

Subj: **SEPTEMBER 2007 E-NEWS RESTORED FOR DUKE**
 Date: 4/10/2008 4:19:52 PM Eastern Daylight Time
 From: [Janclary](#)
 To: [Jcvfa](#)

SEPTEMBER 2007

Veteran Feminists of America Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2007

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

VFA E-News

Vol.1, Issue 3

September 2007

Join Us!

Jacqui Ceballos,
 President
jcvfa@aol.com

Muriel Fox
 Board Chair

Sheila Tobias
 Exec VP

Amy Hackett
 Treasurer

Kathy Rand, VP
 Public Relations

Virginia Watkins
 Secretary

Betty Newcomb, VP
 Future Planning

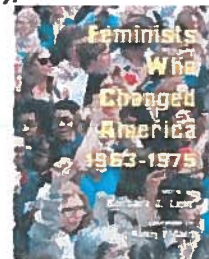
Gracia Molina-Pick, VP

**VFA WILL BE
 ELECTING OFFICERS**

VFA AND SEWALL BELMONT HOUSE CELEBRATE DC-AREA FEMINISTS WHO CHANGED AMERICA OCTOBER 30

The event will take place from 5 to 8 pm at the Sewall Belmont House (144 Constitution Avenue NE, Washington, DC), the historic home of the National Woman's Party and of the late Alice Paul.

FWCA's creator and editor, Barbara Love, who with the help of a handful of dedicated women collected the 2,200 bios and edited the monumental work, will share in honoring the 160 DC pioneer feminists cited in the book.



HELEN THOMAS TO BE HONORED

VFA will proudly honor the feminist hero Helen Thomas, a blue-ribbon journalist who has covered the White House as bureau chief for UPI during the Administrations of nine presidents. She was the first woman officer of the National Press Club, the first woman member and president of the White House Correspondents Association, and the first woman member of the Gridiron Club.

Other well-known honorees are Patricia Schroeder, former Congresswoman from Colorado; NOW's president, Kim Gandy, and former NOW president and founder and president of The Feminist Majority.

Anyone wanting to attend should get in touch with the event coordinator, Karen Mulhauser ASAP (Karen@dc.vetfems.org). If you are a DC pioneer feminist, please let Karen know so you will receive your medal of honor.

If you need overnight arrangements perhaps Karen can help you get space with local members, otherwise we suggest that you get hotel info by calling 800-311-5192 or go to <http://res.cheaprooms.com/index.jsp>.

VFA BOARD MEMBERS A Board meeting is scheduled for 1:30 - 5:00PM at the Methodist Building (100 Maryland Avenue)

AND BOARD FOR NEXT TWO YEARS

Grace Welch heads the 2008 nominating committee, working with Lois Herr and Mary Eastwood.

All are members of VFA's board. They will be sending out a slate of nominees to paid up members next month.

(NOTE: If you haven't paid your dues yet, please do so now.) They will also advise that anyone who wants to be considered for future nomination to the board should send in a list of their own qualifications.

Grace will email a list of what is expected of board members

grace@gracewelch.com

RETIRED?

THERE ARE MANY THINGS PIONEER FEMINISTS CAN STILL DO!

Do you know that two million women did not vote in the 2004 election?

Please do your part to see that women get to the polls. Talk to your daughters and granddaughters, to any woman in college and anyone else you can buttonhole.

**Call the National
Women's Political**

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOUSTON CONFERENCE TO BE CELEBRATED AT HUNTER COLLEGE NEW YORK NOVEMBER 9 and 10

On November 18-21, 1977, over 20,000 women met in Houston to evaluate the discrimination faced by American women and to develop recommendations for reform. Never before had the federal government financed a national gathering "to promote equal rights, equal opportunities and responsibilities for women." Never before had women come together from every area to focus on making changes to ensure justice and equality for women. And never before had such a diverse group gathered in one place to share the realities of their lives at that time.

The conference made visible a women's movement that had spread beyond its original white middle-class base. Thirty-five percent of the delegates were nonwhite; nearly one in five was low-income; and Protestants were in the minority.

Under the brilliant leadership of Bella Abzug, the delegates enacted a National Action Plan with the Equal Rights Amendment as its centerpiece and 26 planks that included abortion and lesbian rights. Each state would work to achieve these goals and there would be yearly conferences to discuss progress. Sadly it did not happen.

But thirty years later this powerful conference is being remembered. Led by the Bella Abzug Leadership Institute and Girls Speak Out, a new generation of feminists is convening a two-day conference on November 9 and 10 at Hunter College (695 Park Avenue between 68-69 Streets) to build on the accomplishments of the Houston event and publish a 21st century plan.



Goals are to create and publish an updated plan of action based on the 26 planks; to educate participants about the current status of women and girls with respect to the 26 issues of concern; to advance the growth of the feminist movement and its role in the international women's movement,

Keynotes, panels and workshops will be open to the public, but an admission fee will be charged for the opening evening concert. Conference organizers are led by Liz Abzug, president of the Bella Abzug Leadership Institute, Martha Baker, Elected Delegate, NY; Pam Elam, Elected Delegate, KY; Girls Speak Out Foundation; and Andrea Johnston, Convener. For more information: [Martha Baker -- msmarthabaker1@aol.com](mailto:msmarthabaker1@aol.com)

BRAINSTORMING PERMANENT MEMORIAL FOR BETTY FRIEDAN



Virginia Smith Watkins of Minneapolis MN, VFA board secretary for the past 5 years, has a dream: to build permanent memorials to our late great leader, Betty Friedan around the county. She presented her motion to the board at the July, 2006 meeting, and it was

Caucus
206-654-4165 for
ideas.

SUGGESTED READING

*Between Mothers and
Daughters: Stories Across
a Generation* - Susan
Kopplemen

Three Daughters
Letty Cottin Pogrebin

*A Good Enough
Daughter*
Alix Kates Shulman

*Mother Daughter
Revolution* - Elizabeth
Debold, Marie Wilson,
Idelisse Malave

Speaking of Mothers
and Daughters, visit
"generations" - our
new addition to the VFA
Website

Click: [generations](#)

Join Our Mailing List!

VFA Website:
www.vfa.us

Editor: Joan Michel
bubbelove8@aol.com

Web: Jan Cleary
jancleary@aol.com

Veteran Feminists of America
Jacqui Ceballos
Gateway Terrace
1942 N E 6th Court E-203
Ft Lauderdale, FL 33304
954-805-1559

passed.

Ginny says:

"Betty Friedan was one of the most influential people of the 20th century. But as time passes, how will she fare in history?"

"Cities and many towns are adorned with mostly male statues. The powers that be won't make a big effort to have Betty Friedan so honored. If we don't do it, who will?"

"Who has had experience with monuments? Where is there interest? What can be anticipated as to costs, politics, and so on? Answers to these questions and information that we can build on will be the starting point for such an enduring piece of our history."

In addition to statues, Ginny aims for a postage stamp, to have streets and schools, perhaps Women's Studies departments, named after Betty. And she hopes to alert feminists everywhere to watch for opportunities to memorialize Betty in their areas. Ginny is now forming a committee to explore how best this can be accomplished. If you have information or experience, please get in touch with her. Comments are welcome from all. Your interest will be appreciated.

Virginia Watkins ginnywatkins74@gmail.com

Or To:
Virginia Watkins
5841 Whited Ave
Minnetonka, MN 55345

FAST-FORWARD WITH YOUNG FEMINISTS AT NATIONAL NOW 41st ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Grace Welch reports on NOW conference in Detroit

On May 12, 2007, Mid-Suffolk Chapter of NOW on Long Island held its second annual Yoga Workshop Fundraiser to fund a college student to the NOW conference to represent our chapter at National's Young Feminist Leadership Institute.

The event brought in \$950, ample to cover Jessica Osias' all-expenses-paid trip to Detroit, where Jessica, a Women's Studies major sophomore at SUNY Stony Brook, attended her first NOW conference.

College students from across the country attended workshops such as "Because We're Still Not Equal." They learned what economic justice really means; they learned the difference between reproductive rights and reproductive justice. Male and female students were able to develop alliances and coalitions involving civil rights, religious, labor and other groups as participants shared their experiences in the field.

Emphasis on establishing NOW chapters on campus was reinforced by case histories of successes in this area, developing action networks, finding mentors and handling questions of credibility despite one's youth.

The final two workshops were devoted to "Running for Public Office" led by young women who have done it! With the high spirits and enthusiasm

VFA is a nonprofit organization for veterans of the Second Wave of the feminist movement. The goals are to enjoy the camaraderie forged during those years of intense commitment, to honor ourselves and our heroes, to document our history, to rekindle the spark and spirit of the feminist revolution and act as keeper of the flame so that the ideals of feminism continue to reverberate and influence others.

**VISIT THE VFA
WEBSITE!
VFA Website**

only a National NOW Conference can give young members, all were encouraged to go out into the world and put their new knowledge to work for progressive causes.

Read the full story at the VFA Website [Young Feminists](#)

NOTE: Grace is co-president of South Suffolk NOW and a VFA board member.

[generations](#)

SUZANNE BENTON AND DAUGHTER JANET BENTON



Suzanne Benton, an artist and an activist since early days of the movement is also a founder of VFA. Suzanne, who always used her art in feminist demonstrations, is a transculturalist and is often traveling to some remote part of the world. In 1996 VFA was honoring activists on NOW's 30th anniversary, but, Suzanne was in Bosnia. Janet, her

daughter accepted her medal of honor. No one present that evening will forget Janet's acceptance speech.. Many of us were raising children at the time and could identify. Here are excerpts. . Read them and cry.. And laugh!

It wasn't always easy having a mother dedicated to feminism and to becoming herself. I came home from third grade to find that my full-size baby carriage and baby doll who wet her pants, along with Barbie, her lovely accessories, and most of my stuffed animals, had been donated to a day-care center. While I got an appendectomy a few months earlier, Mom was marching through New York City streets with a procession of women wearing her metal masks, proclaiming the second coming of the great goddess. And after my parents divorced, I often came home to an empty house. It was a strange irony, the way that a joyous liberation and a freeing divorce sucked the joy from my life.

But I also received a treasure, one that I have come to understand as rare since hearing many people tell me what happened to the dreams, to the capacities of their mothers, and that is that my mother is a creative, strong, courageous woman who will never give up. The pride she has brought me, and the self-respect and assertiveness she has worked so hard to teach me, have proved more nutritive than hundreds of perfectly cooked meals.

So thank you for acknowledging Suzanne's thirty years of work on behalf of women. It means a lot to both of us.

For more about Suzanne ..see our [Art Section](#).

To reach Janet.. now a mother herself.. btoneditorial@msn.com

If you haven't paid for 2007, PLEASE HELP KEEP US GOING!
 Your tax deductible dues are on a sliding scale. Regular is \$40, but pay whatever you wish, up or down (just \$5 will subsidize mailings). You may pay in honor of a favorite feminist, dead or alive.
 I enclose

_____ Regular dues \$40* _____ Devoted Donor \$100
 _____ Super Supporter \$250 _____ Big Time Benefactor \$500
 _____ Activist Angel \$1,000 _____ Other \$ _____

*\$10 and up, if \$40 is difficult.

Make check to VFA . Mail to Amy Hackett 473 Westminster Rd
 Brooklyn, NY 11218. It's tax deductible.

NAME _____ Address _____

CITY _____ St _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

Forward email

 [SafeUnsubscribe](#)

This email was sent to jandearly@aol.com, by jandearly@aol.com

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



Veteran Feminists of America | 1942 N E 6th Court E-203 | Ft Lauderdale, FL 33304 | FL | 33304

Planning your summer road trip? Check out [AOL Travel Guides](#).