

Palmetto Leaf

AAUW of South Carolina Newsletter

Vol. 58, No. 3 February 2011

Breaking Educational Barriers – learn how we can make a difference at Spring Convention

by Ann Terry, Rock Hill AAUW President

Springtime in Rock Hill, SC – there is nothing more beautiful! Then couple that with a convention program jam-packed with exciting activities and thought-provoking programs and you have a winning combination for the weekend of April 29 & 30.

This year's convention program promises to inspire you with work that is being done to break barriers for students in higher education. **Winthrop University's McNair Scholars program and TriO SSS programs** work directly with disabled students and disadvantaged students to ensure that their college experience is the best possible. Students in the McNair Scholars program come from homes where they may be the first to go to college, are from low-income families or represent an under-represented group at the university.

Dr. Cheryl Fortner-Wood, director of the McNair Scholars program, will present the convention's keynote address on Saturday morning. She has also arranged for a panel of students from both programs to be with us in the afternoon to discuss their personal experiences at Winthrop. Hearing from students is always a highlight of any state meeting for AAUW members and this one promises to be yet another one.

Cassie Barber of the SC School Improvement Council will share with us the work of her organization along with participants in local school improvement councils. With their help, we can better understand how these groups work for our students and how we can become a part of those efforts.

Dr. Gail Nordmoe, vice president of AAUW, will be with us as well for the weekend and will bring us more information on the work of AAUW at the national level.

There will be a business meeting with some award presentations, along with the chance to stock up on books and jewelry during the auctions for AAUW Funds program.

And if this wasn't enough to get excited about, we're even offering a **guided city tour** on Friday afternoon and a **reception** at Rock Hill's award-winning public park, Glencairn Garden, which should be at its most beautiful with spring blooms.

Information on the speakers and hotel lodging begin on page 2. The convention business items can be found on page 3, and the registration form is found on page 4. Register early and save \$\$. Hope to see you and others from your branch in Rock Hill very soon.

A AU W Breaking Barriers Through Education

AAUW of SC Convention April 29 & 30, 2011 Hilton Garden Inn, Rock Hill, SC

Friday, April 29

<u>r riday, April 29</u>		
12:00-2:30 pm	Board Meeting, hotel; lunch	
	provided for Board members	
3:00-5:00 pm	Guided tour of Rock Hill, led by	
•	Ann Terry, Rock Hill president	
5:30-7:30 pm	Welcome Reception, hosted by Rock	
-	Hill/York County Convention &	
	Visitors Bureau and Rock Hill	
	AAUW, Glencairn Garden, casual	
	Saturday, April 30	
8:00-9:00 am		
0.00 / 000 0000	Registration	
9:00-9:10 am	Opening Remarks & Welcome	
9:10-10:10 am	Keynote Address – Breaking Barriers	
	for Disadvantaged Students:	
	Research & Practice, Dr. Cheryl	
	Fortner-Wood, Winthrop	
	University	
10:10-10:20 am	Health Break	
10:20-11:45 pm	Business Meeting, Town Hall and	
	Awards	
11:45-12:45 pm	Lunch	
12:45-1:45 pm	AAUW Update – Dr. Gail Nordmoe,	
•	Vice President, AAUW Board of	
	Directors	
1:45-2:15 pm	Civic Engagement in Public	
	Education, Cassie Barber,	
	Executive Director, SC School	
	Improvement Council	
2:15-2:30 pm	Health Break	
2:30-3:45 pm	Panel Discussion – Perspectives of	
2.50 5.45 pm	Undergraduate Women in the Midst	
	of Breaking Barriers, Winthrop	
2.45	University McNair & TRiO students	
3:45 pm	Adjournment	

Silent auction, the book and jewelry sale are on-going until the end of convention.

Speakers' Profiles

Dr. Cheryl Fortner-Wood is Director of the Winthrop University McNair Scholars Program and an Associate Professor of Psychology at Winthrop University.

She holds a Ph.D. in Child Development from Purdue, a M.A. in Psychology from Western Carolina and a B.S. in Psychology from College of Charleston.

Dr. Fortner-Wood has published extensively in her field and has collaborated

on grant proposals resulting in over 3 million dollars for programs designed to support the baccalaureate and post-baccalaureate achievements of disadvantaged undergraduates.

The **Winthrop University McNair Scholars Program** supports the research of 25 exceptional first generation, low-income, and underrepresented undergraduates.

Scheduled to participate on the *Perspectives of Undergraduate Women in the Midst of Breaking Barriers* panel are **Cayla Eagon**, **Raven Suber** and **Jasmin Sanders**. Hopefully they will be joined by students from Winthrop's **TRiO SSS program** which includes students with disabilities and focuses on post-baccalaureate works..

Cassie Barber is the Executive Director of the SC School Improvement Council. Prior to joining the SC-SIC, Cassie worked as a consultant for the SC Healthy Schools initiative at the SC Department of Education and for the Alliance for SC Children.

Cassie has a Masters degree in Human Behavior and Conflict Management from Columbia College. In 2005, she successfully completed a year-long program as SC Education Policy Fellow and now serves as

state coordinator for the program. She is also a 2009 Fellow of the

Diversity Leaders Initiative sponsored by the Riley Institute at Furman University.

AAUW of SC Convention April 29 & 30, 2011 Hilton Garden Inn 650 Tinsley Way, Rock Hill, SC (803) 325-2800

Directions to Convention Location

Directions to the Hotel are available on the Hotel's website – *www.rockhill.hgi.com*. If you need more detailed directions and do not have access to GPS or internet maps, please contact Ann Terry at *annsterry@yahoo.com*.

Lodging Information

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Hilton Garden Inn and must be booked *no later than March 28*.

Guest rooms are 99.00 plus tax.

When making reservation, use code **AAE** to receive the rate within the AAUW block.

Those wishing to make hotel reservations may do so in several ways:

- call hotel directly, (803-325-2800)
- call the toll-free number **1-800-HILTONS**
- or go online to *www.rockhill.hgi.com*.

Board Meeting Directions

The Board meeting will be held in the Board Room at the Hilton Garden Inn from 12:00-2:30 pm. Board members and branch presidents are asked to attend. Lunch will be provided.

Friday Reception Directions

The Friday evening reception will be held at The Bigger House at Glencairn Garden, 725 Crest Street, Rock Hill, SC. Directions will be provided to those who arrive on Friday for the reception.

SC School Improvement Council oversees the local school governance councils that bring parents, teachers, students (high school level) and community members to the table along with administrators to work collaboratively for school improvement. School Improvement Councils have existed in every public school in our state since 1977 and each year they provide valuable volunteer time, talent and treasure to our children and their schools. Cassie will share with us SIC's current work with schools in SC, their advocacy for public education and who may serve on these councils. Local representatives will join her to give us information about how they work at the individual school levels.



Dr. Gail Nordmoe is AAUW Vice President and an Assistant Professor in the College of Education and Health Professions at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut. She teaches graduate students who are working on their Master of Arts in Teaching Degrees. She also advises undergraduate and graduate students to explore courses in new and emerging technology as well as in educational leadership.

She received her B.A. in Sociology from University of Illinois, and her M.Ed. in Mathematics Education and her Ed.D. in Curriculum Development from Wayne State University.

Dr. Nordmoe has held a wide range of positions in education specifically at the district and school level. As an Assistant Superintendent in three different public school districts, Dr. Nordmoe has led efforts



Speakers' Profiles

Continued from page 2

to increase the participation of schools in using Data Driven Decision Making and School Improvement to raise student achievement. She has conducted numerous workshops at the national, state and local level.

For over three decades, Dr. Nordmoe has been instrumental in designing programs that encourage the participation of women and girls in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Programs. Currently she is engaged in writing materials to support the development of pre-service and in-service teachers in mathematics and multicultural education.

Special events just for you when you come to Rock Hill

by Ann Terry, Rock Hill Branch President

The Rock Hill Branch is anxious to welcome you and to provide you with the chance to see more of our wonderful town.

On Friday afternoon from 3-5 pm, I will lead a **guided tour** by tour bus to showcase some of the important and beautiful sights in Rock Hill, including Winthrop University, Glencairn Garden and Cherry Park, the downtown area and other sites along the way. There will be special treats for those joining us on the tour as well. So be sure to indicate on the registration form (*page 4*) that you plan to arrive in time to join the tour. We will leave from the hotel promptly at 3 pm.

Then from 5:30-7:30 pm the Rock Hill/York County Visitors & Convention Bureau and the Rock Hill Branch of AAUW will host a **reception at the Bigger House at Glencairn Garden**. There will be great food and fellowship in this beautifully renovated 1930s home and on the home's patio. Around 6 pm there will be a guided tour of Glencairn Garden so be sure to wear your comfortable shoes so you can enjoy Glencairn at its

AAUW SC Proposed Budget 2011-2012		
INCOME		
Dues (300 members @ \$10)	\$3,000	
Conferences	1,200	
Miscellaneous	100	
Transfer from Assets	0	
Total income	\$4,300	
EXPENSES		
AAUW Funds Chair	\$150	
Branch Services	100	
Conferences **	1,200	
Conference of State Leaders – Reserves	250	
Membership Vice President	25	
Miscellaneous	100	
Other Chairs	25	
Palmetto Leaf	1,125	
President – Expenses	100	
President – Printing Supplies	25	
Program Vice President	25	
Public Policy Brochures	50	
Public Policy Chair	200	
Travel – Delegates to AAUW Convention – Reserves	750	
Treasurer Expenses	25	
Treasurer Bond - Reserves	50	
Website	100	
Total Expenses	\$4,300	
Explanations:		
Reserves:1)Conferences – paid out every other year2)Bond is paid every 3 years		

best. There should still be lots of flowers to enjoy in this 10+ acres park. Be sure to indicate on registration form if you plan to attend.

AAUW Funds Report & Fundraisers at Convention by Pat Batten, AAUW of SC President

by r at ballen, AAUW OFSC FIESIDEIIL

It's that time of year again when we put a little "fun" in fundraiser.

We ask that you bring your "recyclable" jewelry and books to the convention to be sold to benefit the AAUW Funds and Legal Advocacy. The "leftovers" are given to the **Aiken Branch** for their book sale and to the **Hilton Head** Branch for their jewelry sale which benefits the Literacy Volunteers. It's a great opportunity to pick up books for summer reading and some "bling" for your jewelry box.

We will also have our auction to collect for *AAUW Funds*. We ask that each branch send an item (or more than one!!) for this silent auction. Branches will be given credit for the amount collected for their item(s). I bought a lovely ceramic tureen last year donated by the Beaufort Branch which sits in my dining room – you never know what "goodies" will be available! We've had everything in the past from collectible cigar boxes to edible treats!

We will also announce the state-named gift recipients as well as give a report on our over-all contributions to the funds. It continues to be a difficult economic climate. Our donations, no matter the size, will help keep our mission visible and continue to support women and girls to achieve the equity and education that they deserve.

Officer elections to be held at Spring Convention

by Pat Batten, AAUW of SC President

The nominating committee presents the following candidate for AAUW of SC officer for 2011-2013:

Juanita Mendenhall (Greater Columbia) Candidate for Membership Vice President

Juanita has been a member since 1982 both in Indiana and SC and is now a life member. In AAUW, she has served as

diversity chair, educational equity chair, and served as state secretary in 1998-99.

She helped establish the Richland County Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Council in 1998. Juanita was very involved for over 20 years and presently as an Executive Board member with the International Federation for Home Economics. She is still involved with the International Home Economics Services,



serving on the current Board of Directors as its President. This project involves working with disaster relief after hurricanes, solar cookers and education to refugees in Africa, rebuilding schools in Liberia, etc. She also has been be a delegate to the National Council on Family Relations and served as the Indiana (ICFR) president. She has served for 14 years at the Executive Director of the Kershaw County Teen Health Promotion Coalition. She is a graduate of Manchester College and Indiana University. In 2010, she was awarded the highest honor in the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, the Distinguished Service Award.

Juanita was recipient of the AAUW Named Gift Honoree award from the Greater Columbia Branch in 1997. She received the *Eleanor Roosevelt Award* (1990), Woman of the Year Award (1987), and the Named Gift Award (1992) in Indiana.

Candidates for Treasurer will be taken from the floor.

There will also be election of three members of the 2011-2012 Nominating Committee. Please come prepared to nominate leaders from your branch to serve in this capacity.

Branch/Org	
Position in Branch and/or State	
Address	
Daytime Phone E-	mail
I plan to attend the Board meeting on Friday, A <i>Please select sandwich request</i> : ham I wish to participate in the tour of Rock Hill on	
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pre-registration is <u>required</u> in order to plan for I plan to attend the reception at Glencairn Gard Advance Registration must be Saturday lunch cannot be guaran Early Bird Registration (postmarked by April 4)	r adequate transportation] en on Friday, April 29, from 5:30-7:30 pm postmarked by April 18, 2011. teed without advance registration \$35.00

The State continues to work toward improving education

by Pat Batten, AAUW of SC President



Join us in Rock Hill on April 29th and 30th for our annual convention.

For those who wish to make it a week-end experience, Ann Terry and the Rock Hill Branch have planned a fun afternoon and evening for us on Friday, the 29th. We'll begin with a tour of the area followed by a reception hosted by the Rock Hill Branch at their public garden. What a terrific way to spend a Spring day! You'll find details about where we'll stay, the convention program and other information throughout this issue of *Palmetto* Leaf.

Our Saturday program will again be focused on education. You may ask why are we still talking about education? As you can see in the program details, this will be a different perspective as we look to one of our excellent universities for information. We will also learn more about the SIC (School Improvement Council), one of our partners in *Legislative Advocacy Day*. We all acknowledge that there is much to be improved in South Carolina

schools but we also need to look at positive steps that are being made. We, as educated women, need to continue to be involved in the process.

Now – talk to your branch friends and get a group together to travel to Rock Hill. For anyone who hasn't attended, it's a great way to meet new people. If you've never been to Rock Hill, it's a great way to see a new part of South Carolina. I know I'm looking forward to seeing my "convention" friends and meeting new ones!

Pat

2011 AAUW National Convention – Breaking through Barriers – Advocating for Change

by Pat Batten, AAUW of SC State President

or details, check your **Outlook** and the AAUW websi

The biennial AAUW national convention is set for **June** 16 – 19 in Washington D. C.

Several of us have made plans to attend and I encourage anyone who has not had the opportunity to attend a national convention to consider it. It's an experience that you will not forget. For details, check your *Outlook* and the AAUW website. It's easy to sign up on-line or use the form in the magazine.

I look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones. It will be interesting to see how the new voting procedures work and the results are announced.

Programs in a Box ready for use by branches

AAUW has created an online resource to help members consider and choose program activities for their branches. Each *Program in a Box* outlines an activity that could be chosen for a branch, with the "what, why, and how" to implement that program.

Programs in a Box reflect a wide range of AAUW activities: education, advocacy, communications, membership, fundraising, etc. Check the AAUW website, Member Center, for links to details about these and many other program ideas.

Branch Community Programs

Financially Fit for Life

Use this Program in a Box to help women in your community take charge of their financial well-being. <u>Title IX Compliance: Know the Score</u>

Use this Program in a Box to help high schools reach Title IX compliance in athletics without the threat of expensive litigation.

Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

Use this Program in a Box to share ideas on how each of us can help open scientific and engineering fields more fully to girls and women.

K-12 Programs

<u>Let's Read Math</u>TM Spread a joy for mathematics among children and the adults who care for them. Read good children's books with math themes, then do fun math activities related to each book.

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A look around the branches of AAUW of SC

Due West Branch

by Sarah Kennerly & Jan Haldeman

Our 2010-2011 year opening thrill was hosting the author and Atlantic rowboat crossing pioneer Tori Murden McClure who gave us a dual focus on women's achievement and on effects of bullying on a victim's family. She addressed a luncheon in September.

The event propelled us into our plans to apply for a Community Action Project grant to heighten awareness and offer education about sexual assault. Our target is a nearby college student population; a natural community partner is the non-government agency *Sexual Assault and Counseling* whose campus coordinator happens to be a Resident Director for two Erskine College women's dorms. With her leadership, we are proceeding with plans to sponsor in early February a public service video competition for which the theme will be Promoting Healthy Relationships.

Gaffney Branch

by Sara Setzer, Historian & Communications Chair

Starting this 2010-11 year, the Gaffney Branch thought it was time to take on something significant as our last big endeavor was a decade ago. We began a non-partisan look at the roles of the governor and legislature of South Carolina. Newspaper and television calls for restructuring of SC government were one of the reasons for this study. We started with a review of SC governmental history and the reasons for the duties assigned the governor and legislature. Our presenters also compared our state's structure to those of other states.

So far we had had two of the three programs. Michael Smith, Executive Editor of the Spartanburg Herald, presented the first program entitled South Carolina Governmental Structure, How It Got That Way and How It Impacts Us! Surprisingly he said we were the first group to ask him to speak on SC government and eagerly accepted our invitation. Christina Jeffrey, an upstate history professor with both

Raising funds for this and our annual projects depends on the annual success of the December exam bag sales. Fifteen homemade or purchased items treat recipients of the goodie bag. We expect to make up 200 bags to satisfy orders from parents encouraging their students at the end of the semester. The income allows us to make a \$500 contribution to AAUW funds and to sponsor a dinner at which we honor academic achievement of sixteen high school and college women in the spring. A one-time gift last spring supported the restoration of a 150-year old student cabin on the campus of our corporate member, Erskine College.

Eight members can bring a surprising amount of attention to the AAUW policy of advocating for equal opportunity for women and promoting education, leadership, respect, and fairness in our culture.

theoretical and practical knowledge of government and politics (she has run for political office) presented our second program, *On Constitutions: Ones that Work and Ones that Don't.* Our last program will deal with how our branch can best influence governmental change. We will then evaluate whether we should make our voice heard. Should it be something we decide to undertake, perhaps we can involve other Gaffney organizations (though we were unsuccessful in having them attend the first programs), perhaps even other AAUW branches! If this seems like a noble calling to other branches, let us suggest you try to begin your study with Michael Smith as we did.

By the way, last June we completed our enlightening, three-year review of Karenna Gore Schiff's book, *Lighting the Way: Nine Women Who Changed Modern America*, with prizes for the member who first successfully completed our crossword puzzle quiz of the subject.

AAUW Mission Statement

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

AAUW Value Promise

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

Membership Matters ... in South Carolina

by Juanita Mendenhall, Membership Chair

Welcome to 2011! The start of a new year has a way of inspiring those who want to turn over a new leaf or make "resolutions" that will improve their lives. Spring is an excellent time to also resolve to give your Branch a boost to help it grow!

Consider these RESOLUTIONS to make your branch GROW and THRIVE:

- Encourage branch members to bring friends, colleagues, relatives or students to a branch meeting or event where they may join for just half of the national dues until March 15. Be sure to include the name of the recruiter on the application form so both the person and the branch gets proper credit in the "AAUW Keys to the Future" Campaign. Continue inviting friends all through the year, encouraging them to become members.
- Plan now to mentor leaders for you're your branch or volunteer to become one of the leaders. Proverbially, "we gain more when we do more." Help create VALUE in your branch.



- Recruit AAUW college/university partner members to join AAUW as well as giving a special invitation to new graduates.
- Go to the Membership Matters section of the AAUW Website to find the latest membership information. Remember to use the aauw.org website to enhance your membership in the organization.

WE ARE AAUW. IT GROWS as we GROW. Never underestimate the POWER of new growth!!

Federal legislation has effect on AAUW book sales

In response to media stories about lead and other toxins in children's toys, Congress adopted the "Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act" in 2008. The law seeks to lower the levels of dangerous toxins, such as lead, in products intended for children 12 years of age or younger.

The CPSC announced that almost all products for children ages 12 or younger were covered by this law, including books. Under this interpretation, books are subject to the same testing standards as children's toys and clothing.

There are two questions that AAUW book sale volunteers need to ask about donated books before making the decision to resell them:

1) Who is the target audience of the book? This information is usually noted on the front or back cover of children's books. If the book is intended for ages 13 and older, there is no restriction on sales. If the book is intended for ages 12 and younger, you must check the publication date (see #2 below).

2) When was the book published? This information is usually noted toward the beginning of the book on the publication page, although this placement can vary among books. Books published in 1986 and after have been determined to be safe. However, the CPSC has ruled that children's books (for ages 12 and younger) published in 1985 and before are unsafe, due to some publishers using lead-based inks in books published before this time. Under the new federal rules, there are no restrictions on reselling any children's books published after 1986, or any children's books meant for those ages 13 and older. Your AAUW state or branch affiliate may continue to collect and sell these books just as you always have.

Under the new federal rules, every children's book published before 1986 and intended for readers ages 12 and younger must be certified by CPSC's lab to ensure that leadbased ink does not exceed acceptable levels.

AAUW state and branch affiliates must do this testing before you may resell these particular children's books. This testing process could prove costly, so each branch will have to make its own decision as to whether testing such books is worth the cost and in their book sale budget.

At a minimum, AAUW recommends that if a branch is aware that a pre-1986 book contains lead, it must remove that book from the book sale.

Additionally, if branches confirm the presence of lead-based ink in any children's books, they should let AAUW staff know so that we might share that information with other branches.

Branches may simply decide not to sell any children's books published before 1986, and simply recycle those that have been donated. In the event a book does not have a publication date and the branch cannot afford testing, the most prudent course would be to not offer the book for sale

One Member – One Vote: your chance to impact AAUW

by Pat Batten, AAUW of SC President

You will now have received your *Outlook* which will give you information about the candidates for the upcoming national elections and information about how the new voting process will work.

Here's the timeline to watch:

Voting Materials

Voting materials for the election, the amendment of bylaws, and the adoption of resolutions will be mailed to members on or about April 15, 2011. The materials will contain detailed information on submitting the ballot and the deadline by which the vote must be received.

Casting YOUR Ballot

A member may cast a vote by mailed paper ballot, online electronic ballot, or in-person electronic ballot at convention. The timeline for voting is as follows:

- April 15, 2011 Paper ballots personalized with member number and a pin number mailed to all members.
- May 1, 2011 Electronic voting period begins. Online voting is encouraged. It is fast, easy, and secure.
- May 31, 2011 Mailed paper ballots must be postmarked by 11:59 p.m. EST. Paper ballots submitted after that date will not be counted.

AAUW of SC Calendar

March 28	Deadline for Convention Hotel Reservations (see page 2)	
April 29 –30	Spring Convention, Rock Hill (see pages 1-4)	
June 1	Branch Officer information submitted to AAUW and state president	
June 17 -19	AAUW National Convention, Washington, DC	
Dates are Subject to change		
All mailing labels are prepared by AAUW. Send all address corrections directly to AAUW Records Office 1111 16 th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036, or log on to www.aauw.org		
	Ann S. Terry, editor	

4882 Stoneridge Road, Catawba, SC 29704 803/789-6129 or *annsterry@yahoo.com*

> • June 17, 2011 - Electronic voting period ends at 9 p.m. EST online or onsite at the convention.

Take time to look at your *Outlook*, talk to other branch members and review all the materials. Check the website for updates. You now have the opportunity to have a direct impact on our public policy agenda, bylaws changes and the election of officers. Make sure you VOTE!



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ASSOCIATION OF

AAUW of South Carolina

University Women

Palmetto Leaf Newsletter Ann S. Terry, editor, 4882 Stoneridge Road, Catawba, SC 29704

NW, Washington, DC 20036, or log on to www.aauw.org.

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