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## Dawnbreaker Vol 61 No 3 (Spring 2015)

Dawnbreaker Staff

*Maine Division - American Association of University Women*

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## Message from the President

By Kristin Sweeney

Now is the winter of our discontent, which we hope will be made glorious spring by the time of our annual convention, hosted by the Penobscot Valley Branch in Orono, on May 1-2, 2015. Plan to be there!

The Educate Maine Symposium, *The Pipeline to Prosperity*, took place on December 5 in Portland. Education, policy, community and business leaders gathered for this symposium that covered education in Maine from early childhood through post secondary. I reported on one workshop I attended in the last newsletter.

The second workshop was "From Curiosity to Career – Turning Passion for Tech into an Engaging Career." There are an ever-increasing number of programs promoting digital technology and competence at all levels, from kindergarten to the workforce. Some examples include: Hour of Code with a theme of "Frozen" this year, a new 4H model that includes robotics, the STEM Ambassador program at the University of Maine, and Next Step Maine, a program for employers that includes continuing education and workforce development. Digital technology is the "air we breathe" and we need to use it for lifelong learning.

On December 11, 2014, Molly Bogart (Bath-Brunswick member and Public Policy co chair) and I attended an enlightening narrative of the life cycle and importance of federal judicial nominations. This training was provided to Courts Matter to ME, a coalition to which AAUW-Maine belongs, by the Alliance for

Justice and the National Council of Jewish Women. Grassroots advocacy can be effective, particularly early in the process.

In December, Cathy Bevier, Waterville member, STEM chair and professor of biology, and a professor of Computer Science organized an "Hour of Code" event for middle-school girls at Colby College, but it was the first of many casualties of winter weather.

AAUW had a good turnout and a well-visited table on January 20, 2015 for Maine Women's Day at the State

House in Augusta, which was nicely documented by our webmaster/social media butterfly, Dora McCarthy (Penobscot Valley). Additional participants in the events included: a contingent from the Waterville Branch (Bets Brown, Rena Heath, Lynda Kinley, Betty-Jane Meader, and Carly McCarthy), a smaller contingent from the Bath-Brunswick Branch (Molly Bogart, Joanne Bollinger and Kristin Sweeney), Ruth Lockhart (Penobscot Valley Branch), and Alyssa Withee, an e-student affiliate from University of Southern Maine.

The AAUW-Maine winter board meeting finally took place by teleconference on January 31.

Penobscot Valley members Janice Osgood, Fran Haines and Mary Cathcart (also the College/University chair) accompanied me to a rescheduled meeting on February 2 at Husson University, the newest of our C/U partners, which now number thirteen. It was well attended, which was heartening, because yet another big storm had started while we met. We look forward to an active collaboration with them.

Judy Dinmore, (Bath-Brunswick), joined me in a meeting on February 27 with two professors and one student in the new Computer Science Program at Southern Maine Community College (SMCC) to discuss AAUW's latest research publication, *Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing*, which was released on March 26. We hope to collaborate with SMCC, as well as other C/U partners, on subsequent campus events to discuss the findings and recommendations of this important report.

Dora McCarthy, Betty-Jane Meader (who is now a pro in her third year in a row) and I spent an exhilarating and exhausting day as mentors at Girls' Day at the State House on March 5.

March 30 was Maine Alliance for Reproductive Freedom (formerly Maine Choice Coalition) Lobby Day at the State House. Ruth Lockhart and Sharon Barker (Penobscot Valley) and Molly Bogart and I (Bath-Brunswick) participated in events.

An important goal this year is to achieve a net gain of 5% in our membership. Deborah Cravey, Membership Chair, reports that only the Penobscot Valley Branch has succeeded. We need to recruit more than a few new members to achieve that goal by June 30.

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## Achievement Citation Award

By Regina Oliver

The recipient of the 2015 Achievement Citation Award is Kathleen B. Brogan who was nominated by Bets Brown for the Waterville Area Branch. Ms. Brogan received an AB in English Literature, *cum laude*, from Bowdoin College in 1992 and received her law degree from University Maine School of Law in 1997. She has been admitted to the Bar in Maine and New Hampshire. She was first employed by the Maine State Senate Democratic Office where she was a Legislative Aide and acting Chief of Staff advising 20 Senators on statutory, constitutional, and policy implications of legislative initiatives. From this job she moved on to the Department of Labor where she managed state and federal legislative affairs working with legislators, advocacy groups and Department staff to develop policy proposals and respond to local and national events. In 2001 she became the Executive Director of the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services where she managed a staff of 165 in three divisions and 12 locations statewide with an annual budget of over \$50 million.



In 2004-2005 Ms. Brogan took a job as Executive Assistant to the President of the University of New Hampshire where she provided program and policy support to the president coordinating legislative strategy and activity, including a successful \$93 million capital budget request. In 2006 she worked for the Maine State Senate where she was Legal Counsel to the President advising him and members of the Senate on constitutional, policy and procedural issues, including legislative ethics, healthcare policy, citizens' initiatives and property tax reform. From 2006 to the present she has served as Vice-President for Public Affairs for Maine

Family Planning, where she leads public policy and advocacy efforts for the statewide reproductive rights organization.

Kathleen Brogan's Achievement Citation Award will be presented on Friday, May 1, 2015 at the AAUW annual state convention, which will be held in Orono and hosted by the Penobscot Valley Branch.

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## AAUW Funds

By Susan Nolan Landry, AAUW Funds Liaison

In the winter issue I reported Maine donations for the period January 1 through September 30 and promised to give you the full calendar year numbers this time. I'm extremely happy to say that our year's total is \$7,733. This represents contributions from AAUW-Maine, branches, and individuals. I'm also pleased to note that many gifts are unrestricted, which will help greatly in AAUW's campaign to build the general fund. Certainly some individual members have affinity for particular programs within AAUW, which benefit from named funds, and we are all free to designate our gifts in accordance with our personal preferences. But we do appreciate your allowing Association leaders to direct funding wherever most needed at any given time.

Keep in mind that as a state we want to increase our overall contribution figure by 10%. So not only do we want to raise more via the basket raffle for our AAUW-ME contribution, but also we ask branches and individuals to see if their budgets will allow for a more generous donation this year. We know it's not easy! Thanks for ALL that you do.

susan.landry@umit.maine.edu  
207/581-1509 Mon-Fri 9-4

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## Basket Raffle 2015

By Susan Nolan Landry, AAUW Funds Liaison

Planning your branch baskets should be well underway, and I suspect many are fully assembled by now, minus any perishable items. As well, don't forget the importance of ticket sales! Single tickets are \$1; 6 can be had for \$5; and \$10 will buy 12 chances. Sell during branch and leadership meetings, out and about in the community, amongst family, friends, and coworkers! You can provide actual tickets (available at a number of retail outlets) if you wish; alternatives are to collect the proper number of return address labels from the buyer or to attach just one of their labels to some paper and

record the number purchased. I'll do the work at convention for either of the latter options, i.e. to be sure the pool contains the proper number of chances for everyone. Remember that it's not necessary for the buyer to retain a stub, although if you do have two-part tickets available that's fine; we require only a legible name and address or affiliated branch, so that every basket can be delivered to the proper lucky winner. Keep in mind that to do our part toward the overall AAUW-Maine goal, we should raise 10% more with this raffle than we with 2014's. This will mean realizing about \$50 more, for a total of nearly \$550. Let's do this!

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### **STEM is in the Air**

By Cathy Bevier, STEM Chair

AAUW has been working very hard on programs and initiatives directed at recruiting more women and girls to career in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields. The website for the national organization has some great news and updates (<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/stem-education/>), and I wanted to highlight a few events. The Tech Trek and Tech Savvy conferences have been growing across the U.S., and there will be 21 summer camps this year! This is a project we might want to pursue, especially with cooperation across branches at the state level. More locally, the Waterville Branch is once again hosting the Future Focus day for career exploration for local 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls on March 24, and there are certainly STEM activities planned. The Maine Science Festival in Bangor is March 20-22. It's a jam-packed weekend of fascinating events for all ages. Check out the website, <http://mainesciencefestival.org>. Another great event is the release of AAUW's latest report, *Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing* on March 26. Watch the launch event for this much-needed report live (2-3:30pm EST) from Samsung headquarters in Silicon Valley, and listen to discussions about why only 26% of workers in computer science and 12% of engineers are women. The event will be recorded, and the report will be available for free (download a PDF or get a hard copy for the price of shipping). To watch the panel discussion or download the report, go to the website, <http://www.aauw.org/event/2015/03/stream-the-solving-the-equation-launch-live/>. Please keep your eyes wide open for ways you can help promote women and girls engaging with STEM in the coming months!

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### **Equal Pay Day – April 14, 2015**

By Bets Brown and Molly Bogart  
Public Policy Co-Chairs

Another year, another Equal Pay Day. Equal Pay Day this year recognizes the amount of time it takes women on average to earn what men earned in 2014. Currently, women must work an extra three and a half months to achieve pay comparable to their male counterparts' annual salary. In the 1950s, congressional representatives began to introduce bills for equal pay for women, but passage of such legislation would wait until 1963, when President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act.

Legislation set the stage, but it would be another two decades before wages began to move toward actual pay equity. In the 1980s and 90s, women's earnings rose at a steady pace. The pay gap reflects many factors, but the dramatic increase in the numbers of female college graduates is indisputably a driving force behind women's rising earnings during this time. Thanks to education coupled with longer careers, women's earnings rose and the pay gap shrank. More recently, however, as these social changes stabilized into the status quo, the pace of change has slowed to a near halt.

We can speed along the process. Companies can adopt policies to support flexible work schedules as well as conduct job audits to ensure fairness. Colleges and universities can encourage young women to consider higher paying fields such as engineering and computing. Individuals can serve as mentors and sponsors for the next generation of women. Women and girls can do many things on their own behalf, including honing their negotiation skills and knowledge of the job market.

YOU can urge Congress to move forward the long-stalled Paycheck Fairness Act. Please take time to write a letter to or email you senators and representatives encouraging them to support this Act. Your voices are needed!!

Whether you mark it with an event or just being mindful that the fight is not over, it is important to recognize this symbolic day.



## Care to Give

By Bets Brown, Public Policy Co-Chair

Philanthropy is a touchy subject. We all have our favorite causes to which we give, but we don't generally talk about it. I am not very different, except when it comes to AAUW.

As most of you know, I am an ardent supporter of AAUW and have participated as a leader at the branch, state and national levels. While the agenda has changed over the years, the key message of AAUW remains education and equity for all women and girls. This work spans a wide range of issues germane to the lives of women and girls.

The work of AAUW is diverse and strategic. These efforts range from advocacy, public policy, national and international grants for graduate students, STEM work, Tech Savvy workshops, Programs in a Box, support for legal cases, position papers, \$tart \$mart workshops, and so much more.

Without the dedicated staff of AAUW, none of this would be possible. In the past, member giving went mainly to endowments for educational grants and legal cases. As the agenda of AAUW has expanded, much more funding is needed for the general fund.

Therefore, we need to rethink somewhat our giving to the national office. The general fund pays, for example, for staff salaries, including regional staff like our much-appreciated Kim Pollard; for the building's upkeep; for many of the workshops, advocacy and lobbying; Equal Pay Day organization; assistance to branches and states around the country; and tracking of education and equity bills in Washington D.C.

Our national AAUW staff are very careful in making funding decisions. BUT, they need our support. The few dollars that come from our dues to the national office are not enough to cover all they need. Here are ways you can help. You can make a separate annual gift to the national office – every little bit helps. You can also join the Legacy Circle by putting AAUW in your will. A legacy gift does not have to be large. I am the only Legacy Circle member in Maine and would love some company.

For me, my AAUW graduate fellowship changed my life in many ways. I also give because of the many life-long friendships I've made by being in AAUW with like-minded people and the good work of the organization. I hope you will think about how much you appreciate all that AAUW does and step up to the line of giving in new ways.

## More About Unrestricted Giving

By Susan Nolan Landry, AAUW Funds Liaison

You'll remember from our last issue that the Association is promoting unrestricted donations as most beneficial to the organization, and I'd like to explain further the importance of this campaign. In order for AAUW to sustain and expand high-quality, mission-based programs in the face of increasing demand, we need to grow the general fund. The AAUW Fund (#9110, previously known as AAUW Funds) allows the Association to identify and act on new challenges and to develop, disseminate, and sustain or expand programs. Only fellowships and grants are fully funded by endowment earnings (i.e. by interest earned on those restricted funds). Every other AAUW program that members have come to value and use extensively, such as \$tart \$mart, Tech Trek, Tech Savvy, Elect Her, local and national advocacy efforts, and many more, receives full or partial funding from the AAUW Fund. Such untargeted contributions have also been used to provide scholarships to NCCWSL attendees when there was a gap between available scholarship funds and the large

number of scholarship requests received. In other words, aside from a small amount coming from dues and sponsorships, AAUW's work is supported primarily by unrestricted donations. This is why our 2015 basket raffle proceeds will be dedicated 100% to the unrestricted funds "bucket."

Here is a link to the new fund diagram, "ONE AAUW. ONE MISSION. ONE FUND," and a list of programs supported by the general fund:  
<http://www.aauw.org/files/2014/11/The-AAUW-Fund-Diagram.pdf>.

Take a few minutes to read through this material to better understand this promotion. Also rest assured that other funds still exist; in fact there are more than 1,000 of them! Most of these support fellowships and grants, and collectively they are the AAUW Endowment. Smaller pools of restricted funds are spendable solely for specific programs such as the Legal Advocacy Fund and research endeavors; it should be noted that most programs receiving targeted funding need supplemental support from the general fund. It's easy to see why unrestricted giving is so critical to the future of AAUW! Make your individual contributions online, by calling Connect at 800-326-2289, or by sending your check to AAUW.

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## Membership Matters

By Deborah B. Cravey, Membership Vice President

No matter your role in AAUW, you are a valuable member of the membership team. Every member plays an essential part in recruiting and retaining members. AAUW has many suggestions for recruiting and retention on the website and in the bimonthly e-bulletins ([bmvp@aauw.org](mailto:bmvp@aauw.org)) from Krysl Wulff and Christy Jones. The bulletins are sent to membership vice presidents, presidents, and finance officers. These are a good current source of information with easy links to the website.

Remember that new members who join after March 15 are members for 2015-2016, 15 months for the price of 12. The "Give a Grad a Gift" program allows the gift, free to giver and recipient, of AAUW National membership to a new graduate (graduates from May 2013 to the present). Find the details at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org); type "Give a Grad a Gift" in the search box. Undergraduates currently enrolled at a regionally accredited two- or four-year institution may join for \$17.00 and graduate students for \$18.81. State and local dues are additional if applicable.

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## 114th Congress' Education Priorities Must Provide Equitable Opportunities for Students

By Bets Brown, Public Policy Co-Chair  
Modified from the AAUW Website

**ACTION:** You can write your Congress people to urge the right language for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

January 8, 2015, marked the 13th anniversary of the last time the U.S. Congress and the president could agree on the nation's education priorities. Because they have not been able to agree since then, the bill signed in 2002, called No Child Left Behind, expired eight years ago, but continues to be the law of the land without changes to reflect current education priorities.

Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN), the new chair of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, wants to pass a bill out of his committee by the end of February that would reauthorize No Child Left Behind, also known as the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Apparently, he is working closely with Rep. John Kline (R-MN), the chair of the House Education and Workforce Committee, to see if they can find a way to put a bill before the president this year.

But reauthorizing the ESEA will only succeed if Congress can show support for education policies that provide equitable opportunities for all students, and, unfortunately, we've already heard reports (see [politico.com](http://politico.com)) that the new legislation might roll back important civil rights gains by including private school vouchers and weakening current accountability measures. We also have no guarantee that new legislation would continue current programs, such as the Women's Educational Equity Act\*, that serve girls' special needs.

AAUW has called for reauthorization of the ESEA since it expired in 2007, and we need to make sure that this new Congress is committed to ensuring strong academic principles and to closing the achievement gap for all children — objectives at the heart of ESEA. We also must insist on adequate funding for education priorities. The federal government has a critical role to play in attaining these goals, and AAUW endorses the use of a robust accountability system that helps ensure all children are prepared to be successful, participating members of our democracy.

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\*WEEA was designed to give educators tools to eliminate barriers — such as sex stereotypes in classroom materials and curricula — that keep students from full participation and success in all areas of education. Such technical assistance is critical to Title IX compliance and should be included in ESEA reauthorization.

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## Legal Advocacy Fund

By Susan Nolan Landry, AAUW Funds Liaison

### Do You Know Your Rights?

What would you do if you faced discrimination or harassment at work or at school? Legal advocacy begins with workers and students who understand their rights and will challenge discrimination in their own lives. The LAF section of AAUW's website offers a wealth of easy-to-understand information about your legal rights. Explore [Know Your Rights at Work](#) to learn about the laws that govern your rights in the workplace. Go to [Know Your Rights on Campus](#) to learn about your rights as a student, student athlete, or faculty member. There you'll also find information about the process of filing a discrimination complaint and where to go for legal assistance. AAUW members can be the first line of defense to protect workers and students from discrimination. As parents, friends, co-workers, and teachers, we can educate others about their rights, their responsibilities, and the ways that LAF can help.

### Attention, Attorneys!

You may be interested to know that AAUW national conventions will now feature continuing legal education (CLE) programs, offering you the opportunity to earn three hours CLE credit! "Laws of Gender: Updates on Title IX and Title VII" will cover Title IX developments in California, campus sexual assault under Title IX, and sexual harassment under Title VII. This year's CLE program is scheduled for Thursday afternoon, June 18, just before the convention opens. Fees are \$150 for private practitioners and \$80 for nonprofit or government practitioners. Registration may have opened by the time you are reading this, so check the website for full information.

### Have You Subscribed?

Any member can receive *LAF Express* each month. These brief electronic newsletters provide updates on LAF cases, award programs, initiatives such as the new CLE convention opportunity, and more. Simply write to [laf@aauw.org](mailto:laf@aauw.org) and ask to be added to the mailing list!

**Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to help balance the scales of justice!**

<https://ww2.aauw.org/gift/>

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### **Report from the Historian**

By Betsy Eggleston

What is the minimum amount of paperwork from your branch that you should be archiving? Some branches have an historian and some do not.

Here is a suggested list of what to archive.

- Schedule of Year Activity
- List of Officers for the year/Names of Members
- Secretarial Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Annual Reports
- Your branch's publications, if any.
- Important Activities, outlined with any publicity.

This list is only a partial suggestion, but is a starting point for your branch. Many of these documents are already in existence, so duplicating them perhaps makes it easier to archive your branch's year.

If your branch would like more information on the archiving process, please contact me ([Eggleston62@gmail.com](mailto:Eggleston62@gmail.com) or 667-8518). I will glad to assist you.

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### **Report from the College/University Chair**

By Mary Cathcart

The University of Maine will again host Elect Her, a collaboration between AAUW and Running Start, in Orono: <http://umaine.edu/elect-her/>.

# ELECT HER



*Campus Women Win*

September 26, 2015  
Wells Conference Center

A FREE training workshop where you can:

- Learn key leadership skills;
- Meet local campaign winners; and
- Learn the nuts and bolts of running a student government campaign:
  - How to develop and communicate an effective message,
  - How to reach out to your constituency, and
  - How to win a campaign.

Breakfast, lunch and refreshments will be provided.

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### **Report from the Corresponding Secretary**

By Joan Sanzenbacher

**Annual reports** from each branch, state officer and chairs of state committees are due to me **by April 15<sup>th</sup>**. Our state bylaws require this and it enables us to have them ready for convention. Because last year's collated reports produced a 46 page booklet, we no longer print annual reports for individuals and instead will make them available on-line to all who request one.

All branches, state officers and chairs of board committees, please e-mail your reports for this year to [jhsanzen@colby.edu](mailto:jhsanzen@colby.edu).

It was decided at the Winter Board Meeting that May 15<sup>th</sup> would be the final deadline for amendments and additions. This allows all to update their reports should it be necessary.

Thank you all so much for your cooperation.

## Angus Breakfasts in Bangor

By Susan Nolan Landry, Penobscot Valley Branch

On Thursday, February 19, Lee Davis (PVB Co-Chair, Public Policy) and I attended the Bangor appearance of Angus King. Husson University served up a continental breakfast during a networking hour in the Darling Atrium of Beardsley Meeting House, and then we moved into the comfortable Gracie Theatre for King's talk. It was peppered with interesting anecdotes— we know the man has the gift of gab— but honestly not a lot of substance when it comes to issues.

Our original "mission" (from the leadership team conference call on January 31) was to ask why he hasn't supported the Paycheck Fairness Act.

However, in talking with Kim Pollard the night before the event we learned that AAUW was shifting focus slightly due to timing of upcoming discussion and votes. Therefore we were armed with a couple of letters for King and some talking points on the subjects of the Healthy Families Act (S.497/H.R.932) and reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). In retrospect, we should have buttonholed King during the breakfast hour; it turned out there was time during Q&A for only three Q!

Fortunately, Lee did present the two letters to King's assistant and will follow up to be sure he reads and considers them— and, in the best of all worlds will not only respond to them but also will take favorable action. In the letters King is asked to cosponsor the Healthy Families Act and support reauthorization of ESEA; the letters as well as the background material can be made available to members who would like to see them.

Before running rather quickly through a list of his top concerns, King devoted most of his talk in effect to an account of how the Senate works. He noted that although it's institutionally bipartisan it is not so individually, and he discussed some of the ways in which he tries to work with both parties and move toward action. He was emphatic that they actually DO get things done— but most of this activity is at the lower two of three levels, which don't get as much press as the top level where it appears nothing is ever accomplished.

He pointed out how well he and Collins work together, which is really good for Maine. One example he's particularly pleased about is that they developed a joint press release letterhead, so that unlike in other states where the two senators race each other to make announcements, King and Collins issue them together.

Here's a brief list (with little substance I'm afraid) of his current subjects of concern:

- The economy and jobs are paramount; that said, he maintains that the action there is primarily at the state level.
- He wants regulatory reform, to make processes more simple and timely.
- He's talking with the FCC about the critical need for broadband in rural states like Maine.
- Cyber security— or rather, the lack thereof— is a HUGE problem; he agrees with a colleague who asserted, "The next Pearl Harbor will be a cyber attack."
- He referred to a "BTU act" if I heard him correctly. Pellets should be treated like other fuels such as wind and solar, for example when it comes to incentive programs and the like. He pointed out that with pellets all the money stays in Maine— as opposed to what happens to the majority in gas, oil, etc.
- He's concerned about student loans. He's promoting simplification of both the FAFSA and payment options. Access to education remains critical.
- Finally he brought up budget and debt. He pointed out the difference between deficit and debt, and that the deficit is down by 2/3 since the end of the Bush administration but the debt is still unmanageable. And we can't keep deferring the problems with Social Security.

AAUW-Maine will work with Kim Pollard and other D.C. staff to follow up with Senator King regarding both the Healthy Families Act and reauthorization of ESEA.

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## Branching Out: News from Our Branches

**Aroostook County (Caribou) Branch** – by Carol A. Pierson

Since the Aroostook County Branch of AAUW only meets for six months from April through September (we have found that we have better attendance at meetings when we don't have to worry about the weather and traveling in the dark), we have only one activity to report since the last issue of the *Dawnbreaker*. The scholarship (book grant) committee met in February and finalized plans for the Caribou chapter's annual book grant.

**Scholarship Information:** The Lucinda (Cindy) Hebert Book Grant is a one-time grant of \$750 awarded to a non-traditional student enrolled in a degree program at an accredited college or university within Aroostook



County. This grant aims to support women who, after having been in the workforce, at home raising families or otherwise away from pursuing education after high school, choose to return to this pursuit and who demonstrate financial need, commitment to their future and excellent potential.

This scholarship is given in remembrance of Lucinda ("Cindy") Hebert, past president of both the Caribou Branch of the AAUW and AAUW of Maine, who inspired her family, friends, colleagues and all who knew her. Cindy graduated as the valedictorian of the class of 1990 at the University of Maine at Presque Isle with a Bachelor's degree in Communication at 48-years-old. Her commitment to her own education as well as that of others, along with her community service, illuminated the path to educational and economic opportunity for many. Her particular concern with equal rights and social justice for women makes this book grant a fitting tribute to our friend. We hope it not only offers practical help but inspiration to its recipients.

**Bath-Brunswick Branch** – by Sophie Whitehouse and Marlise Swartz

The Bath-Brunswick Branch has been enjoying a busy winter for 2014-2015. As has been the tradition for many years in our branch, we gather every Holiday Season for our Annual Greens Event fundraiser and an elegant buffet in the old Fireplace room at the Curtis Library in Brunswick. With this fundraiser, AAUW Bath-Brunswick members support both our local scholarship to a non-traditional student and our annual donation to the national AAUW Funds. This year we raised more than last year despite the dismal weather, which prevented some of our members from attending

Although our February luncheon at Henry and Marty's restaurant downtown Brunswick had to be postponed and then cancelled because of snow, Dr. Judith Casselberry, our speaker for that event, will talk to our branch in May. Our next event will take place in the middle of March at the Curtis Library where we will welcome Laurie Lachance, 5<sup>th</sup> President and Alumna of Thomas College, Waterville.

We have had three board meetings this winter where our new board member, Linda Marchant, is helping us start a STEM program. Our interest groups: the knitting group, Out to Lunch Bunch, the book group, and Home to Home are still meeting about once a month, weather permitting. Growstown School is at a standstill for winter but we will resume in the spring. Through this program our branch hosts local 5<sup>th</sup> grade students from Brunswick and surrounding towns and gives them the experience of

attending a one school room as in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. We are also working hard to find volunteers to help for our various programs and elect new officers for membership and treasurer positions.

**Hancock County Branch** – by Betsy Eggleston

- Our annual Holiday party took place at a member's home and we shared a potluck, which included pizza, and good fellowship. As we usually do, we donated monies for our local food pantry.
- January's meeting was a discussion during our luncheon of what we might do for our local nursing facility.
- Our February's meeting was different from our usual meeting. We chose to make table favors for a local nursing facility celebrating Valentine's Day. Our hostess made two delicious soups for our lunch and socialization.
- In March, our meeting will celebrate Women's History Month. Our branch is joining BPW and Delta Kappa Gama at a local restaurant for supper and a guest speaker. Darlene Springer, an Ellsworth historian, will talk about important women in the history of Ellsworth.
- April finds us traveling to Bar Harbor to visit the Abbe Museum, one of the important native American museums in Maine, and lunch at a local restaurant.
- May is our plant, food, books and white elephant sale to supplement our scholarship funds. This year's sale will emphasize craft projects and supplies.
- Our annual meeting is a potluck at a member's home, to which we bring our reports, elect our next year's officers and enjoy over food the friendship of our members.

**Penobscot Valley Branch** – by Janet Givens

Our January potluck brunch enabled branch members to keep in touch this winter in spite of no scheduled meetings. On March 11, 2015 we will hear Linda Robinson speak about her experiences as a midwife in Africa. Sharon Ashworth, Susan Landry and Jocelyn Runnebaum are in charge of the meeting. Books are being collected and plans finalized for the April 18, 2015 book sale in Orono. The AAUW of Maine convention on May 1 and 2, 2015, will be held in Orono and branch members are helping in a variety of ways. We look forward to hosting AAUW members from all Maine branches. The new Leadership Team will be introduced at the annual meeting and catered dinner on May 13, 2015, at the Church of Universal Fellowship in Orono.

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## Report from the Nominating Committee

By Deborah B. Cravey, Chair

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of candidates for AAUW of Maine:

**President-Elect** (1-year term): Dora McCarthy

Dora is a member of the leadership team of the Penobscot Valley Branch and of AAUW/ME as Social Media Coordinator. A graduate of University of Maine and Eastern Maine Community College, she is an AA in a financial advising firm in Orono, a member of the Bangor Planning Board, a wife, and mother of three sons.

**Vice President - Program** (2-year term): Marlise Swartz

Marlise is co-President of the Bath-Brunswick Branch. She first joined AAUW in Denver, CO while in her 20's. A graduate of Central Missouri State University, BS, English/Journalism, and a native of the Midwest, she has lived in New England since 1976. She

was a fellow at a Summer program in journalism at University of Minnesota, a reporter photographer for the Manchester Union-Leader, worked in public relations and marketing for more than 20 years, and retired in 2013 from Thornton Oaks, a retirement community in Brunswick.

**Treasurer** (2-year term): Marilyn Leimbach

Marilyn is a member of the Waterville Branch, works for the State of Maine in money matters, and has been our treasurer before. We are very lucky that she is willing to take the office of treasurer again.

**Recording Secretary** (temporary 1-year term): Betty-Jane Meader

Betty-Jane, who is immediate Past President of AAUW of Maine and who has led the Waterville Branch and served in so many capacities, agreed to serve a ONE-YEAR term as recording secretary. Kristin Sweeney agreed to resume the role of recording secretary at the end of her term as AAUW of Maine President in 2016.

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### **Directions to Black Bear Inn, 4 Godfrey Drive, Orono, ME 04473/207-866-7120**

From the South: drive up I-95, take exit 193. Turn right on Stillwater Avenue and next right on Godfrey Drive. Black Bear Inn is on the right, past Dysart's gas station.

From the North: drive down I-95, take exit 193. Turn left on Stillwater Avenue and next right on Godfrey Drive. Black Bear Inn is on the right, past Dysart's gas station.

### **Directions from Black Bear Inn to Wells Conference Center, University of Maine:**

Turn left out of parking lot onto Godfrey Drive. Turn right on Stillwater Avenue.

At 3rd traffic light, turn right onto College Avenue. Go about 1 mile to the Alford Arena on your left. Turn left onto Long Road. Go up a hill to large parking lot on the right.

Park and walk between the 2 adjacent buildings (Dunn and Corbett). Wells Conference Center is straight ahead.

To enter, walk around to right of building and go through double doors. Take either stairs or elevator to second floor. Registration will be toward the right after stairs, or straight ahead as you leave the elevator.

### **Directions to Wells Conference Center from North or South:**

From the North, take Exit 193, and turn left onto Stillwater Avenue. Go to 4<sup>th</sup> traffic light and turn right onto College Avenue. Go about 1 mile to the Alford Arena on your left. Turn left onto Long Road. Go up the hill to large parking lot on the right.

Park and walk between the 2 adjacent buildings (Dunn and Corbett). Wells Conference Center is straight ahead.

To enter, walk around to right of building and go through double doors. Take either stairs or elevator to second floor. Registration will be toward the right after stairs, or straight ahead as you leave the elevator.

From the South, take Exit 193, and turn right onto Stillwater Avenue. Then follow "From the North" directions above.

**PARKING PERMITS ARE NOT REQUIRED ON THE WEEKEND AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE.**

## Please Help Keep AAUW of Maine Connected

The **Keep AAUW of Maine Connected** development campaign helps us keep state dues low while allowing us to continue AAUW of Maine partnering relationships with other state organizations that share our goals, as well as provide financial assistance for AAUW of Maine Board members for travel to regional and national AAUW meetings.

So far this year, these funds have helped AAUW of Maine stay connected in the following ways:

- ◆ Co-sponsorship of gubernatorial debate with the Maine Women’s Policy Center.
- ◆ AAUW representation at the Maine Women’s Lobby Gala.
- ◆ Partnering and networking with the Maine Women’s Lobby, the Maine Choice Coalition, and the Coalition for Maine Women through attendance at coalition meetings and scheduled events.
- ◆ Ongoing work with Kim Pollard, our regional field officer, to increase AAUW membership and participation in public policy activities throughout the state.
- ◆ Participation in Maine Women’s Day at the State House.

During the spring, AAUW of Maine will continue to stay connected with these activities:

- ◆ Participation in Maine Girls’ Day at the State House.
- ◆ Support for Maine NEW Leadership, a six-day leadership training program for undergraduate college women that provides experiential training in many aspects of politics and policy making. All attendees are invited to join AAUW.
- ◆ AAUW of Maine representation at the AAUW national convention in June.

This year’s **Keep AAUW of Maine Connected** campaign (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015) is currently underway. Cathy Bevier, Bets Brown, Mary Cathcart, Deborah Cravey, Judy Dinmore, Janet Givens, Jackie Kulik, Pat Lyford, Carolyn MacRae, Betty-Jane Meader, Regina Oliver, Jennifer Strode, Kristin Sweeney, and Sophie Whitehouse have already contributed a total of \$715. Won’t you join them?

Please send your contribution—above and beyond the \$10.00 state dues that you have already paid—to help AAUW of Maine continue to increase our impact by staying connected, or include a contribution with your convention registration. Make your check payable to “AAUW of Maine” and send it to:

Carolyn MacRae, Treasurer  
17 Martin Avenue, Waterville, ME 04901

Check for: ( ) \$10 ( ) \$25 ( ) \$50 ( ) \$100 ( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Your support is appreciated. Contributions will be acknowledged in future issues of the *Dawnbreaker* and at the AAUW of Maine annual convention this spring.



# **AAUW of Maine State Convention**

## **May 1-2, 2015**

### **Orono, ME**

#### ***AAUW Strong: Building a Legacy from the Ground Up***

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Through its nationwide network, AAUW opens doors for women and girls and influences public debate on critical social issues such as education, civil rights, and workplace equity.

This year's 2015 convention theme – *AAUW Strong: Building a Legacy from the Ground Up* – builds upon the four pillars of AAUW: advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research – as the model for creating a strong, sustainable, and civic-minded community.

### **Friday, May 1, 2015**

#### **Black Bear Inn, Orono**

- 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.**      **Registration** – Lobby
- 6:00 p.m.**            **Welcome Reception**
- 6:45 p.m.**            **Dinner** (Program will begin during dessert)
- Welcome Address – AAUW of Maine State President, Kristin Sweeney
  - Presentation of Achievement Citation Award – Kristin Sweeney
  - Remarks by Kathleen Brogan, 2015 Achievement Citation Award Winner
- 9:00 p.m.**            **President's Reception** – Black Bear Inn
- Members will have an opportunity to review biographies and campaign materials of national candidates for AAUW voting on Saturday.*

#### **Hotel Room Block:**

Black Bear Inn, 4 Godfrey Dr., Orono, ME 04473

Phone: 207.866.7120, [www.blackbearinnoron.com](http://www.blackbearinnoron.com)

- **Room block will be available through April 11.** Mention “AAUW of Maine” to get the special rate. After April 11, room rates will be dependent upon availability.



**Saturday, May 2, 2015**  
**Wells Conference Center, University of Maine, Orono**

- 8:00 - 8:30 a.m.** Sign-In
- 8:30 - 9:40 a.m.** **Breakfast and Business Meeting (members only)**  
Welcome from *Susan J. Hunter, Ph.D., University of Maine President*
- 9:45 - 9:55 a.m.** Break
- 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.** **AAUW Update; Recruitment Tools for Rural Communities**  
*Christy Jones, AAUW Vice President, Member and Branch Relations*
- 11:00 - 11:30 a.m.** **Social Media: Grow Your Network From Your Living Room**  
*Kimberly Pollard, AAUW Regional Field Representative, ME, NH & NY*
- 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** **Lunch** (AAUW national voting during lunch)  
*Laptop computers will be available. Be sure to bring your PIN.*
- 12:30 - 1:00p.m.** **Education Pillar of AAUW: Making the Choice to Lead - The Perspective from a Career Development Grant Recipient**  
*Cathy Kidman, MPA, MSW, Organizational and Leadership Consulting*
- 1:15 - 2:45 p.m.** **Advocacy and Research Pillars of AAUW: Contemporary Issues in Women's Social Research**  
Moderator: *Abbie Strout, Education & Outreach Coordinator, Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center*  
Panelists: *Sandra S. Butler, Ph.D., Professor and MSW Coordinator, School of Social Work, University of Maine Orono*  
*Sonja M. Thomas, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Colby College*  
*Rebecca White, MA, Doctoral Candidate in Canadian American History, University of Maine Orono*
- 2:45 - 3:00 p.m.** Break
- 3:00 - 3:30 p.m.** **Philanthropy Pillar of AAUW**  
*Bets Brown, Ph.D., Public Policy co-Chair, AAUW of Maine, AAUW Legacy Circle*
- 3:30 - 4:00 p.m.** **Basket Raffles, Survey, Wrap-Up**

Thank you for attending the 2015 AAUW of Maine State Convention hosted by the Penobscot Valley Branch!  
Visit our website: <http://aauw-me.net/>. Like us on Facebook: AAUW Maine. Follow us on Twitter: @aauwME.



## Registration Form

AAUW of Maine 2015 Convention  
May 1-2, 2015  
Orono, Maine

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Branch Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Friday – **Black Bear Inn:** Welcome reception and dinner

Choose one entrée (all entrees are the same price):

\_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Cordon Bleu

\_\_\_\_\_ Baked Salmon

\_\_\_\_\_ Vegetable Stuffed Eggplant **\$28.95** \_\_\_\_\_

2. Saturday – **Wells Conference Center:** Includes continental breakfast, morning break, and Lunch

**\$25.75** \_\_\_\_\_

3. Registration Fee

**\$13.00** \_\_\_\_\_

4. Optional **Donation to Keep Maine Connected Campaign**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail registration form and check payable to AAUW of Maine by **Tuesday, April 21** to:

Carolyn MacRae, 17 Martin Ave., Waterville, ME 04901.

**All registrations must be received by Thursday, April 23**

Kristin Sweeney  
167 Caleb St.  
Portland, ME 04102

All mailing labels are prepared by AAUW Headquarters.  
Please send all address corrections directly to:  
AAUW Members Records Office  
1111 Sixteenth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20036