



Young Government Leaders Quarterly

June 2009

YGL Website Gets a Makeover!

YGL has updated its website. You can still find us at <http://www.younggovernmentleaders.org> but our new site has more information and interactive features. Check it out!

Featured Event This Wednesday! *Your Relationships and their Impact on Your Financial Choices*

Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2009
Time: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)
Location: The National Academy of Public Administration
900 7th Street, N.W., Suite 600
Washington, DC 20001
(By Metro, use the Gallery Place/Chinatown Station)

RSVP at Event Brite by <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/361945589>

The current state of the economy has forced virtually everyone to review and make adjustments to their finances. Do you want to know more about how your relationship(s) with your spouse/significant other, children, parents/extended family can positively or negatively impact your financial situation?

Young Government Leaders (YGL) invites you to this session that will be presented by representatives from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). This session will focus on how relationships can impact the financial choices made by individuals. Three levels of relationships - spouse/significant other, children, parents/extended family- will be addressed.

This session will outline the importance of building and recognizing the differences and the similarities that exist at the first level and allowing those lessons learned or taught to transfer to the second level. At the third level, the discussion will relate to the first two levels in that it will focus more on reviewing past choices and additional factors created by a parent or extended family. Regardless of the level of the relationship – the significant impact on an individual’s views, habits and practices with money and finances will be reviewed.

This popular and well-attended session has been previously presented as part of a financial literacy brown bag series, Your Money, Your Choices, Your Future, at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Happy Birthday Happy Hour!

Come celebrate YGL’s 6th birthday! We’re not getting older, just more mature! Join us at our Third Thursday Happy Hour, co-hosted with LEAD.

When: Thursday, June 18th
Time: 5:30-7:30
Location: Mackeys Pub
www.mackeyspub.com
Farragut North Metro Stop
1823 L St NW
Washington, DC 20036

Happy Hour Specials!!!!

\$2.75: Miller Lite drafts, Bud Light drafts and bottles, and Coors Light bottles

\$3.50: Sam Adams Lager, Sam Adams Seasonal, Yuengling and Magic Hat #9 drafts, and Sam Adams Light Bottles

Community Service Corner

Join LEAD as a Kitchen Volunteer and serve dinner to homeless women.

When: Wednesday, July 15th
4:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Where: 309 E Street NW, Basement
Inside First Trinity Lutheran Church
By metro, it’s one block north of DOL/Judiciary Square

What: Duties include preparing food, serving meal, and kitchen clean-up.
Please wear close-toed shoes and activity-appropriate clothing.

YGL Members Participate in Hands On DC ‘Workathon’ and Help Local D.C. Schools

In late April, members of YGL National and YGL-Bethesda participated in Hands on DC’s annual Workathon, a day long effort to improve the physical condition of D.C. public schools. The team, co-led by Jerome Brown (YGL-DC) and Bekah Geiger (YGL-Bethesda), was assigned to Browne Elementary located in the Northeast section of the District and focused on landscaping projects such as clearing debris, weeding, and planting flowers. In addition to volunteering on the day of the event, both chapters worked together to raise more than \$860 for Hands on DC. Special Kudos to Justin Hentges for raising close to \$400 and to Bekah Geiger for organizing a fundraising event that contributed to our goal!

Earn Money for YGL While You Search and Shop

YGL joined GoodSearch and GoodShop so now you can earn money for YGL while you go about your normal searching and shopping online! Just click the links below and insert “Young Government Leaders” into the “Who do you support/search for?” box. Then search and shop away! YGL will earn money every time you do a search.

GoodSearch.com is a search engine with a unique social mission. It's powered by Yahoo!, so you get great search results, and each time you search, GoodSearch makes a donation to your cause (that's "Young Government Leaders")!

GoodShop.com is a new online marketplace that donates a percentage of your purchase to the nonprofit or school of your choice (psst...enter "Young Government Leaders"). You can choose from hundreds of popular merchants and the experience of shopping through GoodShop is exactly the same as going to the retailer's websites directly.

More Upcoming Events!

YGL Takes it Out to the Ball Game: GO NATS!

Date: Saturday, July 18th
 Time: First Pitch: 7:05pm
 Where: Nationals Stadium (Green Line, Navy Yard Station)
 What: Nationals play the Chicago Cubs

Purchase tickets here: www.nationals.com/ygl.

Social Media Happy Hour with Bethesda YAFCEA

In celebration of the successful Federal Web 2.0 Virtual Podium Series, YAFCEA, Bethesda Chapter invites you to attend an evening of festivity, camaraderie, and networking.

Enjoy appetizers and drinks while you mix and mingle with podium series participants & sponsors!

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2009
 Time: 5:30pm - 8:30pm
 Location: Mezza Luna
 1140 19th Street, NW
 (By Metro, 2 blocks from Farragut North Station)
 Admission: \$15.00* online; \$20 at the door (Register early, as space is limited)
 Includes appetizers and 1 drink voucher. Enjoy happy hour prices until 7pm.
All net proceeds benefit the Children's Inn at NIH

Register here - <http://yafcea.eventbrite.com>

YGL to Participate in the Combined Federal Campaign

YGL was recently accepted as a participating organization in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)! The CFC is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign. It brings together hundreds of non-profit organizations and charities for federal employees to donate to during the annual campaign season from September 1st to December 15th. We'll send out more info as the campaign season approaches, so keep a look out. In the meantime, you can learn more about CFC, visit: <http://www.opm.gov/CFC>.



Aetna Feature: How Cool Will You Look This Summer?

Summer is here, and we all know how important it is to protect our skin with sunscreen. But what about our eyes? Here is some important information on how to keep our eyes safe while we are enjoying the summer sun.

Q: Why do we need sunglasses?

Sunglasses help you in two important ways. They filter light and they protect your eyes from damaging ultra-violet (UV) rays. Mounting evidence shows that exposure to UV rays can damage your eyes. Long-term exposure to UV rays can lead to cataracts, macular degeneration, or skin cancer around the eyelids. Sunglasses should be worn when you are outdoors so you can protect your eyes. You should choose sunglasses that:

- reduce glare
- filter out 99-100% of UV rays
- protect your eyes
- are comfortable to wear
- do not distort colors.

Q: Am I at risk for eye problems caused by UV rays?

Everyone is at risk for eye problems caused by the sun. Even children are at risk for damaging their eyes. The risk of sun related eye problems is higher for people who:

- spend long hours in the sun
- have had cataract surgery or have certain retina disorders
- are on certain medicines, such as tetracycline, sulfa drugs, birth control pills, diuretics, and tranquilizers that increase the eye's sensitivity to light.

Q: What type of sunglasses should I get?

When you buy your sunglasses, look for a label that tells you how much UV radiation the lenses of the sunglasses reflect. Experts say that your sunglasses should block 99-100% of both UV-A and UV-B rays. You should also consider wearing a wide-brimmed hat along with your sunglasses. This will help to block the sunlight from overhead.

Q: Do children need sunglasses?

Yes. Children are at special risk from the harmful effects of UV, since their eyes do not have the same ability as adults to protect from UV radiation.

Here are some helpful suggestions for choosing sunglasses for children:

- Check to make sure the sunglasses fit well and are not damaged
- Choose sunglasses that fit your child's lifestyle-the lenses should be impact resistant and should not pop out of the frames
- Choose lenses that are large enough to shield the eyes from most angles
- Find a wide-brimmed hat for your child to wear along with the sunglasses.

And to help you look cool while being careful, follow this link for a **coupon to Sunglass Hut!**

http://custom.aetna.com/fehbp/50XX_PromoCode8497_final.pdf

Upcoming YGL Road Show Dates

- Department of Homeland Security (late June)
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (presentation to STEP interns in July or August)
- General Services Administration (part of the new employee/student orientation - Monday, August 10 from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.)

What is a Road Show, you ask? Allow us to explain:

Federal agencies are facing a significant need to recruit and train Generation X and Millennials due to the impending retirement of Baby Boomers. The YGL “Road Show” was created to address two purposes:

- (1) highlighting ideas for the effective recruitment and retention of the next generation of public servants
- (2) promoting YGL among agency staff, thus increasing YGL membership and exposure;

YGL accomplishes these objectives by arranging visits to Federal agencies, where its members make formal presentations to agency employees – both prospective YGL members and human resources personnel. If you are interested in bringing the YGL Road Show to you agency, YGL is eager to accommodate you! In addition, YGL is always looking for volunteers to present at an agency visit and/or helping to arrange visits. For more information, please contact: Julie Saad, YGL Road Show Coordinator, by e-mailing: julie.saad@opm.gov.

Congrats to FedPitch Winner Jeremy Ames!

Jeremy Ames won this year’s FedPitch competition with the following idea: Grant federal agencies new authorities to recruit and hire highly qualified state and local government employees. Great idea, Jeremy!

This pitch, and others, were presented before a live audience and a panel of judges on May 7th on the National Mall as part of Public Service Recognition Week. The judges rated each pitch based on factors such as originality and feasibility. Pitches had to address innovative ways to attract and recruit people to federal public service and/or new approaches for retaining, engaging, motivating, rewarding, developing, or leading the federal workforce. Jeremy will have dinner with the judges to discuss the winning idea in more detail and explore approaches for possibly implementing the idea.

Check out the other FedPitch ideas here:

<http://www.fedpitch.org/news/Pitches%20for%20FedPitch%202009.pdf> and keep an eye out for FedPitch 2010!

YGL Blog

Below is a sneak peak at the newest entry in YGL’s blog, posted by Patrick Kelly. You saw it here first, but can read more online at YGL’s website:

<http://www.younggovernmentleaders.org/blog>. Feel free to post comments and, if you’re interested in writing your own entry, please email us at younggovernmentleaders@gmail.com!

Two bills to affect Young Government Leaders

In my brief tenure as a Federal employee I have observed that civil servants are not in it for the fame, fortune or even the benefits - but that hasn’t stopped the U.S. House of Representatives

from trying to sweeten the deal. In the past few weeks the House has passed, and shuffled off to the Senate, two bills that will have a significant impact on current and future Federal employees.

The first bill is the **Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act of 2009**. As you can imagine from the title, the Act is designed to provide four weeks of paid parental leave to Federal employees for the birth or adoption of a new child. This addition is going to be an amazing benefit for those of us who plan to go forth and multiply in the coming years. Under current law, Federal employees are given 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to care for and bond with a new child. Unfortunately, to take advantage of that precious time off to adjust to the new family member in your life, you either have to have spent years accruing sick time and annual leave or be financially secure enough to pass on three months of paychecks. Neither of which are likely options for younger and/or recently hired employees.

There are numerous details on the when, why and how you can take this new benefit. But, as this bill has not fully churned through the Senate, it's hard to say what the final bill will look like when, or if, it's ever ready for President Obama's signature. In the meantime, you can follow it here as it traverses the bureaucratic slalom that is our bicameral legislature: <http://www.opencongress.org/bill/111-h626/show>

Also, Senator Webb has posted a decent fact sheet for the legislation on his website if you don't feel up to parsing the legalese in the bill's text: <http://webb.senate.gov/pdf/factsheet&q&afeppla.pdf>

The second bill, the **Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Enhancement Act of 2009**, contains several provisions to expand retirement savings options for federal employees. It is tucked down at the bottom of H.R. 1256, the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act, as if hoping no one would bother to read down that far. (<http://www.opencongress.org/bill/111-h1256/text?version=pcs&nid=t0:pcs:1081>) While it's certainly not the most thrilling read, its provisions are important so I'll list the highlights here.

Specifically, the bill:

1. Automatically enrolls new federal hires into the TSP.
2. Enables employees to invest their retirement money into mutual funds of their choice.
3. Includes a Roth 401(k) option so employees can pay taxes up front rather than when funds are withdrawn.
4. Permits spouses of deceased federal workers to continue managing their funds in the TSP rather than requiring them to withdraw and reinvest the funds elsewhere as the current law mandates

The bill advanced through the Senate this week after members wrangled over numerous amendments. Most noteworthy for federal employees was an amendment proposed by Senator Lieberman that, among other things, would have allowed federal workers in the Federal Employees Retirement System to add unused sick time to their retirement annuities - a benefit still afforded to employees in the older Civil Service Retirement System. Ironically, given everything else crammed into a bill about smoking prevention, the Senate parliamentarians felt the need to declare this amendment nongermane and omit it from further consideration.

For more information GovernmentExecutive.com has a good write up on the bill's trials and triumphs in the Senate. http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=42923&dcn=e_gvet

YGL in the News

Are you receiving the latest news on issues that matter to Federal employees? **FEDmanager.com's** weekly E-Report provides updates on current events, case law, and tips for navigating the federal workplace. Best of all, YGL has a column the first week of every month! Check out the [FEDmanager E-report online](#), or [subscribe to the E-report](#) and get the news delivered to your inbox!

In another medium, YGL President Kate Walker conducted an interview with **Federal News Radio's** *The Daily Debrief* on May 19 about the event. Listen to the interview here: <http://www.federalnewsradio.com/?sid=1679028&nid=19>

Open Jobs and Internships

Chemist

http://www.makingthedifference.org/federaljobs/documents/090622_CPSC_Chemist.pdf
Consumer Product Safety Commission
Deadline: June 22, 2009

Civil Engineer

http://www.makingthedifference.org/federaljobs/documents/090629_USDA_CivilEngineer.pdf
Department of Agriculture
Deadline: June 29, 2009

Internal Revenue Agent

http://www.makingthedifference.org/documents/100111_IRS_InternalRevenueAgent.pdf
Internal Revenue Service
Deadline: January 11, 2010

Financial Specialist

http://www.makingthedifference.org/federaljobs/documents/090709_BIA_Financial%20Specialist.pdf
Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Deadline: July 9, 2009

About Young Government Leaders

Young Government Leaders is a professional organization of young to government men and women employed by the Federal Government. Our mission is to educate, inspire, and transform the current and future leaders of the Federal Government. Consisting of over 1,800 young feds at more than 30 different U.S. departments and agencies our organization is committed to serving as a coordinated voice for the current and future generations of young government leaders. For more information, check us out at: www.younggovernmentleaders.org.

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