

**2009-2010
ANNUAL REPORTS
GREATER NAPLES BRANCH, AAUW
AND THE
GREATER NAPLES AAUW
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION, INC.
Presented to the Membership
May 31, 2010**

**Annual Reports of Greater Naples Branch and the Greater
Naples AAUW Charitable Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors**

**President
Corresponding Secretary *
Educational Foundation *
Finance/Treasurer *
Legal Advocacy Fund *
Local Scholarship *
Membership
Parliamentarian
Program
Public Policy
Recording Secretary
School & Community Relations ***

Officers and Vice Presidents of the Greater Naples AAUW Charitable Foundation, Inc.

**PRESIDENT'S 2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT
GREATER NAPLES BRANCH
AND THE
GREATER NAPLES AAUW CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**

The Greater Naples Branch has been very active this year in advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. Under the direction of Robin Birnhak, Director of Public Policy, we continue to be a part of several coalitions, such as the Healthy Teen Coalition in support of the Healthy Teen Act. We have worked with other organizations, such as the League of Women Voters of Collier County regarding education of the voting public on the Fair Districting Amendments (No. 5 & 6), which will appear on the November 2010 ballot. The Director of Public Policy have partnered with the Women's Philanthropic Network (formerly the Women's Initiative) to bring 211 to the area (like 911, which would provide information on area services and referrals for our senior citizens) and to bring a Senior Citizen's Center to Collier County. Harriet Lancaster and Sandy Brown have played a major part in these efforts, acting as the Branch representative to the Initiative Committee. We have lobbied and won the vote of the Collier County School Board to make comprehensive, medically-accurate, age-appropriate sex education available to the Districts middle school and high school curricula. The Branch was represented by Robin Birnhak, speaking in support of a Collier County Diversity Task Force-style community forum resulting in the School Board voting to re-establish that Task Force. Our Public Policy Committee has indeed done an incredible job this year by making AAUW's mission front and center – whether the government officials liked it or not!

The Math Science event had another very successful year, with 100 girls with their parents/guardians attending the 13th Math Science Conference with eleven great speakers. March Shell's organizational skills and passion for this conference is behind its success, along with all of those who have supported the program year after year.

Our Women of Achievement Benefit & Luncheon held at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club was a huge success this year. With 278 people in attendance, we raised funds to support future scholarships. A huge debt is owed to those who worked so hard to make it the success that it was, due in large part to the direction of very talented and capable women: Jackie Pierce as Chair and Donna Carty as her Benefit Adviser.

The Local Scholarship Committee, under the direction of Ann Trivisonno, did a wonderful job in interviewing and selecting 10 very deserving women as recipients of scholarships from Greater Naples Branch. The committee pursued applicants through a rigorous publicity campaign and received 26 applications. These recipients were honored at our annual Spring Luncheon held on April 10, 2010 at The Strand Country Club. It should be noted that the Branch was certainly living up to the AAUW mission of diversity with recipients coming from countries such as Nepal, Germany, Albania, Laos and Serbia.

Reading Is Fundamental continues to be one of the favorite programs for our membership. By providing books to the young children in Collier County Schools, the Branch creates a world of possibilities for the young students. Under Karen Clegg's direction, the program provided 3,350 books to children from kindergarten through 5th Grade in five Collier County schools.

The individual Board of Directors have provided their annual report in the following pages. Each is to be commended for their dedication to the AAUW mission and especially to the Greater Naples Branch.

Respectfully submitted by Vi Steffan, President

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY ANNUAL REPORT – 2009-2010

From April 7, 2009 – April 6, 2010, thirteen cards/notes were sent to members. Phone calls were made when appropriate.

I mainly used pretty notepaper and blank cards; for two reasons, I believe that a hand written note is warmer than most greeting cards and the cost is a lot less.

I believe that a note should be put in the Gulf Breeze reminding members to notify the Corresponding Secretary of any illness, deaths, moving, etc.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Lou Dane, Corresponding Secretary

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES DIRECTOR ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

Greater Naples contributions to the Educational Opportunities funds during 2009 were down 25% from the previous year. Final figures show that we contributed \$5040 with \$3950 from our annual benefit, \$450 from Foundation reserves and \$640 from member donations. Our Greater Naples AAUW Named Fellowship is now endowed at \$65,522. This fellowship commitment was made by the branch in 2004 to reach the \$100,000 stipend bearing mark in twenty years. We are well on our way to an early completion.

Our Frances Pew Hayes Named Grant, established by the Greater Naples Branch in 1996 and currently endowed at \$46,250, has been awarded to a project at the DiMond Conservancy for Primates and Tropical Forests in Miami. This organization non-profit organization provides a home for confiscated and retired laboratory primates and as an educational resource for students interested in learning more about our closest relatives.

Three hundred minority middle school girls will attend inspirational seminars by scientist and explorer Mireya Mayor, a two-time Emmy Award-nominated field correspondent for the National Geographic Channel. Subsequently, 50 girls will be partnered with undergraduate mentors at this unique primate facility and provided with a quality experience to promote the appreciation and understanding of science.

EO Director Activities

- Wrote articles for Gulf Breeze detailing the EO Fellowship programs and deadlines and provided this information to board and branch members.
- Brochures outlining the fellowship and grants available through EO and information on the EO studies were distributed to new members through the Membership Directors
- Publicized the Frances Pew Hayes grant recipient program at DiMond Conservancy.
- Accessed the aauw.org member center to keep current on the reorganization efforts
- Researched and clarified the new structuring of the Educational Foundation into the Educational Opportunities funds. Provided explanations of the changes to the board and at a branch meeting.
- Interacted with national and state leadership to assure that omission of our GNB Named American Fellowship on aauw.org was corrected.
- Updated bylaws, standing rules and procedures for the branch and foundation. Provided complete handbook packages to all board members.
- Attended branch, board and foundation meetings
- Participated in many branch functions
- Served on the Greater Naples AAUW Charitable Foundation board
- Sent Thank You letters for all Educational Opportunities contributions over \$25.
- Served on the Finance Committee
- Served on the Bylaws committee

Respectfully submitted by Ramona McNicholas, Educational Opportunities Director

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE/TREASURER ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

The Director of Finance/Treasurer's annual report will be posted as a separate report on the Greater Naples Branch website at the end of the Branch fiscal year, June 30, 2010. That is to enable the Finance Director to provide the most complete data available for an annual review of the financial health of the organization.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2009-10

The Legal Advocacy Fund has expanded both its coverage and its strategy. AAUW now addresses discrimination cases protecting women in all workplaces, not just in academia. The AAUW focus is now on significant cases nationwide as amicus curia or friend of the court in sex discrimination, Title IX, and pay equity.

Total funds submitted to LAF at the AAUW national level for 2009 were: \$1,550.

This is broken down in the following amounts:

\$475.00 - designated contributions from individuals in 2009,

\$655.23 – 2009 Benefit apportionment to LAF

\$244.77 – 2009 contribution from Restricted LAF Funds account as the result of shortage in apportionment of funds from Benefit required to equal Branch annual contribution to LAF of \$5 per member.

\$200.00 – Underpayment from 2007

Respectfully submitted by Janet Welch, Legal Advocacy Fund Director

ANNUAL REPORT, DIRECTOR, LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS 2009-2010

The work of the Local Scholarships Committee consists of two activities: publicizing the Scholarship Program and evaluating applications. This year the publicity phase took place during November, December, January, and February, until February 20th, the deadline for submitting applications. The evaluation process began in late February and continued until March 18th when award letters were sent to the 2010 recipients.

1. In November of 2009 the Committee which consists of 10 members, met to revise the flyer /application form. And in December the forms were distributed to local libraries, and social service and health-care agencies, etc. At the same time, a form was posted on the AAUW web site and others were distributed at the December and January Branch meetings. Press releases were also sent via email announcing the program to Financial Aid Officers at local colleges and universities and to local media.
2. In January follow-up emails were sent to Financial Aid Officers at local colleges and universities and to select reporters at the NDN. Emails were also sent to recent Women of Achievement and to faculty members at local colleges and universities who had written letters of reference for previous recipients in the last four years.
3. In February the Committee met to select a student speaker for the Benefit, Sladjana Vasic and to review the evaluation process of applications by individual Committee members. We also created a schedule for the process which began February 22. Twenty-eight applications were received, the largest number in the history of the program. Before the evaluation process began, applications were eliminated that were ineligible for any reason.
4. In March the Committee completed the process of evaluation by individual committee members. Applicants were selected to be interviewed, they were interviewed and then the 2010 recipients were chosen. Twelve scholarships were awarded in the amount of \$16,000. The recipients and non-recipients were notified by mail, and checks were requested from the Treasurer for each recipient's account at her

home institution. At the March Branch Board meeting the Committee asked for approval to start a campaign within the membership to raise money for Local Scholarships. The Branch Board and the Foundation Board gave their approval to start the campaign with an announcement at the Spring Luncheon to be followed by a letter in November.

5. In April the 2010 scholarships were officially awarded to the recipients at the Spring Luncheon with the Committee members acting as hostesses. Pictures taken by John Goodlet and press releases were emailed to local media, and checks were mailed to the home institutions of the recipients. The campaign to raise money for Local Scholarships was also announced.
6. In addition to these activities carried out with the Committee, the Director also fulfilled other responsibilities:
 - a. Attended all Branch and Foundation Board meetings and gave official reports at the November, December, March and April Branch Board meetings and the March Foundation Meeting.
 - b. Wrote thank you letters to all who made donations over \$100 for Local Scholarships.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Trivisonno, Local Scholarships Director

ANNUAL REPORT OF GREATER NAPLES BRANCH MEMBERSHIP 2009-2010

The 2009-2010 year began with 146 members listed in the directory. The year concluded with 155 members. Of these, six were new members and three were members who re-joined late or came back after an absence. The renewal process began in the spring of 2009 with the distribution of renewal forms at the spring luncheon. Over the course of the summer, members who had not submitted their forms were contacted by mail, email and telephone. Most renewals were received by September and the directory was developed by Karen Clegg for distribution at the October and November meetings. Seventy-six directories were mailed in November to those members who had not picked them up in person. In October, invitations were sent to eight members who had expressed an interest in membership activities. Five members (Florence Chandler, Karen Clegg, Rose Evanski, Charlotte Erdley and Janice Stowell) attended two meetings and also participated in distributing directories and name tags and making coffee at branch meetings. The committee decided not to host a new member event as these events are usually well-attended by Board members but not by new or prospective members.

Two addenda to the directory were published; one in December and another in February. They included information on new members as well as changes in address or phone numbers of current members.

Over the course of the year, a large number of information packets containing brochures on AAUW, GNB, the Foundation and an enrollment form were mailed to interested parties whose names were submitted by current members. Each packet contained a personalized letter describing the program for the year, the location of meetings and the special events hosted by GNB such as the WoA benefit and the spring luncheon.

Membership materials were distributed at the Women of Achievement benefit and many of them were picked up by attendees. One honoree has become a member and a guest has expressed interest in joining and plans to attend the spring luncheon. Revised membership renewal forms will be distributed at the luncheon.

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Herman, Membership Director

PARLIAMENTARIAN ANNUAL REPORT GREATER NAPLES BRANCH 2009-10

All board meetings I have attended have been conducted properly under the rules stipulated by Robert's Rules of Order. I have no particular requests or suggestions regarding my position at this time.

Respectfully submitted by Ellen P. Granger, Parliamentarian

AAUW NAPLES BRANCH PROGRAM REPORT 2009-2010

A heartfelt thank you goes to my program co-chair Heather Lerner, who was a wonderful detail person. Equal appreciation goes to the program committee that included: Florence Chandler, Ellen Granger, Nancy Costello, Nancy Nodell and Branch President, Vi Steffan.

The committee met after the March '09 board meeting to plan the Branch programs for the 2009-10 program year. We put together a worthwhile series of seven programs that were well received by the membership. Attendance at these meetings usually ran from 40 to 60 persons. The meeting place was the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Naples Building on Naples Woods Way. The programs followed a brief business meeting on Saturdays starting at 9:30 am except for two events. One event was the Holiday party at the home of the Branch president and the other was our March meeting which was held on Tuesday, March 2nd at 1:00 pm to accommodate the speaker who was the editor of the Naples Daily News. We also held our December meeting in Bonita Beach to accommodate our members from that community and North Naples. Each presentation was followed by a question and answer period.

A detailed description of each program follows:

Saturday, October 17th—Estate Planning and Settlement, chair: Ann Jacobson
The Speaker was Allison K Douglass, principal with Cummings & Lockwood. She discussed considerations for women as they age and make decisions regarding the management of their affairs..

Saturday, November 7th—Human Trafficking Awareness, chair: Vi Steffan
Speakers included Nola Theiss, Executive Director, Human Trafficking Awareness Partnership, Inc. and Detective Charlie Frost of the Collier County Sheriff's Office. They shared their responsibilities in dealing with Human Trafficking on a daily basis.

Saturday, December 12th, 5-7pm. Holiday Party
A holiday party hosted by Vi and John Steffan for members to celebrate the holidays. Members who attended brought appetizers and their favorite beverage. Contributions were collected from those in attendance for the Shelter of Abused Women and Children.

Saturday, December 19th. Bonita Springs Art League—Student-Faculty Art Show Chair, Nancy Costello.
The Speaker was Susan Bridges, Director of the Art League who commented on the collection of works in the Student-Faculty show. These works were on display. Two instructors gave a brief demonstration after the lecture. Refreshments were served and the gift shop was open to the attendees.

Saturday, January 9th—Changing Roles of Women in Finance, chair Nancy Nodell
The speaker was Dawn Lichtfield of Lichtfield and Nelson, Financial Planning and Investments. Dawn's presentation was both entertaining and instructive regarding the changing roles that our grandmothers played and how women deal with life's curves thrown at them today such as death, divorce and the significant other.

Saturday, February 6--Important Issues in Education in Our Schools, Chair Heather Lerner
The speaker was Julie Sprague, Collier County school board member, discussed the important issues facing the School District including hiring enough teachers, the closing of schools and transfer of students.

Tuesday, March 2nd at 1:00 pm—What is the Freedom of the Press Today? Chair Ann Jacobson.
The speaker was Phil Lewis, Editor of the Naples Daily News. He discussed today's state of freedom of the press and how the economic crisis has affected the newspaper business.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Jacobson and Heather Lerner, Program Co-Directors

2009-2010 PUBLIC POLICY ANNUAL REPORT

The following sub-headings indicate the foci for Public Policy activity during 2009-2010.

COLLIER COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Diversity Committee: There were communications throughout the season to school board members Kathy Curatolo and Julie Sprague as well as with Dr. Maria Torres, who was the Director of Diversity, ESOL & Foreign Language during 2005-2008, regarding the reinstatement of the Diversity Committee. As a consequence of the harassment and bullying that took place at the North Naples Middle School and testimony by AAUW at a Collier County School Board meeting, the school board members voted to institute a Diversity Committee. Superintendent Thompson has charged the school board attorney and an administrator with the task of drawing up the Purpose and Goals for the committee.

Title IX: Mr. Ernie Modugno, Athletic Director of Naples High School and former member of the Florida High School Athletic Association, made a presentation at the January Voices of Change meeting. He discussed the suit and settlement that took place in Gainesville, FL on behalf of female athletes. He also provided a status report of participation by female and male athletes in varsity, junior varsity/freshman B teams in Naples High School in 2009 and a Corrective Action Plan to address deficiencies in female participation.

\$TART \$MART PROJECT

In association with Wage Project consultants, AAUW has instituted a training program for college women to teach them how to negotiate for improved wages and benefits. A training program was held at FGCU on April 6 and April 7, 2010.

CANDIDATE SURVEY

AAUW, Planned Parenthood, League of Women Voters, the Sisterhood of Temple Emanuel and the National Council of Jewish Women with the approval of their respective organizations disbanded the Women's Network for Change, which had initiated the survey and whose membership had dwindled over the years. The remaining members determined to broaden the base of women's organizations participating in the survey and to create and distribute a Candidate Survey for the 2010 election cycle.

COLLIER COUNTY NON-DISCRIMINATION COALITION (CCNDC)

To eliminate cost elements and simplify the language, a revised Human Rights Ordinance was created and disseminated to agencies and individuals whose influence would be essential to gaining approval by the county commissioners. Approval for this revised ordinance was not obtained by coalition organizations. Our branch has been in contact with an attorney to determine if an ordinance relying on volunteers can be effective. Dues have not been collected by CCNDC in more than a year and in April 2010 Directors & Officers insurance was dropped because of a lack of funds.

CC STATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION PUBLIC HEARING

An AAUW presentation was made to local legislators in November 2009 on issues important to the equitable and fair treatment of Collier County women and girls.

PARTICIPATION WITH OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERACTIVE VIDEO CONFERENCES

Members participated in various projects with Planned Parenthood, League of Women Voters, Community Foundation's Women's Initiative-Senior Services, CARE, ACLU, Wage Project, CCNDC, AAUW-STEM project.

IMPORTANT FL LEGISLATION

Public Policy members followed and made contact with legislators on proposed/pending bills including School Vouchers, School Prayer, Gay/Lesbian Adoption, Fair Districting Amendment, Class Size Amendment, Senate Bill 6 covering teacher compensation and other education elements, and the Healthy Teens Act.

Respectfully submitted by Robin Birnhak, Public Policy Director

RECORDING SECRETARY ANNUAL REPORT 2009 – 2010

- Recorded minutes for the AAUW Greater Naples Branch general branch meetings, board meetings, and GNB Charitable Foundation meetings.
- Filed minutes and maintained files as part of permanent record for both the branch and the foundation.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Goodwin, Recording Secretary

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY RELATIONS ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

School & Community Relations is made up of a number of parts. The director has a responsibility to both the Greater Naples Branch Board of Directors and to the Greater Naples AAUW Charitable Foundation Board of Directors to monitor the Collier County School District including the Collier County School Board. This is accomplished through maintaining contact with the District to determine if there is a need with which AAUW might be assistance in the educational arena and by monitor issues that come before the School Board and the District on issues that are in line with AAUW's mission.

Other programs for which the Director is responsible are: Secondary Academic Competitions, Reading is Fundamental and Math/Science Conference

SECONDARY ACADEMIC COMPETITIONS

This program is managed by Dr. Kathy Ryan (Senior High School Chair) and Nina Ribinski, Middle School Chair. AAUW volunteers participate as timekeepers and scorers for practice and tournament matches from October through April.

READING IS FUNDAMENTAL (RIF) – ANNUAL REPORT

The 2009-10 school year is the 31st year the AAUW Greater Naples Branch has distributed books to local schools. We serve five elementary schools (preK-5th Grades): Avalon, Calusa Park, Lely Shadowlawn and Golden Terrace. In all but one school, 80-95% of the student body is on the subsidized lunch program. Calusa Park, the exception, has 50% of the student body on subsidized lunches.

The student body population of these five schools is approximately, 3,350. AAUW distributes books to every student in the schools three times a year. Accordingly, this year we will distribute approximately 10,050 books. The budget for this year's distribution is \$23,728, of which \$5,932 (25%) is contributed by the AAUW Greater Naples Foundation. The remaining \$17,796 is provided by the U.S. Department of Education.

Besides contributing monies for RIF, AAUW members volunteer to distribute the books at the schools. A distribution at a single school takes from one to three days each time, depending on the student body population and the scheduling by the media specialist. Each school has a volunteer coordinator who obtains and schedules the volunteers: Lora Loralee LeBeouf (Avalon), Mary Ellen Wolff (Calusa Park), Nancy Webster (serving Lely for Sally Ferguson this year), Genevive Schauer (Shadowlawn), and Karen Clegg (Golden Terrace). We have approximately 35 people who volunteer during the school year.

The overall RIF budget is divided among the five schools, with each school's budget based on the percentage of the student body population to the total number of students served. The media specialist at each school selects and orders the books – hundreds of different titles – based on the criteria provided by RIF and from the RIF approved book sellers. No book can cost more than \$7.00 and most cost \$2.00 to \$3.00 because RIF has negotiated significantly reduced rates with participating book companies.

On the day of distribution, classes come into the media center at 15 minute intervals and each student personally chooses a book from the titles available. The AAUW volunteers el the media specialist replenish the books, help the students make their selections, stamp the books as a gift from AAUW; help the student write his or her name in the book, if help is required; keep track of the number of books distributed, etc. The overall RIF coordinator (Karen Clegg) does the budgeting with RIF, the Foundation, and the media specialists; does the record keeping, reporting and bill paying to RIF – with the help of the Treasurer; and works with the media specialists and coordinators. The coordinator is responsible to the Foundation through the Director of School & Community Relations.

The children are so grateful for the books. Book distribution days are a joy for not only the children but also the volunteers. In fact, a proposal has been presented to the Foundation to add another school next year.

The RIF budget was eliminated from President Obama's 2011 budget; however, there is a good chance it could be restored – as happened last year. And, if it is cut, we would have distributions next year, based on the government's fiscal year (begins October 1).

Respectfully submitted by Karen Clegg, RIF Coordinator, Greater Naples AAUW Charitable Foundation

STEM PROJECT: "GIRLS+MATH+SCIENCE=SUCCESS" ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

Our 13th annual conference was held at Edison State College on February 13, 2010. Greater support is given by the Collier County Public School staff. Over 100 girls attended and almost 100 parents/guardians. We had less number of AAUW volunteers (40) this year, but we were helped by friends and FGCU college students (9). New this year were these five college students who volunteered to help in any way they were needed. And they were needed! I anticipate we will need their energetic and youthful help net year also. An annual presentation to adults was made by two FGCU women chemistry majors.

Our community presenters and speakers were outstanding and many have said they are interested in returning next year. The girls and parents/educators gave glowing response in appreciation of the fine professionals who donated their time and talent.

This year we added biographical sketches of each presenter to our program, giving more recognition to each person. The majority of our presenters are women; but we did have two men this year, as we did last year. A strong suggestion was made that we need to publicize this event, giving recognition to the presenters and the participants. Anyone interested in pursuing this?

Last year, the teach in charge of the bus treated all of the participants to McDonald's on their way home This year we added lunch for our 38 guests who rode the complimentary bus from Immokalee to the conference. The bus begins picking up people shortly after 7:00 a.m., returning them to Immokalee around 2:30 p.m.

Simultaneous translation in Spanish was available for any adult and 12 asked for the service. Each girl received the gift of a laminated book marker and the magazine "New Moon." We were contacted by two AAUW groups for input on our Math/Science Conference to learn how we put together this great program.

The cost of the event for this year ran about \$2,700. We have recognized the individual contributions our members made specifically to the Math/Science conference.

We were originally advised that Edison State College may not be able to continue to provide the venue for the event for no charge. After a recent presentation with the new Provost of the college, we were relieved to receive the offer

of continued "no charge" for the event. We may, however, have to place greater emphasis on fund raising for the event in the future. Eleni Gills, an AAUW member, was able to secure funds from supporters for the conference.

Our AAUW volunteers enthusiastically recommend that we offer the conference next year.

Thank you for your strong support of the conference that proclaims... **GIRLS CAN DO ANYTHING!**

Respectfully submitted by Mary Schell, Math/Science Program Chair, Greater Naples AAUW Charitable Foundation

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