



Winter 2012

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## President's Message

### Women in the Recession and Recovery

In 2011, there were more job cuts than in 2010, and the key reason is because of increased cuts in government spending. In 2010, 28 percent of the jobs lost were in government, but in 2011, that number rose to 32 percent.

The effect of state and local austerity policies to reduce the size of government (versus finding other income) has been an increase of 13 percent in the number of government service jobs lost in 2011. And, even as private sector jobs begin a slow recovery, government job losses will continue to ripple through the economy. Conservative local and state administrators will push to downsize public employment, especially for those covered by union contracts.

Forty percent of workers in the public sector are covered by union contracts, and women make up 56.8 percent of all government workers. Women hold jobs in teaching, administration, social work and nursing, as well as being police officers, firefighters and janitors. Ongoing government austerity programs will continue to impact women's unemployment numbers for years to come unless other practical solutions to balance the budgets are voted for. In the meantime, critical services to members of the community once provided by these missing employees will continue to deteriorate or will be eliminated completely.

So why should AAUW members care and what can we do about it?

This recession has had a severe impact on everyone in the country, but women and their families are especially vulnerable. In the last four years, so many people have had one or both of their breadwinners without a job for two months or more. Plus, those who have retained their jobs have been left vulnerable to fears of possible layoffs, pay cuts or termination for even minor violations of company policies.

Men and women are still suffering considerable hardships. They are having difficulty paying for basics like food, health care, housing, transportation and utilities. They have difficulty saving for the future and have seen the value of their assets decline or disappear. And, on almost every measure of insecurity and hardship, the Great Recession has visited more hardship on women than it has on men.

Women start off having fewer financial resources than men, on average earn less than men, and generally have far less savings set aside than men. Women are more likely to be single parents, to go hungry, to be without needed medical care, or not to save for the future. Even when recovery is fully underway, women, with their greatly depleted resources, will remain vulnerable.

AAUW promotes the economic, social, and physical well-being of all persons, and essential to that well-being is a strong and healthy economy that provides employment, education and, yes, a safety net to protect those most vulnerable among us.

AAUW members can remain in active communication with their local, state and federal elected officials to advocate for budgets, laws and policies that promote our economy, preserve our community, and protect our citizens from danger and corruption. If you think laws or budget proposals being introduced are unjust or unfair, speak up to your leaders!

Remember, your voice – and your vote – count, so let it be heard!

*JoAnn Cummings*

State President, AAUW of Alabama

*(Data from Women and Men Living on the Edge: Economic Insecurity after the Great Recession, Jeff Hayes and Heidi Hartmann, September 2011, Institute for Women's Policy Research.)*

## **Register Now for Home Rule Conference Who Rules the Roost: State Rights for Counties**

By Audrey L. Salgado

Register now for the Home Rule Conference, *Who Rules the Roost: State Rights for Counties*, to be held at the Alabama State Capitol Auditorium, South Union Street Rear Entrance, Montgomery, on Wednesday, February 29, 2012, from 8:30 am to 3 pm. Make plans NOW to attend!!

The agenda features a Panel Conversation on Home Rule moderated by Vanzetta Penn McPherson, retired U.S. Magistrate Judge. Morning panelists include: J. Gorman Houston, Jr., retired Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice; Del Marsh, Alabama Senate President Pro Tempore (Invited); Mike Gillespie, Madison County Commission Chair; and Jim Williams, Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama (PARCA) Executive Director. The session is preceded by "The Constitution in Response to Alabama History" by Dr. Edwin C. Bridges, Executive Director, Alabama Department of Archives & History.

Following lunch, Shana Berger and Nathan Purath, Co-Directors of Coleman Center of the Arts, York, Alabama, will present "Merging Alabama's History and Its Future through Art."

The two afternoon sessions address "Democracy Denied and Democracy Renewed" with the following speakers: Stan Bateman, St. Clair County Commission Chair; Robert Harris, Lowndes County Commission; Merceria Ludgood, Mobile County Commission; Arturo S. Menefee, Leadership Development Specialist, Economic & Community Development Institute, Auburn University; Sonny Brassfield, Executive Director, Association of County Commissioners of Alabama (Invited); Gene Murphree, Public Policy Consultant, Decision Resources; and The Right Reverend Henry Hutt Parsley, Jr., retired Bishop of Alabama Episcopal Church.

The closing will be presented by college/university student chapters led by Sharmin Anwer, Austin Monk and Holly Spargo.

The conference is free and lunch is on your own at local restaurants, or you can bring a sack lunch. Reservations are required. Register now by emailing your name, mailing address, and phone number to [ACCRFoundation@constitutionalreform.org](mailto:ACCRFoundation@constitutionalreform.org).

## **Join 2012 Project Alabama**

By Audrey L. Salgado

2012 Project Alabama is forming a statewide team. Two women are needed from North Alabama, two from South Alabama, and one from Central Alabama. The 2012 Project is a national, non-partisan campaign of the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) at Rutgers University to increase the number of women in Congress and state legislatures by taking advantage of the once-in-a-decade opportunities of 2012.

In 2011, the 2012 Project Alabama spread the word throughout the state about the ideas of this national project. Through a collaboration of Alabama women's organizations, including AAUW of Alabama, 35 women met on May 6 to develop a plan to implement training workshops in connection with the annual Extraordinary Women Lecture event on October 13 featuring the White House Project founding chair Marie Wilson. Both meetings were held at Auburn University with the Women's Leadership Institute serving as host.

In 2012, the 2012 Project Alabama team will focus on research. Business and professional women, especially those with experience in science, technology, engineering, and math, will be targeted for recruitment in 2013 to run for political office during the 2014 election.

Contact Audrey L. Salgado at [audrey2012project@gmail.com](mailto:audrey2012project@gmail.com) with your name and contact information if you are interested in joining the following women on the 2012 Project Alabama team: Shay Farley, Attorney and Legal Director of a Nonprofit, Montgomery; Shari Rossman, Business Owner, Cool Beans, and Fundraising Professional, Montgomery; Andrea Simmons, Lifelong Educator and Technologist, Birmingham; Susan Sheppard, Speech Pathologist, Birmingham; and Kerry Veale, Education Specialist, Birmingham.

## **Nominating Committee Report**

The Nominating Committee will present the following slate of officers at the AAUW of Alabama 2012 annual meeting: President, Wanda Foster; Program Vice President, Patti Steelman; AAUW Funds Vice President, Sandra Lott; and Communications Director, JoAnn Cummings. Individual members or branches can present nominations from the floor. The Nominating Committee includes Audrey L. Salgado, Chair, Sandra Lott, and Leevones Dubose.

## Bylaws Update

By Ellie Lienau

You may be wondering why you have not received any information about updating your bylaws to reflect the changes from the National Convention in June, 2011. We received the following from AAUW in late September:

“AAUW received notification that, effective January 1, 2012, significant changes are being made to the DC code that will affect hundreds of nonprofit organizations based in Washington, DC. Since AAUW is incorporated in both Washington, DC, and Pennsylvania, our bylaws must conform to both codes....

“As you know, branch and state bylaws must be congruent with those of AAUW, and, thus, when AAUW’s national bylaws change, yours must be adjusted for consistency. After national conventions, we typically send out Model Bylaws to guide your conformance adjustments to any national bylaws changes. Because we believe that there will be further national bylaws changes that must be made due to the DC code changes, we recommend that you delay making any conformance changes to your bylaws until we have made any bylaws changes required to comply with the revised DC code.”

The details of the DC code changes were just sent out the week of February 20, so now the process of making conformity changes can begin.

Now that AAUW has sent us updated guidance, we will pass that along to the branches as soon as possible. In the meantime, please look at your bylaws. There are apt to be changes that should be made to conform to the way your branch does business. These should be voted on according to how amendments are made to your bylaws. Any proposed changes are to be sent to the state for review prior to the membership vote. Let us know if you have any questions.

Ellie Lienau, [elienau@yahoo.com](mailto:elienau@yahoo.com)

Marilyn Robertson, [marilyn.robertson@knology.net](mailto:marilyn.robertson@knology.net)

## AAUW Daybreak Newsletter: Past and Present

By Julie Blair and Beverly Watson

The poem for which our newsletter is named:

### Daybreak in Alabama

When I get to be a composer  
I'm gonna write me some music about  
Daybreak in Alabama  
And I'm gonna put the purtiest songs in it  
Rising out of the ground like a swamp mist  
And falling out of heaven like soft dew.  
I'm gonna put some tall tall trees in it  
And the scent of pine needles  
And the smell of red clay after rain  
And long red necks  
And poppy colored faces  
And big brown arms  
And the field daisy eyes  
Of black and white black white black people  
And I'm gonna put white hands  
And black hands and brown and yellow hands  
And red clay earth hands in it  
Touching everybody with kind fingers  
And touching each other natural as dew  
In that dawn of music when I  
Get to be a composer  
And write about daybreak  
In Alabama.

– Langston Hughes

Thanks to **Rob Watson** (brother of Beverly Watson, the State Communications Director Assistant) for our fantastic, new *Daybreak* logo!

### Correction to the photo caption from the Fall issue. Alabama Daybreak's Editorial Staff:

Left to Right: Alabama AAUW President Jo Ann Cummings, Alabama AAUW Communications Director Julie Blair, and AAUW Huntsville Branch Secretary (and State Communications Director Assistant) Beverly Watson.



## **Branch News**

### **Birmingham**

By Cathy Moncrief, Communications Director

The board of the Birmingham Branch of AAUW hosted an orientation brunch for new members on November 5, 2011, at the home of Cathy Moncrief, Communications Director. The food was prepared by the board, and the floral centerpiece was the contribution of Susan Sheppard, Co-Director of Ready to Run™. Branch members who were present were President Jimmie Anderson, Programs Vice President Patti Steelman, Membership Vice President Barbara Patterson, Treasurer Diane Marks, and Book Group Chair Bobbie Piper. Barbara Patterson gave a thorough introduction to the Branch's service projects and meetings. Bobbie Piper detailed the Morning Book Group and its selections for the year. Patti Steelman outlined the "lunch and learn" programs that will take place in the next several months.

New members in attendance were Rona Harper, Andrea Simmons, Angela Freeman, Margaret Orlowski and Carol Kinniard.

The board met again on January 27<sup>th</sup> at the home of Barbara Patterson. They made plans for the state convention, which will be held in April in Birmingham. Our "lunch and learn" program took place on February 14th at the Cahaba Pumping Station Museum. The speaker was Deborah Vance Bowie, and the topic was "Staying Calm in the Midst of a Storm."

### **Montevallo**

By Sandra Lott, President

In December, the Montevallo Branch hosted a seasonal buffet, special music, and an arts and crafts sale at Flowerhill, the home of Jennifer Stewart and UM President John Stewart. This festive event, which was attended by people from across the Montevallo community, was successful in raising funds for Reading Is Fundamental and AAUW's Educational Programs.

On January 26, the Branch hosted a panel discussion on Innovative Educational Programs and Opportunities at the University of Montevallo.

February 23, the Branch hosted a special Black History Month event on campus. Professor Kathy Lowe, Director of Carmichael Library, presented her research on Professor John Steelman, an Alabama College faculty member who studied racial violence in Alabama in the 1930s. UM Professor Wilson Fallin discussed this research in the broader context of the quest for racial justice in Alabama. The event was open to the public.

### **Scottsboro**

By Mary K Carlton, Co-President

The Scottsboro Branch of AAUW recently honored one of their members for 50 years of membership in the Scottsboro Jackson County Branch of AAUW. Virginia Sloan was presented her Honorary Lifetime Membership Certificate by Joyce Kenamer, Co-President of the Branch. In addition, she was given a gift by the local Branch for her many years of service.

Virginia is a retired teacher and administrator. She taught for 33 years, many of those at Scottsboro High School. Her first teaching job was in a rural school with 12 students and one teacher. She served as teacher, principal and janitor. She is an active volunteer at First Methodist Church in Scottsboro and is a member of AAUW, Delta Kappa Gamma, and the Retired Teachers Association.

The Branch also presented checks this fall to Northeast Community College, Friends of the Family, and Sadye's Fund. The Branch has enjoyed over 80 percent attendance at their meetings.

### **Huntsville**

By Cindi Branham, President

I can report good things for the Huntsville Branch. Our membership is growing; we're taking on more projects and activities, building public awareness of who we are and what we do (as AAUW); our program attendance is increasing; and we're having fun doing it all.

Perhaps the trick was a rejuvenation of everything we do around "Breaking through Barriers for Women and Girls through Research, Education, Advocacy, and Philanthropy" – basically adopting a mission-based approach to everything we do.

Our AAUW mission is such a good cause, who *can't* get behind it? It's a great feeling to know you're physically helping make things better for women and girls, and that's why most of us joined AAUW. So we've been reminding those around us and ourselves why we do what we do.

One highlight of our progress: we welcome Oakwood University in Huntsville as a university member. Both Oakwood and UAHuntsville are taking steps to establish student organizations. Local institutions are important to the continuity of AAUW, and we'll develop methods of outreach for all three of our local universities. Next: local two-year institutions.

**(Huntsville Branch – Continued)**

Linda Spalla, retired president and CEO of WHNT-TV in Huntsville, presented the 2011 study on Women on Boards of publicly traded corporations in Alabama for the Branch's January dinner meeting. We also held our second Cocktails & Convos with a My Vote theme in January. Our February dinner meeting was a panel discussion of HB 56, Alabama's controversial immigration law.

A few additional highlights of 2012 events that will take us into the summer:

- March
  - Breaking through Barriers Luncheon (*we hope you'll join us!*)
    - Speaker Sarah Savage, Executive Director of Leadership Huntsville-Madison County
    - "Walking the Tightrope: Women in Leadership"
    - Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am – 1 pm at Carrabba's, tickets \$30
    - Proceeds go towards sending local women college students to NCCWSL
    - Ticket information: [elienau@yahoo.com](mailto:elienau@yahoo.com) or 256-655-9452
  - Booth at UAHuntsville's student EXPO; ElectHer focus (3/28)
- April
  - Local Education System Superintendents Panel Discussion (4/3)
  - Our third Cocktails & Convos (date TBD)
- May
  - Generational Diversity and Dynamics (5/8)
- August
  - Membership Tea (tentatively 8/19)

*Breaking through Barriers Luncheon*

Please consider making a trip to Huntsville for the Breaking through Barriers luncheon on March 9<sup>th</sup>. In 2011, we were able to send four students to NCCWSL, and, by all reports, it was the experience of a lifetime.

Since it's a Friday, plan to overnight and visit Bridge Street Towne Centre, a unique location (<http://www.bridgestreethuntsville.com/>).

*New Member from AAUW National Student Advisory Council*

The Huntsville Branch is honored that Joy Agee, a member of the AAUW National Student Advisory Council and UAHuntsville graduate student, has become involved with our Branch. Joy is a delightful young lady, working towards her PhD in Biomedical Sciences. If you attend the March 9<sup>th</sup> luncheon, you'll hear from Joy.



**Joy Agee**

*Our First Cocktails & Convos*

We celebrated our first Cocktails & Convos in November 2011, celebrating AAUW's 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



**Photos from Cocktails and Convos**

I've seen renewed excitement and activity around our Branch and mission this year, and our membership has expanded and grown a bit younger. There's enough of this going on to tell me we're doing at least some of the right things. We have a Board and volunteers in key areas who are working hard to create and maintain this momentum. I'm thankful and very proud of them and look forward to every meeting and chance discussion with each, because their excitement fuels mine.

## **From Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform**

By Audrey Salgado

### **140 Voices for a Better Alabama**

**Purpose:** To recruit one citizen for each of the 105 House Districts and 35 Senate Districts to be a voice for constitutional reform and educate citizens in their respective districts in how the state constitution impacts them in their daily lives. Check out [www.bringitbackhome.org](http://www.bringitbackhome.org). To become involved, contact Audrey Salgado at [audrey5190@yahoo.com](mailto:audrey5190@yahoo.com).

## **From Alabama Arise**

By Cindi Branham, President Huntsville Branch

### **Immigration law failing to reduce unemployment**

Analysis of recent jobs numbers disproves the claims of those asserting that Alabama's new anti-immigration law is responsible for putting Alabamians to work. Although the state's unemployment rate did improve by half a percentage point from September to October – from 9.8 percent to 9.3 percent – that bit of good news is tempered by the fact that it was primarily a result of fewer people looking for work.

### **Grocery Tax**

By taxing the basic necessities of life, Alabama taxes low-income people deeper into poverty. Everyone should shoulder a reasonable share of the costs for education, health care, public safety – the services that provide for the common good in our state. The heaviest load shouldn't fall on those least able to pay.

### **Income tax for Alabama family of four at poverty line climbs to \$498**

Two-parent families of four in Alabama owed \$498 in state income tax on poverty-line earnings in 2010, by far the highest amount in the nation, according to an annual report released by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP), a nonprofit research group in Washington, DC. The state's families also began to owe state income tax at the second lowest income level in the nation, the CBPP found.

## **AAUW Hallie Farmer Legacy Scholarship**

By Sandra Lott, President Montevallo Branch

Members of the Montevallo Branch of AAUW are very pleased to announce that a new AAUW Hallie Farmer Legacy Scholarship has been established at the University of Montevallo. The scholarship was made possible through a generous gift from founding donor Dr. Ethel E. Rasmusson, a retired history professor, AAUW member, and friend and colleague of Dr. Hallie Farmer. Dr. Farmer was an outstanding Alabama College professor, a tireless reformer and advocate for human rights, and a nationally known AAUW leader. The scholarship will provide financial assistance to a deserving rising junior or rising senior female student at the University of Montevallo who is planning to study Social Sciences with an emphasis on Human Rights, Public Policy, and/or Human Services. All of us in the Montevallo Branch of AAUW believe this will be a wonderful way to promote the vision and principles of AAUW and celebrate the legacy of Dr. Hallie Farmer. Beginning next Spring, the scholarship will be awarded annually. It is hoped that the fund will eventually grow to the \$50,000 level so that two awards might be offered each year. Donations may be sent to the AAUW Hallie Farmer Legacy Scholarship; University of Montevallo Advancement; c/o Jeremy Ward, Director of Annual and Special Giving, UM Station 6215; University of Montevallo, Montevallo, AL 35115.



## AAUW Action Fund Launches Get-Out-the-Vote Effort to Mobilize Young Women

The AAUW Action Fund has launched *It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard*, a nonpartisan voter education and turnout effort aimed at maximizing the electoral power of women in the 2012 election.

As the largest generation since the baby boomers, today's 18- to 30-year-olds present the strongest opportunity to increase voter turnout among women. Millions of young women will be eligible to vote for the first time this year, and many others have yet to establish the habit of voting. As part of this national campaign, the AAUW Action Fund is providing grants to 15 target states to help them increase the influence of women in shaping public policy through grassroots outreach and voter registration. Alabama, unfortunately, is not one of those states.

In addition to mobilizing young women, the My Vote campaign will also focus on critical issues that affect women's everyday lives such as jobs, college affordability, and health care, including access to birth control.

"This campaign takes an approach that is unique to AAUW," said Seth Chase, AAUW's national field director. "We have hundreds of branches across the country with ties to their local communities and college campuses. Our members have the opportunity to establish lasting relationships with young women, to engage them on the issues, and to encourage them to vote and be heard."

As part of the My Vote campaign, AAUW is also sponsoring "Every Four Years: Presidential Campaigns and the Press," an interactive exhibit at the Newseum in Washington, DC. Opening on February 17, the exhibit will include historical information about the suffrage movement, particularly how candidates' wives became more influential in elections after women won the right to vote in 1920. The exhibit will also feature campaign ads, artifacts used by the press and candidates on the campaign trail, and an interactive voting booth where visitors can cast "ballots" for the 2012 presidential election. The exhibit will be updated throughout the 2012 campaign and will run through Inauguration Day 2013.

## AAUW Action Fund Releases Congressional Voting Record for 112<sup>th</sup> Congress

Mid-February, the AAUW Action Fund released its scorecard of congressional action on issues critical to women and their families. It will come as no surprise that partisan gridlock and a vitriolic ideological divide stalled progress on critical women's issues.

The *Congressional Voting Record* (see [www.aauwaction.org](http://www.aauwaction.org)) covers the first session of the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress, outlines how U.S. senators and representatives voted, and whether they cosponsored legislation on priority issues affecting education, economic security, and civil rights.

Instead of working to improve economic security, Congress has put eligibility for college affordability programs on the chopping block. Rather than helping women find jobs, Congress spent precious time and effort on damaging austerity measures. While it could have been working to ensure women are paid fairly for their work, the House of Representatives attacked reproductive health programs. But the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress did make progress on campus safety and domestic violence, with introduction of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act.

## Marie Wilson Speaks at Auburn

On October 13, 2011, Marie Wilson was the guest speaker for the Extraordinary Women Lecture held by the Women's Leadership Institute at Auburn University. Ms. Wilson has been an advocate of women's leadership for more than 30 years and is the founder of the White House Project and co-creator of *Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day*. AAUW members Jo Ann Cummings, Wanda Foster, Audrey Salgado and Lilly Ledbetter attended the lecture and had a chance to speak with Ms. Wilson at the reception afterwards. Lilly Ledbetter was the speaker for the lecture in 2010.



## SmartStart Workshop for College Women

On November 4<sup>th</sup>, the Huntsville Branch and the University of Alabama Huntsville hosted a SmartStart seminar about salary negotiation skills for young women. This partnership between AAUW and The WAGE Project focuses on ensuring that, prior to graduation, young women get adequate knowledge about negotiating equitable pay in their future careers. Annie Houle from The WAGE Project came to Huntsville to teach the class, which was filled with students and seminar facilitators.



## Support NCCWSL

The next National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) will be held May 31 – June 2 at the University of Maryland, in College Park. This exciting event teaches young college women from our communities to be successful leaders. It is a fast-paced, two-and-a-half day conference that is full of inspirational lectures from women leaders and excellent workshops full of information and activities.

Early registration is now open, through April 13, and regular registration is through May 16. There are a few scholarships available to cover or offset the expenses to attend the event, IF young women act quickly. In addition, AAUW branches might consider a fundraiser event to send a local woman to this great event. Information about NCCWSL can be found at: <http://www.nccwsl.org/>

## University of Alabama Hosts Elect Her



Leaders from the Women's Resource Center at UA Tuscaloosa hosted the *Elect Her – UA Campus Women Win* workshop on February 4, 2012, for the second year. The Elect Her initiative acknowledges that one way to develop women as political leaders is to encourage them to run for office in their student government. AAUW provided grants to 30 campuses to host the event this year.

Women make up 59 percent of the UA student body, but hold only 20 percent of SGA offices and 1 percent of the elected executive positions. And, since almost half of the women in the U.S. Congress have SGA experience, getting elected on campus is an excellent first step for a political career.

## Communications Director Post

Jo Ann Cummings has agreed to stand for election as interim Communications Director, but she'd like to find someone to replace her. We're also looking for people to take over responsibilities for the newsletter, state directory, Web site, and Facebook, as part of the Communications team. Are you good with words? Know the difference between a colon and a semicolon? Working knowledge of email, Facebook, Word, and Excel is required.

### Newsletter and State Directory responsibilities:

Updating the mailing list  
Soliciting articles from AAUW Branches (newsletter only)

Organizing layouts

Copyediting

Coordinating with the printer

Coordinating the bulk mail mailings from the Huntsville, AL, Governors Drive post office

### Web site responsibilities:

Updating the state Web site through AAUW Site Resources, which will manage all maintenance of the Web site. Just send them what you want posted.

### Facebook responsibilities:

Updating Facebook content. Update from a computer or a smart phone.

It's a big job, but vital for AAUW success. If you're interested and qualified, contact Jo Ann Cummings, Julie Blair, or Beverly Watson.

## 2012 State Convention Will Be in Birmingham

By Wanda Foster, Program Vice President

The 2012 biennial state convention will be held at the Hyatt Place Hotel in Birmingham/Hoover, April 27-29, hosted by the Birmingham Branch. The convention's theme is *Taking Care of Business – Women Lead the Way in Alabama*.

On Friday, April 27, the students of the Alabama Student Advisory Council will participate in two workshops and a dinner/mixer, at which they will view *Miss Representation*. The AAUW Executive Committee and Board of Directors will also hold their meetings that evening.

On Saturday, April 28, AAUW members will consider what "taking care of business" means, including Alabama women's emerging roles in business management and politics, our struggle with the impact of the Great Recession, the status of health care reform in our state, and the negative impact of the immigration bill (HB 56) upon the lives of Alabama women and their families.

We will reflect on AAUW of Alabama's role, as well as our roles as individual members, in leading the way in Alabama. We'll discuss what leadership means for us, and, above all, we'll have lots of fun. The Saturday evening banquet will feature both a Republican and a Democrat woman state leader speaking on the state legislative agenda.

Speakers will include Elizabeth Hendrix, one of the founding mothers of AAUW of Alabama's Ready to Run™, providing an overview of the problems facing the state and the importance of women in leadership; Shay Farley, legal director of Alabama Applesseed; representatives of the Women on Boards project, an ongoing effort to study and change women's representation in publicly traded companies based in Alabama; and state representatives of The 2012 Project, a nonpartisan national campaign of the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) at Rutgers University.

On Sunday, April 29, national AAUW Director-at-Large Kathryn (Kat) Braeman will address "AAUW's Impact on the Past, Present and Future." Afterwards, State President Jo Ann Cummings will lead an overview of our 2011-2012 accomplishments. We'll finish with the annual State Business Meeting and the election of officers for 2012-2014.

If you want things to see and do, and you have the time, Hoover is home to Riverchase Galleria (a mile from the hotel), one of the largest shopping centers in the Southeast. There's the Aldridge Botanical Gardens (2 miles from the hotel) and a number of parks including Moss Rock Preserve.

If you want to wander farther afield (8 miles or so), there's the historic 16<sup>th</sup> Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, the Birmingham Museum of Art, or you may want to see the "Iron Man," the statue of Vulcan, Roman god of fire and forge, on Red Mountain – the largest cast iron statue in the world. There's a wealth of attractions in the area.

Convention early registration will be accepted through April 6, and the rates are as follows (before and after April 6):

Convention only	\$55.00 / \$60.00
Convention with Banquet	\$95.00 / \$105.00
Saturday Banquet only	\$40.00 / \$45.00
Saturday Lunch only	\$20.00
Student registration no Banquet	\$25.00
Student registration with Banquet	\$60.00

*Student registration includes Friday dinner/mixer.*

Submit registration forms to Bobbie Piper, 3731 Locksley Drive, Birmingham AL 35223-2758; (205) 915-4940; [jpiper0334@charter.net](mailto:jpiper0334@charter.net).

Rooms will be available at the Hyatt Place Birmingham/Hoover, 2980 John Hawkins Parkway, Hoover, AL 35244, for the AAUW rate of \$88.00. The hotel phone is (205) 988-8444.

Be sure to ask for the AAUW rate when you book your room.

Please make your reservation, send in your registration now, then come join us at the 2012 convention!



## **Taking Care of Business – Women Lead the Way in Alabama**

### **AAUW OF ALABAMA CONVENTION – April 27-29, 2012**

Hyatt Place Birmingham/Hoover, 2980 John Hawkins Parkway, Hoover, AL 35244  
(205) 988-8444

#### **FRIDAY ACTIVITIES – APRIL 27, 2012**

##### **Pre-Convention Student Workshops – Hyatt Place**

12:00 – 4:45 pm – Two Student Workshops

6:00 – 9:00 pm – Student Dinner and Mixer with discussion group

##### **Regular Meeting Schedule**

4:00 – 7:00 pm – Registration and Packet Pick-Up at Hyatt Place

6:30 – 9:00 pm – Dinner and Executive Committee Meeting

#### **SATURDAY ACTIVITIES – APRIL 28, 2012**

All activities at Hyatt Place

7:30 – 10:00 am – Registration and Packet Pick-Up

9:00 – 11:45 am – Welcome; Keynote Speaker: Women Leadership;  
2012 Project Briefing; Women in Business

12:00 – 1:30 pm – Lunch Panel: Status of Health Care Reform in Alabama

1:45 – 4:30 pm – Afternoon Sessions

Impact of the Immigration Bill; Women and the Recession

Empowering Women Leaders

7:15 – 9:30 pm – Banquet Program: Democrat and Republican Women State Leaders

#### **SUNDAY ACTIVITIES – APRIL 29, 2012**

8:15 – 10:45 am – AAUW National and State Updates

Kathryn (Kat) Braeman, AAUW Director-at-Large

Jo Ann Cummings, AAUW of Alabama President

10:45 – 12:00 pm – Annual Business Meeting and Elections

### **AAUW of Alabama 2012 State Convention – April 27-29, 2012**

Hyatt Place Birmingham/Hoover, 2980 John Hawkins Parkway, Hoover, AL 35244  
(205) 988-8444 \* <http://birminghamhoover.place.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels/place/index.jsp>

# Taking Care of Business – Women Lead the Way in Alabama

## AAUW of Alabama 2012 Convention

### 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       Convention      (9 am to 4:30 pm, 4/28; 8 am to noon 4/29)  
                                   Executive Committee (5:15 pm to 6:15 pm, Friday)  
                                   Board Meeting      (6:30 pm to 9 pm, Friday)  
                                   Student Workshops (12 pm to 4:45 pm, Friday)  
                                   Student Mixer      (6 pm to 9 pm, Friday)  
                                   Lunch Only      (12 pm to 1:30 pm, Saturday)  
                                   Banquet Only      (6:30 pm to 9:30 pm, Saturday)

#### REGISTRATION FEES

Convention (before 4/7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 55.00	(4/7 and after)	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 60.00
Convention with Banquet (before 4/7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	95.00	(4/7 and after)	<input type="checkbox"/>	105.00
Student, no Banquet	<input type="checkbox"/>	25.00	Lunch Only	<input type="checkbox"/>	20.00
Student, with Banquet	<input type="checkbox"/>	60.00	Banquet Only (before 4/7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	40.00
			Banquet Only (4/7 and after)	<input type="checkbox"/>	45.00

Please list any dietary limitations or requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Hotel Rate at Hyatt Place Birmingham/Hoover is \$88.00. Tell them it is for "AAUW."

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For questions, contact: Jimmie Anderson (205) 663-5645, [jimmie.anderson5@gmail.com](mailto:jimmie.anderson5@gmail.com)

Jo Ann Cummings (256) 584-6567, [joannc1972@charter.net](mailto:joannc1972@charter.net)

Wanda Foster (256) 881-0726, [wlfoster002@yahoo.com](mailto:wlfoster002@yahoo.com)

Mail your check and registration to: AAUW Birmingham – Bobbie Piper

3731 Locksley Drive

Birmingham, AL 35223-2758

Email: [jpiper0334@charter.net](mailto:jpiper0334@charter.net)

# AAUW

## Events Calendar

### **Important Upcoming Meetings**

Please mark your calendar for these meeting dates and events:

#### **April 17, 2012**

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

#### **April 27, 2012**

AAUW of Alabama State Executive Committee and Board of Directors Meeting, Hoover

#### **April 28 - 29, 2012**

AAUW Convention and Business Meeting  
Hyatt Place, Hoover

#### **May 31 - June 2, 2012**

NCCWSL, University of Maryland,  
College Park, MD

#### **August 1, 2012**

Fellowships and Grants Applications accepted

#### **August, 2012**

AAUW of Alabama State Executive Committee and Board of Directors Meeting

#### **August 26, 2012**

Women's Equality Day: 92<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment, giving women the right to vote

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AAUW of Alabama  
Julie Blair  
Communications Director

71 Hartington Drive  
Madison, AL 35758

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