

## Chance to meet some SC authors among highlights of annual meeting

AAUW of South Carolina will hold its annual meeting on March 29, 2014 in the Columbia area. All members at both the state and national level are invited to participate in this gathering.

Along with routine business of the organization, there will be an opportunity to hear from two very special guests.

**Rachel Whitmire**, a student at Erskine College, was the recipient of the AAUW of SC's 2013 scholarship to attend AAUW's National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). Rachel will share her experiences with us along with how she has taken those experiences to promote leadership among her fellow students.

The keynote speaker will be **Kathryn Wall**. Wall is the author of twelve Bay Tanner mysteries, including *St. John's Folly*, from Bella Rosa Books. All the novels are set on Hilton Head Island and in the surrounding South Carolina Lowcountry. She will share with us her world of writing and publishing in today's "e-world." Kathryn's books will be available to purchase and to autograph.



Two other South Carolina authors will join the event – **JoAnn Simson** and **Penny Travis** – and be available for you to meet during the lunch break.

In addition, **Pat Batten** and **Lois Schuhrke**, members of the Hilton Head Branch, will provide information on how their branch implemented a science camp for girls in their

community last summer.

Following lunch there will be a business meeting.

More information about our speakers, a timeline for the day's activities and registration form can be found on next two pages. The cost for the meeting is \$20 and includes lunch and materials. *Registrations are due by March 22.*

### AAUW of SC Annual Meeting

March 29, 2014

10:00 am – 2:30 pm

*All members are invited to attend.*

**Grecian Gardens Restaurant**

2312 Sunset Blvd

West Columbia, SC 29169

*Exit 110, I-26 at US 378 – East on 378*

**Cost is \$20 and includes lunch.**

*Please register your attendance by completing the registration form on page 3 and mailing by March 22.*

## Still time to register for Legislative Advocacy Day – Feb. 18 *Registration Deadline is February 8*

The annual **Legislative Advocacy Day** is set for February 18 from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm in Columbia at Epworth Children's Home, 2900 Millwood Ave., Columbia. The theme for the day's activities is **Educating All of Our Children**.

Once again AAUW of SC is cosponsoring this event with the SC Conference of United Methodist Women, an organization with a strong policy of support for public education, and Church Women United.

Workshops include *Building Education Resources Using the Assets of Disadvantaged Communities*, *Educational Advocacy* and *Mentoring – Making a Difference in the Classroom*.

Cost is \$20 and includes lunch and parking. *The deadline for registration is February 8. Registration on day of event is \$30.* Contact Rebecca Eleazer (803-754-0942) if you need to register.

## About our speakers on March 29

**Kathryn R. Wall** wrote her first story at the age of six then decided to take a few decades off. She grew up in a small town in northeastern Ohio and attended college there and in Pennsylvania. For twenty-five years she practiced her profession as an accountant in both public and private practice. In 1994, she and her late husband, Norman, retired to Hilton Head Island.

Wall has been a mentor in the Hilton Head schools and has served on the board of directors of Literacy Volunteers of the Lowcountry. She is a founder of the Island Writers Network and served as national treasurer for Sisters in Crime. She has two stepsons, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

The other authors present for the day are **Jo Ann Simson** and **Penny Travis**. They will be offering their books during the lunch break.

Simson has written *What's the Difference: Embracing Diversity and Inclusivity*; *The God Who Says I Am*; and *Korea, Are You At Peace? Tales of Two Women Travelers in a Troubled Land*. Dr. Simson is a retired Professor of Anatomy from the Medical University of South Carolina, a world traveler and taught military personnel all over the world on military campuses for the University of Maryland.

Travis has authored *My Year in Afghanistan*. She is a Professor of Chemistry and a world traveler.

**Rachel Whitmire** was chosen for the 2013 NCCWSL scholarship. She joined more than 700 women student leaders from throughout the nation in the three-day event in Maryland with the theme "Finding Your Voice."

Through such national women leaders as Donna Shalala, she heard such useful advice as: "Network, network, network," "Learn to listen, listen to learn," "If you haven't failed, you haven't done anything," "You have to take the risks; that's when you grow," and "Have a passion for what you believe in."

"I'm grateful to AAUW for enabling me to attend this conference," Rachel said. "I would recommend it for any student." A chemistry major, she plans to attend pharmacy school following graduation. Rachel has already taken advantage of free e-membership in AAUW and plans to actively encourage Erskine students to join.



Last year the **Hilton Head Branch** entered a partnership with two local cultural institutions, the Coastal Discovery Museum and the Arts Center of Coastal Carolina. These two organizations have strong resources in education and community outreach, and were well positioned to provide a unique educational experience for our group of girls.

The result of the collaboration was a week-long program, "**The Art and Science of Lowcountry Nature**," that offered hands-on experience in art, science and local ecology for the participating girls.

At the weeks' end, each participant received a certificate of completion and a T-shirt that proclaimed *Girls Are Awesome* with the new AAUW logo incorporated in the design. The smiles and pride displayed by this group of youngsters were so heart-warming that all of our partner organizations have committed to repeating the program next summer, funds permitting.

The Branch paid approximately \$1,000 to reimburse the three partner organizations for their staff time and resources.

## AAUW of SC Annual Meeting Schedule of the Day March 29, 2014

10:00-10:15

**Welcome and Introductions**

10:15-10:45

**Creating a Science Camp for Girls  
in Your Community**

Pat Batten & Lois Schuhrke, Hilton Head Branch

10:45-11:30

**Keynote Speaker  
Kathryn Wall, Author**

11:35-12:00

**Rachel Whitmire**

Scholarship Recipient,  
National Conference of College Women Student Leaders

12:30-1:15

**Lunch**

Meet authors and share discussions

1:20-2:20

**Business Meeting**

Appointment of minutes recorder

Financial Reports

Approval of 2014-2015 Budget

Committee Reports

AAUW Funds Awards

Advocacy

Communications

Member Support

Elections

2:30

**Adjourn**

## AAUW of SC needs candidate for president 2014-2015



In April 2011, members of AAUW of SC voted in a new structure for our state organization. The reorganization was designed to streamline the number of leaders needed at the state level as well as better manage the time resources of those leaders.

We only have three elected officials – president, financial officer and past president. The other leaders at state level are chairs of committees for AAUW Funds, Advocacy, Member Support, Communications, State Meetings, and Nominating.

Some positions remain vacant even in the second year of the biennium. And on July 1, there will not be a president of our organization unless someone steps forward to serve.

Branches requested that we continue to maintain a state organization when we began examination of possible restructuring, but branch members and leaders cannot expect the state to continue without not also committing to service at the state level.

This is the second time I have served as state president and I was willing to do so again to provide leadership during the transition to the new structure. But I will be stepping down in June 2014. At this time there is no one stepping forward to ensure that our state organization continues.

**I am asking each of you to give careful consideration of service to AAUW at the state level.** With modern technology, much of our work is done by conference calls and emails. I would be happy to talk in detail with anyone interested in service at the state level.

Our state has a tremendous reputation for leadership and service to AAUW. Let's not fail that reputation now.

*Ann Scott Terry, President ([annsterry@yahoo.com](mailto:annsterry@yahoo.com))*

### Proposed Budget 2014-2015

#### INCOME

Dues (260 members@\$10)	\$2,600
Conferences	300
Miscellaneous	100
Transfer from Assets	<u>240</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$3,240</b>

#### EXPENSES

President	
Expenses	\$115
Printing/Supplies	40
Finance Officer	
Expenses	25
Bond [RESERVES]	50
Standing Committees	
AAUW Funds	150
Advocacy Committee	260
Communications Committee	
Newsletter	100
Social Media	100
Website	120
Member Support Committee	
Bylaws	15
College/University	15
Membership	15
Nominating Committee	0
State Meetings Committee	
Conferences	300
Other	25
Other Committees	30
Delegates Travel [RESERVES]	800
NCCWSL Scholarship	1000
Miscellaneous	<u>80</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,240</b>

#### Reserves Explanation:

Bond is paid every three (3) years

Delegate Travel is paid every two years

Those present at annual state meeting on March 29, 2014 will vote on this proposed budget.

### AAUW of SC State Meeting

March 29, 2014

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Branch \_\_\_\_\_ National Member ( )  
 Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration is \$20 and must be sent by March 22, 2014.**

Send this completed form and check payable to **AAUW of SC** to:

Pat Hall, 1801 Ford Road, Gaffney, SC 29340

## A meeting welcome message from AAUW President Ho



Dear AAUW Members,

On behalf of the AAUW Board of Directors, I thank you for your unfailing commitment to carrying on the important work begun by a few brave, forward-thinking women in 1881. I can't help but think they would be astonished at the legacy they created and the thousands of members today who are part of the organization they founded. Most of all, I think they

would revel in AAUW's vast network in communities nationally and globally.

There's a palpable excitement within AAUW this year. Many branches are reinvigorating and reinventing themselves, and our national leaders and staff are eager to support them. Members are enthusiastically embracing training, developed by our talented staff, in skills such as running effective programs and marketing your branch.

These resources and many more are available throughout the year, culminating in a great opportunity to advance our shared knowledge at the AAUW National Convention in San Diego, June 18–21, 2015. As those who joined us in New Orleans can testify, our national convention is an experience not to be missed. You'll leave recharged, bursting with new ideas to implement, and feeling more engaged in our AAUW community. And what a noteworthy community we are!

AAUW's presence on campuses is growing at an astonishing rate, as are the numbers of young women embracing AAUW's work of achieving equality. Along with the addition of the Younger Women's Task Force as a new AAUW-affiliated entity, we are broadening our outreach to international colleges and universities.

I hope you have a wonderful meeting! With such passionate, committed members and supporters, how could it be anything but remarkable?

Best wishes,  
Patricia Fae Ho, AAUW President

## News Around the Branches

### Due West Branch celebrates 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year

Our Branch projects support AAUW's mission of promoting education for women and girls.

In December we carried out our annual **Erskine College Exam Bag project**. In partnership with Beta Beta Beta National Biological Honor Society, members and students sold and assembled bags of goodies and comfort food delivered to students just before Fall Term Exams. Funds raised will be used to support the AAUW Fund and Erskine's Beta Beta Beta students presenting papers at scientific meetings.

Funds raised through this project also support our **Senior Women Student Recognition Dinner** scheduled for early March. This special event was established by the Due West Branch in 1959 and has been held every year since then. Senior women from area High Schools and Erskine College are honored for academic achievement. A distinguished female speaker addresses the honorees, and each student receives a Certificate of Recognition.

At the dinner this year we plan to recognize and celebrate the Branch's **55<sup>th</sup> anniversary** with a festive cake and a certificate sent to us by AAUW's National Office.

*Jan Haldeman, President*

### Greater Columbia Branch (GCB)

AAUW GCB is planning a **\$mart \$tart Workshop** in March in conjunction with the Women's Studies Program and the Leadership Institute at Columbia College. Organizing the

event is Coco Mann, C/U Liaison at Columbia College and branch members.

Congratulations to **Wendy Holmes**, our AAUW GCB **2013 Scholarship** recipient! Wendy is a student at Columbia College seeking a degree in Early Childhood Education.



Pictured to left (from left) are **Kenetta Pierce**, CC Leadership Institute; **Becky Bailey** AAUW GCB president; **Wendy Holmes**; and **Coco Mann**, Associate Professor of French and Co-director of the Gender and Women's Studies Program at Columbia College.

This meeting was held on Thursday, January 9, at Arabesque Restaurant and attended by AAUW members and other Midlands-area women

including SC League of Women Voters advocacy director, **Lynn Teague**, who provided the group with updates on the 2014 SC Legislative session.

Members of the Greater Columbia Branch have volunteered to staff an **AAUW information table** at the upcoming Legislative Day to be held on Feb. 18. Special thanks to those members for helping to spread the word about AAUW to other women in our state.

*Becky Bailey, President*

## Supporting education for all children through advocacy by Ellie Setser (Charleston), AAUW of SC Advocacy Committee Chair

In the most recent AAUW *Public Policy Program* brochures our position on public education was stated as, “to support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity and diversity.”

AAUW has always urged adequate funding of public education and opposes tax dollars going to private education or to public education charter schools that do not meet the same standards of fairness imposed on other schools.

We strongly support STEM education for girls and support Title IX which has led to an explosion of the availability of sports participation for women.

Encouraging STEM education for females can do a great deal to reduce the disparity of pay for women who still make about 77 cents on the dollar compared to men. The technical fields generally provide much better salaries than some traditional female roles.

We are in danger in South Carolina of excluding many people of limited means from college and professional schools. As an example, the tuition at the Medical University of South Carolina Dental School is a whopping \$60,000 per year and may go to \$66,000.

It seems every time a measure is adopted to provide help to students the tuition goes up, as well so that students are left with huge college loan debts in a poor job market. Will we return to the days when only wealthy families can provide college education for their children?

On the bright side, South Carolina has an excellent system of technical schools that provide direct job training often tailored to the needs of employers in the community. Here, too, females can profit from being steered toward the more technical fields that pay better than even some baccalaureate fields.

### Equal Pay Is Still An Issue

I was able to listen to a national phone call on January 29, sponsored by The Center For Working Families about pay equity for women.

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and Lilly Ledbetter spoke. Nancy Peolosi spoke of the first conference at Seneca Falls 165 years at which women in this country first met to seek equality. It has been a long struggle and there is more to be done as women make 77

cents on the dollar compared to men.

Lilly Ledbetter from Ohio also spoke about her struggle with unequal pay and told how the Supreme Court

ruled against her, saying she should have known earlier that she was being paid unfairly. Finally after a long struggle Congress passed and President Obama signed the *Lilly Ledbetter Act* allowing women to challenge any unfair pay. Ms. Ledbetter gained nothing but the satisfaction from all of her efforts over seven years.

Everyone on the phone call urged passage of the *Paycheck Fairness Act* which would require equal pay for equal work and ban retaliation against those requesting fairness and outlaw secrecy in pay matters. We were all urged to support an increase in the minimum wage, which would especially help women because women make up 2/3 of those making minimum salaries. Public pressure is essential to accomplishing these goals.



### Sharing opinions via Letters to the Editors

Late last fall, I sent the following letter to the editor to major newspapers in SC. Hopefully some of you saw it printed.

*The SC American Association of University Women urges the South Carolina Legislature to support public education with our public tax dollars.*

*We still have areas of the state with poor schools, and we cannot afford to send scarce dollars to private schools or to provide vouchers or tax credits for tuition.*

*If we give tax credits to parents paying tuition we obviously will reduce the amount of revenue the state receives. Instead, appropriate that amount to public schools.*

*We need to give more than lip service to our commitment to educating all the children of South Carolina. A democracy relies on an educated population to survive and providing a minimally adequate education is a sad commentary on our values.*

MARIE ELOISE SETSER  
Public Policy Chair



## Membership Matters

by Jan Haldeman (Due West), AAUW of SC Member Services Chair (haldeman@erskine.edu)

Here are a few timely reminder notes from AAUW's *Membership e-News*. If you have prospective members who haven't yet officially joined, here is some information for them and you, as well as helpful suggestions to apply at tax time.

### Membership Dues: Half-Year Dues: Take 50–75 Percent off National Dues This Season

Recruit new members right now at the half-off rate, and then submit membership dues after January 1 to get the \$24.50 discounted rate. This offer is valid through March 15 and applies to the current 2013–14 fiscal year, so the membership will expire June 30, 2014.

Also if you use the **Shape the Future** campaign during this same period to hold or participate in an event that's open to the public, the deal doubles! That makes national dues just \$12.25, meaning you can offer potential new members 75 percent off AAUW national dues! Regular student affiliate dues of \$17 are also eligible for these discounts. Details at [http://www.aauw.org/files/2013/06/ShapeTheFuture\\_brochure\\_web.pdf](http://www.aauw.org/files/2013/06/ShapeTheFuture_brochure_web.pdf)

### Free Membership for Winter Graduates and undergraduates

Honor a winter graduate now using the Give a Grad a Gift campaign. Remember those interns or student teachers and young family members who are recent graduates. Give them a free, one-year membership to congratulate them on their accomplishments. Undergraduates attending AAUW college/university partners join for free as e-student affiliates

directly through our national website. Membership is automatically acknowledged and renewed each year at no cost for as long as the college or university remains a partner member. After graduation, the student automatically receives one free full year of regular AAUW membership (\$49 value).

### Coming Late January 2014: Individuals Can Join Your Branch Online!

AAUW states and branches that use the Membership Payment Program will have an added benefit of new members enrolling directly online!

### Member Services Database: Get Your Tax Forms Ready — Monitor Your Giving Online

All members can monitor their membership and giving through the Member Services Database. Go to the AAUW website login page and enter your ID and password. If you do not know your ID or password, use the help features (forgot password, forgot member ID, or first-time login) located below the login box.

Then access the MSD to view your AAUW membership and giving history for your 2013 taxes.

### New Recruitment Video

Check this link for a powerful new informative three and one-half minute video available from national.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S0\\_d1BPOLbY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S0_d1BPOLbY)

## Make a Lifetime Gift to AAUW



Have you considered making a legacy gift to AAUW? Your gift will help the work of AAUW continue into the future. By providing for AAUW in your estate plans, you can become part

of the distinguished AAUW Legacy Circle.

Our multi-state Legacy Circle Chair, **Neola Waller** of the Virginia Beach (VA) Branch, became a Legacy Circle member in part because she found the process to be an excellent way to provide for AAUW for years to come. She says, "Providing for AAUW through my will is one way I can show my commitment to the AAUW of today and tomorrow. Our future is bright because of our leadership and the generosity of our members."

The simplest form of a legacy gift is a bequest, or a gift left to a charity in your will. Bequests often can allow donors to make a sizable gift to a charity that may not have been possible during their lifetime. In a simple bequest, the donor gives a stated amount to a non-profit group without attaching any conditions. Bequest language usually reads:

After fulfilling all other provisions, I hereby give, *devise, and bequeath to AAUW (Federal Tax ID #52-6037388), a charitable organization duly existing under the laws of the District of Columbia and located at 1111 Sixteenth St. NW, Washington, DC 20036, \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate [or \$\_\_\_\_\_ if a specific amount] to be used in the areas of greatest need as the board of directors may determine.*

You can also name AAUW as the beneficiary of your life insurance, bank account, stock account, or retirement plan. In addition to bequests, charitable gift annuities are available that can provide you with income during your lifetime.

Legacy Circle members from South Carolina include **Faye Edwards** (Gaffney), **Mildred Finch** (Gaffney), **Trish Johnson** (Rock Hill), **Betsy Moseley** (Greenville), **Ann Terry** (Rock Hill) and the late **Barbara Moxon** (Greater Columbia).

For more information, call Catherine Heffernan at the AAUW Planned Giving Office at 877.357.5587 or email her at [heffernanc@auw.org](mailto:heffernanc@auw.org).

## Let's Become More Visible on Facebook

by Carol Tempel (Charleston), AAUW of SC Communications Chair (carol\_tempel@bellsouth.net)

It's easy to build awareness of AAUW members and activities on Facebook. When you receive a posting from national, LIKE it and SHARE it on your timeline and other groups that value our principles. Every time you LIKE and SHARE you help boost our visibility.

So far three of our branches (Charleston, Greater Columbia, and Rock Hill) have Facebook pages along with our state and national organizations.

For continuity, start a Facebook page for your branch and use the format, AAUW: and the name of your branch. That way, when someone goggles us, they will see you too.

And finally...let's help each other boost the number of friends we have on our Facebook pages. Click on the links below and LIKE the page.

**AAUW: American Association of University Women.** (2634 national friends):

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AAUWMembers/>

**AAUW: South Carolina** (36 state friends):

<https://www.facebook.com/aauw.sc>

**AAUW: Charleston** (167 friends):

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/AAUW-Charleston-SC/187468270815>

**AAUW: Greater Columbia** (36 friends):

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/AAUW-Greater-Columbia-SC/271309632914257>

**AAUW Rock Hill** (14 friends):

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/AAUW-Rock-Hill/271005906243381>

**Challenge:** Let's try for a 50% increase of friends for our state and local branches. It's easy if you invite your friends to join the page.



## Are you a national AAUW member?

This newsletter has been sent to not only our branch members in South Carolina but also to all those who are National members of AAUW but not affiliated with a branch.

We hope that National members will consider linking with a branch in their area. We have branches in **Aiken, Beaufort, Charleston, Denmark, Due West, Gaffney, Greater Columbia, Greenville, Hilton Head, Newberry, and Rock Hill.**

Check the state website – [www.AAUW-SC.net](http://www.AAUW-SC.net) – to find the contact person in your area. Get connected with even more people who support AAUW's mission.

### AAUW of SC 2012-2013 Leadership Team Members

**Ann Terry, President**

*annsterry@yahoo.com*

**Pat Hall, Finance Officer**

*hall549@bellsouth.net*

**Pat Batten, Past President**

*ptbatten@aol.com*

**Mildred Finch, AAUW Funds Chair**

*mildredf@charter.net*

**Ellie Setser, Advocacy Committee Chair**

*RHSetser@aol.com*

**Carol Tempel, Communications Committee Chair**

*Carol\_tempel@bellsouth.net*

**Lori Glenn** – Facebook

**Pat Batten** – Website

**Ann Terry** – *Palmetto Leaf*

**Jan Haldeman, Member Support Committee chair**

**Vacant, Nominations Committee Chair**

**Vacant, State Meetings Committee chair**

If you are interested in serving at the state level, your help is very much needed.

### AAUW of SC Calendar

February 18

**Legislative Advocacy Day, Columbia**

March 1

**Deadline for submission of Named Gift**

**Honorees information**

March 10

**Deadline for nominations for NCCWSL scholarship**

March 29

**Annual meeting & program, Grecian Gardens, West Columbia, SC**

April 8

**Equal Pay Day 2014**