

the LUCE LADDER

"Courage is the ladder on which all the other virtues mount." —Clare Boothe Luce

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Kate Griffin (center) poses with students at Oberlin College, where her speech, "Failures of Feminism," drew a crowd of hundreds.

Kate Griffin Educates Students on Feminist Failures

Kate Griffin—chief of staff for U.S. Sen. George Allen (R-VA) and the first woman chairman of the Republican Party of Virginia—spoke at Oberlin College in Ohio on November 15. Hosted by the conservative club at Oberlin and the Luce Policy Institute, Kate's lecture on the "Failures of Feminism" was a huge success, drawing hundreds of people and receiving favorable news coverage by the student newspaper.

Jonathan Bruno, the student chiefly

responsible for the event, works hard to bring the conservative viewpoint to campus and spark discussion. "The best thing about being a conservative at Oberlin," Bruno said, "is knowing how much we've improved the level of discussion on campus. Students often approach me around campus and say, 'You know, I'm not conservative, but I really appreciate what you guys are doing here. Your lecture series is awesome and it's great that you're starting an honest debate on campus.'"



Oberlin student Jonathan Bruno (pictured at right) said, "The best thing about being a conservative at Oberlin is knowing how much we've improved the level of discussion on campus."





LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Why does the mainstream media love to praise the first female Speaker of the House, but ignores attacks against the first female African American Secretary of State for not having had children?

No doubt Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice expected the heavy opposition when she defended President Bush's plan to send more troops into Iraq. But what no one anticipated were the disrespectful and cruel remarks Barbara Boxer launched at Secretary Rice personally, implying that her lack of children precluded her from possibly understanding the cost of war.

You would think feminists would jump to the defense of Rice, a single, black, history-making woman. But they're too busy throwing accolades at Nancy Pelosi, who jumps at any opportunity to talk about her motherhood,

What no one anticipated were the disrespectful and cruel remarks Barbara Boxer launched at Secretary Rice personally, implying that her lack of children precluded her from possibly understanding the cost of war.

her grandmotherhood, and her claim to have stayed at home to raise five children. In fact, watching the newly installed Speaker of the House on her swearing-in day—surrounding herself with children and delivering empty rhetoric of a "historic day ... for our daughters and our granddaughters"—you might even forget she's a radical leftist from San Francisco.

But Pelosi's record is *anti-woman* and *anti-family*. If she really cared about mothers, she would reduce the tax burden for working families and work to eliminate the marriage penalty. Instead, she'd rather gain support through hypocritical words than constructive action.

The Luce Policy Institute has a lot of work to do. Unlike most of the media, we value strong, conservative leadership in women—not because they are women, but because they are the kind of leaders America needs! That's why we promote women like Condi Rice, Bay Buchanan, Michelle Malkin and such emerging leaders as Amanda Carpenter. It is their inspiration and example that will shape our next generation of leading ladies.

Michelle Easton
Michelle Easton

Every spring conservatives from across the nation travel to Washington, DC to attend the Conservative Political Action Conference, of which Luce President Michelle Easton and Luce Board Member Frank Donatelli were original cofounders. This year's CPAC will be held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel March 1–3. Every year CPAC hosts many notable speakers like Ann Coulter, Michelle Malkin, and David Horowitz.

The Luce Policy Institute will host three student events as part of the conference. These include our annual lunch, honoring the Institute's Woman of the Year, a training seminar for students opposing the pornographic *Vagina Monologues* and other feminist projects, and a women's career development panel. Also be sure to visit our information booth on the convention floor.

For more information, contact Lauren Daugherty at (888) 891-4288 or by email at lidaugherty@cblpi.org.

Luce staffers Lil Tuttle, Jennifer Johnson and Marie McNary at last year's CPAC event.



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Founded in 1993, the Clare Boothe Luce Policy Institute strives to advance America's women by promoting and preserving conservative principles. The Institute provides educational, networking, and mentoring opportunities for conservative women across the country, advancing ideas that are pro-America, pro-free enterprise, pro-religion, and pro-family.

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CWN in Review

An Optimistic Tony Snow on Conservatism's Future

The only program of its kind, the **Conservative Women's Network** is made up of nearly 1,000 women in the Washington, D.C. area. Often broadcast by C-SPAN to 90 million viewers, these monthly lunches are co-hosted by the Heritage Foundation, and provide women with a forum for becoming informed on current issues, networking with area professionals, and hearing from conservative leaders. For more information about CWN, contact Chenoa McKnight at (888) 891-4288 or by email at cmcknight@cblpi.org.

“I’m going to issue an appeal to rekindle our enthusiasm about being conservatives,” White House Press Secretary **Tony Snow** told the large crowd of conservative women seated before him, “because this is a time when we ought to remember not only the joy of living in the United States of America but the glorious opportunities that are being presented to us in perilous times.” Following its annual tradition of hosting a distinguished male speaker, CWN’s December feature was Tony Snow, who encouraged a packed room of conservative women (and some men) to rally around the cause of conservatism.

> **Wendy Wright**, president of Concerned Women for America and our August CWN speaker, was listed among *The Washingtonian*’s “100 Most Powerful Women of Washington” in 2006. Ms. Wright is perhaps best known for her reporting on the United Nations and the international women’s movement.

> In October, **Dr. Meg Meeker** discussed her book, *Strong Fathers, Strong Daughters: Ten Secrets Every Father Should Know*. A pediatrician and mother of four, Dr. Meeker has received national recognition as an expert on teen health issues and is a strong advocate for young girls and women—particularly with regard to the sexualizing of American culture and its impact on young girls. “Masculinity is either disparaged (often by feminists) or displayed wrongly (as in rap music),” says Dr. Meeker. “True masculinity is the moral exercise of authority. And your little girl needs it.”

> November’s CWN speaker, **Merrie Spaeth**, is president of Spaeth Communications and founder of the famed “Bimbo Awards,” annual honors based on the year’s worst public comments. The public relations guru educated a captive audience on optimizing communication skills and cautioned against repeating negative words.

> January CWN speaker **Dr. Elizabeth Kantor** spoke of a world where “Jane Austen was a feminist subversive whose novels express her rage against the patriarchy,” where “Stalin was valiantly struggling to turn the Soviet Union into a democracy” and where “Shakespeare wrote Macbeth to domesticate women.” This world is the literature department at our nation’s universities, and Dr. Kantor says it is under a “leftist monopoly.” She is the author of Regnery Publishing’s *The Politically Incorrect Guide™ to English and American Literature*.

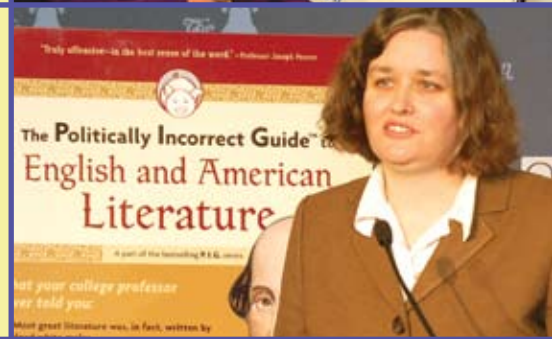
White House Press Secretary Tony Snow talks about a positive future for conservatism.



Merrie Spaeth instructs women on good communication skills.



Dr. Elizabeth Kantor is the author of *The Politically Incorrect Guide to English and American Literature*.



Dr. Meg Meeker signs her book *Strong Fathers, Strong Daughters: Ten Secrets Every Father Should Know*.



(Right) Wendy Wright was named one of the 100 most powerful women in America.



CWN audience listens as Dr. Meg Meeker discusses masculinity’s role in society.

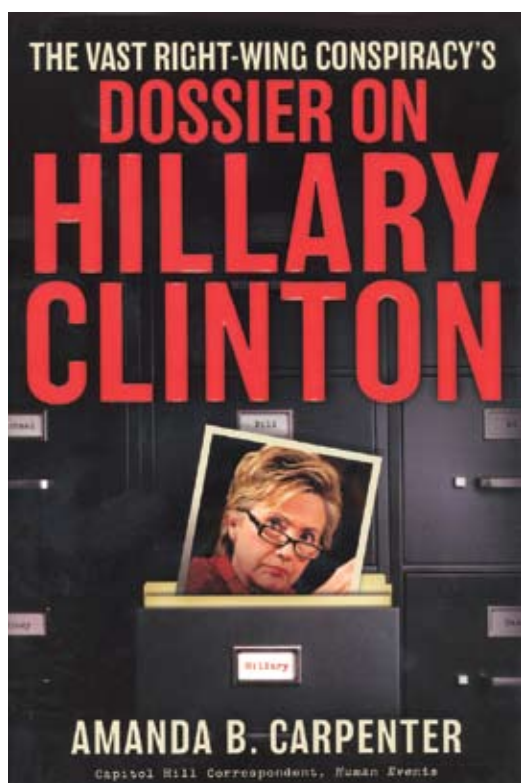


Luce intern Marianne Brennan (left) poses with staffers Chenoa McKnight (center) and Monique Stuart (right).



(Below) Tony Snow talks with CWN attendee Abby Moffat following his speech.





Rising Author Takes On Hillary

The Luce Policy Institute featured a rising conservative star for its “Afternoon With an Author” event in November. *Human Events* assistant editor Amanda Carpenter spoke to a packed room about her newly released book by Regnery Publishing, *The Vast Right-Wing Conspiracy’s Dossier on Hillary Clinton*.

Though only twenty-four years old, Carpenter is already taking the policy world by storm. Her book riles the Left while providing conservatives with damning evidence of Hillary Clinton’s darker dealings. Carpenter’s focus on Hillary’s record since her initiation to the United States Senate in 2000 sets the book apart from the abundance of

other published works on her time as First Lady.

Carpenter points out that when it comes to covering Hillary, the liberal media has “overlooked her record in the U.S. Senate.” Carpenter said, “People should know what she’s been doing for the last four years. There’s been a lot of ‘underreported’ material related to financial scandals, her ever-evolving position on the Iraq War and her voting record people should be aware of.”

Filled with facts, memos, and transcripts tracking the “dirty deals, unsavory incidents, insane proposals, revealing comments, and outright flip-flops in Hillary’s past,” the *Dossier* is an important read for any conservative.



Carpenter chats with Luce program officer Lauren Daugherty



Carpenter signs books for attendees



Carpenter poses with Luce President Michelle Easton

MARJI ROSS

Publisher & President,
Regnery Publishing



FRANK J. DONATELLI

Executive Vice President &
Dir. of Federal Public Affairs,
McGuireWoods Consulting

As the president of a major conservative book publishing house and the devoted mother of three daughters, the newest member to the Luce Board is truly a renaissance woman in her own right.

As a child, Marjory (Marji) Grant Ross dreamed of being one of two things: either the editor of *The Wall Street Journal* or a Broadway singer. Today, she is the first person outside the Regnery family to ever hold the title of President of Regnery Publishing, initially joining the company as vice president and general manager in 1999. Prior to that, she was a senior group publisher for Phillips International, where she ran several business units, including investment newsletters, business newsletters and health newsletters. She graduated from Dartmouth College with a BA in English in 1981, and earned her Masters in Journalism from American University.

Under her strong leadership at Regnery, the company has placed one-third of its books in the past five years on *The New York Times* Best-Seller List—an enviable feat in the competitive world of publishing. “We take a different approach from most publishing houses,” says Ms. Ross. “Our philosophy is to purposefully choose books that we think will have the best shot at publicity.”

Ross’s career success is balanced by her devotion to her family. “The biggest challenge for working mothers is that more people need you than you are able to satisfy,” she says. “You just have to be very conscious of putting limits on your time at work. You have to train yourself to say no sometimes. Successful women have a tendency to want to solve all problems.”

Ross was blessed with a few strong female role models in her developmental years. She became inspired by her first boss, a woman entrepreneur who had started her own public relations firm. “She kept all her femininity and all of her nurturing qualities and at the same time was completely in charge and comfortable—with very high profile and powerful men trusting her. Meanwhile, feminists pretend to be champions of women, but their recipe for success is becoming a non-woman.”

Ross is enthusiastic about joining the Luce Policy Institute. “The part that I am most excited about is definitely helping young women not only be successful,” Ross says, “but helping them make choices that they ultimately will be happy with.”

The longest-serving member of the Luce Policy Institute Board of Directors, Washington, DC attorney Frank J. Donatelli brings a unique perspective derived from a rich background of conservative policy and politics. CBLPI “is about providing women with the right philosophical tools to be successful in life,” Donatelli says. “All this negative press about young women today is just silly.”

Having served under Ronald Reagan—as Assistant to the President for Political and Intergovernmental Affairs and Deputy Assistant to the President for Public Liaison at the White House—Donatelli has made considerable contributions to the conservative movement. He was a member of White House Chief of Staff James Baker’s team that negotiated presidential debates in 1984, a senior advisor to Bob Dole in 1996, and was involved in the presidential campaigns of Reagan and the first Bush. He earned his BA from the University of Pittsburgh and his law degree from American University.

A first-generation college graduate, Donatelli grew up in a “loving two-parent family that instilled values at a young age.” His early heroes ranged from sports stars like Arnold Palmer and Roberto Clemente to public policy figures like Barry Goldwater. He was brought up with a high regard for education, and in his teen years he developed an interest in policy and politics when he started watching the television show *Firing Line*. When he became exposed to the writings of such conservative thinkers as William Buckley, Jr. and Milton Friedman, he began calling himself a “recovering Democrat.”

Now Executive Vice President and Director of Federal Public Affairs at McGuireWoods Consulting, Donatelli still finds time for strengthening the conservative cause. When Luce Policy Institute President and founder Michelle Easton asked him to join the Board in 1993, he couldn’t resist. “She had outlined a plan of action that was logical and that she could execute.”

Donatelli is positive about the future for women in America. “There are more choices available to young women than ever before.” The biggest challenge he sees for women today is “striking a balance between career and family.” Married with a grown daughter who is a news reporter for the local CBS television affiliate in Charlottesville, Virginia, Donatelli recognizes that “the future is as bright for the Luce Policy Institute as it is for young women.”

A TALE OF TWO BOARD MEMBERS



The Boy Problem

C O M M E N T A R Y

by Lil Tuttle

Stephen was all boy—a creature, aptly described by the nursery rhyme, made of “frogs and snails and puppy dogs’ tails.” His mind leaped from one thought to another and his body had the perpetual motion of a happy puppy’s tail, but he completed assigned tasks at a snail’s pace. After a few years of classrooms designed for little girls made of “sugar and spice and everything nice,” Stephen hated school with a passion.

The authors of *Raising Cain: Protecting the Emotional Life of Boys* describe the view of school from the perspective of little boys like Stephen:

Grade school is largely a feminine environment, populated predominantly by women teachers and authority figures, that seems rigged against boys, against the higher activity level and lower level of impulse control that is normal for boys. As one disappointed boy remarked unhappily at the end of his first day of school: ‘You can’t do anything!’ The trouble wasn’t really that he couldn’t do anything, of course, but that everything he loved to do—run, throw, wrestle, climb—was outlawed in the classroom. In this setting a boy’s experience of school is as a thorn among roses: he is a different, lesser, and sometimes frowned-upon presence and he knows it.

“Boys are in trouble,” says Judith Kleinfeld, director of University of Alaska’s Boys Project. Among boys of college-educated parents (those expected to be highly successful in school), 23% of white, 43% of African-American, and 34% of Hispanic boys scored “Below Basic” in recent 12th grade National Assessment of Educational Progress reading tests.

These young men, who can’t read a newspaper with understanding, are “your sons and grandsons and the young men available for your daughters to marry,” Kleinfeld warned at a national conference this summer.

The solution isn’t to feminize boys or medicate them into docility, but to

respect them for who they are and what they bring to society. “Many among the ‘educated elite’ have lost respect for what used to be considered ‘manly virtues,’” says Kleinfeld—qualities such as physical courage used in the service of noble ends, energetic devotion to one overarching goal, and emotional restraint (once called “grace under pressure”):

We shut boys down, labeling the rough-and-tumble play characteristic of all juvenile male primates ‘violence and aggression,’ labeling immature attempts at romance ‘sexual harassment,’ labeling spiritedness ... ‘rebellion and defiance.’ When we shut boys down, why should we be surprised when so many of our boys become lifeless and dispirited?

No doubt the U.S. Department of Education (ED) had the different learning styles of boys and girls in mind when it issued new regulations this fall making it easier for public schools to offer single-sex education. But ED’s revised regulations were harshly criticized by some advocacy groups still fighting 1960s-era political causes.

“‘Separate but equal’ has never really been equal for girls,” complained the National Organization of Women, “and that has been true of recent experiments with single-sex schools ... We must not abandon [the] commitment to ending discrimination against women.”

NOW’s insular reaction (after all, single-sex schools can benefit girls, too) demonstrates why the public school system has become virtually impossible to reform. Laws and regulations governing public schools are cobbled together by political compromise, and every special interest group elevates its cause above the needs of children.

Yet women are mothers, too. They shouldn’t be expected to sacrifice their sons or daughters on some group’s political altar. More likely, they will abandon the public school system, as Stephen’s mother did, in search of schools to better serve their children. It’s one reason public support for universal school choice is growing. ■

“We shut boys down, labeling the rough-and-tumble play characteristic of all juvenile male primates ‘violence and aggression,’ labeling immature attempts at romance ‘sexual harassment,’ labeling spiritedness ... ‘rebellion and defiance.’”



Lil Tuttle is the Education Director at the Luce Policy Institute.

Successful College Activists Join Luce Team

The Luce Policy Institute welcomes its two newest program officers: Lauren Daugherty and Jessica Cantelon.

Originally from an army town in Tennessee, **Lauren Daugherty** graduated from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia in 2005 with a double major in art history and economics. During her senior year, she served as chairman of the Emory College Republicans and led the chapter to a position of significant influence on Emory's very liberal campus. One of her focuses on campus was supporting Emory's handful of ROTC students who are consistently discriminated against by the school's administration and their own peers. In college Lauren was also involved in both student and professional theater as a costumer. Next to activism, sewing is still her favorite hobby.

She first became involved with the Institute in college when she attended several Luce Policy Institute lunches at CPAC and other conservative student conferences. She was especially inspired by Bay Buchanan's example of balancing family and career without sacrificing either. "I benefited so much from the Clare Boothe Luce Policy Institute's women's luncheons and encouragement in college," Lauren says, "and I am delighted to join them in helping other college women to become active leaders in the conservative movement."

Lauren is in charge of arranging campus lectures, guiding the development of interns, V-Day Unveiled and other programs, and planning seminars and conferences. For information on bringing a speaker to your campus, contact Lauren at ldaugherty@cblpi.org or (888) 891-4288.

Jessica Cantelon handles communications, marketing, graphic design and outreach. "It is a true pleasure," she says, "to play a part in an organization that presents such an important positive perspective for women today."

Born and raised in Seattle, Washington, Jessica attended the University of Washington, majoring in English Literature. Disillusioned with the oppressive "liberal" atmosphere on campus and in the classroom, she found her niche as an editor of *Right Turn*, the UW's conservative student newspaper. There, she discovered and nurtured her interest in journalism, writing and layout design. Her involvement in *Right Turn* led to a 2002 news writing internship with the Cybercast News Service at the Media Research Center in Alexandria Virginia. This horizon-expanding experience inspired Jessica to pursue a career in public policy in the Washington, D.C. area—a place where opportunities seemed to abound.

After graduating from college, Jessica spent a year working as a freelance graphic designer and public relations consultant in the Puget Sound area. Following that, she held a communications position at Discovery Institute in Seattle, a think tank promoting principles of free market, representative government and individual liberty. She worked primarily with the Cascadia Center, Discovery's transportation and regional development arm.

For media inquiries, contact Jessica by email at jcantelon@cblpi.org or by phone at (888) 891-4288.



Daugherty (above) and Cantelon (below)



Become a Luce Intern!

The Luce Policy Institute is now accepting internship applications for summer. To apply, contact Lauren Daugherty at (888) 891-4288 or ldaugherty@cblpi.org.

Malkin Rocks Colgate U

Students at Colgate University got a taste of lively and civil debate in December as Michelle Malkin and Ruben Navarrette, Jr—both journalists from immigrant backgrounds—debated the intricacies of immigration reform from liberal and conservative points of view. Entitled "Immigration, National Security, and American Citizenship," the debate was hosted by the university's Center for Freedom and Western Civilization and the Luce Policy Institute. Many left the debate confident they had a better grasp on the issues but also grateful for the civility of the event which came just days after the Minutemen were assaulted at Columbia during their lecture on immigration. As quoted in a Colgate University press release, Liddy Kang '08 said, "I was impressed by how the speakers were willing to

agree on some things and disagree on others without being uncivilized. I'd like to see this happen in other conversations about the country and in other schools."





Born: May 28, 1951

Husband: Vern Reece, married for 16 years

Role models: Mom, Ethel Spalding; Grandmother, Anna Maria Delonay

Favorite women leaders: Phyllis Schlafly, Janet Parshall, Ann Coulter, Michelle Malkin, Laura Ingraham, Suzanne Fields, Linda Chavez, Condoleezza Rice, Elizabeth Dole, Michelle Easton

Reads: *The Washington Times*, *World*, *Human Events* over her morning coffee

Music: Bill & Gloria Gaither

Books: Thomas Kinkade, Katherine Spencer's Cape Light Series, Jan Karon's *Mitford*

Hobbies: Collecting tea sets and canes

Community interests: Providing scholarships for children to attend a local Christian school

Luce Supporter Profile

TERESA A. REECE

Teresa Alice Spalding was born the eighth of nine children in a loving family from Hannibal, Missouri, located 100 miles north of Saint Louis. Despite growing up very poor, Teresa and her siblings were educated in a Catholic school and raised in a conservative home.

"We learned right from wrong and in no uncertain terms, this was reverberated at home," said Teresa. "Sharing was a way of life and a lot of fun. My father was the leader of our family and what he said was the law. Mom backed him up, supported his wishes, and looked to him as the one to make decisions."

Teresa believes that the kind of role models promoted by the Luce Policy Institute are "vital" to the well-being of young people. Teresa's own life was positively impacted by two particular female role models. "My grandmother taught me to be color-blind—or to see how beautiful people of color really are and that God made them too," she said. "My mother taught me to love my husband, respect him, build him up with words of encouragement, give him my very best in everything I do and the rewards will be great. She was right."

Teresa started working at age 17 at the local grocery store. After moving to the Saint Louis area, she took an interest in funeral directing. "It was something I fell in love with because I could ease the hurt a little by kindness and understanding," she said. Ten years later, Teresa fell in love and went to work for her future husband, Vern. Today, she is president and office manager of their family-owned construction company. Teresa and Vern have been married for 16 years, which she describes as "the happiest of my life." She says, "God has blessed us. We are able, even with different personalities, to live and work side by side. It has been an incredible journey."

Teresa became involved with the Luce Policy Institute in 2002. "After reading what it supports and how it works through young women to promote the future of this country, I was not able to walk away untouched," she said.

Teresa believes "the Luce Policy Institute has chosen a most difficult task. The impact has been tremendous for the conservative young women it has touched. These courageous students take a verbal beating daily as they step onto campuses across America. CBLPI has given them pride, an understanding of key issues, and knowledge and technique on battleground maneuvers."

Start the Year off Right

If you don't already have one, don't forget to order your **2007 Great American Conservative Women calendar**—free for students and available to others for a suggested donation of \$25. This year features Clare Boothe Luce, Star Parker, U.S. Rep. Marsha Blackburn, Sandy Froman, Michelle Malkin, Laura Ingraham, Erika Harold, Carmen Pate, Rebecca Hagelin, Cameron Randall Phillips, Elaine L. Chao, and Ann Coulter. They're going fast, so order today by visiting us online at cblpi.org, calling toll-free at (888) 891-4288, or mail the form to the right to 112 Elden Street, Suite P, Herndon, Virginia 20170.



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