

August 2013

President's Letter: August 2013

New Beginnings



The beginning of the academic year is my favorite time of the year. I enjoy seeing our new students come to campus; the excitement they have for what lies ahead is contagious. Their parents and family members are

AAUW's Mission

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

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equally as excited, perhaps to be able to reclaim their student's room for a new hobby space, but more likely because they are looking forward to seeing their student emerge from their college experience as an adult. I greet the new academic year with a renewed sense of optimism, with hopefulness that I can be the person who provides the support, challenge, and encouragement that our students need to be successful.

Much like the beginning of the new academic year, our AAUW Huntsville branch has some new beginnings of its own to celebrate. I am excited to be co-leader of our branch with Cindi Branham. We have a great group of women who have agreed to serve in various leadership capacities within the branch as well. We continue to need more person-power to lead the various programs and initiatives in our branch. Do you have an interest in serving in a leadership role? Do you have a couple of hours a month you could give to a specific project? If so, I hope you will take a moment to complete our online interest inventory linked here (http://tinyurl.com/timetalentaauw)

Earlier this summer we began a strategic planning conversation with the board. Through those conversations, four themes emerged including outreach, engaging our members, communications, and college/university outreach. Board members agreed to spearhead further discussions on these topics. The action items related to these workgroups were presented at our August board meeting. We expect these action items to set the direction and strategies for the branch this year.

In closing, I am looking forward to serving the branch in this role this year. It is certainly a new beginning for me as I learn more about the great women who have provided leadership for the branch in the past and about those who continue to serve now. I hope some of you will consider taking on a project or a role within the group in the coming months as we have some really great ideas that can only come to fruition with your assistance!

Dr. Regina Hyatt, Co-President AAUW Huntsville Branch

September Meeting – The Women of NCCWSL

Rose Norman

Please join us on **Tuesday, September 3, 2013, 5:30-7:30 p.m.** at <u>Covenant Presbyterian Church</u> <u>Fellowship Hall, 301 Drake Ave. SE, Huntsville, AL</u>, when we will hear first-hand from the young women who, with our support, attended the <u>National Conference for</u> <u>College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)</u>.



This year, the branch sent five students to the NCCWSL that AAUW sponsors every year at the University of Maryland. Several of them will speak at the September 3 branch meeting, and they will be recruiting others to participate in planning a student leadership day this coming April as part of the state AAUW convention, to be held in Huntsville on April 4-5, 2014.



Laquise Harbin is a rising senior in Human Development and Family Studies at Alabama A&M University. She writes: "The 2013 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders was an empowering experience. It was amazing to meet so many ambitious and virtuous women, many of whom are my peers. It was extremely refreshing to get to know of other college women who have such high standards, goals, and drive to not only better their own colleges and universities but this nation as a whole. The speeches by the keynote speakers and Women of Distinction award recipients were so inspirational to say the least. These women were in my shoes and have gone above and beyond what society thought they could do. The conference gave me insight on how to not only improve myself as a leader but how to improve myself as a person. It was definitely nothing short of a life changing experience. "

Laquise (right) with author Rachel Simmons.



Shantrell Willis (right) with a new friend she made at NCCWSL.

Shantrell Willis, a graduate student in Food Science at Alabama A&M University, writes, "Leading women empowering other women in leadership positions – that was the spirit in the air during NCCWSL. As a first time attendee of this prestigious, inspirational conference, I truly feel like a new person, seeing my life through new eyes. The various workshops and keynote speakers opened my eyes to new strategies on how to manage not only the organizations that I lead, but also my life. When time came for the last official day of the conference, the atmosphere had a bittersweet tone. Everyone was eager to listen to the last keynote speaker, but no one was ready for the conference to end. New friends and connections had been made amongst the attendees that would possibly last a lifetime. In a short three-day period, NCCWSL had transformed me into a completely different woman. I felt enriched, empowered, brave, and confident that I could handle whatever was thrown my way."



Candice Whitman



Kenya Wallace at NCCWSL.

Candice D. Whitman is a Culinary Arts & Hospitality Management Major at J.F. Drake State Community & Technical College. Her expected date of graduation is May 2014. Candice is a loving wife who enjoys cooking and spending time with her family. Candice continues to strive for academic excellence maintaining a 3.5 GPA. Her extracurricular activities include Student Government Association President and Image of Christ Dance Ministry Leader. Candice has future aspirations of becoming a business entrepreneur and philanthropist.

Kenya Wallace is a PhD student in Chemistry and Materials Science at UAHuntsville, and serves as co-Membership VP for the local AAUW branch. "I gained substantial knowledge on not only how to be an effective leader, but also on how to take my best assets, share and pass them on to other female peers, and how to learn from them as well. The state of Alabama had several students in attendance. I was able to connect with another UAH student as well as students from AAMU and UAB. We each share a passion for seeing change and a greater female presence in student leadership roles at our respective universities. NCCWSL afforded the opportunity to network with women from all walks of life. The pure joy and eagerness from my female peers showed that this generation of young women is ready to take action and break through all barriers that hinder the female population. I went to NCCWSL as an attendee expecting to enhance only leadership skills. However, I left NCCWSL with enthusiasm, readiness to work, a network of like-minded female peers, and a renewed sense of pride in being a woman."

Karelohn Williams, a sophomore at UAHuntsville from Cullman, is planning a degree in Liberal Arts.



Karelohn Williams (left), with author Rachel Simmons and Kenya Wallace.

Dinner Reservations Required

The **menu for our September meeting** includes pasta primavera with green beans, cherry tomatoes, zucchini and pecorino cheese; Spanish meatballs with cinnamon and nutmeg; salad and vinaigrette; baguette slices; chocolate cheesecake brownies; and tea, coffee, and water. **Reservations are required by Saturday, August 31**. Cost of the meal is **\$16**. Respond to the meeting Evite, contact Lois Guendel at <u>lois.guendel@knology.net</u>, or phone **(256) 880-8643**.

Something New

Starting in September. we will be doing some table top mixer discussions and using assigned tables to help new members get to know people better. This is a way to use the time before we start eating in a more deliberate manner and not leave guests and new members feeling left out of the informal networking. That informal networking is good, too, and there will be time for that as we get our meals, after the program, and on months when we don't have formal mixers.

NCCWSL "Lite"

The branch College/University Connections committee, led by UAHuntsville AAUW University Representative Dr. Molly Johnson, met in July and discussed ways of fostering relationships with the many local colleges and universities. Since NCCWSL has been such a strong thread the past few years, they decided to use the September branch meeting, which includes NCCWSL student speakers, to begin planning an Alabama version of this leadership conference. Dubbed "NCCWSL Lite," this event will be April 4, 2014, the Friday of the 2014 state convention, to be held in Huntsville. The committee who came up with this idea included UAHuntsville graduate student **Kenya Wallace**, as well as UAHuntsville alumni **Sarah Ragan ("Ragan")** and **Heather Harwell**, who attended NCCWSL five years ago. Both Kenya and Ragan now serve on our branch board.

Leadership Team 2013-2014



Board of Directors

| Position | Co-Director | Co-Director |
|------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| President | Regina Hyatt | Cindi Branham |
| | <u>regina.hyatt@uah.edu</u> | cindi@netfocusmarketing.com |
| Programs | Joy Agee | Carolyn Lord |
| | joy.marie40@gmail.com | cy.lord@omniteam.com |
| Funds | Amanda Jarrett | Sarah Ragan |
| | apjarrett@gmail.com | Ragans@alumni.uah.edu |
| Membership | Sherry Anderson | Kenya Wallace |
| | mawmawto4@gmail.com | kmw0011@uah.edu |

| Secretary | Beverly Watson nthemix99@hotmail.com | |
|-----------|---|--|
| Treasurer | Peggy East eastp@aol.com | |

Appointed Chairs

| Position | Chair | Co-Chair |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Public Policy | Anna Blair | |
| | annablairlaw@yahoo.com | |
| Friendship | Bernice Richardson | Ruth Jurenko |
| | bcbay@aol.com | rjurenko@hiwaay.net |
| Reservations | Lois Guendel | |
| | lois.guendel@knology.net | |
| Volunteers | Marilyn Robertson | |
| | Marilyn.robertson@knology.net | |
| Public Relations | Patricia Smith | |
| | Smithpatricia73@yahoo.com | |
| Hospitality | JoAnn Perez | |
| | jperez@perezlaw.us | |
| C/U Liaison | Molly Johnson | |
| | Molly.johnson@uah.edu | |
| Newsletter | Karen Rudiger | |
| | <u>rkrudiger@att.net</u> | |
| Diversity | | |
| Outreach | Ellie Lienau <u>elienau@yahoo.com</u> | |
| Awards | | |
| L | | |

Project Coordinators

| Project | Coordinator |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| Lunch.com | Lorraine Mullin Lorrm@knology.net |

| Great Decisions | Mary Witherspoon |
|-----------------|--|
| | witherspoon8@comcast.net |
| | |
| Morning Bridge | Lorraine Mullin Lorrm@knology.net |
| | |
| Book Club | Patricia Smith smithpatricia73@yahoo.com |
| | and Karen Rudiger rkrudiger@att.net |
| | |

Membership

Sherry Anderson, Membership Vice President

Membership Renewals Are Overdue

Since the fiscal year ends on June 30th, so do memberships for 2012-13. If you have already renewed for 2013-14, or if you are a Lifetime Member, many thanks to you! On the other hand, if you've been procrastinating, you may still renew and mark off one more item on your to-do list. Here is the dues structure.

| Dues | | Student Affilia | te** |
|-----------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| National* | \$49.00 | National | \$17.00 |
| State | 10.00 | State | 5.00 |
| Local | 15.00 | Local | 7.50 |
| Total | \$74.00 | Total | \$29.50 |

*National Paid Life-members pay for just state and local dues, \$25.

**Undergraduate students at a college or university that is already a partner member may join the national organization for free, bringing the cost down to \$12.50. Graduate students pay \$18.81 plus the \$12.50 for state and local dues.

If you still need to renew, just bring your checkbook to the September 3rd meeting, and see either Sherry Anderson or Kenya Wallace. Make checks payable to AAUW Huntsville. If you prefer, you may mail them to Sherry Anderson, 101 Steeplechurch Ct., Huntsville, AL 35806-4072. Any questions should be directed to aauwmember@gmail.com or 256-895-8530.

Member Payment Program Coming to Huntsville

You asked for it, so it is now on its way. The Member Payment Program allows anyone to join or renew AAUW membership online with a credit card or to mail a check directly to the national office and to include state and branch dues. The Member Services Database is updated the same day the credit card payment is approved rather than weeks later. There is no cost to the branch for this service, and it saves time and effort in routine record keeping for Membership officers and the Treasurer. Other branches are already aboard and utilizing the program and are reporting that it works very well for them, and they highly recommend it.

Watch for an announcement that the program is now in place. We hope to have it online and available by the September meeting.

Now, if you still prefer to pay in person at the next meeting or to mail your check to your Membership person instead, you are welcome to continue to do so.

Member Directory Addendum

Addendum 5 to the current Member Directory will be available at the September meeting to keep you up-to-date with new members. The 2013-14 Member Directory will be published later this fall and made available to all members.

Funds

Amanda Jarrett, AAUW Funds Co-Vice President

Please save the date for the annual Breaking through Barriers Luncheon!

When: Friday, March 7, 2014, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: <u>Valley Hill Country Club</u> (off Willowbrook in SE Huntsville near Grissom High School)

Tickets will be \$35. This is our main fundraiser to send local college women to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). You can also make a donation and not come to the luncheon if you'd prefer.

Recycling Project



It's time again to gather up old cell phones, ink cartridges, and any other electronic item or old jewelry. Remember, these items do not have to be in working condition! A **recycling bin will be available at the September 3rd meeting** to collect your items. We will be sending the items to be recycled and we will actually earn money for them! There is no cost to you or to the branch for these efforts. We will use the money to help send our local college women to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders! Thank you in advance for your contributions!

Volunteer Opportunities

Watch this column in September's newsletter for more information!

Public Policy

Anna Blair ("Blair"), Public Policy Chair

Our "New and Improved" AAUW Public Policy Program 2013-2015

With each two-year tweaking process, the national AAUW Public Policy Committee relies on a number of sources and resources. State policy chairs and we individual members can propose changes and offer feedback on them to develop, update, and strengthen our Public Policy Program. From these suggestions and resulting feedback, the Committee hopes to propose a Public Policy Program based on "viability, critical need, strong member support and potential for distinctive contribution."

Among the Baker's Dozen of edits we adopted in our new policy guide, we selected those that strengthen our emphasis on economic security and equality for women; protect Medicare and Medicaid;

support "civil and human rights" of immigrants, including a path to citizenship.

We also newly affirmed our active participation in the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in our previous commitment to the UN Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). We specifically added "STEM education" and "comprehensive sex education" to our continuing support of Title IX. In light of increasing college tuition, we now emphasize "affordable" higher education. Finally we give timely attention to recent threats to our right to vote. We advocate vigorous "enforcement" of our civil and constitutional rights, "including voting rights."

You can get up to 10 free copies of our new Public Policy brochure from AAUW at <u>connect@aauw.org</u> or 800-326-2289. Please remember that AAUW Action Network helps us with interest and an e-mail address to take action to affect outcome of important policy issues. The Network links directly to AAUW's Two-Minute Activist. Here we can read short summaries of current issues and click to send our letters of support, or not, to Congress. Go to <u>www.aauw.org/actionnetwork</u> to subscribe.

If you do not receive *Washington Update*, AAUW's free, members-only weekly e-bulletin, please subscribe by e-mailing <u>VoterEd@aauw.org</u>. Do it today to keep current on issues we care about. Through our participation in AAUW's continuing education and advocacy opportunities, we can all make a difference.

News to Note



Congratulations to member **LaJoy Johns**, who has been awarded a \$2000 Redstone Federal Credit Union Scholarship. LaJoy, a student at Athens State College, will graduate in August of 2014. Learn more about LaJoy and the other scholarship winners at <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e2YoBuigtX8</u>.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY 19TH AMENDEMENT!

August 18 marks the 93rd birthday of Women's Suffrage. Let's celebrate this precious right even as we must continue to protect it!



Bette L. Yeager, age 66, of New Hope, died on Wednesday August 14, 2013 from pancreatic cancer.

Many of you will remember Bette from her one-woman play on Virginia Woolf, which she performed for AAUW in October of 2011 at the main library. She was phenomenal. Cindi Branham remembers that "It was sublime. Bette as Virginia held the audience totally rapt. She became Virginia, and took us with her."

A memorial service for Ms. Yeager will be held Friday August 23, 2013 at 1 p.m. at Monte Santo State Park Lodge.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to <u>Alabama Arise</u> or your favorite charity.

AAUW National Convention Highlights – June 9-13

Photos by Beverly Watson

We'll be hearing more from our members who attended the AAUW National Convention in New Orleans throughout the year.



Study Groups Great Decisions

All are invited to the Great Decisions Study Group meeting on **Monday, September 9**, at **7 p.m.** at the home of Mary Witherspoon, **5713 Criner Road**. The subject of discussion will be "**Myanmar**" led by **June Grizzell**. This is Chapter 4 in the study guide, but those who do not have the book are welcome to attend. For more information contact Mary at 256-881-6540 or <u>witherspoon8@comcast.net</u>.

Bridge Group

The Bridge Group meets **September through May** on the **third Thursday** of each month at **9:00 a.m., usually ending by noon**. Contact **Lorraine Mullin** at <u>lorrm@knology.net</u> or call **256-772-2549** (h) or **235-683-5530** (c) if you are interested in joining the group as a permanent player or as a substitute.

The past several months we have NOT been able to get two tables with the members of the group. In fact, one table has been a stretch. If any of you have an interest in playing this next year, consider joining us. We would love to have you as part of the group or have you substitute if you don't think you can participate full time.

Lunch.com

Lunch.com meets **every Friday at 12:30 p.m.**, unless the email notice says otherwise. All members are welcome. Just respond to the weekly email so **Lorraine Mullin** can advise the restaurant how many guests to expect. Not getting the notice? Contact Lorraine at <u>lorrm@knology.net</u> or **256-772-2549** (h) or **235-683-5530** (c).

September

| 6 | Wintzell's Oyster House, 5100 Snderson Street Northwest |
|----|---|
| 13 | Main Street Café, 101 Main Street, Madison |
| 20 | Sitar Indian Cuisine, 420 Jordan Lane Northwest |
| 27 | <u>1892 East, 720 Pratt Avenue Northeast</u> |

NEW STUDY GROUP

iAdelante! Book of the Month Club

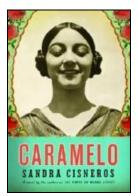
Patricia Smith, Public Relations

Are you a book lover? Does your book collection threaten to overtake your home? Okay, I admit it. This is the case at my house. Anyone that knows me knows of my addiction and often my friends feed it by giving me more.

This year a group of us are starting a book club. Not just any club, not just any books, but the books recommended by AAUW. The iAdelante! Book of the Month books are nominated and selected by the AAUW membership.

Book clubs are a fun, social way to open a dialogue on women, diversity, and change. Many AAUW members share a love of reading, and that love, partnered with a desire to seek out books written from diverse perspectives, launched a component of AAUW's diversity outreach program in 1996 — AAUW's iAdelante! Book of the Month Club. Since then, AAUW members have enjoyed exploring new ideas and perspectives through monthly discussions.

The 2013-2014 selections with a brief review of each book can be found at http://www.aauw.org/resource/adelante-book-list/. In addition, the selections will be on display at the September meeting.



Sandra Cisneros's Caramelo is the September National Hispanic Heritage Month selection. Please join us in this adventure. iAdelante! Book of the Month Club will meet on the **third Thursday** of each month at 6:00 p.m. We'll most likely be meeting at the Main Library. For more information contact: Patricia Smith at <u>smithpatricia73@yahoo.com</u> or Karen Rudiger at <u>rkrudiger@att.net</u>.

AAUW of Alabama

Wanda Foster, State President

Attending the AAUW national convention in New Orleans June 9-12 was exhilarating, informative, and for me a great chance to network with other AAUW presidents and fellow members. It was a thrill to meet Olympia Snowe, retired U.S. Senator from Maine, and to hang out a bit with new AAUW President Patricia Ho and Lisa Maatz, AAUW Vice President of Government Relations and AAUW's top policy adviser, as well as to visit with old friends, including Amy Blackwell, recently appointed AAUW Board of Directors liaison to the presidents of AAUW Alabama, Iowa, Michigan, and Mississippi. I attended the full day of events for state presidents and learned techniques from AAUW and tips from fellow presidents to move forward AAUW of Alabama. Of course, there's always the charm of New Orleans, a first-time experience for me.

Alabama had a good representation—16 members, including Huntsville members Cindi Branham, Sherry Anderson, Beverly Watson, Ellie Lienau, Devon Reynolds, Jo Ann Cummings, and Audrey Salgado. As far as I know, Shefa Suhaila, a student at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, was the only student sponsored to the convention.

The goals I want to pursue for 2013-14 are to reach out to add new college/university partners, enhance existing partnerships, and expand recruitment of e-student affiliates; develop coalitions with other state



State Presidents' Meeting at the National Convention.

organizations on common public policy goals and strengthen public policy; and increase overall membership and resurrect prior AAUW branches.

Thanks to what we learned at convention, we've come back with tools to work on these goals. Jo Ann Cummings is doing a masterful job serving as temporary College/University Relations chair and has developed a plan to reach out to colleges and universities throughout the state. If you're interested in building college/university relations, I urge you to attend the AAUW of Alabama board of directors meeting Saturday, August 24, at the Hoover Public Library, 200 Municipal Drive, Hoover, AL 35216. The board of directors meeting will be 1:00-3:00 pm in the Theatre Conference Room, followed by a strategic planning session, 3:15-5:00 pm, led by Jo Ann, on the best way to move forward to recruit more colleges, more students, more new members, and even new branches.

At the convention, I learned about a new State Grassroots Organizer program offered by national AAUW, applied, and AAUW of Alabama was accepted. The program starts September 1 and runs until June 30, 2014. AAUW of Alabama will share an organizer with Georgia, Tennessee, and Florida. Our point of contact with national will be our state public policy chair, Elaine Hughes. We want to pursue public policy goals such as pay equity, recruiting and training women to run for public office, reforming the state constitution, bringing more awareness to the Equal Rights Amendment, and building a state lobby corps. We want to build coalitions, especially through working with other state organizations to educate and protect people likely to be victimized by the new voter photo ID program scheduled to be implemented in Alabama in 2014. "Free" voter ID cards will be provided to those who do not have other valid forms of

ID. The problem is that the requirement of photo ID will discriminate against minorities, the poor, and the elderly, many of whom are undereducated and many of whom live in rural areas and do not have transportation.

It's going to be a busy year, along with planning the 2014 state convention to be held in Huntsville. Please pick your passion, and help us grow AAUW of Alabama.

If you want to see the convention agenda, check out <u>http://convention.aauw.org/files/2013/06/2013-</u> <u>Convention-Program.pdf</u>. And, if you want to access PowerPoints, handouts, videos, photos, the convention program booklet, and other resources from National Convention, they're at <u>http://convention.aauw.org/2013/07/10/2013-convention-materials- workshops-and-more/</u>.

Hold the Date



Our October meeting will be October 1 at **University Center**. UAHuntsville Women's Studies partnering with the UAHuntsville Women's Studies student organization, POWER; the UAH Veteran's Network; and the local branch of AAUW to sponsor a **free showing** of the 2012 documentary <u>Invisible War</u>. A film by **Kirby Dick** and **Amy Ziering**, *Invisible War* exposes the problem of **sexual assault in the U.S. military**.

Announcements

Arise Citizens' Policy Project Patricia Smith, Public Relations



The summer membership meeting of Alabama Arise was held on Saturday, August 10, 2013. A major issue of business at the meeting was proposed bylaw revisions concerning voting rights.

There are two classes of membership in Alabama Arise – organizations (AAUW- Huntsville Branch is one) and individual memberships. The change to by-laws passed. Now full member organizations will have voting rights in the form of one vote for each of its representatives present at a membership meeting with a maximum of 6 representatives. Individual members will have one vote per person providing they have paid their membership dues during the 12 month period ending 30 days prior to the membership meeting and affirm that they have fulfilled one of the following during that time: 1) signed up for email or telephone alerts; 2) reported to Arise that they have written or called a policymaker; 3) attended Lobby Day or another meeting with a legislator.

There were also changes in the number of votes that could be cast at the annual meeting. Individuals now can cast 5 votes and organizations represented by up to six designated persons can cast 7 votes for a total of no more than 42 votes per group in setting the priorities that Alabama Arise will address for the coming year. Each person voting can cast as individual or as a representative but not both. This means that for the annual meeting AAUW-Huntsville could cast 42 votes for the top issue to our organization.

Alabama Arise policy analyst, Stephen Stetson, made a presentation on predatory lending – its history and why it is damaging to individual Alabamians. Jim Carnes, Policy Team Leader for Alabama Arise, gave a presentation on Health Care and preparing for 2014 coverage. In both cases, complicated issues were explained and made more understandable. The annual meeting for Alabama Arise is September 21, 2013 in Montgomery. Please represent our AAUW branch at this meeting. This year we have the opportunity to have a larger voice with 6 representatives and 42 votes. Please contact Regina Hyatt if you are willing to help us get our important issues the focus of Alabama Arise's efforts to create a more just Alabama.

Patricia Smith is our AAUW representative to ARISE.

http://arisecitizens.org/

Knowledge, strategies & hope for building a more just, prosperous & healthy future Arise Citizens' Policy Project (334) 832-9060

The 2014 Project Alabama/ Ready to Run[™]



AAUW of Alabama is an ally of The 2014 Project Alabama, which Audrey Salgado, our Ready to Run^{TM} project director, chairs. Like our state Ready to Run^{TM} project, The 2014 Project Alabama is associated with the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) in the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers. CAWP is nationally recognized as the leading source of scholarly research and current data about American women's political participation. For more information about The 2014 Project Alabama, see its web site at <u>http://www.the2014projectal.org/</u>



CAWP received a Kellogg Foundation Grant to provide for a meeting of National Network Partners on campus in New Brunswick, New Jersey. CAWP has rolled in all the continuing 2012 Projects around the nation into this National Network Partners Program. Their Ready to Run[™] programs are also included. We are honored Alabama is included as one of the 16 states invited as part of the National Network Partners.

The meeting will be held on October 17-18, 2013. At least one major fall event is being planned in Jefferson, Lee, Madison and Tuscaloosa counties. A Women's Summit was held August 13 in Calhoun County at the Jacksonville Hampton Inn. The Ready to Run[™] training will be held September 21 in Calhoun County.

"Election, Voters, and the Law" kicked off July 11 in Shelby County with County Probate Judge James W. Fuhrmeister. The next session will be in Jefferson County on Tuesday, August 27, 10 – 11 a.m. with County Probate Judge Alan King. County Probate Judge Alice Martin (Calhoun County), County Probate Judge Bill English (Lee County), and County Probate Judge Tommy Ragland (Madison County) have agreed to conduct future sessions. Attempts will be made to schedule "Election, Voters, and the Law" in every county through December 2014.

Contact Audrey L. Salgado, Chair, <u>AudreyThe2014ProjectAL@gmail.com</u> for more information.

Go to <u>http://www.annistonstar.com/view/full_story/23356869/article-Local-summit-encourages-women-to-run-for-office?instance=news_right</u> for The Anniston Star news article about Calhoun County's Women's Summit on Government Leadership sponsored by The 2014 Project Alabama and held August 14 at the Jacksonville, AL Hampton Inn.

Breaking Through Barriers – Diversity

A strong woman is a woman determined to do something others are determined not be done. Marge Piercy (1936), American poet, novelist, and social activist