

Alabama Daybreak

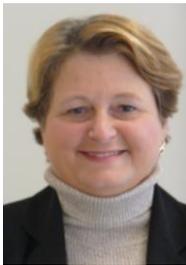
Volume 61

Spring 2011

Issue 2

President's Message

2012 – The Next “Year of the Woman”?



In 1992, two dozen new women were elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and five to the Senate. The controversial confirmation hearings of Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas, led by an all-male Senate Judiciary Committee, had triggered a reaction among women that led them to run for office. Nationally 11 women won major party nominations for Senate races, while 106 women contended for House seats in the general election. The elections of 1992 began a decade of unparalleled gains for women in Congress and came to be known as the “Year of the Woman”.

1992 was the year after redistricting from the 1990 census. It created more open seats and induced more incumbent retirement. This allowed many significant opportunities for women candidates across the country, because you had new seats, new districts and new lines. Redistricting presented women with a chance they don't often get: a shot at an open seat rather than a

challenge to an incumbent, and many women ran for office and won.

Over the last year, we've witnessed the first reduction in the number of women in Congress in over 30 years, plus overwhelming sexist media coverage against women candidates, and some of the most vehement anti-women legislation in recent history.

As women become threatened by attacks and cutbacks in services that get enacted in the coming year, it may trigger a new reaction among women in 2012. They may choose to run for office, to right the wrongs and restore reductions in education, health care and social services that they use and that are desperately needed by citizens in their district. Since 2012 is another year when districts are redrawn, this presents women with the same opportunities they had in 1992.

Today in the United States, women hold only 17% of the seats in Congress (14 senators, 59 representatives), 23% of seats in state legislatures, and there are only 7 out of 50 states with a female governor. Of the seven congressional representatives of Alabama, two are women: Martha Roby (R-District 2) and Terri Sewell (D-District 7). The U.S. ranks 72nd in the world for the number of women elected to a

national governing body, yet we are a majority in the population and among voters.

Alabama ranks 48th in the U.S. for number of women in the state legislature. We have five women in our state senate and 14 women in the state house, which equals 13.6% of the 140 total legislators. The highest-ranking woman elected to a statewide office was Lurleen Wallace, who was elected as a surrogate for her husband, who could not run for re-election. In our state's history, only twenty women have been elected to a statewide office, though several of them served for multiple terms or in multiple offices.

Here in Alabama, we need to encourage more women to participate in their local government and run for offices like city council, mayor, school board, county commissioner and other regional positions, including state representative. As more women run, and as more women win, then we will develop a pool of experienced, professional leaders from whom we can draw future candidates for statewide Alabama positions and congressional seats.

Political representation “means acting in the interest of the represented, in a manner responsive to them”. Research by

political scientists indicates that the presence of women in legislative bodies makes a significant difference not only in what gets discussed, but also in what kind of legislation is advanced. Even when a woman candidate enters into a political race, but doesn't win, her presence forces the other candidates to deal with issues of concern to women voters on a daily basis on the campaign trail.

Women need to be in the places like the legislature where important decisions are made. Their language is different, clear. They know everyday life problems and know how to listen, how to explain. Women will change politics more than politics will change women. We can affirm both specific identities: of being women while at the same time holding the professional role of women as politicians.

Women being elected to office can bring an extra dimension to politics. The differing world experiences between men and women mold their political attitudes and ultimately shape their responses to a broad range of policy issues. Women bring new ideas to the legislature and are more likely than men to introduce innovative bills that address education or family/children issues.

In the coming year, women will continue to be seriously impacted by the changes to domestic policies that are being enacted. Women, who earn 20-30 percent less than men on average, suffer disproportionately in a bad economy. Women hold a large majority of the teaching and public sector jobs that are facing drastic cuts ahead. As primary caregivers in most families, they directly feel

the pinch of tighter budgets and the pain of inadequate health care. Dissatisfaction with these effects may cause a large number of women to seek public office to make a change.

Can you make a difference? Or do you know an effective local woman leader who is a possible candidate? Women seldom see themselves as political candidates and have to be asked an average of seven times before accepting someone's suggestion to run for office. Look around at your churches, non-profits or civic groups. You may actually know several women who would be great candidates – so ask them to consider it. **Let's make 2012 the next "Year of the Woman", starting with women in Alabama!**

Quote from Elizabeth Cady Stanton:

"It's a wonder the Republic has done as well as it has, when it's only used half its resources".

Jo Ann Cummings,
AAUW of Alabama President

AAUW of Alabama History Committee

The AAUW of Alabama Board of Directors has adopted a proposal to bring up to date the history of our state and local AAUW organizations. The last State History covers thru 1991, so state and branch activities since 1991 need to be researched and compiled for editing and future publication. We intend to digitize the two previous AAUW of Alabama histories, and present a complete volume of information in digital or printed format.

Janet Smith of Montgomery (Chair),
Wanda Foster (Huntsville), and
Amanda Melcher (Montevallo),

make up the current AAUW Alabama History Committee.

The committee is charged with two projects in 2011-12: 1) update the history of AAUW Alabama; and 2) put together a booklet on famous women who have either been members of AAUW or have benefited from the work of AAUW (scholarships, fellowships, etc.).

We are asking each branch to appoint a History Chair and Committee to research and compile their branch history. If you have a branch historian, or current members who have been in the branch during that time, then they will be helpful providing the information that you need. We do not expect to complete the history until 2012, but we ask that branches begin the process of collecting this information. Please have your History Chair contact Janet Smith (address below).

For the second objective (the booklet on famous AAUW women), we are asking members to share their stories of women who fit this category. For example, while reading through the history of our organization, we discovered that the first Treasurer of the Montgomery Branch and its second President was Sarah Haardt. Sarah went on to marry H. L. Mencken and was an author in her own right. Unfortunately, she died quite young.

We are asking that each branch include a member on their History Committee who can submit brief biographies on women who fit this category to a member of the State History Committee. We'd like to get this information on the state website (and make it available for the branch blogs/websites) as well as make paper copies for

distribution by June 30, 2011. Deadline for submissions is May 15th. They can be sent to Janet Smith at aauwmontgomery@gmail.com.

Women and Heart Disease

Heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women, regardless of their race or ethnicity. Learn how to reduce your heart disease risk in this article:

<http://www.wisconsinrapidtribune.com/article/20110207/WRT04/102070329/Women-can-take-action-to-reduce-heart-disease-risk>

AAUW Report on Year Two of Obama Administration

AAUW is pleased to report that notable progress has been achieved on a number of our top-line issues over the last year. This includes the administration's leadership on school bullying and harassment; its clear focus on promoting science, technology, engineering and math; its administration-wide emphasis on equal pay enforcement; and the decision to reinstate federal Title IX guidelines giving women and girls better access to school sports. With the addition of Justice Elena Kagan, three women are now serving concurrently on the U.S. Supreme Court. The following 24 page report summarizes this progress.

The Obama Administration: A Progress Report on AAUW Priority Issues

http://www.aauw.org/act/issue_advocacy/actionpages/upload/Obama_secondyear_Jan2011.pdf

ACCR Fifth Annual Bailey Thomson Awards Luncheon

The Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform Foundation invites you to join the celebration to honor the people and institutions that have continued the effort to write a better Alabama Constitution.

This year's celebration is scheduled for Friday, September 23, 2011, in the Thomas E. and Marla H. Corts Arena in the Pete Hanna Center on the campus of Birmingham's Samford University. The keynote address will be given by retired Supreme Court Justice J. Gorman Houston, Jr.

For the 2011 legislative session, there are several items introduced to bring constitutional reform. HJR 34, to allow a constitutional convention, is sponsored by former Speaker Pro Tem, Demetrius Newton and others, and a similar Resolution is sponsored in the Senate by Senator Roger Bedford, SJR 27. A bill, HB181, allowing Home Rule has been sponsored by Rep. Mike Hill, and a bill, SB112, to eliminate the racist language has been offered by Senator Arthur Orr.

Bring It Back Home is a grassroots movement spearheaded by ACCRF to provide local educational pro-



grams to organize citizens to take control away from big government and bring it back home to their community. More information can be found at this website: <http://www.bringitbackhome.org/>



Alabama Arise

AAUW of Alabama joined with Alabama Arise to establish as one of their legislative priorities the passage of a bill to establish an Equal Pay Commission for Alabama, which we have lobbied for in the last five years.

A bill for 2011, sponsored by Representative Laura Hall, has been prepared and we are working to gain co-sponsors for this bill. Once the bill is introduced to the House, we will need each of you to contact your representatives to lobby for its passage. We will also hold a Lobby Day for this issue in Montgomery on April 12th, which is Equal Pay Day.

Alabama Arise is also supporting other issues for 2011, including constitutional reform, public transportation, worker savings incentives and the death penalty moratorium. The Arise Lobby Day is Thursday, March 31, and all Alabama AAUW members are encouraged to participate and show your support for these Arise issues.

You can get a copy of the latest Arise Newsletter at their website: <http://arisecitizens.org/> In addition, a fact sheet is available that examines the history of wage discrimination, the scope of today's disparities and how an Equal Pay Commission could help Alabama close the gap.

Branch News

Birmingham

At the AAUW Birmingham Branch meeting on January 18, **Audrey Salgado**, from Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform Foundation (ACCRF), presented a DVD entitled *Open Secret*. It is a 30-minute reenactment of parts of the constitutional convention of 1901, with actual remarks from that meeting read by actors. Sponsors of the "Open Secret" film project are: Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform; AAUW of Alabama; The League of Women Voters of Alabama; and Greater Birmingham Ministries

Based on actual transcripts from Alabama's 1901 Constitutional Convention, *Open Secret* looks into a part of Alabama's history that is not well-known and not necessarily pleasant. The 155 white male delegates to this convention openly discussed ways to disenfranchise black and poor white voters. They dismiss women's right to vote. This group of delegates wrote the Constitution under which Alabama currently operates, and it hinders the future of our state. The end result today is that the Alabama constitution is the longest one in the U.S.

At the February 8th meeting, **Dr. Geraldine Watts Bell** and **Dr. Hattie Griffin Lamar** spoke about their book, *Women of Uncommon Valor: Life Stories of Women from Birmingham, Alabama*.

The book looks at the lives of 26 women. Originally planned only as video-taped oral interviews, after the first interview, Dr. Lamar

knew they had a book in the making. These 26 women have achieved a lot, against odds like glass ceilings, racism, etc. They have stories to tell. They may not be necessarily known on the "world stage" but they have achieved much – they have "valor."

The authors wanted to write stories that show attributes for young people to emulate. These women are from all slices of life: educators, business owners, doctors, judges, police officer, Jewish cantor, opera singer and community organizers. Their stories are as varied as are they. The profits from the sales of the book go to the Miles College's Institutional Scholarship Fund.

Montevallo

In celebration of Women's History and African American History, the Montevallo Branch of AAUW and Parnell Memorial Library recently presented "*Women of Uncommon Valor: We Speak Your Names.*" The program included an AAUW **Readers Theatre Presentation**, "**We Speak Your Names**," by Pearl Cleage. Readers were Barbara Belisle, Alexandria Cottrell, Eleanor Davis, Sharon Gilbert, and Dr. Thomasyne Hill. The director was Dr. Elaine Hughes.

Following the reading **Dr. Geraldine Bell** and **Dr. Hattie Griffin Lamar** discussed their book, *Women of Uncommon Valor: Life Stories of Women from Birmingham, Alabama*. Respondents included several women featured in the book. Members of the Upward Bound Leaders of Tomorrow hosted a reception honoring program participants and those featured in the book. An audience of over 75 members of the Montevallo community attended this

event.

In "**We Speak Your Names**," poet and playwright Pearl Cleage calls out the names of women such as Maya Angelou, Coretta Scott King, Nikki Giovanni, Toni Morrison. According to the publisher, the poem pays tribute to the way in which African American women have always been able to remake their world, "giving testament to the power of hope, courage, and resilience".

The Montevallo Branch promotes a lecture series in memory of former AAUW leader Dr. Hallie Farmer.

On March 7, the speaker for the 2011 Hallie Farmer Lecture Series was Douglas Blackmon, the author of *Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II*. Mr. Blackmon is the Atlanta Bureau chief for the Wall Street Journal. In 2009, he was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for nonfiction for this book. The book and author are sources of a documentary that will air on PBS in late 2011 or early 2012.

On April 13 at the Eclipse Coffee and Books, the Montevallo Branch of AAUW will host a Celebration of Women in Literature. The Special Book Group Session features Alabama Authors who explore the experiences of women, girls, and their families. Book selections will include *The Well and the Mine* by Gin Phillips, *Adam and Eve* by Sena Jeter Naslund, and *The Enchanted Evening Barbie & the Second Coming: a Memoir* by Rheta Grimsley Johnson.

Shoals

On Thursday, March 17 (4:00-5:30 p.m.) the Shoals Branch is holding it's annual Green Tea at

the UNA President's home. Proceeds will benefit scholarships at UNA and AAUW Funds for fellowships and research on issues important to women and girls.

Huntsville

On March 4th, the AAUW Huntsville Branch held their *Breaking through Barriers* Education Fund Luncheon. The featured speaker **Melissa Musgrove** brought her wisdom and insight as she spoke on the topic "**Embracing Our Greatness**", based on the poem "**Our Greatest Fear**", by Marianne Williamson. She challenged each person to consider what might be holding us back from embracing all that we are and can be. She asked what were we to learn if life is considered a giant classroom. Melissa is co-owner of both Foliage Design Systems and The Yoga Center of Huntsville, and active in the Huntsville community.

Over 100 friends and supporters of Melissa and AAUW attended the annual event, held at Carrabba's Italian Restaurant. Funds raised with this event are used by the Huntsville Branch to send local university women to AAUW's National Conference for Collegiate Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), an event held annually in the DC area.

Three students who attended NCCWSL in 2010 spoke to the audience of their experience and appreciation of being able to attend through the Huntsville Branch's support. The opportunity is open to women students from the University of Alabama in Huntsville, Alabama A&M University, and Oakwood University.

NATIONAL UPDATE

One Member, One Vote

Adopted at the 2009 AAUW National Convention, the concept of **One Member, One Vote** moved AAUW national elections beyond a delegate-only process to an every-member opportunity.

Voting Materials

Voting materials for the election, the amendment of bylaws, and the adoption of resolutions will be mailed to members on or about April 15, 2011. The materials will contain detailed information on submitting the ballot and the deadline by which the vote must be received.

Casting the Ballot

A member may cast a vote by mailed paper ballot, online electronic ballot, or in-person electronic ballot at convention. The timeline for voting is as follows:

- **April 15, 2011** - Paper ballots personalized with member number and a pin number mailed to all members.
- **May 1, 2011** - Electronic voting period begins. Online voting is encouraged. It is fast, easy, and secure.
- **May 31, 2011** - Mailed paper ballots must be postmarked by 11:59 p.m. EST. Paper ballots submitted after that date will not be counted.

June 17, 2011 - Electronic voting period ends at 9 p.m. EST online or onsite at the convention.

AAUW National Convention

The AAUW National Convention for 2011 will be held June 16-19 at the Renaissance Hotel in Washington D.C. Join us to celebrate AAUW's 130 years as a nationwide community that is breaking through barriers for women and girls.

At the 2011 AAUW National Convention, you will join AAUW members from across the country as we advocate for change with a Lobby Day on Capitol Hill; are inspired by nationally recognized speakers and learn new leadership skills and AAUW best practices to take home to our communities; and play a personal role in creating a road map for AAUW's future by participating in our strategic breakout sessions.

Early registration rates end on March 22. Online registration remains open until Wednesday, June 15th. Registration by mail must be postmarked by May 20th. If you miss these deadlines, you can still register at the convention June 16-19.



AAUW of Alabama Ready to Run™



AAUW of Alabama's Ready to Run™ is a nonpartisan program that trains women to run for office, work on a campaign or position themselves for other types of public leadership. It's different from other campaign training programs because:

- It's the only program of its kind that trains Alabama women for government leadership and is inclusive of women of all political affiliations or none.
- It positions women leaders to improve quality-of-life standards for all Alabama citizens.
- It's affiliated with the renowned Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP), Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University.
- It participates in CAWP's 2012 Project, identifying and encouraging mature and accomplished women to run for office.
- It plans to capitalize on the large number of open congressional and state legislative seats that will be created by post-census reapportionment.
- It is building a network of motivated, politically savvy women throughout Alabama, one workshop at a time.

Ready to Run™ will be involved in three workshops:

On **Saturday, April 9**, AAUW of Alabama will hold our annual state business meeting in Scottsboro (please see pages 10 and 11 for details). The Friday preceding, there will be a Ready to Run™ and Elect Her student workshop at 1:00-2:45 pm. Elect Her is a national program in which AAUW and Running Start train women students to run for campus office. The last Ready to Run™ student workshop was held preceding the state convention at Montevallo. It was well-attended and enthusiastically received, and we look forward to a similar experience in Scottsboro.

On **Friday, May 6**, the Auburn University Women's Leadership Institute (WLI) will host the "*Alabama Women Running and Winning*" workshop, with 25 women leaders around the state invited. WLI is partnered with Vision 2020 and the 2012 Project. Vision 2020 is a national project to celebrate the 2020 Centennial of the Suffrage Amendment by focusing on advancing gender equality through dialogue about women and leadership. Jean Sinzdak, director of the Program for Women Public Officials at CAWP, will speak. She is also a key staff member in the 2012 Project and manages CAWP's Ready to Run™ program and the Bipartisan Coalition for Women's Appointments. Representatives of our state Ready to Run™ program will be participating. Audrey Salgado is the 2012 Project coordinator for AAUW of Alabama Ready to Run™. She is also president of the Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform (ACCR) Foundation and former president of AAUW of Alabama. If you're interested in the

2012 Project, contact Audrey at Audrey@constitutionalreform.org.

On **Saturday, June 4**, an all-day Ready to Run™ workshop will be held in Huntsville at the Robert Trent Jones clubhouse in Hampton Cove. The cost is \$45, and you pay for your own lunch. Come and invite those women leaders who might be potential candidates.

Topics covered will include identifying yourself as a candidate, developing a campaign staff, creating a campaign plan, qualifying and navigating the party system, fundraising, launching your campaign, field organizing ("Getting Out the Vote"), and dealing with the media and public relations. You will learn from women who have run and receive a training manual for easy reference and more information. If you're interested in attending this workshop or finding out more about Ready to Run™, please view the Ready to Run™ website at http://www.aauw-alabama.org/rtr_main.htm and/or contact Wanda Foster at wlfoster002@yahoo.com.

Equal Pay Day – Lobby Day

Tuesday, April 12th will be Lobby Day to support the bill to establish the Equal Pay Commission. We will meet at the State House at 10:00 AM.

Now is the time to start contacting your local mayor to get proclamations for Equal Pay Day. You are also encouraged to prepare and submit articles to the editor of your local newspaper or plan local activities in your town or on your campus. Ideas can be found here: http://www.aauw.org/act/issue_advocacy/upload/EqualPayDay.html



Elect Her

The **Elect Her** initiative from AAUW aims to close the longstanding political leadership gender gap by empowering and training women to run for office at all levels.

Elect Her – Campus Women Win is a collaboration between the AAUW and Running Start. On January 22, forty women student leaders from the University of Alabama attended the workshop on the Tuscaloosa campus. UA is one of 20 colleges around the nation participating in the **Elect Her – Campus Women Win** program in 2011.

Besides introducing the students to the importance of women participation in student government, speakers also explained to the students the nuts and bolts of running for student government office. Attendees practiced exercises on building a campaign team, preparing an “elevator speech”, and simulation of campaign activities.

With the UA campaign period only a week away, many of those attending were ready to start on their campaign right away.

AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund Supports Gender Discrimination Suit against Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund announced that it is awarding monetary support to the case *Dukes v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.* Lead plaintiff Betty Dukes, a Wal-Mart employee, has alleged gender discrimination in pay and promotion policies and practices in Wal-Mart retail stores. Plaintiffs for the case comprise a class of approximately 1.6 million female Wal-Mart and Sam's Club employees.

In 2001, Dukes and other lead plaintiffs filed a motion for class certification with the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California in order to further pursue the case as a class action. Wal-Mart appealed to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, then to a three-judge panel of the same court, and then to the full en banc court. The class certification was affirmed after all three appeals, and now Wal-Mart is appealing to the U.S. Supreme Court. If the court affirms the class certification, the case will become the largest civil rights class action suit in the nation's history.

The U.S. Supreme Court granted certiorari on December 6, 2010, and oral arguments on the class certification have been set for March 29, 2011.

"AAUW is proud to lend our support to the lead plaintiffs of this groundbreaking case," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. "There is no chance that each of the 1.6 million female employees has the financial resources, time, and patience to pursue her own case against Wal-Mart. AAUW strongly believes that

these women's voices should be heard and that they should be able to stand together to fight for their families' economic well-being. Class action cases also have a much stronger deterrent effect, showing the business community that discrimination is not good for the bottom line."

AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund support has been instrumental to the success of many gender discrimination cases during LAF's 30-year history. Other LAF initiatives include [community](#) and [campus outreach programs](#), a [resource library and online advocacy tools](#), a [Legal Referral Network](#), and various [research reports](#).

"Wal-Mart claims this case is too big to bring as a class action, but there is no big company exception to the civil rights laws," said Equal Rights Advocates Executive Director Arcelia Hurtado. "The reality is that without a class action, the women working at Wal-Mart will never have their day in court. The women have been treated unequally as a class, and they should be able to assert their rights as a class."

AAUW's strategic case support program provides financial and organizational backing for a select number of cases that have the potential to provide significant protection for all women. The funds come directly from the generous contributions of AAUW members who support the Legal Advocacy Fund.

From Membership:

Seeking a More Diverse Membership in AAUW of Alabama

The demographic population of the U.S. is male, 49.3% and female, 50.7%. The percentage of those with a bachelor's degree or higher is 27.5%. Three hundred one million people are native born; 37 million are foreign born; 16 million are naturalized citizens; and 21 million are not citizens. Almost twenty percent of the population speaks a language other than English.

According to recent surveys, most of AAUW's members are in their 50s and 60s. Many have belonged to AAUW for more than 10 years. Sixty-three percent are married, more than half work full or part time and 92% are white. Though AAUW professes to seek diverse membership, our current demographic shows that we are disproportionately white compared to current and future population distributions. As we are always trying to grow our membership, it makes sense to consider potential members from groups that are underrepresented.

In order to recruit diverse members, we need to reach out to other organizations that represent women of color, people with disabilities, gays and lesbians, and other underrepresented groups. Attend their conferences, coalition meetings, and other events. Look for projects that can involve them, both to increase your impact and to collect a list of prospective members. Additionally, foster diversity on panels, planning groups, and committees and in leadership positions. When recruiting and forming programs, remember: In order to attract diverse members, we need to keep their wants and needs in mind and target our programs accordingly.

Please print the diversity statement on all AAUW materials: *In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.* The Montgomery Branch recently recruited its first lesbian member.

Remember that as of March 16th, a new membership recruiting year begins. Any new members recruited now will pay full membership dues that are effective for over 15 months, from now until June 30, 2012.

Also keep in mind that 2011 is the 130th anniversary of the founding of AAUW. The Montgomery Branch is also celebrating its 90th birthday. AAUW national is offering discounted memberships to graduate students for \$18.81. The fee for first time university affiliates is \$130.00.

More information is available at the Member Center at www.aauw.org.

Janet Smith

Membership Vice President,
Diversity Chair

AAUW Drops New York City Branch

On February 27, 2011, the AAUW Board voted to disaffiliate the New York City Branch of AAUW, an action that has never occurred before in the 130 year history of AAUW. After hearing of concerns and complaints since 2009, AAUW leadership has tried to work with the Branch leadership to resolve serious problems regarding governance, finance, meeting decorum and conduct unbecoming to AAUW leadership.

AAUW leadership made repeated requests over many months for

information to help the Branch resolve allegations of financial mismanagement. They also determined that numerous unacceptable conditions have perpetuated, after trying to work with the Branch to correct or reverse them, including some very serious issues. After working with the NYC Branch for over a year, AAUW decided it could no longer continue to act as a mediator to resolve all of the related issues. AAUW was saddened to take the unprecedented step to disaffiliate the Branch and assume responsibility for managing and liquidating all assets of the NYC Branch. AAUW deeply regretted having to take this action, and did so only based on the conclusion that there was no other reasonable option that would protect the good name of AAUW, protect the assets of the Branch, and protect the rights of Branch tenants.

2011 Nominating Committee Report -AAUW of Alabama

Committee Members are: Sandra Lott, Audrey Salgado, and Lee-vones Dubose.

The Committee is pleased to present the following nominees:

Membership Vice President:
Veronica Bryant, Birmingham

Treasurer:
Diane Marks, Birmingham

Secretary:
Ruth Sundberg, Montevallo

Elections will be held at the Annual Business Meeting in Scottsboro on April 9th. All State members are encouraged to attend.

AAUW of Alabama 2011 Annual Meeting in Scottsboro

Mark your calendars!! In 2011, AAUW of Alabama will hold the annual State Business Meeting in the beautiful city of Scottsboro on Saturday, April 9th. This meeting will take place at the Comfort Inn, 25775 John T. Reid Parkway.

This year our meeting focus will be on ***“The Importance of Electing Women Leaders”***. Starting at 10:00 AM, there will be several speakers, a catered or boxed lunch, followed by an additional speaker and the state business meeting, where reports will be made and elections will be held.



The Executive Committee will hold its meeting on Friday night, April 8th, and the Board of Directors will meet on Saturday 8:00 – 10:00 AM. Branch Presidents or their designated representative, plus other Board members, are highly encouraged to attend. Workshops for Student Advisory Council members will be held on Friday afternoon and evening.

2011 marks the first year that our state organization is holding only a state business meeting instead of a full convention. In 2010, the Board of Directors amended our bylaws so that AAUW of Alabama holds its full convention in even-numbered years and a state business meeting in odd-numbered

years, coinciding with the national convention. Doing it this way not only reduces the cost for the event, but it also gives our smaller branches a chance to host an event and meet other members from around the state. The next state convention will be held in 2012, hosted by the Birmingham Branch.

Saturday, the Board of Directors meeting will be held before the



regular sessions. The meeting proper will begin at 10:00 a.m. with a message from Jo Ann Cummings, state president.

The keynote speaker will be **Tracy Snoddy**, program administrator at Auburn University's prestigious Women's Leadership Institute.

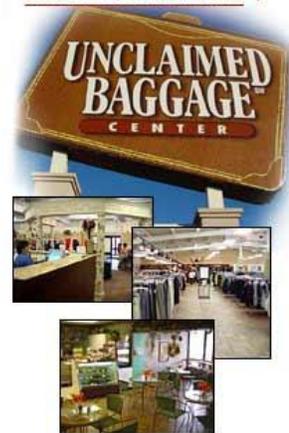
The luncheon speaker will be State Representative **Laura Hall**, an AAUW member who has faithfully submitted a House bill or resolution to establish an Equal Pay Commission for many years. Also an educator and community activist, she will share her political experience and her take on the state of Alabama politics.



Saturday afternoon, **Mildred Hoffer-Foushee**, national AAUW finance vice president, will present the news from national AAUW. This will be followed by a Leadership Training session on ***“Turning Social Media to Social Justice”*** and the annual business meeting, where election will be held for AAUW statewide offices.

For those who have never been to Scottsboro (and those who have), you're in for a treat. In the northeastern corner of the state, Scottsboro is part of the beautiful Northern Alabama Mountain Lakes Region. Lake Guntersville, Cathedral Caverns, the Russell Cave National Monument and Walls of Jericho are nearby for those who want to come early or stay over. In addition, the town is famous for the Scottsboro Boys Museum and Cultural Center, which the students will have an opportunity to tour. The museum features a dark moment in Southern history that ultimately led to a civil rights victory. And, of course, there's the Unclaimed Baggage Center, where all attendees can visit the only unclaimed baggage store in the country and get huge discounts. Over 7,000 items are stocked daily, and the store has famously been featured on *Today* and *Oprah*.

Proceed to Store Tour ▶



Unclaimed Baggage Hours:
Friday: 9-6; Saturday 8-6
www.unclaimedbaggage.com

So please come join us for a good, informative time! The registration form is located on page 11. Be sure to fill it out and make your reservations at the Comfort Inn now!



THE IMPORTANCE OF ELECTING WOMEN LEADERS

AAUW OF ALABAMA ANNUAL MEETING April 8-9, 2011

Comfort Inn, 25775 John T. Reid Parkway, Scottsboro, AL 35768
(256) 259-8700

FRIDAY ACTIVITIES – APRIL 8, 2011

Pre-Convention Student Workshops – Comfort Inn

- 1:00 – 2:45 p.m. - Ready-to-Run™/ Elect Her (student version)
- 3:00 – 4:45 p.m. – Establishing a Path for Financial Security
- 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. – Student Dinner and Mixer with discussion about sexual harassment
(Held at home of Amy Cameron: 421 Bradley Street, Scottsboro)

Regular Meeting Schedule

- 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Registration Packet Pick-Up at Comfort Inn
- 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Dinner and Executive Committee Meeting
(Held at home of Mary Kay Carlton: 1030 Peninsula Drive, Scottsboro)

SATURDAY ACTIVITIES – APRIL 9, 2011

All activities at the Comfort Inn

- 7:30 – 10:30 a.m. – Registration and Packet Pick-Up
- 8:00 – 9:45 a.m. – Board of Directors Meeting

- 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. – Welcome from city leaders
Welcome from JoAnn Cummings, AAUW of Alabama President
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Keynote Speaker: Tracy Snoddy
Program administrator, Auburn University, Women's Leadership Institute.

- 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. – Lunch
Luncheon Speaker – Representative Laura Hall

- 1:20 – 2:30 p.m. – AAUW National Update
Mildred Hoffler-Foushee, AAUW Finance Vice President
- 2:40 – 3:50 p.m. – Leadership Training
“Turning Social Media to Social Justice”
- 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. – Annual Business Meeting and Elections
- 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

AAUW of Alabama
2011 Annual State Business Meeting – April 8-9, 2011
Comfort Inn, 25775 John T. Reid Parkway, Scottsboro, AL 35768,
(256) 259-8700 * <http://www.comfortinn.com/hotel-scottsboro-alabama-AL368>

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

AAUW Member Yes AAUW Member # _____ Branch _____

Student Affiliate Yes Campus _____

Non-Member Yes Company or Organization (if any) _____

I will be attending Annual Meeting (10 AM to 5 PM, Saturday)
 Board Meeting (8 AM to 10 AM, Saturday)
 Executive Committee (6 PM to 9 PM, Friday)
 Student Workshops (1 PM to 5 PM, Friday)
 Student Mixer (6:30 PM to 9 PM, Friday)
 Lunch Only (12 PM to 1:20 PM, Saturday)

Early Registration – Member \$ 40.00 Early registration deadline: March 22th
Regular Registration – Member \$ 45.00
 Student \$ 25.00
 Lunch Only \$ 20.00

Please list any dietary limitations or requirements: _____

Special Hotel Rate at Comfort Inn is \$70.00. Tell them it is for “AAUW”.

For questions, contact Amy Cameron (256) 599-7974, cacameron@scottsboro.org or
Jo Ann Cummings (256) 584-6567, joannc1972@charter.net
Wanda Foster (256) 881-0726, wlfoster002@yahoo.com

Mail your check and registration to: AAUW Scottsboro - Mary Kay Remick
381 County Road 24
Scottsboro, AL 35769-3117
Email: Mkremick@hiwaay.net

AAUW Events Calendar

Important Upcoming Meetings

Please mark your calendar for these meeting dates and events:

March 31, 2011

Alabama Arise Lobby Day

April 9, 2011

AAUW of Alabama State Board of Directors and Business Meeting
Hosted by Scottsboro Branch
Comfort Inn, Scottsboro

April 12, 2011

Equal Pay Day and Lobby Day in Montgomery to support Equal Pay Commission Bill.

June 4, 2011

Ready to Run™ Workshop for women interested in running for office. Robert Trent Jones Clubhouse, Hampton Cove.

June 2-4, 2011

NCCWSL, University of Maryland,
College Park, MD

June 16-19, 2011

AAUW National Convention, Renaissance Hotel, Washington DC

August, 2010

Leadership Training, RTJ Oxmoor Golf Course Clubhouse. TBD

August 26, 2010

Women's Equality Day:
90th anniversary of passage of the 19th amendment, giving women the right to vote

AAUW of Alabama
Sarah Barbré
Communications Director
331 Jasmine Drive
Madison, AL 35757

Address Service Requested

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AAUW Advances Equity for Women and Girls through Advocacy, Education, Philanthropy, and Research.

www.aauw-alabama.org