



## **DAWN BREAKER**

**THE NEWSLETTER OF  
AAUW OF MAINE  
WINTER 2005/06  
VOLUME 53, NUMBER 2**



### **Maine State Convention: May 5-6, 2006, Waterville, Maine by Charmen Goehring-Fox, Program VP**



Save the date for our Annual Maine AAUW State Convention, May 5-6, 2006 in Waterville. Our theme this year mirrors national AAUW's focus "Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security"

and our speakers and workshops derive from the theme.

We will welcome Laura Fortman, Commissioner of the Department of Labor, as our keynote speaker Friday night at the Holiday Inn. Ms. Fortman has spent much of her career focused on advancing issues that impact women in Maine. Prior to her appointment as Commissioner, she was responsible for the management, design, and development of programs for two multi-faceted organizations that share the joint mission of statewide advocacy for women and girls, particularly in the areas of economic security, freedom from violence, anti-discrimination, and health care.

Special guests include Marcelline Barron, our AAUW Regional Director, and Seth Chase, AAUW's Grassroots

Organizer. Both will share exciting news from AAUW, including a powerful presentation of AAUW's latest research regarding sexual harassment on the college campus.

On Friday night, we will gather for social events and the keynote address. On Saturday, we will meet at Colby College for the annual business meeting, workshops (on voter education, life-long learning, negotiating on the job, end of life and disability planning, and retirement and investment planning), lunch and awards and an entertaining closing session. The Achievement Citation Award will also be presented during lunch. A basket raffle will raise funds for EF.

More details, including a registration form, will be in the Spring *Dawn Breaker*. For more information now, or to sign up to help during the convention, please contact Charmen Goehring-Fox at 756-0506.

### **TAKE NOTE NOW: Spring Leadership Meeting: March 4, 2006, Bangor, Maine by Charmen Goehring-Fox, Program VP**

AAUW of Maine will hold its Spring All Member and Board Leadership Meeting on March 4, 2006 at the offices of Women, Work and Community (WWC) in Bangor. The address is 216 Texas Avenue, Acadia Hall, Bangor. Take the Union exit from 95, head north, turn left on Vermont, left on Montana, which turns into Texas Avenue. We will have our board meeting plus a presentation from Jane Seales about WWC. We will examine possible future collaborations with WWC.

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Pat Rathbun, President, AAUW of Maine**

First Tracks...

Just as the coming New Year brings thoughts to most of us of resolutions and new beginnings, to alpine skiers, the coming winter snows bring dreams of first tracks.

First tracks are the ones you see in the magazine photos, when there is only one set of tracks on the mountain, made by the first skier down after an overnight snowfall. If you are lucky enough to be the one setting them, it's exhilarating. You feel you are the only one on the mountain, although it's also a certainty that soon others will follow and before long those original tracks will blend in with many others.

So it seems with AAUW and the women's movement. Since its inception, AAUW's members have been laying first tracks for

others. Its history is also exhilarating. Whereas, in 1881 there were few educational opportunities for women, there are now more women than men enrolled in degree programs. Education opportunities for women, there are now more women than men enrolled in degree programs.

And while it's true that well-educated women are no longer the rarity they once were, there are still barriers, especially economic ones, preventing women from being all they can be. Our mission is not complete.

As we greet the coming new year, including all that glorious winter snow, let us consider all the ground work yet to be laid, and continue to set those fresh tracks everywhere we can.

## BRANCH BIRTHDAYS

Do you know the history of your branch? Several branches have celebrated milestone birthdays during the past year. Please send me (Pat Rathbun) your branch "birth date" for inclusion in a later publication. [praauw@maine.rr.com](mailto:praauw@maine.rr.com).

## BRANCH PRESIDENTS TAKE NOTICE

Make your Achievement Citation Award nomination your #1 New Year's Resolution, for the deadline of January 31, 2006 is firm, very firm.

--So says Kristin Sweeney,  
Chair of your ACA Committee

**Important Reminder to All:** Be sure to complete the **AAUW Every Member Poll**, which appears in the Fall/Winter Outlook Magazine, and also online at [www.aauw.org/poll](http://www.aauw.org/poll). Results of the poll will be used to help determine AAUW's strategic plan.

## A TREK TO CANADA

by Kate Scott

On a beautiful autumn day at the end of October, three stalwart representatives of AAUW of Maine journeyed to Fredericton, New Brunswick for the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Atlantic Provinces Regional Conference. Pat Rathbun, Susan Landry, and Kate Scott certainly did not anticipate the questions that they would receive regarding AAUW's position on the dues question. Pat had received information from the national AAUW office stating our policy regarding the issue and she had been involved at the 2005 national conference in various discussions centered around the policy. These issues were addressed to us by Rose Beatty, the Canadian president of CFUW and Susan Russell, the Executive Director of the Canadian Federation. It made us absolutely aware that there was a major issue at stake here and we were asked to make their comments known to our national leaders. After they realized that we were not major players in this arena, the discussions turned to more amenable subjects. The women of Fredericton were more than gracious and we were treated like very special guests. We each went to a variety of workshops and discovered that the organization faces the same problems facing AAUW. Much of the area covered was the "aging of the membership," strategies to increase membership, leadership development and how to engage with the political structure. The members are eager to maintain their "sister" relationship with AAUW of Maine and to stay informed of our activities. We will stay in communication with them and will hope that some of them will be able to attend our state convention in the spring.

## THE BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS

by Pat Rathbun

Since I was able to attend the Bangor breakfast and the Presque Isle event, I had the great pleasure of two visits with guest speaker Marjorie Stockford, whose book relates the story of the class action lawsuit against AT&T, which became the landmark case that redefined labor laws, especially as they pertain to women. The Breakfasts are sponsored by the Maine Women Policy Center and the Maine Women's Lobby. Penobscot Valley Branch, and the Aroostook county Branches co-sponsor in those areas. This event exemplifies the new type of partner-type relationships we are building in order to promote AAUW. We enjoy the benefits of working with the MWPC and the MWL, and they benefit from local contacts around the state, with access to interested women.

## NOMINATION COMMITTEE

### HARD AT WORK

Soon the nominating committee will be filling slots for the coming year. You can all help by identifying those who would be interested in experiencing AAUW from a new perspective by serving on the board, or on a committee. PLEASE send Pat Rathbun your name, or the name of a fellow branch member whom you recommend.

\_\_\_ I'd be willing to consider a position

\_\_\_ I'd like to recommend

\_\_\_ state board or

\_\_\_ state committee

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Referred by (if recommending another person)

## HOW TO STRETCH YOUR DOLLARS AND DONATE TO AAUW

If you are one of those people who orders from amazon.com on-line, then you can EASILY make a contribution to AAUW while simultaneously putting in your order to amazon.com. When you are ready to shop at amazon.com, go to the AAUW website (<http://www.aauw.org/>). On the bottom right of the very first page is a link to amazon.com. When you go to amazon.com via AAUW, a percentage of your purchases will go to AAUW with no change in the costs for your order. This method of giving increases the impact of your dollars and supports AAUW – what a great arrangement!!

## AAUW LOSES A GOOD FRIEND

Maine and AAUW have lost a valued leader and friend. Elizabeth "Liz" Crandall died at her home in Brunswick on November 9, 2005. In addition to supporting many other environmental and women's causes, Liz was a 50-year life member of AAUW and held leadership roles on a state, regional, and national level, including chair of the Legal Advocacy Fund. An endowed fund in her honor was established by the Educational Foundation through support from members in Maine.

## MEMORIES OF LIZ CRANDALL

by Lucy Stinson



Many of us in AAUW of Maine knew Liz Crandall in her capacity as a mover and shaker. She was a Life Member when she arrived on the scene in Brunswick, and she immediately joined the Bath-Brunswick Branch, rolled up her sleeves, and got to work

Liz was a citizen activist for women, advocating for services and legislation in domestic violence, equity, discrimination, reproductive freedom, and teen pregnancy. She helped promote statewide the Information Guide for Abused Women in Maine. She campaigned for the ERA. She participated in the first women's March on Washington, and a daybreak vigil in Kennebec during the first Bush administration. She lobbied in Augusta and Washington to protect welfare programs for women and children. She wrote a series of newspaper articles on getting out the vote. As Chair of the AAUW Legislative Program in Maine, she served on the Women's Legislative Agenda Coalition and advocated for expansion of the Maine Human Rights Act to give its protections for gays and lesbians and people with AIDS. Her early hard work was recognized in 1987 – you see, she really was a visionary – when she received the Presidential Award of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance for Courage, Service and Integrity. I am sure she is very pleased with the outcome of the vote on Question One on November 8. She would say, “Well, finally!”

She was an original member of the New England Energy Task Force. Liz's roles in investigating alternative, safe energy sources, in improving the collection of hazardous wastes, and in establishing curb collection of recyclable waste, are only a few examples of her commitment to improve the environment and the lives of residents of her adopted and beloved State of Maine. Brunswick was far ahead of a many other communities, thanks to Liz's activism.

From 1993-1995 Liz served as the state liaison for AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund, which supports women who unfortunately must sue institutions of higher learning for gender discrimination. She shook down our branch to raise money for this fund – a tradition that continues today. She would be pleased with the money, but disappointed that we still need to raise it.

She was a long-time member of the Maine Choice Coalition and helped develop its bylaws. She was especially pleased when Maine passed what is now considered model legislation – our Adult Involvement Law – which has allowed Maine to avoid the restrictions that come with parental notification and consent laws. She celebrated with me when we won the NO on 1 Campaign in 1999, defeating a partial birth abortion ban.

She was a member of the Maine Women's Lobby and a major source of encouragement to women who were running for office.

Liz Crandall was truly a leader in the movement to improve the physical, emotional, social, and political environment for women in Maine. It was a great privilege to march in her footsteps and to have had the chance to learn her tricks of the trade of activism. In her memory, we should all go out rattle the cages of those who treat women poorly.



## PATHWAYS TO EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP: AAUW OF MAINE STATE PROJECT

by Bets Brown

The AAUW of Maine Board of Directors voted in July to endorse a new state project that is an offshoot of the national AAUW's Pathways to Leadership programming, described in previous issues of the *Dawn Breaker*. In AAUW of Maine's Pathways to Educational Leadership Project, we will address the disproportionate number of women serving as principals and superintendents relative to the number of women who are teachers. Our Pathways to Educational Leadership Conference is designed to educate women about leadership in the educational arena and to motivate them to advance into leadership positions.

As coordinator of the planning committee for the Pathways Project, I convened a committee of Maine leaders in the academic realm to join us in planning a conference to address this issue. The committee includes Kate Scott (President-elect of AAUW of Maine), Theodora Kalikow (President of the University of Maine Farmington and member of the Waterville Branch), Barbara Woodlee (President of Kennebec Valley Community College and member of the Waterville Branch), Harriet Trafford (Principal, Albert Hall School and President-elect of the Maine Principal's Association), and Elaine Miller (Superintendent, Winslow, China, and Vassalboro School Districts), and me.

This committee has developed a strategy for the Pathways conference in February 2007. We will invite teachers throughout the state to participate. This AAUW effort is timely because many vacancies will be opening up soon for principals and assistant principals as well as superintendents and assistant principals. The committee is currently addressing the need to raise \$11,000 to make this happen. We have secured a venue at Colby College for holding the event.

In addition we have contacted the Maine Principals' Association, the Commissioner of Education, and the Maine Superintendents' Association to discuss the possibility of their providing endorsement of the event. Those efforts will be finalized over the year. We have identified possible exhibitors for the event and will invite them to join us to make the day more complete.

Teachers who attend will learn what a few days in the life of a principal or superintendent entails. They will have the opportunity to hear about negotiating, strategies for career mapping, and finding mentors. We will look to more AAUW of Maine member to help out as we get nearer to the 2007.

## REFLECTIONS FROM NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL DIRECTOR



As a member of the Association Board of Directors, I have been attending meetings, participating in conference calls and chat rooms, and writing/responding to many emails on your behalf. I have been asked to be a member of the Association Strategic Planning Core Team. I have been very busy being a professional woman, a hard-working member of AAUW, and, of course, trying to *have a life* too!

To launch our strategic planning, we have designed a protocol that will allow us to enter into dialogue with current, previous and potential members; possible donors; like-minded women and men; and some critics. We established a timeline and drafted criteria for successful work. Within the next six months, you will have opportunities to share with me either in person or by electronic communication what it is that we value as AAUW and how we can move forward in the next decade or two as women of vision, strength, and purpose. I am looking forward to our conversations.

Many of you have begun to create, host, and participate in events based on our programmatic theme: *Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security*. This theme is such an important facet of what it means today to one who cares about equity for all women in our society. We, in AAUW, cannot rest until women lead lives equitable to men no matter what we choose to do. We must marshal like-minded women and men to join us in this fight for equity. The only comfort we have is that we are standing on the shoulders of great women in our immediate and far reaching past, who felt just as passionate as we do. Their spirit gives us strength to continue this struggle towards equity.

Let me exhort you to complete the "Every Member Poll," which came to you in the *Outlook*, and to return it by January 13<sup>th</sup>. This significantly improved poll/survey is also available online at [www.aauw.org/poll](http://www.aauw.org/poll). Your responses are critically important to AAUW and to the cross corporate Strategic Planning Core Team as we move forward with our work. From the shores of Connecticut, I wish you a wonderful, successful, and healthy 2006. Cheers!

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Quiz Answers (see page 11)

1. B, 2. A, 3. F, 4. E, 5. D, 6 C

## Have a Happy, ACTIVE New Year! --by Public Policy Chair, Barb Nichols



I have a favorite quote by Yehuda Bauer: "Thou shalt not be a victim. Thou shalt not be a perpetrator. Above all, thou shalt not be a bystander." One reason I belong to AAUW is that our members are definitely not bystanders! We have a proud tradition of activism that dates back to our earliest days as an organization. In 1917, college

women stood vigil outside the White House, protesting the fact that women could not vote –in doing so, they became the first group ever to picket the White House for a political cause. And that was just the beginning.

We are keenly aware that our society is shaped by and our rights decided in the political arena. We know we must stay alert, keep informed, and remain active to protect those hard-won victories from those trying to erode gains we've made for women and girls. We must use our voices and votes to improve opportunities for women to succeed in whatever path they choose.

As AAUW members, we have a wonderful tool at our disposal – AAUW's Action Network. Through the Network, you can sign up to get timely alerts on issues of critical interest to women and girls and you can become a Two-Minute Activist by going to AAUW's website ([www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)), clicking on the Issue Advocacy button, and then clicking on the Two-Minute Activist link. From there, select the issue you want to address, click on it, and you can send a note to your congressperson. Or, if you are signed up to receive Action Alerts, simply click on the Take Action link in the alert and respond directly. You can either use talking points already prepared or compose your own letter. It truly does only take a couple of minutes to make your voice heard!

One of the special features is that anyone can use this tool. You don't have to be a member of AAUW to be actively engaged in discussions that affect us – everyone is welcome. So, if you are already a Two-Minute Activists, tell your friends – and if you haven't signed up yet, take a few minutes and explore AAUW's website and find out how easy it is.

I think Bauer's quote applies to women like us. We won't allow ourselves to be victimized, we won't victimize others, and we will not be bystanders. We will make a difference for women and girls because equity is still an issue.

EF/LAF NEWS

By Nancy Hutchinson, State EF/LAF

Thank you to all branches that have sent their Educational Foundation (EF) and Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) donations directly to the national office and sent me copies of the contribution report forms. The deadline for the 2005 recognition year is Dec. 31. (continued on page 5)

## EF/LAF NEWS (continued)

**Reminder:** please be continuing to plan your branch's "theme basket" for the fund-raising raffle at next spring's state convention in Waterville. Houlton has chosen a "local goodies" theme, which may include crafts, items, foods, etc., from our area.

**EF:** Your contributions have helped fund a doctoral candidate right here in Maine. One of this year's 36 Selected Professions Fellowships recipients is at the University of Maine in Orono.

**Becky Woodward**, a Ph.D. candidate in mechanical engineering, has worked for several years to provide tools for disentangling large whales, develop telemetry buoys for tracking whales, and design tools for evaluating the impact of commercial fishing gear on whales' skin. Her work can add to the biological knowledge base and assist in the recovery of endangered whale population. She plans to finish her dissertation for May 2006.

To see where more of your contribution money goes, check out the 2005-06 Online Fellows Directory on the AAUW website [http://www.aauw.org/fga/fellows\\_directory/index/cfm](http://www.aauw.org/fga/fellows_directory/index/cfm). It gives information on the educational, professional, and research pursuits of the more than 200 fellows and grantees of the current program year. The categories include American Fellowships, International Fellowships, Home Country Project Grants, Selected Professions Fellowships, Community Action Grants, and Career Development Grants. All have been chosen by a thorough competitive process, and they show they are the "best and brightest" among women scholars in the U.S. You can search through categories by institution, year, state, sponsor, and field of study. If anyone would like to contact an individual Fellow, write the Educational Foundation at [foundation@aauw.org](mailto:foundation@aauw.org).

**LAF:** The new LAF informational brochures are available. I have received multiple copies and will distribute them at any upcoming state meetings and the convention. If your branch would like any immediately, let me know how many and where to send them, and I will mail some to you. I can be reached at [hutch2@pioneercable.net](mailto:hutch2@pioneercable.net).

LAF was featured as part of the Gender Equity Lecture Series at Vassar College in October. LAF director Leslie Annexstein took part in the panel and workshop titled "Leveling the Playing Field: Title IX and Athletics."

A recently adopted LAF case, *Russell v. The Trustees of Princeton University*, concerns Lynn Russell, a former assistant clinical professor in the chemical engineering department at Princeton University. She has sued for sex discrimination in the denial of tenure, retaliation, and other claims. There are only two women of 20 faculty members in the chemical engineering department. You can read the case summary at <http://www.aauw.org/laf/cases/russell.cfm>.

Summations of other current and on-going LAF cases can also be seen at the AAUW website.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!! TO BATH/BRUNSWICK BRANCH.

Congratulate our members in the Bath/Brunswick branch. They celebrated their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in early December. Kudos for 75 years of dedication to education and equity for women and girls, for exciting branch projects, for maintaining membership, for being part of the community, and for all the hard work that sustained this branch since 1930.

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### *News from Waterville* by Co-President Laura Meader

The Waterville branch just completed a successful used book sale and author signing event. We broke away from our traditional location and format and were rewarded with an increase in monies raised. In addition to our usual used book sale, we added a children's program. Melissa Sweet, a children's illustrator and author from Rockport, presented a workshop to an enthusiastic crowd of children and their parents. We also included a silent auction that featured autographed books, gift baskets, and gift certificates. Our day concluded with a "Meet the Authors" book signing event with five Maine authors in attendance. We were thrilled with the turnout and will be enthusiastically sending our profits to the Educational Foundation.

Our speakers this fall have been informative and engaging. However, we're experiencing low member turnout for our meetings. We're hopeful this will change in the new year. We held our holiday auction on December 14 raising a healthy sum for EF and LAF. We will learn about Senior College in January and learn about domestic violence in February.

We are looking forward to hosting the state convention May 5-6. We hope as many of you as possible can attend. See you there!

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### *News from Presque Isle* by Martha LaPointe

PI membership is growing! We have three new members to add to our roll. In September, we co-sponsored a lecture by Dr. Lori Alvord, M.D., the first Navajo Woman Surgeon to combine Western Medicine and Traditional Healing. In October, we discussed Dr. Alvord's book *The Scalpel and The Silver Bear*. In November, AAUW member and University of Maine, Presque Isle Professor of Biology, Dr. Bonnie Wood, showed us how she helps students learn with her innovative "Lecture Free Teaching" method. We had to close the curtains on the sun during this year's Saturday Holiday Brunch. In January, we will focus on alternative medicine with Dr. Eva Shay, a homeopathic doctor, as our guest. County AAUW members will volunteer as staff for accreditation of volunteers, coaches and athletes of the 2006 Biathlon Junior World Championships being held at the Maine Winter Sports Nordic Center in Presque Isle January 29-Feb. 3. Four hundred world-wide athletes with their coaches and support staff will come to Aroostook for this event. We look forward to mingling with the world during this event and to showing off our part of the world. What a great break for the long nights and short days of winter in Northern Maine!

**News from Bath-Brunswick**  
by **Genevieve Goltz, Branch President**

A good crowd braved the December 9th snowstorm to attend our branch's 75th anniversary celebration at Bowdoin College. Following a delicious dinner, we heard guest speaker Angus King. The former governor and Brunswick resident entertained us with a slideshow and description of his family's five-month RV trip around the United States.

The year got off to a very good start. Our September meeting and potluck supper featured underwater photographer and member Patricia Irish who presented her fascinating video, "Stories and Photography from Coral Reef's Around the World". A September bonus was a trip by a group of members to Camden for the Midcoast Branch's Author Series presentations by Tracy Kidder and Ved Mehta.

October was also a busy month. We heard Paul Tukey of "People, Places and Plants" speak on wise and environmentally friendly gardening and we held our annual Greens Event – Fund Raiser. Again the "no bake, no cook, no sew, just bring greens" event brought in a healthy amount – over \$1600. November brought an interesting presentation by the originators and developers of "Coastal Studies for Girls", a Maine semester school scheduled to open in 2006 for high school sophomores. We then plunged into planning our 75th anniversary celebration.

Still in store are a program, "Dress for Success", which assists women job seekers in obtaining appropriate clothing to wear for interviews; Colby College art historian, Daniel Rosenfeld, who will help prepare members for an April tour of the museum; and Barbara Walsh, Pulitzer Prize journalist. Our annual meeting in April will feature Elinor Klivens, author of *Big, Fat Cookies*. Board members plan to bake cookies, using recipes from the book, to serve with coffee.

Branch projects: Growstown School is fully booked with area 5th grade classes waiting to experience a 19th century school day. Home to Home's trained volunteers continue to supervise the transfer of children, of divorce or separation, from one parent to the other for visitation. Our Sixth Grade Mentoring program is now operating in cooperation with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Bath-Brunswick.

**Barriers to Women's Advancement**

	<b>women</b>	<b>men</b>
Lack of mentoring opportunities	70%	38%
Commitment to personal and family responsibilities	69	53
Exclusion from informal networks of communication	67	25
Lack of women role models	65	35
Failure of senior leadership to assume accountability for women's advancement	62	22
Stereotyping and preconceptions of women's roles and abilities	61	27
Lack of opportunities to take on visible and/or challenging assignments	54	12
Lack of significant general management or line experience	51	47

Source: Catalyst Newsletter, July 2001.  
www.catalystwomen.org



**Diversity Matters**  
by **Bets Brown**

The Association's Program Committee put together a diversity book list for 2005-06. I thought you might want to enjoy some of these books, which are:

**\*\*Hispanic Heritage:** *The Pearl of the Antilles* by Dr. Andrea O'Reilly. 2000. Bilingual Press.

**\*\*Disabilities:** (a) *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon. 2003. Vintage Contemporaries. Winner of the Whitbread Book of the Year Prize.  
(b) *Thinking in Pictures: and Other Reports from My Life with Autism* by Temple Grandin. 1996. Random House.

**\*\*Native American Heritage:** *The Trickster and the Troll* by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve. 1999. Nebraska Press.

**\*\*Women and the Economy:** *Nickel and Dined: On (not) Getting by in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich. 2001. Henry Holt & Co.

**\*\*Black Heritage:** (a) *The Known World* by Edward P. Jones. 2004. Amistad. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and a National Book Critics Circle Award.

(b) *Sugar's Life in the Hood: The Story of a Former Welfare Mother.* by Tracy Ehlers Bachrach and Sugar Turner. 2003. University of Texas Press.

**\*\*Women's History:** (a) *Founding Mothers* by Cokie Roberts. 2004. Harper Collins.

(b) *1,000 White Women* by Jim Fergus. 1999. St. Martin's Press.

**\*\*Asian/Pacific Heritage:** *The Red Azalea* by Anchee Min. 1994/1999, Berkley Books.

**Gender Relationships:** *TransSister Radio* by Chris Bohjalian. 2001. Vintage.

## NEWS FROM AAUW *Action Network*

Your advocacy via the AAUW *Action Network* and that of the thousands of others in our nationwide network of e-activists has helped AAUW make an impact in 2005. The growing power and reach of this network can claim some impressive achievements. Just consider that over the past year, together, we have:

- Sent over 76,000 messages to members of Congress, the Bush Administration, and media outlets. And these important emails and telephone calls supported the work of AAUW's Capitol Hill Lobby Corps, who made over 1,000 in-person visits to Congressional offices in 2005.
- More than doubled the size of the AAUW *Action Network* membership, which is not yet two years old.
- Successfully defended Social Security from efforts to privatize the system.
- Convinced the House and Senate to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act before they left for the holidays.

- Ensured that the Department of Labor continued to collect critical data on women workers.
- Passed the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act in the House.
- Protected the integrity of the filibuster in the Senate and avoided the "nuclear option" to promote a fair and balanced judiciary.
- Strengthened and improved the Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act to better assist women and girls move into nontraditional fields.

You might consider resolving in the New Year to help others speak their mind, too! Help *Action Network* grow and be even more of a force in our nation's capital. Urge your friends and family to join AAUW and AAUW's *Action Network* today!

**Take Action!** Encourage your friends to sign-up for the AAUW *Action Network*. Just follow this link [http://www.aauw.org/issue\\_advocacy/actionnetwork/join.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/issue_advocacy/actionnetwork/join.cfm).



### UPDATE ON JUDGE ALITO'S NOMINATION TO THE SUPREME COURT

Lisa M. Maatz, Director of Public Policy and Government Relations for AAUW in Washington DC, wrote to the state public policy chairs just before the December holiday. She conveyed that after careful consideration and consultation with AAUW's President, Interim Executive Director, the Association's Executive Committee, and the Association Public Policy Committee, AAUW has decided to oppose the nomination of Judge Samuel A. Alito to the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge Alito's 15 years on the appellate bench has given us an ample record on which to base our decision. AAUW's Alito position paper details the reasons for our opposition to this nomination. (Please note that this position paper will continue to be updated as more information becomes available. After the initial posting, the most recent version will be on the web site.)

In early January, AAUW will issue a press statement announcing our opposition. We will also send the press statement out on *Washington Update* and send an alert to our *Action Network* activists urging opposition emails be sent to the Senate. We will also post Alito information on the AAUW web site, including the position paper and related links. Starting on January 9, Alito's confirmation hearing will occur. This event will be followed by a Senate Judiciary Committee vote, a debate with the full Senate the week of Jan. 16 with a full vote possible as early as Jan. 20. **We hope to generate considerable member pressure against this nomination during that time.**

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### LINKS FROM WWW.AAUW.ORG

The Feminist Bookstore Network's website ([www.fembooknet.com](http://www.fembooknet.com)) includes book catalogues and a directory of feminist bookstores throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Women's eNews ([www.womensenews.org](http://www.womensenews.org)) is a nonprofit independent news service veering the issues that are of particular concern to women and is committed to delivering full and balanced reporting to Women's eNews readers.

AAUW is a member of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights ([www.civilrights.org/about/ccr](http://www.civilrights.org/about/ccr)), a group that works on affirmative action, welfare, education, and other issue important to women and families.

Enterprising women ([www.enterprisingwomenexhibit.org](http://www.enterprisingwomenexhibit.org)) brings to life the stories of intriguing women who helped shape the landscape of American business.

**WOMEN AND PHILANTHROPY: Why Women Give – (or Thinking About Fund Raising for AAUW) adapted with permission from Donna Callejon (VP of Business Development for Global Giving)**

-- submitted by Bets Brown

As you raise funds for AAUW, remember these important tips.

1. Women do not think of themselves as philanthropists. Women view their own involvement on a continuum of lasting impact, from making a difference at the mainstream end, to effecting social change at the more progressive end.
2. Women are motivated to give by:
  - \*making a difference, investing in social change
  - \*being part of a community, being involved
  - \*giving back out of feelings of gratitude
  - \*being fulfilled, having a purpose in life
  - \*seeing the impact of one's gift, knowing that resources are being used wisely
  - \*gaining a different life experience, knowing a diverse group of individuals
  - \*seeing others that are trusted involved
3. Women want to work with an organization that they can trust and that aligns with their personal goals. They look for an organization to be viable, have sound leadership, clear direction, and effective programs, to collaborate with others, to leverage resources, to be local in community, to have diverse and credible partners.
4. Effective messages must include three core take-aways relating to motives for giving:
  - \* *Lasting impact*: Donors want to know that their contributions will have a lasting impact. Making a difference is demonstrated through tangible results, working with organization that collaborate with others, leverage the donors' resources.
  - \* *Leadership*: Leadership is relevant on several levels.
    - to women's issues...increasing awareness and reading solutions
    - to women's fund...demonstrating viability and capacity to achieve
    - to individual donors...mentoring future generations
  - \* *Personal Empowerment*: By empowering themselves, women have the potential to empower others. By becoming involved, women have the potential to enrich their life experience. Women with means have a responsibility to give back and share their resources to empower others.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH REPORT**

On October 18, 2005, Ruth Sweetser, President of the Association and Barbara O'Connor, President of the Educational Foundation, updated the AAUW leadership on the progress of the search for the Executive Director. They said, "As you are aware, we initiated the search process for AAUW's next long term Executive Director (ED) following the decision by Kathy Frost to withdraw her acceptance due to unanticipated health concerns. Immediately following this announcement, we made the decision, with the full support of both the Association and Educational Foundation Boards of Directors, to appoint Michele Warholic Wetherald as the Interim Executive Director, effective August 8, 2005. A few weeks following this action, another search committee, comprised of current board members, along with representatives of the general membership, was identified and met to initiate a new national search process with the search consultants. The search committee members have reviewed the position profile and submitted recommended revisions for recruitment purposes."

During these initial stages of the search process, it became clear that the transitions in leadership, particularly at the ED level, have impacted both AAUW entities -- the Association and Educational Foundation. The strategic planning efforts as well as the multi-year programmatic effort need to move forward without losing traction. Leadership transition will weigh heavily on these efforts.

Sweetser and O'Connor continued, "Although the ED plays a critical role in the organization, simply filling the position cannot successfully accomplish all that needs to be done at this stage in AAUW's life cycle. In considering the factors stated above, the selection process becomes even more daunting, as AAUW expects an individual to provide immediate leadership both internally and externally, while learning the complex organization, its members and its history. It also has become clear that the financial constraints of the last few years and declining membership trends have taken their toll. At this time, the greatest need is continuity in leadership to help stabilize the organization and to continue momentum in moving AAUW ahead.

Michele Wetherald agreed to extend her contracted service in the Interim Executive Director (IED) role throughout this biennium (through June 30, 2007). This decision will provide the stability and continuity needed at this particular time of organizational transformation. While serving as IED, Michele will be charged with objectives including, but not limited to, addressing the administrative and transition issues, continuing momentum on the change process embarked upon during the past year, and strategic planning process initiatives.

## TOOLKIT FOR US CITIZENS INTERESTED IN HELPING TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN THE US AND ABROAD

taken from

[http://www.humantrafficking.org/help\\_center/toolkit.html](http://www.humantrafficking.org/help_center/toolkit.html)

Editor's Note: This is a small portion of the toolkit on human trafficking in the US and abroad. If you want to know more about this important and difficult issue, you can visit this web site: <http://www.humantrafficking.org/>. At this website, you can subscribe to the very informative newsletter put out by this organization.

### Human Trafficking in the US

Human Trafficking is a highly complex issue that affects potentially thousands of foreign men, women, and children in the United States. No one is certain how many people are trafficked in the United States every year. The US Government, state agencies, and various non-governmental organizations throughout the US are committed to preventing trafficking, protecting victims of trafficking and prosecuting traffickers.

It is important to know the difference between trafficking and smuggling, and the difference between trafficking and exploitation, as not all cases of labor exploitation or prostitution are instances of trafficking. The US federal statute, Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, has created guidelines for federal officials to recognize situations of trafficking, as the situations are usually extremely complex. Trained authorities and service providers, after interviewing the trafficked person, can be the best judge of whether there is a trafficking situation (instances of force, fraud, or coercion constitute sex or labor trafficking).

### American Girls as Trafficking Victims?

Underage American girls, many of them runaways or throwaways, also get caught up in forced prostitution in the US. These can also be considered instances of trafficking, though again, trained authorities and service providers would be the best judge. For more information about American girls caught up in forced prostitution, read Who Is There to Help Us? (It should be noted that despite the current depiction of trafficking on the recent *Lifetime Channel* mini-series, *Human Trafficking*, to date, there have not been any instances of American girls or boys kidnapped for the international commercial sex trade in Southeast Asia or anywhere else in the world.)

### Report Instances of Human Trafficking!

If you suspect someone has been trafficked, call the Department of Health and Human Services- sponsored, toll-free, 24 hour NATIONAL HOTLINE: +1-888-3737-888 or Department of Justice-sponsored, toll-free, 24 hour Trafficking in Persons and Worker Exploitation Task Force Complaint Line: +1-888-428-7581

These hotlines will help you determine if you have encountered victims of human trafficking, will identify local resources

available in your community to help victims, and will help you coordinate with local social service organizations.

You may also call:

- \* Your state's Attorney General victim/witness coordinator
- \* Your local FBI field office
- \* Additional information on reporting suspected cases within the U.S. can be accessed through the Department of Justice
- \* A local nongovernmental organization (NGO) which provides services to victims of trafficking in your area (if you don't see your state listed, contact [director@humantrafficking.org](mailto:director@humantrafficking.org).)

If you have information about the *COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION of a child* in the U.S. or *abroad*, you can do the following:

- \* Notify U.S. Customs and Immigration Enforcement at 1-866-DHS-2ICE or
- \* Contact your local FBI field office
- \* Report at [www.cybertipline.org](http://www.cybertipline.org)

### How to Recognize a Victim of Trafficking

*RED FLAGS TO LOOK OUT FOR A TRAFFICKING VICTIM:*

- \* Living with Employer
- \* Poor Living Conditions
- \* Multiple People in Cramped Space
- \* Inability to Speak to an Individual Alone
- \* Employer Holding Identity Documents
- \* Signs of Physical Abuse
- \* Submissive or Fearful
- \* Unpaid or Paid Very Little
- \* Under 18 and in Prostitution
- \* Heavy security at the commercial establishment including barred windows, locked doors, isolated location, electronic surveillance. Women are never seen leaving the premises unless escorted.
- \* Victims live at the same premises as the brothel or work site or are driven between quarters and "work" by a guard. For labor trafficking, victims are often prohibited from leaving the work site, which may look like a guarded compound from the outside.
- \* Victims are kept under surveillance when taken to a doctor, hospital or clinic for treatment; trafficker may act as a translator.
- \* High foot traffic especially for brothels where there may be trafficked women indicated often by a stream of men arriving and leaving the premises.

Trafficking victims are kept in bondage through a combination of fear, intimidation, abuse, and psychological controls. While each victim will have a different experience, they share common threads. Trafficking victims live a life marked by abuse, betrayal of their basic human rights, and control under their trafficker.

## STRATEGIC PROCESS BACKGROUND

The Association (AAUW) and Educational Foundation (EF) Boards of Directors decided at the beginning of this biennium, July 2005, to undertake a comprehensive strategic planning process to most effectively address the dramatically changing world in which AAUW operates.

In recognition of AAUW's traditions and expectations of equity and participation, a process has been designed that embraces the organization's values, longevity, and opportunities for future mission achievement. The strategic process will broadly represent the organization's members and external stakeholders, and is intentionally participatory to recognize the breadth and depth of the organization's relationships. The strategic process approach combines the best practices of several strategic planning methodologies to address the unique and complex organizational structure of AAUW. As a result, the AAUW strategic process will generate a powerful vision for the organization, create ownership and commitment to future directions by all stakeholders, position AAUW to set and achieve strategic directions, focus on the organization's most important functions and programs, enable the organization to methodically and continuously improve its strategic directions, and support course adjustments as a natural part of our business and annual processes.

The strategic process is driven by a core team consisting of Association and Educational Foundation board members, AAUW staff, a member convenor, and a process facilitator.

- Marcelline Barron & Krys Wulf represent the Association;
- Sally Chamberlain & Linda Silakoski represent the Education Foundation;
- Christy Jones & Erica Santiago represent staff, and,
- Pam Collins, AAUW member, is a member convenor.
- Donna Lucas, a senior consultant with The Perspectives Group, serves in the capacity of the process facilitator.

The strategic process kick-off meeting convened November 5-6 in Washington, D.C., where the Core Team further outlined the strategic process components and defined process benchmarks, identified member and external constituencies with whom to reach out to between December and February, developed key questions for the constituent groups, developed a process for the engagement of branch members in an organization-wide values conversation, and agreed on processes to ensure consistent communication with members and leaders. A strategic plan will be produced by June 30, 2006.

### *Strategic Plan Key Messages - November 6, 2005*

We decided to undertake a strategic process to ensure that AAUW is able to successfully adapt in the dramatically changing world, ensuring that we remain vital, sustainable, and able to achieve our mission.

- *In 2006, we celebrate our 125-year legacy of making a difference for women and girls. This legacy is the foundation of our future.*
- *We have known for some time that our membership is aging and we continue to have some difficulty attracting and retaining diverse and younger members.*
- *As of 2003, just 12 percent of our branch members were younger than the age of 55 and only eight percent of our branch members are women of color; by 2040, 50 percent of the U.S. population will be minority.*

The AAUW strategic process is broadly participatory and disciplined. The strategic process will engage members and leaders at all levels as well as external stakeholders that AAUW will engage in the future.

Members may partner in the strategic process through:

- *Participation in the Future Focus Groups at convention; your feedback was the first step in this process – thank you!*
- *Completion of the Every Member Poll by January 2006.*
- *Leading a values discussion in the branches between December 2005 and February 2006 (support questions and instructions will be provided).*
- *Sharing your strategic process suggestions and concerns via soon to be announced e-mail or on the AAUW Strategic Process Blog (stay tuned!)*

The plan development process began in November 2005 and ends June 2006.

- *The plan will outline strategic directions and strategies to achieve those directions over the next three, five, and 10 years.*
- *Strategic directions will be tested with members at state and regional meetings.*

The Boards and the Core Team will communicate progress consistently. Communications will be shared with members on a monthly basis via the EdEqChange. Additional communication methods utilizing the website and blogs will be announced soon.

The strategic plan is a catalyst supporting long-term positioning of AAUW. It will take AAUW three to 10+ years to realize the benefits and investments of our defined and targeted strategic directions.

## SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBERS: Nancy Hutchinson



If you've been to a state board meeting or state convention in recent years, you've probably met Nancy Hutchinson, who is a dedicated Chair of the Educational Foundation (EF) and Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) for

AAUW of Maine. She's the one with the beautiful white hair and welcoming smile. She brings us news of AAUW deadlines and faithfully gathers our donations to our favorite of causes – equity and education for women and girls.

Nancy has been an AAUW member for 35 years, when, in 1970, she graduated from Ricker College in Houlton. She has served as President and EF/LAF chair for the Houlton Branch. Her college career was interrupted early on when she married and had four children. She returned to college when her youngest was in kindergarten. She was valedictorian of her class at Ricker. Of that she says, "Everybody hated me because they said I ruined the curve."

She had known about AAUW for many years. The Houlton Branch of AAUW always gave a Christmas tea for local women who were away at college to encourage them to continue their education. Nancy says, "It was the thing to do to be invited to that." She was invited and has enjoyed her years in the organization. She values her connection with other women on various events occurring around the world and the intellectual camaraderie of AAUW.

Born in St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Nancy grew up in Houlton. She majored in English and loved everything to which she was exposed. Three years ago she retired from 32 years of teaching at the elementary school level in the Houlton Schools District, primarily in Monticello, Maine. She taught language arts in the early years and later she taught all subjects. She especially enjoyed teaching fourth grade.

Nancy Hutchinson's Book Recommendation: *The Island at the Center of the World: The Epic Story of Dutch Manhattan and the Forgotten Colony That Shaped America* (Vintage) -- by Russell Shorto.

## Who Did This?

### How Well Do You Know Women's Herstory?

(match numbered items with lettered items)

1. Started the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia
2. First African-American woman appointed as a member of a presidential cabinet, Secretary of Department of Housing and Urban Development and of the Department of Health and Human Services
3. One of the most gifted sculptors of 20<sup>th</sup> century. Her work consisted of geometrically carved, recycled, and painted wood objects arranged in stacked boxes to form sculptural walls.
4. Actress who won her fame for her elegance and grace, first appearing in *Gigi*, and who worked as a goodwill ambassador for UNICEF
5. The greatest female poet of the 19<sup>th</sup> century who wrote over 1,700 poems
6. In 1910, first woman to make a solo flight

- |                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| A. Patricia Roberts Harris | D. Emily Dickinson |
| B. Juliette Gordon Low     | E. Audrey Hepburn  |
| C. Blanche Stuart Scott    | F. Louise Nevelson |

ANSWERS ON PAGE 4

## BASKETS BASKETS BASKETS: BRANCHES OF BASKETS, BRANCHES BASKETING, AND BASKETS BRANCHING

The 2006 convention will be a very exciting one, one that is well worth your time to attend. We will have outstanding speakers, provide information that will stimulate your intellect, offer many new ideas, provide updates on women's activities in Maine and beyond, and raise funds for the Educational Foundation and Legal Advocacy Fund.

SO WHAT'S NEW? **EACH** branch is asked to bring a basket for raffling at the convention. In lieu of bringing contributions to one or two baskets, each branch will bring a basket with goodies for women and reflective of our lives and our AAUW themes. So branch members, plan ahead for this. Let's have some fun with this and see which branch raises the most money for our favorite cause.

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All mailing labels are prepared by AAUW Headquarters.  
Please send all address corrections directly to:

**AAUW Members Records Office**  
**1111 Sixteenth Street, NW**  
**Washington, DC 20036**

**EDITOR'S NOTE:**

- Next deadline for the *Dawn Breaker* is March 10, 2006.
- We are pondering putting state board members names and contact information in the newsletter. If you are a state board member and do NOT want this to happen, let me know by March 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](mailto:wilbro@pivot.net) or, if on the rare occasion that your email bounces back, you can email me at [bbrown@colby.edu](mailto:bbrown@colby.edu).
- 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.