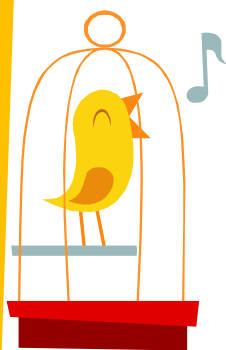




Live the Life You Have Imagined

Inside this Issue:

Meeting minutes	2-3
Celebrations/Sunshine	4
State Delegate News	4
Annual Awards	4
Treasurer /Parli/MVP	5
Family Campout	5
Book Club Info/Book List	6
4th of July Food Stand	6
Riverboat Days Float	6
Programming VP	7
Community Connections	7
Living & Learning/Newsletter	7
Founder's Day/ AWT History	8
Membership Event	9
New Chapter Shirts	9
Scrapbook Committee	9
District Meeting/Hostesses	10
Highway Clean up/Relay for Life	10
Personal Notes/Safety Town	11
Support our Sponsors	12
May meeting agenda	13



A bird does
not sing be-
cause it has
an answer; it
sings because
it has a song.

-Chinese proverb

From Our President...

Hello Ladies!

Despite the heat, I am so thankful that summer has finally arrived! I hope all of you are able to take the time to enjoy some summer activities. Funny how we think of summer as a "break", (at least I've always viewed it that way) and yet we find ourselves running around more than ever.

Although our Women of Today calendar is also very busy, keep in mind how much fun we have at all of our events! A Women of Today event is always an opportunity to chat with long-standing friends, make new friends, enjoy a quality activity, have a good laugh, and of course, help make our world a better place. Some of these events include our Founder's Day picnic coming up on June 30th, a Founder's Day lunch on July 1st, an evening of appetizers at our M-event on July 12th, mini-golf on July 15th (with our PALS, of course!), and the community meal on July 22. Not to mention 4th of July concessions, book club, Relay for Life, district meeting, and more! Whew! Did I mention how much fun we have coming up?!

I would like to make special note of our Membership event coming up on July 12th. M-events are an opportunity to reach out to other members in the community whom we think would benefit from belonging to an organization like ours. Like many other organizations, Women of Today often struggles to find members to help with all our wonderful projects. In addition to our community service, membership needs to be a top priority. Please help by personally inviting a family member, friend, neighbor, or even just an acquaintance to some of our events; especially our upcoming M-event. I can't wait to meet your guest at our next event!

In friendship,

Heather

"Live the Life you Have Imagined"

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 30 Founder's Day Picnic at Leslie's (page 8)
- July 1 Founder's Day -lunch at the 40 Club-Noon
- July 4-Aitkin WT Food Stand at City Park (page 6)
- July 8-AWT Membership Meeting (MLEC)
- July 12-M-Event Amazing Appetizers at Heather's (301 1st Ave SE) (page 9)
- July 13-District Meeting in Aitkin First Lutheran Church 10:30 registration (page 10)
- July 14-Non-Profit Expo-Butler Building noon-4
- July 15-Mini Golf in Brainerd
- July 22- Community Meal
- July 24-Book Club Discussion at Leslie's 7:00 (page 6)
- July 26-Relay for Life (page 10)
- July 31-Newsletter Deadline

June Membership Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 10, 2013 MLEC

ATTENDEES: Jackie Kiehm, Michelle Elias, Emily Bellah, Amy Kraushaar, Samantha Rassier, Brenda Johnston, Heidi Westerlund, Amanda Byrnes, Jessy McShane, Sarah Steinkopf, Suzanne LaLond, Jen Kinzer, Roxy Appel Wigton, Joy Gruhlke, Cathy Olson, Jody Studniski, Jolene Gansen, Leslie Goble, Nina Obert, Heather Goble & Jessi Goble

AGENDA

Call to order: 7pm

Pledge of Allegiance – Amy

U.S. Women of Today Creed – Jolene

Introduction of guests: Cathy introduced Roxy Hoppe

Invocation - Jolene

Ice breaker–Sarah: What are you looking most forward to this summer?

Guest Speaker – Roxy Hoppe, CPS3 Study. Turn in by 6/23/13.

Website: Cancer.org/cps3

Officer Reports

Parliamentarian – Heidi would like a committee to go over the policies.

**** Orders of the day** -Heidi, Jackie, Michelle, Emily, Amy & Sam

Secretary's report – Jessi

**** Approval of May minutes/Approved**

PALS – Jessi

**** Mini-golf-Sent sign up sheet around for best date for Mini Golf with Brainerd Chapter**

Treasurer's report – Suzanne / Roxy: School Picture Fund: BB \$2,965.65, ET \$800.00, EB \$5,953.65, AB \$5,998.65 Safety Town: BB \$4,947.25, ET \$3,815.64, EB \$4,850.49 AF \$4,850.49 AWT Checking: BB: \$1,042.70, ET \$1,890.84, EB \$204.59 AF - \$150.41

**** Budget** – Roxy, committee? No report

M/S/P Suzanne/Heidi: We transfer \$100.00 from School Picture Fund to regular checking for expenses per our policy C.4.A.1.a.

State delegate – Heidi/Amanda

**** Annual convention, St. Cloud, May 17-19**

Heidi- Handed out 2013 Annual Convention Awards: Gift bag for membership challenge, drawing for Miss Membership (Princess Jessy), Won goal for the year-R&R-Chapter Project Book, March for Babies-Most Monies Raised (Sarah Steinkopf), Raffle Purse-Isaac's Journey (Sarah), Outstanding LPM of the Tri for Isaac's Journey-Heidi, 86% Retention-3rd trimester, In Chapter Extension-3rd Trimester, Year End-Growth plus 5 or more, District Growth-District 4, Certification, L&L-Cathy Olson, Certification Personal Development-Heidi, Heather & Sarah, Certification Health & Wellness-Heidi, Jessi & Sarah, Presidential Pin-Amanda, Presidential Medallion-Heidi and Jessy McShane, Community Connection Award Joint Ventures-Pumpkin Patch, Success Overall for the Year -4th Place, Success Overall for the Year Pop Division III -1st Place, Success Tri 3 Pop Division III -1st place, Success Tri 3-1st place, Mojito Mix for Recycle Girl, Pasta Cookbook for membership.

Amanda:

****District meeting:** Sat. 7/13. Aitkin is hosting. Time & Location TBA by meeting chair.

****Train the Trainer:** Sat. 7/27, 9am-4pm, Rasmussen College-Blaine Campus, \$40. Flyer passed around.

****MNWT State Committee Meetings:** Sat. 8/3 in Clearwater. Can attend remotely through Google Hangout.

****MNWT Foundation Fundraiser:** Sat. 8/10, Mississippi River dinner cruise, Lake Pepin, 4:00pm-6:30pm, \$45. Registration deadline 7/26. Flyer passed around.

****District Meeting:** Sarah: Saturday 7/13/13: Need help for District Meeting, please sign up.

Membership VP – Jen

Jen's theme is "Weaving the threads of Membership".

****New member installation** -5 new members have joined recently: Thank you! We welcome you to our chapter. New member installation for Brenda Johnston.

****Renewals due for 1st Tri:** Emily Bellah, Michelle Elias, Joy Gruhlke, Jodie Johnson, Amy Kraushaar, Suzanne LaLond, Jessi Goble, Jessy McShane, Jan Moriarty & Bonnie O'Neil. Dues are \$45.00/year. Can be paid at meeting or Jen will be in touch.

**** New Membership Orientation:** Jen would like to set up a time that works for all new members. Jen would prefer 6/17/13 or 6/19/13 at 6:30(?) Should last about an hour.

****Membership Event:** Thursday 7/11/13 at 7pm. Oreo Cookie M-Night (MLEC?)-Everything you want to know about Oreos and more!! Or a Trail Mix or Beer Bread night. What do you want to do??

**** Social committee** – Amanda / Heather : We are stopping the Social Committee since we will use this as membership events now.

President's report – Heather

**** Board meeting June 24th, 7:00,** Heather's house : all are welcome. Officer's attend at 5:30pm for updating binders/folders.

****Social committee** –Decided at board meeting to end social committee at this time.

- MNWT Out & About, Thurs. 7/11.

- USWT Friendship Day, Sun. 8/4. Want to do coffee somewhere?

****Joy Gruhlke named Member of the Month! Congrats Joy!**

Programming VP – Jessy: She will Pump you Up!

****LPM Orientation:** We held an orientation of LPM's on May 13th, those attending were Cathy, Joy, Amanda, and Jody. We passed out LPM packets and held a brief orientation of what is expected of LPM's!! I met with Nina and Jolene before the meeting today 6/10/13 and gave them their LPM packets and held a brief orientation

Programming-External

****Youth of Today:** Dawn –no report

**** OYA** – Dawn – No report

**** Safety Town** – Jen -Held this week, 6/10-6/14. 1st day has gone well & we are ready for the week. Pacer Puppets have been purchased for just under \$4000. Thank you committee members: Heather Goble, Sarah Steinkopf, Roxy Appel Wigton, Leslie Goble, Dawn Wilke, Joy Gruhlke & Heidi Westerlund. And volunteers, John Hodson from Community Education, several teachers & staff at Rippleside School, Riverboat Lions, Clear Lake Grange, Sentence to Serve, 25 teen helpers & several community members, including law enforcement. Special thank you to Jolene & Dorothy who came to help set-up on Friday.

**** Memory Books** – Cathy/Amanda: 50 books left, slow going, selling some of last years: Continuing to advertise on Facebook.

**** Pumpkin Patch** –Suzanne 10-6: Change of time to 11am-2pm.

**** Kids Week** – Brenda – Aug. 18-24: Brenda and Heather will meet.

Community Connections – Joy:

****Random Acts of Kindness** in our community. Do a random act for a person or organization. The point is not to be recognized for

it. Form can be copied.

****WOCSA is a DAC-MART type of business & looking for kitchen items, not electrical.**

**** Anna Marie House – Sarah, paper goods collection:** Thank you Leslie, Jolene, Jessi and Sarah for donating to Anna Marie's House. Our Chapter donated \$165.00.

**** Duck races – Heather / Dorothy:** Canceled this year, will keep in mind for a project next year.

**** Community meal – Joy, 7-22:** Looking for more volunteers for the community meal. Need Milk and cookies too.

**** Fourth of July concessions – Heidi / Leslie:** 4:30-10:00pm-H2O, Root Beer, Walk-o Tacos. Paid \$50 for booth; \$25 for food license. Need workers & buckets of ice cream. Sign up going around.

M/S/P Leslie/Jessy: We have a \$300.00 Budget for 4th of July Concessions.

****Relay for Life – Amanda / Heather:**

- Event is overnight Fri. 7/26, Aitkin County Fairgrounds, 5pm-5am. Team name All Night for the Fight. Looking for team members for fundraising and walking/working at event. Overnight not required to participate, any hours welcome. Team members must be registered by 6/21 to get t-shirt. Passed coin cup for donations. Can sign up to be on team or donate at <http://main.acevents.org/goto/AllNightfortheFightAitkin>.

- Dice night fundraiser at Amanda's house Sunday 6/23, 6:00pm. Anyone welcome. Playing 6-5-4. Bring lots of quarters. One quarter out of pot will go to Relay each round.

M/S/P: Amanda/Jessy: All Night for the Fight Team use the concessions wagon at Relay for Life

Isaacs Foundation – Cathy: "Where Hope Begins" SPM Ann Nichols of Crystal: Her theme is "Wings of Hope" Will get a butterfly tattoo if we accomplish her goal of \$7,500.00 for this next year. Every chapter that participates will be entered into a drawing. *Isaac's journey Bike, Walk or roller blade HOPE Run is 7/20/13.

Women's Wellness – Nina: Tune Up with Wellness-no report.

– Coins for Causes: Collected \$15.48:

M/S/P: Leslie/Jody: We round up to \$25.00 & donate to the Alzheimer's Assoc Walk to end Alzheimer's.

Programming-Internal

Ways and Means – Jody: Fall flower bulbs order by Sept 16 to get at fall state

Records and Recognition – Amanda:

- Laptop available to copy photos from member's camera memory cards.

- Updated record book & personal achievement book passed around for current year.

Success – Amanda: - Ended FIRST IN STATE for 3rd tri!! Hasn't happened in 15 years. Amazing job everyone!!

Living and Learning – Jolene: No report

**** Book club – Jen, 06-09, 7:00:** Last Month's book: "The Light Between Oceans" discussion has moved to the last week in June. Next books: "The End of the Affair" & "Killing Kennedy: The end of Camelot". You can choose to read one or both. The July discussion will be on 7/21/13. Leslie volunteered to host.

Newsletter – Jen: Deadline for this month is 6/26/13. Submit articles to awtnewsletter@gmail.com. LPMs, project chairs, officers or anyone can submit. Think about advertising your business. A business card size is \$10.00 a year.

Public Relations – Jody: Day at the Diamond 9/15/13 1:10pm game tickets are \$20.00 let Jody know as soon as possible

****Social media – Amanda - Website** will be updated with current year info soon. Will be writing up social media guidelines for chapter approval this year.

**** Founder's Day – Jody, 40 Club, 7/1/13 at noon**

****Founder's Day picnic – Leslie, 6/30/13: 3:00pm, 4:00pm kids games (Jody, Jessy, Annette & Sam), 5:00pm eat & 7:00pm bonfire.** *paper products, brats/hot dogs, buns & condiments provided. BYOB & a desert or side to share. Sign up sheet passed around.

Ongoing business

**** Memorial weekend cookie sale – Leslie, 05/24/13 9:00am-3:30pm.** Thank you bakers: Jen K., Heather, Jessi G, Roxy, Sarah, Jody, Annette, Sam, Jackie, Dawn & Leslie. Sold approx. 60 dozen. Special thank you to Midge Johnson for the tent & Sarah for help taking down. Made \$246.66 & sold one recipe ring. 40 hours & 11 members. *Please submit recipes. Advertising in Age & e-Blast from Chamber at Security State Bank & MLEC. Thank you to the Office Shop for all of their help!

****Campout – Amanda-** Decided to change date to Aug 23-25. South Isle Family Campground. Tent and camper sites available. Signup passed around with price listing. Prices can also be found on their website.

***** Riverboat Days**

****Parade – Jessi:** Set up float on 8/1/13 at 5pm at Jessi G.'s Home. There will be a prize/reward for the most creative idea emailed to me for the float. jessimack23@yahoo.com

**** Kiddie parade – Sam & Roxy** volunteered, no report.

**** Library party – Joy / Roxy:** no report

****Highway clean-up – Jody,** to be determined, Jody will let us know, otherwise will wait until fall.

New business

****AADA Community Service Auction – Amanda / Jessi** - Fundraiser to purchase swing set for AADA/Remnica House. Looking to do in Feb/March 2014. Want students/groups to offer hours of community service to be auctioned. Will do silent auction, raffles, and spaghetti feed too. Thinking of asking another organization to do spaghetti dinner part. Want to do at school in auditorium, old gymnasium, and cafeteria. This will be HUGE event- Need committee members and all members to help out. Signup passed around.

**** T-shirts – Amanda:** Will discuss at board-To do front and back printing on same style t-shirts is \$10. V-neck style t shirts would run about \$15, and long sleeves would be about \$20, but would need to be different color. Will have newsletter article with details and take order through next month's meeting before ordering.

**** Scrap booking committee – Amanda:**

M/S/P Amanda/Cathy: Add scrap booking and social media to the list of standing committees in our chapter policies section D.2
M/S/P Amanda/Jessy: We have \$40.00 budget for the scrap booking committee.

M/S/P Amanda/Cathy: The scrap booking committee be allowed to use the \$30.0 designated towards the president's year end gift toward the president's scrapbook if needed.

**** School pictures – need chair**

Sunshine raised \$9.00

Good and welfare

Benediction – Jolene

MN Women of Today creed

Adjourn 8:59pm

Submitted: Jessi Goble, Secretary



Hostess May Meeting

Leslie and Joy

6:30 Social

7:00 Meeting

Mille Lacs Energy

Meeting Room

State Delegate report

I know it seems early to be thinking about September, but mark your calendars now for Fall State Convention on September 27-29 at the Jackpot Junction in Morton, MN. I will have a signup sheet and registration forms at the membership meeting for those interested in attending. Early registration is due by September 9, but they are asking for room reservations to be made by August 27 so we will need to start thinking about how many of us are going. I will be happy to collect and send in registration forms and fees, as well as make the necessary room reservations, so all you need to do is decide that you want to go be a part of the awesome weekend and get the registration to me!

The MNWT state committees have a meeting on Saturday August 3rd starting at 10:00. If you are interested in learning more about the bigger picture of what's going on with the organization at the state level, these committee meetings are a great resource and avenue if you have ideas or input to share. I attended a marketing and future directions meeting this last winter and learned a lot about our organization and why we do some things the way we do. It can be inspiring and educational and I encourage all of you to consider attending. They offer the committee meetings through Google Hangout which means we can participate online here in Aitkin. If anyone is interested, please let me know and we'll either set up a gathering at my house to attend together or get you set up to attend at your own location.

Thanks!

Amanda Byrnes

Annual Convention Awards

The following Awards were awarded at 2013 Annual Convention

- Gift bag for membership challenge, drawing for Miss Membership (Princess Jessy)
- Won goal for the year-R&R-Chapter Project Book (Amanda's name is the only one called)
- March for Babies-Most Monies Raised (Sarah Steinkopf)
- Raffle Purse-Isaac's Journey (Sarah)
- District Excitement Award for Annual-District 4
- Outstanding LPM of the Tri for Isaac's Journey-Heidi,
- 86% Retention-3rd trimester,
- In Chapter Extension-3rd Trimester,
- Year End-Growth plus 5 or more
- District Growth-District 4,
- Certification, L&L-Cathy Olson,
- Certification Personal Development-Heidi, Heather & Sarah,
- Certification Health & Wellness-Heidi, Jessi & Sarah
- Presidential Medallion-Heidi and Jessy
- Community Connection Award Joint Ventures-Pumpkin Patch (They only give one and we got it!)
- Success Overall for the Year -Aitkin 4th Place, Success Overall for the Year Pop Division III - Aitkin 1st Place,
- Success Tri 3 Pop Division III -Aitkin 1st place, Success Tri 3-Aitkin 1st place,
- Mojito Mix for Recycle Girl
- Pasta Cookbook for membership.
- 2013 Annual Convention District Awards:
- Brainerd-19th in Success 3rd Tri,
- Holly Holm-Brainerd
- Top Recruiter 3rd Tri, Cindy Sanders, Duluth-
- Recruiter plus 5-3rd Tri, Julie Joans, Brainerd-Area Meeting
- Presidential Pin, Erin Burt, Longville- Presidential
- Medallion, Silver Key-DD, Becky Stock,
- Bronze Key -SPM Tari Sieler.
- Presidential Pin-Amanda



Guarding your Finances for 2013-14

This year as your Treasurer I'll be 'guarding' your finances. I'll be policing our spending and welcoming our income. A few reminders for this year: A budget will be set and within each category it will contain the yearly budget – this means that if there are 3 trimesters and each trimester we have an event for that category then 1/3 is the budg-

et amount. Some will be categorized as trimester and others will be yearly. Also please submit bills as soon after the project as possible so we can clear it from the records. I will be showing each project as it happens on the Treasurers report with income and expense. If you are submitting a bill under a project with a chair – please have the chair initial or sign the expense voucher also – then I don't have to check to see if it was part of the budget or an added expense that would affect the project amount.

So as you begin your project check the budget and if you know it will be more than ask for additional funds – better safe than sorry.

I promise not to growl at the spending but be aware it's under scrutiny.

So chair those projects and make us some money and have fun doing it.

Roxy Appel-Wigton, Treasurer

Bylaw/Policy Committee Forming

We are looking to form a ByLaw Review Committee... We already have two signed up!

Amanda and myself are a part of this exciting, educating, and enthusiastic committee, and we are looking for "you". If you would like to be on the cutting edge of bylaws and policies, then, you need to join this committee...

The job includes reviewing our current bylaws and policies, coming up with suggestions for improvement, uncovering errors, and implementing any suggestions by way of a motion. It can be as fun as the committee wants to make it! So, sign up on the sign up sheet that will be going around the meeting, and I will notify you when we will have our review meeting... You never know, maybe it will be on a pontoon....

Heidi, Parli

Weaving the Threads of Membership

1st Trimester Membership Renewals Reminder

Membership renewals are only \$45.00 and good for one whole year. Please bring your renewal \$\$ to the July membership meeting or send to the chapter PO Box 245, Aitkin, MN 56431.

Checks should be made payable to the Aitkin Women of Today.

◇ Emily Bellah
◇ Michelle Elias
◇ Joy Gruhlke
◇ Jodie Johnson
◇ Amy Kraushaar

◇ Suzanne LaLond
◇ Jessica Goble
◇ Jessy McShane
◇ Jan Moriarty
◇ Bonnie O'Neil



Family Campout

The annual family is scheduled for August 23-25 at South Isle Family Campground. We have six sites reserved at this point for Leslie, Jess B., Sarah, Heather, Cathy, and myself. If you weren't interested in camping but would like to just come spend the day or evening with us during the weekend, anyone is welcome to do so. If you still want to camp, please let me know as soon as possible so I can get a site reserved for you.

Thanks, Amanda

Aitkin Women of Today Book Club

Hello ladies!! The July meeting to discuss, "The End of the Affair" and "Killing Kennedy: The End of Camelot", will be held July 24th, 7:00 PM at Leslie's house.

The books for the August discussion are: "Wildflowers" by Robert Noonan and "A Secret Kept" by Tatiana de Rosnay. I think that you will really enjoy these selection's topics. "Wildflowers" is a book about the Orphan Train and "A Secret Kept" is by the same author as "Sarah's Key, which everyone really enjoyed reading.

Happy reading everyone! I hope you enjoy July's selections. ~Jen



Book Club List for 2013-14

What follows is the list of books for reading this year. We will discuss each book listed in the month following.

July "Wildflowers" by Robert Noonan and
"A Secret Kept" by Tatiana de Rosnay

August "Mennonite in a Little Black Dress: A Memoir of Going Home" by Rhonda Janzen and
"Still Alice" by Lisa Genova

September "Stones from the River" by Ursula Hegi

October "The Paris Wife," by Paula McLain

November "The Autobiography of Eleanor Roosevelt" by Eleanor Roosevelt

December "The Burning" by Jane Casey

January "Sum It Up: 1,098 Victories, A Couple of Irrelevant Losses, and a Life in Perspective" by Pat Summitt and Sally Jenkins

February "A Thousand Splendid Suns" by Khaled Hosseini

March "What Alice Forgot" by Liane Moriarty.

April "Shelter Me" by Juliette Fay

4th of July Concessions

Thank you to those who already signed up to work. We still need one more person for the 8:30-10:00 p.m. shift. We also need 3 more buckets of vanilla ice cream. Please let Leslie know if you can work or donate. In case of rain, it has been rescheduled for Saturday, July 6th.

Thanks in advance!



*The smallest act of
kindness is worth
more than the
grandest intention.
~Oscar Wilde*



Ideas Needed!

Riverboat Days is less than two months away and it is time to brainstorm for fantastic float ideas! I am not the most creative brain in this organization so I need your help! Heather's theme is "Live the life you have imagined!" I would love to use this as our jumping off point! In my brain is an idea of dressing up as something you have always wanted to be or something you have wanted to do. Be creative! I would also like to pass out

something that will entice women to ask themselves, "Hey, who are these women and how do I get involved?!" Let's have fun with this ladies! This is our largest stage.

I could be talked into an award/gift for the best ideas in both categories! Email me with your fantastic ideas at jessimack23@yahoo.com.

Jessi

Set up float on 8/1/13 at 5pm at Jessi G.'s Home.

From our Programming Vice President.....

Reminder LPM's, your fast starts are DUE on August 1st!! If you have any questions consult your manual or give me a call! 218-316-0437. Thank you to

JOY for submitting her fast start! Way to be on the ball Joy!

Jessy McShane Programming VP



Pump you up!!!!

Programming Area Feature of the Month: Newsletter

EXTRA EXTRA!!! Read ALL ABOUT IT!! Responsible for gathering the information for the monthly newsletter, putting it all together in an easy to read format, copying and distributing to members and other individuals is our Newslet LPM Jen Kinzer! You can Submit your newsletter articles by emailing them to: awtnewsletter@gmail.com
Thanks Jen for all of your great work so far this year!

Community Connections

My theme for this year is "Building a Bridge to Our Community." I will have a bridge that I will be adding planks for each Community Connections project we do.

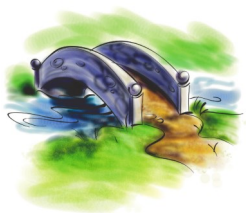
This Trimester focus is WACOSA (Waite Park, Cold Spring, Sauk Center). This is an organization much like our DAC-MART and Oakridge Homes. They are collecting household and clothing items for their store. They will not take any electric appliances at this time. The money from this will help individuals with Asperger Syndrome, which is a type Autism.

Our focus for the year is Random Acts of Community Connections. We have been encourage by our SPM, Sue Lemke to do something nice for a person organizations. I have cards that are to be attach to each Random Act. I will have copies of the cards at our meeting.

We will be evaluating Community Connections and I will have copy of the evaluation form at the meeting.

I am still looking for an OPDC nominee to go with the one I have.

-Joy
Community Connections



Living & Learning

Hi I am Jolene Gansen. I am excited to help with the new position of Living and Learning with the AWOT. I hope to grow more with the position as it sounds like a great variety of tasks. I know Amanda did a wonderful job last year in the position and will ask more questions as I go. I am also open to ideas and suggestions from others in the past position as well as others in the AWOT group. I will start out with an inspirational quote, ice breaker, poem, meditation, or prayer for meetings as well as one at closing related to meetings.

Some areas I think would be interesting to explore in months to come in classes or independently are: writing contests for our chapter, information on time management, stress management, and motivation.

Some video classes that sound interesting may be: PEP courses, Change, Live Out Loud, and Lead Out Loud.

I will try to let you know more at future meetings. I will look forward to working with all AWOT members and know you all make a difference and we can continue together to do our best. Have a wonderful 4th of July with your family and friends.

Thank you. Sincerely, Jolene Gansen

**Volunteers are love in
motion!**
~Author Unknown



Founder's Day Lunch

Just a quick note for Founders Day July 1st at 12 noon at the Forty Club for lunch nothing fancy just good food and GREAT Fellowship. Jody

FOUNDERS DAY PICNIC

When: June 30, 2013

Where: Leslie's at 30731 Pioneer Avenue

Time: 3:00-start; 4:00-kids' games; 5:00-eat; 7:00-bonfire

Supplied: Paper products, hot dogs, brats, and condiments

Bring: Own beverage, lawn chairs, and a side or dessert to share

**This event is open to family and friends of AWT. If you haven't already RSVP'd, please let Leslie know so there are enough grilled hot dogs and brats!



Aitkin Women of Today History ; Our Beginning

On October 5, 1955, fifteen enthusiastic Jaycee wives gathered in Brainerd for an informal meeting to organize a Mrs. Jaycees group in Aitkin. To have a Mrs. Jaycees chapter in the community, there first had to be a Jaycee organization established. Mrs. Jaycees members were required to be wives of Jaycee Members. Margaret (Muggs) Nelson was nominated temporary chairman and Judy Behrens temporary secretary. A committee volunteered to write a constitution. They met again a month later and things immediately began to happen. A Board of Directors was appointed, a nomination committee was established, and a program chairman and a membership chairman were appointed. Dues were established at \$2.50 a year. The basement of the First National Bank was designated as meeting place with every other meeting being a dinner meeting. A date was set to meet with the extension chairman and work began. The sole purpose of this group of young ladies was to assist their Jaycee husbands. Their first project was helping at a Halloween party and next a fishing contest. Before long the Mrs. Jaycees started fundraising on their own; a chicken dinner was their first project followed by a fashion show.

April 21, 1956 was the temporary date set for the Charter Night Dinner. In February 1957 the first election of officers was held. Muggs Nelson was elected President. The Articles of Incorporation were filed at the Courthouse. In 1957 swings were purchased for the City Park. In 1957 prayer leaflets were furnished to the hospital, a tradition that continued through 1977.

The Aitkin chapter has a strong history of community service and personal growth. We have had several members serve on the district and state levels of our organization including four state presidents. Our current membership in May 2013 boasts 32 members with a full board of officers, local program managers and project chairs. We also have members serving on both the district and state boards. Locally, we organize about 30 projects, ranging from community service, social activities, program area speakers and family activities.

Amazing Appetizer Membership Event

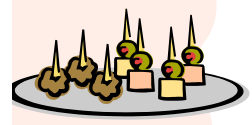
A Membership Event is being planned for July 12th. We will be meeting at Heather Goble's house (301 1st Ave SE) for appetizers from 5:30-6:30. It should be a great time to socialize with potential new members and with current members. At 6:30, we will plan to walk from Heather's to the Beanery, where we will enjoy music and drinks (coffee, smoothies, wine, etc.) (Everyone is expected to purchase their own beverage of choice.)

There is no cost to this event. However, we ask that members bring an appetizer to share. Guests are welcome to bring an appetizer if they wish, but are not required. There will be a contest for the most creative/unique appetizer, most tasty and the crowd favorite.

Everyone is invited. Please plan to come and bring a friend or two. It should be a VERY fun evening and one you will not want to miss!!

If you have a prospective member that you would like me to send an invitation to, please let me know, and I will make sure to send her one. Otherwise, just ask her to come. Offer to pick her up. Give her a call, remind her on Facebook. Send her a note.

Questions? Let me know. I will be happy to answer them for you. Jen



Scrapbooking Committee



Per approval at the last membership meeting, we have formed a new scrapbook committee to organize and put together Heather's president scrapbook for the year. Right now Jessy, Cathy, Roxy, Jody, and Amanda are on the committee. We're hoping to meet to put a few pages together once every month or two and keep up on the album throughout the year. If anyone else wants to be involved, please let one of us know.

Amanda

New Chapter T-shirts

We are doing another order for chapter t-shirts. We are adding a logo print on the front lapel in addition to the large print we currently have on the back reading Aitkin Women of Today. You have an option of whether you want to do the current style t-shirt which is a basic men's cut or a ladies cut instead, which is a little shorter in length and sleeves and has a little lower and slimmer neckline. I was told that the women's cut is not super tight or fitted and runs the same sizes as what you would order in a men's.



We are going to keep the same color so that those of you who are happy with your current chapter shirt don't have to feel obligated to buy a new one in order to match. Also, those of you who want to keep using your current one are able to bring it in to have the front printed to match the new ones. If you want to do this, please bring me your current t-shirt by the membership meeting on July 8 so it can go in our screen-printing order.

Here are the prices for the shirts. *Please note that these prices are based on the assumption that we will be ordering at least 12. If the order is less than that, we have to add \$3.00 to the cost of each shirt.

\$9.90 - Sm-XL T-shirt (same price for men's and women's cut)

\$11.90 - XXL T-shirt

\$13.90 - 3X T-shirt

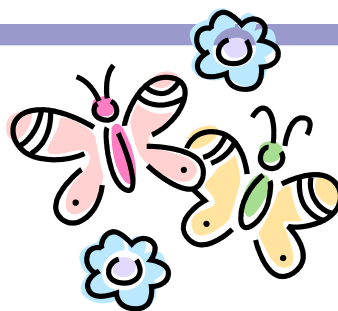
\$2.95 - Add printing on front of current t-shirt

I will have a signup sheet at the membership meeting for those who want to order. If you aren't going to be at the meeting and want a shirt, please call or email me so I can get you in the order.

Thanks, Amanda

District Meeting-Summer Fun

Aitkin-July 13



Aitkin will be hosting our first District Meeting for District 3 this year. I believe Heather emailed the invitation out, but in case you didn't get it or don't have email here are the details. It will be held Saturday, July 13th at First Lutheran Church. There will be a brief training for officers at 10:15 a.m. Registration will start at 10:30 a.m. and the meeting will begin at 11 a.m. We will be serving tacos in a bag, fruit, veggies, dessert and beverages. The cost is \$5 if you RSVP before July 5th or \$7 at the door. Email or call Sarah to RSVP-sarahstein@yahoo.com /218-639-3527. Hope to see many of you at the meeting!

A HUGE THANK YOU to those of you that have offered to donate items for the meal for the district meeting. I am still looking for someone to bring beverages and taco sauce. I will send out an email after I have a head count of how many people we will be expecting. I am also still looking for summer or butterfly decorations we could use that day. Please let me know if you are able to help with food or decorations. ~Sarah

HIGHWAY CLEANUP-Rescheduled

When: Sunday, July 21 at 6:00 p.m.

Where: Start at Leslie's-30731 Pioneer Avenue

Bring: Gloves, bug spray, and a beverage for afterwards; there will NOT be a potluck!!

Cancellation: Watch e-mail or call Leslie at 926-6175 (but it won't happen again, will it?)



Meeting Hostesses

I need 2 people for each of the following months: November, February, March, and April. If someone is willing to have the Christmas meeting in their home (or any other ideas) please let me know. If everyone volunteers for one night, no one will have to do it twice.

Those that have signed up so far, thank you! You are:

Roxy, Sarah, Dorothy, Leslie, Joy, Jolene, Suzanne, Jen, Amanda, Jessi, Jessy, Sam, Michelle, Emily, Amy, and Jackie



Relay for Life Basket Items needed

If you are willing and able, we would like to ask you to donate a new item or two to our basket.

Here is a list of sample items that would go with our theme:

- deck of cards
- Dice
- simple family games, such as Old Maid (does not need to be expensive!)
- Puzzles
- game related paper products (paper plates, napkins, etc.)
- notepads / pencils / pens
- microwave popcorn
- Candy
- other treats that would go well in the basket



These are just some examples. Other ideas are welcome.

So far, Mancala, Scrabble Slam (card game), and pickup sticks have been donated. If you know what you would like to donate, or if you buy something, please let Heather know what you are donating in order to avoid repeats.

Items may be dropped off at Amanda's or my house before our membership meeting on July 8th, or you may bring them to the meeting on the 8th.

The basket will be labeled as being sponsored by Aitkin Women of Today.

Thank you so much for your support!

Heather and Amanda

Membership Notes

Jessi, so sorry I mixed up your birthday and anniversary day. I apologize for the error. Happy belated Birthday on June 30th!

~Jen

Thank you Annette, Dorothy, and Brenda for jumping in to immediately help with projects! Your enthusiasm is contagious!

~Heather

Congratulations Joy on your member of the month award! You are very deserving! Thanks for all you do for Women of Today!

~Sarah

Sam- I hope your horse show went well! Sorry I wasn't able to come watch! Sounds like it would be a fun time!

~Sarah

Roxy-Thanks so much for all those "little" things that you do for the Aitkin Women of Today. You are truly a "Woman who Impacts".

~Leslie

Thank you, Roxy, and the rest of the board, for your diligence in constructing a sound budget. I know it was tedious, and at times frustrating, but I really appreciate your hard work.

~Heather

Jen-Thank you for all your hard work with chairing Safety Town! You did a SUPER job!

~Sarah

Thank you to Leslie, Heather, Roxy, Heidi and Joy for being on the Safety Town Committee! It's been a fun couple years working on such a great project with such great ladies!

~Sarah (note: Jen seconds that Thank you!)

Jen-Thank you so much for all of your hard work to make Safety Town another successful event. Sheriff Turner's editorial was a nice bonus!

~Leslie

Sam-You will have so much fun co-chairing the Kiddie Parade. Thanks for taking it on!

~Leslie

Congratulations on your new home, Jessy! I can't wait to have you, Christian, and Payton a little closer to Aitkin.

~Heather

Thank you Amanda for the FUN dice night and getting started with our funds for the Relay for Life. Thanks for also getting a team started!

~Sarah

Thanks to Leslie and Roxy for renewing their advertising with the Aitkin Women of Today. Inexpensive advertising and good support for our chapter.

~Jen

Joy-What a good job you are doing taking on AWT project chairs. I know that the Community Meal and the Library Party will be a success because of your part in it.

~Leslie



Safety Town 2013 a Success!!

Very many thanks to the members of this year's Safety Town Committee: Sarah, Heather, Roxy, Leslie, Heidi, Dawn and Joy. We did it!!!!

The hard work of our committee members, along with John from Community Education, Sentence-to-Serve, Rippleside staff and Custodians, Riverboat Lions, Grange, 25 teen helpers and many community volunteer presenters including law enforcement, we held another very successful Safety Town week. 73 children attended during the week, which was held June

10-14.

Plans for next year's Safety Town project are beginning already, with the committee starting to meet in January. If you are interested in working on the Safety Town Committee or want to learn more information about this project, please contact me.

Thank you. Jen



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Chapter receives
10%

Contact Jen (see above) for more information and to get started today!

July Membership Meeting

Monday, July 8, 2013

MLEC, 6:30 social, 7:00 meeting

AGENDA

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance – Michelle

U.S. Women of Today Creed – Jessi G.

Introduction of guests

Invocation - Jolene

Ice breaker – Leslie / Joy

Orders of the Day - Heidi

Officer Reports

Parliamentarian – Heidi

- By-law review

Secretary's report – Jessi

- Approval of June minutes

PALS – Jessi

- Mini-golf, 7-15, 6:00, Pirate's Cove

Treasurer's report – Roxy

- Budget – Roxy

State delegate – Amanda

- District meeting – July 13

Membership VP – Jen

- New member installation

- New member orientation

- M-event / Out and About – Jen, July 12th

Chairman of the Board – Jessy

- Scrapbooking committee

President's report – Heather

- Board meeting July 29th, 7:00, Heather's house

- Member of the Month

Programming VP – Jessy

Programming Areas

External – Coins for Causes

Youth of Today – Dawn

- OYA – Dawn

- Safety Town – Jen – June 10-14

- Pumpkin Patch – Suzanne – 10-6

- Kids Week – Brenda – Aug. 18-24

Isaacs Foundation – Cathy

Community Connections – Joy

- Community meal – Joy, 7-22

- Fourth of July concessions – Heidi / Leslie

- Relay for Life – Amanda / Heather

- AADA Community Service Auction – Amanda / Jessi

- Highway clean-up – Leslie, July 21, 6:00

Women's Wellness – Nina

Internal

Ways and Means – Jody

Records and Recognition - Amanda

Success – Amanda

- Living and Learning – Jolene

- Book club – Jen

Newsletter – Jen

Public Relations – Jody

- Social media – Amanda

- Founder's Day – Jody, 40 Club, 07-01

- Founder's Day picnic – Leslie, 06-30

Ongoing business

Campout – Amanda, Aug. 16-18?

Riverboat Days – Aug. 2-3

- Parade – Jessi

- Kiddie parade – Sam / Roxy

- Library party – Joy / Roxy

Highway clean-up – Jody

New business

T-shirts – Amanda

Scrapbooking committee – Amanda

School pictures – need chair

USWT Friendship Day – Aug. 4, Amanda

Coats for Kids – Roxy

Non-profit fair – Amanda / Heather

Sunshine –

Good and welfare

Benediction – Jolene

MN Women of Today creed – Jess B.

Adjourn

MN Women of Today Creed

We, the Women of Today, are service, growth and fellowship. We believe that through us great lessons can be learned, worthy deeds performed, and a hand of fellowship extended to millions of women everywhere. May we leave the world a better place because we lived and served within it.

US Women of Today Creed

We, the United States Women of Today, are dedicated to serving our community and nation, are committed to strengthening our individual talents, and stand united by our friendship and belief in the future.