



Fresh from the JAR

LRC Newsletter

EMPOWERING WOMEN CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY



The celebration of women's history in the United States began in 1978 as Women's History Week in California. In 1980, President Carter issued the first official presidential proclamation asking the United States to remember the contributions of women. In 1987, Congress expanded the celebration to a month, and March was declared Women's History Month.

Did You Know?

—There were **149.1 million** females in the United States as of July 1, 2004. That exceeds the number of males (144.5 million). There were **212,000 active duty women in the military** in 2004. Of that total, 35,100 women are officers, 177,000 are enlisted.

—The **median annual earnings of women** ages 15 and older who work full time, year-round is \$31,223.

After adjusting for inflation, earnings for these women declined by 1 percent between 2003 and 2004.

—The **estimated work-life earnings** of women with a professional degree (i.e., medical, law, dental or veterinarian) who work full time, year-round is \$2.9 million. For women, like men, more education means higher career earnings. It is estimated that women without a high school diploma would earn \$700,000 during their work lives, increasing to \$1 million if they had a high school diploma and \$1.6 million if they had a bachelor's degree.

—Women, who worked full time, year-round, earned **77 cents for every \$1** their male counterparts earned in 2004. This amount is up from 76 cents for every dollar in 2003.

—**Twenty-six percent of women ages 25 and over** attained a bachelor's degree or

higher in 2004, this is up nearly 7 percentage points from a decade earlier). Eighty-five percent of young women and 84 percent of young men 25 and older had completed high school in 2004.

—The **estimated number of mothers** of all ages in the United States is 82.5 million.

—There are **63 million married women** (including those who are separated or have an absent spouse). There are 54 million unmarried (widowed, divorced or never married) women.

Data courtesy of the [U.S. Census Bureau](http://www.census.gov)



GENDER ISSUES AND DISTANCE EDUCATION

It has been the assumption in the field of education that women and men have a different relationship to computers and technology. Several studies indicate anxiety is a major factor influencing women to choose face-to-face classes over online classes. Despite the narrowing gap in Distance Education, women continue to feel that the technological world is unfamiliar. Yet, more and more women taking online

classes. Reasons for this increase include convenience, flexibility, and availability. Some studies suggest that communication in online classes is more equal and that women are able to participate completely. Other studies suggest that a lack of domination by males in the online environment because of the unique communication tools such as discussion boards and forums. To learn more about this fascinating topic, read the following articles.

Atan, H. (2002). Gender differences in availability, internet access and rate of usage of computer among distance education learners. *Education Media International*, 39, 205. Retrieved Feb 22, 2006, from Academic Search Premier Database: <http://www.nclive.org>

Sullivan, P. (2001). Gender differences and the online classroom: Male and female college students evaluate their experiences. *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, 25, 805-818. Retrieved Feb 22, 2006, from Academic Search Premier Database: <http://www.nclive.org>

Wheeler, S. (2002). Student perceptions of learning support in distance education. *Quarterly Review of Distance Education*, 3, 419-429. Retrieved Feb 22, 2006, from Academic Search Premier Database: <http://www.nclive.org>



Ashley's Fable

One fine day, as Hawk was flying peacefully through the clouds, he looked down and saw Horse trying to get his tail loose from a log that had fallen on the ground. Hawk swooped down to help him as all the animals in the forest watched and cheered. With that, Hawk flew proudly away as Horse cried, "Thank –you, Brother Hawk!" Then the next day, as Hawk was flying peacefully by, he heard Squirrel crying for help because he had his head stuck between two branches in a tree. Hawk could have stopped, but he didn't because no one was around to witness him doing another good deed— except for Horse who happened to be hiding in some bushes. At the next meeting of the Forest, Horse and Squirrel told the Counsel what Hawk had done and Hawk was sentenced to exile. Have integrity— do the right thing, even when no one is watching.

Ashley Pierson (student)

Meghan's Fable

For the first time a baby bird steps onto the edge of his nest, seeing all that is ahead and below him. The moma bird says to her little one, "Today's the day; here's your chance to see the world." The baby bird takes a deep breath and flaps his wings, stepping out into open air. Not having any luck and falling to a few branches below, his moma says to him, "Baby try, try again." With a glow in his eyes, he leaps off and soars into the horizon. If you don't succeed the first time, don't give up hope right away, try again.

Meghan O'Briant (student)

Do You Have Suggestions?

If you have any suggestions, ideas, or concerns, please send them via e-mail. In the subject line, enter **Newsletter Suggestions** and send to Vanessa Bass, Reference Librarian, at bassv@piedmontcc.edu.

National Women's Hall of Fame, Inc.

The National Women's Hall of Fame is an exhibition and research center in Seneca Falls, N.Y. The center was opened to the public in 1979 and is located near the site of the first Women's Rights Convention, convened in 1848 by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Coffin Mott.

Below is a selected list of persons elected to the National Women's Hall of Fame, Inc.

- Bella Abzug (Civil Rights)
- Louisa May Alcott (Literature)
- Marian Anderson (Music)
- Maya Angelou (Literature)
- Susan B. Anthony (Women's Rights)
- Mary McLeod Bethune (Education)
- Nellie Bly (Journalism)
- Gwendolyn Brooks (Poetry)
- Annie Jump Cannon (Astronomy)
- Jacqueline Cochran (Aviation)
- Bessie Coleman (Aviation)
- Emily Dickinson (Poetry)
- Marjory Stoneman Douglas (Environment)
- Amelia Earhart (Aviation)
- Mary Baker Eddy (Religion)
- Geraldine Ferraro (Politics)
- Ella Fitzgerald (Music)
- Althea Gibson (Athletics)
- Angelina Grimke (Social Reform)
- Helen Hayes (Theater)
- Beatrice A. Hicks (Engineering)
- Major General Jeanne Holm (Military)
- Zora Neale Hurston (Anthropology; Literature)
- Bishop Leontine Kelly (Religion)
- Mildred Robbins Leet (Philanthropy)
- Belva Ann Bennett Lockwood (Law)
- Wilma Mankiller (Native American Rights)
- Margaret Mead (Anthropology)
- Maria Mitchell (Astronomy)
- Sandra Day O'Connor (Law; Government)
- Georgia O'Keeffe (Painting)
- Sally K. Ride (Space Exploration)
- Edith Nourse Rogers (Politics)
- Sister Elaine Roulet (Children's Rights)
- Wilma Rudolph (Sports)
- Betty Bone Schiess (Religion)
- Bessie Smith (Music)
- Margaret Chase Smith (Politics)
- Gloria Steinem (Social Progress)
- Harriet Beecher Stowe (Literature; Social Reform)
- Sojourner Truth (Social Progress)
- Brigadier General Wilma Vaught (Military)
- Edith Wharton (Literature)
- Oprah Winfrey (Broadcasting)
- Chien-Shiung Wu (Physics)
- Gloria Yerkovich (Child Welfare)

Googleit™

1. What is the official language and estimated population of the country Yemen?
2. Who said, "a lady's imagination is very rapid; it jumps from admiration to love, from love to matrimony, in a moment?"
3. Poet Sylvia Path wrote a poem about an animal entitled "Ariel," what type of animal was this poem about?

*Stop by the Circulation/Reference Desk on the 1st floor to enter your answers by **April 13, 2006**.

*To enter, students, faculty, and staff must fill out ballots with the answers to all three trivia questions and provide their names and e-mail addresses.

*Two lucky winners will be notified on **April 20, 2006** via e-mail.

Bryant's Fable

Long ago, in the mountains, there was a very large, lush, green forest. Within these woods lived a wide variety of animals, but mostly foxes. Of all the wildlife, they were the most beautiful, and because of this they were constantly being hunted by the people who lived on the peak. They were continually caught and killed by the hunters until only a few dozen of them remained. One day the survivors decided to run for their lives, and had traveled for many miles when they came upon a bear that had been snared in a trap. Seeing this, the leader of the foxes said, "Truly we are not the only ones with problems." No matter how bad things are, there is always someone worse off than you.

Bryant McGhee (student)

Thank You

A special thank you to everyone who helped with suggestions, submissions, editing, and ideas with putting together this newsletter.

