

Branch Newsletter

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Mission
*AAUW advances
equity for women and
girls through advocacy,
education and
research.*



Holiday Tea and Poinsettia Sale



**December 1, 2006
4 to 6 pm**

**Nancy Sanderson's home
1165 NW 17th St.
Corvallis
757-0832**

Come join us for a fun afternoon of goodies and poinsettias. Please bring a small plate of goodies to share (a dozen or so, no more).

The poinsettias will be there for you to purchase at \$10.00 each. Most of the 6 ½ inch plants will be red, but there will be a few pink and white ones. Payment by cash or check is fine. Checks should be made payable to Corvallis AAUW.

The profit from your poinsettia purchase will benefit the Educational Foundation (EF). Don't need poinsettias? We'll gladly accept EF donations. A tax-deductible contribution can be made by a check payable to AAUW-EF.

See you there!



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President's Message

President
Sue Borden, 752-6036
sueborden@cmug.com



Notes from Sue: The Sun and the Moon

*The Sun is filled with shining light
It blazes far and wide
The Moon reflects the sunlight back
But has no light inside.*

*I think I'd rather be the Sun
That shines so bold and bright
Than be the Moon, that only glows
With someone else's light.*

This little verse from Elaine Laron, a writer for one of my favorite shows, *The Electric Company*, speaks to our approach to the upcoming Holiday celebrations. All the December celebrations have to do with light—especially significant to those of us who live here where so much of our days are dark at this time of year.

My wish for you this Holiday season is that you will strive to be a Sun, rather than a Moon. Use your many talents and experience and knowledge and charm to radiate light for all those around you. Have a wonderful holiday season and return to AAUW refreshed, and ready to radiate your light in our quest for equity.

For your Gift List: *"Are you tired of leaders who say one thing and do another, problems that never get solves, and feeling like it's YOU that needs fixing?"*

This quote is from the book jacket of *Clueless at the Top, While the Rest of Us Turn Elsewhere for Life, Liberty, and Happiness*. In January, AAUW will host the authors of this book, Charlotte and Harriet Childress, twin sisters from Eugene. The Childress sisters have spent twelve years studying how hierarchical thinking pervades our lives, and how we can free ourselves to build the lives we really want.

You might like to read their book before they come to talk with us on January 20, 2007. The book is available through most booksellers or from the authors. It costs \$18.95. ISBN 1-879384-56-6



Great Decisions Interest Group

The first meeting will be delayed one week because the discussion guides will not arrive until the third week of Jan. Therefore the first meeting has been postponed to Tues. January 16, 2007. Meetings will be on Tues. Jan 16, 2007 through March 13, 2007 from 2-4 PM at the Corvallis Caring Place Library - 750 NW 23 rd St. Topics this year are Middle East, Climate Change, Mexico, Migration, South Africa, War Crimes, Central Asia and Children's Rights. I will order the discussion guides soon which cost \$15.00. Please confirm your booklet order by Dec. 15th by calling Charlotte Drost at 753-7253.



Membership

V.P. Membership
Louise Livesay, 753-4813
Mary Mills, 745-7961
Nelwyn Price, 754-3612



New Members Welcomed at Coffee

New members, Janice Abele, Dottie Miller, Maxine Eckes, Donna Eckhardt, Ann Rhodes, Marion Dickens, Gretchen Bencene, and Betty Iverson were welcomed at our New Member Coffee on Nov. 4th.

After a fun time visiting and getting to know one another, our President, Sue Borden led a short orientation session for new members. This was a wonderful opportunity for them to learn what the Educational Foundation and Legal Advocacy Fund provide for women and to get acquainted with the goals of our Corvallis Branch of AAUW.

Many thanks to Diana Bernstein for making us feel so welcome in her lovely home.

New Branch Member

Sue Ann Bottoms
881 SE Bethel Pl. 97333
sueannbo@gmail.com
H - 753-4618
W - 737-4653
MS - OSU
Science Education

Interest Groups

Afternoon Literature Group

Meets the second Tuesday of the month at 2 p.m.

Carolyn Simmons, 758-0271
CrCAROLYN@aol.com

Tuesday, December 12th

The Mermaid Chair by Sue Monk Kidd

Hostess: Brenda Rowley,
1581 NW Hillcrest Drive

Contact for December ONLY: Brenda Rowley, 752-6779

Val Krauss will lead a discussion

Evening Literature Group

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

Mary Gray, 752-5970
Shirley Wirth, 754-7186

December 6th

American Nightingale reviewed by Shirley Wirth. Guest speaker will be Bob Welch, author of this book

Hostess – Dianne Jackson, 6484 NW Sisters Place

RSVP at 738-0885 or diquiliter@comcast.net if you plan to attend

No-Host Lunch

It's time to "fa -la-la" your way to Michael's Landing for our annual Holiday lunch. This year, it will be on **FRIDAY, December 22nd at 11:45 p.m.** Many of you like to attend this lunch, so we need to get a head count.

Please contact: Charlotte Drost, 753-7253, mkcdrost@aol.com if you would like to attend lunch at "The Landing". Please let Charlotte know by Wed. 12/20/06, so she can give the restaurant a final count. Also, bring a simple holiday recipe or craft idea to share, if you wish; or, you could share a special family tradition, if you'd like. Of course, it's fine to just come, eat, and make merry.

~Carolyn Simmons

Gourmet Group

On Nov. 4th AAUW Members and their guests gathered at Carolyn and Bob Simmons' home for a delicious meal. This first dinner of the Gourmet season featured, "Recipes from Bon Appetit with a Fall Flair".

The next dinner has the theme, "Soups, Stews and Breads", and will take place Jan. 20th at the home of Jane Ann and Ben Warkentin. We limit participants to sixteen, so it is a good idea to reserve your place at the table early.

To make your reservation or to have a question about the Gourmet Group answered, please phone Brenda Rowley at 752-6779.

Economic Advancement of Women

Comments of Lisa M. Maatz – American Association of University Women

Since its founding in 1881 – 125 years ago this month – the American Association of University Women has been committed to making the dream of education a reality for women. In 2005, AAUW adopted a new programmatic theme: Education as the Gateway to Women’s Economic Security.

This theme has particular relevance for AAUW, as we reflect on and celebrate the tremendous progress of girls and young women in education over the past 125 years — much of which has been directly influenced by the research and advocacy work of AAUW and the groups standing with us today. Gender equity issues remain in the K-12 arena and into the college level, including the pervasive problem of harassment in schools and the continued need to support girls’ early participation and advancement in science and technology. While in many ways girls are now faring as well as boys by most measures of educational achievement, these continuing disparities remind us that there is still work to be done.

The number of female students enrolled in colleges and universities has grown impressively over the last three decades. We can point to the doors opened by Title IX, the federal law prohibiting sex discrimination in education, for much of this success. Today, women make up the majority (57%) of undergraduate students on college and university campuses across America ; however despite the “happy headlines” we hear from the media, there are still far too many women who face obstacles to higher education.^[1] It is for this reason that we must preserve and strengthen Title IX.

For example, campus harassment discourages many women from pursuing degrees in male dominated fields, and pervades campus life. According to a January 2006 AAUW report, *Drawing the Line: Sexual Harassment on Campus*, which represents the most comprehensive research on campus sexual harassment to date, nearly two-thirds of college students (62%) have encountered some type of sexual harassment while at college.^[2] This translates into roughly six million college students who are sexually harassed nationwide. While both genders reported facing sexual harassment, its impact is markedly differently for young women. Female students are more likely than their male peers to have negative behavioral and emotional responses to sexual harassment.

While increasing levels of education have become necessary to both a competitive global economy and to an individual’s ability to make ends meet, that same education is ironically becoming more and more of a luxury to many. Tuition rates have increased at more than double the rate of inflation for the last several years, and are expected to increase by as much as 7 to 8 percent a year for the next 10 years.

However, although costs of a college education continue to rise, federal, state and local student aid, which hold a greater significance in the educational success of women, have failed to keep pace. In fact, the budget reconciliation measure Congress passed in December 2005 contained the largest cuts to student loan programs in the nation’s history – a raid on federal student aid programs of over \$12 billion. These cuts would have significant negative impacts on women, who are more likely to struggle with their rising debt burdens after graduation.

Why would the decreased aid impact women differently, you might ask? According to the most recent data, women working full time earn about 77 cents to the dollar of their male counterparts.^[3] Although historically perceived as a reflection of women’s lesser educational levels and choices in child rearing, studies by the General Accounting Office found that this wage discrimination exists *despite* women’s increased educational attainment, workplace experience, and decreased time out of the workforce raising children.^[4] According to AAUW’s 2005 research, *Gains in Learning, Gaps in Earning*, the number of women attaining baccalaureate and advance degrees now surpasses the number of men obtaining the same degrees,^[5] however, in 2004, a typical college-educated woman working full-time earned \$31,223 a year, compared to \$40,798 for a college-educated man – a stark difference of almost \$9,600.^[6] The message here is that while women may be making visible inroads in education, inequities still exist and they affect women each and every day.

Women are working more than ever yet remain crowded in undervalued, lower-paying occupations with fewer benefits for themselves and the children and elderly for whom they often care. Ensuring economic security for women and girls — from pre-K through retirement and at all points in between — has become our greatest challenge. As the leader in education and equity for women and girls, AAUW is refocusing its efforts to play an integral role in ensuring that the education-based achievements of recent decades are maintained, expanded, and translated into meaningful, lifelong economic security for women and their families.



Jan Rounds, 754-7730

AAUW's EF fund exists to advance education, research, and self-development for women and girls. Your gifts are crucial to these projects.

December 31st is the deadline for this year's contributions. The national office must receive your contribution by that date. You may contribute on line by going to www.aauw.org; then click on Member Center. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on Contribute. Then just follow the instructions. It's easy to contribute that way.

Or you can call 202/728-3307 Monday-Friday from 10 am to 5 pm Eastern time.

Or you can mail your check, made out to AAUW-EF to our treasurer Stefani McRae Dickey. 754 Wyatt Lane, Philomath OR 97370.

Stefani must receive your check by mid December so she has time to mail it to the national offices by the deadline. Questions? Call Jan Rounds @ 754-7730. (The following offer is an example of EF at work!)

AAUW Back to School *Special Extended!*

The AAUW Educational Foundation is offering to send for FREE, ten copies of the *AAUW Harassment Free Hallways Report and Guide* to members who want to share it with their local middle or high school. Also at no cost, ten copies of *Drawing the Line: Sexual Harassment on Campus* will be sent to any member who wants to share the report with a local college or university. (FREE while supplies last for both reports.)
? Contact Foundation@aauw.org.

Getting to Know Juliana

Juliana was asked to tell us about her family, and here are her comments:

About my family: I am married to James, who is a high school teacher in Kenya. We have two kids. Our son Kevin is 13 years, and our daughter Hope is 8 years.

Hobbies; I love working with charitable organizations, reading novels, exercising and farming; the list is endless!

My husband loves traveling, music and drama. In fact he also trains students who are interested in drama.

Kevin has been ailing for so long. This has affected his schoolwork as he is always on medication. In fact one of my missions is to look for facilities here that can fit his program. Beside his ill health he is social and outgoing.

Hope loves playing and reading books. She also likes doing house chores. Talk about anything, and Hope is there!

More about Juliana in future branch newsletters.

Caring and Sharing

We express our sympathy to John and Denise Nervik and their family on the death of their son, Walter. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Marilyn Roland, 752-5257

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, a program of the AAUW Educational Foundation, is the nation's largest legal fund focused solely on sex discrimination in higher education. It provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

The Crystal Campaign ended on June 30 and the fundraising goal of \$100,000 for LAF and EF was met. AAUW of Oregon members' commitment to equity is obvious with the completion of that campaign. The total dollars contributed to the Crystal Campaign exceeded \$100,500.

Ceremony Honors University of Michigan, Dearborn Prison Project With Award From AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

The Progress in Equity Award (PIE Award) recognizes a college or university program that promotes equity on campus for women with a cash reward to continue its efforts. Since 1987 the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund has recognized more than 38 programs through the country for progressive and innovative advancements on behalf of women.

On November 16 the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund honored the University of Michigan's College Level Courses at the Scott Correctional Facility for Women with the 2006 Progress in Equity Award. The Scott Prison program offers university certified courses in women's studies, composition, sociology, African American studies, and other subjects to women at the prison. Courses are taught by university professors on a volunteer basis. The Scott Prison program will receive \$5000 from AAUW.

For more information about the Progress in Equity Award or the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, please contact Rebecca Leaf at leafr@aauw.org or Ashley Carr at carra@aauw.org. You can nominate a candidate for the 2008 Progress in Equity Award. The nominations are due March 15. The process and forms can be found at <http://www.aauw.org/laf/pie/nomform.cfm>.

Interactive Murder Mystery plus Dinner Coming this February EF and LAF fundraiser



The Final Cut

B-Movie Director Eddie Cheek is known for his REALLY bad science fiction films. After all, Ed Woods, Junior is his mentor. Never one to say **die**, Eddie is looking for backers for his new movie, **The Zombie Was An Alien**. He's throwing a gala shindig for potential backers and you're invited! In return for financing his motion picture, Mr. Cheek will put you in his movie.



But be careful! **The Final Cut** could be the worst cut of all for Eddie Cheek and his stars. It could be a **killer** proposition, so be there to discover the **murderer** before you become a **victim!**

Look for details and ticket information in the next issue.



TALENT CALL

Three male and three female roles. Must be comfortable with audience interaction and ad lib. Rehearsals begin the week of January 8, with performances in early February. If you would like to try playing a truly campy role, with lots of humor, Call Stefani McRae-Dickey, 929-7988 for information.



Diversity / Equity

Edie Lee
Edie.Lee@oregonstate.edu

Women in Politics

Now that the 2006 elections have been completed, there is speculation about who will be running in the 2008 Presidential primaries. Here are some historical facts about the women who have run for President and Vice President in the past, according to the Center for American Women in Politics (www.cawp.rutgers.edu).

Victoria Woodhull, a stockbroker, publisher, and protégé of Cornelius Vanderbilt, ran for president of the United States in 1872 on the Equal Rights Party ticket.

Belva Lockwood, the first woman admitted to practice law before the U.S Supreme Court ran for president on the same party's ticket in 1884 and 1888.

Sen. Margaret Chase Smith (ME) became the first woman to have her name placed in nomination for president at a major party convention when Sen. George Aiken nominated her at the 1964 Republican national convention. Smith – also the first woman to serve in both the House and Senate – had campaigned briefly for the post when the Senate was not in session.

In 1972, Rep. Shirley Chisholm (D-NY) ran for president in the Democratic primaries. At the party's national convention, she won 151.25 delegate votes before Sen. George McGovern clinched the nomination.

Frances (Sissy) Farenthold, a former Texas state legislator who twice ran for governor of that state, finished second in the balloting for the 1972 Democratic vice presidential nomination, receiving more than 400 votes.

Third-term Congresswoman Geraldine A. Ferraro (D-NY), secretary of the House Democratic Caucus, became the first woman ever to run on a major party's national ticket when she was selected by Walter F. Mondale as his Vice Presidential running mate in 1984.

Congresswoman Patricia Schroeder (D-CO) explored the idea of running for president in the 1988 election, but bowed out of the race after concluding that she could not overtake men who had been running and raising funds for months before her.

Elizabeth Dole, who had served as U.S. Secretary of Labor, U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Federal Trade Commissioner, and president of the American Red Cross, ran for the Republican presidential nomination in 2000. After failing to attract sufficient early support, she withdrew from the race. She now represents North Carolina in the U.S. Senate.

Ambassador Carol Moseley Braun (D-IL) was among ten Democrats seeking the 2004 presidential nomination. An attorney and one-term U.S. senator (1992-1998), Braun has also served as U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand, Illinois state representative, and Cook County Recorder of Deeds.

Footnotes for Public Policy Article

^[1] Sara Mead. "The Truth About Boys and Girls" (Education Sector, June 2006), http://www.educationsector.org/usr_doc/ESO_BoysAndGirls.pdf (November 2006).

^[2] Catherine Hill and Elena Silva. *Drawing the Line: Sexual Harassment on Campus* (AAUW Educational Foundation, 2005).

^[3] U.S. Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor and Statistics. (March 2005). Annual Demographic Survey. (Retrieved Nov. 2006), http://pubdb2.census.gov/macro/032005/perinc/ne05_00.htm.

^[4] U.S. General Accounting Office. (2003). *Women's Earnings: Work Patterns Partially Explain Difference between Men's and women's Earnings*. Report GAO-04-35. Washington, D.C.

^[5] AAUW Educational Foundation. (2005). Gains in Learning, Gaps in Earnings: A Guide to State and National Data.

<http://www.aauw.org/research/statedata/index.cfm>

^[6] U.S. Department of Labor.



Events Calendar

DEC	Activity	Time	Location
1	Holiday Tea & EF Poinsettia Sale	4-6 p.m.	Nancy Sanderson, 1165 NW 17 th St.
6	Evening Lit Group	7:30 p.m.	Dianne Jackson, 6484 NW Sisters Pl.
12	Afternoon Lit Group	2:00 p.m.	Brenda Rowley, 1581 NW Hillcrest Dr.
15	Newsletter deadline		
22	No-Host Lunch	11:45 a.m.	Michael's Landing; RSVP by 12/20 to Charlotte Drost, 753-7253
JAN	Activity	Time	Location
8	Board Meeting	12:30 - 2:00 p.m.	US Bank (corner of 9th & Walnut)
15	Newsletter deadline		
16	Great Decisions	2 - 4 p.m.	Corvallis Caring Place Library
20	Gourmet Group		Jane Ann Warkentin