



Capital News!

AAUW Capital Branch (NV)

February 2017

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

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

President's Message

by Caroline Punches

As a member of AAUW, I am VERY PROUD of our commitment to equity and education for women and girls. AAUW played a role in the launching of the Women's Marches across the USA. I was absolutely blown away with the numbers of participants in Washington, DC and the other 300 cities as well as other cities around the world! All focused on support of women's issues – pay equity, paid sick leave, reproductive rights, and so many more. As Kamala Harris, US Senator from California, said in her speech in DC, "all issues are women's issues!"



But what does this mean to the members of the AAUW Capital (NV) branch? As Nancy Stiles states in her Public Policy column, there are numerous ways you can participate in the legislative system here in Nevada. And, of course, you are encouraged to let your US Senators Cortez-Masto and Heller as well as Congressman Amodei, know about your concerns on issues coming before them.

Additionally, you have the opportunity to support our local branch by volunteering to help with the *Feast of Chocolate* on February 11. Remember, the proceeds of this event are used to fund local scholarships as well as AAUW national fellowship funds. Flo Bedrosian can be contacted at 775-267-4515 or Fbedrosian@charter.net to offer your help. (cont'd on p.2)

February 7th Meeting

by Marty McGarry

The 2017 Legislative Session begins February 6, and we want to be ready to take advantage of the opportunity to use our voices to advocate for AAUW issues that are important to us. So, this is the perfect time for our speakers for Tuesday, February 7th: Marlene Lockard of Nevada Women's Lobby has much information for us about the 2017 legislative session and what she knows and predicts so far. After she gets you fired up, Elisa Cafferata, President of Nevada Advocates for Planned Parenthood, can tell us about the threats to basic health issues of women and families, as Paul Ryan prepares to pair defunding Planned Parenthood with repealing the Affordable Care Act.

The meeting will begin at 5:30 at the Carson City Sheriff's office located at 911 East Musser St, Carson City, NV 89701. We will be in the Ormsby Room located at the right side of the Sheriff's office. Dinner will again be catered by "A Catered Affair" for a charge of \$12.00, increased to cover water and coffee and help with the gratuity, but we'll have a donation jar available as well. Please be prepared to help. Thanks for your RSVP's to Louise Seidel no later than **February 2nd**!

Branch Meeting

Tuesday, February 7
 5:30– 7:30 PM
 Carson Sheriff's Office
 Ormsby Room
 911 East Musser St
 Dinner (optional) from
 A Catered Affair \$12
 RSVP Louise 885-0269
 or elseidel@gmail.com
 by **February 2** please.

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If your contact information is changed, please let Mary Wilson, Membership Chair, know so she can update the national roster. Thanks! Her number is 246-7215.



Feast of Chocolate Tickets

By Flo Bedrosian and Susan Klekar, Co-chairs

The 18th Annual **Feast of Chocolate** on Saturday, February 11, 2017 from 1 to 3 pm at the Plaza Hotel and Event Center needs **your** help!

The **Feast of Chocolate** is a full buffet of delicious chocolate desserts, featuring chocolate created by Carson High School Culinary Arts that we purchase for the event. Additional chocolate for sampling is prepared and donated by local restaurants and bakeries including our longest supporter Grandma Hatties's who bakes a variety of chocolate delicacies, and Red's Old 395 who provides their scrumptious fudge brownies. Casino Fandango first donated last year and prepared beautiful gourmet treats and will be back this year. Raley's Carson City returns for the third year offering tasty chocolate selections from their specialty line in the bakery.

In addition to enjoying the abundance of chocolate at the buffet, there will be a raffle of fabulous themed gift baskets (donated by AAUW members) and gift certificates donated by local businesses, from coffee to gourmet meals. It is a fun and festive event enhanced by harp music performed throughout by Wanda Perschnick of South Lake Tahoe.

You can support the event in a number of ways:

Sell tickets to others to come and enjoy the event or buy tickets yourself to participate with friends and family. (Advance tickets are \$15 per person, with Seniors 65+ for \$12, and at the door is \$18 for everyone) Contact Jane Johnson about tickets at 267-3427 or jane3491@charter.net.

Volunteer to help at the event as needed for such things as plating desserts, serving chocolate in the buffet line, or perhaps assisting with the raffle. To volunteer, contact Flo Bedrosian at 267-4515 or FDBEDROSIAN@nvdetr.org.

President's message, from p. 1

Jane Johnson, past-president, is leading a committee to review the way our AAUW Branch provides community (including education) support. If you would like to participate in this committee, please contact Jane at jane3491@charter.net or 775-267-3427.

AND, Carolyn Kellogg has agreed to chair our Nominating Committee. If you would like to volunteer for a board or committee position, contact Carolyn at cnflakes@ymail.com or at 775-461-3320.

In closing I am sharing a quote from Margaret Mead which seems most appropriate as we move forward, **"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, concerned citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has."**

Public Policy

By Nancy Stiles, Public Policy Chair

We have a new administration, and it's anybody's guess as to how women's issues that are important to AAUW members will be handled. What we do know is that AAUW across the country will be watching and will be weighing in on women's issues. We are already standing up and speaking out for women's rights through an unprecedented women's march that would be hard to ignore by the new administration and our representatives.

Our U.S. Senator, Catherine Cortez Masto, has already spoken in opposition to the nomination of Jeff Sessions and Betsy DeVos, as well as given her response on defunding Planned Parenthood. Visit her website www.cortezmasto.senate.gov or her facebook account www.facebook.com/catherinecortezmasto/ or her Twitter account @SenCortezMasto to read her press statements. When you do, thank her for her stand on women's rights, public education, and the humanity of people.

Our 2017 state legislature opens February 6 and closes May 31. That is a short window for making our voices heard on issues that are important to us here in our own state. I've asked a core committee made up of Caroline Panches, Lynn Ballatore, Janice Noble, Marty McGarry, Nancy Scott, and Judy Welch to meet together on Feb. 25th at 88 Cups in Minden at 10 am to develop a strategic plan for our organization's efforts to advocate for AAUW issues. If you would like to be a part of developing that plan, please join us. All are welcome. Let me know if you are coming, so I can have adequate handouts.

As of January 20, there were 803 bill drafts submitted for the 2017 legislature. It is too soon to prioritize what bills we want to watch, but Progressive Leadership Alliance (PLAN) is preparing white papers for some we may want to follow as they are gender equity initiatives. They are: Pay Equity, Paid Leave, a Fair Minimum Wage, Affordable Child Care, and Domestic Worker's Bill of Rights. The Nevada Women's Coalition for Equity has adopted these as their priorities. You will be invited to participate during these next months of the legislative session as we take advantage of the opportunity to take action steps for our mission: To advance equity for women and girls through **advocacy**, education, philanthropy, and research.

Feast of Chocolate Raffle

by Nancy Stiles, Raffle Chair

We have a lovely array of baskets for our Feast of Chocolate Raffle donated by our members. Thus far we have: Quilting basket from JoAnn Carpenter, Doggie basket from Diane Kodiak, Spices basket from Lin Nary, Red Bear basket from Holly Valkenburgh, Party basket from Caroline Punches, Local Artisan's basket from Kathy Bartosz, Wine & roses basket from Linda Sekiguchi, Playmates basket from Linda Sekiguchi, Lady's Personal basket from Phyllis Tirado, For a Snowy Day basket from Nancy Stiles, Wine & Chocolate basket from Nancy Stiles, Cheeseboard basket from Nancy Stiles.

Others have indicated they are bringing me a basket by February 4th. They are: Jewelry basket from Mary Wilson, Needlework basket from Barbara LeBlanc, Italian Delight basket from Shirley Williams, Garden basket from Nancy Bailey, International Flavors basket from Jane Johnson, and baskets from Judy Welch, Donna Curtis, and Anita Habberfield.

Business donations, on the other hand, are scanty. Right now, we have a haircut gift certificate from Hairport secured by Phyllis Tirado, and a \$75 Steak gift certificate from CVI secured by Linda Sekiguchi. Hopefully we will have more coming in. If you are obtaining a gift certificate, it needs to come to my house, 1676 Lantana Dr., Minden, by February 4 in order to be added to the raffle. A business gift certificate is a way to advertise a business, so give them that opportunity by asking for one.

Thank you to everyone who has or will be contributing to our raffle.



Questions? Answers!

by Caroline Punches, President

Question: Who attends AAUW Capital Branch **Board Meetings?**

Answer: Elected board officers are required to attend the AAUW Capital Branch Board Meetings. Additionally those volunteers who hold appointed positions typically attend the board meetings.

Question: When are the meetings held?

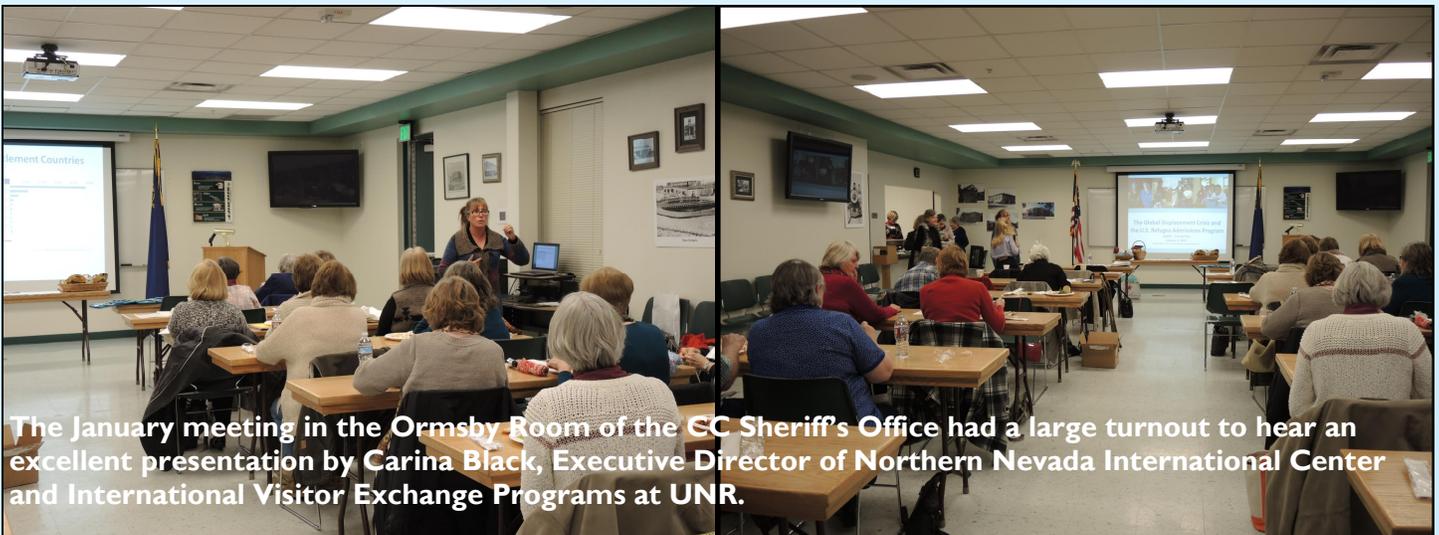
Answer: As required by the Branch Bylaws, the board is required to meet at least 3 times per year. Additional meetings may be held as needed. There is no set time for the meetings to occur, but are determined at the call of the President.

Question: When is the next Board Meeting scheduled and can any member attend, if they wish?

Answer: The Board just met on Wednesday, January 18th at 11:30AM in the Studio at the Adam's Hub in downtown Carson City. The next meeting is set for Wednesday, March 22nd at 11:30AM at the same place. ANY member is welcome to attend these meetings. Just contact Caroline Punches at cpunches206@charter.net or by phone at 775-246-1850 to ensure handouts are available.

Question: Why was there an increase from \$10 per person to \$12 per person for the price of the dinner meals which are served at the Membership meetings?

Answer: The Board of Directors learned that the \$10 fee did NOT include the beverages which are served with the meals AND that the tips provided by the members did not really cover that cost. It was the feeling that a \$2.00 increase would enable those costs to be covered. However, you do not have to purchase a meal. You can bring your own or just not have a meal.



The January meeting in the Ormsby Room of the CC Sheriff's Office had a large turnout to hear an excellent presentation by Carina Black, Executive Director of Northern Nevada International Center and International Visitor Exchange Programs at UNR.

Membership

By Mary L. Castro-Wilson, Membership Chair

Happy Valentine's Day, Happy Feast of Chocolate (February 11, 2017), and Happy Birthday to all our members celebrating their birthdays this month! Four more remarkable women have joined our AAUW Capital (NV) Branch since the beginning of 2017. These ladies are: Aster Girma, Anita Habberfield, Tamara Nance, and Chris Perdomo. I will "spotlight" each of them in our next edition of our newsletter (March edition). In the meantime, please join me in welcoming them to our branch!

As of this edition of our newsletter, we have a total of 60 amazing members. We want to keep you! How do we retain your membership? Active members are the lifeblood of any organization. Research has shown that members of an organization—social, political, advocacy, etc.—need to be active and have a clear understanding of the organization's goal and its progress toward goal attainment. Our goal at AAUW is to empower women, all women, and girls. It's a big, bold goal. There are many opportunities for you to take an action that is closest to your heart. We have monthly membership meetings with incredible guest speakers, an evening book group, afternoon book group, Great Decisions—a guided discussion program on international and national affairs, and a monthly social luncheon. If you are interested in any of these groups or wish to attend the luncheons, please contact Diane Koditek, Interest Group Coordinator. Diane can be con-



tacted: 661-304-8743 (Telephone); [email-dgk@mchsi.com](mailto:dgk@mchsi.com). As Membership Chair, I welcome any suggestions you may have for our extraordinary membership. I can be contacted: 775-246-7215 (Home); 775-721-5124 (Cell); email-jdwmlw@charter.net.

A big "thank you" goes to our membership telephone liaisons who do the reminder calls for our membership meetings, and to our reservation hostesses Louise Seidel, Mary Piper, Mary Moffitt, and Shirley Hammon. Great job and thank you for all of your help!

Check out the Capital Branch website at <http://capital-nv.aauw.net/>

Interest Groups

by Diane Koditek



Great Decisions met on January 25th and will meet next on Wednesday, February 22 at 2 PM. Please contact Linda Hiebert-Sekiguchi, 775-782-1296 or nvlindas@gmail.com for further information.

In January, the **Gourmet Group** enjoyed dining out at Z Bistro in Carson City. On February 17th at 5PM, members will prepare a Japanese meal at the home of Maureen Smith in Carson City. If you are interested in joining the gourmet group, please contact Maureen Smith at 888-0075 or Carolyn Kellogg at 461-3320.

Despite our challenging weather, the January meeting of the **Evening Book Group**, hosted by Shirley Williams, took place as scheduled, with discussion of *Daughters of The Samurai* and *The Ginger Tree*. On February 16 at 6:30 PM, Anne Elson will host and Shirley Williams will lead discussion of *Cutting for Stone* and other selections by Abraham Verghese. For additional information about the group, please contact Diane Koditek at 661-304-8743 or dgk@mchsi.com.

The **Daytime Book Group** meets next on February 17 to discuss Theresa Weir's book *The Orchard, A Memoir*. For additional information, please contact JoAnn Carpenter, jac78x@gmail.com or call 775-297-3889.

All are invited to meet up for an **informal luncheon** on Thursday, February 9 at 11:30 AM. Enjoy good conversation and food and especially, if you are a newer member, the opportunity to get better acquainted. We will enjoy lunch at The Cafe at Adele's, 1112 N. Carson St. in Carson City. Please RSVP to Diane Koditek by February 2 at 661-304-8743 or dgk@mchsi.com. Thank you to those who've made restaurant suggestions! Anticipate a location in Minden-Gardnerville area for our March luncheon.

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. Suggested activities will be posted in the newsletter in the Bulletin Board section.

February 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 RSVPs due today (see the pink box)	3	4
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> RSVP for Branch Meeting Meal by Feb 2 @ 775-885-269 RSVP for Informal Luncheon by Feb 2 @ 661-304-8743 </div>						
5	6	7 Branch Mtg 5:30-7:30 PM	8	9 Informal Luncheon	10	11 Feast of Chocolate 1-3 PM 
12	13	14 	15	16 Book Group 6:30 PM	17 Day Book Group	18
19	20 	21	22 Great Decisions 2 PM	23	24	25 Legislative Planning 10AM
26	27	28	Looking Ahead... March 22 Board Meeting			

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

Bulletin Board

Friends of Dayton Valley Library invite you to the
Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of Dayton Valley Branch Library's Opening,
 Saturday, February 4th
 321 Old Dayton Valley Road.
 Program begins at 11 AM until 3 PM
 Refreshments will be served.
 Raffle Prizes of Handmade Quilts (3)
 plus door prizes.
 Come, honor & celebrate those who got
 the library built!
 Questions: contact Mary Piper, 246-5435 or email
mpiper36@gmail.com

18th Annual

FEAST OF CHOCOLATE

Presented by the
American Association of University Women
Capital (NV) Branch

Saturday, February 11, 2017

Time: 1:00 - 3:00 PM

**Plaza Hotel & Event Center
211 E. 9th St., Carson City, NV**



Enjoy an abundance of chocolate for sampling.

Participate in raffles of fabulous prizes.

Proceeds benefit local scholarships and AAUW fellowships.

Advance tickets \$15

Seniors 65+ \$12

For tickets or more information, contact 775-267-3427.