



Communicator

A PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

www.nfdw.com

Spring 2008

Letter from the Second Vice-President

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Dear Federation Members

I am delighted to bring greetings from the capitol city, the District of Columbia, the home of “taxation without representation” and the seat of the United States government.

This is truly a wonderful time to be a Democrat. In 2006 we welcomed a Democratic Congress for the first time in years and a Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, an extraordinary, Democratic woman.

I am sure that you, like me watch the debates with great pride as we listen and observe our brilliant Democratic candidates for President debate the critical issues which face our nation and the world as we anticipate a Democrat in the White House.

It is so exciting to see candidates that reflect the landscape of America and its diversity. Although different in style and methodology, each candidate has shown that they share a belief in the Democratic ideals of equality, humanitarianism, opportunity, prosperity for all and peace.

I presently serve as Legislative Chair of the Federation and have served in this area for several years. Each year at convention we discuss the legislative issues which face our country with a special emphasis on women and families. We have reviewed the proposals on health care, domestic violence, education, energy, foreign relations, pay equity, hate crimes and a myriad of other issues. For the last several years in a Republican dominated Congress and White House, we have seen bills that have passed one house or both houses of Congress, only to be vetoed at the executive level. We have seen domestic funding for programs slashed in order to pay for an unjustified war or tax cuts.

This year, when our Federation gathers in Albuquerque, we will have a legislative workshop to review what is happening in our regions as well as nationally.

For me, it is always exciting to be with my Federation sisters because they are doing so much to effect changes in their communities and nationally. They have taught me how to raise funds and to get the candidates who support our ideals elected. They have shared their ideas and best practices and encouragement, as well. I can’t wait to see you all again and to welcome new participants.

Let’s get ready to elect more women, more Democrats and a Democratic President of the U.S. so that you can improve my neighborhood.

Yes we can and yes, we will.

Janice Haynes Davis
NFDW 2ndVice President

Call for Resolutions



TIME is running out!

RESOLUTIONS DUE BY APRIL 28th

Resolutions must be submitted to the Chair of the Resolutions Committee one (1) month prior to the Annual Meeting. The Resolutions Committee shall present all resolutions to the Annual Meeting together with their recommendations. Resolutions signed by at least (10) delegates representing at least (5) states may be received from the floor.

Resolutions should be short and to the point, addressing only one concern, should contain no more than three statements beginning with {"Whereas," and should make only one recommendation in the statement beginning with "Resolved."

The resolve should require action that can be accomplished. There should be only one issue in a resolution. If more than one is needed, a separate resolution should address that issue.

If you have any questions, please call Marge Burke, Chair at (304) 462-8810.

Please mail your resolutions postmarked by April 28, 2008 to:

MARGE BURKE • P O BOX 300 • SAND FORK, WV 26430

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FOUNDER

Rilla Moran Woods,
North Carolina

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NFDW Treasurer Johnnie Patton, 6513 Trace Dr., Jackson, MS 39213

2008 CONVENTION NEW MEXICO!

Dear Friends:

On behalf of Democratic Women of New Mexico it is my great privilege to **welcome you to New Mexico for the 37th Annual National Federation Democratic Women Convention.**

We feel fortunate to be hosting the 2008 convention in such a very exciting year.

Democratic Women: Taking Action! Making History! Polls are proving that when our women vote, our national candidates are winning! We hope that you agree, we have chosen the right theme for this convention.


The "Land of Enchantment" offers a rich and diverse culture for you to enjoy. We have exciting pre-convention events planned to include discovering historic Santa Fe, Acoma "Sky City" the oldest

continuously inhabited city in the US and the Federation Pac Fundraiser Western Round up. The convention will offer energizing keynote presentations and breakouts.

I'm proud of the hard working Democratic Women of New Mexico. They have worked extremely hard to make the convention successful. I also sense they are having a good time doing it! They give me the energy to serve them and we are looking forward to seeing you soon!

With Best Wishes,

Kathy Duffy
President
Democratic Women of
New Mexico



National Federation of Democratic Women
7211 E. Lincoln, Wichita, KS 67207 (316) 612-9709 e-mail: president@nfdw.com

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Connecticut
FOUNDER Rilla Moran Woods
North Carolina

Dear State Presidents of NFDW,

The New Mexico Federation of Democratic Women is very excited about the NFDW Convention they are hosting on **May 28th through June 1, 2008**, and I hope you are excited also! There will be tours planned before the Convention for those that want to come early. On Wed. the 28th a tour to Santa Fe is planned from 1:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. –back in time for the Executive Board meeting.

The Convention will be at the **Marriott Hotel & Resort, 2101 Louisiana Blvd., NE, Albuquerque, NM, 87110. Call 505-881-6800 or 800-228-9290 for reservations-be sure to mention you are with NFDW!** Room rates are \$75.00-single, \$95.00-double, \$115.00 triple, and suites are \$250.00.

There will be lots of fun as well as the important business of our organization that will take place. There will be a Turquoise and Silver party, as well as auctions, awards given, **election of two DNC members for a four year term starting after the National Convention in Denver**, and friendly Democrats to meet.

We are a fund-raising as well as a fun raising organization. For the auctions to work **each state is to bring an item for the auction with a value of no less than \$50.00.** You will also need to bring twenty-five wrapped, \$1.00 items, but you will hear more about that from our Finance Chair, Carye Blaney.

I hope to see you there, so make your hotel reservations right away!

Democratically yours,
Helen Knetzer
Helen Knetzer,
President NFDW

Ardena Matlack
Ardena Matlack
Corresponding Secretary

Representing Democratic Women Throughout America Since 1972

2008 CONVENTION

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2008

6:00 PM **WILD BILL ROUND-UP - FUNDRAISER FOR THE FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN PAC**
JOIN US FOR AN OLD-FASHIONED SOUTHWESTERN ROUNDUP! ENJOY DELICIOUS BARBEQUE, LISTEN TO WESTERN MUSIC -- EVEN LEARN A FEW NEW DANCE STEPS! HOB NOB WITH POLITICIANS, CELEBRITIES, AND DEDICATED DEMOCRATIC WOMEN FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008

8:00 AM REGISTRATION

7:30-8:30 AM FIRST TIMER'S BREAKFAST ORIENTATION

7:30-8:30 AM STATE PRESIDENT'S BREAKFAST AND ROUNDTABLE

9:00 AM OPENING SESSION

12:00 PM PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON
NEW MEXICO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, DIANE DENISH (INVITED)

2:00 PM LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOP

3:45 PM FREE TIME

6:00 PM **"SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS FIESTA"** —CELEBRATE DEMOCRATIC WOMEN REACHING NEW HEIGHTS AT ALBUQUERQUE'S FAMOUS BALLOON FIESTA PARK. THIS WILL BE A NIGHT TO REMEMBER!

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2008

7:30 AM BREAKFAST

9:00 AM BUSINESS SESSION I

11:00 AM REGIONAL MEETINGS

12:00 PM AWARDS LUNCHEON

2:00 PM DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP

3:45 PM FREE TIME

6:00 PM **DARE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE CELEBRATION DINNER**

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2008

9:00 AM BUSINESS SESSION II

11:45 AM ADJOURNMENT

2008 CONVENTION

REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE ONE FORM PER PERSON.

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

PLEASE CHECK HERE IF YOU ARE A FIRST TIME CONFERENCE PARTICIPANT.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, PLEASE PROVIDE A CONTACT PERSON:

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

SPECIAL NEEDS/REQUESTS:

VEGETARIAN MEALS REQUESTED

OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS. PLEASE SPECIFY:

REGISTRATION:

\$155.00, PAYABLE UNTIL MAY 1, 2008

\$180.00, POSTMARKED MAY 2ND OR AFTER

\$75.00, YOUNG DEMOCRAT/COLLEGE DEM

TOUR REGISTRATION: (YOU MAY SIGN UP FOR MORE THAN ONE TOUR IF DESIRED)

\$60.00: TOUR A TO SANTA FE

\$50.00: TOUR B TO ACOMA SKY CITY

\$160.00: TOUR C HOT AIR BALLOONING

I DO NOT WISH TO REGISTER FOR A TOUR

\$25.00 SILVER AND TURQUOISE NECKLACE DRAWING (10 TICKETS)

\$20.00 COMMUNICATOR SUBSCRIPTION

TOTAL REGISTRATION ENCLOSED



Taking Action,

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

37TH ANNUAL NFDW CONVENTION

MAIL TO:

NFDW REGISTRATION

MS. LINDA BARTH

P.O. Box 16284

ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87191-6284

Making History

TOUR INFORMATION



TOUR A: SANTA FE - "THE CITY DIFFERENT"

Historic, Artistic, Authentic - "The City Different" as it is known, will charm you as you visit the historic plaza, meander through unique shops, art galleries, restaurants and world-famous museums. Visit the **Loretto Chapel**, built by a mysterious carpenter believed by some to be St. Joseph.

This tour will be six hours and leaves from the hotel at 1:00 pm on Wednesday, May 28, 2008. The tour is \$60.00 and includes a guided walking tour of Santa Fe, admission to the Loretto Chapel and an exclusive wine and cheese reception at the Green Gallery in Tesuque. Get a sneak preview at www.glenngreengalleries.com

Santa Fe

TOUR B: DISCOVER ACOMA - "SKY CITY"

The people of Acoma Pueblo ("people of the white rock") live atop a 370-foot sandstone mesa. The 2,000-year-old "Sky City" has the distinction of being the oldest continuously inhabited community in North America. It is known as a cultural and art destination.



Fewer than 50 tribal members live year-round in the earthen homes of Sky City. It is the first Native American community designated by the National Trust of Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C. as a National Historic Trust Site. Those living in the community maintain the massive San Estevan del Rey Mission, which was completed in 1640.

This tour leaves from the hotel at 10:30 AM on Thursday, May 29, 2008. The tour is five hours and the \$50.00 fee includes a box lunch and the walking tour admission fee.

Acoma

TOUR C: HOT AIR BALLOONING -- ONE OF OUR SPECIALTIES!

If being at the "top of the world" at Sky City is not high enough for you, then try being high above your host city when you take a hot air balloon ride. Rainbow Ryders, the official hot air balloon sponsor of the NFDW Convention, will be offering hot air balloon rides for our convention adventurers. If you want to have a "bird's eye view" of your host city, then sign up! Your balloon pilot will meet you in the hotel lobby at 5:30 AM and you will return at 9:45 AM. Balloon rides will be offered on Wednesday, May 28th and Thursday, May 29th.



Balloons

2008 CONVENTION

HOTEL INFORMATION

Deadline: May 12, 2008

ALBUQUERQUE MARRIOTT
2121 LOUISIANA BLVD. NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87110
505-881-6800

THIS HOTEL IS NON-SMOKING

HOTEL INFORMATION:

CHECK-IN 3:00 PM
CHECK-OUT 12:00 PM

FEATURES:

- ON-SITE AND GREAT RESTAURANTS WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE
- SHOPPING AND SERVICES JUST STEPS AWAY FROM THE HOTEL
- INDOOR AND OUTDOOR POOL
- FITNESS CENTER

RATES:

STANDARD:

SINGLE: \$75 / DOUBLE: \$95.00

TRIPLE: \$115.00 / QUAD: \$135.00

SUITE: \$250.00

GETTING TO ALBUQUERQUE:

AIRLINES THAT SERVE ALBUQUERQUE INCLUDE:
AMERICAN, CONTINENTAL, DELTA, FRONTIER,
GREAT LAKES, NORTHWEST, SKYWEST,
SOUTHWEST, UNITED AND U.S. AIRWAYS. VISIT
WWW.CABQ.GOV/AIRPORT FOR MORE INFORMATION.

DOOR-TO-DOOR SHUTTLE SERVICES:

SUNPORT SHUTTLE: 505.883.4966

PRICE:

- \$14 ONE-WAY FOR ONE PERSON, ADDITIONAL PERSONS ON SAME RESERVATIONS ARE \$5 MORE
- \$26 ROUNDTRIP FOR ONE PERSON, ADDITIONAL PERSONS ON SAME RESERVATIONS ARE \$10 MORE.

TAXI SERVICE:

YELLOW CAB COMPANY 505.247.8888

ESTIMATED PRICE: \$23.00 FROM SUNPORT



Hotel

2008 CONVENTION

VENDOR REGISTRATION FORM

VENDOR TABLES ARE AVAILABLE FROM FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008 AT 9:00 AM UNTIL NOON ON SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2008.

VENDOR RESERVATIONS:

ORGANIZATION OR BUSINESS NAME: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

TYPE OF MERCHANDISE OR PRODUCT: _____

YES, I WILL NEED AN ELECTRICAL OUTLET

VENDOR REGISTRATION FEES

\$150.00 FOR FIRST TABLE

\$100.00 FOR ADDITIONAL TABLE

TOTAL AMOUNT INCLUDED

**** NOTE: THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN NOR THE DEMOCRATIC WOMEN OF NEW MEXICO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR VENDOR ITEMS. PLEASE SECURE YOUR OWN MERCHANDISE.**

PLEASE SEND YOUR VENDOR REGISTRATION FORM AND FULL PAYMENT TO:

NFDW ANNUAL CONVENTION
ATTN: LINDA BARTH
P.O. Box 16284
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87191-6284



From Tennessee...

In the Winter edition of the Communicator, I told you that your sister club in Tennessee had celebrated a Golden Anniversary and was marching toward Pennsylvania Avenue. We continue to march, to work hard to achieve that goal and our efforts are paying off as we painted out state a beautiful BLUE in the primary. Yeah!

The next “stop” for us as we march toward the White House will be in Knoxville, Tennessee in April. We will join together for the TFDW state convention on April 18 and 19, in the shadow of the Suffragists Memorial, realizing that the work we do today is just as important as the work of those women who have gone before us. Our Federation is strong and we shall continue to honor our heritage and the work of the women in our past while we aggressively set goals and take action to begin our brighter future as our 2008 convention theme proclaims “A Brighter Future Begins.”

Democratic Women have such strength in unity and solidarity of purpose and I have challenged each of our Federation members to attend this year’s convention. Knoxville will be celebrating their Dogwood Festival while we are there. Knoxville will be welcoming in spring. Knoxville will be filled with dynamic Democratic Women from around our state. Knoxville is the next “stop” on our march to the White House. Knoxville is where you need to be in April! I extend an invitation to you to please join us in Tennessee where we will come together and unite in singleness of purpose to begin to work toward a better America by getting Democrats elected at all levels.

Vicky Harwell, President, TFDW

From the Finance Committee

The list below identifies the many fun, exciting and entertaining ways you and your members can help support the National Federation of Democratic Women. Our goal is to raise money and awareness at this year’s Convention in New Mexico!

BRING AN AUCTION ITEM

Each State is requested to bring at least one auction item valued at \$50 or greater for the auction. Items should not be wrapped. A good rule of thumb is to bring something you would buy yourself. If you like it, then others will too. The auction will be either silent or live depending on the space and agenda for the Convention.

BRING YOUR DOLLAR GIFTS

Back by popular demand... Each State is requested to bring at least 25 small individually wrapped items from your State. The National Federation will sell the items for \$1 each at our “Dollar Gift Table.” This is a fun and easy way to get to know our sister States in the Federation and what is important to each of them. The greater the participation...the more fun and success for the Federation.

TURQUOISE AND SILVER NECKLACE RAFFLE

The proceeds from this raffle benefit the Founders and Agnes Bird Scholarship which will allow a young Democratic woman to intern at the Democratic National Committee in Washington, D.C. for one month. This provides a unique opportunity to challenge one of our young Democratic women. This year’s necklace is gorgeous! See flyer for more details. The drawing will be held on Friday, May 30th during the Convention in New Mexico. The necklace retails for \$850! Get your chances now! You can purchase tickets on the web at nfdw.com, on your Convention Registration form, or from your State President, Regional Director or any National Board Member or by contacting Carye Blaney, 4th VP, Finance Chair at caryeblaney@hotmail.com or (304) 282-3005.

Ticket prices: \$5 = one ticket • \$20 = six tickets • \$25 = ten tickets

News from West Virginia

The members of the West Virginia Federation of Democratic Women, Inc. were saddened by the death of long time member and friend, House of Delegates member Margarette Leach who passed away in December 2007.

The new officers for 2008–2009 have hit the ground running. New State President Belinda Biafore is excited about the upcoming election year. “Democratic women are in it to win it” she said, “we are tired of the current administration and we are going to make a difference in November”.

The WVFDW’s Annual Democratic Women’s Legislative Day at the West Virginia State Capitol in Charleston, WV was a huge success. Over 150 women from across the State participated and met with State lawmakers.

Meetings are being conducted around the State by the Federation’s District Directors during the months of March and April. The workshops are focusing on training the President, Secretary, Treasurer and Parliamentarian in each of the West Virginia County clubs.

All eyes may be on West Virginia again, as the Democratic race for the Presidential nomination continues. West Virginia is usually not even thought of during the Primary election because its Primary, which is held in May, is so late in the season. “West Virginia gave John Kennedy the delegates he needed to secure the Presidential nomination at the Democratic National Convention in 1960”, said Marge Burke, a former WVFDW State President and former Speaker Pro-tem of the West Virginia House of Delegates. She continued, “I believe West Virginia is going to once again play a pivotal role at the Convention in Denver.”

fiesta night

Navajo Indian Turquoise Pendant and Heishi Necklace Raffle ***Proceeds benefit the Founders and Agnes Bird Scholarship***

Materials: Sterling Silver and Turquoise

Measurements: Pendant measures 3-1/4” long including bail. Necklace measures 16” long with a 3” extender chain (pendant can be removed and necklace may be worn separately)

Description: This is an excellent one-of-a-kind pendant and necklace set. The pendant is hand constructed by Navajo artist Johnny Watson using turquoise from the famous Arizona Sleeping Beauty mine. The sterling silver stylish setting of the pendant graces the turquoise stone a traditional setting. The necklace consists of two strands of graduated turquoise beads, also from the Sleeping Beauty mine. Each end of the turquoise heishi necklace is completed with sterling silver cones for a perfect finish. Pendant is stamped sterling and hallmarked by the artist.

Retail value: \$850.00

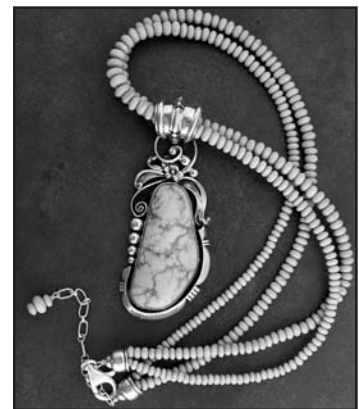
Turquoise is the birthstone of December. It is believed that turquoise tends to bring good fortune, strength and helps overcome illness. Turquoise got its name from the Levantine traders called Turks centuries ago. Native Americans have prized turquoise since the time of the Aztecs, and it is presently mined in many countries with Arizona turquoise being some of the best available. The natural variations that occur in turquoise are part of their appeal and beauty.

Tickets on Sale Now!

1 ticket = \$5 • 6 tickets = \$20 • 10 tickets = \$25

Drawing Date: Friday, May 30, 2008

Purchase tickets on the web at nfdw.com



Western Regional Meeting



NFDW attendees from New Mexico, California and Arizona attended the Arizona Women in Blue at the State Capitol.



Arizona Governor Napolitano welcomed everyone at the Arizona State Capitol.



New Mexico President Kathy Duffy was ALL blue for the Women in Blue Legislative Day.



Sharon Grosfeld, Executive Director, Women's Leadership Forum DNC.

Our Western Regional meeting was combined with the Arizona Federation and the Women in Blue Legislative Day. In the morning we all met at the Arizona State Capitol with continental breakfast on the Capitol lawn and a big welcome from Governor Napolitano. Lunch and workshops were at the Wyndham Hotel with Sharon Grosfeld, Executive Director for the Women's Leadership Forum, DNC, as the keynote speaker. It was a fantastic event. Thank you Marie Sedillo, Western Regional Director, and our hosts, Arizona Federation of Democratic Women.

NFDW to Sponsor Brunch in Denver

In 2004, the NFDW sponsored its second brunch event at the Boston, Massachusetts National Convention. It was a big success with over 500 people in attendance. We want to do it again at the Denver, Colorado Convention. This is an exceptional way to meet and honor women, elected officials, as well as delegates from across the country.

We will be honoring some of the most outstanding Democratic women. We need assistance getting sponsors. We are asking each state to purchase an ad in our ad book, highlighting their women delegates from their state. Full page ads — \$200; Half page ads — \$150; Quarter page ads — \$75

For your convenience, our website www.nfdw.com now has the ability to accept donations. Please visit our website today and make a contribution or you can mail your donations to: NFDW - Convention Brunch, c/o Johnnie Patton, NFDW treasurer, 6513 Trace Drive, Jackson, MS 39213.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and assistance, I look forward to your support.

Virgie Rollins

Past President NFDW; Chair, DNC Black Caucus; DNC Representative, NFDW

National Federation of Democratic Women

Helen Knetzer, President

7211 E. Lincoln

Wichita, KS 67207



CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB!

Check out our updated web site,

www.NFDW.com

We now have the ability to accept donations online & you can pay your state, club or individual dues online now as well.

Remember to send your news articles to **pattyhobbs@aol.com**.

We want to post your state & club activities.

This is a very busy election year & we want to help you be successful!
By putting your calendar of events on our site, you will have more exposure.