



# Capital News!

AAUW Capital Branch

December 2016

Visit our website at <http://capital-nv.aauw.net/> Like us on Facebook Contact us at [aauwcapbr@gmail.com](mailto:aauwcapbr@gmail.com)

**AAUW Mission:**  
**Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.**

## President's Message

by Caroline Punches



'Tis the season!! Thanksgiving is a recent memory of good times with family and/or friends. And Christmas is around the corner!

When I reflect on the first few months of our AAUW year, I am overwhelmed at all the good things happening here in the Capital Branch. The speakers at our branch meetings have been absolutely outstanding and the attendance is at record highs! Our new members are actively involved – attending book club discussions, informal luncheons and volunteering!

Speaking of volunteering – a special thanks to all of you who helped with Pecan Sales at the Carson High Craft Fair! A special shout-out goes to Carolyn Kellogg for taking care of the logistics.

I am looking forward to tasting all those **Savory or Sweet appetizers** you will be sharing at our Holiday Gathering on **Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM at the Lake Glen Community Room**. And a reminder, guests are welcome to participate in this tasting extravaganza!

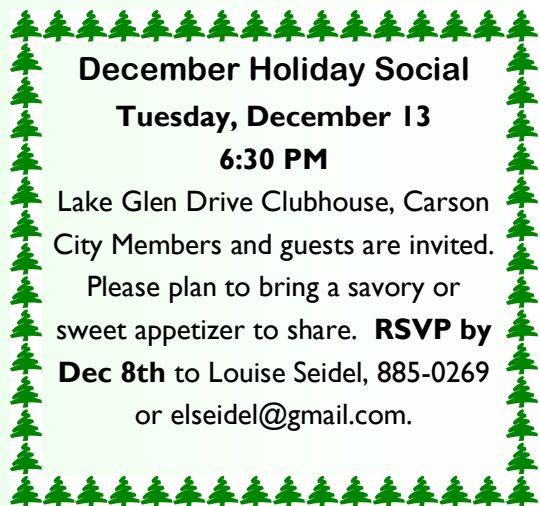
Our January meeting is on the first **Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30PM**. Enjoy your holiday festivities!

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A volunteer or volunteers are needed to help with general branch meetings – overseeing refreshment arrangements and logistics. May need to help with room set-up/clean up as well. Volunteer by contacting Caroline at [cpunches206@charter.net](mailto:cpunches206@charter.net) or by phone at 775-246-1850.



## December Holiday Social

Tuesday, December 13

6:30 PM

Lake Glen Drive Clubhouse, Carson City Members and guests are invited.

Please plan to bring a savory or sweet appetizer to share. **RSVP by**

**Dec 8th** to Louise Seidel, 885-0269 or [elseidel@gmail.com](mailto:elseidel@gmail.com).

## January Meeting

by Marty McGarry

We'll start the year with the very timely subject of accepting refugees into the U.S. and in Nevada. The speaker for **January 3<sup>rd</sup>** is Carina Black, Executive Director of Northern Nevada International Center and International Visitor Exchange Programs at UNR. Carina will explain the process required for refugees, including Syrian families that recently relocated to our area. The activities of the Center will be addressed with emphasis on concerns for women and children.

The meeting will be held at the Carson City Sheriff's office located at 911 East Musser St, Carson City, NV 89701, in the Ormsby Room. We'll have a donation jar available to cover the dinner gratuity. We didn't quite cover the tip last meeting and decided to try a tip jar this time rather than raise the price. Dinner will be served at 5:30. The cost is \$10.00 and includes:

- Mixed Green Salad (2 Dressings)
- Chicken Parmesan
- Pasta Marinara
- Dessert

Please, mark your calendar. We'd love to see you there!

## Public Policy

By Nancy Stiles

The 2017 State Legislature begins February 6. There will be several bills presented that will be of interest to AAUW. At the present time, there are 498 bill drafts identified, and there will be more. We will have the opportunity to let our voices be heard on issues such as: human trafficking, paycheck fairness, paid family leave, and others that are in our AAUW Public Policy. Plans are being made to involve as many of you as want to be involved in various ways as we stand up for our AAUW values and take advantage of this opportunity. More information will be forthcoming in January.

## Membership

By Mary L. Castro-Wilson, Membership Chair

We had a great turnout at our November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting held at The Adams Hub. Although it was the first Tuesday of the month instead of the first Thursday of the



month, our members were there in force. This brings me to the importance of signing in at our meetings, members and guests alike. The list is used by our recording secretary, JoAnn Carpenter, to track attendance. Membership uses it as a tool to see who is in attendance, and to follow up with guests to see if they would be interested in joining our branch in the future. **PLEASE SIGN THE MEMBERSHIP LIST AND, if you are bringing guests, MAKE SURE THEY SIGN THE GUEST LIST.** Thank you.

Two more new members have joined our Capital (NV) Branch. They are remarkable women—Iris Blaisdell and Janine Comoletti. I will spotlight them in our January, 2017 Newsletter. Currently we have 58 members in our branch.

Beginning January 1, 2017 through March 16, 2017, National dues are \$24.50. This price break is only for NEW members who join during this timeframe and have not been AAUW members within the last two years. The state and local dues are also pro-rated. Total dues of \$35.00 will pay for a new membership through June, 2017. A great deal!

At this time of year I am reminded of a quote from the great Eleanor Roosevelt, “Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a gift. That is why we call it the present.”

I wish all of you the very happiest of the Holiday Season. May it be filled with love, laughter, peace, health, and AAUW’s mission and purpose!

## Feast of Chocolate

By Flo Bedrosian and Susan Klekar, Co-chairs

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Feast of Chocolate will be held at the Plaza Hotel and Event Center in Carson City, on Saturday, February 11 from 1 to 3 PM. Tickets will be distributed to members at the branch holiday party in December for immediate sale to the public. If not able to attend the holiday party please call or text me to arrange for ticket pickup or delivery. Proceeds from the event support local scholarships and the AAUW Educational Opportunity Fund.

The fundraising event is a Valentine themed buffet of chocolate treats from local bakeries and restaurants and the award winning Carson High School Culinary Arts. Ticket holders will find an abundance of chocolate for sampling, tables for lingering with white linen and beautiful decorations, and time for participating in the raffle of impressive gift baskets and prizes.

Tickets...Tickets...Tickets...are as follows:

\$15 in advance

\$12 in advance for seniors age 65+ (optional, may donate at full price)

\$18 at the door (everyone)

Our goal is to have 200 guests at the event enjoying chocolate and buying raffle tickets. Tickets @ \$15 each will raise \$3,000. Then we can potentially raise another \$1,000 from the raffle based on \$5 average per person. The success of the event depends on the sale of ADVANCE tickets and the guests in attendance buying raffle tickets.

The branch membership directory has 58 members listed. If every member sold 4 tickets, that is 232 tickets and standing room only if everyone showed up, a nice problem to have. As much as we welcome donations from members we want ticket sales to reflect the amount of people expected at the event. If you plan on attending as a guest and sitting and enjoying chocolate, then you need to purchase a ticket. Otherwise, if you do not think you can sell the tickets, please leave them for others to sell. Please do not cover the ticket cost yourself as if you sold the tickets. That would be a donation and not ticket sales. We welcome the visibility of the event and want people to attend and have a good time, so please do what you can to sell ADVANCE tickets and get the people there.

Members can help in a variety of ways. Committees are currently working on pre-event details. Members will be needed to volunteer for tasks at the event such as greeting and attending to guests, collecting tickets at the door, selling raffle tickets, passing out the raffle prizes to the winners, and plating and serving chocolate. Signup sheets will be available at the holiday party.

Thank you for your continued efforts in support of our fundraising projects for local scholarships and the Educational Opportunity Fund.

## Feast of Chocolate Raffle by Nancy Stiles

We'll be doing the raffle differently from the last two years. A question was asked on the survey in regard to who might be willing to put together a basket for the raffle this year, and we got a response of seventeen people. We will narrow our baskets to those seventeen and have only a raffle and not a silent auction. There will be a demonstration of how to put together a basket at our December holiday gathering. All baskets need to be delivered to Nancy Stiles by Saturday, February 4, for the purpose of organizing the raffle bags to match the baskets. Any gift certificates you may acquire from community businesses will also need to be given to Nancy by February 4<sup>th</sup> as well. Thank you to those who stepped up to do a basket for us, and for those who solicit for business gift certificates as well. It is very much appreciated.



## Pecans Sales

By Shirley Hammon

Pecans sales are going well. Now is the time to give that extra push to sell the remaining packages. Three cases of halves are available—that is, 72 packages—and two cases of dark chocolates—48 packages. Schermer sent us a complimentary case of dark chocolate because some packages of the chocolate-covered melted in transit. The extra case is 100% profit because Schermer already had immediately replaced the defective ones.

Buy a few extra packages for yourself and check with neighbors and friends. The pecans freeze well and remain fresh for two years. Even if you no longer bake, the antioxidant rich pecan halves can be added to your morning cereal and your salad.

Call me at 882-4195 to place your order. Remember—you do not have to pay for your pecans when you pick them up.

Thank you for your hard work, especially those folks who staffed the booth at the high school.

Good luck.



Are you changing your address, email address, or phone?? Please let Mary Wilson, Membership Chair know so she can update the national roster.

AND, let Lin Nary know so she can update the local roster and the directory. Thanks!!

## Attention Facebook Users

by Barbara LeBlanc, Facebook Page Administrator

Did you know that Capital Branch is on Facebook? We have our own Page which is updated regularly. Please follow the directions below to access it so you will be able to see all the interesting articles, reminders, photos, and notifications that will be posted. There will be handy reminders of our AAUW Events as well as community events which have to do with our AAUW mission and values. Social media such as Facebook is a great way to keep in touch with each other as well as a way to promote our events. It is one of the waves of the future and our Branch is moving into the future with it, so please join us in this endeavor.

Here are the directions for getting the AAUW Capital Branch Nevada Facebook Page:

- In the "Search" box at the top of your Facebook newsfeed page (Home) or your personal account page, type in the words: AAUW Capital Branch Nevada.
- When the Page appears, click on the "Like" box. The word "Liked" will appear with a tiny arrow to the right.
- Click on the arrow: A box will appear with some choices. Under "In Your News Feed" click on "See First." Under "Notifications" click "On"

You should now be able to see our Page postings before other general newsfeed postings. You will also get a notification of a posting right after I have posted it, providing your general settings in Facebook have Notifications turned on and directed to a phone, computer, or other device.

I hope you enjoy our Page.

## And Now, a word from our Sponsor

### 25 GIFTS FOR FEARLESS FEMINISTS IN 2016

Can't figure out what to get your favorite feminists this holiday season? Here's a handy cheat sheet for everyone on your list, from toddlers to second-wavers. This year's guide has been updated from our previous ones to make your gift-finding mission even easier. We've expanded our scope to include all ages, and every product is gender neutral, so don't forget about the boys, parents, and grandparents on your list. And if you're on a budget, don't fret: **Most of this year's 25 picks are \$25 or less!**

Check out the tshirts, mugs, bags and baby onesies on the AAUW.org website at <http://www.aauw.org/2016/11/14/gifts-for-fearless-feminists/>





## Interest Groups

by Diane Koditek

### Gourmet Group

Gourmet Group members enjoyed a November lunch at Thai Jasmine followed by Chef Paul Harger's delicious dessert demonstration at Eddy Street Vintage Market in Gardnerville.

In December, the group gathering will be a British holiday celebration dinner hosted by Sue Knight on Friday, December 16 at 5 PM. For additional information, contact Carolyn Kellogg, [cnflakes@ymail.com](mailto:cnflakes@ymail.com) or call 461-3320.

### Evening Book Group

In November, Linda Kijanka hosted a discussion of William A. Douglass' book of short stories, *Death After Life: Tales of Nevada*. Mr. Douglass was present, providing interesting background on his book and his career.

In December, Carolyn Kellogg will host and Joanne Carpenter will facilitate discussion of Colson Whitehead's book *The Underground Railroad*. The meeting will take place on Thursday, December 15 at 6:30 PM. For further information, contact Diane Koditek, [dgk@mchsi.com](mailto:dgk@mchsi.com) or call 661-304-8643.

### Daytime Book Group

In December, the group's discussion will focus on *The Omnivore's Dilemma* by Michael Pollan. The meeting will take place on December 16 from 2 to 4 PM at Cindy White's home. For further information, please contact JoAnn Carpenter, [jac78x@gmail.com](mailto:jac78x@gmail.com) or call 297-3889.

### Great Decisions

Great Decisions will be meeting on January 25, 2017. Look for details in the next newsletter or for more information about the group, contact Linda Hiebert-Sekiguchi, [nvlindas@gmail.com](mailto:nvlindas@gmail.com) or call 775-220-0595.

### Informal Luncheon

Our next Informal Luncheon will take place in January. If you have favorite restaurant suggestions to share, please contact Diane Koditek, [dgk@mchsi.com](mailto:dgk@mchsi.com).

## Questions? Answers

by Caroline Punches, President

**Question:** As a member of the National AAUW, how can I have a voice and input into AAUW leadership, changes in AAUW bylaws or the AAUW Public Policy Program?

**Answer:** As a member of AAUW, YOU will have the opportunity to vote on not only the candidates running for office, but you also have the opportunity comment on the proposed changes recommended by The Governance Committee of AAUW. **Every member of AAUW** can also comment on the suggestions OR propose their own changes to these documents.

**Question:** How can we participate in this process?

**Answer:** Proposed changes to AAUW bylaws and Public Policy Program are currently on the AAUW website. Go to [www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/](http://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/). You will be able to comment on current bylaws, suggest changes, or react to those changes submitted. The comment period opened on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and will close on December 5<sup>th</sup>. The same is available for the Public Policy section.

**Question:** How do I get on the national AAUW website?

**Answer:** You will need your membership ID number to log on and be able to comment. If you have not logged on the website before, you can contact Mary Wilson, Membership Chair to get your membership ID number. You will be asked to develop a password.

**Question:** What happens after December 5<sup>th</sup>?

**Answer:** By January 30, 2017, the profiles of candidates running for office will be posted on the national website. Online voting on ALL bylaws changes, public policy platform and candidates will begin on April 14, 2017. Voting will end on June 15, 2017 and election results will be announced online and at the convention on June 16, 2017.

## Bulletin Board

Reminder: Any AAUW member may suggest a community event that she believes would be interesting to participate in. Please email suggestions for the coming month to Diane Koditek, [dgk@mchsi.com](mailto:dgk@mchsi.com). Suggested activities will be posted in the newsletter in the Bulletin Board section.



Check out the  
Capital Branch  
website at [http://  
capital-  
nv.aauw.net/](http://capital-nv.aauw.net/)

# December 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Christmas Social 6:30 PM	14	15 Evening Book Group 6:30 PM	16 Gourmet Book Group 5 PM 2-4 PM	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Happy Hanukkah 
25 <i>Christmas</i>	26	27	28	29	30	31

## Your 2016-2017 Board

President — Caroline PUNCHES 246-1850  
 Membership VP — Mary Wilson 246-7215  
 or 775-721-5124  
 Program Co-Vice Presidents:  
 — Marty McGarry 775-690-3913  
 — Judy Welch 775-721-1731  
 Secretary, Recording —  
 JoAnn Carpenter 775-297-3889  
 Secretary, Corresponding —  
 Barbara LeBlanc 775-781-4956  
 Treasurer — Phyllis Tirado 775-782-0550  
 Lin Nary—Newsletter 775-230-9676

## Looking Ahead...

**January 3**, Branch Meeting with Carina Black of the International Center at UNR discussing the programs of her organization and sharing some personal stories of Syrian refugees who are re-locating in Northern Nevada.

**January 25**, Great Decisions meets. The discussion will be on *The UNs Post-2015 Development Agenda and Leadership* in the 2016 study book.

*Invest in the human soul. Who knows, it might be a diamond in the rough.* — Mary McLeod Bethune