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FY 2008 Annual Report

Over 200 federal employees attended the 6th Annual Excellence in Government Award Recognition program held at the Log Cabin on September 16, 2008. Thirteen outstanding individuals received the highest honor in different categories. Over 50 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 recognize by the public and their peers. The Public Relations committee handled the Media Advisory and the Springfield Republican (newspaper) covered the event.

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. The Pay and Benefits subcommittee also looked at locality pay for the Wage grade pay scale for Hampden and Hampshire Counties. 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. FEAWM plans to resubmit the proposal in 2009.

Educational programs for the full membership were held as follows:

April 30, 2008
Title: Employee Motivation and Recognition
Speaker: Rick Feldman
Location: Westover Air Reserve Base

July 23, 2008
Title: Overview of Office of Immigration and Customs Unit
Speaker: Wanda Delgado
Location: Westover Air Reserve Base

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. The website (www.feawm.org) continued to be revised and made more accessible by agency contributors. A brochure was developed highlighting the mission, membership, and accomplishments of the FEAWM.

Two social events were held for federal employees and their families. Approximately 80 people attended a Bowling Night at Westover Air Reserve Base. The 4th Annual FEAWM Picnic on June 21, 2008 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.

Department of Agriculture * Department of Defense * Department of the Interior * Department of Justice * Department of Labor
Department of Treasury * Department of Veterans Affairs * District Court * Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
General Services Administration * Small Business Administration * Social Security Administration * USPS

The Federal Relations committee, established to expand inter-agency connectivity and communication, and to establish a forum for dialogue between federal agencies and state and federal elected officials, continued to contact federal agency heads through personal visits and phone calls. The committee's goals are to 1) expand FEAWM participation and 2) hold initial periodic meetings with federal and state representatives.

The current Board of Directors continued for a second year. They are: Mary Dowling, VA as Chair; Joe McDaneld, WARB as Vice Chair; Patrick DeFalco, SSA as Member; David Mendoza, Barnes, as Member; and Linda Repasky, USFWS, as Member, Jeff Anliker, retired, as Treasurer; Laura Szwajkowski, VA, as Secretary; Mary Rodowicz was appointed as Public Relations / Website Chair. The Executive Director and Education committee Chair positions remained vacant. The Awards Committee Chair, David Tuttle, left government service, leaving that position vacant.

A financial report is attached.