



Concerned Women for America of North Carolina

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

Spring 2007

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If You Want To:

- ✧ Contact your Legislator
- ✧ Read a specific Bill
- ✧ View the Legislative Calendar

Go To
<http://www.ncleg.net>

Marriage Amendment & Legislative Update

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

Seventy-seven percent of North Carolinians support marriage as a sacred bond between one man and one woman (Citivas Institute, Inc. poll). Our current laws are not enough to protect this sacred institution. While North Carolina General Statutes 51-1 and 51-2 already define marriage as “between one man and one woman,” a future General Assembly or an activist judge could overturn or repeal those statutes protecting marriage.



Sens. Jim Forrester (R-42) and Fred Smith (R-12) have introduced Senate Bill 13 (SB13), the Protect Marriage Constitutional Amendment, giving North Carolina voters the right to vote to protect traditional marriage.

SB 13 has lingered in the Ways and Means Committee, which is called the “Graveyard for Unwanted Bills” It is being held there by Senate Pro-Tempore Marc Basnight (D-1) and Senate Rules Chairman

Tony Rand (D-19). The liberals do not want to offend their homosexual constituents and especially their openly gay Sen. Julia Boseman (D-9).

Approximately 10,000 conservative North Carolinians led by Dr. Dave Baity of *Return America* gathered in support of the traditional marriage Constitutional Amendment on March 6,

2007. Find the report of the Marriage Amendment Rally at: http://www.returnamerica.org/return_america_rally.htm

Thousands of signatures on petitions were also presented to Sens. Marc Basnight (D-1) and Tony Rand (D-19). Still, they adamantly insist that SB13 is unnecessary and unimportant.

Take action by signing your name to the online petition at www.protectmarriagenc.com. Gather signatures from church members and others and send them by certified mail to Sens. Rand and Basnight. Copy all the

petitions you send and send duplicates to Sen. Jim Forrester at 1129 Legislative Building, Raleigh, NC 27601-2808.

Contact Sens. Basnight and Rand as well as your own state senator. Emphasize that our current law is not the strongest protection we need for traditional marriage; tell them that SB13 must be moved out of the Ways and Means Committee to the Senate Floor for debate and a vote to call for a referendum in November.

Senate President Pro-Tempore Marc Basnight 919-733-8740 and 919-733-6854 marchb@ncleg.net

Senate Rules Chairman Tony Rand 919-733-9892 and 919-715-8346 tonyr@ncleg.net

To find out who your representative is go to <http://www.ncleg.net>. Go to “Who Represents Me” on the bottom right.

Pray for the Lord to reveal truth about traditional marriage to the leaders of the NC Senate and that the voice of the people will be allowed to be heard on this

Prayer Chapter Corner - Prayer, Education & Action

By Sheri Miller, Prayer Chapter Coordinator

The primary goal of CWA of North Carolina is to promote statewide prayer, education and action through the leadership of Prayer/Action Chapter Leaders (PALs) and their chapter members. Nationwide, more than 500 CWA Prayer/Action Chapters meet monthly to pray for our leaders, inform members about issues, and encourage action that re-enforces Judeo-Christian values.

A faithful prayer warrior and activist, Maude von Ehrenkrook, the 2003 CWA of NC PAL of the Year, is now serving as the Assistant to the National Field Director in Washington, D.C. Read the interview below.



Q. What calling influenced you to begin a Prayer/Action Chapter?

A. I had just moved to Fayetteville, North Carolina, and my husband went away for military training. While he was gone, he spoke with other men about pornography and wanted some statistics to back up his position. As I scoured the Internet, I found CWA.

Q. How did you find like-minded women to join your Chapter?

A. I spoke with other Christians

about their concern for this nation, and then turned the conversation toward CWA's core issues. I shared how these issues are relevant in their lives. Then I explained how they, specifically, could make a difference through my Chapter.

Q. During your six months as a PAL, how was your Chapter able to accomplish so many successful action projects?

A. Action is my passion. I worked hard on the motivation and focus of what we could do to make a difference. I think it is just a matter of energy and priority. We were always brainstorming about what action we could take to make a difference.

Q. When you moved out of state, was it difficult to maintain your connection with CWA in your new location?

A. My husband and I have moved around a lot (three times in five years) so it is difficult to stay connected with anything. CWA is the best organization I have found to make a difference and that is worth the extra effort!

Q. What does your job entail as the Assistant to the Field Director?

A. I am in charge of all the leaders in

the states that do not have a State Director or Prayer Chapter Coordinator. I assist them in any way they need to get started or to maintain their Prayer/Action Chapters or their Home Teams.

Q. What advice would you give to encourage a CWA of NC PAL?

A. What you are doing is crucial to the reservation of our nation. Don't be afraid to take your Chapter one step further to make the largest impact possible.

Q. How would you advise someone interested in leadership in North Carolina to get started?

A. To get started in leadership, all you need to do is call Sheri Miller, one of the sweetest ladies I know. There is no pressure. You are not alone. Sheri will help you throughout the process and will encourage and assist you as you lead for CWA.

PRAYER: Pray about joining a Prayer/Action Chapter with one of our wonderful CWA PALs. Pray about starting a Chapter in your area.

ACTION: For information on Prayer/Action Chapters, contact Sheri Miller at: sherimillerafc@cs.com or call 704-542-6984

The Mission of Concerned Women for America

*The mission of CWA is to protect and promote Biblical values among all citizens
—first through prayer, then education, and finally by influencing our society
—thereby reversing the decline in moral values in our nation.*

Scandal In The North Carolina General Assembly

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

The 2007-2009 General Assembly convened on January 24, 2007. The Senate is composed of 31 Democrats and 19 Republicans. Sen. Marc Basnight (D-Dare) is the Leader of the Senate and Sen.

Tony Rand (D-Cumberland) is the Rules Chairman. These two men are two of the most powerful men in the North Carolina General Assembly for they decide what bills will or will not be heard in Committees and on the Senate floor.

The House of Representatives is made of 68 Democrats and 52 Republicans. The Speaker of the House is Rep. Joe Hackney (D-Wake). The House is trying to recover from the



political intrigue, malfeasance and subsequent conviction of former Speaker Jim Black and a number of his loyalists. He will be sentenced in May.

The scandal in the North Carolina Legislature has been under investigation by the FBI for the past two years. There is much more that needs to be uncovered for the corruption extends far beyond Speaker Jim Black and involves both Democrats and Republicans.

Pray that justice will prevail and those who are guilty will be held accountable for their unethical, illegal and/or criminal activity.

North Carolina deserves better behavior from its governing bodies. They are accountable to the people,

but only if the people make themselves aware and take an interest in their activity.

Pray that the integrity of the North Carolina government will be restored and that Christians will use their voice to demand truth from their leaders and to speak for right in the public square.

Take action by calling your legislators. Let them know that you stand for and expect integrity in our government and political process.

To find your representative in the House or the Senate, you can call your local Board of Elections listed in your phone directory or call information (411). You can also go to <http://www.ncleg.net> and click on Who Represents Me.

The Community

By Antje Curphey, CWA of NC North
Eastern District Coordinator

We know that the family is the basic unit in the foundation of our culture and that its impact in the raising and nurturing of children is of paramount importance. But we must also remember that our children are influenced not only by their immediate and extended family, but also by their schools, church, television/media, friends and peers. They are influenced by their community.

How involved are you in that community? The Lord tells us to be *salt and light*. So it makes sense to be involved in shaping the community which is helping to shape our children.

It is amazing how faith and action

can alter the culture of our community, our state, our nation and the world. And it is amazing that reading God's Word will inspire us to be the salt and light in our world.

There are many things you can do to influence your community. Prayer and action are key elements in being salt and light:

- Include your prayer concerns and the CWA Prayer/Action alerts in your church prayer chain.
- Find a specific time to pray for your community with a prayer partner by phone, e-mail or personal visit.
- Consider starting a CWA Home Team e-mail chain.
- Keep talking points on several issues with you at all times so

that you will be a walking prayer center.

- Join groups that are prayer-oriented. Start or join a CWA of NC Prayer/Action Chapter.

Ask your church pastor to put up a Prayer Request Board to share prayer concerns about family issues, the sanctity of life and other vital issues.

Soon you will be known and sought as a prayer and information source for others in your community. And you will be known as one who is serious about praying for them. Contact Sheri Miller at inquiry@northcarolina.cwfa.org for more information on how you can impact the community in which you live.

Prayer Closet

By Sheri Miller, Prayer Chapter Coordinator

Prayer is the heart of Concerned Women for America; it truly embodies who and what we are. We believe that prayer is crucial to restoring God's righteousness to our state and nation. With prayer, petitioning the most holy God, we will be effective. Prayer helps us understand the Lord's will and defeat the schemes of the enemy. Our legislators need both our prayers and our encouragement. The pressures they feel and the deci-



sions they make affect not only this generation but also those who will follow. More than ever our legislators need intercessory prayer.

CWA of North Carolina's Pray for a Legislator Campaign impacts state legislators. It does this in two ways. First and foremost, it intensifies and ensures consistent prayer for each legislator. Second, it encourages and builds bridges with the conservative legislators as well as those who do not normally agree with us. As multiple prayers are offered on

behalf of the legislators and they receive many cards of encouragement, hearts are changed and encouraged.

Please consider being part of our Pray for a Legislator Campaign by committing to pray for and contact one of our 169 legislators during the months of May, June and July. We would like to see every North Carolina Legislator covered in prayer through this campaign. Sign up today! For more information, or to sign up, contact Sheri Miller at 704-542-6984 or e-mail her at inquiry@northcarolina.cwfa.org.

Connelly Springs, North Carolina Prayer/Action Chapter Expresses Their Gratitude

Prayer/Action Chapter Leader Leona Wilson of Connelly Springs, NC leads a Prayer/ Action Chapter that includes her five daughters.

"We like to use our once a month Sunday afternoon get-togethers for sharing prayer requests and information including CWA materials. We share personal requests, too.

"We call each other between meetings to ask for prayer and get requests from the Prayer/ Action

Newsletter. We appreciate all of the

CWA leaders and members for their time and efforts to keep us informed about the things we might not otherwise know.

"CWA and CWA of NC, our prayers are with you. May God bless us all."

Leona Wilson
Connelly Springs, NC



Back row: Sheryl Tomlin, Sonya Kistler, Sophia Buchannan, Leona Wilson
Front row: Stephanie Leger and Sandra Leger

Continuation of Marriage Amendment & Legislative Update

(continued on page 4)
important Defense of Marriage Constitutional Amendment.

SB 1534 proposes to create a new "legislative personnel nondiscrimination policy," to provide legal protection on the basis of an individual's "sexual orientation." This would be the first state law where "sexual orientation" is recognized and protected. The real purpose here is to grant legal recognition and a specially-protected legal status to alternative sexual behaviors.

Take action by letting your state senators know that you **OPPOSE** Senate Bill 1534

Pray that gender education will not be allowed. Pray also for the moral culture of our state and that traditional values will be upheld.

SB 1182 and HB 879 propose that the North Carolina State Law requiring public schools to teach "that abstinence from sexual activity outside of marriage is the expected standard for all school age children" be elimi-

nated as the primary focus and that it be replaced with requirements that would promote condoms and contraceptives, as well as affirm alternative sexual activity. It would eliminate local control and forfeit more than \$500,000 in federal abstinence education funds.

Pray that God will touch the hearts of legislators and they will vote against these bills that would promote the destruction of traditional Judeo-Christian values.

Take action by letting your senator

Prayer/Action Chapter

What is a Prayer/Action Chapter?

The nondenominational Prayer/Action Chapter meetings serve as an arm of the church to encourage informed prayer and action for our nation and its leaders. CWA does this by educating Christians on issues that affect our Biblically based standards. We want to empower you as either a leader or Chapter member to deal with the issues of education, abortion, pornography, religious freedom, homosexuality, redefinition of the family and national sovereignty.

Why a Prayer/Action Chapter?

If we join in prayer and action with other believers, our nation will change for the better. More impor-

tantly, we will be obeying the instruction given in God's Word. Ephesians 6:18 says, "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit; being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for the saints."

How does a Prayer/Action Chapter work?

The Prayer/Action Chapter has a three-fold purpose, providing an opportunity for members to do the following:

- 1.) Be alert and **INFORMED** on the issues. (Ephesians 6:18b)
- 2.) **PRAY** about the issues. (Ephesians 6:18a)
- 3.) **ACT** on those issues. (Ephesians 6:20)

Rather than replacing church ministry, a chapter serves as an extension of the church, and can, therefore, be held in a church building. Homes or community centers are also appropriate venues. A Chapter can start with as few as three and grow to an unlimited number. Meeting regularly, preferably monthly, is most effective.

How do I join or start a local Prayer/Action Chapter?

CWA has more than 400 Chapters nationwide. To find out about the one nearest you or to start one in your community, please contact the CWA National Field Department by phone at (800) 458-8797, or by e-mail at inquiries@cwfa.org.

What a Typical CWA Prayer/Action Chapter Meeting Looks Like

Once a month you will see thirty ladies (and sometimes men) gathering for prayer and action in a room at a community center or library. Or, perhaps there will only be three ladies sitting around a kitchen table in a home. That "typical" home might be brick with properly-trimmed shrubs or a two-story farmhouse with shrubs half-eaten from the livestock wandering in the front yard.

The "typical" leader is young and concerned about the world her new baby will one day inherit. Or, she might be "young at heart" with grandchildren or even great-grandchildren. The "typical" leader is prim, proper and a bit shy or she may be outgoing and full of more energy than a bag full of jumping beans. The "typical" leader is extremely knowledgeable about a variety of issues or she may be interested in a particular issue and willing to learn about others.

Once a month the Prayer/Action Chapter will gather for the most essential element of a CWA meeting – prayer for our country, our leaders

and issues that concern us all. While every meeting has prayer, the method of prayer, the length of time and the subject of prayer will vary – not only from group to group but within the group as well.

The short devotion may be something from a devotion book, a life experience or the CWA *Prayer/Action Newsletter*. The action during a "typical" monthly meeting will also vary in order to answer the changing needs of each community or a state-wide "call to action."

A "typical" group might plan a prayer vigil at a clinic or hospital to protest unborn babies being torn apart or the practice of aborting live babies only to give them no food, medical attention or love before their death. Another group might throw a baby shower for a crisis pregnancy center or a birthday party for Jesus.

A "typical" group might have a speaker come to educate the ladies on how pornography hurts the whole family. Or, instead of a speaker, a group might watch a video-taped

message about the "not-so-gay" agenda. Yet another "typical" group might sit at a table and write letters to a legislator about the dangers of the Equal Rights Amendment or the implementation of mental health screening for children and young mothers.

All meetings have elements of fellowship where bonds of friendship are formed. A group might gather for conversation in the morning over coffee and doughnuts. Another group might meet in the afternoon or evening and want no food that will add calories to strict diets.

The suggested format for a "typical" meeting is a half-hour for fellowship, a half-hour for prayer and a half-hour for action. But what does a typical CWA meeting "really" look like?

It looks like a group of ladies or ladies and like-minded men gathered for prayer and whatever action the Lord directs. And these "typical" prayer/action meetings are taking place during mornings, afternoons and evenings all over America.

Sixth Annual Spring Activities

*Believing wholeheartedly that God answers prayers,
Concerned Women for America of North Carolina invites
State Leaders, Prayer/Action Chapter Leaders and the Members of those Chapters,
Home Team Captains, Prayer Intercessors, Contributors, and Guests
to join in support of the following Sixth Annual Spring Activities:*

National Day of Prayer Service

*“If my people...will humble themselves and pray” II Chronicles 7:14
America, Unite In Prayer*

**Thursday, May 3, 2007
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

First Presbyterian Church (Host)
200 W. Trade Street, Uptown Charlotte

Please register if at all possible. Call 704-542-6984 or e-mail inquiry@northcarolina.cwfa.org.

Prayer Service and Lunch. (Lunches will be available to purchase.)
Welcome by The Honorable Pat McCrory, Mayor of Charlotte

Directions:

I-77 heading North – exit 10A, at bottom of ramp turn right onto Trade Street heading into town,
go through 5 traffic lights, Church is on the left, turn left onto Poplar to park.
I-77 heading South – exit 10B, turn onto Trade heading into town,
follow above directions but go through 6 traffic lights.

Pray For A Legislator Campaign

“Pray for kings and all those in authority” I Tim. 2:1-2

May, June & July of 2007

This campaign requires that you faithfully pray for an assigned legislator during the remainder of the short session of the North Carolina General Assembly, May through July. You will receive the name and address of a legislator along with three CWA of NC postcards. Each legislator is to receive a postcard from you during the months of May, June and July with words of encouragement that CWA of NC is praying for them.

For more information, or to sign-up, contact Sheri Miller at 704-542-6984 or e-mail inquiry@northcarolina.cwfa.org.

Day Of Legislation

“...go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you” Acts 18:9-10

**Wednesday, June 20, 2007
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

in Raleigh

Visit Legislators, Committee Meetings, Legislative Sessions,
Attend Lunch (Dutch) in the General Assembly Cafeteria &
Participate in a CWA of NC led Senate Chapel Service

Registration required. Call 704-542-6984 or e-mail inquiry@northcarolina.cwfa.org.

Please arrive no later than 8:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Brownstone Hotel (919-645-1024) – 1707 Hillsborough Street, parking lot to pray and then shuttle to the State Capitol (parking is limited at the State Capitol). From I-40, take Wade Avenue exit and go east. Continue on Wade Avenue until it narrows to two lanes then begin looking on the right for Woodburn Avenue. Turn right onto Woodburn Avenue and continue until Hillsborough Street. Turn Left onto Hillsborough then make an immediate right into the Brownstone Hotel parking lot. Park in the far side parking lot.

CWA of North Carolina Leadership Team

Steering Committee

Prayer Chapter Coordinator & State Contact

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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	Moorestville
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

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 for 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 per individual/\$30.00 per couple.
 New member *or* renewing membership

Please send me information on:

- Prayer Chapters Business Sponsorshipsq Upcoming events.

Name _____

E-mail _____

Street address _____

Phone () _____

City/State _____

Zip Code _____

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 our 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 VOLUNTEERS. We hope you will join our prayers and actions for putting N.C. families first.