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First Atta Girls

EQUIPOISE NEWS volume 4

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Well, that went fast! A new year is upon us and it's already full of great events. Temptation is heavy at this time to reflect on the past year, but fact is, many terrific strides were made. Allow us to toot our new year horn as last farewell to 2006:

First Atta Girls awarded: For their contributions to vision, voice and visibility for women and girls in Wyoming, we ask Deborah Clemens, Arden Lindsey and Sterling Hayden to take a bow!

The 2007 Atta Girl Awards will be presented in Laramie, Wyoming on March 1, in conjunction with an address by Marie C. Wilson, founder and president of The White House Project. Ms. Wilson will also appear in Jackson on March 2nd, 2007. You can read more about her at this website: www.oprah.com/rys/omag/rys_omag_200403_phenom.jhtml

Equality Initiatives website launched: After two weekend-long conversations with service agency providers and with agency funders, Equipoise Fund teamed with the Tate Charitable Trust to start the ball rolling, making our state's citizens aware of the fact that **what's good for Wyoming's women and girls is good for Wyoming.**

We have already raised two-thirds of the initial budget goal of \$60,000, announced in September. We're over the hump and on our way to effectively establishing great awareness of the issues that face Wyoming's women. But visit the site yourself to learn more: <http://equalityinitiatives.org> and read about the amazing women who work in support of Equality Initiatives.

Q Grants launched: Whether your project needs quick funding, is too quirky for traditional funding or needs funding "Just Quz," these grants are for you! Learn more about our Q Grants by visiting our website:

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http://equipoisefund.org/grant_q_grant.html

Womentum: Womentoring created the opportunity for ten Jackson women to be paired with ten women mentors to learn everything from running a business to running a political campaign to running a family. Although the plan was designed to provide mentorship for one year to six of the women, the relationships have proved strong and valuable enough for mentors and their “mentees” to remain connected. Find out more about Womentoring click the Womentum link at: www.equipoisefund.org

Wyoming Women’s Legislative Caucus: Encouraging women to take a role in politics and governance is a large undertaking, but the Caucus provided three scholarships to participate in The White House Project’s Go Run Training Program in Boulder, Colorado. To find out more about this opportunity, go to: www.voterunlead.org/tools/gorun2005/index.cfm And a special congratulations to Melissa Turley, who, inspired by all she’s experienced through Equipoise Fund and Womentum, won her race for a seat on the Town Council of Jackson. Along with a majority of voters in Jackson, we eagerly anticipate her fresh perspective. Way to go, Melissa!



Wyoming First Lady Nancy Freudenthal, Melissa Turley, Equipoise Fund founder Mickey Babcock.

Upcoming in 2007: Our year is filling up! Marie Wilson as a keynote speaker in early March is a true highlight, and the naming of the new Atta Girl awards is eagerly anticipated. But our other favorite project is a television documentary featuring Wyoming women and girls who speak their truth about sustaining family, ranches and communities. Directors Bonnie Kreps and Charlie Craighead will co-write the series with Dee Garceau, author and assistant professor of history at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee. Her book, *The Important Things of Life: Women, Work, and Family in Sweetwater County, Wyoming, 1880–1929*, has been widely reviewed.

If you’d like to nominate a Wyoming woman whose story you think would inspire others, please feel free to send us a page detailing that woman’s story and include your name, phone number, mailing and email addresses and contact information for your nominee. All nominations should go to Amy Brennan McCarthy at: tetonamy@gmail.com or P.O. Box 21, Teton

Village, WY 83025. Nominations are due by January 31, 2007.
We'll keep you posted as to future broadcast dates!

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