



May 2017 Newsletter

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Newsletter Editor: Carol Stirling
Technical Advisor: Larry Chariton

President's Corner

By Sylvia Chariton



Our May 6th meeting marks the end of our AAUW monthly branch meetings for 2016-17. Since not everyone will be attending our capstone event, this May newsletter will serve as an opportunity to recognize and thank branch members who lent their time, talent, voice and support to the AAUW causes we care about so deeply.

Every project that was worked on, no matter how big or small has helped to make our community, state and country a better place for women and girls. Most importantly, your enthusiasm for our issues has served to inspire others to find ways to take action that creates change. Above all, we are the change makers, who have come together to build a stronger, more vibrant community through our service. Thank you.

Recognizing the Boise Area Branch Board of Elected Officers and Appointed Positions:

President-elect, Susan Lamberson always provided thoughtful advice and service behind the scenes.

VP Membership Dena Duncan was faithfully there at every meeting to greet members and facilitate member check-in. She assisted with the annual membership renewal drive and fostered membership recruitment.

VPs Program Carolyn Lunstrum & Kathy Reavy oversaw the general management of

all program areas, which included program development and delivery. They excelled in external relationship management. They were the gracious & organized faces of AAUW for speakers who came to our meetings.

Secretary, Kris Hooker faithfully took minutes at all branch meetings and board meetings. She was an integral part of the collection of information that needed to be archived for our 501(c) 3 compliance.

Finance Officer, Cathy Ransom diligently served as the custodian of our funds, kept careful records, prepared lengthy & accurate financial statements that were reported to the board & members. All of this carried a very significant workload.

Although charity events are wonderful, the job of philanthropy chairs can be difficult.

Funds Co-Chairs, Julie Custer & Kathy Scott's dedication of giving back to the community is a true reflection of their individual and our organization's character. We are very grateful for their service.

Public Policy Chair, Linda Anderson was always ready on a moment's notice to advocate for AAUW's public policy priorities and represent AAUW with our elected officials. An adept writer and speaker, she could inject intellect and humor into most situations, no matter how bleak.

Recognizing Standing Committees and Project Leaders:

At AAUW we bring together people with different life experiences, skills, and abilities that enable our branch to operate smoothly. The individuals listed below provided the required support, talent and expertise that we needed to succeed and grow. These folks did not ask for accolades and yet gave their time generously without any expectation of reward. We genuinely appreciate and value their commitment to volunteering with our organization and we thank them.

Membership Directory, Social Media (Facebook) & Monthly RSVP Organizer – Julie Custer

Goodwill Ambassadors (Happy Hour Schedulers) - Gayle Wilde & Kathy Scott

Newsletter Editor & Monthly Calendar Producer – Carol Sterling

Nominating Committee – Kay Hamilton & Bonnie Pfaff

Project Recognition & Get Out the Vote (GOTV) – Lee Hipsher

Inez Robb Scholarship Chair – Nancy Otterness

Special Events, Monthly Meeting Arrangers & Facility Contract Negotiators – Kay Reed & Marci Lingo

STEM Chair – Donna Looze

Web Editor – Kathy Haley

501 (c) 3 Compliance Coordinator – Jan Bracken

A few more behind the scenes folks, who were not given special titles, but their work was valuable to the group include: Dick Holden, who sent out the electronic monthly meeting invitations; David Scott, who became our ad hoc photographer & visual documenter of our historic events; and Larry Chariton, who electronically sent out our monthly newsletter and other important communications.

Finally, we wish you a pleasant and relaxing summer and look forward to seeing you in September. In the interim, our new slate/returning officers and committee members will be planning an exciting 2017-18 year!

Welcome, New Members!

Welcome to the following members who joined our branch in April 2017:

Kim Mislin Cran
Cheryle Jones Andrews
Diana Burrell-Gwydyr
Ellie Hall
Nancy Mann
Charles W. Slaughter

We are now 226 members strong!

Annual Spring Luncheon-Silent/Live Auction
Saturday, May 6 at 11:00 A.M.
Wyndham Garden Hotel – 3300 S. Vista

By Marci Lingo and Kay Reed



May is here—and that means that our branch's spring luncheon is, too! The auction committee has lots of moves to make it a memorable event! This is our most important fund raising venture of the year—and it will support a 50/50 split between branch operations and STEM activities.

Most importantly, we have joined forces with the Idaho Governor's STEM Action Center. They will match our STEM donations dollar for dollar up to \$7,000 for summer STEM events with the Girls Scout of Silver Sage.

After our under whelming April meal and alcoholic beverage experience at the Wyndham, we had a stern tête-à-tête with the chef and the catering managers. A very contrite, remorseful and repentant Wyndham staff assured us that in May we will enjoy excellent food and gracious service.

For those who ordered the chicken Caesar, it will be the classic salad—without the pasta mentioned on the invitation. Also, the new chef swears that his marinated tofu is delicious on the Mexican chopped salad. Additionally, he promises to whip up his tropical mimosas for the bar.

So—join us for the fun! The doors to the silent auction open at 11 am; lunch will be served at noon and the live auction begins at 12:15. Reservations for your lunch are due on May 2nd, so be quick! We look forward to seeing you for our spring fling!

Don't forget about our silent auction, which promises to be an exciting and creative opportunity for members to support AAUW activities in our community.

Membership

By Dena Duncan



We now have 226 members in our branch. Because of the unexpected growth this year, we have run out of branch directories to give out to new members. Each new member who joined in the last several months should have received a welcome letter that contained the URL for the branch Web site, and how to access the Members Only page that contains an on-line directory. If you do not know how to access our Web site and how to log into the Members Only, page, please send an e-mail to Dena Duncan, denad@mindspring.com to obtain this information. We will not publicly publish the password for this page.

2018-19 Nominating Committee Members Identified

By Sylvia Chariton



Because we are a very forward looking organization and are always cognizant of the need for a smooth transition of power, AAUW by-laws require us to identify a nominating committee well in advance. Although the elected officers for 2017-18, will not be installed until May 6th, we are announcing our nomination committee members for 2018-19.

They include:

Kay Hamilton, a retired Magistrate Judge and long standing AAUW Boise Area Branch member.

Bonnie Pfaff currently the Funds Chair for AAUW Idaho. In circa 2011, she served as the Idaho State Co- President and in 1985-87, she was president of the Boise Area Branch.

Karen Johnson, past Boise Area Branch president 2000-2002, will round out the group. Karen has not participated much in AAUW activities of late because she had taken a job at the INL, which kept her out of Boise. Karen has recently retired and we welcome her back.

In order to authorize this nominating committee, members need to submit a “yes,” “no,” or “I abstain” vote by May 6th. Please email your vote to sylvia@integratedis.com. I must receive a “yes” vote from at least 34 members (15% of our membership) to authorize this nominating committee.

Public Policy — Sexual Assault Awareness

By Linda Anderson



April is Sexual Assault Awareness month. Because this is a priority issue for AAUW, the speaker at our April 18 meeting was Bea Black, AAUW member and executive director of the Women’s & Children’s Alliance. Her compelling presentation began with a recording of a courageous eight-year-old child calling 911 while in the background her father was viciously attacking her mother. As a result of police intervention, the father was incarcerated and the family received needed support. The child, now grown, wants others to hear what can happen behind closed doors.

For thirty years, the WCA has been providing comprehensive services to victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault including a 24-hour crisis hotline, shelter, therapy, childcare, support groups, and classes in financial literacy, parenting and life skills.

According to Black, one in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually assaulted by the time they are 18. In an April 25 commentary in the Statesman, she said, "In the past year, we have seen an increase in awareness of sexual assault and the dangers of victim blaming, as well as an increase in the reporting of sexual assaults; but we still have a long way to go. Gender-based, sexually-themed, disrespectful jokes, slurs, words and actions seem to be more prevalent and acceptable as evidenced by incidents reported throughout our country. The faceless and transient nature of social media and technology also seems to encourage the dissemination of hateful thoughts, words and actions."

To change the conversation from blaming the victim, we need to focus on and talk about the fact that no matter what the circumstance, even for people in relationships, being coerced into any unwanted sexual activity is simply never, ever OK.

STEM

By Donna Looze



This is a wonderful year for STEM! We will be raising money to provide scholarships for Girl Scouts and Brownie Scouts to attend Girl Scout STEM camps. These are girls who otherwise would not be able to go!!! And even better, the funds we raise through STEM donations at our May meeting will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$7,000 by the Idaho Governor's STEM Action Center. Angela Hemingway, Idaho STEM Action Center Director will be at the May meeting to discuss how STEM camps can change lives.

Please be generous, many young girls can find their passion for high-tech careers at these camps. Through hands-on problem solving and encounters with women role models in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), these girls see their futures while having nonstop fun. For many disadvantaged girls, the camp experience sparks their curiosity and places them on a different path toward success. AAUW members should be proud of the opportunities we are offering that open the door to new dreams in STEM fields for deserving girls!

AAUW Boise Branch Happy Hour

By Gayle Wilde



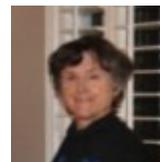
Wednesday, May 17th, 5 pm until 7ish
Café Ole Restaurant in Boise Towne Square
210 N Milwaukee St., Boise

Knitting Note!!!

Someone ordered a BLUE Lorax Hat from Donna Looze. Donna made it, but couldn't make it to the last AAUW meeting. If you are the member who ordered it, please call (208-226-6009) or write Donna at: donnalooze@gmail.com. She will deliver the hat and collect \$15.00 for AAUW.

Book Group

By Lee Hipsher



We will be meeting on Sunday, May 21 at 2 pm at The Cabin in the lower level. Our book is DALVA by Jim Harrison. Our presenter is Colleen Taggart.

From her home on the California coast, Dalva hears the broad silence of the Nebraska prairie where she was born and longs for the son she gave up for adoption years before. Beautiful, fearless, tormented, at forty-five she has lived a life of lovers and adventures. Now, Dalva begins a journey that will take her back to the bosom of her family, to the half-Sioux lover of her youth, and to a pioneering great-grandfather whose journals recount the bloody annihilation of the Plains Indians. On the way, she discovers a story that stretches from East to West, from the Civil War to Wounded Knee and Vietnam – and finds the balm to heal her wild and wounded soul.

NOTE: Our June 18 Book selection will be DEATH WITH INTERRUPTIONS by Jose Saramago, and our July 16 selection will be THE HUSBAND'S SECRET by Liane Moriarty.

Movie Group

By Carolyn Moore



The movie group is planning to see A Quiet Passion on Friday May 12th at the Flicks. It is the story of American poet Emily Dickinson from her early days as a young schoolgirl to her later years as a reclusive, unrecognized artist. The movie time will be announced by Monday 7th.

Bridge Group

By Dena Duncan



Bridge this month will be at 12:30PM, Wednesday, May 17th at the home of Connie Pratt, 1755 N. White Oak Way in Meridian. Please contact Connie if you plan to play, either by phone, 888-9477, or by e-mail, conniepratt@cableone.net.

Daytimers

By Dena Duncan



An e-mail will be sent early in the month about the May event.

SAVE THESE DATES

AAUW Spring Luncheon
Saturday, May 6, 11:00 a.m.
Wyndham Garden Hotel
3300 S. Vista, Boise

Movie Group
Friday, May 12, tba
The Flicks, 615 W Fulton, Boise

Bridge Group
Wednesday, May 17, 12:30 p.m.
Connie Pratt' home
1755 N. White Oak Way, Meridian

Happy Hour
Wednesday, May 17, 5 p.m.
Café Ole at Boise Towne Square
210 N. Milwaukee, Boise

Book Group
Sunday, May 21, 2:00 p.m.
The Cabin (downstairs)
801 S. Capitol Blvd., Boise

AAUW Garage Sale
September, 2017

May Birthdays

05/01 Carrie Noriega
05/02 Amie Bruggeman
05/07 Luci McDonald
05/07 Connie Merrell
05/08 Phylis King
05/11 Kath Giel
05/14 Cathy Downs
05/14 Kay Hamilton
05/15 Susan Logan
05/15 Sara McFeeley
05/16 Judy Secrist
05/17 Kim Cran
05/18 Jan Solberg
05/19 Twila Gallaher
05/19 Karen Walsh
05/20 Cathy Ransom
05/22 Larry Hesterberg
05/24 Gail Dobert
05/26 Andy Gibson
05/26 Claudia Parcels
05/26 Sally Norton
05/30 Jane Hardison

INTEREST GROUP CONTACT INFORMATION

Book Group

Lee Hipsher
leehipsher45@gmail.com

Bridge Group

Dena Duncan
denad@mindspring.com

Daytimer's Group

Dena Duncan
denad@mindspring.com

Dinner Group—Cork'n Fork

Noreen Pusey
pusey2@hotmail.com

Great Decisions

Carolyn Lunstrum
cblunstrum@cableone.net

Happy Hour

Kathy Scott
kascott1088@msn.com

Gayle Wilde

gwilde@cableone.net

Movie Group

Gerrie Oehlschlager
gerrieto@gmail.com

Marci Lingo

mlingo@hot-mktg.com

Carolyn Moore

cnmoore7@msn.com



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AAUW Boise Area Branch · P. O. Box 2375 · Eagle, ID 83616 · USA

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