



Concerned Women for America of North Carolina

THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET (PSALM 119)



Fall 2007

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The Vision of Concerned Women for America:

The vision of CWA is for women and like-minded men, from all walks of life, to come together and restore the family to its traditional purpose and thereby allow each member of the family to realize their God-given potential and be more responsible citizens.

Keep Up The Good Work!

By Annie Rodelli,
CWA of NC member
China Grove, NC

Last spring just before the end of the 2006 school term, a group began meeting at the local high school in the little rural town of China Grove, North Carolina. The group was sponsored by the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network. Many in the China Grove community were concerned about this encouragement of sexual activity to the young and even underage students.

Approximately 1,000 Christians were present at the Rowan County School Administrative Office during the time the school board was meeting. They

respectfully held a worship service with singing and testimonies on the front lawn. These citizens and parents were righteously concerned about the messages this sex-based club gave their children in the South Rowan High School.

I attended that meeting and handed out the wonderful brochure, *At the End of the Rainbow* which was written by a former lesbian. Concerned Women for America of Virginia prepared this brochure for distribution.

Something happened that was most inspiring. One mother in the group called me aside to tell me how the brochure, which gives

the true facts, myths, and risks of homosexual behavior, had helped her son with his confusion on this issue. She said that she sat down with her son and read the entire brochure with him. Her son, who was fourteen years old, had been receiving misleading information concerning the benefits of homosexual behavior. The mother made this statement to me, "Don't be discouraged in your attempts to spread the truth in order to help children and youth who are being misguided on this issue, because you helped set my son free." Let me encourage everyone at Concerned Women for America to keep up the good work!

Legislative Summary

By Mary Frances Forrester, CWA of NC Legislative/Media Coordinator

The long session of the 2007-2008 North Carolina General Assembly ran from January 24-August 2. That was a total of 190 calendar days and 111 legislative days. There were 3,644 bills filed in the House and the Senate, and 337 bills were signed into law.

The session was very partisan and contentious.

However, the most discouraging thing was the uncovered corruption including Rep. Jim Black (D - 100 Dist.), the Speaker of the House. Numerous members on both sides of the aisle were indicted and convicted of criminal behavior ranging from bribery, accepting money for votes and misappropri-

ating campaign funds. North Carolina deserves better. It is crucial that Christians study the issues and the candidates and make a valiant effort to elect candidates with personal integrity if we are to redeem the political process in North Carolina.

In North Carolina's liber-



ally controlled General Assembly, many bills pertaining to issues that are important to Judeo-Christian values were bypassed or sent to graveyard committees.

- Nothing was done to make fetal murder a crime in North Carolina.
- Nothing was done to address illegal immigration in North Carolina.
- Nothing was done to expand charter schools, which give quality educational alternatives to public education.
- Nothing was done to protect traditional marriage by a Constitutional Amendment favored by over 70 percent of the people in the state.
- Nothing was done to strengthen the laws to protect children from sex-

ual predators (Jessica's Law). On the good side, a bill that would have abolished North Carolina's abstinence until marriage education law and replaced it with "comprehensive sex education" that affirms homosexuality and other alternative sexual behaviors failed. Several other bills seeking to include sexual orientation in our state law failed as well. The North Carolina House approved legislation that would authorize state funding for embryonic stem cell research, but the Senate did not act on the bill. This may be eligible for consideration in 2008. The budget bill HB1473 on the State Abortion Fund allows the Fund to pay for abortions only in cases of rape, in-

cest, or when the life of a mother is at risk. This bill has all but eliminated the state funding of abortions through the State Abortion Fund.

The short session of the North Carolina General Assembly will convene on May 13, 2008.

ACTION: Please visit the General Assembly website: www.ncleg.net and find out who represents you. Then make it a point to let them know who you are. All offices can be reached through the switchboard (919) 733-4111.

PRAY for your legislators on a regular basis as they make decisions daily that will affect North Carolina for

Prayer Closet

Sheri Miller
Prayer Chapter Coordinator

*Rejoice Always,
Pray without ceasing,
and in all things give thanks
for this is God's will concerning you.*
- Thessalonians 5:16-18

In 1995 the Lord called me to serve as a CWA Prayer/Action Leader (PAL) in my home in Charlotte. I met with the CWA-NC State Director, because I believed God was calling me to serve CWA-NC. I became the State Prayer Chapter Coordinator. (*Editor's Note: At the 2002 National CWA Leadership Conference, Sheri received the CWA Outstanding Prayer Chapter Coordinator Award.*)

PRAYER is my heartbeat for CWA-NC, and PRAYER is the heartbeat of Concerned Women for America. We believe our battles are won in the

heavenly realm through the power of PRAYER. "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this wickedness in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 6:12) As Christians God calls all of us to be prayer intercessors for our country and our leaders. "Pray for kings and all those in authority that you might live in peace." (I Timothy 2:1, 2)



Sheri Miller

Let us not grow weary. When I am discouraged, the Lord speaks to my heart, "Do not fear or be dismayed for the battle is not yours but God's" (II Chronicles 20:15). He reminds me that "two or three gathered in His Name" (Matthew 18:20), united in prayer are more powerful than two million unbelieving and divided voices. "Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary." (Galatians 6:9)

CWA-NC has a vision to recruit and train Christian Prayer/Action Leaders (PALs) in every county of our state and to identify a District Coordinator in every region of NC. What a blessing it is to gather once a month with like-minded Christians to pray and be informed on legislative issues that are affecting our Biblical values.

CWA-NC invites you to pray that the vision we have will be fulfilled. If you feel called to serve, CWA-NC welcomes your participation. I am available to guide you and provide information on how to become a leader in your area. Please join me in praying that by His Spirit, the Lord will grow Concerned Women for America in North Carolina.

*Rejoice Always,
Pray without ceasing,
and in all things give thanks
for this is God's will concerning you.*
- Thessalonians 5:16-18

Vision Statement

The vision of CWA is for women and like-minded men, from all walks of life, to come together and restore the family to its traditional purpose and thereby allow each member of the family to realize their God-given potential and be more responsible citizens.

National Day Of Prayer, 2007 — America United In Prayer

Sheri Miller
Prayer Chapter Coordinator

CWA-NC was represented at the annual National Day of Prayer Service sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church in Uptown Charlotte. Development Coordinator, Elsie Smoluk and Prayer Chapter Coordinator and current State Contact, Sheri Miller were among the 200 gathered for this patriotic worship service and prayer for our nation. Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory in his welcoming address reminded those present that the calm within our souls comes from faith in God and is not dependent on the highs and lows of daily public ser-

vice. The Mayor said, "Don't take God or grace for granted. If we can remember that we live in a country second to none and that if we have faith in God, remembering that we have more than we deserve, we will have His calm within." Prayers of intercession were prayed for our national, state, and local leaders, armed forces, schools, homes and community. The 2007 Prayer for the Nation by Dr. Charles Swindoll was also prayed, convicting us once again to repent,



Sheri Miller & Elsie Smoluk

turn from our ways, and turn our hearts back to God. The National Day of Prayer verse for 2007 was, "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray..." (2 Chronicles 7:14)

Consider joining CWA-NC in Charlotte as we pray in one accord for our nation during the National Day of Prayer the first Thursday in

May, 2008.

Prayer Chapter Corner — Prayer, Education & Action

Sheri Miller
Prayer Chapter Coordinator

Newly approved Prayer/Action Chapter Leaders receive a Leader's Manual, including a letter from Mrs. LaHaye, founder of Concerned Women for America. She writes, "CWA's desire in forming a prayer and action network is to inform and educate concerned Christians about the current issues and the forces that are weakening our country and families. The Prayer/Action Chapter is to serve as an arm of the church, and to encourage informed prayer and action for our nation and our leaders. If we join in prayer and action with other believers, our nation will change for the better. But more importantly, we will be obeying the instruction given in God's Word." According to Biblical instruction in II Chronicles 7:14, "If my people who are called by my name humble themselves and pray...I will...heal their land," CWA believes we will see change in this nation when Christians commit to prayer and action. More than 500 Prayer/Action Chapters are established in communities across America. These chapters con-

sist of women and like-minded men who meet once a month to pray and act on issues that affect the family. The Prayer/Action Chapter leaders are called PALS.

Every year CWA of North Carolina honors a Prayer/Action Leader for their faithful service to CWA. A devoted prayer warrior and activist of 10 years, Bonnie Dougherty, of Southern Pines, North Carolina, has been selected as the *CWA-NC 2007 PAL of the Year*. During her first year of leadership, Bonnie was recognized for her passionate devotion to speaking out on Biblical truth as it relates to families and education. In 1998 Bonnie was honored as the CWA National PAL of the Year. Soon after that Bonnie accepted the North Carolina state leadership position as Communications Coordinator. Bonnie also has served as the Newsletter Coordinator and Editor, vowing to keep the North Carolina lighthouse newsletter alive as a dependable published source of truth and CWA values.

We recently had the privilege of interviewing Bonnie. Read the inter-

view below:

How did you learn about CWA?

A CWA member and I began talking at a voting precinct in the early 80's. I discovered a mutual alarm over societal changes impacting the family. She invited me to a CWA meeting, and I was ecstatic to learn we were one in faith and values. I love CWA because it serves the Lord according to His Word.

Did you make some life changes as a CWA member?

The Lord opened my eyes to see that being a wife and mother was one of life's greatest callings. My position as the Commanding Officer of a Navy recruiting district failed to impress my 9-year-old son who was failing second grade for the second time! He was so unhappy and kept asking, "Mom? When are you coming home?"

I realized that he needed me far more than the Navy did. I turned down a promotion opportunity to the rank of Captain, submitted my retirement papers and came home. I believe

that move saved my son's future.

What are your thoughts on women in the military?

Perhaps women could have been utilized in wider job roles than in the past, but today's feminist goal is to make all things equal. This is a dangerous concept to men and women on the battlefield. I joined the Navy in the 60's to see the world and was most privileged to do so. Back then, boot camp and officer training segregated women from men. Our uniforms were feminine. We slept in separate barracks and were trained as ladies for administrative support roles, not combat. The sexual scandals of the 80's were unheard of as were the



Left to right: Sheri Miller, Elsie Smoluk, Bonnie Daugherty, Phyllis Philemon & Mary Frances Forester

continuing problems of illegitimacy and single parenthood.

Radical feminists in Congress and the department of Defense ignore common sense use of women and place them and men in great danger.

Higher injuries among women during training are covered up and ignored. Instead of equal treatment we have special treatment. Men resent that and have, until recently, fled military service in droves.

As a Prayer/Action Chapter Leader, what are your passions?

I feel the Lord has given me a unique opportunity to warn people about the lies of feminism and homosexuality. My passion is to work within the

community and political process to educate through speeches, letters to the editor, etc. that the goal of humanism is to remove God from our culture. If that happens, we destroy the family---the very basis for civilization!

Should the Lord call you to serve as Prayer/Action Chapter Leader, please feel free to help us contact CWA-NC. We would be more than happy to get you started in your area. It only takes "two or more" gathered in His Name.

PRAYER:

Pray about joining or starting a Prayer /Action Chapter in your area.

ACTION:

For information on Prayer/Action Chapters, contact Sheri Miller at: inquiry@northcarolina.cwfa.org or call 704-542-6984

CWA of North Carolina Training Camp

Plan now to attend CWA of North Carolina's 2008 Training Camp. The training camp will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2008, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. with continental breakfast at 9:00 a.m. It will be held at the Ramada Inn located on Woodlawn, exit 6a off I-77 in Charlotte.

CWA's National Field Director, Kenda Bartlett, will be the instructor

for the training camp. This training camp is for CWA-NC leaders and leaders-in-training. This includes all Prayer Chapter Leaders, Home Team Captains and State Steering Committee Members.

If you have prayed about joining our Leadership Team, this would be an excellent time for you to apply for CWA Leadership in NC. Contact

Sheri Miller for Leadership information.

Sign-up now for this CWA Training Camp!

Contact Sheri Miller at inquiry@northcarolina.cwfa.org or call (704) 542-6984.

Development News

Please share this newsletter with your friends or ask to place it in a business location. It helps us spread the good news about Concerned Women for America of North Carolina. Extra copies are available for that purpose. Write to CWA-NC, P.O. Box 472903, Charlotte, NC 28247 or call 704-282-6297.

If you would like to provide financial support for CWA-NC, we welcome

your response. Make your check out to CWA-NC and use the envelope provided with this newsletter.

CWA-NC fundraising includes the sale of Community Service Books for use in the Charlotte region. In addition to providing hundreds of dollars in entertainment savings, the books make great gifts at a cost of only \$15.00 each. The current edition is valid through November,

2008. If you would like to purchase some books, call 704-282-6297. New books for 2009 will be available soon.

CWA-NC is particularly interested in corporate sponsors. If you know a business owner who shares our values, or if you have a friend whose giving includes non-profits, please let us know.

CWA of North Carolina Leadership Team

Steering Committee

Prayer Chapter Coordinator &

State Contact

Sheri Miller
CWA-NC
PO Box 472903
Charlotte, NC 28247

Legislative/Media Coordinator

Mary Frances Forrester

Records Coordinator

Phyllis Philemon

Development Coordinator

Elsie Smoluk

Northeastern District

Coordinator

Antje Curphy

Prayer/Action Chapter Leaders:

Alison Whatley	Cary
Sheri Miller	Charlotte
Agnes Leona Wilson	Connelly Sps
Ana Maria Blevins	Fayetteville
Lillie Albritton	Garner
Antje Curphey	Hertford
Mary Hawkes	Mooreville
Yvonne Gunn	Pelham
Sharon Arline	Raleigh
Bonnie Dougherty	So. Pines
Eleanor Craig	Stanley

Home Team Captains:

Tamela Graef	Cary
Cathy Morrison	Charlotte
Rita (Annie) Rodelli	China Grove
Beth Spainhour	King
Elsie Smoluk	Monroe
Susan Edwards	Raleigh
Beth Klutz	Salisbury
Mary Frances Forrester	Stanley

Contact Sheri Miller at
inquiry@northcarolina.cwfa.org for more
information on how to start a chapter or
home team.

Volunteers Needed in the following positions:

- Newsletter Editor
- State Director
- Prayer/Action Chapter Leaders
- *And more*

*Please pray with us for
the Lord to provide a
State Director for
CWA of
North Carolina.*

*For details, call the
former NC
State Director,
Mary Frances Forrester
at 704-263-1774.*

A Special Thank; Goes To The Sponsors Listed Below For their Support

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North Carolina State Constitution

Preamble: We, the people of the State of North Carolina, grateful to Almighty God, Sovereign Ruler of Nations, for the preservation of the American Union and the existence of our civil, political and religious liberties, and acknowledging our dependence upon Him for the continuance of those blessings to us and our posterity, do, for the more certain security thereof and for the better government of this State, ordain and establish this Constitution.

~Submitted and sponsored by NC Senator Jim Forrester



Concerned Women of North Carolina
PO Box 472903
Charlotte, NC 28247

CWA Of North Carolina Membership Form

When it is time to renew your annual membership, please make checks payable to CWA of NC. You will then receive all the benefits from CWA national and your contributions will help to benefit CWA in North Carolina.

- Enclosed is my annual membership of \$25.00 or more per individual/\$30.00 or more per couple.
 New member *or* renewing membership

Please send me information on:

- Prayer Chapters Business Sponsorships Upcoming Events

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Send your check to: *CWA-NC, PO Box 472903, Charlotte, NC 28247.* Donations are tax deductible.

CWA-NC accepts SPONSORSHIPS for the Newsletter: corporate and/or personal sponsorships. To have three sponsorships in three editions of the newsletter, costs \$125.00. A one time sponsorship costs \$50. Your memberships and sponsorships help to defray the costs of publishing this newsletter which attempts to keep the "lighthouse" shining on issues affecting the families of North Carolina. This newsletter is written and distributed solely by VOL-UNTEERS. We hope you will join our prayers and actions for putting N.C. families first.