



# THE MARYLANDER

AAUW Maryland Newsletter

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<http://www.aauwmd.org>

SUMMER 2008

## Calling All Leaders!

### AAUW Announces New Leadership Development DVD Series

AAUW is pleased to announce a new series of leadership-focused DVDs created for distribution in 2008. As we work to strengthen and revitalize AAUW, all members must connect together as a community of active and effective participants. To fulfill our mission of advancing equity for women and girls, AAUW continues to need strong leaders who will make sure the AAUW legacy continues. In the past, only two members per state participated in national level leadership training. This new series of DVDs will provide leadership skills and strategies for **all** members.

Training for the Middle Atlantic Region has been scheduled for Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at the Crowne Plaza in Timonium, Maryland. We are indeed fortunate to have Anthony Hill, Association Board Member, Sally Chamberlain, Foundation Board Member, and Linda Tozier, MAR Director, on hand to present the DVDs and lead the participant discussion. It's vital that all of us can easily discuss AAUW's mission ...with a consistent message which will enable us to retain our current members and recruit the new and diverse membership of tomorrow.

The Leaders' introduction module features a conversation with AAUW President Ruth Sweetser, AAUW Foundation President Barbara O'Connor, and new AAUW Executive Director Linda Hallman. They chart an inspiring course for AAUW's future, with a mission-focused message that members will share with their local branches. Together, these three leaders provide a "state of AAUW" message; summarize the strategic process journey for AAUW's future; explain AAUW's mission and how it relates to members, branches, the future of our organization; and discuss the impact of AAUW mission-focused branch activities on their communities.

To advance equity through advocacy, AAUW staff leaders describe how you can become an effective advocate for AAUW priority issues; how you can help mobilize women voters at the grassroots level in the fall elections; how you can stay current with issues that impact the higher education of women, and the subtleties of the politics involved in – or strengthen your current involvement with – vital areas of AAUW's mission.

To advance equity through education and research, AAUW staff leaders introduce AAUW's latest research report – its findings and recommendations, media and promotional outreach tools, and how you can share this information with your branch; provide an overview on the National Girls Collaborative Project and how you can promote STEM initiatives in your community; describe how you can encourage women's leadership development through AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders and Campus Action Projects; and report on AAUW's fellowships and grants, tell how you can meet local recipients, and hear their stories to motivate involvement and investment in AAUW philanthropy.

To build a stronger community, AAUW staff leaders in the membership, fundraising, communications and marketing DVD modules discuss why it is so important to tell the AAUW story and how marketing is every member's responsibility; why effective communication and information sharing are important to building a community as AAUW moves into the future; how branch and individual contributions make a difference; how you can use AAUW's website, videos, DVDs, and other materials to advance our mission in your branch.

Registration form and directions to the conference are on pages 14 and 15



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As my term as President of AAUW Maryland ends, I feel very honored to have had the opportunity to serve in this office. I extend my thanks to all who have served on the AAUW Maryland board and especially acknowledge those who are completing their terms in office: Patricia Crane and Mary Anne Williams, Program Co-Vice Presidents; Joyce Graf, Communications Vice President; Karen Richardson, Educational Foundation Vice President; and Cleopatra Campbell Anderson, Legal Advocacy Fund Liaison. I offer my sincere thanks to all the other members of the 2007-2008 board: Edie Allison and Tracy Lantz, Membership Co-Vice Presidents; Norma Powers, Treasurer; Elaine Franz, Public Policy Vice President; Karen Richardson, Educational Foundation Vice President; Verna Kushel, College/University Relations Chair; Jacqueline Thorpe, Children's Issues Chair; Sheri Specht, International Relations Chair; Juliana Poulos, Finance Chair; Barbara Fetterhoff, Bylaws Chair and Parliamentarian; and Janet Crampton, Consultant. Your service is greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to the newly elected officers—Marcia Posner, President; Christine Schmitz, Educational Foundation Vice President; Janet Moses, Communications Vice President, Ann Weller Dahl, Secretary. Some who are completing their terms have accepted a second term. They are Pat Crane and Mary Anne Williams, Program Co-Vice Presidents and Cleopatra Campbell Anderson, Legal Advocacy Fund Vice-President.

AAUW Maryland has focused on pay equity and the economic security of women at our meetings this year. The Annual Convention in April was a first for us, a joint convention with the Federated Business and Professional Women of Maryland. Thank you to the members of the Gaithersburg Branch, our hosts. I thank co-Presidents Mary Wykes and Anna Fraker, who welcomed

**Diane Roca, Outgoing President AAUW MD**  
410-964-3523 <[dbroca@comcast.net](mailto:dbroca@comcast.net)>

attendees, and members of several branches who helped with many tasks. Thank you also to Mary Anne Williams, Pat Crane, and Cleopatra Anderson who invited the speakers. We were very pleased that Linda Hallman, AAUW Executive Director, came for the weekend, met many of the members and spoke on two occasions.

This year, the Middle Atlantic Regional Leadership Development meeting will be held right here in Maryland. Members from states in the Middle Atlantic Region will arrive on June 21 in Timonium to learn about strategies and ideas for leaders. Schedule and registration information appear in this issue.

I have been asked what I will do with my newly found free time. While I look forward to playing a little golf and taking care of some long-ignored household tasks, most of all I will miss working with all of you, the great women of AAUW.

Have a wonderful summer.

**Diane**

### **A note to branch presidents –**

The Branch Officers Form was due on May 1. If you have completed it either through the AAUW Member Services Database or on paper, thank you very much. If not, fill it out as soon as possible. All branches are asked to send a copy to me. I will prepare the AAUW Maryland directory for 2008-2009, but I cannot do it until all branches have reported their officers. The form is available at [www.aauw.org/member\\_center/forms/branchofficers.doc](http://www.aauw.org/member_center/forms/branchofficers.doc). Or, just access the Member Services Database and update your branch member list online.

Thank you,  
Diane Roca  
5121 Watchwood Path  
Columbia, MD 21044.

## Message from Marcie



Thank you for having enough confidence in me to elect me State President. Of course, keep in mind that we are a team, and we will work as such. I thank Diane Roca for having paved the way for me with all of her hard work, which helped to make AAUW Maryland the strong organization it is today. As I stated on Sunday, Diane is a tough act to follow. I will need your help to continue paving that road to ensure our strong future. To start the year, we should consider many of the talks given during the

**Marcie Posner, Incoming President AAUW MD**  
410-772-7977 <marciaposner@hotmail.com>

Spring Convention.

The Convention was not only fun, but also very informative. Our knowledgeable speakers provided a great deal of information to carry into our personal as well as our AAUW lives. I have already had several members come up to me with ideas, and I am hoping to hear from others. It takes more than "The Board" to make sure that AAUW Maryland is a successful part of AAUW as a whole, helping to fulfill its vital mission. While having a terrific summer, please remember to watch for AAUW Maryland activities and try to fit them into your schedule.

**Marcie**



## Successful Fundraising At the Annual Convention A Preliminary Report



AAUW Maryland's joint convention with Business and Professional Women of Maryland brought together two strong organizations, two clever fundraising events, and a big attendance. The results matched the convention theme "*The Power of the Purse*" by raising significant amounts for the Educational Foundation and the Legal Advocacy Fund.

Preliminary accounting shows that the performance by the political satirical group *Hexagoners* netted approximately \$1800. The Silent Auction of purses, many with a book, jewelry or other treasure inside, raised approximately \$2400 after expenses were paid. Each of these amounts will be divided equally between AAUW Maryland and BPW of Maryland. AAUW Maryland's share will be divided equally between the Educational Foundation and the Legal Advocacy Fund. Therefore, each of those funds will receive about \$1100.

Final results will be announced when the planning committee is certain all expenses have been paid.

Thank you to the branches and individuals who contributed items to the Silent Auction: Frances Cressman and Christine Liu of Bethesda/Chevy Chase Branch; Karen Gyolai and members of Harford County Branch; Mary Wykes of Gaithersburg Branch; Elizabeth Bobo, Pauline Markas and Barbara Carter of Howard County Branch; Marilyn Moors of Garrett Branch; Lynn Hapchuk of Anne Arundel Branch; Barbara Fetterhoff of Patuxent River Branch; Julie Snell of Kensington-Rockville Branch; Ruth Manchester of Silver Spring Branch; Carol Graves of Towson Branch; and Jean Friedman of Gaithersburg Branch. Thank you also to the Baltimore Branch members who obtained a purse from Mayor Sheila Dixon of Baltimore and to Mary Anne Williams of Frederick Branch who arranged for purses from popular Maryland authors Barbara Mertz (writing as Elizabeth Peters), Nora Roberts and Lucia St. Clair Robson.

Another big thank-you goes out to all who were in attendance at the convention for their commitment to AAUW and the generosity with which they showed it.



## Pay Equity A Problem in the Forefront

Pay Equity is a problem for women that has existed since "the beginning of time." Today many people do not believe that this issue is still pertinent. According to the May 12, 2008 issue of *Time* magazine the percentage of men's salaries earned by women in the following professions are: sales 64%, medical 72%, technology 85% and construction 86%.

In 2007 AAUW published "Behind the Pay Gap" which concluded that although women have made remarkable gains in education during the past three decades their achievements have resulted in only modest improvements in pay equity. This gender gap has become a fixture of the U.S. workforce and as such is regarded as normal.

The Equal Pay Commission was formed in Maryland in 2005 and published its final report in 2006. A key finding was that "more than one-fifth of the difference in women's and men's earnings cannot be explained by differences in their education, potential work experience, job characteristics, or other measurable factors. A smaller, but still meaningful, portion of earnings differences between whites and women of color is not explained by observed demographic and job characteristics."

In the 2008 Maryland General Assembly session House Bill 1156, Labor and Employment - Pay Disparity Data – Reporting, was passed. HB 1156 requires the Commissioner of Labor and Industry to collect data from employers for five years regarding the racial classification and

## Elaine Franz

Public Policy Vice President, AAUW MD

gender of employees and allows the Commissioner to analyze the records to study disparity issues. This will provide accurate data of the conditions in Maryland.

We are now faced with the results by the Supreme Court of the Lilly Ledbetter case. Lilly Ledbetter worked for Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company since 1979 and received many rewards and bonuses for her work. When she became aware that her male counterparts were making salaries ten to twenty thousand dollars more than her salary, she sued. Ultimately, the Supreme Court decided to throw out the case because the Civil Rights Act held that a formal complaint must be filed within 180 days of the initial pay check. She was unaware of the discrepancy in salary until she was sent a memo by another employee. She received nothing but a bill for \$3165 from Goodyear for court costs.

In an attempt to rectify this injustice, the Maryland legislature tried to pass bills (HB 439 and SB 563) which were withdrawn during the last days of the session. Congress has also tried and failed to pass pay disparity legislation. It is hoped that new legislation will be successful so that the decision of the Supreme Court will be reversed.

Reports issued last year by the Montgomery County Commission of Women and the Howard County Commission for Women addressed pay disparity. The time has come for change and the Lilly Ledbetter Case has made people throughout the United States aware that a problem does exist.

**The Marylander** is published quarterly in Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer editions by AAUW MD, Janet Moses, editor. Send articles to <aauwmd@regraf.com> or mail to Janet Moses, 21 Theo Lane, Towson, MD 21204-2751. All submissions are edited for length and clarity. Deadline for the Fall issue is July 15, 2008.

**Please send ALL address changes to**

**AAUW Records Office, 1111 16th St., NW, Washington, DC 20036-4873**

**Make address changes ONLINE in the AAUW Member Center <<http://www.aauw.org>>.**

## AAUW MD Educational Foundation 2007 End-of-Year Report

Karen Richardson

Educational Foundation Vice-President,  
AAUW MD

AAUW Maryland's contributions to the Educational Foundation (EF) continue to be strong. I am happy to report that 100% of the AAUW Maryland branches contributed to EF in 2007!

The top 5 branches for total contributions:

- 5) Gaithersburg - \$5,805.00
- 4) Hagerstown - \$6,050.45
- 3) Anne Arundel County - \$6,140.00
- 2) Laurel - \$20,152.02
- 1) Kensington-Rockville - \$87,938.39

Two Educational Foundation fellowships were fully funded this past year. Congratulations to **Eileen Menton** and **Janet Crampton** for fully funding the fellowships they created. Eileen Menton's **Mary L. Shelly/Eileen Shelly Menton International Fellowship** and Janet Crampton's **Janet Wert Crampton American Fellowship** will soon be awarding their first scholarships!

The following branches named gifts to the Educational Foundation.

### Anne Arundel

Dorothy McGuinness  
Claire Motley  
Membership Committee Members 1966 – 2008  
Book Sales Collectors 1966 – 2007

### Silver Spring

Eliane Beach  
Pearl Dumoff

### Patuxent River

Cynthia Dickerson and Muriel Nickerson

We are working towards fully funding (\$100,000.00) the **Dian O. Belanger International Fellowship**. Donations to the **Dian O. Belanger International Fellowship** total \$75,715.51.

- We contributed \$1,807.50 to the **Eleanor Roosevelt Fund**.
- The state's per capita giving was \$170.10.
- 55% of the branches met the \$25.00 per capita goal.
- 55% of the branches increased their total annual contributions over their 2006 total annual contributions.



### Laurel

Mildred O'Laughlin  
Jan Loftus  
Mary Ellen May

### Gaithersburg

Patricia Armstrong  
Cathy Manning

### Howard County

Diane Roca  
Marcia Posner



Congratulations to Eileen Menton, Laurel branch, who has been elected President of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund. At the convention, Eileen described the work of VGIF and invited branches to become members at a suggested donation of \$50. She asked that they consider putting this amount into their budgets for 2008-2009 and offered to work with any branch that would like to hold a fundraiser for VGIF. The website is [www.vgif.org](http://www.vgif.org).

## Legal Advocacy Fund Support for Sex Discrimination Lawsuits

### TRANSITIONS:

During its first 26 years, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund offered plaintiff support to people fighting sex discrimination in higher education through financial assistance and outreach for their cases. Many members and others who look to AAUW for our leadership have urged us to extend our LAF support beyond academia to other workplace settings. At the February 2008 joint Board meeting, Board members focused on ways to maximize the strategic impact of our investment in LAF and ensure that it is consistent with AAUW's new Value Promise: *As AAUW members, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so ALL women have a fair chance.* As a result, the Board decided to expand LAF to include sex discrimination in all workplaces to reflect our commitment to that fair chance.

One way we will expand is by building on AAUW's history of participating as *amicus curiae* in cases affecting women's rights. In collaboration with the Public Policy and Government Relations department, we will seek expanded friend of the court opportunities in cases of discrimination that disadvantage women in the workplace. With this strategy, we believe that we will maximize our effectiveness and ensure that we will be heard by courts that affirmatively want our opinion on the cases and the issues before them.

A primary way we will expand is by focusing our direct case support strategically, seeking cases that address significant issues that clearly will impact our fight for pay equity and workplaces free of sex discrimination. Like the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund in the fifties, an organization that carefully selected the chronology of cases it pushed forward to ensure maximum impact, we'll be looking to organizational partners and collaborators to help us target our considerable power and influence to strategic cases where we know AAUW's voice will make a difference. The NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund and Thurgood Marshall knew exactly what they were doing when they championed *Brown v. Board of Education* – and that model for deliberate, significant change will help guide us as we select strong cases for our support.

We know that in the next few years, we can expect that -- much like the recent Lilly Ledbetter case

against Goodyear Tire and Rubber -- the fight will probably be to hold onto ground that AAUW has worked hard to already secure. When Ledbetter lost at the Supreme Court, we all lost. That decision, which severely limits the ability of victims of pay discrimination to be vindicated under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, turns more than 40 years of EEOC practice and legal precedent on its head.

As we all know, AAUW has been in the fight to combat sex discrimination from the first, and now we really are going to have to fight to defend that legacy. With the court narrowing our rights, and pushing hard to rescind the gains we've made, strategic litigation will be critical weapon for us over the next few years.

This will be a shift for LAF, which has focused more on deserving individuals than on landmark cases with the potential to make a difference for all women. It is clear that AAUW has always had a powerful voice in the sex discrimination arena, and we need to use it to reinforce cases that will hold our ground and lead us forward.

We will proactively reach out to like-minded and highly regarded organizations. Together, we will identify cases that will not only protect the legacy AAUW members have built, but can also move us forward and truly "change the world."

Thus, as of December 2007, LAF is no longer directly financially supporting new plaintiffs and will phase out its support of certain plaintiffs by the end of December 2008. We will, however, continue to provide travel and speaking stipends to plaintiffs and are exploring emergency relief funding to assist with the many additional burdens faced by plaintiffs (health decline, job loss, family obligations, etc). More information on this will be announced shortly.

### Campus Outreach Programs

We will continue the successful educational initiatives of the LAF Campus Outreach Programs in schools across the country, informing audiences about sex discrimination in higher education and strategies to prevent and combat the problem. We expect to expand our campus outreach efforts in the coming year.

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### Online Resource Library

The online LAF Resource Library, a source for accurate background information, legal facts, statistics and credible outside resources on issues of sex discrimination, will be expanding soon. For example, a new section launched in April 2008 focused on the Family and Medical Leave Act..

Some of our resources include:

- Get Smart on Sex Discrimination on Campus
- Navigating the Legal System
- Definition of Legal Terms
- Network of Attorneys and Social Scientists.

If you are an attorney, social scientist or expert witness, who has experience in issues of sex discrimination, particularly in higher education, please read about the LAF Network.

*Article taken from <http://aauw.org/advocacy/laf/cases/index.cfm>*



## LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND REPORT

### AAUW Maryland LAF Contributions

Cleopatra Campbell Anderson, LAF Vice-President, AAUW MD  
301-695-8462 <FIRSTNILEQUEEN@aol.com>

BRANCHES	MEMBERS*	2006	2007**	PER CAPITA
Anne Arundel	98	\$726.50	\$720.00	\$7.35
Baltimore	75	492.00	572.00	7.63
Bethesda-Chevy Chase	58	150.00	360.00	6.21
College Park	32	320.00	970.00	30.31
Easton	49	52.08	250.00	5.10
Frederick	17	366.70	460.00	27.06
Frostburg	26	115.00	150.00	5.77
Gaithersburg	43	1,176.61	545.00	12.67
Garrett	16	26.45		
Hagerstown	94	10.00	1,565.00	16.65
Harford County	53	297.66	250.00	4.72
Howard County	37	715.00	868.00	23.46
Kensington-Rockville	68	1,106.82	1,334.73	19.63
Laurel	16	515.00	810.00	50.63
Patuxent River	44	1,316.59 ***	550.00	12.50
Salisbury	10	51.61	25.00	2.50
Silver Spring	39	302.50		
Towson	33		335.00	10.15
<b>Maryland (not assigned)</b>		<b>647.00</b>	<b>345.00</b>	
<i>Gift from estate fo Dorothy Moody Warren</i>		<i>500.00</i>		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>808</b>	<b>\$8,887.52</b>	<b>\$10,109.73</b>	<b>\$12.51</b>
* Based on branch count February 2008				
** Based on report from LAF dated 1/30/08.				
*** In 2006 includes St. Mary's City and Patuxent River.				

*Please contact LAF at Association headquarters if branch records reflect different figures from those presented here.*

## Power of the Purse: Problems and Solutions

Karen Pratt



The theme of the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention of AAUW Maryland was “*Power of the Purse*,” the state’s first joint convention. The members of Business and Professional Women of Maryland joined forces with AAUW Maryland at the Hilton Washington DC North/Gaithersburg, holding both separate and joint meetings. The Gaithersburg Branch hosted AAUW Maryland.

### Keynote Address

The keynote address was “*Power of the Purse: Problems and Solutions*” given by Karen Pratt, CEO of the Karen D. Pratt Insurance Agency in Washington DC. Karen gave her audience a mantra to repeat for the morning: “We have power.” From time to time she livened them up by asking them to shout it out.

She noted that a woman’s purse symbolizes money, wealth, security and protection. It is a personal space and is private.

In relation to wealth, women are at the intersection of influence, control and power.

- They influence 89% of household financial and service decisions
- They control \$3.3 trillion in annual consumer spending
- They control more than 50% of the personal wealth in the country.

Despite this economic power, women experience financial problems.

- Women make 77.5% of what a male worker makes
- The average income for women over 65 is less than \$7,000 per year
- Social Security makes up only about one-fifth of a person’s retirement income.

The solutions that Karen offered:

- Identify a spiritual basis for your actions and choices in life.
- Consider starting your own business, which gives flexibility and the opportunity to do what you like best. Women who leave the corporate world to open their own business wanted flexibility, felt their contributions were not being valued, and felt that they could not advance. Often, they wanted to pursue an entrepreneurial idea.
- Use your multitasking ability. Women are better than men at multitasking.
- Look for mentors. Other women insurance agents inspired and helped Karen in the insurance business. She introduced her mother, who attended the session, and cited her as an inspiration.
- Take advantage of educational opportunities.
- Plan your financial future using options such as life insurance, disability insurance, savings, and retirement planning. Women live longer than men and are more likely to spend several years in assisted living. Good planning can prepare for that.

Submitted by Diane Roca

## The Future Is Now

### Remarks by Linda Hallman, Executive Director, AAUW

Linda announced that on June 21, the Middle Atlantic Region will hold a Leadership Development Conference in Timonium. At the conference, DVD modules will be shown with handouts, specially planned for officers. All members are invited and will find it interesting. The Association will send copies of the materials to all branches so they can be shown at a branch meeting.

Linda spoke on the topic "*The Future Is Now.*" She praised AAUW for its superb reputation for truthful, unbiased reports. AAUW is especially appreciated and effective on Capitol Hill for its testimony and lobbying work.

AAUW is vast. Individually, we are citizens of AAUW. There may be vast differences in the places we live but we are drawn together by the desire to help women and girls.

A problem that AAUW faces is that members are too narrowly locked in at the branch level. An *Us* (the branch) vs. *Them* (the Association) mentality exists. AAUW has been in a disrupted state for about ten years without permanent national leadership. This has caused a major disconnect between the branch and the Association because the national office has abrogated its responsibilities. Instead, Linda invited members to think of having a circular feedback loop with national – sharing ideas, responding to them – instead of directives coming in a top-down fashion.

Linda is sure that members and the national leaders can reclaim territory that AAUW has lost. It is essential to focus on the mission so that a member can visit any branch in the country and find them doing the same thing, having the same major interest.

The Association Board and the Educational Foundation Board have noted that the full name American Association of University Women is a mouthful to say and makes people think all



members are teachers or associated with universities. The boards have asked members and branches to use the acronym AAUW instead, giving the full name of the organization only when necessary. AAUW has enough name recognition that it is not necessary to put it out in full every time. The intention is to create an identity in the public mind such as YMCA, NAACP or AARP now have. The logo is not changing, but the boards ask branches to put "AAUW" under the striped "W"-shaped logo, not the full name. Part of our brand is the color teal, especially members wearing teal colored clothing, which people recognize as AAUW's signature.

The mission statement and vision statement have not changed. To them, the Association has added a Value Statement, which is a more internal thing, a promise to those joining AAUW. The Value Statement reads: "By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance."

There are plans to get rid of some of AAUW's hierarchical structure so it can be fluid, flexible and responsive, able to make decisions on a dime. In the past, having two boards of directors and multiple review and approval processes, duplicate functions for the Association and EF have bogged down plans.

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## The Future Is Now

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Some branches do not welcome new members and do not want anything to change. They want only those who are like them to join.

An audience member asked how to introduce the mission into a branch's bridge club that does not want to attend branch meetings. Linda suggested starting the meetings by reading just a little from materials that come from the national office.

The dysfunctional situation at the Association, without top leadership and lack of trust, happens to old organizations and can be changed.

AAUW needs a new vision to interest younger members with a true feeling of joining and moving forward. Members need to have a passion for the purpose of AAUW. People are attracted by passion.

Linda tested an idea on the audience. She asked them to consider the answer to the questions that they might hear: "What does AAUW do?" "What does it stand for?" She suggested that the answer is in the acronym PEARL:

- P – Protect the legal rights of all
- E – Educate smart women
- A – Advocate on behalf of women
- R – Research and act on barriers
- L – Lead and teach others to lead

This incorporates the Mission Statement, the Vision Statement and the Value Statement. Members applauded when they it.

Linda stated that AAUW has been discussing its situation and has worked on the Strategic Process for two years. It is time to stop talking and planning and to move to implementing the Strategic Plan. With her experience at associations, Linda will lead AAUW to do just that.

Submitted by Diane Roca



Martha Patzer and Cheryl Gannon from WISER (Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement) **You and Your Money: Keeping It All in Your Purse**



Anne Hedgepeth  
AAUW Public Policy Office  
**Political Power: Legislative Landscape for Women**



Senator Jennie Forehand and Margery Sullivan  
at Luncheon



Kate Campbell Stevenson and Diane Roca  
after Kate's performance  
"Petticoats in Politics"



Mary Anne Williams looks on as  
Linda Hallman, Executive Director, AAUW  
Presents Marcie Posner with the AAUW Maryland  
President's gavel

## Branch News

### **College Park Branch**

AAUW College Park Branch recently celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the College Park Graduate Awards Luncheon. May 3, 2008, the branch honored two outstanding University of Maryland women, who have completed their Ph.D. and M.A. degree programs, respectively. The graduate awards committee, chaired by Terry Saylor, chose the winners from the applicants recommended by the directors of the students' graduate programs. In addition to letters of recommendation, the applicant submits a statement regarding the purpose and significance of her research and her future plans. The Master's awardee, Heather Brook Adams, will receive a Master of Arts in Communication Studies, in May, for her work in rhetoric and political culture, specifically the public address discourse of Eleanor Roosevelt. In the fall, Ms. Adams begins her Ph.D. studies at Penn State University. She was accompanied by her friend Christian Nuñez. This year's Ph.D. awardee, Lori Keleher received her degree in December 2007, in Philosophy, for her dissertation entitled "Empowerment and International Development." Ms. Keleher is currently an assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy at New Mexico State University. Accompanying Ms. Keleher at the award ceremony were her husband Michael Bursum and their nine-month old daughter Kate. Preceding the luncheon, Ms. Keleher and Ms. Adams presented an overview of their research and discussed some of the challenges and rewards they experienced during their graduate studies. Each received a membership in AAUW, an engraved silver plate, and a check.

The College Park Branch community outreach program "Girls Excelling in Math and Science (GEMS)" will soon complete a third year at Hyattsville Middle School and the first semester at William Wirt Middle School. Eight excellent university students majoring in the sciences have served this year as mentors to over twenty-four middle school girls. With funding from county council members, we plan to continue the programs next year.

### **Gaithersburg Branch**

The Gaithersburg Branch had a very busy Spring with our big fund raiser, our book sale held in April at the Rosborough Center at Asbury Village. This sale netted the largest income for scholarships of any past sales--approximately \$12,000.

It was exciting to have the first ever BPW-AAUW combined State Convention in Gaithersburg at the Hilton and many members enjoyed the opportunity to participate in the Power of the Purse activities, especially since we didn't have far to travel.

Our mentoring project, "Goals for Girls," has involved 30 eighth grade girls at the Gaithersburg Middle School to help them prepare for their High School careers and encourage them to plan for College. (In most cases, these young women will be the first in their families to attend college.) Visits to Montgomery College and Hood College for the girls and their mentors have been highlights of the project. An evening program honoring the girls who completed the program, with parents and families of the girls, along with school staff and City of Gaithersburg officials is being planned for mid-May.

The interest groups, Great Decisions, Literature, and Gourmet, continue to be well-attended. A new group on "Women's History" is contemplated, under the leadership of our member Anita Taylor, Professor Emeritus, George Mason University. One of our recent well-received Branch programs was a field trip to the historic Sewell-Belmont House, home of the National Women's Party, in Washington, DC.

### **Salisbury Branch**

At the convention representatives of the Salisbury branch announced to applause that the Smith Island Cake had just been voted the official State Dessert by the Maryland legislature.

### ***Easton Branch***

April 4, 2008 *The Star Democrat* featured the Easton Branch.

#### **Easton Branch of AAUW Honors Mid-Shore Women**

The principal of Easton High School and one of its former students who has become community editor for *The Star Democrat* were honored at a luncheon Saturday as women who improve the community and serve as role models.

Principal Kelly Griffith and Community Editor Katie Sullivan were the special guests at the Easton Branch of the American Association of University Women's Biannual Luncheon held Saturday at Krystal Q. Seventeen other women from the Mid-Shore were recognized by AAUW and their organizations as "Gifts to the Community."



President Kay Wendowski said the association, in existence since 1882, would continue emphasizing education as a way for women to become equal, economically secure and improve the community, saying it was important for girls to be given this message at an early age.

The 17 women honored as "gifts to the community" were: Patricia Crane, American Association of University Women; Lisa Korrell, Chesapeake Center; Jody Gunn, Church World Service and Communities Responding to Overcoming Poverty; Phyllis Hubbard, Kappa Theta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; Kathleen Wendowski, Maryland Nurses Association; Dr. Brenda Scribner and Catherine Cripps, Mental Health Association of Talbot County; Marilyn Hopper and Sharon Schmidt of Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence; Dawn Chandler, North Dorchester All-American Independent Growth Alliance; Margaret Miller,

Quota International of Cambridge; Della Andrew, St. Mark's United Methodist Women; Doris Lee Taylor, Soroptimist of Talbot County; Irene Hunter, Talbot Senior Center; Beth Jones, Talbot Preservation Alliance; Jennifer Wheeler, Talbot County Public Schools Retired Personnel Association; and Chrissy Aull of Wye River Upper School.

### ***Frederick Branch***

Frederick has been busy this year furthering initiatives from previous years. The annual Book and Author Forum raised more than \$500 for Project Forward Step, a scholarship program for women at Frederick Community College. In addition, it introduced many local authors to the public and allowed them the opportunity to sell their books. In addition, our annual Kentucky Derby Party, just completed, raised nearly \$250 for the Education Foundation -- a lot of money for absolutely no work. We will be participating in Pangaea, a multi-cultural festival in Frederick, for the 5th time this spring. And we received free publicity through a newspaper article on our program about preserving historic sites in Frederick.

Although we are a small branch, we are active in our community and are receiving more recognition through the efforts of our branch to increase our visibility. We are proud of our many accomplishments.

### ***Silver Spring Branch***

The afternoon of April 27 some of the members of the Silver Spring Branch attended the AAUW Interbranch Math Science Awards Ceremony which was held during the Rockville Science Day at the Rockville Campus of Montgomery College. Ten eighth-grade girls were selected to receive these motivational rewards. Dr. Bonita Saunders from NIST was the keynote speaker. Judy Ackerman, Montgomery College Rockville Provost and Math professor welcomed the girls and their proud parents. Mary Ann Zimmerman presented the awards.

REGISTRATION FORM  
**MAR LEADERSHIP TRAINING**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2008 (9:00 am – 4:00 pm)**  
 CROWNE PLAZA BALTIMORE  
 2004 Greenspring Drive  
 Timonium, MD 21093-4114  
 (410) 252-7373

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Branch/State \_\_\_\_\_

Position(s) Held \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Cost - **\$25** (includes leadership training materials and lunch)

Registration Deadline: Form must be postmarked by **June 10<sup>th</sup>**.

\*\*\*\*\*

Send Conference Registration Form with your \$25 check made payable to AAUW Middle Atlantic Region to:

MAR Treasurer  
 Susan K. Nenstiel  
 2889 Aronimink Place  
 Macungie, PA 18062

**Refund/Cancellation Policy for MAR Conference**

Registrants sending written cancellation requests by June 10<sup>th</sup> will receive a 90 percent (90%) refund. Cancellation requests received after June 10<sup>th</sup> cannot be accepted. Failure to attend will result in forfeiture of fees.

If there are any questions, please contact

Linda Tozier, MAR Director, at 412-369-5770 or [toz31@yahoo.com](mailto:toz31@yahoo.com) or Susan Nenstiel, at 610-965-0663 or [nenstiel@ptd.net](mailto:nenstiel@ptd.net)

**Hotel Information**      **CROWNE PLAZA BALTIMORE**  
2004 Greenspring Drive, Timonium, MD 21093-4114

A block of rooms is being held for Friday night, June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Reservations:      410-252-7373 Extension 761

**You must make your own Hotel Reservation by May 21, 2008.**

Room rates are **\$109.00 plus tax** per room for single/double occupancy.

When making your reservation please identify your affiliation with the AAUW Middle Atlantic Region to receive the group rate.

Check in time is 3 p.m. Check out time is noon.

**Directions to the Crowne Plaza Baltimore**

**From New York and Philadelphia:**

Take Interstate 95 South to Interstate 695 West toward Towson. Take Ext 24 onto Interstate 83 North. Take your first exit: 16A- Timonium Road. Turn right at the light and then make a right at the 4<sup>th</sup> driveway into the Hotel parking lot.

**From York, PA:**

Take Interstate 83 South to Exit 16A – Timonium Road. At Timonium Road, turn left and follow to the ramp at the first traffic light. Bear to the right onto Greenspring Drive, then make a right at the 4<sup>th</sup> driveway into the Hotel parking lot.

### **MAR LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE INFORMATION**

Saturday, June 21

Registration 9:00 am – Association DVD series begins promptly at 9:30.

Registration Fee includes lunch and leadership training materials.

#### **ASSOCIATION TO LAUNCH DVD SERIES AT MAR CONFERENCE**

Come to MAR to view and discuss the latest leadership tools developed by Association to enable states and branches to advance equity through advocacy, education and research and to build a stronger community through membership, fundraising, communications and marketing.

Discussion Leaders: Sally Chamberlain, Educational Foundation Program Vice President, Anthony Hill, Association Board Member, Linda Tozier, MAR Director

**The MAR Conference is open to ALL AAUW members. See you in Maryland!**



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CALENDAR

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