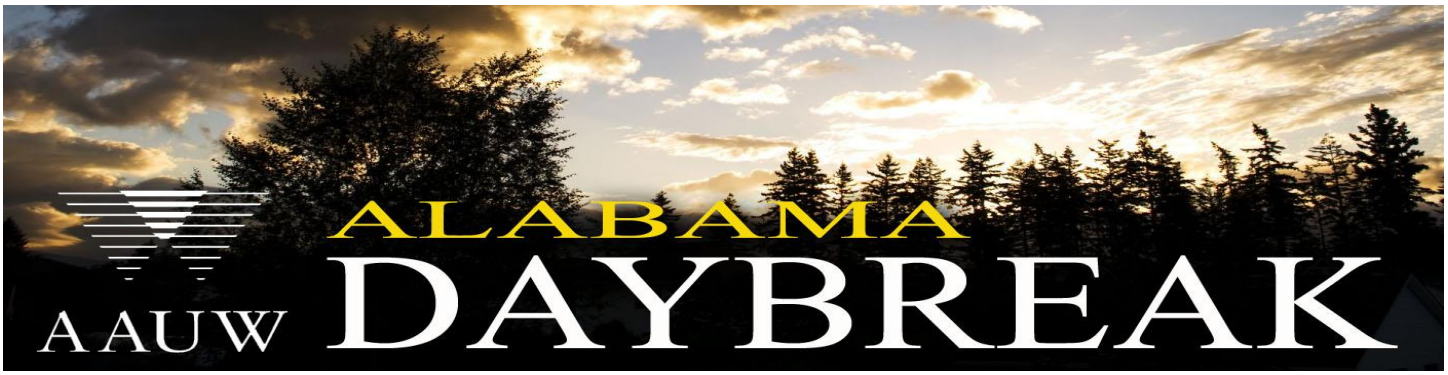

Spring 2013 **Volume 64 Issue 1**

President's Message

Honoring the Fight for Suffrage and Civil Rights

March 3, on the 48th anniversary of "Bloody Sunday" at the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, I participated in the annual walk across the bridge. It was a spiritual experience for me, as I'm sure it has been for many over the years—an appointment I've meant to keep for many, many years. I chose this particular year because of the assault on voting ID and the Voting Rights Act.

On February 27, a life-size bronze statue of Rosa Parks was installed in the Capitol Rotunda, the first of an African-American woman, while, across the street, the Supreme Court was debating on whether Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act is still needed. I find this one of the great ironies of history. The challenge to Section 5 is coming from Shelby County, in our own state.

When we celebrate the Suffragettes, we honor that same fight. Some have spilled their blood on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, some in front of the White House. Primary among the rights and duties of a free citizen is that of voting. Without the vote, we do not have the power to make our country fairer, more in line with what is good for all our citizens.

AAUW of Alabama will continue to push for constitutional reform, pay equity, and, in addition, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). The petition to extend ERA ratification is online at White House Petitions. Please go online and sign if you have not at https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petitions. Currently, there are almost 29,000 signatures.

I want to encourage you to contribute to the Ellie Lienau Fund (#4276), under Educational Opportunity Grants on the AAUW national web site. Sign in to the Member Services Database. To complete the fund, we need to bring it to the required $35,000. Please consider this a high priority when you give to the Educational Opportunities Fund. Ellie has served AAUW well and faithfully in many roles at both the Huntsville Branch and state levels. Let's honor her.

Remember that the national convention is June 9-12 in New Orleans. For more information, go to http://convention.aauw.org/register. The convention is located in the middle of the French Quarter in the Sheraton Hotel. Speakers include Alabama's own Lilly Ledbetter, Melissa Harris-Perry, and Cynthia D'Amour. There will be even more workshops than there were in Washington two years ago, and wonderful pre- and post-convention tours.

And remember our own annual meeting April 5-6 (see the article and agenda/registration form in this newsletter).

PBS started running a new documentary series, *MAKERS: Women Who Make America*, on February 26. Four of these women are former AAUW fellows; six are National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) Women of Distinction. See www.makers.com.

And a last word: Alabama has its unique problems and presents us with unique challenges and opportunities to fight for the rights and opportunities of women and girls. But those challenges and opportunities extend across ethnicities and classes. The middle class is traditionally the protector of what is democratic in our country. We cannot allow our country to become a nation of haves and have-nots. There will be no opportunities for most women and girls were this so. For a century, AAUW has advocated for legislation and policies that encourage and enforce fair pay in the workplace, such as the Equal Pay Act of 1963, the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009, and the yet-to-be-passed Paycheck Fairness Act. Until then, at best, it seems women will earn 77 cents on the dollar and be somewhat less than first-class citizens.

Wanda Foster
State President, AAUW of Alabama

Branch News

Birmingham

Bobbie Piper – President

The Birmingham Branch has had another excellent year of programming activities. VP for Programs, Patti Steelman, lined up many interesting speakers for the General Meetings, and the Morning and Night Reading Groups have been working their way through the reading lists for the year. The Morning Reading Group will, as always, attend a play at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in Montgomery. This year, *To Kill a Mockingbird* will be performed as a play on May 18th at 2 p.m.

We are proud of our new website created by Diane Marks and Patti Steelman. The address is http://birmingham-al.aauw.net/ and is full of information about our branch and activities.

At our annual Membership Coffee in September, we were proud to announce the winners of three $1,000 scholarships from our local Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Last fall, our branch was honored to receive an American flag which flew over the United States Capitol on January 14, 2012. At the request of the Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney, member of Congress from New York, this flag, along with others, was flown in honor of the 130th Anniversary of the founding of AAUW. It came to us because we are the oldest AAUW branch in Alabama. The flag remains on display in care of the Birmingham Water Works Cahaba Pumping Station Museum, where some of our General Meetings and the Morning Reading Group meetings are held. We are very proud of the flag, which will have a plaque explaining its source and acknowledging AAUW.

The branch General Meeting on March 9, in honor of Women's History Month, featured speaker Susan Reynolds, who talked about author Augusta Evans Wilson. Her novel *St. Elmo* ranked just behind *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in popularity in the mid-nineteenth century in the U.S. and had over a million readers within the first four months of its publication.

On Tuesday, April 9, Dr. Sis Levin will speak on the topic "What We (AAUW) Can Do to Help Successfully Prevent Youth Violence in Birmingham Schools." On Tuesday, May 14, Evelyn Douglas will speak to membership about "The 2014 Project Alabama." Both programs will be held at the Cahaba Pumping Station Museum, starting at 11:00 a.m. followed by lunch at noon. People who wish to attend should contact Patti Steelman at pattisteelman@gmail.com or 615-478-7732.

Huntsville

Cindi Branham – President

The Huntsville Branch has celebrated many great meetings this year, including "The Politics of Women's Health" (November), "STEM Education for Women and Girls" (December) and "Heroic Women of Palestine" (January). In October, they had an outing to attend the play *The Perfect 36* at UAHuntsville, about Tennessee's role in becoming the 36th state to ratify the 19th Amendment for women's suffrage.

On March 1, the Branch hosted their "Breaking through Barriers Luncheon," featuring Dr. Deborah Barnhart as speaker. She is the CEO and Executive Director of the US Space and Rocket Center, and she discussed the challenge of "Building a STEM Generation" and its importance to the local economy. Over 130 attended the event. Proceeds from the luncheon are used to send many local college women to attend leadership training at the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in Maryland in June.

Upcoming meetings for the branch include dinner meetings on April 2 (Wills, Power of Attorney) and May 7 (All Grown Up with ADHA: How Adult Women Cope) at the Covenant Presbyterian Fellowship Hall (301 Drake Ave SE, Huntsville), from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Reservations are accepted by Lois Guendel at 256-880-8643 or lois.guendel@knology.net.

The Huntsville Branch also offers other opportunities for members to meet regularly in informal settings. The lunch.com group is open to members who want to have lunch on any Friday at a local restaurant. And several times a year, the branch hosts a ***Cocktails & Convos*** event where current and potential members can mix and mingle while enjoying "Dutch Treat" food and drink in a casual setting.

Montevallo

Sandra Lott & Mary Jo Buff, Co-Presidents

The Montevallo Branch once again has had a year packed with activities. Many of these include programs that focus on branch priorities of Voter Education and Literacy. Among the programs are the following:

- The branch hosted a Membership reception in September for new and returning members.
- In October, Elaine Hughes, Ruth Robertson and Jane Clayton discussed AAUW's participation in the adult literacy programs of the Shelby County Literacy Council.
- The branch held their annual Holiday Reception and Bazaar on November 29, to raise money for AAUW funds, the Community literacy projects (like Reading is Fundamental) and the new AAUW Hallie Farmer Legacy Scholarship. Donations to this scholarship honoring Hallie Farmer, one of AAUW's most revered heroes, may be sent to the University of Montevallo Alumni Office, c/o Jeremy Ward, Station 6215, Montevallo, AL, 35115.
- Brazilian Fulbright Professor Marli Rosa spoke at the January meeting on "The Lives of Women in Brazil."
- The Black Heritage event featured the award winning book, *Cradle of Freedom: The Alabama Movement that Changed America.* The author Frye Gaillard and UM Professor Wilson Fallin were the speakers.

Upcoming events for the branch include:
- *"Springtime Celebration"* A Style Show, Luncheon and Silent Auction to benefit Reading is Fundamental, Adult Literacy and AAUW's Educational Programs. It will be Thursday, March 28 at John Stewart Student Retreat, at 11:30 a.m. That evening at 6:00 p.m., the 2013 AAUW Pathfinder Award will be presented to Eleanor Davis and Helen Moshkovich at the Montevallo Chamber Awards Banquet.
- On April 10, at 4 p.m., the Montevallo Branch Adelante Book Group will host the *Third Annual Celebration of Area Authors*, featuring authors Frye Gaillard, Gin Phillips and Rheta Grimsley Johnson, at the Eclipse Coffee and Books shop in Montevallo. For more details, visit the AAUW Montevallo Branch website: http://montevallo-al.aauw.net/

All AAUW members and the public are invited to each of the branch events. Please contact Sandra Lott (jlott285@charter.net) or Mary Jo Buff (buffmj@montevallo.edu) if you have questions or need further information.

Decatur

Kaye Anderson & Aylett Dickman, Co-Presidents

In October, the Decatur Branch learned about a violin training program established for the Decatur schools by a volunteer group that works with at-risk youth. In November, Judge Sherrie Paler talked about the issues that women face in the Justice system.

In January, Shay Farley from the Alabama Appleseed organization braved a snow storm to drive from Montgomery to speak about the predatory lending industry and the legislation that her group has drafted to establish reasonable regulation of the industry. Our speaker for February was Bob Jones from Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform, who brought us up to date on the status of efforts to modernize and modify the Alabama Constitution using the article-by-article method.

In April, the Decatur Branch will hear from a speaker from the Department of Public Health about the status of Health Insurance Laws with all of the changes that have been going on.

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Bylaws Update

By Ellie Lienau – Bylaws Chair

Thanks to the branches that have updated their bylaws to be in compliance with the National mandatory updates. The updated bylaws were sent to the National AAUW. Therefore members of the AAUW branches in Birmingham, Decatur, Huntsville, Marion, Montevallo, Scottsboro-Jackson County, and the Shoals will be able to vote at the state meeting at Marion in April and at the National Convention in New Orleans in June. I am working with the last branch to make the changes necessary to be in compliance. Branches are welcome to make other changes to their bylaws. These need to be sent to me and I will review them.

The AAUW of AL bylaws have also been updated, first with the mandatory changes, and then with the changes we voted on at the 2012 state convention. I appreciated the attention those of you that were at the business meeting gave to those changes. The two versions of the state bylaws were also sent to the National AAUW.

This process will happen again after the 2013 AAUW Convention in New Orleans.

The 2014 Project Alabama

By Audrey L. Salgado

In January 2013, The 2014 Project Alabama launched a large-scale public education campaign to raise awareness about the lack of women in elected office and the unique opportunities of the 2014 election. The mission is a statewide, nonpartisan campaign to increase the number of women in the United States Congress and Alabama Legislature and the Executive Branch in 2014.

The US has a poor track record of electing women. Internationally, the US ranks 77th in terms of women's representation according to a post by Kelly Ditmar in a blog by the Center for American Women and Politics in March 2013. Although the number of women increased significantly in the 2012 national general election, only 18.3% of the US Congress are now women. Nationally, state legislatures increased by 20 women with the percentage creeping from 23.7% to 24%.

Since 2011, two women represent Alabama in the US Congress: Representatives Martha Roby and Terri Sewell. In December 2012, Alabama dropped from 13.6% to 12.9% of the state legislative seats held by women, ranking the state 48th in the nation.

The 2014 Project Alabama is recruiting advocates, allies, and volunteers to share the facts about women's underrepresentation and the many benefits of public service. Women interested in taking the next step toward candidacy are connected to leadership institutes, think tanks, campaign training programs and fundraising networks designed to help them succeed in their own legislative districts. All political parties in the state are being encouraged to recruit women to run and support them in their campaigns. In partnership with The 2014 Project Alabama, Senator Linda Coleman has established an Alabama Women's Legislative Mentoring Program for all potential candidates. AAUW of Alabama is one of seven current allies.

For more information, contact:

Brenda Chapman, Candidate Coordinator, BrendaThe2014ProjectAL@gmail.com;
Jenna Johnson and Evelyn Douglas, Regional Leads, at JennaThe2014ProjectAL@gmail.com, EvelynThe2014ProjectAL@gmail.com;
Carol L. Joyce, Communications/Public Relations, CarolThe2014ProjectAL@gmail.com; and
Audrey L. Salgado, Chair, AudreyThe2014ProjectAL@gmail.com.

Ready to Run™ Training Being Held April 13 in Birmingham

A by-invitation AAUW of Alabama Ready to Run™ training for government leadership is being held at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail, Oxmoor Valley Clubhouse on **Saturday, April 13, 2013, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.** There is no cost for the training; however, all food and beverage is on your own.

Featured guest speaker, Phyllis Neill, CEO/President, Buzz12/Intermark Advertising Agency, will address "Branding Yourself," based on her book, *The Jobseekers Guide to Online Branding*, now in its 2nd edition.

The (current) agenda includes:

- "The Competent Communicator," Power Speakers Toastmasters Club Representative
- "Reapportionment/Redistricting," Alabama Legislative Representative on the Committee on Reapportionment
- "Candidate Qualifications," Amber Voss, Leading Edge Institute Student Intern
- "Voters, Election, and the Law," Melinda Lee Maddox, Attorney at Law

The jam-packed day will kick off with "10 Questions to Ask before You Call a Political Strategist" and end with "Launching Your Campaign, What Women Candidates Need to Know." A panel of women will discuss "Running for Elected Office, Lessons Learned." Representatives from all active political parties in the state have been invited.

Women interested in taking the next step toward candidacy will be connected to resources designed to help them succeed in their bid for a government leadership role. Brenda Chapman, The 2014 Project Alabama Candidate Coordinator, will attend to provide professional connections. Senator Linda Coleman has established an Alabama Women's Legislative Mentoring Program for all potential candidates at this state level. Attend the Ready to Run™ training and get connected! Other volunteers assisting with the training are Nateisha Bates, Leading Edge Institute Student Intern, Evelyn Douglas, and Jenna Johnson.

To register, contact Audrey L. Salgado, audreythe2014projectal@gmail.com, or call 205 437-0951 (home), or 205 249-7788 (cell/text). Submit name, email address, and phone number. We prefer registration be submitted by April 1, 2013.

Alabama Arise Continues Work at Statehouse

Each fall, members of Alabama Arise vote upon the legislative priorities that they wish to have their lobbyist focus upon. In September 2012, members voted to support these issues:

- Predatory Lending Reform
- Death Penalty Moratorium
- Constitutional Reform
- Public Transportation
- Immigration Law Repeal

In addition to these topics, Alabama Arise also prioritizes bills associated with tax reform, and having adequate state budgets, so that there are fairer state policies for human service agencies depended upon by lower income citizens.

The 2013 legislative session continues to be a challenging one with many bills that provide either a neutral or negative impact on the needs of low and middle income people in this state.

Alabama Arise has a web page that tracks the "Bills of Interest" for the 2013 Session and includes the status of the bill each week as it passes through the legislative process.

AAUW of Alabama is a member of Alabama Arise, and we encourage branches and individuals to joint this worthwhile organization. If you have questions, you can call them at: (334) 832-9060.

Please visit their website for more information, including a great page called "Arise Daily News Digest" which lists all of the latest Alabama news online: http://arisecitizens.org/

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Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee will present the following slate of officers at the AAUW of Alabama 2013 annual meeting:

Membership Vice President	Veronica Bryant
Treasurer	Diane Marks*
Secretary	Jimmie Anderson

Individual members or branches can present nominations from the floor. The committee includes Sandra Lott, chair, Audrey L. Salgado, and Veronica Bryant.
*Pending acceptance

Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform

Is Constitutional Reform Happening at Last?

ACCR has led the fight for years to get the Alabama legislature to address the "heavy" issue that hangs over our heads – the antiquated 1901 Alabama Constitution with well over 800 amendments (and growing). In the past, the legislature refused to consider bills that authorized a total revision of the whole document through a constitutional convention.

But, in 2011, the legislature finally took some action and established a Constitutional Revision Commission to review and revise the document article-by-article. Among commission members are former Governor Albert Brewer, Representatives Mike Hubbard, Paul DeMarco, and Patricia Todd, as well as Senator Del Marsh and eight others.

In 2011, the commission addressed the two Articles of the Constitution on Corporations (Article XII) and Banks and Banking (Article XIII). Their recommendations were approved by the legislature in 2012, and voted upon by the people in the special election last September (Amendments 9 and 10).

In 2012, the commission addressed Distribution of Powers of Government (Article III) and Legislative Department (Article IV), but no bills have been introduced yet to the legislature regarding these sections.

In 2013, actions to reform other articles continue on. For instance, during the week of March 11-15, subcommittees held meetings to address: Bill of Rights (Article I), Local Government (Article IV), Executive (Article V), and Education (Article XIV).

We will have to wait and see how much can really be accomplished before 2014 is over. For more information, visit this Alabama Law Institute webpage: http://ali.state.al.us/constitutional-revision.html

NATIONAL NEWS

Support NCCWSL

The next National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) will be held May 30 – June 1 at the University of Maryland, in College Park. This exciting event teaches young college women from our communities to be successful leaders. It is a fast-paced, two-and-a-half day conference that is full of inspirational lectures from women leaders and excellent workshops full of information and activities.

Early registration is now open, through April 12, and regular registration is through May 15. There are a few scholarships available to cover or offset the expenses to attend the event, IF young women act quickly. In addition, AAUW branches might consider a fundraiser event to send a local woman to this great event. Information about NCCWSL can be found at: http://www.nccwsl.org/

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From National AAUW Membership:

Spring is AAUW's top recruitment and retention season, so don't forget the AAUW tools that you can use to grow your membership.

These include:
- Shape the Future: recruit new members at special events with discounted rates.
- AAUW Keys to the Future: Member-Get-a-Member campaign - get recognition for recruiting friends.
- Give a Grad a Gift: give one-year free membership to a new or recent graduate.

Not sure about the programs?
Contact connect@aauw.org

AAUW Women of Distinction Awards

Held in conjunction with the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, the Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony pays tribute to women leaders who have made extraordinary contributions in their professions or their communities. The award winners are leaders in their fields, innovators of unique programs and services, and lifelong advocates for promoting equity for women and girls everywhere.

The Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony honors not only excellence but also ingenuity and the ability to overcome barriers that still exist for women. The women selected for this honor represent a diversity of professional fields, personal characteristics, and life experiences.

The Women of Distinction for 2013 are:

Katie Miller
Policy and Government Affairs Chair
OutServe-SLDN Board of Directors

Reshma Saujani
Former Deputy Public Advocate of NYC and
Founder of Girls Who Code

Donna Shalala
President, University of Miami

Lydia Villa-Komaroff
Chief Scientific Officer at Cytonome ST

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A Simple Truth

On March 8, 2013, AAUW released an updated version of its report, *A Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap*. In this common sense guide, AAUW breaks down the latest research on the gender pay gap into key, straightforward facts, including:

- state-by-state rankings of the pay gap
- the pay gap by age, race/ethnicity, and education
- guidance for women facing workplace discrimination
- resources for fair pay advocates

Here is the page with links to the report and to a Power Point presentation of the report:
http://www.aauw.org/research/the-simple-truth-about-the-gender-pay-gap/

AAUW National Convention in New Orleans

"*Laissez les bons temps rouler": Let the good times roll* in vibrant and historic New Orleans!

Explore. Learn. Share. Join us in the Big Easy at the Sheraton New Orleans hotel from June 9–12 for AAUW's 47th National Convention. Engaging speakers, interactive workshops, and insightful panels will guide us in an exploration of ***Breaking through Barriers: Leading across Generations***. For 131 years, AAUW has helped women advance through every stage of their lives. This June we will celebrate our accomplishments, reflect on our challenges, and explore our opportunities.

What's New at Convention?

- 4 workshop tracks, featuring more workshops than ever before!
- Skill-building sessions to help you become a more effective member and AAUW leader
- A celebration of 125 years of Fellowships and Grants at AAUW
- A celebration of 50 years since the Equal Pay Act and 40 years of Title IX
- National updates and workshops to help you build a better branch
- Lots and lots of chances to network with other AAUW members and explore fabulous New Orleans.

The **Great Speakers** we have at this meeting include:

Cynthia D'Amour – Featured Speaker for the Membership Plenary Session. A noted lecturer and author, she specializes in working with associations that want to get more volunteers involved and leaders who want to achieve outrageous success.

Melissa Harris-Perry – 2013 Distinguished Alumni Award Winner. Award-winning author, expert news commentator, and professor of political science at Tulane, she hosts her own news show on MSNBC, where she discusses gender equity, racial issues, politics and other critical issues of the day.

Lilly Ledbetter – Featured Panelist on Pay Equity. Lilly earned national attention when her eponymous Fair Pay Act of 2009 was signed by President Obama, as a law to reverse the damage caused by the SCOTUS decision in her wage discrimination lawsuit. She is a frequent speaker now across the nation, including at many AAUW conventions and meetings.

Robin Gerber – Featured Speaker for the Leadership Plenary Session. She is an expert historian, best-selling author, and inspirational keynote speaker and storyteller, who uses moving stories from the lives of great women leaders to illustrate leadership lessons.

Will there be a TRAIN to NEW ORLEANS??
Maybe so!
National AAUW is trying to finalize details for a special ***AAUW Train to New Orleans*** to pick up passengers along the way from New York City to New Orleans on the Amtrak Crescent Line. For folks in Alabama, most of us would board the train at the Birmingham Station for about an 8 hour trip. It does appear there are also stops in Anniston and Tuscaloosa. If you might be interested in this adventure, contact Jo Ann Cummings at joannc1972@charter.net, and I will keep you up-to-date on the latest, once details are finalized. Otherwise, you can also contact me to coordinate any carpooling if you choose to drive instead.

Come join us as we savor the gumbo, sway with the jazz, and marvel at the vibrancy, color, and diversity that is New Orleans. Take a moment to enjoy all it has to offer and to celebrate our 2013 National Convention with a cause. What is that cause? Celebrating women and girls — as well as hope and recovery of all kinds!

AAUW WASHINGTON UPDATE

Violence Against Women Act Passed by the Senate
February 23 – The Senate voted 78-to-22 on February 11 to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act, showing bipartisan support for a measure that would reinstate domestic violence prevention programs and extend the law's protections to gays and lesbians and women on tribal reservations. The bill also included campus safety provisions and a human trafficking bill was added as an amendment. After various maneuvers by the GOP in the House, on Thursday, February 23, the House approved the inclusive Senate-passed VAWA by a bipartisan vote of 286-138. VICTORY at last! President Obama signed the bill March 7.

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AAUW and Clinton Global Initiative Form Strategic Partnership
March 5 – AAUW is now a Strategic Partner of the Clinton Global Initiative and the Clinton Global Initiative University (CGI U), a move that brings together two leading organizations dedicated to making a tangible impact on the world.

From April 5-7, 2013, President Clinton will host the sixth annual meeting of CGI U at Washington University in St. Louis where student leaders, including those from the AAUW community, as well as NGO representatives, topic experts, and celebrities will gather to address global challenges with practical solutions. This is an exciting opportunity for our young leaders.

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Voting Rights Act Takes Center Stage at SCOTUS
February 27 – The Supreme Court heard arguments in a case challenging Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, which requires states with a history of racial discrimination to receive pre-clearance from the Justice Department or federal court before amending any voting laws.

One *Washington Post* columnist remarked that Wednesday's oral arguments demonstrated how the two newest justices – both women – appear to be willing to take on "the reigning bully of the Supreme Court," Justice Antonin Scalia.

Statue of Rosa Parks Unveiled at the Capitol
February 27 – More than half a century after Rosa Parks helped kindle the civil rights movement by refusing to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Alabama, she has become the first black woman to be honored with a life-size statue in the Capitol. President Obama and Congressional leaders paid tribute to Mrs. Parks, whose act of defiance and work in the civil rights movement helped spur desegregation across the country and the passage of the Voting Rights Act. "This morning, we celebrate a seamstress, slight of stature but mighty in courage," President Obama said.

Almost simultaneously with the ceremony, the landmark law was facing a legal challenge at the Supreme Court, across the street from the Capitol.

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How to be an Advocacy ROCK STAR!
AAUW's Public Policy and Government Relations Department has compiled a set of **how-to resources** to guide you in advocating for women and girls, whether it is through a meeting with your elected official or a social media campaign. Use these how-to's to familiarize yourself with tried-and-true techniques, explore new ways to make your events a success, or train new members and leaders who want to get involved in advocacy. Here is the link to that information: http://www.aauw.org/article/how-to-be-an-aauw-advocacy-rock-star/

AAUW of Alabama's Business Meeting to Be Hosted by the Marion Branch April 5-6

Marion is a small branch in the family of AAUW of Alabama (11 members), but it's quite active. Mary Cosby-Moore is its president. In national convention years, AAUW of Alabama holds a shorter, more relaxed business meeting at one of our smaller branches. Those of us who have had a hand in the planning are looking forward to this event. It's a great chance to expand our horizons in seeing how some of our other branches operate.

Marion is the county seat of Perry County, in the historic Black Belt of Alabama. Perry County is located a bit to the west of mid-state, and thus is relatively convenient for members attending from all over the state.

Marion, a small Southern town, is noted for a number of historic antebellum buildings, great cuisine, antique stores, and the gorgeous rolling hills of Central Alabama. You could probably make a day trip, if you are not coming for a Friday event, but if you are making an overnight trip, we're staying at Sleep Inn & Suites. The pre-convention workshops, board and business meetings, Saturday lunch, and all programs except the executive committee meeting Friday and the tour of the Alabama Women's Hall of Fame Saturday will be held in the Dining Hall in Archibald Hall at Judson College. The Executive Committee will meet Friday evening at the Swampfox Tavern in Marion.

Our theme for the annual meeting will be ***Continuing the Legacy of Women's Leadership.*** Saturday's activities will include a visit to the Alabama Women's Hall of Fame, located on the campus of Judson College in A. Howard Bean Hall, occupying the main floor. The Hall of Fame was established to provide a permanent place of honor for Alabama's most outstanding women. These women's stories are told through portraits, photographs, letters, and bronze plaques.

Inductees have included (as of March 7) Dr. Frances Roberts, former president of the Huntsville Branch, and Zora Neale Hurston. Others have included AAUW of Alabama state president Hallie Farmer, Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King, Huntsville's poet and artist Howard Weeden, Zelda Sayre Fitzgerald, Tallulah Bankhead, Julia Tutwiler, Helen Keller, and Katherine Vickery, psychology teacher at Alabama College (the University of Montevallo), president of the Alabama Psychological Association, and charter member of the American Association of University Women, as well as state president and vice president of the Southeast Central Region.

Pre-convention activities for students will be held Friday, April 5, on the Campus of Judson (see the agenda). We're expecting a large and energetic attendance. There will also be a student mixer at which pizza will be served and *Iron-Jawed Angels* will be shown, discussion following. The students will report briefly on their conclusions during the regular session Saturday.

Elaine Hughes, former chair, AAUW National Public Policy Committee, will be our luncheon speaker Saturday, in the Dining Hall. She will address "Foundations Laid: Steps to the Future."

Afternoon sessions include speakers Melissa Oliver, Arise Citizens' Policy Project Legislative Coordinator; Amy Blackwell, AAUW director-at-large, presenting the AAUW National Update; and Stacey Payne-King, representative of The 2014 Project Alabama.

The Marion Branch has put a good deal of work into what promises to be a gracious experience, and we have some exciting speakers and an opportunity to visit the women of the past who fought so ardently to better women's situations and make Alabama a better state in which to live.

Convention early registration will be accepted through March 25, and the rates are as follows (before and after that date):

Annual Meeting	$40.00
Annual Meeting (after 3/25)	$45.00
Student registration	$25.00
Saturday Lunch only	$20.00

Student registration includes Friday dinner/mixer.

Submit registration forms to Velma Essex, P.O. Box 984, Marion, AL 36756; (334) 683-9854; veej_36756@yahoo.com

Rooms will be available at the Sleep Inn & Suites, 1605 Highway 5, Marion (334) 683-8600 Be sure to ask for the AAUW rate of $99.00 when you book your room.

Please make your reservation, send in your registration now, then come join us at the 2013 annual meeting!

Continuing the Legacy of Women's Leadership

AAUW of Alabama Annual Business Meeting – April 5-6, 2013

Judson College * Sleep Inn & Suites, 1605 Highway 5, Marion, AL (334) 683-8600

FRIDAY ACTIVITIES – APRIL 5, 2013

Pre-Convention Student Workshops – Judson College, Archibald Hall
1:00 – 4:45 pm – Two Student Workshops
6:30 – 9:00 pm – Student Dinner and Mixer with discussion group

Regular Meeting Schedule – Sleep Inn
4:00 – 7:00 pm – Registration and Packet Pick-Up at Sleep Inn
6:00 – 9:00 pm – Executive Committee Dinner and Meeting
Swampfox Tavern, 110 E. Green Street, Marion (334) 683-2121

SATURDAY ACTIVITIES – APRIL 6, 2013

All activities at Judson College
7:30 – 10:00 am – Registration and Packet Pick-Up
8:00 – 9:45 am – AAUW Alabama Board of Directors meeting

AAUW of Alabama Annual Meeting

10:00 – 10:45 am – Welcome; Opening Remarks
11:00 – 12:15 am – Tour of Alabama Women's Hall of Fame, A. Howard Bean Hall

12:30 – 1:30 pm – Elaine Hughes, former Chair, AAUW National Public Policy Committee
"Foundations Laid: Steps to the Future"

1:45 – 4:00 pm – Afternoon Sessions
Alabama Arise, AAUW National Update, 2014 Project Alabama
Student feedback from Friday night mixer

4:15 – 5:30 pm – Annual Business Meeting and Elections

AAUW of Alabama 2013 Annual Meeting – April 5-6, 2013
Judson College – Archibald Hall, 302 Bibb St., Marion, AL 36756
Sleep Inn & Suites, 1605 Highway 5, Marion, AL (334) 683-8600
http://www.sleepinn.com/hotel-marion-alabama-AL390

AAUW of Alabama 2013 Annual Business Meeting

Continuing the Legacy of Women's Leadership

Judson College * Sleep Inn & Suites * Marion, AL

April 5-6, 2013

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____ City_____ Zip _____

AAUW Member __ Yes AAUW Member # _____ Branch _____

Student/ Affiliate __ Yes Campus _____

Non-Member __ Yes Company or Organization (if any) _____

I will be attending
__ Saturday Meeting (10:00 am to 5:30 pm, 4/6)
__ Executive Committee (6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, Friday)
__ Board Meeting (8:00 am to 9:45 am, Saturday)
__ Student Workshops (1:00 pm to 4:45 pm, Friday)
__ Student Mixer (6:30 pm to 9 pm, Friday)
__ Lunch Only (12:30 pm to 1:30 pm, Saturday)

REGISTRATION FEES

Annual Meeting (before 3/25)	__	$ 40.00	(3/25 and after)	__	$ 45.00
Student	__	25.00	Lunch Only	__	20.00

Please list any dietary limitations or requirements: _____

Special Hotel Rate at Sleep Inn & Suites is $99.00 (+tax). Tell them it is for "AAUW."
1605 Highway 5, Marion AL 36756; (334) 683-8600. Please register by March 25 to ensure rate.

EARLY REGISTRATION ENDS MARCH 25TH. LAST DAY TO MAIL IN FORMS IS APRIL 2ND

We need to know the headcount for lunch by APRIL 1st, so if you plan to attend and wish a meal, please register or contact Velma Essex by that date. After that, lunch is subject to availability. Please call early if you are planning to register the day of the event.

The Executive Committee Meeting location is: Swampfox Tavern, 110 E. Green Street, Marion (334) 683-2121

For questions, contact: Mary Cosby Moore (334) 683-6106, mary.moore@alacourt.gov
Patti Steelman (615) 478-7732, pattisteelman@gmail.com
Wanda Foster (256) 536-3166, wlfoster002@yahoo.com

Mail your check and registration to: AAUW Marion Branch
c/o Velma Essex, P O B 984, Marion, AL 36756; (334) 683-9854; email: veej_36756@yahoo.com

AAUW
Events Calendar

Important Upcoming Meetings
Please mark your calendar for these meeting dates and events:

April 5, 2013
AAUW of Alabama State Executive Committee
Marion

April 6, 2013
AAUW of Alabama Board & Annual Meeting
Judson College, Marion

April 9, 2013
Equal Pay Day

May 30 - June 1, 2013
NCCWSL, University of Maryland,
College Park, MD

June 9-12, 2013
AAUW National Convention, New Orleans

August 1, 2013
Fellowships and Grants Applications accepted

August, 2013
AAUW of Alabama State Executive Committee and Board of Directors Meeting, Birmingham

August 26, 2013
Women's Equality Day: 92nd anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment, giving women the right to vote

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AAUW of Alabama
JoAnn Cummings
Communications Director

2505 Ashmor Place SE
Decatur AL 35603

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