2011 State Convention, March 25-26

Jill R. Birdwhistell, PhD

Jill R. Birdwhistell, AAUW’s Chief of Strategic Advancement, will share AAUW highlights and discuss Women’s Leadership: A Priority for Our Nation. She will address global competitiveness, women in STEM and AAUW’s role in establishing the U.N.’s priority for women in STEM, and various programs that AAUW makes available to branches to help women develop leadership skills.

Jill has a PhD in higher education administration and policy/law from the University of Kansas. Her professional career includes university faculty and executive positions with several non-profit organizations.

Lynda M. Sagrestano, Director of the Center for Research on Women at the University of Memphis, will present the convention’s keynote address, Nowhere to Hide: The Pervasive Atmosphere of Sexual Harassment in Middle and High School, based upon her research.

Lynda earned a PhD in social psychology from the University of California, Berkeley, and held postdoctoral fellowships at UCLA and the University of Illinois, Chicago. Her research interests include barriers to economic self-sufficiency for women, maternal and prenatal health, and a wide range of social issues.

Convention Highlights

Dinner: On Friday we will meet in the hotel lobby at 5:45 p.m. to go to the Butcher Shop Steakhouse for a Dutch-treat dinner. We have a private dining room scheduled for dinner. The state board will meet at the Butcher Shop after dinner. If you are not on the state board and would like to go shopping at Saddle Creek after dinner, please check that on your registration form. Members of the Memphis Branch have offered to transport anyone who wants to go to Saddle Creek. If you are a dancer, the Memphis Bop Club meets at The Butcher Shop on Friday nights. You may want to stay and dance.

Convention Site: On Saturday our convention will be held at Covenant United Methodist Church. Registration and set up for the NCCWSL Silent Auction will begin at 8:15 a.m. CDT. Although a free breakfast is available at the hotel, coffee, juice, and a continental breakfast will be available at registration.

See Convention Highlights, page 4

Convention Hotel:
Holiday Inn Express
7784 Wolf Trail Cove
Germantown

Call 901-309-6700 and ask for AAUW Convention rate. You must book your room before noon on Friday, March 4, to receive the convention rate of $94 (king bed and pull-out sofa) or $99 (two queen beds) plus tax. A non-smoking hotel with free parking, free internet, fitness center, and free breakfast. Check-in time is 3 p.m.

—photo courtesy of AAUW

Lynda M. Sagrestano, PhD
Message from Your President
—Proposals for the Future of AAUW of Tennessee

As my term as state president draws to a close, I am concerned about the future of AAUW of Tennessee. I accepted the presidency two years ago, even though I was fairly new to Tennessee. Traditionally the president-elect worked with the outgoing president for a year prior to starting her two-year term as president. However, shortly before I was installed as president-elect, the president resigned so I was thrown into the presidency with no opportunity to prepare. When I was informed that the president had resigned, I was told that I would be president for three years. I decided last summer that a two-year term is long enough and informed the state board that I would not continue as president after this year. Hopefully, the nominations committee has found a good candidate.

After the 2009 National Convention in St. Louis we were told we could make sweeping changes in our bylaws and in our state and branch organizations. We have not really had a conversation yet as to how our state organization should look, but I propose that we do that at our state convention in March. In 2009 we were told that we could pare our state officers down to two: an executive or president and a financial officer or treasurer.

Proposals for Restructuring
• For elected officers I propose that AAUW of Tennessee maintain the positions of president, treasurer, and secretary. It is important that we have someone record what happens at state meetings. In the even-numbered years, we would also have a president-elect who would chair the state convention planning committee and work with the president to prepare for her term of office. This proposal would eliminate the elected positions of first vice president for program, second vice president for membership, and parliamentarian.
• For appointed positions, I propose that we maintain the newsletter editor, college/university relations, AAUW funds chair, and policy sheet/bylaws chair positions. We need to discuss changing college/university relations to a title that also encompasses non-profit organizations or to NCCWSL coordinator since that is the focus in Tennessee. This proposal would eliminate the appointed positions of historian, international affairs, and public policy chair.
• I am not certain how to handle webmaster. Harolyn Ropp would like to retire after almost 12 years in this position, but no one has come forward to take her place. AAUW of Tennessee is now on Facebook thanks to Jean Lotz, who offered to set up our state. Is that a sufficient internet presence? If not, how do we replace Harolyn?
• I propose that we continue the nominations and bylaws committees, but eliminate the finance committee.

The state presidents have had an open email dialog about what is happening around the country. Most states are in the same position as Tennessee with declining membership numbers, no members willing to accept leadership positions, and members not willing to travel long distances to attend state meetings.

• I propose that we hold one annual meeting for the state board and branch leaders the third Saturday in October in the Nashville area. This meeting is designed to coincide with the Economic Summit for Women that we encourage our members to attend each year. That event is held in the Nashville area on the third Sunday and Monday of October. Our meeting would be on the Saturday prior to the summit. Since the meeting rooms at the summit hotel are probably expensive, we could hold our meeting somewhere in the area, perhaps Murfreesboro. Hopefully, our members would be able to get the conference room rate at the hotel on Saturday night.

Many states now hold their state conventions in years alternating with the national convention.
• I propose that Tennessee adopt a plan of holding our state convention at locations around the state in the even-numbered years and plan a meeting for attendees from Tennessee at the national convention in odd-numbered years.

We will discuss the proposals listed above and your counterproposals at our state convention. If our decisions require changes in our Bylaws or our Policy Sheet, we need to make those changes.

AAUW National Convention
I have registered for the 2011 National Convention in Washington, D.C., June 16 to 19. I hope you will plan to attend also. I am not going to schedule a leadership conference this summer, but I would be happy to organize a meeting at the national convention of everyone from Tennessee. Please let me

See President’s Message, Page 4
Nominating Committee Report

The nominating committee is pleased to announce Samantha Cantrell as a candidate for the state board position as secretary for a two-year term, beginning July 1, 2011.

Samantha Cantrell, PhD

Samantha earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of the South (Sewanee), her master’s from Middle Tennessee State University, and her PhD from Texas A & M University. She works as a Research Administrator in MTSU’s Office of Research Services. In that capacity, she assists faculty who are pursuing external funding. As an adjunct for the MTSU English Department, she intermittently teaches lower division courses. A member of the AAUW Murfreesboro Branch since 2006, she has served on the scholarship committee (chairing it in 2008) and as the branch treasurer since July 2008.

The nominating committee has been unsuccessful in finding nominees for state president and finance (treasurer). The committee continues to seek nominations from members and will announce additional candidates through the state listserv. If no candidates are found who accept the nominations, action must be taken by the state board and brought to the business meeting during the state convention.

—Nominating Committee
Ruth Johnson Smiley, Chair
Ayne Cantrell
Elizabeth Perez-Rielly

State Bylaws/Policy Sheet

At our convention in March we will be discussing changes to our state bylaws. One starting point for our discussion might be to consider what the essential work of the organization actually is and then structure our list of leaders and their duties to fit that concept. We should consider what elected and what appointed officers we need in order to handle our goals for AAUW.

Your committee is working on the state policy sheet. Some additional details from the bylaws will be moved to the policy sheet which can be amended by the board rather than requiring a vote of the entire membership. AAUW has encouraged states and branches to put specific officer duties, committee functions, dates of meetings, financial details, etc., in policy sheets, and we have previously moved a number of these things to the policy sheet. We also need to do some editing to clarify some items, since there seems to be confusion about what is meant in several instances.

Comments and suggestions from the membership are welcome. Please send them to Peggy Emmett, State Bylaws Chair at emmettemb1@comcast.net, or since AAUW is encouraging use of social media as a communications tool, AAUW Tennessee is now on Facebook and you may input your suggestions at: http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/aauw.tn

Bylaws/Policy Sheet—Note to Branches

If you have made any additional changes to your branch bylaws since you did the mandatory changes in late 2009 or early 2010, please send them to me. However since the national convention in June will probably result in more mandatory changes, it is probably best to wait until that time before additional changes are made.

—Peggy Emmett
State Bylaws/Policy Sheet Chair

Convention Fundraiser—NCCWSL Scholarships

The state board voted for this year’s convention fundraiser to go for NCCWSL scholarships. Specialty gift baskets and other items such as books, CDs, DVDs, and crafts are requested from branches and members for a silent auction. Your help with this project is appreciated.

Directions (Please bring these directions with you):

Hotel: From I-40 West, take Exit 16 (TN 177, Germantown Road) and drive south about 6 miles to Wolf Trail Cove. You will cross a bridge on Germantown Road. At the end of the bridge is a traffic light, a Waffle House restaurant, and a sign that says “Germantown.” At the light, turn right onto Wolf Trail Cove. The hotel is on your right. Turn into the parking lot.

Butcher Shop: From the hotel parking lot, turn left (north) onto Germantown Road, and drive approximately one mile to The Butcher Shop, which is on your right at 107 South Germantown Road. You will pass The Butcher Shop on your way to the hotel.

Covenant United Methodist Church: From the hotel parking lot, turn left (north) onto Germantown Road. Drive a little more than a mile to the Walnut Grove East ramp and merge onto Walnut Grove Road East. Drive about .7 of a mile and turn left onto Walnut Bend Road, then turn right into the Covenant United Methodist Church parking lot. We will meet in the Smith Covenant Center at the East end of the parking lot.
NCCWSL Scholarships
—Call to Branches for Nominations

25th Anniversary Conference
University of Maryland, College Park
June 2-4, 2011

http://www.nccwsl.org/Pages/Home.aspx

AAUW of Tennessee invites branch nominations of undergraduate students from Tennessee colleges and universities for scholarships to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). Participants will have the opportunity to

- Hear energizing keynote speakers and meet inspiring Women of Distinction Award recipients.
- Participate in workshops focusing on advocacy, leadership, health and wellness, and “real world” issues such as financial literacy and life after college.
- Get involved in preconference activities, community service projects, and skill-building events.
- Enjoy endless opportunities to network.

The DEADLINE FOR BRANCH NOMINATIONS is March 1, 2011. Before you nominate the student, be sure that she, if selected, will be able to attend the conference and that your AAUW branch can provide some travel funds. The scholarship covers registration and housing but not travel. 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
4. Your reasons for nominating the student and your opinion of how the Student will benefit from the NCCWSL experience.

The selection committee does take into account the nomination letter, so it is important that you support your nomination with the student’s qualifications, achievements, and potential for leadership. Once the nomination letter is received, the student will be contacted and asked to submit an application for the scholarship. Scholarship recipients will be announced at the AAUW of Tennessee State Convention in Memphis, March 25-26.

—Ayne Cantrell,
NCCWSL Scholarship Chair

Convention Highlights from page 1

Lunch: Since you can’t visit Memphis without sampling our barbecue, lunch will be catered by Corky’s Barbecue. Memphis Historian Extraordinaire, Jimmy Ogle, will regale us with tales of the founding and growth of Memphis.

Business Meeting: Please identify someone from your branch to give a brief (5-minutes or less) report about your branch activities for the past year and your plans for the future of your branch. Following the branch reports we will discuss the proposals presented in my president’s article and how AAUW of Tennessee plans to move forward. If you have other proposals you would like to present, please send them to me at least one week prior to the convention so I can make copies for the attendees.

Adjourn: We will adjourn at approximately 3 p.m.

—Sidna Bookout, State President

President’s Message, from page 2

know if you register for the Convention so I can inform you about plans for our meeting.

Appreciation

There are many people to thank for their help during the last two years:

Thanks to state board members, including both elected and appointed committee chairs, who have contributed to the ongoing work of AAUW of Tennessee.

Thanks to Harolyn Ropp for your many years of service as our webmaster.

Thanks to our members for your continued support of AAUW of Tennessee.

—Sidna Bookout, State President
Sister-to-Sister

—A Summit by, for, and about Girls

AAUW Knoxville Branch
Hosts Summit for Knox County Middle Schools

The AAUW Knoxville Branch’s Sister-to-Sister was held November 1 at the University of Tennessee Student Center. There were 92 girls registered (about 86 attending) with 14 teen facilitators, 8 adult facilitators, and 8 faculty of the middle schools (Holston, Carter, Vine, South Doyle). Judy Arnold arranged for two professors from Lincoln Memorial University to give a workshop to the middle school faculty. There were five additional adult helpers.

Jennifer Scroggins Women’s Study department talked about school and career and Dr. Elizabeth Alves, Director of Middle School, and Gloria Nolan, Amachi Recruiter, Knoxville Leadership Foundation, gave short presentations. Dr. Cheryl Travis from Women’s Studies was present during the final celebration session.

The girls were asked: Why do you think Sister-to-Sister is important for Knox County Schools? Some of their responses were: “because so many kids are dealing with these problems at home so it gives them an opportunity to express yourself; helps to make you think about stuff for your future; gives girls opportunities to talk about their life, helps girls learn how to face problems, and it makes girls more confident.” The girls were enthusiastic about the experience.

—Cindy Serbin, President
AAUW Knoxville Branch

AAUW Maryville Branch
Hosts 10th Annual Summit for Blount County Schools

The AAUW Maryville Branch held its tenth annual Sister-to-Sister Summit on November 4 at Maryville College. A record 109 energetic girls from 12 schools representing the three public school systems of Blount County participated, along with about 30 adult volunteers.

That the participating girls choose the topics they wish to discuss, and then develop solutions to solve them, is a unique aspect of the Sister-to-Sister Summit. And although adult volunteers facilitate, it is the girls themselves who develop the messages and action plans of the topics.

The Maryville Branch initially held the first summit, but it has been aided by other sponsorships through the years. This year’s sponsors along with AAUW were the Women’s Equity Foundation and Maryville College’s Center for Strong Communities. The Tomato Head restaurant also raised funds for the Summit by donating all proceeds of a “Sister-to-Sister Sandwich” and then providing box lunches for the summit. Something Savory Bakery and Café provided cupcakes. Many other supporters provided door prizes and goodies for the bags for participants. Maryville College students, many who were past participants, were also involved in the planning, organizing, and implementing of the Summit. Keynote speaker for the event was Wendy Pitts Reeves of Cove Mountain Counseling, an AAUW member and a founder of the summit.

The topic messages and action plans the participants developed were for girls and adults. They included:

**Dating Relationships**

*Message and action step for girls:* Communication and trust are a MUST! Take it easy, take it slow, make sure he’s not just an average Joe!

*Message and action step for adults:* We need to make mistakes, just like you did in your day; so don’t be a burden, but know when we’re hurtin’. Don’t go to an extreme, we’re SMARTER than we seem.

**Body Image and Self Esteem**

*Message and action step for girls:* One size does NOT fit all! For every negative thing you find about yourself, find something positive.

*Message and action step for adults:* Be our foundation, not our walls! Build us up, but keep us grounded!

**Peer Pressure**

*Message and action step for girls:* Take the boulders off your shoulders; stay true by being you! Don’t be lame, just stay the same!

*Message and action step for adults:* We’re not perfect, we make mistakes. Let us learn from them! Encourage us to do the right thing, but don’t pressure us to be perfect!

See Sister-to-Sister, page 6
Sister-to-Sister, from page 5
AAUW Maryville Branch

The girls then took a pledge: “We, the women of Sister-to-Sister 2010, pledge to take our message to our schools, our communities, and the world. We will be examples for the women we meet and promote sisterhood and cooperation among women of all ages. We believe that we can make a difference by standing together and making ourselves heard.”

—Ruth Berry, Vice President for Communications AAUW Maryville Branch

AAUW Martin Branch Projects and Programs

This has been a busy few months in West Tennessee. This past fall our branch was rewarded by a visit from a recent NCCWSL recipient, Jennifer Swegles, who presented on her experiences at AAUW’s leadership conference as well as her travel study experience to Japan. Members were active in promoting the AAUW and women’s equity by being present at campus career-day events. They also were engaged in GOTV (get out the vote) activities prior to Election Day. In October, a program was held on domestic violence that drew a mixture of community members, students, and even male partners. Our branch enjoyed a viewing of a film on voting rights for women entitled, Iron Jawed Angels, and also held a program on Women in Politics, featuring a portion of a widely-regarded video documentary, 14 Women: They’re Women, They’re Powerful, They’re Senators.

This spring the AAUW Martin Branch looks forward to continuing our $START $MART workshops on the University of Tennessee Martin campus. We are also planning a program on STEM to include a panel of UTM professors to discuss their experiences as women. We will wrap the season up with a program on Women’s Studies and a discussion of the book, Half the Sky; Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide, by Kristof and WuDunn.

—Robin Last, President AAUW Martin Branch

AAUW Murfreesboro Branch Announces
The Ruth Houston Memorial Scholarship: $1,000.00 per Semester for Fall 2011 and Spring 2012

Eligibility—The AAUW Murfreesboro Branch will award a $1,000 scholarship each semester—Fall 2011 Semester and Spring 2012 Semester—to the MTSU undergraduate student who best demonstrates academic promise and financial need. Applicants must have successfully completed their freshman year at MTSU. Returning adult students, in particular, are encouraged to apply. The scholarship is renewable each semester as long as full-time status and a 2.5 GPA are maintained.

Application—Applicants must submit original and two copies of the following: (1) name, address, telephone number, email address (2) copy of college transcripts; (3) two letters of reference from persons acquainted with the applicant’s academic or professional work; (4) an essay of no more than 1,000 words describing the applicant’s professional goals and the manner in which the scholarship will contribute to the applicant’s success, and the applicant’s financial need. The essay should be typewritten or computer generated.

Applications Due April 1—The original and two copies of the application should be sent to: Dr. Tanya Peres, Chair, Ruth Houston Scholarship Committee, MTSU P.O. Box 10, Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37132

We’re on Facebook!
AAUW - Tennessee

http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/aauw.tn
Women’s History Month
—Women Who Led the Way for AAUW in Tennessee

In observance of Women’s History Month and the 75th Anniversary of the AAUW Tennessean, I asked branch presidents to nominate a member who made significant contributions to AAUW in Tennessee and also through her professional career. Three were nominated by branches, and I nominated a fourth person. There are many more who should be recognized—Susan Riley, Agnes Bird, and Ruth Houston, and others. We will continue this important aspect of our history in the summer issue of the AAUW Tennessean.

—Ruth Johnson Smiley, Editor

Gladys Longley Dotson (1921-2008) inspired everyone who knew her with her love, great leadership, and Christian example. She and her husband James served as missionaries in Alaska (before it became a state) and Okinawa, Japan as well as starting many churches in Tennessee. She graduated from Carson-Newman College in 1942 and earned a master’s degree from Golden Gate Seminary in San Francisco, California, a master’s degree in education from the University of Tennessee, and a doctorate in administration and supervision from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Gladys was an avid, dedicated educator. She stressed the importance of education to her children, to her friends and acquaintances, and to her beloved students. Gladys taught 32 years for the Knox County Schools, and an additional 10 years for Knox County adult basic education.

Gladys was an enthusiastic and active AAUW member, served as Knoxville Branch President from 1988 to 1990, and also held state office. She was a member of almost every study group and a marvelous ambassador for AAUW principles and goals. She was a very nurturing and persuasive leader, who would be so confident that someone could not bear to let her down. Everyone in the AAUW Knoxville Branch who knew her has a favorite Gladys story. She is very much missed.

—Cindy Serbin, President AAUW Knoxville Branch

Mary Gladys Pieper (1915-2006) was a loyal AAUW Maryville Branch member until her death. She often commented about how proud she was when Maryville College “finally” achieved sufficient academic standing so that Maryville College graduates could become AAUW members. (The AAUW Maryville Branch was organized in 1942.)

She was such an accomplished, articulate woman. Yet she remained so modest and unassuming that many may not know that she was the first woman in Tennessee to have read for the bar. She passed, and received a license to practice law in 1939, but had to settle for working as a secretary in a law office, as (she told me) women weren’t “allowed” to be lawyers in those days.

She received a bachelor’s degree in political science from Maryville College in 1936, and taught sociology there. She earned a master’s in sociology from the University of Tennessee and eventually earned a master’s degree in library science from Columbia University and worked at the New York Public Library.

When she returned to Maryville upon retirement, she was in charge of the Maryville College archives, and was a “proud and strict” guardian of the AAUW Maryville Branch records, which are housed there. She continued to add to and organize our records until her move into the nursing care portion of Shannondale.

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund and books were just some of her passions. She chaired the AAUW book discussion group right up until her move to the nursing home, and held just about every office in our branch, including president.

—Harolyn Ropp, President Women’s Equity Foundation

Helen Hathcock Mason, scientist and information specialist, loved AAUW. Helen was a very active member of AAUW during her working years and in retirement. She donated lavishly to the Oak Ridge Branch and contributed hours of effort to locally-sponsored causes, such as glass recycling and foreign films for educational funds.

Helen actively served at the state and regional levels. She was a past president of the Tennessee Division. She helped to start the Beth C. Hardy and the Flora Rawls Endowment Funds. The Helen H. Mason Endowment Unit, established for National Fellowships in 1978, honored her AAUW work.

I recall driving Helen to Memphis in the early 70’s for a state meeting. We

See Women Who Led the Way, page 8
Women Who Led the Way for AAUW, from Page 7

Helen Mason
discussed the education of women, the low pay for working women, and the status of women in the world. Helen had no children; nevertheless, she was concerned about education, especially for Tennessee children. She believed that schools were neglecting the sciences, foreign languages, and art—disciplines which were important to her.

Helen attended national AAUW conferences and established strong, lasting friendships with other women. She looked upon AAUW as one of her professional organizations, and she encouraged others to join so as to reap the benefits of membership. AAUW suffered a great loss upon Helen’s death.

—Mayme Crowell, Co-President
AAUW Oak Ridge Branch

Mary Church Terrell (1864-1954) was born in Memphis, the daughter of two former slaves. I had heard about this woman and her many contributions and wanted to learn more when I read that she had been rejected for membership in AAUW in 1954 (History of AAUW in Tennessee, JoAnn Perry, March 2006). As we celebrate Black History in February and Women’s History in March, it is timely to recognize Mary Church Terrell as one of the first African-American women to earn a college degree, a suffragist, and a civil rights activist. She earned both bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Oberlin College. She taught at a black secondary school in Washington, D.C. and at Wilberforce College in Ohio.

In Memphis she married Robert Heberton Terrell, a lawyer who became the first black municipal court judge in Washington, D.C., where the couple made their home and raised their family. In 1896, Terrell became the first president of the newly formed National Association of Colored Women’s Club. In 1906 she became a founding member of the National Association of Colored People. In 1913-1914 she helped organize the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Terrell worked actively in the women’s suffragist movement, joining Alice Paul and Lucy Burns of the Congressional Union of Woman Suffrage, to picket the White House. She was President of the Women’s Republican League during Warren G. Harding’s 1920 presidential campaign and the first election in which all American women were given the right to vote.

In her later years, Terrell launched a successful fight to integrate eating places in the District of Columbia. She also succeeded in persuading the local AAUW branch to admit black members. (I have been unable to determine the branch referred to, or to verify whether or not Terrell became an AAUW member.) The source for the above information is Wikipedia:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Church_Terrell

—Ruth Johnson Smiley, Editor
AAUW Tennessean

Congratulations to AAUW Members!

Ayne Cantrell, AAUW Murfreesboro Branch and Professor Emerita at MTSU, was selected as the Rutherford County Read to Succeed Program’s Shining Star Volunteer for October 2010. She has been tutoring adults to read since 2006.

Judith Iriarte-Gross, AAUW Murfreesboro Branch and Associate Professor of Chemistry at MTSU, has been appointed to the national Executive Board of AWIS (Association for Women in Science). She will serve as Secretary for 2011.

Lilly Ledbetter, AAUW Member-at-Large (Alabama), was awarded an honorary doctorate degree by CUNY (The City University of New York) in recognition of her efforts toward achieving pay equity for women. Pay equity legislation signed by President Obama on January 29, 2009, was named the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 in her honor.

Nancy Rupprecht, AAUW Murfreesboro Branch and Professor of History at MTSU, was presented the Enno Kranhe award for service to the European Section of the Southern Historical Association (SHA) at the association’s conference in Charlotte, NC, in November 2010.

Lynda M. Sagrestano, AAUW Murfreesboro Branch and Professor of History, was named the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 in her honor.

Gretchen Webber, AAUW Murfreesboro Branch and Assistant Professor of Sociology at MTSU, and Christine L. Williams’ co-authored publication entitled Mothers in ‘Good’ and ‘Bad’ Part-Time Jobs: Different Problems, Same Results (Gender and Society 2008) was selected as a finalist for the Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Excellence in Work-Family Research competition. This award is given annually by the Center for Families at Purdue University and Boston College Center for Work and Family.
AAUW has been named a top-rated nonprofit in two categories through GreatNonprofits’ reviews of charitable organizations. AAUW is listed as a top women’s empowerment organization and a top education organization.

GreatNonprofits, which is itself a nonprofit organization, provides an online forum for user reviews of nonprofits. The reviews by AAUW members and others who have benefitted from AAUW’s research, publications, fellowships and grants, and leadership programs led to AAUW’s inclusion as a top nonprofit in the areas of education and women’s empowerment.

“AAUW is honored to have received this high rating from such a distinguished organization,” said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. “The rating is a fantastic validation of our organization’s strong mission, values, and financial transparency.”

In their reviews, supporters of AAUW shared some of their individual accomplishments and AAUW’s important role in their lives. These stories, featured on the GreatNonprofits.org website, highlight examples of AAUW’s work to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

GreatNonprofits was started in 2007 as a site to provide reviews and ratings of U.S. nonprofits. Users can rate more than 1.2 million nonprofits through the site and partner sites.

—AAUW Press Release
January 25, 2011

AAUW Implements One Member, One Vote Process in 2011

Voting materials for election of national officers, amendment of bylaws, and adoption of resolutions, along with paper ballots and instructions, will be mailed to members on or about April 15. Electronic voting begins May 1. Electronic voting is encouraged—it is fast, easy, and secure. To learn more go to:
http://www.aauw.org/log on to the Member Center and click on One Member, One Vote. You will be able to view candidate information, the proposed Public Policy program, bylaws amendments, and resolutions.
NAME: ______________________________________________________________________________
ADDRESS: ____________________________________________________________________________
CITY, ZIP: ____________________________________________________________________________
PHONE: (_______) _____________________________ CELL: (_______) __________________________
EMAIL: ______________________________________________________________________________
BRANCH: ______________________  STATE/BRANCH OFFICE: _________________________________

Do you plan to join us for dinner at the Butcher Shop Steakhouse on Friday evening?
____ Yes     ___No        We will meet in the hotel lobby at 5:45 p.m. CDT
Guest for Dinner (name) __________________________________________________________________

If you are not attending the State Board Meeting, are you interested in an after-dinner activity? ____Yes  ____No

Please list any special dietary requirements you may have:
____________________________________________________________________________________

Please complete the registration form and return with your check for $45 payable to AAUW-TN no later than Friday, March 4 to Sidna Bookout, 7647 Fairway Forest Drive N, Cordova, TN 38016. Your non-refundable fee must be paid prior to the conference. Late registration after March 4 is $50.
Questions? Email Sidna Bookout at bookwoman43@comcast.net or phone 901-291-6869.

Welcome to Memphis
—Home of the Blues
Birthplace of Rock ‘n Roll!

While Graceland is the #1 tourist attraction in Memphis, there is more to Memphis than Elvis’s home. For example, Danny Thomas selected Memphis to be the home of St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital and Memphis is the home of FedEx Founder, Fred Smith. The headquarters of FedEx and International Paper are located here. Memphis was also the home of Kemmons Wilson, founder of Holiday Inns. Mr. Wilson traveled extensively with his family and was disturbed by the fact that every hotel was different. His family never knew what they were going to find when they checked into a hotel. He decided to open a chain of family-friendly hotels that were all the same so a family would know what to expect upon arrival. Mr. Wilson was looking for a name for his new hotel chain when he saw the movie Holiday Inn, made famous by Bing Crosby’s rendition of White Christmas. He was so enchanted by the film that he decided on Holiday Inn for the name of his new venture.

—Sidna Bookout, State President
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. The AAUW Value Promise is our statement of commitment to ourselves, as AAUW members, and to those who would join our AAUW community, about the essential value of our membership.

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

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.

Diversity: In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.
Celebrating—

75
Years!

AAUW Tennessean

CALENDAR
For up-to-date information consult the calendar at www.discoveret.org/aauwtn/calendar.htm

• February 15, 2011: Deadline for applications for Breaking Through Barriers Award
• March: Women's History Month
• March 1: Deadline for branches to submit nominations for NCCWSL scholarships
• March 25-26: Tennessee State Convention, Memphis
• April 12: Equal Pay Day, symbolic date in 2011 at which women's earnings catch up to men's for 2010
• May 15: Deadline to apply for AAUW committee positions
• June 1: Branch and state officer forms due to Association and Sidna Bookout
• June 2-4: National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, University of Maryland, College Park
• June 16-19: AAUW National Convention, Washington, D.C.
• October 24: Economic Summit for Women, Nashville Airport Marriott