



Capital News!

AAUW Capital (NV) Branch

March 2019

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

AAUW Mission:

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

Read all about it!

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President's Message

by Caroline Punches, President



Hopefully, by the time you are reading this, the mega-snow storms of 2019 will have subsided. Record setting snow levels have certainly impacted our lives! Our **February 5th** meeting was cancelled due to travel conditions. But thankfully, on **February 9th**, the snowfall waited until AFTER the Feast of Chocolate was over! Thanks to all who helped plan and execute the very successful **20th Feast of Chocolate!** Special thanks to **Flo Bedrosian, Susan Kleklar, Jane Johnson, Nancy Stiles** and so many more. And, to all of you who attended and/or supported the FOC – **THANK YOU!**

Special thanks to **Jane Johnson, Lin Nary** and **JoAnn Carpenter** for serving on the Nominating Committee. They have accomplished a difficult job and recruited some very competent members. Thanks to all of you who will serve in co-leadership positions in 2019-20FY.

The Nevada Legislature began their 80th session on February 4th. Our March 5th speakers will share critical information about possible changes for funding education as well as some bills that can make an impact on the lives of women and children in Nevada. Come and learn what YOU can do!

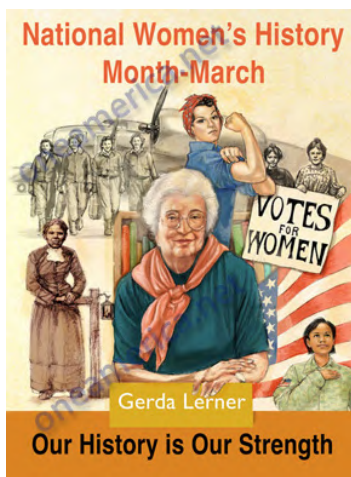
And, I would be remiss, if I did not encourage you to attend Grassroots Lobby Days on March 30th and April 1st. This event provides an opportunity to mingle with our legislators as well as hear information about key legislative issues. See you soon!
Caroline Punches

March 5th Meeting

by JoAnn Carpenter

Stacey Shinn, Nevada State Director for State Innovation Exchange (SIX), will be one of our speakers for the March 5th AAUW meeting at the Sheriff's Office starting at 5:00. SIX is a non-partisan organization that provides documentation to the Legislators regarding women's and other issues. Prior to SIX, Stacey spent eight years as a lobbyist in Carson City working to advance social, environmental, and economic justice policies. Stacey also worked as a counselor in the mental health arena and taught English abroad. She holds a Master in Social Work from the University of Nevada and proudly serves as a supervisor for future macro social workers. Stacey is the President of the Human Service Network and a Commissioner on the Access to Justice Commission. Stacey resides in Reno, NV with her cat named Cream Cheese. Stacey Shinn will provide a window into working with policy makers at the Nevada Legislation.

Our other speaker will be **Amanda Morgan**, a Nevada civil rights attorney, who will be discussing "Fund Our Future" which is currently part of a Bill Draft Request that will provide a new funding mechanism for Nevada schools that would address the needs of various student populations. This plan proposes to draft legislation that will transition funding to a cost-based formula which should provide funds for those activities that would provide the greatest benefit to the largest number of students. Amanda is currently the Legal Director for Educate Nevada Now.



Power can be seen as power with rather than power over, and it can be used for competence and co-operation, rather than dominance and control.
— Anne L. Barstow

Scholarship Notes

By Mary Moffitt, Scholarship Chair

We have begun our process to award our 2019 college scholarship funds. The counselors at three local high schools (Carson High School, Dayton High School, and Pioneer High School) have been contacted and I have dropped off our applications. There will be two scholarships of \$1,000 each. These scholarships are split between fall and spring semester. A third scholarship of \$1000 will be granted to a student at WNC. The WNC scholarship is chosen by the college after evaluating our criteria. Our recipients must attend college in Nevada and maintain an appropriate grade point average.

I will pick up the applications at the school on April 12. At the March meeting, I will have a list available for any members who would like to evaluate the applications and all members who expressed interest in our survey. We will honor our recipients at our May luncheon meeting. Any thoughts, questions, or concerns, contact Mary Moffitt at marychm51@charter.net or 775-267-1437.

Nominations Committee Report

By Jane Johnson, Nominating Committee Chair

Lin Nary, JoAnn Carpenter, and I are delighted to present a strong slate of officers for the coming year. If elected at our Annual Meeting in April, they will serve along with the current officers who will continue for another year. This is the first time since our Policies and Procedures change that co-officers will work together, having been elected in alternating years.

President: Jennifer Verive
Vice President for Program: Lynne Ballatore
Vice President for Membership: Diane Koditek
Recording Secretary: Barbara Kuehner
Corresponding Secretary: Shirley Williams
Treasurer: Dorthiann Taylor

MEMBERSHIP MEETING RSVPs

Please RSVP to Dorthiann Taylor by Friday, March 1! RSVP by email at dtaylor506@aol.com or by phone at 775-771-1212. You will receive an email response noting your RSVP has been received. On February 28, 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 Panches, President and Iris Blaisdell, Membership Chair.

Interest Groups

By Diane Koditek

Gourmet Group: The group enjoyed its once a year dining-out meal at the Martin Hotel on February 8. A traditional Basque dinner was served with a menu of Basque chicken, ribs, tri tip, soup, salad, side dishes and bread pudding for dessert.

In March, co-hostesses Iris Blaisdell and Beth Mancl are planning a fine Italian meal on March 8 at 5:30 PM at Beth's home in Genoa. Group members will prepare recipes to complete the meal, inspired by Beth's fall trip to Italy for cooking classes. For additional information about the group, please contact Nancy Bailey, 775-461-3311 or nmbailey95@gmail.com

Great Decisions: The February discussion centered around the Middle East: Regional disorder. On March 26, the group will meet at Barbara Kuehner's home in Gardnerville from 1-3 PM to discuss chapter 3 from the Foreign Policy Association resource manual, *Nuclear Negotiations: Back to the Future*. Janyce Stern will research the topic. For additional information about the group, contact JoAnn Carpenter, 775-297-3889 or jac78x@gmail.com

Daytime Book Group: The February meeting of the group was canceled due to weather. Cathy Haber will lead discussion of the February book *The Girls* by Lori Lansens at the March meeting. The group will also discuss *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay: A Novel* by Michael Chabon, with Cindy White leading that discussion. The meeting will be held from 2-4 PM on March 15, location TBD. For additional information, please contact Cindy, cindywhite@nevada-wordsmith.com or call 775-267-3685.

Evening Book Group: On Thursday, March 21, the group will meet at Jane Johnson's home (please note the change in meeting location from the group's printed schedule) at 6:30 to discuss *The Disordered Mind: What Unusual Brains Tell Us About Ourselves* by Eric R. Kandel. To RSVP or for questions about the group, please contact Jane Johnson, jane3491@charter.net or call 267-3427.

Knitting Group: The group meets from 1-3 PM on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. In March, that will be the 12th and 26th at the home of Mary Wilson. For additional information about the group, contact Zee McClintock at 884-3565 or edzeemcc@gmail.com

Informal luncheon: Come join in the fun! Enjoy a delicious lunch and a good conversation on March 19 at 11:30 at The Basil, 311 North Carson St., Carson City. All are invited. Newer members are especially encouraged to come and get better acquainted. Please RSVP to Diane, dkoditek@gmail.com or call 661-304-8743.



Public Policy

by Nancy Stiles, Chair

Governor Steve Sisolak has announced a partnership with the [SANS Institute](#) to launch Girls Go Cyberstart and Cyber FastTrack in Nevada. The initiative gives young women in high school and college an opportunity to learn cyber security skills, discover their cyber talents, and explore a career in the field. The three Nevada high schools with the most participants will win awards of \$1,000, \$750 and \$500, respectively. At least 10 high school girls will each get \$500 scholarships to help them pay for college. “I am committed to ensuring that all young women across Nevada have access to the education and experiences that will prepare them for exciting careers in STEM fields,” said Governor Sisolak.

Our Governor deserves a “**thank you**” for his advocacy for STEM. Write or call him at:

*Governor Steve Sisolak, State Capitol Building, 101
N. Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89701
Phone: (775) 684-5670 Carson City,
(702) 486-2500 Las Vegas*

AAUW Capital Branch Advocacy

We have a unique opportunity to fulfill the advocacy commission in our AAUW Mission in that we are so close to our Legislature, and can advocate in person. Our other advantage is in having one of the best legislative websites in the nation. It allows you to participate in the comfort of your home. Some direction on how to access that website’s many features will be given at our March meeting.

Our Capital Branch Legislative Committee, made up of Caroline Panches, Nancy Stiles, Marty McGarry, Judy Welch, JoAnn Carpenter, and Tera Bisbee, met recently to organize for a better participation in this 2019 Legislative Session.

Our goal is to inform members of legislative issues that align with our AAUW Public Policy during the 2019 Legislative Session, and encourage their legislative participation. Our task is for interested branch members to attend hearings, support or oppose certain bills on the [Legislation Website](#), contact their representatives by phone or twitter, and visit representatives in their offices presenting the stand taken by AAUW on an issue. A sign-up sheet will be available at the March meeting for you to indicate your willingness to participate. The Legislative Committee will then compile an email group with those names for the purpose of sending emails for “action alerts” on bills in the following categories: Pay Equity, Paid Leave, Minimum Wage, Affordable Child Care, and Public School Funding.

This is our opportunity to fulfill the advocacy piece in our AAUW Mission: “To advance equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.” Please

join us in doing so at this opportune time during our 2019 Legislature Session.

In addition, please continue to advocate on the “Two-Minute Activist” under “Take Action” on our AAUW website, [aauw.org](#), for Federal Legislative issues found in our AAUW Public Policy. At present, there is a need to advocate for the Paycheck Fairness Act and Raise the Federal Minimum Wage. The website makes it so easy. With a click, they will do it for you.

Grassroots Lobby Days

Grassroots Lobby Days comes with every Legislative Session, and this year it comes on March 31 and April 1. Sponsored by the Nevada Women’s Lobby, these lobby days provide you with training and an opportunity to lobby with others. Grassroots Lobby Days participants will

- learn the Nevada legislative process and how to influence it;
- learn about current Nevada issues affecting Nevada’s women and families;
- meet other Nevadans with similar concerns;
- meet your Nevada senators and assembly members;
- attend legislative committee hearings and floor sessions.

You don’t want to miss this! It is well worth the time and money! There is limited space, so you’ll need to register as soon as possible to reserve your place. Go to [nevada-womenslobby.org](#) to register. You can participate for one day or for two. You can also choose to order breakfast, lunch, and dinner or not. The members of the senate and the assembly will attend the dinner, allowing you a chance to meet them personally. Sunday will have excellent speakers, and an opportunity to network with others with similar values. Monday will be another opportunity to meet senate and assembly members, and a chance to use what you learned on Sunday. You’ll really enjoy this, and you will be providing a service by advocating for AAUW issues that are important to women and to families.

DO YOU KNOW A YOUNG WOMAN WHO HAS GREAT LEADERSHIP SKILLS? Check out the Nevada AAUW website – scholarships for the prestigious NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) conference in May are being offered. Deadline for scholarship applications is March 14. This is an all-expense paid scholarship! More info can be found at <https://aauw-nv.aauw.net/scholarships/>

Feast of Chocolate, 20 Years of Success!

By Flo Bedrosian, Chair

Thanks to the generous support of the members of the Capital Branch, another successful Feast of Chocolate is part of our history. Members sold 213 advance tickets and 11 tickets were sold at the door. After expenses we expect to have about \$3,000 from the combination of the sale of event tickets and raffle tickets for the fabulous themed baskets and gift certificates from local restaurants and businesses. You can feel proud knowing this money will support local scholarships and AAUW fellowships and programs such as AAUW Work Smart.

I would like to thank Nancy Stiles for her leadership and passion for the raffle and for the always lovely decorations. Thank you to the many members who assisted her, including those who donated baskets to be raffled (see related article).

Thank you, Jane Johnson for handling tickets sales once again and managing the "Will Call" at the event. Thank you to Paula Winne for providing warm greetings to our guests at the door. A huge thank you to Diane Koditek, Shirley Williams, and Lin Nary for their work, and I do mean work, in the kitchen cutting cakes and brownies, filling trays for the buffet and then serving chocolate to our guests. Also, thank you to Phyllis Tirado and Jill Hetherington for assisting in the kitchen and serving chocolate. A special thank you to Carolyn Kellogg and Jane Johnson for donating cakes from local bakeries, to ensure we had enough cake in the absence of Raley's participation this year.

Lastly, I would like to thank the committee co-chair, Susan Klekar and members Chris Perdomo and Jan Sullivan. Susan, I thank you for handling the arrangements with the Carson High School Culinary Arts program and it was great that you agreed to mentor one of the student chefs as part of her Senior Project. Chris and Jan, thank you for your participation this year in the committee, and Chris I am delighted to know that you are interested in serving on the committee again next year!

Have you changed your address, email address, or phone? Please let Iris Blasdell, Membership Chair, know so she can update the national roster. AND, let Dorthiann Taylor know so she can update the local roster. Thanks!!

Some who have: Barbara LeBlanc, new phone number 775-781-6604; you can now reach Lin at 775-461-0987; Diane Koditek has a new email address dkoditek@gmail.com



Feast of Chocolate Raffle

By Nancy Stiles, Chair

Our members, once again, made it possible for us to have a raffle at the Feast of Chocolate with their contributions of beautiful baskets and many gift certificates. Kudos to all of you: Phyllis Tirado, Jill Harper, Candy Rooney, Diane Koditek, Holly Van Valkenburgh, Nancy Stiles, Beth Mancl, Mary Wilson, Cindy White, Barbara LeBlanc, Iris Blaisdell, Cathy Haber, Janyce Stein, Cheryl Anderson, Chris Perdomo, Jan Sullivan, Mary Piper, JoAnn Carpenter, Mary Lang, Maureen Smith, Kumiko Wartman, Carolyn Kellogg, Nancy Bailey, Linda Sekiguchi, Shirley Williams, Judy Welch. A tremendous thank-you goes to each and every one of you. We were also fortunate to have a number of business donators: Red's 395 Grill, J's Bistro, The Chocolate Shoppe, Trader Joe's, Due Sorella, Save Mart, and Carson Valley Inn.

As with any event, the volunteer helpers make it work. The helpers with the decorations and the raffle were: Cheryl Anderson, Cindy Supko, Barbara LeBlanc, Jill Harper, Lynn Ballatore, Judy Welch, JoAnn Carpenter, Iris Blaisdell, Jennifer Verive, Kathy Steinle, and Chris Perdomo. Thank you for your valuable assistance.

Cheryl Anderson, Cindy Supko, and Jill Harper worked along side me with the organization of the raffle and the decorations, and they will be the new Raffle/Decorations Chairs for the 2020 Feast of Chocolate. Thank you, ladies, for your assistance with this year's FOC and a humongous thank you for stepping up to chair the Raffle/Decorations part of the Feast of Chocolate in the future. You are greatly appreciated!

Membership Matters

By Iris Blasdell, Membership Chair


The Capital Branch is growing! Please welcome new member Anita E. Marshall, who was born in Windsor, Ontario, Canada, and speaks French and English. This skill set helped her in one of her careers as a Pan Am flight attendant where she specialized in flying Asian routes such as San Francisco to India which she flew 82 times. Eventually she decided upon a career change and started her university degree when she was over 40. Anita attended the University of San Francisco where she majored in psychology and obtained her MA in psychology in 1993. In turn, she became a marriage and family therapist in Sacramento. She lived 20 years in Shingle Springs, east of Sacramento, where she also had an alpaca farm. Between them, Anita and her husband have 7 children, some of whom live in the Tahoe/Reno area. When it came time to retire, they moved to Minden to be closer to them. Anita is interested in making like-minded friends through AAUW and maybe participating in some of the interest groups. She also volunteers for the Douglas County Historical Museum in Gardnerville.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

WHAT ABOUT HER STORY?



March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Branch Meeting 5 PM	6	7	8 Gourmet 5:30 	9
10	11	12 Knitting 1-3	13	14	15 Book Group 2-4	16
17	18	19 Informal luncheon 11:30	20	21 Book Group 6:30	22	23
24	25	26 Great Decisions 1-3 Knitting 1-3	27	28	29	30
31	MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW! Scholarship presentations for high school students and our Installation of Officers will occur on May 4, 2019 at 11:30AM at Joanie's Creekside Deli. More info and details will be forthcoming.					

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, 775-781-6604

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, dkoditek@gmail.com. Suggested activities will be posted in the newsletter in the Bulletin Board section.