Happy Father's Day
Mission Statement:
Parents Without Partners provides single parents and their children with an opportunity for enhancing personal growth, self-confidence and sensitivity towards others by offering an environment for support, friendship and the exchange of parenting techniques. For the minor children of single parents, it offers them the opportunity to meet peers living within the same family structure and thriving. No more standing out in the crowd or feeling isolated because they are part of the single parent family towards others by offering an environment for support, friendship and the exchange of parenting techniques. For the minor children of single parents, it offers them the opportunity to meet peers living within the same family structure and thriving.

All Single Parents Are Welcome

PREAMBLE TO OUR CONSTITUTION
As conscientious single parents, it is our primary endeavor to bring our children to healthy maturity, with the full sense of being loved and accepted as persons, and with the same prospects for adulthood as children who mature with their two parents together.

Adults and children in single parent families face unique and challenging circumstances. For children to mature and flourish in the absence of either parent requires an added measure of love, understanding and sound guidance. To provide these is a responsibility inherent in parenthood, regardless of marital status.

The challenge of providing for both ourselves and our children a nurturing family life is often complicated by established patterns of community life. Consequently, a need for community resources to assist single parents in communication and meeting their special circumstances exists.

WHO WE ARE
Parents Without Partners (PWP), Inc. is an international, non-profit educational organization devoted to the welfare and interests of single parents and their children. Its programs and activities are entirely the volunteer work of members of PWP Inc.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?
You are eligible for membership if you are a parent of one or more children, single due to death, divorce, separated or never being married; and are of good character. Neither custody nor age of your child or children is a factor in eligibility.

HOW TO JOIN PWP
You must attend an orientation about PWP. You will need to complete an application form and pay your first year dues.
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

This is it! Down to the wire!!! PLEASE read this entire newsletter because there is a TON of information about the convention July 17-20, 2019 with the Pre-convention tour on July 16, 2019. There are registration forms, tour forms, youth forms—basically everything you ever wanted to know about convention but were afraid to ask.

If you haven’t made your reservations, please be advised you have until June 17, 2019. After that date, the hotel will release the rooms that have not been reserved. They have given us a great rate of $99/night and hope everyone will take advantage of the savings. If you should have any issues, please give them “Group Code PA2218”.

Please consider coming in a day early to go on the Pre-convention tour that Zone F has planned for us. We will see more events in a short period of time than you ever could do on your own. In your goody bag will be a list of things that are in the area that you can do in the evenings on your own.

As many of you are aware, the membership voted to eliminate the International Board. The Zone Presidents should be working together to come up with a plan to distribute the International duties. It is a goal to have this all accomplished by December 31, 2019. We will be contacting an attorney to ensure that we are following all legal paths necessary to do this correctly. It has been suggested that this may be illegal, but I’m not sure that is the case. If we do not have a President, Vice President, and VP Programming, how can we have an Executive Board. I believe that would be an illegal restriction on the Executive Board. But, I’m not a lawyer and will be contacting one shortly. I hope to have some answers for the Annual Meeting on Friday of convention. If anyone from the membership would like to help the Zone Presidents in this transition, I’m sure they would welcome all help.

A reminder, we will continue to have Chinese Auction to raise monies for convention. So, if you have anything you would like to donate for the auction, please bring it with you.

We are currently working on the wine glasses. They have always been included with the registration package. Naturally, the more attendees, the more reasonable the price of the glasses. We are hoping we will have a local individual who will be able to do the glasses for us.

Currently, we have two youth attending the convention. If anyone has a grandchild or child that would like to attend convention, please be advised the International treasury has authorized $300 toward the children’s package. I know the last 3-4 years, we have had 4-6 children attend, and to my knowledge, they have all had a wonderful time!

If anyone has any questions about anything that is happening in Parents Without Partners, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you’ve heard something and you think “that can’t be true,” please come to the source, and if I don’t know the answer, I’ll find the answer for you.

If you haven’t sent your registration in yet, please do so immediately. We’d like to know how many members we are planning for. Mary Anne Britton and Janet Keiser, Pat Davidson and Rita Pulley have been working diligently on programming, and once again I feel we will be blessed with quality speakers. It will be worth your while to take the time to join us!!!

— Janet
Message from the Editor
As Fathers Day approaches, we realize the importance of fathers in their children’s lives. Now the media has caught up in the importance of having two parents. As men become more involved in the lives of their children, they have realized being a good dad benefits the children and benefits the father. Many more men are stepping up to be more of a part of their children’s lives — Thank you dads — and HAPPY FATHER’S DAY to all the dads.

Within this edition of Single Parents Newsletter is information on the International Convention workshops, workshop leaders and other fun events during International Convention—July 16-20, 2019 in Fairview, IL (near St. Louis). Of course within the SPN you will also find flyers with information on the International Convention and registration forms. I am so looking forward to the Pre-convention tour — Hope you are deciding to attend convention—full of fun, full of education, full of friendships with folks across the United States—please join us.

Hope you enjoy the many articles in this months Single Parent Newsletter.

Mary Anne ,
maryannebritton@provide.net,
Parents Without Partners,
Single Parent Newsletter Editor

PWP PLEDGE
For all who are searching and need hope
For all who are friendless and need companionship
For all who are homeless and need sheltering love
For all who are striving for a more successful way of life
For all who are recovering from the traumatic experience of the loss of a partner
For all who are struggling with the problems of single parenting
We come together in Parents Without Partners to further our common welfare and the well being of our children
We come together in mutual understanding, promising to help one another as we strive towards growth and maturity for ourselves and our children

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ...
Letters to editor can be emailed to: parentswithoutpartners@yahoo.com
In Subject Line of your email put the words LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
Yes all letters received will be included in the next edition of the SINGLE PARENT NEWSLETTR
Thank you ..... 
Editor of the Single Parent Newsletter
Tuesday morning

9:00 AM Gather in the front lobby of Four Points Sheraton Hotel
9:15 AM Depart for St. Louis

10:00 AM Board St. Louis Fun Trolley authentic, air-conditioned trolley for a 75-minute, 23-mile, fully narrated tour of St. Louis. Just some of the highlights of what you’ll see: Laclede’s Landing (Historic & Entertainment District); The Mighty Mississippi River; The St. Louis Arch; The Old Cathedral; The Old Courthouse; Busch Stadium; Millionaire’s Row; St. Louis Union Station; Forest Park (Zoo, Science Center, Museums, etc); Washington & St. Louis Universities; The U-City Loop (Blueberry Hill/St. Louis walk of fame); The Cathedral Basilica; Downtown St. Louis & The Edward Jones Dome.

12:00 Noon - Lunch @ The Old Spaghetti Factory - Two menu options will be available.

2:00 PM Tour of The Arch - Museum - Trace the story of the Native Americans, explorers, and pioneers who made America possible. This museum celebrates America’s pioneering spirit and explains the westward expansion of the United States with an emphasis on St. Louis’ role in that era. The galleries span from 1764 to 1965.

Monument to the Dream Movie - Learn about the inspiration behind architect Eero Saarinen’s timeless design and the determination of the men who brought the Gateway Arch to life in this award-winning documentary. Run time: 35 minutes.

Tram Ride to the Top: Gaze at over 43,000 tons of concrete and steel making an iconic, elegant arc 63 stories high into the Midwest sky. Take the trip to the top to enjoy stunning views stretching up to 30 miles to the east and west. Begin your tour with our new, interactive pre-boarding exhibits featuring 60s era animation and Gateway Arch trivia. Then, be transported 630 feet to the top of America’s tallest man-made monument. Each tram tour has an anticipated duration of 45-60 minutes.

4:45 PM Tour of the Mastermind Vodka Distillery, Pontoon Beach, IL
5:45 PM Refreshments @ Bobby’s Custard - Cost on your own
Stop @ Catsup Bottle Water Tower, Collinsville, IL
On the National Register of Historic Places.

6:15 PM Return to the hotel

Tour Package: $65.00 per person  On-site $75.00 per person

2019 Pre-Convention Tour Registration
Please mail this pre-convention registration form to: PWP International Convention, c/o Harriet West, 11776 East Shore Dr., Whitmore Lake, MI 48189

Name _________________________ Zone ____________ Chapter ____________
Contact Number: _______________ Physical Restrictions: __________________________
Please explain: ________________________________
Parents Without Partners, Inc.

60th International Convention

Hosted by Zone F

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS

July 17-20, 2019

Pre-Convention Tour - July 16

BOOK NOW

Convention Location

Four Points Sheraton, 319 Fountains Pkwy, Fairview Heights, IL

Registration Forms

Adult, Youth and Hotel Information
Single Parent Newsletter and PWP Website
2019 Youth Convention

July 17-20, 2019
Four Point Sheraton, Fairview Heights, IL

While the Parents are busy at the Convention, the Youth will be busy learning about Illinois and Missouri.

The Youth will be visiting - Grant's Farm; St. Louis Gateway Arch; St. Louis Zoo and History Museum; Fitz’s Root Beer Restaurant; Willoughby Heritage Farm and Conservation Reserve; Cahokia Mounds Museum and much more!

For Details, See Youth Registration Form!

Meet Me In St. Louis
REGISTRATION FORM

Complete this registration form and send it with payment to PWP International Convention, c/o Harriet West, 11776 East Shore Dr., Whitmore Lake, MI 48189. Early Bird Special deadline is May 1, 2019. Next deadline will be May 30, 2019. Final date to register will be July 1, 2019. Full payment must accompany this form. Registration may be paid by cashier’s check, money order, or by personal check made payable to PWP International Convention. Remember extra postage is required for Canadian mailing and all payments must be in US Dollars. For more info: email Harriet West at hwest2236@charter.net OR Janet Gallinati at jlg_48192@yahoo.com

Cancellations received in writing by July 1, 2019 will be refunded on a case-by-case basis minus a $10 processing fee. NO refunds will be given after July 1, 2019. Badge replacement fee is $10. Personal checks/Credit card will NOT be accepted on-site. If paying on-site, please bring cashier’s check, money order or cash.

Membership #_________________ Chapter Name & Number __________________

Last Name_________________ First Name_________________ Nickname for Badge_________________

Address___________________ City_________________ State_______ ZIP___________

Country__________________ Phone ( ) ___________ E-mail ____________________________

To help PWP reduce expenses, we will notify you of the receipt of your registration via e-mail only.

Male__ Female__ Divorced__ Widowed__ Never married__ Is this your 1st convention?__ Will children attend? Yes or No

Individual to call in case of an emergency
Name_____________________ Phone ( ) ____________

Are you a Former International Board Member? Yes____ No____ If yes, Position held_________________ When_________________

It is important to us that you enjoy the PWP convention. If, due to a disability, you have any special needs, accommodations, or requirements (especially dietary) please let us know in the space provided and we will do our best to accommodate.

Special needs __________________________

Please check the appropriate categories

FULL REGISTRATION: Includes all meetings, workshops, activities. Thursday luncheon, and Saturday banquet. Does NOT include optional tour. Hotel Guests receive FREE breakfast each day.

______ $175 (US), postmarked by May 1, 2019
______ $205 (US), postmarked by July 1, 2019
______ $195 (US) postmarked by May 30, 2019
______ $215 (US) On-site

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS: You may purchase individual tickets to the Presidents Banquet, however they are subject to availability and must be purchased by July 16, 2019.

---There will be no sales of banquet tickets the day of event---

______ ticket(s) $25 (US) -- Thursday Awards Luncheon*

______ ticket(s) $30 (US) -- Workshops Only*

______ ticket(s) $65 (US) -- President's Banquet*

______ ticket(s) $25 (US) -- On-site

* Denotes item included in Full Registration.

Please note: A badge will only be issued for full package registrations. A name tag will be issued for individual items.

OPTIONAL PRE-CONVENTION TOUR

Pre-convention tour: $65.00 by July 1, 2019. $75.00 on site. Send money with registration.

If interested in sharing room, let us know and if there is anyone else looking for roommate, we'll share that information. Remember to bring your items for the Silent Auction. If you are unable to attend, perhaps you would like to make a donation.
PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS
60th ANNIVERSARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION – JULY 17-20, 2019
Four Points by Sheraton, 319 Fountain Parkway, Fairview Heights, IL 62208
618-622-4457

Space is limited. Register before June 1, 2019
Age of Child must be 6 to 17
Registration Form Must be Completed and Signed by Parent Or Guardian and accompanied by full payment. Please send a separate form for each child. Registrations received after June 1, 2019 will be accepted as space is available. ABSOLUTE deadline is June 30, 2019

Last Name: ___________________________ First Name: ___________________________ DOB: ________ Sex: M F
Address: ___________________________ City: ___________________________ State/Prov: ________ ZIP/Postal Code: ____________
Country: ______________ Phone: (______) ____________ Childs e-mail: ___________________________
Grade Next Fall: __________ Has This Child Attended Convention Before? Y N if yes, number of years: __________

NOTE: No evening childcare will be provided – all children will be in the care of the person who brought them to the convention from 6pm each night to 7am the following morning. Contacts can be provided for evening childcare for an hourly rate.

Parental information (information while your child is attending youth program) (The Parent and/or Guardian must be a registered participant of the Convention)

Parent’s or Guardian’s Name: ____________________________________________________________

Telephone/Cell Contact Info:

To the parent or guardian of this youth: Your signature below indicates the following:
__ My child has permission to take part in usual youth program activities and special trips.
__ I will take responsibility to see that my child is properly prepared for all activities including having the proper clothing, equipment and being in good health.
__ My child has the following health condition or special needs which might affect regular activities:
__ Please list any medical, physical or mental information that could be of any help to the volunteers caring for your child:
__ Diet or allergy needs that we should be aware of:
__ I understand that for the safety of my child and others that the following are grounds for dismissal from the Youth Program without a refund: possession and/or use of alcohol, illicit drugs, tobacco, knives, fireworks and/or inappropriate behavior. Dismissal will be at the discretion of the Local and International Convention Committee with no refund. Doctor prescribed medications must be administered by the guardian/parent.
__ I will volunteer to work with the children for at least one shift during the convention. I will sign up for a time slot at registration.
__ We have read the above and accept all terms & conditions therein.

Signature of Parent or Guardian: ____________________________________________ Date: __________

(I want to participate in the youth activities and will abide by the rules of the program:

____________________________________ (Signature of the youth)

Mail Completed Form and Check/Money Order/Cashier's Check Payable to: PWP International Convention
Sent to: PWP c/o Harriet West, 11776 East Shore Dr., Whitmore Lake, MI 48189; hwest2236@charter.net
___ $65 (US), postmarked by June 1, 2019 ___ $75 (US), postmarked by June 30, 2019

Optional Pre-Convention Tour:
**Parent must attend pre-convention tour in order for child to attend pre-convention tour** Tour cost: $65

Payment of: $_________ by Check: #_________ Cashier’s Check: #_________

**Total Youth Fee/Tour Fee must be paid with this form**
WHY IT MATTERS
FACTS ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1 in 4 women experience severe intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner contact sexual violence, and/or intimate partner stalking.

20,000 calls per day
On a typical day, domestic violence hotlines nationwide receive 20,000 phone calls. The Violence Prevention Center answered an average of 15 hotline calls per day during fiscal year 2017.

20 people per minute
In the United States an average of 20 people per minute experience intimate partner physical violence. This equates to 10 million abuse survivors annually.

1 in 3
Female murder victims are killed by an intimate partner.

72 percent
Of all murder-suicides are perpetrated by intimate partners.

1 in 25 men have been injured by an intimate partner.

$5.8 - $12.6 billion
Intimate partner violence is estimated to cost the US economy between $5.8 billion and $12.6 billion annually, up to 0.125% of the national gross domestic product.

8,000,000 work days lost
Victims of intimate partner violence lose a total of 8 million days of work each year, the equivalent of 32,000 full-time jobs.

18 - 24
Intimate partner violence is most common against women between the ages of 18-24.

1 in 4
Only 1 in 4 parents speak to their dating teens about dating violence.

For More Information Visit
www.vpcswi.org

24 HOUR CRISIS HOTLINE: 618-235-0892

All statistics compiled from the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Visit their website www.ncadv.org for more facts sheets, information, and resources.
We Need You!

The Violence Prevention Center works to eliminate domestic violence in individual lives and society as a whole. Everyday we are asked to help brave individuals take the first steps to live free from violence. We are able to answer that call thanks to generous individuals like you. With the support of our community we can continue providing emergency shelter, counseling, legal advocacy, and a 24 hour crisis hotline FREE of charge to those dealing with domestic violence.

You can help end domestic violence by partnering with us. We are in need of donations, volunteers, and items from our wish-list.

Our Wish-List

- Canned Meat
- Cereal
- Kid-Friendly Snacks
- Quick Meals
- Cooking Oil
- Peanut Butter
- Socks
- Slippers - Adults
- Leggings
- T-Shirts
- Underwear
- Bras (Larger Sizes)
- Bath towels
- Pillows
- Underwear (Larger Sizes)
- Bras (Larger Sizes)
- African American Hair Products
- Hygiene Products

Items can be dropped off at the Shelter Shop, 19 Bellevue Plaza, Belleville IL or e-mail info@vpcswi.org for other arrangements.

To learn more about partnering with us visit www.vpcswi.org

EVERYONE DESERVES TO LIVE FREE FROM VIOLENCE

24 HR. CRISIS HOTLINE:
618-235-0892
Parents Without Partners, Inc-jointly with Zone F is hosting Chinese Auction during the 60th International Convention Fairview Heights, IL Four Points Sheraton

Chinese auctions are very similar to silent auctions except they have a raffle component added to the mix. The bidding on items is done by ticket instead of by a written bid.

In a Chinese auction, customers buy a number of tickets for a set price, then use the tickets to bid on the items on display by dropping them in a fishbowl next to the item. In a silent auction, they would just enter a bid amount on a form next to the donated item.

We ask convention attendees to bring / donate items to put in the Chinese Auction —suggested items are —

- Books, Knick/Knacks, Jewelry, Handcrafted items,
- White Elephant Items, Children’s Toys, Candles, and more

Questions....

Contact Pat Davidson (618)344-8018 / (618) 960-1701 pat8018@hotmail.com
Excitement is in the air! ! ! Why? From International Vice President of Administration.

1. Spring is here. The spring flowers and trees are blooming making our country side so pretty. Ready for a drive! Chapters take advantage of all the festivals and parks in your area.

2. Freedom of Speech. (Mid-term elections) The ability to voice our concerns by voting for candidates that best represent our beliefs/thoughts. Express your right to VOTE!

3. Parents Without Partners, Inc. International Convention. The committees have been working so diligently. They are working to make sure the convention is a success in so many ways . . .

   A. Workshop leaders - workshops that are of interest to everyone. Everyone will leave the workshop inspired and more knowledgeable.
   B. Convention site - a hotel that accommodates the attendees.
   C. Training - officers who attend the convention will be trained on new procedures.
   D. Entertainment - The committee has prepared an outstanding schedule for the attendees. First offering the Pre-Convention tour on Tuesday. Then, there will be a listing of interesting events/activities in the evening for the attendees to visit.

So looking forward to be with PWP friends and visiting a different part of the country. As a member of the committee, it is my sincere hope you will attend this convention!

So you can see why I am excited!

Chapter planning committee do not forget to celebrate “Father’s Day” try to make it an extra special day for all the fathers in your chapter. Maybe try a picnic in the park. Ideas for programming topics during the month of June . . .

June

- National Safety Month • Cataract Awareness Month •
- Men’s Health Month • National Scleroderma Awareness Month

- Weeks to note:
  - June 1 to June 7:
    - National Migraine Awareness Week •
    - June 12 to June 18: National Men’s Health Week •
    - June 15 to June 22: National Nursing Assistant Week •
  - June 24 to June 30: Helen Keller Deaf-Blind Awareness Week

- Days to note:
  - June 4: Cancer Survivors Day
    - June 14: World Blood Donor Day
    - June 19: World Sickle Cell Day
    - June 27: National HIV Testing Day

See you in July . . . Judy
For The Membership . . . . .

Spring Arrived but there is still rain everywhere - right now as I write this message it is not just raining but there has been thunder and lightening and all of this is happening in California. Hope your weather is better wherever you are.

Just to remind all chapters of some items due to various International Officers: First and foremost - Chapter List of Officers needs to be sent to the following Officers - President, Vice President of Membership and the Int’l Treasurer. Please send a new report after each election and/or a replacement of any officer on your Board. Please do this no matter if the chain of command has not changed. Updated copies are better for everyone. In addition, the Vice President of Membership (me) needs to have your Membership Audit and the Int’l Treasurer needs your Treasury Audit. These audits are supposed to be completed within 30-45 days of your Chapter Elections. Elections should have been held during the month of January through March, some earlier than that due to weather conditions in your area. If these are not completed, please do them immediately and sent to the appropriate Officer(s)

One of the main items that any/every chapter should do is get new members into their chapter is ADVERTISE. Advertising in newsletters, school bulletin board as well at grocery stores, churches, etc. Need help in this area? Please contact any officer or Zone President on this International Board and we will be happy to assist. Our List of names, addresses, e-mails, etc is listed in the newsletter.

In closing let me say - - - RAIN, RAIN GO AWAY and COME AGAIN ANOTHER DAY (preferably some time in late Autumn/Winter)

Sue Ellen T. Hayes
Int’l Vice President - Membership

To All of Our Fathers

HAPPY FATHER’S DAY TO YOU ! !

Int’l Treasurer’s Report

Well it’s beginning to seem a little like spring and in California we have May flowers. I was in Montana a couple of weeks ago for my granddaughter’s graduation from Graduate school and the weather was beautiful but there sure was a lot of snow on the mountains......we had great weather for the couple of days we were there.

The International Board of Directors are working very hard to get our manuals updated and trying to find out what needs to be done when there is no longer an International Board of Directors. I am sure that there are a lot of questions and I hope that if it is possible you try to attend our International Convention where I am sure there will be much discussion. Please feel free to contact any of us on the International Board if you have questions.......  

Please take a moment to think about what Parents without Partners has done for you and your family and how much better we are now than when we first joined. Get Involved.......you won’t regret it.

Don’t forget to give someone you love a HUG as you never know what is around the corner.

HUGS     Chris
Parents without Partners, Inc  
Balance Sheet  
As of April 30, 2019

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<td>Current Liabilities</td>
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As I write this report, I reflect back to my years in Parents Without Partners. What could have be done differently, where could have improvements be made. Understanding the terms—would of, should of… well we need to deal with the here and now. Moving forward.

One way we can support the organization is by attending the International Convention. As many are aware, the vote to close executive portion of the international board. This means your zone president will now be handling all membership issues—which includes collection of membership dues and processing membership cards.

I ask that you support your zone president and possibly assist with the transition.

As Always, Successfully Yours,
Mary Anne Britton
maryannebritton@provide.net
Int’l VP Family & Programming
Parents Without Partners
810-210-1836

Is everyone aware we have an international Facebook page? Wondering how you can get the word out and increase Membership in your chapter? Social media is the 21st century way of getting the word out.

ANY event your chapter is hosting and would like to share (over 4,500 people on the site from all over the world), please send write-up (who, what, where, why—plus cost if applicable) to Janet Gallinati (jlg_48192@yahoo.com) or Mary Anne Britton (maryannebritton@provide.net).

Also parentswithoutpartners@yahoo.com

Let’s get the word out!!!
MAKING FAMILY LIFE MORE FUN

The notion of “family fun” often takes on a new meaning when the family is headed by a single parent. Planning pleasurable activities, around work and family commitments, can be an extra challenge—one which doesn’t leave much time for themselves.

When single parents work together, it’s easier to plan fun activities for the whole family.

Fortunately, an international organization helps make it easier for parents and their children to have fun together, by joining the resources of many such families. Parents Without Partners, Inc. (PWP), the largest single parenting organization in the world, provides members with a variety of unique, timely and topical benefits, including:

• Family Activities – May include holiday activities, pot luck suppers, fun and educational outings, picnics, hikes, camping, bowling, etc.;

• Adult Social/Recreational Activities—Help single parents to learn to relate again with other adults as single persons; and

• Educational Activities—Group discussions, lectures by psychologists, lawyers and other professionals, study groups, training seminars, leadership and personal growth opportunities.

With PWP, single parents are able to face the challenges and triumphs of parenting today, with a supportive network of people who’ve been there.

To learn more about PWP, or to find a nearby chapter call 800-637-7974 or visit the website at www.parentswithoutpartners.org.

email parentswithoutpartners@yahoo.com

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YIN AND YANG The official PWP symbol is seen as a letter P centered around a rotating cosmos of blue and white symbolizing the Yin Yang school of philosophy. Chinese philosophers, long before Confucius, saw the universe and all natural forces as based upon two fundamental elements, Yin (blue in the symbol) and Yang (white in the symbol).

Yin is earth, shadow, passive, moisture, feminine. Yang is heaven, the sun, fire, active, masculine. The universe is in constant change. The forces of Yin and Yang interact and reinforce rather than oppose each other ---- At the darkest of the night (yin) begins the rising influence of the day (yang). Nothing in the universe remains isolated. Unless there are similarities and the contradictions, beginnings and endings, the individual cannot stand out. Through the endless rotation of the blue and white cosmos, the turmoil of the past (yin) gives way to the positive forces of the future (yang) and each world within worlds develops a new and challenging shape.

SINGLE PARENTHOOD

If you’re raising a child on your own, it may be encouraging to know you’re not alone. More and more children are being brought up by single parents. And no matter what a single parent’s occupation, interests or economic status, he or she is likely to face some common challenges in raising children alone. As a result, many are seeking out others in similar situations—through an international organization devoted to the interests of single parents and their children. Parents Without Partners has devoted itself to the membership and the interests of single parents. Chapters provide: Personal and Leadership Development Workshops. Educational Programs and Discussion Groups on Parent-Child relations, Effective Communication, Dating and Self Improvement. And Recreational and Adult Social Activities.

To learn more, or to find a nearby chapter, call 1–800—6-3-7—7-9-7-4 or visit PWP website at parentswithoutpartners.org. Many have tried to replicate it – but there is only One

Parents Without Partners
Happy FATHER'S Day!  

Father's Day Word Search  

Father's Day is Sunday, June 19. Can you find these words that have to do with dad?  

ATHLETIC  FUNNY  
BRAVE  GOLF  
DAD  KIND  
DADDY  SPORTS  
ESPN  TENNIS  
FATHER  TIE  
FISHING  TOOLS  
FOOTBALL

MARTY WESTMAN/MCT

June 2019 Edition of SINGLE PARENT NEWSLETTER  Yolo  
www.parentswithoutpartners.org

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Five Father's Day Ideas for Single Dads

Being a single dad isn’t all work. In fact, sometimes it’s great fun. So with Father’s Day coming up, here are five ideas to keep in mind that will be good for you, and your kids. Some of these ideas pertain to this Father’s Day, and others will have an impact for years to come. So here’s wishing you and your kids a Happy Father’s Day, and a great summer.

1. HAVE FUN (START A TRADITION)

As a single dad (or any dad for that matter) we can get overwhelmed by the thought of all of our responsibilities toward our kids. Financial support, emotional support, good education etc., etc. But don’t forget it is important to have fun with your kids. Think about when you were a kid. What are the things your mom or dad did with you that were fun, and it’s now a fond memory. You are creating those memories for your kids right now. You may want to do something for your kids that your dad did for you, or something you wished your dad had done with you. Here’s an example: When my kids were young we always cooked out on Father’s Day. Well cooking out is not that usual but we made it a little bit different, because we always put brown sugar in the hamburgers. Simple but the kids loved it. They loved making the burgers and they loved the way it tasted and it was something they looked forward to every Father’s Day.

Sometimes we would cook out in the backyard, and sometimes it would be at the local pool that had barbeque grills. It didn’t matter; they always look forward to the “special hamburgers.”

Here are some other ideas: Fly kites. Buy a cheap bow and arrow with a target and get a couple bales of hay (be sure you are always supervising that one). Go canoeing, or fishing, or hiking in a park, or how about this, go to an amusement park, like Six Flags or Cedar Point, or a waterslide park. Include the Grandparents or an uncle, or an aunt. The only rule is; everybody participates and no electronics. That means no computers, no video games, and no cell phones.

2. GIVE YOUR KIDS A GIFT

You do not have to be wealthy to give your children an extremely valuable gift. That gift is to be fully present with them. This is not always easy, but you can start by committing to do it on Father’s Day. Don’t think about what you have to do at work; don’t think about how you’re going to pay for college; just spend one day relating to your children.

Giving that gift to my daughters was one of the best things I ever did as a parent. Everything else flows from that, because the truth is, none of us has any control over the future. You know the old saying; if you want to make God laugh, show him your plan. So don’t spend Father’s Day thinking about the future, or your plans for the future, just be with your children. Listen to them, relate to them, interact with them, and tell them stories about when you were young, or when your parents were young, or where your grandparents came from, or what life was like for your grandparents. Strengthen the bonds between you and your children. Kids love to listen to stories. Keep it all positive.

3. LISTEN TO THEM (YOU MIGHT BE AMAZED)

When you spend the day with your kids on Father’s Day, see what you can learn from them. I am always talking about what you might want to teach them, but a big part of teaching is timing. They can’t learn everything you know all at once. Most of the things we’ve learned in life we’ve learned when we’re “ready.”

So on Father’s Day, whether you’re sitting in your backyard, eating the burgers you just grilled, or hiking in a park with your kids, pay attention to what’s going on with them. Listen to them. Watch them. They are really interesting. They will let you know what they are interested in and when they are ready to learn something. More importantly, they’ll know you’re actually listening, which will bring them closer to you and make them more willing to learn from you. In other words, don’t spend any time planning what you are going to teach them on Father’s Day, just plan something to do where you can interact with each other and then wing it.

Every time you interact with your children, you’re teaching them, and if you really listen and pay attention to what is important to them, you are teaching them that they are valuable.

4. KEEP THE END IN MIND

I sometimes think I live in the twilight zone, because the time goes by so fast. How much do you remember about being 10 years old? Probably not much. But there are certain things in your childhood that stand out. What will stand out in your children’s memories? You are creating those memories now.

My children are now in their earlier twenties. Your children will be there sooner then you think. So this Father’s Day, create a memory. It’s simple really; pretend you have gone in the future and your kids are now in their early twenties. You’re all sitting around on the patio and talking about what you used to do on Father’s Day. What kind of things will you remember then? Do those things now.

You can create great memories for your kids, and it has nothing to do with money. Some of my fondest memories came from sitting around the kitchen table listening to my dad and grandpa tell stories about their youth. I loved hearing about how my dad grew up on a farm, and when he was only 10 years old, he had the job of stuffing the sausage into the pigs’ intestine (yes, they were poor and they had to survive by making their own food). I loved the story my grandfather told about how nobody in his poor, Italian, immigrant, neighborhood, had enough money to buy a sled in the winter. The kids all pooled their money from several families in order to buy one sled. The very first time, all six kids piled onto that poor sled, the runners went splat. No more sled. But mostly, I just loved the fact that they would take the time to tell me their stories.

5. KEEP IT POSITIVE

The other thing I remember about growing up is that things were very peaceful. My parents never had any problems. Of course, that was my perception. My parents were real people, so of course they had problems. My dad worked in a factory, and more than once he would be laid off from work. I know at one point, he was out of work and he had to paint houses to try and pay the bills. Not having work, when you have a wife and three small boys at home, is a problem. So there had to be times when they were worried about how they would pay the bills, but that never trickled down to me and my brothers. They never put adult burdens on us kids.

So this Father’s Day, spend the whole day with your kids. Don’t expect fireworks or anything spectacular, do the little things that really matter. Listen to them, interact with them, be with them and keep it all positive. Most of all have fun.
There is widespread disagreement...

..on a socially accepted definition for "Single Fathers." Here they are simply defined as "Men who have a child and don't live with the child's mother."

The most inaccurate portrayal we have seen of a single father definition is the one that implies a single father is only one who has full custody of their children. This is not the case as the label Single Father or Single Mother has no relationship to who has custody. The label simply puts forth the meaning of the words from common reference dictionaries. Single-meaning "only one" and Father meaning "male parent." And to further clarify, Parent is defined simply as "a mother or father" (source: WordSmyth Educational Dictionary).

Why is there so much disagreement and controversy over this label?

Society seems to reduce everything to black and white and has trouble seeing shades of gray. We have winners and losers, liberal and conservative, big business and labor, and the list goes on. Included in this list are the terms "custodial parents" and "non-custodial parents" and society seems to hold true to form on this subject--typically viewing the custodial parent as winner and the non-custodial parent as loser. Knowing this, it further confuses society if the terms single father or mother have nothing to do with custody. For, if we remove the custody framework from the words then the black and white is gone and people can no longer make quick and easy (and often incorrect) judgments. So society has come to use these terms to pass judgement as well as identify people. This doesn't mean it's been right--just the easy way out.

The controversy also stems from some custodial parents who feel the label single mother/father/parent should only apply to their situation (and, in some cases their feelings of superiority over the non-custodial parent) and the label provides too much "recognition" when used by someone without custody. This is the "badge of honor" usage of the term single parent/mother/father when used in this context. They view the title as being a very positive one that should be kept from those who they feel are inferior to them in some, or many, respects.

Somewhat related to the definition of Single Father is the use of just the individual terms father, dad, and parent. Many single custodial mothers detest others referring to their children's other parent as "Dad, Father, or even Parent." In these cases, the mother's are maintaining that the terms reflect something more than a label of biological connection, with the feeling that they also reflect a level of nurturing, concern, or love in their use. However, in reality, injecting these emotions into the definition is inaccurate. Even if dad is not loving, nurturing, or concerned—he's still a dad.

With the definition examined and understood you can probably imagine there are many different types of Single Fathers. Think of some you might know: Non-Custodial Single Fathers, Joint Custodial Single Fathers, Custodial Single Fathers, Widowed Single Fathers, Adoptive Single Fathers, Remarried Custodial Fathers. We can add other labels that might also apply: Active Single Fathers, Never-Married Single Fathers, Absent Single Fathers, Long-Distance Single Fathers, and Incarcerated Single Fathers. The good news is Responsible Single Fathers is open to all these dads, as well as moms and other people interested in working together to better our relationships so we can nurture, love, and support (financially and emotionally) our kids.
Hello from Zone C! We have been busy with spring activities here in Virginia with trips to the Farmer’s Market, playgrounds, local restaurants and more. We are in the process of merging Chapter 166 into Chapter 216, Single Parents of Greater Hampton Roads. Most of the members have been transferred over and we look forward to seeing these familiar faces at our group events. My team is going to be pitching in, as I will be out for foot surgery for two months this summer. Other members will be leading most of the family events that I usually schedule.

Our chapter will host our monthly dance on June 15 at the Virginia Beach Moose Lodge, 3133 Shipps Corner Road, Virginia Beach from 8-11pm. One of our favorite bands, Rockin' Vets will be playing. Admission is $10 for PWP members, $11 for guests.

On May 19, many of our current and former members got together to attend a memorial service for long-time chapter member Thomas Stewart, who passed away in December. Tommy served as Amigo Director for many years, welcoming new members and guests at our dances. He loved PWP and had a blast at the International Conference in Kentucky that he attended.

Our chapter will participate in our 14th Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society on May 31-June 1 in Chesapeake, VA. This event will include a team of about 40, with PWP members and children, and other family members and friends. Many laps will be walked around the track, with a special lighting of luminary candles to recognize survivors and those persons we have lost to cancer. If you are interested in PWP in Delaware, Maryland or Virginia, please get in touch with me at kampers2000@yahoo.com.

Loree Mara, PWP Zone C President

**Zone H Report May 2019**

Here is hoping that everyone is having a good month and looking forward to the summer coming soon.

Zone H is running smoothly with its chapters and occasional reports of interest in either joining a chapter or perhaps starting a new chapter in the outlining areas. It is a work in progress and does not necessarily move as fast as we would like to. BUT we are persistent. The Chapters are doing as well as can be expected - having consistent activities the members enjoy - such as walks, discussions, social and family activities. If anyone would like to see one of their newsletters, please let Chris or me know and we can e-mail you one. We are looking forward to many types of summer activities as soon as the rain goes away and the skies are bright blue and warm again.

Activities that some of you may want to try in your area: Nature walks, a Vegan Pot Luck, Beach Clean-Up, visiting small historic towns around your area, local band night and many more.

HAPPY FATHER’S DAY TO ALL OF THE FATHERS.

Sue Ellen Hayes and Chris Manning Linda Sappington and Norma Stamper Zone H Board of Directors

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**ATTENTION CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP PERSONNEL !!**

**CHAPTERS PLEASE** make sure that your prospective members are aware they cannot join online. Only people who are renewing can do that online. They must attend an orientation and fill out all necessary paperwork and have been verified as a single parent via attorney, doctor, etc, etc.
ZONE F

Zone F held their conference on May 4th at the home of Janet K. in Belleville IL. The day started with a discussion on hosting the International Convention in Fairview Heights. We also talked about the vote of closing IBOD and what it will mean to the zones and chapters. For our Personal Growth workshop we learned “Tips To Make Life More Meaningful”. Lunch was then provided by Judy and Janet. Thank you ladies lunch was great. After lunch, we held our delegates meeting. For the first thing on the agenda, it was decided not to hold elections till after the International convention to see where things will be with IBOD. The day ended with all enjoying Ice Cream Sodas.

Pat Davidson, Zone F President

BELLEVILLE AREA #559

Belleville Chapter hosted the Zone F Conference on May 4, we had a good day with discussions about the future of PWP and how it will affect us if the International Board of Directors dissolves. Our Personal Growth Workshop was about “Tips To Make Life More Meaningful” – “Be generous to others; write rather than call; smile at people; listen twice as much as you talk” to name a few. We had a delicious lunch – pulled pork, potato salad, and baked beans. After our delegates meeting in the afternoon, we enjoyed ice cream sodas.

Spring has finally arrived in Belleville. We are excited to have outdoor events planned. “Art On The Square” will be this weekend in Belleville. It has been ranked #1 Art Show in the nation. We are planning a trip to the Belleville Historical Society so we can learn more about the history of the city we live in. Memorial Day weekend we are having a potluck and game night at one of our member’s home. Another big event for our chapter, the free summer concerts will be starting at Eckert’s Farms. We enjoy a LEO at their restaurant and then sit outside for the concert. We do this a number of times through the summer.

At our discussion in May, we learned how to make bead necklaces and bracelets. As you can see in the pictures, we were very creative.
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The problems are many in bringing up our children alone, contending with the emotional conflicts of divorce, never married, separation or widowhood. PWP Inc. is the only international organization that provides real help in the way of discussions, professional speakers, study groups, publications and social activities for families and adults. Through the exchange of ideas and companionship, we hope to further our common welfare and the well being of our children.

**Parents Without Partners** provides single parents and their children with an opportunity for enhancing personal growth, self-confidence and sensitivity towards others by offering an environment for support, friendship and the exchange of parenting techniques. For the minor children of single parents, it offers them the opportunity to meet peers living within the same family structure and thriving. No more standing out in the crowd or feeling isolated because they are part of the single parent family.

**History of the Organization**

*Parents Without Partners* was founded in 1957 in New York City by two single parents: Jim Egleston, a non-custodial parent, and Jacqueline Bernard, a custodial parent. As concerned parents, they felt isolated from society because of their marital status, and decided to form a mutual support organization. Following their first newspaper advertisements directed to “Parents Without Partners”, 25 single parents attended the first meeting in a Greenwich Village church basement. Later, media attention brought inquiries from all over the country.

*Parents Without Partners, Inc.* is now the largest international, nonprofit membership organization devoted to the welfare and interests of single parents and their children. Single parents may join one of the many chapters around the US and Canada; they may be male or female, custodial or non-custodial, separated, divorced, widowed or never married. The member-at-large membership is offered to any qualified individual. See our “How to Join Page” on the international website for more information on types of membership.

This newsletter is a private publication of Parents Without Partners, Inc., a non-profit corporation. This publication is intended solely for Parents Without Partners, Inc. members. Any reproduction or other use of this newsletter or its contents without the expressed written consent of Parents Without Partners, Inc. is prohibited.

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**800-637-7974**  
**Membership Inquiries**  

**How to Renew Your Membership Dues**
- Renew by check. Mail your invoice with personal check to the International Office
- Renew on line at www.parentswithoutpartners.org

We want to include your chapter or zone events-information and/or pictures in the next edition of the Single Parent Newsletter

**email to parentwithoutpartners@yahoo.com**

**DEADLINE for Articles / Reports / Submittals for July 2019 SPN is June 20, 2019**

**Publication Date July 2019 Newsletter ~ July 1, 2019**

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[www.parentswithoutpartners.org](http://www.parentswithoutpartners.org)