A link to MNWT Youtube video was added, but removed until approved. An email will be sent when it is up again. Other videos will also be shared. Contest and drawing has been postponed. Thanks to Pam B for emailing after she watched the video - Pam P and Glorie starred in it.

Ways & Means: Sara Wiitala

Lucky Buck - Arlis - \$34 raised; Trina won. Coins for a Cause - Nancy - 11/3 \$51.66, 12/1 \$54.04, 1/5 \$101.16 collected. Chili Cook Off - Pam P/Dawn H/Lauren H – No report. Craft Show Concessions – sign up for times to work concessions and provide desserts/pies passed around. MNWT Raffle Tickets FR – Lauren - MWT purchased 10 tickets for \$50 and we sold 10 to members. Drawing is held at Winter State Convention. It Takes Two States Fundraiser - FR - Sara W – sales totaled \$54 and 20% (\$10.80) goes to our chapter.

CLOSING

Helping Hands: Tammy, Glorie, Pam P – no report.

Good & Welfare:

Thank you to our Hostesses: Lana, Maribel and Nancy

Thank you to our Greeter: Michelle

February Hosts: Sara W, Kay, Dawn

Benediction: Lana

US Women of Today Creed: Kay

Adjourn at 9:01 p.m.

Food Shelf Raffle

By Arlis Thielke

A quilt has been purchased for the raffle and I will be going out and getting more donations.



Member Tidbits

Introducing Karma McKelvey

Karma McKelvey attended and joined at the December Christmas Meeting. Prior to that, Mercedes would often talk to her about this wonderful group of women she had joined and spoke of the opportunities for volunteer work and the atmosphere of shared growth. Thankfully for us, Karma wanted in.

Karma is co-owner of apotheosis and a research scientist. She is also a member of Toastmasters, America Public Health Association, Society of Epidemiological Research, and Society for Prevention Research. In her free time, she enjoys running, painting, reading and trying new restaurants. Although Karma isn't currently married, she has been in the past for 5 years, 7 years, and less than one year consecutively. She has a cat named Fran-ny.

Introducing Sandy Stachowicz

Our newest member, Sandy Stachowicz, joined at the January meeting. We first saw her in November when she attended with visiting STMA Pals Lori and Nancy. We can't thank STMA President Lori enough for guiding Sandy to us.

Sandy has been married to her husband John for 26 years. John is a Sales Engineer. Sandy is a proud mom of their two college kids. Amanda (24) is pursuing her PhD in physical chemistry at the U of Colorado – Boulder. And Peter (21) is at the Carlson School of Management at the U. They also have a dog named Maddie and cats, Faith and Stormy.

For the last two years, Sandy has been a paraprofessional at Fieldstone Elementary in St. Michael. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, cooking, hiking, biking and decorating her home. What else should we know about Sandy? Well, she is the past president of her kids' elementary school PTA, so she has experience in fundraising. She has collected antique Christmas ornaments for over 30 years and once had them displayed in a museum! She is also a former hockey mom.



Sandy S being sworn in by MVP Linda B

Annette Schaufler

Annette Karen Schaufler has been a member for eight years. Her co-worker, member Brenda Skime, got Annette interested in the MWT and she has enjoyed it ever since. Annette is currently the District Program Manager for Isaac's Journey.

Annette has been dating Steve Theisen for the past eight years. Steve is a Commercial Flat Roofer. Annette has no biological children, but she feels like a mother to Steve's 4 children: Rachel, Becky, Ryan & Parker. There are also six grandchildren with one more on the way!

For the past nine years, Annette has been a bank teller at First Minnesota Bank. More recently, she has also started working part time at Live Laugh Bloom delivering flowers. In her spare time, Annette enjoys playing volleyball year round, bowling, walking, reading, visiting and socializing. She really likes to spend time with family and friends. She also loves to visit the elderly and help out. Being a member of the Monticello Women of Today has been good for her – it gives her lots of opportunities to do what she loves best – volunteer and make friends.

Mercedes Turner

Mercedes Turner, our current secretary, joined the MWT in March of 2013. She had always been involved in some sort of organization involving volunteering or a class that involved getting to know others and a shared mutual learning (ECFE, MOMS Club etc) and as her kids got older and her career got busier, she had wanted to join Women of Today for several years but was not sure of where to go to join and did not have a complete understanding of what the club did. In the fall of 2012 she took a deep analysis of her previous job and decided that her values and interests were very misaligned and she was spending too much time away from her family, friends and the things that kept her engaged and motivated. Within 3 months, she left a career of 12 years and started at her current job and joined MWT. It was thanks to her nice neighbor, Sarah Sundine, who invited her more than once to attend that Mercy finally

Fall Craft Show 2014

By Annette S

First I want to thank my co-chairs, Pam B for doing the confirmations and Linda for doing advertising also Cat for any help she did. We started Friday night with taping the floors. Thanks to the helpers who were Cat, Kay and Leo, Pam B, Linda, Sharon, Lana, and Debby. Cassie volunteered for us on Saturday with whatever but especially lunches. Thanks to all who helped that I may have missed.

We had 52 crafters with 65 booths. We had \$2925.00 in income and \$1249.32 in expenses. The income was from the booths and the expenses included Voicemail, PO Box, Advertising, Community Center (both Fri night and Sat day), and receipt from donuts. Our profit came to \$1675.68. Way to go!

I would like to give a thanks to Lisa for letting us advertise for the first time in her yard at her hairdressing place on Broadway and to Kwik Trip for the first time as well on Highway 25. A special thanks to my co-chairs who did a great job. For Women of Today having a booth at the show. I think we did very well.



Member Tidbits continued ...

(Mercedes Turner continued)

did. She saw the group at what she knows now is a coffee social at Caribou on a quick stop after a run and saw Sarah, who invited Mercy once more to the General Meeting. Mercy looked around saw the obvious fellowship from the group and went to the meeting that Thursday and signed up. She only wishes she had joined sooner!

After 21 years this April, Mercy and her husband Thomas Turner feel like it has only been five years. Tom is an IT Professional. They have four children: Madyson 18, Zackary 15, Mackenzie 15, and Myranda 13. They also have two dogs: Maxwell is a 9 year old Golden Retriever and Timber is an 11 year old Yorkie Terrier/something mix.

For 2 ½ years, Mercy has been in Talent Development at Boston Scientific and very recently became a co-owner of apotheosis (personal and professional development studio located in Monticello). Mercedes is also involved with: Parent Involvement at the Monticello Middle School, Graduation Committee at MHS, e-mentor for a High School Student at Brooklyn Center, Human Resource Volunteer Committee at Boston Scientific for STEM and Chamber of Commerce.

In her free time, Mercy enjoys running, scrapbooking, reading, spending time with my husband and kids on day adventures. She likes to be involved with those who she interacts with and loves to get to know someone else's story. While she is involved in a lot of areas, her family comes first. She likes to try new things and also enjoy a quiet night at home. And we are sure glad she decided to try Monticello Women of Today.

Debbie Manthei

Six years ago, Debbie Manthei, interested in becoming more involved in her new community and making new friends, attended a MWT meeting and – Voila! – became a member. Before moving to rural Monticello, Debby had lived in Maple Grove where she had belonged to a women's group. She believes in giving back to her community and has been a great asset to our chapter.

She is married to the 'infamous', 'cabana boy' Joel. They have been together for 7 years. Joel is the VP of Lesco, manufacturer's rep of electrical parts in Fridley. Combined, Debby and Joel have 5 sons: Aaron (37), Rob & Ryan (35), Nick (33) and Charlie (30). They also have 11 beautiful grandchildren: Xavier (14), Charlie/girl (8), Kylie (8), Zoey (8), Bella (7), Camille (6), Ethan (5), Brianna (5), Chase (5), Chance (3), Devon (1).

Debby is recently retired after being the Director of Marketing for 11 years. She is going to try being a substitute teacher for the Monticello School District. (Lucky kids!) Liking to be busy, she is still in a book club in Maple Grove. She also loves crafts – cards, jewelry, mosaic – sewing, knitting/crocheting, traveling, reading, yoga, walking, cross-country skiing, ATV, & jet skiing. Debby is an adventurer. She loves new experiences – that is why she and Joel love to travel.

What else should we know about Debby? She was born in Robbinsdale, MN, and has 5 sisters and 1 brother. They are all still quite close. Her 'cat' sister, Vicki, is moving back from Florida in April (she has 20 cats). Once she is back they will all live in the northwest suburbs again.

Coins for a Cause

By Nancy F

Money collected from the Coins for a Cause Well located at Muller Family Theatre:

\$51.66	Nov. 3 rd
\$54.04	Dec. 1 st
\$101.16	Jan. 5 th – Almost double the previous months!

Wellness Walk

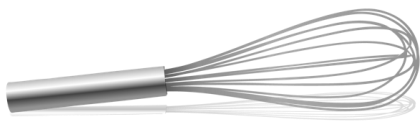
By Nancy F

We walked most Mondays through December. Lana, Cat, Glorie & Nancy participated recently.



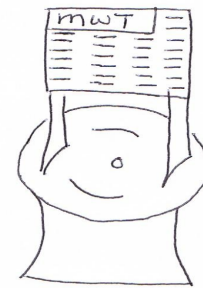
Due to a scheduling conflict, the Wellness Walk will NOT be held on Monday evenings for the next 8 weeks. We might meet at another time during the week. An email will be sent out **one day in advance** giving the time and location of our future walks. We do hope to continue walking frequently.

WHERE THERE'S A WHISK—
THERE'S A WAY!



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.



MEMBER / PARTNER APPRECIATION

By Sarah S, Mercedes, & Sara W

The Member/Partner appreciation date has been set. It will be on February 21st starting at 5:30. Back by popular demand we will be doing a progressive dinner between Mercedes and Sarah S's house. In case you didn't hear the theme it will be a country western theme so get out your cowboy hat and boots and get ready for some fun. After dessert way may even try out some square dancing! We have more details in February.

Editor's Note

By Pam P

Thank you to Trina, Nancy, Sarah S, Glorie, Mercy, Lauren, Linda, Ille, Cat & Annette for contributing to the December Gourmet Gazette!!!

The View By Nancy F

There was no meeting of The View in December.

Our next meeting is Jan. 15th at Nancy's house, and we will watch the movie "The Hundred Foot Journey". EVERY-ONE is welcome, whether you've read the book or not.

Note the time change: We will start the movie at 6:30 PM – It is 2 hours long.

We're kicking off a new idea for the View at our general meeting on Jan. 8th by handing out books from the Monti Library Book Club Kit. You're encouraged to take a copy of this book, and then join us on Thurs., Feb. 12th at Sarah's house for book discussion.

Watch for more new ideas in the coming months, including outings for The View.

February View By Sarah S

Book club will be held on Feb 12th at 6:30 pm at Sarah S's house. This month we are reading "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" by Betty Smith. We were trying something different by renting a book club kit from the library and it went over really well. There is one book left if anyone is interested please let me know and I will get it to you.

Past President/Parliamentarian's Post By Pam P

We all spend time in front of the mirror getting ready in the morning—our reflection looking back at us. But how much thought do we put into reflecting on the face of Women of Today? We spent years trying to get our name out to the public; just wanting people to know who we are and what we do.

Well, I think the majority of people have finally heard of the Monticello Women of Today—but is our reflection everything we want it to be? Many of us hear little comments here and there, and they often surprise me. There are a couple of recent ones that are fresh in my mind. One is that people are put off by our meeting at the Super 8 because of the 'clientele' they get—who would have thought? Another, just before Christmas was wondering why we don't help with the Toys for Tots distribution. As we know, we have limitations as a group (ie—finances, time and interests of members, etc.) and make the best of what we can.

So, my point is, like it or not, we are constantly being critiqued as an organization. Consequently we need to ask ourselves what image do we wish to portray? Words like professional, respectable, charitable, welcoming, non-discriminating, considerate ... (the list goes on; but you get the idea) ... come to mind. When we are wearing our WT shirts and name badges we are no longer an individual—we are part of something greater. And as a representative, we need to make sure that we are keeping that reflection as clear as we can.

We need to make an effort that when in the public eye, and in this day and age, that would include social media, to represent the Monticello Women of Today in the positive light we all see it. Looking from within, we know that we are great! Now, let's make that concerted effort to make everyone on the outside see us at our best!



By Arlis T—
'Baking up
Love'

Wednesday November 26th Annette Schaufler, Sara Wiitala and myself worked the Meat Raffle for Isaac's Journey at Hawk's Bar and Grill. We sold thirty rounds of raffle tickets for a total of \$300.00 to be donated to Isaac's Journey. Incentives were given to Annette and Sara for helping with the meat raffle.

Two Luminary Bags were purchased by the Chapter for \$10.00 and Sara Wiitala will be decorating them for the Luminary Walk at Winter State.

\$2.75 was collected from the Isaac's Journey tin canister and was deposited and donated to Isaac's Journey.

I will be checking into doing another Meat Raffle or Tip Nite at Pizza Ranch for Third Trimester and the money will be donated to the University of Minnesota.

Monticello Women of Today



PO Box 1202

Monticello, Minnesota 55362



Please mail to:

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

Bylaw Challenge by Pam P

Under what Bylaw/Policy would you find what constitutes a quorum?

January / February 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
18 11—Applebees 12:15 – Movie	19	20	21 6:30—Board Meeting	22	23 Winter Convention	24 →
25 →	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4 Tammy T	5 6:30—General Meeting	6	7 10—Caribou
8	9	10	11	12 6:30—View @ Sarah S	13 Newsletter Dead-line	14 Valentine's Day
15	16	17 6:30 M-Event	18 6:30 Board Mtg	19	20	21 Member/Partner Appreciation