



# The BayStater

Spring 2010

Volume 34, Number 2



**Breaking through Barriers**



Barbara Burgo

## An Invitation from Barbara Burgo, AAUW-MA Program VP

We have a very exciting program this year. Our theme is **STEM Literacy - Breaking Through Barriers**. We will discuss the barriers that women face in these STEM fields. We will hear from **Andresse St. Rose, AAUW Research Associate** and co-author of a new AAUW research report on this very issue. She will be our keynote speaker. Copies of the AAUW report entitled: *Why so few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics* will be available for us at the convention. In addition, you'll hear from **Dave Kirkwood, AAUW Board of Directors**, from the **Massasoit Community College Campus Action Project** and from a panel of professional women who will share their experiences and challenges in selecting careers in the STEM fields. Our luncheon speaker will be **Ramila Usoof-Thowfeek**, the first recipient of the Sema Faigen International Fellowship. As you can see we have an outstanding convention program.

And don't forget to come on Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup> to participate in **LAUNCH--Moving ideas to the next level** (<http://museumatthemill.org>), also at BCC, Attleboro.

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Beryl Domingo

## Beryl's Message

Beryl Domingo, AAUW-MA President

In July 2007, when I became the President-elect for AAUW-MA, the AAUW world was in a state of flux. We had just returned from the national convention in Phoenix where the delegates voted overwhelmingly to approve changes to the structure of AAUW in order to survive as an organization. We took a courageous leap of faith without fully knowing what the new structure will look like and more importantly how it will be different enough to make a difference between mere survival and growth.

I am so proud to have been there when we were truly tested in our commitment to the organization, and to be part of the AAUW that transitioned over the next two and a half years into a vibrant, streamlined, professional and cool organization that advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

These changes took strong leadership, hard work, support and commitment from every single member of this organization. Together we helped move AAUW into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We pushed and pulled and spoke and nodded and voted and screamed and smiled and said yes, we can. We have made a difference. We are strong.

We still need to work at making a difference. Show your commitment and support by attending our **State Convention on April 10, 2010 at Bristol Community College in Attleboro**.

*Continued on page 2, column 1*

Beryl's message continued

We are not always able to attend the national conventions but your state convention is affordable and within an hour or so from your home. It is so important to stay connected to AAUW and to your fellow members, to get energized and inspired and to learn about what else is going on in the state and nationally. You get great program ideas, meet women leaders from across Massachusetts and you get to share your great ideas with us. The Annual Board Meeting immediately follows the convention. We have many issues to address and your voice and vote are very important.

It has been two months since the devastating earthquake in Haiti. This past month AAUW-MA Board voted to donate \$100.00 to CARE in support of the relief work in Haiti. We realize this is just a drop in the bucket but every little bit helps. On March 6<sup>th</sup>, a very dear friend of AAUW Taunton hosted a fundraising event at Rhode Island College to assist in the rebuilding of Haiti – one woman at a time. The event was co-sponsored by AAUW-MA. The event raised over \$2000 to support Fonkoze, a Haitian Women's Micro-Finance Credit Organization. For more information please visit the Event Facebook page:[www.facebook.com/pages/rebuilding-Haiti-one-woman-at-a-time/468709690576?ref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/pages/rebuilding-Haiti-one-woman-at-a-time/468709690576?ref=ts).

We have so many exciting and important events and programs in MA that promote and support equity for women. As you know, a year ago President Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. However this did not go far enough to ensure pay equity in the workplace. We need passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act. This is what is posted on the AAUW website in this regard: "On Tuesday, March 11, the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will hold a hearing on the **Paycheck Fairness Act (S.182)**. As AAUW members are quite aware, the Paycheck Fairness Act is a much needed update of the 46-year-old Equal Pay Act. This comprehensive bill – which now has 37 Senate cosponsors – would create stronger incentives for employers to follow the law, empower women to negotiate for equal pay, and strengthen federal outreach, education and enforcement efforts. The bill would also deter wage discrimination by strengthening penalties for equal pay violations and by prohibiting retaliation against workers who ask about employers' wage practices or disclose their own wages. In short, the bill updates the law to reflect the practices and processes under more recent civil rights laws. Following the enactment of the **Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act** last year, passing the Paycheck Fairness Act is a logical next step forward in the fight for pay equity."

Don't forget April 20<sup>th</sup> is Pay Equity Day!! Because equity is STILL an ISSUE!!

I also hope to see you all on April 10 2010 at our State Convention.

## Meet the Presenters

### Keynote Speaker

#### Andresse St. Rose

AAUW Research Associate



Andresse St. Rose

**Andresse St. Rose** is a research associate at AAUW where her work focuses on gender equity in education and the workplace. She earned her doctoral degree in Education Policy and Administration from the George Washington University and her research interests focus on how gender, race and socioeconomic status affect access and outcomes in higher education. Prior to coming to AAUW, she worked as an academic counselor at Northeastern University, Boston, MA

and taught high school math and biology at the International School of Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. Dr. St. Rose is a co-author of *Where the Girls Are: The Facts about Gender Equity in Education* (2008) and AAUW's latest report *Why So Few: Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics* (2010). She has a bachelor's degree from Hamilton College, Clinton, NY and a master's degree from Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA.

### AAUW Representative

#### David Kirkwood

AAUW Director at Large



Dave Kirkwood

**Dave Kirkwood** recently retired from Unisys Corporation where he served in a variety of general management positions engaged in both computer development and manufacturing operations.

His AAUW activities have included: editorial input for the Strategic Process and Executive Summary documents; two-term member of the Membership Committee; numerous presentations on the Strategic Process, recruiting Baby Boomers, Generational Characteristics and Pay Equity; contributions to the AAUW Blog; content for the AAUW Leadership DVD; participation on the Executive Search committee (which recommended the hiring of Linda Hallman); development of the Minnesota E-Branch; and first-term member of AAUW Board of Directors.

Presenters continued on page 3

# Superlative Sisters

## Alison Lima

### MCSW Names Alison Lima Unsung Heroine - 2009

**Alison Lima** graduated as Class Valedictorian of Taunton High School's class of 2001. Born and raised in Taunton, one of two daughters of Thomas and Joan (Castro) Lima, she is extremely proud of her Cape Verdean and Portuguese ancestry. As granddaughter of immigrants from both the Republic of Cape Verde on her father's side and Portugal on her mother's side, she was raised with good values as well as a keen sense of community and volunteerism. Her incredible journey has taken her from Taunton to Iowa and abroad. She earned a B.S. in Biology and International Studies with a minor in Spanish and Anthropology from Iowa State University. Alison founded and coordinated the Tsunami Relief Project at Iowa State, raising \$6,000 for the American Red Cross tsunami fund. She has studied abroad conducting medical and health care research in five foreign nations including Belize, Chile, Georgia, Mexico and Nicaragua.

Alison returned to the U.S. in 2008 after serving 2 years in the Peace Corps as a Community Health Educator in Nicaragua, Central America. She was placed as a health volunteer and worked at the government's Madriz health administration building called SILAIS. There she principally worked with a team of educators and nurses on a sexual and reproductive health project for adolescents living in 6 of the 9 counties of Madriz. Along with conducting health fairs, workshops and charlas, her peace Corps experience led her to coordinate extensively with what is called social communication...mass media like television and radio, to promote healthy behaviors. As a side project she helped organize a radionovela – radio soap opera - which will promote changes in attitudes and behaviors related to sexual and reproductive health in adult and youth populations. On one of Alison's "vacations" home to the Silver City she worked very hard to raise money for two additional projects: she purchased books to help teach the youth to read and bats, balls gloves and basic uniforms to outfit the new woman's softball team she was organizing back at her second home in Somoto, where she noted that women's sports are "practically" non-existent. She also met her new husband, Donald Espinoza Valenzuela, while she was in Nicaragua.

Alison worked at the Center for Community Health Education, Research and Service (CCHERS) at Northeastern University in 2009, where she managed the Community Voices program for high school students of color interested in health careers. She is now enrolled as a first year medical student at UMass Medical School, Worcester. In her spare time Alison's hobbies include dancing, crocheting and spending time with her husband

and family. She is also one of the youngest members of the Taunton Area Branch of AAUW.

Alison's Personal Essay for application to Medical School says it best...*My goal was based on a natural curiosity and love for science and that unstoppable drive my grandparents had instilled in our family. And after my first medical experience shadowing a cardiovascular surgeon in the UMass High School Health Careers Program, I was sure that medicine was for me.*

*In college, I concentrated on preparing myself to be a doctor by coupling my love of science with a unique interest in understanding and helping humanity. My families' immigrant past kept me sensitive to and curious about how people live around the globe and the diversity that exists within our own country. I took courses in Spanish, Anthropology, History, Politics, and International, African-American, and Latino studies to complement my biology major and broaden my understanding of people and the places they live. I also helped start several organizations like the Student International Medical Aid Club and the Tsunami Relief Project which helped others around the world and simultaneously taught me and my fellow*

*classmates about the importance of service. I diversified my education because I knew that being a good doctor meant more than being good at science, it required having a perspective that allows for compassion, cultural competence, and understanding.*



The Lima sisters

## Rochelle Lima-Babigian

**Rochelle Lima-Babigian** graduated Salutatorian, Taunton High School, Class of 1998 and Magna Cum Laude from Boston University in 2002 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Physiology. During her years at B.U. she volunteered at Boston Medical Center – one year on the Pediatric Floor and one year in the Emergency Room where she served as a liaison between patients' families and the medical staff and was compelled to change her field from Surgeon to Emergency Room doctor.

Rochelle enrolled in New York University's School of Medicine where she earned her M.D. in 2007. She is currently an Emergency Room Doctor in her third year at Boston Medical Center, paving the way for her sister Alison who is in her first year of medical school. In Rochelle's words:

*"I could have gone into another field of medicine and made more money. It's not about the money...medical care is a right not a privilege. I feel very blessed and lucky to be in the position that I am...to be given the chance to give back to the minority populations and underserved in some meaningful way. Ali has told me that I was a role model to her. I hope to be a role model to many others who otherwise would have none."*

## Nera-Lee Patel



Nera-Lee Patel

**Nera-Lee Patel** is a resident of North Attleboro, MA. She graduated from North Attleboro High School in 2003 and graduated with a degree in biomedical engineering and minor entrepreneurship and management from Johns Hopkins University. At Raytheon, Nera-Lee enjoys her technical work, but also serves as the president for a 900 member organization for young employees. Outside of Raytheon, Nera-Lee has co-founded a program called LAUNCH, which brings together her interests in science, technology, engineering, math and business. Nera-Lee believes that it is important to encourage women in the sciences and in business. As a result, LAUNCH has the goal of bringing in an audience that is at least 50% women. In the fall of 2010, she will begin her studies as an MBA student at Babson College.

## Liz Calef

**Liz Calef** is a physics teacher and lead coach for the award-winning Robotics team, TJ<sup>2</sup>, at Bridgewater-Raynham High School.

In 1996, Liz heard about FIRST and, with the extraordinary support of the partnership with Johnson & Johnson



Liz Calef

companies, TJ<sup>2</sup> was born. FIRST (*For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology*) was founded in 1989 to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology. Based in Manchester, NH, this not-for-profit public charity designs accessible, innovative programs that motivate young people to pursue education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math, while building self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills. The mission of FIRST is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership. FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) is a unique varsity sport of the mind designed to help high-school-aged young people discover how interesting and rewarding the life of engineers and researchers can be. We are lucky to have Liz as a panelist since our convention is a week before the national championship competition! You can learn more about the Robotics team at their website:

<http://www.tj2.org/index.php>

## Ramila Usoof-Thowfeek

**Ramila Usoof** of Sri Lanka is the first recipient of the new Sema Faigen Fellowship. She is working on her Ph.D. in Social Psychology at UMass-Amherst. Her project name is *The Relationship between Morality and Inter-group Violence*. Ramila is interested in understanding factors that create, maintain, and precipitate intergroup violence. Upon her return to Sri Lanka, she hopes to contribute to community reconciliation efforts, while teaching full time at a Sri Lankan university.



Ramila Usoof-Thowfeek

## Beyond Health Care: Moving Women into Nontraditional STEM Careers

Massasoit Community College, Massachusetts is the only community college selected this year by AAUW for a Campus Action Project grant. You will hear more about their project entitled: **Beyond Health Care: Moving Women into Nontraditional STEM Careers**.

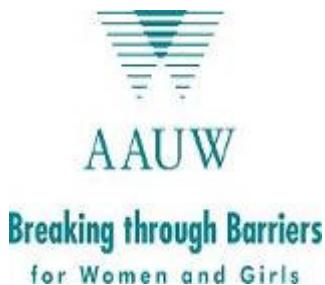
The Massasoit Community College AAUW CAP team's project meets a specific need on their campus. Every spring, the college accepts only 160 students out of approximately 1,000 applicants to its nursing and allied health programs. Hundreds of students—mostly female, and many of whom have taken science and math courses in preparation for studying nursing, radiological technology, or respiratory therapy—feel they have no career alternative. To address this problem, the Massasoit team will increase awareness among these students of alternative science, technology, engineering, and mathematics careers by preparing informative bulletin boards and holding a STEM career day and panel discussion of women employed in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics careers.

**AMPLIFY!, a fundraiser to support Teen Voices, will take place on Wednesday, April 14, 2010 at Simmons College.**



For more than 20 years, Teen Voices has empowered girls and young women to create positive social change. **Teen Voices** is a local initiative with international impact. Through innovative journalism, mentoring and leadership programs in Boston, primarily low-income girls of color learn essential writing, editing, research, critical thinking, and leadership skills crucial for success.

Please contact Jenny Amory with any questions at 617-426-5505 x15 or e-mail [Jenny@TeenVoices.com](mailto:Jenny@TeenVoices.com)



# AAUW-MA Convention

## STEM Literacy – Breaking Through Barriers

### Saturday, April 10, 2010

### Bristol Community College, Attleboro

#### Agenda

- 8:30      **Registration and Continental Breakfast**  
Hosted by the Attleboro Branch  
  
             **View Exhibits**
- 9:00      **Welcome**  
Beryl Domingo, President, AAUW-MA  
Ashley Occhino, President, AAUW Attleboro Branch
- 9:15      **AAUW: Breaking Through Barriers - The National Perspective**  
David Kirkwood, AAUW Board of Directors
- 10:00     **Break - View Exhibits**
- 10:15     **Keynote Address** - Andresse St.Rose, Research Associate, AAUW  
**AAUW Research in Action:** *Why so Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.*
- 11:00     **Campus Action Project**  
Massasoit Community College: Beyond Health Care: Moving Women into Non-traditional STEM Careers
- 11:20     **Panel Presentation: STEM - Our Experiences Breaking Through Barriers**  
Moderator: Andresse St. Rose  
Panel: Alison Lima – Medical Student, UMass Medical School  
Rochelle Lima Babigian, M.D., Boston Medical Center  
Nera-Lee Patel, Systems Engineer, Raytheon Company, Co-Founder LAUNCH  
Liz Calef, Physics Teacher, Bridgewater-Raynham High School
- 12:15     **Educational Foundation Luncheon**  
Ramilia Usoof-Thowfeek, MS. EF Fellow and Doctoral candidate at UMass, Amherst  
  
**Lunch - View Exhibits**
- 1:15      **Closing Remarks**  
Barbara Burgo, AAUW-MA Program Vice President
- 1:30 –3:30 **Annual Board Meeting**

# AAUW-MA Annual Meeting

## Saturday, April 10, 2009

<b>1:30 pm Call to Order</b>	Beryl Domingo
<b>Opening and Welcome</b>	Beryl Domingo
<b>Roll Call of Branches</b>	Sandra Sousa
<b>Minutes 2009 Annual Meeting</b>	Sandra Sousa
<b>AAUW Board of Directors' AAUW update</b>	David Kirkwood
<b>President's Report</b>	Beryl Domingo
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	Virginia Giordano
<b>Administrative Coordinator's Report</b>	Hollie Bagley
<b>Program Report</b>	Barbara Burgo
<b>Membership Report</b>	Elizabeth Orsi
<b>Educational Foundation Report</b>	Ruth Ladd
<b>Legal Advocacy Report</b>	Sharon Lemoff
<b>Nominating Committee Report</b>	Liz Fragola
<b>Election and Installation of Officers</b>	David Kirkwood
<b>Branch Awards</b>	Beryl Domingo
<b>Announcements</b>	
<b>Open Forum</b>	
<b>3:30 pm Closing</b>	Beryl Domingo

## AAUW—MA Slate of Officers 2010

The AAUW-MA Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following Slate of Officers to be elected at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 10, 2010:

**President: Elizabeth Fragola**  
North Shore Area Branch

**Vice President for Membership: Betty Orsi**  
Worcester Branch

**Secretary: Tamara Gaydos**  
North Shore Area Branch

**AAUW Funds Chair:** Margaret Nabialczyk-Chalupowski  
North Shore Area Branch

Respectfully submitted by Nominating Committee

## Meet the Candidates

### Liz Fragola, President



Liz Fragola

Like most of our AAUW leaders, **Liz Fragola**, our current AAUW-MA President-Elect, has contributed much to AAUW. As AAUW-MA EF VP, she completed the Sema Faigen International Fellowship. As AAUW-MA LAF VP, she started state PIE award. She has been Past president of the Danvers-Topsfield Branch and Past co-coordinator of the North Shore Area Branch. She served on the AAUW C/U Relations Committee in 2008-2009 and remains AAUW-MA Co-liaison for C/U Relations.

Liz received a BA from Fordham University and a MSW from Boston University. Currently Liz is on the Adjunct Faculty of Salem State College, School of Social Work and serves on the Admissions Committee, SSC, SSW. Formerly in private practice at Women's Counseling Associates, Newburyport, MA, Liz has also been a supervisor in the child protective unit of Catholic Charities, Brockton, MA.

She volunteers at Den Mar nursing home in Rockport with her dog, Bella, a Shih Tzu and certified therapy dog. Liz is a Board member, ECHO, Education for the Children of Haiti in Ouanaminthe. She is involved in fundraising to support a school in Ouanaminthe, a northern town in Haiti, bordering the Dominican Republic. A school, community center, and agricultural program have been established under the auspices of the Jesuit Relief Services to aid Haitians who have been expelled from the DR and have no resources.

In her spare time, Liz is an avid reader, gardener and yoga practitioner. She recently moved to Rockport, "a little piece of heaven on earth."

### Betty Orsi, Vice President for Membership



Betty Orsi

*Betty has graciously volunteered to serve a second term.*

**Elizabeth Anne Orsi**, known affectionately as "Betty O" has been married for 37 years to husband Roger, part owner of Orsi & Sons Kitchen Center in Worcester. Together they have two sons, Adam R. Orsi of Shelton, CT and Matthew R. Orsi and his wife, Jessica of Northboro, MA.

In 1967 Betty received her BS in Medical Technology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Continuing with her education in 1967-1967, she earned a Certificate from the Newton Wellesley Hospital Med Tech Program. In October 1968, Betty passed the national registration certification exam of the American Society of Clinical Pathology as a Medical Technologist. For the past 39 years

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Betty worked at the same hospital (Worcester Memorial Hospital and merged UMass Memorial Medical Center), 27 years as a bench technologist and 12 years as a supervisor. She retired in January 2008.

In addition to being a life member of AAUW, Betty has served on the state nominating committee, Family Friendly Workplaces and My Turn to Learn projects. Betty has served many terms as president of the Worcester Branch. She is the glue that holds the Worcester Branch together. She is a member of NEM (Northeast branch Microbiology) and a sorority alumnus of Beta Sigma Phi and Gamma Sigma Sigma. Betty also sings in her church choir and the Greater Worcester Area Armenian Chorale and participates in her church Women's Guild.

### Tamara Gaydos, Secretary



Tamara Gaydos

**Tamara Gaydos** holds a BS in Russian from Georgetown University and a Masters in Library Science from Simmons College. She is currently the Archivist at the Phillips Library of the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, MA, working with historical documents and rare books. She has worked in the past for Northeastern University and for a rare bookseller.

Tamara is currently Membership Co-Chair of the North Shore Area Branch after serving as a past co-president and membership chair of the Danvers-Topsfield branch. While a stay-at-home mom, she volunteered for the Boxford/Topsfield Newcomers Club, Boxford Town Libraries, Boxford Cultural Arts Council, Spofford Pond School (Boxford) Site Council, and Boxford PTO.

Tamara enjoys reading, skiing, hiking, travel, and cultural activities. She has a daughter who is about to graduate from Dickinson College in PA and son who is a sophomore at Tufts University. She will be traveling quite a bit this summer visiting colleges with her youngest daughter, Gabi, a high school junior who aspires to be an actress.

### Margaret Nabialczyk-Chalupowski, AAUW Funds Vice President

**Margaret Nabialczyk-Chalupowski** is a woman of many talents and remarkable accomplishments. She was born in Poland where she received her medical degree from Jagiellonian University Medical School in Krakow, Poland in 1979. Margaret specialized in Obstetrics and Gynecology. She later received her Ph.D. from Jagiellonian in 1987. She was a professor of OB-GYN at the medical school, teaching both physicians and nurses.

Margaret's interest expanded beyond patient care to the

*Continued next column*

quality of healthcare delivery internationally. She presented papers at conferences throughout Europe and in 1991, she first visited the US when she presented at the Upjohn Writer's Symposium in Kalamazoo, Michigan. In 1993 she received an AAUW International Fellowship to complete post doctoral work at Harvard University School of Public Health at the Takemi Program of International Health.

Margaret returned to the US and the Harvard School of Public Health in 1995 and has resided here since then. Since the legal aspects of health care policy and international health care delivery are so critical, Margaret decided to pursue a law degree, which she received from the Massachusetts School of Law in 2008.



Margaret Nabialczyk-Chalupowski with Cody & Jack

Margaret has been a member of the League of Women Voters since 1992 and of AAUW since receiving her fellowship in 1993. She is a longtime member of the former North Shore Branch and currently a member of the North Shore Area Branch. In her spare time she enjoys her dogs, Cody and Jack, writing articles, and even a screen play. Her husband works in property management and is an accomplished flamenco guitarist.

### The BayStater

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## LAUNCH – an opportunity to promote AAUW

Please join us at LAUNCH – moving ideas to the next level on Friday, April 9, 2010–11:00-4:30PM at Bristol Community College, Attleboro. AAUW-MA is a sponsor of LAUNCH, which parallels AAUW's goal to promote STEM education. LAUNCH is a conference that brings together entrepreneurs, inventors, and innovative thinkers who want to find out how to develop and protect their ideas and who seek to develop 21st Century skills for people of all ages, in particular, science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) skills. The STEM Literacy conversation will continue on Saturday, April 10, 2010, 9:00-1:00PM at the AAUW-MA Convention and will feature Andresse St. Rose, Ed. D., AAUW Research Associate who will speak about AAUW's newest report, *Why so few: Women in science, technology, engineering and math.*

At LAUNCH, as part of a panel, Andresse St. Rose will explain the national role of AAUW relative to public policy development and in a workshop illustrate AAUW's collaborative efforts to support STEM Literacy. As part of an exhibit, Kris Occhino, VP of Program, AAUW-Attleboro, will showcase how AAUW has supported inventors such as Marie Curie and the achievement of AAUW members such as Dr. Mae Jemison, astronaut, and Carol Greider, 2009 Nobel Prize winner. Join them at LAUNCH in spreading the word about AAUW. LAUNCH is a program of the Museum at the Mill, a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization.

For more information, visit [www.museumatthemill.org](http://www.museumatthemill.org) or call Katherine Honey at 508-215-7958.

You will notice that your registration form has a check off spot for a contribution to CARE for the earthquake relief effort in Haiti. Why are we making this request? Although many of you have already given to organizations working on behalf of Haiti, we felt it is worth giving everyone the opportunity to give in any amount. The crisis in Haiti is of monumental dimensions. This poorest country in the western hemisphere was already beset with problems when the earthquake occurred. Decades of tyrannical government, ineffectual government, lack of adequate housing, food, and clean water mean that the country cannot possibly recover without massive assistance from other nations. Because of the dire circumstances of a country so close to our own, and the many Haitian immigrants living among us, we believe asking for your support is warranted. All donations are purely voluntary. CARE is a partner organization with AAUW with a shared mission of improving the lives of women and girls. Through them we can reach out to our Haitian sisters and their families. Thank you for your ongoing support and generosity. If you choose to donate at this time, you may add your donation amount to the registration fee or include a check payable to CARE, *Haitian Relief Effort.*

## Attleboro Area Lodging

Attend LAUNCH and stay the night to attend the AAUW-MA Convention and Annual Meeting.

Colonel Blackinton Inn  
203 North Main Street  
Attleboro, MA 02703  
Telephone: (508) 222-6022  
<http://www.colblackintoninn.com/rooms.php>

The Old Court Bed and Breakfast  
144 Benefit St  
Providence RI 02903  
401-751-2002 or 401-351-0747  
fax number is 401-272-4830  
email us at [reserve@oldcourt.com](mailto:reserve@oldcourt.com)  
<http://www.oldcourt.com/>

Nichols Guest Rooms  
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Seekonk, Massachusetts 02771  
Phone: 508.761.7146  
Email: [NicholsBn@aol.com](mailto:NicholsBn@aol.com)  
<http://www.nicholsguestrooms.com/>

Holiday Inn  
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31 HAMPSHIRE STREET  
MANSFIELD, MA 02048  
Hotel Front Desk: 1-877-2315803 |  
Hotel Fax: 1-508-3391040

Historic Jacob Hill Inn  
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888-336-9165  
eMail: [host@jacobhill.com](mailto:host@jacobhill.com)  
<http://www.inn-providence-ri.com/contactus.shtml>

Holiday Inn  
700 MYLES STANDISH BLVD  
TAUNTON, MA 02780  
1-508-823-0430 | Hotel Fax: 1-508-880-6483

Moonlite Inn  
14 Tremont Street, Rehoboth, MA  
02769  
Phone: 508-252-4735  
EMail: [sfranczyk@comcast.net](mailto:sfranczyk@comcast.net)

The State House Inns of Providence  
11 West Park Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02908  
For Reservations: (401) 351-6111 -  
Fax: (401) 351-4261  
Email: [info@providence-inn.com](mailto:info@providence-inn.com)  
<http://www.providence-inn.com/>

### A Special Appeal

#### SPRING CONVENTION AND ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION (Please Print)

Please return form and check, payable to AAUW-MA, to Hollie Bagley, 9480 Village View Blvd., Bonita Springs, FL 34135

**Registration fee of \$40 includes light breakfast, lunch and convention materials.**

**Registration deadline March 26.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Town \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional) \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for CARE's Haitian Earthquake Relief Fund

**Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

## A Letter to AAUW-MA Members



Dear AAUW members,

On behalf of the AAUW Board of Directors, I extend our best wishes for an outstanding 2010 state convention. This has been an exciting year for all of us in AAUW, as we have combined the three former entities—the Association, the Educational Foundation, and the Leadership and Training Institute—into one organization. We have much to be proud of in the amazing way leaders and members have worked together to make our restructure successful. We are excited because it provides us such a wonderful platform for garnering both new members and attention from the media, policy makers, and the public for our work to break through barriers for women and girls.

All of us have worked hard to make this national transition, and it is up to us now to fulfill the mission of our organization through advocacy, education, research, and the ever-necessary philanthropy. Our state conventions are always where our vision takes shape, where we take stock of our accomplishments, share our successes, identify challenges, and examine new opportunities—and where branches begin to prepare for the coming year.

I am pleased to say that this year national leaders and staff will participate at all state conventions in our continuing commitment to collaborate even more closely as a nationwide community. We are all very much looking forward to learning about your interests, priorities, challenges, and triumphs and to sharing some of the portfolio of programs and activities AAUW is providing to help you as you design your local mission-based programming.

I see the coming years as an exciting era for AAUW, and it really all begins right now at our state conventions. I hope you have a wonderful meeting.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn H Garfein".

Carolyn Garfein  
AAUW National President

## Educational Foundation

Ruth Ladd, EF VP

### Member Spotlight—Enid Wilson

Enid Wilson is a long-time member of AAUW. She grew up in Brookline, Massachusetts and went to Pembroke College (the women's college that was affiliated with Brown University and subsequently merged with Brown) so her '43 diploma is from Brown. She went on to graduate school at Simmons College. She first joined the Providence (RI) Branch in 1953 when she worked at URI right after getting her degree from Simmons but moved her membership to the Boston Branch soon thereafter. When the MetroWest Branch was formed, she held dual membership there as well. Her favorite activity is the Boston branch's annual get-together with local AAUW fellows. Enid has been a faithful participant in state meetings for many, many years. Although she has had some health problems, she hopes to make it to the state convention in April.

Back when AAUW was still affiliated with the International Federation of University Women (IFUW), Enid used her vacation time and funds to travel to the annual convention wherever it was held.

Enid has long been a supporter of the Educational Fund (now Educational Opportunities Fund). Several years ago, Enid set up a fellowship as an annuity which she supplements each year with the dividends. Although some AAUW-MA members knew of the **Enid Wilson Fellowship**, most of us did not. I asked Enid if others could also contribute to the fellowship and she said we can. If anyone would like to do so, please indicate it on the memo line of your check.

## Legal Advocacy Fund

Sharon Lemoff, LAF VP

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to combat sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. LAF seeks *amicus curiae* opportunities in workplace sex discrimination cases. LAF also provides support to workplace sex discrimination cases that have the potential to make a difference for all women. LAF is actively reviewing new case support applications. If you would like to make a case recommendation, please contact [laf@aauw.org](mailto:laf@aauw.org). Recommendation forms are accepted on a rolling basis.

The LAF Committee met in early February to discuss case support. After careful review, they decided to hold off on supporting two new strategic case recommendations until further activity occurs with each case. They then decided, and the full board voted, to disburse \$5,000 to each of the five continuing LAF-supported cases.

Many of you will remember Arezou Mansourian, a LAF

litigant who spoke to us at the 2006 Spring convention at Salem State. On February 8, the 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals sided with the LAF-supported plaintiffs in **Mansourian, et al. v. Regents of the University of California, et al.** on several fronts, overturning a lower court judge's 2008 opinion. Mansourian's lawyer Kristen Galles said, "Thanks again to AAUW for its support. We used your money to pay for the very expensive court transcript and exhibits and travel for the oral argument. Attorneys donated their time for free, but it is very difficult for public interest attorneys to pay such huge court costs out of pocket, so AAUW support can mean the difference between a victory and no case at all."

**National Girls and Women in Sports Day** AAUW partnered with the Washington Mystics to celebrate their third annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day at the University of Maryland, College Park. More than 200 people attended the event, which was followed by a University of Maryland women's basketball game against Duke University. AAUW staff distributed information about the Title IX Compliance: Know the Score Program in a Box and AAUW membership to attendees.

Now is the perfect time to begin using LAF's new **Title IX Compliance: Know the Score Program in a Box** to learn more about Title IX and to investigate local high school athletics programs. You can download the companion webinar.

**LAF Brochure** An updated LAF brochure is currently in production. By March, **ShopAAUW** will be stocked with the brochures.

**Campus Outreach** If you would like to receive funding for an LAF Campus Outreach Program in your community, please fill out the form on the campus outreach page and send it to [laf@aauw.org](mailto:laf@aauw.org). Review the new LAF Campus Outreach Program in a Box, which explains more about the program and provides ideas for campus events.

**Online** For the latest LAF news, visit the **AAUW website** and **AAUW Dialog**.

**Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to LAF to help balance the scales of justice for women.**

### By-Laws Update: Its Not Too Late

I would like to thank the following branches for updating their 2009 branch by-laws; Boston, Bedford-Lexington, Hingham, and Taunton.

Its not too late to update your branch by-laws to be in compliance with the changes from the 2009 convention. Please visit the AAUW website for the model branch by-laws at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). Or you may contact me at [alwh23@verizon.net](mailto:alwh23@verizon.net) for assistance. Either your branch by-laws chair or branch president should complete this as soon as possible.

Thank you, Alice Hooper, State By-Laws Chair

# Membership Matters

Betty Orsi, Membership VP

Despite the snowy view outside my window as I'm writing this article, spring really is just around the corner! April is the time your board starts to wrap up its 2008-2009 business. Don't know if you've had a chance to look over the Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 branch count yet, but I'd say some AAUW-MA branches already have something to be very proud of! Hingham Area Branch increased its membership by seven and Melrose-Wakefield Area Branch added one. Maintaining a 2-year membership retention rate by Attleboro, Boston, and North Shore Area branches is something to be proud of, too! Kudos to you all!

I'm sure you've all heard about the "Give a Grad a Gift" AAUW membership which is quite popular in months of May and June, but did you know that our organization offers several connections and discounts for its AAUW members to enhance their professional and personnel development throughout the year? All this info is just a click away with your mouse on the AAUW national website! AAUW membership is the gift that keeps on giving! Hope to see you all at our AAUW-MA convention in Attleboro! Don't forget to fill out and be counted on the April 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 Census!

## NCCWSL: Celebrating 25 Years

Get ready! NCCWSL is 25 years old and the conference this year will be a true celebration of training young women to become leaders. Save the date for June 3-5 at the University of Maryland, College Park. *Do you know a college student with leadership potential? Tell her about NCCWSL!* Last year over 400 hundred young women attended; our goal this year is for 500 attendees. Spread the word, support a student, and make an investment in the future.

Early bird registration fee is \$395, through April 16<sup>th</sup>, after that, the fee is \$445, which includes housing and most meals. What a bargain! All the students our local branches have sponsored have raved about this event. They meet students from across the country and women of distinction from around the world. This is a beautiful gift we can give to the next generation, one that they will treasure as a life-changing experience.

*Let's honor 25 years by reaching the 500 mark. Here's to 25 more years of inspiring young women to lead our nation and the world.*



## AAUW Leadership Corps Has MA Connection

In the Fall of 2009, **Alice Bowen** of the Cape Cod Branch AAUW was appointed to AAUW's new Leadership Corp. These grassroots liaisons help identify and address current needs, encourage branch leadership development, foster communication, increase the sharing of resources and strategies and assist in membership growth. It is their job to go out and identify persons who possess leadership skills in the community who might be of interest to the AAUW movement. The primary goal of the Leadership Corp is to leverage the power and influence of the AAUW community to achieve our shared commitment of breaking through barriers for women and girls. At present there are about 50 women who all volunteered to be a part of this new program. They are to find leaders in the community, help develop new branches, expand the branches we have, help with C/U Partnerships, and encourage college and universities to send representatives to NCCWSL.

Alice is presently the EF Vice-President of the Cape Cod Branch and the Co-Chair of the Book and Jewelry Sale. She is also representing the branch as they work with Cape Cod Community College preparing for their "Non-Traditional Career Day" on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010. She was an AAUW Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Fellow in 1991. For many years she was an active member of the Worcester Branch of the AAUW and served on their Board of Directors. She retired from the Worcester Public Schools after 35 years as a Middle School Teacher and Assistant Principal. She also has been involved in Girl Scouting for 35 years and continues to this day as a Gold Award Mentor for Scouts on the Cape.

"Leadership skills for the girls are important to the girl scouting movement today and need to be just as important to those of us in the AAUW." We need to recognize and identify women among us who can assume roles of leadership in our branches and state offices. If you are aware of someone in your community you think is a person who would make an excellent leader in our organization, Alice would love to hear from you!!! Please feel free to call her at 774-212-2474 or email her at [afbowen2@hotmail.com](mailto:afbowen2@hotmail.com) with any suggestions of names or ideas you might have for her.

## Census Flyer

AAUW-Massachusetts is committed to support the 2010 Census as a 'Complete Count Committee.' The Hingham Area Branch decided to do its part by producing and distributing the flyer found on page 13. Please join the Hingham Area Branch by downloading and printing the flyer. Hang it in your local library, supermarket, laundromat or anywhere else where it will serve as a reminder.

## Dues News

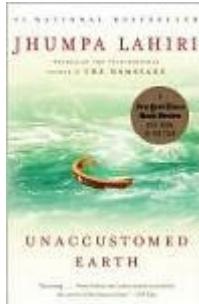
**Ginny Giordano, Treasurer**

It will soon be time to renew your membership in AAUW. The National dues and the Massachusetts state dues will remain the same for 2010-2011. National dues continue to be \$49 and Massachusetts state dues will once again be \$15. If you are the member of a branch your local branch dues will be added to these two amounts. Life members only need to pay state and branch dues. Any member may become a paid life member of the Association upon payment of the current Association dues multiplied by 20 (\$980). Paid life members are exempt from further payment of Association dues although they continue to pay state and branch dues.

Any member who has paid Association dues for 50 years is eligible for Honorary Life Membership and thereafter shall be exempt from payment of Association dues. The 50 years need not be consecutive and this would happen any time after payment of Association dues for the 50<sup>th</sup> membership year. In order to achieve this status the member or the member's branch must submit the application available on the AAUW website. Honorary life branch members will receive a congratulatory letter, certificate and permanent membership card. Honorary Life members will continue to pay state dues. Applications are available from Connect2AAUW ([connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)) or in the Member Center under Forms.

## Cape Cod Branch Diversity Reading Program

Cape Cod continues to read a "diversity" book as initiated by Nancy Moore three years ago. As you may recall, we started with *The Bonecutter's Daughter* at that time.



We had such a successful branch book discussion that we continued the program last year with *Three Cups of Tea*, and this year we are reading *Unaccustomed Earth* by Jhumpa Lahiri. Thus, we have been exposed to a Chinese village culture, a tribal Pakistani culture, and now a Bengali culture, transferred to "unaccustomed earth" in the Boston area.

Our process has been to announce the chosen book in the fall, and to hold the discussion an hour before our regular branch meeting at the end of March. We are fortunate to have had three different leaders, volunteers from our branch. Of course every member does not read the book. However, we have had an excellent attendance of around 30 people. The response has been extremely positive, and we intend to continue with another book, and another culture, next year.

*Submitted by Greta Tomic, Cape Cod Branch President*

## Campaign College

### Volunteers needed on March 27th at UMass Dartmouth

Help with registration and assistance during the one day training event.

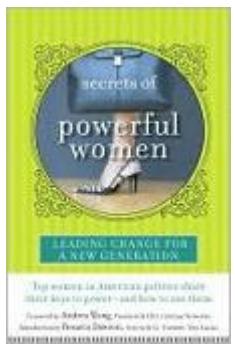
Please contact Marilee Kenney Hunt at [Marilee@thehunts.org](mailto:Marilee@thehunts.org) or Beryl Domingo at [beryl-domingo@hotmail.com](mailto:beryl-domingo@hotmail.com) by March 15, 2010.

Campaign College is a day-long training held on the college campus that teaches college women how to run for and win student government positions at their schools. The training covers skills such as how to mobilize your constituency, how to craft your message, and how to speak and present yourself confidently as a candidate. The Campaign College staff bring in outside experts to speak to the students, as well as current and former student government officials from the college where the training is taking place. The Campaign College training addresses the disparity between the high percentages of women in colleges and universities and the low representation of women in student government. With Campaign College, we want to give more young women the valuable experience of running and serving on student government, as there is a clear connection between service in student government and future political service.

## Lisa Maatz featured in book

We are very excited to tell you that a book featuring Lisa Maatz, AAUW's director of public policy and government relations, has been published and is now available for purchase. *The*

*Secrets of Powerful Women: Leading Change for a New Generation*, is a collection of essays written by 24 top women community and business leaders, politicians, and journalists that was released earlier this month. We know that many of our members would love to have this book and have arranged with Barnes & Noble.com to have it available at AAUW discount price at state conventions.



**Don't forget to print and post the Census flyer.  
Everyone counts!!**



# MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD



## TAKE PART IN THE 2010 CENSUS

Every 10 years, we count the population to reapportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and ensure proper district representation in state and local governments. Census data also help determine how more than \$400 billion in federal funds are distributed each year to states and communities.

By law, the Census Bureau cannot share respondents' answers with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

[www.2010census.gov](http://www.2010census.gov)

Distributed by AAUW-Massachusetts  
AAUW-Massachusetts is a Complete Count Committee Partner for the 2010 Census.  
We pledged to get the word out about the Census.

## LAUNCH – moving ideas to the next level

SUSTAINING ENTREPRENEURS – INVENTORS - INNOVATORS  
PROMOTING STEM LITERACY

April 9, 2010 – 11:00AM-4:30PM

Registration: 11:00AM-12:00PM

Bristol Community College, Attleboro, MA

LAUNCH is a conference that brings together entrepreneurs, inventors, and innovative thinkers who want to find out how to develop and protect their ideas and who seek to develop 21st Century skills for people of all ages, in particular, science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) skills.

For more information and to register, visit <http://www.museumatthemill.org>

### CONTINUE THE STEM LITERACY CONVERSATION

With the American Association of University Women (AAUW)

AAUW-MA Convention

Saturday, April 10, 2010

8:30AM-1:30PM

Bristol Community College - Attleboro

<http://www.aauw-ma.org>

The STEM Literacy conversation initiated at LAUNCH will continue at the AAUW-MA Convention and will feature Andresse St. Rose, Ed. D., AAUW Research Associate who will speak about AAUW's newest report, *Why so few: Women in science, technology, engineering and math.*

For more information and to register, visit <http://www.aauw-ma.org>.

**Directions:** Take I-95 S to exit 5. Turn left at Robert Toner Blvd. Take a right onto North Main Street. After about 1 mile, turn left onto Holden Street. At the end of Holden Street, there will be a traffic light. Take a right at the traffic light onto Pleasant Street. At the next traffic light, there will be a Honey Dew on the left. Turn left at this traffic light onto Forest Street. Take the first left after the empty parking lot, and continue straight. Bristol Community College's Attleboro campus (11 Field Road) will be on the right in Building 2.

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

**AAUW Funds** provides funds to advance education, research and to provide a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

**AAUW** is open to graduates holding an associate or equivalent, or a baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

**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.

**Vision:** AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

**Value Promise:** By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.

**Website:** [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org), **state:** [www.aauw-ma.org](http://www.aauw-ma.org)



**AAUW**

**Breaking through Barriers**