

THE BRANCH CONNECTOR

JUNE 2008

A little electronic newsletter to keep you informed about the latest news in the American Association of University Women in Iowa. Please share this news with your branch members and your community.

As terms of office conclude, and as new officers are elected, current branch presidents, and/or branch conveners, and/or branch chairmen, please see that this information is passed on to your successor.

WHO'S IN CHARGE NEXT YEAR in your town?

Of the thirty branches in AAUW Iowa only eight have submitted their officer rosters. These branches include Calhoun County, Clarion, Ft. Madison, Clinton, Palo Alto, Siouxland, Indianola, Waterloo. *Officer rosters are needed now from 22 more branches!*

This INFORMATION is especially relevant within our own state. Your state board of directors needs to have names, email addresses and snail mail addresses in order to stay in contact with you. We cannot communicate effectively to each branch without it! Send a copy of this information to incoming state president, Diane Patton at dpatton@iowatelecom.net and to me, outgoing state president, jantheinicke@earthlink.net. You can copy to us what you send to the Association. If this single task is not completed NO ONE in branch will hear from the Association! See the directions below for how to do it!

Here's how you do it!

You are encouraged this year to use the Member Services Database to report your officers. Methods are available to those who cannot use this process. (Contact helpline@aauw.org.) OR phone the member help line 800-326-2289.

To log in and register follow these steps:

Go to www.aauw.org.

Click MEMBER LOGIN In the far upper right corner of the page. The AAUW MEMBER LOGIN Page will display.

Enter your member number. Then click LOG IN. Welcome to the Member center!

Click MEMBER SERVICES DATABASE in the left column of the page. The ACCESS MEMBER SERVICES DATABASE login page will open.

If you have never used this service before you will need to register first. Unlike accessing the member center which requires only your member ID this area also requires a password in order to gain access. Please register to create your password.

Use your contact details to complete the information. If you have difficulty please feel free to contact me directly at 515-961-3174.

In short, we won't leave you in the "lurch" but please don't leave us in the "lurch" by a failure to communicate this important contact information! Remember to send a copy both to me (janetheinicke@earthlink.net) and to the incoming state president Diane Patton (dpatton@iowatelecom.net.) Thank you!

ANNUAL BRANCH DUES REPORT

The Branch Dues report was sent to Friday May 9th via email to branch finance officers with email addresses and copied to branch presidents and membership vice presidents. It went by direct mail to those finance officers with email addresses only.

This is the primary vehicle used to update existing member records and to send dues to both the national office and states for FY09. It is those records upon which your contributions per capita is figured. It is those records which are used to generate the label list for mailings of the state newsletter. That is a practical reason for why this submission is important:

The fiscal year is July 1, 2008 to June 30 2009.

State dues will be ten dollars in 2009.

The Association dues for FY09 = \$49 (NO increase in Association dues).

SITE OF 2009 CONVENTION ANNOUNCED

The 2009 AAUW convention will occur June 26-28, 2009 at the Renaissance St. Louis Grand and Suites Hotel in St. Louis.

AAUW GAINS ATTENTION WITH RELEASE OF NEW REPORT

On Tuesday May 20th AAUW released the most comprehensive analysis to date on trends in educational achievement by gender, ethnicity and income. The title of the report is ***Where the Girls are: the Facts about Gender Equity in Education.*** The new publication presents a comprehensive look at girls' educational achievement during the past thirty five years, paying special attention to the relationship between boys' and girls' progress.

IOWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETS JULY 18 And 19

The 2008-10 Board of Directors for AAUW Iowa will convene for its initial meeting on July 18 and 19 at Camp Wesley Woods in rural Warren County.

SUMMMER ISSUE OF STATE NEWSLETTER TO BE ELECTRONIC

Just as last year, the summer issue of the Iowa Initiative will be available on line as well as at the Iowa website. The savings realized from doing so amounted to approximately \$1200 last year. Look for this issue to appear mid July.

AAUW IOWA RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING FUNDRAISING CONTRIBUTIONS

On May 22nd Barbara O'Connor, President of the AAUW Educational Foundation and Ruth Sweetser, President of AAUW prepared a letter of congratulation for all the members of AAUW Iowa, congratulating them as the state which achieved NINTH place in the Top Ten Fundraising Awards for Total giving by State. I have received this letter of congratulations and join these leaders in thanking each of you.

EVELYN STARKEY WOOD

Evelyn Wood, a former member of the AAUW Iowa Board of Directors and long time and much beloved faculty member at UNI, passed away May 7th in her home town Cedar Falls.

WEB SITE MANAGER: HELP WANTED: AAUW member with interest in managing AAUWIowa website (www.aauwIowa.org).

Skills needed: desire to facilitate communication with AAUW Iowa membership and the public: experience with (or desire to learn about) web site management; ability to work with officer team.

Benefits to AAUW volunteer: flexible schedule working from home computer, appropriate software, training by current web site manager, satisfaction in providing significant service to AAUW Iowa.

Contact AAUW IA President Diane Patton, dpatton@iowatelecom.net , 712-297-7616 or 712-930-0329.

FOCUS GROUP SUMMARY REPORT OUT in June

A summary report based on the data received from 248 members who participated in the focus group meetings during this year will be mailed to each branch in early June.

As I write this last issue of the Branch Connector, it seems that it was not so very long ago that I first introduced this electronic tool for Iowa Branch presidents. I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to all of you for your own good work as leaders in your community.

I also want to tell you how much your work and that of your branch members has given me hope, and joy and some measure of satisfaction in seeing how together we not only CAN but really DO make a difference in the lives of women and girls wherever they may be!

May life be good to you in the days ahead, wherever those days may lead you!

Janet Heinicke, State President, 2006-08