

A publication of *Cosmopolitan International*

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 2015



Join us in
Omaha!

★ Register Now!

July 23 - 25, 2015

Photo courtesy of Nebraska Tourism

COSMOTOPICS
SUMMER 2015

THE CLUB THAT FIGHTS DIABETES

www.cosmopolitan.org





FROM THE EDITOR by Tracy Miller

It is hard to believe another Cosmopolitan year is almost behind us. And yet, here we are, just weeks away from this year's convention in Omaha. There is much to celebrate—new members, strong financials, and a strong plan for the coming year. New officers will be stepping into leadership positions, and we are offering more support to clubs than ever. An on-line store, website

improvements, and new membership levels are all in the works.

In this edition of Topics, you will hear from soon-to-be PIP Jim Preston who delivers his farewell thoughts on the current year's accomplishments as well as challenges. John Hubert gives us an update on the bricks from the former headquarters courtyard, and we offer a very special footnote article about Mary Meister, late sister of Fremont 100 member and incoming Cornbelt Governor Ray Meister. I have read the story of Mary at least three times and wish there were some way I could travel back to her time. I am happy that this special woman's heart for others lives on in Ray.

Time is running out to register for 2015 International Convention, so don't delay! Registrations are pouring in, and we want to see YOU there.

Enjoy summer.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Cosmopolitan International is to contribute to community well-being through charitable donations and volunteer service with special emphasis on supporting efforts to prevent and find a cure for diabetes.



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COSMOTOPICS

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Executive Director Update

Here it is summer, right on the heels of the Spring edition of COSMOTopics. As the saying goes, we had the perfect storm with production of the Spring edition.

My computer crashed, holding hostage all of the articles that were in the editorial process until they could be transferred off the old hard drive. Plus, the Spring edition was a robust edition, requiring more design and print time. And, we added more articles that we thought you would find valuable at the last minute, creating what I hope was a worthwhile delay. Nevertheless, I have heard many positive comments about the Spring edition, for which I am grateful to you. Until you've produced a quarterly magazine, it may be hard to imagine the time and concentration that goes into its production. I typically am toiling away on Topics in the quiet of the wee hours.

At the time of my last late-night update, sorting of the Cosmopolitan storage unit was a few short hours away, and I recall promising to let you know if we uncovered any treasures. The short answer is, yes, we did! PIP Tom Stone and Capital Federation Governor Chuck Cenkner and I worked from early morning until late afternoon sorting box upon box that had been shipped to Lancaster from the former headquarters building in Overland Park, Kansas. Much of what we uncovered was unceremoniously taken to our local waste management facility – three Jeeps, to be exact. Old paper dues notices from the '70s and '80s, outdated vendor catalogues, and hard copy old membership records all met their demise as we literally pushed boxes off a ledge into a bin destined for incineration. But an equal amount of what we found were treasures one would never think of discarding. I was astounded to find meeting minutes that date back to 1935! Presidents Plans from the '60s and '70s. And photo upon photo of yesteryear showing Cosmos reveling in festive federation conventions, gathering to support what have today become traditional fundraisers for our cause, and participating in serious business meetings where leaders charted our future.

For a moment, I was sad to think of these treasures being packed away in a storage unit. Soon, however, I also saw opportunity. To that end, I have recommended to President-Elect Richard Gordon that he consider appointing a committee of Past International Presidents who would travel to Lancaster to further sort these historical treasures and develop a plan for sharing them with all Cosmos in celebration of our 100th anniversary in 2018. I can only imagine how meaningful this trip down

memory lane would be for long-time Cosmos and new members alike. I will be happy to report periodic updates on this exciting project.

Speaking of exciting projects, the Diabetic Alert Dog international project, affectionately known as Smooch a Pooch, kicked off June 1. As with many new, big initiatives, the committee was still working through some technical issues at press time. We are deeply grateful to Jim McVay, David House, and Sheila Anderson for their website expertise and their commitment to assisting the committee with readying the website to accept donations for this cause. Committee chair Richard Gordon even gained a new family member through the project – Smooches, a large stuffed pooch that was presented to him at the Capital Federation convention in May. Smooches will travel in style with the Gordons in their brand new, custom motor home as they travel the US and Canada to visit clubs during the 2015-2016 year. Watch for more about the Gordon's travels (and Smooches adventures, too) in the Fall edition of COSMOTopics.

Excitement is building for the 2015 International Convention in Omaha, July 23 through 25 so be sure to register today! If you are feeling lucky, or even if you just want to have some fun, be sure to sign up for the pre-convention casino night, which promises to kick off an exciting, informative, and educational convention. This year, educational roundtable discussions will include information for future Cosmo leaders as well as proven membership growth tips. And a very exciting change to convention format is that we will now hold the awards ceremony during the president's banquet. The installation of new officers will be held during the luncheon that previously featured the awards presentations. Why the change? Because you spoke and we listened! During the course of calls to club presidents by consultant (and fellow Cosmo) George Mongon, we learned that most members feel the installation process is...well... less than exciting. At the same time, members feel that the awards presentations are very exciting. So, we decided to flip the two events and end convention on a high note with the presentation of awards. This change made sense from a business perspective as well. Historically, the second board meeting held Saturday of convention is chaired by the new International President who has not been installed at that point. The planning committee feels that this change will create a sense of anticipation and excitement and will provide a more orderly flow to convention.

I hope to see you in Omaha.



Tracy Miller
Executive Director

*Excitement
is building
for 2015
International
Convention in
Omaha!*



Reflections from International President Jim Preston



Jim Preston
President

As I ponder writing my last article as your International President, I think back on all that has happened over the last three years and want to share some thoughts.

I initially ran for the position of Vice-president of Finance in 2012 with the idea of getting the finances of our International organization in check. We had a budgeted deficit of \$23,000, and I told myself that I would commit two years to trying to turn this around. I also wanted to put some spark back into the annual conventions. You may remember my bid to get the convention in Hermosa wearing the **Brian Duckett** mustache.

In 2013, while in the process of working with the committee to hire a new Executive Director, I was asked to run for President-Elect. There went my two year plan. I was happy to serve an additional year, especially with the understanding that **John Kryszak** would run for Vice-President of Finance and with all the exciting things that have happened in the last couple of years.

We were able to present a balanced budget for the 2013-2014 budget year by reducing payroll costs and with the funds from the raffle of the Eagle statue thanks to **Richard Gordon**. The sale of the headquarters building in 2014 reduced our annual expenses by at least \$12,000. **John Kryszak** and Executive Director **Tracy Miller** also implemented internal controls and cost reduction measures which have contributed to a stable financial position.

In the Fall of 2013, the Executive Committee developed an Action Plan using the Strategic Plan and information gathered from members at the 2013 annual convention. Much of this information was assigned to various committees with specific goals and deadlines.

- The Bylaws and policies have been updated.
- A monthly newsletter is being distributed.
- The Diabetes Alert Dog project has been planned and was implemented in June of this year. Two clubs have already assisted in obtaining dogs for individuals.
- Our unused merchant accounts have been dissolved.
- The Rapid City convention was informative, interesting, and fun. Omaha is planning on meeting or exceeding the Rapid City convention.
- The bricks located at the headquarters building have been placed at Cosmo Park. A

few bricks were returned to their purchasers at the purchasers' request. Thanks to **Gary Bartlett** and his crew for all their help with the bricks.

- A virtual brick concept is on the verge of being implemented thanks to the hard work of **Dave House**.
- Ads have started appearing in the COSMOTopics.
- Cosmopolitan belongings in storage have been greatly reduced thanks to the efforts of **Chuck Cenknner**, **Tom Stone**, and **Tracy Miller**.
- **George Mongon** has been brought on board to assist with membership and fund raising.
- **Tracy Miller** has proven to be an enthusiastic Executive Director who has new ideas and the energy to get things done.

The one black cloud in this litany of success stories is membership. As of this writing, our overall membership is down 44 members from July 1, 2014. I believe we will be able to turn this around with the assistance of **George Mongon**.

What do I see for the future?

1. I believe the Diabetic Alert Dog project will generate much publicity for our organization as well as assist those in need.
2. I see new levels of membership such as student, corporate, and associate.
3. I see corporate sponsorship becoming a reality.
4. I see enthusiastic and energetic members stepping up leadership positions. I believe they will bring new ideas and changes so that we make this organization grow and succeed. Yes, change is not always easy, but growth is change.

In the last three years, I have learned a lot, gotten some things done, and had a lot of fun. It has been a pleasure to serve as your International President, and I want to thank everyone for your support. Dee and I have enjoyed getting to know and grow closer to our Cosmo family and really appreciate the hospitality shown by so many of you.

ALLOYS Y FAIRE

It has been a pleasure to serve as your International President, and I want to thank everyone for your support.

Cosmopolitan Diabetes Foundation: Year End Update

With just a short time left before the International Convention, the Cosmopolitan Diabetes Foundation Board especially would again like to thank all members for your continued support of your Foundation.

As in the past, at this year's International Convention, one of our Foundation's traditions involves the Donations/Beacons function. This event will be held this year in Omaha on Friday, July 24, at 11:30 A.M. At this time all attendees will hear about the work of the Cosmopolitan Diabetes Foundation and the Cosmopolitan Foundation of Canada. Also, fellow Cosmopolitans will eagerly line up to make contributions to their favorite causes. These have included Cosmopolitan Recognized Projects, the Discovery Fund, and the Beacons Fund. We will also hear about diabetes work in the area.

Funds that CDF distributes come from Cosmopolitans who have been making contributions annually to the Foundation. The Beacon's Fund is the backbone of the CDF. The interest from this endowment enables us to cover our operating expenses and income not required for operating is then used for various diabetic causes through grants.

Beacon membership is open to all Cosmopolitans and Cosmo friends. A new Beacon pledge can be a first time Beacon, a current Beacon pledging an additional membership, or moving up to a multi-level Beacon.

Multi level Beacons are:

Beacon Membership	\$ 1000.00
Emerald Beacon	\$ 5000.00
Ruby Beacon	\$10000.00
Diamond Beacon	\$25000.00

Pledges can be made as a one-time total contribution or over a period of ten years: \$100 for Beacon, \$500 for Emerald, \$1000 for Ruby, and \$2,500 for Diamond. Shorter payment periods would, of course, be considered.

Increasing Beacon memberships increases equity and increases our opportunity to fund diabetes-related grants.

Increasing our opportunity to fund diabetes-related grants means increasing our opportunity to raise awareness of, and find a cure for, diabetes. With our fundraising efforts, we can be a part of the dream, "A future free from diabetes."

The Discovery Fund was established to receive contributions to fund grants for diabetes-related projects. No portion of these funds is used for administrative or other costs of operating the Foundation. This fund is a dollar in, a dollar out.

Donor Designated Funds have been created to allow Beacons to contribute to a specific organization or charity for which a fund has been established and still get credit towards a Beacon pledge.

The fundraising efforts by Cosmopolitans and friends have set us apart in the cause for research, treatment, and education. Since 1984 when the first grants were given, the Cosmopolitan Diabetes Foundation has awarded more than \$649,400 for diabetes-related purposes.

If you are a Beacon, we thank you. If you are not a Beacon, please become one, or if you have finished one Beacon, please consider another.

If you would like to know more about your Foundation or have any questions, please invite your Federation's Board member to one of your meetings as the guest speaker.

Again, thank you for your commitment and support of the Cosmopolitan Diabetes Foundation.

We need your support to make an IMPACT on others and in our communities.



Melvina
Newman
CDF Chair

With our fundraising efforts, we can be a part of the dream – a future free from diabetes.

Sir Richard
WOOD CARVING / WOOD BURNING
Hand Crafted Wood Creations
Ph: 712-253-8204 Email: scissork@aol.com

Western Canada Federation,
thank you for your hospitality!
Looking forward to
returning soon!
E.D. Tracy



Richard, best of luck
to you and your team
for the upcoming year!
Allons Y Faire.
Jim Preston

Russ Danstrom, good job
on getting four more!
Allons Y Faire.
Jim Preston



The CosmoTopics News

GET YOUR MESSAGE OUT!

Cosmopolitan members now have the opportunity to place either a business ad or personal message in the pages of Topics.

Would you like to increase sales for your business? Advertise in Topics! Want to wish a fellow Cosmo a happy birthday? Advertise in Topics!

Costs are as follows:

1/8 page (2"H x 3.5"W)	\$25
1/4 page (4.75"H x 3.5"W)	\$50
1/2 page (5"H x 7.5"W)	\$75
Full page (10"H x 7.5"W)	\$100

All ads should be submitted to headquarters@cosmopolitan.org. If placing a business ad, please send your artwork via JPEG (minimum resolution of 300 dpi) or high resolution PDF. Vector artwork (.eps, .ai, .pdf), with fonts outlined and 300 dpi embedded images, is preferred. If placing a personal message, simply send the wording of the message and we will do the design work.

Please make checks payable to Cosmopolitan International and mail to Cosmopolitan International, PO Box 7351, Lancaster, PA 17604. All messages should be in good taste and must be approved by COSMOTopics editor.

Due dates for 2015-2016 are August 14, 2015 for Fall edition; November 13, 2015 for Winter edition; February 12, 2016 for Spring edition; and May 13, 2016 for Summer edition.

Please contact Executive Director Tracy with any questions at (717) 295-7142 or (800) 648-4331 or email headquarters@cosmopolitan.org.

▲ Quarter page ad size

**YOUR AD
HERE**

▲ Eighth page ad size

**YOUR AD
HERE**

▲ Half page ad size

CATEGORIES OF RECOGNIZED PROGRAMS

Changing the World One Person and One Community at a Time

The mission of Cosmopolitan International is to change the world one person and one community at a time. That's why Cosmopolitan International service projects—however large or small—aim to serve both individuals and communities. Our Clubs across the US and Canada raise funds to assist in diabetes research, as well as help their local communities by sponsoring projects that are used by many people throughout their community.

An application has been prepared to facilitate listing these programs. Applications can be submitted by individual clubs or federations. Once an application is reviewed and accepted as complete, the proposed center / program will be appropriately listed. Applications are available from CI headquarters and are downloadable from www.cosmopolitan.org under Resources, Club and Federation Info.

Major Cosmopolitan Diabetes Center/Program

- Primary focus must be diabetes related
- A minimum of \$25,000 over two (2) years or \$50,000 over five (5) years to a single diabetes oriented entity
- Source of funds must be Cosmopolitan members, clubs, or federations
- Application (or letter) to be submitted to CI Board for consideration
- Must provide specific information to CI Board to show how criteria have been satisfied

EASTERN VIRGINIA MEDICAL SCHOOL, STRELITZ DIABETES CENTER

855 Brambleton Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23510
B 757.446.5909
Jerry L. Nadler, M.D., FACP, Director

COSMOPOLITAN DIABETES CENTER UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA

One Hospital Drive, Columbia, MO 65212
B 573.882.2273
Jeff Robbins, Administrator

THE COSMOPOLITAN FUND FOR CHILDREN VALERIE MILLAR ENDOWMENT FUND

PO Box 394, Sioux Falls, SD 57101-0394
B 605.333.7315
Dr. Laura Davis Keppen, M.D.

CRUSADER CLINIC/COSMOPOLITAN DIABETES PROGRAM

1200 West State Street, Rockford, IL 61102-2112
B 815.490.1600
Gordon Eggers, Jr., President and CEO

CORNBELT DIABETES CONNECTION, INC.

9905 South 173rd Circle, Omaha, NE 68136
H 402-895-6732, C 402-290-3471
Terry Sanford, Chair
tsanford77@cox.net

HEALTH CARE ACCESS - COSMOPOLITAN DIABETES PROGRAM

330 Maine St., Lawrence, KS 66044
B 785.841.5760
Shelley Wakeman, Executive Director
director@healthcareaccess.org

DIABETES INCORPORATED

12955 Bogus Jim Road
Rapid City, SD 57702
Deanna Smith,
Executive Director
B 605.341.1273





Major Cosmopolitan Community Center/Program

- Primary focus is non-diabetes related
- A minimum of \$25,000 over two (2) years or \$50,000 over five (5) years to a single non-diabetes oriented entity
- Source of funds must be Cosmopolitan members, clubs, or federations
- Application (or letter) to be submitted to CI Board for consideration
- Must provide specific information to CI Board to show how criteria have been satisfied

COSMOPOLITAN INDUSTRIES, LTD.

28 34th Street E, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3&2 CANADA

Peter Gerrard, Director

B 306.664.3158

SPECIAL LEARNING CENTER

1115 Fairgrounds Rd. Jefferson City, MO 65109

B 573.634.3070

Debbie Hamler, Executive Director

dhamler@speciallearningcenter.com

Cosmopolitan Supported Diabetes Program

(Not to be confused with the Major Cosmopolitan Supported).

- Primary focus must be diabetes related
- A minimum of \$5,000 over two (2) years or \$10,000 over five (5) years to a single diabetes oriented entity
- Source of funds must be Cosmopolitan members, clubs, or federations
- Application (or letter) to be submitted to CI Board for consideration
- Must provide specific information to CI Board to show how criteria have been satisfied

ELGIN COSMOPOLITAN CLUB DIABETES

EMERGENCY RESCUE FUND

Social Service Department, Sherman Hospital

934 Center Street, Elgin, IL 60120

B 847.742.9800

PROVENA MERCY

MEDICAL CENTER

Center For Diabetes Wellness

1325 N. Highland Avenue, Aurora, IL 60506

Maria Aurora Diaz, Clinical Director

B 630.801.5756

SETBAID SERVICES' DIABETES CAMPS

FOR CHILDREN & TEENS WITH DIABETES

PO Box 196, Winfield, PA 17889-0196

B 570.524.9090 or 866.SETBAID

Mark Moyer, MBA, MHA, Executive Director

www.setbaidservices.org

info@setbaidservices.org

RAPID CITY REGIONAL MEDICAL CLINIC- ENDOCRINOLOGY AND DIABETES EDUCATION

640 Flormann Street

Rapid City SD 57701

Dr. Thomas Repas

B 605.718.3300

UPDATED!

COSMOPOLITAN INTERNATIONAL 2015 International Convention Schedule

July 23-25, 2015 • Omaha, Nebraska

AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Wednesday, July 22, 2015

12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration	Omaha Foyer
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Cocktails and Social Hour (cash bar)	Alaska
7:00 p.m.	Casino Night (\$20 buy-in payable at the door)	Alaska

Thursday, July 23, 2015

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration	Omaha Foyer
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	First Time Orientation	
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	CI Board Meeting	Omaha C
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Opening Ceremonies and Luncheon	Omaha F
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	CDF Board Meeting	Omaha C
2:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Diabetic Alert Dog Special Event	Omaha D/E
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	PIP Reception	Blue Stem
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Future Leaders Meeting	
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Ice Breaker	
6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Hospitality Suite	Alaska
6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Friendship Night (Baseball or Dinner)	

Friday, July 24, 2015

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration	Omaha Foyer
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Cosmopolitan Educational Forum	Omaha D/E
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Awards Judging	Omaha C
11:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	CDF and CFC Luncheon	Omaha F
1:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Visit Henry Doorly Zoo and Strategic Air Museum	
6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Hospitality Suite	Alaska
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Cosmo Talent Night (Dinner Included)	Omaha F

Saturday, July 25, 2015

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration	Omaha Foyer
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Delegates Meeting	Omaha D/E
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Installation Luncheon	Omaha F
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	CI Board Meeting	Omaha C
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	CDF Board Meeting	Omaha C
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	President's Social (Cash Bar)	Omaha F
7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.	President's Banquet / Awards	Omaha F

Please Note Change from Previous Conventions: Installation of 2015-2016 officers will take place at a luncheon, Saturday, July 25. This previously was the Awards Luncheon. Awards now will be presented during the President's Banquet scheduled for Saturday evening, July 25.

2015 Cosmopolitan International Convention Registration

Registrations are accepted: ONLINE at www.cosmopolitan.org, by MAIL to Cosmopolitan International, PO Box 7351, Lancaster, PA 17604, or by FAX to (717) 295-7143.

PLEASE FILL OUT ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER ATTENDEE.

Attendee Information

Name: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Club 1 _____ Club 2 _____

Kindly indicate any dietary restrictions: Vegetarian Vegan Gluten Free

Pre-Convention Special Event

Casino Night (Wednesday), \$25 payable now plus \$20 cash buy in at the door.

Package

Complete Package (includes all events except Casino Night); \$250 by July 1; \$275 by July 17.

For Friendship Night, choose one:

- Cosmo Friendship Dinner
- Storm Chasers Baseball Game

Ala Carte (if not selecting Package):

- Opening Ceremony Luncheon (Thursday), \$25.00
- Friendship Night (Thursday)
 - Choose one: Cosmo Friendship Dinner (no charge)
 - Storm Chasers Baseball Game (\$10)
- CDF and CFC Donations Luncheon (Friday), \$25
- Zoo and Museum (Friday), \$75
- Talent Night (Friday), \$25
- Installation Luncheon (Saturday), \$25
- President's/Awards Banquet (Saturday), \$50.00

Name on Badge _____ Are you a Cosmopolitan member? _____

Are you a delegate? _____

Do you require any special accommodations? _____

Please select the following (check all boxes that apply):

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Past Int'l President | <input type="checkbox"/> First Timer | <input type="checkbox"/> Beacon | <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Beacon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Past Int'l Spouse | <input type="checkbox"/> CI Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Emerald Beacon (US) | (Canada) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Governor-Elect | (includes governors) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruby Beacon (US) | <input type="checkbox"/> Delegate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Club President | <input type="checkbox"/> CDF Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Diamond Beacon (US) | <input type="checkbox"/> CFC Board |

Hotel Information

The host hotel is the Ramada Plaza Convention Center Omaha, 3321 South 72nd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68124. Cosmopolitan has blocked 25 rooms for July 21 and 93 rooms each night for July 22, 23, 24, and 25. Room rates are \$99 per night. To make reservations, call 888-288-4982 and indicate that you are with Cosmopolitan International. To guarantee this rate, **rooms must be reserved no later than July 7, 2015.** Any rooms blocked that are not reserved by this date will be released on July 8. Rooms can be reserved at the reduced rate after this date, but there is no guarantee of availability.

Airport Transportation

Complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport is based on availability. After making your hotel reservation, ask the Central Reservations agent to transfer you to the Ramada Omaha to request a shuttle.

Payment Information

- VISA, MasterCard, American Express and Discover are accepted. (Circle one.)
 - Card Number: _____
 - Expiration Date: _____/_____
 - Security Code (on back of card): _____
 - Name on Card: _____
 - Billing Address: _____
 - Billing City/State/ZIP: _____
 - Total Amount Billed: _____
- Check enclosed.
 - Mail to: Cosmopolitan International
 - PO Box 7351, Lancaster, PA 17604
- Fax. Fax to (717) 295-7143

Fees quoted are payable in U.S. Funds only. Convention fees payable by credit card, money order, or check (Canadian Cosmo please indicate "U.S. Funds" on your personal check).

No registration will be accepted without full payment. Payment must be received no later than July 17, 2015.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellations received between July 1 and July 17 will be assessed a ten (10) percent cancellation fee. No refunds will be made after July 17.

HOTEL REGISTRATION POLICY: Per board policy, due to the contractual agreement Cosmopolitan International has entered into with the convention hotel that guarantees certain minimum numbers, any registered attendee that does not stay at the convention hotel will be subject to a surcharge based on the additional fees charged to the convention when room guarantees are not met.



Out & About



The Council Bluffs Cosmopolitan Club

Celebrates 50 Years of Service *By Ron Fox*

Fifty years ago a small group of people banded together and became the Cosmopolitan Club of Council Bluffs. Their intent was to give back to the community before "giving back" was in vogue. This group and the members who followed have realized their goal by making a positive impact on this community.

On Saturday evening, April 18, they got together to recognize this historic occasion and to reflect. The Holiday Inn at Ameristar hosted the group which contained current members, past members, dignitaries, and guests.

President Bill Stazzoni was the very capable Master of Ceremony for the occasion. The evening began with a social hour from six to seven. Old acquaintances were enjoyed and new ones were cultivated. At seven, Bill gave a brief welcome. He introduced the dignitaries who were present: Dave House, Current Governor of the Cornbelt Federation; Richard Gordon, President-elect of Cosmopolitan International; Ray Meister, Governor-elect of the Cornbelt Federation; and Ed Ficenc, Membership Chair of Cosmopolitan International.

Woody Mahan gave the invocation. Dave House, Governor of the Cornbelt Federation then presented the club with a "Fifty-Year" banner from Cosmopolitan International.

Everyone then dined on a buffet that consisted of beef, chicken, and salmon as the main entrees. Mashed potatoes, carrots, mixed-vegetables, salad, rolls, coffee or tea, were part of the meal as well.

After the meal was over, the actual program started. Bill invited Dave House to make a few remarks from the Cornbelt Federation. He was followed by Richard Gordon from Cosmopolitan International. Bill then introduced our guest speaker for the evening, Ms. Carol Woods. Carol is President and CEO of Children's Square here in Council Bluffs. She spoke to the group about "Volunteerism" and its

importance to the community. She shared some statistics about the number of hours that volunteers donate and shared also, personal anecdotes from her work with troubled children. She ended her talk by congratulating the CBCC for their fifty years of service and thanked us for our continued support of Children's Square.

It was then time for the Awards Committee of Ed Tucker, Dave Rutledge, and Matt Schultz to hand out its awards and recognitions for the year. Dave Rutledge recognized all of the members with special distinction given to who had been with the group over 30 years: Bill Lay, 38 yrs; LeRoy Lovely, 39 yrs, Russ Rains, 40 yrs; Ed Anderson, 43 yrs; and Bob Hansen, 47 yrs.



Special 50 year awards were given to Walt Coziahr and Don Croson who were part of the original charter members.



Kent Stopak received his pin for Treasurer and was awarded our "Rookie of the Year" plaque. Bill Stazzoni received the "Cosmo of the Year" award.



After the awards were given, the business meeting was adjourned and in true Cosmo fashion, the rest of the evening was spent dancing, laughing, and reminiscing. It's Great to be a Cosmo!

Highlights from Cornbelt Federation Convention *By Ray Meister*

The 2015 Cornbelt Federation Convention was held April 24 and 25 in Omaha. Thanks to all who helped celebrate the year's accomplishments.

Kyler Nelson (center) was awarded the Federation's Bulletin Editor Award by Kellee Rasmussen, Awards Chairman and David House, Governor of the Cornbelt Federation. Kyler is the secretary of the Fremont Cosmopolitan Club 100.



Jim Paulson, of the Fremont Cosmopolitan Club 100, was honored with the Distinguished Community Service Award.



Ray Meister and Kellee Rasmussen were sworn in as Governor and Governor-Elect of the Cornbelt Federation. The Cornbelt Federation consists of all Cosmopolitan Clubs in Nebraska and Iowa. Ray is a Past-President of the Fremont Cosmopolitan Club 100 and Kellee is the current President of the Fremont Club.



Sugar Baby, Part II By Ray Meister

Cosmos may recall reading about my late dear sister, Mary, in the Late Summer 2014 edition of COSMOTopics. As a result of that story, I recently received a letter from a lady who was a student in the country school where Mary taught many years ago. It gives us another peek into the past regarding a girl diagnosed with diabetes nearly 100 years ago.

My older brother who still lives near our home town asked me for a copy of the story that was published in Topics and shared it with a lady who was a "wee" girl where Mary taught country school, right out of high school. I have vague recollections of the students she speaks of, but I can remember going to some of the programs at "Hazel Dell." I am just so awed when I hear of the manner in which Mary touched the lives of these children so many years ago, coupled with the memories that they cherish. It is nearly heartbreaking to think of the lives she might have influenced, had diabetes not ended her calling. I thought you might enjoy this footnote-continuation of her story.



Tuesday, January 27, 2015

Dear Ray,

A few weeks before Christmas, your brother, David, sent me one of your Cosmopolitan magazines in which was printed the story that your sister Mary wrote. What a wonderful story! I finished it with tears running down my face!!! Miss Meister was my teacher in the 2-3-4 grades at Hazel Dell. She was very good friends with my mother because she also had diabetes. The two of them discussed their problems and shared recipes especially developed for diabetics. I remember the homemade "grape nuts cereal" that was made at your house, and a bag of it given to us! M-m-mmm! Delicious!

I have reminisced about the days at Hazel Dell with my husband, Jim Standerford, as he went to Pine Ridge, Dist. 11, which was 1.5 miles west of town, 1 mile north and 1/2 mile west. We were both fortunate to have very good teachers. I can't believe that Mary began her teaching career just out of high school. She was such a wonderful teacher. Rural school music started

when she was there, and our school was one of the few that followed the plans to the "T," I think. Mary talked the school board into supplying the funds for all of us to have a tonette. I am not sure of the number of kids then, but I imagine 7-8. I loved it and credit that teaching to influence me in playing the clarinet in high school. Dale and Dorothy James were a year ahead of me. Amy Jean Mitchell was there a short time too. Helen Faye Fergus might have been in the upper grades. I am thinking of kids you might remember. There must have been a course of study for the music program, because we studied composers like Mozart, Beethoven, Liszt, etc. We learned old songs with words in our song books and the tunes were from those written by those Masters! She started the "hot lunch program" for us---every Friday, one of the mothers brought a hot lunch for us. We learned the importance of good nutrition, how to eat correctly, don't forget please and thank you, and washed and dried the dishes (no paper plates then!). We had fabulous Christmas programs---everyone had to recite a reading of some type, by heart, of course. Dale James hated that! He would take his home and Jesse would help him learn it. The programs were up the hill east in the Prospect Church, heated with a big wood stove in the middle of the floor. We walked up the hill every day for a week to practice it and to decorate for the Big Night when ALL the neighborhood came. Ladies brought pies and sandwiches to eat afterwards. Mary always gave us fabulous presents, hand-made by her, but with help from the rest of her family. I remember aprons we girls got one year, and she said her brother helped her!!! David?????

This has gotten too long, but it got Jim and me reminiscing again! Mary was a wonderful teacher and friend. All your family has been special because of memories of Mary. I am so glad that I got to read the issue of Cosmo Topics. I have diabetes now, but am getting along just fine. I take Lantus, which is a form of insulin, but keeping all tests and stuff down well.

God Bless,

Jeanne Standerford



Sioux City Cosmo Club Boasts 3rd Generation Cosmo! By Matt Chilton

For the first time in the Sioux City Club's history, we have a third generation Cosmo member! Tom Chilton, son of 25-year-member Matt and grandson of charter member Duane, just celebrated his first anniversary of membership in the Sioux City Club. The 26-year-old Tom joined the club at the same age as Matt did and is also the youngest member of the club. He has been active at meetings and is helping on the golf fundraiser and diabetes testing committees. His grandfather, Duane Chilton, joined the club in 1965, 50 years ago this Fall. The Sioux City Club will be celebrating their golden anniversary on November 21, 2015 at the Sioux City Country Club.

Cosmo Bill Smetheram Celebrates 50th Anniversary By Tracy Miller

Cosmo Bill Smetheram of the Calgary Cosmopolitan Club received his 50-year pin at the club's January 13, 2015 meeting. Bill joined Cosmopolitan on January 20, 1965 and was presented his pin by Todd Gow, club president. The club is approaching its 85th anniversary and are planning a celebration where they will honor Cosmo Bill along with Cosmo Gus Anderson who has served 35 years.



Roanoke Club Celebrates 50 Years of Cosmo Track

By Bob Williams

The Roanoke, Virginia Club held its 50th Annual Cosmopolitan Invitational Track & Field Meet this past April 30 - May 2, 2015. The meet is the longest running track & field event in the Commonwealth of Virginia and this year attracted the largest number of middle, junior and high school athletes ever. The meet is the club's single fund raiser with income coming from gate receipts, school registrations, sponsors and advertisers in the meet program which is now a 40 page full color document.

Since the 1966 event which attracted four high schools and 115 boys participating in 15 events, the meet has grown to a total of 36 schools with 1793 boy and girl athletes participating in 120 events in 2015. Unique to the meet is the inclusion of middle schools, which allows these very young athletes to showcase their talents to their family and friends in addition to competing in a first-class venue in front of a large crowd while earning valuable recognition for their achievements.

Because of significant growth in recent years, the event is now held over three days, and more often than not, is concluded under lights on Thursday and Friday nights. The meet is sanctioned by the

Virginia High School League (VHSL) and therefore all meet records are recognized.

The Cosmo record book reads like a "Who's Who" of local track and field in Virginia with ten athletes still holding marks in the Cosmo record book who combined to win 29 VHSL individual state outdoor track titles. Most recognizable names in the record book still belong to former NFL football stars Tiki and Ronde Barber who set records in the triple jump and 110 meter hurdles in the early 1990s.

Beginning in 2000, Como Track awarded its first scholarship to an outstanding boy athlete which totaled \$500. Today, Cosmo Track awards a scholarship of \$3000 to an outstanding senior boy and girl. Since 2000, Cosmo Track has awarded nearly \$61,000 in scholarships.

The meet has become the highlight of the track and field year for all participating athletes as well as for our club members and the volunteers who make this meet possible.

The Roanoke Club is beginning its planning for the next half century of Cosmo Track.



Left to right: Cosmos Bob Williams, Jim Beasley, Stephen Waskey. Alan Klinger reviewing record book in anticipation of record-setting triple jump.



Parade of Athletes at the 2015 Cosmo Track Meet, WFHS Color Guard



Cosmo Randy Lower with 2015 scholarship winners, Amanda Blake of Staunton River and Ryan Gerstemeier of Roanoke Catholic

Bethesda Cosmopolitan Foundation Gifts EVMS *By Tracy Miller*

On May 20, 2015, the Bethesda Cosmopolitan Foundation made a \$50,000 gift to Eastern Virginia Medical School for diabetes research. The Foundation is part of the Capital Federation of Cosmopolitan International, which has supported EVMS diabetes research for 30 years.

Pictured left to right are: Keith Parnell, Norfolk Cosmopolitan Club; Margaret A. Morris, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, EVMS Strelitz Diabetes Center; Jerry Nadler, MD, the Harry H. Mansbach Chair in Internal Medicine, Chair and Professor of Internal Medicine and Vice Dean of Research; Mike Fistere of the Bethesda Cosmopolitan Foundation; Rob McWilliams, Norfolk Cosmopolitan Club; Chuck Cenknier, 2014-2015 Governor, Capital Federation; George Clarke, Bethesda Cosmopolitan Foundation; Randy Wright, 2014-2015 Governor-Elect, Capital Federation; Richard Homan, MD, President and Provost of EVMS and Dean of the School of Medicine.



All Aboard for Sioux City Train Show!

By John Koskovich

The Sioux City Cosmopolitan Club hosted the Third Annual Cosmopolitan Train Show fundraiser February 28 and March 1, 2015. This event has become one of the club's newest fundraisers. How often can a fundraiser be described as FUN? This project is one we have considered for more than 20 years. With our Christmas tree sales gone away due to lack of sales, we needed a new venture. A train show was proposed with a budget and a work schedule. The board approved the plan, so a presentation was made to the total membership to describe the new fundraiser. The membership decided unanimously to go forward, and I would chair the project. The first year we sold out all our vendor tables two weeks before the show. Attendance was more than expected and revenue was wonderful for the first year. We made plans for the 2014 show.

Everything was on track to have a second great show. Tables sold out 30 days before the show, but Mother Nature had other plans. The Friday of show weekend, at around 2 p.m., severe ice caused some vendors to cancel due to weather. Saturday attendance was low, again because of the weather. Sunday attendance was good enough for us to still make money, but our revenue was not nearly as good as the prior year.

We decided not to allow Mother Nature's curveball put a damper on our plans for 2015. We not only decided to hold the fundraiser again, but to find a larger location. We had sold out the past two years, and in 2014 we turned down 54 vendor table requests due to lack of space. For the 2015 show, we would also hold concessions, as the new location had kitchen facilities but no one to operate them until Judy Morton volunteered to handle the concessions.



Joe Bousquet, Rick Larson, and Mark Jenkins assisted Judy in putting together a menu, and boy did they come through! They put together a great menu with reasonable prices, and we had many great comments from the attendees as well as the vendors. We also had a great idea for a raffle item of a custom-made sign on which we would sell tickets. We did not sell out vendor tables this year, but we did have a significant increase in the number of vendors and displays over prior years. Attendance this year was great, the weather cooperated, and we had a terrific show. Dollars were raised for many of our projects such as sending kids to diabetic camp and providing sharp containers for hospitals. As a modeler for more than 55 years, it has been a labor of love for me. I enjoy seeing young and old alike enjoying the many displays and vendors with all the different gauges and ages of product available. We had displays from Minneapolis to Kansas City.

We are working toward great things for 2016 with dates for another show already set into 2017. It is great to have a fundraiser that is FUN!



Bricks Find their Home at Cosmo Park

By John Hubert

There she is, glowing in a sitting sunset, down a gentle slope surrounded and protected by trees of all varieties, with the sounds of children's laughter and voices in the background. Here she sits, a beautiful sight, a fitting monument, a monument dedicated to "Cosmopolitans Everywhere." She symbolizes our devotion to Unity, Service, and Action, a monument of our history, past accomplishments, and future hopes. Our names grace both sides of the wall, those still with us and those who have passed onto the great beyond. There are names of our clubs and federations, a history of our great international organization for all to see and experience.

Cosmopolitan Recreation Center (Cosmo Park) in Columbia, Missouri, was the vision of Cosmopolitan Past President Frank Lamb, a private pilot, who noted that the Southwest corner of Columbia Airport was easily accessible from Old Highway 40 and had topographical relief unsuitable for airport use but ideal for a community park. Past President Lamb brought his vision to the Columbia Luncheon Club membership who accepted the challenge and undertook the park project. A lease of 35 acres of airport property bounded on the South and West by public roads and on the North and East by airport runways was obtained. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held April 12, 1949, followed by Columbia Cosmopolitan Park dedication on August 21 1949. Mayor Roy Sappington officiated



with 10,000 people in attendance, half of Columbia's population at the time.

The park grew each year and today is 533 acres. It contains nine shelters, many named after present and deceased Cosmopolitans. One of the newest structures is a concession stand named after Urban Wussler, the first television news personality in Columbia. Urban is a member of our Columbia Luncheon Club. The park has lit football fields, an 18-hole golf course with clubhouse, bike trails, walking trails, off-leash dog areas, tennis courts, volleyball courts, a roller hockey rink, a remote car track, horseshoe pits, fishing lakes, a start-of-the-art Cosmo Steinberg Playground, and almost anything you need for a great weekend of fun and recreation. Oh, and of course, restrooms. It is estimated that we have given more than one million dollars to the Columbia Parks and Recreation Department.

Come see our wall, a great tribute to our mission and past accomplishments as Cosmopolitans. Give one of our clubs a call when you are in town so we can show you our loyalty and friendship. I guarantee you will leave with a big Cosmo smile!

Special thanks to Jerry Sigmund for the historical perspective and the years of supporting Cosmo Park.

SPRING 2015

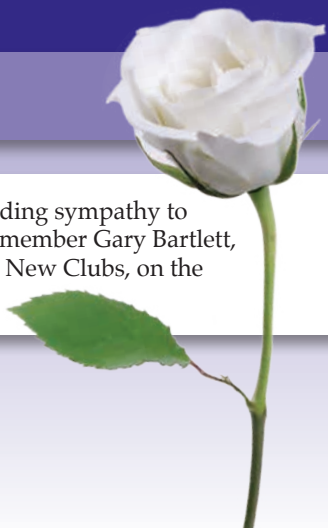
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In Memoriam

The Cosmopolitan family joins in extending sympathy to the family of Lawrence River City club member Gary Bartlett, past Vice President of Membership and New Clubs, on the passing of his father, Norman Bartlett.



COSMOTOPICS
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