



November 2018 Newsletter

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Presidents' Message by Kay Reed and Kathy Scott

AAUW Members! November is Turkey month so don't you be one! Be sure to VOTE. And volunteer to provide transportation to any of your less mobile friends. This election is too important for anyone to be a bystander.

Again, we want to express our thanks to Marlys Davenport for her generous contribution to our branch. With the leadership of Tracy Bicknell-Holmes, Amie Bruggeman, Pam Ahrens, and the strong work ethic of many other volunteers, Project Marlys was a great success. Along the way, we had many laughs sharing our stories, and we raised over \$3,000, which will go into the Branch Special Projects Fund. If you are wondering what that fund covers, it is where we put money to fund projects like Get Out the Vote (Voter Registration).

Speaking of Get Out the Vote, an anonymous donor has contributed \$2,500 to fund this activity for future years. Ms. Anonymous was so impressed by the work being done by Chris Stokes, her collaborative co-chairs, and over sixty AAUW members that she wanted to ensure this effort continued for at least the next five years. On behalf of the branch, we say a big Thank You!

The nominating committee is already working on next year's election of officers. If you are interested in serving or want to submit a name of someone whom you think is officer material, please contact Susannah Price (joelaprice@cableone.net), Carolyn Lunstrum (cblunstrum@cableone.net), or Pat Alpine (patriciaalpine@gmail.com). Our branch is vibrant and buzzing with activity. That takes leadership and the commitment of members to keep that buzz happening.

We wish each of you a Happy Thanksgiving, safe travels if that is part of your holiday, and may be all be grateful for the many blessings of friendship and purpose we share as members of AAUW Boise Area Branch.

Public Policy Update by Julie Custer

VOTE !

Membership by Andy Gibson and David Scott

New members in October 2018: **3**

Total number of members: **216**

Are you interested in becoming more familiar with members and connecting names to faces? Well, have we got an offer for you! We need two members each month, December 2018 through May 2019, to assist the branch by handing out name tags at the beginning of each of our monthly meetings. What a great opportunity to say hello to many members at once while providing assistance to the branch. Please let us know of your interest and availability by contacting Andy (jandygibson@gmail.com) or David (ddlscott@aol.com) or sign up using the sheet located by the name tags at the meetings. Thanks. Your help is appreciated.

AAUW Boise Branch members participated at the Women's Leadership Conference at Boise State University at the end of September. Members supported the conference by volunteering for various administrative functions throughout the two-and-one-half day conference. Andy and David also staffed a table at an open forum to provide interested attendees with information about the organization and applications for membership.

By the time you read this newsletter, the Membership Committee will have held an orientation session to provide interested new members with information about the structure of the organization on a national, state, and local level. This meeting was advertised to members who have joined the Boise Branch within the last two years. If you were not invited but are interested in this information, please let Andy (jandygibson@gmail.com) and David (ddlscott@aol.com) know, as there may be future sessions, depending on the need.

A Note of Thanks from Girl Scouts of Silver Sage

The Girl Scouts of Silver Sage provided \$19,830 in camp scholarships to 95 girls this summer. This included 14 extremely needy Girl Scouts who were able to attend "Real Life Wonder Women," thanks to AAUW Boise and the Gladys Langroise Foundation. "Real Life Wonder Women" was a six-day camp that taught girls about real-life wonder women who were trailblazers in their fields. Along with the usual campfires, singing, and water activities, the girls learned about female scientists and astronauts. They discovered macroinvertebrates and stargazed at night through telescopes.

All of the girls were from low-income households and most had never had a camp experience or traveled away from home. Not only did funds provide \$365 full-ride scholarships to each girl, a special donor paid the cost for a bus to transport them to and from camp, allowing us to remove the two biggest barriers to attending camp-- transportation and cost.

The girls and our council are extremely grateful to AAUW for the amazing STEM opportunities you have given to girls in our community.

Thank you!

Joanne Taylor
Chief Development Officer
Girl Scouts of Silver Sage

GET OUT THE VOTE – FALL 2018 **by Chris Stokes**

The first annual AAUW/Community effort to register new voters in the high schools and colleges concluded on 10/12/18 – the pre-registration deadline date. More than 60 volunteers worked for over six weeks spending hundreds of hours to contact teachers to schedule school visits, visit classrooms, and set up registration tables in common areas and lunchrooms. The teams of volunteers made presentations in over 100 classrooms in nine high schools to deliver inspiring messages meant to encourage potential young voters to register to vote and have their voices heard. A remarkable effort by so many remarkable people.

I have been reaching out to volunteers to capture the messages they delivered in the classrooms, which will be added to the future training materials. A few examples of those messages are noted here. Marci Lingo wrote that she. . ."compared the participation statistics of over (age) 65 voters and voters between (ages) 18-29 in the 2016 presidential election. I told them we didn't have anything against their grandparents, but that we thought that their voices should be heard too." Sylvia Chariton shared the background for the 26th Amendment and that lowering the voting age to 18 was a direct result of the Vietnam War – a recognition that if 18-year-olds can fight in the war, they should be able to vote. Cathie Scott shared information about a senator's race that was decided by 22 votes – fewer votes than the number of people in the room. These stories and others will be remembered by more than an estimated 2,500 students in classrooms even if they were not old enough to register – this time.

Volunteers completed activity reports and shared teacher evaluations to help us evaluate and improve this program. It has been a Herculean effort and all volunteers are to be congratulated for their effort that resulted in 1,303 registrations.

Our presence at the CWI Nampa campus each week for six weeks provided opportunity for three professors to ask about doing classroom presentations. One CWI Communications and Marketing professor has scheduled a team to provide 45-minute classroom presentations to inspire "engagement in Democracy" for college students. Again, volunteers have stepped up to meet this new challenge and we will be in classrooms on October 31st and November 5th.

Last, but not least, AAUW has received a donation of \$2,500 specifically for the GOTV project from a generous donor who has asked to remain anonymous. The support shown by the AAUW Boise Branch and members made this project possible and the volunteers made it work. It is amazing to witness what can happen when an "idea" born from the Parkland tragedy becomes reality. Thank you, everyone.

STEM News **by Donna Looze**

This past summer, hundreds of girls in Oregon, New York, and California attended camp: Oregon campers learned to shut off a water main break; New York campers learned about plumbing; and California girls designed and built furniture for a women's shelter.

When girls learn construction skills, they gain confidence, say the female founders of these three all-girls summer camps. For some girls, construction camp could even spark interest in a future lucrative and satisfying career.

Over the past decades, women have made inroads into many industries, but they comprise just 9.1 percent of the construction workforce. Most of those women are office staff or in management positions. Few actually ply the skilled trades — as carpenters, electricians, plumbers, etc. Tradeswomen make up less than 4 percent of the industry, a statistic that hasn't changed since the 1970s, according to the Institute for Women's Policy Research.

"These are great jobs. They pay well," says Katie Hughes, executive director of Portland, Oregon-based nonprofit Girls Build, and a carpenter herself. Hughes has thrived in a construction career and wants girls to know that they can too.

Growing up in Trinidad and Tobago, Judaline Cassidy, the founder of the Tools & Tiaras girls construction camp in New York, wanted to be a lawyer. But when Cassidy's great-grandmother (who raised her) died, Cassidy could not afford university. Trade school was free in her country, and Cassidy chose to study plumbing because in "electrical, you get shocked; plumbing, you get wet," she says. "But then I actually fell in love with it." In 1989, Cassidy moved to New York City, where she initially worked as a nanny and housekeeper. She tried to join the local plumbers' union in 1994 but was told to go home and wash the dishes. It wasn't until a male colleague advocated for her a year and a half later that Cassidy was admitted. Today, Cassidy is an officer in her union. Cassidy's inaugural summer camp this July taught girls plumbing, carpentry, auto mechanics, and more. The girls learned from professional tradeswomen, and each lesson included a history of that particular trade, with images that showed tradeswomen working. Cassidy says it's important that the girls see depictions of people who look like them working in the field. (Taken from Houzz Magazine)

Feminine Hygiene Product Needs by Donna Looze

I delivered our first batch of feminine hygiene products to the West Ada School Nurses Office. I wanted to pass along to you the information that the girls who need these supplies are either homeless and on their own or their families are homeless. They attend a school specifically set up for children in these circumstances. Most of their parents get food stamps, but food stamps cannot be used to buy these products for the girls.

Therefore, they rely on the school for these supplies. Of course, these products are not in the school budget either! Consequently, the nurses attempt to write grants and seek these needs from as many sources as are willing to donate them. There are few sources, and the nurses and girls are soooooo grateful to us for what we are doing! Just so you all know

NOTE: Please remember to pick up a package of supplies for our Feminine Hygiene Drive for high/junior high school girls in low income families. Buy them when you buy your Food Drive items and bring them together. We can sort them! Our Committee Members will be delivering them to the School Nurses Association in Nampa for distribution.

A Holiday Book for a Sunday Afternoon by Marci Lingo

A Dickens' devotee, Idaho author Samantha Silva wrote *Mr. Dickens and His Carol*, her debut novel. Anthony Doerr calls it "a charming, comic, and ultimately poignant story about the creation of the most famous Christmas tale ever written."

The Sunday afternoon book group will discuss the novel on Sunday, November 18th at 2:00 p.m. at the Cabin (basement meeting room). Join us to get into the holiday spirit!

Thursday Evening Book Group by Linda Simmons

The Thursday Evening Book Group will be meeting on Thursday, November 8th, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., in the Catalpa Room of the Collister Library, 4724 W. State Street, Boise. Our discussion book is [Mr. Dickens and His Carol](#).

We have room for more readers in the Thursday Evening Book Group if you'd like to join us!

Bridge Group by Dena Duncan

This month, we will meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month, November 28th, at the home of Kay Hamilton, 1349 W. Garfield in Boise. If you plan to play, please let her know by calling her at 208-345-3658, or e-mailing her at ekjudge@aol.com.

Daytimers Group by Susan Ransom

The October Daytimers outing took several of our members to the Boise Municipal Park to enjoy the beautiful sunshine and colors. The excursion was hosted by Kay Reed who organized a guided tour by Ryan Rogers, an arborist for Boise Parks and Recreation. Mr. Rogers' experience and expertise enhanced the group's enjoyment as they explored the variety of trees and their contribution to the brilliant seasonal foliage.

A side note: I did not include a November event because we are participating in the AAUW Special Family event to be held on November 19th. It's the Boise State University women's basketball game against 5th-ranked Louisville. I hope you can join us and help support women's athletics.

Movie Group by Gerrie Oehlschlager

The next meeting for the Movie Group will be on Sunday, November 11th. There are several interesting movies scheduled to come in November. Unfortunately, we cannot know both the date and time in advance. Look forward to emails for a specific title and time.

Our group saw [Colette](#) on October 14th and liked it. We recommend seeing it.

Join us for movie, discussion, and Happy Hour on November 11th.

Newcomers Group by Stacy Urban

The Newcomers Group meets monthly, the first Thursday of each month, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., in members' homes. This is an opportunity for folks new to AAUW and/or new to Boise to

meet other newcomers and established members in a small, informal setting. We do a potluck of appetizers, salads, desserts, and wine. We have a different speaker from AAUW Boise Branch Board attend each month and fill us in on aspects of AAUW. The speakers present information on the various interest groups, special projects, committees, and political advocacy that make the Boise Branch an active, involved, vibrant group. In addition, we have ample social time to get to know each other better. Please join us! Our next meeting is November 1st at Andy Gibson's home, 633 N. Quarry View Way in Boise. Contact Stacy Urban (stacycurban@gmail.com) or Nadine Barth (nadinesbarth@gmail.com) for more information.

Welcome, New Members!

Welcome to the following members who've recently joined our branch:

Kris Doucette

Sue Rickey

Donya Webb

SAVE THESE DATES

November 1

Newcomers Gathering

5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

November 6

VOTE!

8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

November 7

Branch General Meeting

5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

November 8

Thursday Evening Book Group

6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

November 11

Movie Group

Time TBD

November 15

Happy Hour

4 p.m.

November 18

Sunday Book Group

2 p.m.

November 19

AAUW Special Family Event

7 p.m.

November 28

Bridge Group

12:30 p.m.

November Birthdays!

11/11	Ilana Rubel
11/12	Marci Glass
11/15	Pam Ahrens
11/17	Erin Stutzman
11/19	Deanna Combs
11/20	Marilyn Watkins
11/21	Linda Ladendorff
11/22	Angela Hemingway
11/22	Norma Lloyd



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