



The BayStater

Summer 2004
Volume 28, Number 4



Patricia Ho

Thoughts from Patricia

TOGETHER TOWARD ADVOCACY AND ACTION

During my visits with you, I have been pleased to share an inspiring symbol of AAUW's mission -- the Susan B. Anthony gavel. Presented to the suffragette feminist in 1888, this replica honors the early advocates of women's rights and their fight for equity.

So it is with AAUW as we pursue our mission of equity for women and girls. We begin with a committed sense of PURPOSE, strengthened by our Public Policy positions. We see ongoing injustice in employment, health care, women's rights and civil rights. Like the early advocates, we know we have far to go, much to accomplish.

To this commitment, we add PASSION, a conviction that we can and must work for change. Being 'smart in our assertiveness', we align ourselves with collaborative partners in the community to pool resources and strengthen our common goals. PROGRESS can be measured by our community action, increased public awareness, and legislative change.

To focus our efforts as a state organization, Program, Membership, Diversity, College/University Relations, and Resource Development chairs will work together in planning Strategies for Success-- because each purpose overlaps with the others. We commit ourselves to helping each branch succeed.

It is my privilege to serve as your state president as we progress together toward achievement. I have truly enjoyed your gracious invitations and my branch visits with you. In meeting such talented, committed individuals and witnessing your fine work, I am fully confident that we can bring about positive change.

Our state board officers and I hope that each branch will have representation at summer training on August 7. At this sharing/ working session, we will update ourselves on continuing issues that need redress and interact with branch partners in outlining possible programs and plans for action. Your branch partners need your input for cooperative planning, so please don't disappoint them. We will also discuss ramifications of the Affiliates' Agreement, insurance and incorporation issues.

We are truly pleased that Hollie Bagley is our new, part-time Administrative Coordinator, who has already been most innovative and productive. Her role in streamlining administrative tasks will enable us to focus on program planning and delivery.

We look back with pride to 1881, to the beginnings of AAUW -- and we look forward to continuing our vigorous efforts-- because equity is still an issue.

Are You Reading This?

Congratulations! If you received this issue of the *BayStater* you are listed as a 2003-2004 member of AAUW-MA. As Administrative Coordinator I must keep accurate member records for the state and branches. To make this happen I will need your input. If you know of any member who should have received this issue and did not, let me know. Be sure to send me your change of address/name and I will update branch, state and Association records. I am pleased to be working with AAUW leaders to give them the support they need.

—Hollie Bagley, AC (hollie@gallivan.org or 781-749-6274)



EQUITY IS STILL AN ISSUE

by Marcelline A. Barron
AAUW New England Regional Director

Comments delivered on April 3, 2004 in Salem, MA

The number of women has risen in almost every scientific discipline. In 2000, women earned 43% of all medical degrees, up from 8% in 1970; similarly women were awarded 20% of all master's degrees in engineering, up from just 1% in 1970. Yet, there is substantial room for growth. Women remain significantly underrepresented in engineering, computer technology and the physical sciences. Only 11% of working engineers are female. Of all the doctorates in physics earned last decade, only 13% went to women.

What's more, despite our progress, for every girl who aspires to explore, cure or invent, another becomes discouraged by stereotypes or her perceived lack of ability and abandons her dreams. In elementary school, boys and girls have equal interests and test scores in math and science. Yet by the third grade, girls have begun to rate their own abilities lower than boys do—despite having similar aptitude. By the time they leave middle school, many girls previously interested in math and science say they no longer care for the subjects and are no longer interested in exploring scientific careers.

One factor said to discourage middle school girls from science and math is that society still leads them to have a mental image of a scientist as a white male. Yet there is no shortage of fascinating women making important contributions to science and technology. Studies show that girls are drawn into science and math through active and cooperative learning settings. In many parts of this country AAUW branches are working with school districts and other organizations to offer girls such opportunities. They range from science clubs and science camps to technology expos and design contests.

In the area of mathematics, girls do tend to underestimate their math ability in high school, even though their actual performance is just as good as that of the boys. But that's not what pushes them away from mathematically based majors in college. There are two key factors in that decision: how much they believe in the ultimate utility of mathematics and how much they value working with and for people.

Keeping all of this in mind, it is with pride that we can say that AAUW is helping young women find their voices in our states, in our branches and in our nation. I want to personally thank all of you as you do this work to bring more equity into the world of our young female students. Many of you work with middle school girls, high school girls, and some with college women. I congratulate you on your efforts. All of us also work to help the Educa-

tional Foundation remain financially sound so that it can continue its wonderful work of research and funding fellowships. Thank you. Cheers!

Marcelline can be reached at mbarron@fairfield.k12.ct.us

AAUW Membership Services Under Construction

Below is the text of a June memo sent by the Association Membership Services Department

With two major improvements under way, we need your patience as we get our new, more efficient way of business ready for you! Please bear with us for the next few months during our renaissance.

First, we are in the process of implementing a new Association database to provide faster, more effective services to our branch leaders and individual members. When it's ready in July, the database will enable us to enter information faster; implement enhanced quality-control methods; input more details about our branches to get a better understanding of their needs and abilities; and accomplish many more data-processing functions to streamline our efforts at the national level.

But that's not all: Even as we transfer data from the old system to the new one and improve our processes, we also are training several new staff members in both the helpline and records departments. Our new cross-training system will prepare multiple staff members to address your inquiries or data needs at any time, whether via our HELPLINE or by other means of communication. AAUW has a rich, deep history and unique needs, as you know, and the process of bringing new staff up to speed will take some time.

We are investing in our new staff members and data system with one goal in mind: improving your interactions with us. To that end, we appreciate your patience during this time. Although it may take a little longer to answer your inquiries over the next few months, the end results will be well worth the wait. We look forward to our new-and-improved communications with you!

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PURPOSE, PASSION ,POWER, PROGRESS
AAUW-MA BRANCH TRAINING AND SUMMER BOARD MEETING
Saturday, August 7, 2004
 Middlesex Community College, Bedford,
 Student Center, Café East

- 8:30 - 9:00 Registration and Coffee —Thank you to host: Bedford Lexington
- 9:00 - 9:30 **Purpose, Power, Progress, and Passion!**
 AAUW Today -- as presented by Hollie Bagley, Leader-on-Loan, to
 AAUW Nevada 2004 State Convention
- 9:30 -10:00 **Finding PURPOSE:** The Status of Women in Massachusetts
 How women are faring in health care, employment and legislation
 Lianne Cook, Commissioner, Status of Women in MA
- 10:00-10:15 Break
- 10:15 - 10:45 **Wielding POWER through Public Policy:** Relating Women's Issues
 to Advocacy -- Arline Broberg and Public Policy Team
- 10:45 -11:30 **Working with PASSION toward PROGRESS:**
 Branch Partners Planning Session
 Determining issues, brainstorming ideas and projects for action
- 11:30 - 12:30 **Brownbag Networking Lunch**
 Opportunities to meet with branch partners and/or state and branch
 counterparts
- 12:30 - 1:00 **Insurance and Incorporation Issues**
- 1:00 - 2:30 **State Board Meeting**

AAUW-MA BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Call to Order and Welcome	Patricia Ho
Minutes January 24, 2004 Meeting	Ruth Ladd
Treasurer's Report and 2004-05 Budget	Linda Britt
President's Report -- Strategies for Success Team - Program, Membership, Diversity, C/U Relations, Resource Development	Patricia Ho
Membership Goals	Rosemarie Buote
Educational Foundation Plans	Elizabeth Kenney
Legal Advocacy Fund Plans	Liz Fragola
Program Theme and Priorities	Patricia Ho
Closing	Patricia Ho

Copies of the revised bylaws and state directories will be distributed.

Directions to Middlesex Community College and Registration form are on page 7.

Legal Advocacy Fund: Wrapping Up a Successful Year as We Look to the Future by Liz Fragola, LAF Vice President

AAUW-Massachusetts has a lot to be proud of! We closed the 2003-2004 year with a total of \$8,425.33 in contributions to the Legal Advocacy Fund. We raised \$1,154.65 at our LAF Dinner in April. We were the first state to present our own Progress in Equity Award to Northeastern University, College of Engineering's *Connections* program. Our LAF Dinner featured two lawyers presenting a behind-the-scene view of preparing a sex discrimination case.

In 2003 statistics released from national office, Massachusetts ranked fourth in per capita donations (\$12.18) to LAF. Danvers-Topsfield ranked sixth (\$50.28), and Taunton Area ranked tenth (\$46.85) in per capita branch donations nationwide. Massachusetts ranked tenth in contribution growth (30%) over the previous year! This accomplishment represents effort on the part of many people, primarily all of you, working at the branch level, for a national cause. Grass roots activism is alive and well in Massachusetts.

Where do we go from here? Changes are under way for LAF on the national level. It appears they will be structural and organizational changes, not fundamental mission changes. Just how these changes will impact us on the state level is not yet clear, but as soon as they are articulated, all branches will be notified.

My goals for the coming year include: continuing the Progress in Equity Award, developing branch/regional LAF programs that are meaningful to members, increasing branch attendance at the LAF Dinner, increasing the number of members contributing to LAF, and improved publicity for LAF statewide. To reach these goals, the participation of LAF liaisons is vital. Potential recipients of the PIE award need to be identified, the more specifically, the better. I ask the help of all members in this effort.

LAF Honor Roll April 2003-March 2004

<i>Individuals</i>		
Advocates (\$500-999)		
Florence A. Baturin	Sema M. Faigen	Elizabeth K. Fragola
Amicus (\$100 -\$249)		
Hollie Bagley	Marion Kilson	Lois Pulliam
Linda Britt	Ruth Ladd	Sandra Sousa
Rosemarie Buote	Nancy Luther	Susan St. Germain
Tamara Gaydos	Sylvia McDowell	Janet Wallace
Patricia Gorton	Linda McSweeney	Rose Wessels
Patricia Ho	Karen Messing	
Litigants (\$50 - \$99)		
Missy Barhite	Barbara Chamberlain	Faith Johnson
Branches		
Case Supporters		
(100% or more increase over previous year)		
Canton	Danvers-Topsfield	Taunton
Networkers		
100 % participation by board		
Danvers-Topsfield		
Branch Per Capita Awards		
Danvers-Topsfield (\$62.74)	Taunton (\$42.28)	Bedford-Lexington (\$31.29)
Total Contributions		
Taunton (\$2,450.00)	Bedford-Lexington (\$1,846.00)	Danvers-Topsfield (\$1,443.00)

Plan Your Membership Strategies Now

Rosemarie B. Buote, Membership Vice President

Summer is a time to work on membership growth strategies. How can our branches grow? As AAUW members we can "Give a Grad a Gift." It is easy to do on line (aauw.org and click on the **Give a Grad a Gift** site). Give these young women a free branch membership along with their Association membership and welcome them into your branch. Set up an AAUW table at a summer fair or town activity. Offer a free raffle gift basket and tell about AAUW. Talk about AAUW and the value of membership to your friends. Attend the Summer Workshop to empower yourselves. Branch MVP's please make sure I am on your branch mailing list via e-mail (rosemariebuote@aol.com) or snail mail (1690 Wellington Street, Dighton, MA 02715). I am here to help you. See you in August!

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Public Policy *Arline Broberg, Chair*

As we look ahead to next year, the public policy team (Patricia Ho, Lois Pulliam, and Arline Broberg) has already begun assembling an Action Corps, which is composed of branch public policy chairs and other interested members. I will forward action alerts from Association to the Action Corps, and they will lobby in whatever manner is feasible for them (e-mail messages, phone calls, letters, or visits to legislators).

Two current topics of concern to AAUW members are:

Pregnancy Prevention Bill: Urge your members of Congress to co-sponsor the Putting Prevention First Act (H. R. 4192/S. 2336). Remind them there is universal support for reducing the need for abortion. Rather than implementing policies that restrict a woman's right to choose, Congress should be offering women the education and services they need to avoid unplanned pregnancies.

Marriage Amendment: The Federal Marriage Amendment (S. J. Res. 26/H. J. Res. 56) is a proposed amendment to the U. S. Constitution that would exclusively define marriage as the union of a man and a woman. If approved by both chambers of Congress and ratified by 38 states, the amendment would prohibit the Constitution, any State Constitution, or State or Federal law from being interpreted to allow gay marriage, civil unions, and domestic partnerships.

Since AAUW's founding in 1881, at a time when women were relegated to second-class status, addressing that injustice has been at the heart of AAUW's mission. AAUW's opposition to the FMA stems from the fundamental fear that, while ratification of this amendment may be the first use of Constitutional power to restrict civil rights, it will certainly not be the last. Given the current political environment, it is important that AAUW speak to this issue and preserve the hard-won rights of women.

To learn more about these and other important issues and what actions you can take visit AAUW-MA's web page at www.aauw-ma.org and click on Public Policy or use the Two-Minute Activist at www.aauw.org to send your congressmen a free e-mail.

March Makes a Difference

by Carole Myles

This past April I participated in the **March for Women's Lives** in Washington, DC, a march focusing on women's reproductive rights. This was my first march ever, unless you count the anti-Viet Nam War march in the Spring of 1971 at the University of Vermont. Because reproductive rights are under attack I decided I'd show my support for choice by taking the two day bus trip from Boston to Washington.

There are certain impressions about this march that will stay with me for a long time to come. My first impression was the diversity of the people participating in the march. There were the first time marchers like myself, the veteran marchers, young and old, men, couples (gay and heterosexual), and various ethnic groups. It was a true melting pot. Due to the number of marchers (almost a million) it took almost three hours to complete the two mile march circuit. Everyone I observed was orderly and polite. Another memory is the graciousness that Patricia Ho extended to me. She was staying for the weekend in Washington so I was able to have a good breakfast when I arrived and take a short nap at the end of the day before my bus ride back to Boston. Patricia introduced me to many people she knew from other reproductive rights' organizations in Massachusetts. My last impression was the march itself, especially the last half mile or so. This is a gauntlet that is lined with counter protesters, people on loud speakers, and people shouting at you. Interspersed amid all this chaos and confusion, were pro-choice advocates who were brave enough to stand among the "enemy" and yell out their support for us as we were marching. I can't thank them enough.

Would I do this again? You bet! Despite not sleeping soundly for almost two days, I felt that this was a small sacrifice and that I made a difference. I moved outside of my comfort zone and it was well worth the effort.



Looking for few good BayStater Contributors

Spotlight editor: Interview and write a brief biography (education career, interests) of a member of the AAUW community.

Filler editor: Visit the AAUW online museum/AAUW resources and present us with some interesting AAUW facts.

Web page promoter: Write column on accessing information on the national and state websites.

Apply to BayStater Editor Hollie Bagley hollie@gallivan.org

A New Look

Our web page (www.aauw-ma.org) is getting a makeover. Cindy Levin will assume the duties of webmaster on July 1st. In addition to updating our information, Cindy will be redesigning the web page to give it a more current look and incorporating dropdown menus for easy access. Each branch will have the opportunity to have a branch page listing its officers, calendar of events, information on special programs, and other pertinent branch information. Branches may post an individually designed page (Taunton's is already in progress) or send information to Cindy and she will use her tech savvy skills to post the branch information. Using the web page is another way of reaching out to the public as well as to our own members. Currently the web page receives over 1800 hits a week. Check back often at www.aauw-ma.org to see Cindy's progress. Welcome and thank you, Cindy!

**DIRECTIONS TO MIDDLESEX
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

DIRECTIONS FROM ROUTE 128:

- Take exit 31B (Route 225/4) for Bedford.
- Travel west on Route 225/4 for approximately 2.2 miles.
- Immediately after the Bedford Shopping Center and the Bedford Post Office (both on the right side), take a right turn onto Hillside Avenue (which becomes Springs Road) to a 4-way stop intersection.
- When safe to do so, directly cross the 4-way intersection and continue traveling on Springs Road for approximately 1.6 miles where you will reach the South Entrance of the MCC Bedford Campus, on the right side of Springs Road.
- Look for signs to the Campus Center as well as AAUW signs.

DIRECTIONS FROM CONCORD CENTER:

- Travel on Route 62 to its intersection with Routes 225/4.
- Travel towards Bedford Center for 0.3 miles to a full traffic signal.
- When permissible, take a left turn onto Springs Road, then bear right to a stop sign.
- Take a left, continuing on Springs Road to a 4-way stop intersection.
- When safe to do so, directly cross the 4-way intersection and continue traveling on Springs Road for approximately 1.6 miles where you will reach the South Entrance of the MCC Bedford Campus, on the right side of Springs Road.
- Look for signs to the Campus Center as well as AAUW signs.

DIRECTIONS FROM ROUTE 3:

- Take Exit 27 (Concord Road/Billerica) towards Bedford.
NOTE: Exit 27 is south of Route 495 & North of Route 128.
- Travel west on Concord Road for approximately 0.75 miles.
- At the overhead flashing yellow signal, take a left onto Technology Park Drive.
- Travel the entire length of Technology Park Drive to a stop sign.



**Events 2004-2005
2004-2005 AAUW-MA CALENDAR**

2004

- Wednesday, June 16 Summer *BayStater* Deadline
- Saturday, June 26 Executive Committee Meeting
- Saturday, August 7 Summer Training and Board Meeting
- Sunday, August 22 Fall *BayStater* Deadline
- Saturday, October 16 New England Regional Conference
- Sunday, November 21 Winter *BayStater* Deadline

2005

- January, February, March Conferences with District Branch Partners
- Sunday, February 13 Spring *BayStater* Deadline
- Saturday/Sunday April 9/10 Spring Convention and Annual Meeting, Cape Cod (Host)

Summer Branch Training and Board Meeting Registration

Registration Deadline: Saturday, July 24, 2004

Send registration form and check to: Hollie Bagley, 82 Kimball Beach Road, Hingham, MA 02043

Check payable to AAUW-MA 781-749-6274 or hollie@gallivan.org

August 7, 2004 -- Summer Branch Training and Board Meeting Registration

Registration fee: \$12.00

Registration fee covers workshop materials, morning coffee and muffins, and lunch beverages and dessert. Please bring your own sandwich or salad.

Branch: _____

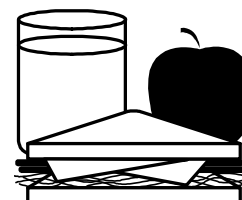
Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ **Zip** _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____



Spring Conference Memories

"The Fellowship of Women: the Work of the Education Foundation was the focus of the AAUW-MA State Convention in Salem. Showcasing their incredibly fascinating work were several Massachusetts fellows. Whether discussing past or present research, these women held the audience spellbound. Rachael Adriko spoke about publishing books featuring urban girls interested in science. In layman's terms, Robin Prince, Jean Fuller-Stanley and Jessica Townsend detailed their projects in cardiovascular systems, organic chemistry and aeronautics and astronautics. Issues in equity and social justice were superbly articulated by Roxanne Fay (social injustice and changing liberalism), Mary Kate McGowan (pornography and the 1st amendment) and Sylvia Dominquez (social welfare policy)." —Pat Bologna, Co-President, Hingham Area Branch



Rachel Adriko, ER Teacher Fellow, and two Women of Power students enthusiastically shared the books they created to provide role models for children. They were proud recipients of the Eleanor Roosevelt T-shirts.



Marion Kilson (left) and Elizabeth Kenney (center) congratulate Fellows Jessica Townsend, Robin Prince and Jean Fuller-Stanley for their inspiring presentations in Health and Science research.



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

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

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

AAUW is open to all graduates who hold the baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university. In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

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