



American Association of University Women
Capital Branch
January 7, 2015
Capital Branch Meeting

Members Present		
Jane Johnson	Caroline Punches	Mary Piper
Mary Castro-Wilson	Louise Seidel	Betsy Strohl
JoAnn Carpenter	Carolyn Kellogg	Nancy Stiles
Jill Doremus	Anne Elson	Phyllis Tirado
Judy Welch	Susan Haas	Jennifer Verive
Flo Bedrosian	Peggy Wozniak	Betty Young
Barbara Jepson	Linda Sekiguchi	
Diane Cerrito	Lin Nary	

President Jane Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:45 P.M. The venue for this meeting was the UNR Cooperative Extension Building in Carson City. President Johnson began by introducing new members and guests. She then introduced Flo Bedrosian, Committee Chair for the Annual Feast of Chocolate. Flo reminded us that we need donations for silent auction and raffle items. Mary Castro-Wilson needs address information for those who provide donations so the appropriate thank you notes can be sent. Raley's will be a partner in this event this year and negotiations are ongoing with The Plaza regarding what might be able to be added at the venue.

President Johnson called on Nancy Stiles to report on the new coalition that has been formed with AAUW's Reno Branch, AAUW's State Council, Nevada Women's Lobby, League of Women Voters, Women of Washoe, Nevada Advocates for Planned Parenthood Affiliates, and Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada. The first meeting in Reno resulted in preparing questions for the legislators and candidates for the 2017 legislature. Responses from the legislators will be collated and provided to all coalition members.

Judy Welch provided information on an upcoming Sierra Forum. The forum is about Funding and Education and will be held on Wednesday, January 13 at the Brewery Art Center. AAUW members Peggy Wozniak and Nancy Stiles will be part of the forum. Additionally, AAUW will be having an educational forum for the March meeting. Three local school superintendents will provide a panel discussion and our meeting will be open to other groups.

Nancy Stiles, Vice-President for Programs introduced Chief Deputy Attorney General Brett Kandt who provided an overview of the burgeoning problem of human trafficking. His office has been working mainly on the issue of sex trafficking especially as it relates to children. He began by indicating that although this problem has been escalating, many communities have felt that it is not a local issue. Northern Nevada residents believe the problem occurs in Las Vegas, but not here. Although, there has been a problem collecting data to determine how widespread this issue might be in our area, the Attorney General's Office believes we do have issues with trafficking of children. Data collection is pivotal to determining the extent of the problem. Several laws have been enacted since 2005 to attempt to strengthen the response to the issue. Prior to 2005 the law viewed this as "involuntary servitude" and the penalties for those engaging in the acts were minimal. Additional laws were added in 2007, 2009, and 2015 to increase the penalties for anyone engaged in this type of trafficking. The future goals are to develop more reliable data, continue to work with the criminal justice system, initiate and/or improve prevention campaigns, and provide better services and treatment for the victims of these crimes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
JoAnn Carpenter
Secretary