



# Vision

CONVENTION  
REGISTRATION  
FORM  
ON  
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Vol. 80, No. 3



## COME TO AAUW OF VIRGINIA'S 80TH CONVENTION

### Breaking Barriers: Women Making History

**Richmond, Virginia**  
**Saturday, April 23, 2005**  
**Hosted by the Richmond**  
**and Bon Air Area Branches**

Virginia will celebrate its 80<sup>th</sup> convention year with the theme "Breaking Barriers: Women Making History." The celebration will take place at The Place, with hotel facilities just a few yards away at the Hilton Garden Inn.

This one-day convention will explore important issues in AAUW and in the world today. Members

of branches whose pioneer efforts have resulted in positive societal change will be honored for their contributions to civil rights, equal rights, and human rights. You won't want to miss it. Come a little early on Friday and take advantage of Friday evening activities: a town hall meeting and a president's reception. And, take your family to the convention. Paramount Kings Dominion amusement park, which is nearby, will be open the Saturday and Sunday of convention weekend.

Meeting Site: The Place, Innsbrook, 4038C Cox Road

Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn, 4050 Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060

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### Nominees Announced State Board Positions 2005 – 2007

The nominating committee is pleased to announce the following candidates for state board positions:

**Secretary**— Mary Sue Nelson: Mary Sue is a member of the Springfield-Annandale Branch and has served as the secretary for AAUW of Virginia for the past year. She has done an excellent job in maintaining communication among the board members as well as relaying information out to the membership. Mary Sue graduated with a bachelor of science degree in business education from James Madison University and has held several offices within her branch. Retired from the Department of the Army, she is active in her community and alumnae organizations.

**Treasurer**—Barbara Ondo: Barbara Ondo, a member of the Woodbridge branch, has held the posi-

tion of vice president for finance on the state board for the past two years. Her financial acumen and organizational skills have been invaluable to AAUW of Virginia. A graduate of Penn State University, Barbara has held several offices within her branch and served for nine years on Prince William County's Commission for Women. She works for Prince William County as an eligibility worker, out stationed at Potomac Hospital.

**Vice President for Membership:** A candidate for vice president for membership has not yet stepped forward. Nominations will be taken from the floor at convention. Please encourage your branch members to consider this position. AAUW of Virginia needs a strong membership VP to lead the growth of our organization. The job description for this position can be found on the state website.

*Rosemary Plum*  
*Nominating Committee Chair*

## AAUW of Virginia Elected Officers

### President

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## District Representatives

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# From the President

## AAUW Getting Respect

The late Rodney Dangerfield caused laughs when he used to say, "I don't get no respect." Over the past century, women have frequently been laughed at and were not respected when they tried to gain their rights. But not any more. At Pro-Choice Lobby Day in Richmond on February 3, AAUW members rose in the gallery of the Senate and the House of Delegates to be recognized by the leadership of the General Assembly. With our largest attendance of members in recent years, we came out to join with the Pro-Choice Coalition to have our voices heard. We felt energized by the experience. Respect—energy—friendship—all part of the synergistic affect of being together to achieve with common goals. Our hard won rights are being threatened every day. What we as members do today impacts our legacy for women and girls in the future.

Getting our house in order for self respect is another part of the AAUW experience. Members across the state have expressed their views that our Association must remain a member of the

## AAUW Adopts National Media Award

The AAUW Board of Directors, at its January 28–30 meeting, approved the creation of an AAUW National Media Award. A predecessor to this award, the AAUW Metropolitan Area Mass Media Award, had been presented to media entities in the national capital area in recognition of

International Federation of University Women.

To do so, we must urge the IFUW to streamline its activities to accomplish the core of its existence within an affordable budget for the affiliate members. Our presence as a non-governmental

organization in the United Nations is important for respect for women's rights and achieving equity worldwide. Without IFUW, who would speak for women in the United Nations?

Your input is so important. Go to the website [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) under the member's corner on the left side of the page to express your views on IFUW. Give your feedback on the IFUW Task Force Survey Results. Let your voice be heard.

## Nancy Joyner



their outstanding contribution to the public, especially contributions that reflected the spirit of AAUW's mission and/or served children and the larger community. The Mass Media Committee of AAUW branches in the greater Washington, D.C. area sponsored the award for 50 years.

The first AAUW National Media Award will be presented at the 2005 Convention. The recipient's name will be posted as soon as possible.

## Esther Mabry Appointed to Association Committee

Esther Mabry, AAUW VA international relations chair, has been selected by the Association board to serve on the AAUW International Affairs Committee, serving a partial term until June 30.

## Give a Grad A Gift of AAUW Membership

Graduation time is fast approaching. AAUW members can give a recent grad—a friend, daughter, granddaughter, or niece—a free one-year AAUW membership. At no cost to you or her!

It is up to you to share with her to the power that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of more than 100,000 members who believe in and advance equity and education for women and girls.

You can expand her networking opportunities through career development opportunities and community action projects. She will experience the rewards of working with and learning from successful AAUW mentors thanks to your gift of membership. She will be kept up-to-date on the events and people that affect her life as she receives *AAUW in Action*, *AAUW Outlook*, *Get the Facts* alerts, and more.

Remember, only members can take advantage of this offer. Your grad will receive a one-year member-at-large membership—a \$43 value. She can join a branch at any time but she will be responsible for paying branch and state dues.

Complete the online membership application now at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). Click on “Member Advantages” then select “Give a Grad a Gift” from the left column. If you have questions or would like help with the online form, please contact your branch membership vice president or HelenRuth Burch at 540/772-2760 in the evening or [hurburch@aol.com](mailto:hurburch@aol.com).

*HelenRuth Burch*  
Vice President for Membership and Branch Development

## In Memoriam

We are sorry to hear that Chris Hernandez Hunter died January 17, 2005, in Fort Worth, Texas. Chris served as president of AAUW of Virginia from 1984-86 and, prior to that time, as president of the Virginia Beach Branch.

A memorial service was held Saturday, January 22, in Virginia Beach.

## A Message from Our Regional Director

Ann Terry

Dear SAR Friends:

This is truly one of the most exciting times I have experienced in my AAUW leadership career.

With the arrival of Pat Nichols as the interim executive director for AAUW, your Association board and staff have undertaken an examination of how we do business, how we communicate, how we make the best use of our physical and personnel resources, and how we can work together to make AAUW a viable organization not only to long-time members but also to those new members we want to have join us.

With Pat's leadership and “push,” the board and staff have moved quickly to establish 120-day goals that we plan to meet.

**Goal 1** is to reduce net overhead costs. Staff teams are reallocating space in the AAUW building, undergoing extensive records management that will free up storage space, and analyzing overhead costs and potential revenue sources.

**Goal 2** is to develop open and consistent communication among board members and between the board and the senior management team. Already we have a wonderful new e-mail publication, *EdEqChange*, which is produced every two weeks and gives all the leadership team a heads-up on what's happening, what projects are underway, general announcements, and other timely information. The newsletter is sent to board members, committee chairs, and state presidents, all in an effort to make sure your volunteer leaders have the information they need to do their jobs efficiently and effectively.

It is important to note that all of this work is being conducted while still continuing all the other on-going activities of both volunteer leaders and staff—board meetings and conference calls, task force work assignments, planning for national convention in June, committee tasks, and a multitude of other tasks.

Due to my desire to attend my 35<sup>th</sup> college reunion, I will not be able to join you at your state convention this year, but I sincerely hope that I will see you in Washington in June for the Association's biennial convention. There are many issues that we need members there to talk about, and we want the voices of SAR members to be heard. So please make every effort to be a part of your state's delegation to D.C.

As you meet within your state to celebrate your successes and support your leaders, take a moment to consider the work of your Association leaders. We, too, have AAUW's mission as the over-riding focus to our challenges and our work. Together we can insure the future of AAUW because *Equity is still an issue*.

*Ann Scott Terry*  
South Atlantic Regional Director  
803/789-6129 [annterry@yahoo.com](mailto:annterry@yahoo.com)



# A Letter to the Editor

Anna Margaret Rhodes  
1257 N. Inlynnview Road  
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454  
January 4, 2005

Dear Ms. Bacher:

The most recent (winter 2004/05) issue of *Virginia Vision* contained two front page articles upon which I wish to comment. First, the article by Marilyn Silvey, the co-vice president for public policy, really got my dander up. I have been a member of AAUW since 1956, in Roanoke, Charlottesville, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach, having held numerous offices, both at the branch and division levels. Ms. Silvey's article is nothing more than an extreme left-wing swipe at most of our Congresspersons and members of our state legislature. Her comments clearly do not represent my views and, in fact, are diametrically opposed to everything I believe.

While her article may, but I hope not, reflect the current thinking of our division, the next article concerning "Difficult Times, Difficult Decisions" by the regional director, Ann Terry, is quite revealing when she comments upon our declining membership. Many of my past AAUW friends have dropped out during the past few years precisely because of the continued drift of the organization to the extreme left-wing of American politics and thinking. When I joined the AAUW it was required that one be a graduate of an approved University or College, and among the purposes of the organization was to aid the advancement of women and the EFP. While they may still be purposes, though diluted in my opinion, I feel that those purposes have become secondary to part of the mission statement which is "to foster positive societal change."

I have remained a member with the hope that I could have some influence, however, when I read what is being advanced as our purposes I fear I may have waited too long. I truly do not want to terminate my membership after 49 years, but I clearly understand why we are experiencing declining membership. Hopefully, others will understand also and bring about needed changes in the philosophy of AAUW.

Yours truly,

Anna Margaret Rhodes

# A Response

Ms. Rhodes is indeed correct that AAUW's goal is "to aid the advancement of women." But one way our organization has always sought to do this is through "fostering positive societal change."

Women in the United States too often lag behind men in such things as health care, opportunities at universities, access to job training programs, and corporate wages. Most widespread inequities are not going to be corrected except by legislation at both the federal and state levels.

As cited in the AAUW Public Policy Program for 2003–2005, we seek "a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity and diversity...economic self-sufficiency for all women...equality, individual rights and social justice for a diverse society." Within this framework, our members determine specific priorities in such areas as education, reproductive choice, tax and budget, civil rights, and welfare reform by filling out the *Every Member Survey* and communicating directly with AAUW public policy officers.

We only support issues, not candidates. But to have a concise way to inform AAUW members how legislators vote on "our" issues, the Association public policy staff tracks the votes on certain key bills and publicizes the results to our members. In my *Vision* article, I cited the voting records on these issues, as presented on the AAUW website, of the losing presidential candidate and of all our state's congressional representatives as evidence that we need to work harder to get AAUW's positions across to our current elected officials.

Ms. Rhodes and other AAUW members who want to influence our organization's federal public policy program need to become involved now because a new program for 2005–2007 will be presented, discussed, and adopted this June at our national convention in Washington, D.C. It is being drafted by the Association's public policy committee, headed by the elected chair of the public policy committee, Elaine Hughes, who is reachable at [Hughes@um.montevallo.edu](mailto:Hughes@um.montevallo.edu). The new program will be a revision of the current one, and anyone wishing a copy of that can contact me at [MarilynSilvey@comcast.net](mailto:MarilynSilvey@comcast.net) or 703/860-5141.

Anyone wishing to give an opinion on any aspect of our state public policy program should contact me and co-chair Becki Bronson ([Beckiaauw@hotmail.com](mailto:Beckiaauw@hotmail.com), 540/723-0342). Becki and I are also currently putting together a list of our state public policy priorities for 2005–2007 to be voted on at our state convention in Richmond on April 23 and we seek ideas from all members for it.

Always remember that our organization is "bottoms up"—not top down—and our members direct our national public policy staff and our own state board on what issues to pursue and what our priorities are. Each member has an opportunity to

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speak out, and I hope that Ms. Rhodes and every member in Virginia will take advantage of that opportunity.

One final note. It has been pointed out to me that, in my previous article, using the old adage about “how to eat an elephant”—meaning that small steps are required to tackle any large project—was a bad idea. It never occurred to me that this might be interpreted as a partisan attack, and I deeply regret that some thought I meant the elephant as a political symbol and thus was attacking the Republican Party.

*Marilyn Silvey*

*Co-Vice President for State/Federal Public Policy*

## Pro-Choice Lobby Day Neither Snow Nor Rain...

Thank you to everyone who braved the dicey weather on February 3 and came to Richmond to lobby state legislators on issues important to AAUW. Face time is important, and AAUW was well represented at the General Assembly. We were introduced from the floor in both the House of Delegates and the Senate. In the House, AAUW was recognized at the top of the pro-choice organizations participating in Pro-Choice Lobby Day, while in the Senate, Russ Potts (R-27 Winchester) mentioned that he has had the pleasure of introducing AAUW at many of its Lobby Days.

The Pro-Choice Coalition turned out over a hundred people to lobby against the threats to choice currently sidetracking our legislators away from the important work of ensuring that our children are well educated, our senior citizens are cared for, and our roads are safe, among the myriad other issues they must consider in this shortened 45-day session.

After attending the Pro-Choice Breakfast, we met with Delegate Ken Plum (D-36 Reston), who briefed us on what he thought were key issues before the legislature this session. He also addressed the many thoughtful questions presented by our members. Next, former university administrator Senator Mamie Locke (D-2 Hampton) spoke on her bill to expand the Neighborhood Assistance Act, which provides tax credits for college scholarships for at-risk youth. One particular program currently benefited by this legislation saw the SOL scores for its participants rise 30 percent in just two years.

After legislator presentations, AAUW planned its lobbying strategy for the rest of the morning, choosing to concentrate on pending education measures. AAUW members visited legislators' offices to request help on several fronts: defeating the backdoor voucher program proposed in HB 1942, the so-called CARE scholarship; supporting a retail sales tax holiday during back-to-school shopping through HB 1534, the Retail Sales and Use Tax Exemption; and strengthening nursing education and expediting certification of nurses already certified in other states.

*Rebecca Bronson*

*Co-Vice President for State/Federal Public Policy*

## Women's Leadership Conference

Could you survive in poverty? Do you know which churches have the best rummage sales? Do you know how to get someone out of jail? Do you know how to live without electricity and a phone? Could you move all of your belongings and family in half a day?

This past July, AAUW of Virginia held its annual Women's Leadership Conference at Piedmont Community College in Charlottesville. In keeping with our focus on *Children at Risk*, keynote speaker Nancy Lee spoke to branch members on the topic, “Children, Poverty, and Education.” Lee cited information obtained through her recent doctoral dissertation research and from the text *A Framework for Understanding Poverty* by Ruby Payne.

As an introduction, conference participants took a quiz addressing the hidden rules within economic classes. The quiz not only confirmed that AAUW members are most often “middle class” but also informed us of how little we know of the other classes, poverty and extreme wealth. Lee's message was this: though many of us may have been situationally poor at times in our lives, to truly empathize and begin to understand true generational poverty and its implications we must gain a more comprehensive knowledge of the hidden rules within the classes.

What does this information, the hidden rules, mean to children at risk and public education? According to Lee, one of the reasons it is getting more and more difficult to conduct school as we have in the past is that the students who bring middle-class culture with them are decreasing in numbers, and the students who bring the poverty culture with them are increasing in numbers. As in any demographic switch, the prevailing rules and policies eventually give way to the group with the largest numbers. In order to better serve all students, we must fundamentally rethink the notions we have traditionally assigned to relationships and achievement.

Being poor is rarely about a lack of intelligence or ability. An education is the key to getting out of, and staying out of, generational poverty. Individuals lift themselves out of poverty for one of four reasons: having a goal or vision of something they want to be or have; being in a situation that is so painful that anything would be better; knowing someone who “sponsors” them such as an educator or mentor; or having a specific talent or ability that provides an opportunity for them. Therefore, to truly have a positive influence on children at risk, we must work to provide opportunities and enhance the likelihood that children in poverty have the chance to “get out” through our mentorship, education, and the encouragement to pursue their dreams and talents.

Many individuals stay in poverty because they don't know there is a choice; even those who know they have a choice may have no one to teach them hidden rules or provide resources. Schools are virtually the only places where students can learn the choices and rules of the middle class. Therefore, volunteerism is the best way for AAUW to fulfill its initiative to positively impact the situation of children at risk.

*Amy Angelo, Vice President for Program*

## Arlington Awards Luncheon and Global Issues

In May, the Arlington Branch ended its 2003-2004 year with its traditional Spring Awards Luncheon. The Educator of the Year Award was given to Carrie Strasburger, science teacher at Williamsburg Middle School. Carrie was also the Virginia AAUW Educator of the Year. The Elizabeth Campbell Award for the Advancement of the Arts in Arlington was presented to the Washington Shakespeare Company. The Community Theatre Award for the Advancement of the Arts, a new award, was presented to The Arlington Players (TAP) who have been active in Arlington for over 50 years. The award winner for Notable Achievement for the Arts was presented to our own member, Diane Smith, for her work on the Arlington Arts Center Board.

Our program theme for the current year is *Global Issues Are Women's Issues*. The series started off with a joint meeting of the Northern District branches in October. Leslie R. Wolfe, president of the Center for Women Policy Studies located in Washington, D.C., spoke on human trafficking.

Women's health issues was the next topic in our series. In November, Suzanne Martinez, vice president for public policy of Planned Parenthood examined a range of global women's health issues, including AIDS, reproductive rights, and poverty. In particular, she recommends supporting *A Mother's Promise the World Must Keep*, which came out of the Cairo International Conference on Population and Development ten years ago. To provide some local perspective, Nancy Pallesen, the executive director for Arlington's Free Clinic, discussed health issues in Arlington, especially for immigrant women.

In January, the third topic in the branch's series highlighted the complex problems that immigrant women face in a strange county. Jessica Noon, community resource and volunteer coordinator for the Catholic Diocese of Arlington Office of Resettlement, discussed some of the difficulties these women encounter in feeding themselves and their families, finding adequate affordable shelter, coping with language barriers, and obtaining health care. Jessica handed out several case studies that they typically deal with. Nandini Assar, the executive director of the Asian Women's Self-Help Association (ASHA) works with South Asian refugee women. In addition to the problems discussed by Jessica Noon, ASHA frequently deals with domestic violence suffered by immigrant women.

Nancy H. Morgan, President  
703/465-1245 [nhmcc@mindspring.com](mailto:nhmcc@mindspring.com)

## Harrisonburg: Diversity, Direction, Dedication

Harrisonburg AAUW members continue to embrace diversity of means, unwavering direction of goals, and dedication to equity and education for women and girls. We believe the programs, activities, and events of this year promote this philosophy

Our fall season topics ranged from "Women's Mental Health" (speaker Charlotte McNulty, Harrisonburg-Rockingham County Community Services Board) to "Being an Activist Community Member: It's not as Hard as You Think" (speaker Michelle Matioli, Virginia Organizing Project), to the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta, "The Mikado, Red, Hot and Swing" (Ralph MacPhail, Jr., Bridgewater College professor of theater), and as a finale a "Victorian Tea Christmas in England" with the traditional LAF silent basket auction.

We began 2005 at Blue Ridge Community College. The topic was "College Articulation Agreements and Admission Requirements" presented by James Perkins, president of Blue Ridge, followed by Margee Greenfield, Rockingham County Advisor for High School.

The popular Girls Science, Math, and Technology Fair held Saturday, February 26 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at James Madison University includes free parking, free refreshments, four excellent classes, and a wealth of learning! Harrisonburg Branch first sponsored a Girls Science Fair April 28, 1995 at Harrisonburg High School. Rosemarie Palmer has chaired the fair since 1999. During her administration, the number of fair attendees has increased from 100 to last year's spectacular 200.

Our annual breakfast meeting, 10 a.m. Saturday, March 19, will include the timely topic, "How the Media Influence our Lives" as perceived by two expert and experienced professors from the JMU School of Media Arts and Design, Alan Neckowitz and Charles Turner.

The April 16th meeting will be a fun change of pace with a matinee at Wayside Theatre titled, *The Complete History of America—Abridged*.

Our grand finale, with end-of-year awards and honors, will be the annual potluck dinner Monday, May 16. Jennifer Greene, director of the Shenandoah Conservatory Academy, will present the program, "Arts in Education."

Mae Frantz, Co Vice Program for Programs  
540/434-3512 [pgbrownish@aol.com](mailto:pgbrownish@aol.com)

## Blacksburg Area Aids Mathematics Career Day

Susan Anderson, branch member and Career Day Committee chair, reports that Virginia Tech faculty, students, and alumnae joined approximately 250 young women from 16 area sixth-grade classes on Thursday, November 18, 2004 for *Women in Mathematics: Career Day at Virginia Tech*. The Blacksburg Area Branch contributed to this 10th annual event by helping to fund a T-shirt for each of the sixth graders.

Students participated in three sessions: “*Math and Computer Graphics*,” a hands-on activity to investigate computer graphics in such varied fields as science, art, and electronics; “*Explorations of Math and Art through Tessellations*,” enabling students to create their own tessellation designs on the computer; and “*Panel on Career Opportunities in Mathematics*,” that included three Virginia Tech alumnae.

Short survey comments from the participants included the following statements:

On Welcome Session:

“The Mobius strip was amazing. I never knew you could do that with a strip of paper!!!”

“I never knew that math could be so interesting.”

On Career Panel:

“I saw how math can really help in a career.”

“It taught me that there are more fields in math than just teaching.”

On “What did you learn about math today?”

“I learned that math is not just with numbers, but shapes and symbols.”

“Girls can do anything if they set their mind to it. And girls are cool, powerful, and smart!”

Students summarized their experience:

“It inspired me to work harder in math to have a great job.”

“I learned to follow your dreams and never give up.”

*Janice Woodward, President*  
540/951-7375 [jwoodard@vt.edu](mailto:jwoodard@vt.edu)

## Book Sale Helps McLean Boost Others

Last September the McLean Area Branch held its 34th Annual Used Book Sale. Each year, the collection of used books begins in May, members sort books throughout the summer, and in mid-September we hold a three-day marathon to try to sell as many used books as possible. This past year our gross income was over \$35,000 and we were able to contribute \$27,000 to the

AAUW Educational Foundation, Leadership Training Institute, and Legal Advocacy Fund. We also funded three local scholarships for women returning to college. Our branch has established a working relationship with a local branch of the Filipino charitable group called “Feed the Hungry.” This organization takes most of the leftover used books from our sale and sends them to the Philippines for distribution in schools and libraries around the country. Recently our branch heard from the recipient of the McLean Area Branch International Fellowship, Mikaela Duncombe, who is from the Bahamas, is working on a master’s program in Information Systems Technology at George Washington University. She was an inspiring speaker and reminded us of the importance of Educational Foundation support.

Our branch also has a number of special interest groups. We have two groups that read and discuss the Great Decisions series of topics (published by the Foreign Policy Association); another group meets monthly to discuss one current events topic decided ahead of time; the Morning Literature Group meets monthly to discuss a book and once a year has an author luncheon at which a local author talks about a recent book he or she has published; and one bridge group meets monthly.

The branch is looking forward to having a lot of members work at the 2005 AAUW Convention in Washington this June. We hope to see many of our Virginia colleagues there at the convention—as well as at the state convention in the Richmond area in April.

*Bettie F. Clark, Co-President*  
703/821-1280 [clarkbf@hers.com](mailto:clarkbf@hers.com)

## Newport News Begins with Jigsaw Genealogy

We started the year with our Hurricane Isabel-delayed program on Jigsaw Genealogy with genealogist Mary Beth Dalton who gave examples, using her own family history, of tracking down ancestors. In October, the Hampton Roads District meeting featured Ned McCabe, president of Portsmouth Reads, who spoke on how the Portsmouth community uses their reading program for children at risk and their parents to improve their reading ability and enjoyment. We followed that with a presentation and interactive activities centered on understanding the needs and challenges of the United Nations led by member Alice Smith who is active in the United Nations Association –USA, Virginia Peninsula Chapter. This thought-provoking activity led us to a better appreciation of the difficulties facing a cross-cultural organization. We began the New Year with a

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# MORE VIRGINIA BRANCHES in ACTION

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docent tour of the Peninsula Fine Arts Center exhibit on Mali. Upcoming programs include the Hampton Roads District lunch in February featuring Amy Howard, an EF fellow at William and Mary, currently employed by the Bonner Center for Civic Engagement at the University of Richmond; and in March, a program by former branch member (now in a Maryland branch) Roberta Frazier on the Open World Leadership Exchange program.

Our branch thanks Neola Waller for her concerted effort to clarify with the Association that the Newport News Branch Research and Projects grant, begun in the early 1990s, was completed at the \$25,000 level. The Association increased the funding requirement to \$35,000 for branches initiating R&P funding drives this year.

Our fundraising effort for EF comprised several small activities. Carolyn Hughes, EF chair, arranged through a local Weekenders fashion consultant for 15 percent of proceeds from certain sales to go to EF. Additionally, we solicited contributions from members. Judi Harness taught a boa-knitting class with profits from the lessons going to LAF plus we continued our used book sales to members.

Our branch continued to collect donations for the Transitions Shelter (for battered women and children). A member takes the items we bring to each meeting to the shelter.

*Dana J. Dunham, President*  
757-868-4102 [edunham@erols.com](mailto:edunham@erols.com)

## Springfield-Annandale Stresses Civics

This has been a busy year for the Springfield-Annandale Branch. In the fall, our public policy chairs, Karen Flann and Ruth Thorpe, organized a number of successful voter-registration drives at local school events as well as at area supermarkets. In addition, Karen and Ruth have started to visit the government classes of the Fairfax County high schools in our area to stress the importance of registering to vote.

We have continued and developed our award program in the four high schools in the Springfield/Annandale area, stressing our interest in the students who have involved themselves in improving the quality of life for all members of the school community. Although their academic achievement should be satisfactory, the caring attitude and public-spirited awareness shown by these students is more important to us.

On March 19, for the fourth year, we will be holding a spring fundraiser, but instead of a fashion show, Kate Campbell Stevenson will be performing dramatic characterizations of well-known women. As in the past, there will be a luncheon and a silent auction.

This year, the branch is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A special celebration is planned for September and our historians are hard at work preparing a display. Branch member Lois Pierce has already celebrated fifty years in AAUW. Congratulations, Lois!

*Helen Cassidy, President*  
703/671-0954 [HMCassidy@aol.com](mailto:HMCassidy@aol.com)

## Virginia Beach: Tolerance, Nonviolence, and Fair Trade

Our membership is close to 70 this year. We have had a number of successful programs focusing on tolerance, nonviolence, and fair trade. We are supporting a local "Suited for Success Project" with gently used professional clothing. At Christmastime several of our members provided a party for members of a local women's shelter. The "Pennies for Prescriptions" drive is in its second year. This campaign is our collaborative effort with social services to assist one-time working poor mothers with assistance for children's medications. Some of our members volunteered with the annual Hampton Roads Caregivers' Conference in the fall. Our members assisted with a career day for Senior Girl Scouts. This day focused on job search skills, resume writing, and non-traditional careers. More than 15 community college students have cooperated with us on projects and our members will host an exhibit during Women's Advocacy Day at Tidewater Community College in March. The branch is also pleased to report our identification as a partner in the ten year anniversary celebration booklet for the Tidewater Community College Women's Center. During the next academic year we will support the new STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) grant at TCC by involving members as mentors.

Our newsletter editor this year is a student who received a mentorship grant designed to foster her leadership and advocacy skills. The Junior League provided the branch with a small grant to support our work with girls. We used the funds to celebrate the lives of inspiring African American, Native American and Asian American women through posters and teaching kits that will become a permanent part of the resource center for Girl Scouts. This year's board of directors wrote a measurable strategic plan with a focus entitled "something for everyone." Members seem more engaged when asked to participate in short "doable" projects. Our Dining Group continues to be a favorite, attending the Boston Pops at Christmas brought smiles to many, and the EF fundraiser "Spitfire Grill" at the Little Theatre was a big success. We continue to maintain two active book groups and work to keep our members up to date on public policy issues.

*Chris Medlin, President*  
757/822-7336 [emedlin@tcc.edu](mailto:emedlin@tcc.edu)

**AAUW of Virginia 2005 Convention**  
**BREAKING BARRIERS: WOMEN MAKING HISTORY**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2005**  
With Pre-convention Activities Friday, April 22

**Convention Agenda**

**State Board Meeting**

Friday, April 22: 2 – 5 p.m. – The Place

**Convention Registration**

Friday, April 22: 6 – 8 p.m. – The Place

Saturday, April 23: 8 – 9 a.m. – The Place

**Friday Evening Activities**

7–8 p.m. Town Hall Meeting at The Place.  
“Hot Button Issues in AAUW”

8–9 p.m. President’s Open House at the Hilton Garden Inn

**Saturday Activities**

9– 9:15 a.m. Welcome and Girl Scout Color Guard  
– Nancy D. Joyner, President, AAUW of Virginia

9:15 – 11:30 a.m. Opening Session And Business Meeting

11:30 a.m. –noon. Keynote Address  
The Honorable Mamie Locke, Senator, Commonwealth of Virginia

Noon–12:30 p.m. District Meetings; Former State Presidents Meeting

12:30–2 p.m. Luncheon

- Power Point presentation of branches’ “Points of Pride” by Amy Angelo, Vice President for Program
- Announcement of Educator of the Year Award and Education Advocate of the Year Award – Gail Derrick, State EF Chair
- “Breaking Barriers” Award–Recognition of outstanding branch members making history through positive societal change in civil rights, equal rights, and human rights – Nancy D. Joyner, President

2:15 p.m. – 3 p.m. Concurrent Workshops

- Breaking Barriers Through Public Policy — Public Policy Co-VP Rebecca Bronson, AAUW VA Lobbyist Rosemary Plum, and Public Policy Co-VP Marilyn Silvey
- No Barriers to Membership Workshop—VP for Program Amy Angelo and VP for Membership and Branch Development HelenRuth Burch
- The Whos, Whats, Whys of the Educational Foundation and the Legal Advocacy Fund — Representative from AAUW Educational Foundation (to be announced)
- No Child Left Behind: What it Really Means for Children at Risk—(speaker to be announced)

3:15 p.m. – 4 p.m. Concurrent Workshops

Repeat of 2:15 p.m. workshops

4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Evaluation, door Prizes, Closing Session

# AAUW of Virginia 2004/2005 Calendar

## March

1	Postmark Deadline for Branch Recognition Applications to Joyner	Branch Presidents
3	Vision Mailed	Bacher
14	Board Reports for Convention Program Book Due to Joyner	VA Board
14	Convention Program POINTS OF PRIDE Due to Joyner	Branch Presidents
20	Delegate List to Convention Credentials Chair	Branch Presidents
25	Convention Registration Deadline	AAUW of VA Members

## April

22	Spring Board Mtg at Glen Allen	VA Board
23	<b>AAUW of VA One-Day Convention in Glen Allen (Richmond area)</b>	<b>EVERYONE</b>

## May

5/10	Counterpart Mailing to State President (Joyner)	VA Board
5/14	Mailing to VA Board re Summer Board Mtg	Joyner
5/14	Mailing to Branch Presidents	Joyner
5/15	Vision Articles to Bacher— <b>Board:</b> Angelo, Burch, Ondo, Wimmer; <b>Branches:</b> Fredericksburg, Norfolk, Fairfax City, Mt Vernon, Vienna Area, Norton-Wise, Smith Mountain, Suffolk; <b>District:</b> Southwest	
5/19	Capitol Hill Lobby Day, Washington, DC	AAUW of VA Members

## June

1	Branch Officers Roster Due to Association & State President	Branch Presidents
16	Vision Mailed	Bacher
24	Summer Leaders Meeting, AAUW of VA Prior to Convention	VA Board / Branch Presidents
24	Summer Board Meeting VA Board	VA Board
	<b>24-27 AAUW ASSOCIATION CONVENTION, Washington, DC</b>	<b>EVERYONE!</b>

## July

1	Branch Dues Reports Due to Association and State Treasurer	Branch Treasurers
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## “Breaking Barriers”

(Continued from page 1)

### For reservations:

Call toll free 1/877 STAY HGI (1 877/782- 9444). Or, register online at [www.hiltongardeninn.com](http://www.hiltongardeninn.com). Ask for the American Association of University Women rate: \$78 per night (single or double) plus 13 percent tax. A continental breakfast is included in the room price. Every room has high speed Internet, a coffee maker, microwave, and refrigerator. Check in is 3 p.m., checkout is noon.

Please make your reservation by March 30 to insure the convention rate.

### Directions:

From I-64: Take exit 178 B onto route 250 E (West Broad street);

turn left at 2<sup>nd</sup> light onto Cox Road; stay in left lane and make an immediate left into Innsbrook Shoppes; hotel is directly ahead. The Place, where the meetings will be held, is only 40 yards from the hotel.

From I-295, take exit 51 B Nuckles Road South. At the second light, make a right onto Cox Road. Follow Cox Road to entrance of Innsbrook Shoppes, turn right, hotel is directly ahead.



**AAUW Member HELPLINE:**

800/821-4364  
202/785-7798 (Metropolitan Washington, DC)  
202/785-7777 (TDD number)

**e-mail:** [helpline@aauw.org](mailto:helpline@aauw.org)

**AAUW website:**

<http://www.aauw.org>

**AAUW Congressional Action Line:**

202/785-7786

**VA AAUW Website:**

<http://www.aauwofva.org>

**VA Legislators Action Line:**

800/889-0229

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, life-long education, and positive societal change.

The AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

In principle and in 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.

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