

*e-~~nn~~- Spring 2001*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

At the Conference of State Presidents in June, 2000, the term "class" was officially inserted into our diversity statement. The AAUW Diversity Statement now reads:

"In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, Disability, or class."

Class can encompass social rank, economic status, and job and education level. Classism is the systematic oppression of poor people and people who work for wages by those who have the ability to control the necessary resources by which other people make their living. By adding class, AAUW demonstrated its commitment to the mission of equity for all women and girls, and its intention to remove barriers to full participation in the organization. It has a positive impact on AAUW's image, as both current and potential members see the organization as one that is welcoming to all people.

In working towards being more sensitive to all people of various rank and status in our society, we often call for tolerance. If you are a person from a non-dominant group, you cannot easily walk away from the front lines. It is where you live. In the light of this reality, I was recently struck by six rules that an author, Chris Cullinan, shared in an article entitled "Vision, Privilege, and the Limits of Tolerance."

1. Tolerate No One. By merely tolerating anyone, I am treating them as less than a human being, fully worthy of my attention and respect.

2. In the absence of DIRECT evidence to the contrary, give everyone the presumption of innocence, the presumption of worthiness and the presumption of competence. Challenge my own thinking (or anyone else's) if someone appears to be denied these things in the absence of direct evidence.

3. Keep my own humility alive. It is easy to forget that I do not live on the "front lines." I can choose when and for how long to go there. It is, therefore, unseemly to me to brag about my civil rights work, the demonstration I have attended, the petitions I have signed, or the persons I have advocated for, to people who spend their lives having to do this kind of work all the time.

4. Refuse to characterize the lived experiences of others as "isolated incidents." Challenge this characterization when I hear it from others.

5. Listen especially hard when it is difficult to listen. When I notice myself getting defensive as hearing from people of non-dominant groups that what I did was offensive, I try to remember to take a deep breath and listen carefully for the effects they describe instead of justifying our original intent. (see note below)

6. Take the opportunity to use my position of privilege (having the presumptions of innocence, worthiness and competence) to make sure that others, who may not have privilege, have their voices heard.

Adding "class" to our Diversity Statement ensures that AAUW expands its actions in working to be inclusive. It will help us reflect a broader representation of the population. Negative interactions and experiences that people have, especially among women and girls, reduces integration and definitely promotes marginalization. AAUW with its strong commitment to equity is now working to include all women regardless of status. This addition strengthens AAUW's pledge to diversity and social justice.

*Marcelline A. Barron*

---

(NOTE: I feel that the spirit of Cullinan's approach would not be violated and #5 would be better served by rephrasing this point as:

In the absence of DIRECT evidence to the contrary, listen carefully to those who claim adverse effects suffered through my actions or the actions of my institution.)

## **e-nn-Calendar**

AAUW/CT

Spring 2001

### **March 3-**

Coalition Luncheon

Legislative Office Building, Hartford, CT

### **April 28-**

AAUW/CT State Convention

Southbury Hilton

(contact Joyce Kathan [jckcoa@aol.com](mailto:jckcoa@aol.com), 203.758.0658

(See registration information within newsletter)

(fax or mail copies of registration form available by contacting T.Boyd, at 860.486.2459, leave message and fax number)

### **early May-**

A Day at the United Nations

(contact Loretta James 203.245.1290)

### **June 22-25-**

AAUW Biennial Convention

Austin, Texas

### **August-10-17**

IFUW Triennial Conference

Ottawa, Canada

(See: [ifuw@ifuw.org](mailto:ifuw@ifuw.org) or call 1-800-326-AAUW)

## **THE POLITICS OF WOMEN in the 21st CENTURY:**

### **Public Policy Co-Directors:**

**Mary Jane Janick**

**Willadean Hart**

Women's Voices 2000\* claims that as the incomes of millions of families have improved, women, in particular, are taking a second look at the quality of their lives and not liking what they see. Two major concerns were the "time crunch" and the "decline of moral values." The moral decline could/should be addressed by more family time - harder and harder to come by with ever increasing work demands. The economy has exacerbated the wide divide between the haves and the have nots and has left many women feeling they have less and less family time to care for their children.

According to this poll 59% of women, with children under 6 years of age, are finding it harder to balance work demands and family commitments now than 4 years ago and 30% said it was "much harder."

A large majority of women (72%) would like their health insurance to be independent of their employment. This subject was brought up so frequently it was added to the original questionnaire. Politicians take note.

93% of African-American women, 91% of Latino women, 90% Asian-American women and 87% white women want "equal pay and benefits" as a top priority - VERY powerful numbers with women representing 54% of world population!

Pension benefits were another huge issue. 85% of Democratic women and 77% of Republican women want independent pension benefits transferable from one job to another.

Nearly 48% of women feel they will eventually be responsible for the care of a parent or elderly person.

Class distinctions are increasingly shaped by whether a woman is college-educated, single, single with a high school degree or married. Women who are single with a high school degree are frequently in a woeful economic state. The polling revealed "unmarried women feel much more economically marginal than married women." A college education is the great economic divider and there is a growing awareness of this dramatic distinction. Women are more likely than men to express concern regarding this growing divide between rich and poor, those who have benefited from this economy and those who have not. It is commonly accepted among women that government can and should try to do what it can.

In this economy women look to the future warily - in light of these revealing responses.

---

\* The poll, entitled Women 2000, was conducted for the Life-Time Television and the Center for Policy Alternatives. Pollsters were: Celinda Lake, Linda DiVall, Linda Williams and Anna Rivera

## **THIRD WAVE TELEVISION PREMIERS NEW VIDEO**

by Peggy Kavounas

Third Wave Television Inc., recipients of CT AAUW Outstanding Woman award 1998-1999 will premier their newest video, "Women Count: Smart About Money" on March 1 in Greenwich. Third Wave Television is a TV production company, whose mission is to empower women through the media.

Jeannette Phillips, past state President and former member of the national AAUW Membership Committee, will be among the women discussing money in this documentary on financial literacy for women. Jeannette will also be part of a panel discussion following the premier. The showing will be at the Cole Auditorium of the Greenwich Library on Thursday, March 1, at 7:30 p.m.

The video was underwritten by a \$131,200 grant from the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE). The documentary about women and money will focus on personal finances as they relate to varying circumstances in women's lives. It is intended to raise awareness, encourage self-reliance, and inspire action by women about financial matters. Anyone interested in attending the premier or viewing the video can contact Peggy Kavounas at 203-661-3681 or pkavounas@aol.com.

**The Connecticut Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW)** held a press conference in October 2000 to discuss the Connecticut Women's Voices 2000 poll. The issues of particular interest to Connecticut women were as follows:

The issue of access to quality affordable childcare was highlighted by 68% of women and 54% of men, whether they had children or not.

It was noted that electoral participation distorts feedback on the economy - non-registered women are less likely to vote and more likely to say the economic boom has not reached their families.

Connecticut women are significantly more pessimistic regarding the time crunch than adults nationwide.

Age matters: under 45 years the highest priority issues were education, jobs and the economy. Senior women were more concerned about retirement, Social Security and healthcare.

Connecticut women overwhelmingly (8 out of 10) believe that state government should do more to help uninsured individuals obtain healthcare.

**Connecticut Convention - 2001**  
**27-28 April 2001**  
**Southbury Hilton**

**Convention Accommodations**

Southbury Hilton, Southbury, CT

Telephone: 203.577.4875.

Room reservations are available on Friday night, April 27th, at \$99/person, single or double occupancy. Plan to make your own reservations with the Hilton directly.

**Connecticut Convention - 2001**

*Developing Creativity:*

*Encouraging Girls to Fly*

**Friday**

6:45 p.m. Informal networking with state members.

Come and enjoy the exceptional company; refresh yourself for the next day. Meet in the Lounge.

**Saturday**

8:30 am **Registration**

9:00 am **Power Breakfast**

A call to all convention attendees to help in planning for the future of Connecticut AAUW Marcelline A. Barron, AAUW/CT President

10:15 am **Workshops:**

“Nut'n but Net” - Teresa Boyd

Diversity-Dr. Gail Nordmoe

Robotics for Girls - Berlin Middle and High School Girls

We Are One! - Membership & Program - Carrie Sussman, Paula Yukna, Renee LeCourciere

Noon

Historian Gloria Stewart

A History of AAUW/CT

Banners from the Past

12:15 p.m. **Luncheon**

EF/LAF Raffle Results

Bina Roy IFUW Silent Auction

2:00 pm **Annual Business Meeting**

3:45 pm **Town Hall**

Gail Nordmoe,

Carrie Sussman, Paula Yukna

5:00 pm **Closing Reception** for All Attendees

## **Registration Form-Connecticut AAUW Convention – 2001**

(if you have problems printing form please contact T.Boyd at 860.486.2459 and one will be mailed or faxed to you)

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**BRANCH** \_\_\_\_\_

**Leadership  
Position** \_\_\_\_\_

Please note above whether your leadership position is: Branch, State, EF or LAF

**Voting Status** \_\_\_\_\_

Please note above whether your voting status is:  
Branch President, State Officer, Branch Delegate, Past AAUW/CT President, or None of these

**Your mailing address:** (include city, state and zip)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** (daytime) \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Convention  
Workshops**

Please check **one** workshop. Your selection will facilitate room assignments and handout availability. Attendance is on a first-come, first-served basis and workshops are subject to change and/or cancellation.

\_\_\_\_\_ “Nut'n but Net” \_\_\_\_\_ Diversity \_\_\_\_\_ Robotics for Girls \_\_\_\_\_ We Are One! –  
Membership & Program

**Registration  
and Meals**

Early Bird Registration(postmarked before 1 April 2001)

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$60** includes: Power Breakfast & Saturday Luncheon Buffet

General Registration(postmarked after 1 April 2001)

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$65** includes: Power Breakfast & Saturday Luncheon Buffet

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \_\_\_\_\_ **(make checks out to CT-AAUW)**

Send payment and registrations to:

Joyce Kathan  
229 Cheshire Road  
Prospect, CT 06712

Register Early!

**EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION NEWS**

by **Karen McKee**

I would like to thank all of the Branch Educational Foundation Chairs for all of your work in 2000. The final numbers are not quite in yet, but Connecticut contributed just over \$40,000 to the Educational Foundation. Also, the Maggie Ford American Fellowship is much closer to its goal of \$100,000 with a current balance of close to \$95,000.

In November, many of you attended a very successful fund raiser for the Educational Foundation and the Charter Oak State College Foundation, held at the Eli Whitney Museum in New Haven. At this event, three citizens who are advocates for women and girls in the areas of math, science, and technology were honored: Janice Gruendel, Executive Director, CT Voice for Children; Ann Pollina, Head of Westover School; and Robert Rosenbaum, Founder of PIMMS at Wesleyan University. Approximately \$12,400 was raised from this

event, and more than fifty percent (\$6319) was contributed to the Maggie Ford American Fellowship endowment of the Educational Foundation! This may be the start of a continuing event.

Please plan to participate in our 'Nutmeg Escapes' Raffle which will be held this spring to raise funds for the Foundation. Branches have been asked to donate prizes, such as a night at a B&B, Dinner for Two, Theater tickets, etc. We will begin selling tickets in February, and the final prize drawings will be held at the State Convention in April! You don't need to be present to win, so please support us by buying one or more raffle tickets!

Once again, thank you for your support.

## **Women Advance Foundation's Major Giving Culture**

**By Kay Ballard**

Over the past century, AAUW branch and state members built the Foundation through fundraising projects and events. This traditional culture of women's giving dates back to a time when women had little control of financial assets. Increasingly, however, women are gaining financial power and deriving personal satisfaction from making sizable gifts to the Foundation.

But creating a true major giving culture will require a focused, disciplined process that will involve the Foundation officers and staff and AAUW members in identifying prospective donors and engaging them in the Foundation's mission. One group, the President's Team, has taken the lead. In 1997, then Foundation President Alice Ann Leidel Jacobs assembled these former Foundation and Association presidents to secure major and planned gifts. Already the team's "How to Be a Gifted Giver" workshop is encouraging AAUW members in their personal growth as donors and philanthropists.

Meet several women who recently expressed their values and vision through generous gifts to the Foundation and, in doing so, are in the forefront of change in the culture of women's giving.

Ruth Jurenko, a Foundation board member, is a longtime major donor to the Foundation and its Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, which supports research, Teacher Fellows, and the Teacher Institute. Through a charitable lead trust, Jurenko generously has made the Foundation a beneficiary of 10 annual gifts of \$50,000 each.

Sharon Schuster, president of the Foundation board, gave shares of stock to upgrade her annual gift to \$10,000. "I get the double tax benefits of giving a charitable gift and avoiding capital gains tax," says Schuster. "Also, I gave it unrestricted so the Foundation will have the maximum flexibility to use it as needed."

Mary Carlson, past president of Illinois AAUW, was the first donor to support the Illinois 75th Anniversary Diamond Donor Project and went on to fully fund the Mary Carlson International Fellowship. The new fellowship expresses her desire to improve poor nutrition in developing nations.

Leila Shakkour, a Foundation board member, made an outright gift of \$15,000 to the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund in support of Teacher Fellowships. Her contribution honors two of her elementary school teachers, for whom a fellowship was named in 1999.

Sheila Kiefer, past parliamentarian for the Foundation board, contributed \$10,000 prior to her death to support the Foundation's endowed funds. She did so in the form of a challenge to her fellow Maryland AAUW members to increase their individual and branch gifts.

Enid Wilson, past Massachusetts EF chair, gave \$10,000 to establish the Enid Wilson International Fellowship. By completing the funding through pooled income fund contributions, charitable gift annuities, and a bequest, says Wilson, "I achieve a goal I deeply believe in while receiving yearly income and tax benefits."

## **MEMBERSHIP**

by **Renee C. Lacourciere**  
**Membership VP**

To all the state branch membership people:

Thank you so much for providing the facts and figures that made the Retention and Recruitment report possible.

The report was presented at the Winter Board Meeting, Jan. 27th, 2001. The data you helped me to compile gave the attendees an interesting picture of the status of retention and recruitment statewide.

The information you provided me with regard to what has helped or hindered efforts branch-by-branch will be a good jumping off point for discussions and/or brainstorming efforts in your individual branches.

Currently, some of the data which was previously unavailable is making its way to me. When I receive the updated information I will update the report and will send two copies to each branch (to the VP Membership).

Again, thank you - look for the report within the next month.

## **Power in Numbers**

by **Jodi Lipson and Regina Bethea**

AAUW has a critical mission that needs a stronger voice, and you can fuel our success. Support our membership campaign.

More members means more clout on Capitol Hill for women's issues. More schools that treat girls and boys equitably. More lobbying on state and local issues. More programs that benefit women and girls of all backgrounds and cultures. More women and girls pursuing their goals. More women challenging the glass ceiling. More women in better-paying jobs.

Recruit women who reflect the current membership, and then think beyond them to make us more vital, more relevant, and more powerful. Think diverse. Consider baby boomers, many of whom have older children and fewer family responsibilities. Consider women of color, activists, professionals, women with disabilities, and students on campus. These women may be eager to volunteer and can benefit from programs such as Transitions; the Voter Education Campaign; Woman-to-Woman; and policy efforts around education, health care, and Social Security.

Here are a few recruitment strategies:

Give a grad a gift through AAUW's online program that lets members recruit recent graduates at no charge to the recruiters or new members.

Nominate college students for AAUW's Emerging Leaders Internship Program, which offers women the opportunity to work with a branch on topics important to them and the branch.

Invite friends, colleagues, and relatives to attend a branch meeting or become involved in a community action project, and then ask them to join.

Talk up the benefits of your AAUW membership: the camaraderie, the national network, and the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of women and girls.

Carry membership brochures with you and hand them out liberally, helping prospective branch members and members-at-large complete their applications and taking their checks on the spot. Membership brochures are available from your branch or the HELPLINE.

Encourage people who aren't ready for branch membership to visit AAUW's website and join online as members-at-large.

Don't be shy about recruiting. Aim to recruit at least one new member in 2001.

## **Storrs/Willimantic hosts:**

### **Annual Book-Author Luncheon**

Women's Biographies for Girls of All Ages

Featuring

Mary Ellen Ellsworth, Ph.D.

Author of the biography of Gertrude Warner, who wrote the Boxcar Children series

Saturday, May 5, 2001

11:30 a.m.

President's Dining Room, Eastern Connecticut State University

\$30.00

For Information Contact:

Sue Harkness

860.65.5100 or [harkness@easternct.edu](mailto:harkness@easternct.edu)

## **OTTAWA - 27th IFUW Triennial Conference August 10 - 17, 2001 "Globalization Connections through Education"**

by Loretta James

**International Affairs**

Celebrate the 80th anniversary of the International Federation of University Women. (All female members of AAUW are automatically members of IFUW, which works to improve the status of women and girls worldwide.) IFUW is promoting three ways to celebrate: Hold an IFUW day to highlight the international aspect of your AAUW membership, launch a community project related to IFUW goals, or help IFUW meet its financial challenge of raising 100,000 Swiss francs (approximately \$70,000).

You can also plan now to attend the IFUW conference to be held in Ottawa, Canada, in August 2001-the first time in many years that the conference has been held in North America. For more information, contact the AAUW HELPLINE at 800/326-AAUW or visit IFUW's website at [www.ifuw@ifuw.org](http://www.ifuw@ifuw.org)

If you sign up by April 15th you will be eligible for a chance to win a free enrollment. Participants are strongly advised to sign up early to assure their hotel space.

Do you know that from Hartford to Ottawa is 394.36 miles. By the computer travel guide, Ottawa can be reached by car in 8 hours 35 minutes and 12 seconds! This is a rare chance to drive to an IFUW Conference! We will have a carpool sign - up sheet at our Convention!

## **AAUW Day at the United Nations**

CT Day at the UN is tentatively scheduled for early May this year. In the 5 or 6 years that CT has done this, the feedback has been very positive and the importance of our representation at the UN by our sister organization - International Federation of University Women - has become more meaningful to our

members. The day starts at 9:30 am at the UN. We will attend 2 briefings by UN staff, a luncheon at the Delegates Dining Room (approximately \$26) and a tour of the facilities (\$6). Groups have ranged from 12 to 55 members. If you are interest in learning more about CT Day at the UN, please call Loretta James at 203.245.1290.

## **Connecticut Convention Silent Auction**

The success of last year's International Silent Auction (\$500!) to benefit Bina Roy Partners in Development helping IFUW projects in 25 countries (see [www.AAUW.org](http://www.AAUW.org) for details) bears repeating!! This year we will add a percentage of the auction receipts to assist Afghanistan women in their terrible plight (see article on next page). We will have information about Amnesty International available as well.

The challenge to each branch is to donate an "international" item . Just bring them either to CT Convention or to the March 3rd Coalition Luncheon for Loretta James. This item can be from a trip or just represent a foreign country; something that is "nice" that you can bear to part with for a good cause. One person's "why did I buy this" can be another's treasure!!

Last year we had 15 countries represented by donations from 14 of our branches. Let's make it 19 branches this year!

Any questions please call Loretta James, 203.245.1290

## **The Women of Afganistan**

Before the Taliban seized power in 1996, women were educated and employed, comprising 70% of the teachers, 50% of government workers and 40% of doctors in Kabul. Since then, the women and girls of Afghanistan have been plunged into a brutal system of 'gender apartheid'. Under Taliban rule, women are not permitted to work, go to school or leave their homes unless accompanied by a close male relative and completely covered, from head-to-toe, in a burqua (a garment which completely shrouds the body with only a small net opening for the eyes through which to see).

Because women and girls are not allowed to seek medical care, they are dying from easily treatable diseases. Many women are seriously depressed. They have been likened to walking corpses and are killing themselves in droves. Women are severely beaten or are stoned to death for violating Taliban law.

How can you make a difference?

The following websites offer information on ways to help our Afghan sisters.

RAWA - The Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan  
([www.rawa.org](http://www.rawa.org))

An organization of Afghan women struggling for peace, freedom, democracy and women's rights. They do their work at very great personal risk. The Taliban regularly threatens RAWA members through letters and e-mails, promising death by stoning to anyone associated with this organization. These women run schools, mobile medical units and income-generating projects for women, men and children in Afghanistan and refugee camps in Pakistan.

Donations to RAWA can be sent to the Afghan Women's Mission, 260 S. Lake Avenue, PMB 165, Pasadena, CA 91101. \$25 will provide one month's salary and board for a teacher in an underground school; \$100 will cover a month's living expenses for a mobile health team.

The Feminist Majority Website  
www.feminist.org

AAUW members can request a Take Action Packet which contains petitions to stop gender apartheid in Afghanistan which after circulating, can be sent to UN Secretary General Annan, Secretary of State Powell and the White House.

Also in the Take Action Packet is a sample of the "burqa" and an order form to send for these symbols of remembrance for the women of Afghanistan. Half of the \$2 fee for the burqa symbols goes to the Campaign to Stop Gender Apartheid and half will go directly to the Afghan women in refugee camps.

The Feminist Majority (which also may be reach by calling 1-888-93WOMEN) believes that if the United States pursues the same course with Afghanistan that concerned Americans pursued with South Africa, the economic and social pressure will force the Taliban to change. Let's see how we, AAUW members, can make a difference in the lives of our oppressed sisters in Afghanistan.

## **IFUW Connections**

We [IFUW] are sharing with you the following invitation which IFUW received for a special initiative a women in Geneva is taking in conjunction with the World Conference Against Racism. If you want to contribute a recipe, please send it directly to Laurie Wiseberg at the address in her invitation. Indicate that you are a member of IFUW.

"Friends: I have decided to go ahead with a project that I have been planning for some time-to produce a cookbook for the World Conference Against Racism. This is a personal (not a UN project) but I would like your assistance.

Specifically, can you send me your best recipes for entertaining? I want this cookbook to be really international, with the best food from all countries of the world. What better place to start than in the UN and with the NGO network against racism!

In sending the recipes, please make sure that you are specific about directions: for example, be clear if you are using a British or a US cup; if you say "a package" of something, or "a can" of something, tell me how many ounces or grams, etc. Also, tell me how you want the recipe attributed e.g., ' This was my grandmother's recipe and we eat it every Christmas or Chanukah. Finally, please send the e-mail to: <lwiseberg.hcr@unog.ch> and mark "cookbook" in the subject .

With warm wishes for the new year and the new millennium. Laurie Wiseberg"

## **CONNECTICUT CANDIDATES for election in Austin**

### **REGIONAL NOTES-Get Ready for 2001 Convention in Austin**

by Paula Jean Yukna  
New England Regional Director

#### **and CANDIDATE FOR CO-FINANCE VICE PRESIDENT**

The colors are festive; the food spicy; the winds warm and the people warmer. Yes, Austin, Texas is calling to us "cold" New Englanders: Come to Austin to Shape the Future of AAUW! And, have fun in the process. For me going to Texas is a bit like going home because that's where I went to law school and I was sworn in for my first bar license in sunny Austin. I hope you can join me on this convention trip.

New England and Connecticut, in particular, have good reason to feel connected to this Austin event. We have many candidates vying for board positions. A total of 8 New Englanders are running for office.\* This is great evidence of our long standing history of concern and involvement in AAUW.

As a convention attendee you will have ample opportunity to participate in discussions regarding the future of the organization. The Board is very interested in the thoughts of members on finances, communications and representation. We also are proposing important bylaw changes that will reduce the size of the board (from 21 to 12) and create a cross corporate committee structure. Please read your Outlook carefully and email me with questions and concerns and, hopefully, some supportive comments. (Yukna17@aol.com)(16 Russell St., New Britain, CT 06052) Much of what we are proposing is based on the economic needs of AAUW. Please note, however, that the rumor that the Regional Directors are being jettisoned is NOT TRUE. The regional connection is very important to the board and to the members and strengthening that connection remains a priority.

You will also have the chance to meet our new Executive Director, Jacqueline Woods. Our new ED has a wonderful background, most recently serving as a presidential appointee in the U.S. Department of Education as the Director of the Community Colleges Liaison Office. I am impressed with her take charge attitude and passion for AAUW's mission. I think you will also be impressed and pleased.

Finally, (oh, by the way) there is the wonderful program being offered through the good works of Carrie Sussman (Program VP) and her hard working committee. We will have 4 learning tracks to pick from, 40 workshops in all, that highlight Leadership Development, Membership Development, Young Professionals and Program & Advocacy. Sarah Weddington will be receiving the Speak Out for Justice Award at the LAF luncheon and Mae Jamison will be our keynote. Much more will be delineated in Outlook so read it all and I'll see y'all in Austin, Texas on June 23-25, 2001.

In sisterhood, Paula

\*Carrie Sussman (CT) is in a 3 way contest for AAUW President. (Nancy Rustad (MN) and Chris Winter (CA) are her opponents.) Pamela Collins (MA) is presently unopposed for AAUW Program VP. Loretta James (CT) is in a 2 way contest for International Affairs Director. (Fran Cressman (MD) is her opponent.) Lillian Colevecchio (MA) is presently unopposed for New England RD. Marion Kilson (MA) is in a 2 way contest for Foundation President. (Mary Ellen Smyth (IL) is her opponent.) Gail Nordmoe (Presently of MN but previously of both CT and MA ) is in a 2 way contest for Foundation Program VP. (Jeanie Page Randall (TN) is her opponent.) Bets Brown (ME) is in an 11 way race for the 8 Foundation Director positions. (Other opponents are Marilyn Arp (ID), Kathleen Brenniman (IL), Sally Chamberlain (PA), Meena Dalal (NE), Jo Harberson (CA), Judi Kneecce (WI), Dee Mickey (AL), Pat Nuss (NE), Barbara O'Connor (FL) and Carol Stull (NY).) Jo Herber (WA) and I, Paula Jean Yukna (CT), are presently running unopposed as AAUW Co-Finance Vice Presidents. As Co candidates we would be covering the 3 corporate entities by splitting up the job so that Jo carries the Foundation and I would carry AAUW and LAF. The later 2 corporate boards meet at the same time while the Foundation Board's calendar is quite different. Be sure to come to Austin ready to question all the candidates on their views on the future of the organization. Your active participation is very important.

## **LEADERS FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM**

**Carrie Gallagher Sussman**

### **CANDIDATE FOR ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT**

“Carrie Leads with a Global Perspective of Equity, Inspires Leaders and Members to Action, and Energizes AAUW for the New Millennium.”

As we begin our 120th year, AAUW members, leaders and our coalition partners and collaborators will draw on the strength and forward-looking vision of our leadership. It is time to incorporate a global perspective into our organization's vision. Understanding the impact of globalization on our organization and our

domestic/national initiatives will lead us to work more effectively in diverse communities across our country. Whether through virtual or actual international education, global career opportunities, cross-cultural learning and collaboration, or simply working with women in our country, we must assure that AAUW effects change in the international community of women.

The strength of our organization comes from our volunteer leaders, our professional staff, and members across the country. We all share the responsibility for dealing with ongoing challenges to our organizational stability and the equity initiatives of AAUW is shared by all of us.

We rely on our Association President with her Board to weave together our strengths, to assure that we meet our obligations, and to achieve our potential. This complex mixture of perspectives should not be unique for an Association President - it must be what we expect of our Association President.

It is a unique individual who is aware not only of our organization's complexity, but who is open, willing to listen, and capable of building commitment in members and leaders. We must expect this individual, our President, to inspire us and guide us to become the leading advocacy organization for women's equity in the new millennium.

Vote for Carrie at the Austin Convention. She will use her experience, understanding and passion for AAUW to meet, and exceed, our expectations.

Contact Carrie before the Convention at 203.656.3667 or [csussman@erols.com](mailto:csussman@erols.com).  
317 Bennett's Farm Road, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877. Visit [carrie.forpresident.org](http://carrie.forpresident.org)

## **CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

### **Loretta James**

Most of us can be better informed about international affairs and cultures - providing an international perspective to see things in different ways. New approaches or viewpoints energize us, as well as help us understand our strengths and weaknesses as a society.

Knowledge of life conditions for women in other countries can make us appreciate how lucky we are as Americans. Our gratitude can be expressed by offering help to women and girls both here as well as abroad. Realizing the universality of women's lives can renew our energies and encourage us to take a more pro-active approach to the programs offered by AAUW.

I am a candidate for the AAUW national position of International Affairs Director. I would like to develop and expand AAUW members' experiences in the international realm for their benefit and for our domestic and international impact by:

1. setting up an AAUW interactive network for states to share international subjects/activities in branches;
2. looking at society from an international perspective,
3. assessing the controversy that CEDAW represents
4. laying out AAUW programs to see how they can help us work toward our world goals of helping women and girls at home and abroad. Working on these objectives we will transform ourselves from a significant but domestically focused organization to one that understands, weighs and acts on the broader issues of our era.

I have served as International Chair at the branch and state as well as having been Branch president in Madison, NJ and New Canaan, CT. I have played an active role in the successful New Canaan fund raising for the UN Association's Adopt-a-Minefield Program (\$50,000 raised to clear a minefield in Cambodia). I have served on the New Canaan UN Day Committee over the last five years, three of which as Co-Chair.

I am eager to broaden our AAUW reach internationally not only through the IFUW Bina Roy Partners in Development Program, and the Virginia Gildersleeve Foundation which are more familiar to us, but also through such organizations as the United Nations Development Fund for Women Agency (UNIFEM), the Committee on the Status of Women at the UN, United Nations Association and the US Office of Women in

Development of US Agency for International Development. By working in coalition with these groups we can increase our understanding, our impact and enrich our own lives.

## **...and more on Connecticut Convention - 2001**

### **Leader on Loan**

Dr. Gail Nordmoe is completing her second term as Secretary of AAUW, and had previously served on the Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Panel for the AAUW Educational Foundation. Dr. Nordmoe is currently Executive Director of the Richard R. Green Institute for Teaching and Learning in Minneapolis. She was previously Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum for the Cambridge (MA) School System.

Connecticut members may remember Dr. Nordmoe from her days as Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Danbury, as an active participant in AAUW/CT, a panelist at AAUW's African/American Roundtable in New London, and as a presenter at several state and branch functions.

We look forward to giving her a rousing Nutmeg Welcome Back!

### **Connecticut Election Guide:**

#### Membership VP

Nanci Westlake, a member of the Storrs/Willimantic Branch serving as program chair, is a data librarian/analyst with Hartford Hospital. She believes this is "a way to give back to the community and offer a forum to others with a political passion who are not willing to accept the status quo."

#### Treasurer

Betty Thomson is a member of Greater Meriden Branch where she has served as president and treasurer. She retired as business teacher/department head at Mercy High School after 19 years and now volunteers in her community. She looks forward to the opportunity to serve AAUW/CT and to learning more about the programs AAUW supports

#### Educational Foundation Chair

Sue Harkness is currently membership EF chair for Storrs/Willimantic Branch. She was "very much energized by the women at the AAUW Educational Foundation Leadership Forum Washington last June...and would be challenged to convey my enthusiasm and passion for the Educational Foundation to all AAUW members."

#### LAF Chair

Edith Zoltan of the Danbury Area Branch served as LAF Chair for the past biennium.

#### Recording Secretary

Candy Buebendorf, a member of the Lower Connecticut Valley Branch, is a history teacher at RHAM High School in Hebron. She "looks forward to being an active member of the state AAUW team to continue our work in equity for all."

#### Nominating Committee Chair

Renee Lacourciere, of the Lower CT Valley Branch, is a speech/language pathologist at CT College Children's Program and Learn: Birth-to-three Program. She has served a State Membership VP for the past year. With the impending birth of her first child, she feels she cannot fulfill her obligation to the State, but "still would like to hold a position in which I can affect change."

#### Nominating Committee

Roslyn Manville, candidate for a position elected from the general membership, is Program VP for the Stamford Branch, and is faculty advisor for the UConn School of Social Work.

Sonja Ahuja, Norwalk/Westport Branch, is a candidate for the 2nd position elected from the general membership. She is VP for Programs and Operations for CTE, Inc. in Stamford.

## **AAUW Profiles:**

Jacqueline E. Woods  
Executive Director, American Association of University Women

Jacqueline E. Woods has more than 30 years of experience as an educator. Her professional experiences range from classroom instruction in Speech Pathology and Special Education to program development and management activities. Her areas of expertise include early childhood education, adult and vocational education, resource development, and higher education administration, management, and governance.

Prior to joining the American Association of University Women (AAUW) as the Executive Director, Ms. Woods served as a presidential appointee in the U.S. Department of Education as the Director of the Community Colleges Liaison Office. In this role, she was a major policy advisor to the Secretary of Education and the administration on national public policy issues affecting the nation's 1,200 community colleges. Under her leadership and guidance, the Community College Liaison Office developed a domestic and global outreach agenda that included providing structures for two year colleges to use in strengthening interactions and recognition within the department and with other federal agencies. This agenda also included forming networks in the business and corporate sectors, community-based organizations, and all other education sectors.

Ms. Woods has held a variety of other significant administrative and instructional positions throughout her career. She served as the Vice Chancellor for External Affairs for the City Colleges of Chicago. She also served as the Vice President for Institutional Advancement at the Community College of Philadelphia, and earlier in her career held positions at colleges from Michigan to California. Her affiliations within the Washington, D.C.-based association network included serving as the Vice President for Programs and Public Policy at the Association of Governing Boards for Universities and Colleges, the Director of the D.C. Office for the American College Testing Program, and as a program development director for the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges. Throughout her career, she has authored and edited a number of education publications and served on several education editorial boards.

Ms. Woods has been actively involved in a number of associations that have supported issues for girls and women. She was one of the founding members and a past president of the Women Administrators in Higher Education, a Washington, D.C.-based group. She also has been a member of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges and served as a speaker and consultant for the National Institute for Leadership Development (A Community College Women Presidents' group). In addition, she has been a speaker and consultant for the White House Office of Women and for executive women groups across the country.

A native of Detroit, Michigan, Ms. Woods received her B.A. degree in Speech Pathology from Michigan State University. She received her M.Ed. and completed her doctoral coursework requirements in Speech Pathology from Wayne State University.

### **A request from the Bridgeport Area Branch -**

Please send e-mail addresses of the newspapers in your area so we can include them in our news release distributions.

Merrilyn Decker, President

Merrdeck@aol.com

**A request from  
Co-Historians Eunice Wallace & Gloria Stewart**

We are investigating the background and history relating to 5 CT banners which were displayed at several national conventions from 1973-81. These extraordinarily handsome banners, and any others we can locate, will be hung at the April 27th Convention and the stories behind them presented. Please help! If any branch or member has any additional banner(s) in its local archives, or can provide further information on the banner project in its branch, please contact us. Gloria Stewart 203.847-5575 or Eunice Wallace, 860.443.1012 .

**For registration information for CT Convention 2001 contact Joyce Kathan at 203.758.0658**

AAUW-Promoting education and equity for all women and girls.