

Our Website has a New Look!

Visit us at www.aauwoh.org. We hope you'll check out the new site often, where you'll discover even more news, events, public policy, membership and programming information to help your branch grow! Don't miss the article on page three of this issue of the *Ohio Orbit* with specifics about the website's public policy pages. You'll also find information, as updates occur, on the AAUW/Ohio Conference and Convention in April. We're excited about the new website; and we look forward to hearing from you. So log on and talk to us!

Be WISE Camp and STARZ Program Updates

The **Be WISE Camp** has received a grant from the Women's Fund of Central Ohio to start a Day Camp in August 2007 for incoming 6th grade girls. This camp will also be held at Denison University in Granville, Ohio and will draw campers from Franklin, Delaware, Licking and Pickaway counties in Ohio.

During the annual convention in Tiffin, the first **STARZ** awards will be presented. The awards will be announced at the luncheon on Saturday April 21st — so plan on attending the annual convention and taking part in the fun as we recognize deserving branches. Also, remember that the STARZ program for 2007-2008 begins *at this year's convention* — your branch must be represented at this convention to be eligible. For more information about either program, please contact **JoAnn Benseler** at 147 Sandstone Loop East, Westerville, Oh 43081 or by phone or e-mail at: 614-882-5432 / joannbenseler@yahoo.com

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Daffodil Diversity Award

By Sally Dye, AAUW/Ohio Diversity Chair

Recognition will be given at the 2007 AAUW/Ohio Convention to branches that are making strides to be inclusive and diverse in their membership outreach and community involvement.

Criteria for the OHIO DAFFODIL AWARDS will include the Diversity Goals for branches. Branches must meet at least THREE of the goals.

To apply for recognition, branches must send a written statement on their accomplishments, with documentation to the Ohio Diversity Chair.

Statements should include branch name, name and signature of president, telephone number, e-mail for contact and name of diversity chair. Material must be received before March 23, 2007.

Press clippings, news articles in branch publications, listings from branch yearbook, photographs from events or meetings shall constitute documentation.

Order Your Ohio Pin in Time for the Convention!



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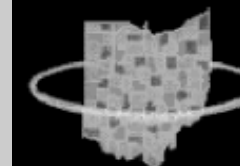
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OHIO Orbit

Newsletter of AAUW/Ohio, Inc....Encircling Our 50 Branches



Honor the Past; Embrace the Future

AAUW Must Strategically Move Forward to Best Serve Women of 21st Century

By Pam Thiel, Regional Director

EDITOR'S NOTE: Ms. Thiel will expand on this theme when she gives the Keynote address at the State Convention in Tiffin on Saturday, April 21, 2007

We honor our 125-year remarkable legacy of leadership by charting a new course to ensure organizational relevance and sustainability in the 21st century. There is a sense of urgency to embrace this organizational change. Some major reasons for concern are: 72% of members are age 60 and older; our membership is declining at a rate of 5.7% a year and accelerating; and we lack focus on our mission.



Thiel

Over the last 18 months, the Association and Educational Foundation have encouraged member input at the branch, state, regional, and national level, as well as soliciting information from our partners and other organizations, on

how we can strategically move forward as a vibrant, relevant, and viable organization to fulfill our mission in a new era. Get updated about the strategic process at http://www.aauw.org/member_center/leader_corner/strategic_pp2006.cfm and learn why we need to commit and engage in organizational changes now.

Your state convention in Tiffin and the Association Convention in Phoenix June 29-July 2, provide additional opportunities to learn about and support changes for our Association. Focus is on the key issues of vision, membership, organizational structure and governance, and internal communication.

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Special Supplement Issue Inside!

AAUW/Ohio's Equity Day Conference and Annual Meeting/Convention

"Readers may do a 'double-take' when they open this issue," stated **Marge Lee**, AAUW/Ohio President. Lee's observation was in reference to a second masthead readers will find inside this issue after page four. This is the first time we've taken the bold step of creating essentially a special supplement issue our members can carry with them as a program guide with highlights of the state conference and convention. All the information members will need to plan their trip is contained in the center section supplement. We hope you'll find the redesign of the Orbit's conference/convention issue helpful as you plan your trip to Tiffin. Remember to make your reservation at the hotel early to take advantage of the best available group rate. We look forward to seeing you there!

"Financially Fit for Life" is 12th Annual Equity Day Theme

By Virginia E. Palmer, Co-Program Vice-President, AAUW/Ohio

"Financially Fit for Life" is the theme of AAUW/Ohio's 12th Equity Day Conference, Friday, April 20, 2007, at Camden Falls Reception and Conference Center in Tiffin. In addition to addressing multi-generational financial literacy for women, the conference will serve as an early pilot of a replicable program template under development by AAUW's Leadership and Training Institute. Prudential Financial has awarded LTI a grant to support financial literacy for women and girls.

Recognizing that financial skills are critical to women's economic security and will invariably impact community development and the

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Leadership

2006-2008 AAUW/OHIO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Our Mission: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy education and research.

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

Educational Foundation: Provides Funds to advance Education, research and self-development for women, and to foster equity and positive societal change.

Legal Advocacy Fund: Provides Funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

Diversity Statement: In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

To Join AAUW: Membership is open to all graduates who hold associate's or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degrees from a regionally accredited college or University.

To join, contact the AAUW/Ohio office at: 800.910-7075.



MARGE'S MESSAGE...

Because Equity is Still an Issue!

By Marge Lee, AAUW/Ohio President

This is a very exciting OHIO Orbit! It's not only the convention issue but it's the first time we've presented a special supplement inside the regular Orbit Spring issue highlighting the conference and the convention. The 12th Annual Equity Day conference: "*Financially Fit For Life*" will be held on April 20, 2007. This conference is in collaboration with the AAUW Leadership and Training Institute. The book discussion on Friday evening will feature **Liz Perle's** book, *Money: A Memoir, Women, Emotions, and Cash*, which is now available in paperback for about \$12.00. On Saturday April 21st, the 83rd Annual meeting/convention begins. "*Honor the Past: Embrace the Future*" is this year's theme and the convention will feature an interactive presentation by **Pam Thiel**, Great Lakes Regional Director. Bring a group from your branch and join us. You will leave with many, many new ideas to energize your branch. Many awards will be presented on Saturday: Diversity, EF, LAF, Membership, Newsletter, Public Information, and STARZ.

Again this year we will offer the AAUW Ohio Challenge and the Young Leader Award. The goal of Ohio Challenge is to expand the number of women between the ages of 20-40 who join AAUW as a result of attendance at the Ohio 2007 Convention on April 21st. We will award a 50% convention registration "waiver" to the first 25 women who register. AAUW/Ohio has a proud history in developing and nurturing young leaders at the branch, state and Association levels. To recognize and celebrate these leaders, AAUW/Ohio will again present the YOUNG LEADER AWARD to an outstanding branch leader at the Annual Meeting in Tiffin on April 21, 2007. Special registration/nomination forms were included in the February President's Letter.

I have appointed a Communications Chair, **Paula Maggio**, who is a member of the Akron Branch and is very well-qualified for the post. She has coordinated communications campaigns from print and broadcast advertising to the World Wide Web. She has hands-on experience as a writer, editor, photographer, and designer. AAUW/OHIO is fortunate to have Paula on board and I appreciate her commitment. Read all about her on page three.

A proclamation has been received from former Governor Taft which officially recognizes the American Association of University Women as we celebrate our 125th Anniversary. It states in part "Congratulations on reaching this momentous milestone! You (AAUW) have given our country a legacy of leadership to be proud of." Speaking of the 125th celebration, I was privileged to attend the Akron Branch meeting in December when they celebrated the 125th with a birthday cake, balloons and presentations of the skits written by Akron President **Roberta Mohr** celebrating our past.

It's a new year. Do you need to make some New Year's resolutions? I certainly do. Here are my suggestions:

- 1) Attend the State Convention in Tiffin on April 20-21, 2007.
- 2) Attend the Association Convention in Phoenix on June 29- July 2 and participate in planning for AAUW's future. Check AAUW.org for details.
- 3) Help others to speak their mind and encourage them to join AAUW.
- 4) Remember: AAUW Keys to the Future: A Member-Get-A-Member Campaign.

The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) is scheduled for June 7-9, 2007, at American University in Washington, D.C. AAUW has spearheaded this signature student leadership event for the last 5 years. Because of AAUW's support, college women of all ages, who might not have had an opportunity to come to Washington, spend three days in the nation's capital networking and learning to become leaders on their college campuses and beyond. The State board has approved \$400.00 toward expenses for a student to attend. Branches are encouraged to provide additional scholarships for potential attendees. **Emily Resnik**, a student at Bowling Green State University, attended the state conference. This year, she is scheduled to speak to the Convention in Tiffin on April 21.

SEE YOU AT EQUITY/ISSUES DAY and CONVENTION in TIFFIN – April 20-21, 2007!

News, cont'd

Springtime is Best Time

(Continued from page 5)

they are interested in AAUW either in person, on the phone, through printed or e-mailed invitations, or fliers and articles in the paper.

The Cleveland branch advertised a membership event to be held at a public library this fall. Because of bad weather the turnout was likewise bad however the posted fliers and newspaper coverage prompted 3 interested individuals to e-mail the branch.



From left to right; Mason-Lebanon members **Jean Henthorn** and **Kay Armstrong** seated. Standing: prospective member **Miriam Kaetzel**, Mason-Lebanon member **Virginia Stiver** and Mason-Lebanon's newest member **Irene Murnahan** who joined at the event.

A newspaper article that was written about the Mason/Lebanon satellite branch (by a prospective member!) and published in the Western Star prompted calls from 6 interested individuals. The group is following up with a dessert and informational meeting in January. Postcards were sent to a list of prospective members. Telephone calls were also made. At the time of this article more than 10 prospective members have RSVP'd to the meeting.

Once you have prospective members' attention tell them about the various outlets for members to participate. Members should be able to pick and choose "cafeteria style" what events or projects they want to work on. People are judicious of the use of their time in this day and age and will choose to attend things they feel most meet



Cincinnati branch member **Pat Dollberg** and prospective member **Vanessa Speight**

their needs. Working on a specific project such as a bake sale may be rewarding and only take a couple of hours of time. Sitting through a monthly meeting may not offer the same rewards.

Investigate ways to offer members small groups (such as a moms group), projects, short term study groups, and other ways to actively participate in your branch. If your branch does not provide alternatives to monthly programs be honest with prospective members. The Middletown Branch explained to prospective members that they were in a rebuilding phase. One new project was planned for the future but prospective members were told they could help decide the direction of the branch. The branch now has a Mother's Education Group, a 2nd Book Group and a Voluntary Simplicity Group. In addition a short

Honor the Past; Embrace the Future

(Continued from first page)

Change is an inevitable part of the life of all organizations. We have served as an advocate for women over the last 125 years and made changes at critical points in our history. Organizations, to stay vital and functional, must adapt to changing environments by re-inventing themselves. We are at one of those pivotal points and need to take courageous steps to change.

According to **Alan Cohen**, author of *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, "It takes a lot of courage to release the familiar and seemingly secure, to embrace the new. But there is no real security in what is no longer meaningful. There is more security in the adventurous and exciting, for in movement there is life, and in change there is power." Change is not a beloved concept in an organization steeped in tradition, but change we must.

Speaker of the House, **Nancy Pelosi**, addressed us in Washington at our last Association Convention and noted, "We have made history, now we must make progress." Now is the time to make critical and strategic changes that will be a springboard for making a difference to women, girls, and families into the future.

We own our future! It is ours to design! Make a commitment to change and come to Tiffin for your state convention and the Association Convention in Phoenix with a full delegation to honor our past, create new history, and embrace our future.

term group is studying Great Decisions this year. Small groups are also wonderful recruiting tools. A word of warning though – don't let the focus of small groups stray from the mission of AAUW. Socializing is important but it is most important to stay mission based. Every branch is encouraged to do something about membership this spring or early summer. Tell us how it worked out and we will share it with others.

More information about membership is available on the web at www.aauw.org or by contacting your state membership VPs, Pat Millhoff at millhof@uakron.edu or (330)706-9936(H), or Cindy Grau at cindy@equivoice.com or (513)705-6614 (H).



Prospective members **Melissa Kawahara** and **Miriam Kaetzel** and Mason-Lebanon member **Virginia Stiver**

Opportunities for Giving

(Continued from page 3)

development, career advancement, financial literacy and technology skills enhancement. Among these gift options are:

Memorial Gifts, and In Honor Gifts—AAUW will acknowledge your gift with a card to the family of the deceased or to the honoree and you will receive a letter of acknowledgment.

Gifts of Stocks or Bonds—Publicly traded securities can be transferred to the AAUW LTI as your gift. Such gifts entitle you to a tax deduction for the full market value of the securities and you avoid capital gains taxes.

Matching Gifts—(contact your personnel or H.R. department), send your company's matching gift form to the AAUW Development Office, their staff will complete the form and send the required documentation to your company.

Bequests—are 100% deductible for estate tax purposes and may place your estate in a lower estate tax bracket.

Life Income Gifts and Annuities—Make a gift and receive needed income for life. Younger members might consider a deferred charitable gift annuity.

Charitable Remainder Trusts—can help protect your assets, reduce taxes and provide lifetime income to you or your beneficiary and support AAUW LTI.

Naming a nonprofit institution—such as AAUW LTI a beneficiary of Retirement Plans or Insurance Policies is another way of avoiding federal estate taxes. Real Estate may also be donated. You may deduct the full market value and avoid capital gains taxes.

Contact the AAUW Development Office by e-mail at development@aauw.org or by phone, 202/728-3307 for more information or to initiate action on any of the above options for supporting the programs of AAUW.

Financially Fit for Life

(Continued from first page)

wider society, the workshop is designed to educate women about personal economic security by examining lifelong financial decision-making. Mom's Retirement Security, the Mother's Day 2006 research report prepared by the AAUW Educational Foundation, explored adult children's reluctance to discuss their mother's personal finances and highlighted the younger generation's lack of knowledge about their mothers' economic security. "Financially Fit for Life" builds on that report to encourage changes in family behavior and improve family decision-making vis-à-vis women's economic security.

Attendees can expect to hear a panel discussion with financial professionals who can address such issues as: Retirement, investments, and other savings issues; Life, disability, long-term care insurance coverage; Estate planning, marital status changes, and other legal issues; and social and emotional influences on women's financial behavior. The panel will be moderated by a representative from AAUW's national office and will feature extensive Q&A and other audience involvement. Handouts and a list of recommended resources will be provided.

Plan to attend Equity Day 2007 in Tiffin to get "Financially Fit for Life."

Program Vice President needs your input; asks for surveys to be returned!

Ohio Co-Vice president Debby Henry of Mansfield needs your input for future programming ideas. All Branch presidents received a short survey to be answered by the local program vice-presidents. Please take the time to look over these questions, answer them and return the survey to Debby at 1747 Westover Lane, Mansfield, Ohio 44906 or bring them to the Ohio Convention in April. We know many branches are implementing some great programs and changes. Now we just need you to share your ideas with the rest of us! Remember AAUW is a changing organization; we also need to be open to change.

Planning ahead...

Put this date on your summer calendar!

2007 AAUW National Convention
Phoenix, Arizona: June 29–July 2, 2007
For details, go to: <http://www.aauw.org/convention/Conv2007/index.cfm>



Equal Pay Day is April 24

In 2005, the most recent year for which U.S. Department of Labor data is available, working women as a whole continue to earn only 77 cents on the dollar to their male counterparts. To match men's earnings for 2005, women have to work from January 2006 into April 2007 – an extra four months.

To bring awareness to this inequity, AAUW and coalition allies across the country will recognize Equal Pay Day on April 24, 2007. Use AAUW's Pay Equity Resource Kit to begin planning now for your April activities. In fact, Equal Pay Day activities are perfect for your branch activities this Spring.

The Pay Equity Resource Kit is available online by typing the following address into your web browser: http://www.aauw.org/issue_advocacy/actionpages/payequity.cfm

Correction:

Since its inception, Be WISE Camp has had over 2,000 girls go through its program. The figure was incorrectly stated as 200 in the Winter issue.

Opportunities for Giving

By Mary Lee Powell, AAUW/Ohio EFVP

All AAUW members are aware that one of this organization's great strengths is our dedication to raising and contributing funds to the Educational Foundation for Fellowships, Grants, and Scholarships for women and girls.



Powell

A member's question about the possibility of giving AAUW a gift of stock prompted me to remind members that there are a number of other tax-deductible opportunities for giving. The Leadership and Training Institute (LTI), also a 501(c)(3) entity, provides members and potential members a structure for developing programs on leadership (Continued on page 6)

New public policy webpages aim to motivate branch activism

By Jackie Evangelista, AAUW/Ohio Public Policy Co-Chair

As part of our major overhaul of the AAUW/Ohio website, the public policy section has been totally revised, updated and expanded. We urge you to visit the new website, become familiar with what it offers, and use its resources regularly to incorporate public policy more fully into your branch activities.

In keeping with the Association website's practice, we have named the section "Issue Advocacy," which identifies more directly what the purpose of our pages is. The section is divided into three main pages—National Advocacy, State Advocacy and Branch Advocacy.

President Appoints Communications Chair

Paula Maggio, newly appointed Communications Chair for AAUW/Ohio, has more than 30 years of experience as a journalist, marketing and public relations manager, and writer. Most recently, she served as Director of Communications for the Jewish Community Board of Akron and Public Relations/Marketing Coordinator at Kent State University. She has written for the Cleveland Plain Dealer and the Akron Beacon Journal and was a longtime reporter and columnist for the Wadsworth News Banner.



Maggio

Maggio, who holds a bachelor's degree in English from Kent State, earned a master's degree in liberal studies from that institution in December. The focus of her interdisciplinary graduate program was Virginia Woolf, and she wrote her capstone essay on the intersection of Woolf's feminism and pacifism in her post-World-War I novels.

A four-year member of national AAUW, Maggio joined the Akron branch last year. She serves as Akron's newsletter editor and chairperson of Be Wise.

"I am happy to have the opportunity to give something back to AAUW," said Maggio, a past recipient of LAF funding. "I'm grateful for the support I received from AAUW. I want to work with branches around the state to promote the wonderful work our organization does."

Here's a brief tour of each section.

National Advocacy: Includes a page about AAUW's history and links to many of the key sections of the Association website such as the Public Policy Program, issue statements, Action Network including the Washington Update and the Two-Minute Activist, Action Alert newsletter, and Congressional Voting Record, which tabulates legislator's votes on issues important to AAUW members. This page will be especially helpful to prospective members who visit our site for the first time and wish to know more about AAUW as well as branch members who wish to link to a particular Association website page.

State Advocacy: Includes pages entitled "Ohio Issues/Legislation," which covers vouchers, charter schools and other bills related to education, various bills related to reproductive freedom, and other state bills related to our Public Policy Program; "Lobbying," which covers contacting legislators, being part of our Ohio Letter Corps and joining the League of Women Voter's Lobby Corps; "Newsletter Articles," which are written by your state public policy co-chairs for your branch

newsletters; and "Ohio Projects," which include our Ohio Public Policy Challenge and Pay Equity Day. These pages will help members impact Ohio politics.

Branch Advocacy: Includes pages entitled "Organizing," which offers suggestions about how to incorporate issue advocacy into your branch programming or Public Policy Interest Group and gives the public policy chair job description; "Becoming Informed," which offers tips on how the chair can become informed and in turn inform her fellow members; "Planning and Executing Issue Advocacy," which gives specific ideas for easy actions to complex projects; "Lobbying," which addresses branch level activism; and "Recognizing Accomplishments," which praises branches for specific public policy work.

The page header quotes in this issue highlight pay inequity issues still faced by 21st Century women.

Expanding Our Legacy of Leadership: AAUW's Bold Move into the Future

Members have spoken. AAUW's boards have listened. Now your support is needed.

For 125 years, AAUW has been advancing equity for women and girls through education, advocacy, philanthropy, and research—and through community action by strong branches throughout the country.

During the past 18 months, AAUW and the Educational Foundation have been engaged in an extensive strategic process to address shared challenges and opportunities. More than 11,000 members' voices were incorporated through surveys, online conversations, and discussions at the branch, state, regional, and national levels. Several principal findings have emerged as the result of this process:

1. Members' commitment to promoting equity for women of all ages is as strong as ever.

We continue to work on issues that affect women today, because equity is still an issue. To focus our strength and reaffirm our commitment, the AAUW and Educational Foundation boards have adopted a single, shared mission that encompasses the legacy of both:

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

2. We need to adapt AAUW's organizational structure to meet current and future challenges.

The strategic process found AAUW's current structure a barrier to attracting new members, strengthening our revenues, and accomplishing our mission. The boards heard the members' voices that we need to adapt our structure as a necessary first step toward reclaiming our legacy as a relevant, vibrant organization.

3. AAUW needs your engaged support now and your vote at the Association Convention in June.

We must adapt our structure and send a mandate to the new boards for immediate, bold action to move forward. Please take time to research the proposed structural changes for yourself and talk with other members at the local level about our collective direction.

Visit the AAUW website and click the Strategic Process link on the home page at <http://www.aauw.org>.

- Read the Joint Boards' Report (October 31, 2006).
- Study the chart outlining the proposed bylaws changes to be voted on at the Association convention.
- Get your questions answered and the facts by bookmarking, visiting, and revisiting the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

In addition, contact your branch and state leaders as well as others who will be voting at Association convention and let them know you support the proposed changes.

Let's support the proposed bylaws changes and send a clear, strong message to the new board members. Let's tell them we're ready to put them to work to reenergize and refocus the AAUW we love and to which we've given so much, because as we know, equity is still an issue!

Theme Programming: Ground-breaking research comes alive on campus

Following the successful 2006 programmatic strategy used for AAUW's "Building a Harassment Free Campus" project, in 2007 AAUW will once again be pairing ground-breaking research with theme-related projects that put the research into action on college campuses as well as public policy efforts to engage members and the public on AAUW priority issues. Read on for the exciting details about AAUW's latest project in support of the theme, **Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security**.

"Planning for an Economically Secure Future" Ground-breaking Research

While several measures of educational achievement show that on average women are faring as well as their male counterparts today, often times these gains do not translate into comparable economic success beyond college. In 2004, college-educated women 25 and older earned 75 percent of what their male peers earned. This pay gap appears within the first year after college – even when women are working full-time in the same fields as men – and widens in the first ten years in the workforce. AAUW Educational Foundation research, to be released in Spring 2007, points to several factors that appear to be pivotal including the field of study, the decision to have children, and occupational choice.

The AAUW Leadership and Training Institute is pleased to announce this year's AAUW Campus Action Project Teams (CAP). Ten teams from around the country have been selected to implement projects on their campus under the theme "*Planning for an Economically Secure Future*" during spring 2007. CAP teams will also be presenting at AAUW's 2007 National Conference of College Women Student Leaders. One project branches might pursue is to provide a scholarship for some lucky college woman to attend this leadership conference. For more information and ideas about the CAP project, check out the CAP website at www.aauw.org/campus_connection/cap

Market Your Branch to Expand Your Membership

Second in a series of articles on how to promote your branch

By Cindy Grau, Co-Membership Vice President

After college, I started working for a marketing driven company – MCI. It never ceased to amaze me that the company could offer – and customers would buy – a product that wasn't even available yet. Apparently the advertising and product description was appealing and people wanted it. The sales and marketing people were good at selling people on the product. Each time a new product was released we would have a horrible period of breaking in a new, not-nearly-ready product on unsuspecting customers.

AAUW does have a product. Some say we should reinvent the product, update it. I think it is important that each branch should do an evaluation in this regard. What are your branches' selling points? What are you doing to further the mission of education and equity for women and girls and positive societal change? Do you need to refocus to get back on track with the mission? If you are on track already, perhaps there are new things your branch can do to expand its influence and give potential members more ways to become involved.

Once you have defined yourself, how do you sell AAUW and your branch? AAUW like telecommunications products is not something you can see. You have to have a story. What is it about your branch that is attractive to like-minded people? How can you articulate the goals and achievements of your branch and AAUW to prospective members?

Get your message out in every way possible. The more people that hear about your branch and the more times they hear it the more likely they will be to join. Your message needs to be coherent and consistent. It could be a theme that you use for the year. It could be a project that the community associates with your branch. Are the goals of AAUW included in some way in your newsletters and newspaper articles? Your "brand" should come through loud and clear every time.

At programs and community events you can:

- Use signage and brochures
- Make up a display with pictures of your projects and tout your successes.
- Is there a place for your branch scrapbook(s) to be displayed to show what your branch has been and continues to be about?

You can reach out to others by:

- Have members share newsletters with prospective members and invite them to events
- Have a website
- Send media information about meetings and special events, include your website
- Get to know and partner with your local colleges' Women's Study Program
- Partner with other like minded organizations on projects
- Advertise EF scholarships at local colleges – make sure your branch is noted with the information.

Of course you must be ready when the new members come – your product has to be real! Hopefully your branch has opportunities for members to work on projects together. New members need to feel connected to their branch in some way. Figure out what initial ways each member can be involved according to his or her interest and skills. They will likely be your most active members.



Grau

Springtime is the Best Recruiting Time

By Cindy Grau, Co-Membership Vice President

Branches tend to think of spring as the end of the year when programs and projects wind down for the summer. However spring is the time that new members get the most out of their dues. The association also has many tools to aid in Membership Recruitment in the spring.

- **From January 1st through March 15th** – Association and State Dues are half price and some branch dues are also half price. (Check your branches' by-laws.)

- **Beginning March 15th** – Association dues are paid for the next full year, so new members can get up to 15 months for the price of 12. Association dues will be \$47 starting March 15 for the 2007-2008 year.

- **Give a Grad a Gift** – offers free Association memberships to recent graduates. Apply on-line or call the association directly. Consider paying the state and branch fees for a recent graduate as a gift.

- **Shape the Future** – the program cuts national dues in half for new members that join at an event other than a branch meeting. This program can be combined with half price dues from January through March 15 making the national dues only \$11.25. After March 15 discounted association dues will be \$23.50. For every two members that join with Shape the Future your branch receives one national membership for free. This is a good incentive to use in the branch to encourage members to bring friends to AAUW events.

Perhaps your branch could plan an informational meeting before the end of the year. Many branches plan membership events where guests are invited to hear about AAUW's mission and the local branch in particular. The event gives branch members a reason to ask others if

(Continued on page 7)

83rd Annual Meeting and Convention

(Continued from page S-1)

- Public Policy (**Jackie Evangelista**)
- Communications (**Paula Maggio, Donna McNamee**)
- Diversity (**Sally Dye**)

Our “Honor the Past” theme continues at lunchtime, as AAUW/Ohio officially and festively celebrates AAUW’s 125th Anniversary with an historic re-enactment, presentation of our first annual STARZ awards, and, of course, birthday cake.

Following the AAUW/Ohio annual business meeting and election, convention attendees will enter into a Town Meeting, featuring a “Face of Our Future,” **Emily Resnik** from Bowling Green State University. With the help of AAUW/Ohio College/University Relations Chair **Mary Lou Baty** and AAUW Leaders-in-Residence at the University of Toledo **Gail Conrad** and **Carol Leupp**, Emily will show us how to “Embrace our Future” by reaching out to younger potential members.



Emily Resnik

Emily Resnik is a senior at Bowling Green State University with a double major in Psychology and Women’s Studies. With support from the Bowling Green branch and AAUW/Ohio, she was a delegate to AAUW’s 2006 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders in Washington, D.C. Emily is currently President of the Organization for Women’s Issues, the feminist organization on BGSU’s campus, after serving as treasurer during the last academic year. She is also a member of Vision, the LGBTQIAQA organization on campus (gay/lesbian and allies) and NARAL Pro-Choice BGSU. To aid her in her pursuit of working with women in sexual assault and domestic violence situations, Emily volunteers as a victim’s advocate through the Victims Services program at Behavioral Connections in Bowling Green. Emily has had several opportunities to present her research on the debate of homosexuality within the Catholic church and hopes that she will have similar opportunities in the future for other research she is pursuing. Recognizing her contributions to the University community, this past October she was awarded a senior year scholarship by the BGSU Administrative Staff Council. Originally from Cincinnati, Emily will be moving to Washington, D.C. after graduating in

Regan to Seek Nomination

(Continued from first page)

2004 and Corresponding Secretary from 1998-2000. She has also been active in AAUW/Ohio as the Legal Advocacy Fund Chair from 2002-2006. Regan has attended annual state conventions four out of the last five years, and she chaired Equity Day in 2002. Conrad also notes that Regan’s “additional experience includes being a trained mediator (from Capital Law & Ohio Commission on Conflict & Dispute Resolution) and service as a campus ombudsperson.” Regan indicated in her application that she would bring to AAUW/Ohio her skills in organizing, her comfort in public speaking, her personal sense of order/organization, and her instructional training and workshop expertise. “All of these positions have allowed me to be intellectually nourished and to serve others,” Regan commented. She added, “if organizations of any type are to survive, then individuals must step forward to lead.”

May, 2007. She hopes to attend graduate school at George Washington University or the University of Maryland, College Park.

Your AAUW/Ohio board hopes to see all branches well represented at YOUR 83rd AAUW/Ohio Annual Meeting and Convention as we “Honor the Past and Embrace the Future.”

Tiffin Branch Member to Lead Book Discussion

Pat Hillmer, a member of the Tiffin Branch, will lead the discussion of our All-Convention Read, **Money, A Memoir: Women, Emotions, and Cash**, by Liz Perle. A library science graduate of The University of Michigan, Pat has been Director of the Tiffin-Seneca County Public Library for more than 20 years. She was honored by the Ohio Library Council as Ohio Librarian of the Year in 2004.



up-to-date information at: www.moneyamemoir.com.

Discussion sessions are scheduled for Friday, April 20, 2007, 3:15-4:45pm and 8:00-9:30pm. **Money, A Memoir** ties into the theme of Equity Day, which is “Financially Fit for Life.” There was an article about the book in the Winter 2007 issue of Orbit and you can find

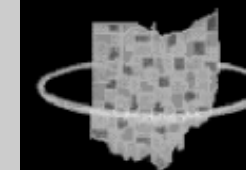


The Camden Falls Convention Center



OHIO Orbit

Newsletter of AAUW/Ohio, Inc....Encircling Our 50 Branches



AAUW/Ohio’s 83rd Annual Meeting and Convention, Tiffin, Ohio

By **Virginia E. Palmer**, Co-Program Vice-President, AAUW/Ohio

“Honor the Past: Embrace the Future” is the theme of AAUW/Ohio’s 83rd Annual Meeting and Convention, to be held Saturday, April 21, 2007, at Tiffin’s Camden Falls Reception and Conference Center. It’s also the title of the interactive presentation with which AAUW Great Lakes Regional Director Pam Thiel will open our convention. The presentation’s purposes are to affirm AAUW’s mission and members, state the need for change as revealed in the Association’s Strategic Process, and provide a call to action and next steps. To be fully prepared to engage in this presentation, please read



Ginny Palmer

“Expanding Our Legacy of Leadership: AAUW’s Bold Move into the Future,” on page four of the Spring *Orbit*.



Pam Thiel

From La Crosse, Wisconsin, Pam Thiel has served AAUW at the branch, state, regional, and association levels. In addition to being a Regional Director, she was appointed to the Association Membership Committee. She is a past Wisconsin State President, and Educational Foundation and Membership Vice-President. She has also been a Branch President and Program Vice-President.

Pam received a B.A. in biology from Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois. She did graduate work at Florida State University in Tallahassee and received a M.S. in aquatic biology from the University of Wisconsin in La Crosse. Her day job is a fishery scientist and supervisor for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, with responsibility for Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois. She is active in professional organizations such as the American Fisheries Society and the Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee. She is also on the board of the local Audubon Society and League of Women Voters. Her outside interests include adventure travel, gardening, and fishing.

Following Pam’s presentation, convention attendees will have the opportunity to discuss AAUW’s proposed structural changes and collective direction in Reactor Breakout sessions. Plan to join these key AAUW/Ohio leaders at Talk Tables:

- Educational Foundation/Legal Advocacy Fund (**Mary Lee Powell, Sue Leidtke**)
- Mission-Based Programming (**Virginia Palmer**)
- Membership (**Cindy Grau, Pat Millhoff**)
- College/University Relations (**Mary Lou Baty**)

(Continued on page S-4)

Annual Meeting Highlight Diane Regan to seek Nomination for President-Elect

by **Donna P. McNamee**

AAUW/Ohio Nominations Chair, Gail Conrad, announced Diane Regan, a member and President of the Bowling Green Branch, will seek the nomination for the office of President-Elect at the Annual Meeting to be held during the AAUW/Ohio Convention in April.



Diane Regan

Regan is a graduate of the University of Albany (SUNY) with a BA in English. She has completed additional graduate work at the University of Minnesota. Currently, she is Director of Faculty/Staff Immigration Services and Fulbright Program Advisor at Bowling Green State University where she has been employed in various positions for twenty-five years. Her prior professional experience at BGSU includes holding the position of Equity Officer, responsible for investigating complaints of harassment and discrimination, and Executive Assistant to the Dean of Arts and Sciences at BGSU. Regan’s off-hours interests are as varied as her professional experience which have been nurtured by extensive travel. “I have a deep and abiding interest in international events and locations and have traveled extensively including Egypt, China, Turkey and Central America,” stated Regan.

Regan’s AAUW experience is also diverse. She has been President of the Bowling Green branch since 2004; she was VP of Membership from 2000 to

(Continued on page S-4)

Agenda

For up-to-date information on the Conference and Convention, please visit our website at www.AAUWOH.org Special Issue Page S-2

12th EQUITY ISSUE CONFERENCE – Camden Falls Reception and Conference Center, Tiffin

“*Financially Fit for Life*,” in collaboration with AAUW Leadership and Training Institute and Prudential Financial

Friday, April 20, 2007

- 9:30-11:00 (Optional) Tour of Ritz Theatre and Tiffin Glass Museum
11:00-11:30 Conference Registration and networking
11:30-1:00 Buffet Lunch
Welcome and Introductions – **Virginia Palmer**, AAUW/Ohio Co-Program Vice-President
1:00-3:00 – Financially Fit for Life Panel, moderated by an AAUW national office representative, featuring local professionals addressing such issues as: retirement, investments, and other savings issues; life, disability, long-term care insurance coverage; estate planning, marital status changes, and other legal issues; and social and emotional influences on women’s financial behavior.
3:00-3:15 Break
3:15-4:45 Breakout Sessions – Choice of 3
Book Discussion: *Money, A Memoir: Women, Emotions and Cash* by **Liz Perle**, facilitated by Tiffin Branch member **Pat Hillmer**, Director of Tiffin-Seneca County Public Library
Two sessions to be announced
4:45-6:00 Afternoon Reception

83rd ANNUAL MEETING/CONVENTION – Camden Falls Reception and Conference Center, Tiffin

“*Honor the Past; Embrace the Future*”

Friday, April 20, 2007

- 4:00-6:00 Hotel Check-In, Registration, Delegate Credentialing; Dinner on Your Own
6:00-8:00 AAUW/Ohio Board & Past Presidents’ Dinner and Meeting – Members welcome for meeting after dinner
8:00-9:30 Book Discussion: *Money, A Memoir: Women, Emotions and Cash* by Liz Perle, facilitated by Tiffin Branch member **Pat Hillmer**, Director of Tiffin-Seneca County Public Library
9:30 Dessert Reception

Saturday, April 21, 2007

- 7:30-8:30 Registration, Delegate Credentialing, EF Item Drop-Off
8:30-8:45 Convention Opening: Virginia Palmer, AAUW/Ohio Co-Program Vice-President
Presentation of the Colors, Pledge of Allegiance
Welcome: **Marge Lee**, AAUW/Ohio president
8:45-11:00 “Honor the Past: Embrace the Future,” presented **Pam Thiel**, AAUW Great Lakes Regional Director
11:00-11:15 Break, Network and visit EF Silent Auction and branch sale tables
11:15-12:15 Reaction Breakouts – Talk Tables with AAUW/Ohio Board Members
Educational Foundation/Legal Advocacy Fund (**Mary Lee Powell, Sue Leidtke**)
Mission-Based Programming (**Mary Lou Baty**)
Membership (**Cindy Grau, Pat Millhoff**)
Public Policy (**Jackie Evangelista**)
Communications (**Paula Magglio, Donna McNamee**)
Diversity (**Sally Dye**)
12:15-12:30 Break, Network and visit EF Silent Auction and branch sale tables
12:30-2:00 Luncheon: AAUW 125th Anniversary Celebration,
Historic Re-Enactment, Gail Conrad & Carol Leupp
Presentation of STARZ Awards, **JoAnn Benseler**
2:00-2:15 Break, Network and visit EF Silent Auction and branch sale tables
2:15-3:15 AAUW/Ohio Annual Business Meeting & Election, Ohio President **Marge Lee**, Presiding
3:15-3:30 Break: Last chance to visit Educational Foundation silent auction and branch sales tables
3:30-4:45 Town Meeting with “*Face of Our Future*,” **Emily Resnik**, assisted by AAUW/Ohio College/University Relations Chair **Mary Lou Baty** and AAUW Leaders-in-Residence at the University of Toledo **Gail Conrad** and **Carol Leupp**
Presentations of Awards to Branches
4:45 Closing
Collect and pay for EF items
Submit evaluations
OPTIONAL Saturday evening activities
Dinner on your own
8:00 Concert by The Village People, The Ritz Theater, Tiffin

Registration Form

In order to preserve your copy of the Orbit, Please feel free to copy this form!

Special Issue Page S-3

Registration

AAUW OHIO EQUITY DAY AND CONVENTION April 20 & 21, 2007, Tiffin, Ohio

Notes:

- If you are staying Friday night, you need to make your own hotel reservation. Call the Hampton Inn at (419) 443-5300. Mention AAUW to receive a reduced room rate of \$85+tax (\$99.99+tax after April 15). A block of rooms set aside for us will be available until March 20. Continental breakfast is included.
- If you wish to go to the Village People concert Saturday evening, you need to buy your own ticket. Call the Ritz Theatre at (419) 448-8544 or (800) 586-7382.
- You are asked to refrain from wearing perfume or heavily scented products at the convention.
- You may also register online at: www.aauwoh.org. Maps and directions are also available online.

Name _____

Address _____

Street City State Zip

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Graduate of what school? _____

Name City State

Member of what branch? _____ None _____ Member at large? _____

Is your branch bringing an item for the EF silent auction? Yes ___ No ___

Are you a delegate? Yes ___ No ___ Prospective member? Yes ___ No ___

Dietary Restrictions or special needs: vegetarian ___ other _____

Mark the activities you plan to attend:

___ Pre-Conference tour of The Ritz Theatre & Tiffin Glass Museum (*mark if interested*)

___ Equity Day

___ Annual Convention

Calculate your fees:

Both Equity Day & Convention: \$85 _____

Equity Day only: \$35 _____

(includes buffet lunch, reception)

Convention only: \$60 _____

(includes dessert reception, snacks, served lunch)

Ohio Challenge 50% convention waiver: - \$30 _____

Late registration fee (after April 4): \$10 _____

TOTAL _____

Fill in all the requested information and total your fees. Make check payable to: “AAUW 2007 Convention”. Mail to Leona Einsel, Registrar, at 10586 E US Highway 224, Attica, OH 44807. Or, to register on-line and pay with Paypal, go to www.aauwoh.org and go to the convention page. People who cancel after April 4 will be refunded half their fees. There will be no refunds after April 13. If you have questions about registering, contact Leona Einsel at (419) 983-5851 or send an e-mail to AAUWConvention2007@gmail.com.