



BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

Due: April 30,2021

Branch:	Lakewood			
President:	Pam Lacy with Co-Presidents below		Date:20-21	
1 st quarter	Janet Weisheit		4 th quarter	Barb Martin
2 nd quarter	Joann Furay			
3 rd quarter	Elnore Grow			

Education & Training

Addressing the barriers and implicit biases that hinder advancement of women.

Goals:	<i>What goals did your branch set this year that are in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? Please prioritize your list and indicate after each goal what the current status is (i.e. completed, % completed, estimated completion date, etc.).</i>
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Our focus was to have several programs for members that addressed this. We had Lucy Marsh discuss the lawsuit she and other DU professors won with the help of the EEOC making pay equity the law. (March) We did not pursue our goal of promoting Smart Start due to COVID.

Programs:	<i>Did you identify and/or hold any programs/activates/events that were in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? If yes, please give a brief description of each and the date in which it was held/conducted.</i>
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In November Anne Sharpsteen presented a program on Victoria Woodhull: "Sex, Suffrage & Scandal". By highlighting this pioneer feminist who ran for President, we raised awareness during the 100th anniversary of achieving the right to vote.

Economic Security

Ensuring livelihoods for women.

Goals:	<i>What goals did your branch set this year that are in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? Please prioritize your list and indicate after each goal what the current status is (i.e. completed, % completed, estimated completion date, etc.).</i>
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Our goal setting included support for the Action Center, its food and clothing banks. We also became familiar with several non-profits that are directly supporting women in our community and encouraged our members to give their support. At Christmas we supported the toy drive and adopt-a-family.

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Our programs that addressed economic security, and diversity included Marcellina Otti in September who spoke about Montessori education in Uganda and establishing a school that was affected by COVID. Marcellina started the first Montessori in Five Points (still in existence) and her non-profit, The Transformational Learning Collective promotes education for young children near Gulu. We will hear from Daniel Mondragon in May of Hands of the Carpenter which addresses the transportation needs of women, primarily young, single mothers in Jefferson County, with affordable cars and maintenance and repairs.

Leadership

Closing the gender gap in leadership opportunities.

Goals:	<i>What goals did your branch set this year that are in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? Please prioritize your list and indicate after each goal what the current status is (i.e. completed, % completed, estimated completion date, etc.).</i>
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One of our goals is to support legislation which addresses the gender gap, particularly in family leave which prevents women from pursuing career goals, and the right to choose which has been under legislative attack.

Programs:	<i>Did you identify and/or hold any programs/activates/events that were in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? If yes, please give a brief description of each and the date in which it was held/conducted.</i>
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Our legislative program addressed how to follow and support the bills that would give family leave to all. This bill passed the legislature this year for the first time.

Governance & Sustainability

Ensuring the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW well into the future.

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We were the top supporter for National's Scholarship program (Foundation) and we maintained a membership goal of 99 members. We have lost some members, some to illness others to age.

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We commented on the National dues increase that to maintain the number of older members, we need to address their concerns regarding the cost of membership. We are considering subsidizing membership of those who request help. We reached out to members who lost spouses and/or were living alone with our friendship basket – good samaritan outreach to approximately 19 members. We believe that keeping our members connected will keep them active. We did not actively visit other women’s groups which was a goal due to COVID.

Miscellaneous accomplishments: We wrote articles about how we were coping with COVID and our daily challenges and opportunities during the pandemic. One article addressed how the pandemic was adversely affecting women in the work force much more than our male counterparts and how we could reach out to those we know are in need of our support. Many of us have had increased grandchild care during this year and some of us have been helping with homeschooling.

Two of our programs addressed mental health issues. In January our speaker, Beth Ann Parish discussed how Rise Against Suicide has helped give access to teens who are suicide risks to therapy and other assistance. In April, Suzanne McClung discussed MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) and why she became involved and her mixed experiences with the criminal justice system in searching for closure.

Our Branch has started a local scholarship Committee after designating funds from member contributions for memorials to those we have lost. We are also raising funds from the pickled beet canning project and baby baskets both started by Elnore Grow which may partly fund scholarships and have designated a Little Black Dress Party this June as a fundraiser for this as well.

Our Diversions Team organized a Chautauqua Tour in Boulder, a Stanley Hotel Tour last summer and an upcoming Lumber Baron Tea.

We are a very social group, and it’s been difficult to Zoom our meetings and have our bridge and book clubs on hold. Hopefully we will be able to resume some of our regular activities in the near future. We have participated in the Good News Breakfast for many years and had at least one table. This event did not happen due to COVID and will be virtual in 2021.