

AAUW Tennessean



Spring 2013

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FROM THE PRESIDENT, ANNE LOY:

The holidays and Super Bowl VLII are past, and now it is time to look forward to and plan for coming events: Women’s History Month of March and Equal Pay Day on April 9. **And, of course, our AAUW of Tennessee Annual Meeting, April 6th.** The AAUW officer who will be with us then is Mildred, “Millie,”Hoffler-Foushee, the Vice President of Finance. Plans for that meeting also include celebrative times, a fund-raiser for NCCWSL and a chance for a meeting of branch finance officers to learn about the MPP, the Membership Payment Plan, which is an easy, internet way to pay dues. I’m sure that Millie can help with this, as well as Samantha Cantrell, our own state finance officer. She administers the MPP for both the state and her branch.

Since the hotel block of rooms has been reserved for that Friday night, April 5th, I hope that you can come early enough to attend the MTSU luncheon and keynote by Lilly Ledbetter, which we are co-sponsoring. Then, you can also attend the Board Dinner and Meeting. All of the details will be sent soon, along with *The Tennessean*. Ayne Cantrell, Murfreesboro, has done an outstanding job of organizing all the logistics for our time together. THANKS to her!

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The deadline for registration is March 18, 2012. You have already been sent the hotel information; that deadline for getting the group rate is March 22nd.

From Carolyn Garfein, AAUW National President

On behalf of the AAUW Board of Directors, I extend our best wishes for your 2013 state convention. I am pleased that we will have a national board or staff member at each state convention to meet you and your officers; to learn more about your interests, priorities, challenges, and triumphs; and to share some of the portfolio of programs and activities AAUW is providing to help you manage and market your branch. *This will also be a great opportunity to discuss the national voting process that opens April 15 and closes June 10 during the AAUW National Convention.*

I encourage you to make plans now to attend our national convention in June. Not only will it be great fun—it’s in New Orleans, after all!—but it will also feature an outstanding program. Among the keynote speakers will be our beloved Lilly Ledbetter.

Branch News: Murfreesboro

2013 marks Murfreesboro Branch's 100th year! We are celebrating our centennial with many events and activities, including special attire (Centennial Celebration t-shirts and commemorative jewelry designed for us by a local MTSU student and artist).

This spring we will host a celebratory event on the MTSU campus that coincides with Women's History Month (March 21), co-sponsor Lilly Ledbetter's keynote address at the MTSU Women's and Gender Studies Conference (April 5), host the AAUW of Tennessee Annual Meeting (April 6), and co-manage the annual Equal Pay Day awareness-raising event on the MTSU campus (April 9).

To top it off, we have added 13 new members since September 2012. Check us out on our new branch website location at <http://murfreesboro-tn.aauw.net/>.

Ruth Johnson Smiley Honored

In celebration of their 50th anniversary, the Tennessee Human Rights Commission honored eleven civil rights advocates in the Knoxville area at a reception held at the Beck Cultural Center on February 5. Ruth Johnson Smiley, past State President, AAUW of Tennessee (2006-2008), was recognized for her efforts in promoting education and equal opportunities for women. Pictured with Ruth are Patricia Pierce and Ruby Miller, Tennessee Human Rights Commissioners, and Beverly Watts, Executive Director of the Commission.



Tennessee Women Project: March Update

We're making progress! Manuscripts are undergoing a final edit to get book material ready to submit to a publisher. The book, titled *Tennessee Women of Vision and Courage*, features profiles of twenty-two historical women, written by twenty Tennessee women writers. The expected publication date is late 2013.

In observance of Women's History Month, we will have a display, sponsored by the AAUW Oak Ridge Branch, at the Oak Ridge Public Library in March. Also, we are giving a program for the Oak Ridge and Maryville Branches on March 25. Joining us for a panel presentation will be three authors who wrote about historic Tennessee women for the book:

Deborah Grace Staley, author of Angel Ridge books, wrote about Elizabeth Paxton Houston, a frontier woman; Sara Baker, writer and women's advocate, wrote about Fanny Wright, an abolitionist; and Margie LeCoultre, retired educator from Knox County Schools, wrote about Edith O'Keefe Susong, a newspaper publisher.

We plan additional opportunities for program presentations across the state to include other authors. Please contact us if your branch is interested in scheduling a program, tnwomenproject@gmail.com.

Charlotte Crawford and Ruth Johnson Smiley, Project Directors

UTC Students Benefit from Elect Her- Campus Women Win! Grant

By Meghan Smith

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) is honored to have received AAUW's Elect Her- Campus Women Win! grant. Established just a few years ago, Elect Her is a collaboration between AAUW and Running Start, which encourages and trains college women to run for student government on their campus. It aims to build the pipeline of women running for office in order to diminish the long-standing political leadership gender gap.

As the first institution in the state of Tennessee to receive

this grant, UTC will be a leader in this young women in politics initiative, serving as a trailblazer for other institution's in the state of Tennessee and future sites nationwide. UTC's student body is more than half female.

With that being said, our Student Government association does not reflect this in its representation. Women at UTC are excited to get to work and start accurately representing women on our campus and in our community with the help and inspiration of the Elect Her Grant.

I was fortunate enough to attend an Elect Her session at AAUW's National Conference

for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in DC this past summer I knew this was a program that would thrive at UTC. We have some very motivated women on our campus that will benefit greatly from not only attending the conference, but from getting together and networking with each other as well.

It is vital for there to be women representative in our government, and programs like Elect Her really help inspire young women to participate in government issues on the local, state, and community level, thank you AAUW for this opportunity!

Branch News: Maryville

Maryville Branch began the new year with a Visioning Workshop to assess the needs of Blount County and find where our branch can best direct our efforts to make an impact on the lives of women in the community. The two part workshop was lead by Michelle Hankes, CEO of the United Way of Blount County. Our members imagined the future we hoped to see and designed a roadmap to establish the direction our Maryville Branch should take in the next 5, 10 and 15 years to help women achieve these goals.

Maryville Branch members display the Certificate of Honor from AAUW in recognition of the 70th Anniversary of the Maryville Branch



Branch News: Knoxville

The past three months saw Knoxville's three major projects happen. SHADES (SHaring Adventures in Engineering and Science) was held in Knox County's STEM Academy in the fall, an exciting venue for the middle school girls and their teachers.

The Annual Holiday Auction garnered nearly \$3500, \$3000 of which goes to the AAUW Education Fund. The balance went towards next year's Sister To Sister Summit. This year's Summit was held again at UTK, for 88 girls from four middle schools and 21 high school girls as facilitators. The UTK's Women's Studies Department helped greatly in this effort by securing the Student Center and the luncheon.

TENNESSEE MAKES PROGRESS IN AAUW C/U PARTNER SCHOOLS

Since 2006 Tennessee has grown from three AAUW College/University Partner institutions to nine: Maryville College, Middle Tennessee State University, South College, Southern College of Optometry, Tennessee State University, Tennessee Tech University, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, University of the South, and Vanderbilt University.

That is good progress, but we can do better.

There are over 200 colleges and universities in Tennessee. Why should institutions of higher learning partner with AAUW? Their students have an opportunity to become E-affiliate members of AAUW free of charge and with benefits, such as fee discounts for all classroom and LiveOnline courses for the PSAT, SAT, ACT, LSAT, MCAT, GRE, and GMAT. Also partnership with AAUW gives colleges and universities access to all the resources of one of the oldest, largest, and most influential women's organizations in the world.

Is the college or university in your community a partner with AAUW? If not, please encourage campus officials to consider a partnership. Check us out at <http://www.aauw.org/connect/campus/index.cfm>.

B. Ayne Cantrell, University Relations, AAUW of Tennessee

CALL FOR BRANCH NCCWSL NOMINATIONS

AAUW of Tennessee invites branch nominations of undergraduate students from Tennessee colleges and universities for a scholarship to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), May 30-June 1, 2013, at the University of Maryland, College Park. NCCWSL is a two-and-a-half day conference designed to enhance the leadership skills of college women students and to promote effectiveness in their work on campus and in the community. Last year, the conference attracted more than 500 young women participants from all 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia, Guam, and Jamaica.

The deadline for nominations has been extended to **March 5, 2013**. Since the scholarship covers registration and housing but not travel, branches are expected to contribute toward travel expenses should their nominee receive the scholarship.

Send your letter of nomination (email letters will be accepted) to Ayne Cantrell, AAUW Tennessee NCCWSL, 1002 E. Northfield Blvd. #K103, Murfreesboro, TN 37130, acantrell@comcast.net. Your letter should contain the following: (1) Student's full name, mailing address, phone number, and email address, (2) Her college or university, major, and expected graduation date, (3) Her permission to be nominated with agreement to attend NCCWSL if selected, and (4) Your reasons for nominating the student and your opinion of how the student will benefit from the NCCWSL experience. Once the nomination letter is received, the student will be contacted and asked to submit an application for the scholarship by March 14, 2013.

**SPRING CALENDAR
Reminders**

March 2013: Women's History Month

April 6, 2013: AAUW of Tennessee Annual Meeting (MTSU Campus)

April 9, 2013: Equal Pay Day

April - May: Deadline for payment of DUES is May 30, 2013.

June: Newly elected officers' names due to AAUW (aauw.org, MSD) and State President-Elect

June 9 - 12, 2013: AAUW National Convention, Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

August 18: anniversary of the date in 1920 when the Tennessee General Assembly became the 36th state needed to ratify the U.S. Constitution, when women won the right to vote

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THERE WILL BE A USED BOOK SALE FUND-RAISER FOR THE NCCWSL SCHOLARSHIP at the Annual Meeting. AAUW of Tennessee provides a scholarship to fund the registration fee for the AAUW National Conference of College Women Student Leaders, to be held May 30 – June 1, in Maryland. Bring your gently used books, DVDs and CDs. There is a partial amount in the treasury for this, but we need more.

NEED FOR CANDIDATES FOR STATE PRESIDENT-ELECT. The branch presidents and other Board members have a Nominations Form and have been asked to consider qualified and worthy members who would be a good president of AAUW of Tennessee and who would be willing to serve as “elect” for one year, and president for one. Please think seriously about this and put forward your name if you qualify.

DEADLINES FOR QUARTERLY TENNESSEAN PUBLICATION:

Summer 2013: May 20 (for May 28 publication)

**AAUW TENNESSEE
OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT
Anne Loy

FINANCIAL OFFICER
Samantha Cantrell

PRESIDENT-ELECT
Mayme Crowell

PROGRAM
Pat Clark

INCOMING WEBMASTER
Connie Malarkey

MEMBERSHIP
Letha Granberry

WEBMASTER Reba Best
(interim)

BULLETIN EDITOR
Genoa Wolford
(student member-worker)

**COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
RELATIONS**
Ayne Cantrell

PUBLIC POLICY
Virginia Jones

DEVELOPMENT CHAIR
Mayme Crowell

**POLICY SHEET/BYLAWS
COMMITTEE**
Peggy Emmett, Chair
Ayne Cantrell

OUR MISSION: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

OUR VISION: AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

THE AAUW VALUE PROMISE: By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.