



Barbara White
Nominee, Membership Vice-President
Raleigh/Wake County Branch

Barbara White, a member of the Raleigh/Wake County Branch, is a candidate for the position of membership vice-president for AAUW NC. If elected, she plans to work with other members of the Executive Committee, branch officers, and members to increase visibility of AAUW's mission, which in turn will attract potential members who are interested in our priorities.

White is the lab manager for paper science/engineering at N.C. State University, where she oversees the wood chemistry and paper science labs. She has been a resident of the Raleigh area for nearly a year, where she lives with her daughter Julia, a freshman at N.C. State.

White joined AAUW in 1993, after attending in a gender equity symposium sponsored by the Beckley (West Virginia) Branch. She has served in many capacities at the branch and division levels, including a term as AAUW WV president, two terms as the program vice-president, nominating committee chair, and college/university relations committee member. Her branch positions include president, program

vice-president, membership vice-president, historian, publicist, newsletter editor, special events coordinator, and member of various committees.

During White's term as president of AAUW WV, membership increased slightly after a decade-long decline. This is attributed to a concerted team effort of the executive committee to get AAUW's activities and mission in the media statewide through a series of press conferences and newsworthy activities.

White is also a member of the Analytical Laboratory Managers Association and while in West Virginia was a volunteer for Girl Scouts of Black Diamond Council and the local schools.

Two Branches Receive Mini-Grants

Joanne Hill, AAUW NC president, recently announced two branches have received mini-grants for the spring cycle, Franklin County and High Country Branch. Franklin County has been awarded a capacity grant for its membership initiative plus a travel grant. High Country has been awarded a \$100 capacity grant. Learn more about mini-grants at www.aauwnc.org.

New Branch Holds First Meeting

The initial meeting of the AAUW High Country Branch was held Saturday morning, January 21, at the Jones House Community Center, in Boone. After a period of refreshments and conversation, the group were welcomed by Peggy Pearson, and all present were introduced.

Elizabeth Laney introduced Barbi Quatrano, who talked about the Jones House history. She welcomed Virginia Palmer from the Statesville AAUW Branch, the closest branch to the High Country. She thanked Katerina Whitley, who was serving as registrar and Donna House, Lizzie Pearson, and Peggy Pearson, who assisted with refreshments. She then presented Nancy Shoemaker, AAUW NC president-elect, for an introduction to AAUW, its goals and mission and its activities.

Eighteen women were present and 10 joined at the meeting. Animated discussion was the rule of the day, as those present talked about the activities in which this group could participate to meet needs in the high country community, in the northwestern area of North Carolina.



Elizabeth Laney, top left; Peggy Pearson right; Katarina Whitley, inset; and Nancy Shoemaker are only a few of the women present for the first meeting of the High Country Branch in Boone.

Karla Lutz Atkinson

Nominee, Secretary

506 Stone Drive, Brevard, NC 28712
AAUW NC Secretary, 2004-2006
Brevard Branch, Public Policy Chair
AAUW NC ReConnection Committee,
Goal VI - AAUW NC Structure

Kalamazoo College B.A.
Western Michigan University M.A.
Davenport College, Paralegal Degree

Atkinson pursued a career in education from 1980-1994. She began as a tutor in the Martin Luther King program and then became coordinator of the Center for Educational Research at Western Michigan University. Later, she directed a program out of the WMU Women's Center, to improve vocational education opportunities for women in high school who were interested in pursuing non-traditional careers. Atkinson was responsible for drafting part of the first Title IX complaint ever filed in the state of Michigan-against the Kalamazoo Public Schools.

She later moved to the Michigan Department of Education where for 10 years, she was a consultant in the Office of Educational Equity, specializing in gender equity issues and in particular, athletic opportunities for young women in secondary schools. Later, she moved to the Office of School Improvement at the state level where she coordinated the K-12 accreditation program for almost three years.

After moving to Brevard in 1994, she accepted a position as assistant director of the Transylvania County Arts Council in 1995. She



Karla Atkinson, seated, talked with former AAUW NC president, Gloria Blanton. Atkinson is running for her second term as AAUW NC secretary.

retired from the Arts Council in 2000, but returned to serve as co-director from 2001-2003.

Atkinson sat on the AAUW NC Board as a branch president for two years, and served Brevard Branch as secretary and program co-vice-president. She coordinated the branch's book sale in 2001 and remains the chief pricer/sorter for one of the sections. She was responsible for creating the branch's Jeopardy game which is offered to all fifth grade students in the county schools, as part of the branch's National Women's History Month activities.

She is married and has three sons, three stepdaughters, and seven grandchildren.

Nominating Committee

Grace B. Knechtel, chair, 1304 Boxwood Court, Cary, 27511
Jean B. Green, 1161 Fearrington Post, Pittsboro, 27312
Carol S. Kaiser, 178 Surry Lane, Hendersonville, 28791
Jane W. Niederberger, 01 Lazy Day Drive, Surf City, 28445
Karen M. Perry, 1000 Parkwood Circle, High Point, 27262

gbknechtel@msn.com
greenc@uw.edu
rckaiser@brinet.com
janedwn@yahoo.com
kperry5@aol.com

Linda Sarkis, advisor, lcsarkis@yahoo.com

International Focus : Women, Children, Cooperation

Shirley Quisenberry,
AAUW NC International Affairs Chair

THE WORLD'S WOMEN and children, especially those in poorer countries, should receive more attention this year with the passage by the United States Senate of S1315 calling on the President to provide continued leadership in building international cooperation to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. The bill also requires the Administration to report to Congress on U.S. and international efforts to meet the goals. So what are the goals which all members of the United Nations have pledged to work toward? Each of the 8 focuses on a different aspect of the human condition. As you read the title of the 8 goals, AAUW members can certainly envision the relationship to our concern for women and children and how each can help us achieve the goals which are so fundamental to our Mission:

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Achieve universal primary education

- Promote gender equality and empower women
- Reduce child mortality
- Improve maternal health
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
- Ensure environmental sustainability
- Develop a global partnership for development

A healthy and educated mother is at the center of these efforts to raise the level of human development at the local level.

Maternal Health and Well-Being: A Cornerstone of the Millennium Development Goals is the UN Day Theme sponsored by the UNA-USA which culminates on October 24, 2006. Much material will be available for use in collaboration with other groups in your community so studies, programs, and actions can be significant. We should be able to help our community, our Association, our Congress, and the United Nations make valuable progress toward improving peoples lives locally and worldwide.