

Fall 2008

***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**  
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**Kitty Kunz**  
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**Jacqueline Wilson**  
Maryland/Region 3  
**Teresa C. Younger**  
Connecticut/Region 1

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## NACW Body Elects Directors

NACW commission members and attendees elected directors during the 39<sup>th</sup> annual National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) business meeting and convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico in July. Newly elected board members elected for two year terms ending in 2010 include:

**Lupe Acosta** – with the Lafayette Commission on the Needs of Women, Lupe hails from Cajun Country

**Kitty Kunz** – Executive Director of the Idaho Women's Commission, Kitty calls Boise home

**Eva Mika, PhD** – with the Cook County Commission on Women's Issues in Chicago, Eva is a previous NACW Board member who has returned

**Teresa C. Younger** – Hartford is home for Teresa, Executive Director of the Connecticut Permanent Commission on the Status of Women

These new board members join reelected board members:

**Bernice Compton Mitchell** – Oklahoma Commission for Women

**Lori SchraderBachar** – Iowa Commission on the Status of Women

**Mary Wiberg** – California Commission on the Status of Women

Kudos to the New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women for producing an informative and terrific conference! Feedback from the conference provided constructive information for the 2009 event slated for July 17-20, 2009 in Washington, DC at the Embassy Suites, Crystal City.



*The talented and hard-working staff of the New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women - ¡Brava y muchas gracias!*

**TIP – Looking for an inexpensive way to get noticed by your appointing authorities? Send your latest accomplishments to NACW Networking quarterly newsletter. When it's published, make sure elected officials and other supporters receive copies of your national exposure. A great way to bring positive attention to your commission's hard work!**

### NACW Convention Sites

2009 – Washington, DC/Virginia  
2010 – Des Moines, Iowa  
2011 – Stay tuned!

**TIP: Here's a great way to access the great benefits of being an NACW member. If your commission's budget has a \$0 budget, For just \$50, your commission can join the only national professional association for women's commissions. It's easy to have all your commissioners chip in \$5 or \$10 to join NACW. Membership in NACW more than pays for itself through networking, connections, and resources to excellent programming that will make your commission shine!**

### Quotables

- A difference, to be a difference, must make a difference.  
Gertrude Stein  
Writer
- If you're in something, get in it. If you're not in it, get out.  
Mama Ziglar  
Mother of Zig Ziglar, Motivational Speaker
- Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's' courage.  
Anis Nin  
Author
- Women are the architects of society.  
Harriet Beecher Stowe  
Author

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## NACW Welcomes Intern

Through the generosity of the Montgomery County (MC) Commission on Women and its Executive Director, Judith Vaughan-Prather, NACW enjoys a home-base in the commission office and Judith's formidable skills in finding and supervising interns who work for NACW. The Board and Membership are grateful to Judith, her staff and her Commission for their amazing support of the association.

NACW welcomes Intern Daniele Araújo, (pronounced a-rah-u-zhu) who hails originally from Brazil. Daniele has been living in the United States for the past five years and attends the bachelor's social work program at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. She has previously studied Journalism and Social Communication for several years before arriving in the U.S.

Daniele's hours are currently Tuesday and Wednesdays, 9:30 – 2:30; and Thursdays 9:30 – 5 p.m. She can be reached via Daniele.Araujo@montgomerycountymd.gov or at 240.777.8308.

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## NACW Creates Alliance with CARE & A Powerful Noise Campaign

Through the connections of Shari Miles-Cohen with the DC Commission for Women, NACW was introduced to the work of CARE and its campaign to work with women in the fight against global poverty. One of the profound tools being used is their documentary, *A Powerful Noise* (<http://www.apowerfulnoise.org/>). As a result of conversations with CARE and the director of the documentary, NACW has signed an alliance to further the work of the campaign and to provide an opportunity for commissions to highlight their work and impact.

Part of the alliance allows women's commissions to participate in the showing of the documentary as it makes its way around the country in film festivals. In addition, negotiations are in the mill to have the documentary shown in theatres across the country around International Women's Day, 2009. The DC Commission on Women and the Montgomery County Commission on Women have already participated, providing their commissions with a platform for more visibility and an opportunity to educate their communities about the work they do.

More information will be forthcoming for these opportunities, along with information on how to become involved via your commission and/or Friends organization.

## Noteworthy

- **Teresa Younger**, member of the NACW Board of Directors and Executive Director of the Permanent Connecticut Commission on the Status of Women, was honored recently in the Hartford Business Journal as one of their eight Remarkable Women. Congratulations, Teresa!

- The **Howard County Commission for Women** has a new address:

Howard County Commission for Women  
Department of Citizen Services  
6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Box 300  
Columbia, MD 21046

The phone number remains the same (410.313.6400).

- **Romona Fullman, Esq.**, Executive Director of the Delaware Commission on Women and chair of NACW's Healthy BONES Committee, has worked overtime to enable commissions to provide vital information and education on osteoporosis to the women in their communities. For example, the **Baltimore County Commission for Women** partnered with a local group to provide heel screenings at their Annual 12th African American Cultural Festival this fall that attracts upward of 10,000 attendees. Kudos to Romona and the Baltimore County Commission for Women for expanding the circle of information!

- On July 16, Massachusetts Governor Patrick signed into law an act establishing the **Bristol County Commission on the Status of Women**. Nine commissioners will be charged with reviewing the status of women in Bristol County and identifying potential solutions faced by this constituency. Welcome aboard, Bristol County and congratulations to Governor Patrick for his forward thinking for the women in this county!

- Contact information on the new NACW Board can be found on the website, [www.nacw.org](http://www.nacw.org).

**NACW Networking newsletter produced by Bonnie Coffey. Articles & news welcome. Send to [bc Coffey123@gmail.com](mailto:bc Coffey123@gmail.com)**

## CoffeyTalk

Bonnie Coffey, President

History has been made with the election of our country's first African American. Along with jillions of people on election night, I marveled at the momentous occasion and, yes, I cried right along with Oprah as I listened to the words of President Elect Obama. Hope is, indeed, the word of the hour and NACW has a lot. Board Director Eva Mika, PhD, is working on a position paper to send to the President Elect to emphasize the issues that impact women in our country today. Our 2009 conference is slated for Crystal City, Virginia to allow easy access to elected officials to further remind them of the women they represent. The Conference Planning Team has pored over evaluations to ensure that NACW is moving in a positive, response way for its members and its mission.

I am holding my breath - in hope - that the newly appointed Cabinet and Administration will reflect the population of the United States, with at least 50% women and with women of color. It is time that women, who overwhelmingly supported the election of a new beginning, are equally represented when policies and laws are developed and implemented. While women have had the vote since 1924, it's been an uphill battle to having women included in the important discussions and debates that are held. 88 years is a very long time to wait for parity and I am not a patient woman.

You have an opportunity to make your wishes known, send ideas to the Transition Team and even put forth your name for an appointed position at the President Elect's Transition Team website - [www.change.org](http://www.change.org). It's your spot to provide ideas about the way you think government ought to be crafted, air your concerns about the most pressing challenges facing the new Administration and to voice your support for what will prove to be a difficult four years. It is now up to us to support the person elected by a majority of Americans, to help make it work, to band together to ensure that the Hope translates to Accomplishment.

Because if we don't, who will?

