

FEW Notes

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Federally Employed Women Inc.
Greater Oklahoma City
Chapter #30

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From the President...
Reflections & Highlights
By Debbie L. Miller

My two-year term as Chapter President will conclude this month so this is my final Reflections & Highlights article for the newsletter. The two years have passed so quickly but it contained many memorable moments. I want to sincerely thank my entire Executive Board for their professional support throughout my term as President. Their personal contributions molded this chapter and their achievements were noted and truly appreciated. Overall, the Presidential leadership role has been a tremendously rewarding experience and it has been a pleasure fulfilling the required responsibilities. I am extremely proud of our noteworthy accomplishments listed below.

- *The 2007 SW Regional Training Program (RTP) - It was one of the most financially successful RTPs in recent years; therefore, my goal as Co-Chair was achieved.*
- *Partnering with the Oklahoma Women's Legislative Coalition - Co-hosting the 2008 Women's Legislative Day provided the chapter a venue to discuss pertinent legislative bills and issues benefiting women. The opinions of professional women were heard by our state representatives and the outcome was effective.*
- *Hosting community activities and programs - The various events provided wonderful opportunities to publicize FEW and it allowed me to personally interact with many individuals across the state. The chapter's commitment to encourage new memberships helped fulfill our chapter goals as we truly believed that FEW's motto, "Working for the advancement of women in Government" is achievable.*
- *Achieving National Award recognition - Winning four National awards ... gratifying! The 2008 outstanding record of achievement truly exceeded my goals.*

My final Presidential responsibilities will be fulfilled at the closing session of the 2008 National Training Program (NTP). The gavel will transition to the incoming Chapter President, Brenda Hagar, and she will provide the highlights of the entire NTP week in the August newsletter—don't miss it!

*Once again, **THANK YOU** chapter members for your support—without you, the path of success would not have been achievable. May God continue to bless everyone in their future endeavors.*

Annual Membership Meeting & Officer Installation Ceremony

By Debbie L. Miller

The Sportsman's Country Club Hunter's Room provided the perfect accommodations and ambiance for the GOKC chapter's Annual Membership Training and Officer Installation Ceremony held June 26, 2008. Ms. Jennifer Mott, Vice President of Membership, reviewed the pertinent facts and information with the audience and the training closed with guests participating in a question & answer session.

The Officer Installation Ceremony was outstanding. Ms. Jo Smith, Vice President of Programs, was the Mistress of Ceremonies and she intertwined her writing talents into the ceremonial script, "It is Written." Jo presented each incoming officer with a writing pen while she skillfully defined the position's responsibilities. Jo's personal flair was very evident as she closed each officer's presentation with a notable and encouraging remark.

Fifteen individuals attended the June 26th events. Besides the wonderful selection of food, I can truly state the ceremony left a memorable impression with each guest.

Jo Smith (far left)
welcoming the incoming
officers at the Officer
Installation Ceremony. (L to
R) Brenda Hagar, Jennifer
Mott, Lynn Carroll, Ellen
McKenzie, Carolyn Delong
and Susan Arnett



Outgoing President Debbie L. Miller and
Incoming President Brenda Hagar

2008 – 2010 GOKC FEW Executive Board

By Debbie L. Miller

I would like to extend my congratulations to the newly-elected GOKC chapter officers:

President – Brenda K. Hagar
1st Vice President of Membership – Susan E. Arnett
2nd Vice President of Programs – Carolyn L. Delong
Secretary – Ellen E. McKenzie
Treasurer – Lynn T. Carroll
Nominations – Jennifer L. Mott

These individuals made the commitment to serve FEW and the GOKC chapter. Your new Chapter Officers will begin their 2008-2010 responsibilities at the conclusion of the 39th National Training Program. I encourage all FEW members to participate at scheduled chapter meetings, programs, and events and support Brenda in the chapter's future activities. As President, Brenda will be appointing committee chairpersons so if you are interested in serving on the board, please contact her.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW OFFICERS!

Star Spangled Banner

The Star-Spangled Banner is the national anthem of the United States of America. The lyrics come from a poem written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key, a then 35-year-old amateur poet who wrote "Defence of Fort McHenry" after seeing the bombardment of Fort McHenry at Baltimore, Maryland, by Royal Navy ships in Chesapeake Bay during the War of 1812.

The poem was set to the tune of a popular British drinking song, written by John Stafford Smith for the Anacreontic Society, a London social club. "The Anacreontic Song" (or "To Anacreon in Heaven"), set to various lyrics, was already popular in the United States. Set to Key's poem and renamed "The Star-Spangled Banner", it would soon become a well-known American patriotic song. With a range of one and a half octaves, it is known for being difficult to sing. Although the song has four stanzas, only the first is commonly sung today, with the fourth ("O thus be it ever when free men shall stand ...") added on more formal occasions.

"The Star-Spangled Banner" was recognized for official use by the Navy in 1889 and the President in 1916, and was made the national anthem by a congressional resolution on March 3, 1931 (46 Stat. 1508, codified at [36 U.S.C. § 301](#)), which was signed by President Herbert Hoover.

Before 1931, other songs served as the hymns of American officialdom. Most prominent among them was "Hail, Columbia," which served as the *de facto* national anthem from Washington's time and through the 18th and 19th centuries. Following the War of 1812 and subsequent American wars, other songs would emerge to compete for popularity at public events, among them "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Slowing Economy Forces 20% of Workers to Delay Retirement

A recent AARP survey showed that 20% of those aged 55-64 are being forced to delay retirement because of the slowing economy. Of those, one-third said it was because of falling portfolio value, and 18% blamed falling home values.

Among younger workers (45-54), 25% will delay retirement, with 20% citing lower retirement funds, and one-third falling home values.

Unfortunately, many of those who plan to keep working will be forced to stop due to health problems or other issues over which they have no control. According to an Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI) survey of current retirees, only 28% had been able to continue working until age 65. Nearly 40% had been forced into an unplanned, early "retirement" due to health problems (28%), downsizing (28%), caring for family member (25%) or were told they had obsolete skills.

What It Means to You

If you are among those who are forced to keep working, make sure you can! Safeguard your ability to work by checking out the following articles from other About.com Guides:

1. Health - Safeguard your health.
2. Caring for others - Look into long-term care insurance for them.
3. Downsizing - Look into your own career planning.
4. Obsolete skills - Make sure your skills are up-to-date.

Happy Birthday!

Jennifer Mott - July 8th

Jan Bernard - July 10th

Lyn Osburn - July 26th

**GOKC CHAPTER
EXECUTIVE BOARD
2006-2008**

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| President | Debbie L. Miller |
| Immediate Past President | Brenda Hagar |
| VP Membership | Jennifer Mott |
| VP Programs | Jo Smith |
| Secretary | Catherine Ortiz |
| Treasurer | Carolyn Delong |
| Nominations Chair | Kim Hare |
| Bylaws | Ellen McKenzie |
| Legislative | Tammie Kierstead |
| Compliance/Diversity | Susan Arnett |
| Ways & Means | Vacant |
| Parliamentarian | Alverzine Miles |
| Finance | Madelyn Stallcup |
| Resolutions/Awards | Traci McDonald |
| Newsletter/Publicity | Catherine Ortiz |

If additional information is required, please contact the Chapter President at
Debbie.L.Miller@faa.gov



**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
GREATER OKLAHOMA CITY FEDERALLY EMPLOYED WOMEN
P.O Box 890718
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73189-0718**

Month/Year Joined: / **DOB (MM/DD Only)** / **Membership ID** _____
LAST NAME: **FIRST NAME:** **MI**
ADDRESS 1:
ADDRESS 2:
CITY **STATE** **ZIP CODE + 4**
OFFICE PHONE: **HOME PHONE:**
FAX: **EMAIL:**

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------|
| GRADE (check) | | FWP/EEO (check) | DEMOGRAPHICS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GS 1-4 | <input type="checkbox"/> SES | <input type="checkbox"/> FWP Full-Time | SEX (M/F): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GS 5-8 | <input type="checkbox"/> WG | <input type="checkbox"/> FWP Part-Time | RACE: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GS 9-12 | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> EEO | YEARS OF SERVICE: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GS 13-15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other FWP/EEO | RETIRED (Y/N) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GS 16+ | | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable | |

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

FEW is comprised of chapters throughout the world. Membership is open to all Federal Employees and to any other person supporting the goals and objectives of FEW. More information about our local chapter is posted on the GOKC FEW website: <http://www.gokcfew.org>. For more information about the FEW organization, our site links to the National web site. The National FEW office address is: P.O. Box 75551, Baltimore, MD 21275.

National membership dues are \$25.00 for chapter members, and \$35.00 for members-at-large (no chapter affiliation). To join the Greater Oklahoma City Chapter, the total dues are \$33.00 per year (\$25 National, \$1 Regional, \$7 Chapter); dues are prorated to the joining month. Use the table below. Eligibility for chapter membership is contingent upon national membership. National lifetime membership is a one-time fee of \$300.00.

Membership Dues are prorated. Month Chosen must match "month/year joined" above.

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|
| | Nat/ Reg/ Chap/ Total | | Nat/ Reg/ Chap/ Total | National | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> March | \$25.00/ 3.00/ 7.00/ 35.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> September | \$12.00/ 3.00/ 4.00/ 19.00 | Chapter | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> April | \$23.00/ 3.00/ 6.50/ 32.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> October | \$10.00/ 3.00/ 3.50/ 16.50 | Region | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> May | \$21.00/ 3.00/ 6.00/ 30.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> November | \$ 8.00/ 3.00/ 3.00/ 14.00 | Total Due | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> June | \$19.00/ 3.00/ 5.50/ 27.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> December | \$ 6.00/ 3.00/ 2.50/ 11.50 | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> July | \$17.00/ 3.00/ 5.00/ 25.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> January | \$ 4.00/ 3.00/ 2.00/ 9.00 | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> August | \$15.00/ 3.00/ 4.50/ 22.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> February | \$ 2.00/ 3.00/ 0.50/ 5.50 | | |

Select One:

- I wish to join the _____ Chapter as a regular member (enclosed prorated amount above).
- I wish to join as a Member-at-large (enclose prorated amount + \$10.00)
- Payment (\$300.00) is enclosed for a Lifetime Membership.

Referred/Recruited By (one name only): _____

Recruitment Event (If applicable): _____

Contributions or gifts to FEW are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income tax purposes.