



American Association of University Women

Capital News!

AAUW Capital (NV) Branch

January 2018

Visit our website at <http://capital-nv.aauw.net/> Contact us at aauwcapbr@gmail.com

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



Branch Meeting

January 2, 2018
5 PM

Don't forget to
RSVP to Louise at
885-0269 or
elseidel@gmail.com
by December 28. We
need to know YES or NO,
meal or not.

Read all about it!

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President's Message

by Caroline Punches

January 2018 is just around the corner! Can you believe it? Before we move on to our new year, let's take a few minutes to celebrate our accomplishments in 2017. Two excellent salary negotiation workshops – special thanks to Jennifer Verive and Peggy Wozniak for their facilitation of these AAUW WorkSmart events AND a special thanks to Partnership Carson City and WNC for their sponsorship.

Our branch fundraising activities surpassed expectations! Two local high school graduates and a WNC student received scholarships. And, we supported the AAUW Educational Opportunity Fund.

Membership involvement and engagement is evident. General meeting attendance continues to grow thanks to the outstanding line-up of speakers. Participation continues to grow in our two book discussion groups, knitting, Great Decisions, gourmet, and informal luncheons. Member participation in public policy issues increased as well. We advocated for the successful passage of the ERA in the Nevada Legislature!

We can all take pride in what AAUW Capital (NV) Branch accomplished in 2017 – each of us has played a role whether we were a leader of a project, an active participant in an interest group, a member of the board or “just” a member who supports our mission and goals! Thank you for your continued support! Looking forward to seeing everyone **on January 2ⁿ at 5:00PM**. In addition to a fabulous speaker, you will learn how you can help make our 2018 Feast of Chocolate a success. Happy New Year!



January Program

By Judy Welch, Program Vice President

Our January speaker is Kathy Baldock, author, LGBT advocate, and Executive Director of CanyonWalker Connections. She is a leading expert on LGBT issues in the U.S., especially dealing with historical and current discrimination faced from the socially conservative Christian church and political sector. All of us would enjoy reading her most famous book, *Walking the Bridgeless Canyon: Repairing the Breach Between the Church and the LGBT Community*.

The meeting is Tuesday January 2nd - the first day to keep your New Year's resolution to attend every branch meeting! Catered "post-holiday comfort food" dinner will be available for \$14 (includes tip) to those who RSVP by December 28th (need them a little early due to holidays!)

Women's March, January 20

You are invited to be part of the Women's March on Saturday, **January 20, 2018!** Yes, it will be happening all over (except in Washington D.C.), and some cities may be on the 21st, but Reno is for certain set for the 20th. The focus this year will be on Action and Change and Voting, so cities are proposing names like Women Marching to the Polls or Hear Our Vote and so forth. AAUW will participate in sponsorship at some level, and in fact everyone is invited to GET INVOLVED EARLY in planning and carrying off the event. If you are interested in working on a committee, please contact Marty at 775.690.3913 or martyann33@gmail.com. But mainly for now, **SAVE THE DATE AND PLAN TO PARTICIPATE!**

AAUW Public Policy

By Nancy Stiles, Public Policy Chair

In 2017, AAUW members and supporters voiced their support or opposition to at least 325 state bills, submitted more than 10,000 comments to the U.S. Department of Education in support of strengthening and protecting Title IX, and sent over 270,000 messages to lawmakers. We continue our advocacy today by screening our candidates running for public office. This month we focus on the topic of family leave and paid sick days.

Family Leave and Paid Sick Days. Unlike the majority of developed countries worldwide, the United States does not guarantee paid annual leave or vacation, paid time off for illness or family care, or paid parental leave. When a loved one has a health crisis or when a new child is born or adopted, far too many American workers are forced to take unpaid leave, risk their jobs, or even exit the workforce altogether. AAUW works toward greater work life balance by advocating for increased access to a high standard of benefits and policies, including earned paid sick days and paid family leave. While the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) was an important first step, significant coverage gaps have meant that more than 40 percent of workers are ineligible for FMLA leave, and many more cannot afford to take unpaid leave without undermining their families' economic security. We believe that our policies must enable workers to perform well and employers to be profitable – and that we can do both while meeting the needs of working families.

Listen for the candidates' discussion of these terms:

FAMILY Act, maternity leave, FMLA, paid sick days, parental leave, pregnancy discrimination, paid time off, paid leave, Healthy Families Act

Ask the candidates these questions:

Do you support the passage of legislation that would provide paid parental and medical leave for all employees, including those working for the federal government?

Do you support the passage of federal legislation that would require companies to allow employees to earn a minimum number of paid sick days each year?

Recently, Congress held a hearing on workplace leave, including H.R. 4219, a weak proposal that would undermine the advancements made in state and local workplace policies. It's crucial that Congress hear support for robust policies to protect American workers. Take action for paid sick days in your emails and phone calls to our legislators in Washington as well as sharing on Twitter. Call the Senate switchboard at (202) 224-3121.

On another note : Are you paying attention to your AAUW Washington Updates and your AAUW Action Network? If you are, you know our advocacy is strongly needed on the numerous issues that are rocking our world in Washington. Urge your representatives to 1) oppose H.R. 4508, the Higher Education Act that would make college more expensive, more hostile, and ultimately further out of reach for many 2) oppose the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. AAUW is dedicated to advancing the economic, social, and physical well-being of all women and families. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act would threaten the economic security of so many Americans. We can and must do better. **Call the Senate switchboard at (202) 224-3121 to be connected, then follow this script:**

Hello, my name is [YOUR NAME] and I'm calling from [CITY, STATE]. As a constituent, I am calling to urge the senator to vote NO on the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and to oppose any proposal that cuts taxes for corporations and wealthy individuals on the backs of middle- and lower- income Americans.

Take advantage of an easy, easy advocacy through Two Minute Activist.

Pecans Pecans Pecans!

By Carolyn Kellogg, Pecans Sales Chair

Sales are going well. Thanks to all of you for helping to make this year a success. We still have some pecans so, now is the time to give that extra push to sell our remaining supply. Buy a few extra packages for yourself. Check with your neighbors and friends. Remember pecans make great gifts. They are perfect additions to salads, main dishes and cereal. The halves can be frozen for up to two years (we only want folks to freeze them for 11 months so they will buy more next year). Let's make this a banner year for Shirley Hammon. Call or email your orders. You don't have to pay until you sell your pecans.

Thank you for all your hard work, our educational projects will benefit from your efforts,

Carolyn Kellogg (775) 461-3320 aauwcapitalpecans@gmail.com



Interest Groups

by Diane Koditek

Gourmet Group:

The group celebrated Hanukkah in December with a marvelous dinner of salmon, potato latkes, applesauce, salad, hallah bread and more at Carolyn Kellogg's home, co-hosted by Maureen Smith. Members and guests learned about the origins of the festival, the tradition of lighting the menorah and playing with the dreidel. The next gathering will be a German dinner on Friday January 12, place to be determined. Please RSVP to nmbailey95@gmail.com or irisblaisdell@yahoo.com by January 5th.

Great Decisions:

The next meeting date is to be scheduled when the 2018 Foreign Policy Association resource books arrive. Group members can expect an email from Chair JoAnn Carpenter when there is further information. Questions about the group? Please contact JoAnn at jac78x@gmail.com or call 775-297-3889

Evening Book Group:

The group will meet next on January 18 at 6:30 PM at Zee McClintock's home. Donna Curtis will facilitate discussion of the second book in the Ken Follett trilogy series *Winter of the World*. Please contact Diane Koditek, dgk@mchsi.com or call 661-304-8743 if you would like more information about the group.

Daytime Book Group:

The Daytime Book Group will meet on Friday, January 19 from 2 to 4 PM at a location to be determined. Jill Hetherington will lead discussion of *The Girl With Seven Names*. For information about the group, please contact Cindy, cindywhite@nevadawordsmith.com or call 775 -267-3685.

Knitting:

The Knitting Group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 1 to 3 PM. In January, the group will meet at the home of JoAnn Carpenter. All skill levels are welcome! Please contact Zee McClintock, edzeemcc@gmail.com if you would like to know more about the group.

Informal Luncheon:

Come and join in for food, fun and good conversation! The January informal luncheon will take place on January 23 at 11:30 AM. (That's enough days after the holidays that we may be hungry again)! Restaurant suggestions are invited! One that we may try soon is a new Carson City restaurant, Flavors of India. Look for a reminder email in early January with restaurant details. For more information or to suggest a restaurant, please contact Diane Koditek, dgk@mchsi.com or call 661-304-8743.



Questions? Answers!

by Caroline Punches

Question: How did the Capital (NV) Branch allocate the \$3,000 budgeted for the AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund?

Answer: As per the branch tradition, President Punches received an update from the national office showing funds needed to finalize both American Fellowship and Research & Project funds. Those funds which would benefit the most from our branch donation were reviewed by Shirley Hammon, Linda Hiebert-Sekiguchi, Jane Johnson and Caroline Punches. They recommended that \$1,000 be allocated for an American Fellowship fund and \$2,000 be distributed for the Research & Projects fund established by the Sacramento Branch AAUW in honor of their 100th Anniversary. This recommendation was passed unanimously by the membership on Tuesday, December 5, 2017.

Question: I don't remember getting my Fall issue of the *Outlook*! What happened?

Answer: Your Fall issue of the AAUW *Outlook* was distributed via email on Friday, Nov. 17th. At least that is the email date when I received it. The major articles relate to AAUW's Strategic Plan, the Ongoing Fight for Equal Pay and AAUW on the Front Lines (coverage of Lobby Days in June). If you did NOT get your copy – check your spam folder or go back to see if you just missed it! *Outlook* and other AAUW emails are sent to the email you gave to AAUW when you joined.

Question: How can I help continue the success of the Capital (NV) Branch?

Answer: YOU can help by attending membership meetings, any of the interest groups or informal lunches, attending the FOC, bringing guests to the FOC, volunteering to help review (and possibly revise) our Policies & Procedures and Bylaws, volunteering to serve on the nominating committee OR to serve on the board or a committee, and, of course, continuing as a member supporting our mission!

Feast of Chocolate

By Flo Befrosian, FOC Co-Chair

As we wrap up 2017 and another successful pecan sale, we begin 2018 focused on our other major fundraiser, the Feast of Chocolate. Advance ticket sales are key to the success of this event. At the January meeting, Jane Johnson will be signing out to members the tickets to sell at \$15 each. Our goal is to sell 300 tickets in advance of the event as follows:

2018 Feast of Chocolate (19th Annual)

Saturday, February 10, 2018, 1 PM to 3 PM

Plaza Hotel Event Center, 211 E. 9th Street, CC

Explore and support women's issues at

<http://www.aauw.org/>



Feast of Chocolate Raffle

By Nancy Stiles, Raffle Chair

A portion of the proceeds we receive for our scholarships at the Feast of Chocolate comes from our raffle. We are asking our members to help with the raffle by donating a themed basket, or procuring a gift certificate from a business. So why do I mention that now since our Feast of Chocolate isn't until February 10? I do so because of the great after Christmas sales that will have items on sale that you want for your basket, or for the lovely Christmas gift baskets that will go on sale. You can find gift baskets that don't have a Christmas motif that are already made up in a lovely presentation. How easy is that! We will have a basket sign-up sheet at our January 2nd meeting, so be thinking about what theme you'd be interested in signing up for. Some popular themes have been: doggie basket, kitty basket, spices basket, knitting or quilting baskets, a romantic evening with wine & chocolates, family fun night, a gourmet kitchen basket, a valentine's basket, and a Nevada basket. We encourage originality and creativity. More ideas about putting together a basket will be given at the January 2nd meeting, but for now – check out those after Christmas sales.



Thirty-four members and spouses enjoyed the delights of the annual Christmas Social on December 5. Pictured are Bob Curtis, Jane Johnson, Jan Sullivan and Mary Wilson.



Membership

By Mary L. Castro-Wilson, Membership Chair

Happy New year to all! May 2018 find you healthy, happy and filled with our AAUW goals and inspiration! Being a member of AAUW has many benefits in addition to empowering women and girls. These additional benefits are for you, and there are many:

- Hotel Storm- discounts of 10-55 percent on hotel rooms;
- AAUW Outlook magazine;
- research reports on women's issues which can be downloaded from our AAUW website;
- special discounts on your auto insurance from Nationwide Insurance Company;
- TUGG.com is a unique collection of films intended to empower women and girls around the country;
- Office Depot/ OfficeMax- you can save as much as 80 percent off preferred products online and in stores (I personally use this all of the time.);
- and shopping at TARGET, a new member benefit. For every TARGET purchase you make, you can now donate to AAUW and take advantage of TARGET'S weekly "flash sales" and promotions!

Simply log on to our national website at www.AAUW.org and use these benefits. They will brighten your new year!



There is even an "elfie" of Cathy Haber!

January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
The holidays are over— You made it!	1 	2 Branch Meeting 5 PM	3 Begin sale of FOC tickets	4	5	6
7	8	9 Board Mtg 1 PM Knitting	10	11	12 Gourmet Group	13
14	15 	16	17	18 Book Group 6:30	19 Book Group 2-4	20 Women's March— Reno
21	22	23 Informal Luncheon 11:30 AM Knitting 1-3	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	<div data-bbox="941 1228 1490 1486" data-label="Text"> <p><i>I didn't want to be a boy, ever, but I was outraged that his height and intelligence were graces for him and gaucheries for me.</i></p> <p><i>Jane Rule</i></p> </div>		

Your 2017-2018 Board

President — Caroline Punches, 246-1850
 Membership VP — Mary Wilson, 775-246-7215 or 775-721-5124
 Program Co-Vice Presidents — Marty McGarry 775-690-3913 and Judy Welch 775-721-1731
 Secretaries, Co-Recording — JoAnn Carpenter 775-297-3889 and Lynne Ballatore 775-246-3870
 Secretary, Corresponding — Shirley Williams, 775-386-8787
 Treasurer — Barbara LeBlanc, 775-781-4956
 Newsletter & Website — Lin Nary, 775-230-9676

Reminder: Any AAUW Capital Branch 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, dkg@mchsi.com. Suggested activities will be posted in the newsletter in the Bulletin Board section.