

South Atlantic Regional Director Report

Dear **AAUW of North Carolina Friends**,

I am so looking forward to participating in your state convention in Charlotte. I have already attended Georgia's convention and was once again revived by making connections with members. I am constantly inspired by the commitment of AAUW leaders and members.

This has been an *interesting* fall and winter as your Regional Director, as the Association Board and staff have struggled with the restructuring of the Board that has resulted in regional directors and chairs of committees no longer being a part of the Board. This has certainly saved us money and made logistics for Board meetings more manageable, but the negative side is that leaders have struggled to ensure that they have the information they need to do their jobs the best they can. This has been difficult to achieve, and we continue to work at that daily.

It has been my privilege to represent the Regional Directors [RDs] as one of the only two RDs sitting on the Board now. It has allowed me to gain better insight into the dedication and commitment to the mission by both your Association leaders and your Association staff. Although we might not get all the answers we want to hear, I cannot fault the tremendous effort that both volunteer leaders and staff put forth for our organization. It is amazing how much time and talent is given freely by so many.

Issues of membership decline, leadership development, effective communication, and financial stability continue to be addressed by your Association Board members and committees. There are certainly no easy answers or solutions, but please know that these issues stay at the forefront of our work on a daily basis.

I hope that you will begin to make the AAUW website – www.aauw.org – an internet favorite and check it often. A new design and tons of information and publications can make this a one-stop shop for AAUW information. Publications like the new *Mission in Action*, an email newsletter for all members, along with *Action Alert* and *AAUW in Action*, can all be found there. Check it out!

As your regional director, I have the pleasure of visiting the South Atlantic states and getting to know leaders and members much better. Last Fall I was privileged to participate in your state Board meeting and to meet and learn from the various AAUW of NC officers. You have an awesome leadership team that I hope you are as proud of as I am.

Along with state visits and lots of communications over the months, I have spent a great deal of time working with Sherilyn Jones, Southeast Central Regional Director, to plan our joint regional conference in Atlanta, June 11-13, 2004. We have a terrific three days planned and I hope that North Carolina will send a large contingent to join the learning, networking, and fun. A brochure on the conference will be available at the convention, or you can email me and I will send you a copy. I hope to see you in Atlanta!

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