



THE CONNECTION

The National Foundation for Women Legislators, "The Power To Make a Difference"

National Order of Women Legislators Founded in 1938 in Washington, D.C.

October 2005 Edition

Arizona Welcomes 67th NFWL Annual Conference to Phoenix

Arizona's political leadership showed great support for the 67th NFWL Annual Conference, which was held in Phoenix.

From the Governor and Secretary of State to Congressional members to local Mayors, leaders throughout the state joined NFWL to celebrate women's leadership and discuss pressing public policy issues.

Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano, right, joined women legislators from across the nation, not only as a woman elected official, but as a board member of The American Legacy Foundation. She spoke about immigration and other policy issues affecting Arizona as well as the arrival of evacuees from Hurricane Katrina, which happened just prior to the conference.



Senator John McCain, a 2005 NFWL Leadership Awardee in Washington D.C. this past March, spoke to attendees about the work he was doing in the US



Senate and their power as elected officials and public figures.

Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon briefed attendees about the Hurricane relief efforts as well, stressing the importance of coming together during times of crisis.

Top right: Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano welcomes legislators to Phoenix. Above: US Senator John McCain of Arizona (third from left), visits with Arizona state legislators (L-R) Senator Linda Gray, Senator Marilyn Jarrett, Representative Cheryl Chase, Representative Lela Steffey and Representative Trudy Camping on the first day of the 2005 NFWL Annual Conference in Phoenix, Arizona.

Congressman JD Hayworth.....

(cont. on page 3)

LA Rep. Visits Katrina Victims During Conference

Representative Diane Winston of Covington, LA, which is not far from New Orleans, attended the 2005 Annual Conference despite the devastation to her home state from Hurricane Katrina.

"I thought it was important to let fellow legislators from across the country know what was happening at home and what they could do to help," said Winston.

While in Phoenix, Rep. Winston visited with fellow Louisianans at the Red Cross shelter in the Veterans Memorial Coliseum, where they were evacuated to in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

Rep. Winston reported on her experience of the disaster



during the conference and asked legislators to continue to support relief efforts in their home states.

Louisiana state Rep. Diane Winston, left, comforts Charles Banks, of New Orleans, in the dining area of the Red Cross shelter at Veterans Memorial Coliseum where Katrina victims are housed in Phoenix.

NFWL International Committee Plans Taiwan Trip

The NFWL International Policy Committee is assembling a delegation of women state legislators and Members of Congress to visit Taiwan this December.

The purpose of the trip will be to strengthen and build on economic, cultural and political ties between the two countries.

Building on the success of NFWL's mission to Bahrain last year, the International Policy Committee looks to expand its reach around the globe with this trip to Asia. Free trade, economic security, and political leadership will be addressed by the delegation as they travel throughout Taiwan.

If you are interested in joining this delegation, contact Julie Swaney, Director of Public Policy & Operations at 202-293-3040, ext. 1010.

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NFWL Leadership Awards Presented at Conference

Based on nominations from legislators, NFWL honored leaders from different generations for their contributions and achievements in various fields.



Representative Larcenia Bullard (FL) greets Ms. Preston following her award presentation.

Kelly Preston, NFWL Advocate of the Year

Actress Kelly Preston received the NFWL Advocate of the Year Award for her efforts to protect children's rights.

From her work on the federal Child Medication Safety Act and the legislation she worked on in Florida to address the administration of psychotropic drugs to schoolchildren to ensuring that parents and others are informed of the harmful effects of environmental toxins, Kelly Preston has spent the past seven years giving a voice to the most vulnerable in our society.

"Kelly has been an important and knowledgeable spokesperson for NFWL's Education Policy Committee and the issues we tackle," said Education Chair, Senator Linda Gray (AZ). "We are so pleased to work with her to protect children."

All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, NFWL Leadership Award

NFWL presented its 2005 Leadership Award to former players from the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League. The retired baseball players joined NFWL from across the state of Arizona. While many competed against each other on the field, they all contributed towards breaking down barriers for women in sports.

The honorees included: Charlotte Armstrong, Mary Lou Douglas, Helen "Nicol" Fox, Anna Huff Kunkel, Sophie Kurys, Barbara Payne, Anna Petrovic Meyer, Betty Tucker, Doris Walker Nelson, Elma Weiss Steck, and Jean Cione, who accepted the award on behalf of the players' association.

"I was so excited to meet these trailblazing women," remarked NFWL Chair, Rep. Faye Culp (FL). "They stepped up and provided our country with inspiration during World War II and I am so pleased NFWL was able to recognize their contributions."



NFWL Chair, Representative Faye Culp (FL), congratulates members of the AAGPBL for their outstanding achievement.

Susan Corrigan, NFWL Lifetime Achievement Award

Susan Corrigan, founder and recently retired CEO of Gifts In-Kind International, accepted an NFWL Lifetime Achievement Award honoring her legacy and her work to revolutionize corporate giving. As an innovative force at the world's leading charity in product philanthropy, Ms. Corrigan's work has linked socially-conscious companies with the organizations and people who need them.

"Susan has been a driving force in expanding corporate giving and we applaud her efforts to encourage large companies to donate to non-profits who do so much good work," remarked Assemblywoman Sharron Angle (NV), Chair of the NFWL Business & Economic Development Policy Committee.



Ms. Corrigan speaks to NFWL attendees after receiving her Lifetime Achievement Award.

NFWL, Legislators Tackle Missing Persons Issue

At the request of the Missing Persons Task Force formed earlier this year by legislative members of the Crime, Justice, Terrorism & Substance Abuse Policy Committee, three parents of missing children who have formed their own organizations to assist other families in locating their loved ones spoke at the Conference. These speakers included: John Bish, founder of the Molly Bish Foundation, which distributes complimentary child identification kits which help locate a missing child; Janis McCall, of One Missing Link, which is a missing persons advocacy group; and Tim Miller, founder of Texas EquuSearch Mounted Search and Recovery Team which provides an array of search and recovery services for lost and missing persons.

Additionally, experts joined legislators in exploring this issues. Barbara Butcher, the Director of Investigations for the New York City Office of Chief Medical Examiner and Director of the World Trade Center 9/11 Victim Identification Project offered her insight and experience. Sarah Hart, former director of the National Institute of Justice at the Dept. of Justice, spoke as well, sharing insight into the development and execution of the President's DNA Initiative and the development of model state legislation to improve the identification of missing persons. Susan Narveson, NIJ Chief of Investigative and Forensic Sciences Division also participated from the Department of Justice.

The Missing Persons Task Force will continue its work throughout the coming legislative session.

Arizona Leadership Joins NFWL in Phoenix (cont.)

.....traveled from Washington DC to attend the conference, speaking at the Healthcare Breakfast about leadership.

Secretary of State Jan Brewer also attended the opening reception, welcoming attendees to Arizona, which has had a record number of women holding the highest elected offices in the state.

City of Glendale Mayor Elaine M. Scruggs joined NFWL to meet fellow women leaders and open the door to her city. Mayor Scruggs encouraged NFWL attendees to join in the evening's dine around in historic downtown Glendale.

"It is always wonderful to have support from the community where our conference is held," remarked NFWL President & CEO, Robin Read. "It is remarkable the level of support we have received from Phoenix, though, and we appreciate everyone's efforts to make this one of our most successful events," she continued.



Pictures left to right:

Robin Read, NFWL President & CEO speaks with Arizona Senator Marilyn Jarrett (AZ) and Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano during the 2005 Conference; Arizona Secretary of State Jan Brewer welcomes NFWL to Phoenix; Congressman JD Hayworth shows his support for women elected officials; Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon joins NFWL to open the conference with welcome remarks; Mayor Elaine Scruggs of Glendale addresses attendees during the conference.

NFWL Conference Chosen by DOD during the 50 States Tour



Under Secretary Payton

The Department of Defense's Sue Payton joined NFWL Conference guests in Arizona as part of a special tour of the nation. Under Secretary of Defense for Advanced Systems and Concepts, Ms. Payton spoke at the NFWL Annual Conference as part of the Department of Defense's 50 States in 5 Days Tour. Chosen as the site for the Arizona stop on the national tour, the NFWL was proud to host the DOD. The DOD was eager to share the advances in national defense that our country and military have made in the four years since the terrorist attacks on September 11th.

Off-Site Events Offer Glimpse of Phoenix and Surrounding Areas

Many conference guests took advantage of opportunities to explore the Greater Phoenix Area after spending the mornings and afternoons networking and learning about public policy issues.

Entertainment options ranged from enjoying the Sonoran Sunset Soiree with local Arizona artists to viewing the provocative new film, *The Chumscrubber*, at an exclusive NFWL screening.

The Greater Phoenix Area welcomed NFWL, with some attendees participating in a traditional Tea Ceremony at the Japanese Friendship Gardens while others traveled to nearby Glendale to explore the historic downtown district and sample several local restaurants.



Rep. Juanita Head Walton (center) and other NFWL attendees survey the supply room at the TJ Pappas School for homeless children while on a tour of the facility.

The TJ Pappas School for the Homeless

opened its doors as well, providing a tour of the campus while Rose Goss and "The Simpsons" Nancy Cartwright shared their Building Better Families workshop with legislators, students and parents participating in the event.

"Phoenix has so much to offer; I'm really glad I was able to experience more of the city and get to know the surrounding areas," said Rep. Phyllis Katsakiores (NH).

Several legislators also took a day trip to Sedona on Monday following the conference activities. Sedona is known for its beautiful red rock formations and artistry.



L-R: Actress Nancy Cartwright ("The Simpsons"), Miss Teenager USA Amanda Mason, Senator Linda Gray (AZ) and Actress Michelle Stafford ("The Young & the Restless") attend the "Chumscrubber" film screening in Phoenix.

NFWL Legislators Promote the Circle of Friends Campaign

Legislators from coast to coast joined the American Legacy Foundation in welcoming women from communities across the nation to build a network of support for women who want to quit smoking. The American Legacy Foundation sponsored a luncheon at the 2005 Annual Conference, sharing information about how people can stop smoking rather than just why they should quit.

Seven legislators, one from each of NFWL's seven regions around the country created the Circle of Friends Task Force to lead this program. These legislators include Representative Sharon Beasley-Teague (GA), Rep. Judy Morrison (KS), Rep. Leslie Mortimer (MI), Rep. Joey Jayne (MT), Rep. Phyllis Katsakiores (NH), Rep. Anna Marie Crook (NM) and Representative Catherine Barrett (OH).

NFWL President & CEO, Robin Read, said of the campaign, "NFWL believes this new partnership with the American Legacy Foundation can help women receive active support from their family, friends and co-workers in their effort to quit smoking in a state-by-state replication of this persuasive and information-packed luncheon."

To get involved in this program, contact NFWL at 202-293-3040.



The Circle of Friends luncheon panel tells attendees about the benefits of setting up a network of allies to assist in non-smoking efforts. Panelists include: Dr. Ellen Gritz of the MD Anderson Cancer Center, Dr. Judith Reichmann of UCLA and Dr. Janet Pregler of Iris Cantor - UCLA Women's Health Center.

Workshops, Policy Committees Present Tough Policy Issues

NFWL Policy Committees on Education, Healthcare, Veterans Affairs, Business and Crime, Justice, Terrorism & Substance Abuse met during the conference to discuss pressing policy issues, pass resolutions and plan for the next 18-months.

"All committees plan to profoundly impact policy and legislation in individual states over the next legislative session," said President & CEO, Robin Read.

Healthcare: Patient Choice and Access to Care



Dr. Julian Whitaker (right) and Jonathan Emord present a workshop on patient choice.

The Healthcare Committee established a Task Force on Patient Choice after hearing from Dr. Julian Whitaker, constitutional and administrative lawyer Jonathan Emord, Dr. Mary Ann Block and Dr. Sherri Tenpenny about the advantages and risks doctors and patients face when diagnosing and treating medical conditions with alternative therapies.

Dr. Whitaker explained, "Patients benefit from an impartial assessment of their health conditions and the full range of interventions that could be applied to promote wellness or ease pain." Representative Diane Winston (R-LA), Legislative Chair of the committee stated, "A system as important as healthcare must be examined in terms of access and affordability." Legislators on the Task Force were encouraged to think outside the box to provide their constituents with greater access to more healthcare at less cost.

Substance Abuse: Meth Labs

Legislators were also exposed to the proliferation of methamphetamine labs across the country in a workshop presented by the Crime, Justice, Terrorism & Substance Abuse (CJTSA) Policy Committee.

Several speakers in the meth workshop, including officials from the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Office of National Drug Control Policy, urged legislators to work with law enforcement officials to stem the tide of meth in their states and work to ensure that their communities stay safe and drug-free.

Attorney General Mark Shurtleff of Utah informed legislators about the steps his state has taken to curb the spread of meth and offered solutions to assist them in their efforts.

Scott Burns, from the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, also spoke about this topic at the CJTSA plenary session.

Forum on Cancer

Joe Garagiola, Major League Baseball Hall of Fame player and national chairman of Oral Health America's National Spit Tobacco Education Program (NSTEP), spoke to legislators about the dangers of chewing tobacco, sharing a video of a young man who died from oral cancer and encouraged legislators to help kids stay off this legal drug.

Mary Ann Guerra of TGen, a research facility whose work is focused on the genetic origins of cancer and which is creating cutting edge techniques in treatment and profiling, also spoke to legislators about how to assist in the fight against cancer.



L-R: CJTSA Chairs Joy Westrum and Rep. Phyllis Katsakiores (NH) meet with DEA officials Catherine Hartnett of Demand Reduction Office, Tom Marble and Tim Landrum of the Arizona office.



Dr. Sandra Dowling, Superintendent of Maricopa County Schools (AZ) speaks with Mr. Garagiola.

Policy Issues Discussed in Roundtable Forum

Roundtables at the 2005 NFWL Annual Conference offered legislators the opportunity to share information with the private sector regarding issues that ranged from energy needs to school choice to violence against Native American women.

These issues were presented by public and private advocacy groups who came to the conference to gauge legislative interest in their issue and discuss various points of views on the topics.

"As legislators we receive so much information on a daily basis, it is often hard to sift through it all," remarked Rep. Judy Morrison (KS), who serves as Treasurer for the Order. "We need a place like the NFWL conference to come together and have a frank discussion on specific issues that affect us all."

Roundtable sponsors included Snell & Wilmer who presented a panel of industry, government, and legal representatives to discuss how the issue of ensuring reliable and affordable electric service into the future is being confronted; the University of Phoenix who conducted a roundtable on higher education and the use of technology in pursuing advanced degrees; the Arizona Indian Gaming Association who added a new perspective on domestic violence by providing experts on violence against Native women; and the Friedman Foundation who brought the issue of school choice to the attention of legislators.



Participants at the Violence Against Native Women roundtable learn about this specific populations' particular challenges with domestic violence.



Representative Lynn Finnegan (HI), center, talks about her experience with charter schools in Hawaii during the roundtable on school choice.



Terri Bishop, far right, of the University of Phoenix discusses with participants the technology that allows the University to connect with students across the country.

Strengthening Relationships



Dr. John Gray, left, renowned author and relationship expert whose books include "Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus", discussed the affects of stress, medication and poor diet on relationships.

"When women are stressed or want to work on a problem, they want to talk because talking stimulates the production of serotonin, an important chemical messenger in the brain whose effects include mood elevation," Dr. Gray told attendees. "(T)he most powerful thing as adults that we can do for our health is balance our brain chemicals through nutrition."

"Dr. Gray is very knowledgeable and presents information in a fun and interactive way," remarked Rep. Jane Powdrell-Culbert (NM).

Family Building Sub-Committee

After infertility legislation passed in Connecticut, NFWL's Family-Building Sub-Committee highlighted such work as a model in providing women access to infertility treatments. "In 2000, the number of births to women aged 45-54 rose to 4,565. Today, in the US, one child in every 1000 is conceived via fertility treatment," from the 2005 book "What Women Really Want" authored by Democratic Pollster Celinda Lake and Republican Strategist Kellyanne Conway.

Pamela Pepe of Serono, who serves as the Sub-Committee's private sector chair was pleased with the Committee's meeting and results. "I look forward to working more closely with these legislators over the next 18-months to make insurance coverage of infertility treatments a reality for the thousands of women who seek it," said Pepe.



Rep. DebraLee Hovey (CT) who sponsored infertility legislation this session.

NFWL-NRA 8th Annual Awards: College Scholarships Presented

NFWL presented eight college scholarship awards this year, in partnership with the National Rifle Association who has sponsored this contest over the past eight years.

Actress Michelle Stafford ("The Young and the Restless") and Millie Hallow of the NRA handed out the scholarships, along with the student's sponsoring state legislator.

Awards went to students who demonstrated a passion for the Bill of Rights and Constitution. High school juniors and seniors submitted an essay featuring their "Champion of Liberty".

For a list of winning students and their sponsoring legislators, please visit www.womenlegislators.org.

The 2006 scholarship application will be available in the spring.



White House Conference on Aging Update

NFWL was asked to nominate women elected officials to serve as Delegates to the White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) this Fall in Washington, DC.

The WHCoA occurs once a decade to make aging policy recommendations to the President and Congress, and to assist the public and private sectors in promoting dignity, health, independence and economic security of current and future generations of older persons.

NFWL is proud to announce that the WHCoA selected the following leaders, nominated by NFWL, to serve as Delegates: Rep. Nancy Boettger (IA), Rep. Toni Boucher (CT), Rep. Faye Culp (FL), Sen. Marguerite Kleven (SD), Sen. Edith Prague (CT), Rep. Mary Skinner (WA), and NFWL President & CEO, Robin Read.

Current Secretary of Elder Affairs for Florida and former state Representative, Carole Green represented the WHCoA at NFWL's Annual Conference and addressed legislators on ways to connect with and better serve their elderly constituents. Secretary Green currently sits on the Advisory Board for the WHCoA.

NFWL Acknowledges Sponsors of the 67th Annual Conference

NFWL, its Board and legislative members appreciate the financial and in-kind donations contributed by the following companies.

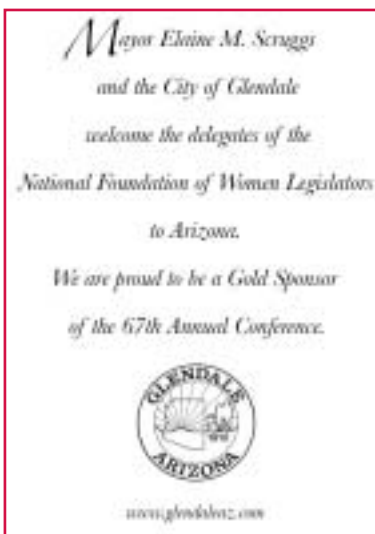
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A complete list of donors to NFWL can be found at www.womenlegislators.org.



Entertainers Showcase Talent for Legislators at 2005 Conference

Mary Wilson, founding member of the "Supremes" and 2003 NFWL Leadership Award Recipient, joined legislators at the 2005 Conference in Phoenix to perform and talk about a policy issue close to her heart, copyright infringement and the misuse of performers' names and images in the music and entertainment industry.



Bob Crosby of the Vocal Group Hall of Fame, discussed this issue as well at the NFWL Business Policy Committee during the Conference.

Other performers at the Phoenix Conference included well-known Las Vegas entertainers Heidi Thompson and Gene Sironen, as well as Jared Rogers, nephew of country star Kenny Rogers.

Two local Phoenix youth choirs, the Valley Christian Chorale Group and Interfaith Children's Choir, also participated in conference events.

Mary Wilson performs at the Closing Reception and Installation Ceremony during the 2005 NFWL Annual Conference in Phoenix.

NFWL Chooses 2006 Conference Site: Bachelor Gulch, Colorado

NFWL will hold its 68th Annual Conference at The Ritz-Carlton, Bachelor Gulch, November 16-20, 2006 in Colorado.

Colorado Senator Nancy Spence said, "The 2005 Annual Conference was one of the most organized and productive four days I have spent as a legislator. Colorado is looking forward to hosting NFWL next fall in Beaver Creek. Thank you for the opportunity to network and learn!"



Left: Colorado legislators Senator Deanna Hanna, Representative Nancy Todd, Senator Nancy Spence, and Representative Debbie Benefield discuss plans for the 2006 Annual Conference.

"NFWL is pleased and excited to host its 2006 Conference in Colorado and looks forward to working closely with these four legislators, as well as the entire Colorado delegation to make the event a success," remarked NFWL President & CEO, Robin Read.

Visit www.womenlegislators.org in January for the most up-to-date information about the 2006 conference, including how to register with NFWL and book your room at The Ritz-Carlton, Bachelor Gulch.

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Legislators Comment on the 67th NFWL Annual Conference

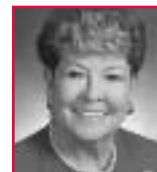


Representative Catherine Barrett (OH)

The 2005 Conference in Phoenix was the best organized event that I have ever attended. The work of our President, Robin Read, and all of the staff, was phenomenal. They were very helpful, informed, and accessible.

Representative Anna Crook (NM)

The conference was great. The roundtables, workshops and policy committees were very interesting and useful. They get better each time. Thank you for everything.



Assemblywoman Teresa Sayward (NY)

The Conference was great! Well organized, informative workshops, interesting guest speakers.... I felt a renewal of my own energy and commitment to serving the people.



Senator Martha G. Scott (MI)

I was impressed with the Alaska Resolution calling for adding ABC codes to fill the gap in national supply chain management and data collection from all healthcare practitioners.



Representative Jackie Walorski Swihart (IN)

I am normally not a big fan of conferences because they take time away from my job and my family but the NFWL Conference will be a "must attend" from this point forward! As a freshman legislator, I learned so much and appreciated the depth in the various issues discussed. The evening events were great fun and the amount of events packed into one day was incredible. Thanks so much for allowing me to be a small part of a great Conference!



**Join NFWL in Washington DC this Spring
for Women Lawmakers' Networking Day**

**Dates and further details will be
available soon on the web,
www.womenlegislators.org**

NFWL

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