

FEW Notes

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Federally Employed Women Inc.
**Greater Oklahoma City
Chapter, No. 30**

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

This country has gone through a really rough hurricane season. Not only have Louisiana and Mississippi been torn apart, just this past month we saw Florida take a beating. Never in my life do I ever remember such a bad hurricane season. I'm guessing, I've never been interested or even noticed. We in Oklahoma don't watch hurricanes – just tornados. My exception this year is I had a week vacation planned to Cancun, Mexico. One week before my trip we watched as hurricane Wilma stayed stationery over Cancun for over 2 days. However, all is not lost.....EJ and I leave on Saturday, November 12 for our week in Cancun.

I forgot to mention Veteran's Day last month. What an important date to remember. I hope you all took time this Veteran's day to thank a Veteran for protecting our country to make it free for us to live here. We owe these brave women and men a lot!!!

Our next program will be our Annual Holiday Social. It will be Friday, December 2 at 6:30 p.m. The location will be at my house in Mustang. We WILL play dirty Santa this year.

For our Christmas project this year we are visiting the women veterans at the VA Hospital. We will be taking a pot luck lunch and giving them various toiletry items. We will meet at the VA Hospital at 10:00 that morning to prepare a tasty lunch for the women. We will also be staying around to visit with them and play games. If you have any questions about these two events please feel free to call me at 405-376-5318. I hope to see you all there.

Please remember to be Thankful for all God has blessed you with this year and years past. There is nothing more priceless than our family and health.

Make this a wonderful month and be a blessing to someone.



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ROSA PARKS DIES AT THE AGE OF 92

Rosa Parks, whose act of civil disobedience in 1955 inspired the modern civil rights movement, died October 23, 2005, in Detroit, Michigan. She was 92.

Parks' moment in history began in December 1955 when she refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama.

Her arrest triggered a 381-day boycott of the bus system by blacks that was organized by a 26-year-old Baptist minister, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. The boycott led to a court ruling desegregating public transportation in Montgomery, but it wasn't until the 1964 Civil Rights Act that all public accommodations nationwide were desegregated.

Facing regular threats and having lost her department store job because of her activism, Parks moved from

Alabama to Detroit in 1957. She later joined the staff of U.S. Rep. John Conyers, a Michigan Democrat.

Even into her 80s, she was active on the lecture circuit, speaking at civil rights groups and accepting awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1996 and the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999.

"This medal is encouragement for all of us to continue until all have rights," she said at the June 1999 ceremony for the latter medal.

IS THERE A GENDER GAP IN VOTING?



From About.com

The gender gap is the difference between the proportion of women and the proportion of men voting for the winning candidate. In the 2004 election, the gender gap was 7% percentage points - 48% of women voted to re-elect President Bush, versus 55% of men.

How Long the Gender Gap Existed?

There has been a gender gap in every presidential election since 1980. That gap has been as low as 4% in 1992, and as high as 11% in 1996. The gender gap is also evident across race, marital status, age, and education.

Does the Gender Gap Exist in Areas Outside of the Presidential Election?

Yes, the gender gap does exist in a variety of contemporary issues:

- 50% of women feel that the government is doing too much, versus 66% of men (Gallup for CNN 6/96)
- 50% of women feel that the government is doing too much, versus 66% of men (Gallup for CNN 6/96)
- 55% of women would rather have a smaller government providing fewer services, versus 67% of men (CBS 2/96)
- 27% of women believe that the best way to ensure peace is through military strength, versus 45% of men (Times Mirror Center for the People and The Press, 10/94)
- 47% of women favor cutting government spending on social programs, versus 60% of men (ABC News 8/96)
- 36% of women supported abolishing affirmative action programs, versus 52% of men (The New York Times 9/96)
- 69% of women felt that they did not have equal job opportunities with men, versus 59% of men (Gallup 9/95)

What Percentage of Women Vote?

From 1920, when women gained the right to vote, until 1980, women voted at a lower rate than men. In the 1980 election the votes were about equal, and since that time women have been voting at an increasingly higher rate than men. In the 2000 presidential elections, 56.2% of women reported voting as opposed to 53.1% of men.

What Does This Mean for Future Elections?

Since women very often make up the majority of undecided voters throughout a campaign and election, it would do politicians a wealth of good to appeal to women and their concerns.



OKLAHOMA
CELEBRATES
STATEHOOD

On November 16, 1907, Oklahoma, the Sooner State, was the 46th State admitted to the Union.

Did you know:

- ❖ The Pensacola Dam located at Grand Lake is the world's longest multiple arch dam
- ❖ Oklahoma has more man-made lakes than any other state
- ❖ The parking meter was invented, patented and installed in OKC
- ❖ The first shopping cart was invented by Sylvan Goldman of OKC
- ❖ OKC is the 3rd largest city in the US in land area at 608 square miles
- ❖ Oklahoma was part of the Louisiana Purchase Territory



THANKSGIVING
THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 24



The Thanksgiving holiday celebrated the 4th Thursday each November in the United States is known worldwide as an American custom, but its roots extend far back into human history.

The Pilgrims enjoyed a feast in 1621 near Plymouth, Massachusetts, after their first harvest. This is the feast people often refer to as "The First Thanksgiving." This feast was never repeated, so it can't be called the start of a tradition, nor did the colonists or Pilgrims call it a Thanksgiving Feast. In fact, to these devoutly religious people, a day of thanksgiving was a day of prayer and fasting.

Nevertheless, the 1621 feast has become a model for the Thanksgiving celebration in the United States. More than likely, this first harvest feast was eaten outside, based on the fact that the colonists didn't have a building large enough to accommodate all the people who came. Native Americans definitely were among the invited guests, and it's possible, even probable, that turkey (roasted but not stuffed) and pumpkin in some form found their way to the table.

AND, A LITTLE THANKSGIVING HUMOR

(FROM <http://www.butlerwebs.com/holidays>)

What do you get when you cross a turkey with a banjo?

A turkey that can pluck himself!

What do you get if you divide the circumference of a pumpkin by its diameter?

Pumpkin pi.

If someone is hooked on eating Thanksgiving dinner leftovers... *Can that person quit "cold turkey?"*

"I come from family where gravy is considered a beverage."

Erma Bombeck



PEGGY O'NEAL
WINS HONORABLE
MENTION



Submitted by Tammie Kierstead

Each year the Department of Veteran Affairs Women Veterans Coordinators recognize Oklahoma's Woman Veteran of the Year at a special ceremony held the Saturday before Veterans' Day. This year we are please to announce that Peggy O'Neal founder and current Secretary of GOKC FEW Chapter was nominated for Oklahoma's Woman of the year award. Brenda Hagar, President of the GOKC FEW Chapter and Tammie Kierstead, Vice President/Program were honored to escort Ms. O'Neal to the ceremony held November 5th at the Biltmore Hotel. Ms. O'Neal won honorable mention and received a certificate that she will forever cherish. We are very proud of Ms. Peggy and her contributions throughout the years, and will always be thought of as our HERO!

Congratulations



FEW sponsors and annual membership contest. The dates for the ongoing contest are June 1, 2005, through May 31, 2006.



The contest prizes are:

- 1st Place – An airline voucher for 2
- 2nd Place – Handheld GPS
- 3rd Place – Digital camera

For complete details and rules, go to www.few.org and click on the "Activities" button.



Battling Breast Cancer

Program a Success!

By Tammie Kierstead

Thank you to all that participated in our October Breast Cancer Awareness Program. We had a great time and a big turnout!

Rachel Sweet, retired missionary, spoke about her struggles with breast cancer followed by her daughter Merlyn Sweet Kelley. Merlyn, a Registered Nurse, gave specific instruction on giving a self breast exam and gave some important tips when feeling for potential lumps. The website Breastcancer.com, as well as most leading authorities, recommend self examination monthly.

Vicki Randall, from the Department of Veterans Affairs ended the program by telling us about life after breast cancer and reconstructive surgery. Using humor to go through life, she said there is nothing better than having a clean bill of health along with bigger boobs and a thinner body than she had before!

Pink roses and gifts were given to all survivors and a moment of silence was held for those that were not so fortunate battling breast cancer.



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|-------------|--------------|
| December 2 | Rhonda Trent |
| December 11 | Dalia Lopez |
| December 12 | Linda Vaughn |
| December 14 | Jim Bina |



Come join us!



**The Greater Oklahoma City FEW Chapter
will be celebrating a Christmas morning with
Women Veterans at the Department of Veterans Affairs.**

When: Saturday Dec. 3rd

Where: Veterans Hospital off NE 13th Street

What Time: 10:00 a.m.

What to bring: A covered microwavable dish (pot luck)



We will meet in the Health Wing (gym) located on the ground floor of the Medical Center. We will meet the Women Veterans, talk, play games, and provide a Christmas pot luck lunch. After lunch, we will watch as they open their gifts that we have provided for them. Any questions, call Tammie at 620-1429.



**Greater Okalahoma City Chapter
Federally Employed Women**

**Annual
Christmas Social**



December 2, 2005
6:30 p.m.

Brenda and EJ's
1328 S. Ebeling Drive
Mustang, OK 73064

**Bring A Dirty Santa Gift for you and your guest!!!
Spouses and Guests Welcome
RSVP 376-5318 or 650-4514**



