

## MAKE PLANS FOR AAUW STATE CONVENTION April 26-27, 2013, Ignacio, CO

The Durango Branch of AAUW is planning an interesting and entertaining AAUW Colorado State Convention which will be held **Friday and Saturday, April 26-27, 2013 in Ignacio, Colorado, at the Sky Ute Casino and Resort.** The Resort (and the town of Ignacio) are located on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. The theme of the convention will be “**From Pioneer Women to Women Pioneers.**” The Durango Branch is excited to introduce State AAUW members to the pioneering history of Native Americans and women of Southwest Colorado. The program will include a special Victorian style show and a private tour of the beautiful new Sky Ute Cultural Center. Plan to come early and stay late and enjoy the beauties and many activities available in the Four Corners including the Durango Silverton Narrow Gauge Railway (spring trains go only as far as Cascade Canyon), Mesa Verde National Park, the Anasazi Heritage Center and Historic Downtown Durango. Bring your cowboy boots and hats!

We are pleased to welcome **AAUW National President Carolyn Garfien** to headline the convention. She will bring updates from National in the form of a Town Hall and during social events. State Senator, Ellen Roberts will be a highlighted speaker on Saturday morning, and Yvonne Bilinski, Director of the Native American Center at Fort Lewis College, will address the group on issues relating to Native American education. The Durango Historical Society group, *Mrs. Camp's Town Ladies and Gents*, will present an educational Victorian Fashion Show Saturday noon. The evening program will be a historical presentation entitled “Women of the San Juans” featuring the stories of notable pioneer women of Southwest Colorado.



*Carolyn Garfien*

It is important that we have a strong and large attendance at state convention. In addition to enjoying a stellar program, we have state by-laws to discuss and vote on during the state business meeting.

We would like to promise “No snow!” but we all know Colorado in April. Branches can arrange to carpool and even go down a day or two early to take advantage of the many varied historical and cultural attractions around Ignacio and Durango. Or, bring a spouse, significant other or friends who are interested in AAUW and make it an extended stay.

AAUW Colorado wants to show President Garfien we have hearty and dedicated members and also celebrate the dedication and commitment of the Durango Branch to making this the best ever state convention.

The final program will be presented at Public Policy Day, February 11, 2013 and registration will be on the website about the same time.

**SO, SAVE THE DATE AND MEET IN IGNACIO, APRIL 26 – 27, 2013.**



**FOOTBALL** (of the political variety) is coming up at Public Policy Day--be sure to read all about it and sign up! All your rowdy friends will be there. Don't miss pages 2-3-4 of this issue.





## ARE YOU READY FOR SOME *POLITICAL FOOTBALL?*

**2013 AAUW Colorado Public Policy Day**

**February 9, Marriott Denver South, Lone Tree**

**Get in the spirit! Feel free to wear a football jersey or other sports apparel.**

We know that football season doesn't end on Super Bowl Sunday – political football season, that is. Issues affecting women and their families often become politicized. Health care, violence against women . . . and the list goes on and on!



**Dr. Jandel Allen-Davis, vice president of government and external relations for Kaiser Permanente Colorado,** will talk about the political football of health care, exemplified recently by heated debate over the Affordable Care Act. Board certified in obstetrics and gynecology, Dr. Allen-Davis has garnered many accolades – including but not limited to the 2012 *Denver Business Journal's* award for outstanding woman in the health care business and the 2006 Shades of Genius Award for community service and mentoring minority students. She also works to ensure that women in all industries have access to mentoring and professional development programs. And . . . she is a fiber artist who creates original handpainted quilts!

### **Rita Smith, executive director of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence,**

is troubled by the political games that are blocking reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). She hopes to have some good news to report in February and will give us an overview of the controversy surrounding this legislation's renewal. Rita's work in domestic violence began in the 1980s, when she was crisis line advocate at a battered women's shelter . Highly accomplished, Rita has co-authored a legal manual for Colorado lawyers representing DV victims and an article on child custody and DV for the American Bar Association's *The Judges' Journal*.



**Plus a mystery speaker (s) and the AAUW Colorado Volunteer Lobby Corps . . . REGISTER SOON TO HEAR THIS EXCITING LINE-UP OF SPEAKERS!**



# AAUW Colorado Public Policy Day

**Saturday, February 9, 2013 @ Denver Marriott South**

10345 Park Meadows Drive · Lone Tree CO 80124

(just west of the Lincoln Ave. exit of I-25)

*Included in your registration fee: a fabulous speaker slate; the “Coffee, Tea, and Equity” station (available all day long); and a yummy lunch of Cobb salad with turkey, bacon, egg, cheddar cheese, tomato, wonton strips, and red & green romaine! We have a later start time than traditionally so that you can take your morning walk and get breakfast on your own at home, at the hotel restaurant, or at a nearby restaurant.*

- 8:00-8:30 Art exhibit intake
- 8:30-9:15 Registration, networking, art exhibit viewing & coffee/tea
- 9:15-9:30 Welcome & opening remarks, AAUW Colorado President Diane Norten
- 9:30-10:15 Jandel Allen-Davis, MD, of Kaiser Permanente Colorado
- 10:15-10:30 Networking, break & art exhibit viewing
- 10:30-11:15 Mystery speaker(s)
- 11:15-12:00 Rita Smith of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch, announcements, networking & art exhibit viewing
- 1:00-2:00 AAUW Colorado Volunteer Lobby Corps 2013 state bill overview & call to action

## AAUW COLORADO PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Amy Blackwell & Barbara McDaniel – Co-Directors

Amy Blackwell & Elaine Gardner – Volunteer Lobby Corps

Georgina Burns, Diane Fuchs, Mary Hassler, Sherry Hitztaler, Betsy Loague, Sally Mathewson,  
Diane Norten, Connie Paeglow, Joan Peterson, Lindy Reed, Mary Wylie

Amy Blackwell: [ae\\_blackwell@yahoo.com](mailto:ae_blackwell@yahoo.com), 303-710-2031

Barb McDaniel: [Barbara@NextDecade.net](mailto:Barbara@NextDecade.net), 303-902-9846

# AAUW Colorado Public Policy Day

February 9, 2013

## Marriott Denver South

10345 Park Meadows Drive, Lone Tree CO 80124

### Featured Speakers

VP of Government & External Relations for Kaiser Permanente Colorado Jandel Allen-Davis, MD  
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence Executive Director Rita Smith  
AAUW Colorado Volunteer Lobby Corps + Mystery Speaker(s)

## Please register by Friday, Feb. 1, 2013!

Cost: \$35 (includes registration and lunch – no breakfast provided)

**College students are eligible for Public Policy Day registration scholarships.**

**Overnight Reservations:** Reservations must be arranged *individually* with the Marriott Denver South **no later than Friday, Jan. 25, 2013** to receive the \$89.00 (plus tax) single or double occupancy rate. The toll-free number for the Marriott Denver South reservation desk is 800-686-2767. Ask for the American Association of University Women Group Rate. You may also make your reservations online at the following link (AAUW room-block code already included).

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/denms?groupCode=auwauwa&app=resvlink&fromDate=&toDate=>

### Lunch Menu

Please apprise Barb McDaniel of any changes necessary to your meal of Cobb salad with turkey, bacon, egg, cheddar cheese, tomato, wonton strips, and red & green romaine on the form below, at [Barbara@NextDecade.net](mailto:Barbara@NextDecade.net), or 303-902-9846.

*If paying by check (payable to AAUW Colorado), send your completed registration form and check by Friday, Feb. 1, 2013 to:*

Barb McDaniel, 4475 W. Aberdeen Pl., Littleton CO 80123

**You can also register and pay by PayPal at <http://aauw-co.aauw.net/advocacy/>.**

Questions about registration? Requesting a college scholarship?

Contact Barb at 303-902-9846 or [Barbara@NextDecade.net](mailto:Barbara@NextDecade.net).

**ABSOLUTELY NO REFUNDS AFTER FEB. 1, 2013!**



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### 2013 AAUW Colorado Public Policy Day Registration

Name (& AAUW office, if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, City, ZIP)

\_\_\_\_\_

Email address

Phone

\_\_\_\_\_

AAUW branch(es)

\_\_\_\_\_

Check all that apply.

Guest?  National Member?  1st Time Attendee?  Currently attending college?

Donating a Public Policy Day registration for our college student fund?  **(Add another \$35 to your check.)**

Meal alterations?

\_\_\_\_\_



# Calling All Artists!

**AAUW Colorado Art Exhibit  
February 9, 2013**

Members of AAUW Colorado are invited to participate in an art exhibit at our 2013 Public Policy Day, February 9, Marriott Denver South. All mediums are welcome including two dimensional (painting, drawing, etc.), three dimensional (sculpture, jewelry, etc.) and photography. Two-dimensional and

photography works may be framed or unframed. Maximum size for all works (including frame) is 16" x 20". Artists are required to provide their own floor or table easel. Artists may price their work for sale and are fully responsible for the sale.

The exhibit theme is "AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy." Your work may focus on any aspect of the AAUW Public Policy Program. The 2011-2013 AAUW Public Policy Program focuses on four areas: Civil Rights, Economic Security, Education, and Title IX. For more information, please see the entire program at the following link.

[http://aauw.org/act/issue\\_advocacy/principles\\_priorities.cfm](http://aauw.org/act/issue_advocacy/principles_priorities.cfm)

Entries will be accepted on a first come basis until all entry spaces have been filled. Take-in will be the morning of February 9, 8:00-8:30 a.m. *A drawing will be held, and one artist will receive a reimbursement check for the 2013 Public Policy Day registration fee.* For additional information, please contact Joan Peterson at [j1421peterson@netscape.com](mailto:j1421peterson@netscape.com). Please type in subject line: AAUW Art Show.

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**Entry Form**

Artist's Name \_\_\_\_\_

AAUW Branch (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_

Sale Price (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ *Artists are responsible for any sale.*

**Artists are required to bring a floor or table easel.**

**Liability**

By submission of any work, the artist agrees to abide by the exhibition rules and waives any and all claims for loss or damage against AAUW Colorado. Insurance is the responsibility of the artist. Photos for publicity and educational purposes may be used for any AAUW Colorado information.

**Artist Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Email entry to [j1421peterson@netscape.com](mailto:j1421peterson@netscape.com) with Subject Title: AAUW Art Contest or Mail entry to: AAUW Art Contest, 244 Moline, Aurora, CO, c/o Joan Peterson.

(Art Exhibit Committee: Diane Fuchs, Renee Forsythe and Joan Peterson)

# from the president. . .

The 2012-2013 year got off to an exciting start with the **State Leadership Conference** in August. Highlights of the conference included opportunities to share membership, fund raising and program ideas in addition to learning about other women's organizations with missions similar to AAUW. Forming Coalitions with other women provides strength in accomplishing more to benefit women and girls. Working together continues to be a personal and state goal.

Branches worked on Public Policy activities this fall. Led by Amy Blackwell, the "Its My Vote" campaign, branches held forums, provided information on legislative issues and promoted voter registration. A special thank you to Amy for her leadership during this campaign. She did an outstanding job of coordinating events and keeping all of us informed via media.



The next deadline to apply for the **Eugenia McClure Grant is January 1, 2013**. The \$500 award can be used by branches to assist with promoting activities/events that benefit women and girls. Completed applications should be sent to the state president and the program vice-presidents. The application can be found in this *Bulletin* on page 9 and on the website "Members Only" section.

Speaking of the website, I hope that you have taken the time to review the information that it provides. Add some pictures (send to Deb Parcheta) and share your thoughts on the blog. The <http://aauw-co.aauw.net> site is very useful and has lots of our forms, bylaws, etc. in the Members Only section. If you have suggestions or items that need to be added to the site, please let me know.

Branches and individuals have an opportunity to make nominations for the **Young Leader Award**. There may be an outstanding member in your branch that deserves this recognition. The application form is on the website and included in this *Bulletin* on page 8.

Next April, we will be electing a Program vice-president, a Public Policy co-chair, a Treasurer, and a President Elect. The nominating committee has been working to encourage candidates to become involved at the state level. If the nominating committee contacts you, please consider expanding your leadership skills and say "yes" to the opportunity. The nominating committee will present a slate of candidates at Public Policy Day and elections will be held at the business meeting at State Convention in April. Serving at the state level is rewarding as it gives you an opportunity to make new friends and gain a wealth of knowledge about the organization at both the state and national level.

The branch newsletters that I have been receiving tell of a wealth of programs and community activities that support women's concerns, STEM programs and public policy issues. Branches are encouraged to share their successes on the website blog. Let's support and even attend each others events. It is evident that the Call to Action challenge has been taken back to branches. Let's continue to make a difference.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season. There are lots of things to do before the end of the year.

## Put some of these things on your To Do list:

- Check out the website and the blog
- Register for Public Policy Day
- Plan to attend the state convention
- Plan to attend the national convention
- Vote on the national site for amendments, proposals and candidates
- Make your final contributions to AAUW funds by December 31
- Mark off some blocks of time on your calendar that are just for you-no interruptions

## Things to Ponder :

According to the *Motley Fool* the following products, concepts, and ideas won't exist by the year 2025.

- Digital Cameras
- 3-D televisions
- Energy drinks
- Credit cards
- the United States Post Office
- the European Union
- the United States as a super power

In no state can a minimum wage worker afford a two-bedroom unit at fair market rent, working a standard 40-hour week. Spending the standard 30% of income on housing, workers in most U.S. States have to clock in more than 70 hours per week.

## More things to think about

- In the world today, there are more than 30 million refugees and internally displaced persons. Women and children account for 80% of them.
- Up to 70% of women experience violence in their lifetime.
- In South Africa, it is estimated that a woman is raped every 83 seconds, and only one in twenty of these cases are ever reported to the police.
- Women perform some two-thirds of the world's work and produce half of all the food, but they earn only 10 percent of the world's income and own 1 percent of the property.
- Women comprise 43 percent of the agricultural workforce in developing countries, yet they have less access to productive resources and opportunities. Rural women are responsible for water collection in almost two-thirds of households in developing countries. Reduced or variable rainfall can increase the time required to collect water and cut down agricultural production.

UNHCR info

Public Television and the Women and Girls Lead Initiative are sponsoring a program called **MAKERS: Women Who Make American** in January of 2013. Catch it on TV.

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## NCCWSL

The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders offers an opportunity to develop leadership skills, empowers them to effect change on their campuses and in their communities, and prepares them for life after school. It is a two-and-a-half day conference attended by over 600 women.

Branches and individuals can support this event by providing scholarships or contributing to the program through the national website. Possibilities for our state and branches include establishing a scholarship for an attendee. Such a plan will be pursued in the near future.



## Coalition Spotlight

AAUW Colorado works with many Colorado coalitions on a wide range of issues affecting equity for women and girls. For example, we are a member of the Colorado Coalition for Girls, an advocacy group working to ensure that every girl in Colorado has the opportunity to reach her full potential. The coalition's annual Colorado Conference on Girls is a well-attended event featuring powerful speakers and workshops on a vast array of issues. Last year, AAUW Colorado exhibited materials on sexual harassment in grades 7-12, recommendations for encouraging girls to pursue STEM studies, and other AAUW research related to girls. We'll do the same this year – plus facilitate an interactive workshop on sexual harassment in school. For more information about the Colorado Coalition for Girls and its annual conference, please visit [cocoalitionforgirls.org](http://cocoalitionforgirls.org).

## 9to5 National Association of Working Women

We have had the honor of working with some outstanding Women's organizations during this fall for getting out the vote and other issues. We have much in common as we work towards breaking down barriers for women and girls. Representatives from four Women's organizations presented information at the State Leadership Conference in August. Information about the organizations will be shared in issues of the *Bulletin*, the current featured group is **9to5 National Association of Working Women**.



## Nine to Five – Winning Justice for Working Women

The mission of 9to5 is to build a movement to achieve economic justice, by engaging directly affected women to improve working conditions. 9to5 is one of the largest national membership-based organizations of working women in the U.S., creating a powerful force for change. Founded in 1973, 9to5 empowers women to organize and lead campaigns on family-friendly workplace policies, equal opportunity and economic security issues. A leading expert on economic justice for low-wage earning women, 9to5 has helped thousands of individuals win improved workplace and public policies.

We support 9to5 in their work towards issues related to low-wage earning women and look forward to working with them.

# JUDITH C. SANDERSON YOUNG LEADER AWARD

For the 19th year, Colorado AAUW is offering the Young Leader Award to recognize one of its young members for outstanding leadership in AAUW, professional development and community service.

Guidelines for this award suggest that the nominee be 40 years of age or younger, be a member of AAUW for at least 3 years, be a resident of Colorado and a member in good standing of a Colorado branch, have made contributions to AAUW at branch, state and/or national level, have a distinguished record of education, career and professional development.

Please help us to identify young, talented and progressive AAUW members whose activities qualify them for this award. The nomination form is attached and is available on the website, members section. Nominations can be made by branches or individuals. Applications are due no later than March 15, 2013. Completed forms should be submitted to Diane Norten and Stormy McDonald. The recipient of the Young Leader Award will be announced at the Colorado State Convention.

## Judith C. Sanderson Young Leader Award

### Nomination Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Branch \_\_\_\_\_ Years a Member \_\_\_\_\_ Life Member \_\_\_\_\_

#### 1. AAUW Activities

- a. Branch level
- b. State level
- c. Other (i.e. Regional, Association, Convention Attendance, etc.)

#### 2. Professional/Education

- a. Professional/Career Responsibilities
- b. Education (Location and Degree work, Continuing Education)
- c. Professional Organization Activities (other than AAUW)

#### 3. Community Activities

#### 4. References

Include a reference letter. References may be contacted for further information.

Name of reference:  
Address  
Relationship  
Phone  
Email/Fax

Submit completed application no later than March 15 to the state president and membership vice president.



**COLORADO AAUW**

**EUGENIA MCCLURE STATE GRANT**

**Through the generosity of Eugenia McClure, a long time member of the Grand Junction Branch, we are pleased to honor this grant in her memory.**

The **purpose of the grant** is to support Colorado branches for projects that will enhance the mission of AAUW.

**Grant Requirements and Deadline:** Available twice yearly, August 1 and January 1. Completed applications must be submitted to the State President and the Program Vice-Presidents by the deadline. The amount of the grant will not exceed \$500.

Name of Branch/Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Program Title \_\_\_\_\_

Goal of the Program: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please include a one (minimum) or two (maximum) page description of the program including the following:

- ◆ plans for implementation
- ◆ how the grant money will be used
- ◆ the number of people affected by the grant
- ◆ the expected outcomes
- ◆ the expected benefit to AAUW and the community
- ◆ any plans for collaborating with other community organizations
- ◆ steps for evaluating the project
- ◆ a tentative time line for the project

Please attach a proposed budget for the plan.

What are your plans for long term follow-up to the program?

Contact Person: Name

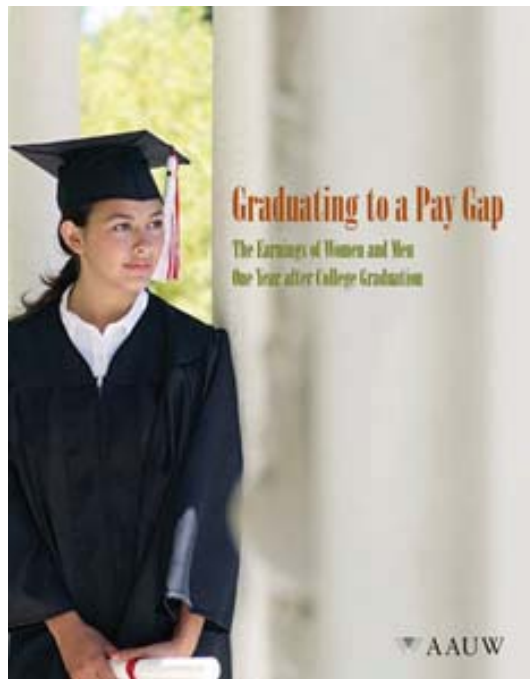
Address:

E-Mail or Phone

# Advocacy & Action Notes from Amy Blackwell

## Your AAUW Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Donations at Work

**AAUW's Latest Research Report Shows Gender Pay Gap  
Exists One Year after College Graduation  
Coupled with Burden of Student Debt**



From AAUW's latest research report, *Graduating to a Pay Gap*, released on Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>: "[I]n 2009—the most recent year for which data are available—women one year out of college who were working full time earned, on average, just 82 percent of what their male peers earned." Student debt, furthermore, negatively impacts college women graduates' financial health. With the cost of higher education soaring, both men and women are accumulating high levels of student loans. But because women are earning less, repayment is even more burdensome for them. "In 2009, among full-time workers repaying their loans one year after college graduation, nearly half of women (47 percent) were paying more than 8 percent of their earnings toward student loan debt compared with 39 percent of men." Download the report at the following link to learn more. <http://aauw.org/GraduatetoaPayGap/>

This report received immediate nationwide coverage by all the major media outlets as soon as AAUW released it! **Let this report light a fire under you. Equal Pay Day 2013 is on Tuesday, April 9. Start planning your events NOW!** This is a great opportunity to work with AAUW college/university partners in your community – and to offer programming of value on nearby campuses that are not current AAUW c/u partners. Need ideas? Contact AAUW Colorado Public Policy Co-Director Amy Blackwell at [ae\\_blackwell@yahoo.com](mailto:ae_blackwell@yahoo.com) or cell 303-710-2031.

## AAUW Colorado Now Using AAUW Action Network to Send Action Alerts

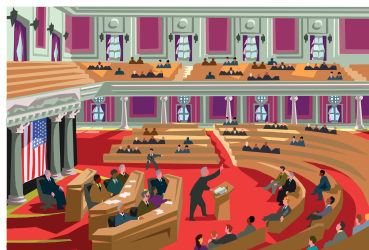
*Significant Improvement in Impact*



Instead of using the aauw-Colorado Yahoo group, we now send out alerts through AAUW Action Network. Colorado subscribers (AAUW members and nonmembers alike) receive our action alerts, meaning that *we've amplified our voice from about 130 recipients to nearly 2,000 – and growing!* If you haven't already, please sign up for AAUW Action Network at <http://capwiz.com/aauw/mlm/signup/>.

## Want to Expand AAUW Colorado's Advocacy Impact Even More?

**AAUW Colorado Volunteer Lobby Corps Wants You!**



Present AAUW Colorado's position on Colorado issues to state legislators in-district or at the capitol. Current lobby corps members will provide talking points and strategies. It's easier than it might sound and a rewarding volunteer experience! Want more info or rarin' to go? Contact Amy Blackwell at [ae\\_blackwell@yahoo.com](mailto:ae_blackwell@yahoo.com) or cell 303-710-2031.

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOLUTION

Attendees at the June, 2012 Rocky Mountain Regional Conference voted to support a resolution presented by the Arizona Branch. The resolution proceeded to states for approval by their boards. Colorado voted to support the following resolution and it will be forwarded to National.

WHEREAS, for over one hundred and thirty years, AAUW has worked to secure educational, social, and economic equality for women and girls in American society and worldwide,

AND WHEREAS, AAUW recognizes that a growing problem in the United States and worldwide is the trafficking of women, girls, and boys for the purpose of sexual exploitation,

AND WHEREAS, human trafficking is a particularly revolting form of exploitation that exists in many communities in our society,

BE IT RESOLVED, that members of the AAUW – Colorado, along with Arizona, a part of the Rocky Mountain Region of AAUW will work to publicize this problem in our communities and states, and will work with public officials and other like-minded organizations to reduce and ultimately eliminate the trafficking of persons wherever it occurs.

## WOMEN'S NATIONAL HISTORY MONTH

March is the designated month to celebrate the contributions of women to this country's growth. History helps us learn who we are, but when we don't know our own history our power and dreams are immediately diminished. Recognizing the achievements of women in all facets of life—science, community, government, literature, art, sports, medicine—has a huge impact on the development of self-respect and new opportunities for girls and young women.

The theme for March 2013 is “**Women Inspiring Innovation through Imagination: Celebrating Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.**” Every year, the NWHP coordinates observances of National Women's History Month throughout the country. The NWHP originated this widely recognized celebration and sets the annual theme, produces educational materials, and chooses particular women to honor nationally for their work.

The impact of women's history might seem abstract to some, and less pressing than the immediate struggles of working women today. But to ignore the vital role that women's dreams and accomplishments play in our own lives would be a great mistake. We draw strength and inspiration from those who came before us – and those remarkable women working among us today. They are part of our story, and a truly balanced and inclusive history recognizes how important women have always been in American society--*From the NWHP website.*

It is not too early to plan for March programs and activities to support the role women have played in history.

## Online Mentors Encourage Young Women Into STEM Fields

Scanning the newspaper over lunch recently, a non-political headline caught my eye: *Online Mentors to Guide Women into Science*. Forgive me if you are already familiar with the program, but I feel it is a significant one and worthy of our attention. The half page article described how hundreds of prominent women, currently working in STEM fields, have offered to become online mentors for women undergraduates in order to promote recruitment and retention in these fields. The concept of this MOOC (massive open online course), is to offer a six-week program, which began on October 1, to encourage young women to enter the fields of science, technology, engineering and math. There will be no formal curriculum or awarded grades; instead the program aims to connect students with women who are already working in STEM fields in industry and academia and to provide a forum for students to ask probing questions. Some of the mentors are at the pinnacle of their fields while others are still in mid-level positions, but all have faced balancing family life with challenging careers. Each week a lead mentor will be videotaped answering questions from the student participants. According to the New York Times article, in a test forum held in May, questions ranged from, “How sexist is programming?” to “Do you have time for your family?” to “Can I work for you?”

I checked out the WitsOn website (Women in Technology Sharing Online) and found that this program has much in common with the goals of AAUW: “By creating an online community of students and mentors, the sponsors of WitsOn hope that students—particularly though not exclusively young women—will better be able to envision themselves in STEM careers, thereby creating a larger pool of talented people who are ready to handle the challenges that humanity faces in the coming decades.” Mentors have been drawn from more than thirty high profile universities and colleges, including MIT, CalTech, Princeton, Stanford, and the originator of the project, Harvey Mudd College. For one, I'm keeping my fingers firmly crossed that this program proves to be an unqualified success and that the current disheartening statistic that women garner only 20% of the degrees earned in computer science and engineering is revised markedly upwards in the next few years. Meanwhile, here in Colorado, we can continue to encourage younger students to consider future careers in STEM fields by volunteering at the Expanding Your Horizons conference hosted by the Boulder branch of AAUW in February--Diana McMeeking, Littleton-South Metro.

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS

## Recruiting! Recruiting! Recruiting!

Growing membership has been a hot topic; a key part in educating women and girls and expanding AAUW in Colorado. We encourage every member to save Saturday, February 9, for Public Policy Day and to invite at least one friend to experience AAUW Colorado at its greatest. If they are really impressed with AAUW and sign up that day, they may get a bargain rate for membership (Shape the Future Program, and ½ year rate). In addition, we can earn additional national memberships this way.

We remind membership chairs to work with your treasurer on any discrepancies in memberships prior to November 30 if possible. If you know someone has renewed, and it is not showing so on national's site, please resolve. On November 30 lapsed members' information is purged from national's database. To correct a renewed member after that date all data must be re-entered or submitted. An email was sent on November 4 by Stormy showing lapsed members' names according to national's information as of that date.

In addition, please remember to enjoy the many online webinars available for training. Join AAUW Membership staff and national volunteer leaders for two upcoming webinars:

**November 27 at 4 p.m. EST — How to Turn Your Branch Programs into Recruitment Events**

**December 12 at 6 p.m. EST — AAUW Orientation for New and Current Members**

RSVP to [memberinfo@aauw.org](mailto:memberinfo@aauw.org) by 5 p.m. the Friday before the session. Please write the session name in the subject line.

We continue to work with branches to identify successful recruiting methods and efforts. We applaud Gunnison who showed no lapsed memberships this year, Littleton who uses online payments and had all their data match with National's, Denver and Loveland with low number of lapses as of 11/4/12. We want to hear and share how others can mimic their success and would love to hear your success stories too. Throughout the next few newsletters we will share some specific success stories of retaining and recruiting members. Let us hear from you!

Sincerely,

Colorado State Membership Co-Chairs:

Danielle Norris - [info@daniellenorris.com](mailto:info@daniellenorris.com)

Stormy McDonald - [stormy.mcdonald@yahoo.com](mailto:stormy.mcdonald@yahoo.com)

## Legal Advocacy Fund Update

### AAUW Board Continues Support to Ongoing Cases

On the recommendation of the LAF Committee, the AAUW Board of Directors voted to contribute funds to seven ongoing LAF cases:

- Cioca v. Rumsfeld, Klay v. Panetta, and Shaw v. Panetta — \$7,250
- Jaureguito v. Feather River Community College — \$4,000
- Sun v. University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth — \$8,000
- Thein v. Feather River Community College — \$4,000
- Wartluft v. Feather River Community College — \$4,000

### AAUW Board Member Speaks at Event for Third Military Sexual Assault Lawsuit

On September 28, the law firm that represents the plaintiffs in the military sexual assault cases Cioca v. Rumsfeld and Klay v. Panetta filed Shaw v. Panetta on behalf of 19 service members who were sexually assaulted or raped by other service members while serving their country. The suit was filed against the Air Force and the Army in the U.S. District Court for Northern California. The plaintiffs and their lawyers held a press conference that day. AAUW board member Kathleen Cha spoke on behalf of AAUW, as the Legal Advocacy Fund is providing financial support to all three cases. Two plaintiffs spoke at the event, and their travel was paid for by LAF funds.

### California Lawsuit against Wal-Mart Moves Forward

In late September, a federal court gave the plaintiffs in the California-based lawsuit Dukes v. Wal-Mart the OK to proceed with their gender discrimination class-action suit against the retailer and denied Wal-Mart's motion to dismiss the case. The Legal Advocacy Fund has provided case support to the plaintiffs since January 2011, when the case represented 1.6 million Wal-Mart workers across the nation. The lawsuit now represents more than 90,000 workers in California and nearby regions.

Additional information on LAF and its work can be found on the AAUW Website.

Branches and individuals should also be aware that contributions to LAF and all AAUW Funds are calculated on a calendar year; therefore contributions must be postmarked by December 31 to count for the current year.

Marilyn Zimmerman

Colorado AAUW Funds Director




## **Colorado Springs**


 The Colorado Springs branch is enjoying a great year. Our membership is expanding, thanks to a great Membership VP and National's 'Shape the Future' membership campaign. By opening our branch programs to non-members, we're able to offer National's reduced dues if a prospect joins at the event. Our program co-VPs do an amazing job finding new and interesting venues and speakers for our branch programs. We hold approximately 8 programs a year at different venues throughout the Pikes Peak area, and pair the venues with interesting speakers on a variety of topics. We recently moved our branch website to site resources and are very pleased with the support we receive. If you have any questions or concerns about the process, support, etc., please contact Pauleta Terven, our president-elect and unwitting web guru, and she'll be happy to share her experience.

Our fundraising is expanding this year. We currently participate in the King Soopers grocery card program and plan to add the Safeway grocery card this year. Also, our annual Authors' Day event is growing into quite a production. We invite four Colorado authors to speak to our group, a local book store sells the authors' books at the event and contributes a portion of the sales, and we have a silent auction. All proceeds from Authors' Day go toward our Local Scholarship Program, which grants scholarships to non-traditional women attending Pikes Peak Community College or the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs--Pam Doane, President


## **Gunnison**

 The Gunnison Branch successfully sponsored our 38th Art in the Park this summer; this community event celebrates the creativity of artists while raising funds for branch projects. The proceeds allow our branch to award scholarships to four nontraditional students attending Western State Colorado University, contribute to The AAUW Fund, and help one or two local projects that we feel support the AAUW mission. This year we chose the Partners' Summer Camp lunch program and the BOOK BUS.. This was a new program designed to reach children who may not have a way to come to the library by offering them books in their own neighborhood. We are, also, very proud of Ronda Connaway, a member, who is President of the Gunnison Valley Health Board which oversees not only the Hospital, but also, Assisted Living, Nursing Home and other outreach programs.


## **Foothills**

 The following authors have been selected for the Foothills "Meet the Authors" Luncheon: David Wroblewski, The Story of Edgar Sawtelle; Walter Borneman, The Admirals; and Laird Hunt, The Kind One. The event will be held at the Mount Vernon Country Club on Saturday, March 23, 2013. For more information, call Linda Robertson, at 303-424-4361.

## **Durango**

 Durango Branch had a very well attended Fall Luncheon on Saturday, October 13, at the Palace Restaurant. Well-known Durango theatre artists Charles Ford and Mona Wood-Paterson presented a talk on the use of technology in communications, cooperation and creativity. Having completed endowment of the Janet Watson Scholarship in the spring, the Branch is now actively collecting funds to endow the new Cheryl Jackson Scholarship, named for the Branch's longtime member and AAUW Life Member Cheryl Jackson.

## **Boulder**

 The BOULDER branch held their September Kickoff welcoming new and returning members. State President, Diane Norten, was a featured speaker along with the introduction of scholarship winners. A recently retired economist and analyst for the state of Colorado presented an informative election coverage program in October. The November meeting will be a forum for three Brown/Ricketts/Udick scholars to present their graduate work and plans for using their grant funds. The BRU Grant was established in 1979 and has been funding the work of graduate women at the CU Boulder campus for more than 30 years. December includes a Holiday Brunch and Silent Auction. The 18th annual Expanding Your Horizons conference in February 2013 is a STEM event for middle school girls in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades; approximately 40% of the student attendees have been of Hispanic background in past years. The Boulder EYU hosts at least 300 girls annually and workshops are given by more than 20 local scientists and professionals at the Engineering Center on the Boulder CU campus. In addition, a program for parents informs them how to navigate their daughters' teen years and college matriculation.

## Lakewood Celebrates the Big 4-Oh!



The Lakewood Branch of AAUW celebrated their 40th anniversary with a celebration of chocolate cake and roses at our September meeting. About 35 members gathered for the first branch meeting for our 2012-13 year. Our Branch has several charter members active in our Branch. Present at our celebration were: Joan Young, Montine Knowles, and Nancy Kremer. Other current members who are charter members are: Gisele Denton, Shirley Baldaccini, Helga LaFollette, Carol Mackell, and Sally Kingman. Gisele Denton (dual member with Douglas County), is our second branch member to achieve the 50 year member mark as of 2012. (Our first is Elnore Grow).

Many of our former and present Branch Presidents were present: Anne Burkholder, Amy Blackwell, Deanna Hanna, Margaret Griewel, Sandy Kistler, Faith Gunther, Leslie Smith, Barb O'Neal, Bev Dare, Janet Weisheit, Diane Meyer, Elnore Grow, Mary Wylie, and Sherry Hitztaler. All were presented roses as a token of our appreciation for their service. Many thanks to all who participated and who made this a special celebration. Sadly, since this celebration in September, two of our former presidents/branch leaders have passed away recently: Gale Van Ort and Barbara Thorman.

Some facts about us.....

In 1972, 109 women began our Lakewood Branch, only 3 years after the city of Lakewood was incorporated. As the city grew, so did our Branch and so did many opportunities for leadership - both in AAUW and in the community.

In our Branch, several Branch leaders went on to hold the city and state offices: two presidents held the position of Lakewood Mayor: Linda Shaw and Linda Morton. Several members ran for office for Lakewood City Council, including Barbara Green Martin, who represented Ward 4, from 1997-2005.

Two other Branch Presidents have served in the Colorado Legislature: Deanna Hanna served in the Senate, and Betty Boyd served in both the House and the Senate - exceeding all the terms for both positions allowed by law! And our newest and youngest branch member, Brittany Pettersen, was just elected as State Representative from HD 28, (former House Representative Betty Boyd's District). Betty served as Brittany's mentor!

Currently, Stormy McDonald serves on the Lakewood Branch Board as Public Policy Chair AND State Co-Membership Chair. Another member, Suzanne Goodwin, served the Lakewood Branch as treasurer for 16 years AND several years as AAUW State treasurer. Many of our members hold leadership positions with other community organizations. Leadership in both AAUW and civic and political offices are vitally interconnected!



*Back: Amy Blackwell, Mary Wylie, Diane Meyer, Elnore Grow, Sherry Hitztaler, Janet Weisheit Front: Deanna Hanna, Margaret Greivel, Sandy Kistler, Anne Burkholder, Faith Gunther, Leslie Smith, Barb O'Neal and Bev Dare*

Our Lakewood Branch is making plans to host the 2014 State Convention. We have hosted or co-hosted AAUW State Conventions in 1977, 1986, and 1997 and look forward to hosting another!

## Littleton-South Metro




At their Fall Kick-Off meeting, members of the Littleton-South Metro branch welcomed Jacqueline St. Joan, author of *My Sisters Made of Light*, which deals with Pakistani women and their struggles with honor crimes. St. Joan is an award-winning poet, travel writer, teacher and lawyer. She donates half of the proceeds from her novel to a grassroots Pakistani organization for construction of a safe shelter for women and children escaping abuse.

## NATIONAL CONVENTION

It is time to think about attending the national convention in New Orleans in June. The theme for the convention is "**Leading Across Generations**". The convention offers engaging speakers and panels, skill-building sessions, networking opportunities and much more. Details are available on the national website. Early bird registration begins in December. The early bird registration is \$425. There will be more details in the spring *Bulletin* but it is not too early to encourage a member from your branch to attend.

## Aurora Branch Honors Charter Member Ruth Fountain

 The AURORA branch is honoring **Ruth Fountain**, a charter member of the branch. She has served as a past president and has held numerous offices in the Aurora branch. Ruth has also held committee positions at both the state and national AAUW level. She is being honored by the City of Aurora and will have a structure at the Aurora History Museum named for her. Below is the official citation from the city. Congratulations to Ruth on this well deserved honor.

### RESOLUTION NO. R-2012-58

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, TO APPROVE THE NAMING OF THE TROLLEY TRAILER ENCLOSURE.

WHEREAS, the City Council has approved the purchase and refurbish of a trolley trailer and to have it displayed at the Aurora History Museum; and

WHEREAS, the City is planning on building an enclosure to house the refurbished trolley car at the Aurora History Museum; and

WHEREAS, the City has Resolution No. R93-37 that details the policy and procedural requirements for naming a geographic location after a person; and

WHEREAS, the name of Ruth Fountain has been submitted to the City as the name for consideration the proponents seek to name the enclosure that will house the trolley car; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name of Ruth Fountain is submitted because Ruth Fountain has contributed a definitive way and in an outstanding manner to the betterment of the community of the City as noted by the following contributions by her:

- Aurora City Council – 1971-77 – Mayor Pro Tem
- Colorado Municipal League – Secretary, Vice President, and 1st female President
  - National League of Cities – Director
  - Aurora Planning Commission
  - Human Relations Commission
- Citizens Advisory Budget Commission
  - Golf Course Advisory Commission
- Aurora Emergency Medical Services Commission
  - Governor’s Advisory Board on Emergency Medical Services – Chair
- Private Employee Agency Advisory Board – appointed separately by three different Governors
  - Women’s Forum of Colorado – Charter member
  - Aurora Chamber of Commerce – Board member
- American Association of University Women – Aurora Branch - Charter member and President, Program V.P. and multiple other offices; also served on State and National committees.
  - Aurora Citizens Advisory Utility Budget Committee – Charter member
    - Metropolitan State College Foundation Governor
  - Director Presbyterian/Aurora Hospital and Auxiliary member
  - Community College of Aurora Foundation – Vice President
    - Aurora History Museum Advisory Committee
      - Aurora Symphony – Board of Directors
      - Thomas Foundation – Board of Directors
      - Pickens Technical School Advisory Board
- Arapahoe County Cultural Council (Scientific and Cultural Facilities District) – Chair and member
  - Aurora Historical Society – Founding member and President for more than 10 years
    - Aurora Museum Foundation Board
  - Aurora Historic Preservation Commission Member

WHEREAS, most recently Ruth Fountain has been involved in the restoration of the 1913 Trolley Trailer No. 610, donated to the City of Aurora in 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Aurora Museum Foundation, under the leadership of Ruth and her late husband Bob Eide, financed and coordinated the all-volunteer restoration work; and

WHEREAS, Ruth, along with Kate Tauer and the Aurora Museum Foundation Board, has worked diligently on a fundraising plan to assist in funding an addition to the City’s Aurora History Museum to enclose Trolley Trailer

No. 610 so it can be an integral part of the Museum’s educational program; and WHEREAS, the Trolley Trailer project is only one recent and excellent example of how Ruth gathers leaders and organizations together to support cultural initiatives and institutions; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name of Ruth Fountain for the enclosure of the trolley enclosure has been approved by the Historic Preservation Commission; and

WHEREAS, City Council must approve the naming of the trolley enclosure after Ruth Fountain before the enclosure may be dedicated in her honor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO:

The enclosure for the trolley trailer to be displayed at the Aurora History Museum is to be named in honor of Ruth Fountain for her outstanding service to the City of Aurora, Colorado.

RESOLVED AND PASSED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

\_\_\_\_\_  
STEPHEN D. HOGAN, Mayor  
ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
JANICE NAPPER, City Clerk  
APPROVED AS

