



“You Are the Key!”

Country Women’s Council USA

News Sheet

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ASSOCIATED COUNTY WOMEN OF THE WORLD

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CWC CHAIR - DEBBIE WAGSTAFF

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Dear Members,



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What beautiful fall weather we have been having. We have so much to be Thankful for as we gather with family and friends to celebrate the harvest of blessings and challenges over the past year.

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A big Thank You to Florida HCE for their hard work in hosting our General Meeting in September. Also, thanks to Annette Lanham for her ability to be flexible with changes that was brought on by the hurricane. What a beautiful site to gather - the bonfire on the beach to educational workshops - fascinating tours and a beautiful dinner cruise. A wonderful time full of laughter and renewing friendships and the joy of making new friends.

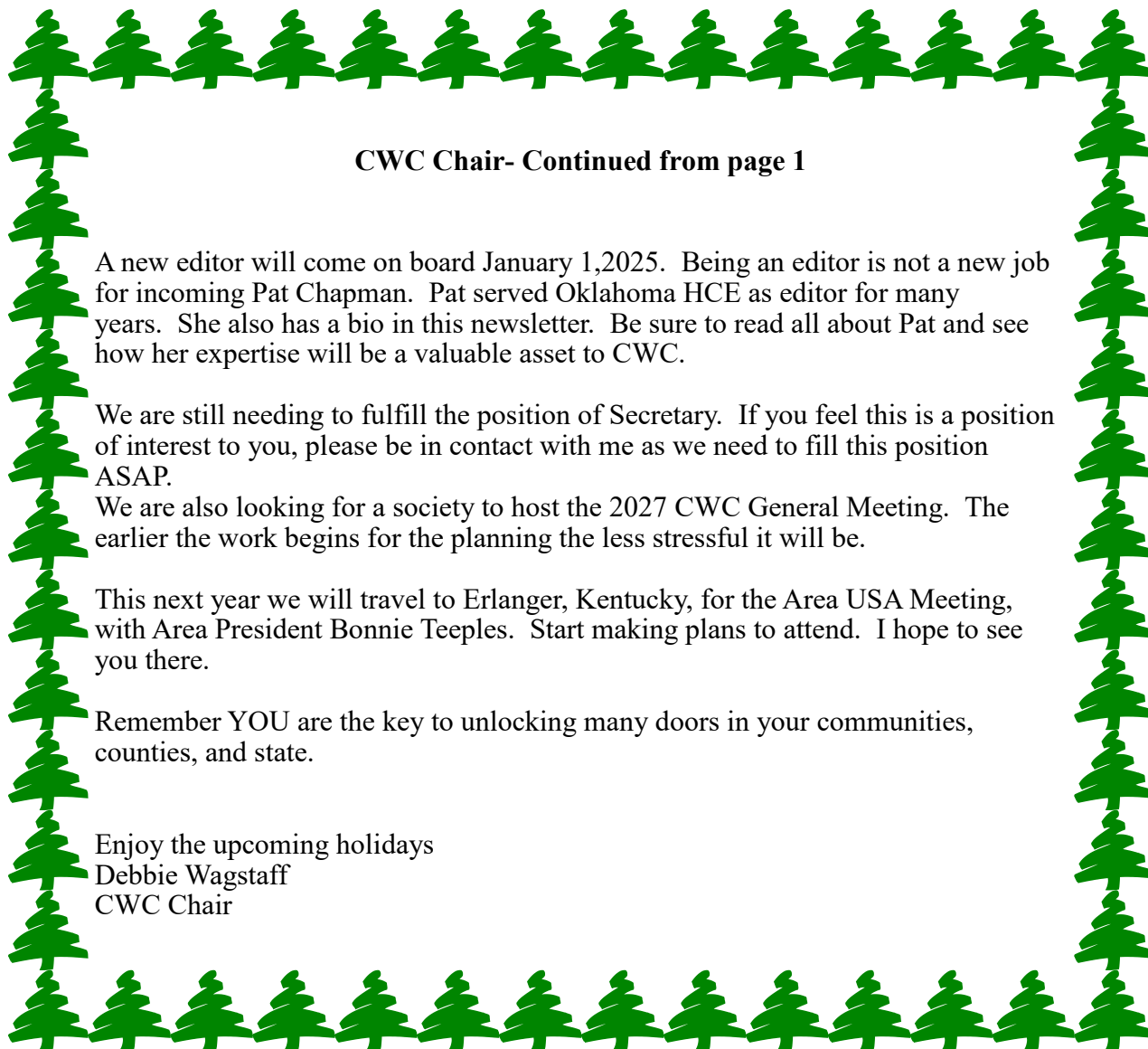
In board news we are coming to an end of the year which means Vice-Chairman Annette Lanham, and Secretary Karen Bell Fox will finish their terms of office December 31, 2024. Thank you to both of them for their hard work and dedication for CWC.

Our new board member was introduced at our meeting in September. Vice-Chairman Stephanie Jerabek, who will officially take office January 1, 2025. Welcome aboard Stephanie. I look forward to you being part of our team.

Other board news is the resignation of CWC Editor Leslye Owens. Leslye is facing medical complications and is having to give up many jobs & positions in Extension due to her health. Thank you Leslye, for the many tasks and changes to the position of Editor to make it better. Leslye will remain as editor until December 31, 2024.



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CWC Chair- Continued from page 1

A new editor will come on board January 1,2025. Being an editor is not a new job for incoming Pat Chapman. Pat served Oklahoma HCE as editor for many years. She also has a bio in this newsletter. Be sure to read all about Pat and see how her expertise will be a valuable asset to CWC.

We are still needing to fulfill the position of Secretary. If you feel this is a position of interest to you, please be in contact with me as we need to fill this position ASAP.

We are also looking for a society to host the 2027 CWC General Meeting. The earlier the work begins for the planning the less stressful it will be.

This next year we will travel to Erlanger, Kentucky, for the Area USA Meeting, with Area President Bonnie Teeples. Start making plans to attend. I hope to see you there.

Remember YOU are the key to unlocking many doors in your communities, counties, and state.

Enjoy the upcoming holidays
Debbie Wagstaff
CWC Chair

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2025 ACWW USA Area Conference
July 21 - 24, 2025
Erlanger, Kentucky
Holiday Inn Airport



81th Meeting of the Country Women's Council

2025 Dates and Location

To be announced soon.

31st ACWW Triennial Conference
April 26 - May 1, 2026
Ottawa, Canada
Westin Hotel



ACWW USA AREA PRESIDENT BONNIE TEEPLES

Happy Fall! I think Fall is my favorite time of year. I love the colors, the smells and the sights of Fall! It is late enough now that the leaves have been raked and put to compost and just in time as we have been having some much-needed rain.

As the year is winding down to a close, I have been reflecting on this past year and the new friendships I have made, and the friendships that have been renewed. I appreciate you all and the influence you have on my life and the support you give me as the ACWW USA Area President. I truly enjoyed every conference that I attended. I meet so many great members at the conferences and love to hear their stories and their history in ACWW. Sometimes when we meet someone there is an immediate bond and other times that bond takes a while to forge. But always there are nuggets of information exchanged that make me a better person and leader, and I hope that you have gained from me as well.

As I wrote in my last area newsletter the three National Society Presidents and the CWC Chair and I, are working on the 2025 ACWW USA Area Conference. There are great plans in place, and we are working on outside speakers as well as having presentations by our own members. This conference will be a showcase of all the good our societies do and the opportunity to share that good with other societies in the USA.

Conference will begin on **Monday, July 21, 2025**, with the Hostess Society, **National FCE**, holding their annual conference. Other members will gather that day and that evening we will hold a Meet and Greet. On Tuesday the conference will begin with an ACWW USA Area business meeting and that afternoon there will be learning sessions. Wednesday there will be tours and crafts in the morning and Society meetings and learning sessions in the afternoon. Thursday morning will continue with society reports and learning sessions in the afternoon. And of course, we will have times for World President Magdie de Kock and Executive Director Tish Collins to speak to the body of the conference! Thursday night, July 24, 2025, will be our closing banquet. We also will have display space for your project display boards and or your brochures. **Save the dates July 21-24, 2025**, on your calendars, so you can be with us In Erlanger KY and celebrate the members of the ACWW USA Area.

As you may have read in the ACWW World Presidents newsletter on November 5, 2024, ACWW was granted an upgrade of our status with UNESCO to Associate Status. This is exciting as it will bring with it the opportunity to advance our activities for change.

ACWW has also released the sixth podcast, 'Diplomacy and Politics.' It is available on the ACWW website. I feel that all six of the podcasts have been enlightening. Showcasing women in leadership positions is a good way to move the aims of ACWW forward.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Leslye Owen for her dedication and hard work on the CWC Newsletter. I will miss her serving on the board and wish her well and better days!

Wishing you 'Happy Holidays!'

Bonnie Teeples ACWW USA Area President



Ruth Buxton Sayre Scholarship



Ruth Buxton Sayre was known as the "First Lady of the Farm" and inspired millions of rural women around the world to improve themselves and their communities with her practicality, humor, decency, and common sense. As a young farm mother, she began her life work in striving for better conditions for farm women and their families by organizing her neighbors for college extension classes. She earned high posts in state, national and international organizations and served as ACWW President from 1947-1953.

Country Women's Council USA, offers a Ruth B. Sayre Memorial Scholarship each year to a woman who is a legal resident of the USA, who shows a financial need, and who has the ability to complete her education.

Country Women's Council USA Ruth B. Sayre Scholarship Donation Form

In Honor Of: _____

Amount Donated: _____

In Memory Of: _____

Amount Donated: _____

.....

Name Donor: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Send To: Jo Ellen Almond
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ACWW INDIVIDUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEES



Category 5
Individual membership
£30 annual renewal

Renewal can be paid
online by visiting :
<https://www.acww.org.uk>
Follow the membership link

Payable January 1st
or membership will lapse
if not paid by March 31st.

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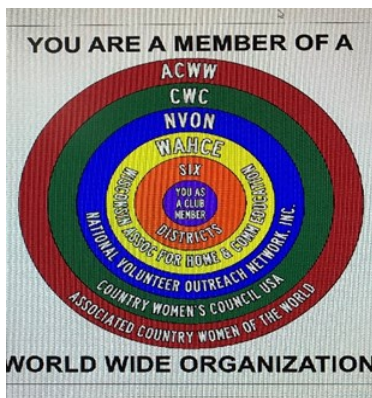
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NVON

National Volunteer Outreach Network

Greetings from the National Volunteer Outreach Network (NVON)! It happens to be Halloween when I am writing this so “Happy Halloween”. Probably “Happy Thanksgiving” would be more appropriate as for when you actually receive this.

NVON had a very successful conference in Ashville, North Carolina, July 16th, 17th and 18th. There were 181 in attendance at the conference. There were many good speakers, breakout sessions, fabulous tours (the Biltmore included) and great entertainment.

We were fortunate to be in Ashville before hurricane Helene hit and did the horrendous damage that occurred in Ashville. Several of the NVON sister states has contributed financially, others have donated numerous quilts and pillowcases, farmers have sent hay, and others have collected clothing, food and other items of need. Many member states have sent numerous people to help with the rebuilding and clean-up! The North Carolina Extension organized relief efforts collecting donations that were delivered to Operation Airdrop for distribution to Western North Carolina, the part of the state hardest impacted by the hurricane.

The BEECAUSE- Pollinators Feed the World project was to come to an end at the end of 2024. The project has been so successful it was voted on at the conference in July to run it along with our new Project in Common – Mental Health Awareness and Wellness – Break the Stigma, Ignite Hope – Mental Health Matters. As of the July conference the BEECAUSE project has collected over \$13,000.00 dollars! Along with the additional funds that Heifer Organization contributes there has been over 1100 beehives purchased and sent to economically challenged countries.

We hope to wake people up about the mental health issues that we have in the country today with our new project in common. To say to people “It’s okay to talk about mental health issues.”, encourage them to seek assistance by dialing 988 the crisis hotline or seeking some other source of help.

That pretty well summarizes what is happening in the NVON organization. Visit our website NVON.org to learn more about the organization as well as our Project in Common. There is some really good information on the website about the Project in Common.

Submitted by

Jane Chapman, NVON President

News from the Editors Desk



Hello everyone,

I am sure you saw the news in the Debbie's and Bonnie's article that this will be my last year as the CWC Editor. I know, I am sad too. Things in our lives change, sometimes slowly and other times you feel like your were hit by a Mack truck.

In 2006, I was diagnosed with MS other wise know as multiple sclerosis. This disease affects everyone differently. I was fine for many years. But, this year it has all changed. My vision is declining and they found a lesion on the optic nerve. My energy levels have been almost non-existent. So after much prayer I decided to give up things.

I was Oklahoma HCE parliamentarian, gave that up. Wow after to many years to remember being a state board member and loving every minute of it, I will miss this the most. I love parliamentary procedure. Got hook while on the FFA parliamentarian team in high school. I even joined the national group.

2 years ago a friend and I started a night time OHCE group, I am going to focus on the growth of this group. I am leadership chair on the county board. This is all I will be doing. Well, making bears for the 1st responders in my county.

I recently added grandchild number 9 to my collection. Beautiful little boy. I mean little. He was born preemie at 4 lbs. 11 oz. he is thriving and doing so well.

To the CWC Board, I will miss you and wish you success in the coming years.

I want to welcome Mrs. Pat Chapman to the seat of Editor. I have known this lady for years. She is the sweetest person you will ever meet. Just don't sneak up on her, she has a killer right hook! Hahaha, Just kidding Pat. I know she will be an asset to this position.

I hope you noticed the article from Illinois HCE. Yes anyone can put an article in this news sheet. They are welcomed Our readers want to know what's going on in your state.

I will miss you all!! Have a wonderful holiday season.

My contact information is still in this news sheet. Save it, give me a call, send me an email or write me a letter through snail mail and we will be pen pals. Yes, I will write back

Leslye Owen

CWC Editor



NEWS FROM ILLINOIS

The IAHCE Board recently met, we are working on the NVON Conference and the 2025 IAHCE Conference. At the March Conference (at the request of the Board), the University of Illinois Extension gave a lesson on Food Waste which has the potential to reach at least 4,000+ people. This lesson was heard by the ACWW Area USA President, Bonnie Teeples. She has since given this lesson in Oregon and on Zoom to ACWW members worldwide. IAHCE also gave every member attending the August District workshops and different lesson on Food Waste (300 members) who were asked to share this in their counties so a potential of 4,000+ receiving the lesson. I have been travelling throughout Illinois speaking about the 30th Triennial in Malaysia emphasizing why we went to Malaysia and our relationship with ACWW as well as sharing the resolutions we passed. I also make a point of sharing the "You are a Member" banner that NVON gave to each of the member states in each of the counties I visit. I have heard wonderful comments about how much more they understand about NVON, CWC, and ACWW.

We plan to hand out the CWC application at the Conference and encourage the IAHCE Counties to participate.

Angela Hicks

IAHCE President

847-922-2758

Merry Christmas

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Orange the World!

The 2024 Annual campaign of the 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence begins November 25, 2024, and runs until December 10, 2024. For 16 years ACWW has worked with other women and women's organizations to take action to end the violence. This year's theme is 'Come Together, Act Now.' ACWW has prepared a packet of informational fliers that you can use to share on your social media pages or in your area. The information pack can be found at acww.org.uk and is available to download in two formats.

Please join ACWW in the campaign to 'Orange the World' to help raise awareness about this issue.



2025-2027

INCOMING CWC EDITOR

Pat Chapman lives in Hochatown (Broken Bow), Oklahoma.

She has been married to Clark for 44 years and they have 4 children, 5 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

She has been a member of OHCE for 12 years and has been her local President and Secretary, and also has served as Secretary and Treasurer of the County OHCE.

She was OHCE state editor for 4 years, District Rep., Secretary, Parliamentarian and now Technology Coordinator.

Before retiring to Hochatown, she was a legal secretary/Technology Director for law firms in Dallas for 27 years and after moving to Hochatown worked for 7 years as Technology Director of the Broken Bow School District.

My Gingerbread House

I made a house of gingerbread,
It was so sugary sweet.
It took me all day long to make
But lasted just a week.

On Monday I ate the ceiling.
On Tuesday I ate the door.
On Wednesday I ate the windows.
On Thursday I ate the floor.
On Friday I ate all four walls.
On Saturday I ate the lawn.
On Sunday I licked up all the crumbs.
My gingerbread house is gone!

