



## FEDERALLY EMPLOYED WOMEN

**WASATCH MOUNTAIN EXPRESS**

**May 2011**

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Happy Mother's Day to all of you who are mothers and the special day is May 8, 2011. Our April meeting was a success and very "financially" interesting. Thanks to Robert Hall, our speaker, for some great information. If and when the sun comes out, we may do some spring cleaning. Here are some tips:

You can tackle this annual ritual in short order, says cleaning expert Donna Smallin.

- Remove clutter first. Clear off items from tables, floors, and other surfaces before you start cleaning so you can zoom through each room.
- Rely on a few ingredients. Just vary the recipe to tackle different mixture of half vinegar, half water to clean counter tops and sinks.
- Use one tool at a time. Grab what you need to handle the same chore, like vacuuming, throughout your home, then switch tools.
- Call on microfiber cloths. Use a dry one to dust. Wet and wring out another one to wipe mirrors and glass surfaces clean.
- Only clean what's dirty. Spot-clean visible dirt; skip cleaning walls, inside windows, and hardwood floors if they don't look dirty.
- Call in help. Consider handing some duties to the pros; they do it faster, better, and have all the right equipment. Best jobs to hire out: carpet shampooing and window washing.
- Be efficient. Instead of removing everything from shelves and cabinets, move items to the right to clean the left side. Then move them to the left to clean the right side.
- Give yourself a deadline. Set a time for 10, 20, or 30 minutes, and tell yourself you'll finish a task in that amount of time.
- Avoid scrubbing. Spray cleaner in bathroom sinks, the microwave, and refrigerator and let sit 5-10 minutes to soften hardened-on gunk.
- Take advantage of overnight hours. Before going to bed, set your oven to self-clean. Similarly, pour toilet cleaner in toilet bowls, then just brush and flush in the morning.

Don't work too hard – happy May.

*Jana*

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**COMMITTEES:**

The following members will be:

Membership Chair	Desica Willard
Bylaws	Roberta Sweeney
Programs	Kristina Larson
Fundraising	April Armstrong
Chapter Parliamentarian	Robert Sweeney
Historian	Lauri Brown
Disability Chair	Peggy Andreasen

In order for our chapter to become more effective, we need to have an active board. Many members have stepped up to volunteer. However, we still need someone for Legislative, Diversity, and Compliance. Please volunteer.

**CHAPTER NEWS**

- Wasatch Chapter FEW is holding a membership drive with other employee organizations at the Ogden IRS campus. Volunteers are needed to hand out flyers and represent few from 2-6 PM on September 14th, 15th, or 16th.
- Betty Berg is relocating to Georgia. She has been a dedicated member we will miss. Good luck, Betty!
- The bylaws are here! The revised chapter bylaws were approved and reviewed over the past couple of months. The new bylaws are more in line with National FEW policies and procedures.
- Matt Hoskins has been conducting free lunch and learn presentations on insurance and preparing for retirement. The next presentation is scheduled for 4 May, 2011 at 12:30. To find out about future seminars, contact Matt at 801-525-9475.
- Jana's picture was featured in the April "W & I offline" for passing out flyers and promoting FEW at a mini-membership and mentoring kick off for the Ogden IRS.
- The Chapter has a new member! Cecelia Hillman, an IRS employee, joined in April.

**REGIONAL NEWS**

- The next regional board meeting will be held October 15 in Salt Lake in honor of Wasatch Chapter's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## NATIONAL NEWS

- Urgent! If you have not yet paid your renewal dues, please make the five minutes available to do so. You can pay online at FEW.org and stay active in advocacy designed just for you!
- Check out the National Training Program (NTP) website at [www.fewntp.org](http://www.fewntp.org). Apply through your agency to get training credit and funding to attend the NTP and/or specific agency's meetings at the NTP. The program will be held 18-22 July in Philadelphia.
- Open Season for Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP) from 4 Apr-24 June, 2011. Attend the FEW Foundation webinar on 17 May 2011 at 1 PM MST. The FLTCIP site is <http://ltcdfeds.com>. To register for seminar, go to <http://event.on24.com/r.htm?e=302597&s=1&k=115076E90657CBF115930396B3DD89DC>

## LEGISLATIVE NEWS

- In case you didn't notice you are still at work, the Continuing Resolution passed at the last minute. Now the budget for Fiscal Year 2012 is in work. Stay tuned for more news and action alerts.
- FEW's grassroots advocacy day (Lobby Day) on May 12, 2011 gives members an opportunity to meet and speak with representatives in Washington. Find more information at [Http://few.org/docs/newsroom/FEW\\_lobbyday11a.pdf](http://few.org/docs/newsroom/FEW_lobbyday11a.pdf).
- Remember not to lobby on government time. Observe the Hatch Act.
- As always, Capwiz is available on the FEW website to contact elected representatives about issues that affect us. (Don't do this on government time)

## TRAINING AND MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

### Parliamentarian's Corner – Roberta Sweeney

Tap, tap, tap goes the gavel, or in some cases clink, clink goes the rap on the glass. What is happening when the Chair or President does this? The use of the gavel is an important part of parliamentary procedures and needs to be addressed. Learn the gavel use, and you'll actually know when to stand at meetings as well.

The gavel is the symbol of authority and, used correctly, ensures orderly meetings.

**One tap** follows the announcement of adjournment, the completion of a business item, or is a message to the members to be seated following the opening ceremony.

**Two taps** – calls the meeting to order.

**Three taps** – is the signal for all members to stand in unison on the third tap.

**A series of short taps** – used to restore order at a meeting. For instance, if a discussion ventures away from the main motion and attention needs to be brought back to the matter at hand, the chairman should rap a gavel a number of times to get the group's attention.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **MAY**

May – Asian American/Pacific Island Heritage Month

May 1, 2011: Celebrates labor movement, celebrates nature and Spring

May 1-7, 2011: Teacher Appreciation Week & Be Kind to Animals Week

May 5, 2011: Cinco de Mayo

May 6, 2011: National Public Gardens Day (visit [BHG.com/freegarden](http://BHG.com/freegarden) to download a voucher for two free admissions to a participating Public Garden)

May 8, 2011: Mothers Day

May 12, 2011: FEW's Grassroots Advocacy Day; Washington, D.C.

May 19, 2011: Membership meeting, Strategic Planning

May 20-22, 2011: Living Traditions (diversity festival), SLC, UT

May 31, 2011: Membership contest deadline

### **JUNE**

June – National Safety Month

June 2, 2011: Identity Theft Prevention Open House, Cottage of Hope, 2724 Washington Blvd, Ogden, 11AM-6 PM (will shred your old docs for free!), Seminar from 6-7PM. RSVP (801) 393-4011 for the seminar

June 3-4, 2011: Utah Pride Festival, Washington Square, SLC, UT

June 9, 2011: Membership meeting, Diversity

June 11, 2011: Utah Asian Festival, South Towne Expo Center, Sandy, UT

June 18, 2011: Utah Arts Festival, Library Square, Downtown SLC, UT

June 19, 2011: Juneteenth commemorating end of slavery in U.S.,

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

July 4, 2011: Independence Day

July 18-22, 2011: NTP, Philadelphia, PA

August 26, 2011: National Women's Equality Day

September – Hispanic Heritage Month

October – National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)

October 30, 2011: Wasatch Chapter 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

July 16-20, 2012 – NTP, Detroit, MI