



Capital News!

AAUW Capital (NV) Branch

April 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.

President's Message

by Caroline PUNCHES



It's that time of year! All members of AAUW Capital (NV) Branch are encouraged to gather on Tuesday, April 3rd at the Sheriff's office to celebrate our accomplishments AND to conduct our annual business matters as required by our branch bylaws.

What does this entail and why is it so important? Basically, we will be discussing and making some very important decisions that impact the way we operate in the coming year. One of the most

important decisions we will make is to ratify a budget for 2018-19FY which provides funding for scholarships, fellowships and grants and other local community projects like AAUW Work Smart, candidate and issue forums and more.

We will also consider proposed changes to our branch bylaws and our policies and procedures which will impact the terms of our elected officers. Additionally, the branch membership will elect officers for the next year. Thanks to the nominating committee for identifying candidates for each of the open offices. By the way, nominations may be made from the membership that evening – the only caveat is that you must have that person's approval.

An added agenda item for April is a "Town Hall Meeting." The topic of the Town Hall will be the three proposed bylaws amendments for the National Bylaws. You are encouraged to log into www.aauw.org using your membership ID number and your password and review the bylaws proposals and the discussion from members across the nation. A summary of this was previously distributed to you by email from me, but if you have lost or misplaced the fact sheet, feel free to email me once again and I will send you another copy.

Looking forward to your participation on April 3 at 5:00PM! Help us celebrate our successes!

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Tuesday, April 3, 5:00 – 7:30 PM

PROPOSED AGENDA

**Celebrate our accomplishments!
 Branch bylaws proposed changes
 Update Branch policies & procedures
 Election of officers**

**TOWN HALL MEETING –
 National bylaws amendments Q & A**

Other concerns/issues?

**CATERED MENU AVAILABLE
 Lasagna, salad, bread & Dessert
 \$15.00 per person including gratuity**

**RSVP TO LOUISE SEIDEL BY
 MONDAY, APRIL 2ND AT NOON**

775-885-0269 OR

elseidel@gmail.com

Read all about it!

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Membership

By Mary L. Castro-Wilson, Membership Chair

I want to remind our AAUW Capital (NV) Branch members that annual dues notices will be sent to you at the beginning of April. Because AAUW had a dues increase of \$10.00 this year, our annual dues are now \$80.00. You can pay your dues online or by check. If you decide to pay online, which I personally recommend, please know it is safe and secure. Instructions are sent to you on how to do the online transaction. I am always available to assist you if you decide to pay your dues online. If you are more comfortable using a check, the check should be made out to AAUW and sent to me or brought to the April or May meeting.

It is recommended that all dues be paid by June 30, 2018. I want to thank each of you for your prompt attention regarding our AAUW dues. We all realize it is "tax time" too. April seems to be a money month!

As I look outside, I am seeing 17 inches of snow. No, it is not Christmas, but Easter! Happy Easter and Happy Birthday to those who are celebrating their birthdays this month!

Proposed Bylaws & Policies Changes

by Jane Johnson

At the April 3 Annual Meeting, Branch members will be voting on whether to accept one change to the Branch Bylaws and one new policy. Please read these carefully and be prepared to vote on them at the meeting.

The 2016 version of our Bylaws states:

Officers and Directors shall serve for a term of one year or until their successors have been elected or appointed and have assumed office. Officers may be elected or appointed to serve for one additional term, but no member shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

A 2018 proposed revision states:

Officers and Directors shall serve for a term of two years or until their successors have been elected or appointed and have assumed office. Officers may be elected or appointed to serve for one additional term.

It is also proposed that we add the following new policy to our Policies and Procedures:

Elected Offices Each office will be held by two members, elected in staggered years for two-year terms. These staggered terms will allow for an experienced second-year member and increased readiness and assistance on the part of the first-year member.

State Convention

by AAUW State Program Chair, Nancy Stiles

Don't miss the **AAUW State Convention at the Convention Center , May 4-6, in Fallon, Nevada!** It is for ALL AAUW members and is a great chance to connect, re-energize, and come away with great action ideas. You'll have a chance to...

Talk with AAUW National Board Director, Joanna Amberger, and share your thoughts about AAUW's future

Meet other enthusiastic, motivated members from around the state

Elect and meet State Council members

Enjoy exciting, informative workshops with outstanding presenters

Get valuable ideas from other branches

Take home pleasant memories

Plan NOW to be part of this great event. Our goal is to provide you with an educational, inspiring and fun convention weekend. WATCH for Eventbrite coming in April. The convention program is very powerful. You will hear from board director, Joanna Amberger, regarding the changes at AAUW as we bring greater mission focus. A panel discussion on *Leadership Challenges* will give you much to think about. You will also be able to choose from workshops on AAUW's Work Smart program, Discovering Coping Skills, What Leaders Need to Know About Colorful Team Personalities, Dealing with Conflict, and Recognizing and Using Nonverbal Messages.

Overview of State Convention Program

Friday

4:00 State Council and Branch Presidents Meeting

5:00 Meet and Greet Fiesta Time with margaritas

Saturday

9:00 Check-in

9:30 Welcome

10:00 Keynote speaker, Joanna Amberger

11:15 Workshops

12:30 Lunch

1:30 Workshops

2:45 Plenary with workshop presenters

3:45 State Council Elections

4:15 Adjournment/Free Time with Hospitality Room open from 4:15–5:15 at Holiday Inn Express

6:15 Cocktail Hour (cash bar)

6:45 Dinner

Sunday

9:30 Coffee

10:00 Welcome Back

10:30 STEM speakers

11:30 Adjournment

AAUW Public Policy

By Nancy Stiles, Public Policy Chair

Even though the volcanic eruptions in Washington are capturing our attention, we have other things going on that need our attention as well. We have an election coming in 2018 that gives us an opportunity to vote for candidates that support the AAUW Public Policies here in Nevada. March 16 was the deadline to file to run for office in the 2018 elections, so we now know who will be running in the primary on June 12. You can see the names of all the candidates who have filed with the Secretary of State for judicial offices and non-judicial offices on the Secretary of State website <https://nvsos.gov/sos/elections>.

We began a series of articles back in December on AAUW's Public Policy Priorities to help you ask candidates the questions about the issues that affect our families and communities. This month's issue is **Campus Sexual Violence**.

When college campuses are hostile because of sexual violence, students aren't safe. When students don't feel safe, they cannot learn. Research reveals an epidemic of sexual violence in schools, with two-thirds of college students and nearly half of students in grades 7-12 reporting that they had experienced sexual harassment. A 2007 study by the U.S. Department of Justice found that 1 in 5 women is a target of attempted or completed sexual assault while in college.

We advocate for equitable climates free of harassment and bullying, as well as freedom from sexual violence and fear of violence in schools. We support increased enforcement of federal civil rights laws, including Title IX, by the U.S. Departments of Education and Justice, including additional funding for these agencies to provide technical assistance so that schools follow the law. We also advocate for additional support to help schools provide proactive prevention programs that educate students, faculty, staff, and Title IX coordinators and that train appropriate administrators on all relevant laws as well as best practices to respond effectively. Finally, we urge Congress to pass legislation that requires states and schools to develop policies for K-12 schools in two areas: preventing bullying, sexual harassment, and violence, and implementing procedures to effectively respond to such behavior.

Listen for the candidates' discussion of these terms:

Campus/school safety, VAWA, campus sexual assault, Clery Act, Title IX, violence against women, campus climate, bullying, hate crimes

Ask the candidates these questions:

In addition to following Title IX regulations, what should colleges and universities do to better address the issue of campus sexual assault?

Do you support increasing resources to promote prevention efforts and stronger enforcement of federal laws prohibiting bullying, harassment, and campus sexual assault?

AAUW Nominations for Board of Directors

Members of this year's nominating committee, Nancy Stiles, Marty McGarry, and Judy Welch, present the following slate:

President: Caroline PUNCHES

Membership VPs: Mary Wilson, Iris Blaisdell

Programs VPs: Judy Welch, JoAnn Carpenter

Recording Secretary: Lynne Ballatore, Marty McGarry

Corresponding Secretary: Shirley Williams

Treasurer: Barbara Le Blanc

The proposed policy for staggered two-year terms is reflected by nominations.



Transitions...

Robert Curtis, beloved husband of Donna Curtis, passed away March 8, 2018. Please join her for a Celebration of Life, Sunday, April 8th from 2:00-4:00 PM at the Carson City Elks Lodge, 515 N. Nevada Street, Carson City. Drinks and refreshments will be available. Stories about Robert's adventure-some life are encouraged. Please RSVP to donnajcrtis@sbcglobal.net. In lieu of flowers, donations are requested to the Elks Club or to a shelter program for cats in the Carson Area.

When I look into the future, it's so bright it burns my eyes.

Oprah Winfrey

Interest Groups

by Diane Koditek

Gourmet Group:

There was a robust turnout for a Greek dinner on March 9 at Beth Mancl's home. Some of her delicious family recipes were prepared and everything was decorated in blue and white in honor of the Greek flag. Jane Johnson was the co-hostess for the evening. On April 13, Gourmet Group will gather for an Italian-themed evening at Diane Koditek's home. For additional information about the group, please contact Nancy Bailey, 775-461-3311 or Iris Blaisdell, 775-392-1772.

Evening Book Group:

The group will meet on Thursday, April 19 at 6:30 PM at Shirley Williams' home. Discussion for April focuses on three World War II themed books: *Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly, *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr, and *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah. Group members will choose to read one or more of the three books for April. For additional information about the group, please contact Diane Koditek, 661-304-8743 or dgk@mchsi.com.

Daytime Book Group:

The group will meet on Friday, April 20, from 2 to 4 PM at the Brewery Arts Center in Carson City. The April book will be *Into the Water* by Paula Hawkins. Cindy White will lead the discussion. Questions about the group? Please contact Cindy at 775-267-3685 or cindy-white@nevadawordsmith.com.

Great Decisions:

Great Decisions Group will meet on Tuesday, April 24 at Jane Johnson's home. The topic for discussion will be Media and foreign policy, chapter 4 from *The Foreign Policy Association* resource manual. For additional information about the group, please contact JoAnn Carpenter, 775-297-3889 or jac78x@gmail.com.

Knitting:

The group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 1 to 3 PM. In April those dates will be the 10th and 24th, meeting at the home of Zee McClintock. All knitting skill levels are welcome. From Zee, "Come join us as we knit and purl, making some exquisite fabrics and enjoying each other's company." Contact Zee at edzeemcc@gmail.com or call 775-884-3565 for additional information.

Informal Luncheon:

Please join us for lunch on April 17 at 11:30 AM. We'll order from the menu at Bella Vita Bistro, a newer restaurant located in the Carson Mall, 1304 S. Stewart Street in Carson City. All members are invited to join in the fun and new members are especially encouraged to come meet other members of the Branch! For additional information or to RSVP by April 13, please contact Diane Koditek, 661-304-8743 or dgk@mchsi.com.

Questions? Answers!

by Caroline PUNCHES



MEETING PROGRAMS & SPEAKERS

Question: How are the meeting topics and speakers determined?

Answer: A survey of our membership is conducted each spring to gather member interest on specific topics.

Question: How are the potential topics determined?

Answer: Our branch uses the AAUW Public Policy Priorities as a guideline to identify specific topics which may be of interest to our membership.

Question: How are speakers identified?

Answer: Speakers are identified in a number of ways. It could be someone recommended to the program co-program VPs, or it could be someone they have heard.

Question: Can the membership suggest other topics and/or speakers?

Answer: Absolutely! The program co-VPs welcome any suggestions regarding topics and/or speakers.

Question: Are the speakers paid for their presentation?

Answer: The speakers are not paid for their appearance at AAUW meetings. However, we do provide them with a meal if they wish.

MEETING MEALS

Question: Why do we have catered meals?

Answer: These are provided as a convenience for members.

Question: How can we know what the meal is before making a reservation?

Answer: In the past, we have allowed the caterer to use their discretion for meal choice. **However, for the next couple of months we are asking for specific menus.**

Question: What is included in the price of the meal?

Answer: The inclusive meal price includes the entrée, a salad or other side dish, bread or rolls and dessert. A tip is also included in the price we charge.

Question: Why has the price varied so much over the last few months?

Answer: The food costs have increased slightly and we have added the gratuity into the set price.

Question: Does AAUW pay for a minimum number of meals?

Answer: We do guarantee a number of meals, based on the reservations received by the deadline of the noon before the meeting date.

Question: Will this option continue as a convenience for members?

Answer: We will continue the option for this fiscal year; but will reconsider the option as part of our member survey.



ANNUAL REPORT OF 2016-17 FY AND 2017-18 FY

Background: During the spring of 2016 and 2017, a survey of ALL members of the AAUW Capital (NV) Branch was conducted to provide information to the Branch Board of Directors to assist them in the development of Strategic Plans for the upcoming fiscal year. Surveys were conducted online with print surveys sent via USPS to members without email addresses. Slightly over 80% responded in 2016 and over 67% responded in 2017. Joint board meetings were held in June of each year to share information and to develop specific goals and objectives for the following year. Based on the feedback received from the surveys, a strategic plan for each fiscal year was developed and then implemented.

Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives: Our branch goals and objectives are in alignment with the AAUW Mission: To advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. While our branch goal is to facilitate and promote the purpose, programs, policies and mission of AAUW, our purpose was defined as promoting equity, lifelong education and positive societal changes.

Five main objectives were developed: 1) Membership – to recruit, engage and retain members; 2) Programs – to provide a variety of programs which highlight AAUW’s mission and public policy, while meeting the interests of our membership; 3) Public Policy – to bring awareness of AAUW’s Public Policy; 4) Philanthropy – to provide support for local scholarships, the AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund (fellowships and grants) and other local community projects such as AAUW Work Smart; and 5) Community Collaboration – to collaborate with community groups such as League of Women Voters, Sierra Nevada Forms, Western Nevada College, and others to pursue common goals and principles focused on support of women and girls.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Membership: An annual membership fall brunch hosted by the Capital Branch Board of Directors “kicked off” each year. The September 2017 Brunch was held at the Governor’s Mansion in Carson City, Nevada to accommodate all members and guests. In the past two years, the membership has grown from 52 members to 68 members! The number of interest groups has expanded to provide additional opportunities for members to socialize and discuss items of interest. We are especially proud that 59% of our members are actively engaged in branch activities – attending membership monthly meetings, interest group meetings, volunteering, and other membership opportunities.



Programs: Our program co-chairs have presented a variety of outstanding speakers and topics for our monthly educational meetings. Using the data from the membership survey, subject matter experts were identified and invited to our monthly meetings for presentations on the priority issues. Thought-provoking, informational, and consistent with our public policy priorities, the speakers and topics certainly engaged our membership. Topics included: “Women Speaking Well: From the Private home to the White House,” Gender Pay Equity; International Refugee program; Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence; “The Middle East and the last 100 years of Turbulence”; “STEM” Education in the local schools, “Human Trafficking” and many more!

Public Policy: The membership was encouraged to become involved in the legislative process. Updates were provided in our monthly newsletter AND announcements were made at each membership meeting regarding legislative issues being discussed at the state and national level. Members are encouraged to contact their legislators and to sign up for the Two Minute Activist.

Community Collaboration: Our branch collaborates with the League of Women Voters to provide candidate and issue forums. Other collaborators include Sierra Nevada Forums, providing fact-based information on topics, Western Nevada College, an AAUW college partner (providing their faculty and students with information), Adams Hub for Innovation (inviting their entrepreneurs to AAUW Work Smart) and use of their space for small meetings. Additionally, our membership meetings are held in the Ormsby Room of the Carson City Sheriff’s Office. (cont’d on p. 6)

ANNUAL REPORT OF 2016-17 FY AND 2017-18 FY (cont'd)

Philanthropy: The AAUW Capital (NV) Branch sponsored two very successful fundraisers in both 2016-17FY and 2017-18FY. Our annual fall sale of “fresh Georgia pecans” and our annual February “Feast of Chocolate” exceeded expectations providing the branch with funds to sponsor local high school graduating girls and WNC students with scholarships. During the two years, we funded scholarships for 4 high school girls and 2 WNC students. Additionally, we provided \$5,000 to the AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund for fellowships and grants. .



AAUW Work Smart has been successfully implemented in the Carson City area – providing women (and a couple of men) with salary negotiation skills. Our first workshop in April 2017 was held at WNC. The October 2017 workshop was held at the Adams HUB in Carson City and our April 2018 workshop is also scheduled in Carson City. Feedback from the participants has shown a 150% improvement in their skills and 91% improvement in their confidence to negotiate.

Communication: AAUW Capital News (our branch newsletter) is emailed to every member, ten days before the meeting date. Copies are mailed to those members without email. A phone tree has also been established to remind members of the general membership meeting deadlines and in some cases, an additional email blast is sent out to remind members of deadlines.

The branch [website](#) is maintained by our newsletter editor. The website is accessible to anyone wishing to find out more about the branch. There is a Members Only section which contains our membership directory. This section can ONLY be accessed by members with a password.

Our Corresponding Secretary also communicates with our members, sending out thank you notes to our speakers as well as sponsors of our Feast of Chocolate. Additionally, she also sends out notes to members letting them know we are thinking of them when they are recovering from an illness or surgery, or have experienced a death in the family.

Overall: The AAUW Capital (NV) Branch has grown substantially over the past few years – not only in the number of members but also the active participation of our members. The attendance at our general membership meetings has continued to grow, indicating the selection of speakers and topics meets their needs as indicated in the responses to the member survey. Our members have continued to support our fundraising activities which in turn support local and national AAUW awards and local community projects. Our branch Board of Directors is actively engaged. Implementation of Square for handling credit card payments was instituted in 2017-18FY. Our membership is committed to the mission of AAUW and to our local purpose to promote equity, lifelong education and positive societal changes.

Scholarship Recipient at WNC

By Mary Piper, Scholarship Chair

Congratulations are given to WNC scholarship recipient Karla Scott by AAUW Feast of Chocolate co-chairs, Flo Bedrosian and Susan Klekar. An evening of Western music and BBQ was enjoyed by all as guests of WNC at the annual WNC Donor Thank You event.





April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Branch Meeting 5 pm	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Knitting 1-3	11	12	13 Gourmet Group	14
15	16	17 Informal Luncheon 11:30 am	18	19 Book Group 6:30 pm	20 Book Group 2-4 pm	21
22	23	24 Great Decisions Knitting 1-3	25	26	27	28 Work Smart 10 am-12:30
29	30	Looking forward to... AAUW Nevada Convention May 4-6, 2018 Empowering Women, Enhancing Leadership Skills What's in it for YOU?				

Your 2017-2018 Board

President — Caroline Punches, 246-1850
 Membership VP — Mary Wilson, 775-885-7573
 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, dgk@mchsi.com. Suggested activities will be posted in the newsletter in the Bulletin Board section.