



# NEWS AND VIEWS

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## From The President

By Jeni Bungert

It was with unspeakable horror that we watched the tragedy unfold in New York and Washington DC on September 11. Even though, through the "magic" of television we were able to witness the events as they unfolded, it was impossible to comprehend what was before our eyes. It remains difficult to understand the perpetration of so much hatred in the name of a Being of peace.

We have all been changed by the events of September 11. FEW has members in the New York and DC metropolitan areas who were affected more than many of the rest of us. To my knowledge, none of our FEW members were among the victims. However, many of our members have friends and family who worked in the financial district of New York City or in the Pentagon and have experienced the unutterable fear of not knowing the fate of their loved ones.

National organizations like the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army have provided us with conduits to make contributions to the families of the victims. Many, many funds and organizations have been established. There will be many Federal employees who will need our donated leave. While these venues are all very important and I urge you to do what you can to participate, I also encourage you to also look for a way to make a more personal investment. Be sensitive to the needs of your coworkers for a show of support, a kind word, and an on-going understanding of the effects of the stress on their lives.

Please let us hear how our chapters and members are participating in the relief efforts and how we can support your efforts.

## Organizational Culture of Diversity



### Hispanics: Paving the Way for Future Generations

By Fred Soto, M.Sc.

The next ten years will be a period of intense changes and new diversity challenges for America.

Demographers have long predicted that the fast-growing Hispanic population would soon become the nation's largest minority group. The 2000 census helps to show that is now closer to becoming reality. Preliminary 2000 census figures put the nation Hispanic population at 35.3 million, up from 22.4 million in 1990. Most researchers had expected the Hispanic population to match or surpass African Americans by 2005.

Change brings a lot of uncertainty. Uncertainty brings anxiety. Anxiety brings fear and fear freezes progress! Smart organizations that want loyalty and value from their employees will help Hispanics and non-Hispanics to navigate through these uncertain times with potent information and new ideas. Organizations will have unprecedented opportunities to influence and lead their members by sharing knowledge developed especially for them.

More than ever, leadership will be the critical factor for an organization's success. As our nation undergoes

sweeping change, both on the federal and state levels. Leaders will be needed to create an America that moves people from school to careers and from careers to leadership. This means that Leadership skills must be updated to meet the current needs of their constituents.

Where will these leaders come from?

"I believe that we all have a responsibility to encourage diversity, personal empowerment and leadership at all levels." says Fred Soto CEO of Straight Talk Enterprises, Inc., "In the nineties, we were asked by the United States Hispanic Leadership Conference to design seminars centered on Hispanics issues. But, it soon became evident that others would also benefit from our research. Consequently, the notion of "preparing for the future" has been positively accepted by not only our seminar participants, but by all who are exposed to the concept. Our best feedback comes from participants in terms of the way they are now performing their jobs. This early success was the impetus for continuing and updating our training and expanding our consulting efforts."

As we pave the way for future generations, we must think comprehensively -- no single solution will work by itself. We must all challenge what we think and how we think it--taking nothing for granted. Our "Paving the Way For the Future" methodology has seven core elements. In this article we will feature four of them: Leadership,

## Technology, Person & Group Empowerment and Image Building.

1. LEADERSHIP: Most essential is the development of future leaders. I am referring to leaders who are willing to reach out and begin collaborating with various organizations and other constituent groups. Within this new leadership, organizations will work together to provide experiences that will help people to understand about the purpose and roles of the various institutions that provide leadership and employment opportunities. This may involve arranging for a learning experience, working with a mentor, observing planning committees, learning about chains of authority and understanding the political realities of organizational life.

2. TECHNOLOGY: Technology is a uniquely potent tool for Hispanics because it will enhance important traditional functions such as communication, information sharing, education, and advocacy. Businesses and organizations that employ or provide services to Hispanics can greatly benefit because they are now able to provide bilingual information for greater responsiveness and personalized service. A Microsoft executive put it well when he said, "Associations live and breathe communication. And there is no area where technology has as many visible implications and benefits as in communication." We must encourage the use of wide area networks and other systems as a means to promote the value and potential of Hispanics.

3. PERSONAL AND GROUP EMPOWERMENT: Our future strategies must address the full scope of personal empowerment which includes learning, skill building and research that emphasizes how the expectations that people have of each other are often quite different in different organizational settings. It is important to remember that organizations NEED people. But people need to share a sense of community and allegiance that is often missing in organizations. As we move forward, we must honor the civil rights heroes and heroines who have paved the way with their blood, sweat and tears. Don't forget your mentors and teachers and parents who also played a role in your success. On a personal notes, I know that I would not be here today if it were not for the hundreds of people who helped me along the way, remember those people of all colors, races and creeds who have made a difference for Hispanics. I have committed our company efforts to encouraging people to willingly come together to accomplish, preserve, or advance the goals of their organizations. No one person can do it alone! We need everybody to become involved in the organization's success.

4. IMAGE BUILDING: Experience teaches us that Hispanic image building is a key success factor. An increasingly competitive environment is driving Hispanics to consultants and organizations that can teach them to communicate the unique value of their culture, their skills and the contributions they will make to

organizations. Increased governmental scrutiny of Diversity, EEO and other people programs compel us to review the need to set high professional standards and to acquire more professional credentials and certifications. We must prepare to compete and to be recognized as a valuable resource to mainstream organizations. But Hispanic organizations also have to reevaluate their credibility with the general public, members and nonmembers and the government. We believe there is compelling evidence for investing in Hispanic America. But it's time for new ideas and changes in the way we prepare for the future. The methods we present are not only good for Hispanics; they are good for everybody. Leadership, technology, personal/group empowerment and image affect the well being of all people. Paving the way for the future generations will require new thinking and a powerful new message: "The future does not just happen. We by our own action or the lack of action will invent and reinvent the future."

ADELANTE! (Forward)

For more information contact Straight Talk Enterprises Telephone: 407-522-3881 Fax: 407-522-9389 E-mail:

[info@str8talk.com](mailto:info@str8talk.com)

We also invite you to visit our web site at [www.fredsoto.com](http://www.fredsoto.com)



## Legislative Information

By Ruth Massey-Leichter VP,  
Congressional and Government Relations

Below are the current bills effecting federal employees as listed by Thomas Legislative Information published by the Library of Congress.

1. Keep Our Promise to America's Military Retirees Act (Introduced in the Senate)[S.278.IS]
2. Child Care Affordability for Federal Employees Act (Introduced in the House)[H.R.555.IH]
3. Truthfulness, Responsibility, and Accountability in Contracting Act (Introduced in the House)[H.R.721.IH]
4. To require the Office of Personnel Management to conduct a study to determine the approximate number of Federal employees and annuitants who are eligible to participate in the health... (Introduced in the house) [H.R.2397.IH]
5. Federal Employees Health Insurance Premium Conversion Act of 2001 (Introduced in the Senate)[S.561.IS]
6. Federal Employees Child Care Act (Introduced in the Senate)[S.1003.IS]
7. To establish a dependent care assistance program for Federal employees. (Introduced in the House)[H.R.252.IH]
8. To provide that Federal employees may retain for personal use

promotional items received as a result of travel taken in the course of employment. (Engrossed in House)[H.R.2456.EH]

9. To amend title 5, United States Code, to require executive agencies to pay the premiums for health care coverage provided under the Federal Employees Health Benefits program for reservists... (Introduced in the House)[H.R.1243.IH]

10. To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive the part B premium penalty for individuals entitled to TRICARE health benefits as a member or former member of the uniformed... (Introduced in the House)[H.R.997.IH]

11. Notification and Federal Employee Anti-discrimination and Retaliation Act of 2001 (Introduced in the House)[H.R.169.IH]

12. To make the Federal employees health benefits program available to individuals age 55 to 65 who would not otherwise have health insurance, and for other purposes. (Introduced in the House)[H.R.55.IH]

13. To remove certain restrictions on participation in the demonstration project conducted by the Secretary of Defense to provide health care for Medicare-eligible Department of Defense... (Introduced in the House)[H.R.779.IH]

14 Osteoporosis Federal Employee Health Benefits Standardization Act (Introduced in the Senate)[S.263.IS]

15. Federal Registered Nurse Retirement Adjustment Act of 2001 (Introduced in the Senate)[S.1080.IS]

16. Equity in Fertility Coverage Act of 2001 (Introduced in the house)[H.R.568.IH]

17. Federal Wage Worker Pay Fairness Act of 2001 (Introduced in the House)[H.R.1262.IH]

### **2002 FEW National Training Program (NTP)**

By Clara Anderson

All of us had a great time at the 2001 NTP in Indianapolis; however, we recognize the tremendous amount of work that lies ahead. We presented our "ya'll come down" skit at the luncheon on Thursday. I began with a little magic from my Mickey Mouse wizard hat and a sprinkling of "pixie dust" to get their imagination started. We showed the Orlando video provided by the Orlando Convention Bureau and the Delaware North advertisement for the space program at Kennedy Space Center. Dave Rainer set the whole video to the music from *2001 a Space Odyssey* – music was nice and loud. After the video went to blue screen, we began our "un-electrical" parade. We had started with our 2002 NTP Banner, then Sea World, Universal, NASA, Disney and our Invitation to Come to Orlando finished up. The entire Southeast Region participated. We had 35 of us in character hats (NASA had ball caps) marching around the dining room to the Mickey Mouse March and It's a Small World, throwing candy to the crowd. Everyone sang along and stood and clapped. Needless to say, we were a hit. As I came back up to the podium to finish my entreaty to come to Orlando in 2002, Jett Williams, the

luncheon Keynote speaker who is the daughter of Hank Williams, said that she had found her new opening act. Our exhibit booth was swamped that evening with people picking up information on Orlando. We heard several people say they hadn't planned on going to Orlando, but after our skit they were invigorated and enthused to attend our NTP. The Region had a great time with our skit and we have had a tremendous amount of people volunteer to help out.

That evening we followed up with a 2002 Hospitality Suite, where I am sure all 1150 attendees visited at one time or the other that evening. Jean and I got to all the Agency Forum's that were held early in the week, and she made sure that all the speakers had a copy of our Invitation to Present. Aneta and Barb visited each booth more than once – first to make contact with the exhibitors, then to buy whatever it was they were selling. Blue Cross/Blue Shield has indicated that they want to be a Platinum Sponsor in Orlando and has pledged to send us \$10,000 by year's end.

The Orlando CVB provided postcards that Ann Gary had printed. Each convention bag had information about Orlando. Both the Rosen Centre and the Sheraton World have begun taking reservations. We heard several people say they had already made reservations and others that they were going up to their room to call right away. I would like to personally thank Karin Biega, Ron Phelps, and Betty Valentine for

constructing and staffing the NASA display. I think they had a lot of interest from attendees. Also lending more than a helping hand were Jean Grenville, Vickie Hall, Dawn Partlow, Becky Denis, Becky Fasulo, Christy Vanasse, Aneta Ott, Valarie Franklin, Connie Dobrin, Barbara Powell, and Sharon White. They all provided a tremendous amount of support in staffing our booth, talking with people and hauling stuff around. *Dreams can become realities when we believe in our tomorrows.* I believe.

### Who Is A Federally Employed Woman?

By Captain Carol Chang Culbertson, U.S. Navy, Selected Reserve, Special Assistant for Military Women

Thirty-five military and civilian women and men participated in the Military Women's Pre-Conference Forum at the FEW National Training Program (NTP) in Indianapolis on July 10th. After the forum, I was discussing FEW's programs and activities with one of the forum panel members, an active duty Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force. The Lieutenant Colonel said, "I've never thought of myself as a federally employed woman. I've always seen myself as a woman in the military." We talked about who would be a federally employed woman, past and present. Janet Reno, former Attorney General for the U.S., came to mind. So did Supreme Court Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader-Ginsberg. Later, I thought about U.S. Senators Barbara Boxer, Dianne Feinstein, and Olympia

Snow, to name a few. I thought about Reserve Colonel Coral Wong Pietsch, Judge Advocate General Corps, U.S. Army, recently named to become the Army's first Asian Pacific American woman general. Col Pietsch is the senior civilian attorney at U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) and chief of the Civil Law Division in the Staff Judge Advocate's Office. I am sure FEW Aloha Chapter in Honolulu already knows about Col Pietsch. Word travels fast in the state of Hawaii! Federally Employed Woman - quite a comprehensive concept - an inclusive phrase. One that encompasses any woman - civilian or military - in the employ of the Federal Government. People in Washington, D.C. frequently talk about colleagues going to "work for the Feds," in contrast to "working in private industry or the private sector." Even with my military background, when I hear the phrase "working for the Feds," I think of civilian regulatory agencies such as the FBI, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the IRS. No wonder military women do not think of themselves as "Federal" women.

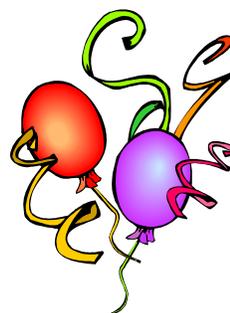
When I was on active duty in the Navy in San Diego in the late sixties, I knew that the Navy was not just a career; it was a whole new way of life! I also knew I was "different" from the civil service women (in civilian clothes) whom I saw on the base. I hope this information is helpful in communicating with the military women (active duty, Reserve, and Guard) in your chapter's area of influence. The beginning of the 2001-2002 chapter year is a good time to re-dedicate

ourselves to our chapter goals and efforts and a good time to reach out and include military women in our planning of chapter programs and activities. "Good luck" with communicating the "We're Federally Employed Women, Welcome!" message to your area of influence! Have an outstanding few chapter year!

## **CONDOLENCES**

By Linda Thompson

Zenobia Ellis, a longtime member of FEW, and Past Regional Manager of the Mid-Continent Region as well as holding other positions in FEW passed on Friday September 7, 2001 She will be sadly missed.



**Chapter  
Activities &  
Events**

## **FUTURE REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS**

### **Mid-Continent Regional Training Program**

By Joan Chopp, Chair, Nebraska  
Heartland Chapter

We hope you can join us! The Nebraska Heartland Chapter is hosting the Mid-Continent Regional Training Program in Nebraska City, NE, at the beautiful and

unique Lied Conference Center. The theme for this RTP is: 2001 FEW Odyssey – “A Journey Into the FEWture”. The conference is planned for October 18-19, 2001, and a National Executive Committee Meeting and National Officer Training has been planned in conjunction with this RTP.

Some of the workshops to be included are: True Colors, Women & Aging, Long Term Health Care, The Beauty of Simplicity, The Sandwich Generation, Thrift Savings Plan, Who Moved By Cheese, Chapter Officer Training, New Member Training and a humorist presentation on How is Your Laugh Life. There will also be a barbecue with entertainment by the “Capital City Cloggers” and a luncheon with a Fashion Show by Weekenders Clothing and entertainment from an over 40 women’s tap group called the “Shim Shams”.

There are other activities such as golf, carriage rides, tennis, hayrack rides and horseback riding available. Overall, it should be a very productive, entertaining and enlightening conference. Please plan to attend if possible. Check out the website at [www.adflcc.com](http://www.adflcc.com) for more information on the Lied Conference and the Arbor Day Farm. Also, check the FEW Events Calendar for more information at [www.few.org/calendarofevents.htm](http://www.few.org/calendarofevents.htm) If you need more information, brochures or have any questions, please contact Joan Chopp, Mid-Continent RTP Chair, at 402/437-4107.

### **Southeast Regional Training Program**

By Anne M. Ramsey, Derby City Chapter RTP Co-Chair

Preparations for the next Southeast Region Training Program (RTP) are in the works. The Derby City Chapter will host the next Southeast Regional Training Program, "Linking FEW to the Future." The program will be 13-15 March 2002 at the Holiday Inn, 120 W. Broadway, Louisville, Kentucky. For more information on the 2002 RTP, contact Anne Ramsey (502-315-7041, or email [anne.m.ramsey@lrl02.usace.army.mil](mailto:anne.m.ramsey@lrl02.usace.army.mil)) or Judy Dillander (502-582-6275, or email [jdilland@fenix2.dol-esa.gov](mailto:jdilland@fenix2.dol-esa.gov)). Information can also be found on Southeast Region's website.

### **The Southwest Regional Training Program 2002**

The RTP will be held 26 Feb - 1 Mar 2002 at the Radisson Hotel San Antonio Market Square, 502 West Durango Boulevard, San Antonio TX (210) 224-7155 fax (210) 224-9130> Rates: \$91.00 single (per diem rate) \$101.00 double occupancy (tax not included) (Tax exemption accepted with presentation of exemption form we'll provide to you) The group rates will also be honored up to 2 days prior and 2 days after. The group rates will be honored for reservations made through Jan 26, 2002. Reservations received after this date will be honored on a "space available basis". When calling the reservations office, individuals must identify themselves

as being with Federally Employed Women and request the group rate. The Radisson has a complimentary parking garage. We are planning to have the RTP booklets ready by early Dec in both soft and hard copy. In the meantime, don't hesitate to contact Arcy Longoria, (210) 916-3016 (DSN 471) or myself at (210) 977-2314 (DSN 969), if you have questions.

## Region Highlights-The Southeast Region

### Derby City Chapter Sponsors Poster Contest

By Mary Lou Andres, President, Derby City Chapter

During March 2001, the Derby City Chapter sponsored a poster contest for sixth graders at a local middle school participating in an adopt-a-school program (Junior Special Agent) sponsored by the FBI. Students were asked to create a poster with the theme "Celebrating Women of Courage and Vision." A variety of posters were submitted honoring mothers and grandmothers, as well as some public figures - Christie McAulliffe, Anne Frank, and Rosa Parks. The majority of the submissions reflected that the most important woman in the lives of these sixth graders was either their mother or grandmother.

Women have made many contributions that make the headlines, but sometimes the most important contribution is the one we make each day as we interact with

our own children or other children around us - no matter their age. We mothers have a tendency to sometimes forget how our children perceive our every word and action. Being a role model, as well as just being there for them is a worthwhile and enriching contribution to the world. Without children who grow up to be caring, considerate individuals, the world have no hope. Our children are our hope for a better world; and, women as mothers, grandmothers and mentors play a large role in the lives of children around us. Remember to honor the women of courage and vision in your life - tell them! Continue their mission - be a mentor for someone else and reap the reward of knowing your efforts are important and crucial to society and the world.



Above is a photo of the winning entry. Posters were displayed in the lobby of the Mazzoli Federal Building in Louisville, Kentucky, and the public was invited to vote for their favorite.

### Oak Ridge Chapter #199

By Donna Riggs, President

The Oak Ridge Chapter currently has 32 members, most of who work in

Oak Ridge, Tennessee, for the Department of Energy. Three members attended the National Training Program in Indianapolis where we raffled off a huge basket of items from Tennessee for \$189.00!

New officers were installed at a luncheon on July 24th by Past National President Jeanette Miller.



Dr. Fran Ansley, University of Tennessee Law Professor, was our guest speaker. Dr. Ansley discussed two global economic theories

and how they influence the lives of women in our state. Highlights of the Institute for Women's Policy Research's report on the Status of Women in Tennessee were shared and have been posted on our bulletin board.

Past service projects include furnishing an apartment for the Oak Ridge Battered Women's Shelter, annual Christmas presents for the children who have stayed at the Campbell County House of Hope during the year, donations of travel size toiletries for the House of Hope, and talking to middle and high school children about career possibilities after graduation. Our Chapter partners with the Oak Ridge Operation Office's Federal Women's Program and the local chapter of Blacks in Government whenever possible.

In celebration of Women's Equality Day in August, we held a program entitled "Women In Politics. Plans are underway for FEW and BIG to sponsor a fall festival to provide an opportunity for employees to have some fun. The Oak Ridge Operations Office Manager has already volunteered for the dunking booth! A training program is being planned for next spring as a fundraiser.

### Savannah River Chapter

By Jo Stegall

The Savannah River Chapter of Federally Employed Women (FEW) calls the Department of Energy Savannah River Site (SRS) in Aiken, South Carolina, home. From this unique location, we have worked to promote FEW, provide professional growth opportunities for women and men in the federal workforce and to serve our local community.

We annually award two scholarships to assist women in their professional development. We also promote professional and personal growth opportunities through formal training sessions hosted by our Chapter. For example, we worked with the Garden City FEW Chapter from Fort Gordon in Augusta, Georgia, to jointly co-sponsor a very successful FEW Southeastern Regional Training Conference in March of 2000. This conference offered 16 informative training classes. We are again working with the Garden City Chapter to jointly sponsor a One-Day Professional Development Seminar on September 13, 2001, in Augusta, Georgia. The Seminar is going to be

a great educational and networking opportunity for attendees. Training topics will range from building interviewing skills and resume writing to how to design a web page.

We have nurtured a very strong partnership with the SRS Federal Women's Program (FWP). Our Chapter has worked to co-sponsor and support on-site FWP activities such as the celebration of Women's History Month and Lunch and Learn sessions. In March 2001, the Savannah River FEW and the SRS FWP jointly sponsored a very successful Breast Cancer Awareness Program. The theme of the program was "When Breast Cancer Touches Your Life..." The program featured a panel discussion and concurrent Informational Health Fair. The panelists shared information and answered questions from the audience on the medical aspects of breast cancer, the importance of early detection, and the effects that the diagnosis, disease and treatment can have on the life of the individual and their family members. The panel was composed of a physician, breast cancer survivors, and a family member. The discussion was videotaped and telecast live over site television and all networked desktop computers. The Informational Health Fair included representatives and/or information from nine Central Savannah River Area medical facilities and organizations. The panel and health fair reminded everyone that "Early detection of breast cancer can save your life or the life of a loved one."

We also believe that our Chapter has had a positive impact on our local community. The generosity of our members and the employees of SRS continues to bring joy to many individuals, organizations, and families in the Central Savannah River Area of Aiken, South Carolina, and Augusta, Georgia. The overwhelming support of our Community Outreach activities is just short of amazing. We have asked for help with the items we collect for the Cumbee Center for abused persons and they have continued to come in. We have asked for volunteers to work with us on Project Vision, where we went into the community and performed yard work and minor construction activities in the local community. Chapter members, as well as other federal and non-federal employees and volunteers from the local community heeded our call. Our Chapter works hard to encourage women and men to personally and professionally grow. We work hard to provide practical and accessible information and opportunities to achieve this growth. We also have a lot of fun!

### **Patuxent River Chapter Hosts the Women's Equality Day Luncheon**

By Jane Gallagher

The Patuxent River FEW Chapter #307 hosted, along with the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Local 1603 and the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division's (NAWCAD) EEO Office, the Women's Equality Day Luncheon on Wednesday, 22 August. This is the first time that Women's Equality Day has been celebrated in St. Mary's County, Maryland. This event was

free to the first 100 attendees (courtesy of AFGE Local 1603).

Ms. Liz Strandberg, an EEO Specialist with the NAWCAD EEO office, gave the history of Women's Equality here in the United States and who was instrumental in the establishment of and recognition of women's equality on the anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment (women's right to vote). Ms. Andrea Brooks, AFGE's Director, Women/Fair Practices Department, was our guest speaker. She spoke on how women must make their own decisions for what they want to accomplish and decide on the path to their career. Ms. Julie Randall, President of the St. Mary's County Commissioners, presented the Women's Equality Day Proclamation to Ms. Arlene Cooper, FEW Chapter 307's Chapter Advisor and Special Project's Chair



Veronica Cody, Chapter President and Julie Randall, President St. Mary's County Commissioners



Veronica Cody, Chapter President, Andrea Brooks, Guest Speaker, and Arlene Cooper, Chapter Advisor and Special Projects Chair

## Member News

FEW members from around the country submitted the following articles. We are proud to present them in our newsletter!



### FEA Awards Community Service Award

By Peggy Andreasen

Pat Peacock, Second Vice-President of the Promontory Chapter in Ogden, Utah, a Tax Examining Assistant and NTEU official, was this year's recipient of the Community Service Award by the Federal Executive Association (FEA) for Utah. This prestigious award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the Utah community. FEW President Greg Rollins presented the award to Pat at a special luncheon held at the Holiday Inn in Salt Lake City on May 16, 2001.

Her nomination reads in part, "Pat is currently performing space negotiations as an NTEU representative. She has been a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) volunteer for the past 10

years. She has taught community education to VITA volunteers, as well as filing information to special populations of incarcerated and homeless taxpayers. She is a technical advisor for the other VITA volunteers.

Pat is second Vice-President of the Promontory Chapter of FEW. Pat was last year's FEW scholarship recipient and attended the National Training Conference presented in New Orleans. This year, she was the repeat recipient and attended the National Training Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Pat is currently involved in an Alzheimer's volunteer group and has worked with special populations of physically and mentally handicapped people." Pat received a nice wooden pen and pencil set with her name engraved on the base. Her story and nomination was also featured on the front page of the Ogden IRS Center Newscope (newsletter) and in the monthly newsletter of the Promontory Chapter of FEW.

Congratulations Pat!

**Equalitarian Chapter**  
**Establishes Outstanding FEW**  
**Member Award**

By Arlena Fitch-Gordon

Mable Seldon, President of the Equalitarian Chapter for the Federally Employed Women was the driving force behind the vision of establishing a Scholarship Fund for a FEW member. The purpose for the Scholarship Fund was to fund a

deserving FEW member to the 2001 National Training Program in Indianapolis, Indiana, during the week of July 9-13. Seldon's vision was presented during the first Executive Board Meeting of the year held with the officers of the Chapter.

During this meeting, many ideas were discussed and Ruth Williams, Awards Chair, brought forth the idea to also recognize the Outstanding FEW Member of the Year. Periodically throughout the year, Williams and Inez Toney, Awards Co-Chair, worked together to tally points. It was determined that the Equalitarian Chapter would recognize two Outstanding FEW Members of the Year.

The \$250.00 Scholarship would go to the Outstanding FEW Member that was not funded by their agency to attend the National Training Program. The other Outstanding FEW Member would receive a Gift Certificate and have their FEW Annual Dues paid for the next year.

Points were given to the FEW Members that met the following criteria:

- Attendance at Meetings
- Bringing a Guest to the Meeting
- Guest becoming a FEW Member
- FEW Officer
- FEW Committee Chair
- FEW Committee Member
- Miscellaneous Outstanding Contribution
- Outstanding Contribution

The two Outstanding FEW Members of the Year were Peggy Powell and Regine Williams. Powell was selected as the FEW Scholarship recipient and Williams was selected for her outstanding efforts as the Editor of our FEW Newsletter (The FEW NOTES).

The FEW NOTES placed second as the Best Newsletter during the FEW National Awards Competition. The Equalitarian Chapter received this award during the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Training Program, Indianapolis, Indiana, on July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Powell received her award during the Equalitarian Chapter's Award Presentation meeting on June 26 at the DSCC Officers' Club. Williams was absent due to her assignment on Temporary Duty (TDY).

### **Entering The Electronic Age**

By Anne M. Ramsey

The Derby City Chapter of FEW, located in Louisville, KY, has finally entered the electronic age with it's new web site. The Derby City Chapter will be hosting the Southeast Regional Training Program, 13-15 March 2002. A website is the way to get out information regarding training these days. We can now reach people all across the country we never could have before. General information regarding the upcoming RTP is posted on the website now. Registration forms are expected to be posted 1 January. Check out our new site at [www.lrl.usace.army.mil/few](http://www.lrl.usace.army.mil/few) or through FEW's national website [www.few.org](http://www.few.org).

### **The Presidential Classroom Scholars Program**

By Deborah Craten Dawson,

Would you be interested in spending a week in Washington D.C. with 250 outstanding high school students who are observing the federal government at work while exploring the roles of citizens, lawmakers and business in politics? If this sounds interesting to you – like it did to me – than the Presidential Classroom Scholars Program has something to offer you.

Since 1968, the Presidential Classroom Scholars Program has given high school students a broad view of the federal government by allowing them to spend a week in the nation's capitol. Presidential Classroom believes that by giving the leaders of tomorrow direct access to the leaders of today, then the experience will help inspire students to careers in public service. In fact, several Presidential Classroom alumni are now serving in the House and Senate. But in order to continue to offer this opportunity to today's high school students, Presidential Classroom relies on its pool of Volunteer Instructors. Drawn from education, civil service, the military and the private sector, instructors volunteer for one week (of the 15-week scheduled program) and help guide these high school juniors and seniors from across the United States through an adventure in learning about U.S. government and politics.

I recently returned from Presidential Classroom after serving for a week in June with 11 other volunteer

instructors. We took time away from our jobs in the military, federal service, private industry and education, to spend a week meeting some of America's future leaders and exploring with them the workings of the U.S. government. And I can truly say that it was a week well spent. At Presidential Classroom, students and volunteer instructors get an insider's view of the federal government in action. While in Washington, Presidential Classroom scholars see the city and our government beyond the monuments and museums. They meet and share their views with some of the country's best-known and most influential leaders. They build friendships that last a lifetime, get a real-life sense of their own leadership potential and learn how to fully participate in the political process.

While serving as a volunteer instructor at Presidential Classroom, I had the opportunity to facilitate small group discussions among students on current topics, including domestic policy, the American political process and constitutional issues. I attended seminars on Foreign Policy; the Judicial, Legislative and Executive Branches; Power in Washington; and the Role of the Media in the Political Process. I sat on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives and listened to U.S. Representative Chet Edwards (D-11 TX) speak to Presidential Classroom Scholars about public service and the issues facing congress. I also had an opportunity to sit in the Senate Gallery and watch the U.S Senate vote on the passage of the Education

Bill. Other activities that I participated in during the week included a private tour of The White House, visits to foreign embassies, two days on Capitol Hill and a wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington Cemetery. The highlight of the week for both instructors and students was an invitation from The Honorable Thomas E. White, Secretary of the Army, to attend a Twilight Tattoo on the Ellipse. Following the tattoo ceremony, we attended a private reception at the Fort Myer Officers' Club at the invitation of Major General James Jackson, Commanding General of the Military District of Washington.

I can honestly say that the week was fast-paced and a blur at times. Days sometimes began as early as 6 a.m. and didn't finish until after 11 p.m., but the experience is one that I will never forget. If you are interested in serving as a volunteer instructor or know a student that might want to attend the program, please contact Presidential Classroom at 1-800-441-6533 or visit their website at <http://www.presidentialclassroom.org>

### **We are Pleased to Welcome our New Members**

#### **Bethesda Chapter**

Louisa Ocasio  
Donna M. Scarsciotti  
**Carrie Chapman Catt**  
Robin Isaacson  
Mary Goecke  
Ruth McDaniel  
Connie Riker  
Denise Macdonald

### Federal Triangle Chapter

Colleen Gorman

### Greater Oklahoma City Chapter

Sylvia Brannon

Patricia A. Divis

Gina Ford

Norma Ford

Wendi Jackson

Jo Smith--transfer from Tinker #259

Earlene Stevenson

Teresa Taylor

Gale Watts

### Mid America Chapter

Dolores A. Ruby

### Nebraska Heartland Chapter

Peggy Hanlon

Stacy Diesley

Kathie Starkweather

Betty Raymond

Melody Keele

### Patuxent River Chapter

Nancy Smith-Andina

### Tinker AFB Chapter

Paula Maggard

### Looking For FEW History Bufs And NTP Collectibles

By Patt Franc

During a recent work session I spent with other National Officers and FEW member volunteers going through over 200 boxes of the National FEW files in storage in Washington, DC, we ran across the National Training Program historical collection. We found copies of many of the past Registration Books, Program Books, event flyers, song books, NTP status, financial and registration reports, photos and other documents. Unfortunately, a lot of FEW's early NTP records are missing, particularly those from 1970-1985. Many of you have been members since the early

years and may be collectors like me. In my personal collection, I have books and a host of miscellany from my first NTP in Washington, DC 1984, through our most recent NTP last July in Indianapolis. Keeping our history alive is an important part of FEW and I would like to put together a complete library of NTP documents. Parting with some of your collectibles might be painful, but in the interest of compiling a complete NTP history, perhaps you would consider donating your NTP memorabilia and documents to a national archive. Please contact me at [pattfranc@att.net](mailto:pattfranc@att.net)

### CORNER HUMOR:



**Lets Go Surfing**

<http://www.narfe.org>

[www.health.com](http://www.health.com)

## **FEW ELECTED NATIONAL OFFICERS**

### **President:**

Jenifer Bungert, [jenbungert@aol.com](mailto:jenbungert@aol.com)

### **Executive Vice President**

Patricia Wolfe, [Patricia.Wolfe@do.treas.gov](mailto:Patricia.Wolfe@do.treas.gov)

### **VP/Policy and Planning**

Patt Franc, [pattfranc@att.net](mailto:pattfranc@att.net)

### **VP/Membership & Chapter Organization**

Charlene Heeter, [charlene.heeter@gsa.gov](mailto:charlene.heeter@gsa.gov)

### **VP/Congressional & Governmental Relations**

Ruth Leichter, [few@haruth.com](mailto:few@haruth.com)

### **VP/Diversity**

Vacant

### **VP/Training & Communication**

Jeanette Hite, [jhite@psc.gov](mailto:jhite@psc.gov)

### **Secretary**

Maggie Gaukler, [alohame@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:alohame@hawaii.rr.com)

### **Treasurer**

Anita Daniels, [Anita.connelly@gsa.gov](mailto:Anita.connelly@gsa.gov)

### **Nominations & Elections Officer**

Laverne A. Parks, [lapparks@aol.com](mailto:lapparks@aol.com)

### **Immediate Past President**

Jeanette Miller, [millerjs@oro.doe.gov](mailto:millerjs@oro.doe.gov)

Information concerning Committee Chairs and Special Assistants may be found on the FEW web site at [www.few.org](http://www.few.org)

