

the

VOICE

of the American Agri-Woman



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A "Spirited" Texas Agri-Women Invitation for the 2008 AAW Convention

Okay ladies, it's time to get ready for the 2008 AAW convention! Head for your closet and dig out your old boots and faded jeans.. You're in for a boot-stomping good time in old San Antonio, Texas.

After checking in at the famous Menger Hotel (when you reserve your room, make a choice - the old part or new; the older part of the hotel has antique furniture), we'll head for the River Walk. It's just across the street and down the block a little ways. At the Casa Rio restaurant, we will have a Mexican dinner on a barge cruising down the river. Margaritas available. Or, if you prefer, the Texas Vintner Cruises is sponsoring a wine and heavy appetizers Cruise Event, also on the river that evening. Our great Texas wines give California wines a run for their money!

For those who ate too many enchiladas and feel the need to walk it off the next morning, the Java Walk is just the thing. Ten to fifteen minute walk around the hotel, maybe to the Alamo, to get the blood flowing and then back to the hotel to start our business.

We have got just all kinds of things going on. We've invited our Texas Governor, Rick Perry and Texas Agriculture Commissioner, Todd Staples to speak. The international panel with Mexico, Canada and the US should stir up some good discussion. We've also invited a great investigative reporter, Mr. Tim Findley, to update us on issues that will be affecting our lives for many years to come.

We've also got plans for your spouse, or your "better-half" as we call them here in Texas, to go out with the boys in Uvalde and see how trophy deer are bred and raised, and do a little exploring of the crops being raised during the cold winter (brrr!) here in south Texas. And we're throwing in some history -- Texas Rangers' Museum is just down the road - and culture -- bet you thought Texans didn't have any culture! And there's more surprises in store for you.

To top off our convention, we have the President's Reception with our own "Champagne Cowboys". Yea, you heard me. You can dress western for our Western Style Show (wait till you see the mohair coats and jackets) and our "Red Hot Chile Pepper Night" Banquet. When you mix in all the good company that is American Agri-Women with these ingredients, you're

gonna have one heck of a good and educational time here in Texas. See ya soon. . . YeeHa!



Texas Agri-Women Board of Directors
Shirley Wilde--president, Eva Sanderlin--recording secretary, Jody Elrod--president-elect, back row- Karen Sullivan--1st vp, Judy Newman--2nd vp, Merlynn Verstuylft--parliamentarian, Barbara Stedinger--treasurer. Not pictured are Nancy Condit--3rd vp, Sharon Waite--4th vp, Melody Speer--corresponding secretary.

AAW and Provider Pals to Form Joint Venture

by Marcie Williams

The most impressive part of our recent Mid Year meeting was the impromptu presentation from Bruce Vincent of Provider Pals (PPals). It is my pleasure to announce that AAW and Provider Pals have committed to a joint venture to promote the new Provider World website. It's an honor to be working with Ford and Caterpillar on this educational site where students can learn about farming, ranching, fishing, mining and logging in such a safe atmosphere.

Education is one of AAW's purposes and objectives as stated in our AAW bylaws and Strategic Plans. Your AAW Executive committee and the Provider Pals board will be working together to draft literature that will benefit both organizations while soliciting funding for the Provide World website. Our goal is to raise \$250,000 to sponsor 5000 students to the website. You as members can donate to the cause by contributing \$50 per student. FFA groups, 4-H clubs, civil service clubs can all sponsor a student or students and help us achieve this goal. What better way than to assist an entire classroom in learning about agriculture.

We can do it together!

AAW members personally stepped up to the bat and met my challenge of raising enough money to sponsor one classroom to the Provider World website. Members present at Mid Year contributed \$1500 of their own money for Provide Pals to sponsor one classroom to this program for one year. Your executive committee then moved to match that amount from our AAW budget. AAW will now be presenting Provider Pals a check for \$3000 to sponsor two classrooms to the Provider World website for one year. Wonderful things are happening for AAW and Provide Pals. Help us achieve our goal by contributing yourself to this worthwhile cause or seeking outside sponsorship from friends, neighbors, and businesses. Look in your community to see if there is a classroom that would like to learn about farming in a safe and entertaining way on the internet. Individual sponsorships are welcomed as well. Sponsor your children, your grandchildren or your niece or nephew from the city. Let's make learning fun for these students that otherwise might never learn where their food comes from.

Contributions will go through our AAW Resource Center which is a 501c(3) tax-exempt organization. Make checks payable to AAWRC and send to Ina Fluid, Treasurer, 169 S Division St., Moyie Springs, ID 83845. Together we can make this happen.

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**By Marcie Williams
AAW President**

Greeting to you all,
What a wonderful and productive Mid Year meeting we had! Thank you to all whom contributed. A special Thank You needs to go to Kathy Rhoads and all of my Ohio Agri-Women members that assisted me with the event. Kathy did an outstanding job coordinating everything from the room rates to the meals and hospitality breaks. OAW members stepped up and took over for me when I had to leave for an America's Heartland meeting in St. Louis on Monday. I understand everyone enjoyed the Longaberger tour and some even showed how creative they were by making baskets themselves. Knowing our group I'm sure there was lots of shipping going on from the Factory and Homestead. What did we ever do before UPS?

True to what we stand for, AAW members quickly informed our speakers from Ohio Farm Bureau that we were farm partners, not just farm wives. I guess I should have forewarned them. Their information was quite helpful in giving background to later decided upon policy and positions and in how we can deal with media or our representatives while visiting in DC at our Fly-In meeting. Dolly Lillis and her StART crew made quick progress with our position papers. Thank You Dolly. Your ability to keep us all on schedule while getting the most from our members on their thoughts and suggestions for current and informative position statements was a true commitment to AAW.

The Horse Slaughter Bill was a position that caused much concern. As producers we know the importance of having the ability to dispose of horses and other livestock when health conditions give us no other choice. As Karen Yost pointed out, we can not allow the emotions of a few to dictate the governmental decisions for all of agriculture. With this bill still under attack and more work expected to be done with it we were all in agreement that we opposed the current bill as presented but stand for responsible management of horses and other farm animals.

Immediate action was taken by members to see that the USDA's National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS) be fully funded. As they rely on publicly-available, accurate data to make sound policy decisions impacting food safety, affordability and environmental quality, AAW is concerned with under-funding.

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Another concern was that farmers have unrestricted access to world markets and so oppose attempts by U.S. manufacturers to limit exports or imports of farm products such as wheat.

Our new Strategic Plan was carried out with presentations from Kris Zilliox on Leadership, Heather Hampton-Knodle on Consumer Awareness and Doris Mold on Networking. Their own networking between the three of them will keep AAW moving ever onward to our goals as set by the members at the 2007 Annual Meeting.

An impromptu presentation by Bruce Vincent was given on Provider Pals and the new educational website, Provider World, he has started at www.providerpals.com. Similar to Webkinz and Club Penguin, which many of you younger members may know about, it deals with farming, ranching, logging, mining and fishing through interactive sites that children love to participate in. Pat Leimbach's granddaughter was present and the excitement she generated throughout the room was enough to make every AAW member want to assist with the development of the site. What AAW members did will surprise you so read more about this elsewhere in this edition of the Voice.

Be prepared for our Fly In meeting June 8-11 in Washington DC. Make your arrangements soon. Interesting visits are planned and the Symposium will be entitled "Who's Feeding the Hysteria?".

Keep safe during the planting season ahead.

Marcie



President **Marcie Williams**
11404 Appleton Rd
Croton, OH 43013
Phone: 740-893-4300
Fax: 740-893-4003
AAW Phone: (740) 893-2624
president@americanagriwomen.org

1st Vice President Resolutions, Vital Issues **Chris Wilson**
2103 Zeandale RD
Manhattan, KS 66502
Phone: 785-539-7899
Cell: 785-844-0274
resolutions@americanagriwomen.org

Vice Pres. Communications **Arlene Kovash**
11425 Pedee Creek RD
Monmouth, OR 97361
Phone: 503-838-3512
Fax: 503-838-6851
communications@americanagriwomen.org

Vice Pres. Education **Pat Yeagle**
4875 W. Winslow Rd
Winslow, IL 61089
Phone: 815-789-4581
Cell: 815-291-4581
education@americanagriwomen.org

Secretary **Lynn Figone-Gallagher**
PO Box 260
Middletown, CA 95461
Phone: 707-987-3634
Cell: 707-324-9354
secretary@americanagriwomen.org

Treasurer **Carolyn Kleiber**
PO Box 111
Hillsboro, KS 67063
Home: 620-947-3094
Fax: 620-947-2476
treasurer@americanagriwomen.org

Past Pres. **Yvonne Erickson**
34115 County Hwy 74
Battle Lake, MN 56515
Phone: 218-495-2867
Fax: 218-495-2659 pastpresident@americanagriwomen.org

AAW Web Site:
www.americanagriwomen.org

E-mail Address: info@americanagriwomen.org

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Articles and suggestions are always welcomed by the editor:

Rosemerry Hansen Crubel
4340 Deer Haven Ln
St. George, KS 66503
Ph: 785-494-8108
E-mail: rosyhansen@yahoo.com

Please send address changes to:

Carolyn Kleiber, Membership Chair
PO Box 111
Hillsboro, KS 67063
carolyn@agpowerinc.net

AAW Positions

2008 American Agri-Women Position Statements

AGRICULTURE BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

TAXATION

Capital Gains Tax on the Sale of Farmland

AAW supports broadening of the \$250,000/\$500,000 exemption available on the sale of a personal residence to apply to the sale of farmland.

FFARRM Accounts

AAW supports passage of the Fish, Farm and Ranch Risk Management Account concept, which would allow farmers and ranchers to set aside a percentage of income during high-income years to be taxed later during lower income years. American Agri-Women supports deferment of self-employment tax on that amount as well.

Health Insurance for Self-Employed Individuals

AAW applauds the acceleration of the deduction for health insurance for the self-employed up to 100%. However, AAW supports moving the deduction from page one of Form 1040 where it is deductible for federal income tax only, to schedule F or C, where it is deductible for self-employment tax as well.

Estate & Gift Tax

AAW is concerned that the popular move to eliminate the estate tax carries with it a return to carry-over basis. This would mean that farm heirs (as well as other heirs) would not get a stepped up basis for property they inherit, making property acquired via inheritance and later sold subject to very large capital gains taxes. While we do not object to the elimination of estate tax, we call for transparency in the ultimate product and a fair analysis of all related provisions. In lieu of total elimination, AAW supports an individual exemption of \$5 million to \$10 million, indexed for inflation.

Long-Term Security and Retirement

AAW supports legislation to encourage individuals to provide themselves with a guaranteed stream of income for life. Specifically, AAW supports a proposal that would create a tax incentive for lifetime payouts from individual annuities. It would allow individuals to exclude from taxation 50% of income received from an individual lifetime annuity, up to \$20,000 annually.

Optional Social Security Tax for Farmers

AAW supports a change in the rule for payment of optional Social Security Tax, tying

the amount that an individual farmer can pay into the system each year to the minimum amount that will provide him or her with four calendar quarters of coverage. The optional program, as originally set up, did provide four calendar quarters of coverage.

Simplification of Depreciation Rules

AAW is concerned with the increasingly complex tax rules involving depreciation of capital assets and supports the implementation of a simplified method of recovering the cost of machinery, equipment and other assets used as a part of a trade or business.

Depreciation Recapture on Retirement

AAW supports a change in the depreciation recapture rules when farm and other business depreciable assets are sold on retirement or cessation of business. Currently the amount of depreciation taken on most assets is recaptured as ordinary income, thereby eliminating the benefit of a more favorable capital gains tax rate for most businesspersons who sell their business assets on retirement.

INSURANCE

Health Insurance, Prescription Drugs & Medicare

AAW supports legislation that allows associations to offer group health insurance plans to individual members and small businesses. *Health Insurance, Prescription Drugs & Medicare*

AAW supports the concept that citizens of the United States should have access to the best medical service available. Any legislation should reflect that view.

AAW supports private enterprise delivery of our nation's health care system.

AAW advocates adequate service at the lowest possible cost.

AAW respects and supports continued research.

AAW supports the coverage by health insurance and Medicare of the reasonable cost of outpatient drugs.

AAW supports the right of Americans to legally purchase medications from the most economical source.

AAW supports Medicare payments to rural health professionals and facilities at the same level as their urban counterparts.

AAW supports a proposed change in Medicare to include paying for nutrition counseling for those over age 65 and the disabled population who suffer from chronic conditions (i.e. high blood pressure, high cholesterol and diabetes).

AAW supports a health care system:

- within which decisions for specific testing and hospital stays should be determined by medical professionals.
- that continues to develop and to use paraprofessional programs in rural communities as well as programs

to encourage doctors and nurses to locate in rural areas

· that increase competition in the form of voluntary purchasing alliances to help smaller employers and individuals buy insurance at a reasonable rate rather than in the form of government-mandated bureaucracies;

· that employers with temporary or part-time employees will be exempt from legislation that would require them to pay for health care coverage.

Long-Term Care Security

AAW supports continuation of government assistance in caring for the elderly who are truly without resources.

AAW, at the same time, supports legislation to encourage individuals to provide themselves with a guaranteed stream of income for life.

AAW supports a proposal that would create a tax incentive for lifetime payouts from individual annuities. It would allow individuals to exclude from taxation 50% of income received from an individual lifetime annuity, up to \$20,000 annually.

AAW supports an optional national regulator or Optional Federal Charter (OFC) for insurers that would create a uniform, consistent system that would remove barriers to consumer choice and offer consumers the same protections nationwide. For more than 100 years, insurance has been regulated by the states, with each state having its own unique regulatory system. It is a cumbersome patchwork of laws and regulations characterized by delays and expenses that ultimately disadvantage consumers. Further, consumer safeguards vary and products available in one state may not be available in another.

Crop Insurance

AAW supports reforms to the crop insurance program to:

- provide in all regions of the country affordably priced, adequate coverage that is actuarially sound and voluntary;
- exempt the benefits of crop insurance from the gross income test;
- require participation in crop insurance for eligibility in government crop disaster programs.

AAW supports requiring crop insurance for only crop disaster programs and not for other federal agriculture programs. Participants should have the option to not participate in the crop insurance program and thus not be eligible to collect insurance or government disaster payments.

AAW supports the strict enforcement of crop insurance regulations with regard to abuse of the program. Producers should be held to the highest standards. Those who commit crop insurance fraud should be held accountable and fined at the maximum level.

AAW Positions

LEGAL CONCERNS

AAW supports the legislative process for determining major agricultural policy.

AAW strongly opposes any federal agency expanding their regulatory authority without going through the legislative process.

AAW opposes the effort to adopt an agreement among the states to elect the President by national popular vote under which participating states agree to allocate each state's electoral votes to the presidential slate receiving the largest national popular vote total.

AGRICULTURAL LABOR

AAW believes that no single industry should be targeted with the enforcement of and compliance of laws affecting labor. Agriculture needs the capacity to access an available and legal workforce. AAW believes that it is in the interest of our national security to create a way for workers to safely and legally enter the U.S. on a temporary basis, fill empty jobs, and return to their home countries.

Guest Worker Program

AAW supports a guest worker program that ensures that U.S. employers have access to a legal workforce as proposed by the Agricultural Jobs Opportunities Benefits and Security Act (AgJOBS Act).

AAW supports the creation of an ID card for employment. The cards would be issued by a U.S. government agency. An employer, when presented with the card, could rely on that card as an indication of the individual's legal status to work in the U.S.

AAW believes that the current foreign agricultural worker program (H2-A) is ineffective and must be reformed without placing undue burden on the employer. We support reform to H2-A, which eliminates the housing requirement; eliminates the requirement that jobs be seasonal in nature; and makes available an unlimited number of H2-A visas.

Border Protection

AAW supports enforcement of border security.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ISSUES

International Trade Negotiation and Policy

AAW supports the strict implementation of all international trading rules to prevent unfair practices

by competing nations and to assure unrestricted access to domestic and world markets. Furthermore, we believe that all trade agreements should be continually evaluated.

AAW supports equivalent sanitary and phytosanitary regulations as part of any free trade agreement.

AAW believes that quality standards for imported products should meet the same

standards required for U.S. products. Imported foods should meet the same grading and safety standards as domestic products.

AAW opposes the use of false trade barriers, such as requiring the labeling of biotech products, in trade negotiations and policy development.

AAW supports payment of the technology fee on biotech seed by all who use the seed—not just those in the United States. The requirement that this additional fee be paid on all biotech seed planted in the U.S. is a distinct trade disadvantage to U.S. farmers by increasing their cost of production.

AAW supports cooperative efforts for international market development and promotion programs.

Border & Port Inspections

AAW supports USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service having the responsibility for border and port inspections with the appropriate increase in funding. We believe that inspection of our food supply at the ports of entry should be increased.

Trade Promotion Authority

AAW supports Presidential Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), with the restriction that non-trade issues such as labor and the environment may not be included, nor should they be considered as side agreements.

Sanction Reform

AAW believes that unilateral sanctions have not proven to be an effective means to further foreign policy goals and are disruptive to international food trade.

International Organizations and Trade Agreement

AAW recognizes the World Trade Organization (WTO) as the primary international forum for world trade.

AAW encourages the U.S. Trade Representative and/or the WTO to review the developing nation status definition.

AAW supports further liberalization of trade in agricultural products, which can be achieved through the WTO.

AAW supports balanced, fair international trade agreements that open international markets to U.S. agricultural products, provide for minimal production distorting supports and eliminate export subsidies and single desk exporters.

DOMESTIC TRADE ISSUES

Transportation Transportation

AAW believes that all commercial vehicles operating within U.S. borders must meet uniform safety standards.

AAW supports reform of the Jones Act-

Merchants Marine Act of 1920 so that shipping costs can be competitive for the U.S. producer.

The Jones Act currently places severe restriction on U.S. businesses and agriculture by requiring that merchandise being transported in part or in entirety by water between U.S. points-either directly or via foreign ports – must travel in U.S.-built, U.S.-manned, and U.S. citizen-owned vessels. No other U.S. industry or its customers are bound by such restrictions.

Consumers are paying to protect U.S. water-borne vessels from international competition in the domestic maritime market.

The U.S. (Jones Act) fleet does not have enough qualified carriers. Farmers in the southeast can purchase Canadian grain shipped through the same route. Not a single U.S. coastal freighter larger than 1,000 ton runs along the East coast. Hawaiian beef producers often choose to have their beef processed in Canada because of the lack of cattle carriers and the prohibitive cost to airfreight cattle to the U.S. mainland. It is cheaper to send cattle to the mainland by air than by water because there are no qualified livestock carriers in the Jones Act Fleet.

Labeling

AAW supports mandatory Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) on all imported agricultural and aquacultural products at the final point of sale to consumers. Ideally, this would include restaurants. The country of origin should be clearly stated and large enough to be easily identified by the consumer. Imported products should meet the same grading, phytosanitary and production standards as domestic products.

Market Consolidation

AAW supports strong congressional oversight of market consolidation. AAW believes that retail consolidation restricts trade and decreases market access for small farmers.

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RURAL

AAW urges family farmers to investigate agri-tourism and alternative crops, which might add profit to the farming operation.

Telecommunications

AAW supports a full range of ownership of telecommunications infrastructure including entrepreneurs, large corporations, municipalities, and other units of local government.

Rural Hospitals

AAW supports continued appropriation of federal funds to keep rural hospitals operational and modern.

GLOBAL ISSUES

AAW recognizes the need for an international forum for countries to discuss their differences and cooperate on problems of common concern.

AAW Positions

AAW opposes the U.S. government granting any authority to the United Nations regarding the use or management of any federal, state, or private properties of the United States.

AAW opposes the U.S. government granting any taxing authority to the United Nations.

AAW supports the concept that the U.S., not the U.N., establish the criteria to be met by developing nations prior to receiving U.S. food aid. We support giving "food" in food aid rather than dollars. We recognize that the U.S. needs to provide a steady level of food aid, every year, on which the international humanitarian community can rely. At a minimum, food donations should total at least 6 million metric tons annually.

AAW opposes the reauthorization of any designated biosphere reserves within the U.S. or its holdings and any new designation of reserves in the future.

AAW opposes the use of U.S. land holdings for barter of U.S. debts to foreign nations. U.S. lands are owned by people of the United States of America and were never intended to use for barter. Every effort should be made to re-instate those holdings that have been transferred.

COMMODITIES

A domestic food, fuel, and fiber supply must be the basis of our national security.

AAW recognizes that U.S. farmers and ranchers continue to provide a safe and abundant food supply in a healthy environment.

The future well being of the world depends upon modern, progressive production capabilities and practices of U.S. agriculture.

Further, AAW supports legislation that will enhance domestic and international market growth and also supports legislation that exempts food from trade embargoes.

In the event of a natural disaster, AAW supports timely government assistance to affected agricultural producers.

AAW supports an efficient and modern transportation infrastructure, which enables U.S. farmers' and ranchers' access to domestic and world markets. The proposed dam removals, the railroad monopolies, and the general lack of transportation infrastructure maintenance put all U.S. agriculture and industry and the world food supply in jeopardy.

DAIRY

AAW believes that federal orders best serve U.S. dairy policy, dairy producers, handlers and consumers when structured and administered with uniform and equitable classified pricing regulations, based on product utilization and market returns, regardless of geographic location.

AAW recognizes the need for intervention when dairy prices fall below certain levels and we urge lawmakers crafting the 2007 Farm Bill to thoroughly examine this issue.

AAW believes that future Federal Farm Policy should include a permanent intervention program, which will facilitate farm business planning and financial confidence. Further, we believe that Federal Farm Policy for dairy should eliminate all regional barriers and should enhance domestic and international market growth.

GRAINS

AAW supports and promotes alternative uses of all grain and related byproducts produced in the United States. We support a national energy policy that includes a renewable fuels standard (RFS) for all transportation fuels and less dependence upon foreign oil.

LIVESTOCK

AAW is concerned about the future availability of new products to safeguard the health of animals. It is imperative that the scientific data be factual when determining the risk of antibiotic use on food producing animals. Increased global demand for meat, milk and eggs compels agriculture to use the latest technological tools.

AAW supports appropriate agricultural policies and adequate funding in agricultural research and extension through the Agricultural Research Service and the Extension Service to ensure the necessary increases in productivity of food producing animals.

AAW supports an infectious disease monitoring and testing program of imported and domestic animals and meat in order to maintain consumer confidence and market stability.

AAW opposes announcements of suspect cases of infectious zoonotic diseases.

AAW supports announcements of confirmed cases of infectious and zoonotic diseases.

AAW supports interstate shipment of meat from state-inspected processing plants where state regulations are equal to or exceed federal regulations.

AAW urges the USDA to work with state and federal animal health officials to identify all animals imported into the United States.

AAW recommends that any federally mandated surveillance and food safety programs be accompanied with adequate federal funding.

AAW supports research and education into standards of care that ensure animal welfare and profitable ways to raise livestock set by marketing demands. This should require the use of research-based science.

AAW supports mandatory Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) to promote consumption of U.S. products.

AAW urges Congress to promote policy and regulations that encourage flexibility by the livestock industry to make responsible management decisions on breeding, disease surveillance, marketing, environmental

conditions, and other issues that affect the livestock industry and the welfare of animals.

AAW supports a voluntary national premises registration and animal identification program for effective track and trace, animal health and public confidence in the U.S food supply.

AAW believes there is a need to further develop the national animal identification system to be cost-effective to producers.

AAW supports legislation to clarify that Congress did not intend to regulate manure under the Comprehensive Environmental Recovery Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) or the Environmental Protection and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), known as Superfund laws.

SPECIALTY CROPS

AAW supports a competitive specialty crop industry, which includes edible and non-edible crops.

U.S. specialty crop growers believe that there are numerous areas of federal agriculture policy that must be improved to increase the competitiveness and efficiency of specialty crop producers.

AAW supports the U.S. Trade Representative establishing a position in the agricultural office solely for specialty crop trade matters.

FRUITS & VEGETABLES

AAW commends the U.S. Department of Agriculture for increasing fruits and vegetable consumption in federal food programs. We encourage the expansion of these federal food programs throughout the U.S. Consumption of fresh produce provides tremendous health and economic benefit to both consumers and growers.

Horticulture

AAW supports the development of industry-driven, science-based, voluntary, Best-Management Practices (BMPs) as well as associated cost-share programs and other incentives to assist nurseries in meeting water quality standards and other environmental goals.

AAW supports continued research and development of biological, physical, cultural and chemical tools necessary for nursery growers and landscape maintenance professionals to incorporate Integrated Pest Management (IPMs) strategies into their overall management regimens.

AAW insists that the scientific foundation and biological integrity of Quarantine-37 must never be compromised. It is a scientifically sound, biologically based barrier designed to minimize the introduction of new, damaging, exotic pests and diseases into the U.S.

Pollinators

AAW supports rebuilding viable and vibrant pollinator communities across all lands to

AAW Positions

improve resiliency and functional redundancy in pollinator populations and to improve long-term profitability of agriculture. Pollinators are vital to production agriculture. Most fruit, vegetable, forage and seed crops plus crops that provide fiber, drugs and fuel require the pollination services provided by managed and native or "wild" pollinators.

Pollinators are vital to production agriculture. Most fruit, vegetable, forage and seed crops plus crops that provide fiber, drugs and fuel require the pollination services provided by managed and native or "wild" pollinators.

AAW supports promoting pollinators through further revisions to USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) field office technical guides and conservation practices.

NEW CROPS/NEW USES

AAW supports research efforts into the utilization of alternate/new crops for new commercial food, fiber, and energy uses.

AAW supports funding of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to support research on plant-based feeds necessary to develop the regulatory structure for an offshore aquaculture industry in the U.S.

NATURAL RESOURCES

AAW believes in the benefits of multiple uses of natural resources.

We recommend policies that promote and ensure abundant, renewable natural resources and a healthy, productive environment.

For national security, priority must be restored to utilize our natural resources to produce basic benefits of food, clothing, shelter

and fuel for our country.

Government agencies that are using the power of decision-making to affect natural resource industries need to be held accountable for their decisions. There should be:

- specific timetables,
- timely efficiency reports,
- analysis of public and private costs of implementation,
- balancing of harms and benefits,
- effect of no-management actions.

Public Land & Animal Resource Management

AAW expects government to comply with the same standards imposed on citizens and businesses regarding the management of natural resources and wildlife.

AAW supports continuation of the Federal Animal Damage Control program as a priority responsibility of agencies involved in wildlife management to protect private and public property.

AAW supports active, responsible management of wildlife. Wildlife overpopulation, overgrazing, polluted streams, passing of disease from infected animals and extensive crop damages

are but a few intolerable consequences of wildlife mismanagement.

LAND USE

AAW supports the preservation of our nation's sovereignty and our Constitution as the supreme law of the land.

AAW believes that good stewardship of our natural resources is best assured by those who have made both financial and labor investments to become owners and caretakers of their land. Even though local, state and federal governments own more than 40% of the land in the United States, some groups seek additional purchases of private property by, or through, the government. The continued purchase and taking of private property by the government or government funded organizations, using government funds, erode the very foundation on which this country, its principles, freedoms, economy and the health and productivity of its natural resources are based.

AAW recognizes that a family farm or ranch is a form of business enterprise in which the entrepreneurial decisions are made by individuals engaged in the production of food, feed, fiber, fuel, forest products and/or flora for profit, which provides a major source of income and capital for investment.

AAW opposes the elimination of productive agriculture lands to constructed artificial wetland. ** For Example, In Illinois a large-scale constructed artificial wetland is being used to naturally treat the wastewater from the Chicago Sanitary District. It will take 200,000 acres of wetlands to treat the Chicago Sanitary District's wastewater. Scientists have stated it will take 5 million acres of wetlands in the AAW opposes the elimination of productive agriculture lands to constructed artificial wetland. * For Example, In Illinois a large-scale constructed artificial wetland is being used to naturally treat the wastewater from the Chicago Sanitary District. It will take 200,000 acres of wetlands to treat the Chicago Sanitary District's wastewater. The EPA'S Science Advisory Board Hypoxia Panel have stated it will take 5 million acres of wetlands in the dead zone of the Gulf Hypoxia.*

AAW opposes any authority given to the United Nations regarding the use or management of any federal, state or private properties within the boundaries of the U.S. and its holdings.

AAW opposes the designation of Scenic Byways, flyways, waterways or any other designations and the resulting restrictions on private lands in the U.S.

Public Lands

AAW supports access to public lands for multiple uses. Multiple uses include but are not limited to agriculture, grazing, mining, forestry, habitat and recreation.

AAW supports a policy of no net loss of taxable private property.

AAW opposes preferential treatment to sellers or buyers of private land through tax incentives

or other measures to nonprofit entities.

AAW supports efforts to prevent entities from setting up "shell" foundations in order to obtain funds exceeding the \$50,000 per entity cap on conservation payments.

AAW supports restricting and monitoring the conditions by which private non-profit groups can purchase land with the intent to sell or transfer ownership of that land to the government. The intent by government to acquire or take the use of land, or the land itself, should be an open process and readily available to public review.

AAW expects Congress to fully appropriate and to disperse PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) to local governments in a timely matter, as required by law.

AAW opposes the designation of additional wilderness areas. Wilderness areas are wild lands with special "legal" protections granted by the U.S. Congress that cannot be changed. They cannot be managed to save species, habitat or old growth forests, or to suppress fire. Natural forces prevail. In 1964, when the Wilderness Act was passed, there were 9.1 million acres set aside in 13 states (54 areas). In 2007 there are almost 107.5 million acres in 44 states and Puerto Rico (702 areas).

Private Property Rights

AAW supports legislation that reinforces our citizens' constitutional property rights and requires just and complete compensation for the taking of private property.

AAW strongly supports legislation that considers "takings" as the devaluation of land by:

- regulatory action,
- activities that negatively impact adjacent land, or
- activities that impact landowner's rights in any way.

AAW contends that water is property [the Hage vs. United States Takings case, January 26, 2004]. Any reallocation of the water permitted for private use by government is a taking. Government should fairly compensate the owners of privately held water when the public deems a necessary beneficial use of that water.

AAW strongly supports private property owners and the sovereignty of states above the federal government regarding allocations of water within their borders. We urge Congress to take no action that would impair state authority in allocating water rights and use of the legal rights of water right owners.

Eminent Domain

Eminent Domain should not be used for the purchase of property from a private owner to transfer to another private or commercial owner. When property is taken, the owner must be fully compensated at fair market value for property, expenses and lost income. We are opposed to the use of Eminent Domain for economic development and additional tax revenue accruing from such development.

AAW Positions

AAW strongly opposes the taking of private property by postings on the Internet only. Government agencies considering the acquisition of properties by Eminent Domain should at a minimum send a certified letter with return receipt requested to the property owner of record on the county tax rolls, notifying him of the open public meeting called to decide the issue, at least 90 days prior to the meeting, and publish a newspaper legal notice.

Before exercising Eminent Domain, every effort should be made to use existing public land.

AAW opposes the taking of private property by eminent domain to construct the planned NAFTA superhighway, a 12-lane toll road that will reach from Mexico to Canada. **ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT**

Our nation's security depends upon our military and domestic food and energy supply and must therefore take precedence over the regulations of the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

AAW supports the value of sustaining human life and safety above any other species whether endangered, threatened or not listed.

Funding for the Endangered Species Act (ESA) needs to be discontinued until such time as the Act is re-authorized and the means for funding re-evaluated.

AAW supports the following:

- Require the use of sound, verifiable, research-based science giving equal weight to historical data of the land before a listing is approved
- Eliminate subjective biological units (sub-species, populations, stocks) from ESA action and pursue recovery of only significant species
- Require that the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Critical Habitat designations be completed before restrictive regulatory action is taken. This should require concurrent social, economic and environmental cost/benefit analyses and compensatory adjustments for takings deemed necessary for species protection
- Ensure protection of property owners from regulatory takings by local, state and national agencies. If property is taken, owner must be fully compensated for loss of property at fair market value, for loss of income and expenses
- Allow a state or private property owner who is sued for an alleged ESA violation to continue with existing farming, logging, fishing or mining practices until the suit is resolved
- Require feasible recovery plans and selection of recovery measures that are most cost effective and have the least negative social and economic impact
- Review and evaluate recovery plans every five years

- Allow for administrative appeal of qualified major decisions and/or judicial review by qualified affected parties
- Exclude specie from consideration as endangered or threatened, or de-list it, if it is abundant in any location
- Acknowledge "extinction" as a natural process of evolution.

Invasive Species

Invasive species is a major new environmental concept and needs to be addressed in open debate before legislation should be passed.

AAW does not view all non-native species as invasive, nuisance, noxious, or harmful. It is well known that migratory flyways can and do change. Weather, volcanic eruptions and earthquakes can and do cause variations to migration. Oceanic currents can and do cause variations to historic ranges of species. These and other acts of nature cause relocation of species. Therefore the phrase, "invasive species" needs to be defined as a specific set of scientific criteria.

AAW believes this distinction needs to be made clear in open debate.

FORESTRY & TIMBER

Our nation has more forested acres and trees today than a hundred years ago. Natural and renewable, trees offer many benefits to our communities, nation, and world. Trees can provide goods, recreation, and wildlife habitats. They clean and cool the air we breathe and protect our water and fisheries.

Fifty-one percent of our nation's forests are privately owned and more than 1/3 of these acres is part of a farm, an important part of the rural landscape.

- AAW urges the Farm Bill to offer cost sharing towards environmental quality incentives; tax incentives for developing renewable energy sources; habitats; and/or water improvements.
- AAW urges the expansion of the domestic forest products market to encourage private forest owners to keep and manage their forest. We lose a million acres annually to development.

Our public national forests are sick and dying. Today's forests are growing 10 to 100 times more trees per acre than the forested lands at the time Native Americans managed them by fire. The overcrowded forests result in insect damage, disease, and the loss of groundwater.

The unhealthy conditions make these forests vulnerable to fire. Forest fires are more frequent, bigger in size, and catastrophic in nature. Currently, the average annual cost is 1.5 billion dollars for fighting the fires. These costs do not reflect the cost of trees burned, watershed damages, homes, ranches, wildlife, livestock burned and streams boiled. Fire costs now account for forty-seven percent of the Forest Service Budget spent. The Forest

Service spends the budget money then borrows from other programs like tree planting and restoration. Then after the fire season, Congress allocates emergency funding to the agency.

AAW urges Congress to support the Forest Service in implementing the National Forest Plans. AAW urges Congress to provide authority to implement the Healthy Forest Initiative. A healthy tree can absorb 10 pounds of carbon in a year from the atmosphere. The best sequesters of carbon are healthy growing green trees. Old and decaying trees release carbon back into the atmosphere and become part of the carbon problem. Timber owners market carbon credits. Fuel reduction through commercial harvest of timber and biomass would renew forest health and rural communities. Woody biomass can be a major contribution to the 25 x '25 solution.

AAW urges Congress to release to multiple uses of the acres that do not qualify for wilderness and settle the 40-year-old issue of roadless designation.

AAW urges Congress to re-authorize the full funding of the Secure Rural Schools and Communities Act until such time as active management and harvest is re-established on public lands. The SRSCA was never a paid in lieu of taxes (PILT) payment, but rather a substitute for the 25% Forest Fund.

AAW opposes the Administration's proposed sale of national forest lands. This proposed funding for the SRSCA offers only a temporary solution.

AAW opposes the sale of national forest lands to fund the purchase of more federal lands.

AAW urges Congress to amend the Equal Access to Justice Act. Requiring a significant bond based on losses incurred by delays, limiting amounts awarded and requiring plaintiffs to pay government's attorneys' fees if they lose would deter frivolous lawsuits.

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Civil Works

AAW supports the maintenance and continued development of dams, levees, canals and other engineered facilities that provide multiple benefits to people and nature.

AAW urges Congress to immediately reaffirm the initial, established purpose of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation. The purposes of flood control, navigation and irrigation projects have served both the government and the economic development efforts of this country.

AAW supports the funding and construction of new 1200-foot locks and maintenance of the existing 600-foot locks for the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway System.

AAW Positions

AAW supports the implementation of a plan for systemic flood protection for the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers.

AAW opposes the use of Inland Waterways and Harbor Maintenance trust funds for operations and maintenance. Trust funds should fund only new construction as intended when authorized. Flood control, irrigation, energy production and transportation should remain as primary purposes for public water storage and management investments. Fish and wildlife "protections" and other environmental concerns should be added using research based to ensure that social-economic costs are justifiable with devaluation and/or harm to individuals, communities, or states being fully compensated.

We urge Congress to disallow these immense public investments, such as dams, to be arbitrarily and capriciously destroyed. Prior to any purposeful alteration or destruction of these public investments or their uses, the government should show research-based scientific and economic proof that this action is vital to national security and necessary for benefit to humans as well as to the environment, as required under the original intent of the authority of the Corps of Engineers.

AAW advocates policies that promote abundance of water resources.

Water Treaties

AAW urges the U.S. government to continue to enforce the 1944 United States-Mexico Water Treaty.

Water Contracts, Water Rights and Ownership

AAW urges Congress to honor its contractual obligations to agricultural water users throughout the West who rely on federally constructed water projects for irrigation supplies. Full contract supplies are essential to maintain the West's productive farmland, which helps feed and clothe our nation and the world.

AAW does not support land retirement as a means of relieving the U.S. government's contractual obligations to provide water and/or drainage service to the West.

AAW opposes foreign ownership of water and water treatment and distribution utilities.

AAW opposes federal purchase of privately held water rights in cases where the federal government would then hold the water right.

AAW supports a prominent role of agriculture in determining water allocation due to the economic and social necessity of producing enough food, fiber, and fuel to accommodate the domestic population and to build the economy by marketing value added and surplus commodity products.

Wetlands

AAW objects to a national policy of avoiding impacts to wetlands, versus previous policy of minimizing impacts to wetlands.

AAW objects to public funds supporting easements or buyouts to non-profit groups for large-scale wetland restoration that removes agricultural land from local tax rolls and other local economic activity. AAW supports the Supreme Court ruling that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers does not have jurisdiction over wetlands that are not adjacent to navigable waters.

WATER QUALITY

Livestock

AAW opposes efforts to regulate livestock manure as hazardous waste under Comprehensive Environment Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) or other environmental laws.

Non-Point Source

AAW supports a national water quality policy on nonpoint source pollution that gives states the control to develop and manage water quality programs specific to the states' own watershed issues. Programs under the Clean Water Act should promote the use of voluntary Best Management Practices (BMPs) by rural landowners, agricultural producers and urban natural resources users.

Given flexibility within state programs, local watershed stakeholder committees can develop and implement Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's) designed to incorporate BMPs and monitoring as key components to the protection of water resources and the prevention of future impairments.

AAW supports revising water quality standards based on real risk to human health as determined by researched-based methods.

Data and Monitoring

AAW strongly promotes funding the monitoring of targeted waterways and the collection of data for accurate decision-making in the allocation of state resources for water protection programs.

AAW expects the federal and state elected officials and agency staff decision-makers to use credible, current records on historical data to establish reasonable and attainable year-round water temperature standards for rivers and streams.

AAW supports cost/benefit analysis and adequate funding including risk assessments before state and federal regulations are imposed on communities.

AAW supports the U.S. EPA assisting states in establishing a designated-use classification system for state surface waters. *A designated system would allow for water quality standards to be applied by type of stream. For example: an agricultural irrigation or drainage ditch should not be required to meet the same standard as a pristine stream.

AAW objects to nutrient trading proposals, projects, or experiments that are based

on questionable science and unsustainable economics. Government resources should only fund such projects that do not cause adverse effects on adjacent lands, river systems, and communities.

ENERGY

AAW supports the 25 X '25 Initiative of having 25% of the U.S. renewable energy sources A well-developed diverse domestic energy supply is critical to national security.

AAW supports the 25 X '25 Initiative of having 25% of the U.S. renewable energy sources being produced by farms, ranches, and forests by the year 2025.

AAW supports the use of alternative fuels, such as ethanol, biodiesel, wind energy, and biomass fuels, because:

- alternative fuels are an abundant renewable resource;
- alternative fuels are important to our nation's energy security; and
- alternative fuels are environmentally friendly.

AAW supports research efforts to identify agriculture's role in carbon sequestration. Carbon sequestration, the process by which carbon gases are captured and stored, presents potential technological solutions to the build-up of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

AAW supports development of domestic oil, coal, and natural gas supplies on public and private land as well as offshore, as applicable.

AAW supports the creation of new refineries and the continuous updating of existing refineries. Agriculture production and distribution is dependent on the oil industry.

AAW supports continued research of nuclear energy and development of new plants.

PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING AND AWARENESS

CONSUMER AWARENESS

AAW supports mandatory Country of origin labeling as passed in the 2002 Farm Bill.

ANIMAL WELFARE

The emotions of a few should not drive our nation's agricultural policies.

AAW supports the responsible treatment of animals.

AAW supports the responsible use of animals in research.

AAW supports legislation establishing stricter federal criminal penalties and civil remedies for violent, threatening, obstructive, and destructive conduct that is intended to injure, intimidate, or interfere with animal enterprises and research.

AAW supports legislation that establishes assistance for security programs at research facilities.

AAW Positions

AAW supports the right of farmers to protect their records from public scrutiny. AAW opposes the Horse Slaughter Prevention Act as introduced in January 2007 and all other attempts on the local and state level to outlaw horse slaughter. Responsible horse processing should not be outlawed as a humane tool for managing horses.

AAW supports proper animal disposal processes.

AAW supports industry-coordinated guidelines and consistent federal standards for safe meat product processing and distribution.

CROP PROTECTION

Methyl Bromide

AAW supports the continued use of methyl bromide in the U.S. through the Year 2010 and beyond, to provide fairness and equity with other nations in the world. Sound science to date shows that methyl bromide is neither a carcinogen nor a reproductive toxicant. Elimination of this tool would impose unnecessary severe economic impact on the U.S. farmer. We support research for cost effective alternatives to methyl bromide.

Phosphine Fumigation and Food Quality Protection Act Resolution

AAW urges Congress to direct EPA to cease implementation of new restrictions for aluminum/magnesium phosphine fumigants.

Anhydrous Ammonia Fertilizer

AAW supports the chemical industry's anti-methamphetamine task force activities regarding the prevention of the use of anhydrous ammonia for illegal purposes.

Chemical Registration

AAW urges Congress to continue oversight of EPA in its review of Section 18, Section 24C and Crisis Exemption requests by the states, manufacturers and third parties.

AAW supports the counterpart regulations jointly developed by EPA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and USDA to streamline the Federal Insecticide Fungicide, & Rodenticide (FIFRA) regulatory process and harmonize it with the requirements of the ESA. The new program ensures that regulatory protections are in place for threatened species and ensures timely and continued access to safe and necessary pest management tools.

FOOD SAFETY

AAW strongly supports scientific evidence that the proper handling, preparation and processing of all final products minimizes the risk of bacterial contamination. AAW supports scientifically sound, positive standards that instill consumer confidence in the safety of American agricultural products.

AAW strongly supports the Food & Drug Administration's decision to allow the irradiation of food products and education on how to minimize food-borne pathogens. _

To maintain a safe and abundant food supply for the American people and the world population, AAW supports the implementation of animal health emergency management and eradication programs, traceability of all food products, Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP), continued worldwide surveillance activities, monitoring of the status of foreign and domestic animal diseases, and inspections at the border.

AAW supports industry-coordinated guidelines and consistent federal standards for safe food processing and distribution.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

AAW supports continued research and development of tools and techniques that would support the advancement of agricultural production and processes in the United States for the industry and the consumer.

BIOTECHNOLOGY

AAW supports the development and incorporation of biotechnology in agricultural research and production. Biotechnology gives greater flexibility to agricultural producers in making responsible management decisions by reducing input costs, increasing crop yields, promoting integrated pest management, and providing environmental protections to our natural resources.

AAW supports the coordinated framework and extensive testing procedures of biotechnological products by the U.S. regulatory agencies (EPA, FDA, and USDA).

AAW firmly believes it is unnecessary, confusing and costly to the consumer to label biotechnological products or processes.

AAW believes that any Biosafety Protocol that is implemented should be based on risk assessments and research-based science.

AAW condemns the theft or destruction of agricultural research and intellectual property. Research has tremendous benefits to the farmer and the consumer. These genetically enhanced products have the capability of improving human health, and solving world environmental and nutritional problems.

TERRORISM

AAW condemns all forms of terrorism. As providers of this nation's food and fiber supply, we recognize the need to increase our vigilance to protect the production of agriculture products (food, feed, fuel, fiber and flora and the inputs required for production).

AAW supports efforts to educate producers about ways to safeguard our nation's food and fiber supply and agricultural inputs from acts of terror. _

EDUCATION

AAW believes in an educated public. Furthermore, agricultural education and education about our nation's food and fiber system should be based on factual information and research based science. We encourage agriculturalists to work cooperatively on common issues through education.

AAW supports the intent of the Carl D. Perkins Act, which maintains funding for vocational (career and technical) agriculture education.

AAW supports the continued funding of public and private agricultural research to ensure a stable and safe food supply for our nation.

AAW supports a national Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) program with continued funding and support for a national director.

AAW recognizes the dangerous consequences of obesity in our society and supports the education of U.S. consumers about food choices based on research-based science.

AAW supports the National Nutrition Standards for nutrient-rich foods in schools leading the way toward healthier youth.

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AAW Fly-In Registration Form

2008 Fly-In - June 8-11

Registration Fee: \$100 (no partial registration).

Send form with payment, ASAP, to:

Carolyn Kleiber, Treasurer
PO Box 111

Hillsboro, KS 67063-0111

Phone: 620-947-3094

Email: treasurer@americanagriwomen.org

Name _____

Address _____

Phone & Fax _____

E-mail _____

*Date of Birth _____

*Social Security Number _____

(*We must have this information for security clearance at various agencies, including USDA)

Affiliate _____

Special interests and issues (legislative or regulatory)

Senate and House Bills in which you are particularly interested

Planned arrival date and time in DC

Via (plane and airport, car, etc.)

Do you want us to find you a roommate?

Comments and suggestions

Hotel reservations may be made by calling the Holiday Inn Capitol at the Smithsonian, 550 C Street, SW, at 202-479-4000.

AAW Annual Fly-In & Symposium

June 8-11, 2008

AGENDA

Sunday, June 10

3:00 p.m. Briefing at Holiday Inn Smithsonian – 550 C Street, SW, 202-479-4000
5:00 p.m. Dinner in Old Town Alexandria
7:00 p.m. Bus tour – Monuments at night
By 9:00 p.m. Bus returns to Holiday Inn

Monday, June 11

7:45 a.m. Bus departs hotel for USDA
8:00 Immigration update from Craig Regelbrugge
9:00–11:45 a.m. 15th Annual AAW Symposium: Who's Feeding the Hysteria
12:15 p.m. Lunch at ACLI - American Council of Life Insurers
1:45 p.m. Bus departs for U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2:00–3:30 p.m. Meetings at Homeland Security on immigration issues
4:00–5:30 p.m. Meeting at Japanese Embassy
5:45–7:00 p.m. Reception sponsored by The Fertilizer Institute
7:30 p.m. Return to hotel or Union Station

Tuesday, June 12

7:30 a.m. Bus departs hotel for USDA – 14th and Independence
8:00 a.m. Speakers on hot topics
9:30 a.m. Briefings at US Department of Agriculture -104-A-Williamsburg Room
12:00 p.m. Lunch on the Hill provided by Americans for Secure Retirement
1:30–4:45 p.m. Capitol Hill visits to Congressional Offices
5:00–5:30 p.m. Meeting in House Agriculture Committee Room
5:30–7:30 p.m. Congressional Reception -House Agriculture Committee Room
Return to hotel on our own

Wednesday, June 13

8:00 a.m. Bus departs hotel
9:00–10:30 a.m. Meetings at US Department of Transportation
11:00 a.m. Bus makes drops at Reagan International Airport and hotel
-2008 Fly-In concludes
Noon For those able to stay – lunch on the Hill at Eastern Market

INTERESTING FACTS:

Washington D.C. is a federal district under the authority of Congress. Local government is run by a mayor and 13 member city council. Washington DC is represented in Congress by an elected, nonvoting Delegate to the House of Representatives and residents have been able to vote in Presidential elections since 1961.

In the News

AAW member Karri Hammerstrom appointed to Farm, Ranches and Rural Communities Federal Advisory Committee

American Agri-Women (AAW) and California Women for Agriculture (CWA) member Karri Hammerstrom was recently appointed to the Farm, Ranches and Rural Communities Federal Advisory Committee. She was one of 200 applicants for this national position.

Hammerstrom lives in a small town south of Fresno, in the heart of the Central San Joaquin Valley north of Los Angeles, where she and her family raise canning peaches, fresh sugar plums, and alfalfa. She also works for a renewable fuels company, Cilion, Inc., as their manager of environmental permitting and government affairs, and her husband Bill also has his own produce brokerage office, Hammertime Co. Karri and husband Bill first met in their freshman year at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. They have two children, Macey, 9, and Cy, 3.

Karri was raised in Southern California near the beach and was first truly introduced to agriculture in college. Bill is a third generation farmer—his grandfather raised black angus cattle and his dad raised tree fruit and grapes. Bill is a produce broker who initially really did not want to farm anytime in the near future.

However, as Karri got more engaged with California Women for Ag, she really wanted a farm of their own, so in 2001 they bought their small farm. Karri has been a member of CWA for 12+ years and is currently a member of the Tulare-Kings Chapter of CWA and the state's 2nd vice-president. She has also held the offices of the state's 3rd vice president and state legislative co-director, as well as two terms as the Central Valley Chapter's president.

Of her appointment to this committee Karri says, "I saw this as an opportunity to participate at the federal level in a committee where I felt I could serve my country in this small capacity and to serve the agricultural community. The identified areas of focus are all ones that I feel I have had experience with and have points of contact that can help provide me with valuable input."

Initially, the committee is focusing on climate change and renewable energy; livestock operations; and emerging issues (i.e. ag, the environment and urban interface). Their first meeting was very informative and held in Washington, D.C. They were joined by EPA Administrator Johnson and briefed by high level EPA officials. They established three working groups: Climate Change/Biofuels, Comprehensive Livestock Management Strategy, and Emerging Issues. Their next meeting is anticipated to be held in September in Kansas.

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Alice Daniels

Memory of Betty Smith

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Wisconsin Women for Agriculture

Memory of Ruth McHenry

Betsy Campbell

Membership Form

Please Print – This membership application form will be used for direct computer input to produce your newsletter mailing labels.

Dues may be paid through your commodity/state affiliate or mailed to: American Agri-Women, PO Box 111, Hillsboro, KS 67063-0111.

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AAW National Dues (\$25 for both affiliate and at-large or single member), or \$10 if a collegiate member) is enclosed:

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American Agri-Women

Calendar of Events

June 8-11, 2008

Fly-In & Symposium
Holiday Inn Capitol
at the Smithsonian
550 C Street,
SW, Washington, DC
202-479-4000.

November 5-9, 2008

AAW Convention
San Antonio, TX

AAW Website

www.americanagriwomen.org

AAW Phone & Fax Numbers

Phone: (740) 893-2624

Fax: (740) 893-4003

American Agri-Women is a national coalition of women's farm, ranch, and agri-business organizations and individuals formed in 1974.

"We, as women's agricultural organizations and individuals, unite together to communicate with one another and with other consumers to promote agriculture for the benefit of the American people and the world."