

## President's Message

Greetings and Welcome Back!!

I do hope all of you have had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to the crisp, cool days that our Prescott Autumn will bring. Before we know it, we'll be thinking of family gatherings and holiday meals.



But next on the agenda for the Prescott Branch of AAUW is our first meeting of the 2014-2015 year. We will meet on **Saturday,**

**September 13** in the **Yavapai College Library Building Community Room.** We will begin the meeting with a social time from 9:00am to 9:30am. Coffee, tea, and water will be available (for a small donation), and light refreshments will be provided by generous members.

At 9:30am, we will gather at tables for a short time to "meet and greet," and then begin the General Meeting with announcements and updates, followed by the program at 10:00.

Our September program will be presented by Yavapai County School Superintendent, Tim Carter. Mr. Carter will give his thoughts on the state of education Yavapai County. Topics will include common core, charter schools, public money for private schools, and state trust lands in Arizona. This promises to a most informative presentation. *Bring your questions!*

Did your Special Interest Group take a Summer break? If so, things will be getting geared up for the new year, so get ready. Check the website for any updates and changes. If you haven't joined a group, now's the time!! Again, check the website for the latest information. You'll be glad you did!

I look forward to serving as your President, and we have what promises to be an outstanding year ahead. Prescott AAUW continues to grow both in numbers and in service to the women and girls of Prescott and the surrounding community. Don't miss out! See you September 13<sup>th</sup>.

*—Patti Blackwood, President*

As part of our new "**Better Know your Leaders**" feature, meet Patti Blackwood:

Raised in a loving family in North Mississippi, Patti graduated from the University of Tennessee and became one of the first nurse practitioners in the country. After 30 years of nursing, she was called to ministry and chaplaincy. In 2010, she earned a Master of Divinity from Claremont School of Theology. Patti works as a pastoral Assistant at her church, a hospice chaplain and a volunteer chaplain at YRMC.

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*The Thumb Sketch Newsletter Team includes **Stephanie Brown, Janet Orr, Patricia Allen-LaFleur, Edi Taylor-Richards.***

## **Programs: Join us September 13** **for our Fall Kickoff!**

The first meeting of the new AAUW year is always full of fun, energy, and excitement! New directories will be available. Catch up with old friends and meet some new ones, too.

Our meetings start with a social time at 9:00 and we'll be seated at 9:30 for announcements. The program will begin at 10:00.

**On Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, Yavapai County School Superintendent Tim Carter** will share information concerning the state of education in Yavapai County, actively discussing common core, charter schools, public money for private schools, state trust lands in AZ, and any other education related topics people wish to discuss. He welcomes your questions.

So be sure and join AAUW – Prescott in the Community Room at Yavapai College on September 13 for the first of many thought-provoking programs for the 2014-2015 year. We'll see you there!

### **October 11-Viva la Verde!**

Running diagonally across central Arizona, the Verde River provides a 150 mile ribbon of life through the harsh desert to form an important and rare ecosystem. The Verde River is the last free flowing river/riparian habitat in the state and home to a dozen threatened species.

Will citizens accept their role as stewards of this emerging national treasure before it's too late? Filmmaker and former Prescott College student Hugh Denno, explores this question in *Viva la Verde!* Gary Beverly, local advocate, will be there to answer questions. Join AAUW –Prescott to see how **you** can make a difference!

We'll meet in the Community room at Yavapai College for *social time at 9:00*, announcements 9:30, and the program 10:00. See you there!--*Carol Clayton & Annette Gauthier*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR  
**DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>**, THE HOLIDAY  
BRUNCH WILL BE HELD AT THE  
HISTORIC HOTEL ST MICHAEL!!

## **AAUW State Meetings 2014**

The first AAUW-Arizona State board meeting with President Jane Adrian presiding will be held on **September 9 at Scottsdale Community College**. This meeting is *open to all Arizona AAUW members*. The Prescott branch will be represented by President Patti Blackwood, State Membership VP Sharon Groves, and Sara Wolters, election chair.

Save the date for the **fall AAUW-Arizona state meeting on October 18**. The details on program and location will be posted on the [aauwprescott.net](http://aauwprescott.net) website as they become available.

You can find the link to the *Arizona Sun*, the AAUW State newsletter, on our website home page, at the bottom right side under **AAUW Links** or on the State website at [http://www.aauwarizona.org/az\\_sun\\_fall\\_2014.pdf](http://www.aauwarizona.org/az_sun_fall_2014.pdf)

The registration form is in that newsletter on the State site as well as our own Prescott Site under **Current News**.

Don't forget to plan to attend the **AAUW National Convention in Sand Diego, CA, in June**. If you want reduced registration fees, contact the national office and be a volunteer.--*Sara Wolters*



**Sister-to-Sister: Thursday, November 13**  
**Save this Date!**

An important change has been made in our schedule of Sister-to-Sister luncheons. For the first time we will host just one luncheon in a year...a super-sized one for 40 girls! Because scheduling spring events with the high schools has become increasingly difficult, our ETS partners will invite students from two schools to one fall luncheon.

To make this work, **40 AAUW** members are needed to join the girls on November 13! Those members who might normally choose the spring luncheon will not have that opportunity and should sign up at the October meeting or e-mail Claudia Greenwood before then to express interest in attending. Registration may be made by sending Jenine Peterson a \$20 check made out to AAUW Prescott with Sister-to-Sister on the memo line by October 30.

Our planning committee will work out the details before the October general meeting. An e-mail with specific information will be sent to those who register by October 30.

A meeting to make invitations will be hosted by Claudia Greenwood on **Friday, October 24 at 1:30 p.m.** It will take many hands will make 40 invitations! Please consider helping. This is a good opportunity for new members interested in supporting our Sister-to-Sister program to meet others who will cut and paste and plan for this event.

For those unfamiliar with this Community Action program, it is a one-day opportunity to mentor a high school student selected by the staff of the Educational Talent Search program of Yavapai College. Our luncheon is one of the workshops scheduled for the students to encourage them to complete high school and continue beyond. The students are first-generation college bound.

Our role is to encourage the young women through one-on-one conversation, to listen to their dreams and circumstances, and to share the experience of college and its benefits.

AAUW in Prescott began Sister-to-Sister 10 years ago. It is one of the students' favorite ETS workshops. It is also one of the favorite activities for AAUW members.

Please let Claudia know if you can help on **October 24 AND** if you can come to the luncheon on **November 13**. Remember, there will be only one opportunity to participate in Sister-to-Sister this year!

**Public Policy AAUW Prescott**

Public Policy Committee meets at 1:00pm on the first Tuesday of the month in the Founders Room at Prescott Public Library. All Prescott Branch members are welcome to attend. Please contact Debra White if you would like to be added to the Public Policy mailing group.

Our first meeting of the year will be held on Sept. 2, 2014. The focus of this meeting will be planning for our Public Policy Committee in Prescott as we move forward with the national, state and branch Public Policy goals for 2014-2105. We are very fortunate to have a new State Public Policy Chair who is focusing on unified plans for our branches in AZ. She has worked with the AZ branches over the summer to help identify areas of focus for the 2014-2015 year, based on national policy.

At the Sept. meeting we will identify topics of interest and study, based on the needs of our branch and community and national public policy program. We will also develop an action plan for our branch as we address the issues important to our members and AAUW. Member participation in the Sept. meeting is vital as we move into the 2014-2015 year.—*Debra White, Public Policy Chair*

## Hospitality Has Exciting News:

Something old and something new: that's the Hospitality plan for the 2014-15 program year.

**The "old" aspect** is the requesting of members of specific neighborhoods to bring refreshments to each of the general meetings. This worked so well last year, it has been renewed! This is the schedule:

### **AAUW meetings 2014 – 2015 Neighborhoods**

**September 13** A-1 & A2 Copper Basin,/Timber Ridge, South Prescott

**October 11** B-1 & B-2 Forest Trails & West Iron Springs

**November 8** C & G-1 Thumb Butte & Williamson Valley/Southview

December Holiday Brunch

**January 10** D-1 7 D-2 Granite Oaks & Williamson Valley North

**February 14** E- 1 & E-2 East Prescott & Central Prescott

**March 14** F-1 & G-2 Northeast Willow Creek Road & Willow Creek Road

**April 11** F-2 & H Prescott Lakes & Prescott Valley

**May 9** Open to anyone who missed their month, but would like to help

**A "new" plan** will provide delicious beverages for our meetings. We will serve Starbucks coffee from the local coffee shop. Both regular and de-caf coffee will be available. We will also offer water for hot tea and iced water. As we did last year, we will request a modest \$1 donation toward the beverage service. By providing the beverage service ourselves we will recognize a substantial savings, while still insuring that the coffee offered is of highest quality.

*Donna Gaddy and Randy Clark* welcome your comments as well as offers of assistance!!



## Sign Up for Great Decisions – 2015

We're taking sign-ups for the 2015 Great Decisions groups. Great Decisions groups are a wonderful way to learn about foreign policy. We discuss foreign policy issues while staying away from political positions. From the Foreign Policy Association, we obtain booklets and DVDs which highlight major world issues that affect the United States. Before the meetings we read the articles in the booklet to help us understand the issues. At the meetings we watch a short DVD then have wonderful and enlightening discussions. You can get more information about Great Decisions from the Foreign Policy Association website (<http://www.fpa.org>).

We have two groups which meet during the day. Gretta Larson's first Thursday group is full, but I'll have openings in my fourth Wednesday group. Also, there will be openings in Heryl Kroopneck's second Thursday evening group. The evening group may include your spouse, but it is not required.

There is a charge for the books and DVD which will run between \$20 - \$25. If you are interested in joining Great Decisions in 2015, please contact *Gayle Rumble* or *Heryl Kroopneck* no later than **October 10th**.

### **Craft Group Inactive**

The AAUW Craft Interest Group has lost its leader and will be mostly inactive for the immediate future. **We would welcome someone who would like to lead the group.** In the meantime, there will only be a meeting when a member of the group has a craft project to share. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact *Edi Taylor-Richards*.

## Scholarship Fundraising:

### Authors' Luncheon-

On Saturday, August 23, the AAUW Prescott Scholarship Committee hosted Presenting Arizona Authors, an authors' luncheon benefitting the Prescott AAUW Centennial Scholarship Fund. An estimated \$6,000 to \$7,000 was raised to benefit the fund, increasing the fund by almost 50%. The event was attended by 100 guests, both AAUW members and community supporters. *Major sponsors for the event included Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, the Salt River Project, the Kathy, Larry, and Gretchen Lopez Family, Elaine and Bob Lawson, Fann Environmental LLC, Allegra Print and Imaging, and food service volunteers by Yavapai College Service Club.*

Local authors, **Lisa Schnebly Heidinger, Susan Lang, and Susan Lanning** each spoke about their writing and their books. They signed copies of their books purchased at the luncheon. Limited edition Gretchen Lopez prints and greeting cards were available for purchase and the Gretchen Lopez painting "Young Alaskan Girl" was purchased in a silent auction. Drawings were held for festive gift baskets provided by AAUW members and interest groups, including gift certificates from local merchants, and a \$25 gift card from Peregrine Book Company in Prescott was awarded as the door prize. Guests were treated to a light lunch.

The **AAUW Centennial Scholarship** will be awarded for the *first* time this fall to a female student who has completed at least one semester at Yavapai College and has earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher, preferably with a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering or Math) curriculum. Before the Authors' Luncheon, the AAUW Centennial Scholarship Fund balance was \$13, 242.83. The AAUW Prescott Scholarship Committee hoped to increase the fund balance to \$20K with proceeds from the Authors' Luncheon.

AAUW Prescott extends special thanks to the interest groups who provided delightful baskets for opportunity drawings and also to Kathy Lopez and her family for gifting a substantial portfolio of Gretchen Lopez art work to benefit the AAUW Centennial Scholarship Fund. The AAUW Centennial Scholarship Fund has been built on the support of many generous members of AAUW Prescott. Please congratulate yourselves on making a scholarship available to a young woman who depends on our support to advance her education.



AAUW's own Susan Lanning

*Public Policy Chair Debra White* grew up in Rochester,

## “Better Know your Leaders”

Interspersed in each issue, the Newsletter Team plans to include a photo and brief bio for our Board Members and Interest Group Leaders. Wow, we are fascinating, humorous women!

### President Patti Blackwood was featured on page.1

*President Elect Gail Shay* is in charge of all the Interest Groups and is learning the ropes for her tenure as President starting next summer 2015.



Gail is originally a New Jersey girl who has spent her whole married life in Arizona, most of it teaching Spanish, English as a second language and intercultural communication at a community college in Phoenix.



**Public Policy Chair Debra White** grew up in Rochester, MN. and spent much of her adult life in CA, focusing on arts education and arts integration, teaching theatre and training teachers to integrate technology in the arts. Deb taught for 33 years and continues in the education world

by serving on several committees which support arts education and technology integration. In her free time she enjoys travel with her husband and dogs, photography and outdoor adventures. She is also very involved in the American Brittany Rescue.

*Melinda Anderson* is a **Webmistress** (keeping our website current) and the **Interest Group Leader of the New Book group on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday afternoon.** She is a retired first grade teacher and lifelong Californian who moved to Prescott a year ago and now enjoys photography and exploring Arizona.



Have you visited over 100 countries? **Bonnie Waterer** has and not surprisingly, is **Interest Group leader for Travel.** And Ohioan in her youth, she lived most of her adult life in San Jose, CA, earning her Master's at San Jose

State. She was a Family Consumer Science teacher and school administrator in San Jose. Now in retirement, if she is not traveling, she is a volunteer in the mental health field, serving on the local governing boards of West Yavapai Guidance Clinic and NAMI. (National Alliance on Mental Illness).

*Jean Morin* is the new **Geocaching Interest Group**



Leader. Although born in Minnesota, she spent most of her life in CA. She and her husband raised a son and a daughter in Fremont, CA. After teaching for 27 years, Jean retired to Prescott, enjoying her time hiking, canoeing or traveling.

**“Time is Valuable,  
Volunteering is Invaluable.”**



**Deb Dillon, our Membership Co-VP**, grew up in Ames, Iowa, moved around the Midwest in early adulthood, and then lived 28 years in Fargo, ND. There she spent 13 years "home" with her kids before she got into school administration, finishing her career as the principal of an alternative high school. Now, she reads, travels, gardens and learns.



**Annette Gauthier, our Membership Co-VP** is a transplant from Lodi, California. After 36 years of teaching in the public schools she retired to Prescott in 2013. She loves to spend her time outdoors and loves the four seasons here as she hikes, golfs, kayaks, skis, and knits, sews, quilts, enjoys wine tasting, traveling, reading, and the arts.



**Kat Cooper, the Interest Group Leader for the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Book Group**, grew up in OH, MI, VA, WV and lived in DC area for five years-- long enough to work with Women Strike for Peace in the Vietnam era. Her career has been long as a marriage and family therapist, Hospital Administrator, Clinical Director for Psychiatric and Addictive Disorders, Court Administrator and Mediation. Kat retired five years ago and enjoys her time with travel, writing, and friends and family.

**Thank you all for your passions and your energies.**



Barbara Bruno, Barbara Michelman and Lois Stringham attend the **Travel Group** meeting

## Kaleidoscope: Arizona Women & Ever Changing Patterns



AAUW of Arizona Fall Forum  
 Saturday, October 18, 2014  
 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
 Cougar Classroom  
 A.T. Still University  
 5850 E. Still Circle, Mesa Arizona 85206

**Ever Changing, Ever Evolving – like Patterns in a Kaleidoscope** - represents the theme for the 2014 AAUW of Arizona Fall Forum. Members will thrill to visions of human anatomy from the inside out as they tour the new and only virtual anatomy laboratory in Arizona. Speakers promise to shed light on the role of Dark Money from sources outside Arizona as those dollars impact state and local elections. A panel of experts will address why diversity is in all our interests and suggest strategies for energizing our communities through multicultural programs and events.

Join AAUW of Arizona members in leadership activities and discussions. Table topics include membership, public policy – women’s health, human trafficking, pay equity and education, fund raising, mission driven program development and community action.

Registration form and more detailed directions are on our website [www.aauwprescott.net](http://www.aauwprescott.net) under Current News

### Directions

Take Highway 60 (also called the Superstition Freeway) east. [Highway 60 runs east from I-10 a few miles southwest of the airport.] From Highway 60 exit south (right) on Higley Road. Travel south on Higley, and turn east (left) at the third stoplight - Baseline Road. Travel east on Baseline, and turn north (left) onto Sunview at the light, turn right on E. Still Circle.

### Registration Form:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name on Name Tag: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Office: State \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee: Must be postmarked by October 10, 2014. \$35.00

\*Late Registration Fee postmarked October 11 or afterward \$40.00

Includes: Continental Breakfast and .....Box Lunch

Check payable to AAUW of Arizona:      Mail to: Peggy Owen  
 6520 N. 81st Place  
 Scottsdale, Arizona 85250



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### ***Printing the AAUW Home Page Calendar***

You may have noticed that, beginning with the July-August issue, the Thumb Sketch has discontinued the calendar pages. Sharon Scanlan, our Thumb Sketch calendar editor for the past eight years, retired from the job. We are now moving on to a new approach for displaying and printing your AAUW monthly activities calendar. Members can access and print the calendar from the AAUW website home page, just like you can access and print the Thumb Sketch. You will even have a choice to print it with full details about each event or with just the event titles.

***Complete illustrated directions that you can print out and use to help you print the calendar are available by clicking on this link.***      [Printing the AAUW Calendar](#)

The directions are in a .pdf file, and also can be accessed by clicking on the “Calendars” tab on the home page. This is exactly the same type of document as the Thumb Sketch. If you usually print the Thumb Sketch you already know how to print the calendar directions. However, if you need help, please contact Sara DeRouchev or any other member of the web team. They can help guide you through the process.

We know this will be a big change for some members who were comfortable with the old way of doing the calendars. We hope, with these directions and a little practice, you will find the new calendars are just as easy to access and print as the old ones. The new calendars give you more detailed information about each event.

**AAUW Prescott  
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