



# THE MARYLANDER

AAUW Maryland Newsletter

VOLUME 76, No. 2

<http://www.aauwmd.org>

WINTER 2008

## Winter Conference in Chevy Chase Breaking through Barriers January 17, 2009

After two long years, the presidential election has come and gone. Regardless of your political views, it goes without saying that women had an overwhelming impact on this campaign.

Join together at Alfio's La Trattoria in Chevy Chase on Jan. 17, at 11:30 am to gain some insight and reflection. Our Winter Conference, in keeping with the Association theme of *Breaking Through Barriers*, will feature a panel discussion, "How Women Affected the Election, and How the Election Will Affect Women". Speakers will come from three news organizations: Ceci Connolly of the *Washington Post*, David Nitkin of the *Baltimore Sun*, and Rebecca Cooper from WJLA-TV in Washington.



**Ceci Connolly** has been a national staff writer at *The Washington Post* since 1997. She is currently writing about health care in America. Her articles cover a wide range of subjects including Medicare and Medicaid reform, bioterrorism, the uninsured, the pharmaceutical industry and the debate over embryonic stem cell research.

During the 2000 presidential campaign, Connolly spent 18 months on the road as the paper's lead reporter covering Vice President Al Gore. She reported on the debates, the selection of running mate Joseph Lieberman, the Democratic National Convention and the historic Florida recount. Afterward, Connolly was a prime contributor to *Deadlock*, the Post's groundbreaking book on the election.

In her tenure, she has also covered congressional and gubernatorial elections, House speakers Newt Gingrich and Dennis Hastert, and the political fallout of the Monica S. Lewinsky scandal. In late 1997 she produced a three-part, behind-the-scenes look at the

tobacco wars.

Prior to joining the Post, Connolly was a Washington correspondent for the St. Petersburg (Florida) Times. She reported on Congress from the beginning of the Republican Revolution in 1994 through the 1995 budget battles. In 1996, Connolly was assigned to the Bob Dole presidential campaign, traveling to more than 30 states with the GOP nominee.

Connolly moved from St. Petersburg, Florida, to Washington in 1992 to work for Congressional Quarterly, the magazine of record on Capitol Hill. At the weekly magazine, she wrote about politics and health care. She has also worked for the Associated Press and two New England dailies, the *Concord* (New Hampshire) *Monitor* and the *Quincy* (Massachusetts) *Patriot Ledger*.

In 2001, Connolly was awarded a fellowship at the Institute of Politics at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She is a graduate of Boston College and the Poynter Institute for Media Studies.



**Rebecca J. Cooper** is the National Correspondent for ABC7/WJLA-TV and substitute anchor for NewsChannel 8's *Newstalk*.

She joined the stations in 2003 from ABC News, where she served as a reporter and producer covering the White House, State Department, intelligence community and 2000 Presidential campaign. Rebecca was part of the ABC news team awarded the Peabody Award and DuPont Silver Baton for coverage of September 11th. As a reporter and

(continued on page 2)

*(Rebecca Copper continued)*

producer at CNN, she was a member of the investigative team awarded an Emmy and CableACE award for coverage of the Oklahoma City bombing. Prior to that, Rebecca was a producer and reporter covering the 1992 presidential campaign for NBC Nightly News.

Her career also has carried her to public service as the youngest Chief of Staff in the Cabinet of President Clinton, serving U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Bill Richardson. She previously was a legislative assistant to Senator David Boren of Oklahoma.

Rebecca was born and raised in Oklahoma City. She graduated with honors from Duke University with a degree in political science. She also attended Belgium's Universite Libre de Bruxelles and American University in Washington. She is a past recipient of both the RTNDA German Fellowship and the Reuters Foundation Oxford University Fellowship. She remains on the Council of Foreign Relations, and her civic involvements include service on the Washington Advisory Board for ChildHelp Inc, an international non-profit focusing on child abuse.

She is married to Doug Dupin, operator of the skateboard design and manufacturing company Migration-Boards and founder of Washington's Palisades Museum of Prehistory. They have three young sons – Max, Gus and Finn.



**David Nitkin** is the politics editor for the Baltimore *Sun*, overseeing City Hall, State House and Washington coverage. He was White House correspondent during the final years of the Bush administration, and has also been state editor and State House bureau chief in Annapolis.

He has been with the paper since 1999.

In November 2004, former Maryland Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr. banned all executive branch employees from speaking with David, claiming that a series of articles detailing the administration's plans to sell pro-

tected forest in Southern Maryland to a politically connected contracting company owner failed to show "objectivity." The articles were accurate and withstood intensive scrutiny, and resulted in the scuttling of the transaction and the passage of a law prohibiting land sales without approval from the General Assembly. A constitutional amendment codifying the practice was approved by state voters in Nov. 2006.

He reported extensively on the 2008 election, traveling to several primary states and the party conventions in Denver and St. Paul.

Prior to coming to Maryland, he worked for the Tribune Co. newspapers in Florida - the Sun-Sentinel of Fort Lauderdale and the Orlando Sentinel. He covered local and state government, as well as the 1996 presidential race, and Gov. Jeb Bush's election campaign in 1998.

He has also worked for Gannett Newspapers in suburban New York.

David holds a bachelor's degree in government from Dartmouth College, and a master's in public policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

He lives in Ellicott City with his wife and two children.

Also invited to the luncheon is **Sammy Green** of the Women's Coalition for Health Care Reform. Sammy will be giving us an update on the issues for the coming year.

Our luncheon is at the popular restaurant where we have met before. Those who have attended can attest to the high quality of the meal and the friendliness of the staff. Early registration is recommended as seating is limited. Part of the registration includes a donation to the Dian Belanger International Fellowship endowment.

Come prepared with a hearty appetite and a thirst for knowledge and insight. See you there!

*Directions to the conference and registration form are on page 11*



## Message from Marcie



**Marcie Posner, President AAUW MD**

410-772-7977 <marciaposner@hotmail.com>

We certainly are moving along very quickly. We have already had our excellent Fall Conference, graciously hosted by Hagerstown Branch, where we learned about Program In a Box and discussed the importance of members and branches working together for our common goals.

Now we are looking forward to an extremely interesting Winter Conference. Please see the article by our Program VP's Mary Anne Williams and Pat Crane. Since we have a President Elect (for the U.S., not AAUW), we should understand how this change in government can affect women. Our panelists will discuss this important and exciting topic. We will also hear from a member of the Women's Coalition for Health Care Reform.

The Spring Conference, April 18, will be hosted by and held in Easton. Please mark your calendars. We will travel to Pax River for our Summer Conference, the date to be determined as soon as possible. In ad-

dition to our State meetings, think about going to St. Louis for the National Convention, which will be held June 26 through the morning of June 28. Go to the AAUW website for details, which include the agenda. It is important to reserve rooms as soon as possible. I am going to find restaurant for Marylanders to have dinner together on Thursday evening. Let's make it a big turnout.

A very Happy Thanksgiving to everyone, celebrated with family and friends. While cooking the turkey, or waiting to go to a festive dinner, watch the Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade on TV. My nine-year-old granddaughter, Sierra, will be marching and singing with her chorus from Clarksville Elementary School, Clarksville, Maryland. I'll be on the sidelines in Philly with my daughter Sheri and son-in-law Sean.

Enjoy the holiday season. I wish everyone a happy and healthy new year.

I look forward to being together at our Winter Conference.

Marcie

## CHANGE - What's Ahead for AAUW?

Linda Haigh Tozier, MAR Director

At the 2007 Convention in Phoenix, the AAUW By-laws Committee was given three goals: Streamline the Bylaws, add flexibility to all levels, and provide a structure that will promote members' and potential members' connection to AAUW as a national organization with multiple ways to participate. The overarching goal was to synchronize the two corporations within the restructured AAUW and to bring the goals of the Strategic Process that started in 2005 into the governance structure of AAUW.

The AAUW Bylaws Committee distributed to all present and immediate past state presidents a draft of the proposed Bylaws for the reorganized AAUW that will begin on July 1, 2009. I encourage all branch leaders to review the draft of the proposed Bylaws in the spirit of the Strategic Process and enthusiasm for what AAUW can become. Two companion docu-

ments ("Explanatory Notes" and "Draft Bylaws") are available for review and download at [http://www.aauw.org/member\\_center/strategicprocess](http://www.aauw.org/member_center/strategicprocess).

The final version of the proposed Bylaws will be posted on the AAUW website in early January, presented in the spring issue of *AAUW Outlook* and discussed in St. Louis at the AAUW Convention prior to a vote by the delegates. In an effort to inform every member about these proposed Bylaws changes, AAUW will be sending a representative to your AAUW Maryland Spring Convention to review the proposed changes with you.

The proposed structural changes will indeed streamline AAUW, thereby enabling us to continue to provide a fair chance to all women. Change is good.

## Educational Foundation

**Christine Schmitz**

**Educational Foundation Vice-President,  
AAUW MD**

**410-795-5091 <DIALACPA@aol.com>**

Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday to the AAUW Educational Foundation!

The AAUW Educational Foundation is the world's largest source of funding exclusively for graduate women. It supports aspiring scholars around the globe, teachers and activists in local communities, women at critical stages of their careers, and those pursuing professions where women are underrepresented.

This year four of AAUW's fellows are sponsored by Maryland funds:

[Truphena Choti](#) of Kenya is a Ph.D. candidate in Educational Policy at the University of Maryland. Her fellowship is sponsored by the Maryland State Division I International Endowment.

[Rukeme Ake](#) of Nigeria is studying in a Masters program at the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health. Her fellowship is sponsored by the Maryland State Division II international endowment, and the Mary L. Shelley/Eileen Shelley Menton international endowment.

[Patricia Krueger](#) is completing her dissertation in Secondary Education at the City University of New York. Her fellowship is sponsored by the Jean Colburn American Fellowship.

[Emily Riddle](#) is completing her dissertation in Atmospheric Sciences at Cornell University. Her fellowship is sponsored by the Janet Wert Crampton American Fellowship.

Also, at the AAUW Maryland Fall conference, we set a goal of completing funding of the Dian Belanger International Fellowship by the Spring of 2009. As of June 30, 2008, the fund was at \$76,789. Our goal is \$100,000.

***A note to all Maryland Branches, when you submit EF contributions directly to the Association, please consider marking them for the benefit of the Dian Belanger International Fellowship. (Fund No. 4214)***

### Educational Foundation 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Quiz

- In what year did the Educational Foundation initiate the Research and Projects Grant program?
  - 1972
  - 1980
  - 1990
  - 1966
- In 1963, this program was created to provide opportunities for women from newly independent African nations to study in the United States. What was it called?
  - Coretta Scott King Fund
  - Educating African Women Initiative
  - African Women Studies Program
  - Africa Educators Program
- An endowed fellowship was funded in memory of this former American Fellow and woman astronaut.
  - Sally Ride
  - Judith Resnick
  - Mae Jemison
  - Christa McAuliffe
- In what year was the first AAUW International Fellowship awarded?
  - 1920
  - 1932
  - 1917
  - 1911
- What was the amount of the first AAUW fellowship?
  - \$1500
  - \$500
  - \$350
  - \$100
- Former Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala received this AAUW award.
  - AAUW Achievement Award
  - Founders Distinguished Senior Scholar Award
  - Progress in Equity Award
  - AAUW Recognition Award for Emerging Scholars
- In what year did the Legal Advocacy Fund become a program of the Educational Foundation?
  - 2000
  - 1994
  - 1989
  - 2005
- Released by the Educational Foundation in 1991, what landmark research described girls receiving an inferior education compared to boys?
  - Shortchanging Girls, Shortchanging America*
  - How Schools Shortchange Girls*
  - Hostile Hallways*
  - Gender Gaps: Where Schools Still Fail Our Children*
- Which early AAUW research publication helped spark the campaign for better employment standards for women?
  - Behind the Pay Gap*
  - Living Wage for College Women*
  - Women at Work*
  - Families & Work Project*
- Which award recognizes individuals, projects, or organizations that contribute to the equity and education of women and girls?
  - Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Award
  - Progress in Equity Award
  - AAUW Achievement Award
  - Speaking Out for Justice Award

answers on p. 7

## Membership Could Benefit from Proposed Bylaws Changes

The proposed AAUW bylaws revisions that will be considered for approval at the National meeting in St. Louis next June include several changes that will help branches grow their membership. The bylaws revisions will be explained in detail before the Convention, but a couple components are worth considering early.

The draft bylaws propose to open membership to all persons that support our mission. I am sure this proposal will be controversial, but it would open our membership to a large group of our members' friends and neighbors. My sense is that many of us know lots of individuals that support our mission but either do not have a college degree or do not want to join an organization that has a restrictive membership, as we currently have.

Another proposed bylaw change would allow (but not force) the states and branches to have a different organizational structure. Several Maryland branches have already adopted flexible office slates with monthly

### Edie Allison

301-231-0109 <edicallison@comcast.net>

### Tracy Lantz

410-455-9982 <Lantz.tracy@epa.com>

Membership Co-Vice Presidents, AAUW MD

rotating Presidents and/or less than the official cadre of officers. I think that smaller, more flexible officer slates will help membership in several ways: by allowing branches to involve, but not overwork, new members and by tailoring branch work to the abilities and schedules of members. There might even be some cost savings in modified organizational structures that would allow for dues reductions or make additional funds available to support educational projects – both encourage new membership.

A third change that some of you may have heard about – dues collection by the national Association, has evidently been removed from the proposed bylaws changes. Certainly, a more streamlined and efficient dues payment system would help Membership and Finance officers. However, many members were skeptical of the potential benefits of a new system. The Association is now conducting some voluntary pilot experiments with a new dues collection system.

## Announcement

Every Maryland branch president and membership vice president should have received the Fall 2008 Members at Large (MAL) list. If not, contact one of your Maryland Membership Co-Vice Presidents – Tracy Lantz and Edie Allison

## Equity-Equality

For years we have stressed the importance of pay equity yet the wage gap between the average salary for men and women remains the same 77%. The recent passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act may help rectify the pay gap issue while other areas of discrimination against women continue.

The October 30, 2008 *New York Times* headline of an article was "Women Buying Health Policies Pay a Penalty." According to new data from insurance companies and online brokers, there is evidence showing a wide gap in the cost of health insurance. Women pay much more than men of the same age for individual insurance policies providing identical coverage. In general, insurers say, they charge more because women

### Elaine Franz

Public Policy Vice President, AAUW MD

410-592-6614 <ElaineFranz@aol.com>

use more health services. More than men of the same age, women are more likely to visit doctors, to get regular checkups, to take more prescription medications and to have certain chronic illnesses.

Young women trail men in economic well-being. In March 2007, Legal Momentum filed six discrimination complaints against fatherhood programs funded by the Bush Administration because these programs offered employment services to men that were not offered to women. These cases are still pending. Recent anti-poverty programs have called for increases in federal Earned Income Tax Credit earnings subsidies for low -

(continued on page 6)

**Equity-Equality *continued***

income non-custodial parents who are mostly men while similar subsidy increases have not been provided for low income custodial parents most of whom are single mothers.

Title IX is another area of anti-discrimination that is starting to lose ground. According to the National Collegiate Athletic Association colleges that play Division I sports directed a smaller proportion of athletics spending to women's teams in 2005-6 that they did in 2003-4. It is most apparent in colleges and universities that play football where the split in spending grew to 70/30. Colleges that do not play football are more equitable

with a split of 52% for men to 48% for women. The Education Department's Office for Civil Rights has largely stopped enforcing Title IX.

In recent elections voters have voted against the continuing of affirmative action in some of the states. A bright spot is Colorado where, in the last election, citizens voted against removing affirmative action in their state.

Will it take the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment to our Constitution for women to be considered true equals to men? At the present time, we must be vigilant.

**Legal Advocacy Fund****LAF Giving for 2008**

AAUW Maryland has done phenomenally well in both LAF and Educational Foundation (EF) giving. Branches are reminded that December 31 is the end of the fiscal year. Selfishly, your leadership wishes to be recognized at the 2009 AAUW convention in St. Louis. For ease in transmitting branch and individual gifts, go to the AAUW website on the Internet.

**LAF'S New Direction**

The new direction for LAF is to no longer support individual suits involving alleged discrimination in academia but to join other advocacy groups in supporting a wide range of alleged discrimination against women.

A highlighted case for LAF's new direction is *Lily Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. Ms. Ledbetter* spoke very forcefully in July to the Democratic National Convention describing how the Supreme Court of the United States decided her discrimination case in favor of Goodyear because she did not file a complaint soon enough, even though she did not know she was being discriminated against. Legislation to correct this inequity is pending in Congress.

**Cleopatra Campbell Anderson,  
LAF Vice-President, AAUW MD**

**301-695-8462 <FIRSTNILEQUEEN@aol.com>**

**Update on *Claire Schuster v. Berea College***

Under the new direction for the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF), few supported cases remain. One case still remaining is *Schuster v. Berea College*.

*Schuster v. Berea College* has been litigation since 2006. The conclusion is nowhere in sight and the outcome is very uncertain. Although Berea College is not a "deep pockets" defendant, it does have more resources than LAF-supported Claire Schuster.

(Schuster is the Berea College nursing associate professor who claims Berea hired a less qualified man for the nursing department at a higher salary.)

After losing at trial in the local Kentucky circuit court, Ms. Schuster appealed to the Kentucky Court of Appeals, an intermediate appeals court (Kentucky also has a higher Supreme Court).

On August 1, 2008, the Kentucky Court of Appeals sent the case back to the local circuit court for more proceedings after finding mostly in Ms. Schuster's favor on issues of discovery, evidence and jury instructions.

As of late September 2008, the parties are awaiting a decision on Berea's petition for rehearing before Kentucky Court of Appeals.



**The Marylander** is published quarterly in Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer editions by AAUW MD, Janet Moses, editor. Send articles to <aauwmd@regraf.com> or mail to Janet Moses, 21 Theo Lane, Towson, MD 21204-2751. All submissions are edited for length and clarity. **Deadline for the Spring issue is February 9, 2009.**

Note: *Early submissions will be retained for publication.*

Please send ALL address changes to

AAUW Records Office, 1111 16th St., NW, Washington, DC 20036-4873  
Make address changes ONLINE in the AAUW Member Center <<http://www.aauw.org>>.

## Fall 2008 Conference Highlights

Our AAUW Maryland Fall Conference was held in beautiful Hagerstown, hosted by Hagerstown Branch. Beti Ruos, President, welcomed all twenty-nine participants. Thanks to Sheri Specht and her committee, Diane Sanford and Robbie Matonak, our venue was excellent, as was the continental breakfast and delicious buffet lunch.

Elaine Franz spoke about the importance of voting, stating that AAUW does not take a stand and specifically mentioned the amendment concerning slot machines. She said everyone should study the issue. Elaine also encouraged Branches to have representatives attend the Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW), November 8, as well as a Women's Legislative Briefing on January 25<sup>th</sup>, University of Maryland, Shady Grove. A vote was taken and passed to contribute \$50. A vote was also taken and passed to pay our \$70 membership to MLAW. Since the Maryland Education Coalition has not requested dues, she thought we should wait until January. She also distributed the 2007-2009 Public Policy Program.

In addition to the reports, Margie Sullivan brought up the change in the logo and that we need to use that format. Barbara Carter and Jean Thompson talked about the importance of the Lobby Corps that made 1700 trips to the Capitol last year. Lois stated that we could make a difference by contacting our representatives. She was concerned about the cost of a special ID that the Maryland Transit Administration wants to require of citizens 65 years and older.

Because of the importance of both new members and active members, a discussion brought about some suggestions: give personal attention to new members, give them rides, assign buddies, put them to work, involve them in social settings, reach out to other organizations. It was also brought up that Branches are not enthusiastic about hosting conferences and conventions and the same Branches should not be expected to do it all. The Spring Convention will be one day, April 18, as it is just before the National Convention. Pat Crane volunteered Easton to host it; Barbara Fetter-

hoff, Pax River for the Summer Conference; Eileen Menton, Laurel for the Fall.

We talked about the possibility of having a scarf that represents AAUW-Maryland. Several members signed up to form a committee.

When the meeting adjourned, Jill Birdwhistell, Chief of Strategic Advancement, was introduced. She talked about our State being the pilot for the PEARL program, and stated that the Association is very excited about our working with them. She set up the Program In A Box to show us how to get into it, how to set up programs that work within PEARL, and how important it will be to work within the Program.

PEARL stands for Protect, Educate, Advocate, Research, and Lead. These are the ways in which AAUW works to achieve its mission. Dr. Birdwhistell emphasized that the only way it is possible to achieve success is if all Branches work together, focusing on our goals.

In order to do this, our programs should reflect the PEARL concept. Expertly working around some technology problems, Dr. Birdwhistell showed us Program In A Box (PIAB). While it is still a work-in-progress, it is possible to go to the AAUW website and then to Program In A Box. This is already filled with ideas that complement PEARL. In addition, the Association will gratefully accept and consider suggestions for other ideas.

Dr. Birdwhistell introduced Ann Hite of TravelSmart, who will be organizing trips of interest to AAUW members.

The Conference was very successful in that everyone left with important points in mind:

1. We need to attract new members
2. We need to have active members and branches
3. We need to work together for our common purpose
4. We need to employ Program In A Box to ensure the success of PEARL

Answers to quiz on p. 4

1. A
2. D
3. B

4. C
5. C
6. D
7. D
8. A

9. B
10. A

## **Kyrgyzstan Villagers Inspired!**

**By Jane Costanzi  
International Relations Chair  
Baltimore Branch**

Last year AAUW Baltimore donated seed money to Dr. Cholpon Imanalieva, a public health minister and pediatrician from Kyrgyzstan. Cholpon was a one-year Hopkins Humphrey Fellow who addressed our branch in 2007.

Cholpon returned to her native country with our funding and her plan to secure additional funding to begin a project in two villages to reduce child mortality and improve the lives of women and girls in Kyrgyzstan. ARIS, funded by the World Bank, and UNICEF then donated funding many times over our contribution. UNICEF hired Cholpon to oversee the project as well as a number of others involving malnutrition in the villages.

The village mothers and mothers-in-law were brought together in different groups to discuss their impoverished living conditions. The village culture is such that the mother-in-law rules the household, its decisions for childcare and its finances. The group approach allows the mothers to have needed input. The mothers/mothers-in-law were then trained by UNICEF working through the local health ministry to use a proven method called "photovoices". They photographed the unhealthy conditions and put together journals of photos with captions.

Two selected village leaders recently traveled to a health conference in the capitol to present the photovoices to government officials to seeking funds for im-

provements. We are now awaiting word on government response to the presentations.

Unexpectedly, in the village of Talas, the villagers were so inspired by working on the project that they went to the business and landowners of their own community, raised \$1,000 and built a playground for the children who previously played in the dangerous trash areas and filthy streams. In addition, the villagers consolidated and isolated their trash and built covers for their septic system. It is noteworthy that these improvements came from parents and grandparents working together, as that is a major culture change.

In the days of the dictatorship, there was a very good support system and education for the poor. When all of that disappeared in the 90's, conditions, education and support for the poor deteriorated dramatically and inertia set in. It is inspiring to know that with our help as well as the help of others, the villagers have been moved to seek local help and begin to make improvements on their own that will bring dignity to their lives and the lives of their children and grandchildren.

We await word that government funding and help will be forthcoming soon and will eventually include many of the other disadvantaged villages of Kyrgyzstan.

---

## **Baltimore Branch Co-Sponsors Expand Your Horizons Program By Karline Tierney**

Saturday, October 11, 2008 the Baltimore Branch joined with Stevenson University to sponsor an Expanding Your Horizons Program at the Stevenson campus. The purpose of EYH is to provide hands-on workshops for middle school girls which will help them to see fun, challenge and excitement in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM fields).

Over 160 girls from various schools in the Baltimore area attended and their evaluation sheets indicated that they enjoyed and benefited from the day. Twenty workshops were provided, each given three times so that each girl had three from which to choose.. The workshops were preceded by a keynote address given by Catherine Valentino, Author in Residence at Hough-

ton Mifflin Harcourt Co. in Boston, MA. Ms. Valentino produced props and hands-on demonstrations using girls from the audience during her keynote which started the day off with an element of fun and excitement for the girls.

Baltimore Branch provided several workshop presenters and managed much of the registration. The event gave the branch visibility with the AAUW logo printed on the T-shirts provided to each girl and an opportunity to distribute AAUW literature. Several parents signed up to receive more information from us. Stevenson has asked us to co-sponsor again next year. EYH is always a valuable opportunity for branches to encourage the next generation and to sell ourselves.



## Visit to the National Center for the Blind Baltimore, Maryland

By Marcie Posner

The National Center for the Blind Jurnigan Institute, part of the National Federation of the Blind, is owned by the tenBroek Corporation, founded by Dr. Jacobus tenBroek. The Jurnigan Institute is named for its founder and first director, Kenneth Jurnigan. It works for social change by its advocacy and activism. Its programs include education, employment and rehabilitation, maintaining the tenBroek Library, and works with parents of blind children. The Center is funded by private contributions and federal funds.



When Mr. Jurnigan was told that as a blind person, he should understand that he would only be able to make brooms; refusing to believe this, he earned two college degrees, and taught blind children. He believed that the blind have civil rights and the right to respect. The Jurnigan Institute focus is on children in grades two through five, since children who are

not reading by fifth grade will have problems in the future getting through school and finding good jobs. The tenBroek Library has several Braille books for these children--the same books found in all libraries, schools, and homes. They also have twin books that show both Braille writing for the blind children and words that their parents or caregivers can read with the children. In 1958 Braille literature for children was added to the Library of Congress.

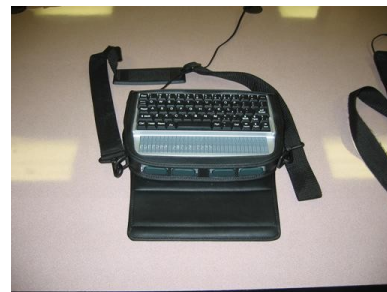
Another concern is at a higher level. Because it is important to interest middle school students in science, math and technology, the tenBroek Library houses Braille books on these subjects. This certainly is in line with AAUW's STEM project.

Braille is not taught as often as it should be because teachers think it will be replaced by technology. However, manufacturers do not always keep the blind in mind to give them equal access.



Although replacement will not happen, and children

must learn to read from Braille books, the Center has a huge room filled with the latest in technology that does consider the needs of the blind. The room is used to demonstrate equipment to representatives from companies that employ the blind and need to find the best equipment for them to use. Computers can translate books into Braille, print in Braille, and have Braille keyboards, which computer programmers must use. Generally, the blind can use regular keyboards.



For training, the Jurnigan Institute has very nicely furnished 75 rooms with baths that can be used for long stays, and a kitchen, as well. That way, no one has to stay in a hotel and find his way to the building each day.

The National Center for the Blind appreciates contributions to keep the library filled with books needed by blind children.

Go to the website to learn more about the National Center for the Blind [www.actionfund.org](http://www.actionfund.org)



Barbara Cheadle (Center for the Blind), Jane Costanzi, Ann Dahl, Sally Altman & Kathy Quidort (Baltimore Branch), Diane Roca, Marcie Posner, Jennifer Ingram, & Frankie Schwenk (Howard County Branch)



### Welcome to our Children's Issues Chairs for 2008-2009

**Baltimore** - Doris Levi, 410- 367-0911 and Joan Maloney, 410-821-5371

**Hagerstown** - Judy Chaney, 301 739-3468, judychaney@peoplepc.com

**Harford County**- Clair Allen, [callen@gmail.com](mailto:callen@gmail.com)

**Laurel** - Pat Behenna, 301-776-4025, [behenna@verizon.net](mailto:behenna@verizon.net)

These chairs have stepped up to the plate for the coming AAUW year. Thank you so much. Please let me know when other branch CI Chairs want to join us and let new members who have young children know what we are doing to support children.

### Literacy for Blind Children Begins

On, October 27th, a group from AAUW MD, hosted by our Baltimore branch, visited the American Action Fund for Blind Children agency in Baltimore and delivered a check for \$100.00 from the Baltimore branch led by Co-President, Sally Altman. The check will be used for the Twin vision books. Other Baltimore branch members who attended were Kathy Quidort, Jane Costanzi and Ann Dahl. From Howard County Branch, members Diane Roca, Frankie Schwenk, Jennifer Ingram and Marcie Posner joined the group. Barbara Cheadle, Director of Children's Programs welcomed everyone and guided the on-site visit.

This program, started in 1997, provides blind children a free Braille book every month from a popular children's reading series. All the books are free and theirs to keep. Blind youth, blind parents, teachers of the blind, schools and libraries serving the blind are eligible to participate in this program. They may enroll or withdraw from the program at any time. You can learn more about their services at [www.actionfund.org](http://www.actionfund.org).

Barbara Cheadle, Director of Children's Programs, says, "I am so pleased that your organization is interested in supporting our programs." Donations of money will be used :

- ♦ To buy more Braille books for children in the Free Braille Books program;

## Children's Issues

**Jacquelyn Thorpe,**  
**AAUW MD Children's Issues Chair**

<[JThorpe933@comcast.net](mailto:JThorpe933@comcast.net)>

- ♦ To collect or buy matching print books to give to the child's family or teacher so that a parent, sibling, or friend may read together with the blind child;
- ♦ To cover the cost of adding Braille pages to regular picture storybooks, thus making them into Twin vision books that can be shared between blind/sighted parents and sighted/blind children; or
- ♦ to collect or buy specific titles of picture storybooks to be turned into Twin Vision books.

"This is a wonderful project," says our State President, Marcia Posner. She has a friend who has been blind since age eight who says he doesn't know what he would have done without Braille books.

The needs are significant at the American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults and I am so glad that we have contributed to their Free Braille Books for Children's program and made it a Children's Issues state project. If your branch wants to contribute, let me know. *see article.p.xx*

### MD Head Start Program Continues

If your branch wants to continue our state project with MD Head Start, you are encouraged to do so. Please let me know when you give your gently used or new preschool books to the Head Start Center nearest to your branch location. If you need the list of locations, email me and I will send the information.

### Two Book Lists To Help You on AAUW MD website

If you want to visit either a Head Start Center or public school class to read a book to them, you are invited to read a book from either of the two new lists posted on our website by Eileen Menton.

1. One list is a book list for an on site reading program with children that is age- specific.
2. The second is a list for our AAUW State project with MD Head Start. These books are for pre-school children. Check AAUW MD's new website.

**Winter Conference 2009**

January 17, 2009

11:30 AM

Alfio's La Trattoria, 4515 Willard Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD, Phone: 301-657-9133

**From Baltimore:**

Take I-495 to exit 33, Connecticut Ave., towards Kensington/Chevy Chase

Left at fork, follow signs for Md-185 S/Chevy Chase

Left at Connecticut Ave/Md-185

At Chevy Chase Circle, take 3<sup>rd</sup> exit onto Western Ave.

Right onto Wisconsin Pl., Wisconsin Circle

Follow Wisconsin Circle to Willard Ave.

**From Frederick:**

Take I-270 S

Exit on Md-355, Rockville Pike]

Right onto Willard Ave.

**From Annapolis:**

Take US-5- W/Washington

Take exit 7B onto I-495/I-95

Take exit 33, Connecticut Ave., towards Kensington/Chevy Chase

At Chevy Chase Circle, take the 3<sup>rd</sup> exit for Western Ave.

Turn right onto Wisconsin Pl/Wisconsin Circle

Follow Wisconsin Circle to Willard Ave.

**From Southern Maryland:**

Take US -301

Continue on US-301, Branch Avenue, MD-5

Merge onto I-495 N/Capital Beltway toward Baltimore/College Park

Merge onto MD-185 S/Connecticut Ave via Exit 33

At Chevy Chase Circle, take the 3<sup>rd</sup> exit for Western Ave.

Turn right onto Wisconsin Pl/Wisconsin Circle

Follow Wisconsin Circle to Willard Ave.

Parking is limited but Alfio's offers free valet parking  
<http://alfios.com/>

**Direct all questions to Mary Anne Williams at 301-662-7837 — email: [treksk8@aol.com](mailto:treksk8@aol.com)**

**OR**

**Pat Crane at 410-819-3653 — email: [chuckpat@goeaston.net](mailto:chuckpat@goeaston.net)**

Meeting registration must be received by January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mail registration form and check payable to "AAUW MD" to AAUW c/o Mary Anne Williams, 14 East Ninth Street, Frederick, MD 21701

Name	
Address	
Phone	Email
Branch	
Please enter the number of meals in the block beside your choice(s)	
	Veal Piccata
	Eggplant Parmigiana
	Breast of Chicken Dorati (breast of chicken sautéed in lemon sauce)
	Total number of meals requested
	X \$25 per meal
	Total cost to be remitted with this registration form



THE MARYLANDER  
 AAUW MD  
 21 THEO LANE  
 TOWSON, MD  
 21204-2751

Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Hagerstown, MD  
 Permit No. 425

**Moving?**

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

CALENDAR

**Winter Conference**  
 Saturday, January 17, 2009  
 Alfio's La Trattoria  
 4515 Willard Avenue  
 Chevy Chase, MD

**Deadline for the Spring issue of *The Marylander***  
 Monday, February 9, 2009

**Spring Conference**  
 Saturday, April 19, 2009  
 Easton, MD

**2009 AAUW Convention**  
 June 26 - 28, 2009  
 St. Louis, Missouri

**Summer Conference**  
 To be hosted by Patuxent River Branch

CONTENTS

1, 2	Winter Conference
3	Message from Marcie "Change—What's Ahead for AAUW?"
4	Educational Foundation Report Educational Foundation Quiz
5	Membership Report
5,6	"Equity—Equality"
6	Legal Advocacy Fund Report
7	Fall Conference Highlights Quiz Answers
8	"Kyrgyzstan Villagers Inspired!" Baltimore Branch Co-Sponsors EYH Program
9	Visit to National Center for the Blind
10	Children's Issues
11	Winter Conference Information
12	Calendar, Contents