

Convention 2006: Inspiration, Information Create Gateway to Future for Women and Girls

HISTORIC NEW BERN, first capital of North Carolina, was the perfect setting for AAUW NC Convention 2006, as nearly 100 women (along with a few men) gathered to focus on the future for women and girls. Hosted by Twin Rivers/New Bern, Jacksonville Regional, Kinston and Wilmington Branches, Mary Peterson and JoAnn Hall were convention co-chairs.

The weekend began early with the panel discussion at Craven Community College. Students studying non-traditional career paths spoke to women from AAUW, the college and community. They listened to Kenneth Wilkins, from the North Carolina Treasurer's Office, to discover if the state owed them money. Barbara Biba spoke about English as a Second Language.

Friday evening, AAUW members packed the upstairs dining room of the Chelsea restaurant to enjoy listening to the Rev. and Mrs. Vernon Tyson, parents of Tim Tyson, author of *Blood Done Sign My Name*.

Saturday was fast-paced. Richard Moore, NC treasurer; the Tysons, Dr. June Atkinson, and Dr. Delores Parker spoke on topics addressing our theme. Workshops led by Wilkins, Ashley Osment and Sara Jones offered information for members to take home and use.

All business meetings were well-attended.

Pages 4 and 5 feature stories about of Convention 2006, as well as the transcript of Dr. Atkins' address.



Raleigh/Wake County women participate in Convention 2006. Seated: Gloria Blanton, 1974-76 AAUW NC president; Grace Knechtel, 2001-03 AAUW NC program vice-president. Standing: Elizabeth Laney, 1992-94 AAUW NC president and co-founder of new High Country Branch; Nancy Shoemaker, incoming AAUW NC president; Dale Strayhorn; Barbara White, incoming AAUW NC membership vice-president; and former AAUW NC presidents – Barbara Ann Hughes, 1978-80 and Leslie Syron, 1957-59.

**AAUW NC
Silver 2005 | Gold 2003
Platinum 2002
5-Star 2001
7-Star 1996 - 2000**

AAUW NC Convention 2006
Richard Moore 4
Rev. and Mrs. Vernon Tyson 4
Sarah Jones 4
Ashley Osment 4
Kenneth Wilkins 4
June Atkinson 5
Delores Parker 5
Show Me the Money 5

AAUW NC
News System 2
Diversity 2
Fund-Raising 2
100 Club 2
LAF 3
EF 3
Clusters 3
Join the Leadership Team 6
Budget 6
International (Betty Bayless) 7
President's Message 8
Summer Leadership Meeting 8

Branch Projects and Celebrations
Gaston Regional 2
Charlotte 2
Greensboro 2,7
Passings 3
Bryson City 3
Brevard 3,7
Raleigh – Betty Bayless 7

Coalitions
Aging 6
Democracy NC 6
NCWU 6,7

Partnership
NC Women's Conference 3

The American Association of University Women promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

In principle and 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.

**AAUW NC:
<http://www.aauwnc.org>
866.525.2155 Phone/Fax**

Open the Gate to AAUW NC • July 15 • Southern Pines

Nancy Shoemaker
AAUW NC 2006-2008 President

PLAN TO COME to the first AAUW NC meeting under the new structure. If you've been to board meetings/summer conferences in the past, throw away what you've learned about how they were run. If you haven't, but you want to leverage your energies to benefit AAUW across the state, put July 15 in Southern Pines on your calendar now!

First off, this is a "leadership meeting" not a "leadership conference" or "board meeting." The emphasis is on hearing your voices and getting participation from those who may not be able to commit to being on the board, but care about the direction and efforts of AAUW NC. We will air new ideas – from looking at new ways to communicate with members to changing the format of our state meetings. We need broad input.

If your branch president cannot attend, please do take advantage of the new bylaws that allow the branch president to name a proxy who does NOT have to be a member of your branch (see page 8). This person can take your branch's comments to the meeting, report back on what happened and vote for the branch president as a member of the board.

We will explore the pros and cons of DECISIONS the board needs to make. Discussions will help us to understand the goals of the different groups, what resources (time and money) those goals will require, and how the work of the different groups can complement each other. We'll focus on new initiatives and new ideas – please do bring yours. See www.aauwnc.org/newstructure for additional information for the meeting.

Our focus is not on "reports." Officers are asked to submit their reports in writing in advance. Everyone is encouraged to read the reports and get clarifications in advance. Unless there are issues that affect the budget or the work of other groups, we won't need to spend time on those.

The "leadership team" and the "board" will meet together. We expect there will be only a few times when the board members will be asked to vote, but most of the discussion will be open to all. See page 8 for lodging and registration information. We hope to see many of you there!

Gaston Regional Branch Celebrates Fifty Years

B'Ann Vance, Historian

APRIL 8, 2006 – Joanne Hill, AAUW NC president and Rusty Bradke, EF chair, joined the Gaston Regional Branch at the City Club of Gastonia to celebrate its 50th anniversary. Swannetta Fink, program vice-president, coordinated the event. In her remarks, Hill challenged the branch to live up to its history and prepare for the future. Bradke accepted the branch's special gift of \$750 for the Educational Foundation.

In preparing for the event, the branch updated the minutes, organized their yearbooks and tried to contact as many former members as possible. They researched the minutes and prepared a history of the branch, which began on April 10, 1956, as the Gastonia Branch. The charter was received on May 6, with 26 members. The branch's first gift for fellowships was made that year, \$26 for the 26 original members. In succeeding years, the Branch pursued a variety of means to raise money for fellowships including: selling hosiery, holding bridge benefits, developing and selling original notepaper, book fairs, and selling nuts, before settling into a "Fun for Fellowships" project in March of each year.

Local projects are sources of some pride: encouraging scholarship at the orthopaedic hospital school, holding essay contests open to junior high school girls, advocating for the use

of federal revenue sharing funds to build a new library, and conducting math and science sessions at the local Girl Scout camp. Study groups inspired us to learn more about "The Growing Gap between Rich and poor Nations," "This Beleaguered Earth," the United Nations, and "Women's Work, Women's Worth."

In 1985, the branch welcomed several members from the disbanded Shelby Branch, and they helped us celebrate our 30th Anniversary in 1986, with a \$500 gift to the Educational Foundation. To encourage membership of women from surrounding communities, the branch changed its name to Gaston Regional. Talent from the two branches has provided the AAUW NC with three presidents: Rosalynd Gilliatt, Rebecca Hamrick and Sandra Champion.

Photo: Joanne Hill (left) presents a 50-year certificate to member-at-large Dot Roark during Gaston Regional's 50th anniversary celebration.



100 CLUB

Asheville

*Sandra Abromitis
*Priscilla Lloyd

Brevard

*AAUW Brevard Branch
*Karla Atkinson

Chapel Hill

Carol Candler
Caroline Donnan
*Sydney Elstran
*Jean Green
Jeanne Harrington
Stacy Koehler
Dona Koeberl
*Mary Paterson
Sally Rohrdanz
*Sandy Smalley
Adelaide Spitzbergen
Kay White

Greensboro

*Cleta Baker
*Mary Floyd
*Myllinda Foushee
*Roddy Hurewitz
*Millie Hoffer-Foushee
*Lola Jackson
*Sue Mengert
*Linda Sarkis
*Mary Fran Schickedantz
*Carolyn Taylor
Mary Woodrow

High Point

*Lou Dean Howard

Jacksonville Regional

Christine Almeida
*JoAnn Hall
*Joanne Hill

Raleigh/Wake County

*Barbara Ann Hughes
Grace Knechtel
*Nancy Shoemaker

Statesville Branch

*Patsy Abell
*Marty Folsom
*Sue Goodwin
Mary Green
*Virginia Owen
*Virginia Palmer

Twin Rivers/New Bern

*Mary Peterson

Wilmington

*Hope Cusick
*Barbara Fleming
*Phyllis Guberman
Phyllis Leimer
Marva Moss
*Mary Pierce
*Helen Solomon
*Lillian Van Order
*Phyllis Vogel
*Sue Wood

Member at Large

Diane Meyer
Haverstock

*Charter members who also participated for 2004. The women above either contributed \$100 or at least 100 hours of service to AAUW in the past year

Honor Gifts

Norma Aquilar, Brevard • Dorothy Bauer, Brevard • Doris Bernhlohr, Chapel Hill
Kathleen Mitchell, Jacksonville • Greensboro CCG Volunteers

Memorials

Edward and Peggy Fortner, parents of P. Lloyd • Joanne Hill's father • Joanne Hill's father
Richard Jackson, husband of Lola • Paul Schickedantz, husband of Mary Fran

AAUW NC 100 Club 2006 Donation Form

Name _____
Branch _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____
A contribution in the amount of _____ is being made (minimum amount is \$100):
 In honor of _____
 In memory of _____
Include contact information for honor or memory donations, so an acknowledgment can be sent:
Name _____
Branch _____
Address _____
Email _____

AAUW NC Embraces Multiculturalism, Diversity

Queen Thompson, AAUW NC diversity chair, believes the best way to celebrate and promote diversity and multiculturalism is to be intentional. Her detailed, suggested program of study distributed at the 2006 AAUW NC Convention focuses on ways branches can do this? The program includes seven proposed program areas:

- Branch diversity inclusiveness program
- Statewide book read of *Blood Done Sign My Name* by Timothy Tyson. This was adopted as an AAUW NC project, not only for branches to read and discuss it, but to recommend it be placed in schools and added to curriculum.
- Economic Development including Workforce Development (apprenticeship and training); Biz World-Experiencing Business Inspiring Kids; Women and money
- Legal Reform - elder law, minimum wage legislation, legal abuse, right to legal representation in civil matters, women-to-women social justice.
- Aging and Disability
- Education
- International Relations
- Election 2006 "Get Out the Vote."

Contact Thompson at Qthom96765@aol.com or 704.563.7360 for more information.

Hile Celebrates 50+ Years in AAUW

Mary Lou Hile was honored by Charlotte Branch for more than 50 years of membership in AAUW, during their year-end celebration on May 20. A 1940 graduate of Penn State, she joined AAUW in 1948, in Stamford, Connecticut. She belonged to Stamford chapter until 1955, when the family moved to Charlotte and she transferred her membership. Hile has been active in a myriad of activities, serving as president from 1997-1999. Diane Johnston, her daughter, is also an AAUW member.



LAF, EF Fund-Raising Off to Good Start

Lill Van Order, AAUW NC Fund-Raising Chair WE HAVE STARTED our fund-raising year off with a bang! The LAF breakfast at the state convention raised \$1,287.25 from 20 people in eleven branches. The EF raffle and contributions to EF in honor of our president, Joanne Hill raised around \$830.

The fund-raising pod of the state board is working on the goals and streamlining your contribution process. Learn more at the summer meeting and the web site. So far, the members of this pod are Rusty Bradke, former EF Liaison, Tina Ewing, Evelyn Lange, and Lill Van Order, former LAF Liaison. If you are interested in helping us out we would like to know. Continue to send your contribution information to Lill Van Order. Thanks so much for your support - donations and contributions - fund-raising is an important part of what we do!

Dr. Johnnetta Cole Speaks at Greensboro Luncheon

Carolyn Taylor

Greensboro Communications VP

Greensboro Branch held its recent awards luncheon in the Coffee House of the David D. Jones Student Union at Bennett College for Women. About 75 members and guests were in attendance, including AAUW NC special guests: Nancy Shoemaker, incoming president; Joanne Whitney Hill, 2004-2006 president; Laura Rumbley, 2002-2004 president, and Judy Atkinson, program vice-president.

A member of AAUW since the 60s, Dr. Johnnetta Betsch Cole, president of Bennett, was our honored guest speaker. Her topic was "If you educate a woman..." A dynamic, motivational speaker, she reminded us of our work still to be done after reviewing some of our achievements.

President Linda Sarkis presided at her last general meeting prior to moving to Jacksonville, Florida, later in May.

Sarkis presented the Willa Lawrence Award to Eugenia Perkins, the Dr. Shirley Hall Award to Yvonne Howard, and the Educational Foundation named gifts to Sue Mengert and Everlena Diggs. Officers and board members were remembered with certificates of appreciation for their service from the previous year.

The newly-elected officers were installed by Shoemaker. They are: President-elect Sue Mengert, president-elect; Sue Metz, program vice-president; Marilyn Cotten and Mary Fran Schickedantz, membership co-vice-presidents, and Mary Woodrow, EF vice-president.

The meeting was well-received with the potential of several new members for the new year.

New AAUW News System Launched

Nancy Shoemaker

2006-2008 AAUW NC President

Many of you have noticed that we've got a new way of posting AAUW NC and Association news - see <http://news.aauwnc.org>. How is this different from the web site? Why is it better than the e-mail list? Well...

- 1) Like the e-mail list (and unlike the web site), many people can "post."
- 2) Like the web site (and unlike the e-mail list), the content is immediately available to the public, not just the subscribers.
- 3) Unlike either the web site or the e-mail list, it is possible to "subscribe" to the news in many different ways. You'll be hearing more about this "subscription" model in coming months - and some of you may already be using it with an "RSS Reader" or web sites like my.yahoo.com. You now have the option to include AAUW NC news in a personal "on-line newspaper" which makes it easier to scan the headlines and pick out the pieces important to you. Items no longer get "lost" in among the many other e-mail messages you receive. If you prefer to get this news in e-mail you can also click the orange "RSSFW" button and set that up.
- 4) This technology can be adapted to easy to use and update branch web sites. If you want an example, see <http://asheville.aauwnc.org>. Come to the July 15 meeting in Southern Pines to see a brief demo of this environment. If you want to explore using this for your own branch site, contact me at nancy.shoemaker@auwnc.org.

Girls Build Computers from Scratch

Susan Bogart, Bryson City Branch President At SWAIN COUNTY High School in Bryson City, NC, eight young women have built computers from "the ground up" and have learned about opportunities for women in fields involving math and science. The computers were assembled and software was installed during a three-week period early this year as part of the Bryson City Branch's "Yes, We Can" project.

Students met on a bi-weekly basis since the beginning of the school year to learn about career opportunities, and participated in team-building and goal setting activities, including an alpine event high ropes course.

Women speakers emphasized the importance of math, science, and computers as stepping stones to rewarding careers. Most girls will be first-generation college students. Field trips to regional community colleges, as well as Emory University and Georgia Tech, were provided.

Other field trips included FernBank Museum of Natural History in Atlanta and Oak Ridge National Laboratories in Tennessee. In Tennessee, they saw the world's largest computer, a nuclear reactor and isotopes, the Everest Laboratory with its 30'x8' screen where global climate simulations are run, and the Human Genome Project.

The federal Workforce Investment Act provided additional project funding. The girls can keep the computers they built. Swain County High School is applying for a larger grant to fund this successful program for the next three years.

Passings

AAUW members who passed away in 2005-2006

Charlotte

Mary Boggess, Barbara Castro, Frances Hamer, Hila Stratton (a 50-year member), Louise Ward

Hendersonville

Kathleen Ehlers, Louise Randel

High Point

Helen Betts

Statesville

Bobbie Edmisten

Note: Statesville Branch named its long-time scholarship for a high school senior entering a non-traditional field the "Bobbie G. Edmisten Scholarship Fund." At press time, \$14,837 had been given in her memory.

Winston-Salem

Joan Kibby, Cordelia Woodruff

Money Matters Seminar Is Successful

Barbara Wolfe, Seminar Committee Chair BREVARD BRANCH, with the Transylvania County Cooperative Extension Service sponsored a seminar, *Money Matters For Women*, last fall, to meet a need in our community for financial education for women. Our enrollment spanned college age women to senior citizens. We had an average attendance of 23-35 participants per night on Thursday evenings over five weeks.

Local business women were our guest speakers, who shared their financial expertise, followed by discussion. We used *Money Talk - A Financial Guide For Women* as our study guide. A \$20 registration fee covered all five classes and the workbook. The seminar was well-received and we hope to repeat it in 2007.

Branches Honored for LAF, EF Contributions

Educational Foundation

Rusty Bradke, AAUW NC EF Chair

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BRANCHES that contributed a total of \$32,028.34 to the Educational Foundation in 2005.

At the convention in New Bern, the following Branches were honored. The top five received certificates for their outstanding performance in fund-raising.

The top ten in total money raised were:

1 Brevard	\$8,057
2 Hendersonville	\$3,368
3 Wilmington	\$3,027
4 Charlotte	\$2,824
5 Kinston	\$2,500
6 Winston Salem	\$2,255
7 Asheville	\$2,235
8 Greensboro	\$2,017
9 Raleigh/Wake Co.	\$1,493
10 Statesville	\$1,274

Also recognized were the highest per capita giving Branches:

1 Kinston	\$108.70
2 Brevard	\$ 76.01
3 Charlotte	\$ 54.31
4 Winston Salem	\$ 51.25
5 Wilmington	\$ 37.37
6 Raleigh/Wake Co.	\$ 35.54
7 Jacksonville Regional	\$ 34.38
8 Statesville	\$ 31.85
9 High Point	\$ 29.25
10 Greensboro	\$ 29.23

Donations were directed to the Ann Chipley fund in the amount of \$6,134, and to the Charlotte Research Fund in the amount of \$4,124. Thanks to all the branch EF chairs who worked so hard to raise money for this important part of AAUW.

Legal advocacy Fund

Lillian Van Order, AAUW NC LAF Chair

LAF NC HAD a better year in 2005. Our goal for several years has been \$10,000 per fiscal year. While we have not met that goal, we earned \$7,818.25, a \$679.56 increase from 2004. Whether your branch raised five dollars or five thousand, each dollar helps raise awareness of equity and we thank all who contributed. In 2005, 19 of 22 branches joined the crusade to make equity a viable part of higher education.

Top Ten by Contribution

1 Asheville	\$1,221.00
2 Hendersonville	\$1,045.00
3 Raleigh/Wake County	\$ 905.00
4 Brevard	\$ 824.00
5 Winston-Salem	\$ 696.75
6 Tryon	\$ 650.00
7 Chapel Hill	\$ 500.00
8 Greensboro	\$ 445.00
9 Wilmington	\$ 369.00
10 Statesville	\$ 273.50

Top Ten Per Capita

1 Raleigh/Wake County	\$21.55
2 Winston-Salem	\$15.83
3 Tryon	\$12.04
4 Jacksonville Regional	\$11.87
5 Gaston Regional	\$11.00
6 Asheville	\$ 8.31
7 Hendersonville	\$ 7.92
8 Brevard	\$ 7.77
9 Chapel Hill	\$ 6.94
10 Statesville	\$ 6.84

Of the 19 branches giving, 11 made the \$5 per capita goal, one more than 2004. Tryon Branch, which has not been in the top ten the past two years, ranked sixth in contributions and third per capita. Congratulations to them with all the others.



Grace Knechtel (left) and Shirley Quisenberry accept recognition certificates for their branches during the awards ceremony at convention banquet.

Looking Forward for LAF

I believe the goal of \$10,000 is within our reach. With 1,079 members, at last count, it means we need to give \$9.26 each. Not all give to LAF, however, that too, could be a goal. Many branches do major fund-raisers for EF. Now that LAF is part of EF and if it is advertised properly, part of this function's profits could go to LAF.

With the new configuration of the Contribution Report Forms from the Association and changes in the state board, we are looking at making a few changes in the way one reports giving. We will keep you aware of these changes as they occur.

Contributions to helping raise awareness of sexual harassment on local campuses in coalition with the universities, searching for programs on local campuses that work toward Progress in Equity, supporting local plaintiffs, and raising money for legal advocacy are ways we can all help LAF. As long as Equity is Still and Issue, it is part of our missions to contribute.

A Special Partnership – The North Carolina Conference for Women – October 19

Charlotte. AAUW NC is partnering with other organizations to make this conference, presented by Wachovia, special. Extraordinary speakers and topics of critical importance to women are being featured. AAUW NC will have an exhibit. Barbara White, AAUW NC membership vice-president, is coordinating AAUW NC participation. The Fall leadership meeting is October 20-21, in Statesville, just 50 minutes from Charlotte – attend the conference and meeting for the traveling expense of one event. Complete information will be available in the near future! Plan now to attend!

Clusters – Optional, But More Than "Just Another Meeting"

Nancy Shoemaker, AAUW NC 2006-2008 President

AT THE RECENT CONVENTION, comments were made, "we don't have clusters anymore." While the board discussed clusters at the summer and fall meetings last year, and made changes in what was asked of the branches, there was no intention of doing away with clusters entirely.

Indeed, since the clusters never appeared in the bylaws there's no way to make them go away. Clusters are groups of branches that are relatively near to each other. They have a history of banding together to do projects like hosting the state convention, as well as rotating meetings around the branches in each cluster.

AAUW NC history tells us there is an ebb and flow of activities like cluster meetings. We're in a period where "meeting for meeting's sake" doesn't make much sense.

At the state level, we've found we can "make do" with three leadership meetings each year instead of four. Cluster meetings have become optional events that branches can plan and host if they wish.

However, that does NOT mean that clusters no longer exist. Every member can find ways to reach out to people in neighboring branches and extend the AAUW conversation in ways that might not be practical if kept within a single branch. Advertise your major events to the nearby branches. [On-line, use the AAUW NC e-mail list to send out the details or post the information under "branch news" on the blog at <http://news.aauwnc.org> so that the public, as well as members, can find it. If your publicity is all in "paper," and can't be e-mailed, fax a copy of your

flyer to the AAUW NC toll free number and we'll post it for you.]

Other ideas for "connecting" to the branches in your cluster:

- Connect with counterparts in neighboring branches using the branch/state officer list – available in mid-summer. Experienced officers can help those new to their positions. Corresponding state officers are available to arrange special discussions of best practices and new ideas.
- Banding together with nearby branches for programming. Find ideas in the Association's "Choices" portfolio and in resources related to the new theme of "Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security." Pick up local ideas like doing a "Women's Agenda Assembly" (see www.ncwu.org) or sponsoring a forum or conference on a topic of local importance - perhaps expanding on the topics from the New Bern convention.
- Watch for conferences in your area and share the duties and expenses of having a booth to "advertise" AAUW and its services to that particular community. [Check with AAUW NC if you need help paying the exhibitor fee.]
- Split up the counties near your area but not served by a branch, and check that their libraries have copies of the AAUW reports and the AAUW NC history.

The bottom line is to find ways to connect with members in other branches to help advance the mission in ways beyond the capacity of those in your branch. Together we are stronger. Make the connections and take advantage of those strengths, then share your successes through the on-line tools or *Tar Heel News!*

Moore, Tysons Are Convention Keynote Speakers

Janice Imgrund, Winston-Salem Branch

STATE TREASURER RICHARD MOORE was the featured keynote speaker for Convention 2006. In his introductory remarks, he noted his friendship with Rev. and Mrs. Tyson and their son, Tim. He said he grew up in the same town as the Tysons and acknowledged Rev. and Mrs. Tyson's presence in the audience. He discovered the book *Blood Done Sign My Name* on a break while in Washington, DC – when he went to a bookstore and happened upon a display of the book. Not knowing if the book was written by his classmate, he turned to the beginning of the book and read in the first paragraph about a group of boys riding their bicycles. He knew that he was one of the boys in that group. So he was sure that he would have to read a book by his friend.

On the topic of his address, he outlined three main points which have driven his tenure as North Carolina's Treasurer. They are: 1. Maintaining the retirement/pension fund of State Employees; 2. Locating and distributing unclaimed cash; and 3. Maintaining a sound fiscal policy for North Carolina.

- Maintaining the retirement/pension fund demanded that the Legislature acknowledge their reallocation of funds into the general budget was unacceptable and these funds must be restored to the pension fund as quickly as possible. Moore has continued to follow the workings of the legislature to restore these funds as promised.
- Locating and distributing unclaimed cash. The purpose of this program is to reunite North Carolina residents with money that rightly belongs to them. Most of the funds have not made it to their owners because of incorrect addresses or failure of the post system to follow up on misdirected mail. Some of the funds come from other states and his office pursues these funds daily. All cash that is not claimed goes into a fund for worthy students in the form of college scholarships.
- Maintaining a sound fiscal policy within the State. According to financial information (Wall Street) the State of North Carolina ranks second in stability in the nation. Only Florida is ahead of us.



Queen Thompson with NC State Treasurer Richard Moore. Thompson worked with Judy Atkinson, program vice-president, to secure Moore and the Tysons (shown below left), as well as the workshop leaders, for the 2006 AAUW NC convention.



Reverend and Mrs. Vernon Tyson

The Reverend Vernon Tyson drew parallels between himself and Martin Luther King. They were both born in the same year, began preaching at the same time, and were assigned to small congregations in the beginnings of their ministries.

The Rev. Tyson said that during the course of his ministry, he attended a fall conference at North Carolina A & T University in Greensboro. One of the speakers (a gifted black man) made a great impression upon him and Tyson invited him to preach at his church the following spring during their Racial Diversity Sunday. The speaker agreed. With the date fast approaching, Tyson thought he ought to alert the Church Board about the upcoming Sunday and the speaker. After heated discussion among the members and the inclination to have Tyson uninvite the speaker, an elderly retired school teacher had her say in the matter. She convinced the board the speaker should be allowed to come to the Racial Diversity Sunday. They voted to allow this and the meeting was successful.

Mrs. Tyson then talked about her son, Tim. He was the typical boy growing up in the South. He was an excellent student, but he didn't like math. He did read all of the time. He always enjoyed writing and would leave notes for the family in beautifully written prose or poetry. These must have been the beginnings of his career as a writer. Tim Tyson teaches and writes the history of African American freedom movements in the 20th century South. His most

recent book, *Blood Done Sign My Name*, appeared in May 2004. It tells the story of a racial murder and black uprising in his hometown of Oxford, NC, when Tyson was eleven and the father of one of his friends murdered a young black man and Black Power radicals fought back with fire.

Apprenticeship Program Under-utilized

Pat Abell, Statesville Branch

Sarah Jones, apprenticeship consultant with the NC Dept. of Labor presented as informative a



workshop as I have attended in a long time. In 1994, Bill Clinton signed into law a provision for high school students that says that they must be provided with opportunities to shadow, work at, and experience job opportunities so they leave

high school prepared to go to work. The former vocational program is now mandated by law. It is under-utilized because students don't know to ask for it, School counselors don't have time to offer it. It allows students to train for jobs and helps prevent dropouts. The Dept. of Labor can assist employers to stay in business by training employees in more than one job.

The apprenticeship program identifies skills needed and allows 16-year-olds to go to school and to work for experience. They may go to the community college for special classes and get on-the-job training while getting credit for it at school. They end up with a two-year degree AND jobs with higher pay because they are trained beyond on-the-job training. These could be in janitorial skills, mechanics, or specialized jobs in factories that have set up special training degrees with the community college. The state will waive the hazardous rules for students, who must have sponsors, allowing them to be trained in jobs that are considered too hazardous for young people. Young people ages 20 and 22 years old are making \$22/hr because of this program. Sarah Jones was very knowledgeable. Others with knowledge about vocational studies in the workshop contributed to her presentation

asking and answering questions. I learned the definition of master craftsman, a person who has had on-the-job training with a mentor who transferred his knowledge to the student; work key system, skills assessment to profile jobs in a company, progressive wage scale, and occupational standards set across the state. Warehousing, another term I was unfamiliar with, means processes common to several companies are done at one location for the different companies requiring a system of filing and organization to keep the needs of the different companies and their accounts separate while filling their orders under the same roof.

What I took away was the need to monitor our local high schools to see if career counselors are offering the apprenticeship program to students who could benefit from it.

Long Road Ahead: Education Equity

Marty Folsom, Statesville Branch

"This conversation must go out of this room,"



was the opening statement of Ashley Osment, senior attorney from the UNC Center for Civil Rights, for the workshop on education equity. She discussed the huge disparity in dollars spent per child in wealthy and poor school systems

and the importance of striving for parity, to enable children to receive what the 1997 law mandates, a "sound basic education."

Leandro is a decision upholding the law. It means every school shall have adequate funding, teachers who are certified in their subjects, and certified principals with the skills needed to hire teachers and properly run the schools.

Osment used demographics from the current

lawsuit against Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools to demonstrate factors that hinder the fulfillment of the law, of equity in education. She provided handouts of that case, as well for the case involving Hoke, Halifax, Robeson, Cumberland, and Vance Counties. Mecklenburg is a wealthy area. The other is not.

Factors include language, race, and income. Somehow, schools end up being classified as priority and non-priority, as revealed in Charlotte-Mecklenburg drop-out rates, as high as 78% in one school, and as low as 5% in another. Another is whether or not students are college-ready when they graduate high school.

The bottom line is Leandro needs better funding. North Carolina does not have enough teachers and principals. Osment noted that the problem is overwhelming and will take a long time to resolve, but we must try.

Women and Money

Amelia Mitchell, Statesville Branch

Kenneth Wilkins, NC State Deputy Treasurer, who oversees the Unclaimed Property Division, presented a lively and enlightening discussion. He expressed the importance of financial knowledge for women due to frequently lower pay and longer life than men, often less financial education than men, and as one AAUW member suggested, "We need to learn how to financially handle what we have."

Good tips for all persons are: to have few credit cards, definitely without double-digit balances; don't pay off credit card balances by transferring onto new credit cards; know what kind of debt you have and exactly who you owe; pay off highest interest rate or lowest balance cards first, just stick to one and get it paid off, then conquer another, whatever you can manage; put the least amount possible on credit cards, pay cash when

possible. Credit cards and financial problems are among the top problems facing us today. You can set up a payroll deduction to pay off your debt. Be careful of using home equity loans unless you can control your spending habits. Cut up the cards or else you will owe that and rack up more debt.



Wilkins provided sound financial advice regarding savings and protecting ourselves for the future and what we have. We should pay ourselves first by payroll deduction or savings, before bills and everyday life take a bite. Shorter term savings can sometimes offer higher return rates. Check with banks for offers. Most importantly, we must save. Social Security is a supplement, not a retirement fund. We should prepare for the future in our unstable economy: for the possibility of illness, unemployment, or caring for others.

Financial/identity protection advice:

- Place your bills in a public mailbox instead of your own mailbox with the flag up, to prevent check and account information theft;
- When possible, pay bills on-line;
- When writing checks, do not put entire account numbers on them;
- Use a cross-cut shredder, rather than strip cut shredder – thieves can steal information from strip-cut documents. (Unplug shredders if children are in the house.)

Wilkins defined good debt and bad debt. Good debt includes student loans, mortgages, and home equity loans, where consistent and timely payments build your credit and show responsibility. Bad debt involves credit cards, particularly multiple or high cards, car loans, and loans with the potential to owe a lot of money.

Educators Open Hearts and Minds

Transcript of April 1, 2006 Address to AAUW NC
THANK YOU. I am pleased to be with you in New Bern. If I didn't know better, I would think this conference is also an Atkinson reunion – Judy Atkinson, program vice president; Karla Atkinson,



secretary; and then here I am – June Atkinson!

How many of you remember "What's My Line?" It was a program where celebrities had to guess what was unusual about a person. If that program were playing, I think I could stump the panelists.

My maiden name is St. Clair.

My mother's father was named John St. Clair. My daddy's father was named John St. Clair.

They both had the same address – Route #1, Blue Ridge, Virginia, but they didn't live in the same house. Can you imagine the confusion my mother had when she put the announcement of their wedding in the newspaper?

I grew up in rural Virginia, a place where we all knew each other, a place where all of my teachers, until the fourth grade, came from the same place or an adjoining community.

My fourth grade teacher was from a foreign country – Michigan. Mrs. Maria Anderson opened my eyes to a larger world. She opened my mind to learning. She opened my emotions to dream of what I could be.

Educators across the nation have always opened the minds and hearts of young girls and women. I am grateful for the association's long tradition of promoting and supporting the education of women and girls.

I know that today is April 1, but do you know what was celebrated during the month of March? Women's History Month.

Did you know that our current Secretary of State, Elaine Marshall, was the first woman to be elected to that position and to serve on the Council of State?

Did you know that Beverly Perdue was the first woman elected as Lt. Governor?

Did you know that Susie Sharpe was the first woman to serve on the NC State Supreme Court?

Did you know that Senator Elizabeth Dole was the first woman to be elected as a US Senator from North Carolina?

Outside my office is a picture of all elected NC State Superintendents [of Schools] – except for a few, they all have beards and all of them are men – I am pleased to have been elected the first woman to serve as State Superintendent – Isn't that ironic when you consider that 81 percent of public school teachers are women?

There are millions of females who can take leadership positions in government, education, and business – Education is the key!

Many of your young girls and women live in poverty – poverty that will stifle their opportunities unless they have quality education. As a Mississippi governor once said, "The road out of poverty runs by the school house door." The road to international competitiveness runs by the school house door and the road to success of our community colleges and universities runs by the school house door.

If all single mothers who are high school dropouts earned high school degrees, 125,000

to 292,000 fewer women would be on the welfare rolls, saving between \$1.5 billion and \$5 billion annually.

Health-related losses for dropouts in 2005 came to nearly \$100,000 per student. Their health, at age 18, is similar to a more educated person 20 years older.

These issues drive my work.

I am heartened by the strong academic performance of women. For at least 30 years, girls have led the way in performance on the National Assessment of Education Progress. In reading, girls have scored better than boys at every age tests – 9, 13, and 17. In mathematics, boys hold only a very slim advantage over girls' performance.

You are more familiar than I am with the current college experience for young women, where women are now the majority of the nation's undergraduates. As of 2001, women earned 60 percent of all associate's degrees and 57 percent of all bachelor's degrees.

Clearly, girls and young women have gotten the message that education is a gateway. And, they are lining up to walk through that gateway.

In North Carolina, approximately one-fourth of our population holds at least a bachelor's degree. In public schools, we have made tremendous gains. We have made significant gains over the past decade, particularly.

Our fourth and eighth grade students are at the national average or better on the latest NAEP results.

Our 2005 SAT results reached an all-time high.

Almost 81 percent of students in grades 3-8 were considered proficient in reading and mathematics. North Carolina is among five states with the greatest improvements in AP course participation and in AP scores. This improvement is especially demonstrated with low income students, African-American students, and Hispanic students. At the same time, we know we lose as many as 40 percent of high school students before graduation.

We know that many students and families have not gotten the message that education should be their top priority so that their young people can be successful.

The losses of dropping out of school or of low educational attainment weigh the heaviest on those who actually leave school... they weigh to some degree or other on all of us. American loses 1.6 percent of Gross Domestic Product in combined income and tax revenue losses with each cohort of 18 year olds who never complete high school.

Our schools must educate all children to work and live in a global economy. They must be problem solvers, good decision makers and creative thinkers. They must be lifelong learners.

To this end, I have a few imperatives for our state.

We are losing about 12 percent of our teachers each year. Why? Retirements, better working conditions and greater opportunities. Fifty-two percent of our principals could leave the building today and retire.

We need to make teaching more attractive and more professional. We need to bring in more strong administrators.

Technology provides great opportunities for teaching and learning, but only if it is available.

Schools need technology infrastructure to make transitions to 21st century schools.

We must raise high school graduation rates to at least 85 percent over the next three years. Efforts underway include the New Schools Project, 21st Century Skills, and SREB High Schools That Work.

Professional development is a key to improving schools. States that are making leaps in student achievement have a delivery system for professional development that is aligned to student achievement goals. Our state does not, but I am working on that.

As State Superintendent, my task is to advocate and enable a strong education foundation for all children and young adults in our state. As women

who have benefited from education and all the opportunities it offers, I believe it is our duty and responsibility to use our knowledge and positions to help offer better opportunities to all.

I hope that as educated women, as women who have walked through the gateway of education and found success, that you will join me in supporting efforts to boost North Carolina's public schools.

Thanks to the Twin Rivers and Jacksonville Branches and the program committee for a fantastic convention! The speakers, workshops and networking opportunities were excellent! Check www.aauwnc.org for links to the highlights. All are welcome to register at <http://news.aauwnc.org> (our blog) and post their impressions for the benefit of all the members who couldn't make it to New Bern. –Nancy Shoemaker

Community Colleges: An "Open Door"

Kathleen Mitchell, Jacksonville Regional Branch

Did you know the NC Community College System is the third largest in the nation, only outsized by California and Texas? Dr. Delores Parker, keynote speaker for the banquet, shared the progress and growth achieved since its establishment in 1963.

The founding "vision" pictured institutions with an "open door" policy, where all students could progress academically, in some cases a "second chance." Their purpose was to provide education for the workforce, in support of local economic development, as well as to prepare individuals to transfer to four-year institutions.

This goal has been realized as everyone from firemen to hygienists, cosmetologists to truck drivers, those in law enforcement as well as those licensed to care for our children, have found educational opportunities to prepare them for their futures. Fully two-thirds of community college-prepared students go directly into the work force, with one-third going on to higher institutions. With 58 community colleges from which to select, over 800,000 learners annually find a wide array of choices. Programs are even available to those who are incarcerated, as well as special opportunities for those 65 and older who want to attend college.

The progressive mindset is evident. Ten of our 58 community colleges are headed by female presidents. Partnerships, such as with the Melinda and Bill Gates Foundation, bring millions of dollars to bankroll new educational possibilities, such as early college high school, where focused ninth graders attend seamlessly for five years, to graduate with both a high school diploma and community college degree. Huskins classes serve high schoolers in programs (such as medical or automotive technology) that may be too costly for an individual high school to support. Also, the "dual enrolled" student may earn college credit as well credits for their high school diploma. Students who dropped out from high school can return, for an opportunity to attain their high school diplomas in more adult, and sometimes, more supportive settings.

Obviously, growth and innovation has its costs. We need to become advocates for this vital system, encouraging legislators to provide needed funding, particularly in areas with economic devastation such as furniture and textile manufacturing closures. Also, one-eighth of North Carolina community college students depend upon Pell grants to fund their education. Support bond campaigns for campus growth. Individual AAUW branches are helpful in providing support in the form of scholarships to students.

Most of all, we need to convey the message when people suffer "broken dreams," their local community colleges are there for them, to help seek out other opportunities.



Dr. Delores Parker with Mary Peterson, AAUW NC 2006 convention co-chair.

Show Me the Money

Queen Thompson, AAUW NC Diversity Chair

As of May 3, 2006, AAUW convention attendees have claimed \$29,110.77 in unclaimed cash from the NC Office of State Treasurer's Office. The amount could grow in higher. Not did attendees find undue cash for themselves, they found cash for family members and friends as well. Below, Karen Thomas and Donnie Tim gave on-the-spot confirmation for those who made inquiries.



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North Carolina State Treasurer

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Richard H. Moore
State Treasurer

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• \$500 million in lost money and property is waiting at the Department of the State Treasurer.

Join the AAUW NC Leadership Team!

Nancy Shoemaker, 2006-2008 President

Those who attended the Sunday breakfast during the convention in New Bern heard about the new structure and the new way that groups of leaders will work together. The main idea is to allow each group to:

- Develop SMART goals (specific, measurable, assigned to someone, realistic, with a timetable)
- Decide how to divide the work to accomplish those goals
- Support each other when "real life" makes folks step back from AAUW for a time

and support each other in the work towards those goals. The work is divided into six major groups.

- Advocacy - tracking issues of all kinds (public policy, international, ed equity) and educating members on those issues
- Events - planning convention and other state meetings

- Fundraising - for EF, LAF, AAUW, AAUW NC and ...
- Communications - newsletter, web site, media relations
- Membership/Leadership Development - reaching out to new people and nurturing those who are already with us
- Administration - the other "stuff" that needs to get done

All of these groups need to work with each other -- for instance, Advocacy, Fundraising and Membership have ideas on what should happen at Convention, and Communication needs to get the word out. Other "cross-group" issues that need to be addressed, too - Diversity may be the most important. Our budget reflects the new structure.

People have "signed up" for all the groups, and you are encouraged to get involved, too! If you've got something specific you'd like to contribute, please send your name, contact information and area of interest to nancy.shoemaker@aauwnc.org or fax to 866.525.2155). In the meantime, please see www.aauwnc.org/newstructure for additional information.

AAUW NC 2006-2007 Budget • March 31, 2006

INCOME			EXPENSE		
			Branch/new branch visits	500	
Dues 06-07	8,500		Nominations/board development	200	
Dues 07-08	2,500		Outreach to C/U/ partners	100	
Membership Total		11,000	Group expenses	400	
			Membership Total		1,200
			Advocacy Coalitions	300	
			Group expenses	400	
			Advocacy Total		700
			Convention advance	500	
Reayment Conv. Advance	500		Events other than Convention	250	
Convention Profit	500		Group Expenses	400	
Events Total		1,000	Events Total		1,150
			State donation to EF	250	
EF Fundraiser	250		State donation to LAF	250	
LAF Fundraisers	250		Group Expenses	400	
AAUW NC Fundraisers	1,000		Fund-raising Total		900
Fund-raising Total		2,200			
			Newsletter printing	1,600	
			Newsletter postage	1,800	
			Newsletter services	2,900	
			Web site fees	120	
			Group expenses	400	
			Communication Total		6,820
			Voice mail/fax line	100	
			Juvenile literature award	75	
Miscellaneous Income	50		Group expenses	300	
Administration Total		50	Administration Total		475
			President in-state travel	500	
			Other in-state travel	300	
			President convention/conference	500	
			Other convention/conference	1,000	
			President expenses	250	
			Other group expenses	200	
			Executive committee total		2,760
			Diversity task force expense	300	
			Ad hoc program support	250	
			Miscellaneous	250	
			Total other expenses		800
TOTAL INCOME		14,250	TOTAL EXPENSES		14,796
			Net for the Year		-545

You can dial AAUW NC: 866.525.2155

AAUW NC has a phone number: 866.525.2155. There's no "secretary" answering the phone, but callers can leave a voice mail message or send a fax. A few branches took advantage of the fax capability when sending in their 2005 reports and we are beginning to see other uses for the phone.

At the fall board meeting, we emphasized that the phone is a piece of our strategy to "use technology sensitively." Many of the articles in *Tar Heel News* refer you to the web for more information. If you're not on-line, but care about the issue, feel free to call the phone number and leave a message. If you need a web page printed and mailed, we can do that for you. If you need more information, your message will be forwarded to the right person. In any event, we want to be connected to all of our members.

How does it work? The phone "rings" at a machine on the Internet which turns each voice mail and FAX into an e-mail message. The e-mail goes to a those who have agreed to monitor the phone. [Thanks to Pinkie Byrd of Brevard and Annette Hawkins of Kinston for signing up for the first shift! If you'd like to participate, please let Nancy know.] Faxes are converted into pdf files. When you need to submit information that can't be e-mailed, please do respect the request for a fax rather than a paper copy. The cost is about \$100/year plus \$.10/fax page or voicemail message. Questions? Contact nancy.shoemaker@aauwnc.org or 919.773.1340.



Joanne Hill, 2004-2006 president, Jan Gronosky of Twin River/New Bern Branch, and Judy Atkinson, program vice-president, are all smiles during the convention in New Bern.

Coalition Notes

AAUW NC is in coalition with other groups which advocate for the same issues - equity and education for women and girls, voter education and political reform. Some of the group include:

North Carolina Women United

A note about Women's Advocacy Day, coordinated by North Carolina Women United NCWU, is on page 7. This is the year for women all over the state to provide input for the Women's Agenda Assemblies to determine issues upon which to advocate - more about that later this year. The NCWU's legislative report card is available at www.ncwu.org/.

Democracy North Carolina

This group researches into campaign abuses, is a proponent of public financing for elective offices (they have succeeded in obtaining legislature approval for judicial races; next step is legislative seats), and support a ban on lobbyists providing gifts and campaign donations to lawmakers. Bob Hall, director, has announced a comprehensive education campaign across the state so people will understand what is happening in these areas. Funding is needed for travel and field organizing, printing literature, more research, and strengthening their electronic organizing. Two supporters have offered a special challenge. They will match, dollar for dollar, every donation given. They will triple gifts of \$200 or more. Hall said, "This campaign will extend through July. Every gift is fully tax deductible." If you have questions, contact him at sprc@mindspring.com or 919.967.9942. Donations may be mailed to Democracy NC, 105 W. Main St., Carrboro NC 27510. Their web site is www.democracy-nc.org.

NC Coalition on Aging

Forty groups work together to learn more about the needs of the older adult population and to make recommendations to the General Assembly. Their 2006 talking points include:

- Increase funds to adult care homes, nursing homes, and home care services to increase salaries and benefits ("passthrough") of aides.
 - Appropriate funds to allow increases in the number of participants in the CAP-DA program and in the Special Assistance In-Home project.
 - Increase Homestead Property Tax Exemption income eligibility level to \$25,000 adjusted in subsequent years by the Social Security cost of living indexes with the state and counties to share equally in any revenue loss.
 - Restore the North Carolina Income Tax Credit for long-term care insurance which expired on December 31, 2003.
 - Appropriate \$3 million for Home and Community Care Block Grant for the fiscal year of 2007.
 - Appropriate \$50 million to the NC Housing Agency for affordable housing for elderly and low income persons.
- Contact person is Jean Reaves, president, reaves375@charter.net or 252.536.2756.



Above from left:
Geneva Warren and
Sytia James.

From left: Carolyn
Taylor, Geneva
Warren, Sytia James,
Mary Fran
Schickedantz display
books used in the
program.



Greensboro Branch's Middle College at Bennett Project Supported by AAUW NC Mini-Grant

By Carolyn Taylor

At their April 29, luncheon, the Greensboro Branch collected the second batch of books this academic year to be distributed to the pre-school children of the Middle College at Bennett (MCB) students for the Summer break. The first batch was distributed in December. Lois Baldwin, social worker at MCB, stated that these books are many times the only print materials in the home, to the point the books might even be the only Christmas gifts from the mothers to their children.

On May 16, the Branch will be treated eight deserving students and two faculty members to afternoon tea at the O. Henry Hotel. Several Branch members will be in attendance, also. This is a first effort. If successful, we want to expand the event to include students at Bennett College for Women as well.

We presented graduation gifts – for the second year – to the approximately 37 graduates on June 2.

Eight branch members trained to be proctors for end of course testing in January. Ms. Dale McKinnie, guidance counselor, was conducted the testing.

At the Chrysler Classic of Greensboro golf tournament in September, the Branch worked the concession tent at the eighteenth green to raise money for the Educational Foundation. They also designated a portion of the funds to stay in Greensboro to be used for the MCB Project along with the AAUW NC Mini-grant.

We presented a membership in AAUW to MCB principal Esther Coble for the coming year.

The final project this year is placing books for circulation in the Holgate Library at Bennett College for use by the MCB students. We are negotiating with Barnes and Noble at Friendly Shopping Center to purchase these books at a reduced rate. We plan to include titles from the AAUW NC Juvenile Literature awards. Davetta Florance-Bristow, one of our members and English teacher at MCB, will be consulting with us.

The Middle College at Bennett is a joint venture between Bennett College for Women and the Guilford County School System. It is the only single-sex educational program for girls in the NC Public School System. It is similar to a project the president of Bennett College was involved with when she was president at Spelman College in Georgia. Thank you to AAUW NC for financial assistance to use in the expansion of this important work.

Brevard Branch Uses Mini-Grant to Improve Voter Education Process

Katie Thompson, Brevard Branch

Brevard branch used its AAUW NC Mini-Grant to modify the branch web pages and re-design/reformat candidates' questionnaires for the 2006 Voter Guide, so it can be answered and returned electronically in a format appropriate for web display. Funds were used for a web consultant and to purchase software to facilitate the revisions. The mix of funding was slightly different than projected in our Mini-Grant application, with less (\$85) being required for consultant fees and more (\$415) allocated to software purchases. Software costs slightly exceeded the Mini-Grant funds, with overage covered by the Branch.

In implementing the project, a consultant worked with branch web mistresses for the web site redesign and to choose among the options for design of candidate questionnaires that could be transmitted electronically. Improvements were made in the ability to edit, revise, and make additions to our web site by changing software. An education version of the software enabled us to work with it prior to purchase of a full and current edition from grant funds. In February, letters were mailed alerting candidates in races covered by the Brevard-Branch Voter Guide announcing the new capability, providing a preview hard-copy of the questionnaire appropriate to their campaign, and alerting them to expect the electronic copy for their completion and return via the Internet within a few days. In March, electronic messages with questionnaires for the 2006 Voter Guide went out to all candidates seeking to represent Transylvania County at the State and Federal levels with instructions for completion and return electronically.

Questionnaires were uniquely named for each candidate and were sent as Word attachments. The utility of Word to allow completion of blanks and counting of characters, cutting the response at a pre-determined limit was used (and saved countless hours over clarification and revisions with candidates from our past Voter Guides). Documents were protected so candidates could not change the questionnaire, but we were able to select responses to many of the questions with a simple click of the mouse. Candidates were able to edit their narrative responses within the document to assure that the words were as they wished them to appear. The returned questionnaires were then posted to the Voter Guide web pages in a format designed by our web mistress through a cut-and-paste process.

Effort still had to be expended with candidates and campaigns to get responses. However, the capability for electronic transfer made an

enormous difference in the time required from members of the Voter Guide Committee. All but one of the responding candidates was able to do so by electronic transfer; that candidate chose to respond by US mail. We no longer had long delays in receiving responses from candidates and were able to post candidates' responses for the primaries in time for voters participating in absentee and early voting. To our knowledge, our Voter Guide was the only one available to voters in Transylvania County for these state and federal offices prior to the Primary election.

Typically, participation by candidates in the Voter Guide before the primaries is lower than for the General election. This was the case again: Only one candidate out of four in the US Congressional race did not participate (the same candidate, our current Congressman, has never participated in any of our previous Voter Guides). The candidate for the NC House is unopposed either in the Primary or General election and did not respond in time to post for the primaries. Of the five candidates running in the Republican and Democratic primaries for the NC Senate, three participated; one of the non-participants won the Republican primary. Even with greatly reducing the time and effort required to respond to our Voter Guide questionnaires through the revisions which the Mini-Grant Project made possible, we clearly have more work to do – well beyond the Project goals – to convince candidates that providing information about their positions to the public is in their interests as well as that of the electorate.

We have confidence that, through the assistance provided by the AAUW NC Mini-Grant, we have removed many of the barriers to candidate participation in our Voter Guide and greatly reduced the time and effort required to produce it by branch members. Both accomplishments are critical to our being better-positioned to efficiently and effectively develop a Voter Guide for the more demanding 2008 election and to be able to sustain production of the AAUW Non-Partisan Voter Guide on the two-year election cycles for state and federal offices over years to come.

Thank you to the AAUW NC for contributing to the capacities of the Brevard Branch to improve and sustain publication of the AAUW Non-Partisan Voter Guide. You have helped us improve and produce a Voter Guide not only for this year but, hopefully, for many years to come when state and local elections are decided that have such potential import for the AAUW mission to "promote positive societal change."



Janet Weber, Raleigh/Wake County member, with Betty Bayless (right).

Bayless Addresses International Issues

Betty Bayless, AAUW Director-at-Large and member of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund membership, strategic planning and public relations committees, spent May 6-7 in Raleigh. She educated branch members on the importance of the Fund and its projects (see www.vigif.org) as well as answering questions about AAUW and IFUW.

Ed. Note: Shirley Quisenberry, AAUW NC International chair, shared a letter at 2006 convention from Ruth Sweetser, AAUW president, to Griselda Kenyon, IFUW president, clarifying AAUW's position on a number of issues regarding our arrearages. In the business session, Quisenberry moved that "education about AAUW's history with IFUW and its current relationship with IFUW be included in branch programming and newsletters to help AAUW NC members respond to AAUW's possible new role within international women's issues." Discussion followed on the willingness of branches to send contributions to IFUW through AAUW. The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

Women's Advocacy Day
Tuesday, June 20, 2006
Raleigh
Learn everything you need to
know at www.ncwu.org
or 866.518.7657

Brevard Branch Member is Honored

Phyllis Stout, Historian

The Brevard Branch recognized Grace Monro Roy as an honorary 50-year member at the April meeting. Grace graduated from Winthrop College and received her MS from the University of Tennessee. She taught business at Brevard College for 36 years before retirement. A former student honored her with an endowed scholarship at Brevard College in her name. She was an active member of *Delta Kappa Gamma* and the Brevard Branch honored her with the Teacher of the Year Award and as the Outstanding Educator.

Grace's community services are numerous as are her offices in her church and in the Presbytery. She is a past-president of Brevard Branch and has served twice as secretary, by-laws chair, education committee chair for five years, nominating committee, Women Who Make A Difference Award Chair, Yearbook Committee and Cultural Affairs Chair.

Brevard Branch now has four 50-year members.



President's Message

Joanne Hill
AAUW NC

As I leave "the office" of President of AAUW North Carolina, there are many parting thoughts - gratitude to EACH of you for your contribution to our organization, the growth of the past two years and the great things we accomplished!

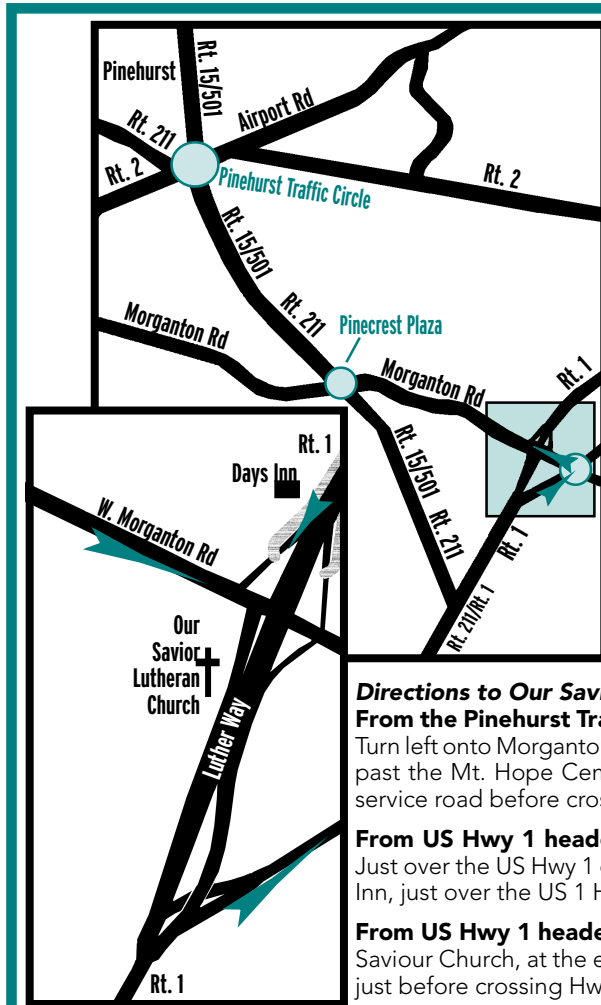
I think back to the "buckle up" speech I gave when I assumed the presidency - the ride was definitely a "roller coaster" for me, but not in ways I imagined that day! I am not sure it held the thrill it was supposed to for you, but thanks to all of you, we are all still in the car, the train is on the track and ready for the next big thing!

Since our incredible state convention, I have been fortunate to visit two more branches. Gaston Regional celebrated their 50th anniversary. What a marvelous event! The hospitality, the history and the haute cuisine were fabulous! Greensboro had a wonderful celebration luncheon and I was finally able to pay them a visit. Dr. Johnnetta Cole is an inspiring "Sister President" and a delightful speaker. It is so great to celebrate with your vibrant, vital branches and to acknowledge the milestones of your journeys! There is the treat of the familiar faces --those who are active at the state level, but there is also the wonderful opportunity to meet those who make your branches thrive.

By the time you read this the South Atlantic and Southeastern combined regional meeting is either underway or is history. I regret that my school schedule this year has kept me away. I am anxious to hear about it at Summer Board!

Finally, I am delighted to "turn the helm over" to Nancy Shoemaker! I know our state organization will flourish in new and exciting directions.

Again, I thank you for all you do every day for equity for women and girls. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve you all.



Directions to Our Saviour Lutheran Church:

From the Pinehurst Traffic Circle: Take the Aberdeen exit (US 15/501) to the light at the Pinecrest Plaza. Turn left onto Morganton Road going toward Southern Pines. Then, turn right onto Luther Way immediately past the Mt. Hope Cemetery and just before the Rt. 1 overpass. (To go to Days Inn, turn left onto the service road before crossing the Rt. 1 overpass).

From US Hwy 1 headed north: Take Southern Pines exit. At stop light on Morganton Road, turn left. Just over the US Hwy 1 overpass, turn left in front of Mt. Hope Cemetery onto Luther Way. (To go to Days Inn, just over the US 1 Hwy overpass, turn right onto the service road).

From US Hwy 1 headed south: Take Morganton Road exit. (Days Inn will be on the right.) To go to Our Saviour Church, at the end of the exit ramp, cross over Morganton Road making a slight "zig" to the left, just before crossing Hwy 1 overpass, and onto Luther Way (between Hwy 1 and Mt. Hope cemetery).

Summer Leadership Meeting

July 15, 2006 Registration 8:30 a.m. • Meeting 9 a.m.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 517 Luther Way, Southern Pines
Located on the service road parallel to US Hwy 1 and across Morganton Road from the Days Inn. We will meet in Fellowship Hall.

New Structure ~ Fresh Ideas ~ Your Participation

Read article on page one and see www.aauwnc.org/newstructure for additional information for the meeting!

Deadline: Reservation must be received by June 23.

Cost: Make checks for \$13, payable to AAUW Sandhills/Southern Pines. Send to Lois McCarthy, 12 Choke Cherry Lane, Pinehurst, NC 28374. 910-295-2871 or loismccarthy@mindspring.com

Overnight Lodging: Ask for AAUW rate: Days Inn Southern Pines/Pinehurst; 805 SW Service Road, Southern Pines 28387. Fifteen rooms are being held until June 23 at \$64.00 + 10%, "no matter the occupancy." 800-262-5737 or 910-692-8585.

July 15, 2006 AAUW NC Leadership Meeting • Deadline: Reservation must be received by June 23

Name _____	Address _____
Name preferred for name tag _____	City _____
Branch _____	State/Zip _____
AAUW NC Board Position _____	E-mail _____
Special needs - dietary _____	Phone _____
Member Status (circle one) Branch Member Member-at-large College/Univ.Rep Student Affiliate - Non-Member	

Note to Branch Presidents:

Have a conflict for a state meeting date? Our revised by-laws allow you to designate another person, even someone from another branch, to represent you and your branch. AAUW NC has been restructured to help our members participate. Want to know more? Contact Karla Atkinson, AAUW NC secretary, bardofb@citcom.net or 828.884.7648.

American Association of University Women

125 Years: 1881-2006

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AAUW NC: When & Where!

South Atlantic Region Conference (SAR)
June 9-11, 2006, Birmingham, Alabama

AAUW NC Summer Meeting
July 15, Sandhills/Southern Pines

AAUW NC Fall Meeting
October 20-21, Statesville

**April 20-22, 2007, 2006
AAUW NC Convention**
Winston-Salem

TAR HEEL NEWS DEADLINE

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