

President's Column

After the holidays, we in AAUW can look forward to the return of our seasonal members and to renewed activities in support of our Mission.

This month, AAUW is releasing a new study on sexual harassment on college campuses. Distribution of this report gives us a new opportunity to develop relationships with colleges in our areas.

The state board of Florida AAUW meets this month, on January 21, 2006, in Sarasota. Please share your questions and concerns with your Director at Large for discussion at our board meeting. We are meeting at the Hyatt Hotel in Sarasota which is the site we have chosen for our state convention in April.

Convention committees and state board members are working hard to make sure we have a wonderful convention in Sarasota, April 21-23. We anticipate having some terrific new workshops to entice you, as well as workshops on rules and procedures for branch officers. Sarasota is an interesting destination so I hope we will have good attendance this year.

I would like to urge all branches to send a member to Lobby Days in Tallahassee, March 13-15. There we join with many other women's groups who are members of the Florida Women's Consortium to work for the issues of concern to us. Remember, I've been talking about a mantra for FLAAUW, "We will keep showing up". Showing up for Lobby Days is one of the most important things we can do in support of women's issues.

Don't forget that in January, branches can offer half-price membership to new members. We need to recruit new members all year long, but bringing in someone in January gives them the rest of the fiscal year at a bargain rate.

Because equity is still an issue, we must continue to support the mission of AAUW.

Carol