



Capital News!

AAUW Capital (NV) Branch

October 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, Co-President

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE!



Our Annual Membership Brunch paid tribute to women suffrage leaders as an early "kick-off" to 2020 when we celebrate 100 years of women's voting rights! Special

thanks to **Iris Blaisdell** and **Diane Korditek**, co-membership chairs for organizing such a great event. **Barbara LeBlanc** and **Shirley Williams** created very special centerpieces in keeping with the suffrage theme. Purple, white and gold – the colors associated with the suffrage movement were highlighted in the table decorations.

Maria Whitaker, a WNC student (Fallon Campus), shared her excitement about participating in the NCCWSL Conference – the premier program for young women leaders – as recipient of an AAUW Nevada scholarship. Dayton High School 2019 Scholarship Recipient, **Katherine Darragh**, indicated she was "settling in" at UNR.

AAUW's goals and programs at the national, state and local branch levels were highlighted. Co-President, **Jennifer Verive** highlighted the branch's new strategic plan (see attachment to the newsletter). **JoAnn Carpenter** shared the October & November meeting speakers and topics. Public Policy priorities were shared by **Judy Welch**. Newsletter editor, Website and Membership Directory information was shared by **Lin Nary**. Numerous opportunities for membership involvement were shared by **Diane Korditek**. Members were encouraged to visit the displays of the various interest groups and to indicate their interest on the sign-

Membership Meeting

October 1

[911 E Musser](#)

Carson City

5 PM

with Dr. Colleen C. Lyons speaking on **Single Payer Medicare for All**

Dr. Colleen C. Lyons, MD, FAAFP

graduated from UNR School of Medicine in 1985. She practiced family medicine in Carson City for 19 years. She then worked for the VA Community Based Out-patient Clinic in Gardnerville. She is now retired from medicine and works as a physician advocate for Single Payer Improved Medicare for All in the United States. She is a member of the Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP.org) and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Single Payer Member Interest Group (MIG); the latter is working to generate support for Single Payer by the largest physician organization in America, the AAFP. She has spoken to several different groups in Western Nevada regarding the need to adopt Single Payer Improved Medicare for All.

up sheets provided.

Pecan Chair, **Kathy Steinle** and Feast of Chocolate co-chairs, **Chris Perdomo** and **Jan Sullivan** promoted their fundraising events while encouraging members to not only participate in the events but also to volunteer and assist with the production of the events.

Overall, the brunch was a wonderful way to launch the 2019-20 program year! See you all on October 1st!



Feast of Chocolate Update

Jan Sullivan & Chris Perdomo, co-chairs

The Feast of Chocolate annual event is already on the books and scheduled for February 8, 2020 at the Carson Plaza from 1-3 PM. We know the event is quite a few months away, but summer, as you are well aware, is quickly becoming a cherished memory. Before you know it, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day will be here and gone, which leaves Valentine's Day and our delicious fundraiser, the Feast of Chocolate, to dream about.

Caroline PUNCHES has compiled the Volunteer and Interest Group lists for the 2020 AAUW year. For those of you who did not have an opportunity to fill out this survey online, you will have an opportunity to do so at the October meeting. There are many jobs available for FOC day. Volunteers are needed!

We welcome your interest in the Feast of Chocolate, a scrumptious and delightfully decadent event, and look forward to working with you.

Volunteers Needed!

By Barbara LeBlanc

We need a couple of members to learn how to process credit cards using our Square technology. Training will be provided. You must possess a later model smart phone or tablet with the ability to connect to the internet using apps and data. Square processing will be used at the Carson High School Craft Fair and the Feast of Chocolate. Please contact Barbara LeBlanc, Treasurer at 775-781-6604 or wmzqlt@gmail.com



Other Volunteer Opportunities! There are still many options for **YOU** to volunteer to help our AAUW Capital (NV) Branch meet our goals! Volunteer forms will be available at the October 1st meeting to complete OR one can be emailed to you by contacting Caroline at cpunches206@charter.net.

Pecans!

By Kathy Steinle, Pecan Chair

Yummy Pecan Time!

You can start to feel the change in the seasons and you know what that means...it's almost time for our Pecan Fundraiser! The Schermer Pecan Co. in Georgia is expecting to ship and deliver our delicious pecans in early November. And our dear Shirley Hammon has once again agreed to house the cases of pecans once they arrive. Thank you so much, Shirley!

We will be ordering the superb Mammoth Halves, the specialty Dark Chocolate Covered, Chocolate Covered, Caramel Clusters and Cinnamon Glazed pecans. The halves can be frozen and are guaranteed by the company to remain fresh for up to two years when frozen. The specialty pecans are attractively packaged and make the perfect holiday treat for friends and family. Our selling price is still only \$12/package – such a deal! So tell everyone you know the pecans will be here soon and that you can take their orders!



Our biggest presence for the Pecan Fundraiser is at the [Carson High School Craft Fair](#) on Friday, November 22 from 5pm – 8pm and Saturday, November 23, from 9am – 4pm. Thanks to those of you who were able to sign up during the Membership Brunch for a time slot. The sign-up sheet will be available at our Branch Meeting on Tuesday, October 1 for your opportunity to join the fun if you haven't already.

The pecan sale is one of our two major fundraisers. Last year we made a profit of over \$4,500! The profits provide scholarships to local area high school graduating women, to women who are resuming their education at Western Nevada College, and to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. Let's see if we can continue to see our profits rise this year, too!

Feel free to contact me for flyers, advance orders, or any questions. And thank you for your support! Kathy Steinle 775-291-9305

One can never consent to creep when one feels an impulse to soar.

--Helen Keller

Interest Groups

By Diane Koditek, Chair

Gourmet Group: Thirteen hardy souls enjoyed the fresh air at Mormon Station State Park on Friday the 13th for a potluck featuring a wonderful variety of food. The evening concluded with dessert on the Pink House patio while group plans were made for the coming year. Barbara and Dick Kuehner will host a Hawaiian themed dinner on October 11. Details to follow. For additional information about the group, please contact Nancy Bailey, nmbailey95@gmail.com

Evening Book Group: On Thursday, October 17, we will meet at the home of Caroline PUNCHES, at 6:30. In preparation, we will have read any of a variety of books in different series written by Alexander McCall Smith. Please let Caroline know whether or not you will be attending, at cpunches206@charter.net or by phone at 775 246-1850. For questions about the book group, please contact Jane Johnson at jane3491@charter.net or by phone at 775 267-3427.

Daytime Book Group: This group will meet next on Friday, October 18 from 2 to 4 PM at a location TBD. Group members can expect an email soon with further details regarding the book title and meeting location for October. For additional information about the group, please contact Cindy, cindywhite@nevadawordsmith.com

Great Decisions: The next meeting will take place on October 22 from 1 to 3 PM, location TBD. Discussion will center on chapter 8 from the foreign policy association manual "State of the State Department and diplomacy." Questions about the group? Please contact JoAnn Carpenter, jac78x@gmail.com

Knitting: The Knitting Group is excited to welcome new members to the group who indicated their interest at the membership brunch. The group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 1:00 to 3:00. In October that will be the 8th and the 22nd. They plan lots of show and tell from the field trip to the Sierra Nevada Yarn Crawl in September. Contact Zee McClintock at 775-884-3565 or edzeemcc@gmail.com for more information.

Informal Luncheon: Come enjoy good food and conversation on Tuesday, October 15 at 11:30 at Bella Vita Bistro, [134 S. Stewart St.](#) All are invited to join in the fun. If you are new to AAUW Capital Branch, please come meet other members and get better acquainted. To RSVP, contact Diane, dkoditek@gmail.com or call 661-304-8743 by October 8th.



AAUW Issues: Health Care

The American Association of University Women believes that everyone is entitled to high-quality, affordable, and accessible health care.

Health care security is intrinsically tied to economic security, and this relationship is particularly true for women who earn less than men on average and are therefore less able to afford insurance or care. Despite massive spending, health care outcomes in the United States continue to lag behind many other Western nations. But more Americans are now able to access affordable health insurance and the preventive care they need thanks to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which passed into law in 2010.

Drastic Drop of Uninsured Rates

The implementation of the ACA has begun to make significant progress in reducing the number of uninsured Americans.

In 2009, [50.7 million Americans](#) were uninsured—nearly 17 percent of the nation.

In 2015, the uninsured rate hit a historic low; only [9.1 percent of Americans](#) remain uninsured.

The ACA is making progress in reducing ethnic disparities in health care access, with [5.2 percent](#) more young women, [5.1 percent](#) more black women, and [6.5 percent](#) more Hispanic women gaining access to a regular source of care.

Health Care Reform Is a Women's Issue

While all Americans have benefitted from meaningful health care reform, the issue has particular resonance for women. According to the Department of Labor, women make approximately [80 percent of all family health care decisions](#), and about 60 percent of women report that they assume primary responsibility for decisions regarding family health insurance plans.

When it comes to their own health care, women face unique challenges. Women [earn around 80 cents](#) for every dollar men earn, but women also utilize more [health care services](#) than men. As a result, women face a high level of health care insecurity. These factors add up to too many women and their families with unpaid medical bills and [long-lasting debt problems](#) as a result of health problems.

Learn more at <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/aauw-issues/health-care/>

AAUW Capital (NV) Branch Board Meeting – Wednesday, October 16th – 1:00 PM at Partnership Carson City, 1925 N. Carson St., Carson City. Meeting is open to any branch member who wishes to attend. Just let Caroline (cpunches206@charter.net) or Jennifer (jmverive@gmail.com) know you will be attending.