

FEW Notes

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The
President's
Pencil.....
By Brenda Hagar

As we turn yet another page on the 2006 calendar I find myself already saying, "where has this year gone?" I suppose that's why I've always been told to make the best of everyday.

On February 20 the United States will be celebrating the Federal Holiday of Presidents Day. Please take a few moments of your time to pay respect to all of the past Presidents of the United States that have taken part in molding this great United States.

In February 17th EJ and I head to the Dutch Antilles for a week long vacation. I promise I will be thinking of each one of you while we are in the 85 degree temperature and enjoying the wonderful underwater life of Curacao!!!

One last item – NTP is fast approaching. The registration books are not out as of today but keep checking the website. FEW.ORG NTP will be held in Atlanta, GA this year from July 17 – 21. It will be a wonderful time of networking and training.

Have a GREAT month.

*NEXT BOARD MEETING
AIRPORT HOLIDAY INN*

April 10, 2006

5:00 P.M.



GOKC CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD 2004-2006		
President	Brenda Hagar	(w) 954-4514 (h) 376-5318
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FEW'S NATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Information from www.few.org

Now in its 37th year, FEW's National Training Program (NTP) offers something for everyone. But first and foremost, it focuses on providing quality training and educational opportunities. The 2006 NTP with motivational keynote speakers and networking opportunities will assist attendees in creating a successful vision of their future career possibilities.

Two types of scholarships are available for those who would like to attend NTP. There is an NTP General Scholarship and a NTP Retiree Scholarship available. President Hagar previously

sent this information to all members, but if you need this information again, please call her.

If you have never attended an NTP, you should make plans to go – it is an excellent training program! The program will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, July 17 – 21.

Visit the National FEW website at www.few.org for more information.

*FEW Backs Personnel
Reform But Urges
Caution*



Rhonda Trent FEW National VP

From: www.govexec.com

FEW released a position paper on the Bush Administration's draft, Working for America Act. The act, if introduced and passed by Congress, would institute pay-for-performance and market-driven raises, while at the same time put a limit on union influence.

FEW National Vice President, Rhonda Trent said "We support, in concept, a pay-for-performance proposal,". but, she added, "certain parameters must be met and included before any agency should move forward in implementation."

FEW's paper advocated putting government-wide reforms on hold until similar personnel changes are implemented at the Homeland Security and Defense departments. Both departments have been stymied by union lawsuits and difficulties in designing a workable pay-for-performance program.

Linda Springer, Office of Personnel Management Director, said she welcomes FEW's input.

"I am glad Federally Employed Women is interested and took time to review the Working for America Act," Springer said. "I'm particularly pleased they are supportive of pay-for-performance systems."

While FEW does support pay for performance, we have a concern that performance-based increases will replace both across-the-board raises and performance bonuses. FEW is advocating a separate fund to keep bonuses intact.



From: http://www.patriotism.org/presidents_day/

The original version of the President's Day was in commemoration of George Washington's birthday in 1796 (the last full year of his presidency).

By the early 19th century, Washington's Birthday had taken firm root in the American experience as a bona fide national holiday. Then along came Abraham Lincoln, another revered president and fellow February baby (born on the 12th of the month). The first formal observance of his birthday took place in 1865, the year after his assassination, when both houses of Congress gathered for a memorial address. While Lincoln's Birthday did not become a federal holiday like George Washington's, it did become a legal holiday in several states.

In 1968, legislation (HR 15951) was enacted that affected several federal holidays. One of these was Washington's Birthday, the observation of which was shifted to the third Monday in February each year whether or not it fell on the 22nd. This act, which took effect in 1971, was designed to simplify the yearly calendar of holidays and give federal employees some standard three-day weekends in the process.

Apparently, while the holiday in February is still officially known as Washington's Birthday (at least according to the Office of Personnel Management), it has become popularly (and, perhaps in some cases at the state level, legally) known as "President's Day." This has made the third Monday in February a day for honoring



February 22	Debi Talley
February 24	Tammie Kierstead
February 26	Elane Essic

*Coretta Scott King
dies*



Coretta Scott King, wife of America's late Civil Rights activist, Martin Luther King Jr., died January 30 at the age of 78 after battling ovarian cancer and the effects of a stroke. Many think she was a rare gem whom Americans will live to celebrate for a long time in the name of all that civil liberties will ever stand for. Hers was one life that defined an era.

Ms. King stood resolutely with her husband Rev. Martin Luther King. She was very much a soul-mate, comforter, and through the days of strife, struggle, activism and the long march into freedom.

Many Americans think that her greatest and most lasting contribution was the tenacity, courage and imagination with which she held the torch after her husband's assassination in 1968.

Coretta King showed great courage and unwavering sense of humanity and purpose throughout the decade in which she worked to have her husband's birthday as a national holiday. Her tenacity and perseverance paid off as she watched President Ronald Reagan sign the bill into law. The first Federal holiday was celebrated in 1986.

She was clearly devoted to her four children and shielded them from adversity, while they themselves blossomed into worthy heirs of the King legacy. The children were obviously her first and most enduring responsibility. Her youngest daughter, Bernice King, is scheduled as a distinguished speaker at the 2006 NTP, which will be held in Atlanta in July. Ms. King also wrote a well-received book, "My Life with Martin Luther King Jr."

We celebrate her life as well as the courage and dogged principles with which she carried out her historic tasks. Fittingly, she passed on at the beginning of the Black History month, a process which she helped to shape, having herself passed out of history and into legend.



HURRIED WOMEN'S SYNDROME



From: <http://womensissues.about.com>

Coined by Dr. Brent Bost, a Hurried Woman Syndrome diagnosis is determined by women who suffer from three things:

- Fatigue or low moods
- Weight gain, most notably in the waist
- Loss of sex drive

Bost says that up to 30 million women may suffer from the syndrome each year, which affects women aged 25-55, typically with children.

The cause for the syndrome is mismanaged stress that comes from a busy, hurried lifestyle. That stress builds up a chemical imbalance in the brain's Serotonin-Dopamine system - causing fatigue, an increase in appetite, and lost interest in multiple activities. The fatigue and overeating cause weight gain, resulting in more stress and self-doubt. The cycle continues to build upon itself and ultimately results in the Hurried Woman Syndrome.

Experts say that in order to overcome hurried women's syndrome, you have to set priorities and slow yourself down.



Mar. 3, 1847: ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL'S BIRTHDAY



A pioneer in the field of telecommunications, Alexander Graham Bell was born in 1847 in Edinburgh, Scotland. He moved to Ontario, and then to the United States, settling in Boston, before beginning his career as an inventor. Throughout his life, Bell had been interested in the education of deaf people. This interest led him to invent the microphone and, in 1876, his "electrical speech machine," which we now call a telephone. News of his invention quickly spread throughout the country, even throughout Europe. By 1878, Bell had set up the first telephone exchange in New Haven, Connecticut. By 1884, long distance connections were made between Boston, Massachusetts and New York City.

Bell imagined great uses for his telephone, but would he ever have imagined telephone lines being used to transmit video images? Since his death in 1922, the telecommunication industry has undergone an amazing revolution. Today, non-hearing people are able to use a special display telephone to communicate. Fiber optics are improving the quality and speed of data transmission. Actually, your ability to access this information relies upon telecommunications technology. Bell's "electrical speech machine" paved the way for the Information Superhighway.

What would Bell think today – nearly every person carries their own phone with them. The basic concept of cellular phones began in 1947, when researchers looked at crude mobile (car) phones and realized that by using small cells (range of service area) with frequency reuse they could increase the traffic capacity of mobile phones substantially. However at that time, the technology to do so was nonexistent.

Dr Martin Cooper, a former general manager for the systems division at Motorola, is considered the inventor of the first modern portable handset. Cooper made the first call on a portable cell phone in April 1973.

Despite the incredible demand, it took cellular phone service 37 years to become commercially available in the United States. Consumer demand quickly outstripped the 1982 system standards. By 1987, cellular telephone subscribers exceeded one million and the airways were crowded.

In 1994, 16 million Americans subscribed to cellular phone services. Today, it is estimated that more than 1.2 billion people worldwide are subscribers.



From this



To this



