



Alabama Daybreak

Volume 58, Issue 2

AAUW of Alabama

Fall 2008

AAUW Public Policy Impact Grant

Alabama is one of nine states to be awarded an AAUW Public Policy Impact Grant (PPIG) of nine hundred dollars for 2008-2009. We are well underway toward reaching our goals. One of the more ambitious proposals, our three-pronged project aims at: 1) Woman-to-Woman Voter Turnout, 2) a Pay Equity Education Program and 3) the Lobby Corps. Our activities in each area continue our purpose to achieve gender equality and economic security for women while we work closely with legislators to provide them with information and encourage their support for issues affecting women. Specific plans include: 1) Increasing the number of women voters by more than 10 percent in the targeted areas of Montevallo and Huntsville, 2) Educating more women in Alabama about pay inequalities and 3) Personally informing all our Alabama legislators in Washington and Montgomery on AAUW public policy priorities. These initiatives should boost AAUW membership in Alabama by 5 percent.

Our leaders in these ventures are: 1) Voter Turnout – Wanda Foster (Chair), Eleanor Davis, Fransia Foster and Laura Morgan; 2) Lobby Corps – Mary Jo Buff (Chair), Su Jin Jeong, Jennifer Delaney Rose and Audrey Salgado; 3) Pay Equity – Patricia Mason (Chair), Dr. Grace Jepkemboi and Jo Ann Cummings.

Among stated projects, some already completed and others on the calendar are: municipal candidate forums held in Decatur, Madison and Huntsville; a U.S. Congressional candidate forum in Florence on October 9; a Pay Equity conference at UABirmingham on **October 25**; voter registration pilot projects in Montevallo and Huntsville, the latter targeting drop-off voters with particular emphasis on lower-middle income women; workshops on each grant component during our state convention in Montgomery next April; publicity to promote Lobby Day and Equal Pay Day, also in Montgomery in April; recruiting at least 35 Lobby Corps volunteers over the next 5 years representing all Alabama House and Senate districts.

There are many ways all branches and all individual members can further these goals and assure our success well beyond the stated elements in our grant. All of us share in the challenge to make a positive difference for all women in Alabama. I encourage each branch to present these goals during at least one of your meetings and in your newsletters.

Place AAUW Public Policy as a standing item on your meeting agenda. Publicize your efforts locally and beyond. Please contact any of us for more information on the grant

and how you can participate. Thank you in advance for all your help. Please continue to keep us apprised of your stellar achievements toward fulfilling our goals!

Anna Blair, Public Policy Chair, annablairlaw@yahoo.com

Mark Your Calendar

AAUW of Alabama State Convention

April 3-5, 2009 in Montgomery, Alabama
“Breaking Down Barriers in Alabama”

AAUW National Convention

June 26-29, 2009 in St. Louis, Missouri
at the Renaissance St. Louis



From the Program Vice President

Here we are, launching into our very exciting calendar year.

I encourage branch vice presidents and their committees, as they are planning this year's programs, to be sure to include public policy. As we all know, it's a pivotal year in American politics. Consider a voter education program for October. I would be pleased to help you find speakers for this or any other program. My email is wlfoster002@yahoo.com.

There are so many opportunities, too, to make branch programs count as a part of the new Public Policy Impact Grant we've received. A list of events are found in the Public Policy article.

Further, AAUW has introduced a new online resource, Program in a Box, emphasizing mission-based programs in response to requests from AAUW states and branches for programming assistance. I urge branch program vice presidents and committee members to go to the Member Center of the www.aauw.org website and review suggested program activities. Each Program in a Box (PIAB) outlines an activity with the “what, why, and how” to implement it. Each PIAB is linked to downloadable resources. There are four PIABs now, but new ones will be added regularly, so check back frequently. Programs will reflect a wide range of AAUW activities, including education, advocacy, communications, membership, fundraising, and LAF. And please pass along details of your

exceptional local programs that national may want to include (email them to programinbox@aauw.org).

Anna Blair, state public policy chair, and I are proud to have been asked to speak on *Where the Girls Are: The Facts About Gender Equity in Education* at the Scottsboro Branch meeting October 21st.

Jo Ann Cummings, Montgomery Branch President Janet Smith, and I are working on plans for the convention in Montgomery, April 3-5, 2009. We need volunteers to assist the Montgomery Branch; if interested, contact me (wlfoster002@yahoo.com) Our theme will be "Breaking Down Barriers in Alabama".

Montgomery – which is, after all, our state capital—is a great venue. We received some wonderful programming ideas from attendees at the last state convention, and the Student Advisory Council has given us some more. Among the topics to be covered at the convention, we're planning to include workshops or sessions on the three topics covered under the Public Policy Impact Grant on voter turnout, pay equity and an Alabama Lobby Corps. We'll give you convention details in the winter issue of Daybreak. Save the dates and plan to join us in Montgomery !

Wanda Foster, Program Vice President



on Sunday, October 19, 2008. It is free and open to the public. A reception will be held at 2:00 p.m., and the movie will begin at 3:00 p.m. Voter registration forms and voting information will be available at the reception, but campaign materials will not be permitted. The film is recommended for viewers over the age of 16. <http://www.hbo.com/films/ironjawedangels/> Questions? Contact Janet Smith, aauwmontgomery@gmail.com, 334.221.1235, or Audrey L. Salgado, audrey5190@yahoo.com, 205.437.0951.



President's Message

We are well on our way to another exciting year. This summer, AAUW of Alabama was awarded a Public Policy Impact Grant from National AAUW. With the election season upon us, we have already held several candidate forums with more planned. Other get-out-the-vote

activities will be held before General Election Day, November 4th. Throughout the rest of the year, more grant activities will occur, including starting an Alabama Lobby Corp, setting up a Pay Equity Day promotion and holding a salary negotiation seminar. In addition, we are continuing our Ready to Run programs throughout the state, to provide training to women interested in attaining leadership positions in government.

National AAUW supports efforts by the National Girls Collaborative Project to set up directories that list all of the programs in a region that help girls learn about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) opportunities. But there is no NGCP program set up for Alabama yet. I am proposing that AAUW of Alabama act as a catalyst to bring together the appropriate colleges, organizations and businesses in a partnership to set up this project in Alabama. If you have a math, science or technology background, and would like to help or provide referrals, please contact me. Or, if you have the perfect contact or friend who would love to work on this, even if they are not an AAUW member, let me know.

AAUW has roots that are deep to support the education of women and girls, and to promote the attainment of advanced degrees by more women. But we are just not reaching enough women students and faculty on campuses in Alabama to help them meet the challenges they face.

I am looking for volunteers to strengthen our ties to women faculty and students on all of the Alabama college campuses. We need to reach out and find ways to inform more Alabama university women about the Education Foundation fellowships and grants, so that more Alabama women might get them. With the help of SAC students and student affiliates, we need to develop more programs that help solve the needs of women students on campus, while giving them leadership opportunities. While helping these women, we can find more friends and potential members. Together we will form a college relations team that works to provide the support we promised to our College/University partners. Please contact me to join this team.

We are continuing with our State website improvements. Soon we will have branch web pages prepared that are full of information on your branch's activities, and we will have branch officer training pages, which will extract important links from the National website that will be at your fingertips.

I hope that you will join us on our mission and we look forward to working with many of you on our projects this year.

Jo Ann Cummings, State President
joannc1972@charter.net (256) 584-6567

Proposed Bylaws

The National Bylaws Committee has worked hard to create new AAUW Bylaws that will set forth the basic governing structure for the corporation as of July 1, 2009, in line with what the 2007 delegates envisioned. We tried to notify all membership that feedback on this proposal was accepted until August 30, 2008. They are now in the process of reviewing this feedback, to integrate the suggestions into Proposed Bylaws that will be posted in the The Outlook pre-convention issue in the spring and the website. Workshops on the final version of the Bylaws will be offered at the National Convention in June 2009, followed by voting for elements within the Bylaws.

The proposed bylaws include several bylaws that have been added for the “new AAUW” but were not part of the original vote for the reorganization of the boards – national dues collection, additional membership changes, changes to regional director status, etc. If you read these proposed bylaws, remember to open your mind and widen your vision of how these bylaws will make AAUW a viable and vital organization for all members by streamlining the bylaws, adding flexibility at all levels (states and branches also), and providing members with multiple ways to participate in AAUW.

The proposed Bylaws that were offered for review in August 2008 are summarized here.

- The restructuring that was approved at the 2007 convention necessitated these proposed Bylaws changes. Also required was further explanation of the laws governing the modification of our 501(c) 3 and 501(c) 4 structures.
- These changes are proposed; they will be discussed and voted on at the 2009 National convention.
- Any changes that do pass will be binding on each state July 1, 2009. Some changes will be mandatory, but others allow flexibility that states and branches may or may not want to implement.

MAJOR PROPOSED CHANGES:

ORGANIZATIONAL FLEXIBILITY

- Most assets will be moved to EF, a 501(c) 3, which becomes the membership organization.
- EF will be renamed American Association of University Women but will be known primarily as AAUW.
- The smaller lobbying organization (presently known as American Association of University Women) is a 501(c) 4 and is to be given a new name at the convention.
- There will be fewer National elected officers and fewer standing committees.
- States can be free to choose their branch structure, with no required positions other than an administrative and a financial contact.
- Designated regional districts will be deleted.
- The AAUW Board may appoint task forces and committees as desired and needed.
- Non-AAUW members may be appointed to committees for their expertise, so long as the majority of the committee members are AAUW members.

CONNECTION TO AND PARTICIPATION IN AAUW

- Members will pay dues directly to national AAUW, preferably online.
- A portion of the national dues will be tax-deductible.
- Anyone who supports the AAUW mission is eligible for membership.
- Every member is entitled to vote, hold office, and participate in AAUW activities.
- AAUW may create informal geographic, issue, or interest groups or networks that would exist nationally as additional ways for members to participate in AAUW.
- Virtual, online branches without geographic boundaries may be formed.
- Members may attend the Annual Meeting as well as the Convention, which may give them an additional opportunity to participate nationally.
- One member/one vote on all noticed National business. Options to vote in absentia will be developed.

Jo Hempstead, State Bylaws Chair, and Committee Members Ellie Lienau and Arlene Grede

Alabama Arise

One of the organizations that AAUW of Alabama is a member of is Alabama Arise. The organization is dedicated to improving the lives of low-income Alabamians. Right now they are having a contest and asking member organizations get at least 100 names on their petition to support fairer taxes, deleting the sales tax on groceries and rebalancing the state income tax. Let me know if you can help with this effort. I can either mail or email you a petition. I would like whatever signatures you can get by October 15 so I can get them to Alabama Arise.

I would also like to start an Arise email list. Periodically, especially when the Alabama Legislature is in session, I receive e-mail from the organization with either information or an action to take. If you would like me to forward them, please let me know.

Ellie Lienau, AAUW of Alabama Alabama Arise Liaison

Educational Foundation

The application period for all Educational Foundation Fellowships and Grants is now open. If you, or any woman you know, might be interested in these, please direct them to our website for a summary of the awards, amounts and deadlines. See: http://www.aauw-alabama.org/fellow_grants.htm. The application deadlines for the rest of this year are listed in the Calendar in this issue.

Melinda Bicknell, Educational Foundation Vice President, released the contributions report for donations from AAUW of Alabama branches and members to AAUW EF (\$28,352.78), LAF (\$1,350), LTI (\$500), and Note Card Unrestricted Support for January 1 to June 30, 2008 (\$550). Branches and members should not forget that the deadline for 2008 EF, LAF and LTI contributions is December 31st.

Student Voices:

SAC Development Team Plans, Attendees Report NCCWSL Experience

Students within AAUW of Alabama have been hard at work in recent months; new members have been named to the Student Advisory Council Development Team (SAC-DT) and several SAC members attended the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in Washington, DC.

Based on data gathered from SAC members attending the state convention, Ms. Gooch stated the SAC-DT recommends focusing on Financial Literacy, Sexual Health, and Personal & Professional Development in 2008-09. As for state convention programming, the SAC-DT recommends at least a half-day session dedicated to Professional Development. Under the guidance of Ms. Gooch, the SAC-DT will continue working in conjunction with other leaders of AAUW of Alabama throughout the year to strengthen communication and forge strong relationships within the state.

By attending the 2008 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders this past June, other members of AAUW of Alabama's SAC gained valuable experience in becoming a leader, both as students and women. Several of those attending recently shared their experiences of NCCWSL.

For Sarah Ragan, UA-Huntsville, attending NCCWSL provided an opportunity for her to critically analyze her personal leadership skills and address new forms of engagement with peers and fellow leaders. Interacting with colleagues from across the nation regarding leadership and women's issues further emphasized this self-examination. The same sentiments were echoed by another SAC member, Rachel Lackey, UA-Huntsville, "It was exciting to attend the workshops and brainstorm with other young women from the country working as hard as me to make positive changes in their respective communities and campuses." She added, "the discussions over the breakfast table were as informative and inspiring as the lectures and workshops afterward."

Attending NCCWSL 2008 was not a new experience for UA-Huntsville graduate student and former AAUW of Alabama Communication director Candice Rigsby Bressler; this was Candice's third time to attend NCCWSL, but this year provided a new opportunity for her to explore her own leadership capabilities. Candice was a guest presenter of a workshop entitled, "How to Create a Student Advisory Council for Your State or Branch." After returning to Huntsville, Candice was contacted by several student leaders who attended her workshop. Now Student Advisory Councils modeled after AAUW of Alabama's own SAC are being organized throughout Louisiana, Missouri, Michigan, New York, Oregon, and Texas.

All the students were appreciative of the financial support from AAUW of Alabama, branches, and members to attend NCCWSL 2008.

Renea Gooch

Fundraising Ideas

Branches are always looking for ways to raise funds for the AAUW Educational Foundation, Legal Advocacy Fund and the Leadership and Training Institute. Based on a suggestion, we contacted Belk's about their Charity Days held twice per year, to help non-profit organizations. If you are not familiar with it, on Belk's Charity Days, the stores are opened early - 6am to 10am - on a Saturday. A \$5.00 ticket, sold by charities, is needed for admission, and is used as a \$5 discount on your first purchase. The clubs can sell these tickets ahead of time or at the door, and can keep the \$5.00 for their charity.

AAUW of Alabama is suggesting that branches consider participating in this event to raise funds for one of the three AAUW charities: EF, LAF or LTI. We are recommending that branches select the Leadership and Training Institute, which supports the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), because it is the least frequent group to receive donations. But your branch can select whichever group you choose. This fall the sale day is Saturday, November 15th. Each branch who wishes to participate can contact the sale coordinator at their local Belk's store. Please let us know if you will do so.

AAUW of Alabama Tee Shirt

We would like to show AAUW unity and raise a little money too. We plan to design a t-shirt for state members to purchase. It will be a ladies style shirt, in aqua or light blue, with "AAUW of Alabama" on the front in teal, and "because equity is still the issue" on the back. These shirts would be pre-ordered, and made-to-order, in bulk.

When we all show up to an AAUW sponsored event, like a forum or voter education program or the convention, we would have the option of donning our state AAUW T-Shirt and showing our unity in style. Please let me know if you think you or your branch would be interested in this idea. Jo Ann Cummings (Joannc1972@charter.net, or 256-584-6567) Final details will be in the Winter 08 Daybreak issue.

Submit Recommendations for 2009-2011 Elected Officers

The three elected officers on the Nominating Committee are Sandra Lott, Janet Smith and Mildred Lanier. On August 8, 2008, the AAUW of Alabama Board of Directors appointed Leevones Dubose and Audrey Salgado to the Nominating Committee, with Sandra Lott named Chair. Please send recommendations for nominations for 2009-2011 Secretary, Finance Director and Membership Vice-President to Jlott285@charter.net.

Ready to Run™ Begins Second Year

Ready to Run™ offers its first one-day intensive training session at Silver Lakes Golf Course Clubhouse, Conference Room, Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail, 1 Sunbelt Parkway, Glencoe, AL 35905, near Gadsden, on Saturday, October 25, 2008, from 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

This training for Alabama women to learn how to achieve leadership roles in government features the Track One agenda of the AAUW of Alabama partnership with Rutgers University, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Center for American Women and Politics, *I'm Not Ready to Run™ Yet, But...* The schedule covers Laying the Groundwork for Public Life, Luncheon Plenary: Conquering the Camera and Microphone - An Interactive Media Training, Navigating the Routes to Public Office, and a Closing Plenary: Fund-raising for Success. Descriptions of each session and registration forms are available on the AAUW of Alabama website, www.aauw-alabama.org, or in the promotional brochure available at branch meetings. Attorney Anna Blair, AAUW of Alabama Public Policy Chair, will conduct the Luncheon Plenary. Women from all political parties and levels of government have been invited to speak. **Ready to Run™** trainers will serve as moderators for the panel discussions.

Cost is \$39. Lunch is on your own and is available in the Silver Lakes dining room. Registration deadline is October 15, 2008. Seating capacity is limited to 40 participants. For more information, contact Audrey L. Salgado, audey5190@yahoo.com, or 205.437.0951.

Tentative one-day intensive training in Marion and Mobile has not been finalized.

Sweet Equity – Just Desserts!

Help us to demonstrate the inequality of women's pay. As part of our Public Policy Impact Grant, we are encouraging women around the state to hold a "Pay Equity Bake Sale". Baked goods are priced at \$1.00, but women get a discount, based on the % that we make less than men. This is an excellent opportunity to distribute facts about pay equity, information about AAUW, and get some publicity too. We could recruit interested women groups on college campuses, or branch members who do not attend Lobby Day in Montgomery, to hold a sale at a prominent local location. If you would like to plan a Bake Sale, contact Anna Blair (annablairlaw@yahoo.com) for more information.

Membership News

We would like to welcome all of the new members who have joined our state and our branches this year, and welcome back to all returning members for another great year of AAUW activities. If you have not yet sent in your dues, please contact your branch officers.

If you are a new branch membership officer, there is a wealth of information at the National website www.aauw.org/member_center/resources/ to help you do your job. You have access to information on membership recruitment programs, membership criteria, bylaws, dues information, necessary forms and more. Soon we will provide a page on the state website to make it even easier for you, with direct links to all of the information you may not have known was there.

The Board of Directors has approved a motion that clarifies the state dues for Student Affiliate members. It will be one-half of the regular state dues, so Student Affiliate State dues will be \$5.00 for regular dues and \$2.50 for half-price specials or half-year dues.

The Board has also approved a bylaws change to waive the first year state membership dues for Give A Grad A Gift. This bylaws change will be presented at annual meeting for membership approval.

REGISTRATION FORM



READY TO RUN™
Training Alabama Women
for Government Leadership*

Saturday, October 25, 2008

Silver Lakes, Gadsden, AL**

Registration – 8:00 a.m.

Training session – 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Name: _____

Name for nametag: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Occupation: _____

Have you ever run for political office before? ____ Yes ____ No

If so, what position did you run for and when:

Please place an X in the box to indicate education level.

High School Diploma ☐ Bachelors Degree ☐

Associates Degree ☐ Ph.D. or Higher ☐

Masters Degree ☐ Other _____

One day training session – \$39

Lunch is on your own and is available in the Silver Lakes dining room.

No outside food or beverages are permitted.

Please make your check or money order in the amount of \$39 payable to AAUW of Alabama – Ready to Run™, P.O. Box 383053, Birmingham, Alabama 35238

For details contact Cindy Bell, cindy.bell@stvhs.com

*Ready to Run™ does not guarantee that participants will be elected or appointed.

This project was made possible in part by a grant from the AAUW Educational Foundation.

** Part of the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail – www.rtgolf.com

AAUW of Alabama, Others Highlighted at Awards Luncheon

AAUW of Alabama was recognized during the ACCR Foundation's Second Annual Bailey Thomson Awards Luncheon as a recipient of a Partner of the Year award. Many AAUW members, including past President Audrey Salgado, were in attendance both in the Mobile and Birmingham venues. This event was also aired live on Alabama Public Television giving the AAUW and constitutional reform statewide exposure. Jo Ann Cummings did an excellent job providing the acceptance speech for the award on behalf of the organization. Furthermore,



Leevones Dubose, who serves as an officer for the Mobile Branch, was given the 2008 Citizen Educator of the Year award for the time and energy she spends helping people "connect the dots" about

reform issues.

Both Jack Edwards, the keynote speaker for the Luncheon, and Dr. Wayne Flynt, who received the Bailey Thomson award, challenged the audience to continue the cause for reform and to engage our next generation of leaders. The winners of the High School Education Contest presented the top essay and multimedia entries and the ACCR Foundation announced that the 2009 Contest will be launched this fall to include sophomore, junior and senior high school students throughout the state. Everyone was encouraged to take part in that education initiative as well as the Mock Convention which will convene for the first time on February 14, 2009. More details about both of those projects can be found by going to: www.constitutionALreform.org

Mark Berte, ACCR Foundation Liaison

Board of Directors Changes

The new appointments to the AAUW of Alabama Board of Directors are as follows:

Legal Advocacy Fund:	Aubrey Ross
LTI – Leadership:	Patricia Johnson
Bylaws:	Jo Hempstead

The following Board positions are also open: Historian, Resolutions Chair, *Daybreak* Distribution, LTI – Technology, College/University Relations Chair, State Directory, Website Co-Chair, and Communications Director on the Executive Committee. If you have interest in one of these positions please contact Jo Ann Cummings at joannc1972@charter.net.

Branch News

- In addition to their Public Policy Grant activities, **Huntsville Branch** is partnering with the Women's Economic Development Council (WEDC) to hold a career planning event on Wednesday, November 5, at UAH, called "Take Yourself to Work Day". Workshops throughout the day will cover interviewing techniques, networking and goal setting strategies for career planning.

- **Decatur Branch** is holding its Fifth Annual Used Book Sale on December 12 and 13, at the Colonial Mall in Decatur, from 9:30 am to 8:00 pm each day. Proceeds go to support scholarships for women at Calhoun Community College, and the AAUW Educational Foundation.

- **Montevallo Branch** helped to publicize a candidate forum sponsored by a local organization in August. Now they are planning to sponsor their own forum for municipal run-off candidates later in September.

On October 16th, the Montevallo Branch will hold a Ready to Vote Program on the UM campus to inform the public about key issues affecting women and their families

- State officers Anna Blair and Wanda Foster will be speaking at the **Scottsboro Branch** Meeting October 21st on the EF report on Where the Girls Are: The Facts About Gender Equity in Education. State President JoAnn Cummings will be speaking to the Birmingham Branch on the same night about initial plans to spearhead the establishment of a National Girls Collaborative Project in Alabama.

- A new AAUW group is starting in **Hoover**, Alabama. It is led by Jimmie Anderson and Jennifer Kersh. An introductory meeting was held on September 6th, and attended by JoAnn Cummings, Wanda Foster, Anna Blair and Alison Stigers. If you are an AAUW member who lives in the Hoover area, or further south, please contact Ms. Anderson at (205) 915-4940, or Ms. Kersch at (205) 915-4999.

- Anyone who wants to help develop membership at our two "revived" branches in **Auburn and Montgomery** should contact JoAnn Cummings (joannc1972@charter.net), Elizabeth Gilbert at Auburn (elizabeth.gilbert@auburn.edu) or Janet Smith in Montgomery (janet.smith@splcenter.org).

¡Adelante! Book of the Month Club

Book clubs are a fun, social way to open a dialogue on women, diversity, and change. Many AAUW members share a love of reading, and that love, partnered with a desire to seek out books written from diverse perspectives, launched a new component of AAUW's diversity outreach program in 1996 - AAUW's ¡Adelante! Book of the Month Club.

For 2008-2009, ¡Adelante! is introducing two new book lists to join the selections that highlight diversity. There are now separate lists on Organizational Change and on Financial Literacy.

AAUW thanks the following members, branches, and states for their work compiling the list: Marcia Capriotti, AAUW Cobb County (GA) Branch; Jean Walker, AAUW Birmingham (MI) Branch; Diane Haney, North Shore (NY) Branch; AAUW California Online Branch; and AAUW of Georgia. http://www.aauw.org/education/community_programs/adelante/index.cfm

Message from the SEC Regional Director: Note: Required IRS Filing - All Branches Must Comply

This is a historic year for AAUW. The two current boards of the Association and the Educational Foundation are meeting jointly to strategize the formation of the new AAUW single board approved at the 2007 convention in Phoenix for implementation July 2009. Please review the newest proposed by-laws, attend the 2009 national convention in St. Louis and vote on these changes.

If interested in serving on the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB), the Secretary of Education has these openings for qualified candidates: Elementary School Principal, General Public/Parent, State Legislator (Democrat... their selection, not ours), and Testing and Measurement Expert. Info is available at www.nagb.org, or contact me (edeharo@tulane.edu) **before September 30th** to forward nominating letters and resumes to the appropriate person at AAUW.

Also, I want to remind all branch and state Treasurer's there are new rules we must abide by with respect to Internal Revenue Service filing. Before 2007, any unincorporated branch or state (most of us) was not required to file a tax return with the IRS if the total assets were less than \$25,000 (definitely most of us!). This changed in 2007 and now those branches and states (and regions) are required to file a 990N electronic postcard. The 2007 filing is due the 15th of the fifth month after the end of the fiscal year; unless your bylaws state otherwise, the fiscal year ends June 30th (corresponds with the membership year) which means that the 990N postcard must be filed by November 15th! If your Treasurer has not done so already, I would NOT recommend waiting until the last minute!

All branches, states, and regions had an opportunity to join AAUW's Group Exemption with the IRS; do not confuse this with the requirement to file the 990N postcard OR the fact that all AAUW entities MUST have their own Employer Identification Number (EIN#) which is assigned, upon request, by the IRS. I sincerely hope that NO branch or state is still using the national EIN#. To investigate the status of your EIN#, contact the Internal Revenue Service Business and Specialty Tax line at 1-800-829-4933 (7 am – 10 pm) or on line at www.irs.gov. The agents can do a search on your EIN# and take your application for one by phone, if necessary. Online applications take 6-8 weeks but phone applications are immediate.

To file the 990N postcard go to the IRS website (www.irs.gov) and click on the link. You will need to provide the organization's name, the contact name and address (usually the Treasurer), the EIN#, your website name (if applicable), your end of fiscal year date and finally... to state that assets are less than \$25,000. If you have not seen the 2008 Leadership DVD Module on Financial Accountability (#7), you can view the slides as a pdf file at http://www.aauw.org/member_center/branches_states/leadershipDev/loader.cfm?url=/commonspot/security/getfile.cfm&PageID=24759; this information is valuable to anyone who is a Treasurer for other organizations

as well! All branch officers should view this information.

If anyone has problems filing the 990N electronic postcard for an AAUW entity, contact AAUW Finance Vice President Linda Bors at linda.bors@cox.net. I had a problem with another organization, but Linda feels that AAUW branches who have signed onto AAUW's Group Exemption will not experience problems. If you have experienced problems in filing, please also contact me at edeharo@tulane.edu. Just an additional note... the IRS purged some EIN#s; if you get an error message in red, call the number provided so that the problem can be researched and you can even file by phone. The National AAUW office is NOT filing for any branch, state, or region; it is the responsibility of the Treasurer of that entity!

Eileen deHaro, SEC Regional Director

The AAUW Value Promise AAUW Current Topics, June 6th 2008

The AAUW "Value Promise" is a product of the recent Strategic Process undertaken by AAUW members and leaders over the past couple of years. Establishing this Value Promise has been an important element in helping to clarify our identity, purpose and key strategies, and it is helping to guide our decisions for the future. The Value Promise is:

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

The AAUW Value Promise is our statement of commitment to ourselves, as members, and to those who join our AAUW community, about the essential value of our membership. We are promising a "value on investment" or a return on your investment – which is financial, intellectual, emotional, and the time and energy you invest in AAUW. When you support the organization with your membership, the community that is AAUW pledges to undertake endeavors that "break through educational and economic barriers" that exist for women. These endeavors include educational programs, advocacy, research, and the value of our interpersonal relationships. It is done with you and for you.

There is more information on the AAUW Value Promise, in the AAUW Current Topics Briefing #3, found thru this link: http://www.aauw.org/member_center/ValuePromiseBriefing.cfm

Daybreak Distribution

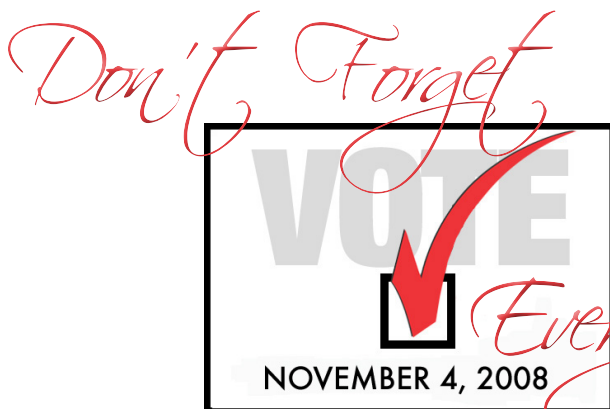
We are in the process of setting up an email list server that will allow easy distribution of the *Daybreak* newsletter and other timely information from AAUW of Alabama. Since State dues have not been increased for many years, and costs are still rising, this lets us reduce our expenses where we can. Some of our members who have email would prefer to receive the *Daybreak* in the mail, rather than in electronic form. If this is what you prefer, please contact Jo Ann Cummings at 256-584-6567, or by email (joannc1972@charter.net), or unsubscribe to the newsletter email when you receive it. Our newest issues of *Daybreak* will usually be available on the state website www.aauw-alabama.org by the 15th of the month in March, June, September, and December.

AAUW Calendar of Events

September 2008	Montevallo Branch Forum for Municipal Run-off Candidates
October 9, 2008	Florence Branch Forum for U.S. Congressional Candidates
October, 2008	Voter Registration Pilot Projects, Montevallo and Huntsville
October 24, 2008	Last day to register for General Election
October 25, 2008	<i>Ready to Run™</i> Training, Gadsden – Silver Lakes
Late October, 2008	Pay Equity Conference at UA Birmingham
November 4, 2008	November General Elections
November 15, 2008	Belk's Charity Day - Fundraising
November 15, 2008	American Fellowships Application Postmark Deadline
December 1, 2008	Deadline to submit nominations to State Nominating Committee
December 1, 2008	International Fellowship Application Postmark Deadline
December 1, 2008	<i>Daybreak</i> Winter Issue (January, February, March) Deadline
December 15, 2008	Engineering Dissertation Fellowship Application Postmark Deadline
December 15, 2008	<i>Daybreak</i> Winter Issue (January, February, March) Published
December 31, 2008	EF/LAF/LTI Contributions Deadline



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AAUW MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.