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**NEWSLETTER – March 15, 2010**

**PLEASE COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO EACH MEMBER**  
**AND ALSO READ AT MEETING**

Dear TOPS Chapters of Milwaukee County:

**SRD:** April 9 and 10 State Recognition Days will be held at Olympia Resort in Oconomowoc. Anyone attending who has lost 50 pounds or more can participate in the Before and After Parade (aka Baggy Fashions) Friday night, April 9. Do you qualify? Did you register to participate? Call me if there are any questions or concerns.

If you did not register for SRD and change your mind about coming, you are welcome to register at the door for \$30. Remember everyone must be a paid registrant in order to attend any of the activities or general sessions at SRD, including any non-TOPS members who may have an interest in attending any of the sessions.

**CHAPTER SUPPORT:** Does your chapter have someone designated to call or write absent members, to encourage them to come back to the meetings? We need to let people know we care about them. Our founder Esther Manz created a weight-loss program that is affordable, has heart and is sensible. So do have a heart and follow up with missing members!

**AREA MEETINGS:** Just a reminder that during 2010, there will be three area meetings. Also be reminded that the weight report form for reporting successes to be honored at these meetings changed and another new one is enclosed, to be passed to your weight recorder. The report for the first quarter of 2010 should be in my hands by 4/15/10.

**INVOICE:** Also enclosed is an invoice for the annual area meeting fee of \$15.00, which is due to me by 4/15/10.

**GUIDES:** Because of the upcoming installation of new officers at the first meeting in April, I also want to remind all chapters to pass the two sets of the 2010 combined Chapter Guide and Weight Recorder Guide in three-hole punch loose-leaf form, to the new leader and weight recorder. You may want to order or photocopy one for each officer. TOPS and KOPS rules were also combined and are in those guides for storing in the binders too.

**IRD 2011:** As I mentioned in my last newsletter, in **2011** IRD (the TOPS international convention) will be held here, and everyone is encouraged to become a KOPS by December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year, in order to graduate at the international convention. It is a most memorable event, and it is your chance to be in the beautiful Circle of Light. Please note IRD **2014** will also be in Milwaukee.

Additionally, each chapter should consider establishing an IRD treasury to build funds to help pay the registration fee for your chapter members who plan to attend. Here is a chance to experience TOPS at its most significant annual event. Call or email me with questions or concerns or about fundraising ideas.

**KOPS REGISTRATION:** When sending Coordinator Jackie Marks a registration form for your new KOPS, don't forget to ask the new KOPS where they prefer to graduate – at chapter, at SRD or at IRD. They do not necessarily have to graduate at the next convention – they can choose to do it at any future event.

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