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The American Association of University Women
promotes equity for all women and girls,
lifelong education, and positive societal change.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and
seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no
barriers to full participation in this organization
on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual
orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

AAUW NC Website:
<http://www.aauwnc.org>

Tar Heel News

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF NORTH CAROLINA

Vol. 52 No. 1 "Actively Encouraging Women and Girls to be Lifelong Learners." Winter 2005

Meeting Set: High Country Women Organize Branch

WHEN PEGGY PEARSON, who is an accountant by profession, moved from Roanoke, Virginia, to assume duties as the chief financial officer of Blowing Rock Hospital, one of her priorities was to hook up with AAUW. After all, she has been active in AAUW for 25 years. Her 90-year-old mother is still a member, as well.

It turned out not to be an easy task, because the closest branches are Statesville (65 miles) and Asheville (99 miles). Not to be denied, Pearson met Elizabeth Laney, 1992-94 president of AAUW NC and lifetime member who divides her time between Blowing Rock and a farm east of Raleigh.

As a result, Pearson and Laney have announced the organizational meeting of a branch serving northwestern North Carolina. It will be held Saturday, January 21, at 10:30 a.m. at Jones House in Boone, which houses the local arts council.

The organizational committee decided:

- Name: High Country Branch AAUW
- Membership will encompass more than one county.
- Invite a leader in AAUW NC to speak about AAUW: Association and NC.
- Contact prospective members whose names we know, including all the members at large.
- Set dues at \$69: Association \$43, State \$11, Branch \$15.
- Second meeting, February: Luncheon at noon, Broyhill Inn, Appalachian State University campus. Invite a local woman, who has been very successful, to speak.

- Third meeting, in March: Daytime, perhaps at Appalachian Culture Museum, ASU campus.
- Fourth meeting, in April: Supper meeting at a restaurant that will provide us a private room and not require firm reservations.
- Have appointed officers as needed to serve until June. Elect officers for the following year sometime in the Spring. Currently, Pearson is the program person; Laney is the chairperson.

Laney, who helped form a branch in Plymouth about 15 years ago, is reviewing the requirements

for forming the new branch, and has been in touch with Statesville Branch as part of the process.

Pearson, who served as program vice-president of the Roanoke Valley Branch three times, noted, "It is in the interests of AAUW, and desirable to form a branch in [northwestern North Carolina] at this time." Participants at the AAUW NC board meeting agreed and wished the organizers well!

Peggy Pearson - peggypearson@brhospital.org
Elizabeth Laney - eljaney@boone.net

Editor's Note: Chalene Jones is organizing a Durham Branch - details to come at a future date.

Atkinson, Parker Slated to Speak at 2006 AAUW NC Convention in New Bern

Judy Atkinson
AAUW NC Program Vice-President

WHEN MEMBERS OF AAUW NC and their guests gather at the "gateway" in New Bern, with the waterway leading to the vast Atlantic and an ocean of possibilities, they'll have the opportunity to greet leading North Carolina educators. On hand to address, inspire and explore those possibilities will be Dr. June Atkinson, N.C. superintendent of instruction (above left), and Dr. Delores Parker, vice-president of academic and student services for N.C. community colleges.

With a theme of "Education: Gateway to the Future for Women and Girls," Atkinson is the



Saturday luncheon speaker, and Parker will talk at the evening banquet. Workshops based on education are planned, as well as one on credit opportunity. Plan now to attend. Read more on page two.

Hurricane Recovery: AAUW Louisiana and Mississippi Library Projects

AAUW FRIENDS AROUND the country have asked how to help with hurricane recovery. In response to their concern, AAUW Louisiana has developed the "AAUW Louisiana Library Project," to help rebuild book collections in 15-20 public libraries damaged or destroyed by the storm. The project was developed in consultation with Rebecca L. Hamilton, Louisiana state librarian. **Ways to help:**

- **Money for Books:** The best way we can help libraries is with money to buy new, up-to-date books with library bindings. Branches can have fund-raisers or bundle private contributions. The money will be funneled through the Louisiana Library Foundation, a 501(c) charitable organization. The Foundation will give the money directly to the libraries that need help without politics or red tape. Identify your contribution as coming from your AAUW group and state that your gift is for libraries damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Make checks

payable to: Louisiana Library Foundation,
PO Box 2583, Baton Rouge LA 70821.

- **New or Used Books:** The affected libraries can only accept limited numbers of used books. AAUW groups interested in collecting and shipping books should contact the State Library of Louisiana: Diane M. Brown, deputy state librarian, dbrown@state.lib.la.us. The State Library will help you partner with a specific library, and you will ship your books directly to it. Acceptable books include: New or nearly new fiction and non-fiction (no mildew!), recent best sellers, children's books in good condition, especially Caldecott and Newberry Award winners.

When you send your checks or books, please let AAUW Louisiana president Anne K. Taylor know: Akt1208@bellsouth.net or 225.767.3565.

AAUW MISSISSIPPI HAS joined with Friends of the Library (a 501(c) 3 entity) in help to rebuild the

libraries on the Gulf Coast. The best way to help the libraries is with money to rebuild and restore collections. Money sent to this project is tax deductible. Send checks made payable to "Rebuild MS Libraries" to: Am South Bank, 210 E. Capitol St., Jackson MS 39201. Note "From AAUW member, branch and state" on the memo line. Please send an e-mail to ehfisher@bellsouth.net when a check has been sent.

The devastation on the Gulf Coast is still quite severe, and many of our members are still struggling to survive the day-to-day activities. It will be at least a year before the libraries affected will be operational.

Currently, there is no way for libraries to store books. Please send them to this address for delivery when appropriate: Martha Fisher, Mississippi State President, 1497 Northlake Drive, Jackson MS 39211.

See November and future issues *EdEqChange* for updates about AAUW Gulf disaster response.

AAUW College/University Partnership Program Benefits Institutions and Women

NATIONWIDE, MORE THAN 550 leading institutions are members in the AAUW College/University Partnership Program. In North Carolina, which has 117 colleges and universities, including community colleges, Bible colleges, and a theological seminary, 14 benefit from this important program that fosters educational equity, while providing growth opportunities for students, faculty, and staff.

With the help of Lola Jackson, AAUW NC C/U liaison, branches can recruit institutions in their areas.

Both the colleges and branches benefit from these partnerships, including joint activities and scholarship endowment.

Benefits (excerpts from www.aauw.org)

- Students and faculty have access to more than \$3.5 million in fellowships, grants,

and awards made available annually by the AAUW Educational Foundation: American Fellowships, Selected Professions Fellowships, International Fellowships, Career Development Grants, and the University Scholar-in-Residence Award.

- Leadership and professional development resources to help women on member campuses strengthen their skills. Options include AAUW conferences, seminars, and internships; participation on planning committees, awards panels, state and branch leadership posts, and access to a national network of professional women whose members can mentor, assist in job searches, and facilitate relocation.
- Discounts are available on research and publications produced by nationally recognized experts and scholars. Share new

resources and scholarships with academic departments, including education and women's and gender studies.

- Gain new perspectives on gender equity issues through complimentary subscriptions to AAUW publications such as *AAUW Outlook and Action Alert*.
- Strong community relations are vital to every campus. Participate in local activities that build goodwill and help women and girls in local communities, including Transitions Conferences, AAUW voter education and outreach, Sister-to-Sister Summits, and other activities.
- Enhance institutional visibility. AAUW is one of the nation's oldest and most respected education organizations. Through partnership with AAUW, enjoy increased visibility and enhanced public relations opportunities. Tap into an educated, informed, and diverse group of 100,000 activists who are concerned about and influence the debate on issues facing higher education. Receive recognition in the AAUW Membership Directory, through links on the AAUW website, and in articles in our publications highlighting AAUW activities.
- Benefit from AAUW's century of public policy participation at the local, state, and national levels. Today, AAUW is a strong advocate for education and a respected voice on critical issues. We work to expand financial aid opportunities and to guarantee responsible funding for all levels of education. We strive to increase access to higher education for communities that have been underrepresented on college and

university campuses, such as women in poverty; to ensure bias-free learning and gender equity in higher education, and to protect academic freedom and promote thoughtful and open learning environments by combating censorship in the classroom.

- Take advantage of exclusive member discounts for AAUW books and merchandise; education loans; credit cards; magazine subscriptions; quality health insurance plans; flowers, cakes, and gifts; auto insurance; website design services; and books.

Jackson will lead a workshop at the convention in New Bern. Branch members and representatives of colleges and universities are encouraged to come and learn more about this partnership that goes a long way toward making "education a gateway to the future for women and girls."

Can't wait until March? Contact Jackson at [Lvjj21@aol.com](mailto:Lvj21@aol.com) or 336.644.6011.

AAUW NC C/U Members

- Bennett College
- Blue Ridge Community College
- Duke University
- Johnson C. Smith University
- Lees-McRae College
- Louisburg College
- Martin Community College
- Meredith College
- Mitchell Community College
- NC A&T State University
- NC State University
- Peace College
- UNC-Greensboro
- UNC-Wilmington

AAUW NC Convention Set for New Bern, March 31-April 2, 2006

The Place

New Bern, the second-oldest town in North Carolina, is situated where the Trent and Neuse Rivers meet. The first capital of North Carolina under Royal Governor William Tryon, it was a major port and trading center in the 1800's. But that's not all! In addition to Tryon Palace, New Bern is abound with history around every corner with over 150 historic landmarks, the birthplace of Pepsi and a 157,000-acre national forest. New Bern and Craven County offer a variety of cultural, educational and historical attractions. From museums to a beautiful palace, there is something available for everyone, including the Historic District Trolley Tour.



Tryon Palace: Known in colonial times as one of the most beautiful public buildings in America, the elegant Georgian-style mansion was both home to Royal Governor William Tryon and the capital of the Colony of North Carolina. Restored to 18th-century glory, Tryon Palace is furnished with period antiques and art. The grounds are devoted to extensive gardens ranging from English formal gardens to a kitchen garden to wilderness garden areas. Tryon Palace, with four contrasting homes of exceptional beauty, features tours all year and an audiovisual orientation program and crafts demonstration daily.

The People

- Convention Hosts: Twin Rivers/New Bern, Jacksonville Regional and Kinston Branches. Mary Peterson and JoAnn Hall are convention co-chairs.

Education: Gateway to the Future for Women and Girls

- Importance of education in helping women and girls live fulfilling, healthy, secure lives.
- June Atkinson, Delores Parker, and other distinguished women will speak.
- Workshops focus on education issues, as well as one on credit equity.
- Networking
- Annual business session.
- Memorial service.
- Branch projects.
- Judy Atkinson, Winston-Salem Branch, is program vice-president.

Lodging

- The New Bern Sheraton Grand Hotel features free high-speed internet access in all guest rooms, concierge service, outdoor pool, marina, fitness facility and free parking.
- Airport to Hotel shuttle is available. The hotel is located within walking distance of antique and specialty shops, restaurants, historic homes and churches.
- Make your own reservations at the New Bern Sheraton Grand Hotel: Phone: 252.638.3585, Fax: 252.638.8112, or www.sheraton.com/newbern.
- Room rates are \$109 plus 13% tax per room per night. Be sure to ask for the AAUW group rate when making reservations. The cut-off date for guaranteed room reservations is **March 1, 2006. After this cutoff date reservations will be accepted on a space and rate available basis. After March 1, the room rate will increase.**

Atkinson, White Are Nominated

Karla Atkinson, current secretary, has agreed to run for another two-year term.

The committee plans to nominate Barbara White, a member of the Raleigh/Wake Co. Branch and former president of AAUW West Virginia, as membership vice-president.

Biographies will be published in the Spring 2006 Tar Heel News. Nominations may also be made from the floor at convention in March 2006.

Nominating Committee

Grace B. Knechtel, chair, 1304 Boxwood Court, Cary, 27511	gbknechtel@msn.com
Jean B. Green, 1161 Fearington Post, Pittsboro, 27312	greenc@uww.edu
Carol S. Kaiser, 178 Surry Lane, Hendersonville, 28791	rckaiser@brinet.com
Jane W. Niederberger, 01 Lazy Day Drive, Surf City, 28445	janedwn@yahoo.com
Karen M. Perry, 1000 Parkwood Circle, High Point, 27262	kperry5@aol.com

Linda Sarkis, advisor, lcsarkis@yahoo.com

Computer Training: A Better Way

Nancy Shoemaker

AAUW NC President-Elect

RTPnet has recently updated the information they use to train folks on how to use computers. <http://www.rtpnet.org/collections/handouts/flier.html>

If you've learned to use your computer by trial and error, you may find that going through that material is a quick way to solidify things and show that you have learned a great deal.

If you want to help someone else learn to

better use a computer, you might like to try using those materials to structure the discussion. Those you help will end up with a set of notes they can refer to later.

If you do use these, I'd be interested in your feedback, particularly comments that I can pass on to groups at AAUW that are looking at how to get more members "up to speed" on technology. Contact me at shoemaker@acm.org or 919.773.1340.

2005-06 EF Scholars

Weatherford Wins AAUW NC Juvenile Literature Award

Alice "Rusty" Bradke
AAUW NC Educational Foundation Chair

The NC Fellows for 2005-06 are listed below. They will welcome an invitation to any of your functions, and will enjoy sharing their research and educational program information with you. Contact me if you need more information at aajhbradke@webtv.net or 828.696.8549.

- American Fellowships**
- Elizabeth Blue - NC State, chemistry
edblue@ncsu.edu (Ellen Black Winston Fund)
 - Melissa Jones - Indiana U,
English language and literature
meljones@indiana.edu (from Charlotte)
 - Rebecca Macy - UNC-Chapel Hill,
social work - rimacy@email.unc.edu
 - Mariana Past - Duke, foreign languages
and literature - mfp@duke.edu
 - Linda Rupert - Duke, history
linda.rupert@duke.edu

- Career Development Grants**
- Hong-An R. Truong - U of Cal-Irvine
(studying in Durham), arts, performance
and studio - rrtruong@duke.edu

- Community Action Grants**
- Ruth Moody, Bryson City "Yes We Can"
rachel.lacky@swaincountyschools.org

- International Fellowships**
- Antonia Tetteh - NC State, agriculture
antonia3e@yahoo.com (Rosalynd Nix Gilliatt
Fund)

- Selected Professions Fellowship**
- Holly Leddy - Duke, engineering
holly.leddy@duke.edu

- Other Awards and Grant Notes:**
- Winston-Salem Community Action Grant,
Capri G. Foy and Vanessa Duren-Winfield,
Healthy Lifestyles Program
 - Bryson City: L. Adelaide and M. Elizabeth
Johnson, NC Golden Anniversary. Susan
Bogart is listed as co-PI
 - Winston-Salem: Enola G. Retherford,
Elizabeth "Beth" Norris, Stine J. Schaffemeyer
 - Shirley S. and Karl S. Quisenberry Fellowship
is supporting Emek M. Ucarer at Bucknell
University, International relations/political
science.

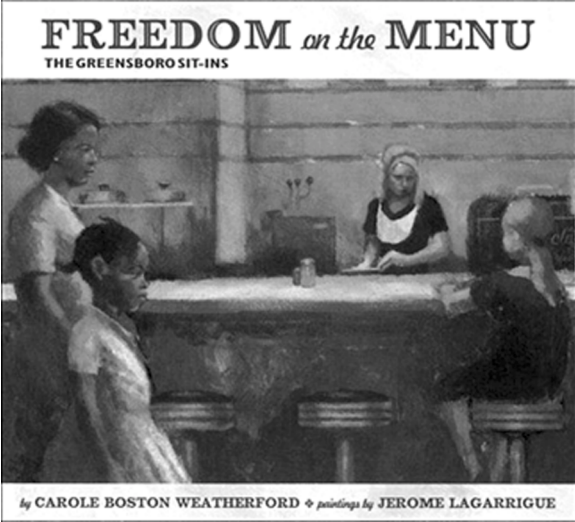
Learn more: http://svc.aauw.org/jga/fellows_directory/

New Center for Women
in Science, Mathematics

MEREDITH COLLEGE, in Raleigh, launched a Center for Women in Science and Mathematics in October, as part of their ongoing efforts to educate, support, and promote women as leaders in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Programs for students in K-12 grades, undergraduates, and teacher education will be offered.

Scientist Jocelyn Bell Burnell gave a lecture during the launch about "Scientific Discovery and the Participation of Women." She earned her Ph.D. at Cambridge University, and was involved in the discovery of pulsars, opening up a new branch of astrophysics. Her supervisor received a Nobel Prize for this work.

Meredith is an AAUW NC C/U partner. For more information on the Center for Women in Science and Mathematics, call 919-760-8481 or visit <http://www.meredith.edu/mcnews/cwsm.htm>.



JOANNE HILL, AAUW NC president, recently presented Carole Boston Weatherford with the 2005 AAUW Award for Juvenile Literature. Hill noted, "Weatherford was the consensus choice, indeed first place on all three ballots, for *Freedom on the Menu: The Greensboro Sit-ins*. Members likely will recall that she was the winner in 2002, as well."

The much-honored Weatherford, author of 18 books, says, "I mine the past for family stories, fading traditions and forgotten struggles." She invites readers to visit the past through stories, poems and pictures. Her books celebrate family stories, fading traditions, forgotten struggles and photographs.

Weatherford grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, where she began writing poetry while in first grade, by dictating it to her mother. With an M.F.A. in creative writing from UNC-Greensboro and an M.A. in publications design from the University of Baltimore, she conducts performances and residencies at schools and cultural institutions. She has taught at Salem College, High Point University, and Guilford Technical Community College, and now lives in High Point, North Carolina, with her husband and their two children. Learn more: <http://www.caroleweatherford.com/>



New Program Meets
Two Objectives

Mary Lasher, Co-President
AAUW Asheville Branch

ASHEVILLE AAUW LAUNCHED a new event this fall. "Live and Learn" works toward two objectives that emerged during the summer planning session.

Asheville's board of directors sought to find a new format in which members can learn more about the talents of its members in a social setting, while finding a new way for members to donate to EF/LAF.

On a Sunday afternoon in October, the first "Live and Learn" was held. Ticket purchasers visited two homes in nearby neighborhoods, from 1:30-3 p.m. at one house and 3:30-5 p.m. at the other.

Participants visited Bev Briedis and her husband, Chuck, who discussed his passion for growing bonsai. He showed the group his 51 prize plants, which ranged in size from 6" to 3' and shared tips on care and types of bonsai. Bev served light refreshments.

At the home of Jacque and Don Morgan, Don demonstrated wood turning on the wood lathe in his workshop. In the house, Jacque served light refreshments and the couple showed examples of 30 finished items that Don crafted from various types of wood.

The event sold 23 tickets at \$15 each. All money went directly to AAUW EF/LAF.

Other AAUW members have volunteered to open their homes and share special hobbies or talents in informal and fun settings. Additional events will likely be scheduled for 2006.

Membership Memos

Evelyn Mercer
AAUW Membership Vice-President

ALL BRANCH PRESIDENTS, please check your rosters. If you have any members qualifying for 50-year memberships during this year, please send their names and other identifying information to me at 4101 Rye Mill Ct, Charlotte NC 28277, postmarked no later than February 1, 2006.

Branches, please keep your membership rolls, new members, etc., updated and current with our state treasurer, since we will determine who wins our membership increase awards from the information she has for your branches for February 1, 2005 and February 1, 2006.

First Mini Grants Awarded;
Applications Due For Next Round

Mini grants were awarded in the fall cycle to the Greensboro and Brevard Branches. Both were for community action projects. The scoring sheet which is used to judge projects is available on our web site.

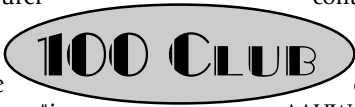
Another \$1,100 is available for the spring funding cycle. The application deadline is December 12 for all types of projects – community action, branch capacity and travel grants.

For a complete overview of the program, including the application requirements, refer to the lead story on page one of the Fall 2005 *Tar Heel News*, also available at www.aauwnc.org. A flier describing the program was mailed to all branch presidents in November.

AAUW NC Program Honors Members

As the year is drawing to a close, do make a note to remember the AAUW NC 100 Club. You can join with a check (of at least \$100 payable to AAUW NC) sent to Treasurer Millie Hoffer-Foushee, 7068 Lanier Rd., Summerfield NC 27358. If you'd like to designate your contribution "in honor" or "in memory" of someone else, please be sure to include the appropriate contact information. Branches (or groups in the name of a branch) can also make contributions, so if there's someone in your community that you want to honor in this way, just contact Millie.

Remember, too, that those who have contributed 100 hours during 2005 to AAUW at any level are also eligible for membership. So jot down the hours you've spent on AAUW projects and submit the form you'll find on www.aauwnc.org. In particular, those of you from Asheville who put on such a great convention last year – please send in the forms so we can thank you formally in New Bern!



AAUW NC 100 Club 2005 Donation Form

Name _____

Branch _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

A contribution in the amount of _____ is being made (minimum amount is \$100):

☐ In honor of _____

☐ In memory of _____

Please include contact information for honor or memory donations, so an acknowledgment can be sent:

Name _____

Branch _____

Address _____

Email _____

Carolina Authors Enthrall Wilmington Folks

Marva S. Moss

Wilmington Branch Publicity Chair

Warm November temperatures on the coast set the stage for the November 5 annual *Lunch with Carolina Authors*, sponsored by the Wilmington Branch of AAUW. Members and guests browsed book displays, made holiday gift selections, and enjoyed a wonderful, delicious buffet luncheon at the UNC-W Warwick Center Ballroom. Some of us were fortunate enough to be seated at an author's table; others were happy to know these wonderful writers were just a table of two away. Unique in their writing styles, the four Carolina authors began their story webs.

Pansie Hart Flood, who grew up in Wilmington, shared fond memories of visits to her grandmother's home. These visits and settings were the inspirations for her first book, *Sylvia and Miz Lula Maye*. Other books by Ms. Flood include *Secret Holes* and *September Smiles*. She is a teacher at E. B. Aycock Middle School, in Greenville, N.C.

David Gessner filled the room with humor while telling us how he acquired the label "nature writer." He is the author of several books including *Return of the Osprey*, which was chosen

by *The Boston Globe* as one of the ten nonfiction books of the year and Book-of-the-Month club. Mr. Gessner is an assistant professor in the Creative Writing Program at UNCW, and the editor of a new national literary journal, *Ecotone*.

Cassandra King, of South Carolina, allowed us to tag along with her characters as they met for one of their reunions. We were introduced to the ventures of *The Same Sweet Girls*, a story about a spirited group of Southern women who held reunions, since their college years.

Doris Iarovici, M.D., won the 2005 Novello Literary Award for her collection of short fiction, *American Dreaming and Other Stories*. Comments about her work from literary judges include, "Doris Iarovici writes with grace and confidence as she explores the realities we confront when we dare to pursue our dreams." Dr. Iarovici is a psychiatrist in practice at Duke University.

The event ended with a book signing in the ballroom lobby. Although we did not take a survey at this event, we are almost certain that members and guests will make a return for this annual event next year.

Voter Guide Improved, More Accessible

Karla Atkinson

Brevard Branch

BREVARD BRANCH AAUW will publish a Voter Guide for the 2006 elections at state and federal levels. This is the third time the branch has undertaken this project. The 2006 guide will contain information on candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives (11th District), N.C. House (Districts 113 & 117), N.C. Senate (District 50) and the N.C. Attorney General's office.

The guide is designed as a public service project to educate voters before the primary and general elections. The questions in the voter guide focus on public policy issues such as social security, health, education, the environment, immigration, and the economy.

Many questions give each candidate an opportunity to respond in a narrative form, rather than just responding "yes" or "no" to each question. The guide is "user friendly" and enables readers to compare the positions of candidates for each office on specific issues.

Mini Grant Improves Access

In the past, paper ballots were mailed to candidates. However, this year the Brevard Branch is using their \$500 mini grant award from AAUW NC for technical support to make the guide available electronically to all candidates.

Information Updated Regularly

The Voter Guide Committee is in the process of finalizing its questions. Katie Thompson, project coordinator, says "an on-line version of the 2006 Voter Guide should be available by early February at www.aauwbrevardnc.org."

As candidates announce their intention to run for office, they are e-mailed the questionnaire. When their responses are received, they are posted daily on the branch's web site. Voters seeking information on a particular race may go directly to that race on the web site. On-line readers will be able to access several statewide organizations and candidates for office who have added links to their web pages from the Brevard AAUW site.

After the May 2006 primary, the on-line voter guide will include only those candidates who were chosen in the primary and whose names will appear on the general election ballot. This information will be posted on the web site until the general election on November 7, 2006.

Hardcopies Available

The branch will also publish over 7,000 printed copies of the guide with the cooperation of their local paper, *The Transylvania Times*, before the general election.

Brevard Shares Template

Each AAUW branch in North Carolina is encouraged to use the Brevard voter guide templates/questions for their own district races. Since the questions deal with state and federal public policy, they are "generic" to all candidates seeking office, regardless of the geographic areas they represent in Raleigh or Washington. Please contact Katie Thompson, katiethom@citcom.net or 828.877.5619, if you are interested in learning more about how your branch could become involved in a voter education project.

Gaston Regional Adopts New Project

B'Ann Vance

Gaston Regional Branch

AFTER DELIVERING math and science activities at day camp to Girls Scouts of the Pioneer council for ten years, the Gaston Regional Branch has adopted a new collaborative project. They will send one Junior troop to the event called "Exploris: Global Survivor." It will be held in Raleigh on March 4 and is sponsored by the Girl Scouts of Pines of Carolina Council.

Junior troops who elect to work on the Global Awareness badge and choose to apply for the trip to Exploris must complete their work, document it, and send the documentation for judging by December 16. A committee made up of one member of the council staff and two AAUW members will serve as judges.

By adopting a new project, the Gaston Regional Branch is able to continue to support the Girl Scouts, while putting the element of "something new" into its work with them.

Winston Salem Branch Aids Katrina Victims

Janice Imgrund

Winston-Salem Branch Secretary

MANY OF OUR members expressed a desire to assist hurricane victims. Our president, Ellen Morris, received an e-mail from Leevones Dubose, AAUW branch president in Mobile, Alabama, stating that Chastang Middle School had lost one entire wing of its school. The board authorized that contributions would be collected for this school. Janice Imgrund was the project liaison. After contacting Ms. Dubose and the principal, Mr. Zad Douglas, teacher and student supplies were collected. They included paper, pencils, pens, notebooks, binders, staplers, book bags, scotch tape, markers, sticky notes, stickers, pencil boxes, and glue. Two boxes containing these items were sent to Chastang Middle School. Cash that was collected during the October branch meeting was used for postage to send the materials to the school.

This was a good opportunity to directly give help to a middle school child or teacher needing a helping hand following great loss.

Local School Seeks Help

Virginia Owen

Statesville Branch Program Vice-Presidents

Recently, the guidance counselor from Statesville Middle School called with a desperate request for help at her school. Evidently the community didn't help them much with school supplies for kids who can't afford their own stuff—the timing conflicted with Katrina. Their biggest needs are pencils, notebook paper, composition books, colored pencils, and book bags. Statesville Branch decided to support the school this year by asking members to bring supplies to all board and regular meetings, resulting in generous donations. In addition, branch members spread the word to other groups to which they belong.

Also to help raise money for its educational programs, the branch is recycling drink cans. It a humorous episode during their campaign this summer, two members went dumpster diving – sparing no effort for this good cause!

Team Leadership Expands the Vision

Leslie Henderson, South Atlantic Region (SAR) Director

I ENDED MY last letter describing AAUW as a "lean, mean, equity machine." If I continue the analogy, and if we agree that a machine is an assemblage of interlinking and interdependent parts, designed to perform a given task, then a machine works only as well as its parts. This also applies to the human body and to the body politic.

I have watched with delight as our AAUW staff works together as teams. In fact, the senior staff is officially called the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), which speaks volumes. Program, Communications, Public Policy, Membership, Research, and Development are all working together to launch new initiatives around our theme of Women's Economic Security. The Association, the Foundation, and the LTI are all involved. Furthermore, almost all of our board working groups are actively cross corporate, and include staff, as well. Gone are those artificial lines that too often constrained effective team work and centralized the power base.

We in the field need to follow their example. Team leadership expands the vision. It empowers, both the individual and the group. Team work makes it easier to take a risk, it increases the power base, it provides a safety net, and it makes what we do more satisfying and enjoyable. An important bonus to team leadership is that we create a new generation of leaders. So, as we consider the roles of our branch and state leader positions, please keep in mind that to be that effective and prospering equity machine, our parts must be co-dependent and interrelated.

Every Member Poll – please respond!

Finally, an announcement. You should have received your *Outlook* by now. Inside you will find an important insert – the **Every Member Poll**. Note that it has a different format than the Every Member Survey we're accustomed to, and a shorter turn-around time. This is the single most important opportunity in the biennium for every member's voice to be heard. I strongly urge you to fill it out and send it back before January 13, 2006 or complete it on-line at www.aauw.org/member_center/survey/EMS2005/index.cfm - you will need your member number.

Since I last wrote to you, we have seen major devastation from hurricanes and earthquakes. It is breathtaking the amount of destruction and death that has been wrought in such a short time. On behalf of the SAR, I would like to send our AAUW sisters in Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, and Florida our concern and our compassion. We can also help, so I have asked that information on the Louisiana and Mississippi Library Projects be included in this issue [page one]. Be sure to check *EdEqChange* for updates.



Support Needed for Legal Advocacy Fund

Lill Van Order

AAUW NC LAF Liaison

So far, 2005 has been a slow year. We all have reasons and rationale for the lack of contributions. This Fall has been extremely difficult for all of us; some, I think, are concerned about LAF now being part of Educational Foundation and some perhaps just haven't gotten to this part of the program yet. Believe me, however, LAF does need your help – LAF is not a one-donation situation.

Cases sometimes take years to settle and the need for money is ongoing. To quote the recent LAF Update, "At its meeting in February 2004, the LAF Board of Directors awarded a total of \$11,500 to plaintiffs in six ongoing cases." Some of these cases have been part of the LAF network for several years.

We have received a Plaintiff Travel Grant from the Association, so a plaintiff will speak at our spring convention. Plan to attend the LAF Breakfast, and be a sponsor, too!

I have received from LAF in Washington, D.C., a printout of branch and state contributions for North Carolina. I am in the midst of reconciling this so that our statement agrees with theirs; 12 branch statements agree with mine and the others need minor reconciliation.

Recently I heard a saying about fund-raising: "Often times the minimum becomes the maximum." This has happened with many of us in regards to LAF. We often say when women donate, they are donating for their branch, as well. Is your branch one that only a few donate and they represent the whole branch? Is your branch one that gives the \$5 minimum and then stops there? These are all thoughts that we need to address in our branches. Of the 14 branches that have contributed for 2005, ten branches have 5 or fewer members contributing for the whole branch. Let us try to change the trend and not have a minimum donation.

I realize that many of you contribute at the end of the year, so remember the deadline is drawing near. Please send yours by December 15, to assure timely processing. Absolute deadline is that it be postmarked December 31. Our total so far in 2005 is only \$4,031, less than half of many past year's contributions. We can do better than that. Encourage your branch members to give and promote awareness of LAF. The brochure below can help.

A Matter of Justice

Brochure summarizes the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund programs—case support, campus outreach, referral network, and the Progress in Equity Award. Set of 50 is free, but you pay shipping and handling. See page ten of the exciting, new *Equity Essentials Catalog*, which was included with the Fall/Winter 2005 *Outlook*.

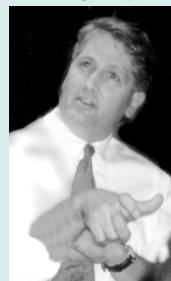
News Flash: All research publications are on sale at 50% off until December 31.

www.aauw.org

Sandhills/Southern Pines Branch Hosts Ruth Pauley Lecture Series Reception

Lois McCarthy, Sandhills/Southern Pines President

WHEN RUTH PAULEY initiated free lectures on current topics and issues in Moore County, before her death more than 20 years ago, she probably had no idea she had begun a movement that would be named for her. A member of Sandhills/Southern Pines Branch, as well as a former AAUW Association board member, she led a distinguished, globally-oriented career. The branch is proud to be part of the popular Ruth Pauley Lecture Series, which is provided free of charge to the general public by the efforts of four sponsoring groups: AAUW, The League of Women Voters, Moore County Public Schools, and Sandhills Community College. One person commented, "[Pauley] held a firm conviction that women could make special contributions in understanding and bring about resolution to social problems."



Kenneth Duckworth, M.D., (above left) assistant professor of psychiatry at Harvard University, spoke at the October meeting. His topic was "Tom Cruise Has It All Wrong: The Real Story of Mental Health."

Other Ruth Pauley Lecture Series Speakers and their Topics

January 19, 2006: Dr. Bart Ehrman, professor and chairman of religious studies at UNC-Chapel Hill, "Truth and Fiction in the DaVinci Code"

February 16, 2006: Charles "Lefty" Dreisell, retired coach, "Managing to Win"

March 6, 2006: Senator George McGovern, "America, The Road Ahead"



Sandhills/Southern Pines Branch hosted the reception following the lecture. Above, from left: Lois McCarthy, Sue Williamson, Sue LeClair, and Claire McConnell. As many as 20 branch members are involved with the series.

Want to know more?

The Ruth Pauley Lecture Series is a good example of "Places to Go and Things To Do Together," featured on page seven.

Lectures are at the Owens Auditorium on the Sandhills Community College campus in Pinehurst. Talks are free and open to the public. No tickets are required. Lectures begin at 7:30 p.m. For additional information call 910.245.3132 or see www.sandhills.cc.nc.us/news/pauley.html.

Northeastern University Program Wins AAUW LAF Progress in Equity Award

Jean-Marie Navetta, AAUW Senior Associate, Communications and Media Relations
www.aauw.org, 202.785.7738, navettaj@aauw.org

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, a program of the AAUW Educational Foundation, has named the Connections program at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts, its 2005 Progress in Equity Award winner, noting the program's unique and expansive approach to supporting women and girls in math, science, and engineering fields.

"The Connections program is a great response to a serious issue. They've focused on the areas where women and girls continue to be under-represented and developed a program that addresses the challenges they face at all levels of their education," said Barbara L. O'Connor, president of the AAUW Educational Foundation. "This is a great working model that exemplifies what the Legal Advocacy Fund Progress in Equity Award is all about."

The Progress in Equity Award recognizes a college or university program that promotes equity on campus for women and comes with a cash award. Since 1987, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund has recognized more than 38 campus programs throughout the United States for their progressive and innovative advancements on behalf of women faculty, staff, administrators, and/or students.

AAUW NC Board Recommends More Specific Training Standards

At the October 29 AAUW NC board meeting, a motion passed to send a message to the NC Board of Education assuring them that AAUW NC supports required diversity training for all school counselors and social workers. The letter sent on October 30 used the language of the AAUW diversity statement and said "School professionals' treatment of students should not be influenced by gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class." This action was prompted by opposition from the NC Family Council to including language referring to sexual orientation, and a discussion that noted that gay adolescents make up a group at high risk for suicide.

According to the *News and Observer*, "On a split vote [on November 3], the board [of education] rejected specific references to causes of discrimination, including race, creed, color, sexual orientation, national origin and disabilities. Instead the board opted for a more general reference: 'human diversity.'" See the November 4 article about the BOE meeting at www.newsobserver.com/928/story/353521.html.

Results of a new statewide poll by the Common Sense foundation was released on October 26. See www.common-sense.org/pdfs/LGBT_report_2005.pdf. The survey showed:

- 73% of North Carolinians "believe that all state residents should have equal rights under the law regardless of sexual orientation"
- 57% "believe that employment discrimination on the basis is unfair"
- 69% "believe housing discrimination on that basis is unfair," and
- 51% of the respondents said "no" when asked "Do you think it is fair to define marriage in such a way that it excludes same-sex couples?"

This information should help "achieve equality for all state residents."

United Nations Observes Anniversary

Shirley Quisenberry

AAUW NC International Relations Chair

THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY of the signing of the United Nations Charter was observed October 24. AAUW was among the 42 NGO's invited to be present in San Francisco in 1945 to help write the Charter. Of special note is that our own Virginia Gildersleeve, Dean of Barnard College and co-founder of the International Federation of University Women (IFUW), was the only woman member of the U.S. delegation and chaired the committee to write the preamble. The famous opening words are, "We, the peoples of the United Nations," which were her inspiration from our Constitution.

All AAUW public policy positions over the years have contained support for the U.N., some with different emphases, but always there. I have sent a new pamphlet, *What Every American Should Know about the United Nations*, to all AAUW NC branches, to help them be better informed. I hope some study groups will use this to learn more about the organization which AAUW has always supported and which currently is getting such bad press in the United States. For those of you who have a UNA in your community, partnering with them is a good idea.

Copies of the booklet are available from the Publications Department, UN Association, USA, 801 Second Ave., New York NY 10017. Cost: \$1 each; 50 for \$40; 100 for \$70. Add \$1 S&H to total payment for 10 or less; 10% of total order amount for greater quantities. Delivery takes three to five weeks. www.unausa.org

Must View: The Art of Possibility

This video and book, written by Rosamund Stone Zander and featuring her husband, Benjamin Zander, conductor of the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra, is a must for everyone in a leadership position. This dynamic bestseller is a key to "transforming professional and personal life." Published by Penquin Books.

Coalition Update: Covenant with North Carolina's Children

The AAUW NC Board received an up-front and personal update from its coalition partner during the fall meeting, when state president Joanne Hill introduced Crystal Hopson, intern with the Covenant with North Carolina's Children. Hopson reviewed the legislative progress which the Covenant has made this year in North Carolina, especially on legislation which protects children from the dangers of ATVs and meth labs.

She reviewed the process which the Covenant undergoes to identify and prioritize issues for which they lobby. Currently, eight work groups recommend legislative priorities to the Board, which in turn presents these ideas to the general membership, which then adopts two issues/priorities for a particular legislative session. The work groups are: Child Welfare and Protection, Early Childhood, Economic Security, Education, Health, Juvenile Justice, Mental Health/Development Disabilities/Substance Abuse Services, and Safety. Hopson urged AAUW NC, as a member of the Covenant, to become involved in this process. Barbara Ann Hughes, AAUW NC state public policy coordinator, is the AAUW NC liaison to the Covenant.

A handout provided by the Covenant shows that 12 bills addressing child welfare, early childhood, and education remain in both House and Senate committees, as well as one on safety in the House: H1104 Ban Cell Phone Use While Driving. No action has been taken on any of them.

Bills on economic security (minimum wage), juvenile justice (street gang prevention; expunge) and safety (instructions/information to protect newborns) have passed the house and are in Senate committees.

Bills that have passed both levels of the Legislature include child welfare (meth lab

prevention act), health (cigarette tax; children 0-5 years old and 200% of poverty moved to Medicaid and now budgeted).

Gang prevention was passed in the budget but does not have an accompanying law. Alternatives to commitment was funded \$250,000 recurring in the budget. The ATV bill was signed into law by the Governor in August. T.E.A.C.H. was funded 2.6 million recurring in the budget. The Mental Health Trust Fund was funded \$10 million recurring in the budget.

Visit www.nccovenant.org or call 919.649.2449 to learn more about the Covenant.

AAUW Action Network at Forefront of Issues

From July 1 to November 16, the AAUW Action Network released 33 alerts. The items ranged from FDA Dr. Susan Wood quitting over the delay on Plan B, Supreme Court appointments, Katrina response, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), Patriot Act reauthorization, women's health issues, budget reconciliation, social security privatization, school vouchers, national security, education, and most importantly – successes of the AAUW Action Network.

Very few of these issues show up in *Tar Heel News* because of the time frame required for action. For this reason, we encourage all AAUW members to either subscribe to the Action Network e-mail alerts, which have a convenient "take action" link to contact members of Congress and sometimes the President, or visit www.aauw.org and click on "Issue Advocacy" at the top of the page, for all of the information you need - alerts, position papers, and links - to make your voice heard. Do it today!

Viewing Diversity

The subject of diversity came up during the fall board meeting on more than one occasion and in different contexts:

- Queen Thompson, AAUW NC diversity chair, challenged board members to ask what their branches are doing to embrace all issues of diversity. She questioned whether AAUW NC should be conducting a study of diversity issues impacting women. She noted that Charlotte Branch had worked in cooperation with an educational television station in her area to study issues of African American students in public schools. She asked the board to define three to five diversity issues which AAUW NC could study.
- In the context of a recognition program: The board agreed that diversity should be the focus of continued efforts at the state level. The motion that "Queen Thompson and the Diversity Committee will work on developing a statewide diversity initiative which will be presented to the membership at the 2006 AAUW NC Convention as an item of business" was offered, seconded and approved. The committee is to meet by February 15.
- 3) Strategic planning goals and strategies: Lola Jackson summarized some of the ideas which came out of discussions in the summer. These included a "sisterhood" pin as a fund-raiser, graduate schools promoting AAUW membership, a videotape, and public service announcements. The board agreed that these ideas could be folded into the statewide diversity initiative which the Diversity Committee will be developing.
- The board agreed to support the N.C. Board of Education in its efforts to require diversity training for school counselors and social workers (story on page five).

Timely News: EdEqChange

EdEqChange is the bi-weekly leader memo published by AAUW. Subscribers receive e-mail alerts with links to download the pdf bulletins. A sampling of recent topics include:

- **Oct. 5, #4** - Membership resources.
- **Oct. 21, #5** - Association Convention dates and locations through 2013.
- PDFs and hardcopies of the new membership brochure are available.
- See www.letsreadmath.com for a Foundation-supported web site encouraging "Read good children's books with math themes, then do fun math activities related to the book."
- Check out the new movie "North Country" and note that EF's *Harassment-Free Hallways* program is listed as a resource on a web site related to the film. [Any branches planning movie nights?]
- **Nov. 2 #6** - Rosa Parks.
- Clarification of the AAUW status with IFUW.
- Public Policy updates on the Senate's passage of an amendment to ensure that the Bureau of Labor Statistics continues to collect "Women Workers" data and information on an amendment to the Labor-HHS appropriations bill that has Title IX implications.
- **Nov. 18 #7** - AAUW Strategic Plan Key Messages - a **must read** for all members at every level, these are the seeds that can bear bountiful fruit for our organization if we plant and nurture them!

See www.aauw.org/member_center/leader_corner/EdEqChange/EdEqChange.cfm to read past issues (member number needed) or ask a member in your branch to share her copies!

Women's Reproductive Rights – Controversy on Morning After Pill Continues

Women Speak; FDA Scrambles

Women who heard the news in September that the Food and Drug Administration appointed a veterinarian, Dr. Norris Alderson, to head the Office of Women's Health, following the resignation of Dr. Susan Wood, were outraged.

As reported by Marc Kaufman, *Washington Post* staff writer (September 20, 2005; Page A21) "The Office of Women's Health serves as a liaison with women's health groups and as an advocate on women's issues; critics said that a man with a primarily veterinary background could not properly fill the role."

Wood's resignation protested of the agency's unwillingness to decide whether to emergency contraception should be more easily available.

Kaufman went on to say, "Three days after the Alderson announcement, the FDA main press office sent out a very different announcement... that 20-year FDA veteran Theresa A. Toigo would be the new acting director of the women's health office, and that she would be a champion for women's health... [Alderson's name and the announcement of his appointment was never mentioned] and "FDA spokeswoman Suzanne Trevino, who said that Alderson had never been appointed acting director," also said "There was no official decision made until we announced Theresa Toigo's appointment."

There's more to this story, because a number of women's groups did receive an e-mail press release about Alderson's appointment. See: www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/09/19/AR2005091901576.html.

Leslie Stahl Looks "Behind the Scenes"

Forwarded from the NC Women United List

When "The Morning After Pill," known as Plan B, was put on the market in 1999, it was described as an emergency contraceptive that prevents a pregnancy in cases of rape or accidents like condom breaks. It's only available by prescription, but because women need to take it within 72 hours, the drug's manufacturer applied to the Food and Drug Administration two years ago for permission to sell Plan B over-the-counter at local drugstores. The drug is considered totally safe, so the request was seen as a slam dunk. But then Plan B became the target of anti-abortion-rights groups and part of the wider controversy over whether religious beliefs are encroaching on scientific decision-making.

Lesley Stahl looked at Plan B and what was behind the FDA's decision on *60 MINUTES*, Sunday, Nov. 27, on CBS. To learn more, see www.ncwu.org/2004/ecer.

American Association of University Women

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Member Connections

- Phyllis Guberman, Wilmington Branch:
New email address: gubermanj@bellsouth.net
 - Swanetta Fink, Gaston Regional Branch:
New email address: sbfink1@carolina.rr.com
She has resigned as bylaws chair.
 - Karl & Shirley Quisenberry, Asheville Branch:
Moved to Givens Estates in October.
103 Strawbridge Ct., Asheville, NC 28803
828.285.2303; Email: ksqberry@yahoo.com
 - Judy Atkinson, Winston-Salem Branch:
336.768.6573 is home fax, not work number
- Sandy Jenkins resigned as historian.
 - Sue Adams, program vice-president of the Raleigh/Wake Co. Branch, is back at work after recovering from a heart attack.
 - Bobbie Edmisten, former AAUW NC treasurer and Statesville Branch member, is undergoing chemo.
 - Esther Lumsdon, Raleigh/Wake County Branch president, said the World's T.E.A.M. Sports Face of America bike ride has been delayed until Spring 2006, due to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

AAUW NC Treasurer's Report

Millie Hoffer-Foushee, Treasurer • October 2005

	2005-2006 BUDGET	AMT TO DATE 10/28/05	DIFF
INCOME ACCOUNTS			
Dues	\$ 12,100.00	\$ 7,788.00	\$ 4,312.00
Interest Income	-	-	-
From Reserve	2,000.00	900.00	1,100.00
History Book Sales	50.00	-	50.00
Fund Raisers:			
(50-50 SAR)			
NC State Pens		20.00	
100 Club		400.00	
Fund Raisers Total	1,840.00	420.00	1,420.00
Miscellaneous:			
2004 Convention Profit		569.32	
Convention Reimburse		500.00	
Other		-	
Miscellaneous Total	500.00	1,069.32	(569.32)
Total Income	\$ 16,490.00	\$ 9,277.32	\$ 7,212.68
EXPENSE ACCOUNTS			
Administrative Expenses:			
President	1,200.00	-	1,200.00
Program VP	800.00	-	800.00
Membership VP	100.00	-	100.00
Recording Secretary	50.00	-	50.00
Treasurer	50.00	7.40	42.60
Finance Com. Chair	25.00	-	25.00
Education Foundation	75.00	-	75.00
Legal Advocacy	50.00	-	50.00
College/University Rep	25.00	-	25.00
Diversity	75.00	-	75.00
Public Policy - Fed	50.00	-	50.00
Public Policy - State	50.00	-	50.00
Technology	100.00	14.95	85.05
Cluster Coordinator	25.00	-	25.00
SO - ReConnect	2,000.00	900.00	1,100.00
International Relations	25.00	-	25.00
Other Committee Chairs	25.00	9.06	15.94
Administrative Expenses Total	3,525.00	931.41	2,593.59
State Convention/Meetings:			
Regular Meetings		35.00	
Electronic Meetings			
State Convention			
State Convention/Meetings Total	2,650.00	35.00	2,615.00
Travel	1,000.00	143.75	856.25
Publications	6,200.00	1,419.38	4,780.62
Coalitions:			
Aging		-	
NC Voters/Clean Elections		25.00	
NC Women United		-	
Covenant w/NCs Children		-	
Juvenile Literature		-	
Coalitions Total	400.00	25.00	375.00
Assn Convention/SAR	1,000.00		1,000.00
Contingency			
Miscellaneous:			
SAR Assessment			
Convention Seed Money			
Bank Charges		6.00	
Other		43.52	
Miscellaneous Total	515.00	49.52	465.48
Total Expense	\$ 16,490.00	\$ 2,604.06	\$ 13,885.95
Checking Account Balance: \$18,996.58			

Bylaws Revision Process Is Complete; Policies Alignment Begins

Karla Atkinson, AAUW NC Secretary

The final copy of the amended bylaws for AAUW NC is now posted at www.aauwnc.org. These amendments were approved at the state convention on April 16, 2005. If you do not have web access, ask one of your branch officers for a copy or call Karla Atkinson, 828.884.7648.

Minor stylistic corrections have been inserted for punctuation, capitalization, format, etc. Thanks to Gloria Blanton for her review and suggested changes.

The next step will be to align the policies with the bylaws document.

Places to Go; Things to Do - Together!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Recently, some Statesville and Charlotte Branch members joined together to check out the "Purses, Platforms, Power" exhibit at the Levine Museum of the New South and went to supper together. They're planning another outing in February, to view the Dead Sea Scrolls. I mentioned this when I visited Winston-Salem Branch a few days later. It's the consensus of folks from all three branches that this is a great way to network, considering we are not doing clusters anymore. Branches should send basic information for special meetings, outings, events and projects to which members of other branches are invited to marty@penstrokes.com prior to each Tar Heel News deadline, being watchful of target mailing dates. It takes two to eight days for all members to receive the newsletter after it has been mailed.

- **Holiday Social and Baby Shower for the Teen Mother Program for the YWCA-HP**
Date: December 17, 2005
Time: Drop in 3 - 5 p.m.
Place: Home of Mary Stephens
515 Birchwood Dr., High Point, NC 27262
Phone: 336.885.3203
Admission: One baby gift for a boy or girl infant to toddler. Hostess will serve desserts and apple cider. Please support our local YWCA and its programs.
 - **Dead Sea Scrolls** – February 21
Statesville and Charlotte Branch members plan to view the Dead Sea Scrolls at Discovery Place in Charlotte, on Tuesday, February 21. Time TBA. Members and guests from other branches are welcome to join them. Special price for groups of 15 or more is \$16 per person. The branches expect to have 15 or more. Contact Diane Johnston, dianej@wkwhile.com or 704.847.5144 home or 704.847.9125 work, if you are interested. Charlotte Branch also has an evening group that is arranging other outings.
 - **Annual Speaking Series**
The Justice Center's Budget and Tax Center kicked off its annual speaking series on December 2 with an event at the IBM Fitness Center in Research Triangle Park. This year's series is entitled, *Impact 2005: From Budget to Lottery, What is North Carolina Facing?* In addition to the RTP presentation, events are scheduled for Winston-Salem, Greenville, Charlotte, and Asheville. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about how decisions made during this year's legislative session will affect the state budget, public services, and the future of North Carolina. See www.ncjustice.org/event/details.php?eid=11 to learn more about Justice Center events.
- **Ruth Pauley Lecture Series**
Distinguished professionals from many fields participate in this long-running series at Sandhills Community College campus in Pinehurst. AAUW Sandhills/Southern Pines Branch is a very active sponsor. See story and photos, page five.
 - **Workshop, Summer Institute**
The North Carolina Center for Women in Public Service, www.nccwps.org, is a non-partisan organization that prepares women to seek and serve in public office.

The Center just announced that one of their graduates, Eleanor Goettee, won her race for Wake County School Board - the first graduate to win as a first-time candidate. The Center is sponsored by the Women's Forum and Peace College, our coalition partners through NC Women United, and several AAUW members are active in its support.

Registration is available now for a one day workshop, January 21 in Rocky Mount, to help women identify steps to become more involved, or help others to become more involved, in public service. January 31 is the application deadline for the 2006 Summer Institute, an interactive, hands-on, high-energy workshop spread over three summer weekends. The institute is geared toward women who would like to learn more of what to expect from running for public office or seeking an appointed position.

Deadline Near for EF Donations and Reports

Alice "Rusty" Bradke
AAUW NC Educational Foundation Chair

Last call for contributions to the AAUW Educational Foundation. Reports should be in Washington by December 15, or as close to that as possible. Please remember to send a copy of your report to me, at 131 Jenny Lind Dr., Hendersonville, 28791. Thanks for all your fund- raising efforts.

Association Resource

The Association's new Power Point presentation, which is designed to introduce this year's theme, "Education as Gateway to Economic Security," to the public is available at www.aauw.org.



President's Message

Joanne Hill
AAUW NC

FALL IS FLYING BY! One thing I love about AAUW – it's always moving onward and upward! There is never a dull moment! Every day we have the opportunity to make a difference in lives everywhere! It seems there is always "the next big thing."

Our fall board meeting in Chapel Hill was a wonderful "meeting of the minds" and much was done to move us forward. Convention planning is in high gear, and we are hoping that many of you will head east to New Bern in March. It was announced that our highly

energetic and dedicated Lib Laney has been busy in the northwest part of our state, creating a new branch, "High Country AAUW!" We do have a couple unanticipated board vacancies due to resignations, so please let me know if you are interested in By-Laws or Historian. Work is moving forward on our unified theme/project surrounding the Association program theme of "Education, the Gateway to Women's Economic Security," branch recognition, and diversity.

In November, I was able to present the AAUW North Carolina Juvenile Literature Award to Carole Boston Weatherford for her book, *Freedom on the Menu: The Greensboro Sit-Ins*. The story of this momentous event in the civil rights movement is told from the perspective of an eight-year-old girl. I love Ms. Weatherford's dedication in the beginning of the book, "To the courageous students who stood up by sitting down, so we could all have a place at the table." It is a reminder about how far we've come, but still how very far we have to go for equity. Special

"Thank You's" to Sandra Champion from Gaston for procuring the cup, to the Raleigh Branch for fellowship prior to the award, and Grace Knechtel for her company and transportation! I relish opportunities such as these – to address an audience who may not be familiar with AAUW, tell them who we are and about our past successes (I stuck with Madame Curie and the one about debunking the theory that higher education was hazardous to women's health!) and our hopes for the future.

So – what is "the next big thing?" The Executive Committee is contemplating a winter board meeting – perhaps a committee or group who needs to meet, perhaps a "virtual" meeting that won't be weather dependent. Contact us with your thoughts and needs. Our "balancing act" is this: As we streamline and become more efficient, we still want everyone to feel they have "a place at the table" so please contact us with your thoughts feelings and concerns.

Have a wonderful, warm, safe holiday season!

Board Approves Phone Line

Nancy Shoemaker
AAUW NC President-Elect

AT THE FALL board meeting, approval was given to explore getting a toll-free, Internet-based voice-mail and fax line for AAUW NC. This addresses the strategic goal to use technology sensitively.

Unlike our previous experiment with an 800 number, this "phone" won't live in someone's home, but rather in cyberspace. The phone calls and faxes will be converted to e-mail messages that can be sent to a couple of people so we can "share the work" of responding to messages.

While having a phone number would, presumably, make it easier for the public to contact us, the toll-free line may also be a service to our members. Check any issue of *Tar Heel News* and see how many articles stated, "see web site." What if you are not on-line or are a member-at-large without a friend in a branch who can check the web site for you? How would you get that information? Would you like to be able to pick up the phone and request additional details?

The next step is to identify a few people willing to "answer the phone." You'll need to be comfortable with e-mail and opening e-mail attachments (pdfs to monitor the fax line, WAV, i.e. sound, files to monitor the voice mail, or both).

If you're interested in helping with this project, contact me at shoemaker@acm.org or 919.773.1340, and we'll configure the "phone line" and handle details like reimbursement for outgoing calls and mailings early in the new year.

AAUW Reaches Out to Women in Costa Rica, Russia

Mary Jo Pribble
Former AAUW NC President

Costa Rica Celebrates Anniversary

IN APRIL AND May, many AAUW NC members met Thais Cordoba from Costa Rica when she spent three weeks in North Carolina. The Costa Rica Association of University Women is a Bina Roy Partner with AAUW NC. The Summer and Fall 2005 editions of *Tar Heel News* featured photos and reports of her visits to various branches.

On November 17, the Costa Rica Association of University Women celebrated their 50th anniversary with a program at the School of Education of the University of Costa Rica in San Jose. Emma Gamboa, who was dean of education at the University of Costa Rica, founded the Association in 1955. Thais Cordoba was honored as the first recipient of the Emma Gamboa Gold Medal which is given to recognize a member's contributions to the Association.

New Partnership Hosts Russian Women

AAUW is partnering with the National Peace Foundation to offer branches an opportunity to host a group of professional Russian women visiting the United States. The visit lasts eight days, and funding is available to defray expenses. Hosts will provide daily work experiences, participation in community and cultural activities, and home stays. Since 1999, the Open World Center for Leadership Development at the Library of Congress has brought more than 6,000 Russian leaders to the United States to see firsthand how American democracy works and how American citizens conduct their daily lives. More than 40 percent of the delegates have been women.

Twelve AAUW branches have already participated in this stimulating program. If your branch or a group of branches is interested, contact Jeanne Smith at 202/783-7030 ext. 14 or jusmith@nationalpeace.org. For information

about this program, visit Open Door.

The International Corner on the AAUW Web Site has a listing of the issues that AAUW follows at the United Nations. Since 2000, Carolyn Donovan has served as AAUW's representative at the United Nations. Mary Purcell, former IFUW and AAUW president, is the head of IFUW's representatives and serves as the co-chair of the steering committee of the NGO.

Technology Usability Advisory Group Formed

The Association has formed a Technology Usability Advisory Group, chaired by board member Betty Bayless of South Carolina. This group will work to ensure that AAUW uses technology (especially the web site) to meet members' needs and that members have information to improve their skills to utilize these opportunities. One of their tasks is to comment on plans for member access to the AAUW contact database—for instance, to allow members to verify/correct their contact information, branch officers to download listings for all branch members, and EF chairs to get contribution reports "on demand." Nancy Shoemaker serves with Bayless and two other members of the committee.

American Association of University Women

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AAUW NC: When & Where!

AAUW NC Winter Meetings

Executive Committee and some individual committees will meet, possibly with conference calls.

March 31-April 2, 2006

AAUW NC Convention

Sheraton Grand New Bern

South Atlantic Region Conference (SAR)

June 9-11, 2006, Birmingham, Alabama

AAUW NC Summer Board Meeting

TBA

AAUW NC Fall Board Meeting

Statesville

Note to Branch Presidents:

Have a conflict for a state meeting date? Our revised by-laws allow you to designate another person, even someone from another branch, to represent you and your branch. AAUW NC has been restructured to help our members participate. Want to know more? Contact Karla Atkinson, AAUW NC secretary, bardofb@citcom.net or 828.884.7648.

Promoting Education & Equity For All Women and Girls

TAR HEEL NEWS DEADLINE

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New Feature! See page 7!

Opportunities for branches get together for outings, events, special meetings and projects. Some are plain fun; others are educational and inspirational.