

Branch Newsletter

Volume 23, Number 4

December 2002

In This Issue

Program

-Festive Holiday Tea
-Vintage Murder
Mystery

President's Message

-Caring and Sharing

Membership

Education Foundation

-Transitions Conference

Legal Advocacy Fund

Public Policy

2003 State Convention

Interest Groups

-Afternoon Lit Group
-Evening Lit Group
-No-Host Lunch

Calendar



Festive Holiday Tea

December 7, 2:00 to 4:00 P.M.

At the home of Zel Brook

3555 NW Polk

(corner of 36th and Polk)



Zel Brook will open her historic home to AAUW for our Holiday Tea.

Look for the architect's signature — three bird houses under the eaves of the master bed room. Holiday decorations will include the EF poinsettias Betty Sleight and Barbara Mykrantz have ordered for us. Members who have purchased plants will be able to pick them up at the meeting.

Please come share in the holiday cheer and enjoy a relaxing and purely social meeting.

Members are asked to bring cookies to share.

If you need a ride to the meeting, or can offer a ride, please call Stefani, 929-7988.

~~~~~

Invitations and Tickets for "Vintage Murder" will be available at the meeting.

**"The tea-hour is the hour of peace. . . Strife is lost in the hissing of the kettle---a tranquilizing sound, second only to the purring of a cat."**

Agnes Repplier, To Think of Tea! (1932)

#### President

Martha Jenkins  
758-4390  
marthaj@peak.org

#### President-elect and V.P. Program

Stefani McRae-Dickey  
929-7988  
mcraedic@peak.org

#### V.P. Membership

Rosemary Cunningham  
753-1319  
cunninghamrt@attbi.com

#### Treasurer

Julie Searcy  
753-9471  
jjsearcy@attbi.com

#### Secretary

Diana Bernstein  
738-8292  
dianatbernstein@yahoo.com

#### Newsletter Editor

Cynthia McMahon  
McMahon Business  
Consulting  
cynthiamcm@yahoo.com

**AAUW promotes equity for women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change.**

**In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.**

Stefani McRae-Dickey  
V.P. Program

## Vintage Murder Mystery Hot News From the Drama Department -- Mary Jeanne Reynales is tapped to direct "Vintage Murder."



Well-known director, Mary Jeanne Reynales, has accepted the commission to direct the AAUW EF and LAF fundraiser murder mystery dinner. Known for her musical theater productions at the Majestic theater, Reynales is branching out into dinner theater. Such plays as "Oliver," and "The Wizard of Oz" and many others have established her reputation as one of the most talented directors in Corvallis.

We now need **YOU** to help make this event a resounding success. We must sell 80 tickets for the Murder Mystery Dinner. Fifteen dollars of each \$35 ticket is tax deductible. We must sell all 80 tickets to be able to offer this tax deduction. Rosemary Cunningham has set the record so far with 7 tickets sold!! Thank you Rosemary!!!

Twenty-two of the 80 tickets for Friday, January 24, 2003 have been sold. You may support this event by purchasing a ticket even if you cannot attend. Tickets also make great gifts. Please talk about this event to your friends and neighbors. With Mary Jeanne Reynales directing it will be Fabulous Fun! Don't miss out! You may also purchase an entire table for eight. The cost is \$280 with \$120 of that tax deductible.

Please encourage people to come in costume and character. The setting is current time, in Oregon at the Tortellini Brothers Winery. How did Carmine the become the executer of Georgio's estate? Will Olive Tortellini sell the winery for development or will Toni Tortellini keep it in the family and continue the legacy of her great-grandfather? Each "detective" will receive a program of the cast and a Detective's Evidence Record to record vital clues, motives, and ultimately the name of the murderer.

You will have no worries about ordering, tips or wine selection. Valley Catering will serve Lasagna with all the trimmings. It is all included in the reasonable \$35 price. Come prepared to have a great evening of murderous fun.

**Don't Miss Out!  
Last Day to Purchase tickets is December 29, 2002**

## **Transitions Conference to be Held February 15, 2003**

**Martha Jenkins, President**

At our Welcome Back meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup>, Linda O'Hara, immediate past-President of AAUW of OR, told us how, while president of AAUW of OR, she coordinated an AAUW Community Action grant-writing proposal for \$4000.00 to be used to hold four *Transitions* conferences in Oregon. The goal of a *Transitions* conference is to reach out and encourage women returning to college. Conference participants receive information about careers, college admission and financial aid, as well as receive support as they plan to return to college.

AAUW received 230 Community Action grant proposals and agreed to fund 33 of these. The *Transitions* proposal from Oregon received one of these grants! The Albany and Corvallis Branches will co-host a *Transitions* conference at Linn-Benton Community College on February 15, 2003. Nancy Brown, Albany Branch Educational Foundation chair, is coordinating the conference and organizing a planning meeting on Tuesday, November 26 at 1:00 pm at Loafers restaurant in downtown Albany (222 Washington Street SW).

There are many ways to be involved, from working on publicity, registration, donor donations or a website design. If you cannot attend the meeting but would like to help, please call Nancy at 928-6779 or call Martha Jenkins at 758-4390. This conference really speaks to what we are about in AAUW—educated women empowering, mentoring and networking with women who are seeking to further their education.

## Martha's Musings

The season for celebrating is fast approaching, but here in our branch we have started early! The twenty-five members who met on November 11<sup>th</sup> at Izzy's for dinner, a Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) Reader's Theater presentation and the bottle auction had a real celebration. We were able to enjoy our meeting in Izzy's private "garden" room so that our enthusiasm did not bother others in the restaurant. LAF chair Sue Borden and readers Muriel Lawrence, Rebekah Lancelin, Nanette Dupuy, Judy Rudolph, Jan Rounds, and Nancy Tolin raised our awareness of the pain and struggle LAF plaintiffs suffer as they proceed through litigation. After the presentation, several members contributed to LAF which enabled us to exceed our \$600.00 LAF goal. Thanks to all of you who have contributed over the year. Contributions to LAF and EF (Educational Equity Fund) are sent to AAUW on a calendar year basis.



The bottle auction was such fun that we want to have another one next year! We raised \$431.00 for our operating expenses which will allow us to pursue some new projects such as a new branch banner. The bottles came in all shapes and disguises—a huge firecracker, a magnum of champagne, in a Tiffany's box and an Office Max box, and in all manner of fancy bags and boxes. And the contents were so clever—purple gloves in a fat jar, a bottle of multicolored peppers, a beautiful ceramic spaghetti holder, and an "antique" cut glass whiskey carafe containing a bookstore gift certificate. The list could go on and on. As you can tell, we have many creative members! We especially enjoyed guest auctioneer, Charlotte Norlin. So plan for next year and be on the lookout for your special bottle.

Please read Program Vice-President Stefani McRae-Dickey's article about the Vintage Murder Mystery Dinner. Your support of this wonderful event is vital to its success. This is not a "member's only" dinner, but an event open to the whole community. This gives us a chance, as we encourage friends and family to buy tickets, to talk about AAUW and the work of the Educational and Legal Advocacy Funds. We hope to make this an annual event that is anticipated each year by the whole community. So do come or you'll miss the fun! Stefani will have tickets available at the Holiday Tea on Saturday, December 7 from 2:00–4:00 pm at Zel Brook's home, 3555 NW Polk. I look forward to seeing many of you there and hope you have a wonderful holiday season.

### *Martha Jenkins*

President

## *Caring and Sharing*

(Contact Martha Jenkins at [marthaj@peak.org](mailto:marthaj@peak.org) with information)

Congratulations to member Linda Modrell on her re-election as a Benton County Commissioner!

Congratulations to Marge and Bob Bromley who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. They were married in Portland on September 2, 1952 and have lived in Corvallis since 1977. Part of their anniversary celebration included a Hawaiian cruise with members of their immediate family.

Nancy Tolin, Branch Historian, asks that members save any articles that you read mentioning our branch or branch members and share these articles with her. Each of us reads different papers and may see an article that would otherwise be missed.

Ever wonder what happens at the branch board meetings? If you would like to receive the board minutes, please let Secretary Diana Bernstein know ([dianatbernstein@yahoo.com](mailto:dianatbernstein@yahoo.com)). She will be glad to e-mail them to you.

### **"Tea quenches tears and thirst"**

Jeanine Larmoth and Charlotte Turgeon, Murder on the Menu (1972)

V.P. Membership  
Rosemary Cunningham, 753-1319  
[cunninghamrt@attbi.com](mailto:cunninghamrt@attbi.com)

---



On the last Saturday of October, instead of raking leaves, many of us were at the New Morning Bakery sharing conversation, coffee and muffins. Welcoming new members, **Patty Eberhardt and Carolyn Moore**, were **Padma Akkaraju, Barbara Mykrantz, Judy Rudolph, Marilyn Roland, Jan Rounds, Nancy Sanderson, Nancy Tolin, Martha Jenkins and Rosemary Cunningham**. 'Twas a fine turnout for our autumn New Member Coffee!

In this Yuletide newsletter, we herald newest member, **Bertha Houlk**, and we'll introduce **Patty Eberhardt, Elise Love and Carolyn Moore** who joined AAUW this fall.

With three children and five grandchildren living nearby, **Patty Eberhardt** is very content living in Corvallis. But her life hasn't always been so tranquil. During the 50's when Patty's husband, Ed, was in the foreign service, the Eberhardt family found themselves entrenched in the middle of the Cuban Revolution. Patty can relate many harrowing tales that she and her family experienced during the bloody transition from Batista to Castro! Yet despite the gunfire and chaos, Patty has fond memories of the Cuban people. "They were so friendly and gracious. I'll never forget their acceptance of us and their willingness to help. They are wonderful people."

A resident of Corvallis since 1965, Patty Eberhardt completed her BA in Liberal Studies at OSU in 1972 and the following year, received her MA in General Studies, the main focus being program development and administration. As a graduate teaching assistant, she worked with the Educational Opportunities Program and Upward Bound. Since then, Patty has worked with planning and development at university, federal and city level. She retired from Corvallis Parks and Recreation in 1990 and did quite a bit of traveling. In 1995 she was asked to work with senior programs for the Benton Center of LBCC. Looking back on her career, Patty exclaims, "I had such interesting jobs and each of them opened new vistas and friends!"

Patty's interests include volunteering (an RSVP volunteer for 20 years), reading, basketry, cooking, exercise classes, and art appreciation. As a docent for the Corvallis Arts Center, Patty met fellow docents, Judy Rudolph and Irene Lilja. Many thanks to Judy and Irene for encouraging Patty to join AAUW!

**Elise Love** and husband, **Bob O'Donnel**, have lived in Corvallis for less than two months. In July, on a scouting trip from Evanston, Illinois, Elise met Martha Jenkins (also from Illinois) in front of the library. Elise was so impressed with President Martha's enthusiasm for AAUW, that she picked up a pamphlet and explored the AAUW Internet site. And, as soon as they moved to Corvallis, Elise joined our local branch!

Elise has a BS degree in music (applied piano) from the University of North Florida and an MLS degree in library science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Currently, she's assisting her husband with his new business, Function First Bike Security. Elise teaches yoga part-time, enjoys cycling and loves animals, especially her dog (13 1/2 years) and cat (12 1/2 years). With the exception of eating fish, both Bob and Elise consider themselves vegetarians. AAUW literature, no-host luncheons and gourmet events are areas of interest that Elise hopes to pursue this year.

Realizing that it's a great way to get acquainted in a new town, **Carolyn Moore** (with encouragement from **Mary Lee Seward**) promptly joined our branch when she moved to Corvallis a few months ago. As a member in Chico, California, Carolyn had participated in stimulating interest groups such as drama, gourmet, and quilting.

Carolyn graduated from Chico State University with a BA in English in 1969, and a year later, she earned her teaching credentials. Before retiring and coming to Oregon, Carolyn taught grade school for 32 years in California. Her family includes fiancée, Bob Simmons, two grown daughters and five grandchildren. Much of Carolyn's spare time is taken up with family, traveling, cooking, writing, gardening, plays, and the afternoon literature group. Carolyn has brought her enthusiasm, talents and interests to Corvallis, and we can count on her to enhance our membership!

#### New Email Addresses for Your Directory:

**Patty Eberhardt:** [pattye27@earthlink.net](mailto:pattye27@earthlink.net)  
**Shirley Woods:** [stw@peak.org](mailto:stw@peak.org)

**Elise Love:** [EliseLove@attbi.com](mailto:EliseLove@attbi.com)

Barbara Mykrantz, 753-0188  
Betty Sleight, 929-3920

## Poinsettia Sale

Many thanks to all of you who supported the **AAUW Educational Foundation** by donating money and/or ordering poinsettia plants for the holidays. We exceeded our goals while working with our new newsletter/information system!



The poinsettias will be at Zel Brook's home, 3555 NW Polk for the Holiday Tea on Sat., Dec. 7, 2002, from 2-4PM. Plan to attend, enjoy good company, and pick up your plant(s). **If you will not be able to pick up your order on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, please make arrangements either with a friend or with Barbara Mykrantz, 753-0188 or [jbmykr@aol.com](mailto:jbmykr@aol.com), to deliver it to you.**

## The Oregon Century Club

The Oregon Century Club was established in 1988 to recognize major donors to the **AAUW Educational Foundation**. Its members are donors of \$100 – \$174, and those who donate more than \$175 belong to the Century Club Plus. Membership is on an annual basis and donations can be general or designated to a particular fund of the AAUW Educational Foundation, for example, the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund.

With year-end financial planning approaching, we hope you will consider this option for a tax deductible donation. You will be supporting fellowships and scholarships for women and girls. Please make checks payable to "AAUW Educational Foundation" and mail them to Julie Searcy, Treasurer, 2854 NW Angelica Dr., Corvallis, 97330. If you have questions, call Betty Sleight, 929-3920 or [maryspeak@casco.net](mailto:maryspeak@casco.net).

## Another Plaintiff's Story

If you attended the November Branch meeting, you heard the stories of several plaintiffs who have been helped by LAF. Here's another one from that Reader's Theater script—written as though the plaintiff herself is speaking. It's good to know how our contributions help such courageous women.

"I'm Jennifer Cordes and my case against Stevens Institute of Technology settled during the summer of 1999.

"I was formerly an assistant professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department of Stevens Institute of Technology. I had worked at the institution for 9 years when I came up for promotion from assistant professor to associate professor with tenure in 1995. Throughout my employment, I received faculty awards, obtained substantial funding for research, was published in leading scholarly journals, and never received less-than-satisfactory performance reviews. I was the only female faculty member in my department and one of few female faculty members employed by Stevens Institute in its 126-year history.

"In August 1994, I went on approved family leave to adopt my children. When I returned, I was given only two and a half weeks to compile a tenure file instead of the customary three to six months. I was subsequently denied promotion and terminated in January 1995.

Nanette Dupuy  
752-3649

**First things first:** *a heart-felt THANK YOU to Joyce Carver, Sylvia Volk, Barbara Mykrantz, Christine Canty, Muriel Lawrence, Rosie, Martha, Stefani and all the other members who showed up to help with the Voter Forums at the library in October. AAUW was a very visible presence. And as the mayor's race (as well as a couple of city council races) showed this election: every vote DOES count!*

## And now an update on the recent Federal legislative action:

### HOUSE PASSES BILL DENYING WOMEN FULL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH OPTIONS

On Sept. 25, the U.S. House of Representatives passed (229-189) the Abortion Non-Discrimination Act (HR 4691), which allows health care entities, religious and secular, to deny health services options to pregnant women. HR 4691 also permits health care entities to violate federal, state, and local requirements to provide such services. This legislation would--

- Deny low-income women information about, and referrals to, abortion services. HR 4691 would prohibit states from requiring health care entities that participate in their own state-funded Medicaid programs from providing referrals for abortion services. States could not ensure that patients have all the information they need to make informed choices about their health care.
- Prohibit the federal government from enforcing its own requirement that Title X-funded clinics refer clients to abortion providers upon request. The Title X family-planning program requires that clinic staff provide pregnant clients with information and referrals regarding all their reproductive health options. HR 4691 would override this federal law.
- Block states' ability to enforce their own Medicaid programs while putting the lives of women in danger. HR 4691 allows health care entities to withhold information about abortion services even in cases of rape, incest, or when a pregnancy endangers a woman's life. Although the federal government does not pay for abortion services, except in such cases, states may use their own Medicaid funds to cover abortion services beyond those narrow circumstances. This bill precludes states from enforcing their own laws and constitutional decisions in the area of abortion services for low-income women.

Contact Sens. Wyden and Smith and let them know that their constituents—the folks that they represent—want them to protect women's health by opposing the Senate version of the Abortion Non-Discrimination Act (S 2008). Contact Sen. Wyden at [www.senate.gov/~wyden](http://www.senate.gov/~wyden) and Sen. Smith at [www.senate.gov/~gsmith](http://www.senate.gov/~gsmith).

## On the Campaign Finance Reform front:

Senators John McCain (R-AZ), Russell Feingold (D-WI), and Richard Durbin (D-IL) introduced a Free Air Time Bill on October 16. This coincided with a spirited "Our Democracy, Our Airwaves" forum that featured Paul Taylor, President of the Alliance for Better Campaigns. The Alliance has built a coalition of 50 national groups pushing for this as one next step forward for federal campaign finance reform. There were representatives from many Oregon affiliates of these national organizations and we thank them and other attendees for their participation.

A summary of the legislation, S. 3124, the Political Campaign Broadcast Activity Improvement Act and an opportunity to sign a declaration of support are available at <http://www.oregonfollowthemoney.org/freearitime.html>

### **Plaintiff:** Another Success Story

*Continued from Page 5*

"After I complained about these irregularities in the tenure review process, I was awarded a one-year emergency reappointment and was allowed to resubmit my tenure bid. Despite unanimous support from the senior members of my department, I was effectively denied promotion in November 1995 when the dean of faculty instructed the reviewers to take no action on my application. In February, I was offered and accepted a non-tenure track position as a visiting associate professor.

"I sued Stevens in October 1996 for sex discrimination in the denial of tenure. My case settled and, although the terms are confidential, I am pleased with the settlement. LAF provided \$15,000 in support of my case. I was happy to make a gift back to LAF to support future women who will take on the challenge to fight discrimination on our nation's campuses."



# State Convention 2003

## Education—Shaping the Future

December 2002  
Volume 23 Number 4

Page 7

Irene Lilja & Judy Rudolph  
Local Arrangement Chairs

Convention goers attending the Friday night April 25th, 2003 dinner will be entertained by the Corvallis Reader's Theatre directed by Jane White.

Actors will represent women from community college age to more mature—you'll recognize two of our own members! There will be uplifting humor, a bit of seriousness, a melody or two by Audrey Perkins who is a popular singer, performer and member of Neal Gladstone & Co.

You won't want to miss this! Jane Ann Warkentin has arranged for Friday afternoon tours of the OSU campus, Valley Library and a historic downtown tour.

There will be a tour of the beautiful Alumni Center one hour before Saturday evening's banquet which will be led by OSU students.

We are very excited about all the above enrichment activities and invite you to participate April 25th–27th, 2003.



## Interest Groups

### Afternoon Literature Group

**Meets on the second Tuesday at 2 p.m.**

Val Krauss 766–8916

#### December 10

*"Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women"*  
by Geraldine Brooks

Hosts: Sally Terman and Norma Craighton  
2964 NW Spurry Pl.

Reviewer: Rosemary Cunningham

Title for January: *"The Violet Shyness of Their Eyes"* by  
Barbara Scot

### No-Host Lunch – December

Thursday, December 12  
11:30 AM  
Michael's Landing

#### **Reservations are required.**

Please make these reservations through Sally Terman,  
752–9019. The deadline for reservations is December 4. It will  
be a wonderful lunch!

### Evening Literature Group

**Meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.**

Gail Garrison, 745–7396  
Nancy Tolin, 752–6656

#### December 4

*"The Optimist's Daughter"* and/or  
*"One Writer's Beginnings"* by Eudora Welty

Hostess: Mary Lou Russ  
3030 NW Thistle Pl.  
758–3400

Reviewer: Carol Nelson

#### January 8

*"Henry and Clara"* by Thomas Mallon

Hostess: Lois Malango

**All those planning to ATTEND should call the hostess a  
few days ahead of time.**

---

| DEC         | Activity                                         | Time       | Location                                                                                                |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4           | Evening Lit Group                                | 7:30 p.m.  | Mary Lou Russ<br>3030 NW Thistle Pl.                                                                    |
| 7           | Festive Holiday Tea                              | 2-4 p.m.   | Zel Brook<br>3555 NW Polk                                                                               |
| 9           | No December Board Meeting                        |            |                                                                                                         |
| 10          | Afternoon Lit Group                              | 2:00 p.m.  | Sally Terman and Norma Craighton<br>2964 NW Spurry Pl.                                                  |
| 12          | No-Host Lunch                                    | 11:30 a.m. | Michael's Landing<br>Reservations Required<br>Contact Sally Terman, 752-9019, by Dec. 4                 |
| 15          | Newsletter Deadline                              |            |                                                                                                         |
| 29          | Last Day to buy <u>Murder Mystery Tickets</u>    |            |                                                                                                         |
| JAN         | Activity                                         | Time       | Location                                                                                                |
| 8           | Evening Lit Group                                | 7:30 p.m.  | Lois Malango<br>1815 NW Garfield                                                                        |
| 13          | Board Meeting                                    | 12:30 p.m. | U.S. Bank Conference Room                                                                               |
| 15          | Newsletter Deadline                              |            |                                                                                                         |
| 24          | <b>Vintage Murder Mystery<br/>Italian Dinner</b> | 6:30 p.m.  | EF and LAF fund raiser at Courtyard Inn,<br>2435 Harrison Blvd .<br>Cost is \$35 advance purchase only. |
| April 25-27 | 2003 AAUW of OR Convention                       |            | Corvallis                                                                                               |