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FY 2009 Annual Report

Over 150 federal employees attended the 7th Annual Excellence in Government Award Recognition program held at the Log Cabin on September 16, 2009. Thirteen outstanding individuals and teams in 13 categories received the highest honors. 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 from Social Security Administration 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 2010.

Educational programs on Pre-Retirement for the full membership were held on Wednesday June 3, 2009 (FERS) and Thursday June 4, 2009 (CSRS) at Westover Air Reserve Base.

The website (www.feawm.org) continued to be revised and future plans are to make it more accessible by agency contributors. The brochure highlighting the mission, membership, and accomplishments of the FEAWM is updated annually.

Two social events were held for federal employees and their families. Approximately 80 people attended a Bowling Night at Westover Air Reserve Base on February 10, 2009. The 5th Annual FEAWM Picnic on June 28, 2009 at Nonotuck Park in Easthampton was attended by 60 employees and family members. The event had great food and activities including volleyball and other sports. A pie judging contest was also held.

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 Committee worked in small teams and conducted outreach to federal agencies that had not previously participated in FEA events.

The current Board of Directors finished their two-year appointment. 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 Sz wajkowski, VA, as Secretary; Mary Rodowicz as Public Relations / Website Chair. Johnny Bowen was appointed as Education Committee Chair. The Executive Director position remained vacant. The Awards Committee Chair, David Tuttle, left government service, leaving that position vacant.

A financial report is attached.

Over 150 federal employees attended the 7th Annual Excellence in Government Award Recognition program held at the Jay Cabin on September 16, 2009. Thirteen outstanding individuals and teams in 13 categories received the highest honor. Over 50 nominations were received from federal agencies. These nominees were also recognized. The FEAWM sought this program to insure that the "best and brightest" from federal service were recognized by the public and their peers. The Public Relations committee headed the Media Advisory and the Springfield Republican (newspaper) covered the event.

The FEAWM conducted a proposal for locally pay for GS employees in Berkeley County. Labor Decisions from Social Security Administration and Fed from from the Policy in Funded in Washington DC before the Federal Salary Council. The Pay and Benefits subcommittee also looked at locally pay for the Wage Grade pay scale for temporary and membership Council. While members of the Council was sympathetic to the plight of employees in Berkeley County, they did not approve the proposal to submit to submit to FEAWM plans to submit the proposal in 2010.

Education program on the Retirement for the full membership was held on Wednesday June 3, 2009 (10:00 AM - 12:00 PM) at Western Air Reserve Base.

The website (www.feawm.org) continued to be revised and future plans are to make it more accessible by agency contributors. The brochure highlighting the mission, membership, and accomplishments of the FEAWM is updated annually.

Two social events were held for federal employees and their families. Approximately 80 people attended a Bowling Night at Western Air Reserve Base on February 10, 2009. The 5th Annual FEAWM Picnic on June 28, 2009 at Norstock Park in Easton was attended by 60 employees and family members. The event had great food and activities including volleyball and other sports. A picnicking contest was also held.

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 local 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 Committee worked in small groups and a focused mission to federal agencies and had not previously participated in this event.