

## Branch Newsletter

Volume 25, Number 10

June / July 2005

### In This Issue

#### Program

#### President's Message

#### Membership

#### Membership Form

#### EF

#### LAF

#### Diversity / Equity

#### Interest Groups

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

#### Calendar

AAUW promotes equity for all 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.

### AAUW Visit



## The Oregon Garden

Thursday, July 21, 2005

8:30 a.m. Rite Aid parking lot  
Garden opens at 10 a.m.

A botanical wonderland awaits you and your guests (spouses, friends, prospective members) at The Oregon Garden, 879 W. Main St., Silverton, on Thursday, July 21. This excursion is our annual Corvallis Branch summer outing.

Gather at the Rite Aid parking lot near the coffee kiosk close to 9th Street to carpool to our destination. Maps will be available.

Adult rates are \$8 per person, and senior rates 60+ are \$7. The Garden offers discounted rates for groups of 15 or more. Reservations should reach Marilyn Roland, 752-5257, or e-mail ([rolandm2@comcast.net](mailto:rolandm2@comcast.net)) by Wednesday, July 6. You are still welcome to join the group even at a later date. Attendees should either bring a picnic lunch or plan to eat at the Garden Cafe.

There are free guided walking tours throughout the day. Also available are electric tram tours for \$2 a person. There is so much to delight the eye at every turn of the path. Look for the amazing water garden, the Jackson & Perkins rose garden, the white oak grove, the conifer garden, the Silverton Market garden, the sensory garden, the rose petal fountain, the children's garden, the Hughes water garden, the Northwest garden, and the lupine fugue. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to commune with nature in a gorgeous setting.

Directions from Corvallis: Drive north on I-5 to Salem. Take the Keizer exit 260. Turn right on Chemawa Road which becomes Hazelgreen Road in one mile at the intersection with Hwy.99 E. Follow Hazelgreen Road approximately five miles. Turn right on Howell Prairie Road and follow it for two miles to Silverton Road (Highway 213), then turn left. Continue until you reach the first stop sign in Silverton, then turn right on Westfield Street. Follow Westfield to the intersection with Main Street, turn right. The Oregon Garden entrance is directly ahead on the left.



### Co-Presidents

Stefani McRae-Dickey  
929-7988  
[mcraedic@peak.org](mailto:mcraedic@peak.org)

Jan Rounds  
754-7730  
[donjan@peak.org](mailto:donjan@peak.org)

### Program Development Co-VPs

Marge Bromley  
[bromleymb@comcast.net](mailto:bromleymb@comcast.net)  
Carolyn Simmons  
[CrCAROLYN@aol.com](mailto:CrCAROLYN@aol.com)  
Cathy Phelps  
[cathy.phelps@comcast.net](mailto:cathy.phelps@comcast.net)  
Marilyn Roland  
[rolandm2@comcast.net](mailto:rolandm2@comcast.net)

### Membership Co-VPs

Rosemary Cunningham  
753-1319  
[cunninghamrt@comcast.net](mailto:cunninghamrt@comcast.net)  
Dorothy Ruff  
929-4629  
[druff@mycidco.com](mailto:druff@mycidco.com)  
Diana Bernstein  
738-8292  
[dianatbernstein@yahoo.com](mailto:dianatbernstein@yahoo.com)

### Treasurer

Nancy William  
753-1979

### Secretary

Louise Livesay  
[fanlu@aol.com](mailto:fanlu@aol.com)

### Newsletter Editor

Martha Jenkins  
758-4390  
[marthaj@peak.org](mailto:marthaj@peak.org)

### Newsletter & Website Administrator

Cynthia McMahan  
MBC Corp.  
[cynthiamcm@peak.org](mailto:cynthiamcm@peak.org)

**Co-Presidents**  
Stefani McRae-Dickey, 929-7988  
Jan Rounds, 754-7730

## Stef's Stylus

Thank you to all the wonderful women who have made AAUW such a success for the last two years. As my term comes to an end, I am reflecting on all the great AAUW events we have enjoyed. Thank you Marilyn Roland, Cathy Phelps, Marge Bromley and Carolyn Simmons for the memorable programs we have had. Muriel, Louise, Carolyn, and Cathy brought our foremothers alive in March with Profiles of Women, Past and Present. Not only did they portray women in history, each one did additional research on her character, as well as created her costume. I learned a great deal, and was once again reminded of how resilient and resourceful a woman is, especially when someone tells her "you can't do it because you're a woman." For me, the most powerful program was "Courageous Women" in April. Not only were these women told they couldn't do it, they overcame barriers that would defeat an ordinary mortal. They had the courage to make tough choices, to persevere, to speak out and to help others attain their goals. They were women who were tested in a way most of us will never experience. What an inspiration they are to us all.



Thank you to Rosie Cunningham, Jan Rounds, Dorothy Ruff and Diana Bernstein for building our Branch and reaching out to new members. The membership committee never rests, and their dedication has made such a difference to all of us. Our entire committee is retiring this year, but they have set the standard for all to come. Thank you all for, in a time of declining membership in AAUW and all service organizations, not only maintaining our membership numbers, but increasing our membership each year. Thank you!

Thank you, Nancy William, for keeping track of our money, our budget, our fund raisers and much more. The treasurer keeps us on the straight and narrow, and we are eternally grateful. Speaking of keeping us on track, we need two or three volunteers to read the minutes for one year, and make sure our expenditures are matched by motions to spend the money. Will you please help with this task? You can do it at home, and then report to the Board in person, or by a written report. Call Jan or me to volunteer. Makes great summer reading!

Thanks to Louise Livesay, who took detailed minutes of all our Board meetings and emailed them out to each of the Board members. Louise takes care of all the details and provides the permanent record of our business. Thanks Louise!

Thanks also, to all the appointed officers who did such a beautiful job this last year. Evelyn Stephens and Sue Borden raised more than \$2000 for Educational Foundation (EF) and the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) with our new venture, the Bridge Marathon. They worked throughout the year to make this a success, and have graciously agreed to chair the event again next year! Kudos and thanks to you both! Sue also served as our yearbook editor (that is, she did all the work to prepare it for the printer) and was our LAF chair too. Sue is a woman of unbounded energy and efficiency, and a great musician also. Thank you, Sue!

Without our Communications chair, Muriel Lawrence, no publicity for our meetings would appear in the *Gazette-Times*. Thanks, Muriel for keeping AAUW in the press. Edie Lee stepped in as our Diversity Chair and wrote wonderful articles for the newsletter to raise our awareness of diversity issues. Thank you, Edie.

Patty Eberhardt and Pam Duran coordinated the beverages, flowers, table settings, and goodies at all our meetings. And where would AAUW be without goodies! Thank you both for making our meetings so lovely. Our EF chairs, Marge Bromley, Jane Ann Warkentin kept us informed about EF issues, and encouraged us to raise money for the Foundation. Thank you, Marge and Jane Ann.

## V.P. Membership

Diana Bernstein, 738-8292  
Rosemary Cunningham, 753-1319  
Dorothy Ruff, 929-4629



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

As most of you know, our 2004-2005 year ends on June 30, 2005. The 2005-2006 application is available several ways. You can find it online and download it from <http://www.corvallis-aauw.org/membership.html>, or access it at the various links on this page.

Also, for your convenience, Martha Jenkins has emailed the form to members with computer access. Those who have the newsletter mailed to them will find an application in the May newsletter. Almost half of our members have already renewed their membership. We urge the rest of you to fill it out and mail it today.

Help us meet the June 30 deadline!

### Late-Breaking News--Corvallis Branch Receives Award

At the AAUW of OR Convention, the Corvallis Branch received the 2005 Large Branch Best Newsletter Award. This is quite an honor for our branch.

### Pres Message

*continued from Page 2*

Thank you to Martha Jenkins, who as Past President, has been anything but retired. She has edited the newsletter, a big task, and kept us on schedule with reminders to submit our articles on time. She chaired the committee which designed and installed the display in the Library for Women's History Month. And best of all, whenever a job needs to be done, Martha can always be depended upon to jump in and help! Dear Martha, Thank You!

Diana Bernstein served both as our Public Policy chair and as a Membership Committee member (since January) while working full time at Mennonite Village. Thank you Diana, for keeping AAUW in your busy schedule. We appreciate all you do!

A special thanks to Jan Rounds, who has served as Co-President since November and is returning to serve as President for 2005-06. Jan is a gracious and caring leader who will be wonderful as our President. When Jan asks you to join her Board, please say "Yes, I'd be delighted to serve!"

Thanks go also to each and every member of AAUW who has made the financial commitment to support "Equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change" by joining our branch. It is you, the members, who make AAUW the vibrant organization it is. You care about equity, about women's opportunities in society and you care about each other. Take a bow, AAUW members!

--Stefani McRae-Dickey

Marge Bromley, 757-7722  
Jane Ann Warkentin, 754-8875

## Celebrate AAUW in Oregon with the Centennial Crystal Campaign for EF

The first Branch of AAUW in Oregon was established in 1905, and we are commemorating one hundred years of AAUW in Oregon with the Centennial Crystal Campaign.

AAUW of Oregon and the Educational Foundation have launched the campaign with the goal of raising \$100,000 in Oregon for the Educational Foundation in the 2005-06 fiscal year. This past year, we gave more than \$97,000, so this is a very attainable goal.

The EF/LAF research unofficially titled *Hostile Hallways Goes to College* will receive our funds and use them in the final phases of the project, the printing and dissemination of the 'sexual harassment prevention best policies for campuses' book.

"AAUW of Oregon" will be printed on a title page, crediting our state for this project. Look for details in the next Oregon News.



### Corvallis AAUW Local Scholarships Awarded to Adele Kubein and Gail McCreedy

The Corvallis Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is pleased to award a \$600 scholarship to both Adele Kubein and Gail McCreedy of Corvallis.

Adele is a junior at Oregon State University, majoring in Political Science and on the Honor Roll with a 4.0 grade point average. She expects to receive a BA degree in June 2006. Overcoming obstacles with hard work and eloquence, Adele finds time to volunteer as a grant writer, to mentor at-risk youth, volunteer for many community organizations, and serve as a spokeswoman for Military Families Speak Out; all this while earning a living with her grounds keeping business, I Can Dig It. "Ms. Kubein is nearly without peer, one of the three or four best scholars it has been my privilege to teach in three decades of university service," wrote Richard Mitchell, Professor of Sociology at OSU.

Adele's future plans include working for an international organization for social change and continuing her education. She lives in Corvallis and helps care for her daughter, a disabled veteran of the war in Iraq.

Gail is a student at Oregon State University, majoring in Health Care Administration with a minor in Business Administration. Currently on the Honor Roll, she expects to receive a BS degree in June 2006. Prior to enrolling at OSU in 2004, Gail earned an AS degree at Linn-Benton Community College and attended Woodbury University. Early in her career, Gail worked as a Medical Assistant, but put her career plans on hold to raise a family and work in her husband's business. Now divorced, she is completing a bachelor's degree while encouraging and supporting her two daughters who also attend OSU. "Gail McCreedy is an enthusiastic, talented and exceptional student" wrote Gary Hunter, Professor of Business Law at OSU.

Her career plans in health care administration include helping those who fall through the cracks, that is, those who are employed yet are unable to afford medical insurance.

Corvallis AAUW awards scholarships annually to women students 25 years of age or older who reside in Benton County or the area served by the Corvallis School District. Applicants must be enrolled in courses leading to an undergraduate degree or certificate in an Oregon college or university. Selection is based on academic achievement, career goals, work experience, community activities, honors and awards and financial need. Application forms for our 2006 awards will be available at Linn-Benton Community College (LBCC) and OSU financial aid offices in January, 2006.

Local Scholarship Committee,

Muriel Lawrence, Edie Lee, Stefani McRae-Dickey, Dorothy Ruff and Marilyn Treiman

---

## ARE WOMEN LESS ABLE IN MATH AND SCIENCE?

“When Harvard President Larry Summers told the economics conference at which he was speaking that he thought innate differences between men and women kept women out of mathematics and sciences the effects were immediate.

Nancy Hopkins, a biology professor at MIT, walked out of the conference in protest.

The news media fell over themselves to bring the story to the front page.

Undergraduate women at Harvard were interviewed and confirmed that, yes, they did feel as if their chances weren't good for academic advancement at the nation's premier Ivy League school.

We at AAUW knew we had to speak out—loudly, clearly, and forcefully—in opposition to Larry Summers' assertions about women's abilities in math and science. Otherwise we would be validating his statement.

When the president of Harvard speaks as a voice for women in higher education—and we are betrayed from such a lofty perch—then we must shoulder the responsibility to reshape public opinion on behalf of all campus women. You see, we at the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) face evidence of bias against women in the academic community every single day. On behalf of women professors and researchers, we've supported lawsuits against colleges and universities with the finest reputations in the country.

We were disappointed to see Larry Summers' opinion stated so publicly—but we certainly weren't surprised. We see it every single day—and so do many women throughout the nation. The bias that exists—spoken and unspoken—is what makes our work so vitally important. And it's what makes your support so critical. You give us the ability to defend women in the academic world against subtle and overt forms of discrimination.

...I ask that you give generously and that you do it now—this minute—(*Note: you can add it on to your dues check!*)—so it doesn't slip your mind. Larry Summers' damaging comments are positive proof that your participation in LAF is critical now. It's going to take every single one of us to foment a revolution in the way women are valued in academia—and when we all work together, we are unstoppable. Help us stand up for equality at all levels of academia by contributing generously to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund. Thank you!”

...excerpts from an appeal by Leslie T. Annexstein, Director, AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund.

### Administrative Change in LAF and EF

As you may remember from articles in the newsletter last fall, there was a move to include the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) in the Educational Foundation (EF) as an individual fund, thus eliminating the corporate costs of a separate administration for LAF. This has been completed, and LAF is an individual fund administered by the Educational Foundation.

You will still make your donation to LAF, and it will be used by LAF only. This is similar to the Eleanor Roosevelt fund within EF. AAUW continues its goal of equity for all women and girls, and in no way has abandoned our commitment to helping women in institutions of higher learning fight sexual discrimination and harassment. Members of the LAF board have joined the EF board to ensure that LAF continues its mission.

LAF is alive and well, just the administrative costs have been reduced.

Thanks to Association for this improved management of our money. We will continue with both an EF and an LAF chair to promote and raise funds for each entity.

## Tech–Savvy: Educating Girls in the New Computer Age

As violent electronic games and dull programming classes turn off more and more girls, the way information technology is used, applied, and taught in the nation's classrooms must change, according to a report, *Tech–Savvy: Educating Girls in the New Computer Age*, published in 2000 by the AAUW Educational Foundation Commission on Technology, Gender and Teacher Education.

The report combines the insights of its 14 commissioners (researchers, educators, journalists, and entrepreneurs) at the forefront of cyberculture and education, findings from the Foundation's online survey of 900 teachers, qualitative focus group research with more than 70 girls, and reviews of existing research.

"The commission makes it clear that girls are critical of the computer culture, not computer phobic," said Sherry Turkle, professor of sociology at MIT and co–chair of the commission. "Instead of trying to make girls fit into the existing computer culture, the computer culture must become more inviting for girls."

Among the report's major conclusions:

- \* Computer technology—Girls find programming classes tedious and dull, computer games too boring, redundant, and violent, and computer career options uninspiring.
- \* Electronic games—Girls have clear and strong ideas about what kinds of games they would design: games that feature simulation, strategy, and interaction. These games, in fact, would appeal to a broad range of learners – boys and girls alike.
- \* Computer fluency—Gender equity cannot be measured by how many girls send e–mail, use the Internet, or make PowerPoint presentations. Rather, gender equity means using technology proactively, being able to interpret the information that technology makes available, understanding design concepts, and being a lifelong learner of technology. These abilities apply across the whole range of subjects and careers, not just computer science.
- \* Teacher education—The "drive by" approach to teacher training focuses on the technical properties of hardware; it does not emphasize educational applications or innovative uses of computing for each subject area.
- \* The high–tech workplace—When women, who make up half the workforce, account for only 20 percent of those with information technology credentials, it is a clear sign that we have to make computers and technology relevant across the job market to nontraditional users.

"Based on our findings," said Patricia Diaz Dennis, a former Federal Communications Commission commissioner and co–chair of the Technology Commission, "girls and women can become computer fluent doing everything from architecture to zoology. Without appropriate teacher education and design opportunities we'll have 19th–century classrooms dressed in 21st–century technology."

## Afternoon Literature Group

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

Louise Livesay, 753-4813

Contact Louise if you cannot come.

June 14

*Frida* by Barbara Mujica

Hostess: Mary Lee Seward

2380 NW Estaview Cir.

754-6659

Reviewer: Marilyn Treiman

## Evening Literature Group

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

Mary Mills, 745-7961

Shirley Wirth, 754-7186

June 1

*Lolita in Tehran* by Azar Nafisi

Hostess: Ann Mills

1090 NW Overlook Dr.

745-7130

millsannt@cs.com

Facilitators – The entire group

## Gourmet Group

This year we've enjoyed four exciting theme dinners: Colonial Williamsburg; At the Table of the Raj; Nectar and Ambrosia; and Dining With William Shakespeare.

Thank you to everyone who prepared the delectable dishes, hosted in their homes, and attended in theme spirit and attire. It's be a delicious year!

Look for more Gourmet Dinner Delights to be offered in 2005-06.

With fond memories and future plans,  
Your Gourmet Committee: Chris Cantey, Denise Nervik, Carolyn Simmons

## No-Host Lunch

In May, several members enjoyed lunch at Tommy's 4th Street Grill.

Summer is approaching, but let's not leave out lunch!

A special lunch is planned for **Thursday, June 16, 11:45 a.m.** at the **Gathering Together Farm in Philomath**. Please reserve for this lunch by Sun. June 5th, so I can give them a full count. The menu changes daily and offers such delights as wraps, puff pastries, crepes, soups, and salads. Won't you join us for this special event?

Also, be sure to mark you calendar for our Annual Summer Lunch at **Nearly Normals on Thursday, August 18 at 11:45**. We'll plan to eat outside on the patio and enjoy the quiet—in the absence of the college crowd. This is always a well-attended lunch, so please get your reservations to me by August 14. Yum, yum; fun, fun!

In September we'll start another great year of Third Thursday Lunches—think about places you'd like to eat and we'll discuss them in September.

Of course you can call or e-mail anytime with your ideas/suggestions.

Thanks from your No-Host Organizer, Carolyn Simmons,  
758-0271, CrCAROLYN@aol.com

JUNE	Activity	Time	Location
1	Evening Lit Group	7:30 p.m.	Ann Mills, 1090 NW Overlook Dr.
14	Afternoon Lit Group	2:00 p.m.	Mary Lee Seward, 2380 NW Estaview Cir.
16	No-Host Lunch	11:45 a.m.	Gathering Together Farm, Philomath
30	Membership Dues Deadline		Contact Rosemary Cunningham

JULY	Activity	Time	Location
21	Oregon Garden Visit	8:30 a.m.	Meet at Rite Aid parking lot

AUG	Activity	Time	Location
8	Board Meeting	12:30-2:00 p.m.	US Bank, corner of 9th & Walnut
18	No-Host Lunch	11:45 a.m.	Nearly Normals