



AAUW ARKANSAS

FALL 2013 ISSUE

THE DIAMOND



**Sept. '13 Board Meeting
(from left to right)**
Victoria Leigh
Maria Jones
Shirley Breeze
Heather Schneller
Cathy Luck
Susan Brayford
Pamela Burns
Deb Wade
Kathryn Buri
Maureen Terrafranca

President's Message

Dr. Deborly Wade

Looking back over my calendar, this has been an amazing year. From the national champion for working women's wages, Lilly Ledbetter, to the international women's peace Nobel laureate, Leymah Gbowee, our state has been graced with the presence of influential leaders of women's rights. Even President Clinton paid Arkansas a visit recently to discuss the new health care law, and was introduced by Little Rock AAUW member and NCCWSL delegate Mara D'Amico. Arkansas has become the destination of prominent public figures, and the women of Arkansas AAUW are seeing history made daily. There are too many women's events happening in our state to mention them all here. Don't miss out on these and other important activities! Stay informed and involved with your branch and Arkansas AAUW by checking the AAUW websites regularly and corresponding with other AAUW members. Do your part to help AAUW grow by mentioning your organization to other women in your community. THANK YOU for all you do for AAUW, and for allowing me to serve as your president.

Mark your calendars!!

ARKANSAS/OKLAHOMA STATE CONVENTION

April 4-6th in Bella Vista, Arkansas

It is 3 days this year instead of two because Oklahoma normally hosts a 3 day convention. In the spirit of compromise, Arkansas has requested the bulk of the Convention events be April 4th and 5th.

A tour of Crystal Bridges will be included!

CONWAY

Immediate past PRESIDENT:
Dr. Anette Greenland

April: A photograph of and biographical information about Dr. Jewel Moore, Conway Branch's 50-year-plus member, were included in Kathryn Buril's presentation honoring the state's 50-year members at the Arkansas AAUW State Convention in Little Rock.

June: Conway Branch's annual meeting was held June 22 at the home of Frances Hendricks. All except Jewel and 48-year member Virginia Guffey were present.

Deb was elected president/administrative officer, succeeding Annette, and Annette was elected treasurer/financial officer, succeeding Deb. Deb added College University Relations to her title and Annette added AAUW Funds to hers.

July: MBHL Jewel's membership was renewed for her 52nd year.

September: A new application form for Mavis Standefer scholarships has been developed for the fall semester and delivered to the financial-aid offices of Central Baptist College, Hendrix College, and the University of Central Arkansas. Annette led the revision process, basing it on the much-used previous form, on ideas from Amanda's 2012 revision, and on recent suggestions and reactions from Deb, Frances, Dorothy, and Ann. The new form requires "an essay (100-200 words) telling why you decided to go to college, what influences led you to this decision, and how your chosen course of study will help you reach your ultimate goals." A history of the Standefer program includes the significance of member Ruth Byrne Dotson's 1999 bequest.

15 years ago -

[Theresa Anne] Cleary concluded that those who are concerned with the education of young women need to develop programs that will enable them to perform better on more complex tests.

Gender Gaps, AAUW, 1998, p. 35

AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT

Contributed by Shirley Breeze

AAUW national conventions are exciting on many levels. First, there is the excitement of electing a new board; then, there are always announcements about new programs and initiatives. And there are the many workshops, speakers, and other educational features which provide background for our work on AAUW's mission and action.

Patricia Fae Ho was elected president and Julia Brown vice-president. They will be a formidable team as they lead AAUW for the next two years. AAUW is fortunate to have so many qualified women to serve in all leadership capacities.



The entire Arkansas delegation at National Convention: Felisha Perrodin, Sue O'Neal, Becky Gifford, Maria Jones, Meg Koziar, Linnie Rohrer, Deb Wade and Berta Seitz with our official convention umbrella.



AAUW Fayetteville and AAUW Hot Springs at the Opening Dinner of National Convention



Becky Gifford and Meg Koziar ready to sample New Orleans cuisine at the AAUW National Convention.

It was announced that AAUW has been awarded the highest ranking (excellent) from the top five charity rating organizations. It currently has the highest number ever of college/university partners 813. The recent NCCWSL conference for young women had the highest attendance ever over 700 attendees. Many of these attendees were supported by branches and states across the US. A total of 278 fellowships and grants worth \$4.3 million were awarded last year. There are 10 new branches; currently, there are 165,000 members and supporters and the totals are rising. In the survey of membership chairs, 84% reported using mission-based programming. Tech Trek applications will be solicited for 2014. A grant of \$105,000 from Praxair will support Tech Savvy. Full-time, experienced state organizers will be hired.

AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT (continued)

Work Continues on Passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act. There are 46 Senate Sponsors and 197 House Sponsors.

The Annual Starter Kit (the white binder) and public policy brochure will be available shortly. Again this year, an Every Member Survey will be distributed to elicit input from members for direction on issues and programs. It was also announced there will be two new research reports in the coming years; topics of these reports were not revealed.



**Felisha Harper Perodin, Maria Jones, Deb Wade @
2013 National Convention**

**AAUW National Secretary
Connie Hildebrand and AAUW
Arkansas President Dr. Deb
Wade**



Lilly Ledbetter's book is in the planning stages for a movie!!!!



State Convention attendees!

AAUW's Mission:

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

AAUW's Vision:

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research and philanthropy and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

JONESBORO

President: Mona L. Fielder

2013-2014 plans for the Jonesboro AAUW Branch include continuing programs that have been successful in the past; the Head Start Reading at two sites, Micro-Society Magnet School reading volunteers, voter registration at county wide high schools, and support for selected Christmas family. A new activity will include support and activities for member Melissa Richardson, who is running for the non-partisan position of Circuit Court Judge. Evelyn Nelsen, chairperson of the Legislative/Political Committee will have more information closer to the election. We have two changes in our officers, Virginia Shackelford, Treasurer, and Lynda Bowman is Vice President/Membership Chairperson.

FAYETTEVILLE

PRESIDENT: Heather Schneller

The Fayetteville Branch has been busy preparing for the 2013 NWA Gridiron. The Northwest Arkansas Gridiron, started by regional journalists in 1978, produces a satirical cabaret each year in cooperation with the American Association of University Women. Money raised from sale of tickets to the show goes to scholarship programs of the organizations as well as other programs supported them. We recently awarded scholarships to two University of Arkansas students. Our first recipient, Ms. Maria Lopez-Solis is a junior biomedical engineering/pre-med major from Van Buren, Arkansas. She plans on studying abroad in the Dominican Republic participating in a summer community public health program where she will have the opportunity to learn Spanish medical terminology and participate in a clinical rotation. Our second recipient, Ms. Yin Cai, is a junior dietetics major and heavily involved in the International Culture Team and is preparing for the national dietitian exam. In her spare time, she volunteers at the Fayetteville Tricycle Farm where she presents nutrition information to farm visitors. Upcoming programs for this fall include Dr. Stephen Smith discussing the rhetoric of women.

15 years ago -

Among those states that have mentioned equity specifically in their standards, few have developed implementation strategies to make sure that all students can reach the new standards.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO DR. ANNETTE GREENLAND FOR THE BRIGHTENER BOXES!

15 years ago -

In addition, schools have done little to encourage girls to exercise, cutting physical education requirements instead.

Gender Gaps, AAUW, 1998, p. 79

Arkansas-Oklahoma State Convention Report

Contributed by Cathy Luck

“Rosie the Riveter” is the image chosen to remind you of the upcoming two state convention. Our theme is “Working Women in America: Now and Then”. Tours of Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art (where “Rosie” is in residence) and new Northwest Arkansas Community College facilities will be included. Representatives of various working women’s fellowships, small and large businesses in the Bentonville-Rogers area are being recruited to speak and/or participate in a panel discussion. Information will be given on programs for teen girls - Tech Trek in Oklahoma and Girls of Promise in Arkansas. National AAUW President Patricia Ho will be speak on behalf of the organization. Catherine Luck (Arkansas) caluck@sbcglobal.net and Rose Unterschuetz (Oklahoma) tulsarose@sbcglobal.net are spearheading convention planning if you have questions or would like to contribute suggestions.

ARKANSAS AAUW TREASURER’S REPORT

7/01/13 to 8/31/13

OPENING BALANCE	\$8,655.72
INCOME	
Dues	\$504.00
Impact Grant 10-11	\$500.00
TOTAL INCOME + Carry Over	\$9,659.72
EXPENSES	
Web Hosting	\$20.00
Impact Grant 09-10	\$150.10
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$170.10
ENDING BALANCE	\$9489.62

League of Women Voters
<http://lwv-arkansas.org/action.html>

ARKANSAS AAUW MEMBERSHIP PER NATIONAL MEMBER ROSTER

AS OF AUGUST 31. 2013

	<u>MOB Renewals</u>	<u>MBL</u>	<u>MBHL</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Total</u>
BBV		2			2
Conway	5	1	1		7
Fayetteville	28	1	1		30
Hot Springs	81	6	3	2	92
Jonesboro	19		1	1	21
Little Rock	39	4	4	4	41

Total Members for Arkansas AAUW: 193

Submitted by Maria Jones, Treasurer

Rally for Reproductive Justice – 1/18/14

Contributed by Roz Tobin

Create a slogan for the 2014 Arkansas Coalition for Reproductive Justice Rally. Winning slogan will be put on T-shirts worn at the rally.

IDEAS:

What Reproductive Justice means to you
Message to send to the Arkansas Legislature
Benefits of Reproductive Justice
What happens if Reproductive Rights are lost

CONTEST RULES:

Entries must be submitted no later than October 13.
Send your entry to ACforRJ@gmail.com .
Only one entry per person.
Popular voting from October 20 to November 17.

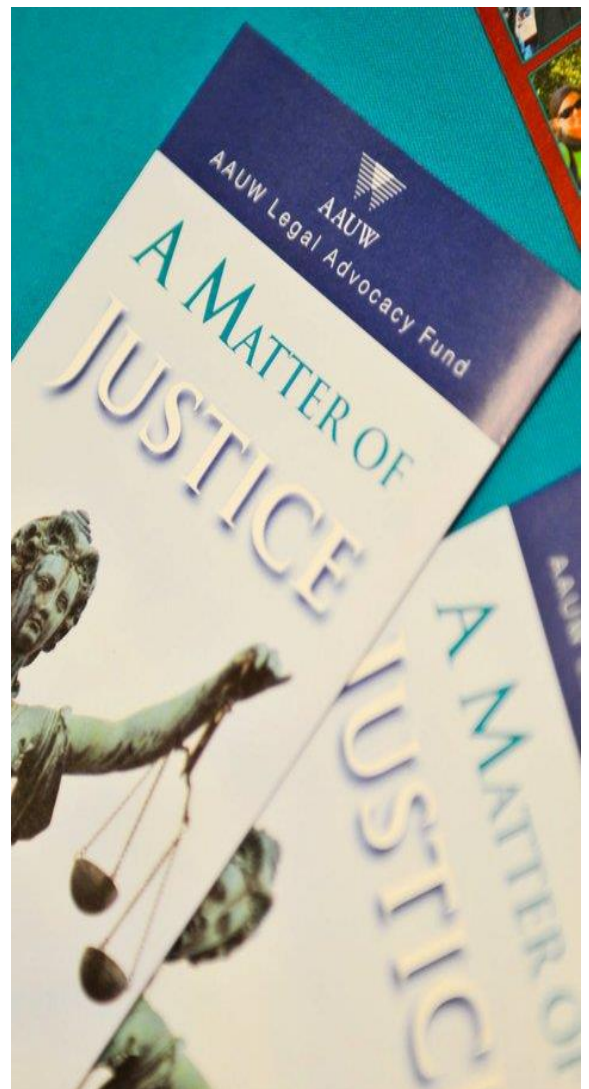
FACEBOOK PAGE:

<http://tinyurl.com/ACRJtshirtcontest>
<https://www.facebook.com/events/427851837325396/>

PRIZES:

The ACRJ T-shirt slogan Contest winner will receive a free T-shirt and be recognized at the 2014 Rally.

Winning T-shirts will be available for purchase on – [Zazzle.com/Reproductive Justice](http://Zazzle.com/ReproductiveJustice) after November 22.



I had such a wonderful time at the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders 2013 at the University of Maryland, College Park! A heartfelt thanks for providing me with the opportunity and financial support to attend the conference. Without the support, I would not have been able to attend, since the cost of coming from Nicaragua, where I am spending the summer, would have been too high.

I headed to NCCWSL with the expectation of making some connections with fellow student leaders, attending some workshops that were relevant to my women's leadership interests, and coming away with some valuable resources. From the opening session and throughout the conference, my expectations were exceeded. After taking every mode of transportation – bus, ferry, truck, airplane, train, taxi – to get from Ometepe Island in Nicaragua to the University of Maryland in College Park, I was ready to dig in.

AAUW Little Rock and AAUW National provided scholarships for our own Clinton School Student to attend "NCCWSL."



The opening session began with a warm welcome and a large-group discussion of issues that are pertinent to us as women leaders. So frequently, women are not asked our opinions on serious issues, or we keep them to ourselves out of fear. In this session, we were asked if we identify as feminists and why or why not, if we believe there will be a female president in our lifetime and who it will be, if we are optimistic or pessimistic when we think about our generation and why, if we are optimistic or pessimistic when we think about congress and why, and more. We were expected to stand up when we identified with a statement, and to defend our positions. I was so impressed by the strong voices of the women around me. From there, we went to group networking, where we were able to discuss these questions more deeply in small group settings. I was happy that a conference for women leaders began by asking us our opinions, and by giving us a chance to share our thoughts with others. It set a precedent for the rest of the conference.

There were a number of inspirational women who gave keynote speeches, received recognition for their work, and took the time to speak with us individually and answer questions. At the Women of Distinction award ceremony, I had the opportunity to speak with Donna Shalala and Ritu Sharma, and invite them to speak at the Clinton School. I listened to Rachel Simmons' struggle to find what really made her happy, and her words were exactly what I needed to hear in that moment for a decision I was struggling with.

Finally, there was a wide breadth of topics for workshops. Perhaps the hardest part was choosing which workshops to attend! One gave me tools to recruit and keep donors within an organization or for a political campaign. Another was a group discussion on feminism, how the movement has evolved, claiming the feminist label, and what needs to be done moving forward. Finally, I learned about the barriers that face young women in deciding to run for political office, ways in which these barriers can be overcome, and resources for women seeking elected positions.

I am incredibly grateful for this experience, and for the support of the AAUW at the local and national level. I was able to connect with some younger women and share my experience and insight with them a few years out of undergrad, and took away some information and skills that are valuable for me at this point in my life. Thank you so much for this opportunity and experience! I will continue to be involved with AAUW and NCCWSL moving forward, and will absolutely put to use what I learned at the conference.

WOMEN LEAD ARKANSAS
CONTRIBUTED BY STEPHANIE HARRIS

“Women Lead Arkansas” is a non-partisan non-profit organization founded in July, 2013 by a new AAUW member! The non-profit’s is working to raise awareness throughout the state about the economic status of women. The goals are to encourage and train girls and women to get involved in politics, policy, and leadership. A website is being developed, but WLA can currently be found on Facebook and Twitter. Please consider becoming involved whether by “liking” us on facebook or volunteering to participate or lead a session to encourage Arkansans to work to increase the economic status of women in Arkansas or anything in between! Email may be sent to womenleadarkansas@gmail.com.

BENTONVILLE/BELLA VISTA
PRESIDENT: Cathy Luck

Two \$500 scholarships were given to women in June for use during the 2013-2014 school year. Pictured at our luncheon (seated left) are Maura Barrientos, NorthWest Arkansas Community College (NWACC) Student, with AAUW members Sue O’Neal (seated), Linda Farrell, Diana Hoke, Cathy Luck (standing left to right) Also pictured are Sue O’Neal and Diana Hoke with the Certificate of Honor from National AAUW celebrating our 40th anniversary in March 2013. A small group of branch members meets once a month to discuss global issues. Our branch has voted to investigate becoming an online branch encouraging members with special interests (like global issues) to meet on their own. Dr. Meredith Brunen and Dr. Jessica Park held meetings at NWACC last spring to determine interest in staff/faculty or student branch with little response. The college is not renewing their College University Partnership due to lack of student branch interest. All students in Arkansas reminded that AAUW student affiliation can be done online without the involvement of their institution.

RECOMMENDED READING
CONTRIBUTED BY DEB WADE

Grace and Grit – My fight for equal pay and fairness at Goodyear and beyond. By Lilly Ledbetter with Lanier Scott Isom. I purchased the book August 22nd at the Little Rock Library after the AAUW Meet and Greet. Many parts of her story reminded me of my own struggles as a working woman and mother. While I expected to read about the workplace discrimination she experienced, I didn’t anticipate reading her personal reflections of guilt for sacrificing precious family time for a career. As a single parent, I felt those same emotions washing over me as I thought about the demands of college while my children were young, followed by an even more demanding teaching career during their teenage years. Lilly reminds us in her book that much still remains to be done before women achieve not only equal pay, but work-life balance.

In addition to her story, Lilly has included copies of The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Restoration Act, The Paycheck Fairness Act (bill), an explanation of the EEOC process, a list of advocacy organizations – including AAUW, her “further reading” list, and an index. **THIS BOOK SHOULD BE IN EVERY LIBRARY!!**

HOT SPRINGS

PRESIDENT: Susan Brayford

The Hot Springs/Hot Springs Village Branch celebrated its 90th anniversary at our April 2013 meeting. Because we couldn't honor any original members in person, we honored four 20-year members – Pat Maack-Ormsbee, Meg Koziar, Velma Collidge, and Maryls Moodie Dodson – who were the first ones associated with the Hot Springs Village part of the Branch. Meg, our resident historian and grand story-teller, related a bit of Branch history to the rest of us who were enjoying cake.

At our January meeting, we heard an insightful presentation given by Anais Troadec. A former international aid worker, Anais now volunteers with WinRock International and travels to African countries to promote economic and agricultural development and to help improve the lives of women and children. During her presentation, Anais reported on her recent trip to Guinea where childhood education takes a back seat to social and political issues. Even when families want to send their children to school, the schoolrooms lack basic equipment. Anais told us that children did not have places to sit in a classroom, so she started a project to build benches. Those of us attending her presentation voted to collect donations to help the bench-building effort. In a few short weeks, the Branch raised over \$1400 and presented a check to Anais for benches and school uniforms. Anais commented, "I spoke about the culture, tradition and women's issues in this small village, and about the school. I had asked for donations for school benches and uniforms (especially for girls) so that more children can attend school in the little village. What a surprise when they gave me this check today!" Before heading back to Africa, Anais decided to become a member of our Branch – a true win-win situation.



Too many people to identify, but this is a typical Tuesday in Hot Springs – Book sorting in preparation for the annual Book Sale! So many books, so little time!

HOT SPRINGS, Continued

This summer, three of our Branch members attended the AAUW National Convention in New Orleans. Becky Gifford, Meg Koziar, and Linney Rohrer had many good things to report about the Convention; Meg was especially enthusiastic about the archiving workshop and will likely put those skills to work in our Branch.

During the past few months, several members of our Branch have been busy establishing a social media presence on the web. We now have a working website (<http://hshsv-ar.aauw.net/>), a Twitter feed, and a Facebook page. Ronnie Zuege is our Webmaster and Paula Alan is updating our Twitter feed and Facebook postings.

Our annual Book Sale is scheduled for Friday and Saturday October 11-12. We have been collecting and sorting books for several months to prepare for this fundraiser. The increasing popularity of electronic books makes it more difficult to raise the amount of money we want for scholarships. As a result, we are supplementing the book sale proceeds with money raised in a raffle and by selling corporate and individual sponsorships. This will enable the Branch to continue providing scholarships to deserving students at National Park Community College and to deserving graduates who are going on to a 4-year college.



Hot Springs Members celebrating their 90th anniversary as a chapter!
from left to right - Pat Maack- Ormsbee, Meg Koziar, Velma Coolidge, and Marlys Moodie Dodson.



The three Hot Springs Members who attended National Convention – from left to right: Linnie Rohrer, Becky Gifford, and Meg Koziar

LITTLE ROCK

PRESIDENT: Maria Jones

The AAUW Little Rock, Inc. branch has been very active in 2013. We joined other organizations to sponsor of the Rally for Reproductive Justice in January. We were pleased to host and provide registration for the biannual AAUW Arkansas Lobby Day, which was re-named "Arkansas Legislative Day" and broadened this year to include many other organizations. We also attended legislative committee meetings, additional rallies, and wrote our legislators during a very frustrating legislative session. In March we assisted with the Women's Foundation Girls of Promise event at UALR, including providing the keynote speaker. The branch also hosted the state convention in April, "Access to Justice" which focused on workplace discrimination. We sponsored a student from the Clinton School of Public Service to the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders.



LR Branch members @ September Meeting: Thelma Carter, Stephanie Johnson, Mara D'Amico, Maria Jones, & Stephanie Harris. We also had two visitors from the Clinton School!

We also said goodbye to honorary 50-year life member, Dr. Dorothy Truex, and to former branch president Beverly Angrand who passed away this year. Both women made lasting contributions to the Little Rock branch and are missed very much.

This membership year we have already held a reception which recruited eight new members and marked the anniversary of Women's Equality Day. That same night we turned out in great numbers to hear Lilly Ledbetter speak at the Central Arkansas Library, with many members now possessing signed copies of her book.

Branch efforts this year will include efforts to identify and assist voters who are at risk of disenfranchisement from the new voter ID laws; increasing involvement of college-age women in AAUW leadership programs; and addressing how to make the new health insurance exchanges work for those in need of health insurance.



Lilly Ledbetter speaking in Little Rock at the same time as the LR Branch Annual Meet and Greet!



LR Annual Meet and Greet which corresponded with Lilly Ledbetter's speaking engagement at Little Rock Library – Main

AAUW Little Rock Branch Members took advantage of a golden opportunity to see, hear and visit with the legendary Lilly Ledbetter on August 22nd at the Central Arkansas Library in Little Rock.

The branch held their annual meet and greet membership event as a reception prior to a lecture scheduled by the Library. Six people joined the branch through the Shape the Future program. Membership Vice President Lottie Adams organized and executed an extra special buffet of treats. Decorations included Women's Equality Day posters. After the reception, members gathered with a crowd of over 100 people to hear Ms. Ledbetter speak. She related story after story. Everyone was energized and armed with new vigor, information, and insights to pursue equal pay for women. She answered audience questions, then signed books and visited with everyone who wanted to speak with her.

What a way to celebrate Women's Equality Day!

AAUW CALENDAR

2013

October 5	Registration Deadline for Gender Studies Symposium
October 12-14	Hot Springs Branch Book Sale
October 15	Deadline for Application For LAF Plaintiff
October 26	Gender Studies Symposium
December 1	Deadline for International <u>Fellowships Applications</u>
December 15	Deadline for Career Development Grants Applications
December 31	Deadline for 2013 Shape the Future 2014 Campaign

2014

January 10	Deadline for Selected Professions Fellowships Apps
January 15	Deadline for Community Action Grants Applications
January 18	Rally for Reproductive Justice @ Arkansas Capitol
February 14	One Billion Rising National Events
March	Women's History Month
March 1	Arkansas State Board Meeting in LR
March 8	International Women's Day
April 8	Equal Pay Day
June 5-7	NCCWSL
June-July	Implementation of New Fundraising Policies
June 30	Shape the Future 2013 Memberships Expire

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

President: Dr. Deborly Wade
Treasurer: Maria Jones
Secretary: Kathryn Buril
VP of Programs: Cathy Luck
VP/Membership: Maureen Terrafranca
Public Policy Chair: Berta Seitz
Funds Chair: Kathryn Buril

EDITOR: Victoria Leigh
COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR,
Arkansas AAUW State Board

For questions, concerns, or to contribute content, contact her at:
vleigh7@gmail.com