

AAUW NC President's E-Letter
July 18, 2016



Jean and I wish to welcome all the new presidents who came on board on July 1. We say “Thanks” to all the others who continue to serve. We are looking forward to an exciting year with so much going on. Of course, November will be the time for state and national elections. Remember to get to know the candidates and find out who supports “equity for women and girls.” Also, the 2017 AAUW National Convention will be held June 14–17 in Washington DC. We look forward to many of us attending.

On Jun 14, I had the once-in-a-lifetime experience of attending, as part of the AAUW delegation, The United State of Women: Summit convened by the White House and attended by 5,000 women. I heard Vice-President Joe Biden speak about Violence Against Women, a long time cause of his. I heard Nancy Pelosi say “from Seneca Falls to this Summit today, we know we stand on the shoulders of giants. We have all gathered here, because we understand this indisputable truth about our country: when women succeed, America succeeds” I heard President Obama give one of the best speeches ever on the state of women in America and I heard him say, pointing to himself, “This is what a feminist looks like.” My day finished hearing Michelle Obama being interviewed by Oprah Winfrey about her days in the White House. When asked what men could do to help the state of women, Michelle responded “Do better”. On the day before the Summit. I attended a reception at the new AAUW Headquarters where I met many of the staff. Lilly Ledbetter spoke and gave each of the guests a copy of her book “Grace and Grit”. To learn more about the Summit go to theunitedstateofwomen.org.

The AAUW NC Board is meeting on July 29 at the UNCG campus. Thanks goes to Peg Holmes, a UNCG alumnus, who secured us an excellent meeting room. One goal of the Board is to expand and incorporate many of the ideas discussed at the annual meeting last April, particularly, communications and diversity. Many of the Board members are going to stay over in Greensboro and attend the Bennet V conference the following day. From Denny McGuire, we learned that “Bennett Conferences are run by Pat Orange of NC Women Matter. She brings together women from all over the state and from different organizations to both hear and discuss issues of interest to women.”

The date for AAUW NC Annual Meeting is March 31 and April 1 in the Triad Area. Cheryl Wheaton is busy finding the perfect location to have the meeting.

From Jean: I want to thank all the branch presidents with whom I have been working to make sure that our bylaws and officer listings are in order. I really appreciate this communication we’ve had and want to continue working with you to complete this project. From now on our bylaws must be submitted through the aauw.org website MSD and officer listings can be done this way as well. Please do not hesitate to contact me for help. jdaddario@atmc.net or 910-540-7702.

Sandra McLaurin, Co-President, AAUW NC