

The Garden Statement

VOLUME 79, ISSUE 3

SPRING 2010

AAUW Of New Jersey, Inc.

AAUW-NJ President's Message

Ms. Virginia Lyttle

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FALL FOCUS:
10/09/10

ISSUES CONFERENCE:
1/29/11

AAUW-NJ ANNUAL MEETING:
4/16/11

**AAUW CONVENTION IN
WASHINGTON, DC:**
6/16/11 - 6/19/11

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	1
"THE AAUW EXPERIENCE"	2
AAUW-NJ ANNUAL MEETING	3
GENDER PAY GAP IN NJ	6
PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT	7
2010-2011 BOARD MEMBERS	7
WOMEN AS AGENTS OF CHANGE	8
2010 NCCWSL CONFERENCE	9
NOMINEE ELENA KAGAN	10
2010 AAUW ART CONTEST	11
HELPING YOUNG WOMEN	12
A MESSAGE FROM AAUW	14
AAUW-NJ 100 CLUB 2009	15
SPECIAL RECOGNITION	15
DEPT. OF EDUCATION	16
IFUW IN THAILAND	17
SHE WAS FIRST TO	17
PUBLIC POLICY	18
AAUW ACTION NETWORK	18
LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND	19
CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT	19
PUBLIC POLICY AND ADVOCACY	20
MEMBERSHIP	21
\$1000 SCHOLARSHIP	21
BRANCH HIGHLIGHTS	22
AN ETERNAL ART TEACHER	23

Four swift years have passed since I accepted the position of AAUW-NJ president. I would like to thank you for your support. I have enjoyed meeting you at state and branch meetings. I have been proud to represent you at events around the state. In thinking about what I could write as my last state president's message, I decided to review what we have done together over the last four years. There have been three very successful issues conferences with remarkable speakers:

- **Human Trafficking:** We explored human trafficking in NJ, the fourth highest trafficked state in the nation. We were given some tips on how to recognize possible abuses and what we as citizens could do to stop these human rights violations.
- **Bullying:** We revisited the issue of bullying, an AAUW signature topic, and expanded it to include electronic bullying. This issue is still relevant. Students can be harassed 24/7. We also made a presentation to the New Jersey School Boards Association on this topic, where we increased our visibility.
- **Pay Gap:** We took the release of AAUW's Pay Gap study to explore the issue of pay inequity. Lilly Ledbetter was our keynote speaker. Lilly stood beside the



Virginia Lyttle
AAUW-NJ President

president of the United States as he signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Bill into law. Using this issue as a catalyst we commissioned a Pay Gap study for New Jersey. The findings were delivered at this year's Annual Meeting.

These were three block buster meetings where attendance was not as high as we would have liked, but where attendees left informed and invigorated to do something about the issues.

Our Fall Focus and Annual Meetings have provided a wide variety of speakers--from our Agents of Change recipients to the representatives from AAUW: Linda Hallman, our Executive Director; Lisa Maatz, our Public Policy Director; Jill Birdwhistell, Chief of Strategic Advancement; Seth Chase, Field Director. The list goes on. Attending

Continued on page 2

AAUW-NJ President's Message

Ms. Virginia Lyttle

the meetings has allows us to understand and appreciate the changes taking place in AAUW. It is nice to know people in high places when there is a question or problem.

We have helped sponsor events on college campuses and will follow this up next year with our drive to get New Jersey colleges and universities to join AAUW and to encourage their students to become e-members of AAUW. We have encouraged branches to give scholarships to local women to attend AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders and giving them a free membership in AAUW upon graduation, thereby continuing the support of the best and brightest in AAUW.

We invited Carolyn Donovan, AAUW's representative to the UN, to speak to us about what she does to represent us as an non-governmental organization (NGO). Members from AAUW-NJ then visited the United Nations and had private briefings on women's rights and environmental concerns affecting women and children. For International Women's Day, we encouraged branch members to participate in the CARE programs: "A Powerful Noise" and "Half the Sky—Live" in our local movie theaters.

For branches that are having problems we

have formed the Garden State branch. We don't want to lose you as members of AAUW.

This would allow the state board officers to be the branch officers and allow the branches to continue as study groups or interest groups while remaining a part of AAUW on the local and state levels. The Garden State Branch will also provide an avenue to allow Members-at-Large to be more involved. Learn more about the Garden State Branch and our exciting initiative to get colleges and universities to join AAUW at the Fall Focus meeting. Plan to come.

This is just part of what we as a state have done in the past four years. It has been exciting and fulfilling and the momentum is moving forward. You are in good hands with Sally Goodson and her board. Look for information on the next issues conference and our College Connection at the Fall Focus meeting. Let's capitalize on the momentum and visibility and have the next years be as rewarding. Thank you again for allowing me to be your president.



AAUW Launches its New Website and "The AAUW Experience!"

AAUW unveiled its new website in April. Visit AAUW.org to browse the many updates and changes, which provide improved navigation and visibility of AAUW information.



While visiting, explore the innovative virtual community, which allows visitors to "See AAUW in a new way". "The AAUW Experience" takes the viewer to a Town Square that provides access to all of AAUW's buildings in this online community, including a Town Hall, Court House, Library, Office Building, and a University Campus.

You can explore each building, which represents the scope of AAUW's broad impact, and the many ways that AAUW is *breaking through barriers for women and girls*.

Enjoy your visit!

AAUW-NJ Annual Meeting Recap April 17, 2010

Members and guests who attended AAUW-NJ's Spring 2010 Annual Meeting were treated to a remarkable combination of speakers, delicious food, and camaraderie. The meeting, which took place on April 17th at the Forsgate County Club in Monroe Township, was chock full of memorable presentations by AAUW National Director, Krys Wulff; Drs. Yazmin Bezen-Cassino (Montclair State University) and Mary Gatta's (Rutgers University) Report on the Pay Gap study; and LAF plaintiff, Dr. Graciela Chichilnisky vs. Columbia University.

Election and Installation of New Officers occurred after lunch, as well as the presentation of the Women as Agents of Change Award by Ms. Jean Wadsworth to Speaker Sheila Y. Oliver, in absentia.

The direction of the meeting was instantly revealed by the meeting's subtitle - "The Reflection of Women Empowered". The four guest speakers clearly displayed confidence and complete awareness of their subject matter, while simultaneously maintaining riveting interest of the AAUW members.

Ms. Krys Wulff, a Life Member of AAUW, travelled from California to discuss AAUW changes and the association's new focus. Ms. Wulff state, "The historic 2009 convention, AAUW delegates voted unanimously to merge AAUW and the Educational Foundation to raise, like the Phoenix, as AAUW, Inc. a new 501 c.3. As a member of the newly elected and appointed board, we have been working to be sure that this newly emerging organization stays true to its historical background and continues its legacy for future generations. Let me give you some highlights of this transition." Transitions highlights are as follows:

AAUW MISSION EXPANDED

- AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.
- AAUW invited to White House & Congress for major events and counsel.
- Wins in two LAF-supported cases: *Schuster* and *Mansourian*
- Passage of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act. AAUW was at the signing ceremony on October 28, 2009.
- Membership Payment Program (MPP) was a success! It is now a standard option, and all states are urged to opt in.
- AAUW launched \$start \$mart. More than 300 facilitators have been trained so far.
 - *60% of trained facilitators are AAUW members.
 - *Thousands of college women benefit.
- National Girls Collaborative Project (NGCP)
 - *3.5 million girls
 - *1,500 projects nationwide and growing
- *AAUW Outlook* expanded to three issues in FY 2010.
- AAUW launched the Leadership Corps with 43 field liaisons

Strategic Planning Underway for AAUW's Future

- Emphasizing AAUW's nationwide philanthropy; from impact, importance, and branding point of views
- Continuing to build our nationwide community and "culture of trust"
- Growth strategy for enhancing our view of membership
 - *Intensifies focus on honoring / supporting current members
 - *Uses creative new member acquisition tactics
- Providing continuum of programs that engages people across generations and demonstrates our impact for all women and girls.
- Expanding our "big tent" to embrace members, donors, activist colleagues, and friends as we transition to our charitable identity.

Continued on page 4



AAUW National Director - Ms. Krys Wulff



LAF Plaintiff - Dr. Graciela Chichilnisky

AAUW-NJ Annual Meeting Recap April 17, 2010

LAF Plaintiff Support

LAF's new focus on supporting potentially precedent-setting cases has

- Improved our ability to protect women in the future
- Increased LAF prestige in the civil rights community
- Expanded AAUW's reputation as a defender of fair treatment in the workplace

Encouraged coalition partners to refer discrimination cases and seek AAUW for amicus briefs.

AAUW Fellowships and Grants

- AAUW has awarded \$3.18 million to more than 215 recipients for the 2010-11 program/academic year
- 2011-12 F & G applications will be available online on August 1, 2010.

AAUW is accepting applications for the 2011 Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Award through November 1, 2010.

Leadership Programs

Campus Action Projects

- Eleven in 2009/2010
- Focused on barriers faced by women and girls in STEM
- 2010/2011 applications posted August 30 on AAUW website

Student Advisory Council – 2010/2011 student openings will be posted at aauw.org on August 30.

\$tart\$mart – wage negotiations workshop

- Goal of reaching 500 college campuses by March 2012
- 300 facilitators trained since March 2009

Announcing expanded initiative to encourage women to run for elected office

Public Policy and Government Relations

- AAUW Lobby Corps is a powerful voice on Capitol Hill every Thursday during the session

- AAUW helped Capitol Hill and coalition partners prepare for the March 11 Senate Paycheck Fairness Act hearing.
- AAUW Capitol Hill briefing in May will feature *Why So Few?* research report.
- AAUW's Equal Pay Day celebration on April 20
 - *Symbolizes the day that women's wages catch up to men's from the previous year.
 - *See AAUW's website, Action Alerts, *Washington Update*, etc.

Last summer we changed our bylaws, and now all members have a vote. This is the essence of the way it will work:

- **Elections shall be held in which all members may vote in person, electronically, or by mail**
- All voting members will receive a ballot in the AAUW Outlook Magazine, coded ballot---using member id number--- to identify the voter.
- Voting occurs in the 30 days before convention and closes during convention

One Member, One Vote

- **ELIGIBILITY:** All AAUW members in good standing 30 days before convention are entitled to one vote on any item of business
- **BALLOTS AND VOTING PERIOD:** Coded paper ballots will be delivered in *Outlook*
- Voting occurs in the 30 days before convention and closes during convention
- **VOTING BY ONE OF THREE METHODS** (only the first ballot submitted counts)
 - *Mail or fax coded paper ballot **or**
 - *Vote online using a member ID **or**
 - *Vote in person at convention

Save the Date

AAUW's 2011 National Convention will be held June 16-19, at the Renaissance Washington Hotel, in Washington, D.C.



(l to r) Dr. Yazmin Bezen-Cassino from Montclair State University and Dr. Mary Gatta from Rutgers University



New AAUW-NJ Officers: (l to r) President - Sally Goodson, Communications VP (2nd term) Carole Monesmith, Treasurer - Karen Brown, and Executive VP - Lucille Webb

AAUW-NJ Annual Meeting Recap April 17, 2010

We were indeed fortunate to have Drs. Yazmin Bezen-Cassino and Mary Gatta's present an overview of their detailed policy report on the Gender Gap in New Jersey, which was commissioned by AAUW-NJ. Most of the highlights of the report can be found on page six (6). However, their major policy recommendations are outlined below:

- NJ Commission to investigate pay gap
- Paid family leave and other child care policies
- National level Paycheck Fairness Act
- State level Paycheck Fairness Act, Lily Ledbetter Act, Fair Pay Act
- Pay Transparency Policies (pay audits, publish salaries)
- Support women in non-traditional occupations
- Teach women how to negotiate salary in schools

We were delighted to have Dr. Graciela Chichilnisky as our Keynote Speaker. She certainly made a decided impact on the attendees. Dr. Chichilnisky, one of Columbia's most distinguished international economists and mathematicians, sued the University for Pay Discrimination under the Equal Pay Act and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. Columbia did not admit to any wrongdoing.

Dr. Chichilnisky has been a tenured, full professor at Columbia since 1979. AAUW contributed significant funds to offset her legal expenses.



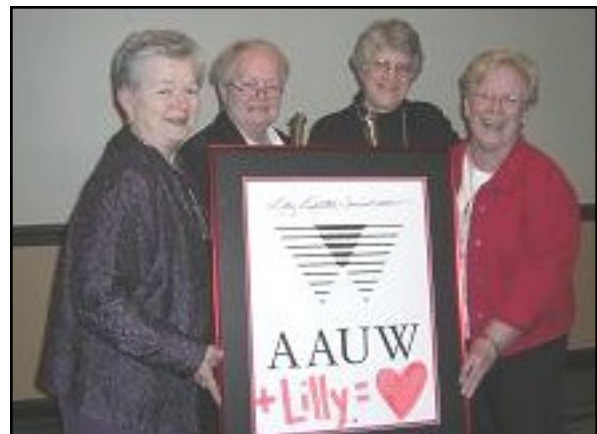
\$486.00 was raised from the Baskets that were raffled at the annual meeting. The proceeds of the raffle were donated to AAUW Funds, earmarked to be equally divided between EF and LAF.

The case was Dr. Chichilnisky's second suit against the University for Pay Discrimination. In 1991, she alleged that the university had violated the Equal Pay Act and Title VII, after she found out that her salary was roughly 30 percent lower than the median salary of her male colleagues in her department.

In 2000, Dr. Chichilnisky went back to court, contending that the university retaliated against her and reneged on the settlement terms. She also claimed that her pay once again lagged dramatically behind that of her male counterparts. The emotional abuse that she suffered at the hands of her co-workers was staggering. She shared with the AAUW members, "I was awarded a substantive monetary settlement. I am pleased and ready to move forward." ***She is definitely empowered!!***



Look who sat at the *winningest* table! Five out of six ladies won beautiful baskets which were raffled to benefit EF.
(l - r) Marian Haag, Barbara Tuzio, Marlene Snedaker, Joan Kates, Jean Jack, and Luci Webb.



Salem County Branch members are pictured with their beautifully framed art, which was signed by Lily Ledbetter. The raffle, benefitting Public Policy, netted \$200.
(l - r) Jean Jack, Luci Webb, Marian Haag, and Joan Kates

Gender Pay Gap in New Jersey: A Policy Report for the New Jersey American Association of University Women Dr. Mary Gatta and Dr. Yasemin Besen-Cassino

Women in the Labor force

- Women are 50% of labor market and will account for 51% of growth thru 2014
- Typical married-couple family where both spouses work, the wife contributes just over a third—35.6 percent—of the family's income
- 15.6 percent of working wives have a husband who is not working.
- PEW Research study (2010) further reveals that 20 percent of women are currently out-earning their husbands

But Despite Such "Progress"...

- These advances have not resulted in full equity in the labor market.
- Pay gap is still very real
- According to the AAUW recent reports (2008), New Jersey women typically earn 78 percent of men's earnings.
- Moreover, New Jersey college educated women are actually faring worse relative to New Jersey's college educated men—taking home about 71 percent of their male peers' earnings.

What is the Gender Pay Gap?

- The Earnings Ratio is calculated by dividing the average earnings of women by men's to determine how much a woman earns for each dollar a man earns.
- Pay gap has been around for awhile
 - *1313- Paris records found that women's wealth was 2/3rds of men's. Same as today!
 - *Throughout Industrialization women earned less than half (sometimes 1/3rd to 1/4th) of men's earnings

Pay Gap Over Time

- Pay gap remained relatively constant from 1955 to 1980, then jumped in 80's, and has remained constant since
 - *1955- women earned 64% of men's salary
 - *1975—59% of men's salary
 - *1995—71% of men's salary
 - *2010- 79% of men's salary

New Jersey is a high income state

- In 2008 the median household income in New Jersey was \$70,378, 2nd in the nation only to Maryland, and a full 35 percent higher than the national median income (\$52,079)
- New Jersey men have the 3rd highest median earnings in the nation (\$55,980), earning 23 percent higher wages than the national median of \$45,556.
- New Jersey women rank 3rd nationally, earning a median income of \$44,343, as compared to the national median income of women which is \$35,471

Why is the Pay Gap Important in NJ?

- NJ's high median income often translates into higher prices for basic needs - housing, childcare, healthcare, taxes, transportation, etc.
- Women don't earn enough to reach self sufficiency -

- Specifically, a single parent of a pre-schooler would need to earn--\$48,154 in Mercer County, \$49,773 in Middlesex County, \$54,210 in Somerset County.
- The median income of New Jersey women (\$44,434) falls short of what is needed to meet just basic needs.

Lifetime Inequity

- The cumulative impacts of the pay gap reduce women's benefits from Social Security and other pension plans, and their ability to save for retirement, housing, college educations, etc.
- The lost earnings are staggering---over a 35 year working life, women can lose \$210,000 simply because of gender

Pay Gap is most pronounced at highest educational levels and highest income counties

- Casts doubt on the idea that if women would simply invest in their education, and gain the human capital credentials, the pay gap would disappear
- Hunterdon County women are the top female earners in the state (\$63,686). Yet Hunterdon County women face a large gender pay gap—earning only 77 percent of Hunterdon County men's incomes.
- The same is true of Somerset County, where its women are the second top earners among women (\$53,380), yet take home only 71 percent of Somerset men's earnings.
- Morris County women, who earn median incomes of \$51,815, face an astounding pay gap of 67 percent

Counties with smallest gap - lowest earnings

- In 2007 Cumberland County, which has the largest poverty rate in the state (18.5 percent), also had the smallest pay gap (89 percent)
- In 2008 Hudson County, which had the largest poverty rate in New Jersey that year (13 percent), also had one of the smallest pay gap (85 percent), and Essex County with a poverty rate of 14 percent, has a gender pay gap of 88 percent

Same with cities

- The municipalities where the gender gap is the smallest are amongst the poorest.
- In 2007, for example, the four cities with a pay gap between men and women over 90 percent are---East Orange City (95.7 percent), Camden City (94 percent), Trenton City (92 percent), and Newark City (90 percent)
- This is about low men's earnings, not women's progress

In Sum

Pam Stone noted:

"With respect to advancing in the workplace, women have been doing everything right for close to four decades now: getting educated, working more and more continuously, and moving out of dead-end, low-paying "pink-collar" jobs. That's the good news. The bad news is that despite women's best and sustained efforts, progress toward gender equality is uneven and appears to be stalling"

The Paycheck Fairness Act

The Next Step in the Fight for Pay Equity

Join AAUW in urging the Senate to continue the fight against wage discrimination by acting swiftly on the **Paycheck Fairness Act (S. 182/H.R. 12)** to ensure the change hard working Americans need to receive equal pay. to demonstrate a firm, bipartisan resolve to attack wage discrimination on all fronts Take action now to urge your senators by supporting the Paycheck Fairness Act.

The House passed both the Paycheck Fairness Act and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act on Jan. 9 with strong, bipartisan votes. See how your representative voted on the Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and the Paycheck Fairness Act. AAUW believes that a swift approval of both bills by the Senate as well will demonstrate a clear message that pay discrimination will not be tolerated.

A much needed update of the 45-year-old Equal Pay Act, the Paycheck Fairness Act is a comprehensive bill that would create stronger incentives for employers to follow the law, empower women to negotiate for equal pay, and

strengthen federal outreach, education and enforcement efforts. Championed by longtime AAUW friend Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), the bill would also deter wage discrimination by strengthening penalties for equal pay violations and by prohibiting retaliation against workers who ask about employers' wage practices or disclose their own wages. Together with the Ledbetter bill, this critical piece of legislation can help create a climate where pay discrimination is not tolerated, and give the new administration the enforcement tools it needs to make real progress on pay equity.

With a record 71 million women in the workforce, wage discrimination hurts the majority of American families, both in terms of their economic security today and their retirement security tomorrow. Due to rising employment rates, an unprecedented number of women are now the family breadwinner – making pay equity even more critical, not simply to family economic security, but also to the nation's economic recovery.

AAUW-NJ 2010-2011 Board Members

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 Co-Vice President, Equity & Program - Pamela Coratti
 Co-Vice President, Equity & Program - Timamu Wilson
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Northern District Co-Coordinator - Stella Hyman
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 Central District Co-coordinator – Penny North
 Southern District Co-Coordinator – Jane Niemeyer
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 The Garden Statement Editor - Carole Monesmith
 AAUW-NJ Web Designer - Carole Monesmith
 College & University Liaison - Joan Odud
 Garden State Branch - Virginia Lyttle

CONGRATULATIONS!

AAUW-NJ's 2010 Women as Agents of Change Awardee SHEILA Y. OLIVER

SPEAKER, GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NEW JERSEY
Ms. Jean Wadsworth - Chair

Sheila Y. Oliver took the oath of office as New Jersey's 169th Assembly Speaker on Jan. 12, 2010. Speaker Oliver is the first African-American woman to lead a legislative house in New Jersey. She is also, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures, just the second African-American woman in American history to lead a legislative house, following Karen R. Bass of California.

Speaker Oliver, who presides over the 214th Assembly, was first elected to the Assembly in 2003, and re-elected in 2005, 2007 and 2009. In the 2008-09 Legislative Session, she served as Deputy Speaker Pro Tempore, chaired the Human Services Committee, and served on the Higher Education and Labor committees. She served as Assistant Majority Leader in the 2006-07 Legislative Session.

She represents the 34th Legislative District, which includes Clifton, East Orange, Glen Ridge, Montclair, and West Paterson.

She co-sponsored the law creating the Department of Children and Families, and sponsored legislation signed into law that requires that the Department of Human Services report physical assaults and deaths at state psychiatric hospitals on its website and report deaths to the Public Advocate.



Speaker Oliver was unable to attend AAUW-NJ's Annual Meeting. Assemblyman Wayne P. DeAngelo (Deputy Speaker Pro Tempore) accepted the award on her behalf.



SHEILA Y. OLIVER
SPEAKER, GENERAL ASSEMBLY of NJ

She has also sponsored legislation creating paid family leave, amending the state's wrongful death law, providing specialized social services and medical treatment for persons in the criminal justice system with mental health issues, and providing low-cost auto insurance for individuals with low incomes.

Speaker Oliver was born in Newark in 1952. She graduated cum laude in 1974, with a Bachelor's degree in sociology from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. She earned a Master of Science degree in community organization, planning and administration from Columbia University in 1976.

For much of her career, Speaker Oliver has been a non-profit administrator, specializing in program development, grantsmanship, and training. She is a former faculty member of several colleges and universities, and taught a course in non-profit management at the Rutgers Graduate School of Business Administration in Newark.

She is an assistant Essex County administrator, and previously served as director of the Essex County Department of Citizen Services and the Department of Economic Development Training and Employment.

Prior to joining the New Jersey Legislature, Speaker Oliver served as an Essex County freeholder from 1996 to 1999, and as past president of the East Orange Board of Education for seven years. In 1997, she ran for mayor of East Orange, losing by 51 votes.

Speaker Oliver has served on a number of civic boards and commissions and remains an active volunteer.

2010 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), Leadership for Today and Tomorrow

The 25th Anniversary of the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders - June 3-5

25th Anniversary

AAUW and NASPA's Center for Scholarship, Research, and Professional Development for Women are proud to present the **2010 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), Leadership for Today and Tomorrow**. Since its inception in 1985, this two-and-a-half-day conference has been offering women student leaders a perfect opportunity to hone their leadership skills and become empowered to implement change on campus and in their communities. Every year, the conference focuses on important and contemporary leadership issues for women, providing them with the inspiration and skills they need to succeed. For the 25th anniversary, we are excited to add special events that celebrate the conference's long-standing commitment to young women's leadership.

The History of the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders

When the Intercollegiate Association for Women Students (IAWS) suspended its operations in 1983, Donna Shavlik, then-director of the Office for Women at the American Council on Education (ACE), secured a grant from the

Johnson Foundation to fund a meeting at the Wingspread Conference Center in Racine, Wisconsin. Attendees wanted to continue supporting college women's leadership development and proposed a successor organization to IAWS, the Intercollegiate Association for Women Student Leaders (IAWSL).

Although IAWSL never developed into a viable organization, Donna Shavlik and Emily Taylor, former director of the Office for Women at ACE, enlisted a coalition of leaders of women's organizations and raised funds to support a national conference in Washington, D.C., that would focus on leadership and career development for college women. Shavlik and Taylor had both been national advisors to IAWS and drew support from the network of women in higher education who had shared their commitment to the organization.

In 1985, the first leadership conference was held on the campus of American University. The Office for Women at ACE was the principal architect of the event, providing both program leadership and funding. The National Association of Women Deans, Administrators and Counselors, many of whom were deans of women or deans of students, shared some of the financial burden. The Women's Institute at American University, led by Emily Taylor, the Project on the Status and Education of Women at the Association of American Colleges, led by Bernice Sandler, and AAUW lent the effort legitimacy and support. For a number of years,

Continued on page 10



2010 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), Leadership for Today and Tomorrow

AAUW presented a legislative briefing on Capitol Hill that immediately preceded the leadership conference program.

After several years, the loose coalition of organizations could no longer provide the stable funding and leadership necessary to continue the conference, so organizers sought a permanent home for it among the sponsoring groups. NAWDAC became the National Association of Women in Education and the conference sponsor. A planning committee of Washington, D.C.-area women in higher education took on programming and logistical support for the conference. Under NAWE's stewardship, NCCWSL grew to an annual participation rate of 500 to 600 women student leaders. For many years, NAWE continued to enlist a number of women organizations that helped promote and support the conference.

In 2000, NAWE closed its doors and AAUW became the new conference sponsor. In 2007, AAUW joined with NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education to sponsor the leadership conference. AAUW and NASPA partnered to build an event that took advantage of both organizations' strengths in advocacy and education. The NCCWSL Steering Committee has, throughout the history of the conference, remained a critical component to the conference's success.

The Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony is a highlight of NCCWSL. Each year several accomplished, successful women who are leaders in their respective fields receive this prestigious award.



AAUW on the Nomination of Solicitor General Elena Kagan to the U.S. Supreme Court

AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE, issued the following statement on President Barack Obama's nomination of Solicitor General Elena Kagan to the U.S. Supreme Court:

"With his nomination of Solicitor General Elena Kagan, the president has selected a woman who has been a trailblazer throughout her distinguished legal career, holding such positions as the first woman dean of Harvard Law School and first woman solicitor general of the United States. AAUW is pleased to note that, if confirmed, the Supreme Court will have three women justices serving concurrently for the first time in history—breaking through yet another barrier for women and girls.

AAUW will carefully consider the totality of Solicitor General Kagan's record over the coming weeks. We look forward to the upcoming confirmation hearings and the candid answers of the nominee.

"AAUW monitors the judicial nominations process because so many of our fundamental rights and liberties have been established and are protected by the federal courts. As such, AAUW supports moderate, fair-minded judges who are committed to upholding our constitutional values.



Solicitor General Elena Kagan is applauded by President Obama and Vice President Biden

2010 AAUW Art Contest: 19 Winners!

After thousands of votes were cast for more than 300 entries, 19 winners have been selected in the 2010 AAUW Art Contest! Contest entries represent a vast array of subjects and media, as you can see below. Join us in celebrating all our artists and their artwork and watch the mail for your own calendar!

The winning horizontal images will be featured in the upcoming 2010-11 calendar mailed to members in June.



Cape Cod Houses
Joan Shostak, MA



Iris Display
Glendora Hamilton-Brandon, OR



Little Italian Shop
Caroline Sanchez, CA



Musings
Paula Schroeder, CA



My Easter Basket
Suzanne Nichols, WA



Precious Book
Carroll Murray, GA



Spring Tulips
Anne Cunningham, FL



Springtime
Barbara Sachi, WA



Sunset at the edge of the St. Lawrence River
Phyllis Swonk, MI



Sunset over the Marsh
Gillian Horsley, GA



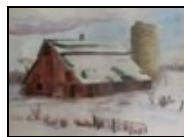
Sunshine Online
Pat Cairns, CA



The Queen
Barbara Sachi, WA



Twilight on the Taos Gorge
Michele Stump, NM

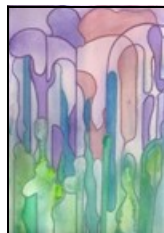


Winter Barn
Gail Eakright, WI

The winning vertical images pictured below will be made into note cards available for sale online at ShopAAUW.



Headdress
Brenda Heringer, AR



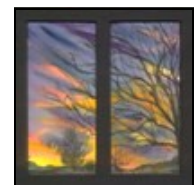
Pastel Forest
Sharon Gale, AZ



Red Bicycle
Margaret Mathews, GA



The Road Less Traveled
Cheryl Thompson, CA



Through a Glass Darkly
Judith Custer, MN

Helping Young Women to Expand Their Horizons

Marian Wattenbarger - Northern Monmouth County Branch
A Charitable Trust Supported Activity

At 8 am on the morning of Friday, April 30, a group of young women gathered at Monmouth Regional High School in Tinton Falls. They were there to take part in a workshop called Running & Winning, a leadership program for young women in their junior year of high school. The Steering Committee for this workshop was composed of volunteers from five organizations - League of Women Voters-Greater Red Bank Area, Northern Monmouth County Branch of AAUW, Junior League of Monmouth County, Monmouth County Regional Women's Political Caucus and the Red Bank Chapter of Hadassah - who came together to foster a common goal, increasing the presence of women in making public policy. This year a portion of the support for the fourth annual Running & Winning workshop was provided by the AAUW-NJ Charitable Trust, support gratefully acknowledged in the print materials given to all of the participants and in press releases leading up to and following the event.

Running & Winning seeks to introduce young women to the realities of the political process and change their negative attitudes towards politics and leadership positions. Two of the goals of the workshop are to expand the participants' understanding of how public policy affects individuals and communities and to demonstrate how women can take a larger role in shaping public policy by participating in



Branch members (l to r) Susan Gelber,
Joan Spring, and Harriett Moore



Some of the young women participants in the auditorium for the opening exercises.

the political process. The sponsors hope that participation in the day will ultimately lead to an increase in the number of women running for public office.

2010 marks the fourth year that the five organizations have collaborated to provide this hands-on experience for young women in Monmouth County. As part of the day the students participate in small working groups that consider a public issue and prepare a position/campaign statement for one of the students to present to the assembled group at the close of the workshop. In 2007, the topic considered was reauthorization of the "No Child Left Behind" legislation, 2008 found students discussing "The Internet and Teens" - exploring the effect of the internet on teens, including the intersection of First Amendment rights and the protection of minors. Last year the topic was "Immigration" - a consideration of how the United States should respond to the immigration issues facing us.

The 2010 topic was "Gun Control in the United States" and the positions of both gun control advocates and gun rights advocates were considered with multiple points of view presented along with carefully as a guide through the intricacies of the topic. Each year Northern Monmouth County Branch members have served as facilitators and found it a rewarding day spent with young women.

Early in the workshop day the students are

Helping Young Women to Expand Their Horizons

Marian Wattenbarger - Northern Monmouth County Branch
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introduced to women who currently hold governmental positions in researched background information. A trained facilitator assigned to each group of four students acted New Jersey. Three 20-minute "up close and personal" sessions are held by each group of students and three different Women in Government. Members of both major political parties, individuals holding non partisan school board positions and women serving in high placed administrative positions for elected officials are part of the Women in Government participants. This year 19 Women in Government participated in the day. A unique feature this year was the participation of Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno, who led the Pledge of Allegiance and encouraged the participants to believe that they could succeed in seeking elective office. Lt. Governor Guadagno was invited to participate because she supported Running & Winning while she served as Monmouth County's sheriff, the first woman sheriff elected in Monmouth County in over 200 years and she is New Jersey's first Lieutenant Governor. While the Women in Government talk about their challenges and experiences as officeholders, they leave their most partisan positions at the door while they encourage the young women to believe that they can make a difference.

The 60 high school juniors who participated in 2010 came from twelve schools: Academy of Allied Health and Science, Biotechnology High School, Communication High School, Marine Academy of Science and Technology, Henry Hudson High School, Middletown High Schools North and South, Keyport High School, Long Branch High School, Monmouth Regional High School, Red Bank Regional High School and Rumson Fair Haven High Regional High School.

The students were intelligent and hard working – proud representatives of their schools, who chose their participants. The guidance from the Steering Committee to the schools is not that they should send only student leaders, but they are asked to select thoughtful students, who they think show a potential for leadership.

Teachers often attend the workshops with their students and they, too, are assigned a facilitator who exposes them to various portions of the program that their students are following during the day. The Steering Committee hopes that this exposure will enable the teachers to transfer their experience at the Running & Winning Workshop to their classrooms or even decide to run for office themselves.

This year four members of the Northern Monmouth County Branch were members of the Steering Committee. They are Susan Gelber, Ann McNamara, Joan Spring, and Marian Wattenbarger, who co-chaired the Steering Committee with a member of the League of Women Voters, Barbara Goldstein. Steering Committee members model successful collaboration for the young women participants. Since collaboration is a powerful tool, one that enriches our experience and makes possible accomplishments that we couldn't do alone, it is something that we hope the student participants will observe about the day. All of the members of the Steering Committee are grateful to the Charitable Trust for helping us make Running & Winning a reality for young women.

For additional information about the AAUW-NJ Charitable Trust, go to www.aauwnj.org.



Two students working on their campaign poster

HOW to Support AAUW Programs A Message from AAUW

Thank you for promoting equity for women and girls by supporting the crucial work of AAUW, a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization! Contributions to AAUW Funds are fully tax deductible and can be restricted to any specific fund or program by writing the fund or program name or number on your check or on an accompanying document. You can also give online at www.aauw.org/contribute. Some of the most commonly designated funds and programs appear here.

AAUW Funds #9110

Gifts that are not restricted to a specific fund support programs with the greatest needs.

Legal Advocacy Fund #3999

(Formerly a part of the AAUW Educational Foundation)

A partial list of programs includes

- Legal Case Support
- LAF Case Support Travel Grants
- Campus Outreach Projects

Educational Opportunities Fund #4336

(Formerly a part of the AAUW Educational Foundation)

A partial list of programs includes

- Fellowships and Grants
- American Fellowships
- International Fellowships
- Selected Professions Fellowships
- Community Action Grants
- Career Development Grants
- Fellows Alumnae Initiative
- Undergraduate Scholarship Clearinghouse

Public Policy Fund #4337

(Formerly a part of the Association)

A partial list of programs includes

- Government Relations
- Civic Engagement
- Field Organizing

Leadership Programs Fund #4339

(Formerly a part of the AAUW Leadership and Training Institute)

A partial list of programs includes

- The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)
- Campus Action Projects
- Campaign College

Eleanor Roosevelt Fund #9170

(Formerly a part of the AAUW Educational Foundation)

A partial list of AAUW research reports includes

- *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics*
- *How Schools Shortchange Girls*
- *Hostile Hallways*
- *Behind the Pay Gap*



AAUW-NJ 100 CLUB 2009

100 hours of work for AAUW on the branch or state level
and/or \$100 donated to EF, LAF, or the NJ Charitable Trust

Pat Armhold	Jun Fethe	Trudy Iwanski	Nancy Perlman
Jean Atherton	Barbara Freeman	Adrienne Lesser	Edith Rights
Bettine Avenia	Maizie Frenkiel	Virginia Lyttle	Dorothy Rodgers
Jane Bentley	Susan Gelber	Francis McEldowney	Marcia Saltzman
Gloria Berman	Sally Goodson	Clare May	Reva Shapiro
Sylvia Campbell	Bonnie Gould	Bess Michaels	Sally Singer
Deana Champion	Darlene Griggs	Grace Miller	Barbara Skerry
Paula Choyke	Barbara Halleran	Sally Minshall	Constance Smythe
Carol Cohen	Margaret Harris	Carole Monesmith	Doris Sozek
Barbara Colwell	Geri Helou	Shirley Mutchler	Linda Stark
Emma-Lou Czarnecki	Ema Hoover	Merise Nelson	Angela Stuehler
Chris Dasaro	Carol Holmelund	Joan Odud	Juliet Sutherland
Paula Dulski	Doris Hudak	Phyllis Ostrega	Vivian Tedrow
Carylmead Eggleston	Beryl Hunter	Eleanor Peterman	Judy Vernon
Ellen Fenster-Kuehl	Arlene Inglis	Jessica Pierson	Jean Wadsworth
			Marianna West

Special Recognition for AAUW-NJ Branches

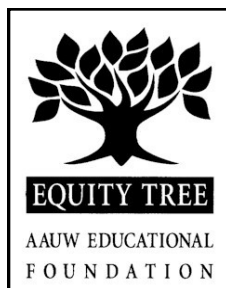
Branches that have given more than \$500 to EF

Freehold Area
Greater Wayne Area
Madison
Mountain Lakes Area
Northern Monmouth
Northern Ocean County

Rancocas Valley
Salem County
Somerset Hills
Summit
Sussex County

Branches that have given more than \$500 to LAF

Madison
Somerset Hills



AAUW Applauds Department of Education's Issuance of New Title IX Athletics Guidance

Action Gives Women and Girls a Better Shot at Fair Play

Thanks to the dedication and leadership of AAUW and our Action Network members, **we won a major victory for Title IX -- and girls and women in sports.** On April 20, the Obama administration and the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights issued new guidance for Title IX, rescinding the deeply flawed March 2005 policy that allowed schools to use email surveys to gauge the athletic interests of female students.

Under the 2005 guidance, schools could count non-responses to the spam-like survey as a lack of interest in athletics. This not only created a major loophole through which schools could evade their Title IX obligations, it jeopardized the number of athletic opportunities available to women. As Chair of the National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education, AAUW has been fighting for the rescission of the 2005 policy since it was issued. And you've been right there with us.

The new guidance returns to the previous standard, under which schools will consider a number of factors, including athletic participation rates at the secondary school levels and interviews with coaches, to ensure they are following Title IX requirements. Schools will have a much better roadmap for compliance, and women and girls will have a much better shot at fair play. AAUW was at the event when the announcement was issued. As Vice President Biden said, "Making Title IX as strong as possible is a no-brainer." We couldn't agree more.

"AAUW is thrilled that this new Title IX guidance returns athletics enforcement efforts to the previous interest and ability standard, requiring schools to consider a number of factors such as athletic participation rates at the secondary school level and interviews with local coaches and administrators," said Lisa Maatz, AAUW director of public policy and government relations. "This comprehensive guidance gives schools a much better road map for compliance and thus will give women and girls a much better shot at fair play."

AAUW is pleased to note that women's athletic

participation at the college level has increased more than 500 percent since Title IX's enactment, attesting to the power of this landmark civil rights law that prohibits sex discrimination in federally funded education programs and activities. Better still, these gains have not come at the expense of men, whose athletic opportunities have also increased since Title IX's passage in 1972. Unfortunately, women still receive fewer opportunities to play athletics than men do, making the Department of Education's newly issued clarification both timely and necessary.

"Statistics show that girls thrive when they participate in sports — they are less likely to get pregnant, drop out of school, do drugs, smoke, or develop mental illness. In addition, a recent study found that women who played sports growing up had a lower obesity rate even 20 to 25 years later in life," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE.

With your help, AAUW will continue to be one of the leading voices advocating for vigorous enforcement of Title IX, so that the landmark legislation will have the chance to provide the opportunities to girls and women that it has promised for the last 37 years.

Find out if the high schools in your area are in compliance with Title IX. The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund's new Program in a Box, Title IX Compliance: Know the Score provides AAUW members with the tools needed to find out if your local high schools are Title IX compliant, and what you can do if they are not. See all the tools available on AAUW's new Know the Score web page. For more information, read AAUW's position paper on equity in school athletics.

Ms. Patsy Mink, an Asian American woman from Hawaii who battling racism and sexism, redefined American politics. Mink served in the U.S. House of Representatives for a total of 12 terms. She transformed America's schools as the co-author of Title IX. **Patsy Mink: Ahead of the Majority** would be a terrific film for a branch program. The 56 minute DVD is available to rent from the Sussex County Branch for \$15.00 plus shipping. Please contact: cmonesmith@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Ms. Marlene P. Snedaker

International Relations Chair - Northern Ocean County Branch

In February 2010 I visited the Thailand Association of University Women in Bangkok Thailand for the second time. This is the eleventh country where I met IFUW members while I was traveling. I was on my way to Myanmar and had to stay overnight in Bangkok. Dr Praphasri Sihaumphai, the President of the TAUW and Dr Aravan Tulayasook picked me up at my hotel on January 20, 2010 and spent the day with me and my roommate. They even took us to the airport for our flight to Yangon Myanmar.

The \$100 check from Northern Ocean County Branch of AAUW that I sent to TAUW in 2008 was used to support a Day Care Center in Bangkok. They received the check too late to use for the Project for Girls.

They have started a Day Care Center for 50 children ages two years to three and a half years so the Mothers can work. The money was used to buy food, supplies, nursery aids. The Mothers pay a small expense.

The women took us to an exhibit sponsored by the Queen of Thailand at Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall in Bangkok. In addition to seeing Gold Thrones and the Royal Gold Barge we saw an exhibit of paintings and tapestry. The Queen sponsors contests in the rural villages in Thailand for the best scenic paintings and the best tapestries. The winners are given scholarships to pursue their crafts.

After a wonderful seafood lunch we visited the University where both women were Professors before they retired. The President's sister is a Member of Parliament.

Special projects for 2010 include Thai language and cultural training, Thai etiquette, music, dance, art, and writing Thai prose. They are also continuing with vocational education training, tree and mangrove forest planting to preserve the environment, preventing drug addition, and Health Care Projects for aged people.



Pictured left to right: TAUW President - Dr. Praphasri Sihaumphai; International Relations Chair - Dr. Aravan Tulayasook

She Was First To...



Frances Perkins (April 10, 1880 – May 14, 1965) was the U.S. Secretary of Labor from 1933 to 1945, and the first woman appointed to the U.S. Cabinet. She had an unenviable challenge: she had to be as capable, as fearless, as tactful, as politically astute as the

other Washington politicians, in order to make it possible for other women to be accepted into the halls of power after her.

Ms. Perkins would have been famous simply by being the first woman cabinet member, but her legacy stems from her accomplishments. She was largely responsible for the U.S. adoption of social security, unemployment insurance, federal laws regulating child labor, and adoption of the federal minimum wage. The Frances Perkins Building that is the headquarters of the United States Department of Labor in Washington, D.C. was named in her honor in 1980.

Public Policy

Ms. Adrienne Lesser - Public Policy Director

As we approach what we trust will be an enjoyable summer, we look forward to some exciting programs next year. On Saturday, October 9th, AAUW/NJ's Fall Focus will have two guest speakers from National to introduce and explain AAUW's College/ University Partnership Program. Two of our guest speakers will be Carol Virostek- AAUW College University Relations Committee Chair and Cordy Gilligan, Director of Corporate Relationships, AAUW.

Many believe that the College University Partnership Program (C/U) is one of the keys to the future of AAUW. By joining with Colleges and Universities in our State, we can increase our visibility and membership while providing C/U partner members with among other things, numerous opportunities for student leadership development, education and project funding. Students who participate become e-student affiliates at no charge and receive a free full-year AAUW membership upon graduation. Under the leadership of Barbara Williamson, Doris Hudak, and others from the Northern Monmouth County Branch, a pilot program was started at Brookdale Community College this year. This will be described and detailed at the Fall Focus meeting. We are fortunate in

New Jersey to have a wide variety of local College and Universities and we look forward to each of our Branches working with these institutions in their areas. One of our goals is to have our members recognize their pivotal role in fostering relationships with colleges and universities and to help these institutions recognize the value of joining AAUW as a College/ University partner.

In the early winter of 2011, we will have our 4th Issues Conference which will focus on violence against women. Our working title is "Fighting Violence Against Women – A Moral and National Security Imperative." We are still in the initial planning stages, but anticipate dealing with topics such as domestic violence and violence on campus. In addition, we hope to address the issue of world wide violence against women and its effect on security in the U.S. Many of you saw the presentation Half the Sky in March and/or have read Nicholas Kristoff and Sheryl WuDunn' book. The thesis that the "best way to fight poverty and extremism is to educate women and girls" will be a central point in our conference. Please contact Adrienne Lesser if you can help with this conference. adrel@optonline.net.

AAUW Action Network

Log on to AAUW.org and proceed to the AAUW Action Network, where you can MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD IN CONGRESS! First, take one minute to read about the latest issue in Congress. Then, take one more minute to personalize a message and e-mail it to your member of Congress.

Stay informed

Action Network

Get an alert when your involvement can make a critical difference.

Alert feed

Get AAUW's alerts in your RSS feed reader.

MegaVote

Get your reps' votes by e-mail weekly!!

Spread the word

Tell-A-Friend

Send a note to a friend to let them know about this site!

Web Sticker

Put our "Write to Congress" web sticker on YOUR web site!

Congress today

View the House and Senate's schedule daily.

Legal Advocacy Fund

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to combat sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.

LAF initiatives include community and campus outreach programs, a resource library and online advocacy tools, a Legal Referral Network, and various research reports. LAF also provides support to workplace sex discrimination cases that have the potential to make a difference for all women.

Find Legal Advice

Use the AAUW online resource library to find legal advice on issues like pay discrimination, pregnancy discrimination, and sexual harassment. Seek direct legal advice through the Legal Referral Network.

Apply for Funding to Hold a Campus Event

Through the LAF Campus Outreach grant, AAUW members can apply for up to \$750 to hold a campus event on a sex discrimination topic. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis all year.

Learn about LAF's Strategic Case Support Program

LAF provides case support to cases focused on a sex discrimination issue in the workplace or in academia that have the potential to set or reinforce precedent that will benefit women. Individuals can suggest such cases to LAF to support on a year-round, rolling basis.

Campus Sexual Assault Program

Join AAUW in Making Campuses Safer

What is the program?

Every student has the right to enjoy her or his years at college without experiencing sexual assault or rape. Unfortunately, 20 to 25 percent of students, mostly female, experience attempted or completed rape during her or his time as a student. These experiences impede their equal access to an education and may negatively impact their whole lives.

The Campus Sexual Assault Program in a Box, created in collaboration with SAFER (Students Active for Ending Rape), provides interested groups, including current students, faculty and staff, parents of students, alumna/alumni, and AAUW branches, with information about the prevalence of campus sexual assault and ideas for action that they can take to end it. These ideas range from guidelines on how to change a campus sexual assault policy to sexual assault prevention programming and resources for survivors.

How will this program benefit your state or branch or community?

Although this program may be used by various audiences, it includes information specifically

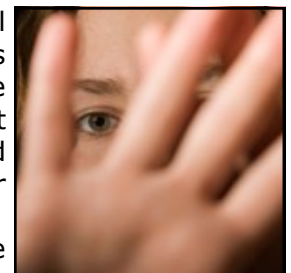
developed for AAUW states or branches. For these groups, the program offers the following benefits:

- Awareness about the prevalence of campus sexual assault
- Ideas for campus programming to use with an LAF Campus Outreach grant
- Tools for recruitment since the programming may be of interest to students and/or faculty and staff at local colleges/universities
- The chance to make a difference and make campuses and surrounding communities safer for everyone.

How can you implement this program?

The guide for AAUW branches includes several ideas to implement action regarding campus sexual assault. Branch members are free to select those ideas that will best suit their branch's interests and the campus climate in their area.

Download the Complete Program in a Box (PDF)



AAUW's Public Policy and Advocacy in Review

Take Action

AAUW's advocacy work builds upon a century of responsible public participation at the local, state, national, and international levels. The member-endorsed Public Policy Program illuminates and advances AAUW's mission of promoting equity and education for all women and girls. AAUW conducts comprehensive advocacy to pursue its public policy priorities, developing and implementing coordinated legislative and grassroots strategies to break through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.

The AAUW Public Policy and Government Relations Department – with input from the member leaders of the AAUW Public Policy Committee – implements the public policy program. But it is AAUW member advocates across the country who speak their minds on AAUW issues that truly advance AAUW's mission.

Join the AAUW Action Network

Make your voice heard in just minutes. Subscribe to Action Network to receive urgent e-mail notices to contact your members of Congress, find detailed information on legislation currently under consideration, and write letters to the editor of your local paper.

Principles and Priorities – AAUW's Public Policy Program

The public policy program underscores AAUW's mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research and speaks to women's needs, aspirations, and concerns across the life span

Continue the Fight for Pay Equity

Women continue to earn only 77 cents on the dollar to their male counterparts. AAUW believes equal pay for equal work is a simple matter of justice for women. Urge your senators to support the Paycheck Fairness Act!

Support Paid Sick Days to Keep Families Healthy

Nearly half of American private-sector workers, including 21 million women, have no paid sick days. Urge your members of Congress to pass legislation to keep our families healthy.

AAUW Issues

Issue advocacy isn't just about AAUW lending its name to an issue, or speaking up on Capitol Hill. Issue advocacy is about AAUW members and all citizens concerned with equity being knowledgeable and aware of the current status of important issues.

- For more information on our advocacy efforts, see AAUW's Federal Policy Agenda
- For further information on how you can influence the debate, visit AAUW's Action Network.

Civil Rights

AAUW advocates equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society.

Affirmative Action
Federal Judicial Nominations
Hate Crimes Prevention
Reproductive Rights

Economic Security

AAUW advocates for all women to achieve economic self-sufficiency.

Work/Life Balance
Pay Equity
Social Security
Health Care

Education

AAUW supports a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity.

Career and Technical Education
Charter Schools
Disabilities
Education and Training in Welfare/TANF
Higher Education
No Child Left Behind Act
School Vouchers
Single-Sex Education
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education

Title IX

AAUW supports vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to education.

Title IX
Equity in School Athletics
Sexual Harassment
Single-Sex Education

Membership

Ms. Barbara Williamson - Membership VP

Good news! Our new initiative to start a state branch, called the Garden State Branch, is official. This state branch will fill a gap and need for those members whose branches have disbanded but members would still like an AAUW NJ connection and for those do not have a branch in their vicinity. Members will network and meet at state meetings and the yearly issues conference. Computer contact is encouraged as well. Ginny Lyttle, as state officer, will represent the branch as the officer.. The dues go to National and to the State. Members will receive the Garden Statement and pertinent National information so it is a win-win. We are reaching out to all of you to email us leads for those who would like to join. Send to lyttlevirginia@yahoo.com.

Many of your branches are having wonderful special events and meetings that also qualify for our Shape the Future awards. The new member at this special event will receive half price membership. It is possible for your branch to receive up to three free memberships with the Shape the Future campaign. We will also be giving awards to branches that have good success with Shape the Future campaign. Check out aauw.org for details. Good Luck!

The Branch membership awards will be given

at the Fall Focus Meeting in October. I hope that many of you attend. I will also be giving out lots of helpful information to you for your membership retention and new member efforts. As you know, we are all important in this process. Opportunities to share AAUW with other women and girls are our challenge and goal. Remember that new prospectives who join from March 15th to June 30th 2010 qualify for an additional full year membership.

Another big initiative for the state is partnering with colleges and universities in N.J. The first community college to join is Brookdale Community College; we are so pleased to welcome them. Avis McMillan, C/U partner and liaison, is working with us to reach out to students and invite them to join as free E-student memberships. We will share more information about this exciting initiative at the Fall Focus meeting.

Branches that are struggling and need some help, please email me w8429588@aol.com and let me know. Most branches wait too long and then it is super difficult to reverse the direction of your branch. For those branches and members who are working hard to spread the AAUW word and increase your membership, congratulations!

\$1000 Scholarship to a High School Senior in Honor of Kathy Barra

Ms. Linda Jovanis, Scholarship Chairperson

Kathy Barra was a member of the Northern Ocean County Branch. Her family requested that donations be made in her memory to our branch. We decided to award a \$1000 scholarship to a high school senior who will attend college in the fall, and major in business. This applies to a relative of an AAUW member or a friend. Also, the company that Kathy's sister, Gerry Kelly, works for is giving us another \$1000 for an additional scholarship. Our scholarship board will decide on the criteria for the second scholarship at a later date.



Remembering Ms. Kathy Barra
March 30, 1953 - December 12, 2009

Branch Highlights

Mountain Lakes Branch

Veronica "Rani" Sidhu's Tastings
Draw a Crowd

AAUW Mt. Lakes was pleased to present on November 12th, Veronica Sidhu, speaker, cook, and author of a best selling Indian cookbook, ***Menus and Memories from Punjab: Meals to Nourish Body and Soul***. Rani's lecture last year drew a record crowd, and she did not disappoint this year, regaling us with stories from her fabulous cookbook/memoir and teaching us about the health benefits of Indian spices.

Last year her sample of Toasted Vermicelli Pudding was such a hit that she expanded the tasting to include Mango Rice Pudding. The crowd literally "ate them up!" One of the participants from India remarked that the fritters and chutney tasted just like her grandmother's. In Rani's slide presentation she showed lovely pictures of her recipes and gave a history of some of the dishes from this fascinating region of both India and Pakistan. The components of the iconic Punjabi spice mixture were discussed.

Rani launched the book to a sellout crowd at the Rubin Museum of Art in September, and she joined the lecture circuit since then. Rani also has enjoyed teaching Indian cooking in her home to raise money for scholarships for students in the USA.

Rani joined AAUW because she believes in the work of the organization, promoting the education and interests of women. All of the gross profits from her book are going to support women's education and schools in Punjab, India through the Kalgidhar Trust. Visiting Rani's website at www.ranisrecipes.com, is a fun way to learn more about her, her recipes, and her book for your group. Rani is available to give presentations to your branch or to another venue.



Ms. Veronica Sidhu

Somerset Hills Branch

Cultural Trip to Art Galleries of
Midtown NYC's 57th Street

The Somerset Hills Branch plans to enjoy a cultural trip on May 25th. Professor Howard Rosenthal has been booked for a private group walking tour of the 57th Street Art Galleries in New York City. NYC has the largest collection of contemporary art galleries in the world. Mr. Rosenthal will discuss the art on display as it relates to the stylistic, philosophical and political context in which it was created.

The NYC galleries are concentrated in four areas. Chelsea, Upper Eastside, 57th Street, and Greenwich Village. Each year Mr. Rosenthal leads walking tours of the art currently for sale in the many smaller, exclusive galleries in each of these areas. Galleries will show an artist's work for a limited period, and do not firm up what they are displaying until just a couple of weeks before a display is assembled. Visitors may not like all of the art that they see, but they will certainly find it entertaining!

Sussex County Branch

On May 15th, the Sussex County Branch participated in Sussex County Community College Women's Weekend. The Women's Weekend is an opportunity for people ages 18 and older to gather for a fun-filled experience. The day features breakfast, lunch, and dinner along with interesting workshops and area vendors. Those who attend have the chance to explore something new to help them live a better life, learn something they've always been curious about, and have time to relax and enjoy the day. In addition to manning an AAUW display table, the branch sponsored a workshop by presenting the video, ***Patsy Mink: Ahead of the Majority***.



Ms. Jessica Pierson

The Meandering of an Eternal Art Teacher

Ms. Bea Card Kettlewood - AAUW Greater Wayne Area Branch

STEM

Today I attended a state AAUW-NJ Fall Focus meeting in Monroe Township. The program was entitled *Breaking through Barriers*. The theme was "Action to Increase Membership" - women as agents of change. With a "mixer questionnaire" we discussed EF, LAF, CAP, NCCWSL, ECOSOC and STEM. At the last few state meetings which I have attended I have heard STEM for equity of women is most important - essential. If we want to bring younger women into membership, we need to push STEM.

The flyers, brochures and work hand-outs have decorative borders, photographs and logos to attract attention done by illustrators and graphic designers. One fell on the carpeted floor. While picking it up, I noticed the carpet with a Victorian style repeat pattern of varying blues on tan background created, no doubt, by a textile designer.

Women were dressed in clothes, appropriate for educated women at a Saturday meeting at the Forsgate Country Club, designed by FIT quality fashion designers. The clothes were enhanced by jewelry of all sizes and shapes designed and made by jewelry designers and crafters. There were hair-dos going in a variety of directions with real and phony colors done by trained hair dressers. One by one to address the group, the women arose from chairs with upholstered patterned seats and brass-like curved legs and backs obviously done by a furniture designer and a different textile designer.

Interior designers and decorators followed through, a bit, with the Victorian homey look in the building planned by an architect. Above the chair rail, there were no paintings or photographs; below the rail were numerous electric plugs and switches making crooked tilted dark rectangles against a tan background. Maybe the electrician was a genetic descendent of Mondrian. There were some realistic paintings done by artists in the entry hall.

Please, excuse the meandering of an eternal art teacher, with many former students in many art careers, and a perpetual professional woman

artist trying to succeed in basically a "man's world" who wrote the above during the interesting meeting. STEM? - science, technology, engineering, math.

Ponderings:

- . Do engineers need to draw?
- . Do science students need illustrations?
- . Wasn't da Vinci's Mona Lisa composition based on a geometric formula?
- . Doesn't the T in FIT stand for technology?

Wouldn't there be greater upward movement with some STEAM rather than a mere STEM?

On the way home, I enjoyed looking at the *stema* and trunks in among the blotches of yellow, ochre, orange, and varying greens along the NJGSP. They were interesting emerging and receding in streaks of light and shadow in the late afternoon sun. **STEAM.**



Bea Kettlewood stands near her sketches, watercolors, and oil presentation at the Pequannock Township Public Library, Artist's Reception, on Saturday May 1, 2010



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THE GARDEN STATEMENT
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because **equity** is still an **issue**

The Garden Statement is a publication for the members of the
American Association of University Women-NJ; AAUWNJ.org.

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