

**Community Coalition for Social Justice
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Update: 29 September 2005

I. CCSJ PROJECTS

Next Steering Committee Meeting - To Be Announced. Please contact our president, Tim Hairston, at questz1@adelphia.net if you have issues for the steering committee to consider.

Annual Meeting Review

Thanks to those who came to our "social justice organizations fair" on Tuesday, September 27, at the Rosewood Theatre. The groups that were represented were the Appalachian Prison Book Project, Proud Students Against Land Mines (or newest member group), Monongalia-Preston Labor Council, Mon Valley Clean Air Coalition, Morgantown NOW (National Organization for Women), West Virginia Interfaith Global Climate Change Campaign, Caritas House, MARV (Men Against Rape and Violence), FEM (Female Equality Movement), BiGLTM (Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender Mountaineers), and WVU Center for Women's Studies. Information about all these groups is appended at the end of this update for your reference and to help you contact the groups of your choice.

We also had literature available from the NOVA Institute, WVU Council on Sexual Orientation, and the anysoldier.com local project to support our troops.

Steering Committee Membership

Thanks to Kathy Torsney and Mary Carter, who have volunteered to be on the steering committee. And thanks to Kris Hash, who has had to resign from the steering committee, for her contributions as a member.

If you would like to be on the CCSJ steering committee, please contact Tim Hairston at questz1@adelphia.net.

II. PLEASE SEND YOUR DUES AND IDEAS!

Please send your dues so that we have the resources to continue our work. We use your money to purchase books for local schools, for instance. **Dues are \$5 for individuals and \$25 for organizations.** Youth under the age of 18 are free. Please send your checks, payable to CCSJ, to PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160.

Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at attfield@labyrinth.net.

Please contact any of the steering committee members to volunteer to help and to share your suggestions for our work or e-mail us at ccsjwv@hotmail.com.

Deadline for items to include in next Update will be September 20. Please send items to share with our membership to ccsjwv@hotmail.com.

If we can support your event or your issues in some way, please let us know, especially if you represent a member organization. We want to be a true coalition that unites groups and individuals interested in social justice, so please let us know how we can help and please send us information about your group to publicize to our membership.

III. MEMBER ORGANIZATION NEWS

WVU-ACE

WVU-ACE is an affiliate of the West Virginia Education Association and National Education Association. All employees are welcome to join. The next executive board meeting is September 5. There will be an open house on September 28.

For more information, contact WVU-ACE at 1137 VanVoorhis Rd, Suite 6, Morgantown 26505 or call 598-3900.

MORGANTOWN NOW

Morgantown NOW is planning a public program on the process of confirming justices to the U.S. Supreme Court. This is tentatively scheduled for September 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lugar Courtroom of the WVU College of Law. For further information, please contact Amanda Ray at amandajray@yahoo.com.

CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND RESEARCH

The WVU Center for Black Culture and Research is sponsoring its annual fall barbecue tomorrow, September 1, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Center for Black Culture and Research at 590 Spruce Street (next to the *Daily Athenaeum* building). All are welcome!

CBC&R will also be hosting a hospitality tent at the WVU Fall Family Weekend on September 24th at the stadium.

WVU CENTER FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES FALL EVENTS

All of the following events are free and open to the public, except as noted below:

September 7: Women's Studies Open House. Elizabeth Moore Hall, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. This event will be an opportunity for women's studies faculty, visiting committee members, alumni, etc. to meet and greet new students and to answer their questions about women's studies at WVU. Refreshments will be provided.

September 15-17: Annual Colloquium, Department of Foreign Languages, with theme this year of "Imaginary Places in Literature and Film." The colloquium will feature a wide variety of sessions relating to female characters in and authors of works of fiction. Co-sponsored by Center for Women's Studies. For more information, email wvucoll@mail.wvu.edu or call (304) 293-5121. Registration fee required. The complete program is available at www.as.wvu.edu/forlang

September 21: Fireside Chat: Dr. Suzanne Bell, assistant professor of chemistry at WVU, will speak on the topic of "One Element's Story: The History of Forensic Science Via Arsenic." This event will be held in conference room A/B of the National Research Center for Coal and Energy (NRCCE - Evansdale

Campus). Time: 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.

October 10 : Silent Witness speakers/exhibit. A variety of speakers will address issues surrounding domestic violence at the Erikson Alumni Center from 7 to 10 p.m. An art exhibit of silhouettes representing West Virginians who have died in domestic violence will be on display in the Mountainlair from October 11 to October 14. This program is sponsored by the School of Applied Social Sciences, Junior League of Fairmont, and Center for Women's Studies.

October 19: Marilou Awiakta , a Cherokee/Appalachian poet, storyteller and essayist, will speak. Awiakta's work is a unique fusion of her Cherokee/ Appalachian heritage with science. She grew up in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, a nuclear research center, and graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Tennessee (1958), with a double major in English and French and a minor in history. This event is part of WVU's Diversity Week, and is cosponsored with the Native American Studies Program and Eberly College of Arts and Sciences. It will be held in the Shenandoah Room of the Mountainlair, at 7:30 p.m.

October 31 - November 4: The WVU student group Female Equality Movement (F.E.M.) will sponsor a series of events for Women's Health Week, featuring a presentation of the play "Unbecoming" (a work by Rick Schweikert that addresses the issue of unnecessary hysterectomies) on November 4th. Other FEM events in the fall semester include Love Your Body Day on October 19, several events during October for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and casting for this year's production of the Vagina Monologues. For more information, email rox303712@yahoo.com. You can find FEM on the web at http://www.geocities.com/fem_wvu/.

November 14: Women in Science and Math panel discussion. Panelists: Dr. Frances Vanscoy, associate professor in computer science and electrical engineering; Dr. Martina Bachlechner, assistant professor in physics; Dr. Helen Lang, associate professor in geology and geography; Dr. Kasi Jackson, assistant professor in women's studies; Dr. Lisa Holland, assistant professor in chemistry; and Dr. Linda Vona-Davis, adjunct professor of surgery and visiting associate professor of biology. 6:00 p.m., Health Sciences John Jones Conference Rooms 1, 2 and 3. For more information, contact Dr. Ruth Kershner at (304)293-7440 or rkershner@hsc.wvu.edu. Refreshments will be provided.

IV. LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL NEWS

SCOTTS RUN FAIR SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 3

The annual Scotts Run Fair will be held Saturday, September 3, beginning with a parade at noon and ending at 8 p.m.

MOTHER JONES COMES BACK TO MORGANTOWN SEPTEMBER 12

Union organizer Mother Jones will make a return appearance to Morgantown on Monday, September 12th, this time in the person of Karen Vuranch, who portrays Jones for the West Virginia Humanities Council's History Alive! Program. The Department of English and Eberly College of Arts and Sciences are sponsoring this event in the Rhodendron Room of the WVU Mountainlair from 7:30-9:00 that evening. A reception will follow the performance. This event is free and open to the public.

WVU MINORITY DOCTORAL COLLOQUIUM

The Fifth WVU Minority Doctoral Colloquium will be held September 11-13. "The Colloquium for Aspiring Minority Doctoral Candidates is designed to promote graduate education at West Virginia University to prospective and current minority graduate students. It is an opportunity to familiarize

prospective students with academic programs, admissions standards and resources of funding graduate education at WVU as well as an opportunity to encourage potential graduate students to consider their various academic career possibilities.” For more information, go to www.wvu.edu/%7Esocjust/colloquium.htm

WVU DIVERSITY WEEK DATES SET

WVU’s Diversity Week will be the week of October 17. The annual Women of Color luncheon will be October 19, beginning at 11:30 a.m.. in the WVU Mountainlair Ballrooms. The speaker will be Dr. Ancella R. Bickley, retired vice president for academic affairs at West Virginia State College and an expert on the history of African-Americans in West Virginia. She will speak on Memphis Tennessee Garrison, a NAACP organizer from southern West Virginia. For further information, please contact Roz Becker at rebroz@adelphia.net.

CCSJ Steering Committee 2005-2006

Tim Hairston (Monongalia-Preston Labor Council AFL-CIO), President. Al Anderson, Vice President. Suzanne Gosden, Secretary. Barb Howe (WVU Center for Women’s Studies), Treasurer. Mike Attfield. Mary Carter. Judy Cohen. Lourdes Cottingham (Equality for All Americans). Liliana Hernandez. Jacqueline Moseley. Shelly Barrick Parsons (Presbyterian campus ministry). Leah Rye (Caitas House). Michael Sharley. Eric Simpson (Caritas House). Deb Strouse (WV Center for Dispute Resolution). Kathy Torsney.