



2008

Rachel's Network
annual report

*impassioned leaders & agents of change
dedicated to the stewardship of the earth*



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WHAT WE DO

Rachel's Network is a national nonprofit membership organization named in Rachel Carson's honor. Our mission is to promote women as impassioned leaders and agents of change dedicated to the stewardship of the earth.



Message from the Board Chair2
Message from the Founder & President3
Expanding Membership & Recruitment4
Developing Leadership & Staying Connected.....5
Learning from Expert Speakers.....6
Gathering our Community7
Advocating for Environmental Health9
Building Alliances among Congresswomen10
Engaging Non-Traditional Partners11
Sustaining our Success12

COVER PHOTOS, TOP TO BOTTOM: LAURIE KRACUM LEARNS ABOUT CONSERVATION INITIATIVES IN CHICAGO. WINSOME McINTOSH & ANNE ROWLEY DISCUSS NATIONAL POLICY IN FRONT OF THE CAPITOL. MEMPHIS HOLLAND APPLAUDS MEMBERS' IMPORTANT WORK DURING MEMBER DIALOGUE. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL PHOTOS: JIM McLEAN.

THIS PAGE, TOP TO BOTTOM: KAY FISCHER & MONTINE HANSL REVIEW MATERIALS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING. KATHY BORGES & MARTHA DAVIS HEAR ABOUT IRENE CROWE'S LATEST PROJECT. MEMBERS APPLAUD A VOLUNTEER AT THE PUBLIC SPEAKING WORKSHOP.



On behalf of Rachel's Network's board of directors, I am pleased to share this update on our accomplishments throughout this busy and productive year. Thanks to valued stakeholders like you – our members, funders, guest speakers, advisors, program partners, and many others – Rachel's Network enjoyed a remarkable year of expansion and demonstrated our group's resilience in the face of economic crisis.

In 2008, Rachel's Network continued to reach record levels of membership, uniting women who collectively represent over \$500 million in annual giving and work to leverage their influence into trailblazing endeavors that preserve our planet, protect our health, and strengthen our fellow women leaders. Our members lead at the uppermost echelons of the organizations they support, giving generously of their time, financial assistance, and wisdom gleaned from years of experience. These extraordinary women are impressive as individuals, and to see our members in the aggregate is to behold a dazzling spectrum of interests, backgrounds, generations, politics, and giving.

Over the past year, our board of directors completed a transition to increased institutional oversight. We codified board obligations and established a formal committee structure, with each member serving on at least two of the Development/Membership, Governance, Finance, Program, and Long Range Planning Committees. This increased involvement was embraced with enthusiasm by all, and I thank our board for volunteering their input and energy to keep the Network vibrant and healthy. In the fall, we thanked departing board members Annette Gellert, Debbie Ross, and Victoria Stack for their service and extended a warm wel-

come to new directors Marianne Gabel, Adelaide Park Gomer, and Molly Ross, all steadfast supporters and long-time members. I know their leadership will enrich our efforts and look forward to working with each of them as we continue to grow.

Though 2008 was a difficult year in the greater philanthropic community, we were honored to have secured the generous support of many members, former members, and external funders. Our supporters' investment in the success of our programs and services constitutes a valued vote of confidence in our accomplishments to date, and we remain committed to stewarding these grants to ensure their effectiveness. Our grantors' faith in our Network encourages us to redouble our efforts on behalf of the philanthropic community, women's ever-increasing leadership, and the earth itself, including all its inhabitants.

As you will read in the report that follows, 2008 was a year in which RN reached new milestones of growth and stretched toward further programmatic innovation. I am grateful to have worked closely with so many of you who have made Rachel's Network a priority through your ongoing support, and I invite you to continue to play a role in our community in the years to come.

In appreciation,

Caroline D. Gabel
Board Chair

When I reflect upon the last year with Rachel's Network, I am heartened to see how far our organization has come in such a short time. Our Network's growth only seems to accelerate as we grow stronger, more secure, and more deeply rooted in the philanthropic, advocacy, and women's empowerment communities. Each year, we welcome new members, reach out to new strategic partners, and develop programs that better serve the inspiring women whose work lies at the core of what we do.

In 2008, with an expanding roster of events and resources that informed and connected members, outreach programs that engaged emerging advocates, and a steadily growing base of support, Rachel's Network remained true to our mission of "promoting women as impassioned leaders and agents of change dedicated to the stewardship of the earth." Our members grew to nearly 100 strong, representing every region of our nation, drawing ideas from across the political spectrum, controlling over \$8 billion in foundation assets, and spanning seven decades in age. As in past years, our members continued to forge meaningful relationships across these differences and in celebration of our common vision of a better world. Whether philanthropy is a full-time vocation or one of many personal and professional pursuits, each member shares a tireless devotion to serving society, a thirst for learning, an interest in greater strategic effectiveness, and a belief in the value of a "good ol' girls' network" for women like us.

As fortunate as Rachel's Network was in 2008, the year also brought mixed blessings for all of us in the philanthropic community. With a nation – and, indeed, a world – in financial crisis, funding for nonprofits like ours grew ever more scarce and more precious. Our Network remained tenacious in pursu-

ing grants to fund our general operations as well as our outreach programs, and we were fortunate to have earned the generous support of external grant-makers as well as our own members, most notably the leaders serving on our board of directors.

Though our members were confronted with the challenge of grantmaking during a time of uncertainty, this experience only underscores the need for an organization like Rachel's Network. With services that guide members to maximize the strategic impact of their giving, our Network delivers value to members unavailable elsewhere. The community of funders envisioned at our founding, when 18 women philanthropists united around a shared commitment to conservation, has become a reality, and our members are here to advise, inspire, and encourage one another, in times of abundance and scarcity. I stated long ago that our Network has a richness about it that has nothing to do with wealth, and those words have never rung truer than today.

Rachel's Network remains committed to keeping members in the vanguard of philanthropy, women's empowerment, and conservation advocacy in the years to come. I thank you for having helped us reach this point and look forward to continuing to share news of our progress as we prepare for our tenth anniversary in 2010!

Sincerely,



Winsome McIntosh
Founder & President



PHOTO: TERRY WAY

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

In 2008, Rachel's Network's (RN) members were a wellspring of support for our organization, giving generously of their time and resources to keep RN strong. With nearly 100 total members throughout the year, our community represented a sprawling web of women funders with connections to educational outlets, advocacy groups, and foundations.

As in years past, our retention rate remained well over 90 percent, confirming that RN offers members unique value. Though diverse in age, geographic origin, and politics, members remained connected by bonds of friendship and a shared commitment to philanthropy, women's empowerment, and conservation. At least 17 family relationships also graced our roster, including nine mother-daughter or daughter-in-law pairs, three pairs of sisters-in-law, two aunts and their niece, and one set each of sisters, cousins, and a grandmother and granddaughter.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION EFFORTS

Recruitment is essential to RN's continued strength. Each new member expands our Network to include friends, relatives, organizations she supports, grant-making institutions, and fellow board members. Carson Council membership is also our core revenue stream, accounting for nearly half of our budget.

RN earned solid annual membership growth, welcoming 12 new women to our community, along with one Environmental Leadership Liaison. Our recruitment efforts continued to accelerate, with 26 members referring prospects from around the country. Given the limited intersection of women who fit the RN profile – active funders with an interest in the environment, health, and women's empowerment – 2008 represented a year of steady progress toward our long-term growth.

Because retention of current members is equally crucial to building a stable community, RN kept members in touch with regular networking events in hub cities, providing opportunities to reach out to prospective members in those areas and introduce them to local members. Board members took the lead in hosting these programs, with Irene Crowe welcoming members to a lunch in San Francisco in January and Kathy Borgen gathering Denverites in April. In July, Winsome McIntosh traveled to Roaring Gap, North Carolina to reach out to area residents and addressed a meeting of the Wayzata, Minnesota chapter of the Garden Club of America.

OUR NATIONAL NETWORK: MEMBERS' HOME STATES



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: DAUGHTER ANNE ROWLEY & MOTHER JOCELYN SLADEN DISCUSS PLANT CONSERVATION. JAN MONTGOMERY, RENÉE INGOLD & DERRY MacBRIDE ENJOY CASUAL NETWORKING TIME. MOTHER FA & DAUGHTER ALICE LIDDELL LOOK OUT OVER THE CAPITOL AT RN'S ANNUAL MEETING.



RN by the Numbers:
MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT

- 97 total 2008 members
- 93 percent annual retention rate
- 27 to 97 age range
- 22 home states
- over 100 new prospects referred
- 12 new members joined in 2008
- 1 new Environmental Leadership Liaison

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

RN's board placement program redresses the gender imbalance at the highest tiers of the environmental movement by elevating members to the boards of major organizations. In 2008, we placed six RN members on prominent nonprofit boards, giving this program a total of 31 placements to date. By offering resources for effective service, such as our *Board Orientation Guidebook*, we have developed members' leadership capacity and amplified their voices at the decision-making levels of advocacy groups.

RN also continued to offer signature services such as resume development and business cards, preparing members to bring professional-caliber polish to their volunteerism and serve their causes with distinction.

SPEAKERS' BUREAU

In 2008, RN launched a Speakers' Bureau, which connects members with opportunities to share their knowledge with organizations in search of an experienced funder's perspective. Three members – Susan Fulton, Caroline Gabel, and Winsome McIntosh – addressed the Smithsonian Conservation Research Center in Virginia in April. In November, Ruth Ann Harnisch spoke about women's philanthropy at the 20th Annual Symposium of the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University.



PHOTO: RACHEL TABAKMAN

LEFT, CAROLINE GABEL, WINSOME MCINTOSH & SUSAN FULTON REPRESENT THE SPEAKERS' BUREAU. RIGHT, BARBARA GILMORE SHARES NEWS ABOUT A PROJECT.

FISCAL SPONSORSHIP FUND

RN's fiscal sponsorship fund allows members to develop new projects through our established nonprofit structure. In 2008, member Montine Hansl of Honolulu began to incubate the China/U.S. Environmental Education Project with RN. Montine worked throughout a challenging year, including the devastating Sichuan earthquake and excitement surrounding the Beijing Olympics, to establish connections in China.

RACHEL'S ACTION NETWORK

Rachel's Action Network (RAN), our 501(c)(4) sister organization, promoted women leaders advocating for a healthy environment in this whirlwind election year. RAN members received quarterly *EcoNews* bulletins, weekly listservs, and educational resources to enhance their political work. RAN introduced a revamped website and updated its slate of publications to reflect a clean, new image. Most importantly, RAN endorsed a bipartisan slate of pro-environment women Congressional candidates, most of whom won their elections.



RN by the Numbers: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

6 members placed on boards

14 nonprofits requested placement

4 Speakers' Bureau participants

RN COMMUNICATIONS

Throughout the year, RN communications ensured that members remained connected to each other and the Network. Our weekly news and events listservs disseminated stories culled from a variety of media outlets and notified members about events across the country. The *Green Leaves* newsletter remained a vital source of information about issues of interest, RN programs, and member projects. Our annual *Membership Directory* compiled members' affiliations and interests to facilitate networking year-round.

We were pleased to add several exciting new initiatives to our roster of publications. Our monthly *Green Leaves* e-newsletter debuted in September, giving members the most up-to-date information on RN programs and members' activities. Our first stand-alone Annual Report was introduced in the spring. Most notably, our new-and-improved website launched in July, debuting a fresh look alongside new, user-friendly features, such as a searchable on-line directory and audio recordings of all teleconference calls.

The RN book project, which celebrates the impact of women in philanthropy, entered an intensive research phase. Seven members formed a committee to guide the book's production. Consultant Aric Caplan of Caplan Communications generously provided advice throughout the year. By the year's end, a total of 24 members had been interviewed, drawn from 11 states and representing an age span of 53 years.

TELECONFERENCE CALLS

As in previous years, RN secured a roster of prominent leaders in philanthropy, research, academia, and advocacy to further educate members about current issues.

In 2008, we held four teleconferences on a broad spectrum of topics. In February, a team from the United Nations Development Programme addressed the effects of climate change on developing nations. In April, Rev. Jennifer Butler, director of Faith in Public Life, shared her perspective on progressive religious groups and environmental advocacy. In July, prior to the Beijing Olympics, Dr. Jennifer Turner, director of the China Environment Forum at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, engaged members in a conversation about China's environmental future. Following the November elections, RN and RAN co-hosted a teleconference about the political outlook for women and conservation with Debbie Walsh of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University and Karen Wayland of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC).

Because members are often too busy to attend teleconferences in real time, RN also added recordings of all calls to our website and began to plan monthly teleconferences in 2009 to make participation convenient for everyone.

RN by the Numbers:
EXPERT SPEAKERS

- 4 interactive teleconference calls
- 55 members participated
- 5 Speaker Series gatherings
- 59 members participated

SPEAKER SERIES EVENTS

To provide members with opportunities to interact with eminent leaders in person, we hosted Speaker Series events in hub cities throughout the year. In May, members in Southern California enjoyed a luncheon with Richard Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods*, who described the impact of "nature deficit disorder" on children. The same month also found members in the Washington, D.C. area at an intimate meeting with Sylvia Earle, undersea explorer, scientific pioneer, and RN Advisor. In September, as the election cycle gathered momentum, New York members came together for dinner with RN Liaison Frances Beinecke,

NRDC president. In October, Bay Area members were updated on environmental law by Trip Van Noppen, president of Earthjustice. A year of dynamic speakers concluded in Washington, D.C. in December, as Kathy Bushkin Calvin, executive vice president of the United Nations Foundation, shared her work in philanthropy on a global level.



PHOTO: WINSOME MCINTOSH



PHOTO: JODY SPRAKER



PHOTO: CAROLYN WEINBERGER

TOP LEFT: MARTHA DAVIS, RICHARD LOUV & RENÉE INGOLD IN CALIFORNIA. TOP RIGHT: MARY TYLER JOHNSON, FRANCES BEINECKE & WINSOME MCINTOSH IN NEW YORK. BOTTOM, LEFT TO RIGHT: JESSICA WELBORN, GUEST, ANN BOREN, GUEST, BARBARA GILMORE, TRIP VAN NOPPEN, CAROLYN WEINBERGER, ALICE LIDDELL, LIZ SUTHERLAND RINEY, JESSICA FULLMER & JULIET LAMONT IN SAN FRANCISCO

ANNUAL MEETING: WASHINGTON, D.C.

In March, 41 RN members convened in Washington, D.C. for our Annual Meeting, which focused on Media and the Environment. The meeting opened with former Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs Frank Loy, who shared an international perspective on environmental challenges. Phil Clapp, deputy managing director of the Pew Environment Group, who sadly passed away in 2008, divulged ways the environmental movement can harness the media to influence the public. A panel of media trailblazers – *Grist.org* CEO Chip Giller, *National Journal* reporter Margie Kriz, and Island Press Co-Founder and President Chuck Savitt – shared insights into their work. Claire Alexander, vice president of Discovery’s Planet Green, spoke about the entertainment industry’s green consciousness.

The program then turned to the theme of women’s empowerment, including a morning with RN’s Environmental Leadership Liaisons, female chief executives of prominent environmental and public interest organiza-

tions. With an election on the horizon, RN Advisor Debbie Walsh, director of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, updated us on the progress of women candidates. After a sneak preview of the then-unopened Newseum, *Newsweek’s* Eleanor Clift joined members for an insightful conversation about women’s leadership in the media. Members also shared their work during Member Dialogue and benefited from a custom-designed public speaking workshop led by consultant Melissa Lewis.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: LINDA CAMPBELL INTRODUCES HERSELF TO CHIP GILLER OF *GRIST.ORG*. MEDIA VETERANS HEIDI KUHN & HELENE ROSS CONNECT WITH PLANET GREEN’S CLAIRE ALEXANDER. MARTY TALBOT & ANN BOREN LEARN ABOUT ISLAND PRESS FROM CHUCK SAVITT. RN MEMBERS TAKE IN THE VIEW ON THE ROOFTOP TERRACE OF THE NEWSEUM. RN ADVISOR DEBBIE WALSH URGES MEMBERS TO CONSIDER RUNNING FOR OFFICE. SUSAN BURGAMY & SUSAN FULTON DISCUSS THE RN LIAISONS’ PANEL.

FALL RETREAT: CHICAGO

In October, 26 members gathered in Chicago for our Fall Retreat, where we explored the theme of Greening the Urban Environment. The meeting opened with a dinner featuring the dynamic Sadhu Johnston, chief environment officer for the City of Chicago. After a lively Member Dialogue, Midwest NRDC Director Henry Henderson provided an overview of the region's pervasive challenges. Gerald Adelman joined us to discuss the role of public lands in enhancing urban quality of life. Debra Shore, commissioner of Chicago's Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, detailed the city's efforts to conserve water.

This meeting also featured several instructive expeditions to sites of innovation in the area. A tour of the Center for Green Technol-

RN by the Numbers:
ANNUAL GATHERINGS

67 total members attended
8 guests, 3 of whom joined
26 speakers

ogy, Chicago's "premier green building," concluded with a panel on sustainable urban communities with Scott Bernstein of the Center for Neighborhood Technology, Terra Brockman of The Land Connection, and Cameron Davis of the Alliance for the Great Lakes. After an

early morning jaunt to the celebrated Green City Market, members traveled to the Lake Calumet region, a historically polluted industrial wasteland undergoing intensive restoration experts, accompanied by geographer Mark Bouman and a team from the renowned Field Museum, including Urban Conservation Director Laurel Ross, herpetologist Alan Resetar, and ornithologist Doug Stotz. Optional networking activities included a Chicago River cruise, Field Museum visit, or walking tour of the city's architecture. Having witnessed this exciting beacon of change, members returned to their respective environments, ready to extend their influence in their home communities.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: ALICE LIDDELL EXCHANGES BUSINESS CARDS WITH CHICAGO'S CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER SADHU JOHNSTON. MEMBERS TAKE IN CHICAGO'S BUILT ENVIRONMENT ON A RIVER CRUISE. JESSICA WELBORN & ANN HUNTER-WELBORN OBSERVE WILDLIFE WITH ALAN RESETAR.

Thanks!

RN is grateful to the following speakers for sharing their expertise with us in 2008.

- Gerald Adelman, *Openlands* ♦ Claire Alexander, *Planet Green TV* ♦ Frances Beinecke, *NRDC*
- Scott Bernstein, *Center for Neighborhood Technology* ♦ Dr. Mark Bouman, *The Field Museum* ♦ Terra Brockman, *The Land Connection*
- Rev. Jennifer Butler, *Faith in Public Life*
- Kathy Bushkin Calvin, *U.N. Foundation*
- the late Phil Clapp, *Pew Environment Group*
- Eleanor Clift, *Newsweek* ♦ Cameron Davis, *Alliance for the Great Lakes* ♦ Sylvia Earle, *Undersea Explorer* ♦ Chip Giller, *Grist.org*
- Henry Henderson, *NRDC, Midwest*
- Sadhu Johnston, *City of Chicago*
- Margie Kriz, *National Journal* ♦ Melissa Lewis, *Upside-Down Speaking* ♦ Richard Louv, *Author*
- Frank Loy, *Former Under Secretary of State*
- Dr. Alan Resetar, *The Field Museum*
- Laurel Ross, *The Field Museum* ♦ Charles Savitt, *Island Press* ♦ Debra Shore, *Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago*
- Dr. Doug Stotz, *The Field Museum*
- Dr. Jennifer Turner, *China Environment Forum* ♦ United Nations Development Programme ♦ Trip Van Noppen, *Earthjustice*
- Debbie Walsh, *Center for American Women in Politics* ♦ Karen Wayland, *NRDC*

MEASURING POLLUTION IN PEOPLE

For the past three years, RN has collaborated with the Environmental Working Group (EWG) on its Body Burden project, which builds an evidentiary record of the human health consequences of exposure to industrial chemicals. By conducting biomonitoring tests to measure “the pollution in people,” EWG’s program raises awareness of the dangers of environmental toxins and works to advocate for better chemical regulation.

In 2005, RN and EWG conducted tests on 18 RN members and their relatives and were appalled to learn the extent to which chemical contamination had permeated their tissues.



PHOTO: EWG



PHOTO: EWG

These sobering results goaded RN to further action, with a focus on broadening testing beyond the initial pool of funders, who were already invested in environmental health issues and could afford to pay for testing.

In 2007, RN introduced a new prong of this program to advance our mission of elevating women as agents of change. With the help of RN grantors, we raised funds to conduct testing on five women leaders and ten samples of umbilical cord blood, all drawn from minority communities across the country. Most of 2007 was spent recruiting these leaders and indentifying possible sources of cord blood, as well as securing approval for these tests from an Institutional Review Board.

TOP, MEMBER ANNETTE GELLERT (LEFT) & DAUGHTER HEATHER, AND BOTTOM, MEMBER ADELAIDE PARK GOMER (RIGHT) & DAUGHTER ALICIA WINTINK VOLUNTEERED FOR THE 2005 ROUND OF INTERGENERATIONAL BODY BURDEN TESTING.

ENLISTING NEW WOMEN LEADERS

In 2008, samples were successfully collected from all five women leaders, each of whom has the personal outreach to draw attention to the prevalence of unregulated toxics and their disproportionate impact on socioeconomically disadvantaged communities. These advocates are Suzie Canales of Corpus Christi, Texas, executive director of Citizens for Environmental Justice; Vivian Chang of Oakland, California, former director of Asian Pacific Environmental Network; Jennifer Hill-Kelley, environmental quality director of the Oneida Nation in Wisconsin; Jean Salone of Corpus Christi, environmental justice advocate in the African-American community; and Dr. Beverly Wright of New Orleans, sociologist and founding director of the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice.

EWG began to analyze the test results at the end of 2008. In 2009, they plan to partner with the women leaders to help them act as spokespeople for improved regulation of toxics and collaborate with RN on a public relations campaign to underscore the dangers of chemical contamination. By strategically broadening the range of people tested, RN is helping EWG attract a broader base of support for their campaign to regulate environmental pollutants, while advancing our mission of empowering women leaders as agents of change.

Women Leaders Tested

RN by the Numbers:
BODY BURDEN COLLABORATION
 5 women leaders tested
 10 samples of umbilical cord blood tested
 18 RN members and relatives tested



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF WOMEN COMMUNITY LEADERS

CONVENING WOMEN ON CAPITOL HILL

Modeled after RN's success, the Congressional Women's Networking Initiative (CWNII) provides opportunities for the women in Congress to exchange ideas and advance shared goals. In 2008, the program built momentum, beginning with January's Congressional Women's Roundtable, co-hosted with Harvard University's Institute of Politics at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, represented by former Rep. Connie Morella (R-MD), former chair of the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues.

This event drew speakers from academia, clinical research, and the military to educate women Members of Congress on mental health issues among women in prison and the armed forces. To guide the program, we assembled a bipartisan Steering Committee of 14 Congresswomen, ranging from the most senior woman in the House to several newly elected. These legislators chose to narrow the day's focus to mental illness and resilience among women reintegrating into society following combat or incarceration.

Moderated by Julie Wilson, director of the Wiener Center for Social Policy at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government, the event included four speakers, each preeminent in her field. They included Dr.

Carolyn Mazure, professor of psychiatry and psychology, associate dean for faculty affairs, and founding director of women's health research at Yale University; Dr. Jeanne Miranda, assistant director of the department of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the University of California, Berkeley; Kathryn Power, director of the Center for Mental Health Services at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; and Major General Gale S. Pollock, deputy surgeon general for force management and chief of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, who quipped that she was pleasantly disoriented to find herself surrounded by women leaders.

A total of 37 participants, including 10 Members of Congress and nine Congressional staffers, joined in lively question-and-answer periods, with Congresswomen agreeing that RN had successfully brought women Members together to transcend partisan interests and address issues important to women.

RN by the Numbers: CWNII
14 women on bipartisan Steering Committee
47 meetings in Congressional offices
1 new staff member
37 Roundtable participants

Throughout the year, RN organized meetings for Congressional staff as well as Members-only events to cultivate participation in the 2009 Roundtable. During a busy election season, RN was proud to have visited over half of

the offices helmed by Congresswomen. With a record number of women winning office in November, we also attended Harvard's Program for Newly Elected Members of Congress, where we shared RN's work on Capitol Hill, introduced RN to new Representatives, and built support for a 2009 reception welcoming newcomers to the 111th Congress.

RN was pleased to welcome Kate Drummond to our staff in September, introducing her at the height of the election cycle to manage this growing program. CWNII has raised the profile of RN on Capitol Hill and enhanced our reputation as a "grass-tops" connector in important centers of power.



LEFT, FORMER REP. CONNIE MORELLA (R-MD) CATCHES UP WITH REPS. KATHY CASTOR (D-FL) & SUE MYRICK (R-NC). CENTER, REP. CAROL SHEA-PORTER (D-NH) ASKS MAJOR GENERAL GALE POLLOCK ABOUT THE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF WOMEN VETERANS. RIGHT, SPEAKERS KATHRYN POWER, DR. JEANNE MIRANDA & DR. CAROLYN MAZURE SHARE THEIR WORK ON WOMEN'S MENTAL RESILIENCE.

BROKERING STRATEGIC ALLIANCES

Since 2005, RN has forged new paths with our Strategic Connectors program, which supports the National Association of Evangelicals' (NAE) Creation Care Initiative, recognizing the untapped potential of this vocal constituency to promote conservation. In 2008, RN continued to work closely with then-NAE Vice President of Governmental Affairs Rev. Richard Cizik, connecting him with secular leaders and key strategists in the environmental mainstream.

In May, Rev. Cizik and Dr. Eric Chivian, director of Harvard Medical School's Center for Health and the Global Environment earned a berth on *TIME* magazine's list of the "100 Most Influential People in the World." These leaders' enduring partnership was initiated by RN to bridge the gulf between science and faith communities, and it was our effort that enabled them to co-lead an expedition to Alaska in 2007, documented by a PBS film crew, to witness the area's environmental degradation. Their collabo-

ration, which has extended to joint lectures and public appearances, is a signature outcome of our effort to broker unconventional alliances for the environment.

In June, NAE and the Moroccan Embassy to the U.S. co-hosted a landmark Christian-Muslim Dialogue on Creation Care at the World Bank. In attendance were the Moroccan Ambassador, distinguished scientists, and noted environmental, political, and religious leaders. This international outreach followed Rev. Cizik's 2007 Global Leaders Forum, a symposium of over 300 theologians and scholars in Washington, D.C., at which U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon delivered the opening address.

In August, NAE co-sponsored the Pastor's Creation Care Covenant with the Au Sable Institute for Environmental Studies. At this event, NAE-affiliated pastors pledged to become environmental stewards in their churches and homes, generating a list of "action steps" to achieve their goals and realizing our vision of a "grass-tops" strategy of outreach to new environmental leaders.

Throughout the year, Rev. Cizik held meetings with influential leaders on Capitol Hill to underscore the emerging importance of creation care issues to evangelical Americans. He also continued to lecture widely in evangelical mega-church communities as well as on university campuses, and he

grew increasingly sought-after as a valued commentator in a wide range of media outlets.

AN EVOLVING PARTNERSHIP

In December, Rev. Cizik resigned from NAE to pursue new opportunities as a consultant, author, and advocate, but RN remains a supporter of NAE programs and Rev. Cizik's work. As his trailblazing efforts continue to welcome evangelical voices to the conversation on protecting the planet, RN will continue to strengthen Rev. Cizik's position as a leader on creation care.

RN by the Numbers:
STRATEGIC CONNECTORS
 20,000,000 *TIME* readers learned about Rev. Cizik's work in May
 10,000 RN-funded DVDs on creation care distributed to date
 20 top leaders gathered at the Pastors' Creation Care Covenant meeting



PHOTO: NAE



PHOTO: NAE



PHOTO: TIME

LEFT, EVANGELICAL LEADERS GATHER AT THE PASTOR'S CREATION CARE COVENANT IN VIRGINIA (REV. CIZIK, SECOND FROM LEFT). LEFT ABOVE, REV. CIZIK & MOROCCAN CABINET OFFICIAL DR. DRISS ALAOUI M'DAGHRI AT THE CHRISTIAN-MUSLIM DIALOGUE ON CREATION CARE. RIGHT, DR. ERIC CHIVIAN & REV. CIZIK IN THEIR *TIME* MAGAZINE PROFILE AS TWO OF THE "100 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN THE WORLD."

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

RN entered 2008 with a firm financial foundation built over eight years of conservative spending, cautious investment, and tireless pursuit of new funding. As in years past, our members rallied to support 2008 programs as well as general operations. Smaller revenue streams, including meeting fees and investment income, supplemented major gifts and membership dues, which remained the bedrock of our security, even as philanthropic resources throughout the country diminished as the economy slowed. With revenues of \$757,925 and expenditures of \$776,944, RN exercised prudent fiscal discipline, enabling the organization to begin 2009 in sound fiscal health.



CARSON COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

In 2008, RN successfully recruited 12 new members, representing \$60,000 in dues. A committed core of renewing members yielded an additional \$270,305. Altogether, Carson Council membership made up the largest revenue stream at 43 percent of the budget. As we approached the threshold of 100 members, we continued to look toward a future in which membership alone can sustain our general operations.



PROGRAM SUPPORT

We were pleased to have received eight 2008 program support grants, with an average size of \$17,750. Grants to the Strategic Connectors program, totaling \$81,000, were provided by four members and one external foundation. Another three members gave a total of \$61,000 to the Congressional Women's Networking Initiative. Program support represented 16 percent of our annual revenue.

GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT

In 2008, 18 percent of the membership contributed a total of \$206,705 in unrestricted general support, with gifts ranging from \$100 to \$50,000. With an average contribution of \$12,159, member general support comprised 28 percent of annual revenues.

Within this total, \$187,632 was provided by RN's board of directors. As the board assumed a more active role in institutional advancement, directors pledged to fund RN as a top priority. They fulfilled this promise with a board campaign yielding 100 percent participation and surpassing the total amount requested.

DRAWING UPON OUR STRATEGIC RESERVE

RN has always managed our finances with an eye toward maintaining stability in an unstable economy. As such, surplus revenue was channeled into a strategic reserve intended to supplement funding during lean times. With low-risk investments and measured spending over our first eight years, RN accumulated funds to support a year of operations. As the econ-

This report reflects grants to RN from January 1 to December 31, 2008. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy; should an error have occurred, please contact Miriam Feffer with any corrections.

omy contracted, we drew minimally upon these assets to offset anticipated grant reductions and ensure that our members continued to benefit from the personalized outreach that distinguishes our Network. We expect to continue to avail ourselves of these funds as needed and replenish them at our first opportunity.

FACING 2009 WITH CONFIDENCE

In 2008, RN tenaciously pursued program funding and sought general operating support from within our membership. In each arena of activity, we saw increased member participation in sustaining our excellence, and we thank these stakeholders for their continued investment in our success. As a network of funders, it is a sure sign of our maturity that members and friends now include us in their annual grantmaking. This steadfast support has equipped us to approach 2009 with every expectation that RN will continue to flourish in the next year and beyond.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: JAN MONTGOMERY LEARNS ABOUT CAROL BIRD RAVENAL'S WORK ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION. CONNIE GRAY & SARAH duPONT CONNECT AT A SPEAKER SERIES DINNER. MARIANNE GABEL ASKS ABOUT MEDIA STRATEGIES. ELAINE MUSSELMAN & NEVA MCILVAINE ENJOY A NEW YORK GATHERING.

2008 Major Donors

RN appreciates the generosity of these supporters, who contributed grants of at least \$5,000 outside membership dues.

Belvue Fund of the Tides Foundation

Kathy Borgen & Brooke Borgen,
Borgen Family Foundation

Irene Crowe,
Pettus-Crowe Foundation

Caroline Gabel,
The Shared Earth Foundation

Marianne Gabel

Annette Gellert,
The Fred Gellert Family Foundation

Ann Hunter-Welborn

Renée Ingold

Fa Liddell

Winsome McIntosh,
The McIntosh Foundation

Adelaide Park Gomer,
Park Foundation, Inc.

Ann R. Roberts

Molly Ross

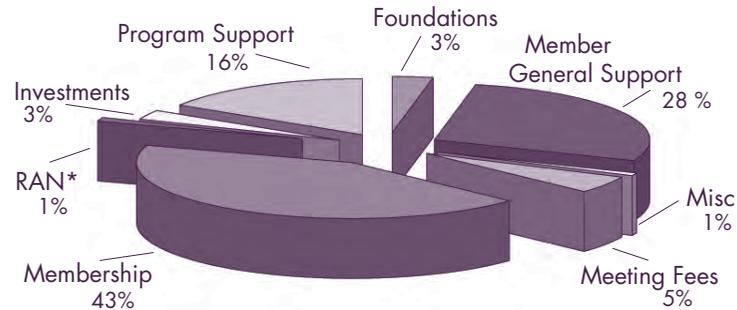
Jocelyn Sladen,
Marjorie Sale Arundel Fund for the Earth

Barbra Streisand,
The Streisand Foundation

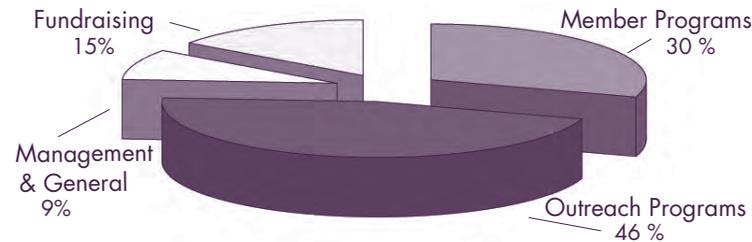
Lynde Uihlein,
The Brico Fund, LLC

Carolyn Weinberger

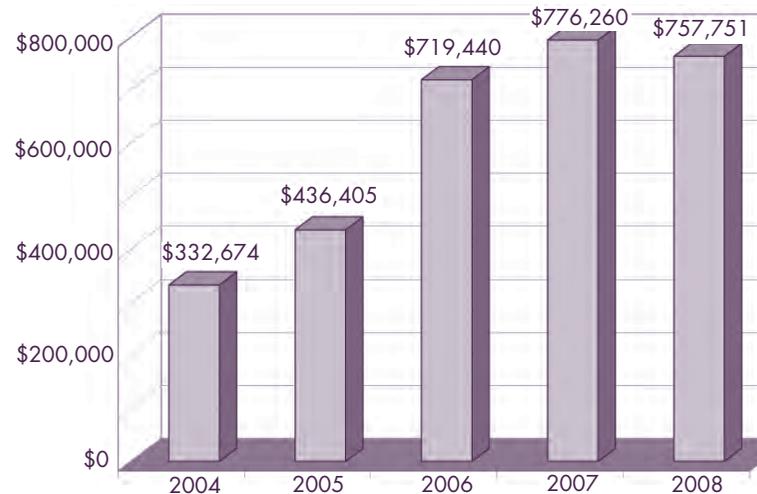
2008 REVENUES



2008 EXPENDITURES



INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT: ASSETS



2008 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

REVENUES

FOUNDATIONS	\$ 25,000.00
GENERAL SUPPORT	\$ 206,705.30
RENEWALS	\$ 270,305.11
NEW MEMBERS	\$ 55,303.00
PROGRAM SUPPORT	\$ 117,000.00
RAN REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 6,851.31
RAN REVENUE*	\$ 14,975.28
FISCAL SPONSORSHIP	\$ —
MEETING FEES	\$ 35,950.00
INVESTMENT INCOME	\$ 25,540.96
REALIZED GAINS & LOSSES	\$ (438.89)
UNREALIZED GAINS & LOSSES	\$ (1,767.56)
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 2,500.00
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 757,924.51

EXPENDITURES

LEADERSHIP	\$ 25,580.49
WEBSITE/LISTSERV	\$ 9,966.24
DIRECTORY	\$ 19,035.87
NEWSLETTER	\$ 7,640.14
LEADERSHIP EVENTS	\$ 22,660.92
TELECONFERENCE CALLS	\$ 13,642.90
ANNUAL MEETING	\$ 69,570.97
FALL RETREAT	\$ 60,245.96
EDUCATION	\$ 991.73
MEMBER PROGRAMS SUBTOTAL	\$ 229,335.22
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	\$ 5,783.22
CWNI	\$ 90,810.96
FISCAL SPONSORSHIP FUNDS	\$ 30,005.20
EWG BODY BURDEN	\$ 10,122.49
CHINA/U.S. PROJECT	\$ —
MEDIA RELATIONS	\$ 44,382.54
STRATEGIC CONNECTORS	\$ 167,972.22
RAN EXPENSES	\$ 15,485.89
OUTREACH PROGRAM SUBTOTAL	\$ 364,562.52
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$ 593,897.74
MANAGEMENT	\$ 71,676.92
FUNDRAISING	\$ 111,369.14
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 776,943.80

ASSETS

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ (18,508.68)
NET ASSETS FROM 2007	\$ 776,259.87
2008 NET ASSETS	\$ 757,751.19

*RN AND RAN HAVE SEVERAL OVERLAPPING BOARD MEMBERS BUT MAINTAIN SEPARATE MEMBERSHIPS. RN DOES NOT EXERCISE CONTROL OVER RAN'S PROGRAMS OR ASSETS.



FOUNDERS' CIRCLE

Sally Brown ♦ Harriet Bullitt ♦ Gladys Cofrin ♦ Caroline Gabel ♦ Annette Gellert ♦ Renée Ingold ♦ Sidne J. Long
Alysia May ♦ Winsome McIntosh ♦ Dane Nichols ♦ Christine Russell ♦ Jocelyn Sladen ♦ Victoria Stack
Barbra Streisand ♦ Margery Tabankin ♦ Leslie Turner ♦ Lynde B. Uihlein ♦ Carolyn Weinberger

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