

Branch Newsletter

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Thyme Garden Luncheon

July 8

11 A.M. at Garden



or

Car Pool from Bi-Mart Parking lot at 53rd and Philomath Highway.

Depart from Bi-Mart at 10:30 A.M.

Our July 8 meeting will be a tour and luncheon at the Thyme Garden in Alsea. Please come enjoy a gourmet meal in a lovely setting. The lavender lemonade is fabulous! Stroll in the beautiful herb garden, along the shady riverside, or visit the forest pond complete with ducks. The butterfly garden will inspire you to expand your own garden. Herb, butterfly and bird plants are available in the nursery at reasonable prices.

The cost for the luncheon is \$18. This is a very full gourmet meal, and well worth the \$18.

Please complete the [registration form](#) and mail in \$18 to reserve your place. Deadline for registration is June 17.

For information, call Stefani McRae, 929-7988.

President

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758-4390
marthaj@peak.org

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**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.**

Martha's Musings



This has been a banner year for our branch—literally! Those of you attending the AAUW of OR Convention and/or the May 17th Brunch have had the chance to see our beautiful new branch banner. Many thanks to Sylvia Volk for her design ideas, banner committee Joyce Carver, Jan Rounds, Edie Shields and Martha Jenkins, and to Edie Shields for actually making the banner. I know we will display the banner with pride many times in the future. Materials used to make the banner were purchased from funds raised at our Bottle Auction.

The Convention was a resounding success! State President Margene Ridout wrote in a note to the branch, "Are you ready to host another Convention? As you reflect and listen to all the accolades, you will realize it was a lot of work but also enjoyable. Thank you and congratulations for your successful and fun Convention." Many members were involved in making the Convention such a success. Thanks to all of you and a huge thanks to Convention co-chairs Irene Lilja and Judy Rudolph who are convention-planners supreme!

The *Transitions* Conference we co-sponsored with the Albany Branch was, according to conference coordinator Nancy Brown, "fantastic!" She writes, "We had 70 participants. Linda O'Hara (past president AAUW of OR and author of the grant to fund the conference) was extremely impressed. Linn-Benton Community College (LBCC) was, too, and wants to do it again next year, but earlier—maybe Feb. 7 so that participants have time to apply for scholarships, etc. Thanks to all the Corvallis members who helped with the Conference."

Drawings for prizes, including seven tuition vouchers for three credits each at LBCC, were held throughout the day. Feedback from participants was extremely positive and enthusiastic. We should be very proud of our branches for putting on such a wonderful conference the first time around. I can't wait to help next year!

My sincere thanks to all of you for your support and friendship during my two years as President. It has been a joy and privilege to work with all of you. Thank you all for the beautiful pewter past-president's pin which I received at the May 17 Brunch. I hope you all have a relaxing, renewing summer and look forward to visiting with you at the Tyee Winery on June 6th.

Martha Jenkins

President

Caring and Sharing

(Contact Martha Jenkins at marthaj@peak.org with information)

Thanks to **Joyce Carver**, **Nancy Tolin** and **Shirley Wirth** for the beautiful AAUW display in the Footwise window in April. The display really showcased AAUW and our branch.

Thanks to **Betty Sleight** and **Barbara Mykrantz** for working with AAUW of OR Educational Foundation Chair, Sarah Elmer, to organize the Eleanor Roosevelt Walk/Run during Convention. Participants raised \$2600!

Congratulations to Corvallis Branch members who won baskets at the Educational Foundation/Legal Advocacy Fund raffle at Convention—Irene Lilja, Judy Rudolph, Jane Ann Warkentin, Rosemary Cunningham and Mary Lee Seward. All the baskets donated by the various branches were really beautiful and packed full of goodies.



Corvallis Branch
Receives Award for **Best
Electronic Newsletter
for a Large Branch** at
the AAUW of OR
Convention!

Congratulations to all of
us and to publisher
Cynthia McMahon for her
skill and creativity.

V.P. Membership
Rosemary Cunningham, 753-1319
cunninghamrt@attbi.com

Back by Popular Demand!

All-Member Wine Tasting Party

*Come meet some of our new members**

Tyee Winery
26335 Greenberry Road
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.. Friday, June 6, 2003
\$5 per person**

Bring your favorite hors d'oeuvre to share.
Friends and spouses are encouraged to join us!

*Get acquainted with the newest members:

Patty Eberhardt, Jean Eidemiller, Kathy Higdon, Bertha Houk, Elise Love, Carolyn Moore, Kerry Mullin, Cathy Phelps, Esmeralda Reyes–Allen, Tara Robinson, Pam Turner, Ann Mills.

** Refund given with purchase of 3 bottles of wine.



Getting Acquainted with New Members

Until her recent retirement, **Cathy Phelps** taught in elementary schools for 36 years. She received her BS from Oregon College of Education and her MS from Western Oregon University. Although Cathy has been a resident of Corvallis for 7 years, she spent most of her teaching years working in the Philomath School district. In 2002, she was listed in the ***Who's Who Among American Teachers***.

Cathy has three children and three grandchildren. One of her daughters is a mother of two children and works for the City of Tualatin. Her other daughter, who is expecting a second child in July, is a labor and delivery nurse. Cathy's son is in the U.S. Navy.

Spending time with her two grandsons and one granddaughter is very important to Cathy, but in her retirement, she is also finding time for herself: singing, reading, walking, and sharing adventures with friends. While working out at a local fitness gym, Cathy met Dorothy Ruff who enthusiastically recommended AAUW and the afternoon literature group.

Address/Email Additions

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Corvallis, Or 97330
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SNFitness@aol.com

Ann Mills

1090 NW Overlook Dr.
745-7130
millsannt@cs.com

Esmeralda Reyes–Allen

esmeraldaallen@msn.com

GIVE A GRAD A GIFT ... A FREE AAUW MEMBERSHIP!

As an AAUW member, you can now give a grad* – a friend, daughter, granddaughter, or niece – a free AAUW membership.

Your recruit will receive a one-year member-at-large membership – a \$40 value. She can join a branch at any time, and be responsible for paying only branch and state dues. For the online membership application, type in the following: http://www.aauw.org/member_center/programs/gradgift.cfm. If you don't have access to a computer, contact Rosemary Cunningham for assistance at 753-1319. *Degree must be a bachelor's or higher degree from an accredited institution.

Activity of Note in Salem:

Education-related bills:

The “**Parents as Scholars**” bill (HB 2450) passed the Senate. There were small amendments so it will go back to the House but it should pass. The bill allows 181 recipients of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) to count education as work past the high school diploma or GED.

House Education heard and passed out **SB 761. This bill does away with testing requirements for home schooled children.** Oregon AAUW testified against the bill and we plan to do a letter to House members. The testing costs \$35 per child and is only required four times over a normal K-12 period. Students who are home schooled for a time and then enter the public school system often are excellent students in reading and literature. However, there are many cases where they are deficient in math, writing and science and require remedial efforts to attain their grade level. If they take examinations, then the parents should be alerted to areas in which the home schooling is falling behind. SB 761 may reach the floor of the house as soon as this week. Join AAUW's efforts to defeat it.

Gender-equity bills:

SB 785 --which provides full breast reconstruction as part of breast cancer treatment passed the Senate. It now goes to the house side where we will await a hearing on the bill. The insurance industry is fine with the bill.

Emergency Contraception has not had a hearing. (SB 677) but is in the rules committee.

Contraceptive Equity (SB 236) had a hearing but is currently being held hostage in the Senate Committee by those who want to have a hearing on the 24-hour wait period prior to a termination of pregnancy.

Breast Feeding or Express Milk in the Workplace (SB783) passed the Senate--NO THANKS to our local Senator MORSE: he voted against the bill! The bill's sponsor, Ginnie Burdick (D-Portland) said the Amer. Academy of Pediatrics recommends breast feeding until babies are at least a year old. She said data show that two-thirds of mothers return to work much sooner than that after having babies and that many stop breast feeding for that reason. The bill says employers must make reasonable efforts to give women unpaid rest breaks and provide private areas where they can breast feed infants or express breast milk. Exceptions would be allowed when the requirement would cause "undue hardship on the operation of an employer's business." Morse was quoted in the G-T on April 30: "The bill has the best of intentions,' but he said vague wording will leave it to the courts to decide what businesses must do to comply with the ruling. Morse, a former construction company owner, said complying with the law at a construction site, for example, wouldn't be easy." One has to ask why? Is the difficulty in adding an extra private space on site --- or in adding an extra space specifically for women?

Now the bill goes to the House side. Associated Oregon Industries is fighting the bill.

Let Reps. Wirth, Lane and Close know that you support it!

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The real issue for the remainder of the session will be revenue. We have seen glimpses of the proposed co-chairs of ways and means budgets. They are not good. In the last budget cycle programs affecting women and children were cut. Then the six special sessions occurred with more cuts. We cannot afford to further limit our efforts to get families out of the poverty cycle.

The Oregon Revenue Coalition has been working inside the Capitol on the tax credit "loophole" issue for some time. This next week we may consider some revenue enhancements as well. However the bigger news is there is now an organization to do grass roots organizing. We need real people to call their legislators on the tax credits. The new organization is "FOFT" or Fund Oregon's Future Today.

* Many thanks to all of you who ordered begonias and geraniums for our Spring Flower sale to benefit the Education Foundation. The profit from this sale was \$147.00.

* Proceeds from the Corvallis Branch basket at Convention was \$130.00 and this will go to the Educational Foundation. Many thanks to the afternoon book group.

* Three Corvallis Branch members – Marion Swanson, Marilyn Roland, and Irene Lilja – were honored as members of the Century Club. To receive this recognition individuals must contribute \$100.00 or more to the EF during the year. Congratulations!

* In the past year our branch was credited with contributing \$1000 to the Educational Foundation, with a per capita giving of \$10.87. Beaverton led the per capita giving with \$62.14. The average per capita figure was \$26.14. The state of Oregon contributed a total of \$50,781.02 to EF, with \$12,165 being designated for the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund.

Local Scholarship Recipient is Maria Beattie

Good news. We had four applications for the AAUW Scholarship. I asked Joyce Carver to review the applications with me and we both agreed on the top candidate -- she really stood out.

The award will go to Maria Beattie, a 36-year old single mom with three children, ages 5, 10 and 12. Maria's husband died in 1998 from heart disease. She had received her Associate's degree in 1992. She was a stay at home mom, running a family day care business in their home. When her youngest daughter started preschool, Maria decided to return to school. Her goal is "to be a teacher who is compassionate, while at the same time having strong expectations for children to reach individual, attainable goals that are appropriate for them." She states that she believes "in small steps, but continuous upward movement in a child's education."

Maria has earned a total of 180 credits and has a cumulative GPA of 3.91 at OSU. She anticipates completing requirements for a BS in 2004. She has been accepted into a dual Bachelors degree in Human Development and Family Sciences and a Bachelors degree in Education while working toward Teacher Certification.

The two letters of recommendation submitted from one of her professors and from a fifth grade teacher at Jefferson Elementary where Maria has volunteered in the classroom vouch for her outstanding qualifications. To quote from one: "I have discussed career goals with Maria. She has a strong commitment to classroom teaching and her recent successes in field experience with children confirm that interest. I am confident that her contribution to the teaching profession will go beyond the classroom. She exhibited a creative approach to resolving social issues that affect children and their families. She will likely be an effective advocate in the policy arena on such issues."

–Ruth Burns, Local Scholarship Chair

POLICY

Continued from page 4

We all know that schools are in dire shape. There have been lots of rallies around more funding for schools. Please consider calling, writing or coming to the Capitol to advocate for human services. If kids don't have a safe place to live, food in their stomachs and clean clothes to wear, they will not succeed in school. The success for kids is often dependent on the level of their mother's education and effort. That is the story that needs to be told.

The message the leadership has been giving on the revenue issue is "I am reluctant to talk about revenue because I am not hearing that from my constituents." They need to hear that we want them to add revenue enhancements to the budgets. Please call or email or write. Oregon's future depends on people like us contacting our legislators!

Taking Stock – LAF in 2003

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund. The Fund began as a pilot project in 1981 after the Ithaca New York branch raised funds for the 1978 “Cornell 11” lawsuit (female professors who were all denied tenure). Support for the project was so enthusiastic that the AAUW made LAF a permanent part of its triad in 1983.

Many funds that support LAF plaintiffs come from the Rawalt Fund. These monies come from the fund established in 1977 by the Women’s Equity Action League (outside of AAUW) to honor Marguerite Rawalt. Ms. Rawalt, born in 1895, helped found NOW (National Organization of Women) She was also the president of the Business & Professional Women and the first woman president of the American Bar Association. The Rawalt Fund’s mission was to further the rights of women and its funds soon grew to over \$300,000. In 1997 the fund’s trustees chose LAF to be the permanent home of the Rawalt Fund. It supports only cases already adopted by LAF.

Since 1981, LAF has supported 78 cases with over \$1 million. That’s an average of less than \$13,000 per plaintiff. In 2002, AAUW of Oregon raised approximately \$18,000, the 5th highest total for a state.

In 2002, the Corvallis Branch of AAUW contributed \$675 to LAF, an average of nearly \$7.50 per member. Two of our members, Judy Rudolph and Marion Swanson, were designated as Golden Circle Contributors (This designation is for contributions of \$50 through \$100). Most recently, the basket contributed by the Evening Book Group for the benefit of LAF was raffled at the State Convention and brought in \$81 for the fund.

Thanks to all of you who have participated in our branch’s efforts for LAF. We will continue to look for ways to increase our contributions to this fund. The important work continues.

POLICY 2

Continued from Page 5

From The Coalition of Advocates for Equal Access for Girls:

The Coalition is very concerned about the disproportionate impact that the latest 2001–03 Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) and Oregon Commission on Children and Families (OCCF) cuts and the proposed 2003–05 cuts have and will have on services to girls and young women. It is clear that the effects of these cuts will be devastating. It is essential that we make our voices heard, and share our concern with legislators. The Coalition’s Legislative Committee requests that you contact House Speaker Karen Minnis and Senator Kurt Schrader, Co–Chair of the Ways and Means Committee about support for revenue enhancement. You are also requested to contact members from the Ways and Means Subcommittees on Human Services and Public Safety.

Below you will find a statement to present to Speaker Minnis and Senator Schrader.

We must also stress our support for enhanced revenue to stop this elimination of services for youth, and girls in particular. Thanks again for your willingness to be a voice for girls: Your voice does make a difference!

Speaker of the House, Karen Minnis 503.986.1200, rep.karenminnis@state.or.us

Sen. Kurt Schrader, Co–Chair 503.986.1720, sen.kurtschrader@state.or.us

Sen. Morse is on the Subcommittee on Human Services: 503–986–1708, sen.frankmorse@state.or.us

“We want girls to have access to the support and services that they need when they need it, and that includes prevention services at any point in their development. We believe there is no way to accomplish what needs to be done for our children, for our girls, without increasing the revenue in this state. Reform of Oregon’s current unstable and unsustainable tax system must be pursued to address its underlying structural deficiencies. (While not vying one group of Oregonians –babies vs. teens against another). The Coalition of Advocates for Equal Access for Girls is concerned about recent and proposed cuts to services for girls in OYA. The reality is that these cuts already have and continue to severely decrease the number of girls who have access to OYA’s continuum of services from close custody through community services. I also want to bring your attention to the severe cuts to Oregon Commission on Children and Families’ Youth Investment funding stream. OCCF received cuts this biennium of \$4 M, bringing the total left in YI grants to \$7.9 M. With this cut the initially \$12 M budget will be under \$4 M for the biennium for the whole state. (Or less than \$2 M a year to serve all of the 13–18 year old neglected, run away and non–adjudicated youth.) Cutting these funds will basically eliminate any prevention programs for this population of youth, particularly girls and young women, at the local level.”

Afternoon Literature Group

Meets on the second Tuesday at 2 p.m.

Val Krauss 766-8916

June 10

"*Love of a Good Woman*" by Alice Munro

Hostess: Brenda Rowley
1581 NW Hillcrest Dr.

Reviewer: Mary Lee Seward

Book for September:
"*John Adams*" by David McCullough

We will be voting on book selections for Oct '03 – Jan '04 at
the June meeting.

Evening Literature Group

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

Gail Garrison, 745 7396
Nancy Tolin, 752 6656

June 4

"Five Quarters of the Orange" by Joanne Harris

Hostess: Jan Snyder
3175 NW Greenwood Ave.
754-0696
stomandjan@aol.com

Reviewer: Mary Gray

September 3

"*John Adams*" by David McCullough

Hostess: Ann Mills
1090 NW Overlook Dr.
745-7130
millsannt@cs.com

Reviewer: Mary Mills

Thyme Garden Luncheon, July 8

The cost for Luncheon is \$18.

Please complete this registration form and mail in \$18 to reserve your place.

Name: _____

Number: _____ x \$18 = \$_____



Total enclosed \$ _____

American Association
of University Women
Corvallis, Oregon Branch

Deadline for registration is June 17.

Mail to: Julie Searcy, 2854 NW Angelica Dr., Corvallis 97330-3618

JUNE	Activity	Time	Location
4	Evening Lit Group	7:30 p.m.	Jan Snyder 3175 NW Greenwood Ave.
6	Wine Tasting	5:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Tyee Winery 26335 Greenberry Road
10	Afternoon Lit Group	2:00 p.m.	Brenda Rowley 1581 NW Hillcrest Dr.
17	Deadline for Thyme Garden Luncheon Registration		Click here for Registration Form
30	Dues Renewal payment due		Click here for Membership Form

JULY	Activity	Time	Location
8	 Thyme Garden Luncheon 	11 a.m.	Thyme Garden