



## President's Message

Joanne Hill  
AAUW NC

FALL IS FINALLY here on the coast, and I know you in the mountains have probably been in it for awhile! What a great season, and AAUW NC branches are off to great starts. Several events will have occurred between the time I write this and the time you read it. As we go to press, I am excited about the opportunity to present the AAUW NC Juvenile Literature Award to Blonnie Bunn Wyche in Raleigh on November 19. Her book about a young girl in colonial North Carolina is well researched, a delightful read, and richly deserving of the award. For more information about the history of this honor, please check out Clara Allen's History. Blonnie is a member of the AAUW Wilmington Branch.

The Eden Branch members were delightful hosts for our fall board meeting, October 2. The meeting prompted some great discussions about where we are and where we are going. We began a strategic planning process that allowed for maximal input and participation. In fact, since it does take a fair amount of time to look back from where we came, look critically at where we are and then chart our course for the future, the discussion is "to be continued" at our winter retreat in Greensboro, on Saturday, January 29. The ideas were fruitful and thought-provoking, and it looks like our reconnection efforts are right on track for where we need to go.

If you are a member of the board and were not able to come to the fall board meeting, but are planning to attend the winter retreat, please contact me or one of the board members who was at the fall board meeting to get "up to speed" on the discussion. Conversely, if you did attend the fall board meeting but will be unable to attend the winter retreat, and are sending a representative, please ensure they are informed about what we are doing. We have much to accomplish that weekend and will need to "hit the ground running." Please do not interpret this as not caring about your input, or not wanting you to come; there was tremendous energy and enthusiasm generated in Eden, and we need to

## Q. Why should I plan to be in Asheville April 15-17, 2005?

**A. Every leader needs a "renew and refuel" time and this is the purpose of convention. Come to learn and share.**

Mary Peterson  
AAUW NC Program Vice-President

### The Highlights To Date Are:

- Start off Saturday morning with breakfast and hearing an EF fellow speak.
- Our Keynote Speaker, Mary Cantando, will talk about women and leadership developing our theme: "Purpose, Power and Progress."



- Workshops:
  - 1 Equity is still an Issue
  - 2 College/University Power and Progress
  - 3 Advocacy Power
  - 4 Communication Power
- Lunch will be "Topic Tables" with a leader at each table
- Afternoon:
  - Business Session I
  - Repeat workshops
- Reception with background music
- Banquet
- LAF Breakfast on Sunday morning
- Memorial Service
- Business Session II
- Branch Spotlight
  - Two branches will present successful projects
- Town Meeting

**Come Early! Stay Late!**  
**Host | Asheville Branch**

Grace Walker  
2005 Convention Chair

Join us at the Downtown Renaissance Hotel! We have special rates of \$114+ tax for these dates, and for 2 days before and after the convention. This is prime time in Asheville and a very good rate. Attractions include:

- The Biltmore Estate (Festival of Flowers going on at this time)
  - Cherokee Indian Reservation
  - Folk Art Center
  - Grandfather Mountain
  - Lake Lure Tours
  - Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site
  - Great Smoky Mountains Railroad
  - Unique shopping in Downtown Asheville
- Our hotel is next to the newly restored Thomas Wolfe House and adjacent to one of the stops on the Urban Trail which is a 1.7 mile walking trail of historic sites in Asheville. We will offer a Trolley Tour of Asheville on Friday afternoon.

**For EVERY member!**

build on the positive momentum and "bring it home" in Greensboro.

Mary Peterson and the Asheville Convention committee have been working tirelessly to put together a phenomenal convention this spring. Please make sure the date is on your calendar, and check out the information both here and on the web site.

Nancy Shoemaker has graciously volunteered to summarize the efforts and make final recommendations regarding Reconnection. This has been a tremendous process with a lot of work from many of you, and your steadfast commitment to our future is awesome!

The 2004 election is behind us and our voices for equity and positive societal change have never been more needed. I am so grateful for your time, talent, energy, and commitment.

## AAUW NC Survey

We want comments from members throughout the state. A survey will be distributed through the e-mail list and on the web site. To obtain a paper copy, please contact Karla Atkinson, AAUW NC secretary, 506 Stone Drive, Brevard NC 28712-9662, 828.884.7648. Results of the survey will be presented at the retreat in January.

## American Association of University Women

1111 16th Street NW • Washington DC 20036

AAUW Helpline • Toll Free Number 800.821.4364 • M-F 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. EST

### AAUW NC PRESIDENT • JOANNE HILL

2262 White Oak River Rd, Maysville, NC 28555 | 910.743.9996 | 910.451.7593 Fax | aauwncprez@wnanc.com

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## AAUW NC: When & Where!

January 28-29, 2005

AAUW NC Winter Retreat, Greensboro

February 19, 2005

Coastal Cluster, Jacksonville

April 2, 2005

Triangle Cluster, Sandhills Community College, Southern Pines. Topic: "Women's Health—A Creative Approach"

April 15-17, 2005

AAUW NC Convention, Asheville

June 24-27, 2005

AAUW Convention, Washington, DC

### TAR HEEL NEWS DEADLINE

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tarheelnews@aauwnc.org

Fax 704.872.3400

1525 Melviney St., Statesville NC 28677

<http://www.aauwnc.org>

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