



## AAUW TENNESSEE: ON THE MOVE

### State President's Message

AAUW-TN is continuing our forward momentum, and I'm delighted to work with so many of our talented members during this exciting time. For the third straight year, we have an Impact Grant, and since it's an election year, we have been elbow deep in get-out-the-vote efforts, issue forums, and voter education.

It's also our 90th anniversary in 2016, and we've launched a fundraising campaign (\$90 for 90 years) and are encouraging member participation (<http://aauw-tn.aauw.net/members-only/90-anniversary-campaign/>). I'm happy to report that it's possible to contribute to this campaign via PayPal. The finance committee felt it was important for us to provide electronic payment options to our membership—for this campaign and for other revenue collection such as convention registrations. Certainly, I've put my money where my mouth is. I've made a contribution of \$90 to this campaign: I challenge members to join me and contribute at the level you are able.

Another initiative we are launching this year is a push to recruit new College/

University Partners. Community colleges are of particular interest since the TN Promise initiative has created an influx of students into these institutions. If branches identify connections your members have to local colleges/universities, the state can assist in making an approach to the appropriate college officials about becoming an AAUW partner. Please contact me or one of our C/U Chairs (Lisa LeBleu and Teresa Collard) for more information.



Let me close with this: I am continually impressed by our members. From the vantage point of state leadership, I see so much knowledge, commitment, and generosity within our fellowship of women, and I'm so grateful for this opportunity to get to know all of you better. As an organization, we are a formidable advocate for women and girls in Tennessee. Be proud

of what you do. We continue to make an impact, and together we will see how our contributions are making Tennessee a better place for women and girls to work and learn. Thank you for all you do for AAUW-TN.

Samantha Cantrell, President (2016-17)  
AAUW Tennessee

## Announcing AAUW-TN NCCWSL - Scholarships 2017

"NCCWSL is where college women make their future what they want." It is time for AAUW Tennessee branches and colleges and universities to start thinking about undergraduate students they want to nominate for AAUW Tennessee scholarships to attend the 2017 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), June 2-4, University of Maryland, College Park.

The first Call for Scholarship Nominees will go out November 1. For general information about the conference, visit [www.nccwsl.org/about/](http://www.nccwsl.org/about/). For specific information about the AAUW-TN NCCWSL Scholarship, visit the AAUW-TN website <http://aauw-tn.aauw.net/> or contact AAUW-TN C/U Relations/NCCWSL Co-chairs Teresa Collard [tcollard@utm.edu](mailto:tcollard@utm.edu) and Lis LeBleu [llebleu@utm.edu](mailto:llebleu@utm.edu).

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## Call for AAUW-TN State Officer Nominees

Look for an email outlining how you may nominate members to serve as 2017-18 AAUW-TN President-Elect and Financial Officer. The persons elected to these positions will serve on the state Executive Committee with 2017-18 President Letha Granberry and 2016-17 Past President Samantha Cantrell. Questions? Contact our Nominating Committee: B. Ayne Cantrell, Committee Chair [acantrell@comcast.net](mailto:acantrell@comcast.net), Clarice Rankins, [clarice.rankins@gmail.com](mailto:clarice.rankins@gmail.com), Connie Malarkey, [malarkeych@comcast.net](mailto:malarkeych@comcast.net).



Please make a gift in celebration of AAUW Tennessee's 90 years of making Tennessee a better place for women and girls to work and learn. Make your donation via PayPal at <http://aauw-tn.aauw.net/members-only/90-anniversary-campaign/> or send your check made out to "AAUW Tennessee" to Phyllis Driver, AAUW-TN Financial Officer, 5833 Briercliff Rd, Knoxville, TN 37918. THANK YOU!

# NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

**KNOXVILLE**—Five study groups are meeting monthly, while branch meetings are focusing on mission and are held every-other month.

- The October speaker is Amy Broyles, "Being a Woman on the County Commission."
- Plans for future programs include Foster Children Care Review Board, Being a Muslim Woman in Knoxville, and Suicide Prevention.
- Members have participated in voter registration.

**MARYVILLE**—There are five branch meetings and four leadership team meetings planned for 2016-2017.

- Our first program entitled "Young Women and Leadership: Taking the World by Storm" featured two college women sharing their experiences, dreams, and appreciation to AAUW. One woman received the AAUW-TN NCCWSL scholarship and the other received the Agnes Thornton Bird Scholarship.
- Dr. Mark O'Gorman, Maryville College Political Science Professor, will be speaking "Why Gender Is Germane This October."
- The second "Expanding Your Horizons" STEM program for middle school girls will be held at Maryville, College.
- National Women History Month will be celebrated with a program similar to the past "Leading Ladies."
- Start Smart will continue one more year conducting wage negotiation skills workshops for college-age girls and men.
- Other activities include monthly book club, luncheons every other month, books sales, holiday cookie exchange, and Buffalo auction.
- Several members participated in voter registration

**MURFREESBORO**—Greetings from the 'Boro branch! To fulfill our mission of leveling the playing field for women and girls, we are staying focused on policy and education initiatives this election season.

- We have already exceeded our membership goal for the year with 6 new branch members!
- In partnership with the American

Democracy Project, branch members have registered nearly 175 voters on MTSU campus.

- In September, the branch hosted a panel entitled "What's at Stake for Women and Children in This Election," featuring AAUW-TN's own Public Policy Chair, Peggy Swann, as a panelist. The panel was videotaped by MTSU's College of Media and Entertainment and will be available on our branch website soon.
- In October, the branch for our second year staffed the Murfreesboro Half Marathon; we recruited over 50 volunteers from the branch and the community to help us raise operational funds.
- In November, we will hold an "Advocacy in Action" workshop as we gear up for the next legislative session.
- We will hold a Start Smart Workshop this November and are in discussions to bring the Work Smart Workshop to Murfreesboro soon.

**OAK RIDGE**—Oak Ridge AAUW had such a busy year last year that we have not planned any major events for 2016-17, but we do have a great lineup of programs.

- Program topics are Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services for School Children, Educational Goals for Women, Community Coalition against Human Trafficking, the Manhattan Project National Historic Park, and Biology in a Box.
- Our president participates in the statewide Public Policy telephone conferences.
- We have had members participate in voter registration events.



Murfreesboro Branch members and friends volunteer at the Murfreesboro Half Marathon

## Haley Wilson Lobbying on Capitol Hill, 2016 NCCWSL

With Love and Gratitude - A Letter of Appreciation to Members of AAUW - TN

*Earlier this year, I was rewarded the amazing opportunity to attend the 2016 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, and it was nothing short of a phenomenal experience. I owe this opportunity to the wonderful members of the AAUW TN Organization. To these members, thank you for believing in me and for giving me this experience.*

*The conference opened my eyes to many pressing issues young collegiate women face: stress management, gender bias, campus sexual assault, intersectionality, and so much more. Our first exercise at the conference was about expressing our opinions and beliefs. This was a moving experience for me, especially when the presenter asked, "Do you think you have become less confident since being in college?"*



*Although I consider myself a strong leader on my campus, I had recently become discouraged in my beliefs. I got the opportunity to stand in front of the conference and explain why I had recently becomes less confident. I explained that in Tennessee we are predominantly conservative and that most of my peers do not believe women should excel in the workplace and that the pay gap exists. Back home when I stood up for my beliefs, I found peers talking over me or superiors down at me. However, NCCWSL quickly changed my discouragement. Through NCCWSL, I learned that my voice deserves to be heard and not to back down when things get tough.*

*All of my experiences at NCCWSL were life changing. I got the opportunity to lobby on Capitol Hill alongside AAUW. I heard powerful women who have excelled in the workforce talk about their experiences. I went to workshops that taught me important*

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# IMPACTING THE STATE: AAUW-TN Public Policy

For the third year, national AAUW has awarded Tennessee an IMPACT Grant. Our public policy approach in 2016-2107 is to continue momentum for equal pay by building on the cumulative success of AAUW-TN. We have been extremely busy this fall. So far we have

**Sponsored Voter Registration Drives.** Across the state, AAUW has been registering voters.

- AAUW-Memphis registered 94 students at Southwest Tennessee Community College-Union Campus.
- AAUW-Maryville registered voters at the Vienna Coffee House in Maryville (September 21) and at Pellissippi State Community College, Blount County Campus (September 28).
- AAUW-Murfreesboro and the American Democracy Project registered 175 voters at Middle Tennessee State University on August 22 and on October 3.
- AAUW-Tennessee co-sponsored a GOTV Breakfast with the Women's Political Collaborative of Tennessee in Nashville on October 22.

**Held Training on the Pay Gap**—AAUW-TN President Samantha Cantrell facilitated "Growing Our Economy, Growing Our Families: Equal Pay" to educate invited candidates and state legislators about the gender pay gap (downtown Nashville Public Library, October 10). Dr. Cantrell noted that on average women in Tennessee are paid just 81 percent of what men are paid, although women are now contributors and/or providers in a majority of Tennessee

households. Should the gap be closed in Tennessee, an additional \$8.78 billion would be pumped into our state economy. Candidates were asked how they might respond when voters ask: How could you address the pay gap between men and women? How would you address the pay gap for female minorities and mothers?

**Published a Tennessee Voters' Issues Guide, 2016-2017**—"Closing the Gaps in Tennessee: The Pay Gap & The Insurance Gap" serves as a resource for Tennessee Voters, 2016 Election and 2017 Legislative Session. Each section consists of an overview of the gap, what key phrases to listen for in public and private discussions, and what questions should be asked of candidates and elected officials. By speaking out on these issues, we can help to shape the conversation both now, during the election, and later, once the newly seated state legislature convenes in 2017.

**Created "Take the Pledge#CloseTheGap"**—Take the Pledge is a social media roll out campaign that asks candidates, voters, elected officials, and organizations to sign an online petition to close the pay gap.



Contact Peggy Swann, AAUW Tennessee Public Policy Chair, for more information about any of these initiatives.

Haley Wilson (*continued*)

*leadership skills. Most importantly, I shared ideas and future goals with women from everywhere—Tennessee, Hawaii, California, Michigan, and all the way from Africa. Even though we all had different backgrounds, we had one important goal in common: to make the world a better place for women.*

*At NCCWSL I learned how to make my voice heard, when to listen, and how to become a strong and effective leader. I thank you all for giving me this opportunity.*

*With all my love and gratitude,*

Haley Wilson

**Haley Wilson** is a student at UT Chattanooga majoring in Political Science with a focus on American Studies with a minor in Women's Studies.

Two other students received 2016 AAUW-TN NCCWSL Scholarships. **Molly Blankenship** is a student at majoring in Liberal Studies with concentrations in Political Science and Social Work/Advocacy. **Ufuoma Peace Otebele** is a student at UT Martin majoring in Biology with a minor in English.

## Rankins Appointed to National AAUW Membership Committee

AAUW Nashville Branch member Clarice Douglas Rankins has been named to the National AAUW Membership Committee. Congratulations, Clarice!

The National AAUW Membership Committee, comprised of volunteer branch members across the nation, assists staff and AAUW affiliates in providing premier quality member service and fostering a growing, global community of members, supporters, and advocates. Clarice will be a valuable member of the committee.

A Nashville native, Clarice holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology (UT Knoxville 1973) and Masters of Criminal Justice degree with Highest Honors (MTSU 2003). She spent most of her employment career in criminal justice-related fields for government agencies. Prior to retirement in 2011, Clarice formulated and headed up the General Sessions and Municipal Court Probation Department in Ashland City, Tennessee.

Since her retirement, Clarice has thrown herself into her love of advocacy and politics and may be seen doing all that she can around Nashville in these areas. Most recently she was honored with the Davidson County Democratic Party's Inez Crutchfield Volunteer of the Year Award.

Clarice was married to the former Henry C. Rankins, Sr. She has a son, Henry C. Rankins, Jr., and six grandchildren.



*Each year AAUW invites members to apply for membership on national committees. AAUW Tennessee encourages our members to apply. Volunteer members serve the AAUW mission and gain valuable leadership experience. Committee descriptions may be found at <http://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/leadership-and-staff/committeestask-forces/>*

# AAUW Tennessee 2016-2017 Calendar

2016

November 1

First Call for AAUW-TN NCCWSL  
Scholarship Nominations

Call for Nominations for AAUW-TN  
President-Elect and Financial Officer

Latina Women's Equal Pay Day (On the  
average Latina women are paid 54% for  
every dollar men of all races, across all  
occupations are paid.)

2017

January 5

Second Call for AAUW-TN NCCWSL  
Scholarship Nominations

February 15

Deadline for Nominations for AAUW-  
TN NCCWSL Scholarships

February 28

Publication of AAUW Tennessee  
Winter/Spring Newsletter

March

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March 1

Deadline for Nominees' Applications  
for AAUW-TN NCCWSL Scholarships

March TBA

Women's Lobby DAY ON THE HILL,  
Nashville

March 8

International Woman's Day (Annually  
held on March 8 to celebrate women's  
achievements throughout history and  
across nations. It is also known as the  
United Nations Day for Women's Rights  
and International Peace.)

March 31

Pre-convention Board Dinner Meeting,  
Hosted by the Memphis Branch. Time  
and Place TBA

April

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

April 1

AAUW Tennessee Convention &  
Annual Business Meeting  
Hosted by the Memphis Branch, Time  
and Place TBA

April 4

Equal Pay Day & AAUW Tennessee  
Twitter Storm (This date symbolizes  
how far into the year American women  
of all races must work to earn what men  
earned in the previous year.)

June/July

AAUW TN Leadership Summit (Date  
and Place TBA)

June 30

Publication of AAUW Tennessee  
Summer Newsletter

# 2016-2017 AAUW of Tennessee Officers

Executive Committee

PRESIDENT—Samantha Cantrell

PRESIDENT-ELECT—Letha Granberry

FINANCIAL OFFICER—Phyllis Driver

PAST PRESIDENT—B. Ayne Cantrell

State Committee Chairs

BYLAWS/POLICY—Sherry Elrod

COMMUNICATIONS—Rachel Wright

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY RELATIONS/NCCWSL—  
Teresa Collard  
Lisa Lebleu

DEVELOPMENT—Anne Loy

MEMBERSHIP—Letha Granberry

PUBLIC POLICY—Peggy Swann

STEM—Myra Norman

WEBMASTER—Connie Malarkey

Newsletter Editors

Jamie Olson LaRose  
B. Ayne Cantrell

## Membership is Everyone's Business!

As we head into fiscal year 2017,  
remember that everyone can help  
recruit new members to AAUW.  
The AAUW website has many **great  
resources** to help you get started.  
And coming soon: recruiter pins!  
Members who recruit five or more  
new members to AAUW throughout  
the course of the fiscal year will  
receive an exclusive lapel pin!

*The Power of  
Leaving a  
Legacy*

Making a planned gift to AAUW is a simple way to support  
our mission and leave a lasting impact.

### Benefits of Estate Giving

- Estate gifts allow you flexibility to provide for your family and support AAUW.
- Bequests do not affect your cash flow during your lifetime.
- Certain planned gifts may reduce estate or capital gains taxes.
- There is no minimum gift requirement, and every gift can be tailored to suit your specific wishes.

For more information and giving options, please call  
AAUW's planned giving office at 877-357-5587.



## AAUW National

AAUW Board Chair, Patricia Fae Ho

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