



# Networking

Fall 2005

***NACW is committed to equality and justice for women by increasing the effectiveness of member commissions and serving as their national voice.***

### NACW Officers

- Bonnie Coffey, President**  
Nebraska
- Glenda Woods, Vice President**  
Kentucky
- Debra Sober, Treasurer**  
Maryland
- Robin Stultz, Secretary**  
West Virginia

### NACW Board of Directors

- Patrice Bourdeau**  
Florida
- Barbara DeBaptiste**  
Connecticut
- Romona Fullman**  
Delaware
- Judith Karandjeff**  
Michigan
- Barbara Albu Lehman**  
New Jersey
- Patricia Presley**  
Oklahoma
- Lori SchraderBachar**  
Iowa
- Jacqueline Wilson**  
Maryland
- Linda R. Wilson**  
North Carolina
- Cecilia Zamora**  
California

**Host Convention Director**  
**Shannon Meroney Phillips**  
 Austin Commission for Women

### NACW National Office

401 North Washington Street, Suite 100  
 Rockville, MD 20850-1737  
 240.777.8308  
 Website: [www.nacw.org](http://www.nacw.org) E-mail: [nacw@nacw.org](mailto:nacw@nacw.org)

## NACW Sets Course for Success

At the 36<sup>th</sup> annual convention for the National Association of Commissions of Women (NACW), the body charged the Board with several tasks, two of which were to change the NACW fiscal year to January 1 to December 31 and, if necessary, to revamp the dues structure. In addition to revamping the dues structure, the Board has outlined benefits received. 2006 dues are based upon commissions' annual budgets and are due no later than January 31, 2006.

<u>Commission Budget</u>	<u>Annual Dues</u>
\$0	\$50
\$1 - \$14,99	\$100
\$15,000 - \$49,999	\$150
\$50,000 - \$249,000	\$275
\$250,000 - \$499,999	\$300
\$500,000 and over	\$350

And what value do you receive for these reasonable dues?

- Access to some of the top women's commissions across the country, allowing you access to invaluable expertise and information. Sharon Langlotz, ED of the Indiana Commission for Women needed help finding measurable outcomes for commissions, and NACW was able to connect her to resources.
- Receipt of the quarterly "NACW Networking" Newsletter by either email or 'snailmail,' because we understand that not all commissions have email capabilities. If you don't join NACW, this will be your last issue.
- Receipt of the "NACW Update," the NACW President's report to membership, available via email or 'snailmail,' so your commission will know what your national board is discussing.
- Reduced registration for NACW members only for the NACW convention in Austin, Texas slated for mid-July 2006.

## NACW Convention Sites

2006 – Austin, Texas

2007 – Kentucky

2008 – New Mexico

***TIP: To maximize your budget to allow you to attend NACW's national convention, consider sharing a room with a colleague in your commission. You'll not only halve the price of the hotel room, but you'll get to know your sister commission contact better!***

***TIP: Trying to figure out how you pay NACW dues when you have no budget? Take up a collection amongst your commission members and it won't take long to reach that \$50 level. Your commission can gain through the contacts with experienced commissions, making your own commission stronger and better. We're about networking and making great things happen in all commissions across the country!***

- Access to an NACW "Members Only" Networking Event at National Convention.

- Access for NACW members only to the very popular "Commissioners' Exchange" and "Executive Directors' Exchange" sessions at NACW's National Convention. These events provide a venue for frank discussions between the people who work to make things happen in women's commissions across the country.

- The opportunity to have your commission's accomplishments recognized with an application to receive one of "NACW Achievement Awards" at National Convention, allowing your commission to garner national and local press with a spotlight on your best project.

- NACW logo files for your commissions' newsletters to announce that your commission is a proud member of the only national organization for women's commissions

- Recognition of your commission as an NACW member on NACW's website; beginning in 2006, non-NACW member commissions will not be listed

- A roster of women's commissions across the country, with your NACW member-commission highlighted. Beginning in 2006, this roster is available free of charge to NACW members and available for sale to non-NACW members.

This is an ideal time to renew your commitment to the only national organization for women's commissions. No one else does the kind of work we do, and your membership in NACW indicates your commitment and affiliation with your professional organization. Membership invitation letters and dues statements have been sent to all known women's commissions; if you've not yet received one, contact NACW for one to be sent. Together, we are better – come join us for an exciting year ahead!

---

## NACW Board Director Update

Several NACW Board members have resigned; the loss of their expertise and experience will be felt. NACW looks forward to keeping in touch with them.

**Carol Walker** of Utah resigned as Executive Director of the Utah Commission for Women & Families to take a position with Zion Bank as Public Relations Officer for the Women's financial Group for Utah and Idaho. Carol was a longtime member and supporter of NACW whose optimism was contagious.

**Cynthia Chávez Kelly** of Wyoming has resigned; the Wyoming Council on Women's Issues is reevaluating their national involvement. NACW hopes that our realignment and hard work will win back their participation.

**TIP: Share this NACW 'Networking' Newsletter with your commission members, as well as your elected officials. It's a great way to let them know that there is a national professional organization for commissions for women across the country.**

### Noteworthy

• Congratulations to Judith Vaughan-Prather, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Commission for Women, who received the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Dorothy Beatty memorial Award for significant contribution to women's rights from the Women's Law Center of Maryland! Brava!

• On behalf of NACW member commissions, condolence letters were sent to the families and friends of Rosa Parks and Dr. C. DeLores Tucker.

Mrs. Parks' quiet determination and resolve changed the course of American history. Her courage is an example to us all, and her legacy will honor her memory.

Dr. C. DeLores Tucker worked to establish the Pennsylvania Commission on the Status of Women, and was that state's first Black woman Secretary of State. Dr. Tucker also founded the National Political Congress of Black Women.

**Judith Karandjeff**, Executive Director of the Michigan Commission for Women, was appointed to a two year term ending in 2007. Judith brings a wealth of organizational experience to the Board and is a welcome addition.

**Lori SchraderBachar** is a Program Assistant with the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, and was appointed to fill the remainder of a two year term until July 2006. Lori's strength in writing and marketing will be pluses for NACW.

While the Board will consider two more appointments at their meeting in November, openings are still available. According to NACW bylaws, there are to be fourteen Board members, and there may be only one Board member per state; multiple Board members from any one region are allowed.

Interested in being a Board member? Let us hear from you! Board members are expected to attend board meetings (currently established via conference call every other month, with one group meeting slated for Washington, DC in February or March 2006); expenses for attending these meetings are the responsibility of the Board member. At public functions and during the national convention, Board members act as diplomats/ambassadors, welcoming attendees and assisting as requested by the National President. A Board member may be assigned to represent NACW an events or meetings. Board members support the organization by actively pursuing funding sources for NACW to ensure its viability.

---

## CoffeyTalk

Bonnie Coffey  
President

Some wonderful old sage (most certainly a woman!) said, "You must be careful what you ask for – you just might get it." And, so it is with NACW. From the moment that I returned to my office from the national convention, it's been a pretty busy time.

First and foremost was attention to our budget. To reduce expenses, the Board supported the closure of the NACW office and its relocation to a wonderful spot in the Montgomery County Commission for Women in Rockville, Maryland. We were also forced to let paid staff go, and are now tending to the obligations that remain. Part of that solution was to study NACW's dues structure and, as a result, modest increases were proposed and approved. This fall, the Incorporation Task Force will make its



## Quotables

- Women may be the one group that grows more radical with age.  
Gloria Steinem
- We are tomorrow's past.  
Mary Webb
- When you cease to make a contribution you begin to die.  
Eleanor Roosevelt
- Power is the ability to make change.  
Geneva Overholser



*Teresa Heinz & NACW President Bonnie Coffey at 'Are We Living in a Chemical Stew?' Conference in Boston 10/24/05*

**NACW Networking** newsletter produced by Bonnie Coffey, Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission. Suggestions, submissions and news welcome. Send to [bcoffey123@aol.com](mailto:bcoffey123@aol.com)

recommendation as to whether NACW should remain a 501(c)(4) or convert to a 501(c)(3); the Body has instructed the Board to resolve this issue and quickly implement the recommendation.

Along with the revamping of dues, the Fundraising Committee, chaired by Cecilia Zamora, is close to announcing an exciting format that will allow those who support NACW – whether currently or formerly – to help support the organization. I've had a sneak peek, and I think you'll be pleased at the possibilities that exist for NACW fans to help us strengthen our association. In addition, active efforts are being planned to reconnect with corporate supporters, introducing them to the new and improved NACW.

NACW's Bylaws Committee, chaired by Linda Wilson, is working on producing a complete and full set of bylaws for the body's approval at the Austin convention. Those will be sent to all NACW member commissions in time for them to review them prior to voting at convention, and will be presented as a whole, not as individual changes to current bylaws. It's a whole new game for the bylaws!

I've also had a chance to make some national connections, visiting with elected members of Congress at the unveiling of the Jeannette Rankin portrait that Treasurer Debra Sober and I attended. I was also invited to the women's health and environment conference in Boston produced by Mrs. Teresa Heinz, getting a few moments to speak with her about NACW – and got to see my friend Marie Turley, director of the Boston Women's Commission and meet Jocelyn Wolfe, a commissioner with the Howard County Commission for Women. And, finally, I attended a luncheon with Marie Wilson (author of 'Closing the Leadership Gap: Why Women Can & Must Run the Word' and founder of The White House Project), who was pleased to know that NACW was still active.

I am personally excited about the future for NACW and urge you to renew your NACW dues or take the plunge and join us or rejoin us if your NACW membership has lapsed. There are some serious plans afoot to build the infrastructure necessary to ensure that NACW – and commissions – not only exist, but succeed and thrive.

I'm always available to hear concerns, ideas and dreams (LOVE those dreams!) and can be reached in a variety of ways:

Work: 402.441.8695 (direct line)  
Fax 402.441.6824  
[bcoffey@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:bcoffey@lincoln.ne.gov)  
Home: 402.489.4669  
Fax 402.483.0127  
[Bcoffey123@aol.com](mailto:Bcoffey123@aol.com)