

COLORADO'S AMY BLACKWELL TO GIVE KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT AAUW STATE CONVENTION

Amy Blackwell, AAUW National Board Member at-Large, will be the keynote speaker at the **AAUW Colorado State Convention April 20-21 at the Denver Marriott South**. The convention hosted by the Douglas County Branch has as its theme -**Expanding Our Horizons**. The opening event on Friday evening will be held at the Lone Tree Country Club starting with a social hour followed by dinner and a "Movie Night."



Amy, a member of the Douglas County Branch, will open the convention on Saturday with a keynote speech "**Open your Mouth and Say AAUW: Healing Gender Inequities in Creative Ways**". Completing the morning program is a panel of dynamic and enthusiastic emerging AAUW leaders; Danielle Norris, Malcinia Conley and Maria Mazzaferro who will speak of their experiences as AAUW "Agents of Change".

The noon luncheon will culminate with President, Brenda Wolfe's Award and Recognition Ceremony highlighting branches and members. Amy will lead an afternoon Town Hall Meeting followed by the state business meeting and Public Policy Report.

Saturday evening's social hour and banquet will be held at the hotel. **Bambi Shen**, author of **Uncrushable Rose**, is the featured speaker. Several members met Bambi at National Convention and are excited to have her share her book and story of growing up a diplomat's daughter, being held in a WWII Japanese Internment Camp, and escaping to a life of freedom and success. You can find out more about Bambi at www.uncrushablerose.com



Register today so you don't miss a suburban weekend with AAUW friends and colleagues while advancing our Mission.

(Program details and registration form follow on pages 2-3--editor)

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STATE AAUW CONVENTION PROGRAM

“EXPANDING OUR HORIZONS”

2012 COLORADO AAUW CONVENTION

April 20-21, 2012

Marriott Denver South

Hosted by the Douglas County Branch

FRIDAY NIGHT

3:00 or 4:00

EXECUTIVE BOARD

6:00

RECEPTION AT LONE TREE GOLF CLUB

Please find directions included in program

SATURDAY

8:15-9:15

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

9:30-9:45

WELCOME

9:45-10:30

KEYNOTE/LEADER ON LOAN- Amy Blackwell

10:30-10:45

BREAK

10:45-12:20

“AGENTS OF CHANGE”

Malcinia Conley, Maria Mazzaferro, Danielle Norris

12:20-2:00

LUNCH AND AWARDS

2:15-2:50

LEADER ON LOAN-Amy Blackwell

2:50-3:45

STATE BUSINESS MEETING AND PUBLIC POLICY REPORT

SATURDAY EVENING

5:00

CASH BAR AND RECEPTION

6:00

DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT

“The Uncrushable Rose”

Presented by Bambi Shen

REGISTRATION FOR COLORADO AAUW CONVENTION 2012

April 20-21, 2012 in Douglas County
DENVER MARRIOTT SOUTH
10345 Park Meadows Drive, Littleton, Colorado 80124

Hotel Information

Reservations must be arranged *individually* with the Marriott before Friday, March 30th to receive the \$84 (plus tax) single or double occupancy rate. The Marriott may be reached at 1- 800-686-2767, ask for the AAUW reserved block of rooms (code aauaaua) or at www.marriott.com. There are a limited amount of rooms at this rate so please reserve early.

Registration for Colorado AAUW Convention

Name _____
Address _____
City, Zip _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

List your present AAUW office (if any)

Branch _____ State _____

Please note any special accommodations, dietary restrictions, or assistance needed:

Registration Fee (Before April 10, 2012) \$45 _____
Registration Fee (After April 10, 2012) \$50 _____

Friday Night: Dinner and showing of "Miss Representation"

At Lone Tree Golf Course and Hotel

Choose one of the following entrees:

Salmon with Puttanesca Sauce _____

Petit Filet of Beef _____

Chicken Portofino _____

\$35 _____

Saturday Lunch: Soup and a half sandwich

Chicken salad sandwich and roasted tomato

and fennel soup, chips, drinks and dessert.

\$23 _____

Saturday Dinner: Includes salad, rolls, vegetables, drinks and dessert,

Choose one fo the following entrees:

Petit Filet of Beef _____

Talapia _____

\$35 _____

TOTAL _____

Make checks payable to *Colorado AAUW* and mail by April 10th, 2012 to:
Convention Registrar: Mary Hassler, 4230 Corriente Pl., Boulder, CO 80301-1629
(303) 448-9669, maryh2@ix.netcom.com

PLEASE NOTE: THERE ARE NO REFUNDS AFTER APRIL 10, 2012

from the president. . .

Like the butterfly, with Spring we can break out of the cocoons of winter and get back out there to reinvent ourselves. Many opportunities are open in the coming months to tell our stories and spread our wings.

Please join me for the 86th Annual **AAUW State Convention on April 20-21** in Douglas County at the Denver Marriott South Hotel in Lone Tree. The theme for the weekend is “**Expanding Our Horizons**” and the designated National Board member for convention is our own Amy Blackwell. I look forward to seeing you there.

As a first, we are also excited to be web streaming portions of the convention for real-time, on-line viewing. (While this won't be a substitute for a weekend of networking with our sisters, it may offer some insight for those who are not able to attend) We will also be creating sound bites from members answering the question “Why are you a member of AAUW?” to be published on our Colorado AAUW YouTube site.

Don't forget to also register for the **2012 AAUW Rocky Mountain Regional Conference** which will be June 8th-10 in Phoenix at the Radisson Hotel - Airport. Visit www.coaaauw.org for information about both conferences as well as more information is included on the back page of this Bulletin.

Colorado AAUW will again award a scholarship to a female middle school student who submits an outstanding project at the State Science Fair held in early April in Ft. Collins. Thank you to this year's coordinator-- **Karen Alfino**.

Since our last newsletter, our Public Policy Co-Directors and committee hosted an exceptional Public Policy Day with record registrations. As a trial, web streaming was initiated for those who could not attend. Mary Gravely gives a stellar report in this newsletter if you missed it.

It is quite amazing how fast two years can fly by. It has been a privilege to serve as your President and to move our state forward in promoting the mission of AAUW. I believe we have been very successful in bringing more AAUW visibility to collegiate in Colorado – I challenge you to continue to maximize our momentum. The future of AAUW depends on it. So, TTFN (ta-ta for now) – I leave you in the most-capable hands of Diane Norten.

Brenda

COLORADO COOPERATIVE PROJECT

Karen Alfino of STEMgirls and Charlotte Tyson, President of the Longmont AAUW branch, attended the historic first meeting of the Colorado Cooperative Project for Girls in STEM (CoCoSTEM) on March 6th hosted by Skyline HS in Longmont, CO. Over seventy attendees from all over the state participated in this collaboration of AAUW and the National Girls Collaborative Project (NGCP). NGCP is new to the state of Colorado. In addition to Karen and Charlotte, several other AAUW members of the Longmont and Boulder branches were present.





Public Policy & Advocacy Update

Amy Blackwell, AAUW Colorado Public Policy Co-Director

303-710-2031, ae_blackwell@yahoo.com

\$6,751,504,078: The approximate amount of money that Colorado working women lose due to the pay gap. Save the date! AAUW Colorado is a cosponsor of two events on Equal Pay Day in Denver: a daytime rally from noon to 1:00 p.m. at Tivoli Commons on the Auraria Campus and an evening social at The Living Room (1055 Broadway) from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. featuring free appetizers and a cash bar.

Make equal pay an election issue among your community's voters! Check aauw.org | Act for ways to commemorate Equal Pay Day. Need more info? Contact Amy.

AAUW Launches 2012 Get Out the Vote Campaign

The AAUW Action Fund is making an unprecedented investment in turning out women to vote. With the "It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard" voter education and turnout campaign, the AAUW Action Fund and our state and local branches are making sure women know what's at stake in the 2012 elections and where their candidates stand on issues critical to women and girls. Learn more at <http://aauwaction.org>.



Upcoming Start Smart Salary Negotiation Workshops



AAUW Colorado continues to teach college women how to benchmark compensation and negotiate for fair pay for their first jobs after graduation! All students currently attending Colorado colleges/universities are eligible to participate in workshops that we sponsor at Metropolitan State College of Denver. Spread the word to students, parents, grandparents, et al. Reg/info available at <http://coaauw.org>. Spring 2012 Schedule:

Saturday, March 10, 1:00-4:00 p.m. (registration closing March 7)
Saturday, April 14, 1:00-4:00 p.m. (registration closing April 11)

AAUW Colorado Stances on 2012 State Bills

NOTE: Other bills may merit our attention. Amendments may change intent or impact and necessitate a stance change. Assignment of AAUW Colorado stances is a fluid process, especially early in the legislative session. For the latest information on bills, please visit the Colorado General Assembly website at <http://www.leg.state.co.us>. Updated stances are available at <http://facebook.com/aauwcolorado> under Notes. FYI: You do not need a Facebook account to see that information.



Actively Support (lobbyist & member mobilization as needed)

- SB12-002 (Civil Unions)
- SB12-015 (Optional Category Higher Education)
- SB12-056 (Court Appointed Domestic Relations Cases)
- SB12-093 (Notice of Hospital Services Not Provided Religious Grounds)

Actively Oppose (lobbyist & member mobilization as needed)

- HB12-1130 (First Degree Murder Of Unborn Child)

Support (member mobilization as needed)

- SB12-022 (Maintain Child Care Assistance Working Families)
- SB12-134 (Hospital Payment Assistance Program)
- SB12-147 (Prohibit False Election Info Made To Deter Voting)
- HB12-1053 (Victims' Rights Changes)
- HB12-1100 (Pregnancy & Evidence of Substance Abuse)

Oppose (member mobilization as needed)

- HB12-1046 (Colorado Works Program Drug Testing Requirement)
- HB12-1048 (End CBI Instacheck Duty for Firearms Transfer)
- HB12-1111 (Photo Identification for Voting)

Watch

- SB12-045 (Higher Ed Associate Degree Transfer Students)
- SB12-054 (No Retaliation Against Health Employees)
- SB12-099 (Expand Access To Academic Model Juvenile Facility)
- HB12-1072 (Higher Ed Prior Learning Assessments)
- HB12-1151 (Human Trafficking and Prostitution)
- HB12-1214 (Community College Two-year Degree Programs)

Stay up-to-date on AAUW Colorado legislative action alerts!

aauw-Colorado Yahoo Group: For AAUW Colorado members only. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact group moderator Debra Parcheta at dparcheta@blue-marble.com

Step 1: Get a Yahoo ID

Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/>. Follow all the instructions to fill out a profile and make the choices that you want to apply to your ID on any Yahoo! Features. When you are done, you will get an email with a code or a link to verify your sign up. After you click on the email link, you will be able to use your ID to sign into any Yahoo! group.

Step 2: Join the AAUW Colorado Group

Use your browser to go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/aauw-Colorado/> (You may or may not be already signed in. It doesn't matter because you are not a member yet. You are here to sign up. Click on the blue JOIN THIS GROUP button to start and be a member. Or...send an email to be a member to aauw-coloradosubscribe@yahoogroups.com. An email is sent to the moderator and you will get an email when your membership has been approved.

AAUW Action Network

AAUW members and nonmembers can subscribe to receive Two-Minute Activist email action alerts about federal issues that affect women and girls. Quick and convenient way to use your powerful voice! Sign up at <http://capwiz.com/aauw/mlm/signup>. Please share this link with family members, friends, colleagues, and neighbors who care about equity. The more voices, the better!

AAUW Colorado Social Media



Scenes from Public Policy Day, Feb. 11, 2012

About 150 people attended this year, with lots of new faces in the crowd including several college students. Many thanks to Debra Parcheta for contributing these photos!



2012-2014 Nominees for State Officers

The State Nominating Committee announces the 2012-2014 officer candidate slate to be voted on at the State Convention in Lone Tree.

Co-Vice Presidents for Membership: Danielle Nicole Norris, Colorado Springs and Mary M. “Stormy” McDonald, Lakewood.

Danielle was the past Chair for the National Association of University Women Student Club at University of Colorado at Colorado Springs as well as the Pikes Peak Coalition Liaison, Equal Pay Day Event Coordinator and Public Relations Coordinator. She was a two time winner of the NCCWSL Scholarship and was a presenter at the 2012 Fall Leadership Workshop in Vail. Danielle graduated in May 2011. Danielle is employed by AspenPointe in Social Enterprise Development and currently is in the process of starting a new business in Colorado.

Stormy, since 2009, has served the Lakewood Branch as Program Development Co-Chair. In this position, she communicates regularly within and outside of the branch and markets AAUW’s values to others. She is involved in her church’s Christian Service Committee, and is also active with the Peace Corps Community serving as the Colorado Coordinator of Mentoring Program for returning Peace Corps Volunteers.

Co-Director for Public Policy: Barbara McDaniel, Littleton-South Metro.

Barbara currently serves as the Co-Director for Public Policy. She has held several branch positions including President of Littleton-South Metro Branch, Vice President – Program, Membership Chairperson, Treasurer and Public Policy Chairperson. She is a business owner of Denver Custom Signs, LLC and Custom Walls and Ceilings, LLC. Barbara was the 2010 Business Woman of the Year recipient from Colorado Business Women.

AAUW Funds Director – Marilyn Zimmerman, Grand Junction.

Marilyn currently serves as the AAUW Funds Director (previously titled Education Foundation Funds Director), the President of the Grand Junction Branch and a Grassroots Liaison for the AAUW Leadership Corps at the national level. She has held many branch offices and was a branch member in Louisiana and California. Marilyn has been employed with non-profits including Mesa County Libraries, the YWCA, the American Red Cross and the Girl Scouts.

Nominating Committee Members: Chair, Joan Peterson (Aurora), Diane Fuchs (Foothills), Laurel Seppala-Etra (Boulder), Sharon Schlegel (Gunnison), and Valorie Yarbrough (Denver).

Committee Alternates: Amy Blackwell (Douglas County and Lakewood) and Dixie Gordon (Colorado Springs)



Danielle Nicole Norris, Mary “Stormy” McDonald and Barbara McDaniel

2012 Public Policy Day Wrapup

By Mary Gravely, Littleton-South Metro Branch

Women's Rights=Human Rights

"We need to raise a generation of kids who will stand up for others. To break the circle of violence, people must be taught to think. They also must be taught to care. It's a short walk from bullying to hate groups." Barbara Coloroso, internationally recognized speaker and author, used these thoughts and others to set the stage for this year's Public Policy Day program which focused on concerns that harm our communities and take away basic human rights.



Barbara Coloroso

AnnJanette Alejano-Steele and Amanda Finger, who both work with the Laboratory to Combat Human Trafficking, presented information to help the audience understand HT, to learn the Public Policy connection, and to discover resources people can use to broaden their knowledge.

Human Trafficking is the 2nd or 3rd largest criminal industry in the world with profits around \$44 billion. The severe forms of Human Trafficking are labor and sex, and Colorado is a prime area for these abuses to take place. A few of the actions individuals can take to combat HT are shop fair trade, petition for better laws, take a class, and contact law makers.

Amy Blackwell a co-director of the AAUW Colorado Public Policy committee presented a slide presentation on the AAUW study Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School, a research project from national that is available for download.

Our last two presenters Ellen Roberts (R-SD6) and Pat Steadman (D-SD31) worked as a panel to inform us about the civil unions bill and its progress.



Amanda Finger

The Colorado Volunteer Lobby Corps discussed AAUW stances on current state bills as of February 9. These bills are in flux, so please visit Colorado General Assembly website for latest development and contact information at <http://www.leg.state.co.us>. AAUW Colorado stances are at :

<http://facebook.com/aauwcolorado> under the Notes tab.

Other Websites for PP Issues:

www.combathumantrafficking.org

www.aauwaction.org

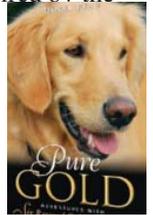
The total number of registrants for this year's PPD were 147, one of the largest ever. Also the content and speakers attracted around 10 to 15 university and college students. The day was packed with information and ended on time. A great Public Policy Day

branches



DURANGO

Holli Pfau, author of Pure Gold: Adventures with Six Rescued Golden Retriever, was the guest for the Durango branch's Book and Author Luncheon on Saturday, March 10. Inspired by the lives, antics and talents of her six rescued or second-hand golden retrievers, Pfau wrote Pure Gold to support the efforts of Golden Retriever Rescue and other dog rescue and adoption programs. Holli's dogs guided her to a new career in animal-assisted therapy, deeper into wilderness adventures, and to relocation in the Rocky Mountains.



AURORA

For the second year, volunteers from the Aurora branch helped with Community College of Aurora's 5th Annual "Math Day for Girls" event on February 10. The branch partners with the college to support the project, whose main purpose is to expose young women to varied careers that can be achieved by obtaining a strong science and math education.

COLORADO SPRINGS

Lindy Conter, Community Vice President of the Colorado Springs branch, was honored by the League of Women Voters of the Pikes Peak Region with their sixth annual Making Democracy Work Award. Lindy was recognized for her hands-on activism, making the community a strong and vibrant place to live. She received the Award Thursday, February 16, at an evening reception in Bemis Hall, Colorado College.



Lindy's efforts include creating strong support for STEM programs at UCCS and local school districts. She was the driver behind

Colorado Springs branch recognition at the 2011 Breaking through Barriers Award at the national convention. She organized the first local Pay Equity Day event emphasizing the need for federal legislation on equal pay for women, and supported Start Smart programs at UCCS. Lindy is a co-founder of the Pikes Peak Women's Coalition. She serves on several non-profit boards, including the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame, Women's Resource Agency, and Women's Foundation of Colorado.

LITTLETON-SOUTH METRO

Littleton-South Metro is featured in AAUW's latest edition of *Mission and Action*, with a link to the branch's new website. This is what they had to say:

"See What AAUW Site Resources Can Do for Your Branch After a name change, the AAUW Littleton-South Metro (CO) Branch desperately needed a website. Branch members registered with AAUW Site Resources and launched their site in less than two weeks! The branch's enthusiasm shines through in their web presence. "

membership matters

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Hansen

I was laughing with my mother the other day, reminiscing about what we thought when the Internet first came into our national consciousness. There were those who declared that “there wouldn’t be shopping malls” or “travel agencies will all be online” or “books will no longer be printed”. I remember sitting in my night school class and hearing my fellow students talking about how they got “online” and were able to look at homes for sale in Phoenix while being in Denver. How incredible have the last 15 years been? How awesome is it that we can still read a book by holding it or download it onto our tablet? How important is it to be able to save time by looking at homes online before we make an appointment with a realtor? How wonderful is it to purchase some of our presents online while still experiencing Holiday shopping in a mall? If there’s one thing that I’ve learned with online opportunities, it’s that they are simply one more tool for our everyday lives.

Stephanie and I are happy to announce that there are some fantastic women at DU who are in the process of forming Colorado’s eNetwork branch. We first heard from them in November and since then they have been busy submitting paperwork to the State Board, getting their charter members together, making their wiki page, having conference calls, defining their vision, learning the rules that govern branches, researching eNetwork branches in other states, all in preparation for their official proposal for a new branch. They are offering our wonderful organization another outlet for potential members who are in situations that may not allow them to participate in a physical branch, they may be home watching little ones with only an online outlet while their babies sleep, they may be outside of the physical proximity of a branch, they may be students who take online classes, they may be someone who is not able to go out at night. Whoever they are, we are likeminded. Like us, they have a need to dedicate a portion of their lives reading the research that AAUW provides and acting on it in ways that educate and help others. Like us, they have a need to direct public policy on issues that matter to them. Like us, they have a need to commune with friends. Like us, they need leadership opportunities for growth in the workplace. Like us, they have a need to be part of something bigger than themselves.

Below is a “Press Release” from the future charter members of the Colorado eNetwork introducing themselves to us. If you would like to discuss this opportunity with me I am available at Cheryl_hansen_aauw@comcast.net or at (720) 733-0422.

Colorado eNetwork Launches Support for women and girls goes online in Colorado with launch of ‘virtual branch’ of AAUW Colorado, February 26, 2012

Have you been searching for new ways to connect with others? Perhaps you’ve been looking for a way to be involved but time hasn’t allowed for another meeting. The in-process Colorado eNetwork Branch may soon present an opportunity to engage in new learning and to connect with other smart professional women, all without leaving the comfort of your own home. Taking a cue from online communities in California, Oregon, Iowa, North Carolina and other states and cities, Colorado may soon have its own virtual branch of AAUW. The Colorado eNetwork invites participation from all those interested in supporting a strong future for young women in our communities, a process made easier by virtue of the ability to connect and interact online.

The meetings, programs and services of this branch will be accessed virtually and will be designed for those who are not able to meet in person or who have not previously been involved with AAUW. The eNetwork anticipates holding book discussions, hosting keynote speakers on women’s leadership, offering civic engagement and professional development training and connecting women to professional mentors. The charter members believe such a “branch without borders” will chiefly serve communities where there are few AAUW members; college and university partners who support women’s achievement; and those who live outside the state wishing to remain connected to the organization. We anticipate that many of AAUW’s 100+ at-large members in Colorado and college students will form the bulk of the eNetwork membership, though we also welcome ‘dual members’ who--in addition to the connectedness they receive from their local AAUW branch--also wish to experience the convenience and idea-sharing that will occur through the eNetwork.

The concept of the virtual branch lies in the premise that ‘equity knows no borders.’ The Colorado eNetwork branch will provide a new kind of engagement with AAUW members for whom a physical branch is not available in their community or where opportunities to connect are limited. Having a statewide virtual network also creates opportunities for more collaboration among the existing branches. With its’ exploration of screen-sharing, cloud storage, online collaboration, and a virtual workspace, the eNetwork looks forward to sharing knowledge of online platforms with other branches.

In order to assemble the organization to offer such programming, a core group has been meeting via conference call every Saturday morning. Nine women have signed on to form a Coordinating Council and the initial leadership of the eNetwork. The Council’s working group calls are open to those interested in participating in creating a sustainable structure and completing AAUW branch requirements. With a goal of submitting organizational paperwork by April, the group hopes to begin offering online programs by June. The eNetwork is currently seeking volunteer leaders who wish to share their expertise in marketing, fiscal affairs, and online engagement as well as statewide representatives in order to offer a full slate of programs beginning this summer. Dues for the branch will likely be \$5, and the Council is also exploring possibilities to offer discounts to college students and AAUW members who already belong to a community-based branch.

For more information, contact proposed Colorado eNetwork branch co-leaders, **Heidi Baker**, heidi_baker@comcast.net, or Jae McQueen, jaemcqueen@gmail.com



AAUW Colorado Anita Bemis, Editor, anitabemis@aol.com

Find out the latest news about Colorado AAUW at <http://www.coaauw.org>

INVITATION TO REGIONAL CONFERENCE:

AAUW Arizona cordially invites all AAUW members to the **Rocky Mountain Region Conference, June 8-10**. The festivities will begin 1 pm, Friday, June 8, at the Radisson at the Phoenix Airport in Arizona. The final schedule is still beginning finalized, so look for updates on either the CO or AZ websites.

To date, the following presentations are planned:

New Mexico: Start an Online Branch

Nevada: Get out the Vote

Colorado: STEM

Arizona: Programs that Touch the Community

A room block has been established with a rate of \$69 plus taxes (13.27%) per night, single or double. Many of the rooms were recently upgraded. It is a smaller venue that we experienced two years ago. We should be very comfortable. Their website is www.radisson.com/phoenixaz_airportnorth. The hotel has complimentary wireless throughout the hotel, and 24 hour complimentary shuttle to and from the airport. Make reservations at 602 220 4400.

We hope to see everyone there.

Looking Ahead in 2012

**April 20-21 Annual Colorado State Convention--
Lone Tree/ Douglas County**

June 8-10 AAUW Regional Conference, Phoenix, Arizona

July 1 Deadline for State *Bulletin* information

August 24-25

Fall Leadership Conference

The Inn at Palmer Lake

NEW DATE AND NEW PLACE!!!