

“Remarks from Ronnie”
REGIONAL DIRECTOR’S REPORT:
(State Conventions 2003)

TO: South Atlantic Region Women in Charge

I am disappointed at not being able to attend all SAR State Conventions during the final year of my RD term. However, as you are aware, every SAR State convention, with the exception of NC, is scheduled for the final weekend in April...go figure... . Even so, I would still appreciate copies/photos/evaluations of all of the good stuff that will be taking place at each of our SAR State Conventions.

ASSOCIATION INFORMATION:

- As of now, note cards will not be distributed as a fundraiser. (We hear you!)
- AAUW rents lists (for a specific purpose), but does not sell – call Helpline to opt out
- Leadership and Training Institute (non-profit arm of Association) is up and running with enough bequests to fund the first year
- Make a donation to AAUW corporation(s) to honor someone for Mother’s Day (www.aauw.org/contribute/index.html)
- Dues for MALs were increased to \$42
- Use the AAUW Web site for great information (www.aauw.org) (password for members corner is AAUW)
- New members of the AAUW Staff Family: Joseph Nasrawy, Internal Auditor, AAUW, Cross Corporate; Stephen Marks, Sr. Exec. Associate, Executive Office, and; Christy Jones, Director, Membership Relations.

The Association Board will be making appointments for two directors-at-large on the Association Board for the next two years and for two-year terms on several committees. Four people each will be appointed to the Program Development, Membership, and Public Policy committees. One Trustee of the Marguerite Rawalt Legal Defense Fund will be appointed by the LAF Board.

Each applicant is asked to submit an AAUW vita form and answer three questions specifically related to the appointment. Please contact the AAUW Executive Office by e-mail at executive@aauw.org or by telephone at 202/785-7788 or -7710 indicating the position being sought. You can apply for one position only. All information must be received in the Executive Office by May 15, 2003. The Board will be evaluating applications from the written vitae and answers to the questions. The committee members will be announced at the Board meeting in June. APPLY and ENCOURAGE qualified candidates to apply.

ASSOCIATION CONVENTION 2003 (WOMEN IN CHARGE: BOLD, INNOVATIVE AND COLLABORATIVE) JUNE 20 – 23 IN PROVIDENCE, RI

There is nothing more memorable than National Convention—inspiring, motivating, exciting and enjoyable! **Convention 2003 details are online and in AAUW in Action.** You can register online!

(All delegates and delegate chairs will fill out the credential section on their registration form. Cards will not be in individual packets issued at convention. Only the delegate chair will receive the voting cards and the delegates will get the cards from the delegate chair.)

- **Keynoters** like Gloria Steinem (EF Banquet) and the Hon. Constance Baker Motley (LAF Banquet) are highlighted. Dr. Julianne Malveaux and Deborah Perry, co-authors of "Unfinished Business: A Democratic and A Republican Take on the 10 Most Important Issues Women Face," will join us for the opening session on Fri., June 20th.
- **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)**
In Providence on June 19-21
 - Work with local colleges to encourage the women student leaders to attend
 - See if branch or members can help with funding for these women
- **A Taste of Success** – where you can see projects, events and activities that worked for branches or states You will be notified by May 15 if you qualify.
- **Election** of our ASSN/EF/LAF leaders for the next two years!
- **Dues proposal**
 - Annual fixed amount increase (Bylaws change voted first)
 - If adopted, \$2 suggested amount
 - If not adopted, \$4 increase
 - Frequently Asked Questions About AAUW's Proposed Dues Increase: A Value Proposition (<http://www.aauw.org/6000/duesincreasebd.html>) The other important discussion is membership requirements.
 - One proposed bylaws amendment would open membership to anyone who supports AAUW's mission and goals. Another proposal would open it to those with associate degrees

- **Bylaws**

- One proposed bylaws amendment would open membership to anyone who supports AAUW's mission and goals.
- Another proposal would open it to those with associate degrees
- Add a business/organization category of membership (like C/U membership)
- Standing committee on International Affairs.

- **Resolution**

A resolution will be presented to establish a cabinet level Department of Peace, dedicated to peace and non -violence at all levels of society.

PROGRAM

- Use Education and Equity Choices folder for program/project ideas!
 - Sister in Action Grant Proposals are due May 15
- Sisters in Action Phase II Grants, will provide funds and support for branches and states to conduct on-going work around issues identified in Sister to Sister Summits or other planned events involving education for girls. Association will select up to 33 branches and/or states to receive grants totaling a maximum of \$1000 to implement SIA Projects. Deadline for proposal submission is May 15. Application forms were sent to State PVPs. Application forms can be found on the web and submitted via email to sister@auw.org

MEMBERSHIP

- Encourage new members to join now and get more than a year's worth of membership as they will get the rest of this year also.
- Use Shape the Future at branch events!
- Brochures are free for price of postage
- Give a grad a gift that could last a lifetime—free AAUW membership for a year! Forms available at <http://www.aauw.org/6000/gradgift.html>.
- State/branch presidents, MVPs and treasurers have received membership count – if possible, it was sent by e-mail
- Christy Jones is the new AAUW Director of Membership Relations

PUBLIC POLICY

- Look at great material on the AAUW Web site
- Use the 2-Minute Activist
- There is a branch public policy listserv
- Give yourself a gift and be better informed on legislative issues. If you don't already receive "Get The Facts," request it from Lisa Maatz, AAUW's new Public Policy and Government Relations Director, at maatzl@aauw.org. It's free!

Join the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund, which funds women's projects in developing countries. You can join personally or your branch or state can join—it's only \$25. Visit their website at www.vgif.org for a membership form and to see what terrific projects they are funding. In addition to their individual members, more than 50 branches and 6 states have become members, but none in the SAR. We need to remedy that! One branch's Great Decisions Group is a member... great idea!

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

- There were no Research & Project grants this year (Community Action and Career Development)
- There is a version of *Hostile Hallways* at the AAUW Web site with information for teachers, parents, and students
- A Future Fund has been established to honor individuals by projects; one honored is Alice Ann Leidel Jacobs

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

- A new Justice Fund has been established as an endowment to build resources to fund the mission and work of the LAF
- Patty McCabe, LAF director, has resigned to move overseas with her husband.

REGIONAL INFORMATION

WV is next on the rotation list to host the SAR Conference 2004. However, as was approved during the SAR Caucus at Convention 2001, SAR and the Southeast Central Region have accepted the opportunity to combine the best of both regions in a Mega Regional Conference 2004. Conference plans are well on the way. Soon after Convention 2003, Georgia, as a centrally located host state, and our newly elected SAR Regional Director will be in touch with reports on the exciting plans that are in the making!

In our SAR Guidelines, the Association Nominating Committee member and alternate are selected from the states as listed in a rotation order. This year, Florida is to SELECT a committee member and alternate, and the region will officially ELECT the representatives, as brought forth by FL at the regional caucus during convention 2003.

Let me know if there are any appropriate items of business, in addition to the usual agenda, that you would like to include in the SAR Caucus at Convention. In absence of a pre-distributed agenda, just submit your requests, and if they are not already on the agenda, they will be considered. Please be mindful of the limited time that is allotted for the Regional Caucuses.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Officer form is due June 1; can find form on the AAUW Web site
- Branch Dues report is due July
- Cedar Falls, Iowa has qualified for a pilot project for hosting a conference modeled after the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. They will receive assistance from AAUW in planning and implementing their own conference and be a Model/Mentor to other states/branches.

This info only represents “The tip of the iceberg” in reporting on all of the efficient and effective plans and implementations that are being accomplished with and for the leader/members of AAUW/EF/LAF. As we continue to move AAUW, our Cross Corporate Organization, forward into the new millennium, we depend on your **input**, your **feedback**, and your **concerns!**

Thank You

Thank you for your consideration and patience during this past period of time when I was physically incapacitated and, virtually, out of the loop and unable to capably represent you in the manner that SAR needs and deserves. Please keep in touch and help me to be aware of whatever it is I need to know and you may need me to do, as I accept the opportunity to continue to fulfill my responsibilities as your RD for the remaining months of my term.

Finally, I am grateful to each of you for your support, encouragement and compassion during my four years as SAR regional director. **You are a fantastic group of Women in Charge** and it has been, and is an invaluable personal and professional learning experience to serve as your RD.

Start Packing for Providence!

As always, AAUW Appreciates you, and ALL You Do,
And So Do I,

“Ronnie”