



# Capital News!

AAUW Capital (NV) Branch

February 2019

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

### AAUW Mission:

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

### President's Message

by Caroline Punches, President



The January 3rd tour of the Nevada Supreme Court and discussion with Justice Lidia Stiglich was a great way to start 2019! Special thanks to JoAnn Carpenter for scheduling this informative "field trip" and to all who participated.

Our January 15th special meeting on Feast of Chocolate (FOC) had to be cancelled because of the weather and travel conditions. So the February 5th meeting will not only include a very informative speaker on education funding but also some last minute FOC logistics.

A special thanks to Dorthiann Taylor who has agreed to coordinate the RSVP process for our membership meetings! And our gratitude to Susan Schmid who developed the RSVP process which enables us to plan our meeting room layouts.

The 2019 Nevada Legislative Session officially begins on Monday, February 4th. And Nevada is making history (or should I say "herstory") for being the first state with a female majority in the legislature, and also in our Supreme Court.

Our February 5th meeting will focus on one of our major legislative areas of interest – the funding of education in the state of Nevada. AAUW Capital (NV) Branch has actively supported appropriate levels of funding for education throughout our 75 year history. Please join us to hear not only about the initiatives being proposed, but also to learn how we can help.

See you February 5th!

### February Meeting

by JoAnn Carpenter

One of the many goals that Governor Sisolak announced on January 16, 2019 was increased funding for education in Nevada. Since our beginning, AAUW has actively advocated for quality education and the need for adequate funding for public education. Our February 5<sup>th</sup> program meeting will focus on the efforts of the **Fund Our Future Nevada**, a state-wide coalition of parents, educators, students, organizations, and individuals dedicated to ensuring every child has the resources necessary to succeed in our schools.

Amanda Morgan, Legal Director for Educate Nevada Now, will be sharing information about the legislative initiatives that have been shared with the Legislative Committee on Education.

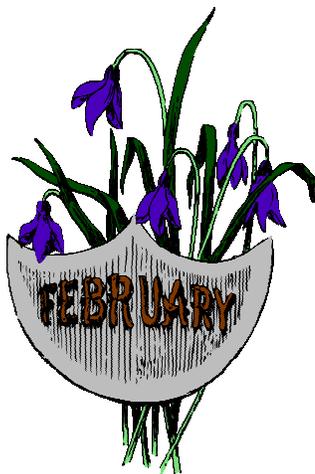
We will learn more about these proposed changes and how they can ensure fair and adequate funding for Nevada students.

### MEMBERSHIP MEETING RSVPs

Please RSVP to Dorthiann Taylor by Thursday, January 31st! RSVP by email at [dtaylor506@aol.com](mailto:dtaylor506@aol.com) or by phone at 775-771-1212. You will receive an email response noting your RSVP has been received. On January 31st, Dorthiann will send out an email with the names of all who RSVP'd - if your name is not there -you have another chance to RSVP! She then sends a final list of attendees to Caroline Punches, President and Iris Blaisdell, Membership Chair.

### Read all about it!

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## Feast of Chocolate

By Flo Bedrosian

### Success of Feast of Chocolate Depends on Ticket Sales

Advance tickets to the Feast of Chocolate are only available from AAUW members. Please make every effort to inform others of this fundraising event and sell them advance tickets for \$15 each. Tickets at the door are \$20 while the supply lasts. However, advance tickets are highly recommended, as this event has been selling out based on the room capacity of 200 people.

The Feast of Chocolate will be **Saturday, February 9, 2019** at the Plaza Hotel and Event Center at 211 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Carson City, from 1 to 3 p.m. The fundraising event is a valentine themed buffet featuring chocolate treats created by the award winning Carson High School Culinary Arts. Additional confections are donated by local restaurants, bakeries, and caterers. Ticket holders will enjoy a variety of delicious chocolate for sampling and have available to them a raffle of impressive gift baskets and prizes. Music will be provided by harpist Wanda Perschnick.



Our goal is to be at full capacity of 200 guests 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.



If you need event tickets for yourself and others, please contact Jane Johnson as soon as possible at 775-267-3427. Please let Jane know how many tickets you sell and return any tickets you do not sell to make them available for others to sell.

Members have asked if they can cover the ticket costs themselves rather than actually selling the tickets. That would be a donation (always welcomed) not ticket sales and should be identified as a donation when submitted. **It is important for planning purposes that ticket sales reflect the amount of people that will be attending the event.**

Thank you for your support of this fundraiser for local scholarships and AAUW fellowships and programs. Call Flo Bedrosian at 775-721-2328 if you have questions.



## Feast of Chocolate Raffle

By Nancy Stiles

We didn't get to have our demonstration on putting together a raffle basket because of the cancellation of our January 15 meeting due to the weather, so I'm hoping that those of you who are doing a basket for our FOC raffle will contact me if you have questions or need assistance. I have been making bows to share with you, and I have basket shred and ribbon to share as well.

Please arrange your basket so that its contents can be seen, and fill out the donation form so we can make a tag listing its contents to attach to the basket.

It would be most helpful if you could get the basket to me before February 1<sup>st</sup>. The deadline for accepting baskets is February 5, which is our next meeting date.



The people who have told me they are either doing a basket or purchasing a gift certificate are: Phyllis Tirado, Shirley Williams, Mary Wilson, Cindy White, Diane Korditek, JoAnn Carpenter, Holly Van Valkenburgh, Barbara LeBlanc, Iris Blaisdell, Mary Piper, Cathy Haber, Jill Harper, Candy Rooney, Cheryl Anderson, and Judy Welch. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. If your name is not on this list, and you want to contribute, please let me know at [nancyjostiles@gmail.com](mailto:nancyjostiles@gmail.com). One of my baskets needs a bottle of liquor if you'd like to contribute, but don't want to do a full basket. Another way to help would be by getting a business to donate a gift certificate.

Help is also needed at the Feast of Chocolate. We need three helpers selling raffle tickets, another helper taking the baskets to the winners, and help with taking down decorations. Let me know if you would be willing to be one of those helpers.

We are so very fortunate to have so many in our branch who are willing to help make our fundraisers successful. It does not go unnoticed or unappreciated. Thank you all!

*One never notices what has been done; one can only see what remains to be done.*

*Marie Curie*



## Public Policy

by Nancy Stiles, Chair

Saturday, Jan. 19, was an opportunity for women's voices to come together and speak to issues of importance to women. The 1-19-19 Women's March was less advertised, less attended, and less covered by media than last year's, but it was not any less meaningful to its participants. In Reno, Virginia St. was filled with creative signs, tee shirts with logos, and a smattering of pink hats. The Native American dancing was beautiful, and the speeches were inspiring. A unified shout of "This is what democracy looks like" echoed throughout the peaceful crowd. Our 2019 Nevada Legislature Session provides us with another opportunity to voice our concerns or declare our support for legislation that affects our state. We anticipate that AAUW Capital Branch members will take advantage of this opportunity. To that end, a committee will be meeting to organize actions we can take to be effective. If you are willing to be a part of that committee, please contact me at [nancyjostiles@gmail.com](mailto:nancyjostiles@gmail.com). The Legislative Session opens Feb. 4 and concludes May 31. We will be watching bills that align with our AAUW Public Policy, and will be calling on you to participate in a variety of ways. It is most exciting and encouraging to be working with a women's majority legislature this 2019 session. In addition, if you heard the Governor's State of the State speech, you will probably agree that we can look for positive outcomes this session.

One of the ways we hope you will participate in the 2019 legislative session is by attending the Grassroots Lobby Days March 31st and April 1st. On March 31st different informational sessions will be offered and on April 1st our legislators will be expecting to see us in the halls and in their offices speaking to them on the issues of importance to us. Please watch for more information to come, but for now, save the date(s).

Another way we use our voices to speak truth to power is by contacting our representatives both at a federal level and at a state level. AAUW National makes this so easy for us through the One Minute Activist. If you sign up for Two Minute Activist on the AAUW website, [aauw.org](http://aauw.org), you will receive messages about legislation going on in Washington DC that needs our attention, and a simple "click here" to send a message about that legislation to our U.S. Representatives. Most recently, AAUW is asking us to contact our U.S. Representatives to ask them to support the Paycheck Fairness Act that supports pay equity. Phone calls are another good way to use our voices to affect change, so please call your representatives and ask them to support the Paycheck Fairness Act. (Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (202)224-6244, Sen. Jacky Rosen (202)224-6244, Rep. Mark Amodei (202)225-6155 ) While you are at it, ask them to give more empowerment to Title IX and less destruction.



## Transitions...

We are saddened to report that Norm Kellogg, husband of Carolyn Kellogg, passed away on Sunday, January 20th. Carolyn and Norm were married for 59 years. Norm was a devoted father to 3 children and grandfather to 4 grandchildren. Carolyn has indicated that contributions in Norm's memory may be sent to our AAUW Capital Branch, c/o Barbara LeBlanc, 2985 Silver Stream Dr., Carson City, NV. 89703 OR to the ESL In-Home Nevada, 1894 E. William St., #4-125, Carson City, NV 89701.

## Membership Matters

By Iris Blasdell, Membership Chair

Please welcome two new members:

First is Sharon Orgain, a Nevada resident since June, who hales from Dayton via San Leandro, CA. A friend in California is active in AAUW and suggested she join in order to meet people and learn what is going on in the area. She enjoys golf, hiking, ballroom dancing, and scuba diving. She also likes traveling and has a trip to Ireland planned for March. Sharon graduated from Chabot College in 1975 with an AA in paralegal studies and did further work at Cal State East Bay in business and paralegal studies in 1988. Her work life eventually led her to Oakland, CA. where she worked for city government for 25 years advising the city council in litigation matters. Sharon and her husband enjoy Dayton because of the small town feeling and the surrounding out-of-doors. She is a volunteer at the Pigeon Point Lighthouse in Half Moon Bay, CA and returns there once a month. This enables her to visit her children who live in California. Sharon also has an interest in trains and volunteers at the Nevada State Railroad Museum.

Our second new member is Regina Cowell, who presently is a certified teacher/practitioner of Iyengar yoga and teaches Qigong healing. She is also continuing her studies of therapeutic yoga. She has studied yoga in Pune, India. In 1976, she graduated from Arizona State University with a degree in anthropology. She and her husband then taught in Jamaica, Taiwan, and the Philippines where her husband was affiliated with agricultural research, and she taught anthropology at the University in Los Baños. Returning to the U.S., they settled in Madison, Wisconsin where she worked in human relations at the state government level and retired as the Director of the Office of Civil Rights at the Department of Health and Family Services. Regina's daughter has a 9 year-old daughter, and is a pediatric hospitalist in Los Angeles. Her son is a major in the U.S. Air Force. Regina has been living in Carson City for seven years and joined AAUW because Nancy Bailey invited her and she wants to meet people. She also would like to share her ideas on how we might increase our diversity.



## Interest Groups

by Diane Koditek



**Gourmet Group:** Regarding the January meeting, Nancy Bailey wrote, “To all who were there, merci beaucoup for your willing and very successful efforts with challenging, authentic French recipes. It was a most enjoyable evening with delicious food.” On February 8, gourmet group members will dine out at a restaurant, which the group enjoys doing once a year. The restaurant choice is [The Martin Hotel, 308 N Curry Street, Carson City](#) for a Basque dinner. For further information about the group, please contact Nancy Bailey, 775-461-3311 or [ymbajley95@gmail.com](mailto:ymbajley95@gmail.com).

### Evening Book Group:

On Thursday, February 21, the group will meet at the home of Carly Page at 6:30 PM to discuss *Delicious* by Ruth Reichl. Please RSVP to Carly at [carlyejeanhill@gmail.com](mailto:carlyejeanhill@gmail.com) or call 202-236-5728. For questions about the book group, please contact Jane Johnson at [jane3491@charter.net](mailto:jane3491@charter.net) or call 775-267-3427.

**Daytime Book Group:** The group will meet next on Friday, February 15, from 2 to 4 PM at a location TBD. The book for the month will be *The Girls* by Lori Lansens. The discussion leader will be Cathy Haber. For additional information about the group, please contact Cindy, [cindy-white@nevadawordsmith.com](mailto:cindy-white@nevadawordsmith.com) or call 775-267-3685.

**Great Decisions:** The group meeting agenda on January 29 includes discussion of Foreign Policy Association manual chapter 1, “Refugees and Global Migration,” and also includes finalizing the group schedule for the year. The February meeting will be on February 26 from 1 to 3 PM, location TBD. Anyone with questions about the group may contact JoAnn Carpenter (email preferred), [jac78x@gmail.com](mailto:jac78x@gmail.com) or call 775-297-3889.

**Knitting:** The knitting group will meet at the home of Barbara LeBlanc in February. The group will meet February 12th and 26th from 1 to 3 PM. All skill levels are welcome. Chair Zee McClintock says, “We hope you can join us as we knit and purl and crochet. It’s a wonderful way to relax and expand your creativity!” For further information, please contact Zee, [edzeemcc@gmail.com](mailto:edzeemcc@gmail.com) or call 775-884-3565.

**Informal Luncheon:** Branch members are invited to join in for lunch at 11:30 on February 20 at [Cafe at Adele’s, 1112 N. Carson Street](#) in Carson City (restaurant choice based on popular request by members). Newer members are especially invited to come and get better acquainted. Please RSVP to Diane Koditek by Feb 16th, [dgk@mchsi.com](mailto:dgk@mchsi.com) or call 661-304-8743.

## Deeper in Debt

An AAUW Research Report

Right now about 44 million borrowers in the United States hold about \$1.3 trillion in outstanding student loans. The scale of outstanding student loans and an increasing share of borrowers who fail to repay have made many Americans aware that student debt is a challenge for society and for individual borrowers. Yet despite the fact that women represented 56 percent of those enrolled in American colleges and universities in fall 2016, many people do not think of student debt as a women’s issue. [This report](#) reveals that women also take on larger student loans than do men. And because of the gender pay gap, they have less disposable income with which to repay their loans after graduation, requiring more time to pay back their student debt than do men. As a result, women hold nearly two-thirds of the outstanding student debt in the United States — more than \$800 billion.

This colorful, accessible executive summary makes it easy to share some of the key themes of the report and spark discussion in your community. Download this executive summary as a companion piece to the full report or as a conversation starter at an event.

<https://www.aauw.org/resource/deeper-in-debt-summary/>

By: [Kevin Miller](#)

Type: [Reports and research](#)

The 2019 AAUW Membership Directories are now ready and will be available for purchase at the February meeting. The cost is \$3.50, cash or check, or \$4.00 if charging. In it are member photos and contact information, Capital Branch Officers and Board members, AAUW Nevada State Officers, and Interest Groups information, stuff you will want and need!





# February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Branch Meeting 5 PM	6	7	8 Gourmet Group	9 <b>Feast of Chocolate</b> 1-3 PM
10	11	12 Knitting 1-3	13	14 	15 Book Group 2-4	16
17	18	19	20 Informal Luncheon 11:30	21 WNC Tour 10 am. Book Group 6:30	22	23
24	25	26 Great Decisions 1-3. Knitting 1-3	27	28		

## Your 2018-2019 Board

President — Caroline PUNCHES, 775-246-1850  
 Membership VP — Iris Blaisdell 775-392-1772  
 Program Co-Vice Presidents — JoAnn Carpenter 775-297-3889 and Judy Welch 775-721-1731  
 Secretaries, Co-Recording — Marty McGarry 775-690-3913 and Lynne Ballatore 775-246-3870  
 Secretary, Corresponding — Shirley Williams, 775-386-8787  
 Treasurer — Barbara LeBlanc, 775-781-4956

### 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](mailto:dgk@mchsi.com). Suggested activities will be posted in the newsletter in the Bulletin Board section.

*20th Annual*  
***FEAST OF CHOCOLATE***

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

**Saturday, February 9, 2019**

**Time: 1:00 - 3:00 PM**

**Plaza Hotel & Event Center  
211 E. 9th Street • Carson City • Nevada**



**Enjoy an abundant sampling of  
chocolate delicacies!**

**Participate in raffles of fabulous prizes.**

**Proceeds benefit local scholarships and  
AAUW fellowships and programs.**

**Admission \$15 in advance / \$20 at the door**

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