

Global Women's Leadership Network

March Newsletter

We ask your indulgence for the length of this month's newsletter – you can read it in its entirety or select articles by clicking on the hyperlinks.

Contents:

- [April 13 – Global Women at the Well – Cultural Influences](#)
- [May 21 – GWLN Spring Event – Save the Date!](#)
- [A Leader in Red Lipstick – Alma Cote de Yanez, WLW '05](#)
- [May 1 -- PBWC Conference](#)
- [A New Book – “Momfulness” – by Denise Roy](#)
- [Opportunities to Contribute to GWLN – Volunteers Needed](#)

Women at the Well

Palo Alto: Friday, April 13, 2007, 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM

April's topic: *Cultural Influences*

New expressions of leadership include appreciating and effectively working with one's own cultural influences as well as those of others.

Come and explore meeting the challenges of self imposed limitations. How does one's environment and culture influence and contribute to one's leadership? Abha Singhvi's story of coming from a conservative Indian family and becoming both a successful business woman and coach highlights some of those influences. As you participate in the ensuing dialogue, you will gain insight into your own leadership and the leadership of others.



Speaker: Abha Singhvi is a Life and Organizational coach and a business consultant bringing her experience from founding two successful businesses--Paperfly and Stratascape – at the latter she was CEO. Her background includes training, sales, and recruiting as well as management and consulting. Abha has been a supporter and has worked with non-profit organizations throughout her career. Currently, she is very active with GWLN (Global Women's Leadership Network) and Maitri, an organization that supports South

Asian women facing Domestic Violence issues. She completed her MBA in 1990 from Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT and her certifications in Life and Organizational coaching in 2004 from JFK University, Pleasant Hill, CA.

Place: Institute of Transpersonal Psychology, 1069 East Meadow Circle, directions can be found at www.itp.edu/contact.cfm

Continental breakfast will be served. Please arrive by 7:15 AM for registration and networking. A \$10 contribution is requested. (Note: This is a voluntary contribution to help defray the cost of this event. No one will be turned away.)

Registration: Send an email to gwln_reg@yahoo.com, subject 4/13/07 ATW by Wednesday, 4/11/07.

Thanks to our co-host: Institute of Transpersonal Psychology. ITP provides graduate education for mind, body and spirit.

Save Friday, May 11 for the ITP Well featuring Susan Gear with Leadership Presence – building “the body of a leader.” [Return to Top](#)

Save the Date – Monday, May 21, 2007 from 5:00 to 7:30 PM –

The GWLN Spring 2007 Women Worthy of Support Fun and Fundraising Event is scheduled for Monday, May 21 at the California Mission Room, Santa Clara University from 5 PM to 7:30 PM. We will once again be showcasing the accomplishments of our Women Leaders for the World graduates from 2005/06 as well as introducing you to the participants of this summer’s program. There will be a silent auction and raffle. If you have auction items to contribute, please contact Gordana Mrkailo at mrkailo@yahoo.com. To volunteer to be part of the exciting team putting on this showcase event, contact Judy Wessler at judywessler@comcast.net. Further details available soon. [Return to Top](#)

A LEADER IN RED LIPSTICK



There are always times when leaders need an extra bit of determination or luck. At those times, **Alma Cota de Yanez** from Nogales, Mexico puts on her **red lipstick**. As she explains it, “There are some days when you need a bit of extra support for a tough meeting or person, emergency activities, or when you feel insecure about the results ahead. I DO wear red lipstick that day. I have noticed that others notice a different attitude from me, something I get from my red lipstick.”

Alma is Executive Director of Fundacion del Empresariado Sonorense AC (FESAC), a community foundation that links corporate and individual donors to social organizations in Nogales, Mexico, a city of close to 250,000 just across from Nogales, Arizona. Nogales has grown rapidly in recent years due to the establishment of *maquiladoras* (U.S. manufacturing plants) on the

Mexican side of the border. FESAC generates and coordinates donations of money and time for almost 30 NGOs, reaching 40,000 people, in the fields of health, education, social problems, environment, and violence against women. Last year, FESAC, under Alma's leadership, mobilized \$600,000.

When Alma joined Women Leaders for the World (WLW) in 2005, she anticipated just "another regular leadership program with the usual subjects." Instead, she engaged in exercises such as "Top of the Mountain" that were "out of the box" and helpful to her both professionally and personally.

As a result of being in WLW, Alma turned her project of supplying her NGOs with shared computer access into an NGO computer network in which every organization acquired its own hardware and software. The WLW program had such an impact on Alma that she is going to replicate part of it in Nogales this summer with a one-day workshop in Spanish.

Alma thrives on the broad scope of her FESAC activities. "My job provides contact on a regular basis with people who have millions of dollars in their accounts and others, like just deported migrants, who own only what they are wearing." She has learned to use humor, "an asset in this job," as a way to appeal for donations. "My donors are usually men, very rich and very Catholic, so going to heaven matters to them. I make it clear that that they might not go there at all...but supporting us might help a little."

When not engaged in fund-raising and organizational development work, Alma enjoys walking/running, reading and cooking. She has taught reading, started six book clubs, writes a weekly newspaper column, and collects crosses. She tells a story about applying WLW learning to her family life. "My 18 year old son plays guitar in a rock band. Right after I arrived home from WLW in 2005, SONY called to fly the family to Mexico City to sign him. I didn't know what to do. I realized all of a sudden that I knew how to support others to pursue their goals, but I wouldn't do it for my own son? So I had to bite my tongue, face the grandparents, and take on my husband." Alma's leadership had results -- her son has become "notoriously well-known in no time." Following in his mother's footsteps, no doubt.

Note: Alma Cota de Yanez will be a featured speaker at the GWLN Spring event on May 21. Come and meet the RED LIPSTICK leader.

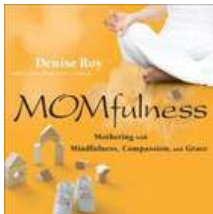
[Return to Top](#)

NOTE: This article was written by **Ellen Boneparth**, the newest member of the GWLN Advisory Board. Ellen is an authoress of several books. She directed the National Council of Women's Organizations (NCWO) in Washington, D.C. She was formerly Dean of the College of Arts and Science at the University of Hilo and a university administrator at San Jose State University and San Francisco State University. She has led the International Women's Studies Institute, as founder and Director, designing and offering women's travel-study programs on five continents. We are very pleased to have Ellen joining our Advisory Board and authoring the monthly WLW graduate story.

Professional Business Women of California Conference

The 18th Annual **Professional Business Women of California** (PBWC) Conference will be held Tuesday, May 1, 2007 at the Moscone Center, San Francisco. The theme of the event is "The Synergy of Success". Speakers include Arianna Huffington; Leslie Blodgett, CEO, Bare Escentuals; Nell Newman, President, Newman's Own Organics; Shery Sandberg, VP, Google; Rene Syler, former Anchor, CBS News' "The Early Show;" Dr. Bertice Berry; Sam Horn; Dr. Pamela Peeke; and Glinda Bridgforth. Topics include career advancement and personal development, with sessions on leadership skills, entrepreneurship, life design, health and wellness, and financial planning. Sign up today at www.pbwc.org. or call 650-548-2424.

“Momfulness” – a Mother’s Day Gift?



Denise Roy is an author and the founder of FamilySpirit. She is a writer, psychotherapist, and mother of five (ages 11-26). Denise helped GWLN with the 2006 Women Leaders for the World program. Her new book, “**Momfulness**” has just hit the streets. You may have read her other book – “My Monastery is a Minivan” which was released in 2001. You can see events where you can get your copy of

her books autographed by visiting her website at <http://www.deniseroy.com>

[Return to Top](#)

Volunteers Needed

If you are looking to contribute to women around the world, we need your enthusiasm, thinking, skills, and experience. As the summer Women Leaders for the World program approaches, GWLN more than ever needs your help.

We are particularly in need of people willing to contribute time and energy as:

- **Event volunteers of all kinds –make these inspiring experiences for everyone**
- **Creative Person(s) to add visual appeal to our events, newsletters, etc.**
- **Associate Web Mistress (web authoring tool literate – Common Spot even better)**
- **Fund-Raisers – In the sense of Lynne Twist’s Soul of Money – help people’s contributions to flow and benefit the women worthy of support**
- **Auction Item Solicitors – find unique and sought after items**
- **At the Well Coordinators – help lead the monthly events**

We promise you that you will be part of small, dynamic teams that are making things happen. Contact Judy Wessler at judywessler@comcast.net if you are interested.

You are receiving this announcement because you have expressed interest in the Global Women's Leadership Network.

Subscribe: <http://www.scu.edu/business/gwln/subscribe.cfm>

Unsubscribe: <http://www.scu.edu/business/gwln/unsubscribe.cfm>

Global Women's Leadership Network | c/o EDC | Santa Clara University | 500 El Camino Real | Santa Clara, CA 95053