

# AAUW Wilmington News

May 2009



## Message from the President

What a wonderful experience having one of our own give us a presentation. On April 18, our speaker was **Amanda Boomershine**, Assistant Professor of Spanish and Linguistics at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. Amanda spoke to us on "Immigration and Access to Education". She provided an overview of the immigration situation in North Carolina, discussing the social and economic costs of immigration in the state. She focused on immigrants' access to education, in particular higher education, and the effects it will have on the state and future generations. Thanks to Amanda.

On March 27, members of AAUW NC celebrated 100 years of AAUW in North Carolina with Wilmington being the host site. The Convention at the Blockade Runner at Wrightsville Beach was a celebration of the past and a planning session for the future. Our member, Barbara Fleming, a certified financial planner, presented "Riding the Wave to Financial Independence". Dorothy DeShields, a member of the New Hanover County Board of Education gave a great speech at the banquet. Thanks to all the members of the Wilmington Branch that made the convention a success.

For **Pay Equity Day**, April 28, many of us went shopping while wearing **Keep The Change** badges. Letters from are local branch have been sent to our local representatives asking each of them to practice **pay equity for women** in their offices.

We now have new officers ready take over on July 1, President, **Jean Schaefer**, co-VP's for programs, **Janet Petty and Lois Fox**, VP for Membership, **June Creamer**, Secretary, **Ava Bevins**, Treasurer, **Ann Skiba**,

The **May Luncheon** will be held on May 16 at the Madeline Suite. Lou Bettino, Chair of the Film Studies Department at UNCW will be our speaker. Lou is a playwright, author, journalist and documentary filmmaker. This will be the last meeting of the year, so let's make an effort to have a large turnout.

At the May meeting, bring a little extra cash for a fifty-fifty raffle. We will also have 2009-2010 membership forms available. The May Luncheon will be a good time to renew your membership. So bring your checkbook and save yourself a stamp. Dues are the same as last year with a total of \$75.00 for national, state, and local dues.

As always, this newsletter is packed with information, please read it thoroughly.

Sandra McLaurin, President

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## Membership

Let us hope that the prospective members attending our Reception on Sunday, April 19, will become AAUW members. Your membership form is in this newsletter. Please be sure to save it! The annual dues are \$75 and are due by June 30, 2009.



Time to update your directory:

Ellen B. O'Malley has a new email address: ebomalley@ec.rr.com.

Georgia Polhemus has a new email address as well: georgies26@gmail.com.

June Creamer, Membership VP

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## Local Member: Local Author

Blonnie Bunn Wyche is an award-winning short fiction writer and former teacher with thirty years in elementary classrooms. She was born in the North Carolina mountains and grew up in the Piedmont. Her marriage brought her to the coastal plains of the state. There she raised her sons and sent them out into the world. Blonnie was nine years old when her first story appeared in print. She's been writing ever since.



Her first novel, *The Anchor ~ P. Moore, Proprietor*, won the Juvenile Fiction Award from the American Association of University Women and the Clark Cox Fiction Award from the NC Historical Society. A review in the *Wilmington Star News* stated: *The Anchor . . . is solid storytelling and workmanlike historical fiction - a book that many adults could read with pleasure.*

In the sequel, *Cecilia's Harvest* continues the story with events of the Revolutionary War in Wilmington and the surrounding area. Sixteen-year-old Cecilia Moore Black quickly finds marriage and widowhood as the events of the American Revolution swirl about her. With feminine guile and calculated risk-taking, she manages her farm, safeguards her child and earns trust from those who depend on her.

Ms. Wyche is available for classroom programs on late colonial and early statehood history. Programs are also designed for adults and those who wish to know more about how North Carolina came to be. To contact Blonnie: 910-762-2339 or [blonnie@ec.rr.com](mailto:blonnie@ec.rr.com).

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## Green Tip of the Month

The average North American residence [uses half of its water outside](#), so [smart landscaping practices](#) can make a big difference in household water consumption. Scale back on turf and opt for [drought-tolerant, native plants](#). Trees, shrubs, and flowers should be [suited to your region](#) as well as to your yard's microclimates. Plants' needs vary, but a good general rule is to [water deeply but less frequently](#).



## Program Notes



The May 16 luncheon and meeting will be held at the Madeline Suite, UNCW, from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm. The speaker for the event is Lou Bettino, Chair of the Film Studies Department at UNCW. Lou is a playwright, author, journalist and documentary filmmaker. He will be speaking about what a department chair would say to the graduating seniors, their parents, and those who love them.

If you plan to attend the event, please complete the form with your menu selection and return it with your check of \$15.00 to Lois Fox, 3713 Reston Court, Wilmington NC 28403, no later than Monday May 11. We are looking forward to a good turnout.

Janet Petty and Lois Fox, Program VPs

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## Legal Advocacy Fund

Once again our branch can be proud.

Our members have generously contributed a total of \$290.00 to the Legal Advocacy Fund. That amount will be added to a portion of our profits from the last Carolina Authors Luncheon which brings our total contribution to a healthy \$610.00.

Our sincere thanks go to Ava Bevins, Eileen Buckingham, Anne Colter, June Creamer, Phyllis Gubberman, Audry Hersome, Nancy Kiefhaber, Sandra McLauren, Janet Petty, Jean Schaefer, Lill Van Order and Sue Wood. Thanks also go to all members who supported the Carolina Authors Luncheon last fall. Keep up the good work.



Jean Schaefer, LAF Chair

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## Suggested Immigration Readings and Viewings

### Books

The Circuit (Jiménez)  
The Tortilla Curtain (Boyle)  
A Home on the Field (Cuadros)  
The Other Face of America (Ramos)  
Dying to Cross: The Worst Immigrant Tragedy  
in American History (Ramos)  
Children of Immigration (Suárez-Orozco)  
Enrique's Journey (Nazario)

### Films

Walking the Line  
Crossing Arizona  
La Vida no es Fácil  
Morristown: In the Air and Sun  
Letters from the Other Side  
El Norte  
Under the Same Moon / La Misma Luna  
Maria Full of Grace

## Book Club Information

### Monday Afternoon Book Club

Meetings held at 1:30pm. We welcome new members. For more information, contact June Creamer (791-4612) or Pat Noonan (256-0297, [pgnoonan@yahoo.com](mailto:pgnoonan@yahoo.com)).

May 4      ... *Gone with the Windsors* by Laurie Graham  
 ...Reviewer: Phyllis Oakes  
 ...Hostess: Marjorie Whittaker, (910) 686-2750

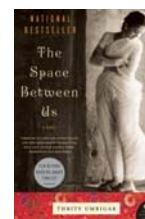


June 1      ... *One Writers Beginning* by Eudora Welty  
 ...Reviewer: Aileen Ferguson  
 ...Hostess: Pat Noonan, (910) 256-0297

### Monday Evening Book Club

Meetings held at 6:30pm at the home of the hostess/reviewer. For more information, contact Audrey Hersom at 350-0068 or [bobaud@aol.com](mailto:bobaud@aol.com).

5/25 – Phyllis Guberman - *The Space Between Us* by Thrity Umrigar



## School Vision Screening Team

(New Name for Eyes to the Future)



Want to make a difference in a child's life? Want to work with a terrific team of volunteers carrying on a strong AAUW tradition of "giving" to our community? Well your dream has come true! The School Vision Screening Team is just the opportunity for you!

Please contact Jeri Graham at [jeriigraham@yahoo.com](mailto:jeriigraham@yahoo.com) to learn more about this program.

## International Relations Schedule for 2009

International Relations will have discussions based on the "Great Decisions 2009" Publication. It meets at the Northeast Library at 12:30pm on the second Wednesday of each month. Contact the coordinator, Jean Corbin, for more information (910-452-1933). The schedule is as follows:



Topic	Date (2009)	Leader
Egypt: Key Ally in the Middle East	May 13	Helen Solomon & Enid Bellows
Global Food Crises	June 10	Sandra McLaurin

- Jean Corbin, International Relations

## **FINANCIAL ISSUES FOR WOMEN - WHAT ARE YOUR CONCERNS?**

By Barbara R. Fleming, CFP®

May 2009

### **WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF YOUR BROKERAGE COMPANY FAILED?**

- There is a safety net for most brokerage companies.
- \$500,000 of brokerage assets are protected by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC) members
- This is a private nonprofit funded by member firms.
- Currently its balance is \$1.5 Billion in assets versus \$45 billion for the FDIC.
- While banks are lending out your money, brokerages must only HOLD them.
- Your stocks and bonds must be segregated from the brokerages assets.
- If the brokerages fail, your investments are still there. You may not be able to access them for some time.
- It is not common for brokerages to fail. In the entire 38 years SIPC history, only \$508 million has been spent to recover customer assets.
- If the uncommon situation did occur and there is no fraud- SIPC may not become involved. The broker would transfer the holdings to another brokerage so you can access them. You will get your shares, but the share value could differ.
- However, if there is fraud or if accounts are lost due to bad record keeping, SIPC would help coordinate the transfer of your remaining assets. This could take three months or more.
- If a broker fails, a court appointed trustee would contact you and let you know how to file a claim. To be safe- file the claim even if the transfer has begun. Use registered mail whenever sending financial papers.
- SIPC will replace up to \$500,000 of equities, fixed income securities and funds for each account. If you had separate account with different brokerages, both accounts would be covered for this amount.
- The cash included in this account is covered up to \$100,000. Money market funds are not considered cash and are included under the \$500,000. CDs are the responsibility of the FDIC
- Some alternative investments such as foreign currency, precious metals, and commodity futures contracts are not covered.
- You should check with your brokerage to be sure they are a SIPC member. Call SIPC at 202-371-8300 to be sure.
- If your account is over \$500,000 be sure the brokerage has excess insurance to cover that overage.
- Keep good records and keep statements in a binder for easy access. Do your homework before the crisis occurs.

**BE PREPARED BEFORE YOU ARE FACED WITH A SURPRISE**

Source: Money October 2008 pg 65-68

## 2008 – 2009 AAUW Wilmington Board of Directors

President	Sandra McLaurin, <a href="mailto:scmclaurin@ec.rr.com">scmclaurin@ec.rr.com</a>
Co-VP Programs	Lois Fox, <a href="mailto:Lois3713@aol.com">Lois3713@aol.com</a>
Co-VP Programs	Janet Petty, <a href="mailto:jpettysus@bellsouth.net">jpettysus@bellsouth.net</a>
Membership	June Creamer, <a href="mailto:june_creamer@yahoo.com">june_creamer@yahoo.com</a>
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### A Special Thanks To:



Chad Phillips at Mailbox Express,  
at 1616-11 Shipyard Blvd,  
for help with all of AAUW Wilmington's printing needs.



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Our May Luncheon will be held at the Madeline Suite on the UNCW Campus on Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>.  
The cost is \$15.00

The reservation form below must be returned with your check and your menu selection by **Monday, May 11.**

Mail your check to Lois Fox, 3713 Reston Court, Wilmington NC 28403. Make your  
Check out to AAUW Wilmington Branch

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### May Luncheon at Madeline Suite, May 16, 11:30am. Lunch at 12:00

Check a salad choice. Both choices include dessert (Carrot Cake), Iced Tea, Water or Coffee.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mediterranean Antipasto Salad

\_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Cobb Salad

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_