



NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

Board focuses on two new projects and other important activities

Your National Executive Board has been busy with two projects introduced at the 2023 National Convention as well as other important activities.

- **Membership Engagement:** We are continuing to work with the members who wished to be involved in a variety of areas to help market T.T.T. Some of you have been contacted via email or voicemail with no response. If you are interested/and or haven't received a contact, please call Jessica in the National Office with your best contact information.
- **Doing Business As (DBA):**
 - The Executive Board offered three opportunities for state/council and independent chapter leadership to join a Zoom to learn about the results of the 2023 survey and to offer their thoughts. The Past National Presidents were offered two Zoom opportunities for the same. All but one was in favor of a DBA, one was on the fence. We were also informed that many of these leaders have spoken to their chapters, and their chapter members are also in favor.
 - **PLEASE NOTE:** A DBA does NOT replace our official name, the National T.T.T. Society. A DBA lets us **use** another name for our group **in addition** to our current name. This means that we can still share our mission with the name National T.T.T. Society along with the new DBA. This means that the chapters that are well known in their communities as National T.T.T. Society will continue to share our mission as National T.T.T. Society. This also means that the chapters that are not well known can share the new DBA name with a more descriptive name for our mission. Adding a DBA is the best of both worlds and gives us more tools to share the word of T.T.T.
 - All members will be offered an opportunity to join a Zoom meeting to discuss the DBA on Tuesday, March 12, 7 p.m. CT.
- **March Board Meeting:** Each spring, the NEB meets in person with the Project Board for our biannual in-person meeting. This gives us a chance to chat with Jessica Fink and Jessica Clark about items that DMS is working on for our behalf.
- **New Items in the T.T.T. Store** - Mev Wilson helped us create two new brochures, one for membership and one for families and schools. New longer emblem badges with a magnetic back are also now available. Log into the Member Section of nationaltttsociety.org and find T.T.T. Store in the Quick Links.



National President Julie Baker (center) visits with Claudia Clarkson (left) and Mary Couzens (right) at the Arizona State Convention.

Remember that the National Executive Board is here for you. Reach out to any member if you have questions, comments or concerns.

Julie Baker, National T.T.T. President, 2023-2025

AMBASSADORS CORNER

Meet the T.T.T. Ambassadors Committee

The T.T.T. Ambassadors Committee has expanded as a result of the December 2023 T.T.T. talent survey. The members are Colleen Regnier, Minnesota Z; Ann Thariani, Nebraska A; Joyce Rutherford-Donner, Ohio N; Cheryl Bean, Ohio N; Cindy Hoppenworth, Iowa ES; Judy Swift, Iowa D; and National Executive Board Members Joan Greenlee, Iowa BI, and Cathi Hollis, Arizona P.

The Ambassadors, with the support of the National Executive Board, will support chapters in their efforts to increase community visibility, chapter growth and embrace change.

The Ambassadors want to know what your chapter's strengths, needs and concerns are. A survey will soon be sent to the membership for feedback. It will be brief to make it easy to take a few minutes to complete it.

The Ambassadors have been tasked with starting conversations with members to help chapters be more successful and more recognizable in their communities. The Ambassadors are ready, willing and able to help our T.T.T. sisters. They will be reaching out to discover what we can do to promote your strengths and successes as a chapter. They also want to hear what has worked well and what you want to focus on, be it membership, participation, camper follow-up or just having a forum to share ideas.

The Ambassadors plan to be incredibly involved and supportive of all endeavors to send girls to camp and to continue the life-changing adventures that T.T.T. camp provides. Look for committee updates in upcoming issues. For more info, contact Joan Greenlee at Joangreenlee1@msn.com or Cathi Hollis at Cathihollis1120@centurylink.net.



T.T.T. Ambassador Cathi Hollis presents ideas from the Ambassadors at the Arizona State Convention.

FINANCIALS

Audit firm approves T.T.T. financials, makes recommendations

National T.T.T. Society engaged MHCS (McGowen Hurst Clark Smith), a CPA firm, for the September 2023 Financial Audit. The Diversified Management Services team worked with the MHCS team and provided most of the information for the audit.

We are happy to share that MHCS issued an opinion that our financial statements are presented fairly. MHCS provided a couple of recommendations for the future:

- T.T.T. currently reports on IRS Form 990 tax return on a cash basis. MHCS recommends that we file Form 3115 to align our Form 990 with how we account for our financial statements, which is on an accrual basis. This will save time and effort on all fronts to align our financial reporting with our tax return.
- The second recommendation is to engage MHCS to review subject matters defined by T.T.T. and report the findings without providing an opinion or conclusion, similar to a review or an audit service. This approach often best suits smaller clients with limited funds or an external party requiring a financial opinion or high level of assurance. This recommendation would help with future cost savings.

The National Executive Board is pleased with the outcome of the audit and the recommendations from the CPA firm. These kinds of recommendations will help streamline our work and reduce costs.

Please email the National Office (office@nationaltttsociety.org) if you have any questions.

State conventions slated for spring 2024

Arizona

Arizona Q hosted the Arizona State Convention March 8, 2024, at the PebbleCreek Resort in Goodyear. This year's theme was "Encourage Girls with Dreams to Become Women with Vision."

Illinois

The Illinois State Convention will be Saturday, April 27, beginning at 10 a.m. at Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center in Oregon. There will be social time and a light dinner on Friday, April 26.

Members may attend in person or on Zoom for the business meeting.

For more information, contact Illinois State President Deborah Moore at moo@speednet.com.

Iowa

The Iowa State Convention will be held April 12-13 at the Isle Casino Hotel in Bettendorf. Please visit nationaltttsociety.org for more details and the registration form. To make your hotel reservation, book online [here](#) or call Ann Klundt at 563-441-7115.

LET'S CONNECT

Mary Firebaugh Swaney Stuntz: A Remarkable Life

The Let's Connect guest speaker in January was Soo Keith, T.T.T. Founder Mary Firebaugh Swaney Stuntz's adopted granddaughter. Soo's presentation offered us a captivating glimpse into Mary's extraordinary life.

We learned that Mary lived near Dayton, Ohio, after her husband died tragically in 1916. She then devoted her life to helping others. She worked in an orphanage in Ohio where she made the children feel safe and loved. Soo said that, in many ways, Mary was like Mother Teresa, because her compassion knew no bounds. Elevating women and girls through education was a priority to her. She was an elegant, educated woman who earned a master's degree at a time when women were still fighting to vote. Her commitment to education extended beyond borders as she traveled the world making connections with people from diverse backgrounds. She also stayed in touch with people she met. She even had a personal letter writing campaign with a goal to write 1,000 letters a year to people she had met all over the world. She would write four or five letters every day. She also loved to do things to stimulate the mind, such as playing bridge.

In later life, Mary returned to Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, and lived at the retirement home run by P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization), an international organization whose mission is to help women around the world advance through education. It still exists today. In 1982, an old friend, Hugh Stuntz, tracked Mary down and married her at age 91. Mary lived to be 103 years old.

Mary's sister, Helen Firebaugh Rogers, was the first National T.T.T. President. It was also a joy to learn that current T.T.T. members on the call had met Mary. Shari Berg, Wisconsin C, met her at the Chicago National Convention, and Mary Sedlak, Nebraska F, met Mary through Mary's niece who was a member of her chapter. During the Chicago Convention, Mary spoke briefly and gave her blessing on the change in the T.T.T. creed to add "make love your aim."

The recording of the call can be watched at tinyurl.com/MaryStuntz.



One of the photos Soo Keith shared shows Mary (left) with Cedric Herrmann and her sister, Helen Rogers, who served as T.T.T.'s first national president.

PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR

Getting ready for another season of camping

Plans are well underway for another summer of fun for our camp girls. Your Project Board is working with camp directors to finalize dates and camp fees. We hope to get numbers finalized with chapters as soon as possible.

As you might imagine, camper fees have been raised at many of our camps this summer. Some modestly, some significantly. I have been in conversations with a few of those camp directors trying to make some deals to keep our fees in check, with some success.

Your Project Board is full of enthusiasm for our project and is working toward making processes smooth and efficient for you. If you have any questions about registration processes or forms, feel free to contact your area chair. Contact information for Project Board members is at right.

I enter the spring and summer full of gratitude for a strong team with which to work, and for your continued dedication to making a difference in the lives of young girls.

We send girls to camp! ♥

– Kim Langley, Project Administrator

PROJECT BOARD

Eastern Area

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South Central

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Mary Jo Messerli – mjmesserli06@gmail.
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Correction

In the January 2024 issue of *Tidings*, we incorrectly listed Washington DC A's newest member as Peg Jones. Her name is Patricia Jones. We apologize for the error.

PARTNERSHIP TEAM

Seeking support – and star power – for T.T.T. beyond the membership

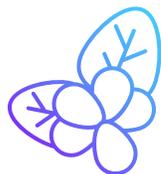
Raising money from beyond T.T.T. members – that's the job of the Partnership Team. Formed in 2019, the team is expanding thanks to the recent T.T.T. Talent Survey.

These are the companies and foundations the team is focusing on: Two Rivers Bank and Trust, Iowa Farm Bureau, Bank of America, People's Bank Foundation, Cowles Charitable Trust, and regional casinos. We are also pursuing contact with the Dove Foundation and their Self-Esteem Project.

The team is also ready to reach for the star: the Caitlin Clark. Basketball great Caitlin represents the best of Iowa women who understand a responsibility to care for others and promote the well-being of young girls. Ready to sign autographs after every game, Caitlin and her foundation recognize the importance of encouraging others just as she has been encouraged. We are pursuing contact with Caitlin and welcome suggestions and potential connections.



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Violet Awards

\$600 or more donated since October 2023

Arizona J	Illinois AI	Iowa U	Iowa DK	Iowa GF	Iowa GX
California M	Iowa A	Iowa AF	Iowa EG	Iowa GL	Ohio U
	Iowa R	Iowa DD	Iowa GD	Iowa GR	Ohio Z

Still growing

\$300–599 donated October 2021 through September 2023

Illinois AQ	Iowa BD	Iowa FX	Ohio F
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From Oct. 1, 2023, to Feb. 26, 2024, 36 state, council and local chapters have donated **\$28,249.07** to the Project Fund. Thank you!

T.T.T. Love Gifts

• (Received between Dec. 16, 2023, and Feb. 26, 2024)

PROJECT FUND – GIFTS

Arizona J, Iowa GX, Ohio U, Julie Baker (Illinois AF), Debbie Baldwin (Minneapolis Z), Sarah Howdeshelt (Ohio F), Meeker Cooperative, Breanne Neel (Iowa APBN) and Lincoln Savings Bank Foundation, Shirley Parker (Iowa FX)

Iowa D – Pat Reynoldson (Iowa D)
Iowa G – Mary Hodges (Iowa G)
Iowa KEN – Clarice Sigurdson (Iowa KEN)
Todd Anderson, Duane Lookingbill, Carol Seaton – Ruth Ann Whittenburg (Iowa BP)
Emma Mosley – Patty Burdess (Nebraska A)
Michael, Lisa, and Ryan Phillips – Marchia Truebloos (California M)

PROJECT FUND – MEMORIALS

Donor – In Memory of

Illinois AQ – Margaret Brandt, Donna Clarke, Loretta Cosman, Jeanne Friedman, Viola Goetter, Jeanne Guritz, Helen Hickel, Diana Hybert, Barbara Malm, Joan McGovern, Helen Nieburger, Sandy Skurnick (Illinois AQ), Jackie McCanna (former member), Marge Kross (Illinois G), Peggy Hinic and Ruth Golhoffer

ENDOWMENT FUND – GIFTS

Debbie Baldwin (Minnesota Z)



In memory of T.T.T. Sisters

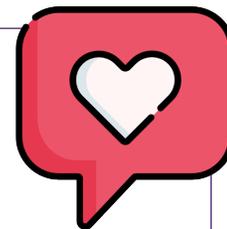
These have been reported to the National Office between Dec. 16, 2023, through Feb. 15, 2024.

Patricia Groth, Iowa AU, 09/28/2023
Gloria Clay, Iowa AU, 12/09/2023
Ann Krummen, Iowa HC, 12/15/2023
Kay Hartung, Illinois AQ, 12/12/2023
Shirley Sterner, Iowa BJ, 01/06/2024
Joy Anderson, Iowa AU, 01/07/2024

Hazel Senske, Minnesota W, 01/07/2024
Betty J. Hoesema, Iowa BR, 01/21/2024
Carol Nemitz, Iowa DD, 02/03/2024
Addie Hanson, Iowa AU, 02/08/2024
Patricia Reynoldson, Iowa D, 02/11/2024



Catch and post the latest T.T.T. news from chapters across the country at facebook.com/groups/campingforgirls/



Welcome: New Members!

This section celebrates the chapters and the women they have initiated. These new members have been reported to the National Office between Dec. 16, 2023, and Feb. 15, 2024.

Iowa AR – Ann McKibbin

Iowa FZ – Kayci Mongar

Iowa T – Susan Schnedler



Creative ways to attract members

Arizona Q – Goodyear recently installed five new members. Our chapter exists in a 55+ resort retirement community. Since we need to find new members from within our community, we have to find original ways to interest women in finding out more about us. We held a happy hour, which brought in two new members. Through our pickleball and golf clubs, we found three more. One potential member saw one of the T.T.T. license plates on our president's golf cart, asked her about it, and has attended one meeting! We look forward to continuing to grow our chapter.

FUNDRAISING

Use Goodshop and Goodsearch to benefit T.T.T. effortlessly

For all of you online shoppers and web browsers, you can now support T.T.T. while shopping and browsing! Simply create an account at goodshop.com. Then, choose “National T.T.T. Society” as your cause.

SHOPPERS: Log into your Goodshop account. You will see links to tons of stores with their charitable offers. Once you click on a link, you often get valuable coupon codes. Look for the orange heart icon for special discounts just for Goodsearch users.

SEARCHERS: Log into your Goodshop account. Click on “Goodsearch” on the top menu bar. T.T.T. earns one cent for each search. That may not sound like much, but every penny counts!

Need a reminder for Let's Connect?

If you're like many of us, the Let's Connect call times often pass us by. Now, you can sign up for a text message to remind you to join the Let's Connect calls. National Treasurer Sarah Howdeshelt has set up the Remind service to allow T.T.T. to send text reminders the day of the Let's Connect calls. You have to sign up for the service using your smartphone. It's easy!

- 1 Text @ttt1911 to 303-731-4514.
- 2 You will receive a reply that asks you to reply with your full name.
- 3 Once you've sent your full name, you will get a confirmation text – “You've joined TTT!”

Look for your next
Tidings in May!



Please be sure to share this issue with any of your T.T.T. sisters who do not have online access.



National T.T.T. Society
CAMPING FOR GIRLS - AND MORE!

Mev Wilson, Editor

Submit news to the National Office at
office@nationaltttsociety.org or post on Facebook at
facebook.com/groups/campingforgirls.