

## Branch Newsletter

Volume 23, Number 3

November 2002

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### LAF All the Way to Equity Reader's Theater November 12, 6:30 PM

#### No host dinner at Izzy's restaurant 2475 NW 9<sup>th</sup> Street

We will meet in the room just to the left of the lobby as you enter. Order your meal from the buffet when you arrive.



LAF chair, Sue Borden, and other members will portray past and present AAUW LAF litigants. Learn the dramatic story of the discrimination they have suffered, and enjoy the last LAF when they win their cases.



#### Don't forget the Bottle Auction

Funds for operating expense and unbudgeted items such as the new branch banner

Members are asked to bring a cleverly disguised bottle to the meeting. The bottle and/or contents should be worth at least \$5.00. Guest auctioneer Charlotte Norlin will be with us to ensure that we have fun as we bid. Since each bottle is worth at least \$5.00, bidding will start at \$5.00.

Give your imagination free reign! You might want to bring a beautiful bottle filled with jellybeans or special oil or an ordinary bottle stuffed with a nice gift certificate. The disguises can be bags, boxes, baskets or various wraps—there are no limits. The fun is trying to figure out what can possibly be inside and doing our best to out-bid the competition!

Have fun scouting out your bottle and planning its disguise (remember, it should be worth at least \$5.00) and come on November 12th to a great pizza party.

**"Just the knowledge that a good book is awaiting one at the end of a long day makes that day happier."**

Kathleen Norris, *Hands Full of Living* (1931)

#### President

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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.**

Stefani McRae-Dickey  
V.P. Program



## Vintage Murder ALL MEMBER ALERT!!



A Murderer is planning to attend our January meeting. We need the help of all members and friends to identify this *Callous Killer*. Please invite your friends and colleagues to join us at the Tortellini Brother's Winery. It's the last wine auction they will ever hold.

You must have heard the news by now. The historical winery, known for its rare but excellent Pinot noir, is being sold. And it's such a *crime*!

**Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to solve a murder (or two).**  
*Are you up to the challenge?*

Our *Vintage Murder Mystery Dinner* will be at the Courtyard Inn, January 24, 2003 at 6:30 PM. Tickets are available now until December 27. The cost is \$35 per person, \$15 of which is tax deductible. Proceeds will go to the Educational Foundation and the Legal Advocacy Fund. An Italian Lasagne dinner with relish tray and dip, garlic bread, tossed green salad with dressings, assorted Cookies and Bars and beverages is included in the ticket price. Once 50 or more tickets are sold for the Friday night performance, tickets to the Saturday performance will be made available.

### What can you do to help?

**Sell tickets!** Spread the word to all your friends and neighbors. This will be lots of fun on a dreary January evening. Valley Catering will provide the delicious food. Print out the invitation included in the newsletter and distribute to prospective Miss Marples and Hercule Poirots. Or use the information to write your own invitations.

**Publicize the event.** Distribute posters to businesses and mention the Murder Mystery Dinner to other groups to which you belong.

**Help with planning** the decorations, acting, or set-up and clean-up.

**Buy your own ticket** to attend this great event!

**Need a holiday gift idea** for those hard-to-buy-for friends and business associates? How about a ticket or two to our Vintage Murder Mystery Dinner?

For posters, invitations, tickets and more information call Stefani McRae, 929-7988, or email at [mcraedic@peak.org](mailto:mcraedic@peak.org).

PS: We're off to a good start. Board members have already purchased 15 tickets.

**"What is the modern detective story but an extension of the medieval morality play?"**

Catherine Aid, "The Devout Benefit of Clergy," in Dilys Winn, *Murder Ink* (1977)

## Martha's Musings

Our buttons said, "Ask Me About AAUW" and the members who staffed the Corvallis AAUW booth at Fall Festival told all who asked who we are and what we do. Many thanks to Rosemary Cunningham for obtaining the booth space, coordinating the volunteers, putting together volunteer information packets, designing and setting up the booth, and for her contagious enthusiasm! Thanks to Lori Hodgert for providing a canopy to protect us from the sun. And thanks to all who agreed to staff the booth: Dorothy Ruff, Louise Livesay, Jan Rounds, Marilyn Treiman, Marge Bromley, Anne-Lise Olson, Julie Searcy, Diana Bernstein, Judy Isaacson, Judy Rudolph, Val Krauss, Marilyn Roland, Nancy Sanderson, Beth Coulter and Nancy Tolin. Rosemary and I want to thank honorary members Tom Cunningham and Bill Jenkins for all their set-up help. Sometimes you just need extra height and muscles!

I recently received a memo from AAUW Finance Vice President, Paula Jean Yukna, regarding a proposed dues increase. Paula Jean states:

"Like every organization, business and individual, AAUW faces continually rising costs due to inflation. We have also had significant declines in membership in recent years, which has meant lower revenues. The Association Board of Directors continues to pursue a course of fiscal responsibility. We have approved a balanced budget for 2002-03. Our staff has instituted business practices designed to allow us to use our resources more effectively.

But even with the new budgetary and business practices in place, the combination of rising costs and lower revenues has meant that we have been unable to develop new programs and services. And that limits our ability to advance our mission: education and equity for women and girls.

Delegates at the 2003 convention will consider an annual dues increase of a specific amount. If adopted, the bylaws change would institute a minimal \$2 yearly increase for branch members, which could be easily anticipated. If approved, the increase would take effect for the 2004-05 AAUW year. If the annual increase is not adopted, delegates will consider a proposal to increase dues by \$4 effective 2004-05."

More information about this proposal will be published in upcoming issues of *AAUW in Action* and *AAUW Outlook* but I wanted to give you the basic information early in the year.

I hope to see many of you at our branch meeting at Izzy's Pizza on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. We will have time to visit over dinner, time to learn more about Legal Advocacy Fund plaintiffs as we see a Reader's Theatre production starring our own members and time for a fun(d) raising bottle auction with the proceeds being used for operating expenses. See you at the pizza party—remember to bring your marvelous bottle!

*Martha Jenkins*  
President

### Fundraising Plan for 2002-2003

Corvallis Branch leaders are sensitive to what can seem like the continual plea for fundraising for the branch. In an effort to have our members plan their donations at their own comfort level, the following fundraising plan was approved at the October board meeting. Please choose the activities that suit you and plan to contribute to the fiscal health of the Corvallis Branch.

<b>Oct</b>	<b>Poinsettia Sale (for EF)</b>
<b>Nov</b>	<b>Bottle Auction (for operating expenses)</b>
<b>Oct/Nov/Dec</b>	<b>Vintage Murder Mystery (for EF and LAF)</b>
<b>Mar</b>	<b>Used Book Sale (for LAF)</b>
<b>Mar/April</b>	<b>Geranium Sale (for EF)</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>Wine Tasting at a local vineyard (for Local Scholarship Fund)</b>
<b>Ongoing until May</b>	<b>Wicker Birdhouse Auction (for Local Scholarship Fund)</b>

Some of these events will focus on fundraising for the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) (\$6 per capita goal), the Educational Foundation (EF) (\$25 per capita goal) and the Local Scholarship Fund; one is for branch operations.

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

Our first AAUW Fall Festival table was a one-day success! Saturday was sunny, warm, and the park was crowded with smiling faces. One of our goals was to be visible at Corvallis's largest community event. This mission was accomplished because of our volunteers who tirelessly passed out leaflets on the sidewalk, and informed all who stopped to listen about our organization. Perhaps for the first time, hundreds of community members became aware of AAUW and its very active Corvallis branch. Our efforts also resulted in three or four prospective members! Thanks to all who participated, including the Sunday volunteers who WOULD have braved the wind and the rain if our table had been equipped for inclement weather.



Speaking of giving thanks, this November we are grateful for our two newest members: **Patty Eberhardt** and **Elise Love**. We also celebrate by introducing new members, Norma Craighton and Beth Coulter to the membership.

It took **Norma Craighton** a little time to get into high gear, but once she was in the fast lane, there was no stopping her! In 1984, Norma and her husband, **Jack**, left behind a dairy farm in Wisconsin and moved to Winona, Minnesota. At age of forty-seven, she entered Winona State University, and graduated at age fifty-one with a BA (double major) in History and Social Science/Sociology. Equipped with her recent accomplishments and confidence, Norma began her new career as a free-lance writer. Since Jack's retirement from nursing ten years ago, Sweet Home, Oregon has been their home. Norma's favorite pastimes are following current events and reading. (Would you believe she read nine books in August?) She drives all the way from Sweet Home each month to attend Great Decisions and the afternoon literature group in Corvallis. You get the prize for driving the farthest, Norma!

Native Oregonian, **Beth Coulter**, doesn't reside too far from her hometown of Pleasant Hill, Oregon (near Eugene). For the last two years, she and her husband, **Keith**, have been owners of a logging and forest consulting business in Philomath.. After receiving her BS in Forest Resources at the University of Idaho in Moscow, Beth obtained an MS in Forest Engineering at OSU. Currently, she's on track for her Ph.D. in 2003. Beth became an AAUW member "to join other women who have pursued higher education." She is pleased that there are quite a few women in Forest Engineering. Reading, hunting (especially water fowl), and woodworking are some of her hobbies, and Beth is now a participant in the evening literature group. We also owe a big thank you to Evelyn Kramer for bringing this dynamic new member into our fold!

#### New Email Addresses for Your Directory:

<b>Edith Shields:</b>	<a href="mailto:mikeshields@attbi.com">mikeshields@attbi.com</a>	<b>Urchyl Bohard:</b>	<a href="mailto:uab@pacifier.com">uab@pacifier.com</a>
<b>Lois Malango:</b>	<a href="mailto:malango@attbi.com">malango@attbi.com</a>	<b>Kathy Skelton:</b>	<a href="mailto:inthebeaumont@att.net">inthebeaumont@att.net</a>

Please add the number sign (#) in front of Sylvia Volk's name to indicate a past president. (It was inadvertently omitted.)



## Caring and Sharing

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

Congratulations to **Mary Lee Seward** for the nice article in the *Gazette-Times*. Mary Lee was the coordinator for the Downtown Flower Basket Association flower basket sale. When the flower baskets are taken down, we know fall in Corvallis is really here!

Also in the news is **Urchyl Bohard**, who was the subject of an article entitled "Exploring New Frontiers of Learning" in the *Generations* publication. Urchyl says she will "never learn all I want. I have a list a mile long."

Julie Searcy's daughter-in-law, **Seana Searcy**, has opened a new boutique named *Tres Belle* at 252 SW Madison Ave. in downtown Corvallis. Seana says, "Everyone should be able to walk in and find something beautiful."

Many thanks to cookie donors **Louise Livesay Judy Rudolph, Mary Lee Seward, Nancy Tolin** and **Sue Borden** for their contributions at the AAUW/League of Women Voters Voter Forum meetings. A sweet treat is always appreciated!

Special thanks to hospitality chair, **Joyce Carver**, for arranging all the cookie donors and for attending so many meetings.

Sue Borden  
[sue.borden@cmug.com](mailto:sue.borden@cmug.com)

## LAF's History: Speaking Out for Justice in Higher Education

It began with a daring and unorthodox idea. The year was 1978, and members of AAUW's Ithaca (NY) Branch were determined to support 11 brave, resolute female professors who had brought a class action lawsuit against Cornell University. They had all been denied tenure, and all attributed the decisions to sex discrimination.

The Ithaca Branch asked the Association for help in raising funds. Although the proposal was ideologically impeccable----perfectly in sync with AAUW's historic mandate to rally in defense of equity for women, particularly in the area of education and employment--this was not your typical branch project. Nor was there any line item in the Association budget that could be tapped for such a purpose.

The short version of the story is that the branch appointed a fundraising support group that began funneling money to the "Cornell 11." As a direct result of the case, AAUW created the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund in 1981. Beginning as a two-year pilot project, LAF became a permanent entity at the 1983 AAUW convention.

Just a few years later, with \$22,500 in AAUW's support, the 11 named plaintiffs, plus 32 other Cornell women, who came forth to say they had been denied tenure unfairly, settled the case.

The women draw satisfaction from knowing that they called national attention to the plight of women on campus. Says Donna Zahorik, one of the plaintiffs: "I know our lawsuit, which brought a lot of bad publicity to the university, helped women who came after us."

Come to the November Branch Meeting to hear about several of the cases that have gone forward with the help of LAF. You'll be moved by the bravery and tenacity of the plaintiffs.



## State Convention 2003: Education--Shaping the Future

Irene Lilja & Judy Rudolph  
Local Arrangement Chairs

Menus and table decorations have been planned by Brenda Rowley, Jane Ann Warkentin, Marilyn Roland and Mary Lee Seward. The meals will be both delicious and healthy. But, yes, there will be chocolate dessert!

The table decorations will reflect our theme of education--adorable white teddy bears with diplomas in paws perched on stacked textbooks, the use of fresh white flowers and elegant dried arrangements in our convention colors of teal and white. These decorations will be for sale during the convention. The Eugene Branch will be decorating the Sunday luncheon tables which provides us the opportunity to get to know these fine folks.

Picture yourself dining and conversing with other women leaders from around the state--women who make a difference in their own communities and the greater world. Plan on joining us, April 25--26th, 2003.

### Materials Wanted For AAUW Convention Centerpieces

Mary Lee Seward and Marilyn Roland are planning table decorations for three of the four meals at the State Convention in Corvallis April 25--27. Since the budget is limited they are asking your help with one evening's centerpiece which will be dried hydrangeas and other suitable plant materials. The arrangements will be sprayed in the theme colors of the convention: teal and white (or silver). Needed items are listed below and can be of any color. Please let Marilyn (752-5257) or Mary Lee (754-6659) know if you wish to donate any of the following:

Clay or plastic pots 6--8" across the top and with no holes in the sides (holes in bottom are OK); Baskets of any shape with sides 4" or higher (handles are OK); Oasis to hold dried flowers etc. (especially needed); Grayish moss to cover oasis; Curly willow pieces; Curly grapevines.

Plant possibilities: statice, globe thistle, eucalyptus branches, teasel (stickery plants by the roadside), interesting pods on stems, baby's breath, recycled items from dry arrangements you might want to discard, etc. *Thanks for your help!*

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## Oregon AAUW Public Policy Recommendations for the November 5, 2002 General Election

*There are 12 state measures on the November 5, 2002 Ballot. Five are Legislative referrals and seven are initiatives. AAUW Oregon is taking positions on seven of the 12 measures because our Public Policy program speaks to those proposals. The recommendations are as follows:*

### Legislative referral measures:

**AAUW SUPPORTS** Ballot Measures #14, #15, and #16 and takes **NO POSITION** on Ballot Measures #17 and # 18.

### Initiative-based ballot measures:

**AAUW SUPPORTS** Measures #25 and #26, **OPPOSES** Measures #21 and #22, and takes **NO POSITION** of Measures #23, #24, and #27.

For more information, visit the Public Policy section on the AAUW–Corvallis website: [www.corvallis-aauw.org](http://www.corvallis-aauw.org).

*Many thanks to all the AAUW members who volunteered at the Voter Forums at the Library and Chintimini Senior Center. The forums were a valuable source of candidate- and ballot-related information for the community – and the LWV couldn't have done it without us!*

*On the national front:*

### **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.

### HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO!

- Help spread the word. Work with friends and family to distribute this alert in your community.
- Contact Senators Smith and Wyden and urge them to protect women's health by opposing the Senate version of the Abortion Non–Discrimination Act (S 2008). Following are the web sites for Senators Smith and Wyden. Both sites have online forms to be used when contacting the senators. Senator Wyden: [www.senate.gov/~wyden](http://www.senate.gov/~wyden) Senator Smith: [www.senate.gov/~gsmith](http://www.senate.gov/~gsmith)

## Afternoon Lit Group

*The Afternoon Lit Group will meet at 2 p.m.*

Val Krauss, 766-8916

November 12

"*Bel Canto*" by Anne Patchett

Hostess: Muriel Lawrence  
930 NW Oakdell  
752-6172

Reviewer: Louise Livesay

## Contract Bridge

(not Duplicate)

Usually meets the fourth Monday of the month at 1 p.m. New players are always welcome.

Call Evelyn Stephens at 754-7327 for further information.

## Evening Lit Group

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

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

November 6

"*Saffron Sky*" by Gelareh Asayesh

Hostess: Gail Garrison  
5860 NW Highland Pl.  
745- 7396

Reviewer: Judy Rudolph

December 4

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

Hostess: Mary Lou Russ

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

## No-Host Lunch (Nov)

Thursday, November 21 at 11:30 a.m.  
Aomatsu Japanese Restaurant  
122 NW 3rd Street

Please join us for a culinary adventure at Aomatsu's. Enjoy wonderfully seasoned, beautifully served and healthy cuisine. Be adventurous and sample authentic sushi. Please RSVP to Stefani McRae, 929-7988. We have reservations for 16, but a rough idea of the number actually attending would be helpful. Please join us even if you haven't made a reservation! All are welcome!!

## No-Host Lunch (Dec)

Thursday, December 12 at 11:30 a.m.  
Michael's Landing

**Required reservations due to Sally Terman, at 752-9019, by December 4.**



## Adelante

Judy Isaacson

The November book for Adelante Book Group is *Daughters of the Earth: The Lives and Legends of American Indian Women* by Carolyn Niethammer.

This book combines America's past and present as related to American Indian women. This is a perfect book for November as a tribute to Native American Heritage Month. All Adelante books are available through Amazon.com- at a discount too!

## Great Decisions 2003 Coming Soon!

It's not too early to mark your calendar for February and March -- for Great Decisions! The group will meet on the Thursdays of these two months at 1:30 p.m. at The Regent. Topics for the 2003 year are:

- Unilateralism vs. Multilateralism
- Afghanistan
- US and Saudi Arabia
- Nigeria
- International food policies
- China
- European integration
- Woman and human rights

The organizing meeting will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2003 at 1:30 p.m. at The Regent. Books will cost \$15 (plus postage if pickup in Portland cannot be arranged. Please call Judy Rudolph, chair, at 757-8510, to register for Great Decisions 2003.

# Events Calendar

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<b>NOV</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
6	Evening Lit Group	7:30 p.m.	Gail Garrison 5860 NW Highland Pl.
12	Afternoon Lit Group	2:00 p.m.	Muriel Lawrence 930 NW Oakdell
12	Branch Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Izzy's Pizza
15	Newsletter Deadline		
21	No-Host Lunch	11:30 a.m.	Aomatsu Japanese Restaurant 122 NW 3rd Street
25	Contract Bridge	1:00 p.m.	
<b>DEC</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
4	Evening Lit Group	7:30 p.m.	
12	No-Host Lunch	11:30 a.m.	Michael's Landing
April 25-27	2003 AAUW of OR Convention		Corvallis