



# A VIEW FROM FEW

AN ORGANIZATION FOR OPPORTUNITY AND EQUALITY  
FOR WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT

SPACE COAST CHAPTER, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FL  
<http://www.ksc.nasa.gov/groups/few/>

DECEMBER, 2004

## SPACE COAST CHAPTER, FEW 2004 – 2005 Officers and Committees

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Finance	Dawn Partlow
Newsletter Editor	Johanna Velasquez
NTP/RTP Planners	Muzette Fiander
Nominations	Sandy Eliason
	Jane Eitel
	Karin Biega
	Connie Dobrin
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	Vickie Hall
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Community Outreach	Aneta Ott
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Regional Awards	Barbara Powell
Regional Nominations/ Elections	Vickie Hall
Regional Secretary	Jean Grenville

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE!!



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Dawn Partlow*

October and November have been very active for the Space Coast Chapter. The October Program and Business meeting was held at Porky's BBQ in Titusville, FL with a speaker from the League of Women Voters. Priscilla Griffith provided information about the amendments and proposed charter changes on the November ballot. The meeting was well attended by members and guests.

The chapter's annual Make A Difference Day Project was very successful thanks to chapter members and many Kennedy Space Center employees. The Brevard Sharing Center was overwhelmed with our contribution and we received a letter of thanks from them.

Due to Hurricane Frances, the Coastal Cleanup was changed to October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Our chapter again volunteered to help at Alan Shepherd Park by handing out supplies to volunteers cleaning up the beach. It was a pleasure to see people of all ages there who were interested in cleaning up their environment. Thanks to everyone who participated.

We were very sad about the death of Space Coast Chapter member, Jane Eitel, who passed away on October 31. She will be greatly missed.

The November meeting was held at Kelsey's in Pt. St. John on Tuesday, November 16. Kristine Calderon from KSC Comprehensive Health Services presented a program on "How to Survive the Holidays." The Chapter Business Meeting was conducted and it was proposed and approved at this meeting to establish an annual RTP scholarship for a chapter member in Jane Eitel's memory.

So, as you can see, our plates have been full the last few months.



## **SUNSHINE**

*Vivian Andreasson*

Celebrating birthdays in November:

Betty A. Gary	November 5
Martha Carroll	November 8
Lesley Carroll	November 11

Celebrating birthdays in December:

Daisy Morales	December 10
Muzette Fiander	December 15
Jane Drinkhouse-Demars	December 25
Patti Rissman	December 26



If you notice anyone missing please email Muzette Fiander at [Muzette.B.Fiander@nasa.gov](mailto:Muzette.B.Fiander@nasa.gov)

## **ANNUAL TRAINING PROGRAM**

*Vickie Hall*

We have a theme '*Challenge Yourself in a Changing World*'. The ATP Team, came up with this suggestion during the last ATP meeting. The theme along with several others was then presented at the October meeting and voted on by those in attendance. I want to thank all of the following for submitting their theme ideas to the team: Nancy Clark, Helen Gooden, Ann Gary, Marlene Satterthwaite and Jean Grenville. All of the suggestions were great and made it really tough to narrow the selections down to those presented to the October meeting

attendees. Marlene Satterthwaite, who submitted the theme "*Your Future Depends on Many Things But Mostly on You*" is the official winner of our contest. Although her suggestion was not selected as our overall theme, the ATP team liked it so well, it is being used as the footer note on our Registration and Program book. So, Congratulations Marlene, you will receive a free FEW one-year Membership for the year 2005 – 2006.

Our ATP Team members at this point are listed below, but we are always looking for new team members. You will notice that our Recorder slot is empty, our dear friend Jane Eitel, was our recorder, so if you are willing to fill this position, please let me know. Welcome aboard Sharon White, Marlene Satterthwaite, Muzette Fiander and Susan Hutchinson.

The next Annual Training Program (ATP) Meeting will be held in January – date TBD. So please feel free to join us. If you have any questions please, contact either me at 867-9100, [Vickie.C.Hall@nasa.gov](mailto:Vickie.C.Hall@nasa.gov) or Barb Powell, 867-7384, [Barbara.Y.Powell@nasa.gov](mailto:Barbara.Y.Powell@nasa.gov) or Sandy Eliason, 861-9309, [Sandra.K.Eliason@nasa.gov](mailto:Sandra.K.Eliason@nasa.gov).

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

*Aneta Ott*

What a great response we had for Make a Difference Day for the Central Brevard Sharing Center. This is the second year that the Brevard Sharing Center has been chosen because of their overwhelming needs for our project. The participation of the "family" at the Kennedy Space Center was overwhelming. We put out a call to our members and employees at KSC to fill boxes for the Sharing Center and they responded by individual and by office, both civil service and contractor. They opened their hearts and pocketbooks and came through for their community filling four large vehicles to benefit the Central Brevard Sharing Center. The Center puts out a newsletter each quarter and you may find it at this web site:

<http://www.sharingcenter.org/Graphics/Sharing%20Today%20Jul-Aug%2004.pdf> We have been told by the people at the Sharing Center that they rely on this time of year to stock their

necessary items up. So be on the look out for different projects to help the Sharing Center, please.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

*Submitted by Vickie Hall*

### NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

**MYTH:** Finding a lump in your breast means you have breast cancer.

**TRUTH:** Eight out of ten lumps are benign, or not cancerous. If you discover a persistent lump in your breast or any changes in breast tissue, it is very important that you see a physician immediately. Many times fear keeps women from aggressive health care. Sometimes women stay away from medical care because they fear what they might find. Take charge of your own health by monthly self-exams, regular visits to the doctor, and regularly scheduled mammograms. The National Breast Cancer awareness month message is simple, yet powerful: "**Early Detection Saves Lives**".

**Avon** will give 10 cents toward breast cancer research every time someone "pulls on the rope"---please take a minute and do it!!! Visit the following site.  
<http://avonweb.ca/ebear/main.html> .

Help save lives today with the gift of early detection! Simply click the "Fund Free Mammograms" button at The Breast Cancer Site <http://www.thebreastcancersite.com> to help provide free mammograms to underprivileged women.

**Breast Cancer Research Stamp** - You can purchase the stamp for \$0.45 that's just .08 cents more than a regular stamp but just look at the benefits if it helps find a cure for cancer.

**The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Teddy Bear Tea and Auction "Fall Fantasy"** was held on November 13, 2004, at the Cocoa Civic Center. All proceeds from the "Tea" help to support the

Salvation Army Brevard County Domestic Violence Program.

## FLORIDA HISTORY AND CULTURE



*Submitted by Vickie Hall*

### History of the U.S. Navy in Florida

The presence of the U.S. Navy in Florida officially began with the transfer of the peninsula by Spain to the U.S. in 1821, and the subsequent establishment of Florida as a U.S. Territory. Two of the earliest American military vessels which sank in Florida waters were actually American privateers captured by Britain's Royal Navy during the American Revolution, and which later sank while in Royal Navy service. The captured American privateer Who's Afraid was placed into the Royal Navy and renamed HMS Mentor. The captured American privateer Independence was placed into the Royal Navy and renamed HMS Racer. HMS Mentor was burned by the British at Pensacola in 1781 to prevent her capture by invading Spanish forces. HMS Racer foundered in a gale in the Gulf of Mexico in 1814. The first commissioned Navy ship lost in Florida waters was USS Alligator, which wrecked in the Florida Keys in 1822, while assigned to combat piracy. Many naval, and other military craft have been sunk in Florida waters since 1821, through military action, foundering, grounding, fire and explosion, deliberate sinking to create artificial reefs, and other causes. Such shipwrecks are the major focus of the Florida Navy Legacy Shipwreck Project.

During its long history in Florida, the U.S. Navy has established a number of naval bases and stations. The most strategically significant of these have been at Pensacola, Key West, and Jacksonville. There has been a U.S. Navy presence at Pensacola since 1825, at Key West since 1822, and more recently at Jacksonville since the Second World War. There have been several military conflicts in Florida since 1821 in which the U.S. Navy has played an important role. These were the First Seminole War (1816-1818), the Second Seminole War (1835-1842), the Third Seminole War (1855-1858), the Civil War (1861-1865), the Spanish American War

(1898), the First World War (1917-1918), the Second World War (1941-45), and events such as the Cuban Missile Crisis (1963).

During the Seminole Wars, the Spanish American War, and First and Second World Wars, there were a number of smaller Naval stations established along Florida's vast coastline. During the Seminole Wars, these stations were often operated as supply depots, intended for the joint Army-Navy operations being conducted. One example is the Naval Depot established on Key Biscayne in 1836, which lasted until 1926. During the First and Second World Wars, with new developments in aviation technology, these coastal naval stations were outfitted to serve as stations for lighter than aircraft (dirigibles), conventional aircraft, and smaller surface craft, used to patrol Florida's coastline and offshore waters. Between the spring of 1942, and the fall of 1943, German submarines attacked and sank large numbers of ships on Florida's Atlantic and Gulf coasts. The Navy's system of coastal defense was ultimately one of the major factors which turned the tide against the U-Boats and caused Germany's Naval Command to redirect its effort to other locations where targets were easier to attack.

Since the Second World War, the U.S. Navy has continued to maintain a significant presence in Florida. The Key West Naval Station became a major staging area for the Navy during the Cuban Missile Crisis, for example. Recognizing the on-going strategic significance of the Key West Naval Station, the Navy invested large amounts of money in the early 1980s to upgrade its facilities. Since the stationing of the Navy's first aircraft carrier at Pensacola in 1925, Pensacola has become the focus for naval aviation activities and training. A Naval Training Center was in operation at Orlando from 1968 to 1994. Today in Florida, there are naval facilities at Pensacola, Panama City, Key West, Homestead, Mayport and Jacksonville, as well as some other smaller stations.

The U.S. Navy's history in Florida spans 175 years, from the earliest days of U.S. territorial expansion to the Space and Nuclear Age. Although much valuable work has already been done, much of this interesting chapter of U.S.

Naval history remains to be studied and written by future historians.

Please visit <http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/facts/> for more Florida history.

## **SPACE COAST CHAPTER PROGRAMS**

*Submitted by Jean Grenville*

**November** – The November Program and Business Meeting was held on Tuesday, November 16, at Kelsey's in Port St. John. Kristine Calderon of KSC Comprehensive Health Services presented a program on "How to Survive the Holidays" followed by the monthly business meeting.

**December** – The Space Coast Chapter Annual Christmas Party was held on Monday, December 13, at the home of Clara Anderson, 1415 Gleneagles Way, in Rockledge. The social hour began at 5:00 pm, and dinner at 6:00 pm. A Chinese Auction was held after dinner and everyone enjoyed the "give and take" of presents. Thank you to Clara for offering her home and serving a wonderful dinner.



## **GOVERNMENT NEWS & LEGISLATION**

*Marie Argana*

### **Legislative Breakfast**

In October, FEW hosted a successful Legislative breakfast in Washington, featuring Reps. Jim Moran (D-VA) and Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), as well as a senior staff representative from the House Government Reform Committee Melissa Wojciak. Following the breakfast, over 90 attendees visited almost 100 legislator offices to discuss FEW priority issues for the upcoming Congressional session. In addition, they presented federal employment statistics for the legislator's state and district.

The Legislative Breakfast was held in conjunction with FEW's first Leadership Forum. Over 100 attendees representing 80 chapters from all over the country gathered for three days of officer training, membership recruiting and leadership

development. Retired General Wilma Vaught, President of Women in Military Science for America Memorial Foundation (WIMSA) opened the event with an inspiring keynote address highlighting leadership skills that enabled her to be successful in the military and to lead the effort for the Women's Memorial at Arlington Cemetery.

**Affirmative Action:**

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) issued new management guidelines to de-emphasize the statistical make up of staffs while making hires and promotions, as called for in prior directives. Instead, federal managers are being asked to evaluate potential barriers that stymie the advancement of women and minorities. This effort could scale back a decades-old effort to diversify a federal workforce that is largely white and male. The new directive was approved a year ago by EEOC commissioners, most of who were appointed by the Bush Administration.

Under the new guidelines, known as Management Directive 715, the word "underrepresented" is no longer used to describe women and minorities, who in fact still are, the EEOC's own number show. EEOC officials say statistics alone do not indicate if discrimination exists.

This action was precipitated because the EEOC has recently come under fire because of the old rules. The Center for Individual Rights filed a class-action suit on behalf of white male federal employees, charging that the Department of Housing and Urban Development violated the rights of a particular white worker, and that the EEOC's rules theoretically violate the rights of all white male government employees. The case is still pending.

Although the federal workplace is considered one of the nation's best places to land a job, it is also a cauldron for discrimination complaints. In 2003, 13,248 worker complaints cost taxpayers an average of \$2,600 each to process, according to an EEOC report. The total cost of processing complaints through the entire process was \$60 million, the report stated.

The lion's share of complaints involves women and minorities who believe they have been discriminated against in promotions and pay, often by white males who dominate the management staff. Men represent 84% of the workers at the senior pay level in government, and only 6% of those men are black; about 3% are Hispanic. Women make up about 16% of the higher grade.

**Employment Benefits:**

The Senate gave final approval to S 129, a measure that, among other things, will permit federal employees to receive compensatory time for official travel. The legislation was sponsored by Sen. George Voinovich (R-OH). The House had already given the measure its final approval. The bill now goes to the White House for the President's signature.

The comp time for travel provision will permit federal employees who have to travel on their own time and outside their normal working hours to receive comp time for official business travel time. Under the provisions of the legislation, employees eligible for this compensatory time will not be permitted to receive payment for this time if they find they are unable to schedule its use.

Once the bill reaches the President's desk and is signed into law, the Office of Personnel Management will have 90 days to publish regulations implementing the compensatory time for travel provision.

The bill also provides agencies several new options for hiring and compensating employees, including permission for agencies to pay bonuses of up to 100% of annual pay over four years. The measure also aims to improve agency training in several ways. It would require agencies to: link training activities with performance plans and strategic goals, and clearly articulate how their training programs help to accomplish the agency's mission; appoint or designate a training officer, who would be responsible for developing, coordinating and administering training for the agency; work with the OPM to institute comprehensive management succession programs designed to develop future managers

for the agency; and provide special training to managers to help employees exhibiting unacceptable performance.

### **Voter Registration:**

I know the election is over and everyone probably is tired of hearing about it. But election officials across the country have reported record numbers of new voters. I thought you might be interested in some statistics since we all know how important it is to register and vote.

**Arizona** – has registered 450,000 more voters than four years ago

**Colorado** – Denver might see more than 165,000 voters. In several counties, voters were registering at a rate of 1,500 to 2,000 people per day in recent days.

**Florida** – officials are predicting that 400,000 more voters will be added to the rolls this year.

**Michigan** – election officials say there are more than 7 million registered voters in the state, compared to 6.8 million in 2000.

**Ohio** – more than 500,000 new voters have registered since 2003.

**Pennsylvania** – hundreds of thousands of new voters were added to the rolls this year.

**Virginia** – almost twice as many voters – 66,000 – registered in September as registered in September 2000.

## **INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN'S POLICY RESEARCH**

On October 6, IWPR President Heidi Hartmann spoke at a press event on women's economic priorities, sponsored by the Communications Consortium Media Center. Dr. Hartmann detailed the current status of U.S. women's employment (including job loss and unemployment), wages, health care, and retirement. Below are her remarks and related materials.

Read her remarks:

[http://www.iwpr.org/pdf/Heidi\\_Hartmann\\_Remarks\\_10\\_5\\_04.pdf](http://www.iwpr.org/pdf/Heidi_Hartmann_Remarks_10_5_04.pdf)

The Gender Wage Ratio Fact Sheet:

<http://www.iwpr.org/pdf/C350updated.pdf>

State-by-State Rankings on Women's Economic Status Fact Sheet:

<http://www.iwpr.org/pdf/C358.pdf>

The Gender Gap in Pension Coverage Research-in-Brief: <http://www.iwpr.org/pdf/ribgender-gape506.pdf>

*Submitted by Clara Anderson*

### **Your Health**

*Submitted by Vickie Hall*

### **Antioxidants – an Answer to Aging?**

Just like rust on a car, oxidation can cause damage to cells and may contribute to aging. Antioxidants help prevent oxidation, may help increase immune function and possibly decrease risk of infection and cancer. Antioxidants exist as vitamins, minerals and other compounds in foods.

A few of the better known antioxidants include carotenoids--the substance that gives fruits and vegetables their deep rich colors. Apricots, broccoli, pumpkin, cantaloupe, spinach and sweet potatoes, are some good choices in addition to lycopene in tomatoes. Vitamin C and E are also good antioxidants, as well as magnesium, copper and zinc.

Increasing the foods you eat is the first step in getting more antioxidants. If you're struggling, contact a registered dietitian for a nutrition check-up.

Taken from:

<http://www.eatright.org/Public/NutritionInformation>

## **COCOA VILLAGE PLAYHOUSE**

*Brigadoon*

Feb 6 – Feb 22

*Anything Goes*

Apr 23 – May 9

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

## **November**

Native American Heritage Month

- 2 Election Day
- 10 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter Quarterly Report due to Regional
- 10 Input to SE Region Quarterly Newsletter Due
- 10 229<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the United States Marine Corps
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 16 Space Coast Chapter Program & Business Meeting at Kelsey's, Port St. John
- 25 Thanksgiving Day

## **December**

- 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 13 FEW Christmas Party
- 21 Winter Begins
- 25 Christmas Day
- 31 New Year's Eve

## **SPACE COAST CHAPTER NEWSLETTER**

*Muzette Fiander*

This monthly publication is a means of sharing information and ideas. Please send news articles or items of interest for this Newsletter to Muzette Fiander, TA-E1, or e-mail at [Muzette.B.Fiander@nasa.gov](mailto:Muzette.B.Fiander@nasa.gov)

Please feel free to share this Newsletter with your friends. And for anyone interested, a Membership Application is attached as the last page.

"So many of our dreams at first seem impossible, then they seem improbable, and then when we summon the will, they soon become inevitable." -- Christopher Reeve, 1952-2004, Actor and Speaker

## **Thoughts to Ponder**

*Submitted by Vickie Hall*

Whether the day is gray or whether it is sunny, you can make a difference. If others support you or if they conspire to stand in your way, you can make a difference.

If you have plenty of resources available to you or if you have very few, you can make a difference. If momentum is on your side or if it is not, you can make a difference.

You can wait and hope for things to go your way. Or you can get busy and make it happen.

You can complain that life has been terribly unfair. Or you can move ahead anyway and achieve what you intend, no matter what the obstacles may be.

You can plead with others to give you a break. Or you can go ahead and forge your own path to success.

Wherever you may be, whatever may have happened, you can make a positive difference. Live with commitment, decide to move forward no matter what, and you will.

-- Ralph Marston



The December 2004 issue of 'A View from FEW' is dedicated in Memory of our dear sister, Jane Eitel, who passed away on October 31, 2004. Jane was an active member of our Chapter since 1996. We have enjoyed her friendship in FEW, at work, at social events and on our many trips shared together. God bless you Jane. We love you and will certainly miss you!

