



# THE MARYLANDER

AAUW Maryland Newsletter

## AAUW's Mission

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

VOLUME 78, No. 4

<http://www.aauwmd.org>

SPRING 2011

## AAUW Maryland Convention: Maryland Health Care Issues April 30—May 1, 2011



### Sheraton Washington North Hotel Beltville, Maryland

There is health care for individuals and for our Association. What does that mean? Come to the Spring Convention to find out.

What do you know about the health care legislation and what do you want to know? We will hear from Joanne Grossi, Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for Region III, who will speak to us about this and answer your questions and concerns about how you will be affected. Hearing differing opinions and "spun facts" from both sides of the aisle can cause confusion and doubt. We need to know the actual facts. Be prepared with your questions.

Want to know what is happening to ensure proper health care in Maryland? Can we have health care for all? Dr. Beilenson, Health Officer of Howard County, will speak about that, as well as what Howard County is doing under the title of *Healthy Howard*.

What happens when you or others become sick and have to take off work? What if children become sick and need mom or dad to care for them? Do all workers have paid sick leave? What happens if they don't? Anne Hedgepeth of AAUW will talk to us about that, referencing the research done by the Association.

That takes care of individual health care. But, our Association needs care to thrive, also. Bridgette Behling of the Association will talk to us about College and University Partners and what we can do to attract more of them. We have a large state with a large number of institutions of higher learning, but few have joined AAUW Maryland. Why not? They are part of our life's blood to keep us vibrant.

We will be holding the National Convention in Washington, DC, June 16 - 19. **We, not they.** We remain a strong group by working together. If we don't, we will become weak. Christy Jones of the Association will talk to us about how plans are coming along for the

convention and what we can do to help to make it a success.

### Agenda

#### Friday, April 29

6:30 Welcome Dinner at hotel

#### Saturday, April 30

9:00 Registration/Continental breakfast

9:30 Welcome

9:35 Joanne Grossi, Regional Director of Health and Human Services, Region III

10:20 Break

10:30 Business meeting

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Anne Hedgepeth, AAUW, AAUW Paid Sick Leave Research

1:30 Bridgette Behling, AAUW, College/University Issues

2:00 Peter Beilenson, Health Officer of Howard County Maryland

2:45 Christy Jones, AAUW, Association Update

3:30 Adjourn

6:30 AAUW Maryland Banquet--Speaker will be a Fund Recipient

#### Sunday, May 1

9:00 STEM STARS Celebration Breakfast

10:00 Installation of Officers

10:30 Claudia Richards: Town Hall Meeting and Sharing of Success Stories by Branches

11:30 Adjourn

For \$99 group rate contact the hotel (301-937-4422) by March 30.

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## 2011 Convention Speakers

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### Peter L. Beilenson, M.D., M.P.H.

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Peter L. Beilenson, M.D., M.P.H., currently serves as Health Officer of Howard County, Maryland. Dr. Beilenson brings 18 years of experience in public health leadership, having previously served as the Baltimore City Health Commissioner under the administrations of mayors Kurt Schmoke and Martin J. O'Malley.

Dr. Beilenson received his undergraduate degree from Harvard College, Medical Doctorate from Emory University School of Medicine, and Masters in Public Health from the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health.

During his tenure in Baltimore City, Dr. Beilenson's vision led to expanded drug treatment programs in Baltimore, improved immunization compliance, a wide range of extremely effective lead poisoning prevention initiatives, juvenile violence prevention, and the creation of the state-wide initiative for universal health coverage in Maryland - Health Care for All. In Howard County he has launched the Healthy Howard Access Plan, a first-of-its-kind program

in the country that will provide comprehensive, affordable health and wellness services to the uninsured of Howard County.

Dr. Beilenson has received many national and local awards for his innovative health policies, including being the first-ever recipient of the Milton and Ruth Roemer Award for creativity by a local health official from the American Public Health Association.

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### Joanne Corte Grossi, MIPP

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In April, 2010, Joanne Grossi was appointed by the Obama administration as the Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for Region III, which includes the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. As Regional Director, Ms. Grossi serves as the key representative in this region in working with federal, state, local and tribal officials on a wide range of health and social services issues.

Prior to this appointment, Ms. Grossi served for seven years in the administration of Governor Edward G. Rendell, first as Deputy Secretary of Health and later as the first-ever Director of the Office of Women's Services.

Before joining the Governor's administration, Ms. Grossi served for 13 years as a Senior Technical Advisor in the Bureau of Global Health at the United States Agency for International Development, where she oversaw international health programs in developing countries.

Earlier in her career, Ms. Grossi served on the staffs of Congressman Peter Kostmayer and Ambassador Millicent H. Fenwick at the American Embassy in Rome, Italy.

Ms. Grossi earned her master's degree in International Public Policy at the Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies and completed additional graduate education at the Johns Hopkins University's School of Public Health and Hygiene.

## Convention Speakers from AAUW

### Bridgette Behling



Bridgette Behling recently joined AAUW staff as the Manager, College and University Relationships. In this role she will work with colleges and universities nationwide to connect them to the benefits of membership with AAUW, as well as help AAUW state and branch members connect with their local universities to bring leadership development programs to local college women.

Prior to joining the AAUW team, she worked in student affairs in higher education for over nine years at Marquette University, the Milwaukee School of Engineering and The George Washington University. In her most recent position as the Director for Student Involvement, she advised student government and student elections, planned university-wide events for undergraduate and graduate students, ran freshmen orientation programs, ran the student organization registration process for over 350 student groups, and advised student organizations. While at The George Washington University, she also served as an adjunct professor, teaching an outdoor education course focused on low ropes group facilitation and leadership development. She has been trained by AAUW as a \$tart \$mart salary negotiation workshop facilitator, and is serving her second year on the planning committee for the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.

### Anne Hedgepeth



Anne Hedgepeth is the Government Relations Coordinator at the AAUW. She is a graduate of Davidson College in Davidson, NC, with a degree in economics and is currently completing a Master of Public Policy at George Mason University. Anne spent time working with the Institute for Women's Policy Research and in Davidson's Office of Admission and Financial Aid before landing at AAUW. Anne coordinates the AAUW Action Fund Capitol Hill Lobby Corps program, which organizes local members as volunteer advocates on Capitol Hill weekly. She also handles government relations for AAUW on issues ranging from work/life balance and family friendly workplaces to higher education, career and technical education, workforce training, and welfare.

### Christy Jones

**Christy Jones** is AAUW Director of Membership. She will give us an update on AAUW activities, including the National Convention. We are lucky this year to have the convention in our own back yard. There are many vital issues that need to be addressed to ensure the success of the 2011 National Convention. Christy will talk about what we can do to help, as well as what to expect to see, hear, and be part of at the Convention.

## Message from Joyce and Mary Anne



Joyce Graf, Co-President AAUW MD

(301) 340-3043 <aauwmd@regraf.com>

Mary Anne Williams, Co-President AAUW MD

(301) 662-7837 <treksk8@aol.com>

To your health!! Our best wishes for good physical and financial health to all! AAUW affirms that everyone is entitled to health care that is high quality, affordable, and easily accessible. This position stems from AAUW's 2009-2011 Public Policy Program, which advocates "increased access to quality affordable health care."

Good health means health care security, which is tied to economic security. On average, women earn less than men and use more health care services than men do. Women are less able to afford insurance or care and are more vulnerable to health care insecurity.

In March 2010, President Barack Obama signed legislation that produced a number of substantial changes to the current U.S. health care system. AAUW's three main health care priorities — an end to gender rating, protection of women's reproductive health services, and ensuring coverage of preventative care — were directly addressed in the final legislation, with varying degrees of success and setbacks. Check out the implications of these changes and other health care issues at the state convention in Beltsville, MD.

Good times with friends contribute to good health. Although it may sound boring, the board meeting always

has stimulating discussion about issues of importance to the state. The workshops offer an opportunity to learn of successes from other members and to contribute your own. The keynote speakers are always inspiring. The Sunday program is always relaxed, entertaining and refreshing. If you have never attended a state convention, then this is the year to experience an invigorating dose of AAUW tonic: women united in a common purpose to support education and equity for women and girls.

Volunteer to enhance the health of AAUW's community!! We are still looking for volunteers for the Association Convention in Washington, DC. This year offers added bonuses. The business meeting always offers a glimpse of the issues facing our nation's women as seen from the perspective of other regions. The workshops are a tremendous learning experience. The speakers are fantastic and inspiring. And be sure to take advantage of at least one dinner; enjoy the company, the speaker, and the experience! One special bonus this year is that a volunteer will receive free parking, a \$125 discount on convention registration (volunteers must register), and a \$50 hotel reimbursement, so take advantage of volunteering! Step up and feel proud and strong as part of the local volunteer force.

## AAUW Maryland to Send a Student Leader to NCCWSL

AAUW Maryland voted last year to send one Maryland student to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders — Leadership for Today and Tomorrow to encourage and teach young women in your community to be successful leaders. NCCWSL is held at the University of Maryland, College Park. It is a fast-paced, two-and-a-half day conference that addresses the needs of current and aspiring women student leaders.

A woman student who is a Maryland resident will be chosen through the AAUW NCCWSL needs based scholarship program and will be announced at the state convention.

You can also help student leaders in the following ways:

Pay the registration fee or help with transportation expenses for a college student from your community to attend the conference.

Make a tax-deductible gift to the NCCWSL Fetterhoff Fund (#4355).

## Maryland Officer Nominations 2011-2012

Barbara Fetterhoff and members of the  
Nominating Committee

The AAUW Maryland nominating committee, which includes Barbara Fetterhoff, Patuxent River Branch, chair; Liz West, Frostburg Branch; Elaine Franz, Baltimore Branch; and Pat Crane, Easton Branch, has proposed the following women for state office. These candidates will be voted on during the Business Meeting at the State Convention on April 30.

- Secretary: Jeri Rhodes, Kensington-Rockville Branch
- Treasurer: Judith Tomelden, Anne Arundel County Branch
- Public Policy Co-Vice Presidents: Hollis Paschen, Howard County Branch, and Kay Wendowski, Easton Branch
- Membership Vice President: Jennifer Ingram, Howard County Branch

Continuing officers are Mary Anne Williams (Frederick Branch) and Joyce Graf (Kensington-Rockville Branch), Co-Presidents, and Christine Schmitz (Towson Branch), AAUW Funds Vice President.

**Jennifer Ingram** Jennifer has been membership VP for two years and has graciously agreed to continue. Previously she was membership VP for Howard County Branch and is currently president of the branch. She joined AAUW in 2007 and has lived in Maryland since 1989. She is retired after working for Social Security for 34 years, the last 10 years in marketing. Originally from Bogalusa, Louisiana, she has a degree in Government from the University of Louisiana at Monroe. She has just received approval to form a Maryland-DC (Metro Maryland) on-line branch. Look for details in the next Marylander.

**Hollis Paschen** is an award-winning journalist and career transition specialist certified by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) as an Offender Workforce Development Specialist (OWDS) and Instructor (OWDS-I). She is also a certified career development facilitator and worked as a job readiness instructor and English teacher for the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) in various medium-security prisons for adult males. Currently, Paschen is the Academic Advisor at Lincoln College of Technology where she is also a Skills Assessment Specialist. Additionally, she is an assistant adjunct instructor at Bowie State University. The last 25 years have seen Paschen writing feature stories and columns for publications such as Baltimore Magazine, Prevention Magazine, Men's Health, Warfield's (business magazine), the Columbia Flier and numerous national dailies including the San Diego Union Tribune and the Cleveland Plain Dealer. As an investigative reporter, she has lived in homeless shelters with at-risk families, interviewed victims of incest and domestic violence, tracked down and interviewed newly released but missing schizophrenics for Johns Hopkins' researchers, and engaged in numerous projects requiring the skillful hand of a compassionate observer. She graduated with honors from the University of Maryland with a B.A. in English/Pre-Law and attended graduate school at Johns Hopkins University where she studied Regional and Urban Planning. Hollis is a member of the Howard County branch.

**Jeri Rhodes** is the President of the Kensington-Rockville Branch of AAUW. She has been a member of that branch since she moved to Kensington in 1983. She is serving as a member of the Finance Committee and the Audit Committee for AAUW and is currently serving her first term as Secretary of Maryland AAUW. She is currently employed as the Executive Director of a law firm in Washington DC and has been in the legal administration field for many years.

**Judith Tomelden** is currently Treasurer of Anne Arundel branch.

**Kay Wendowski** has been a member of AAUW since moving to Maryland 15 years ago. She had a rapid rise to power in AAUW, becoming Easton branch president 6 months after arriving. Kay has long been active in County and State politics, focusing on women's issues, especially the Legislative Agenda for Women. Kay trains certified nursing assistants at Chesapeake College and also teaches classes for the local hospital. Kay is currently Public Policy Chair for Easton branch.



## Final Words from Your State Treasurer

Norma Powers  
Treasurer, 2007—2011

My second term as AAUW MD's treasurer is quickly coming to an end. To make it easier for my replacement, I thought a few reminders are in order. First of all, any officer, committee chair or other member entitled to reimbursement for certain AAUW-related expenses must fill out an Expense Voucher. Yes, I know, I've let some of you slide! Some of you just send me an e-mail, tell me what your expenses are and unless I need receipts, and even sometimes when I do need receipts I complete the form for you, wait for your receipts if needed and then reimburse you. Incidentally, receipts are needed for everything but mileage and tolls.

Let's make it easy for our next treasurer. Fill out the Expense Voucher and mail it to your next treasurer.

A copy can be found on our website which you can download and print. It is in Word format.

The next thing of which I want to remind you is the time limit for filing expense vouchers. At the winter board meeting in 2007, a motion was made and passed making it a requirement to file expenses within 30 days of their occurrence. Doing this creates a more timely snapshot of our expenses. Some folks were waiting until near the end of our fiscal year and filing for the entire year. This has not been enforced since some folks were not aware of this requirement. This article serves as a reminder of this requirement, so not knowing about this should no longer be an excuse.

Good luck to my replacement!

## CELEBRATING AND HONORING MARYLAND WOMEN IN STEM

Women, in general, have faced discrimination and opposition to gain recognition in the historically male-dominated fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). However, in spite of barriers, many Maryland women have been firsts and founders in the STEM fields, making lasting contributions and setting examples for other women and girls.

The Maryland Women's Heritage Center, which opened in June, 2010, in downtown Baltimore, is committed to telling the stories of these Maryland women and to "*Add herstory to history to tell our story.*" It is the first state-based women's history museum and leadership center in the nation, and is currently developing a Timeline Exhibit, *Explorations and Discoveries: Maryland Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.*

The Heritage Center has asked Maryland AAUW to participate in this exciting and innovative project. We can be involved by:

- o Identifying specific women to honor
- o Providing photographs, artifacts, memorabilia and resources to make the Timeline interactive and informative
- o Assisting in funding the project

Among the current supporting organizations are Women of Goddard, Maryland Space Business Roundtable, Association of Women in Science, Multinational Development of Women in Technology, the National Science Foundation, Clark School of Engineering, Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab, the Maryland State Department of Education, and Girl Scouts programs to encourage girls to participate in STEM fields.

For more information, visit the website at <http://www.mdwomensheritagecenter.org/>



# AAUW CONVENTION 2011

Breaking through Barriers—Advocating for Change  
June 16–19, 2011

## AAUW Funds Update

**Christine Schmitz**

**AAUW Funds Chair for AAUW Maryland**

Thank you to everyone who has generously donated time and money to the AAUW Funds this past year. Your continued support is appreciated and serves a wide range of great causes. Our total contributions from Maryland members (including LAF contributions) during the 2010 calendar year were \$55,111.32. This is definitely something for which all of us should be proud.

Now, as most of you have heard, we are marching forward with our goal of raising \$20,000 by April 1, 2011, for "The Barbara Fetterhoff Honorary Fund." If we achieve this initial goal, we will be the sponsor of the Women of Distinction Ceremony at the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders in June 2011. Search the following link <http://www.nccwsl.org/Pages/wod.aspx> to see information on the celebrated women who will be honored at this ceremony. We are more

than halfway toward our goal but we need your help now. Your help is urgently needed!!

We would appreciate the support of every Branch to make this initiative a success. You can make contributions payable to AAUW Funds and send to AAUW, 1111 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20036. Mark checks to be deposited to Fund #4355 and put Barbara Fetterhoff Honorary Fund in the explanation line. Contributions can also be made at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). There is a drop-down box for this Fund. Your contributions are tax deductible. Please make every effort to help us reach our goal. This is a great way to thank Barbara Fetterhoff, a member of the Patuxent River branch, for her many, many years of service to AAUW.

## Go Global!

**Eileen Menton**

**VGIF President**

Women Graduates USA and the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund are two organizations with international connections that have active AAUW members from Maryland.

Women Graduates USA (WG) has succeeded AAUW as the U.S. national affiliate of the International Federation of University Women (IFUW). WG is focused primarily on international connections and issues. Last summer, a delegation that included Jean Thompson, Jeri Rhodes, and me, traveled to Mexico City for the Triennial meeting. The next meeting (in 2014) will be in Istanbul, Turkey. Recently, members contributed the funds needed to ensure that Armenia and Cameroon could continue to be members of IFUW. WG's current areas of focus are the ratification of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women by the U.S. Senate, advocacy for access to education for girls, world wide, and awareness of the extent and implications of trafficking of women and girls worldwide. It is an on-line organization, operating through the internet. Go to the website at [www.wg-usa.org](http://www.wg-usa.org) to join.

The Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund (VGIF) is an independent foundation founded in 1969 by members of IFUW to provide small grants to women in developing countries to empower women and girls. Its members have funded more than 350 projects in 72 countries with grants of \$3 – 5,000.

A few examples of the impact of recent grants:

Girls in rural northwest Haiti now attend school rather than travel for hours to the nearest grain mill to process their families crops;

In Brazil, 60 young girls living in poverty who had few opportunities beyond being maids or prostitution are staying in school ;

In Tbilisi, Georgia, where nearly 40 percent of pregnant women experience domestic violence, doctors are identifying those who have suffered from abuse and referring them to the Georgian Women's Center's hotline;

In Fiji, following a series of workshops for rural students and their teachers on science and technology, enrollment by girls at the University of the South Pacific has increased dramatically; and

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 90 women and girls are producing soap and bread to sell locally, and young mothers are able to send their children to school and contribute to their medical expenses.

To learn more and become a member, go to [www.vgif.org](http://www.vgif.org).

## Membership Update

Jennifer Ingram  
Membership Vice President

### The 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sale!

AAUW is celebrating its 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and one way to celebrate is with increased membership. To accomplish this goal, AAUW has established some sales on different parts of the membership issues.

If your branch increased membership by 7% from 2/1/10 to 2/1/11, it will be awarded one free membership for a new member. If the increase was by 13%, the branch will get 2 free memberships. Each branch will be notified about free memberships in April and how to use them via e-mail. Note the "free" part is for national membership, not state membership. The branch must decide whether to pay the state dues and waive the branch dues. This is similar to the free memberships earned through Shape the Future membership campaigns.

Another feature of the 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sale is that people in graduate school have national membership dues of \$18.81 for this year. State and branch dues are not impacted. Also, colleges and universities can become partners for \$130 for a year, regardless of the size of the institution, so encourage your local C/Us to join and get free e-student affiliate membership for all undergraduates at the school, in addition to other benefits. Remember dues are payable by June 30, 2011, for membership through June 2012.

Branch members who recruit at least one new member will have their names entered into a drawing for two prizes. One drawing will be held at the 2011 National Convention in Washington, D.C., and the other will be held in November 2011, at the end of the campaign. Winners of the first drawing are not eligible to win in the second drawing. Those entered in the drawings are eligible to win one of 130 FREE AAUW memberships.

So, the moral of the story is to continue your recruitment efforts – you are a winner no matter what.

### Sponsor a Mock-SAT Exam!

Does your branch want to host a relatively easy educational project and fundraiser? Try a mock-SAT exam and follow-up strategy session. AAUW Howard County just hosted its second one this year and netted over \$700, and the students and parents really appreciated our efforts.

How did we do this? AAUW has a partnership with The Princeton Review (TPR), a national company that holds classes in various college entrance exams and how to succeed at them. Howard County contacted TPR about conducting the mock-SAT exam to determine the costs, rules, what was needed, etc. We found that TPR does not charge for administering the mock exams or the follow-up strategy session. Six-week advance notice is needed, and TPR gave us a list of what we would need for the room and what we need to tell the students. We also learned that they administer the mock ACT, GRE and other graduate school entrance exams.

This year Howard County was able to arrange for free space for the mock exam and follow-up session, and we had 48 students attend at \$15 each. Two more paid but did not come, so that was \$750 less expenses for refreshments. The most efforts went to registration, which was done in advance via phone and e-mail, and publicity – sending information to schools local papers, websites and organizations. If you decide not to charge for the event, TPR can handle registration.

Howard County recommends that your branch consider doing this event, and if you would like to get advice on it, contact me at [jennifer Ingram@comcast.net](mailto:jennifer Ingram@comcast.net).

## Used Book Sales: Read a Good Book and Support AAUW's Mission

### AAUW Gaithersburg Branch

April 7, 8, 9, 2011  
9 to 8, Thursday and Friday, 10 to 2 Saturday (Bag Day)  
Rosborough Center, Asbury Methodist Village  
Lost Knife and Odendhal Roads, Montgomery Village

### AAUW Hagerstown Branch

April 14, 15, 16, 2011  
10 to 8, Thursday and Friday, 9 to 3 Saturday (1/2 Price)  
The ARC of Washington County  
820 Florida Avenue, Hagerstown

**AAUW Anne Arundel County Branch:** Annual book sale is held usually the first weekend in November. Check the branch website for up-to-date information starting in July. [aauwmd-annearundelcountybranch.org](http://aauwmd-annearundelcountybranch.org)



## Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women Update

The Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) is a statewide coalition of women's groups and individuals formed to provide a non-partisan, independent, voice for Maryland women and families. The group advocates for progressive legislation and policy that promote and protect the well-being of Maryland women and their families and provide them opportunities to develop their full potential.

AAUW Maryland supports MLAW and the issues that they have selected for the MLAW Legislative Agenda 2011.

These include:

- Sex Crimes – Definitions
- Family Responsibilities Discrimination

- Human Trafficking Victims Support Act
- Equity in the Juvenile Justice System
- Lorraine Sheehan Health and Community Services Act
- Limiting Employer Use of Credit Reports
- Harriet Tubman in Statuary Hall
- First Degree Assault – Strangulation
- Permanency Hearings for Children

For bill tracking and more information about the 13 bills that MLAW supports, visit online at <http://www.mdlegagenda4women.org/2011agenda.htm>

## AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund Supports Class Action Against Wal-Mart

Reported by  
Janet Crampton

Can employees band together to sue a company because company culture maintains a hostile work environment? Women who have worked for Wal-Mart insist that is their right in their suit, *Dukes v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.*

AAUW supports the six plaintiffs, who want their cases expanded to a class action suit against Wal-Mart for systematic sex discrimination against all the company's female employees. The class would be the 1.6 million women who are current or former Wal-Mart and Sam's Club employees. In January AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund awarded \$20,000 in financial support and has also filed an amicus brief with the U.S. Supreme Court, who will hear the case March 29.

In 2001 the plaintiffs were granted class certification, which Wal-Mart appealed. Class certification was granted at further court levels. Wal-Mart appealed each certifica-

tion, finally appealing to the U.S. Supreme Court. The court will decide if all these employees can sue as a class or if each must sue on her own time and money. (Comment: After 10 years of litigation, only legal technicalities have been addressed. The merits of plaintiffs' claims have yet to be heard.)

"AAUW strongly believes that these women's voices should be heard and that they should be able to stand together to fight for their families' economic well-being. Class action cases also have a much stronger deterrent effect, showing the business community that discrimination is not good for the bottom line," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE, in an AAUW press release describing AAUW case support ([http://aauw.org/media/pressreleases/LAFwalmart\\_012111.cfm](http://aauw.org/media/pressreleases/LAFwalmart_012111.cfm)). For details about the case, visit <http://www.walmartclass.com/>.

## AAUW Honored with *Cy Pres* Award

AAUW received \$23,500 in February because it breaks through barriers to women's equity. AAUW is one of seven charitable organizations advancing workers' rights and equity selected for a cy pres award from the settlement of the Novartis gender discrimination case.

The case, *Velez v. Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation*, started in 2004 and went to trial in 2010. The jury found for the class of 5600 female sales representatives (6200 after settlement) who claimed pay, promotion and

pregnancy discrimination. Final settlement in November 2010 was \$175 million and a commitment by Novartis to change how it treats its employees. Of the settlement, \$164,500 was for cy pres awards.

"Cy prés comme possible" means "as near as possible." In United States class action settlements, the term refers to a court-approved grant from settlement funds to a charitable organization that works for the rights for which the class members sued and won the case.

## Volunteer to Help at the 2011 AAUW National Convention Breaking through Barriers—Advocating for Change

The 2011 AAUW National Convention, Breaking through Barriers—Advocating for Change is coming to the Renaissance Hotel in Washington, DC, June 16 to 19, 2011. AAUW of Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, and Washington, DC, are hosting this exciting event that will bring together 1,000 members from across the country.

We need approximately 50 volunteers to ensure that the convention runs smoothly. As a volunteer, you will have the opportunity to work with other outstanding AAUW members to make the convention a success. Volunteers will be needed to assist with registration; welcome and check-in volunteers; and as attendants at workshops. Volunteers are also needed to escort speakers, corporate partners, and VIPs; work at the ShopAAUW tables; and staff the information/special needs booth. Members who are Lobby Corps members may choose to volunteer for Lobby Day.

In recognition of your volunteer service (a minimum of eight hours is required), you will receive:

- Reimbursement for \$125 of your convention registration (Each volunteer will receive a form to complete to receive the \$125 reimbursement. It is necessary to register and pay the full amount required.)
- Parking reimbursement
- A \$50 hotel reimbursement
- Access to a volunteer hospitality suite with lunch, snacks, and beverages

If you wish to apply for a volunteer position or have additional questions, please contact Marcie Posner, 410-465-1905, or [marciaposner@gmail.com](mailto:marciaposner@gmail.com); or Kathleen Thompson, 302-829-8931, [k\\_thompson2@msn.com](mailto:k_thompson2@msn.com). You will be sent a volunteer form to complete and return. Instructions are provided on the form. You will be contacted by May 5, 2011 to confirm your date and time volunteer assignments.

To register for the convention, see the latest *Outlook* or go to <http://convention.aauw.org/pages/registration.aspx>.

## Reaching Out to Children

Jacquelyn Thorpe

Children's Issues Chair

Since 2007, AAUW MD has supported our Children's Issues Committee. During these years, the committee has offered three opportunities to do service projects that benefit children in MD.

These projects are:

1. Pre-School Book donations to MD Head Start;
2. Funds to support the Free Braille books for blind children program; and
3. Branch "Knitting With Purpose" groups.

### New Project

"The Knitting With Purpose" group from Montgomery County branches has created some very nice items. At the State Winter Board meeting, I displayed our knitted hats, scarves and gloves for infants and children. From the positive feedback that we received, I am hoping that this project will be popular and that branches from around the state will start their own knitting groups. All the knitted donations received were delivered in early February to Beth Jones, Director at The Greentree Shelter in Bethesda, MD. This shelter is a transitional home for homeless families, primarily children with single

mothers and it provides the basic support systems for families to rebuild their lives. The staff was surprised, happy and appreciative of our donations.

A big thank you to Elfie Sobernheim from the Bethesda Chevy-Chase Branch, Margaret Schweitzer, Allison Tobias and Joyce Graf from the Kensington-Rockville Branch for their knitted and crocheted gifts.

### Branch Supports Head Start MD

Karen Broust, CI Chair, Patuxent River Branch delivered eighty-nine preschool books to the Tri-County Head Start in Hughesville. "They were very excited to receive them," said Karen. When I reported our donation to Linda Zang, Branch Chief, Division of Early Childhood Development at the MD State Department of Education, she said, "WOW" Those children are about the neediest in the state and will so benefit from your donation. Parents cannot read to them at home without proper books and now many are able to do so."

Please do continue to support any of our state projects and let me know what you are doing.

**AAUW Maryland State Convention**  
**Friday, April 30—Saturday May 1, 2011**  
**Sheraton Washington North Hotel**  
 4095 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, Maryland  
 301-937-4422

**Hotel Reservations:** Special meeting rate of \$99, plus tax is available through March 30. To make reservations call 301-937-4422 or go to [www.aauwmd.org](http://www.aauwmd.org).

**Driving Directions:**

From I-95 take exit 29 B, Calverton. At the first light turn left into the hotel driveway.

**BRANCHES:** We need your success stories to share on Sunday. Let Joyce Graf or Mary Anne Williams know you are interested in talking.



Direct all questions to Marcia Posner at (410) 465-1905 <[marciaposner@hotmail.com](mailto:marciaposner@hotmail.com)>

Convention registration must be received by April 18. Mail registration form and **payment**, payable to "AAUW MD" to Joyce Graf, 1368 Canterbury Way, Rockville MD 20854.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred name on badge: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch Name/Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Request-Facility/Other: \_\_\_\_\_

	#	Charge	Total
Friday Dinner at hotel—6:30			
Saturday Registration, including breakfast, lunch and materials		<b>\$65</b>	
Saturday Banquet		<b>\$45</b>	
Sunday brunch and program		<b>\$25</b>	
<b>Special: Full registration is only \$125, if you register before April 15.</b>		<b>Amount Paid</b>	



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### **Moving?**

Send **ALL** address changes to  
AAUW Records Office  
1111 16th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20036-4873

## CALENDAR

### **2011 AAUW Maryland Convention**

April 30—May 1, 2011  
Sheraton Washington North Hotel  
Beltsville, MD

### **Deadline for the Summer issue of *The Marylander***

Sunday, May 15, 2011

### **2011 AAUW National Convention**

June 16—19, 2011  
Renaissance Hotel  
Washington DC

### **AAUW Maryland Summer Conference**

July 16, 2011  
Hosted by Gaithersburg Branch

## CONTENTS

- 1 AAUW Maryland Convention
- 2 Convention Speakers
- 3 Convention Speakers from AAUW
- 4 Message from Joyce and Mary Anne  
AAUW MD Support for NCCWSL
- 5 AAUW MD Officer Nominations
- 6 Final Words from State Treasurer  
Celebrating MD Women in STEM
- 7 AAUW Funds Update  
Go Global: WG-USA & Virginia Gildersleeve
- 8 Membership Update  
Gaithersburg, Hagerstown and Anne Arundel  
Used Book Sales
- 9 MLAW Update  
LAF News  
AAUW Cy Pres Award
- 10 Volunteer for AAUW National Convention  
Reaching Out to Children
- 11 Spring Convention Directions and  
Registration Form