



AAUW focus

Newsletter of the Bowling Green, Ohio, Branch June 2007

http://www.bgsu.edu/organizations/aauw/ www.aauwoh.org www.aauw.org

Scholarship Winner Says "Thank you!"

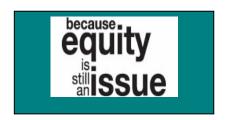
From Marsha Olivares

First and foremost, thank you all for this wonderful opportunity. I can breathe easy knowing that my books are taken care of.

As I stated in my application, I was born and raised in Bowling Green. My parents came here in 1942 from Texas looking for work, and a better life than what they were facing in the depressed economy of Texas. They liked BG and stayed to raise their family. My father only had a third grade education, but with all the young men at war, found himself at a factory making bullets for the war. He learned the tool and die trade quickly, and retired from this profession in the 70's. My mother was a domestic. Naturally, they stayed in BG to give their children a better life. (I must admit that we fared much better than some of my cousins back in Texas).

I started taking classes in 1993. Then I gave birth to my youngest child in 1994 and have taken classes here and there since then. Now that he just turned 13, I decided to start back at my studies to finish my Bachelors of Liberal Arts degree. I intend to honor my parents' memory and obtain my degree and be the first one of my siblings to do so (there are 7 of us). It's important to instill the value of an education to our children, and I hope by finishing my degree, my son will understand and appreciate the importance of an education. I feel it is important to make a positive impression on our youth, and what better way to do so than with your very own children?

I'm glad to have this terrific benefit, and hope to encourage others to take advantage of it. I can't tell you how angry it makes me when I tell others I'm pursuing my degree and they say "life is too short". I"m like, what? Too short to get an education and give back to the community? I don't think so! I am active in my community and volunteer for the annual Black Swamp Arts Festival the Perrysburg Heights South of the



Border Festival, as well as coordinate the annual Cinco de Mayo festival here in our fair city with the cooperation of the Mayor's office. We need women to step up to the plate and take action and not just sit back and watch the world go by.

Thanks again to the American Association of University Women for the great honor of being selected as the 2007 recipient of your scholarship.

--Marsha

BE A 2-MINUTE ACTIVIST!!

Title IX, judicial appointments, reproductive health— These and other current issues await your action as an AAUW member. Sign up for alerts & take action:

http://www.aauw.org/takeaction/two_minute.cfm

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

I am looking forward to an exciting year and to serving the AAUW BG Branch as president this coming year. The 2007 AAUW theme is *Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security* I have been working with the Co-VP's of Programming to implement a mission driven program into the agenda for the coming year. I think it will be exciting and beneficial to the membership as well as community members. We will continue to partner with other organizations such as Zonta BG, League of Women Voters, Cocoon Shelter and the BGSU Women's Center. My goals this coming year will be to:

- Continue visibility in the community as to our mission and vision through partnerships and use of media
- Continue to increase membership to the 100 member level
- Implement special interest groups on such topics as investments, domestic violence, and global awareness
- Increase the visibility of Pay Equity Day

- Integrate University students into the organization
- Increase scholarships through fundraising
- Continue to celebrate leadership, fellowship and stewardship through special events

We have had baskets for raffles and silent auctions this summer at the Cocoon Shelter Birthday Party and the Zonta Summer Solstice. Hopefully this provided a collaborative perception of AAUW and reached a different population. The Executive Board for 2007-2009 is complete except for one position. I am still searching for a **Public** Information and Publicity Officer. Anyone interested? On June 29th I will be leaving for Phoenix, Arizona to attend the National AAUW Convention. I am excited about participating in the meeting and bringing back new ideas to share with the Bowling Green Branch. Also, I will be attending the State Leadership Event on August 11th. I look forward to serving you and hope to see you on September 15, at the Membership Matters Champagne Brunch!

--Deborah Wooldridge



-- Oh, no! I forgot to renew my membership!!

--<u>Don't worry!!</u> There's a membership form included with this issue of the Focus!! [And pass a copy to a friend!]

THE DIGITAL MIRROR: A Computer Camp for Girls



Our AAUW Branch is

partnering with the BGSU CyberFeminism Cluster and COSI in offering the first-ever computer camp for girls, at BGSU, August 8-11. The girls, who will have completed 7th or 8th grade, will be housed on campus to maximize the experience. The Branch has contributed \$300 to the costs of t-shirts for the participants and the facilitators. For further information on the camp, contact Kris Blair

[kblair@bgsu.edu] or Jen Almjeld [jalmjel@bgsu.edu or 419.308.7504]. Since women account for just 20% of the IT professionals in the U.S., and since less than 30% of the bachelor's degrees awarded in computer science are earned by women, this camp will pique girls' interest in a key field at an important time in their lives.

Long Lists....

Sometimes in acknowledging folks for their contributions, one omits people who deserve recognition! In our last newsletter, one of the articles failed to mention the 3 1/2 years of dedicated service that



Lynn Ward gave to leading our campaign for the Legal Advocacy Fund. We also thank Betty Jean Anderson for her work in raising funds and awareness of our efforts to provide local scholarships for non-traditional women in degree programs and two junior high students interested in math and science to attend BE WISE Camp. These efforts distinguish AAUW from other organizations.

The Legal Advocacy Fund is a top priority for AAUW because it is the only source of funds in the US exclusively for support of women and girls who must seek judicial redress for inequity experienced in higher education. For this, Lynn Ward, who served as a faculty member at both BGSU and the University of Findlay, deserves our gratitude for her efforts to bring our Branch to a fund-raising level of success that made us top in the state for 2006. As a univ ersity employee for 25+ years and former State LAF chair, I couldn't be more pleased. A big part of Lynn's work was the educational piece--to tell members and non-members alike about the Fund and its purpose. Thanks, Lynn, and thanks, too, for being so forgiving of our previous omission.

Also, while I didn't mention **Joan Gordon**'s service in my column as our finance officer because she is continuing in her position for another year, I want to also say a public thanks for a terrific job! Joan is exactly the kind of person you would want for your finance officer: dedicated, honest, scrupulous, ethical...essentially a person of the highest integrity. All that and she's terrific to work with!

Say thank you to these women and all the others who have led this branch to its high level of success.

--Diane Regan

Branch partners with League of Women Voters



Once again this fall, the Branch will be a co-sponsor of Candidates' Night, the forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green. Further information is available at: http://www.wcnet.org/~lwvbg/



Legal Advocacy Fund puts AAUW mission in action

HELP LAF DO ITS WORK!

- Make a monetary donation; our donations keep the LAF healthy and helpful. Your checks are taxdeductible.
- •Go to www.aauw.org/laf/cases and read about current legal cases that our donations support!

 If you would like to make a donation to the Legal Advocacy Fund, please send your check, made out to AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, to:

Jeannie Ludlow, LAF Chair 910 N. Main Street Bowling Green, OH 43402

If you have any questions or concerns, e-mail Jeannie at iludlow@bgsu.edu or call 419-372-6816



Really long-range planning...



Mark <u>Saturday</u>, <u>November</u> <u>10</u> on your calendar—the next Elder-Beerman

Community Day fundraiser. President Deborah Wooldridge has again registered our Branch for the coupon sale. Let's repeat our 2006 success, which allowed us to significantly increase the scholarships we offer!! Further details at:

www.communitydayevent.com

SHOP AND HELP

Gift Registries to support the Cocoon Shelter



The Cocoon Shelter has four registries in area stores for community members to access. Because the items listed are what the shelter most needs, those wishing to help have a convenient way to get such items to the survivors of domestic violence.

The registries are at the following stores:

- Target: the Cocoon Shelter has a wish list through Target, which is slightly different than a registry. You can access the wish list on-line at target.com, or at the store at the kiosks located near the entrance. We are listed under first name Cocoon, last name Shelter.
- 2. Home Depot: the registry at the Home Depot is only available on-line. We are listed under first name Cocoon, last name Shelter.
- 3. Elder Beerman: the registry at Elder Beerman is available both on-line at elder-beerman.com, and in the store. We are listed under first name Cocoon, last name Shelter.
- 4. Meijer: the registry at Meijer can be viewed online or in the store. We are listed under first name Cocoon, last name Shelter.

Please note that we do not want you to feel pressured to buy the specific items from these registries, but that the items listed reflect what we need most and continually. If you would rather purchase the same item from one of the registries from a different store, please feel free. Please note also that we prefer to pick items up from the store or from you personally. Our number in the office is 419-373-1730. Thanks so much!

[You may also view the Cocoon Wish list for individual shopping at:

http://www.cocoonshelter.org/Wish%20List%20Current.pdf]

SHOP WITH A MISSION!

The Literature Group

gathers on the first Saturday of every month (<u>except</u> January and July), at noon, at Grounds for Thought. Please bring a book of your choice to review! --Holly Norton, literature group leader





¡Adelante! Book List

Descriptions of the 2007-0 reading selections are available at the Association website: http://www.aauw.org/community_programs/adelante/07.

By selecting the "Buy the book now" links you can purchase the book online at Amazon.com with a portion of the proceeds directly benefiting AAUW. This link will also give you the reading lists from years past, in case you're looking for a number of good reads!!

Author! Author!

Everyone is invited to join the Writers Group at the Women's Center. We meet every Tuesday from 7:30 to 8:30pm in the Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall, on the BGSU campus. The Writers Group is an informal weekly gathering of writers, people who enjoy writing, and people dragged along by their writer friends. It is open to university students, faculty, and community members. In the past the Writers Group has done free writing and other writing activities using prompts, as well as informal workshops. We are always open to suggestions for writing activities and creative methods of venting!!

Teresa Milbrodt terrian@bgnet.bgsu.edu office phone - 372-7555

Moving AAUW forward into the future: New Mission and Vision statements adopted

MISSION STATEMENT: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

VISION STATEMENT: 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.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT: In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION / EF: AAUW's Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research and

self-development for women, and to foster equity and positive societal change. Send EF Contributions to Branch EF Chair Evelyn Bachman, if you want a tax deduction.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND / LAF: AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination. Send LAF contributions to Branch LAF Chair Jeannie Ludlow, if you want a tax deduction.

BGSU Women's Center offers great resources

Check out these links for new events, outlooks, and helpful resources: *Women's Center home page:*



http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/women/index.htm

Brown Bag lunch series:
http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/women/Pages/
brownbag.htm

To subscribe to the e-newsletter: http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/women/Pages/subscribe.htm

Women's Research Network: http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/women/Pages/wrn.htm



The Cocoon grows its library

The Cocoon Shelter, Bowling Green's women's shelter, has an account in the used book section of Grounds for Thought. One can drop off books (either print or audio), and ask that proceeds from one's sales be credited to the Cocoon Shelter's account. ALSO, anyone with a current positive balance on another book consignment account can donate the balance to the Cocoon's account.

--Mary Krueger

amazon.com.

Support AAUW when you buy books from Amazon. Go to www.aauw.org and click on the Amazon hyperlink in the lower right. You'll be instantly connected to Amazon and AAUW will get a portion of your sale!! *Slick!*

AAUW's National and Global Connections

The **Imagining Ourselves** partnership platform connects women ages 20 to 5 worldwide to create change. It includes discussion tuides, online dialogues, and artistic expression. More info at: www.aauw.org/IMOW/AAUW IMOW intro.cfm

One Shared World partnership "program-in-a-box" materials focus on connecting American women to efforts to help developing countries oversome poverty through education and economic progress. More info at: www.aauw.org/international_corner/OneSharedWorld.c fm

The National Girls Collaborative Project, an NSFfunded partnership with Puget Sound Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology, focuses on increasing the number of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics [STEM] fields by coordinating and sharing information and resources of local community projects on regional and national levels. AAUW members serve as regional liaisons. More info at: www.aauw.org/education/ngcp



CLASSIFIEDS FREE AD PLACEMENT FOR MEMBERS!!

<u>Chrysalis</u>, a discreet all-women fitness center. Open workouts. Classes. Competitive membership rates. Senior discounts. Haskins Road at Poe, in BG. 419-352-9883.

Shop **ELDER-BEERMAN**, whose Community Day program has benefited our local scholarship fund *immensely!!*

2007-2008 Officers and Board

President—Deborah Wooldridge

Past President—Diane Regan

Co-VPs for Programming—Fiona MacKinnon and Barbara Henry

one Leels

Membership—Susan Peet and Lona Leck

Recording Secretary—Jean Gerard

Corresponding Secretary—Beth Hofer [interim]

Treasurer—Joan Gordon

Legal Advocacy Fund [LAF] —Jeannie Ludlow

Educational Foundation [EF]—Adriene Knight

Public Information/Publicity—[open]

Public Policy—Mary Krueger

Diversity—Beth Hofer

Social—Ann Light, Mary Lou Baty, and Deb McLean

Newsletter—Marcy St. John

By-Laws—Cindy Whipple

STARZ Award— Marie Johnson

Web Manager—Sue Bigaila and Kathy Beattie

Projects and Special Interest Groups:

Local Scholarship Fundraising—

Betty Jean Anderson

University Liaison and Scholarships—Lisa Cesarini

Awards—Margaret Weinberger

BE WISE Camp—Ellen Dalton

Cultural Interest Group—Margit Heskett

Literature Interest Group—Holly Norton

Great Decisions Series—Radhika Gajjala, Linda Dobb, and Beth Hofer

Creative Writing—Teresa Milbrodt

International/Global Affairs Interest Group—[open]