



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

AAUW BOCA RATON BRANCH

NEWSLETTER

Presidents Letter:

The past year has flown by. We had a very successful "Cocktail Party" fundraiser at Claire Carney's house last month and we have our Installation Luncheon coming up on Saturday May 2nd at the Broken Sound Country Club. Please RSVP to Amy Selzer if you haven't already let her know that you are attending.

Faith and I are also getting ready to attend the AAUW National Convention on June 26th amid the controversy of the updated bylaws that we are voting on. Hopefully everyone has received their copy of the "Outlook" magazine that members receive from the National Organization and looked at the changes that are being made. These bylaw changes are also available on the National website. Each local branch has one vote for each 25 members that it contains. Since we currently have 30 members, our branch has one vote. The state has 17 delegates with one vote each. I'll be representing our branch at the convention and Faith is going as a state delegate. We are both planning on voting against eliminating the education requirements for membership.

During this timeframe we are also in the process of renewing our membership for the upcoming year, which runs from July 1st, 2009 to June 30th 2010. We are looking for a new location for our general meetings and plan on changing the day to Saturday so that more members can attend. The board is looking at some interesting options for speakers and venues and I look forward to another rewarding year with our branch.

Susan Holzschuh

State Convention Report

The most valuable part of any convention is meeting with others who share your bliss. I enjoyed being part of this event and found that AAUW is alive and well in the hearts and minds of Florida members. Gainesville mayor, welcomed us to her lively city.

Carolyn Garfein, who is running for President of AAUW, described the proposed changes in the National By-Laws. The future of AAUW is proposed to be through the internet, with groups forming, which will have minimum requirements from National, such as us only needing an Administrative person and a Financial person to have a group/branch. One change will enable members to claim as tax deductible most of their dues to National (\$46 of \$49). One change will eliminate any educational requirement to become a member. Many, including this Delegate spoke against this change. A motion was passed to direct Florida State Delegates to National to vote against this proposal, passed 45 - 33.

There are several other proposals which, when studied by some of our members, are found to be highly controversial. You can see these changes in your latest issue of Outlook.

UN Representative from AAUW, Carolyn □ Donovan, spoke about the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). This is yet to be signed by the United States.

Another group discussed the new Nova Southeastern University -AAUW.

I attended the Round Table on Fund Raising and learned about ways that other Branches earn funds. The National Convention is in St Louis June 26 to 28th. President Susan Holzschuh and Faith Campbell are planning to attend. Susan will be our Branch Delegate and Faith is applying to be a FL State Delegate, who will have a vote.

Faith Campbell

*Dear Readers:
As you who were here for our delightful discussion led by Pat Burke already know, we learned a lot from Malcolm Chadwell's Tipping Point. Pardon my being such a blithering idiot that night from my sleep deprivation over the critically-ill cat. He is recovering slowly now, and I am also. Mostly wanting to sleep all day. (I mean me!) Elke Schmidt brought the below book to our attention for our next meeting at Mary's home on June 18. Note on your calendar now! Again, we changed up from the 4th Thursday to the 3rd one. That's because two of our members-- Sue and Faith--will be attending the National Convention the following week. And what a battle will happen over the by-laws there! We want to send them off in high spirits. Invite your friends to join us. We always have fun. See you in June.
Carole*

Public Policy Update

President Obama has a long history of fighting for the rights of women.

Take a gander at the following appointments:

Secretary of State, Hillary Rodham Clinton

Secretary of Labor, Hilda Solis

Secretary of Health and Human Services,

Kathleen Sebelius

Secretary of Homeland Security, Janet

Napolitano

Chair of Economic Advisors, Christine Romer

Head of Environmental Protection Agency,

Lisa Jackson

Ambassador to United Nations, Susan Rice

If you are not familiar with some of these women, go to whitehouse.gov and you will receive an excellent civics class as well as a lesson in history.

Regarding women's issues, what can we look forward to in the next 4 to 8 years:

Fixing the broken health care system

Empowering women to prevent HIV/AIDS

More research into women's health

Support of stem cell research

Strong support for a woman's right to choose

More education on preventing unintended pregnancies

Reducing domestic violence

Fighting for pay equity

Investing in women-owned small businesses

Protecting social security

(The era of deregulation and privatization is over, as is laissez-faire, unfettered, so called free-market capitalism.)

Caring for women veterans

Raising minimum wage and helping low income workers. (14.6 million women live below the poverty line. 13 million children live in poverty.)

Protecting Title IX

Expanding early childhood education

Promoting women in math and science

Improving schools

Making college more affordable

We all have to do our share to get us out of the quagmire the last administration left us.

Onward and upward.

Gonzalee Ford , Public Policy Director



Spring Luncheon
Noon, Saturday,
May 2

At the lovely
Broken Sound
Country Club
An Elegant Buffet
Luncheon Includes Non
Alcoholic Beverage

Speaker

Author Virginia

Snyder with writer

Sandy Reddemann

For Reservation send \$25
check to Amy Selzer 6217

NW 21st Ct, Boca Raton

33496

Amy Selzer: 989-9726