



DAWN BREAKER

**THE NEWSLETTER OF
AAUW OF MAINE
SPRING 2005/06
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**AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN**

AAUW CONVENTION ARRIVES IN WATERTVILLE, MAY 5-6, 2006 "Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security"

by Charmen Goehring-Fox, Program VP



Join us for an action-packed annual Convention on May 5-6 in Waterville! We will begin on Friday night at the Holiday Inn near Route 95 with a no-host reception and dinner followed by an exciting keynote address by Laura Fortman, Commissioner of the Maine Department of Labor. Commissioner Fortman's speech titled, "Women's Wages: What Role Does Education Play?" will begin our inquiry into the relationship between education and economics.

For the early risers in the group, Bets Brown is organizing a 6 a.m. bird walk through the Colby Arboretum, which will be completed in time for a shower, breakfast, and the business meeting. Others will awake in time for breakfast at Colby followed by our annual business meeting. We are fortunate this year to have two special guests joining us: New England Regional Director Marcelline Barron, and the Association's Senior Grassroots Coordinator (Public Policy and Government) Seth Chase. Both will be presenting updates for us regarding AAUW and our Public Policy Agenda.

This year, we are offering two workshop periods for exploring ideas related to our theme of "Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security" and our AAUW mission of promoting "equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change." Topics to be explored are voter education, financial planning, life-long learning, assertive communication, and AAUW Educational Foundation's latest research regarding sexual harassment on college campuses.

Please feel free to invite non-members to join us for these important workshops!

On Saturday, we will have the privilege of honoring Karen Heck as our recipient of the 2006 Achievement Citation Award at lunch. Come learn about this wonderful woman's achievements and contributions to the Waterville branch and the community. We will also be honoring one outstanding branch member from each branch.

We have added a couple of new twists to Convention this year. We will once again have a basket raffle but this year will feature 8 baskets, courtesy of each branch, each with a different theme. If you are unable to attend Convention but would like to support the Educational Foundation and possibly win one of these fabulous baskets, you may pre-purchase tickets from your branch EF Chair. Also, we will have door prizes throughout the day and some exciting entertainment during the closing session featuring our own Kate Scott and Deborah Cravey!

Mark your calendars and plan to join us! You won't want to miss this fun-filled time of education, inspiration and meeting with friends! The registration form is elsewhere in this issue.

For more information, please contact Charmen Goehring-Fox, Program VP at 756-0506, charminme@yahoo.com, or Joan Sanzenbacher, Convention Chair at 859-4733 (work) or 872-2697 (home), jhsanzen@colby.edu.

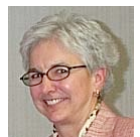
HAPPENINGS: President's Message

by Pat Rathbun

We are moving steadily toward the highlight event of the year, our AAUW of Maine State Convention, to be held May 5-6, and state activity level remains high. Try as I may to sit back and relax, the steady influx of information, plans, and directives from our Association, and the issues that reverberate within the state, just don't allow it.

It is with great sadness that I share news of the death of our immediate past-president, Lucinda Hebert. Cindy passed away on February 10, at her home in Caribou,

surrounded by her loving family. Although I was away on vacation at the time and unable to participate, several board members and friends attended a special service for Cindy, attesting to her many contributions to our organization at all levels. This year we will dedicate our EF/LAF raffle basket contributions in her honor. The state board is still discussing a more complete way to honor her memory. We hope to make an announcement by convention time so that branches and individuals can contribute.



(continued on Page 2)

President's Message (Continued)

I also wish to share condolences for Mary Ireland, president of Midcoast branch and member of the state board, on the recent loss of her husband.

I recently sent mailings to all branches containing a Strategic Process Values Discussion Guide. I urge branches to hold these discussions and forward your conclusions to the Association. There will be an opportunity to add to the discussions at the convention. Information outlining the new AAUW of ME Branch Pride Recognition Program for branches and individuals was included in the mailing. In the past, the Association sponsored the 5-Star Branch program, and the 21st Century Awards program. Due to recent budget cuts, states have been asked to create their own. Please review the new guidelines, and send in the very simple applications. You have the opportunity to recognize your branch, and also to recognize an individual member of your branch for outstanding leadership or achievement. Full participation would mean 8 branches and 8 individuals statewide. Let's make it happen!

The recent release of the latest research project by AAUW's Educational Foundation, Drawing the Line, Sexual Harassment on Campus, offers us a excellent opportunity for initiating campus action projects, as well as a tool for connecting with women on our college campuses- all potential AAUW members.

Speaking of campus action projects, this is one possible way branches might qualify to use some of our state Impact Grant funds. Keep in mind that participation is not limited to this topic- there are so many possibilities to consider, including our national initiative on economic awareness, pay equity, and financial literacy for women and girls. What can you do to make a difference?

Appreciation is due to our Program VP, Charlene Goehring-Fox, assisted by the Convention Chair Joan Sanzenbacher, and her committee in Waterville, on putting together what promises to be an outstanding event, with high caliber speakers and interesting workshops designed to include "something for everyone."

If you are wondering, "why come to convention?" please consider what AAUW means to you. If, like so many members, you value the friendships, the exchange of ideas, and the opportunity to develop personal skills while working on important issues, I hope you will rush to sign up and join us for a weekend of inspiration in Waterville. See you there!

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Next deadline for the *Dawn Breaker* is **August 10, 2006**.

If you want to save funds for AAUW of Maine, I can send you the newsletter electronically. If you try it and it doesn't work, just let me know and I'll send you a hard copy. You can email me at wilbro@pivot.net or, if on the rare occasion that your email bounces back, you can email me at bbrown@colby.edu.

ACHIEVEMENT CITATION AWARD 2006

by Kristen Sweeney

Karen Heck has been chosen to receive the Maine AAUW Achievement Citation Award at the State Convention on May 6, 2006. Ms. Heck is a community leader, a believer in and adherent to social justice, and a champion of rights of women and girls. The Waterville branch is pleased to have her as a member.

Forecasting the Future: A Catalyst for Change: 2005-06 Strategic Process Values Discussions

Many individual members participated in the Every Member Survey, which was printed in the Fall/winter 2005 *AAUW Outlook* and also online. Now, all branches are urged to conduct a Values Discussion before April 30, and send the results to AAUW offices by June 1. These results will help inform the Association in its decision-making process. For further instructions, please refer to the packets that were sent to all branches.

SOMETHING NEW: AAUW-ME BRANCH PRIDE RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Don't leave your branch out in the cold!

Describe a branch program you're most proud of, and nominate an individual from your branch for a special honor. Detailed instructions and forms have been sent to every branch. We've made them as simple as possible. They are also available online, from praauw@maine.rr.com, or by calling 762-1791. Branches will be recognized at the convention, in the next *Dawn Breaker*, and on the AAUW-ME website. Please send in your forms by April 15. Call President Pat Rathbun at 762-1791 with any questions.

REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

by Judy Fuller, Committee Chair

The slate of officers for election at convention was presented by the nominating committee and accepted by the state board at the Leadership Meeting on March 4, 2006. The slate will be presented and voted on at the AAUW of Maine convention in Waterville on May 6, 2006. It is as follows:

Membership VP: Pat Rathbun

Corresponding Secretary: Judith Fuller

AAUW of Maine State Convention 2006: Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security

When and Where: Friday evening, May 5 at Waterville's Holiday Inn
Saturday, May 6 at Colby College's new Alumni Center

Highlights:

- Friday evening talk by Laura Fortman, Commissioner of the Maine Department of Labor
- Early Risers' Bird Walk through the Colby Arboretum with Bets Brown
- AAUW Guests – New England Regional Director Marcelline Barron and National AAUW Public Policy staff member Seth Chase
- Five workshops to choose among
- Luncheon featuring awards for our Branches Unsung Heroes and our Achievement Citation Award winner
- LAF/EF basket raffle with many theme baskets
- Door prizes/Lucinda pins available – State fundraiser

Friday, May 5

6:00-6:30 p.m. Registration and No host bar at the Holiday Inn, Waterville
6:30-7:30 p.m. Buffet dinner
7:30 -8:30 p.m. Keynote by Laura Fortman: "Women's Wages – What Role Does Education Play?"
8:30-9:30 p.m. Dessert and Discussion

Saturday, May 6

6:00-7:30 a.m. Bird Walk with Bets Brown at Colby College (see description of field trip in box below)
8:00-8:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:30-10:00 a.m. Business meeting – President Pat Rathbun with an update from Marcelline Baron on National Issues
10:00-10:30 a.m. Public Policy/Legislative Agenda Update from Seth Chase
10:30-10:45 a.m. Break
10:45-11:45 a.m. Workshop Sessions A – B – C
12:00-1:30 p.m. Award Luncheon
1:45- 2:45 p.m. Workshop Sessions D – E
2:45-3:30 p.m. Basket Raffle and Closing Session

Workshop Descriptions:

- A Golden University** – Roy Farnsworth – Education doesn't end after college. Come learn about fun, exciting ways to keep your mind active. Elderhostel Ambassador Farnsworth will discuss life-long learning here in Maine.
- B You're Worth It!** – Susan Allein – Are you a woman in the workplace or heading back to work? Improve your assertive communication skills on the job and get what you deserve in terms of salary, benefits, projects and recognition.
- C – Woman-to-Woman Voter Turnout** – Seth Chase with Barbara Nichols – Learn the basics of running a campaign in your community and getting women out to vote. This workshop will cover the components of implementing an effective voter-turnout campaign.
- D - Smart Women Finish Rich** – Suzanne Uhl-Melanson – Ever wonder how you can save more? What are the right places to save and how can you amass a retirement nest egg? Join us for a lively discussion and learn how "Smart Women Finish Rich."
- E – Drawing the Line** – Seth Chase – Where do you draw the line? Two thirds of college students said they have encountered some form of sexual harassment on campus, yet most never tell anyone about it. Hear about AAUW Educational Foundation's latest research and learn ways we can help.

Lodging: The Holiday Inn (Exit 130 off I-95) We have a block of rooms at the special price of \$68 single or double room. Please call them directly by **April 29** at (207) 873-0111 and say you are attending the AAUW convention.

----- *Detach and Return* -----

Name: _____ Branch: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email _____

I plan to attend the buffet dinner on Friday Yes No

Dinner Choice: Vegetarian Meat

I plan to attend Saturday Yes No (*Price includes continental breakfast, break, lunch*)

Workshop Choices:

Saturday 10:45-11:45am (Choose one) A B C

Saturday 1:45-2:45pm (Choose one) D E

I plan to attend the Saturday Bird Walk: Yes No

Fees: (check one)

Both days \$38 Friday only (\$20) Saturday only \$18,

Complete the registration, make checks payable to AAUW, **mail by April 26** to:

Joan Sanzenbacher, 12 Brooklyn Ave, Waterville, ME 04901 (207) 872-2697

----- *Detach and Return* -----

You might make a copy of your registration form so that you have the info. on both sides before sending it in.

Bird Walk in the Colby College Arboretum: Bets Brown, Trip Leader

If you are interested in participating in the bird walk early in the morning on May 6, gather at 6 a.m. at the Schair-Swenson-Watson Alumni Center on the Colby College campus. Binoculars are necessary for this event. If you do not have any, contact me (bbrown@colby.edu; 207-445-4967) and I'll find a pair for you. Wear shoes that can get muddy in case the trails are still wet from "mud season." The walk will be a fairly gentle one along woodsy trails with slight hills. We will be back in time for you to zip back to the Holiday Inn and change, should you wish to do so.

Directions from the Holiday Inn to Colby

Coming from the Holiday Inn, turn left out of the parking lot onto Main Street. You will pass McDonald's on your right and Wendy's on your left. At the next traffic light, turn right onto Eustis Parkway (Congregational Church is on the right corner). Follow Eustis Parkway until it ends. Turn right at the stop sign onto Mayflower Hill Drive. Follow Mayflower Hill Drive over the stream and up the hill onto the Colby campus. Stay on this road until the tennis courts appear on the left. Immediately after the tennis courts, turn left into the driveway for the Alumni Center. Park in the parking lot and come inside. (A campus map can be found at http://www.colby.edu/college_cs/visitor_center/campus-map.cfm.)

PASSINGS

Lucinda J. Hebert: 1942-2006



One of the great leaders of AAUW of Maine, Lucinda J. "Cindy" Hebert, died February 10, 2006, at her home in Caribou, surrounded by her family and several friends. Cindy was born in Caribou and graduated from Caribou High School in 1960. She then became a stewardess for United Airlines and lived in New York until she returned to Maine in 1972. In June 1973, she married Athill Hebert and returned to Caribou. While filling the responsibilities of a wife, homemaker, and mother to four children, she obtained an associate degree in library technology from UMaine at Presque Isle, and later obtained a bachelor of liberal studies in communication at the University, graduating as valedictorian of the Class of 1990.

When her children enrolled in school, she took several positions including ones with the Caribou Chamber of Commerce, Duffy Darrow Advertising & Public Relations, Nurses of Aroostook, and the Aroostook County Fund for the Maine Community Foundation, among others. Best known for her civic involvement, Cindy loved her community. She volunteered for Cary Medical Center, the Cary Medical Center Auxiliary, the Battered Women's Shelter, the Northeast District YMCA, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Aroostook, American Field Service, Civil Rights Teams at Caribou Middle and High Schools, Hospice of Aroostook, Focus on the Future Economic Development Team, the Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee, the Organizing Committee of the World Junior Biathlon, and the Senior Core of Retired Executives. Cindy was elected to the Caribou City Council, on which she served from 2000 to 2005. As a member of the council she was elected mayor in July 2001 and held the position until December 2003.

She is best remembered by AAUW of Maine as past state President and as a national AAUW leader for justice and equity. Those of us who were at the national AAUW convention in 2005 will remember her dedicated, unyielding, passionate efforts to convince members from all over the United States to change AAUW's membership criteria so that women with two-year degrees could become AAUW members.

Cindy's honors included Outstanding United Way Campaign volunteer (1988), Caribou High School Volunteer of the Year (1993-94), Achievement Citation Award of AAUW of Maine (1998), and Citizen of the Year - Caribou Chamber of Commerce (1999). Cindy enjoyed the friendship of many wonderful people who were an important part of her life. She had a zest for life, an engaging smile, a broad intellect, a ready wit, and a genuine concern for others.

In Memorium by Deborah B. Cravey

Cindy Hebert was remembered at a Celebration of Life on February 18, 2006, in her beloved hometown of Caribou. Her husband, Athill, and her family and friends arranged a fitting service as generous and emotionally rich as Cindy; filled with gratitude for having known the passionate, courageous, and gently humorous woman that so many called "best friend." The sense of loss was inescapable, but over the feelings of loss were expressions of love, inspiration, and the promise to keep Cindy's legacy of commitment to town, community, and service alive. Kate Scott gave our AAUW of Maine tribute to Cindy, past-President and leader in the fight to make AAUW a more inclusive organization as we reach for true equity, and read the many messages from AAUW leaders around the country. Kate, Joan Sanzenbacher, and I were privileged to be welcomed by the County's famous hospitality at Dale Gordon's home and privileged to be present as Cindy Johnson Hebert was celebrated in word, song, and dance. She is deeply missed.

Dorothy G. Biron: 1910-2006

AAUW of Maine has lost a dedicated member. Dorothy Biron, 96, died in Waterville on Wednesday February 15, 2006. A longtime member of the Waterville Branch, she was born in New York, educated in New Jersey, and attended Goucher College in Maryland, graduating with a BA in Latin. She completed graduate study at Rutgers University and at the Institute de Phonetique of the Sorbonne in Paris and then received a Master's of Arts degree from Middlebury College in 1938.

Dorothy married Archille Biron in 1940 and, in 1950, moved to Waterville where she taught at Winslow High School, Coburn Classical Institute, and Colby College. She held local and state offices in AAUW and was a longtime member of the Literature Study Group. She also will be deeply missed.

News of the Educational Foundation and Its Legal Advocacy Fund

Nancy Hutchinson, State EF Chair and LAF Liaison

The EF/LAF fund-raising basket raffle preparations for the state convention in May are shaping up nicely. This year each branch will be bringing a theme-based collection of items. The baskets will be so unique that we'll all want to win every one! Money raised will be in memory of Past President Cindy Hebert.

2005 was a successful fund-raising year for both EF and LAF. Maine's EF contributions totaled \$9,770, up from \$9,167 in 2004. LAF support totaled \$2,433.50, an increase from \$2355 in 2004. We are sincerely grateful for the generosity of our branches and individuals.

Videos featuring LAF-supported plaintiffs are available for borrowing from the national office.

In conjunction with the Foundation's recently released research report, [Drawing the Line: Sexual Harassment on Campus](#), LAF has created a new web page on sexual harassment and the law. The web site includes information on Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972 and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. (See <http://www.aauw.org/laf/library/harassment.cfm>). Other information and updates on the Educational Foundation and the Legal Advocacy Fund can be found at www.aauw.org.

Public Policy Featured At Convention

by Barb Nichols, Public Policy Chair

Don't you love it when a plan comes together? This year's Spring Convention is a perfect example of good planning paying off. Charman and her team have put together an exceptional program. Of course, the part I'm most excited about features public policy.

To lead us through those discussions, we will be joined by Seth Chase, senior grassroots coordinator in Public Policy and Government Relations Department at AAUW headquarters in Washington, DC. In addition to talking with us about AAUW's legislative agenda for the current Congress, he will conduct two workshops. One will include a presentation that explores the research and conclusions in the recently published *Drawing the Line: Sexual Harassment on Campus*. The second workshop gives tips on running voter-turnout campaigns – a special interest of Seth's. This workshop is built around a forthcoming manual Seth authored, called *Woman-to-Woman Voter Turnout: A Manual for Community-Based Campaigns to Mobilize Women to Vote*. We all know that if we can only motivate women to vote, we will see dramatic changes in the policy and laws of government.

Seth is uniquely qualified to guide us. Seth manages AAUW's e-advocacy program and writes *Action Network* and *Washington Update*. He also provides technical support to AAUW's state public policy chairs. I have relied on Seth's advice and expertise. Prior to joining the staff at AAUW, he worked three years for the

League of Women Voters Education Fund, first as coordinator for the DemocracyNet, Internet-based voter guide, and later as coordinator for elections and civic engagement. His undergraduate work was in philosophy and government at St. Lawrence University. He earned a master's degree in political science from the University of Leeds, in West Yorkshire, England, where he focused on the comparative study of democracies and English pub culture.

Seth is the author of *Monumental Injustice* published in the September/October 2003 issue of *Christian Social Action* and *Woman-to-Woman Voter Turnout*, published by AAUW. Seth, a Vermont native who now lives in Silver Spring, Maryland, is the proud father of a five-year old boy.

This Convention is a wonderful opportunity for everyone interested in shaping policy and having a stronger, more effective voice for women and girls in our state and in our nation.

There's Still Time:

There is still impact grant money available for your branch's public policy project. Send your application to kyoti.barb@verizon.net. Don't miss this opportunity!

Expand College/University Membership

by Betty-Jane Meader, College/University Chair

College/University partnerships continue to be vital to the success of AAUW. According to the online directory, six Maine colleges/universities are members this year: Colby, College of the Atlantic, Thomas, University College at Thomaston, UM at Presque Isle, and USM.

If a college near you is not mentioned above, please arrange a one-on-one contact with the president to encourage the college to join AAUW. Dues are based on student enrollment. If you need more information on the "how-to's" on this recruitment process, please contact me. I can guide you on how to get a presidential appointment, how to shape the discussion, and how to motivate a college or university to join. For additional information and/or a C/U membership brochure, please contact Betty-Jane Meader at meaderb@thomas.edu or at 872-7895(H) or 859-1310(O).

Remember, you can also find and download the newsletter at AAUW of Maine's website: <http://www.bairnet.org/organizations/aauw/s-default.htm>. Sue Owen, webmaster, keeps us up-to-date on Maine goings-on through this important tool.

Membership Counts as of 2/1/2006

| Branch | Feb. 1 2003 | Feb. 1 2004 | Feb. 1 2005 | Feb. 1 2006 | 3-year rate of change | 1-year rate of change |
|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Bath/Brunswick | 105 | 84 | 84 | 79 | -24.8 | -5.9 |
| Caribou | 36 | 31 | 27 | 25 | -30.2 | -7.4 |
| Ellsworth/ DownEast | 40 | 39 | 32 | 28 | -30.0 | -12.5 |
| Houlton | 13 | 18 | 18 | 16 | 23.1 | -11.1 |
| Mid-Coast | 90 | 72 | 78 | 75 | -15.6 | -2.6 |
| Penobscot Valley | 55 | 53 | 54 | 58 | -12.73 | -11.1 |
| Presque Isle | 17 | 16 | 18 | 16 | -5.88 | -11.1 |
| Waterville | 68 | 63 | 64 | 67 | -1.5 | 4.69 |
| York County | 13 | 10 | 6 | 6 | -53.8 | 0 |

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WATERTON BRANCH FOR ITS INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP Membership VP, Betsy Eggleston

1. A Membership Survey has been given to each branch to fill out and return to me, Betsy Eggleston P.O.Box 248, Ellsworth, ME 04605. Hopefully the information from this survey will be available for my final report.
2. The AAUW February 1st Membership Count has been e-mailed to each branch. Although most branches show a decrease in membership, congratulations to Waterville for showing an increase!
3. The challenge for this spring and summer is to increase or maintain your membership. Some of the issues are to address recruiting by your branch are:
 - a. MALs (members at large) – have you contacted any in your area?
 - b. Associate degree holders – how is the branch reaching out to this new and expansive group of potential AAUW members?
 - c. Increase in dues – how will you motivate members to understand the vital importance of a dues increase and the impact of decreasing membership on dues?
 - d. Aging of our members. – how will you ways to reach out to younger women and provide meetings that will attract them to join?
4. Thank you to all branches that sent me their AAUW pamphlets. Designing a new state pamphlet is still in the works

THOUGHTS FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

As I reflect upon AAUW in 2006 and sit on the Strategic Process Core Team, it has become crystal clear to me that one thing we know for sure is that change is certain. All of us live with this fact in our daily lives, in our professional lives, and now in our Association lives. As we look at the world, we realize that while change is certain, progress is not. The choices that we make determine whether there is progress or not. These choices are made today, but they determine our tomorrows. It has become clear to me that the challenges related to what AAUW will look like in the future depend upon the choices we as an Association make today.

In light of these musings I would urge all of you to reflect on the following:

Recall a time of pride in AAUW and in your membership in it. What were you most proud of?

What contributed to the quality of that experience?
What did you value?

Think about the year 2020 or about AAUW's 150th Anniversary; what is AAUW doing, what is different, what has stayed the same?

What could be AAUW's unique role in 15-25 years?
Do you value or vision something that would require a change in AAUW to fulfill that unique role? What kind of change may be required?

These questions and thoughts are part of something that the Strategic Process Core Team calls Values and Vision: Strategic Process Dialogues. Some of you have been discussing these questions already; some of you will in the near future. The whole process is on our website:
(Continued on page 8)

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Continued)

www.aauw.org (click on What's New section: Be Part of AAUW's Future) I will be seeing you this spring to hear your thoughts on these questions and will take them back to the leadership team in Washington DC.

AAUW's livelihood and existence as a viable national organization focused on education and equity for women in girls throughout this century depends upon the thinking, values, and decisions that we will be making within this year and the next. Please help me and the other leaders of AAUW hear your thoughts and mold them into an appropriate set of decisions. The quality of life of women and girls depends upon it. Cheers!

Marcelline A. Barron, New England Regional Director
mbarron@fairfield.k12.ct.us
PO Box 320307, Fairfield CT 06825-0307
203-259-5919 (home)

BRANCH NEWS

News from Waterville by Co-President Cathy Bevier

We're looking forward to welcoming you to Waterville for the State Convention May 5 & 6 and to honoring Karen Heck, recipient of this year's Achievement Citation Award. There will be many enriching events as well as great company and food. Seven Waterville members trekked to Bangor to the spring leadership meeting, where the convention was a major item on the agenda. Fundraising and membership are also important to our branch, and we're happy to report that our fundraising events in 2005 were very successful. We're proud to have made generous donations to EF and LAF.

Kate Faragher Houghton of the Family Violence Project was featured at our February meeting. She helped us realize the far-reaching psychological and financial harm that can accompany the physical nature of domestic violence, and the frequency with which such violence strikes at home in Maine. We were impressed with the organization she leads, and support their goals to help women and men in these circumstances. Inclement weather in January postponed a presentation on Maine Senior College by Jean Lamond, and this will be the focus of our March meeting. Maine author Jennifer Finney Boylan will be our featured speaker in April, and she will be discussing her bestselling memoir, *She's Not There: A Life in Two Genders* (Broadway Books, Random House).

News from Penobscot Valley Branch (PVB) by Janice Osgood, Secretary

During a low-key yet busy year, PVB has had success with both ongoing tried-and-true activities and some new ventures. In November we teamed up with *designing women*, a nonprofit volunteer corporation "bridging art and community since 1991" (www.designingwomen.org) by mounting shows featuring female artisans from throughout New England and donating a portion of proceeds to organizations benefiting women and girls in the community where the

show is held. Not only did we have the opportunity to get PVB and Association literature into the hands of far more potential members than at most of our own events--and to talk at length with those potential members, but also we realized a tidy sum for our efforts. (Basically, the collaborating organization provides bodies to assist at the door-- meet and greet, collect the donations (it was \$2 at our show), direct people to the exhibits, etc. It's a great deal! We encourage other branches to check out the possibility of doing this in your communities, or setting up something similar with a local group of artists/artisans; you can ask Kate Scott for more information and details about our November event.

Another collaboration within the community is our annual "meet the writer" branch meeting held at Orono Public Library and open to the public. Our book group does a great job selecting a writer, often one they've read during the previous or even current program year, planning the meeting and helping with publicity and hospitality. This year's program was held on March 8 and featured writer Cynthia Thayer reading from some of her books and taking questions from the audience; in turn, she was provided the chance to sell her books which she graciously signed as requested. Appropriately, at this meeting we also had a presentation by a co-chair of the fundraising committee for the new library; although many in the audience were familiar with the effort, updates are always appreciated and in turn build anticipation.

We're hard at work now with our April 8 book sale, which will be held at the Church of Universal Fellowship on Main St. in Orono. All AAUW members are cordially invited and will be enthusiastically welcomed! We're also having fun putting together our "Reader's Basket" for the state EF/LAF raffle and look forward to selling a great number of tickets to readers throughout the state!

News from Houlton by Diane Hines

We were saddened to learn of Cindy Hebert's death. Path Rathbun informed us and shared information about the celebration of Cindy's life. Two of our members were able to attend.

The theme for our year is "Empowering Women." We have examined media literacy and the influences of media on women that make it hard for us to advance. We are exploring how to get involved and be effective in change. We read "The Scalpel and the Silver Bear: The First Navajo Woman Surgeon Combines Western Medicine and Traditional Healing" by Dr. Lori Alvord. Some of us heard her speak at UMaine of Presque Isle. Cecelia Rhoda, a Houlton-branch member spoke to us about a retreat she experienced on Monhegan Island concerning leadership for women. Two of our members attended the Breakfast of Champions in Presque Isle and were inspired by Majorie Stockford's book about the ATT class action lawsuit redefining labor laws. We met Sarah Standiford of the Maine Women's Policy Center and found we could schedule a program with them. We studied "Turn Beauty Inside Out" under the tutelage of

Christy Fitzpatrick and Alison Bossie, our program chairs.

On March 13th we will meet at Nancy Putnam's house and have a Reader's Theater of "Voices of Dean Women." We will hear how other women laid the groundwork for the job we must continue. The job, of course, is to make a difference for us, our daughters, and our granddaughters. On March 15th we will show the video "Killing Us Softly," an event that is open to the public at the Houlton Regional Hospital Education Center at 7 p.m. We look forward to hosting a meeting with a representative from Maine Women's Policy Center on April 10 at the home of Jean Collett. We will wrap up our year with our annual potluck dinner at my farm on May 8th.

News from Ellsworth-Downeast by Betsy Eggleston, Program Co-VP

The Ellsworth-Downeast Branch of AAUW has enjoyed some very informative speakers this year, learning about what is available in our local area. Our Holiday Potluck and auction was a great success in December and provides our monies for the EF/LAF funds.

The speaker for the February 1st meeting was Sally Daniels from the University of Maine, who spoke on the ME Opportunity Center, which gives potential college students assistance in the application process. Ms. Daniels is at our local University of Maine center here in Ellsworth one or more days of the week.

The March 1st meeting will have Lee Beal as the speaker, and he will talk on his work with the SAFE Children program. This program is one of two projects in Maine that provide a court ordered transfer of minor children between divorced and separated parents.

We are planning for our major fundraiser in May, a large yard sale with such items as books, closet mistakes, chocolate food table as well as the usual yard sale items.

The branch is working on maintaining and also increasing membership. A name change for our branch is in process. Our new name would be "Hancock County Branch," to be more inclusive.

News from Bath-Brunswick by President Genevieve Goltz

On January 11th, Charlene Goehring-Fox was the AAUW representative as members of the Maine Fair and Independent Courts Coalition met in Portland to deliver petitions opposing Judge Samuel Alito to Senators Snowe and Collins. In addition, four Bath-Brunswick members participated in the January 14th Portland rally opposing Judge Alito's confirmation. Charlene Goehring-Fox, Genevieve Goltz, Kristin Sweeney and Wanda Webber Snyder braved wind and rain to hold our AAUW logo high.

Our annual March breakfast's featured speaker was reporter Barbara A. Walsh, Pulitzer Prize winner for her series on the Massachusetts prison system. Since coming to Maine and the *Portland Press Herald*, she has

won additional awards for her stories on alcohol abuse, rural poverty, domestic violence and teen suicide. The morning was also dedicated to collecting new and gently-used clothing and accessories. Members and friends brought donations for "Dress for Success Southern Maine" which serves low-income women entering the workplace. Each client is provided with a suit for a job interview. When she lands the job, she returns for additional workplace appropriate outfits.

This year so far, the branch added four new members, which almost balances our losses. We plan to wage a stepped-up recruiting effort aimed toward newly eligible women with AA degrees. Newsletter editor Debbie Schall, in collaboration with a Bowdoin College student, has been working to set up a branch website and hopes to have it up and running soon.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN MAINE

(information partially from *Morning Sentinel* article by Amy Calder)

Representative Lisa T. Marrache of Waterville has presented a bill to the Maine state legislature that is co-sponsored by Senator Carol Weston of Waldo and Representatives David Bowles of Sanford, Marilyn E. Canavan of Waterville, Roderick W. Carr of Lincoln, Margaret M. Craven of Lewiston, Glenn A. Cummings of Portland, Deborah J. Hutton of Bowdoinham, Leila J. Percy of Phippsburg. This bill, L.D. 1296, is designed to stop human trafficking in Maine. If, after reading this, you support this bill, please write your legislators.

Many Mainers are likely to say that trafficking does not happen here. But human trafficking -- forcing or coercing people across borders for labor or sexual exploitation -- is very real and occurs under the radar, say those who deal with the issue. Some victims are drawn into the state from other countries with false promises of jobs that pay good money and then are made to live in poor conditions.

Rep. Marrache is sponsoring a bill proposing to enact two types of initiatives to combat trafficking in Maine. L.D. 1296 would make trafficking of men, women, and children into Maine from other countries a felony, protect victims from prosecution, and prohibit a trafficker's assertion of the victim's alleged consent to be used as a defense. The bill also would establish a task force of experts to determine the nature and extent of trafficking in Maine and make recommendations for legislative policy.

"Since 2001, the Justice Department reported it prosecuted 277 traffickers; 75 percent involve prosecutions for sex trafficking," Marrache, a physician, said. "Trafficking is a billion dollar industry with victims from all over the world." Marrache is particularly concerned for Maine, a border state with Canada.

Rep. Marilyn Canavan said, "Human trafficking is becoming an increasingly serious problem worldwide, including here in the U.S. ... It is estimated that between

up to 20,000 victims have been smuggled into our country."

STATUS OF L.D. 1296. Marrache's bill recently went before the Judiciary Committee, which unanimously approved the bill pending acquisition of funding for the task force. Marrache, who drafted the bill last spring, estimates the cost for funding will be \$3,000 to \$5,000. She said she is sending out requests to national organizations to see what grants are available for such efforts.

HIGHLIGHT ON MEMBERS: Susan Landry



Outgoing Corresponding Secretary of AAUW of Maine is to be thanked for her many years of service. Susan quietly goes about getting the work of AAUW done. She was born in Albany, New York. She grew up in Norfolk, Virginia, and in Norwood, Massachusetts.

Susan attended Westfield State College. She majored in English and minored in theater arts. Because she had summered with her family in Oxford, Maine, she knew she wanted to take graduate courses in Maine. While in graduate school, Susan met her husband Gary on St. Patrick's Day. She has been married for 30 years.

Susan then went to work in 1976 and held a number of jobs at the University of Maine. In 1990, she found herself out of work, so she obtained an associates degree in science and landscape in nursery management. She soon was back at work at the university – this time in the of international program office for study abroad. As many as 80 students go abroad each year, and she helps them get their time away organized.

Susan says she joined AAUW after seeing a clip in the newspaper calendar in 1976. She joined after attending a meeting. She's been a member of the Penobscot Valley Branch since. Within a month of joining, she became Program Vice President and has since been newsletter editor, EF/LAF chair, and secretary. She's been on the scholarship committee and the book sale committee, which she has chaired. She was state Corresponding Secretary when Marge Ehrhart was AAUW of Maine president. She has also served in this capacity with three other state presidents: Barbara Mintz, Cindy Hebert, and Pat Rathbun. She served on the Achievement Citation Award committee several times and has chaired it twice. She has been on the nominating committee as served as editor of the *Dawn Breaker* "at least twice."

When asked why she has stayed in AAUW, she said, "Just for the connection with the people and with what's going on." She likes being part of an organization that is on forefront of public policy and change supporting women and girls. She is pleased to help making the world for women and girls better.

She has also served in Newburgh on Child Planning Committee and has volunteered for Maine Public Broadcasting System. Since moving to Maine in 1973, she has helped Maine PBS with telephone and tallying for fund-raising campaigns.

Susan enjoys, being at her camp on a lake in the summer where she can canoe, kayak, walk her dog, and read. She follows local sports, especially basketball and hockey. She is currently is reading The Mermaid Chair by Sue Monk Kidd because enjoyed The Secret Lives of Bees that was in the EF basket that she won at the last State Convention.

AAUW OF MAINE'S STATE PROJECT: PATHWAYS TO EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

by Bets Brown

Great progress has been made on the statewide project designed to encourage women school teachers to become leaders in K-12 education. Relative to their numbers as teachers, women are under-represented as principals and superintendents. Though progress has been made, data indicate that women have not moved up the leadership ladder in numbers comparable to their male counterparts. The purpose of the project is to hold a conference designed to motivate potential women leaders to take the next step in educational leadership.

The *Pathways to Educational Leadership Conference* will be held on February 3, 2007. Colby College has kindly provided the meeting place. Because the project recently receiving an offer of resources from the Mitchell Institute, we are now well on our way to raising the funding needed. Kate Scott, President-elect of AAUW of Maine, is on the planning committee and is heading up AAUW's portion of the project.

Because of the large number of teachers in the State of Maine, we will use a nomination process to identify potential women leaders. Superintendents and principals will help nominate candidates for the conference.

Members' help is needed to fund this AAUW-of-Maine event. We have not had a statewide fund-raising project in many years. This effort will bring us considerable visibility and new partners in Maine's educational community, as well as help raise the aspirations of women educators. Kate Scott will be meeting with all the branch presidents to underscore the need for our branches to support financially this important event. Others of us are working on obtaining additional funding from external sources.

Branches need to have their fund-raising complete for this exciting conference by early fall. Please begin planning fund raisers that might bring in the \$3,000-\$4,000 that Kate hopes you all will help contribute. Each of us is part of the formula for success for this conference.



Dear AAUW Members,

On behalf of all leadership, we extend our best wishes for your state convention. We are confident that the state conventions will be celebrations of last year's accomplishments, as well as a renewal of member commitment to AAUW's important mission and work. Your generous time, talent, and treasure investments are appreciated and valued—especially at the state and branch grassroots levels.

Here are a few AAUW highlights, thanks to you.

Your Strong Support for Advocacy

- **Speaking Our Minds and Grassroots/Field Support:** Branch and member e-activists sent more than 76,000 messages—e-mails and telephone calls—to members of Congress and the Bush Administration through *Action Network* to support AAUW public policy legislations. States and branches extended AAUW's voice further by using staff technical resources and field support for advocacy efforts at grassroots levels.
- **AAUW Capitol Hill Lobby Corps:** Celebrating 30 years of members advocating for equity for women and girls in Washington, D.C. Your fellow committed members made more than 1,000 in-person visits to congressional offices.

Your Enthusiastic Support of AAUW's New Programmatic Focus—Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security

- **Groundbreaking Research:** Member support made possible the successful release of the *Drawing the Line: Sexual Harassment on Campus* report.
- **Exciting Campus Action Projects:** State or branch member liaisons collaborated with campus representatives to develop proposals that resulted in the selection of 11 Campus Action Projects across the country—programs to help foster economic security through harassment-free campuses.

Your Generous Financial Support


- **Fellowships and Grants:** Member support enabled the Educational Foundation to award \$3.6 million to more than 200 women in the United States and abroad for the 2005-2006 academic year.
- **Legal Advocacy Fund:** Members' commitment to justice and equity enabled LAF to adopt its milestone 100th plaintiff case on sex discrimination claims against institutions of higher learning.

Your Proud Celebration of Our Past... and Your Critical Participation in AAUW's Future

- **AAUW's 125th Anniversary—A Legacy of Leadership:** Branch participation in marking this important milestone will ensure that the 125th anniversary year is a bridge from the past to the future and a catalyst for another 125 years of action.
- **2006 Strategic Process—Forecasting the Future:** Members are critical participants in the Strategic Planning Process to address the dramatically changing world in which AAUW operates. Branches and individuals have taken part in the Every Member Poll, and we encourage you to engage in Values Discussions and additional opportunities for participation during the process.

As AAUW members have done for 125 years, working together we will build upon our legacy of leadership on equity issues, building a future that transforms educational equity into economic security for women.

Sincerely,


Ruth Z. Sweetser, President
American Association of
University Women


Barbara L. O'Connor, President
AAUW Educational Foundation

Quiz Answers (see page 12): A = Barbara Jordan, B = Martha Ballard, C = Theda Bara, D. = Ellen Ochoa, E. = Annie Dodge Wauneka

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CHANGE IS AFOOT

Kate Scott, as incoming President, and Nancy Hutchinson, as EF/LAF chair, are eligible to attend the AAUW national conference, *Expanding a Legacy of Leadership*, on June 23-25, 2006. This workshop for state leaders is a great training place for AAUW leadership. Conference participants take great delight in swapping ideas with leaders from around the country.

THE QUIZ – WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

- A. Who was the first Black woman to serve in the U.S. Congress from the South?
- B. Who was the healer and midwife that served central Maine in the latter half of the 1700s. Her diary led to the book, *A Midwife’s Tale*.
- C. Who was one of the most successful and glamorous stars of the 1910s. She stood behind only Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin in popularity, yet today it's nearly impossible to view her work. Of the more than 40 films she made from late 1914 through 1926, only three and a half remain.
- D. Who invented optical analysis systems and was also the first Hispanic female astronaut.
- E. This woman was the first elected to the Tribal Council. She led the fight against tuberculosis among the Navajo and wrote a dictionary to translate English words for modern medical techniques into Navajo.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 11