

Women Transcending Boundaries Monthly Newsletter



All information also available on our website wtb.org

December 2025





Women Transcending Boundaries

MEMBERSHIP

Please consider **renewing your membership!** Dues are \$25.00 per year. Although not mandatory for membership, dues are most important. Programs, business expenses, scholarships and more are funded with dues and fundraising.

We hope you will become an official member—just fill out the form below and bring it to a meeting, mail it to the address on the form, or email to wtbcny@gmail.com.





Women Transcending Boundaries, Inc.

A Metro Syracuse Women's Group Founded After 9/11/01

P.O. Box 6847, Syracuse, NY 13217

www.wtb.org

2025–2026 MEMBERSHIP FORM

[for the program year July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026]

Name: _____ Today's Date: _____

___ I am a NEW MEMBER. [Please fill in *all* the information below.]

___ I am a RENEWING MEMBER. [Please tell us only what has changed.]

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: (home) _____ (work) _____ (cell) _____

E-mail: _____ Occupation: _____

Faith Tradition (optional): _____ Native Country (optional) : _____

Do you have special skill sets that you would like to share with WTB, such as writing, accounting, public relations/advertising, social media, or any other areas of expertise? _____

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### Dues & Donations:

**Dues** (\$25 per year) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***Note:** Dues are WTB's main source of revenue. They are appreciated but not required except for Council, Advisory Board, or Standing Committee members.*

\_\_\_ I am a Council, Advisory Board, or Standing Committee member and, as such, am required to pay dues.

**Donation** ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Your additional donation will help fund WTB projects, activities and scholarship awards as well as dues for those who cannot afford to pay. Thank you!*

**Total** paid on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ by cash ☐ or by check ☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***Women Transcending Boundaries, Inc. is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) charitable corporation. All dues and donations are tax deductible.***

**Please submit this completed form at any WTB meeting or by mail to the address at the top of this form.**

*WTB Mission Statement: We are an egalitarian community of women coming together to respect and learn more about each other's various spiritual beliefs, cultures, and common concerns. It is our intent to share our experiences with the wider community, to educate, and to serve.*



WTB Council is looking forward to 2025/26 as we share new programs, faith visits, celebrations, connecting with new and old friends, and making a difference within our community with collaborations.

We are looking for you to join a committee

Kindly email [wtbcny@gmail.com](mailto:wtbcny@gmail.com).

Testimonial: When I joined WTB and they asked me to join a committee, I said no. Then they said WE WILL DO THIS WITH YOU. **I said YES.**

Grant Writer

Membership: help with welcome letters, sign in table at events, become a buddie to a new WTB member

Program & Service: Help plan programs and events, service projects

Public Relations & Outreach: Help with monthly newsletter, social media,

Our program and service calendar is September thru May  
Commitment is only a few hours a month.

**Letter from President  
Lorraine Markley**



**Greetings!**

**Along with Thanksgiving Day and gratitude for my blessings and gifts, I would like to thankfully remind us all of our memorable year of WTB events. My sense of gratitude extends to all who graciously participated and offered their service in support of these very unique activities. We have so much to be thankful for especially the WTB mission accomplished with these events.**

**Starting with last winter and the ice cream social; fascinating discussions, fun conversations learning new faith traditions. The Blank-A-thon! Crafting beautiful cozy fleece blankets for deserving children. A sumptuous lunch; 40-60 women from various faiths becoming acquainted made for an extraordinary occasion**

**The RETREAT: the first in several years. Important decisions, healthy discussions, camaraderie, delicious lunch, good vibes all around**

**The fall picnic with drumming, ethnic food, fun discussions and dancing.**

**In October, Kate Holmes, Refugee Services Director of Catholic Charities presented a thoughtful presentation of the current situation and her personal experiences. All WTB members were very interested with numerous questions and comments.**

**Our latest event was a Sandwich Making marathon for the food pantry of the Assumption Catholic Church. Following a potluck lunch, members made about 350 sandwiches, bagged snacks and laughed as we passionately worked.**

**May we continue to present educational, cultural, social and exciting events this coming year.**

**I have been honored to serve as WTB President as I wish all a happy and blessed Holiday season.**

## Minutes of WTB “Kinship and Kindness” Meeting

**Sunday, Nov 16,2025 Home of Cindy Rahrle, 1-3 pm**

On cold rainy November afternoon about 18 people gathered in Cindy Rahrle’s cozy home for “Kinship and Kindness.” The aromas of homemade minestrone soup and mulled cider filled the kitchen as we laid out the potluck luncheon. We shared an eclectic meal and lively conversation, catching up with old friends and learning more about each other. It was really a time for sharing and enjoying great food--the dishes ladies brought were varied and tasty!

After lunch was cleared away, we started making sandwiches and assembling snack/sweets bags for the Assumption Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen. Cindy had us all organized: we had a peanut butter and jelly station on the kitchen island, ham/cheese and turkey/cheese assembly lines on the dining table, and a smaller group filling snack bags in an adjacent room. Women enjoyed chatting while we worked—and we were productive! Monday morning, Cindy delivered 347 assorted sandwiches and over 400 snack baggies to Assumption Soup Kitchen.

In addition to baked goods and snacks for Assumption lunches, women brought an assortment of cute, new baby clothes to donate to InterFaith Works Maternal Support program. Lorraine Markley delivered three grocery bags filled with baby clothes to IFW on Wednesday.

Special thanks to: Cindy Rahrle for purchasing supplies and graciously hosting this event; those who added to the lunches with snacks, sweets and monetary contributions; those who shopped for those adorable baby outfits for refugee moms in Syracuse. This really was a special meeting—lots of fun and camaraderie as we came together to do something for others.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Bova, WTB Sunday Secretary.



SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL'S 52<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL

# Plowshares



## CRAFTSFAIR & PEACE FESTIVAL



**DECEMBER 6-7, 2025**

[Nottingham High School](#), Syracuse, NY

**Saturday 10:00AM – 5:00PM**

**Sunday 10:30AM – 4:30PM**

**Plowshares is Central New York's premiere multicultural crafts fair**, featuring over 120 local craftspeople and community organizations.

A beautiful community of activists, conscientious consumers and fair traders gather for a weekend of commerce and communing at the Plowshares Crafts Fair and Peace Festival. Plowshares is an opportunity to step into the kind of world we're working so hard to create: a place of justice, of peace, of compassion, of environmental sustainability. Plowshares is a labor of love that comes together thanks to the help of many volunteers.

WTB will have a table and we will be selling jewelry made for WTB by our very own Lorraine Markley.

The women of today  
are the thoughts  
of their mothers  
and grandmothers  
embodied and made alive.  
They are active, capable,  
determined and bound  
to win. They have a  
thousand generations  
back of them.

Matilda Joselyn Gage





### Refugee Sewing:

The next session will begin Thursday, December 4 at 12:15 at 501 Park Street.. We really need one more teacher. It is a beginners class, so you do not need any advanced skills, and we all help one another if there are any questions. Please consider becoming one of us - we are a fun group!.

This class is eight women from the Syracuse Northeast Community Center, located on Hawley Ave. All of these women speak Arabic, and their caseworker will accompany them to translate. Basic sewing is taught through showing, and placing the student's hands and foot appropriately. So if you like to sew, you can certainly come and have fun with us.

Call me if you have any questions. Jennifer 315-345-9217

## WTB BOOK CLUB



- December 8    The Dark Wind by Tony Hillerman
- January 12    Lady Tan's Circle of Women by Lisa See
- February 9    Prophet Song by Paul Lynch
- March 9       Dreams of Freedom by Marilyn Higgins
- April 13       The Lion Women of Tehran by Marjan Kamali
- May 11        Mater 2-10 by Hwang Sok-yong
- June 8         The World We Found by Thrity Umrigar
- July 13        Feeding Ghosts by Tessa Hulls  
(we may need copies)
- August 10     The Long Loneliness: The Autobiography of  
Dorothy Day
- Sept 14        An African History of Africa: From the Dawn of  
Humanity to Independence by Zeinab Badawi read the first half
- October 12    continue reading the September book
- November 9    Let Only Red Flowers Bloom by Emily Feng



The WTB book club is an egalitarian community of women from many faith and cultural traditions. We seek to nurture mutual respect and understanding by reading about diverse beliefs, customs, and practices. We choose books - fiction, non-fiction, and memoir - that reflect diversity of faith and culture, either internationally or within our own country. Whenever possible, we prefer to choose books written by women or featuring female characters. If you would like to join the book club either in person or on Zoom, please call or text Jennifer at 315-345-9217

# HAUDENOSAUNEE INFLUENCES ON THE WOMEN'S RIGHTS MOVEMENT

## SPEAKERS

JEANNE SHENANDOAH  
BETTY LYONS  
CIARRAI EATON



HAUDENOSAUNEE FOOD & MUSIC  
HISTORICAL PRESENTATION

TICKETS AVAILABLE:

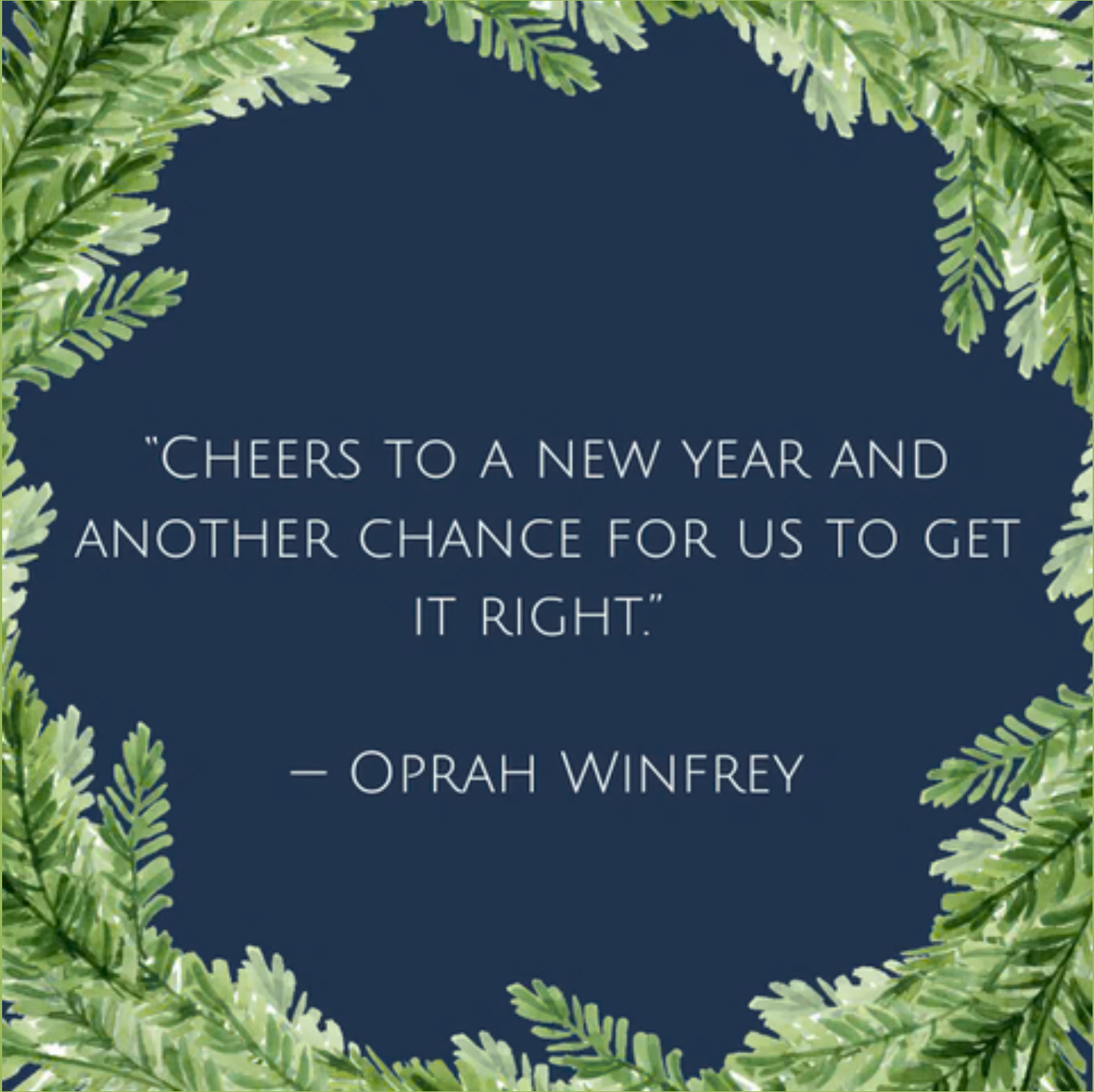
[WWW.MATILDAJOSLYNGAGE.ORG](http://WWW.MATILDAJOSLYNGAGE.ORG)

MATILDA JOSLYN GAGE CENTER  
210 EAST GENESEE STREET  
FAYETTEVILLE, NY 13066

TICKETS  
**\$10**



**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> [AT] 5:30PM**



"CHEERS TO A NEW YEAR AND  
ANOTHER CHANCE FOR US TO GET  
IT RIGHT."

— OPRAH WINFREY