



421 N. Main Street
Leeds, MA 01053
Tel: 413/582-3000
Fax: 413/582-3121
Website: www.feawm.org

2007 Annual Report

Almost 150 federal employees attended the 5th Annual Excellence in Government Award Recognition program held at the Log Cabin. Twelve outstanding individuals received the highest honor in different categories. Over 40 nominations were received from federal agencies. These nominees were also recognized. The FEAWM started this program to insure that the “best and brightest” from federal service were recognized by the public and their peers. The Public Relations committee handled the Media Advisory and Channel 40 News covered the event.

Two retirement seminars were held at Westover Air Reserve Base. One day was for CSRS employees while the other was for FERS employees. Steve Marder, former retirement expert from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) with more than 20 years of retirement training was the presenter for both days. Approximately 170 people attend the seminars with excellent feedback on the training. With some agency budgets being reduced and training needs not being met, the FEAWM found a way to offer exceptionally high quality, professional training to federal employees at a very reasonable price. Training and education seminars have been provided to more than 2,000 federal employees over the last several years. More seminars on topics of general interest to employees are being planned for FY08 with the goal of offering affordable training that provides employees with the tools they need to succeed, both in their work and personal lives.

The FEAWM resubmitted a proposal for locality pay for GS employees in Berkshire County. Patrick DeFalco and Fred Baron from the Navy in Pittsfield testified in Washington DC before the Federal Salary Council. While members of the Council were sympathetic to the plight of employees in Berkshire County, they did not approve the proposal to authorize locality pay.

The FEAWM purchased a table top display, which will be used to promote federal agencies in Western Massachusetts at career fairs and other activities sponsored by the FEAWM. In addition, our website (www.feawm.org) is being revised and made more accessible by agency contributors.

Two social events were held for federal employees and their families. Approximately 80 people attended a Bowling Night at Westover Air Reserve Base. The 3rd Annual FEAWM Picnic at Nonotuck Park in Easthampton was attended by 50 employees and family members. The event had great food and activities including volleyball and other sports.

A new Federal Relations committee was established to expand inter-agency connectivity and communication, and to establish a forum for dialogue between federal agencies and state and federal elected officials. The committee’s goals are to 1) expand FEAWM participation and 2) hold initial periodic meetings with federal and state representatives.

New Board of Directors took office in October. They are: Mary Dowling, VA as Chair; Joe McDanel, WARB as Vice Chair; Patrick DeFalco, SSA as Member; David Mendoza, Barnes as Member; and Linda Repasky, USFWS as Member. In addition: Jeff Anliker retired appointed as Treasurer; Laura Szwajkowski, VA appointed as Secretary; the Executive Director position is currently vacant.