

FEW Meets in Motor City For Nat'l Training Event

By Gerald Scott

The Federally Employed Women (FEW) gathered at the RenCen Marriott in Detroit for their National Training Program and the group seemingly made as big of an impression on Detroit as the city made on them in return.

Locally, FEW is strongly represented by women who work at TACOM in Warren and are civilian employees of the Defense Department.

At the big national meeting at the RenCen, women who work at the Bureau of Land Management, the FAA, Department of Energy and more were well represented in Detroit, with professional women flying in from all over the country to attend.

U.S. Rep. Hansen Clarke of Detroit gave one of the keynote speeches to the group.

"Our function, you and I, as

government employees is to make family lives better in this country, that's the bottom line," he said.

"Federally Employed Women - you really underscore why this country is great. You confronted the discrimination and chauvinism that existed in our government . . . and to show everyone that equal access to opportunity, you're making that real right now because you're leading by personal example."

Besides the formal training, the group was busy as is typical with large gatherings in that various groups of the visiting women attended receptions, functions, music concerts, baseball games and a gala as they took in the best entertainment Detroit could offer.

The FEW women also had the opportunity to attend a GM ride-and-drive function where they test-drove 15 of



Ms. Wheelchair Missouri 2010, Katie Rodriguez Banister, was a keynote speaker; signer is at left.

GM's hottest vehicles at a special activity on the riverfront.

The ride-and-drive gave the FEW women the chance to test drive the Chevrolet Corvette, Chevrolet Camaro, Cadillac XTS, Buick Lacrosse, Chevrolet Volt and more of the mainstream GM lineup.

And as far as the kickoff goes, the attendees were given a special keynote address by Katie Rodriguez Banister, who was Ms. Wheelchair Mis-

souri 2010. Quite a dynamic speaker, Banister's appearance in a wheelchair as a quadriplegic resulting from a car accident, was nothing if not inspiring for all of the attendees.

Her talk certainly helped everyone in attendance to be more appreciative of their current blessings than maybe they were prior to the dynamic speech.

She mixed humor, pathos

and personal experience in meeting the challenge of her situation together with remarkable aplomb. She earned a standing ovation for her remarks, which even included some of the lyrics to the old Cat Stevens tune, "Moonshadow."

All in all, the Federally Employed Women made the most of their week-long training conference held to advance women at federal work.

Geico Launches Vintage Car Ins.

Geico has re-launched its collector car insurance product that specializes in coverage for classic and vintage cars. The insurance product was brought back by popular demand after policyholders expressed a desire to have the coverage available to them again.

"Geico's collector car insurance is a valuable product for our customers who are passionate about their vehicles," said John Zinno, Geico vice president.

"The collector car product ensures all Geico policyholders are covered regardless of their make and model and gives our customers another option to keep all of their business under the Geico umbrella."

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SCAN ME

Shoes, Fashions and Automobiles

DETROIT - Shoe collections for this year's spring season drew heavy influence from the glamour and opulence of 1950s hot wheels.

Oozing sex appeal and status for men and women alike, the legendary chrome-finned Chevrolet Bel Air inspired summer clothing and footwear collections in Italy and elsewhere.

Even not-so-fashionable-yet-practical shoe categories draw design inspiration from automotive technologies.

After spending years studying people's relationship with footwear, Italian writer and shoe design analyst Andrea Silvuni believes you can learn a lot about a person's character from the shoes on their feet and their choice of wheels.

"In the same way Chevy Bel Air stood for luxury and power and showed you were doing well, rocking your Italian designer heels will reveal your inner power and provide others a window into your personality," Silvuni said.

"No matter the type of shoe, there are always reasons behind that choice and how they convey who we are and what our mood is."

Every shoe and car can provide a window into secrets of personality. Choice of color, style and other design details of cars and shoes can say a lot about a person.

Urban city cars, like the Chevrolet Spark, draw on inspiration of everything from open-toed flip-flops to motorcycles and are driven by unconventional owners open to new experiences and adventures.

Striking design elements of ballet pumps can be found in Chevrolet's global small car - the Sonic - with an aggressive-looking front, compact



Oozing sex appeal and status for men and women alike.



Andrea Silvuni believes you can learn a lot about a person's character from their choice of shoes and wheels. This correlation dates back to the 1920s.

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