

# *the* First Stater

## AAUW DELAWARE

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

AAUW Delaware

Branches: Coastal-Georgetown, Dover, Middletown, Newark, Western Sussex, Wilmington

## AAUW DE co-sponsors candidates' forum

AAUW Delaware joins the League of Women Voters Delaware as a co-sponsor of a statewide candidates' forum to be held at the Dover Sheraton, 1570 N. DuPont Highway, in Dover, on Wednesday, October 20 at 7:00 p.m. The event is open to the public, and AAUW members are encouraged to attend.

Election Day 2010 is Tuesday, November 2. Federal offices for which elections are being held include senator and representative. Statewide offices include treasurer, auditor, insurance

commissioner, and attorney general. Ellen Wasfi, a member of the League of Women Voters Kent County, will moderate. Index cards will be distributed at the door for audience members to submit questions, but AAUW members, especially those who are unable to attend, are encouraged to recommend a line of questioning in advance. Please send your suggestions to the attention of Nadyne Rosin, president of AAUW Delaware. Please see other articles in this newsletter about election awareness activities of the Delaware Lobby Corps.

## Letter from the state president

... cont'd on page 2

Welcome to a new year of AAUW to all new and "old" (steadfast) members. There have been a lot of changes at AAUW with the one member one vote for the National Convention as well as changes to the bylaws allowing states to have an administrator and a treasurer.

Our board voted to *not* change our bylaws to one member/one vote for the State Annual Meeting or the State Convention and we are keeping some of the positions on the board. I am delighted to welcome Marion T. Chiyka as our new state treasurer. Marion is a

new member of the Coastal-Georgetown Branch who relocated to Delaware after a career with 30 years in the accounting field. We all owe great appreciation and thanks to Carolyn Diehl, who has served two full terms as treasurer and temporarily held the position until Marion volunteered.

But—and there is always a but—we, the AAUW Delaware board, have some really bright spots. We were awarded another grant from AAUW, for which Lana Cobb, past AAUW DE president,



## AAUW DE to co-host at National 2011 !

Delaware and Maryland will serve as local hosts at the AAUW National Convention, to be held Thursday – Sunday, June 16 - 19, 2011, at the Renaissance Washington, D.C.. The theme of the national convention, at which AAUW will celebrate its 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary, is “Breaking Through Barriers - Advocating for Change.”

and play a personal role in creating a road map for AAUW's future by participating in strategic breakout sessions. There will be a Lobby Day on Capitol Hill for AAUW members and other special events include presentation of the first Breaking through Barriers Awards at a ceremony to recognize outstanding, innovative AAUW state and branch programs.

As usual, attendees of the 2011 conference will be inspired by nationally recognized speakers, learn new leadership skills and AAUW best practices to take home to local branches,

Think about carpooling or riding the train, finding a room-mate, and making plans to join your Delaware colleagues in Washington! Hold those dates!



## One Member / One Vote !

In 1920, the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment to the United States Constitution gave women the right to vote. AAUW has had that philosophy for 130 years, but until the Internet age has been unable to implement this policy in a practical, cost-effective manner.

Prior to the 2011 convention, in order to vote to elect candidates for the AAUW Board of Directors or vote on other items

of business such as bylaws amendments, resolutions and the Public Policy Program, you had to attend convention.

Starting with the 2011 convention, each member will be able to cast his/her vote via the Internet without being present at the business meeting at convention.

## President's letter, cont'd ...

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*“We have come a long way, thanks to all of you.”*

is in charge. Contact her if you would like to help. She would definitely like to hear from you. We are also co-sponsoring a Candidates Forum in Dover on Oct. 20 at the Sheraton Hotel starting at 6:30. The League of Women Voters of Delaware and Common Cause of Delaware are the other sponsors. This being

the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women getting the right to vote, AAUW DE's involvement in a candidates' forum is our celebration of this momentous occasion. If you have not seen *Iron Jawed Angels*, please get the movie. It reminds all of us of the distance we traveled. The same can be said about the number of women today

..... *cont'd on page 3*

## President's letter

... cont'd from page 2

who are graduates of universities. We have come a long way, thanks to all of you.

Mark your calendar for our Annual Meeting May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Virden Center here in Lewes. To mix business with pleasure we are having a dinner the night before to greet attendees and simply enjoy each other's company.

And of course, there is the AAUW Convention in June. This year in Washington, D.C., Delaware is one of the host states and we are looking for volunteers to help the convention go smoothly and help delegates from around the country find their way around. If you are going and would like to be a volunteer, please contact me. I have already heard from several of you, which is wonderful.

We are trying to update our website with Tom Bason's help: we are linking to the AAUW member showcase calendar of events and have plans to load an archive of your newsletters and a branch page for all six branches.

We started a Facebook group! So let us know if you are on Facebook and be a friend! I'm working my way through all the new technology that's out there and some of it is so overwhelming but some of it is so much fun. Hope you are part of this struggle to stay educated in a constantly moving world.

-- Nadyne Rosin

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*"We started a Facebook group!"*

*So let us know if you are on Facebook and be a friend!"*

## New Challenges Confront Gender Specific Philanthropy *by Dr. Kathleen C. Jacobs, AAUW DE State Funds Chair*

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To learn more about giving to support AAUW programs, visit [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

The mission and focus of the AAUW has changed dramatically for the better. The scope of the dilemma that women face has broadened and so has the focus of the AAUW. A few years ago, one of our AAUW members in Delaware asked me, "Why do we just focus on women in higher education and not women in the private sector?" As a result of that question and many like it, the AAUW's contribution needs have broadened to cover all facets of women's lives. On October 5, 2010, I participated in a conference call, which included over 100 participants throughout the United States led by Holly Kearn, from our Washington, D.C., headquarters, who has been the AAUW Program Manager for approximately three years. She pointed out several excellent points that I would like to share with you.

### 1) Case Support is funded solely by contributions. One case is taking place in our own backyard in Delaware.

LAF has adopted a new case, [Foltz et al. v. Delaware State University](#). Fifteen members of the Delaware State University (DSU) women's equestrian team filed this lawsuit to challenge the school's decision to eliminate the team and replace it with competitive cheerleading. The suit, which alleges that the school failed to provide equal athletic opportunities to DSU's female students, has been approved as a class action lawsuit. LAF has disbursed \$11,500 to the [Women's Law Project](#), the Philadelphia organization that represents the students, to bring an expert witness to the October trial. [Read the AAUW press release](#) for more information regarding this case.

If a branch would like to have one of the plaintiffs speak, contact [laf@aauw.org](mailto:laf@aauw.org) prior to October 15, 2010. Please note that the plaintiffs can say but so much since the case is in progress.

### 2) Another case may need support funded by your contributions. It is taking place in our own backyard in Delaware and beyond.

In the private sector, Wal-Mart has a class action gender discrimination lawsuit brought by female employees that has been challenged by the employer since 2001, according to Holly Kearn. Because the employer continually appeals the class action status of the case, the AAUW has not provided case support, but is keeping vigil on the movement of the case. This would be a landmark decision in the private sector should the case go to trial because Wal-Mart is the largest employer in the United States. The litigants claim that Wal-Mart has historically promoted more males to management positions and when females are promoted to management positions they received lower salaries than their male counterparts. Wal-Mart has appealed to the Supreme Court not to allow the case to go forward as a class action case.

### AAUW Delaware Branches

Because of the myriad new contribution categories, branches may want to consider having a "Funds Chair" or "Funds Co-Chairs" rather than an "LAF" or "EF" Chair since the latter category no longer exists and has been divided into

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*"One case is taking place in our own backyard in Delaware."*

## October is for Eleanor ... AAUW Delawareans rank 6<sup>th</sup> in Per Capita Giving to ER Fund

In 1885, only one year after Eleanor Roosevelt was born, a group of AAUW members conducted a survey that debunked the popular theory that higher education was bad for women's health. That first study established AAUW's commitment to cutting-edge research relevant to the struggle for gender equity in school and in society.

Eleanor Roosevelt was born on October 11, 1884, and died on November 7, 1962; she was a remarkable woman who saw remarkable changes in her lifetime. Her early voluntarism in the tenements of New York and her later contributions to civil and human rights led her to be recognized as one of the most influential women of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Among so many other notable positions, Roosevelt chaired the Kennedy administration's ground-breaking committee which helped start second-

wave feminism, the Presidential Commission on the Status of Women.

In tribute to this great woman, AAUW established the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund in 1988. The ER Fund supports groundbreaking research on the educational experiences of women and girls, Teacher Fellowships, and an annual Teacher Institute.

Dr. Kathy Jacobs reported to the August State Board meeting that Delawareans have ranked 6<sup>th</sup> place nationally for AAUW's State per Capita giving to the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund for 2009. To find out more about the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, visit this site:

<http://www.aauw.org/learn/research/current.cfm>

or ask your branch chair how to contribute to AAUW's Eleanor Roosevelt Fund.



**Happy Birthday  
Eleanor  
Roosevelt!**

October 11, 1884

## Gender specific philanthropy ... cont'd from page 4

"Eleanor Roosevelt Fund—ERF" and "Educational Opportunities Fund." Below are the fund numbers and titles for contributions. (Please see chart on page 6.)

\*Individuals who give contributions of \$100 or more to these fund numbers will receive special lapel pins. Please be sure that you indicate the correct fund number on your checks so that you and your branches can be properly credited.

### NEW AWARD CATEGORIES

As of 2009, top ten awards are given in three categories for each of the above funds.

- 1) Most generous states.
- 2) Most generous branches.
- 3) Most generous states per capita.

Please note that AAUW Delaware placed 6<sup>th</sup> in the top ten for one of the most generous states in the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund category. Congratulations to all branches for such a huge achievement from such a small state.

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## AAUW Fund numbers and titles for contributions

(see Jacobs philanthropy article on pages 4-5)



Category	Fund Number	Title
1	9110	AAUW Funds – Supports all of the programs that follow.
2	9310*	LAF Case Support – Supports workplace gender discrimination cases.
3	4337*	Public Policy Fund – Supports all public policy programs.
4	9170*	Eleanor Roosevelt Fund – Supports AAUW Research.
5	4336	Educational Opportunities Fund – Supports fellowships and grants.
6	4339	Leadership Programs Fund – Supports programs to develop women’s potential to lead in their schools, communities and country.
7	2505	National Conference for College Women Student Leaders – Held in Washington, D. C.

## Hot Topic: Advocacy for Community Colleges

On October 5, 2010, Delaware’s own Dr. Jill Biden hosted the first-ever White House Summit on Community Colleges to highlight the critical role that community colleges play in developing America’s workforce and reaching our educational goals. You can join in the discussion by adding your comments and ideas to an online discussion, available at

<http://communitycollege.ideascale.com/>

Interesting comments are being shared

about the use of adjunct faculty in many community colleges, the role of libraries and information literacy, rural outreach, and publicity for the number of community colleges that are available.

Because education is a part of the formula for advancement of women and girls, this online discussion should be of great interest to AAUW members.

*Hold fast to dreams  
for if dreams die, life  
is a broken-winged  
bird that cannot fly.*

*Hold fast to dreams  
for if dreams go, life  
is a barren field,  
covered with snow.*

Langston Hughes

## Come on Down! Let’s all go to the beach next May!

**HOLD THE DATES !**

**March 3-5, 2011**

*Wilmington Branch*

**42d Annual  
Used Book Sale**

Following the gracious hospitality of the Western Sussex Branch, who hosted the bi-annual state convention for AAUW Delaware last April in Bridgeville, Coastal-Georgetown Branch is hosting and organizing the 2011 Annual Meeting, to be held May 14th at the Virden Center in Lewes.

“A true retreat with plenty of sun and sea air to rest your mind and body,” the Virden Center is the perfect place for AAUW Delaware members to get together for the annual meeting. The local hostesses are already talking about

social time the night before, so think about making a delightful trip out of the event. Lodging is available at the Virden Center or other locations to be recommended. Program details will be announced when they become available.

<http://www.udel.edu/conferences/location/s/lewes.html>

As our autumn weather comes on, imagine those refreshing ocean breezes. No wonder the ladies of C-G have so much energy and inspiration!

## Plan Now for the Annual Excellence in Science and Mathematics Luncheon

by Lori Athey, AAUW Newark Branch

Please join us on Sunday, April 10, 2011, at the Trabant Student Center on the Newark Campus of the University of Delaware for our 12th annual Excellence in Science and Mathematics Luncheon, a celebration recognizing the top fifty 11<sup>th</sup> grade girls from the public and private high schools throughout Delaware.

Although this is an event hosted by the Coastal Georgetown & Newark Branches, the Math-Science Honors Luncheon has become a statewide event that truly deserves support from AAUW Delaware and all of our branches. Recognizing these young women who have excelled in the sciences and encouraging them to build on these accomplishments is in line with AAUW's advocacy for girls and women to achieve in the STEM fields.

Our UD costs are increasing significantly this year, including meals and a new room rental fee. Rather than raise the cost, we are trying to increase the number of sponsors to defray the extra expenses. Since girls come from every school district in Delaware, please

consider having your branch sponsor one of our awardees, or if your branch has sponsored a girl in the past, please consider sponsoring two or more girls this year. Look for information on how to be a sponsor in the next *First Stater*.

We can still use volunteers to help with contacting schools & tracking RSVPs, role models, exhibitors, and publicity. Anyone interested in getting involved can contact Newark Branch luncheon chair Lori Athey, [loriaauw@yahoo.com](mailto:loriaauw@yahoo.com), 302-292-3554. Everyone's participation is welcome!

There will be an AAUW exhibit table at the luncheon. If branches have materials they would like to display, this is a great opportunity to recruit members.

Come meet the outstanding young ladies from your local school districts. We hope to see you there!

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*"Although this is a Coastal Georgetown & Newark Branch event, it has become a statewide event that truly deserves support from AAUW Delaware and all of our branches."*

## Delaware: Cultivating Candidate Relationships

by Lana Cobb and Jean Wastler, Coastal-Georgetown Branch

AAUW Delaware was recently awarded a Public Policy grant by the national American Association of University Women (AAUW). Delaware was selected as one of 8 states awarded a grant among 15 states who were invited to apply. This is the second year in a row that Delaware has received a public policy grant from national. Building on last year's establishment of a Lobby Corps and lobbying activities, this year's focus will be voter education.

National describes our efforts as: "In light of the upcoming 2010 Delaware general election, AAUW Delaware plans to use its Impact Grant to raise candidate

awareness about the mission, members, and initiatives of AAUW. AAUW Delaware will maintain a statewide presence at election forums, town meetings and events, where they will publicly ask candidates mission-related questions and inform them of AAUW's public policy efforts. AAUW Delaware hopes that heightened attention to political issues will encourage non-active members to take part in public policy activities, and believes that their plans will enhance the presence of the state Lobby Corps, established through an Impact Grant last year."

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*Member participation is essential to the success of this undertaking.*

*If you are willing to participate, please contact*

[Lcobb2@verizon.com](mailto:Lcobb2@verizon.com)

or

*Jean Wastler, 302-227-2905*

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## **AAUW Delaware**

22934 Linden Drive  
Lewes, DE 19958

[AAUWDELAWARE.ORG](http://AAUWDELAWARE.ORG)

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We're on Facebook!

Friend us at:

[AAUW-Delaware](https://www.facebook.com/AAUW-Delaware)

## **Nick-Whistle ... so that's how you say it**

Meghan Wallace, UD senior, shared an interesting tidbit in her presentation to the Newark Branch in September. Meghan was the recipient of the branch's first sponsorship for an attendee of the National Conference on College Women Student Leaders, held in June, in College Park. Meghan told the branch that "Nick-Whistle" is how to pronounce the acronym for the conference, NCCWSL. Who would have known?

Meghan immediately benefited from her NCCWSL experience and learned the power

of networking: after meeting Patti Solis Doyle at the conference, Meghan recommended that Solis Doyle be invited to participate in the National Agenda speaker series at UD's Center for Political Communication. Solis Doyle, who was longtime advisor to Hillary Clinton and managed Joe Biden's vice presidential campaign, was the kick-off speaker on September 15 for the CPC series. Meghan is also involved in the start-up of a new student group related to women in politics, so the Newark Branch is proud to have supported her attendance at NCCWSL.

## **Be a friend and keep in touch!**

Look for ongoing changes and updates in AAUW Delaware as we learn to use social networking programs and tools. State president Nadyne Rosin and webmaster Tom Basin have created a Facebook page for AAUW-Delaware. As

of early October, we have 34 friends on this page. Check it out and suggest the page to friends. This is an interesting way to converse about issues of interest to AAUW DE and promote the organization.

## ***Learn About Our Organization ...***

AAUW Delaware is now participating in the AAUW Member Showcase by contributing to the AAUW online calendar.

Please visit

[https://svc.aauw.org/calendar/index\\_view.cfm](https://svc.aauw.org/calendar/index_view.cfm)

Select "Branch/State calendar" from the menu bar and check out the listings for Delaware events. Because we are a small state, all branch events will be listed on the Delaware state calendar. Please contact president Nadyne Rosin with your branch meeting and event dates!

**AAUW DELAWARE**

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