



**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
BARRINGTON AREA, ILLINOIS BRANCH**

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

Quarterly Newsletter, Summer 2007



**PLAN TO COME TO
OUR SPRING
LUNCHEON
SATURDAY, June 2
11:30 a.m.**

Don't miss the opportunity to introduce your friends and colleagues to the Barrington Branch of AAUW. Plan to attend the Spring Luncheon at Kay Bogolin's home! Bring a salad to share, a silent auction item and a guest!

In addition to the auction, a special ballet program has been planned for your entertainment: Artistic Director Sandra Scarletta will present selections from *Le Corsaire (the Pirate)* presented by the Ballet North Company.

RSVP to Kay 847-277-9407 by May 30th



AAUW in the News

AAUW Media Coverage Reaches New Highs with Release of Pay Gap Research

The AAUW Educational Foundation's new research report, *Behind the Pay Gap*, received tremendous media attention.

AAUW secured three of the biggest wire services to cover the story: the Associated Press, Reuters, and Bloomberg. Their stories were picked up by numerous outlets across the country. In addition to the AP, Reuters, and Bloomberg stories, about **200 original print, online, and broadcast pieces** were published or aired. Based on estimated exposure through print, broadcast, and online media, *Behind the Pay Gap* reached an audience of more than **70 million** as of May 1. The coverage continues to roll in.

Overall, the media launch of *Behind the Pay Gap* was successful in every aspect, and the visibility from this media release has made AAUW's name more familiar to journalists, pundits, members of Congress, and everyday readers, viewers, and listeners. View more coverage of *Behind the Pay Gap* in the [AAUW newsroom](#), including video clips of coverage from many of the major television news shows! To access the *Behind the Pay Gap* report (PDF), visit [AAUW website](#).

Advocacy & Action - AAUW Expert Testifies at Congressional Hearing

On Tuesday, April 24—Equal Pay Day—the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and Labor held a hearing on Strengthening the Middle Class: Ensuring Equal Pay for Women. Catherine Hill, AAUW Educational Foundation research director, testified about the findings of the Educational Foundation's new *Behind the Pay Gap* research report, which she co-authored. A webcast of the hearing is archived on the [committee's website](#). Hill's testimony starts about 40 minutes into the webcast. For AAUW resources for action on pay equity, visit the [AAUW website](#).

CONVENTION UPDATES

AAUW Convention – Phoenix, Arizona June 29 – July 2, 2007

An impressive list of 13 speakers and awardees and over 50 workshops will be offered at the convention. You'll also have great networking opportunities in the AAUW Connection (formerly known as the exhibit hall). Each day of the convention, the AAUW Connection will feature model branch and state programs at the Taste of Success, an opportunity to learn about programs and services from the national office at the AAUW Annex, exclusive AAUW merchandise at Shop AAUW, and a diverse collection of authors in the Book Corner.

AAUW National Conference for College Women Leaders June 7 – 9 at American University, Washington, D.C.

Encourage student affiliates and other young women to attend this informative conference. Thank you to all of the states and branches who have contributed to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders Scholarship Fund or who are paying for women in their communities to attend the conference. So far, applications from 30 women leaders who demonstrate financial need have been received. If any branches are providing scholarship support to a student in their community, or would like to make a contribution to the student leader conference scholarship fund, please contact Laura McCulty Stepp at 202/728-9041 or lmstepp@aauw.org. We will be sure to recognize your contribution in the program brochure and on the website.



**Winning Essay for the 2007
Barrington Area Branch of
American Association of University
Women School Scholarship Contest!**

AAUW SCHOLARSHIP BACKGROUND: *Since 1881, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) has promoted equity for all women and girls in lifelong education, self development, and positive societal change. For many years, the Barrington Area Branch of AAUW has been pleased to provide a \$500 scholarship to the top-ranked graduating senior woman from Barrington High School. In order to provide an opportunity for more top graduating senior women to compete for the scholarship, this year for the first time the scholarship was awarded to a **graduating senior woman in the top 5% of the class who writes the best essay answering the following question:***

How will my choices in higher education affect my life and society at large in relation to gender equity?

**Congratulations to Jessica Prassel,
Barrington High School, Class of 2007,
She submitted the following winning essay.**

Growing up in a society where there is still not complete gender equity can be a little difficult for some girls. To me, it has just been an opportunity to prove someone wrong. One thing that has always bothered me since I was a little girl is when boys and girls are treated according to different standards, whether it was with rules, sports, or school. Growing up I have always challenged myself in everything I have done. School has just been one of them. I know the choices I make in higher education will affect my life and society in relation to gender equity.

Recently, I have decided to attend the University of Illinois in the fall of 2007. In the past few years, the University of Illinois has really raised the bar on the kind of students they accept academically. With my 4.4 G.P.A. and 28 A.C.T., as well as being in the top 5% of my class, I was initially deferred for acceptance. Devastated that all my hard work over the last four years might not pay off, I started to think of my back ups. Luckily, I did not have to think long, and I was accepted three months later. I knew I wanted to go to the University of Illinois for many reasons, one being how difficult it is to get in. I wanted to go to a great school, one where people would be impressed when they heard I was going there and think to themselves, "Wow, this woman must be smart."

I think it is hard for girls to fulfill their potential in many cases. Society gives images that girls who are smart are nerds and to be cool you need to dress sexy and not care about anything. I have seen this in a lot of TV shows I watch, and I have even seen how it affects some girls in my everyday life. Girls do not think positively enough about themselves to show that they are smart. This saddens me and has fortunately never really affected me. I have always been in accelerated classes which were usually filled with three-fourths male students. Today, I still face the same odds in my AP classes with around four or five girls to twenty or

so boys. I think it is important for girls to push themselves to their potential and try hard in school. I really wish society would portray smart females in a more positive way, because I am smart but I still have good friends and a social life.

When someone talks about a lawyer, what do you visualize in your mind? Almost everyone would probably say a man. Not me. I see a smart woman being assertive and taking control over the court. I think the more women get in the work force, the better our society will deal with gender equity. I know I will face many difficulties in my life by just being a smart, hard working woman. No matter what I do, I know I will never be treated the same way as a man, especially in the work environment. When applying for a job, I know the interviewer does have different standards for a woman and a man. Being a man just fits most ideal images. I think sometimes it will take a lot more as a woman to impress someone and get a job. The more education I receive, the better I will be in life.

I plan on going to college and getting the best degree from the best school I can. I want a job that will support me and also my family. I never want to be a woman that has to depend on someone else for everything. I hate how it is typical for a guy to support the family while the wife stays at home with the kids and cooks all the meals and cleans the house. Why can't the guy do that? I love to work and I love to accomplish things and make an impact on whatever I am involved in. I cannot see myself not working in the future. I want to always be able to support myself because it saddens me when people get divorced and the woman is lost and does not have anything to fall back on.

Getting an education is important for everyone. I think it is especially important for girls to take advantage of the opportunities they are given. I know I am just one woman but that is all it takes to start a change. Everyone is important, and I hope that in the future society sees the working person as a woman, just as much as they see a man, and that gender equity actually exists.

One of my favorite TV shows that has always affected me in a positive way, for many reasons, has been "The Apprentice". I love the competition in each show and all the time restraints it takes to get things done. I love to watch the personality clashes and the leadership roles played out. But mostly, I love when the girls' team beat the boys' team. There was one season where it was the women vs. the men. And the women won so much that eventually they had to mix the teams to make the numbers even. I think it just goes to show how females work better together and can get over their egos to get the job done. Also, it shows that women are just as capable or even better in negotiations and getting the job done on time, as well as with high quality.

Many women have already done great things to promote equity for all women and girls in lifelong education, self development, and positive society change. One in particular is Oprah. She has always been a positive role model for many girls around the country and now around the world. She has recently opened up a boarding school in Africa for girls only. She is doing things around the world to help girls get equal opportunities, and I think we need more people like her for girls to look up to and to set their goals and standards to achieve similar things.

I want to affect people's lives and make a difference in the world. I know it all starts with the education I receive and what I do with my education after college. The choices I have already made and the ones I know I will soon make in my future will affect my life and society with gender equity. I hope I make a difference, big or little, to help women in the future achieve their maximum potential.



Letter from our Co-Presidents

Kathryn Black and Paru Thondavadi

Dear Members,

Your Co-Presidents are both “on the run” this month but we had a few items to share with you including an announcement of our branch award, special thanks to a member, and a reminder.

At the Illinois State AAUW Convention in Bloomington in April our Branch received **First Place**, among Branches of 31 – 75 members, for our **quarterly newsletter**. Congratulations to our editor Nancy Bachmann for a job well done.

A special thanks to Shirley Conibear for her contribution for the raffle at our Winter Luncheon. Shirley donated a **gift basket and certificate from La Pomme de Pin**, a fine food shop in Barrington on Applebee Street in Barrington, featuring natural and organic food products.

Reminder – to attend the **Spring Luncheon!** Details are on page 1 of this newsletter. Remember to bring a salad to share, a silent auction item and a GUEST! There will be a lovely ballet presentation for your entertainment that you won’t want to miss. See you on June 2nd at Kay Bogolin’s home!

Kathryn and Paru



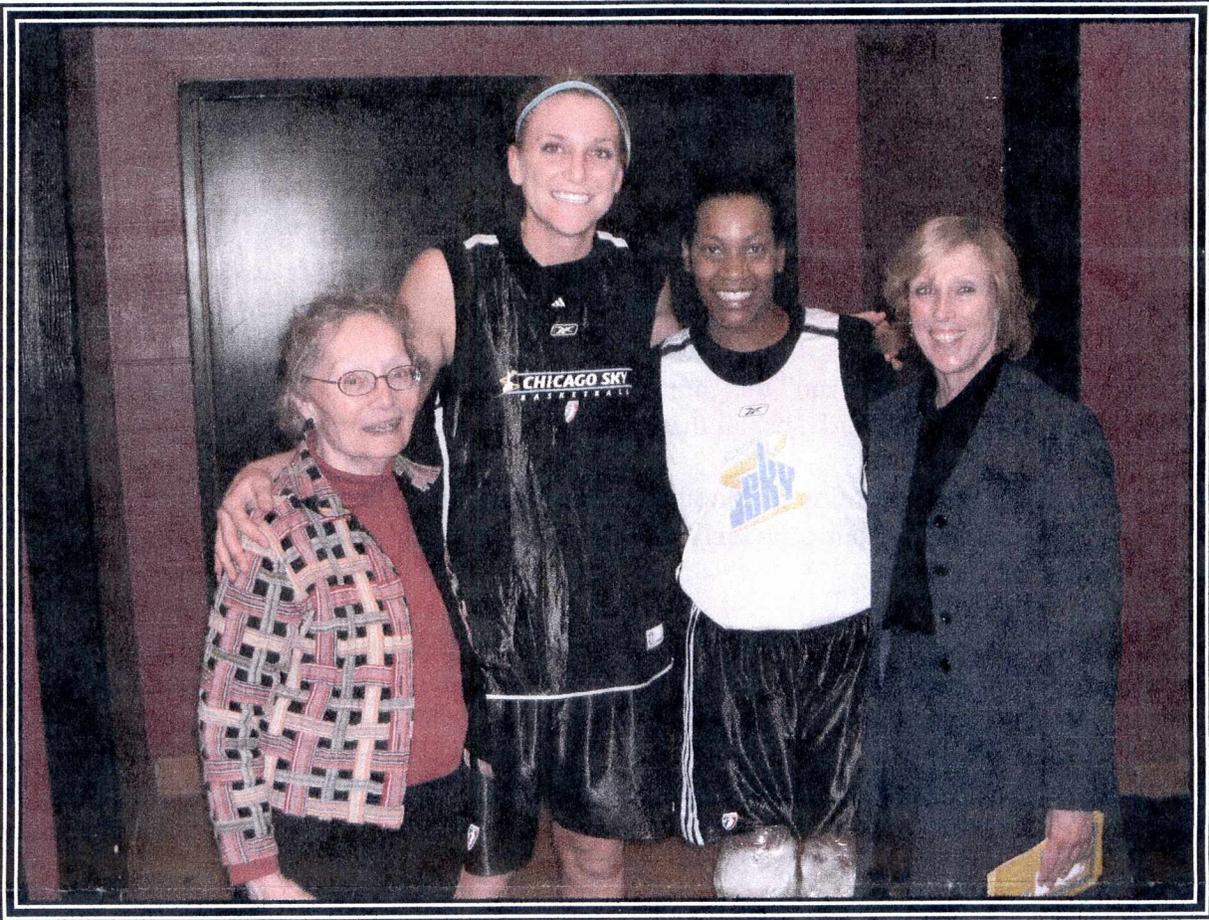
Nominating Committee’s Proposed Slate of Officers for 2007-2009

Treasurer: Diedre LeMire

Recording Secretary: Cheryl Taylor

Co-Vice Presidents of Programs: Kay Bogolin and Claudia Field

Members will be voting on the slate of officers at our spring luncheon!



A great evening of women's basketball was enjoyed on May 7th at Barrington High School.

Over 100 attended and had the privilege of meeting members of the Chicago Sky, the Women's National Basketball Team of Chicago!

The Sky scrimmaged for fans as well as signed autographs for them.

Thanks goes to Kay Bogolin for organizing this special event.

The event was co-sponsored by AAUW and BHS Girls' Basketball Boosters.



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