



“Women Walk the Talk for a Better Tomorrow”

Country Women’s Council USA

News Sheet

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ASSOCIATED COUNTY WOMEN OF THE WORLD

[WWW.ACWW.ORG.UK](http://www.acww.org.uk)



CWC CHAIR - LOY WALKER

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Dear Members,

Being a Country Woman, I love the Fall panorama of mature cornfields and colored leaves. Fall is a colorful time of year and it is beautiful in Iowa. However, we all know that winter and snow (in Iowa) follow so I am looking for a winter home to make my life easier.



Yet we know the seasons bring challenges as well. As some of you know, my husband, Bob, has had many medical problems since the first week of January. While the Fall does not bring full health, he is on the mend. Needless to say, I have been busy caring for Bob, farm business and general life. Together we are looking beyond Winter to Spring.

This year 2023 has been very eventful for me especially with the ACWW Triennial conference in Malaysia. Thank you for the trip and experience of a lifetime. I have traveled to several ACWW countries over the years and I think everyone should travel to another part of the World because when you experience another part of our world, then world events become more real and you realize you are a part of it. I just finished reading a magazine article about the Malaysian Prime Minister which I probably would not have read had I not just visited that country. I am reminded that as a member of CWC and ACWW you can experience the life of other women in many countries. These funds raised in the individual societies help to make women in developing countries more secure and help provide supplies to care for their families. Still there are some aspects of their lives which are hard for me to comprehend. Can you imagine living through a war? Or the insecurity of no home or no food? I can't. However, through the Associated Country Women of the World members have the opportunity to know about other women's lives and to contribute to their wellbeing. The Country Women’s Council is one group in the nine ACWW world areas working to help women and their families have a better life.

Key to our ability to support women around the world is focusing on strong local membership.

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And it is in this spirit I have suggested to members to work a little harder to get new members. Invite your society members, sisters, daughters and neighbors to attend a special program on International Day to share with them the opportunities we create through the Mongolian project funded by ACWW Rural Women in Action Fund. If each one of our twenty Malaysian Triennial travelers could give a program, we could create awareness for programs which are so important to women around the world. Projects and events start with you!

The last three years I have had the privilege to witness big changes in CWC and ACWW. One big change is to try to make conference attendance more affordable by changing the frequency of the conferences. Going forward the CWC conference and the USA /ACWW conferences will only meet once each Triennial. The 2024 CWC conference will be in Navarre, FL. The 2025 Area conference location will be announced later or maybe in this Fall News Sheet.

Another big change is our approach to consolidating ACWW project funding and focus on fewer high impact projects. A board of trustees was formed to determine how the projects are selected and direct the funding. The name for the new fund is "Rural Women in Action". This Rural Women in Action fund replaces "Pennies for Friendship". We are still giving our pennies and our dollars to great causes even though the fund has a new name. Remember to support the Rural Women in Action fund by sending your donations to "Rural Women in Action" instead of "Pennies for Friendship". Every penny is important to our new fund.

I am a 40-year life member of ACWW beginning with my induction into Iowa Master Farm Homemakers Guild society, part of the National Master Farm Homemakers Guild that disbanded recently. Since the disbanding, I have worked to reunite our Guild membership with ACWW as ACWW members. I found it necessary to educate and to stand for ACWW membership especially as newer members were not familiar with the larger organization's work. Members of affiliates, specifically NVON, and FCE, have strong societies helping to guide and lead our organization. I know they will support ACWW organization efforts fully.

As a Country Woman I am grateful for our bountiful harvest this Fall. I look forward to the continued success of ACWW, membership growth, and strong affiliate programs. Together we transform women's lives around the world.

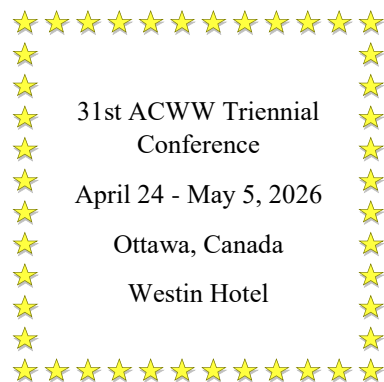
Loy Walker CWC Chairman 2023

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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



80th Meeting of the Country Women's Council
September 24-26, 2024
Embassy Suites in Miramar Beach, FL.



31st ACWW Triennial Conference
April 24 - May 5, 2026
Ottawa, Canada
Westin Hotel



ACWW USA AREA PRESIDENT

BONNIE TEEPLES

When I think about going forward in this new Triennial, I am excited about the prospects of each ACWW Society. I hope each society will keep in mind the new Triennial theme ‘Sustainable Growth for the Future’ when planning the next three years. Think about what the theme means to you, to your societies, and to ACWW. Ask yourself, ‘what can I do as an individual to make or encourage sustainable growth in ACWW?’

I am looking forward to meeting with many of the Societies in 2024 and 2025. I have been able to attend and do a short presentation at three societies so far in 2023. I enjoy meeting the members and listening to reports and gleaning information about what is happening in the areas and what is important to each society.

As the ACWW Area President I am encouraging each ACWW Society in the United States to work on a nationwide project that has a direct relationship to Food Insecurity. Each of the three years of the coming triennial I will suggest a focus. This year I am focusing on Food Deserts. There is much to do and much that can be done with this ACWW Resolution.

I have given a short presentation about Food Deserts to three societies. I cannot attend all Society conferences this year, so I am including a short outline below. I’m sure there is something you can glean from the outline that can help you with a project. If you need more information, please contact me.

My hope is that societies will be able to develop a project that can help mitigate food insecurity in their area. If you do a project that has a focus on Food Security (or any of the other resolutions since 1947), I would appreciate it if you would let me know what you did and some information on the project. I will use it when I write my Triennial Report and other reports to the ACWW Board.

WHAT IS A FOOD DESERT?

Food deserts are geographic areas where residents have few to no convenient options for securing affordable and healthy foods — especially fresh fruits and vegetables. Disproportionately found in high poverty areas, food deserts create extra, everyday hurdles that can make it harder for children, families and communities to grow healthy and strong.

WHERE ARE FOOD DESERTS LOCATED?

Generally speaking, food deserts are more common in areas with:

- small-er populations.
- higher rates of abandoned or vacant homes.
- residents who have lower levels of education, lower incomes, and higher rates of unemployment.

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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: Debbie Wagstaff, CWC Treasurer
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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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HOW ARE FOOD DESERTS IDENTIFIED?

Researchers consider a variety of factors when identifying food deserts, including:

- Access to food, as measured by distance to a store or by the number of stores in an area.
- Household resources, including family income or vehicle availability.
Neighborhood resources, such as the average income and the availability of public transportation.

WHAT ARE A FEW FOOD DESERT SOLUTIONS?

Establish bus stop farmers markets.

Support community gardens.

Improve public transportation options.

Bonnie Teeples

ACWW USA Area President 2023-2026



Letter from the Editor

As editor I am required to send 2 newsheet a year to our societies elected officers. These issues have been mailed in the past from a printing house. This expense has been rising due to the inflation issue. The subscriptions that we have issued were to help with the cost of the newsheet. Since we didn't have very many subscriptions and newsheets were also being emailed, the board decided to stop printing the newsheet and only emailing it to our societies elected officers and the board. If the society has an editor I send the issue to them as well. Please officers see that you share the issue with your societies members. Our life time members if they have an email get one too. For the ones with remaining time on their subscription they get one in the mail until the subscription expires.

Our CWC Chair and ACWW/USA Area president have an article in each issue. ANYONE can submit an article for publication. Tell us what your society is doing, share a story about an event. Tell us how you are getting an influx of new members so others can try what you are doing. Share successes or even failures so we know what to do or what not to do.

2024 issues CWC meeting year. April issue will have CWC meeting information. October issue will include info from the meeting. And scholarship winners.

2025 USA/ACWW Area Meeting year

April will include ACWW/ USA meeting information from the area president. Unless this meeting is before April, then it will be in the October newsheet the previous year. October will include follow-up info from meeting and any other needed information.

2026 ACWW triennial year. If meeting is before April, meeting info will go into the October issue.

Deadlines for articles is the 1st of April and October. Issues will be sent on the 15th. I figure since it will be emailed I could send it anytime. But lets be realistic, it needs to have a release date and deadline.

Hand books will be coming soon.

Leslye Owen CWC Editor

Have a blessed holiday season!!!!



Message the CWC ACWW Coordinator



CWC/ACWW Coordinator



Doesn't seem like it' but April 29, 2024 is right around the corner. Yes I know we haven't even celebrated Thanksgiving or Christmas yet. And Halloween is in a few weeks. Oh I am going as a hippie. Let me explain this. Our county Oklahoma Home and Community Education group does a spring fashion show at our county council meeting. When the subject came up on the agenda no one spoke up with an idea. Well, I said how about we dress or wear something from the year we were born. A few people said they didn't like the idea. And since no one spoke up guess what, we are wearing something that was in fashion the year we were born. Since I was born in 1967 and not built to wear a short dress I am going dressed as a hippie. Already got it so I am wearing it for Halloween.



Anyway who got me of track? We were talking about April 2024. the 29th to be exact. Women Walk the World day. Every year, on or around ACWW Day, the 29th of April, ACWW members all over the world join together to raise funds for ACWW and share information about our work with their communities. This event is called Women Walk the World, and has been going since 2012. ACWW developed a packet to use to help bring awareness and to raise funds for ACWW. I tried to include some of the pages for you to use., but it wont let me copy them. So please go to the ACWW website and download the packet here. <https://acww.org.uk/resources-for-members>



I am setting aside the 29th of April to walk. I encourage you to do the same. There area 9 ACWW areas, walk nine minutes, nine times around a park or talk to someone for nine minutes about ACWW. Get your local group to walk together. Get someone to pledge a nickel, dime or dollar for every nine minutes you walk. Or 9 cents for 9 minutes. Get up and walk..



My challenge to you is walk at 9 a.m. your time on the 29th of April for at least 9 minutes for ACWW. Take pictures. Send them to me to be published in the next issue of the newssheet. Send me your total number of members who walked and the total number of minutes walking. If you raised funds for ACWW let me know that too. The society with the highest total in each are will get a certificate.



So walk, it is good for your health!



ACWW has a 16 day program of Activism against Gender Based Violence. I have tried to convert this to a format to place in this issue, but am not able to do so. I have tried for 2 days and failed. Go to the ACWW website. It is on their home page so just click learn more to the left of the orange hand and it will open. If you want to download the program click the arrow pointing down to a straight line in your tool bar. If you want I can send it to you. Just email me that you want the 16 day file and I will send it to you.



Leslye Owen



CWC/ACWW Coordinator





October

Author Unknown

October's the month
When the smallest breeze
Gives us a shower
Of autumn leaves.
Bonfires and pumpkins,
Leaves sailing down –
October is red
And golden and brown.

October Leaves are lovely
They rustle when I run
Sometimes I make a heap
And jump in them for fun.

Autumn leaves float quietly down
And form a carpet on the ground.
But when those leaves are stepped upon,
Listen for the crackling sound.