



Le Bon Mot



Newsletter for the John R Mott Chapter of YMCA Retirees of Iowa and Nebraska

THE PRESIDENTS DESK

Newsletter September/October 2026

It is hard to believe that Autumn is next month on September 22, the day before my Mother's 100th Birthday. What a blessing. In 2017 we moved back to Omaha from St. Augustine, FL to ensure Mom got her health issues addressed. I am so grateful that God guided me to the Osage Nursing Center. The staff there are all guardian angels caring for Mom and the other guests. I call Mom just about every night at 8:30 pm to tell her I love her, to hear her voice, and make sure she is feeling ok. I hope you are visiting regularly with your family, and I would encourage you to do a "buddy check" with a YMCA Alumni friend.

I want to thank Vernon Delpesce and Nick Zimmer for the great work they have done to host our Mott Chapter YMCA Alumni meeting October 22-23, 2026 in West Des Moines, IA. I would like each of you to invite a YMCA retiree who is not a member to come to the meeting and meet some amazing YMCA folks.

I am looking forward to our gathering this fall. Please stay safe and take care.

Blessings Always, Louie

Work is underway for the Fall meeting October 22- 23, in West Des Moines, IA

Reservations:

Homewood Suites
6220 Stagecoach Drive
West Des Moines, IA 50266
515-428-2807
Rate \$129.00 Group Code:CHW909

Thursday, October 22

1:00 PM-5:30 PM Meet at:

Valley Community Center

4444 Fuller Rd

West Des Moines, IA 50266

Dinner

Friday, October 23

9:00 AM-Noon Meet at:

Valley Community Center



DES MOINES

MOTT COMMITTEES

NATIONAL ALUMNI REUNION by Dave Rogers

June 16,17,18, 2027
in Kansas City, MO Wednesday-
Saturday filled with activities and
learning opportunities. Registration will
open Sept. 2, 2026. Look for
information in the Connection.

Embassy Suites Hotel by Hilton, just 4
miles from the airport, with a free 24-
hour shuttle has been selected as our
hotel location.

Dave Rogers (Central Vice President.)
daverogers317@gmail.com



NATIONAL SERVICE PROJECT

The NSP committee led by Lou
Falk is happy to announce that funding is
complete and plans for the future Twig
Models have been submitted. More
information can be accessed on the
National YMCA website.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Louie wanted to remind everyone
that membership renewal is approaching
with packets being sent out in early
November. Y Alumni can renew online
or by mail between November and
February.

Also, Dave Patterson will be
stepping down as National Membership
Chair. If any of our Mott members are
interested, they should contact Phil
Morgan, Alumni President. Contact:
phillmrgn1@att.net

EAF by Rich Schoffelman

The Emergency Assistance Fund
is conducting the 2026 EAF Campaign.
Our gifts bring hope, relief, and
reassurance to fellow YMCA colleagues
facing difficult moments of financial
need. Mott Chapter members are
encouraged to contribute, and gifts of any
amount are needed and appreciated.

Go online to ymcaeaf.org or send a
check mailed to;

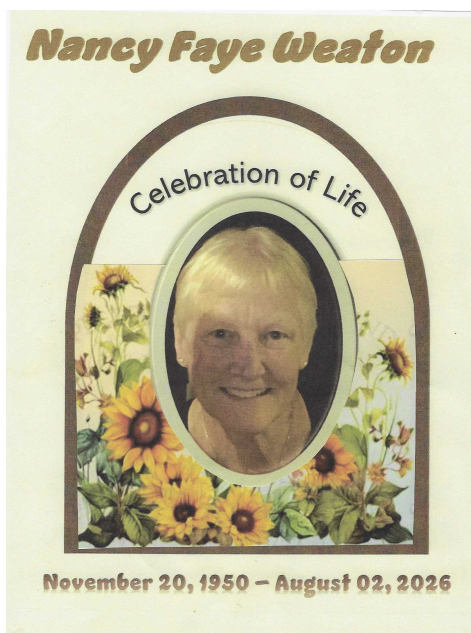
YMCA EAF
c/o YMCA of USA
PO Box 7411037
Chicago, IL 60674-11037

Be sure to identify your Chapter
when giving.
Thank you for your generous support!



Farewell Nancy Weaton

Marv and I and Louie sat together at Nancy's funeral. It was a lovely service. The altar was covered in sunflowers. Each guest was given an open heart lapel pin to remind us to keep our hearts open to loving and forgiving each other and to fill our hearts with love as Nancy did. Faith is at the core in the Weaton household. That did not spare them the heartaches of life but gave them the tools to persevere. Her favorite Bible verse is James 1: 2 -4. Temper that with a sense of humor and that captures the essence of a life well lived. We love you Nan. You will be missed.



Submission by Jim Weaton

This is an excerpt from one of Jim's reflections from 2020. I paraphrase:

Jim spills coke hopes Nancy will not find out. She does. She helps clean up with no complaint. He admires her cup ½ full approach to life and ponders what spills out of his cup.

Jim writes: that life provides me with a cup-and I get to choose how to fill it. How am I allowing the Lord to fill my cup. And how, in turn am I pouring out his love to others.

So today forward, may we all work towards filling our cups with gratitude, forgiveness, joy, words of affirmation, kindness, gentleness, and love for others.

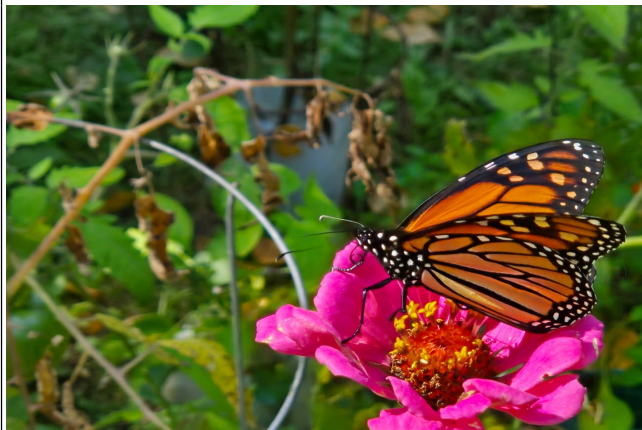
One last thought I leave you with... If you see the moon, you will see the beauty of God. If you see the sun you will see the powers of God. If you see a mirror, you will see God's best creation—so believe it! We are all tourists: God is our travel agent who has already identified our routes, bookings, and destinations. Trust Him and enjoy the journey- and live today.

Blessings, Jim

JOHN 4:14

“But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life,”

Monthly Celebrations



Birthdays for September

Jack Fish 09/26

Linda Butkus 09/26

Birthdays for October

Jo Bagelmann 10/09

Jon Springer 10/10

Anniversaries for September None

Anniversaries for October

Marv and Connie Zimmermann 10/10

A Moment of Reflection

*Heavenly Father, I come to You
tired and in need of your healing
touch. Lay your gentle hand upon
my body, mind, and spirit. Remove
all weariness and replace it with
restoring peace. Renew my
strength as I surrender my burdens
into Your loving care. In Jesus
name. Amen*

CHECK OUT THE YMCA ALUMNI
WEBSITE FOR ALL UPDATES!!

www.ymcaalumni.org

How to Donate/Renew

MEMBERSHIP Mail to:

YMCA Alumni Lowell Nees
PO Box 133
Bowling Green, OH 43402

EAF: Mail to YMCA USA EAF

Po Box 7411037
Chicago, IL 60674-11037
Memo line: designate chapter

NATIONAL SERVICE PROJECT

Mail to YMCA Alumni Treasurer
PO Box 725
West Chester, OH 45071
Memo line: designate chapter

WORLD SERVICE

Mail to: Y-USA World Service
Po box 7411037
Chicago, IL 60606
Memo line: designate chapter

Mott Chapter Officers

President: Louie Warren

louiewarren19@gmail.com
402-598-5235

Treasurer: Mary Carol Fish

mcjfish@gmail.com
641-485-3402

Secretary/Editor: Connie Zimmermann

mrzclz@gmail.com
641-521-3306

Our Mott Chapter goal is 100 %
participation in all Alumni organizations.
Thank you for your support!