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Maine Division - American Association of University Women

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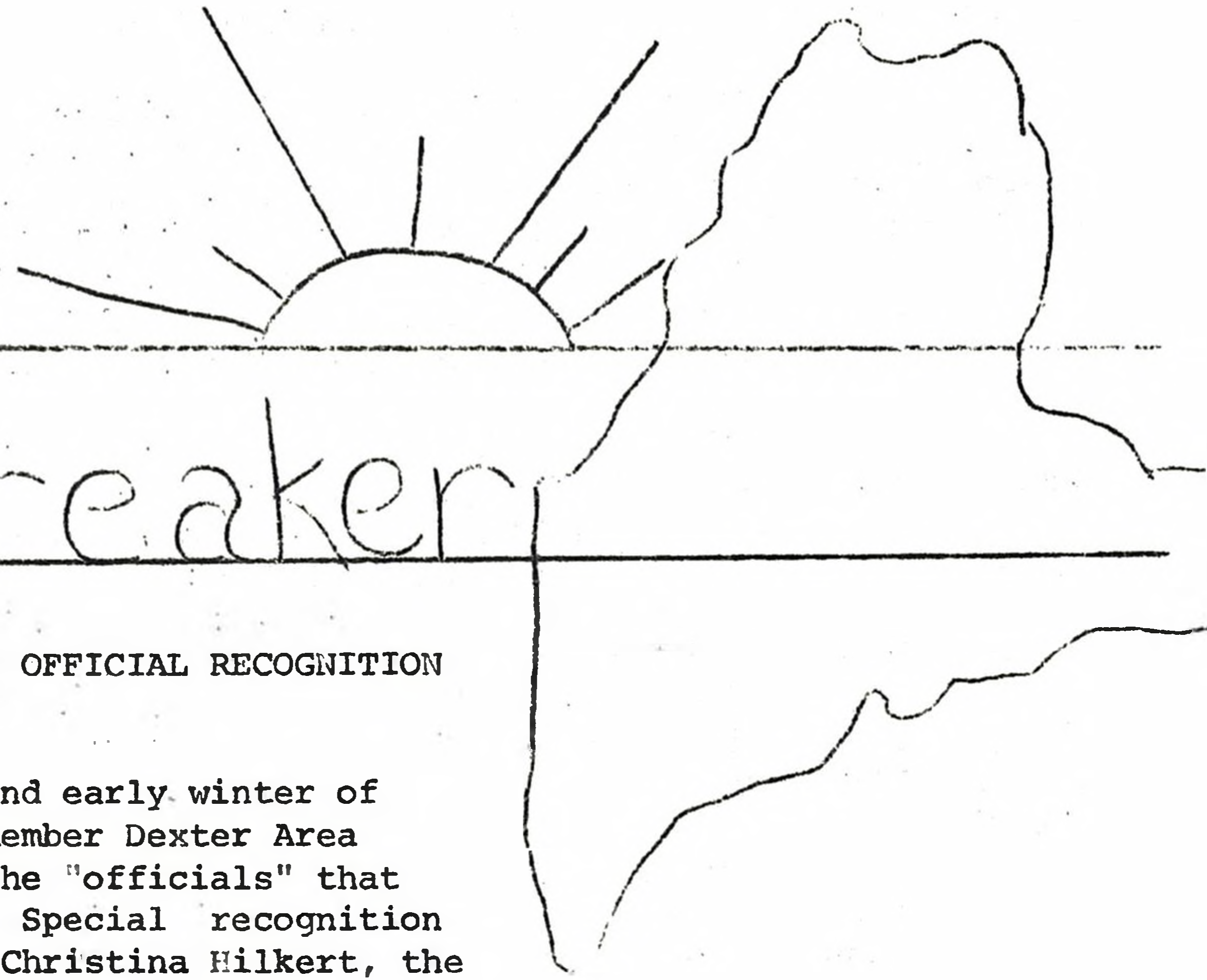
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WINTER 1978



Dawnbreaker

DEXTER AREA BRANCH RECEIVES OFFICIAL RECOGNITION

Organized during the fall and early winter of 1977-1978, the twenty-six member Dexter Area Branch received word from the "officials" that they truly were a Branch. Special recognition goes to Imogen Tillson and Christina Hilkert, the president and first vice-president of the branch. Ms. Tillson will receive a certificate of achievement for her efforts in the membership drive.

An early meeting mandated that the branch sample each of the study topics for program content. Plans have been made for six study groups. A public debate on the Uniform Property Tax, a Christmas coffee, and the film, "A Diet for a Small Planet" served as the first three meetings of the branch.

Three members attended the Winter Board Meeting in Orono getting to meet some of the other AAUW members for the first time.

Congratulations to the women of the Dexter Area Branch. WELCOME

* * * * *

SPRING CONVENTION IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Make plans now to attend the spring convention on May 12-13. It will be hosted by the Gorham-Cape Elizabeth Branch at the Gorham campus of the University of Maine. The program Committee has begun work and is enthusiastic about the plans that are evolving. The program will focus on legal rights of women and/or homemakers in Maine. It will be a good opportunity to learn more about an area greatly affecting us. Regional Vice President Cathleen Speer is making plans to be there. Come and meet one of your representatives to National. This year's Achievement Citation Award winner will be announced. And as always we can meet with old friends and meet some new ones--in fact a whole new branch worth. Be there.

bits and scratches from the Division President.....

Please mark your calendars and set aside time to come to the Spring Convention, May 12 and 13 at the Gorham campus of the University of Maine. The program sounds very appealing. It should also be a glorious time to do some poking around the Portland area before and after meetings.

However, to prepare for the Convention, Annual Reports from Division Board members should be in Cheryl Lovely's hands by April 1. Please help to make Cheryl's job possible by getting the information to her on time.

Division Members!! please ask your branch presidents to share the information about AAUW's problems with IFUW's financial status which is being sent to branch presidents. It is time to start deciding what Maine's opinion (s) will be on this important issue.

Keep your eyes on spring issues of Woman's Day magazine for an article on tourism which will include information on afoot in maine!!!

"Know Your University," our project to better inform the people in Maine about the University of Maine is working its way to printed form, and we'll soon be hearing about ways we can help with the circulation.

Hurray! to members of our newest branch in Dexter for the marvelous job that they have done to get themselves educated about AAUW and organized into a recognized branch. All of us will be looking forward to meeting lots of new members at the Spring Convention.

Division Board approval has been granted for the formation of a branch in the Ellsworth area. If you know of women in that area who should be contacted about joining a branch there, please write Deborah Cravey, 75 State St., Ellsworth 04605.

See you in Gorham!!!!

Louise S. Smith

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A MESSAGE FROM THE NORTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

It is my pleasure to personally invite each of you, members of the Maine State Division AAUW, to attend the North Atlantic Regional Conference to be held Friday night and Saturday November 3 and 4, 1978, at the New England Center, Durham, New Hampshire.

The planners of this Conference--State Division Presidents, Program Development, and Membership Vice Presidents wished to plan a program which would be of interest to all members, not just Branch and Division leaders. Thus, the Conference will be an action oriented one on the issues of Legal Rights of Women--Where Do We Go From Here?; The Year of the Child (with special emphasis on the gifted child); and Regional Energy Concerns. You will hear more details as the time approaches.

A Barrington, RI member said, "How can we convince Branch members to attend State Division meetings, Regional Conferences, and Association Conventions for it is there that one really gets to know AAUW, exchange ideas, learn skills, see our great organization at work?" All I can say is-- Try it, You'll Like It!!

See you there.

Cathleen Speer
North Atlantic Regional
Vice President

AFRICAN EDUCATORS PROGRAM Report from the Bangor Branch

In October of 1977, the Bangor Branch was selected by the AAUW Education Foundation to be one of the host branches for the visiting African Educators. Our guest was Mrs. Ida Guma of Swaziland. Mrs. Guma's traveling companion, Mrs. Shimba N. Bulaya of Zaire, was unable to be in Maine when her African tour was briefly interrupted by illness.

Mrs. Guma was housed and accompanied during her visit by members of the Bangor Branch. Other branches, especially Orono-Old Town and Mt. Desert, helped us to dine and entertain Mrs. Guma. Among the many places in Maine visited were Bar Harbor and the Jackson Laboratories, the University of Maine at Orono and at Bangor, an ANISA model school in Hampden, and H.O.M.E. in Orland. For us, the highlight of Mrs. Guma's visit was her attendance and her talk at our membership meeting. This meeting was attended by President Louise Smith and several guests representing Maine branches.

Mrs. Guma's visit received extensive local and state-wide media coverage. She is a very warm and responsive woman and very much at ease in both public and private situation. From her we learned much about her country and Africa and by her skillful and thoughtful questions she gained a large measure of insight about the American way of life.

In December we received a letter from Ida Guma telling of the remainder of her visit in the United States and of her reunion with her family. We would like to pass along her words:

I wish to thank you very much for all you did to make my stay in Bangor a pleasant one. Please convey my thanks to all members of your branch of the AAUW (and sister branches) who welcomed me so warmly.

Ida Guma

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AAUW HAS BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE CAMPAIGN TO WIN APPROVAL IN THE 38 STATES NECESSARY FOR RATIFICATION OF THE ERA.

BUT WE NEED YOUR DOLLARS TO PROVIDE FOR INTENSE LOBBYING EFFORTS IN KEY UNRATIFIED STATES. SEND YOUR CHECK TODAY TO:

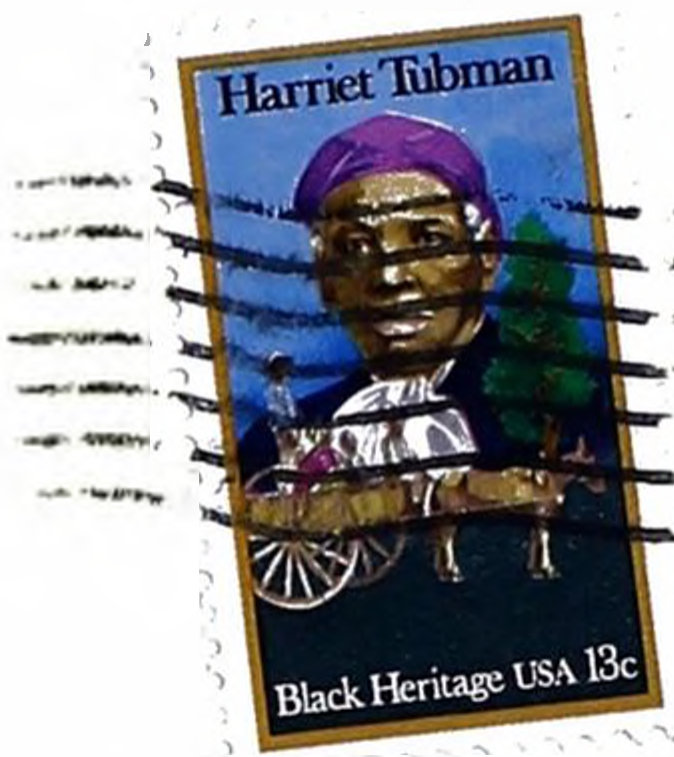
AAUW DOLLARS FOR EQUALITY FUND
American Association of University Women
2401 Virginia Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20037

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Watch for your next DAWNBREAKER with news of the nominations for the next two years and the winner of the Achievement Citation Award.

Also Convention reservations and information.

ORONO, ME
PM
MAR 14
1978
04413



Velma Oliver
3 Allen Rd
Orono 04413