



AAUW focus

Newsletter of the Bowling Green, Ohio, Branch September 2006

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



Silent Witness program: Creating Awareness

AAUW has agreed to co-sponsor the 2006 unveiling of the Northwest Ohio Silent Witness collection. The Cocoon

Shelter and the BGSU Organization for Women's Issues are the other co-sponsors, and the BGSU Women's Center is the main sponsor.

The event will be held on Wednesday, October 4th, at 6:30 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church on South College Drive. It will be BR Branch's chapter program for the month of October, and I strongly urge AAUW members to attend and support this important event to raise community awareness about domestic violence.

The Silent Witness collection now has 39 figures commemorating girls and women killed in acts of domestic violence in northwest Ohio...and these numbers reflect the past ten years only. For those who feel moved to contribute in an additional way, please consider being a reader for one of the figures. Reading for a Silent Witness requires that you stand next to that SW's figure during the unveiling ceremony, and read her story in the first person (i.e., "My name is Sandra Smith..."). It is very intense...and very powerful...and not everyone is up to it. If anyone thinks she IS up to it, and would like to take on such a solemn responsibility, please let me know.

Thanks so much for your support.

--Mary Krueger



YOU DECIDE! A new Fall Series on Domestic Issues

This fall, Branch members will try a spin-off of the very successful

community Great Decisions series at the Wood County Senior Center. "You Decide" will present 4 discussions of issues impacting the United States. Each session is on a Saturday morning, 9:30-11:00, at the Senior Center.

October 14: Professor Gary Silverman, BGSU

Creating Buildings That Save Energy and the Environment

- October 21: Larry Weiss, Government Relations, BGSU The Upcoming Election: Where Do the Candidates Stand? What are the Issues? Slots or no-Slots? You Decide!
- October 28: Vickie Askins, Wood County Citizens Opposed to Factory Farms Factory Farms: Locals Voices Speak Out
- <u>November 4</u>: Erin Thompson, Social Security Administration

The Future of Social Security: What Lies Ahead?

No textbook will be used with the series, although newspaper articles and other materials may provide background reading. Cookies and coffee will be served during the sessions. Following the lectures, the Senior Center will serve lunch for those interested in staying to eat and chat.

Anyone interested in helping with this program should send a brief e-mail to <u>bgsulib@wcnet.org</u>. All branch members are, of course, encouraged to attend and to invite others. Something new for 2006-07!

--Linda Dobb

An Opportunity for Writers

I'm writing to invite you all to the Writers Group at the Women's Center. We meet every Tuesday from 7:30 to 8:30 P.M. 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. Certainly we are always open to suggestions for writing activities and creative methods of venting.

> Hope to see you there! Teresa Milbrodt terrian@bgnet.bgsu.edu office phone - 372-7555

Evening event to benefit the Cocoon



The 2nd Annual Cocoon Shelter Benefit will be on Saturday, **October 28th, 2006**. Preparations for our annual fundraiser are in full swing. We are asking for community help to continue to provide for the needs of women and children in Wood County.

As Chair of the Cocoon Shelter Special Events Committee and member of BG AAUW, I put this request out to AAUW members because of your commitment to the Shelter and because once we begin to sell the tickets, they are limited. Put your request in now! The tickets are \$50.00 per person.

The 2nd Annual Cocoon Shelter Benefit will be held at the Simpson Building Banquet Room located at 1291 Conneaut Avenue. Ben's Table is catering again this year as well as there will be live music, door prices, and a silent auction. The festivities begin at 6:30 pm and dinner at 7:00 pm. It will be a fun time!

Another way AAUW members can be involved is to volunteer to help with the set up or clean up on the day of the event. Several AAUW members are already involved the planning and soliciting items and sponsors for the event.

Send me an e-mail at <u>dqwoold@bgsu.edu</u> or call me at 419.372.7851 if you want to reserve tickets, sell tickets, or help prior to or on the day of the event. This is a good way for you to get involved in continuing to help providing a place for safety, healing, and justice for battered women and their children in Wood County. Let's show BG AAUW's support for the Cocoon Shelter.

Remember that <u>all</u> the proceeds benefit the shelter!

--Deborah Wooldridge

Plan your holiday shopping—to benefit our Branch mission projects!!



Thanks to research by Program Co-VP Deborah Wooldridge, we have a fun and profitable way to help our Branch do some solid fundraising. Under the auspices of its Community Day program, Elder Beerman will provide special coupon books which Branch members can buy and also sell for \$5 each, an amount that goes entirely to our organization. Purchasers of coupon books will be invited to use their coupons to shop at any Elder-Beerman store on Saturday, November 11, and get great bargains on regular and sale merchandise. More details will follow in upcoming newsletters. Community Day program details may be found at:

http://www.communitydayevent.com/about/php



A toast to the 2006-2007 program year

Approximately 50 members and guests attended our annual Branch program year kickoff event—the Fall

Champagne Brunch—on September 16th at the Bowling Green Country Club.

President Diane Regan started off the morning with a brief discussion of this event as the branch's "community outreach to perspective members." Regan suggested that younger women, who, ultimately, are the future of AAUW, don't believe that equity is still an issue. She read snippets from a "Good Wife's Guide" from a 1955 issue of Good Housekeeping. The "guide" highlighted ideas such as: "be fresh looking for your husband when he comes home," "let him talk first, as his topics are more important," "your husband is the master of the house and will exercise his will," and last, but not least, "a good wife always knows her place." Regan joked, saying if the above statements fall in line with your ideas for the future, then AAUW is probably not for you, as AAUW promotes the belief that "women may be in the house, but can also be in the Senate."

Deborah Wooldridge, co-Vice President for Programming, introduced the featured speaker, Emily Resnik. Resnik, who is a senior majoring in psychology and women's studies at BGSU, was a delegate at AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders in June, in Washington, D.C. Resnik is very active on campus, as President of the Organization for Women's Issues, a victim's advocate and mentoring younger women. She also interned at two YMCAs in Cincinnati over the summer and hopes to pursue her PhD in psychology, focusing on issues related to violence against women.

Resnik said that attending the conference was an "awesome opportunity." While at the conference, she attended workshops and panel discussions on Title IX, campus activism and sexual harassment, and body image, and also attended the Women of Distinction dinner, which featured outstanding women leaders like Eve Ensler, Beverly Tatum, Bernice Sandler, Rebecca Walker and Consuelo Castillo Kickbusch. Resnik said the conference provided "the tools for activism and the Women of Distinction dinner was the motivation." She hopes to implement these ideas on the BGSU campus starting with an information campaign.



Betty Jean Anderson, chair of local scholarship fundraising, discussed local scholarship efforts, including sending two female elementary students to Be WISE Camp at Denison University. Given the State's STEM initiative (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), this camp is an important stepping stone in the process, interesting girls in math and science at a young age. Anderson also displayed a water color donated by local artist, Nancy Wikoff Leetch, which will be raffled off at the end of the year. Tickets sold will help fund the Camp.

Evie Bachman, who oversees the local Education Foundation, discussed its merits and uses to assist women in their pursuit of higher education. She said this educational fund is the "key to a better life for girls and women."

Following Bachman's explanation of the Education Foundation, Marilynn Ward discussed the Legal Advocacy Fund. This fund is the largest single national fund for judicial redress for women and girls in education and employment. It provides them with funding to help settle cases arising from sexual harassment and gender discrimination related to tenure, promotion, and other work or school related issues.

The 2006-2007 membership directory and program booklets were handed out and two upcoming events were announced. Royce Ann Martin, assistant professor, BGSU College of Technology, discussed the National Women's History Project Networking Conference, in Little Rock, Arkansas, on October 20 -21, 2006. More details can be found at <u>http://www.nwhp.org/</u>. The second upcoming event announced is a free local panel discussion on the rules of the Geneva Convention at Grounds for Thought, October 23 at 7 pm.

The brunch ended with a charge to existing and new members to "Shape the Future" of AAUW in support of the organization. 2006 marks the 125th anniversary of the American Association of University Women committed to...

Equity: Make It Real.

--Kate Najacht

FROM THE TOP

Greetings to all Branch members!

September 16th was quite a day for us: the annual new member event, our fall champagne brunch, has turned out to be a wonderful way for individuals to learn about AAUW and for current members to reaffirm their commitment to this organization. Why? As we discovered on Saturday, equity is still an issue and we want to "make it happen" as the new Association brochure proclaims. Saturday, I shared with the women in attendance some information gleaned from a 1955 Good Housekeeping article that is making the email rounds: "The Good Wife's Guide." While there are too many demeaning suggestions in the article, the last two will suffice to make my point. Don't ask him questions about his actions or question his judgment or integrity. Remember he is master of the house and as such will always exercise his will with fairness and truthfulness. You have no right to question him." AND finally, "a good wife always knows her place."

If this is the way you see your life unfolding, then AAUW is not the organization for you. But if this is a life that you recognize as an incredible waste of the talents of 50% of the population, then you will find comfort in AAUW. Since 1955, whether or not they belong to AAUW, women have recognized the danger of this type of subservience to another human: the danger of not claiming the right to personal integrity, privacy and choice about their futures; the risks of domestic violence, financial ruin, and divorce which leaves the women and children in poverty,; the need for education to escape the economic hold of another and assure financial security. These are some of the realities we, our mothers, sisters, aunts, and friends have experienced. This is no time to think we can return to the kind of paternalistic protection of the 1950s; for 125 years, women have joined AAUW to support efforts that protect women and help them achieve security through education and economic independence. We belong because we are smart women who have learned that thinking and questioning and asserting our right to be treated as valued individuals are good behaviors, Good Housekeeping magazine notwithstanding! Gather up your other smart women friends and tell them about AAUW.

--Diane Regan, Branch President

Renew your membership and support the AAUW mission!

Just a reminder that AAUW dues for 2006-2007 are due. There's a current dues form with the newsletter, and there also is one on our web site. These may be printed out, or the Membership Vice President Helene Weinberger, President Diane Regan, and I all have copies of the forms.

Dues are \$63 (Association, state, branch). Any donations to the local scholarships, EF, LAF, Be Wise Camp scholarship, etc., may be added to the dues amount in your check. Indicate on the form and on your check which funds you're donating to (they're listed on the form). If you want to claim a charitable contribution deduction you must write your donation check directly to that fund, e.g. EF, and send it to the fund chairman [EF: Evie Bachman, LAF: Marilynn Ward].

--Joan Gordon, Treasurer Joan Gordon BG Branch, AAUW 1446 Conneaut Ave. Bowling Green OH 43402 Phone 419-354-6648 Fax 419-354-5435 jhgordon@dacor.net



www.aauw.org



¡Adelante! Book List

Descriptions of the 2006-07 reading selections are available at the Association website: http://www.aauw.org/community_programs/adelante/05. cfm [If you don't have computer access, contact Marcy St.John or another Branch member for a printed list. We're trying to limit newsletter length!]

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.

AAUW hopes you enjoy the 2005-2006 ;Adelante! Book Club selections, and encourages members and nonmembers to open a dialogue of women and diversity in their communities. 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 luncheon 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 battered 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

We are all <u>recruiters</u> for our Branch! Invite a friend to attend one of our events and to consider joining! To help our Branch continue to grow, a <u>membership form</u> is included with this newsletter mailing: Print it out for a friend or two.

The Literature Group

gathers on the first Saturday of every month (except January and July), at noon, at Grounds for Thought. Our next meeting is August 5th. Please bring a book of your choice to review! --Holly Norton, literature group leader



AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

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 Lynn Ward, if you want a tax deduction.

AAUW Funds: Meeting our goals AAUW is the KEY TO A BETTER FUTURE FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

The AAUW Educational Foundation continues to be the largest endowment in the world providing support exclusively to women. To continue to support education for women, we must make our educational foundation grow for the future.

Our branch goal is to raise \$2525.00. We have just started our EF campaign which will end December 31, 2006. Twelve members have contributed this year \$1055.00, and they were recognized at the brunch on September 16.

To donate please send your donation to Evelyn Bachman, 242 S. Main St., Bowling Green, Ohio 43402. Please make check to AAUW EF. [Your donation is tax-deductible.]

Thanks to a generous "topping-off" by Marilynn Ward at the September 16 brunch, our Branch goal of \$505 for the Legal Advocacy Fund has been reached—surpassed even! You may of course continue to support the important work of LAF with a tax-deductible contribution. Contact Marilynn Ward for details.

2005-06 Officers and Board

President—Diane Regan Co-VPs for Programming—Fiona MacKinnon and Deborah Wooldridge **Membership**—HeleneWeinberger and Lona Leck **Recording Secretaries**-Cindy Whipple/Beth Casey Corresponding Secretary—Kathleen McLaughlin Treasurer—Joan Gordon Educational Foundation—Evie Bachman Local Scholarship Fundraising— Betty Jean Anderson Legal Advocacy Fund —Lynn Ward International/Global Affairs Interest Group— Lynn Ward Public Information/Publicity—Kate Najacht Public Policy—Mary Krueger Diversity—Beth Hofer University Liaison—Lisa Cesarini Social—Ann Betts/Laura Keller Awards—Julie Fiscus Newsletter-Marcy St. John **BE WISE Camp**—*open* By-Laws—Mary Ellen Pratt Cultural Interest Group—Margit Heskett Literature Interest Group—Holly Norton Great Decisions Series—Radhika Gajjala 21st Century Award— Marie Johnson Web Manager—Jen Sader Creative Writing—on hiatus

CLASSIFIEDS

<u>Waldenbooks</u>, at Woodland Mall A full-service bookstore. 419-354-1397 No charge for ordering books!

FREE AD PLACEMENT FOR MEMBERS!!

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

⇒2006-2007 Branch program ⇔

Weds., Oct. 4	"Silent Witness" Unveiling, with reception to follow. C0-sponsored by BGSU Women's Center St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 315 S. College Dr., 6:30-9:00pm.		
Sat., Oct. 14	You Decide! series: Professor Gary Silverman, BGSUCreating Buildings That Save Energy and the Environment. Wood County Senior Center, 305 N. Main, 9:30-11am.		
Sun., Oct. 15	Candidates Forum. Co-sponsored by League of Women Voters, BGSU Student Govt., BG Chamber of Commerce. 1 st United Methodist Church, 1506 E. Wooster, 6:30-8:00pm.		
Sat., Oct. 21	You Decide! series: Larry Weiss, Government Relations, BGSUThe Upcoming Election: Where Do the Candidates Stand? What are the Issues? Slots or no-Slots? You Decide! Wood County Senior Center, 305 N. Main, 9:30-11am		
Sat., Oct. 28	You Decide! series: Vickie Askins, Wood County Citizens Opposed to Factory FarmFactory Farms: Locals Voices Speak Out. Wood County Senior Center, 305 N. Main, 9:30-11am.		
Sat., Nov. 4	You Decide! series: Erin Thompson, Social Security AdministrationThe Future of Social Security: What Lies Ahead? Wood County Senior Center, 305 N. Main, 9:30-11am.		
Sun., Dec. 3	Winter Solstice Dinner and Music. Social event with music. Bowling Green Country Club. 6-8pm.		
Saturdays from Jan. 26-Feb. 23	Great Decisions Series at Wood County Senior Center, 305 N. Main. 9:30-11am.		
Weds., Feb. 21	"Being Credit Smart". Speaker. BGSU Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall, noon-1pm.		
Th., March 22	Annual Business Meeting and Awards Presentation: "Celebrating Contributions of Outstanding Women". Speakers: JoAnn Benesler and Jane Wilson, past Ohio AAUW Presidents. Bowling Green Woman's Club, 134 N. Prospect, 6-8pm.		
FriSat., Apr. 20- 21	Ohio AAUW Convention. Since this is virtually a "local" event, do plan on attending some or all of the proceedings!		
Th., May 3	Deli-Dessert and Coffee: "Supporting and Promoting Leadership". Presentation of Scholarship Winners and Installation of New Officers. Wood County Public Library, 7-9pm.		

Cultural Calendar [collated by Margit Heskett]

play	9/15-24	September, Kathy Barnes director	1 st MC	3pm, 8pm
ARTalk	Sept. 29	Ceramics, Lydie Thompson	ScA	6:30pm
play	Sept. 29	Land of Little Horses, Rebecca Gillman	EMST	8pm (\$)
art	9/30-10/27	Faculty exhibit	WWG	
ARTalk	Oct. 1	Louise Sandhaus, graphic designer	BTU	6pm
art critic	Oct. 18	Hansen Musical Arts Series	BRH	7:30pm
music talk	Oct. 19	Hansen Series	Public Library	4pm
art	Oct. 19	Art Exhibit	Green Room	7pm
cello	Oct. 19	Thelema Trio / Madeleine Shapiro	KH	8pm (\$)
orchestra	Oct. 21	u	BRH	2:30
orchestra	Oct. 21	BG Philharmonia	KH	8pm (\$)

1 st MC	1 st United Methodist Church
BRH	Bryan Recital Hall, BGSU
BTU	Bowen Thompson Union, BGSU
EMST	Eva Marie Saint Theater
KH	Kobacher Hall, BGSU
ScA	School of Art
WWG	Willard Winkleman Gallery

Brown Bag Luncheons @ the Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall BGSU, Wednesdays, 12-1pm http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/women/Pages/brownbag.htm

Sept. 27 Activism in South Africa: The Influence of Spirituality on	Oct. 18 Cheer-leading away from dating violence
Feminism	Oct. 25 African American Women &
Oct. 4 Making Schools Safer:	Breast Cancer
Address- ing Homophobic	Nov. 1 What Women Know: The
Violence	Gender
Oct. 11 Catholicism & Homosexuality	Gap in Political Knowledge

Nov. 8 Immigration Issues: A Northwest Ohio Perspective Nov. 15 The HPV Vaccine: You've seen the ads, now hear the facts! Nov. 29 Bring your Barbie to lunch! Dec. 6 "You may do that": Commemorat- ing the arrest of Rosa Parks

Our Legacy and our Future Honoring our Sisters: An Historical Look at AAUW

[Part of a series appearing in the Toledo Branch newsletter and written by dual ToledO-BG member Tracy Barton]

It is in fact a part of the function of education to help us to escape, not from our own time – for we are bound by that – but from the intellectual and emotional limitations of our time. T. S. Eliot

Our nation's history is rich with stories of pioneering women who had the courage and the vision to transcend the limitations for women in their time. In 1848, in Seneca Falls, New York, Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucretia Mott were among the women who gathered for tea one afternoon to discuss the plight of women, and to publicly demand the right to vote. The Seneca Falls Convention is credited as the beginning of the women's movement.

Similarly, in 1881, another group of women gathered to discuss the possibility of an organization in which women college graduates could find ways to open the doors of higher education to other women, and also explore wider opportunities to use their education. These women had already defied cultural norms by earning college degrees. Marion Talbot and Ellen H. Richards invited 15 alumnae of eight colleges to a meeting in Boston on November 28, and upon doing so became AAUW's founding sisters.

What began as the Association of Collegiate Alumnae in 1881 has since grown into a network of more than 100,000 women who have impacted the debate over equity in education for 123 years and counting. AAUW's work to aid women refugees during World War II, its early advocacy on pay equity, and its strong voice for democracy amid McCarthyism are some examples of the accomplishments of members who came before us. These issues, for which AAUW has provided leadership in the past, are just as relevant today as they were many years ago. In this two-part series, we will explore some of the key events in the history of AAUW, and honor our sisters from the past who have made an impact. (This information, and more, can be found in the AAUW Online Museum at http://www.aauw.org/museum/index.cfm).

AAUW: The First 60 Years

In January of 1882, The Association of Collegiate Alumnae formally organized with 65 graduates of eight colleges and universities as founding members. The organization's mission was "to unite alumnae of different institutions in practical education work." Over the next few years, the Association began to admit branches as local groups of the parent organization, under the provision that they would cooperate in the general work of the Association and also do independent work.

Washington, D.C. was the first branch admitted to the Association in 1884. This branch began their work by inspecting the sanitary conditions of the schools in D.C. and their findings were presented to Congress. They also began to investigate the advantages and disadvantages of a wide range of traditional and nontraditional careers for women, and the results of this study were published in the December 1898 edition of *ACA Journal*.

In 1885, the Association conducted the first study on women's health and physical education. This was published by the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor. The study found that higher education does not adversely affect the health of women, contrary to popular notions at the time; it was still believed that women could not be allowed to attend colleges and universities "because the mental energy necessary for higher education would be drained directly from the uterus and would therefore weaken women's reproductive capacity and destroy the race" (Chamberlain, 1988, p. 167).

In the late 1890s, branches established Bureaus of Occupation to provide information on employment opportunities for women other than teaching, and began to address pay differentials. In 1888, Ida Street, a University of Michigan alumna, received the first fellowship from the Western Association of Collegiate Alumnae, which merged with ACA in 1889. The Association established a Committee on Educational Legislation to promote policies that would further educational opportunities for women and girls, and by the early 1900s, it advocated child labor laws, compulsory education, juvenile courts, and improved funding for public schools and libraries.

[to be continued]

AAUW Survey for 2006-2007

Name_	phone
Addres	S
E-mail	
Has an	y of the above information changed during the past year? yesno
•Please	e indicate if you can help the Branch in the following capacities:
	SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Circle the month[s] in which you could help the Social Committee set up for a Branch meeting and/or serve as a greeter:
	Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. Feb. Mar. Apr. May
	BRANCH BOARD: Would you serve as an appointed Board member?yes no
	If so, in what position? [Board positions are listed on page 1 of the newsletter.]
●MEN	INTEREST GROUP participation:
•PRE	FERRED MEETING TIME/FORMAT (may mark more than one).
	weekday evening Saturday a.m. Saturday noon Saturday afternoon
	Sunday afternoon/evening with foodwithout food
	ASE LIST ANY SKILLS, TALENTS, OR INTERESTS THAT YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE BRANCH. O INCLUDE ANY SUGGESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE THAT WILL BENEFIT THE BRANCH.
	Return survey to: Diane Regan, 873 Country Club Dr., Bowling Green, OH 43402 [dregan@bgnet.bgsu.edu]