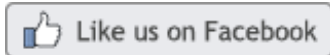




OF SOUTH
CAROLINA

Palmetto Leaf

Volume 64, No.1 - February 2018



Message from Your President

from Carol Tempel



Welcome to all of our new members and subscribers to the *Palmetto Leaf*. It's through this state publication that we keep you informed and involved.

Each time I put together this newsletter on Constant Contact, I'm inspired by the work and efforts of the AAUW Branches in South Carolina. We truly work at achieving our vision...bringing people together for the common goal of breaking through educational and economic barriers for women and girls. And we advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

I don't have to tell you that since the 2016 election, voter engagement is soaring and women are searching for organizations that involve and empower them. AAUW exists to make sure women's voices are heard and women's votes count.

Here are three actions you can take today:

- 1) Become a two minute activist. [Click here to join.](#)
- 2) Make a donation to SC-AAUW to increase meaningful leadership workshops opportunities and support STEM education for women and girls. [DONATE here.](#)
- 3) Welcome and engage new members with programs and activities that accomplish our

State Leadership Opportunities

Let us know your interests and talents. The more we know about your interests and skills, the more we can do.
Contact: Carol Tempel

We will elect new officers for 2018-19.

[CLICK HERE FOR A LEADERSHIP APPLICATION.](#)

Table of Contents

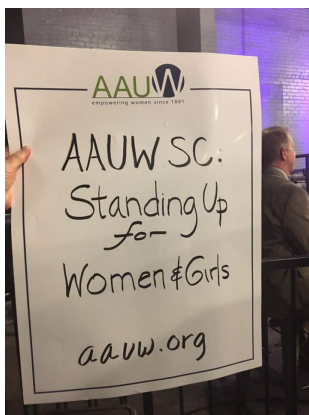
- [President's Message](#)
- [SC Legislative Session](#)
- [Experience NCWSSL](#)
- [The egacy Circle](#)
- [State Leaders](#)
- [State Officers](#)
- [Advocacy Update](#)
- [State Goals](#)
- [State Calendar](#)

The work we are doing is important to girls and women. Just read through this edition of the *Palmetto Leaf* and you'll see what I mean.

SC Legislative Session Update

from Ellie Setser, Public Policy Co-Chair

The SC Legislature began meeting in January and there are several bills of interest to AAUW members. *James E. Smith* has introduced an EQUAL PAY bill **H3599**. We will heartily endorse this bill and I will be informing all legislators of our support.



You may also want to support the PREGNANCY ACCOMMODATION bill **H4833** which will help women with adjustments in the work place during pregnancy. WREN is also lobbying for this bill. You may want to note that over 64% of women who give birth are employed.

Our legislative advocacy program will oppose a bill **H4833** on abortion introduced by *Steven Wayne Long* that would remove the exception for fetal anomaly in the current law. That means a woman will have to carry a fetus to birth no matter what is wrong with it, even if it cannot possibly survive. Again legislators are dictating medical issues best left to families and physicians.

Fortunately the "Personhood Bill" which would have given legal rights to a fertilized egg did not make it out of committee. However, there are efforts underway to bring it back. We must all wonder how anyone can equate the life of a woman to a fertilized egg which has not even been implanted. This bill out-laws the pill, IUD's, fertility medical procedures, etc. Express your concern now.

Please contact your local legislator about these issues. You may go to www.sc.gov and then click on state government, go to the alphabetical agency list and select legislature. Follow the instructions to find your legislator. You will see e-mail address, home addresses and office address and of course phone numbers. Letters are more effective than e-mails and phone calls are very effective as well. **Our legislators need to hear our AAUW voices.**



State Leadership

Click on their title to reach them via email

Carol Tempel
[President](#)

Ann Terry
[Past President and Palmetto Leaf Editor](#)

Pat Hall
[Finance](#)

Ellie Setser
[Public Policy](#)

Becky Bailey
[Public Policy](#)

Jan Haldeman
[Member Support](#)

Hillary Hutchinson
[Member Support](#)

Laura Burcin
[STEM Education](#)

Lori Christopher Glenn
[Communications](#)

SC AAUW Websites
and
Facebook

[AAUW of South Carolina](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Its New...](#)



Experience NCWSSL...a leadership opportunity for a team

AAUW of SC will provide a scholarship for a student and a faculty member in a SC partner college/university to attend AAUW's National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in June. The scholarship covers registration, lodging, food and travel. Nominations can be made by any branch. Young women in our database will be encouraged to apply and seek out your branch's nomination. [Click here for the application.](#)

Nominations and completed applications are due **MARCH 1** and must be in electronic form (as a Word or PDF document) and should be sent to Carol Tempel at carol_tempel@bellsouth.net

UPDATE: **Kristin Richey**, the student leader who represented Erskine College and the Due West Branch at NCCSWL, gave a Power Point presentation about the conference at the Branch's first meeting. Kristin will tell about NCCWSL and signing up AAUW Student e-members at the Recognition Dinner. She will also organize an awareness table for Equal Pay Day in April, with information and sale of "PayDay" candy bars, one dollar each for men and 80 cents each for women! Go Kristin!!!

Please join the Circle--The Legacy Circle, that is!

*by Doris McLallen,
Greenville Branch*

I am on a mission! Like you, I love AAUW and what it means to women and girls everywhere. I am not wealthy by a long shot but still was surprised how easy it is to leave something - any amount really - in my will to qualify as a member of the Legacy Circle.



I get so many compliments on my beautiful pin (see

Facebook Pages

[AAUW Action Fund](#)

- [Beaufort Branch](#)
- [Charleston Branch](#)
- [Due West Branch](#)
- [Greater Columbia Branch](#)
- [Greenville Branch](#)
- [Hilton Head Branch](#)
- [Rock Hill Branch](#)

[SC AAUW](#)

Branch Websites

- [Aiken](#)
- [Beaufort](#)
- [Charleston](#)
- [Denmark](#)
- [Due West](#)
- [Gaffney](#)
- [Greater Columbia](#)
- [Greenville](#)
- [Hilton Head](#)
- [Rock Hill](#)

**branches in green have web sites.*

Proud of our AAUW women and activities



News for Young Women

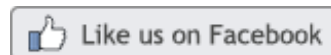


photo) and one can be yours, too, with a commitment to include AAUW in your estate plans. I knew Alice Ann Leidel, past NYS president, who designed the Legacy Circle pin and I was so happy to be at her family's table at last June's National Convention in Washington, D.C., when my dear friend, Peggy Coe, (who first invited me to join AAUW) was honored at the Legacy Circle Dinner. Also at the table were Peggy's husband, Ben, three daughters and granddaughter - all AAUW members and proud members of the Legacy Circle, having made a commitment to include AAUW in their estate plans as a tribute to Peggy and in support of the AAUW Mission.

Peggy's words best express why I DID - and hope you WILL - join the Legacy Circle. "I encourage every member of AAUW to join me and my family in making this type of commitment. I want AAUW to continue after I'm gone and hope we never waiver from our mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. This is our way of ensuring AAUW will exist for future generations."

The list of AAUW South Carolina Legacy Circle members has a lot of room to grow!

**Faye C. Edwards Mildred E. Finch
Trish Johnson Betsy Moseley
Ann S. Terry**

I propose to challenge ourselves to double this list in 2018! I hope you will consider adding your name. There is a beautiful pin waiting for YOU! Visit www.aauwlegacy.org or call 877-357-5587 for more information.

STEM Education in Beaufort

by Laura Burcin, STEM director

Here's the link to the STEM video that was made in Beaufort.

In the telecom, the Beaufort County School District interviewed six girls that attended AAUW of Beaufort's STEM event in 2017.

It was 9 months later and the girls retained what they learned and still seem enthusiastic. We had 48 girls attend last year and for this year's event (Feb 3) we have 80 registered.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2yivLx_T1OQ

Does your branch have members in their 20s and 30s? "Like" our new SC page for Young Women

Encourage your younger members to sign up for the **AAUW Younger Women's Task Force newsletter** to learn about opportunities that are tailored to young working professionals, like professional development webinars.

[Click Here.](#)

**SC AAUW
College and University
Partners, 2017-18**

Aiken Technical College
Claflin University
Clemson University
Coastal Carolina University
College of Charleston
Erskine College
Limestone College
Presbyterian College
The Citadel
University of SC Aiken
University of SC Columbia
Winthrop University

[Link to all AAUW Partner Schools](#)



**Congratulations
to Ann and
Vernon Terry**



You can tell how thrilled Ann is with this message. *"found out today that Vernon and I are in the next class of Winthrop University Athletic Hall Fame!!! We were stunned! First non-athletes to be inducted. We were surprised at a meeting with the softball team. I just cried and cried"*

Way to go Beaufort Branch!!!

Congratulations Ann!!!

Public School Funding Issues

by Anne Mellen, co-president, Greater Columbia Branch

The **Greater Columbia branch** held a panel discussion in October concerning Public School Education Funding in SC. The panelists were Bernadette Hampton: SC Education Association, Kathy Maness: Palmetto State Teachers Association, Debra Knight: Chair of Lexington 1 School Board, and Emily Heatwole: Director of Communications and Governmental Relations - SC Department of Education. AAUW-GC member Dr. Kay Banks of USC was the moderator.

The panelists all agreed that although public education in South Carolina has many complex funding streams, it is not adequately funded. The legislature, for example, has often underfunded education despite a 1977 law defining the appropriate base level of funding. The current deficit is \$500.00. Additionally, school districts with growing populations and/or low income are short changed because the funding does not adequately allow for these factors.

There are many reasons for this deficit funding. The state revenue growth is slow, and public education already accounts for 40% of the state budget. On the local level, the home owner is only liable for debt service, not operational costs. This was mandated by a law passed by the legislature in 2006 that stated that only businesses and landlords would pay for school operational costs through property taxes, while an extra one percent sales tax was also enacted to cover what home owners had previously paid. Unfunded mandates from the state and federal governments are a big problem as well.

Teacher retention is also considered a big problem. For example, 4,800 teachers left the profession in a recent year while South Carolina colleges only graduated 1,900 education majors. Beginning salaries are low, expectations are high, and paperwork is enormous.

Also, businesses lament that South Carolina schools are not graduating employees prepared to fill the needs of businesses. Many technical businesses, like Boeing, need skilled workers, something the schools are not producing. Businesses are turning to engineers and the like from out of state.

Branches Raised Funds for AAUW in 2017

by Ann Terry, AAUW Funds Chair

Once again, the branches of AAUW of

Upcoming Programs in Charleston

by Pat Wolman & Claire Bush, co-presidents

SC have risen to the challenge and raised lots of money for AAUW and its projects and scholarships. A total of \$10,185 was donated to AAUW in 2017. Thanks to the many members who either made personal donations or ensured that fundraising projects were successful!
Congratulations!

Here's what the branches achieved:

Aiken, \$4,335
Beaufort, \$745
Charleston, \$870
Due West, \$200
Gaffney, \$690
Greater Columbia, \$330
Greenville, \$1,077
Hilton Head, \$283
Rock Hill, \$1,635

Exam Energy Kits

by Jan Haldeman, President of Due West Branch

In December Due West completed our AAUW annual fund-raiser using online technology this time.

Emails were sent to parents/guardians describing an EXAM energy Kit that could be ordered on line by PayPal or by snail mail and would be delivered to their students just before Fall Term Exams. Most orders came through PayPal simplifying the project considerably.



Members gather ingredients for the "Kits" through purchases and donations, including member-baked brownies. Two of Erskine's Student organizations, Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society and American Chemical Society, partnered with us to pack and deliver Kits to the dorms.

Erskine has been our College/University partner for over 60 years and this project goes back almost 25 years. Erskine students assemble "Energy Kit" Bags for the annual fundraiser. First student on right is Kristin Richey (*in the photo*), who represented Erskine College and our Branch at the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) June 2016.

Money raised goes to AAUW Funds as well as to support our annual Student Recognition Dinner to be held March 6 this year. Senior women from four of our local High Schools, chosen by their teachers, will be honored for excellence in Science, Foreign Language, Mathematics, History and English. Erskine College Senior Women chosen by their professors are honored for excellence in their majors. The speaker this year will be Erskine Alumna Fay Simpson Sprouse, Superintendent of Education for Greenwood District 51. And this will be Due West Branch's 60th Student Recognition Dinner!

Collaboration

SC Progressive Network

by Jamie Wurdinger, Greater Columbia Branch Co-president

The South Carolina Progressive Network thanks AAUW of

Since February is Black History month, we're planning a visit to the Old Slave Mart Museum.

The March Meeting will celebrate Women's History Month with the talk about Ten Progressive Women of Early-Twentieth-Century Charleston. Charleston County Public Library historian, Dr. Nic Butler, will review ten of the most progressive and noteworthy women who helped transform Charleston into a more equitable and modern community.

For more information, check out our Facebook page at:

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

**AAUW STEM
Status...It's a STEM
Workshop for
Beaufort Middle
School Girls**

SC for being a member this year.

It needs volunteers statewide to assist with its Democracy Project. The Democracy Project is a broad-based, non-partisan (anti-partisan, actually) approach to repairing our broken democracy in South Carolina. The focus and tactics are multi-pronged, but they are addressing root causes of all our problems, which stem back to extreme, partisan political gerrymandering and the influence of money in politics. Folks can call 803-808-3384, or email network@scpronet.com for more information.

The SC Progressive Network held a live streamed roundtable discussion, Money in SC Politics, on February 6. As SC reels from the growing corruption scandal in the State House, the discussion was about how we can reduce the influence of money in state politics and policy-making. Lawmakers and advocates debated ways to make state government more representative, competitive, and responsive to South Carolina citizens.

Go to

<https://www.scpronet.com/wordpress/2018/01/17/money-politics-forum-feb-6-at-usc-law-school/> to review nine bills addressing money in politics and political gerrymandering introduced by members of our bipartisan panel.

Questions? Call 803-808-3384.

WREN (Women's Rights and Empowerment Network)

We continue to partner with WREN . This year the SC Education Oversight Committee passed the Comprehensive Health Curriculum for K-12 students. **AAUW members contributed their voices.** We look forward to partnering with them on other issues that impact women and girls in the areas of Health and Education, Economic Opportunity and Leadership and Civic Engagement

by Laura Burcin, STEM Education Chair

The Beaufort Branch along with the University of South Carolina and Beaufort County Public Schools held the second annual STEM career day.

The 59 middle school girls from Beaufort County who attended had a fun day of activities and speakers from STEM careers, which include Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

The day started with much excitement during registration looking through their goodie bags, with some of the girls immediately putting on their new T-shirts. Our key note speaker, Amber Kuehn, gave an inspiring talk about women in science careers and her involvement with our local sea turtle population. Each girl attended three hands on technical activities of their choice, while their parents/guardians had discussions about how to support their daughters in pursuing a STEM career. Lunch was provided for the girls and their parents.

In the technical sessions, we had girls determining which restaurants were selling true fish species through DNA testing, building the tallest tower from paper, following a lego specification for a Mars rover, developing a model of the human hand, building electrical

circuits, programming on a computer and solving mathematical equations for an escape room adventure. All of our volunteers helped the girls improve their knowledge of problem solving and explained how fulfilling a career in STEM can be.

Research reveals that girls are underrepresented in the rapidly growing and expanding STEM fields. Our survey results revealed that the students improved their understanding of STEM fields and the opportunities for careers. Here are a few of those comments: I enjoyed that we were able to do hands on activities., I felt like I was in a real world situation, I found it fun to learn about different career options and learn more about STEM.

Gender Gap affected by reproductive choice

This year marks the 45th anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court case Roe v. Wade, which legalized abortion in the United States. Access to safe and legal reproductive health care and information, including abortion, fosters self-sufficiency, promotes preventive health care, and protects individuals and their families from the spread of sexually transmitted infections. But control over one's reproductive life is also part and parcel to achieving economic autonomy; without reproductive choice, women cannot attain equal pay or opportunity in the workforce.

Gender Gap affect's now a widely acknowledged fact that the typical woman working full-time brings home a paycheck that is 20 percent smaller than the typical man, and women of color tend to face larger gaps. But believe it or not, that number could be a lot worse. Lack of access to a full range of reproductive health services is one factor that contributes to those alarming statistics. Research suggests that the widespread availability and use of birth control pills in the 1980s and 1990s was partially responsible for narrowing the pay gap to where it is today.

Over a career (47 years), women's total earnings loss compared with men is \$700,000 for a high school graduate, \$1.2 million for a college graduate, and \$2 million for a professional school graduate. But women and girls who have access to reproductive health services are in a better position to tackle one element that leads to the gender pay gap. Research indicates that expanding access to reproductive services and information increases the prospect of economic security in adulthood for women. On the other hand, women who are denied abortions are more likely to receive public assistance, more likely to have an income below the federal poverty

level, and less likely to be working full time.

As costs of both health care and child care skyrocket, it is paramount that women are able to control their own decisions about when, if, and how to start a family. The existing pay gap already hurts women, their families, and the economy. Limiting reproductive choices and access only compounds these issues. On the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, we celebrate our freedoms and look to a future in which increased access to critical health care leads to greater economic security and parity for women.

Want to help secure reproductive rights and equal pay for all?
Tell Congress to act now!

And Join the efforts of AAUW (the American Association of University Women) with our two minute activist tool at: <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>

[CLICK HERE FOR AN ILLUSTRATED COPY OF THIS ARTICLE.](#)

Upcoming AAUW Skill-Training Webinars

Register to participate at www.aauw.org

February 13, 2018: Inclusion and Equity Committee

In this session you'll learn more about how to welcome and engage a diverse membership. A critical part of making your branch more diverse and inclusive is to engage members in a dialogue. One of the best strategies to do so is to help your members examine and understand their own identities, attitudes, and beliefs about diversity. Talking about these issues shows your members that diversity and inclusion are serious priorities and that you are open to having difficult but necessary discussions on these topics.

March 13, 2018: How to Get Publicity

Your branch holds great events and does wonderful things in your community. How do you get the publicity you deserve?

May 8, 2018: Writing to Engage

Find out how to make the most of your websites, brochures, newsletters, and emails!

June 12, 2018: Creating the Value of Membership

Learn how to help current and future members feel connected to AAUW's work and realize the value of their membership.

You can also access previous webinars that were held during the fall: Small but Mighty (for small branches), Diversity and Inclusion, Using Social Media Effectively. Check out the AAUW website for links to these skill workshops. www.aauw.org

Join AAUW in Advocating and Advancing Gender Equity for Women and Girls

Join as a New Member:

<http://www.aauw.org/join/>

Renew National, State, and Branch Membership:

<http://www.aauw.org/resource/join-a-branch-or-renew-branch-membership/>

Join/Renew National Membership: <http://www.aauw.org/national-member-join-renew/>

Join/Renew Student Membership: <http://www.aauw.org/student-member-join-renew/>

[renew/](#)

Join as a College/University Partner: <https://ww2.aauw.org/cu-join/>

Advocating in South Carolina...it's as easy as 1, 2, 3, 4

South Carolina has one of best websites for state government. Check it out. You can find the information you need about our state government and contact government officials to solve problems, register complaints and maybe even send a thank you note. The address is very simple: www.sc.gov.

Please voice your opinion by telephone, letter or e-mail using the following:

Step 1. <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/legislatorssearch.php>

Step 2. Type in you address and click "find legislators".

Step 3. Click on the Legislator's name

Step 4. Click on the link: "Send message to Representative or : Send message to Senator

We will have cards available for your Branch members at the SC Leadership Retreat..

Take Your Branch Programming to the Next Level

Don't forget to utilize these other AAUW programming resources that will take your events on campus and in your community to the next level.

For Leaders

AAUW Diversity and Inclusion Tool Kit
Programs in a Box Directory
Mission-based Programming
Six Steps to Diverse, Engaging Programs
How to Design an Effective Planning Meeting
How to Secure Speakers for Free

For Branches

How to Create a Strategic Plan for Your Branch
11 Leadership Essentials for Branch Programming

For Student Organizations

How to Create Engaging Campus Programming
AAUW Student Organization Leaders Tool Kit
Make the Most of Your AAUW Student Organization Meetings

[CLICK HERE FOR LINKS TO ALL OF THESE PROGRAMS ON THE AAUW WEBSITE.](#)

[Upcoming: Skill training Webinars for Members.](#)

<http://www.aauw.org/event/2017/09/skill-training-webinars/>

AAUW of SC Board adopts goals for year

As a new membership year begins, your state leadership team has set some ambitious goals for its work this year. These goals were adopted during the Board's summer conference call:

- encourage branches to plan mission based programs throughout the year.
- maintain state-wide communication and *Palmetto Leaf* newsletter via Constant Contact.
- establish new branches in Florence, Myrtle Beach, and Spartanburg.
- encourage state-wide membership according to the 2016 bylaws.
- initiate a state-wide fundraising campaign to support mission-based programs and professional development (e.g. Start Smart, Work Smart, Elect Her, STEM activities, and leadership scholarships).

- encourage/support websites and Facebook pages for every branch.
- encourage/support participation in the MPP financial services for every branch.
- encourage state leaders to visit branches and conference with their respective counterpart.
- link branches with college/university partners; encourage face to face meetings with the college representatives, share a packet of information, increase the number of *e-affiliate* memberships of young women, and gather emails of students and faculty.
- collaborate with state-wide organizations and higher education, and continue to work with SC Progressive Network, WREN, League of Women Voters, United Methodist Women and other organizations with a similar mission.

AAUW of SC Calendar of Dates & Deadlines, 2017-18

This is the working calendar for activities and deadlines for 2017-18. Please mark your calendar and stay involved. Branch presidents should make note of several special deadlines related to student nominations and financial reports.

March

- 1 Deadline for Branch nominations for state scholarship for NCWSSL
- 1 Deadline for Branches to submit Named Gift Honorees' information
- 15 Deadline to announce state NCCWSL Scholarship Nomination(s)
- TBD Election of State Officers/by email voting
State Board Conference Call, if needed

April

- 1 Deadline NCCWSL Early Bird Registration
- 10 Equal Pay Day 2017
State Board Conference Call, if needed

May

- Branch Elections of Officers
- State Board Conference Call, if needed

June

- NCCWSL Conference (May 31-June 3)
- 30 Deadline to post 2018-19 State and Branch Officers
- 30 Deadline for 2018-2019 Dues
State Board Conference Call, if needed

Note: **Plan Your Year with AAUW's Events Calendar.** There are many international and women's events for celebration listed on our national website at:

https://svc.aauw.org/calendar/index_view.cfm

AAUW of South Carolina | | carol_tempel@bellsouth.net | 758 Sprague St
Charleston, SC 29412

