

The National Museum of Women's History



August 1998

NMWH Unveils Sculpture of Truth at 150th Anniversary of First Women's Rights Convention

Seneca Falls, NY, July 10–20, 1998—Beginning with the National Women's Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and closing with the adoption of the National Women's Equality Act for the 21st Century, women from all over the country joined to celebrate women's contributions and to plan for the future.

NMWH unveiled a bronze bust of Sojourner Truth, sculpted by Advisory Board member Reinaldo, at the Women's Rights National Historical Park. Dignitaries from the National Park Service and NMWH spoke and listened to a moving rendition of the "Ain't I a Woman" speech by Park Service Ranger Althea Roberson, dressed as Truth. The statue remains on loan to the Park.

Deborah Linzer, Co-Chair of the Arizona Council, hosted a reception for NMWH at the Susan B. Anthony House in Rochester, NY. (continued on p. 2)

NMWH CyberMuseum Launch



The BIG Cyber launch is coming soon!

The NMWH CyberMuseum is not just a website, but a virtual museum.

Terry Beggy and Bell Atlantic president/CEO Ivan Seidenberg are working with NMWH to make a big splash. Please plan to attend the press conference if you can. We'll e-mail you the details.

The site is wonderfully exciting. The first exhibit, provided by Edie Mayo, is on the political symbolism of the suffrage movement. It also has everything contained in the NMWH information packet, so you'll be able to download it and pass it on. People will be able to sign up as members to support NMWH, and the gift shop will be up and running (with a 10% discount for members).

Orit and her entire staff worked tirelessly to get the site ready. Interport, an Internet server, has generously donated their services.

Initially, we'd planned to introduce the CyberMuseum earlier this summer, but the NMWH Communications Committee decided that

we should wait until we could accept donations and sign up new members online. That took more time.

A world of thanks to Terry, Bell Atlantic, Orit and Interport for making the CyberMuseum possible.

New NMWH Councils

NMWH Councils in New York, Phoenix, and Los Angeles host fundraising events and spread the word that women's history deserves a place in mainstream American culture and a museum on the Mall in Washington, DC. Now, Chicago and Dallas will hear of our work.

Marti Barletta, Vice President at Frankel, has agreed to chair a new council in Chicago. Gerry Myers, President of the Myers Group, will head the new Dallas Council.

NMWH Legislation Proposed in September



Senators Olympia Snowe and Patty Murray and Representatives Carolyn Maloney, Deborah Price, Eleanor Holmes Norton, and Marge Roukema are working with NMWH to draft legislation creating a Congressional Advisory Committee on NMWH. This committee will help determine a museum building site on or near the Mall.

Please let these members of Congress know that we appreciate their support.

We are targeting the first week of September for the introduction of the bill and a press conference. We'll let you know via e-mail when the date is confirmed.

We Need Your E-mail Address!

The most efficient—not to mention the most economical—way for NMWH to communicate with you, our advisors, is via e-mail. Please send your address to NMWH@erols.com with "e-mail address" typed in the subject field.

We would also like to update our database with your home and office addresses, telephone numbers, and fax numbers.

Thank you for your help.

Stephanie Powers to Ride in NMWH Polo Benefit

The Second Annual NMWH Polo Benefit will be held Sunday, September 27 at the Potomac Polo Club. We are planning a silent auction, lunch at 2 pm, and polo beginning at 3 pm. Actress Stephanie Powers will play with teams of local riders. Invitations (with a map) will be sent to all NMWH members in the DC area. If you have items to donate to the auction, kindly contact Alyse Best Muldoon at 301-972-7757.

It should be a glorious day for polo pony and museum patron, alike. Please come, bring some friends, and support NMWH.

President's Commission on the Celebration of Women in American History

President Clinton has created an eleven-member Commission on the Celebration of Women in American History. Co-chairs are Ann Lewis, Director of White House Communications, and Beth Newburger, Associate Administrator for Public Affairs, General Services Administration (GSA). The Commission will consider how best to acknowledge and celebrate the roles and accomplishments of women in American History. It will also consider a focal point for women's history in Washington, DC.

NMWH is pleased that President Clinton has named this Commission. NMWH has been meeting with the White House and keeping them briefed on our progress over the last two years. We look forward to testifying before the new Commission early this fall.

NMWH Partners With Forbes

Join us for the 1st Forbes Executive Women's Summit November 10-12 in Washington, DC. NMWH members receive a discount! For more information. Call 212-499-3521 or e-mail executivewomen@forbes.com.

Many Thanks for Recent Efforts:

Trudy Mason and **Chris Renz** for updating and printing the NMWH Advisory Board listing—One hellacious task.
Carol Super for arranging for public service announcements to run for one year in TimeWarner publications.
Eddie Weiner and **Tessa Warschaw** for introducing NMWH to a potential BIG TIME donor.
Patricia Ghiglini for ensuring that the Sojourner Truth statue was in the right place (Seneca Falls) at the right time.

Karen Staser Speaks Before Dollar Coin Advisory Committee

The National Museum of Women's History testified on the design for a new dollar coin before the Treasury Department's Dollar Coin Advisory Committee. Treasury Secretary Rubin has authorized a redesigned coin that will be easily distinguished from a quarter and will bear a woman's image. Karen Staser, founder and president of the Museum, and Joan Wages, director of development, traveled to Philadelphia for a June 8th hearing.

After a brief description of the Museum, its goals, and its achievements, Staser presented our position: "The Museum recommends that the images of Susan B. Anthony and Harriet Tubman be placed on the new dollar coin. These two women are examples of powerful women who dedicated their lives to ensuring rights and freedom for *all* of our citizens. Our nation is more inclusive and stronger because of these women's contributions."

The Dollar Coin Advisory Committee recommended that an image of Sacajewia, the Native American woman who guided Lewis and Clark, be used as a new representation of "Liberty," and Secretary Rubin has agreed. While not our first choice, we're pleased that a "real" woman was chosen.

Raise Money While You Surf



There's a new idea for raising money for nonprofits on the Internet, and NMWH can cash in—a little bit at a time. You need only register with a company called Eyegive, designate their site as your opening screen, and Eyegive will donate 6¢ to your favorite charity each time you log on to the Internet. Visit www.eyegive.com and try out the service. It may not be for everyone, but the more NMWH members who use it, the more money we bring in. American Rivers, an environmental group, made \$821 last quarter.

Convention (continued)

It was a lovely networking and social occasion. Deborah spoke briefly about the Everywoman's Story Project, which seeks to create a repository of the experiences of "ordinary" American women.

The NMWH booth sold the Museum's first T-shirts, hats, etc. Thanks to Paul Zarillo for producing them.

Jan Duplain, Trudy Mason, and Ann Stone provided their public relations expertise during the week's celebrations—a first rate PR team!

Thanks to American Airlines for providing travel for the NMWH Board to Seneca Falls and many other trips that help NMWH to grow.

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303 West Glendale Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22301
703-299-0552
703-288-0557 fax