

February 2016

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from Korea!

Our WFWP USA administrator, Kiyomi Schmidt, and I just returned from a most uplifting and fruitful trip to the Seoul area in Korea, where many events and international peace conferences were taking place surrounding the birthday celebration of our Co-Founders! (See article below.)

We participated in over a week of international conferences, youth gatherings, the launch of new initiatives for peace and future well-being, and the Co-Founders' birthday-related events. Through it all, it was apparent that the decades of sacrifice and investment for peace by Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Jan Han Moon are bearing wonderful fruit!

While there, we enjoyed the loving, wise, and professional leadership of Dr. Moon, who was heavily involved in the preparations for each event, adding her loving feminine touch and the warmth of a mother's heart to every setting, thus creating an atmosphere of joy and peace.

Our international vice presidents (there is one representing each continent and the UN offices in



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Geneva and New York) also spent two productive days with our international WFWP president, Professor Yeon Ah Moon, discussing goals and strategies for the coming year and beyond. You'll learn more about our WFWP meetings in the next issue.

Also, we are very happy to announce that Professor Moon will be attending WFWP's parallel event at the upcoming annual gatherings of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW60), at the UN in New York City. Our UN office and WFWP USA are preparing for her coming.

Highlights of our experience in Korea were eating delicious Korean food -- especially healthy ginger chicken with Chinese herbs at a ginger chicken restaurant (they are all over Seoul and well-visited in the winter to prevent colds) -- enjoying the beautiful and serene mountainous area around Seoul, and most of all simply enjoying each other's company.

I personally felt even more than before how women and mothers -- older and younger -- can make a difference and bring peace when leading with heart and creating a beautiful atmosphere and experience for others.

We feel very excited and hopeful for this year 2016!

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY WFWP FOUNDERS!

Happy Birthday to our Founders:

Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and Her Late Husband, Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon!

Hundreds of thousands of men and women gathered around the globe to celebrate

WFWP Founders' birthday on February 13, aired from the Chung Shim Peace Center outside of Seoul, Korea. Their birthdays are on the same calendar day, although they are 23 years apart in age.

WFWP USA was represented by a small delegation among others from around the world, making up more than 150 current Parliamentarians and international guests.

All of us were touched mainly by the welcoming remarks of one of their daughters, Mrs. Sun Jin Moon, who is the

International President of the Universal Peace Federation. Here are a few excerpts from her speech which very much reflect our own sentiments toward the founders:

"It is my special privilege and honor to share a few words with you today on this very, very special occasion. Today, in the presence of Mother Moon, we honor and celebrate the birthdays of both my father and my mother. Father Moon would be 96 years old today, and Mother Moon is a very young 73 years old. On

this glorious day, we celebrate their amazing life, legacy, and true lineage: the starting point of true peace."

"During the nearly 80 years of his public ministry, Rev. Moon gathered and witnessed to millions of people from around the globe uplifting and inspiring them to an awareness of a higher purpose and conscientious of the universe, and an understanding of the true heart and nature of our Heavenly Parent."

"We need to go back to the pure hearts that we had as children, to shed our desire to possess ever increasing amounts of material wealth, and restore our beautiful essence back to original human beings."





"I remember when he said: 'My wife's dream is to see all women raised as true daughters with filial hearts who could create peace at home, in our communities, in our nations, and in our world. The women's movement being carried out by my wife serves a goal of true families which are the root of peace in all areas of life. Throughout



history, women have been persecuted, but I predict this will change. The coming world will be one of reconciliation and peace based on women's maternal character, love, and sociability. The time is coming when the power of women will save the world."

"On this day we sincerely offer them both our eternal gratitude and love for carrying us all and teaching us what it means to have true love and world peace."

"In these few passages, you can experience only the tip of the iceberg of WFWP's Founders long history of living for the sake of others. My hope and my prayer is that we can take their love and their wisdom and pay it forward to future generations, and to all people of the world who have yet to experience the parental love of being carried safely home, securely and peacefully with true love."

Happy Birthday, Father and Mother Moon!



In the early days in Korea



Father and Mother Moon earlier years



Mother Moon speaking tour

Commission on the Status of Women: CSW 60

WFWP USA would like to invite you to join the WFWPI CSW60 Parallel Event which will take place on Tuesday, March 15th, 2016. The theme of this forum is: "Engaging Women in Sustainable Development: Family, Transformation, Co-Prosperity;" and will run from 12:30 pm until 2 pm, at the Salvation Army Auditorium, 221 East 52nd Street, between 2nd and 3rd Ave, New York, NY 10017. This event is free and open to the public, and no prior registration is required. Please see the flyer on the website for details on speakers.

Registration for the upcoming **WFWP International Dinner event**, as previously introduced, is now open. Please note the event day has changed to **Wednesday**, **March 16th**, **2016**, and will take place from 5 pm to 8:30 pm, at 4 West 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036. The theme is: "A Celebration of CSW60." The cost to attend the dinner is \$75 per person.

WFWP International President Professor Yeon Ah Moon will host the dinner event, and WFWPI leaders and guests from a dozen countries look forward to welcoming and spending time with those who come. The guest list is rounded out by a select group of speakers from WFWPI's CSW forum as well as UN and NGO friends.

<u>Click here</u> to register for the Dinner Event. Registration will close when all seats have been filled. We hope many of you will be able to make use of each of these wonderful opportunities to experience our international level of activities, and also as a chance to meet our WFWP team.



Chart of the Sustainable Development Goals for the next 15 years until 2030

FEATURE

A Glimpse into WFWP's History and its Work with the UN

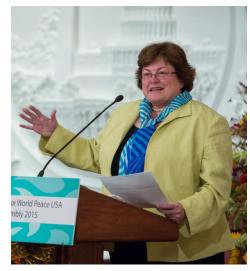
Excerpts from a speech given at the 23rd Assembly

By Mrs. Alexa Ward

Good evening, and thank you for choosing to spend your time and your weekend here at this conference in our nation's capital exploring the

many ways women of all ages can and do contribute to building a world of genuine and sustainable peace.

I've been asked to introduce WFWP International, as well as our work at the United Nations. I'd like to start with the founding. WFWP was founded in 1992 by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon in Seoul, South Korea with the full support and active participation of her beloved husband Rev.



Dr. Sun Myung Moon. Together they founded numerous organizations-religious, civic, educational, for-profit and not-for-profit. As a couple and as a family, they lived in the US for almost 50 years. Reverend Moon passed away in 2012 at the age of 92. He is dearly missed. His wife is now leading the movement and has set her mind to completing

their life's work in her lifetime.

Their founding footprint is embedded in WFWP. It is embedded on the level of...

Continuing reading on our website

WOMEN HELPING WOMEN & GIRLS INITIATIVE

WOMEN HELPING WOMEN:

In Honor of Women's History

Month

In 1987, the US Congress declared March National Women's History Month in perpetuity.



"When women are poor, their rights are not protected and they face double discrimination, on

account of their gender and economic situation. Women, their families, communities and economies suffer as a result." See more at: <u>UN Women</u>.

In honor of Women's History Month and in commemoration of International Women's Day on March 8; WFWP USA has launched a campaign: Women Helping Women. Through the courageous work of the Arizona Chapter of WFWP in starting the Purse Drive, collecting slightly used bags and back-packs, then filling them with daily essentials like toothpaste, soap, socks, and shampoo; WFWP USA is organizing similar service projects in

In former President Jimmy Carter's message to the nation designating March 2-8, 1980 as National Women's History Week, he said:

"From the first settlers who came to our shores, from the first American Indian families who befriended them, men and women have worked together to build this nation. Too often the women were unsung and sometimes their contributions went unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well.

As Dr. Gerda Lerner has noted,
"Women's History is Women's Right." It is an essential and indispensable
heritage from which we can draw pride,
comfort, courage, and long-range
vision."

I ask my fellow Americans to recognize this heritage with appropriate activities during National Women's History Week, March 2-8, 1980.

I urge libraries, schools, and community organizations to focus their observances on the leaders who

various chapters around the country to help women and girls.

The Arizona Chapter, under the leadership of Mrs. Rhia Clemente, and the Maryland Chapter, led by Mrs. Dottie Chiquelo, are spearheading this initiative to help women in shelters and provide them with bags and essentials that are not always possible to buy.

If you would like to donate used purses or backpacks filled with necessities, please contact a WFWP chapter near you. Click here to find the chapter listing on the website. There are shelters in every city that would be happy to receive such a special package for their residents.

struggled for equality - - Susan B.
Anthony, Sojourner Truth, Lucy Stone,
Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton,
Harriet Tubman, and Alice Paul.

Understanding the true history of our country will help us to comprehend the need for full equality under the law for all our people. This goal can be achieved by ratifying the 27th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which states that "Equality of Rights under the Law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

ARIZONA

The Purse Project: Women Helping Other Women

Written by Sarah Falconi



Rhia Clemente (left), and her staff

The Arizona Chapter of WFWP has recently started a project called the Purse Project, in whichparticipants gather and collect used purses filled with several essential items to give to homeless women. Rhia Clemente, chairwoman of WFWP Arizona, created and helped organize the project with the help of her friends, who were very inspired by her idea. One friend even introduced Rhia to a local radio announcer named Naye Olivera, who helped spread news of the project to her listeners through

announcements on her women's radio station. Ms. Olivera also collected bags from her personal friends to support the WFWP group. She was very inspired to hear what Rhia and her team are doing since

she is also very passionate about helping women. "When we do something for others, it creates more curiosity, more opportunities for everyone."

Continue reading on our website...

FEATURE

Disability and Your Mental Health: Pace Yourself!

By Mrs. Caryn Olsson

What do you do when you get overwhelmed by life? When you feel you have no purpose and that

there is no meaning to anything?

Depression is such a heavy emotion and its cause is often not explored enough. Taking it to the extreme is the act of suicide-when the hopelessness builds to a point of excruciating, numbing pain. There is no light and no hope. Oftentimes, the spiritual aspect of depression is ignored, and doctors prescribe antidepressants, which have potentially deadly side effects.



Caryn and Thrax

It is almost unbearable to think that the world is so cold and heartless, yet the effects of depression often lead to relationships that are unmanageable and filled with anxiety. Many people become depressed and have learned to cope in different ways. If you find yourself sad and not interested in life, then please don't deny this. It is a red flag that there is something wrong. Do your research, be it online or by keeping a diary of your emotions. Yet don't just succumb to the despair. You are too valuable a person, even if you don't think that way at the moment...

Continue reading on our website!

VIRGINIA

Community Elders Treated to Talent Show

By Mrs. Zena Ruf

On Saturday, February 13, 2016, the Northern Virginia Chapter of WFWP presented entertainment

for around twenty-five senior citizens in a low-income senior residence in Woodbridge, Virginia. The event was organized by Mrs. Carmella Ciemny, NOVA WFWP Community Service Coordinator, and showcased the talents of young adults, their parents, and other members of the surrounding community including two Mormon missionaries. The goal of the event was to bring joy to the

seniors. Because the residents had enjoyed the Talent Show the WFWP chapter had hosted in May of 2015, they had asked if the chapter could come again; so this is the second talent show NOVA WFWP has held at the residence.

The event began with the Lake Ridge





Day". Her daughter Phoebe, a Creative Writing major at George Mason University was introduced and took over as the emcee for the event. Lively performances included singing, dancing, piano playing, guitar playing, harmonica playing, storytelling, and poetry reading... <u>Continuing reading on our website!</u>

NEW JERSEY

Would You Like to Be a Foster Parent?

By Tomomi Ueda

Editor's Comment: WFWP New Jersey Chapter has initiated a foster parent program for people who would like to help a Cambodian child to receive an education. The following is an explanation of the reason this project is so critical to the future of Cambodia, and shows how you can become a foster parent.

Cambodia is a large country that has gone through many hardships in its

long history mainly because of the wars that have occurred within the nation. From 1975 to 1979, a man named Pol Pot started an era in Cambodia which caused extreme devastation for the people. During the Khmer Rouge regime, started by Pol Pot, families and the education system were destroyed. Thousands of lives were lost owing to executions, forced



labor in concentration camps, starvation, and more. Nowadays, Cambodia is an independent country and is gradually developing and gaining lots of support from other countries. Ideally, Cambodia will one day be able to thrive as a country on its own. In order for Cambodia to do that, the most important task to accomplish right now is to educate the children, for they will be the future leaders of their nation.

The foster care program provides for the essential needs a child would require to succeed in their studies. They do this for the families that live in poverty. Attending school in Cambodia is free, but



there is still the burden of paying for textbooks, stationary, and uniforms. People who live in the countryside have limited amounts of income so it is extremely difficult for them to acquire supplies.

The children there try to help

support their families by giving up on school and taking charge of tasks such as taking care of their house and watching over their younger siblings. Even if they go to school occasionally, they start to go less and less; this eventually leads to not going to school at all. From 1996, WFWP Japan launched this program to help these children. Currently, WFWP USA's chapter in New Jersey is supporting this program.

Here is how the program works. The WFWP branch office in Cambodia selects the children and interviews them; they should be willing to study and have good grades. One foster parent supports one child. One parent pays a fee of \$150 per year for every child they would like to support. \$120 will be used to support the child. The remainder goes to the WFWP organization for the program expenses. \$100 out of the \$120 is paid as cash for the child. The staff there in Cambodia

checks the children and sees how they are doing. Foster parents may send that child a letter or a present. You are allowed to discontinue supporting the child, but we hope that you can keep supporting them for a long time!

Click here to download the application to become a foster parent.

LETTER TO MY MOTHER

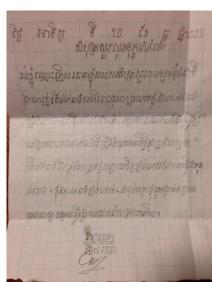
The following is a letter received by a Japanese foster parent from her Cambodian foster daughter, who is being helped to go to school and get an education for the sake of the future of Cambodia.

A Letter to My Mother:

I am Nhel Rachana. I am writing this letter to my dear mother, and I wonder how you are doing. I am missing you. How are you doing? I am living well here [Cambodia]. I want to meet you. Are you thinking of me too? In Cambodia, it has gradually gotten a little colder. How is it over there [in Japan]?

In your country, do both men and women have equal rights? Even though I am not related to you by blood, I am so grateful to have you as my mother. Lastly, I pray for you and your family's fortune and success.

Your daughter, Nhel Rachana



IN MEMORIUM

LINDA MARCHANT PERRY

Women's Federation for World Peace is bidding farewell to a beloved woman



leader, mother and elder sister, Linda Perry, who passed into the eternal world. She was surrounded by her three lovely daughters who sang: "The Rose."

We are deeply grateful for and proud of all her accomplishments, and in particular for the wonderful foundation she helped to lay for the Women's Federation for World Peace here in America! She held the position of Secretary General of Women's Federation for World Peace for many of the founding years of the organization. Her determination and eye for detail was

critical in achieving WFWP's NGO status with ECOSOC, one of the highest granted to NGOs at the United Nations. This is one WFWP still holds today, making it possible to continue to reach women globally. Even after retiring from a position in WFWP, she remained an active member of the organization, praying together with the members every night and doing service projects with them... Continue reading on our website.

UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE COUNTRY

WFWP USA Around the Country in March 2016

March 6: WFWP New York Metro: Health Seminar

March 8: International Women's Day

March 12: WFWP Maryland: WFWP Members Round Table Discussion

March 12: WFWP Arizona: The Purse Project, Women Helping Other Women



March 8, 2016

March 15: WFWP International: CSW60 Parallel event, "Engaging Women in Sustainable Development: Family, Transformation, Co-Prosperity"

March 16: WFWP International: Celebrating CSW60 Dinner Event

March 17: WFWP New York Metro: GWPN Event

March 19: WFWP Washington, DC: Women Empower: Agenda for Spiritual Change, A Celebration of International Women's Day

March 25: WFWP Maryland: The Purse Project, Women and Girls Helping Other Women and Girls

April 9: WFWP Arizona: Celebrating Women's Role to Peace

May 29: Southern California: Bridge of Peace Event

NEW JERSEY



New Jersey Chapter of WFWP held a bazaar to support Schools of Africa Project in December 2015

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

This truly is an exciting time for WFWP USA, with the launching of the Women Helping Women and Girls Initiative that was begun by the heart of the Arizona Chapter. As women we are acutely aware of the basic essentials human beings need to upgrade the quality of life of all people on this planet.

With the mother's heart to give her children food, clothing, and shelter, WFWP goes forward every day determined to treat others as we would like to be treated, and to

bring comfort and relief to those less fortunate than ourselves.

As we enter Women's History Month, let us celebrate what makes women unique: the compassion, the maternal instinct that will heal this world of conflict and division, and bring a true and lasting peace through interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universally shared values.

We, the editorial team, look forward to hearing the wonderful ways you continue to implement WFWP's vision in big and little ways every day in your families, communities, and in your chapters. Let us hold hands and reach out to each other with the constant desire to understand and uplift the value of being human. Let's not be divided by misunderstanding, but offer love and gratitude for each other's unique qualities, and through cooperation, embrace synergy!

Have a great month! And thank you for your beautiful hearts!

