



The

CONNECTION

The National Order of Women Legislators...Founded in 1938 in Washington, DC... "The Power to Make a Difference"

HHS Secretary Tommy Thompson Announces Role for Women Legislators for Homeland Security & Bio-Terrorism

Secretary of Health and Human Services, Tommy Thompson, surprised attendees with an appearance at lunch on Saturday, November 23. He spoke to legislators about the new security concern for the U.S.: bio-terrorism.

With the nation still on high alert, Secretary Thompson told women legislators that they have a strong role to play in Homeland Security, and that there is a need for women to take the lead in protecting the country. He discussed the funding that is available from the Department of Health and Human Services for individual states to combat this new threat of bio-terrorism.

"Secretary Thompson really encouraged all women leaders to step up and use our role as community leaders to educate our constituents about the new threats we are facing and the ways in which we can prevent terrorism and/or be ready to respond if it occurs," said newly-installed NOWL President, Rep. Gail Buckner (GA).

NFWL Chair, Rep. Linda Bartelsmeyer (MO) added, "With

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Secretary Tommy Thompson and NFWL Chair Rep. Linda Bartelsmeyer (MO) announce bio-terrorism funding programs for women leaders at the NFWL Conference.



NOWL Pres.-Elect, Rep. Gail Buckner (GA), speaks with Pat Boone at the NFWL Salute to the Military at the 2002 NFWL Annual Conference in San Diego.

Women Legislators and Pat Boone Salute US Men and Women in the Armed Forces

"One of the most memorable events of the Annual Conference was NFWL's Salute to the Military at the U. S. Marine Corps Birthday Celebration," said City Councilwoman Bonnie Sue Cooper, former Missouri State Representative and former Chair of NFWL.

The U.S. Marines Corps tradition began in November 1921. "The Marines, wearing dress blues, along with women legislators in elegant evening wear, made quite an impression as Pat Boone entertained and saluted the military with his inspiring rendition of the Marine Corps' Hymn and his patriotic song, "Under God." said Sen. Bettye Davis (AK).

"What an amazing night," said President-Elect Rep. Gail Buckner (GA). "How wonderful it is that we are able to join these Marines in celebrating the birth of the institu-

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NFWL/HHS Co-Sponsor Historic North American Conference

U.S., Mexican, and Canadian officials met for two days in Mexico prior to the official opening of the Annual Conference in San Diego.

"This is the first time any Conference has ever straddled the border with two days on each side including women legislators from all fifty states, along with members of the Mexican and Canadian legislatures," said NFWL President, Robin Read. During these two days,



Rep. Ruth Ann Palumbo (KY), Lance Corporal Chris Gresham (TX), Rep. Robin Webb (KY), Rep. Carolyn Belcher (KY), Private First Class Daniel Cash (OK), Rep. Dottie Sims (KY), Rep. Mary Lou Marzian (KY) attending the Salute to the Military.

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NFWL Annual Conference Snapshots



NFWL Board member, Tony Martinez, addresses legislators at the Crime, Justice, Terrorism & Substance Abuse Policy Committee Meeting in Mexico.



Left to right: NFWL President & CEO, Robin Read, SAMHSA Administrator, Charles Curie, and NFWL Chair, Rep. Linda Bartelmeier (MD), attend the Joint Session.



Left to right: Jack Probulus, George Brenda, Sandy Wampler, and John Hamilton engage in the important discussion about mold in old buildings and schools.

"The presentation by NEMI (National Energy Management Institute) showed all attendees that problems with Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) are real, tangible issues that can be solved with the right tools," expressed Representative Sandra Romero (WA).

Please call the NFWL Office at 202-293-3040 for more information.



Dr. Robert Robinson presents possible economic consequences of restricting access to more effective prescribed drugs for treatment of moderate to severe pain.



Left to right: Rep. Sharron Angle (NV), Senator Fred Whiting (SD), and Lt. Gov. Carole Hillard (SD) enjoy the Opening Reception.



Left Erik Emblem from the National Energy Management Institute (NEMI) speaks about indoor air quality (IAQ) issues, mold in schools and office buildings, and presents new technology and methods to cure "sick" buildings.



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Policy Committees: Finding Real Solutions to Real Problems

"This year was truly a success for the policy committees and roundtables. They created a weekend filled with forums on a variety of issues, each leading to open dialogue among legislators and interested representatives," said Sen. Bettye Davis (AK).

Representative Becky Martin (SC), who attended many committees and chaired the Real Estate, Banking and Financial Services Sub-Committee, expressed the value of "getting together to hear different perspectives on the issues all of us have an interest in."

The policy committee topics included: Military and Aerospace; Special Education; Energy; Health and Empowerment; Business and Economic Development; Real Estate, Banking and Financial Services; Agriculture; and Education, Training and the Workplace.

These committees were complimented by Roundtables, including one on rural health sponsored by Medical Transport Management and presented by Executive Vice President, Brenda Battle, who commented: "We found this Conference to be one of the best opportunities for open and candid discussion with state and federal decision-makers to be held about our specific issue which concerns the increased need for medical transportation services for the elderly. We look forward to continuing to work with and support the NFWL." Other Roundtables were: International Issues; Community Initiatives, and Tribal Sovereignty.

Bob Miller, from the Christian Science Committee on Publication, commented: "It is exceptional the range of knowledge held by these legislators. These committees and roundtables covered a wide range of areas, and legislators were anxious to represent their constituents' interests in as many ways as possible throughout the course of the weekend."



NFWL Newly-Installed President, Rep. Gail Buckner (GA) attends the Health and Empowerment Committee. Rep. Buckner comments, "This is the best overview of Health Care issues we have ever had."



Low-income housing options are a major focus of the Real Estate, Banking and Financial Services Sub-Committee chaired by Rep. Becky Martin (SC).



Pollster, Celinda Lake, speaks about senior voters and their abandonment of women candidates because of Health Care and other issues.

Secretary Tommy Thompson's Announcement Continued from page 1...



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Left HHS Director of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, Bobby Polito, talks about HHS Programs that can be used by state legislators.

The Exhibitors

& Gift Bag Items draw Hundreds

Exhibitors draped the conference corridor with items from silk to soy. Companies from around the country came to join in the fellowship of the conference and sell their wares.

Expanding on the Marine Corps Gala, the United States Army's exhibit was represented by uniformed officer Johnny Underwood.

Health Care Exhibitor of MOC Health Alternatives, Thurman Watson, who brought his entire shop of vitamins and medicinal magnets to the conference, said that his attendance at the conference was "successful in every way." He commented "I was able to meet lots of people and explain natural health care remedies to them."

"The dazzling exhibit of African fashions from Vida International captured the eye of all attendees," said Rep. Susan Emerson (NH). Rep. Emerson was a fashion trendsetter who invited attendees to try on the designs. In addition to designing for NFWL legislators, Vida has made clothing for recording artist Stevie Wonder and political activist Nelson Mandela.

Along with the outstanding exhibitors, NFWL gift bags possessed unique, cutting edge samples of various items ranging from T-shirts to cure-all remedies.

"One morning I wasn't feeling up to par and I fumbled around in my medicine cabinet for something to take, I came across the Sprayology bottle that said it was suppose to cure cold symptoms I received in the NFWL gift bag, from the conference, and it worked!" exclaimed Fran Andrews from CCHR after the conference.



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Who's In?

2003 State Legislative Calendars

Who's Out?



Veterans rights is the main topic of discussion at the Military and Aerospace Committee Co-chaired by NFWL Board member, Joe Violante, of the Disabled American Veterans. "Mr. Violante brings to legislators' attention some very important issues about veteran's health and has ideas about ways in which we can correct and improve the system," commented Rep. Dottie Sims (KY), Legislative Chair of the Committee.



Del. Pauline Menes exclaims, "Very good conference! I liked the building of relationships and how well we work together!"

State	Convvene	Adjourn	House Phone No.	Senate Phone No.
Alabama	3/4/2003	6/16/2003	334-242-7600	334-242-7800
Alaska	1/13/2003	5/13/2003	907-465-3725	907-465-3701
Arizona	1/13/2003	5/30/2003	602-542-3559	520-628-6593
Arkansas	1/13/2003	3/13/2003	501-682-6211	501-682-2902
California	12/2/2003	11/30/2003	916-653-6814	916-653-6774
Colorado	1/8/2003	5/28/2003	303-866-5000	303-866-5000
Connecticut	1/8/2003	6/4/2003	860-240-0400	860-240-0500
Delaware	1/14/2003	6/30/2003	302-744-4114	302-571-8948
Florida	3/4/2003	5/2/2003	850-488-4371	850-488-4371
Georgia	1/13/2003	3/7/2003	404-656-5015	404-656-0028
Hawaii	1/15/2003	4/4/2003	808-586-6100	808-586-0034
Idaho	1/13/2003	3/31/2003	208-334-2300	208-334-2300
Illinois	1/8/2003	5/30/2003	800-252-6300	800-252-6300
Indiana	1/14/2003	4/29/2003	317-232-9974	317-232-9400
Iowa	1/13/2003	4/30/2003	515-281-3221	515-281-3371
Kansas	1/13/2003	5/9/2003	785-296-7633	785-296-2456
Kentucky	1/7/2003	2/7/2003	502-564-3490	502-564-3120
Louisiana	3/31/2003	5/31/2003	225-342-7263	225-342-2040
Maine	12/4/2002	6/18/2003	207-287-1400	207-287-1540
Maryland	1/8/2003	4/7/2003	410-974-5521	888-874-0013
Massachusetts	1/1/2003	12/31/2003	617-727-7030	800-392-6090
Michigan	1/8/2003	12/31/2003	517-373-0135	517-373-2400
Minnesota	1/7/2003	5/19/2003	651-296-2146	800-657-3550
Mississippi	1/7/2003	4/6/2003	601-359-1350	601-359-1633



Congressman Jerry Weller (IL) presents a report from his state of Illinois and from the US Congress.



Special Education Sub-Committee Chairwoman, Rep. Aisha Aboullah-Ghase (RI), briefs attendees on the Symposium the Committee held in Sacramento during Spring 2002.

Mexico Pre-Conference and Joint Congressional Session Spur Women's Enthusiasm and Optimism



NOWL Treasurer, Rep. Danie Moore (MD), Sen. George Katsakiores (NH), Brooks Blitch, and Sen. Peg Blitch (GA) listen to one of the Ensenada Second Chance Program inmates during the legislative visit to the Ensenada State Prison in Mexico.

The members of the Committee on Crime, Justice, Terrorism and Substance Abuse, composed of approximately 100 legislators, students, members and observers, joined Canadian and Mexican Federal and State Government Officials in an international congressional session highlighting the NFLW/DEA Shoulder-to-Shoulder Joint Initiative. This session focused on the two days members spent in Mexico and the model legislation that was

drafted by the Committee, the legislators focused on club drugs, now called predatory drugs and successful rehabilitation programs. Team leaders expressed renewed enthusiasm in the program's mission.

Legislators representing every state in the Union took part in a pre-conference event in Mexico, where they toured the Ensenada Second Chance Facility.

"Many cited how their experience reinforced their belief in the program, and



Linda Gutierrez, Luz Davila from Baja InterMex, and Raul Corona Sesma, relax after the educational tour of the Second Chance Program at Ensenada Prison.



Assemblyman Bob Strenaire (NY) speaks about New York's recently revamped drug rehabilitation policy.

incited many legislators to investigate a possibility of approaching drug rehabilitation similarly within their states," said Rep. Danie Moore (MD).

Secretary General Eduardo Becerra Perez of Mexico reconsidered his perception of an effective rehabilitation center when comparing his city's own program to the Ensenada Second Chance Facility. He stated that his prepared speech for the event was dedicated toward explaining the success of a rehabilitation facility under his jurisdiction; however, he was inspired to consider this unconventional treatment plan as a way to improve his area's own center.

The event's representation spanned the North American continent with Mexican and Canadian officials playing a significant role. Randy White, Minister of Canadian Parliament, expanded on Canada's drug policies and his commitment to hemispheric cooperation in defeating drug trafficking.

Univision was present to tape the event, which was graciously hosted by the station's own anchor, Maria Elena Salinas, and Josh Vargas from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) of the Department of HHS.

The event included speeches from Gertz Manero, Mexican Director of Public Service and Ernesto Ruffo-Appel, Mexican Commissioner of the Northern Border.



Left: Ernesto Ruffo Appel, Presidential Commissioner for Northern Border of Mexico, speaks to US legislators.



Right: Lic. Eduardo Becerra Perez, Secretary General of Morelos, addresses legislators during the First Northern Hemisphere Joint Legislative Session at the NFLW Annual Conference.



Right to Left: NFLW Chair Rep. Linda Bartelsmeyer (MD), Josh Vargas of SAMHSA, Univision News Anchor Maria Elena Salinas, and NOWL Vice President Rep. Jan Judy (AR) open the NFLW Joint Session.

National Order of Women Legislators (NOWL)

NOWL Install Newly-Elected Officers on Nighttime Cruise

The Installation of Officers Ceremony was filled with poetry and music, as Representative Gail Buckner (GA) was sworn-in as NOWL's President. On the deck of the boat, sponsored by the Cruise Industry Charitable Foundation, with family, friends and the organizations' members looking on, NOWL's entire 2003 Board of Directors was sworn-in by flashlight.

Representatives Valencia Seay and Donzella James, both of Georgia, eloquently read the poetry, as did as Rep. Helen Giddings (TX), who swore-in all of the new Board members. During the ceremony, musical vignettes by the nationally acclaimed Jonesboro High School trio entertained the participants.

NOWL's newly elected Board members are
President:
 Rep. Gail Buckner (GA)
 (404) 656-0254 (capitol)
 (404) 657-7689 (fax)
President-Elect:
 Rep. Jan Judy (AR)
 (479) 527-2408 (capitol)
 (479) 582-2207 (fax)

Immediate Past President:
 Rep. Linda Bartelsmeyer (MD)
 (417) 678-5822 (of fice)
 (417) 678-2228 (fax)
Vice President:
 Rep. Becky Martin (SC)
 (864) 218-0525 (of fice)
 (864) 734-2925 (fax)
Treasurer:
 Rep. Juanita Head-Walton (MD)
 (573) 751-5538 (capitol)
 (314) 868-1345 (of fice)
Recording Secretary:
 Rep. Sandra Romero (WA)
 (360) 786-7940 (capitol)
Corresponding Secretary:
 Sen. Martha Scott (MI)
 (517) 373-7748 (of fice)
 (517) 373-1387 (fax)
N O W L Rep to NFWL Board:
 Rep. Phyllis Katsakiores (NH)
 (603) 271-3589 (capitol)
N O W L Rep Alternate:
 Rep. Marilyn Jarrett (AZ)
 (602) 542-5288
N O W L Regional Directors and Nominating Committee
REGION #1
State Directors:
 Rep. Julie Brown (NH)
 Rep. Aisha Abdullah-Odiase (RI)



Newly Elected NOWL Board of Directors (left to right): Rep. Phyllis Katsakiores (NH), Sen. Martha Scott (MI), Rep. Juanita Head-Walton (MD), Rep. Becky Martin (SC), Rep. Linda Bartelsmeyer (MD), Rep. Jan Judy (AR) and Rep. Gail Buckner (GA) enjoy a boat ride at the Installation of Officers.

Regional Director:
 Rep. Ruth Griffin (NH)
Nominating Committee:
 Rep. Jean T. White (NH)
REGION #2
State Directors:
 Del. Adrienne Mandel (MD)
 Del. Janet Greenip (MD)
Regional Director:
 Rep. Audrey Pheffer (NY)
Nominating Committee:
 Del. Pauline Menes (MD)
REGION #3
State Directors:
 Rep. Gloria Haskins (SC)
 Rep. Vida Miller (SC)
Regional Director:
 Sen. Valencia Seay (GA)
Nominating Committee:
 Rep. Sharon Beasley-Teague (GA)
REGION #4
Regional Director:
 Sen. Martha Scott (MI)

Nominating Committee:
 Rep. Deloris Deoderlein (IL)
REGION #5
State Directors:
 Rep. Mary Denny (TX)
 Rep. Melba Curlls (MD)
Regional Director:
 Rep. Danie Moore (MO)
Nominating Committee:
 Rep. W anda Scott (CK)
REGION #6
Regional Director:
 Sen. Bettye Davis (AK)
Nominating Committee:
 Rep. Val Ogden (WA)
REGION #7
State Directors:
 Rep. Linda Gray (AZ)
 Rep. Cheryl Chase (AZ)
Regional Director:
 Rep. Karen Johnson (AZ)
Nominating Committee:
 Rep. Iela Steffey (AZ)



Dr. Atkins, NFWL's Most Requested Speaker, Informs Legislators about Heart Disease and Diabetes in Women



Dr. Atkins

Dr. Atkins provided attendees with dietary advice and heart-smart options while stressing the importance of seeking nutritional support in order to prevent and combat heart disease. He outlined his diet plan and the reasons it is so effective. Confirming his results during the weekend, scientists validated his findings that carbohydrates should be limited and excluded from one diet in order to truly lose weight and keep it off.

"This news makes it even more important that the doctor was able to join NFWL," said Former Representative Laurie Donovan (MO). As a bonus to Conference attendees, Dr. Atkins is providing personal health consultations through complimentary appointments at his New York of fice.

Former Rep. Laurie Donovan (MO) exclaims: "What a wonderful conference! The visit to the prison and the speakers such as Secretary Tommy Thompson, Dr. Atkins, and Asa Hutchinson were exceptional. I learned so much."

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Nominating Committee:
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Nominating Committee:
 Rep. Iela Steffey (AZ)



Dr. Atkins, NFWL's Most Requested Speaker, Informs Legislators about Heart Disease and Diabetes in Women



Dr. Atkins

Dr. Atkins provided attendees with dietary advice and heart-smart options while stressing the importance of seeking nutritional support in order to prevent and combat heart disease. He outlined his diet plan and the reasons it is so effective. Confirming his results during the weekend, scientists validated his findings that carbohydrates should be limited and excluded from one diet in order to truly lose weight and keep it off.

"This news makes it even more important that the doctor was able to join NFWL," said Former Representative Laurie Donovan (MO). As a bonus to Conference attendees, Dr. Atkins is providing personal health consultations through complimentary appointments at his New York of fice.

Former Rep. Laurie Donovan (MO) exclaims: "What a wonderful conference! The visit to the prison and the speakers such as Secretary Tommy Thompson, Dr. Atkins, and Asa Hutchinson were exceptional. I learned so much."



The

CONNECTION

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HHS Secretary Tommy Thompson Announces Role for Women Legislators for Homeland Security & Bio-Terrorism

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"Secretary Thompson really encouraged all women leaders to step up and use our role as community leaders to educate our constituents about the new threats we are facing and the ways in which we can prevent terrorism and/or be ready to respond if it occurs," said newly-installed NOWL President, Rep. Gail Buckner (GA).

NFWL Chair, Rep. Linda Bartelsmeyer (MO) added, "With

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NOWL Pres.-Elect, Rep. Gail Buckner (GA), speaks with Pat Boone at the NFWL Salute to the Military at the 2002 NFWL Annual Conference in San Diego.

Women Legislators and Pat Boone Salute US Men and Women in the Armed Forces

"One of the most memorable events of the Annual Conference was NFWL's Salute to the Military at the U. S. Marine Corps Birthday Celebration," said City Councilwoman Bonnie Sue Cooper, former Missouri State Representative and former Chair of NFWL.

The U.S. Marines Corps tradition began in November 1921. "The Marines, wearing dress blues, along with women legislators in elegant evening wear, made quite an impression as Pat Boone entertained and saluted the military with his inspiring rendition of the Marine Corps' Hymn and his patriotic song, "Under God." said Sen. Bettye Davis (AK).

"What an amazing night," said President-Elect Rep. Gail Buckner (GA). "How wonderful it is that we are able to join these Marines in celebrating the birth of the institu-

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NFWL/HHS Co-Sponsor Historic North American Conference

U.S., Mexican, and Canadian officials met for two days in Mexico prior to the official opening of the Annual Conference in San Diego.

"This is the first time any Conference has ever straddled the border with two days on each side including women legislators from all fifty states, along with members of the Mexican and Canadian legislatures," said NFWL President, Robin Read. During these two days,



Rep. Ruth Ann Palumbo (KY), Lance Corporal Chris Gresham (TX), Rep. Robin Webb (KY), Rep. Carolyn Belcher (KY), Private First Class Daniel Cash (OK), Rep. Dottie Sims (KY), Rep. Mary Lou Marzian (KY) attending the Salute to the Military.

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