

President's Message

*Here we are in a brand New Year!!
 Welcome to 2015!!*

If you were unable to attend our annual Holiday Brunch, I am truly sorry that you missed it. We had a wonderful time - fun and celebration in the



ballroom of the St Michael Hotel. The food was great, the decorations were fun and festive, and the company was perfect. What a great way to begin to usher in the New Year!!

Our January General Meeting promises to bring one of our most informative and compelling programs. The topic is the timely and difficult one of human trafficking. Our presenter will be Detective Jessica Barnard of the Prescott Police Department. This is a subject that touches local, state and national fronts. We will meet in the **January 10th** at the **Community Room of the Yavapai College Library**. The meeting will begin at **9:00** for social time, followed by announcements at 9:30 and the program at 10:00

In February, we are in for a treat from local author, Janet Farrar Worthington. You won't want to miss hearing her tell about her experiences as a technical medical writer and editor, but most especially you will want to hear her present her delightful book, *Bumble Creek Farm*.

Now what if we get snow on a meeting day?? If we should need to cancel a General Meeting due to the

weather, you have two ways of finding out. First, check the website, www.aauwprescott.net A message will be posted there on the home page. The second will be a phone chain by neighborhood. We will make every effort to notify members by 8:00 AM in the event of cancellation.

Stay up-to-date on what is happening in the year ahead in Prescott AAUW by regularly checking our website www.aauwprescott.net. You can keep up with meeting announcements, interest group events, and Public Policy and Community Action programs.

As we look forward to another wonderful year in AAUW, I wish you all the best – peace, joy, health and happiness, the love of family and friends.

Take care, be safe, and I'll see you January 10th.

Patti

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

Public Policy Topic: Sex Trafficking

The December Public Policy meeting topic was Women and Diversity. Our presenter was Melanie Wilson, branch member and Women & Diversity Coordinator at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Melanie shared activities and programs on campus that help support women and diverse students on the campus. She also spoke about the issues of assault and sexual harassment present on many college campuses.

Join us **Tuesday, January 6 at 1:00 at Prescott Public Library** and hear a real life story of how lives are affected beyond our imagination. The general meeting for the month will also address the topic of Sex Trafficking. A "survivor" of the human trafficking business, our speaker, Beth was enslaved from age 15-22 in Minnesota and Illinois. Now, years later she is still feeling the effects that terrible crime. Learn what we can do to help the victims of human trafficking. All branch members are invited to attend Public Policy meetings.

In February we will be preparing at the Public Policy meeting for **Legislative Day in Phoenix**. Kelly Boryca will be coordinating our branch participation in Legislative day, which will take place on **February 25, 2015**. We will begin having a clipboard for sign-up to go to Phoenix at the January Public Policy and General Meetings. Please feel free to contact Kelly if you want to attend and be involved in Legislative Day.



GENDER INEQUALITY

A recent article in the National Catholic Reporter should be of interest to our members. Written by a Benedictine nun, the article states that gender inequality is really a man's problem, not a woman's problem. For all the "gains" women have made they are not enough until men get involved in solving the problem. The very interesting and well-written article, dated Nov. 4, can be found at:

<http://ncronline.org/blogs/where-i-stand/gender-inequality-mans-problem>

January is "National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month"



The issue of human trafficking - modern day slavery that victimizes women, children and the impoverished - has not left Prescott untouched. News articles showcasing the cooperation of local, state and federal law enforcement reflect its presence in our community.

Join us on **Saturday, January 10th, at the Yavapai College Community Room**, when Det. Jessica Barnard of the Prescott Police Department will share

information regarding the scope of human trafficking in our community and the efforts to identify and prosecute those responsible. Social time starts at 9:00am with announcements at 9:30. The program will begin at 10:00.

New Member Gathering Is Jan. 17

Attention, new members! All members of AAUW Prescott who have joined in the past year and who have not yet attended this event are invited to our New Member Gathering on **Saturday, January 17, 10:00 a.m.- noon**, at the home of Marlene Walsh. The address and directions will be sent to those who RSVP.



We offer this gathering to welcome and orient our newest members into our organization. It is a chance to socialize and get to know some of the people behind the organization as well as fellow new members, with a nice mix of seasoned board members and "newbies." Invitations will go out soon, but if we somehow miss you, use the directory to contact one of our Membership Co-VPs so we can add your name to our list.

Contact Membership Co-VPs for more information:
Deb Dillon and Marlene Walsh



AAUW PRESCOTT

HOLIDAY BRUNCH 2015



Congratulations to

Sara Wolters, winner of this year's **Mover and Shaker** award who has quietly served AAUW for many years, completely unheralded. She is

- Our current Recording Secretary
- Past AZ State President
- now in charge of State Elections
- former co-chair of photography group
- on Prescott Branch Board for years.
- active in Public Policy



and

Patti Allen-LaFleur, winner of this year's **Rookie of the Year** award is said to be like the "Energizer Bunny," constantly on the move!

Patti is co-editor of this newsletter and the AAUW-Arizona newsletter.

She joined one book club and volunteered to lead that when the previous leader chose to step down.



Again, that wasn't enough, and, when an evening book group was suggested, she offered to help establish and lead that group, too.

Patti is also the group leader for the evening Great Decisions Group.

DREAMS to REALITY

On **March 21, 2015**, AAUW – Prescott's Community Action Project "The Dreams To Reality" event will take place at Embry Riddle from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The event is targeted at girls and young women, 14 years old through college. This event is a collaboration between AAUW-Prescott, Girl Scouts of Prescott, Embry Riddle, and North Star Youth Partnership.

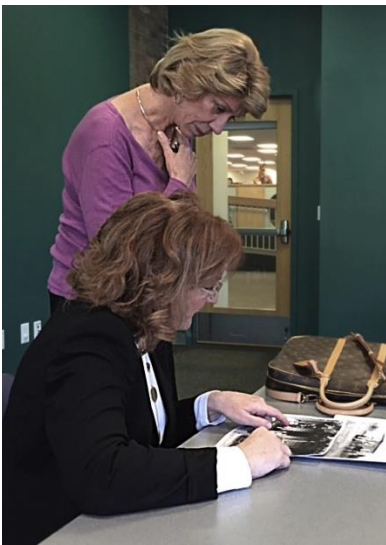
In the Reality Store portion of the event, each girl will assume the role of a 25 year-old woman, with a family and a chosen career. They will each pay taxes and make their own choices in purchasing food, clothing, housing, and transportation and anything needed for their family for the month by budgeting their salary. AAUW members will act as storekeepers at these 22 tables where the girls will try to limit their spending to stay within their month's paycheck. Girls will actively make choices as to how much to spend at each table and manage life surprises that come their way. The wrap-up session will discuss what choices they found difficult, what surprised them in the process, what sacrifices they made when their career salary did not cover their needs. The result is that their eyes are opened to the cost of living and the struggles to make ends meet. Some even come to the realization that the career chosen has a direct effect on their lifestyle. They are encouraged to think about the possibility that they could extend their education in order to have a higher paying job that will bring a better lifestyle for their family.

After a pizza luncheon, the Career Fair portion of the day will run from about 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. with the girls rotating through classrooms about every 30 minutes where panels of speakers will describe their careers and their journeys: what path led them through their career or careers; what failures and risks they faced; what new things they explored; what guided them; how crooked was their path? Careers will include non-traditional fields, STEM, social service, medical, arts, and business, among others.

We are seeking volunteers for the morning, to run the tables for the Reality Store portion of the event. Each person will have a specific assignment and will be interacting with the girls and helping them to make choices in spending their paychecks to provide for their families' needs - something we all do everyday.

All volunteers must have email accounts to receive and respond to event information emails.

Questions? Email Pat Mann .



Genealogy Group

Elaine Lawson and guest Jennifer Bartos examine documents.

Big Bucks for AAUW FUNDS!

WHAT A WONDERFUL BRUNCH IT WAS....87 women came and (hopefully) enjoyed the festive annual Holiday Brunch. How lucky we were to have missed the bad weather!

This year, due to special pricing from Hotel St Michael's, and the fact that our speaker was unable to attend, we ended up with an overage of \$586. These funds will be combined with the AAUW Funds we collected at the Holiday Brunch for a total of \$2,111. Thank you for the generous support of AAUW Funds. Anyone who wasn't able to contribute at the brunch can go to www.aauw.org, click on **Donations** and fill out the online form.

Income Tax Deduction Information on AAUW Dues

This is just a reminder that a portion of your National AAUW dues is tax-deductible for the year 2014. If you paid the full amount of \$85 for the year 2013-14, you can deduct \$46. If you paid the ½ price of \$42.50 (those who joined between January 1, 2013, and March 15, 2014) the portion of your National Dues that is deductible will be \$23.00.

If you are uncertain as to what your status is, please feel free to contact our Treasurer by phone or e-mail (see Membership Directory).

AAUW-Arizona Scholarships To Attend the National Convention Awarded!

Three applications were reviewed for scholarships from AAUW-Arizona to attend the **AAUW Convention in San Diego, June 18-21, 2015**. The board unanimously agreed that three applicants, Deb Dillon, Paula Fuhst and Pamela Core, should share the \$600 equally. The board also agreed that AAUW-Prescott would support a portion of President-Elect Gail Shay's expenses at the convention.

TWO FUN ROBOTICS EVENTS FOR YOU!



Get a sneak preview of the upcoming Vex LEGO Qualifying Event! In lieu of asking for a room fee for our AAUW May meeting,

the school has requested our assistance in obtaining volunteers for their competition at **Granite Mountain Middle School, Saturday, January 31st, from 8:00am – 5:00 pm**. This is the ultimate STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) activity, which AAUW supports. You can volunteer for part of the day or the whole day. Granite Mountain Middle School will be presenting their **Vex and Lego Robotics Program at our general meeting in May**. If interested, please contact Annette Gauthier, Program Co-VP.



VOTE - ELECTION - VOTE

The election of AAUW State officers will occur in March and April 2015. Three positions are open: Co-President, Recording Secretary and Membership VP.

If you would like to be considered for one of these important positions in the Arizona state organization, contact State President, Jane Adrian, Scottsdale Branch, or your branch president.

The state has followed the national lead and instituted the one-member-one-vote policy. We had a major get-out-the-vote campaign; in 2014 only 15% of the members respond to the vote. We are hoping to double that return in 2015. To that end, reminders will appear at the state level, the branch level and with interest group leaders reminding members of the vote.

We voted in March/April 2014 with an electronic vote. We will do the same this next time. Emails were sent online to members from "election buddy" requesting votes on officers and bylaws. The same process will be used in this coming election. We will announce candidates after the first of the year. There are no bylaw changes to vote on in 2015.

Between now and election time, members should verify that their email addresses are correct on the national website. The national website is the source for the member email addresses. Branch officers will be assisting with this process.

Some who missed the vote in 2014 may find it useful to put "election buddy" in their contact list so the email with the ballot will not automatically go into the spam/junk folder.

It is important that members participate in the coming election. Reminders will appear on the websites and in newsletters. We need member participation.

An Initiative: The Future of Arizona Public Education

Dear Branch Presidents, Public Policy Chair, and others expressing concern for public education,

We need to muster the voices to correct the narrative about public education and to change what is happening to funding of public schools in this state.

AAUW-Arizona can play an important leadership role. Thus, I am asking you to discuss a proposed initiative with your board and members and to seek the interest, input and involvement of your branch and individual members. Please help to support public education in this state.

As the cornerstone of this country's social and economic well-being, the public school system has been one of the bright and shining lights of our democracy and a means by which we seek equality and opportunity for all people. Public education policy sets the platform upon which the system operates and one of the tenets has been the operational transparency in the use of resources to benefit all students.

Addressing the future of K-12 education for all of Arizona's youth requires both a change in the narrative and in funding. As long as voting citizens think funding is adequate and all Arizona public education is inferior, our youth will be shortchanged! State and local funding remains in peril, teachers are demoralized, inequities persist between schools, Arizona's economic future is limited and the state continues an aggressive movement toward privatization of public education.

Quite simply, we must do better for all of Arizona's young people.

Thank you,

Joye Kohl

AAUW-AZ Public Policy-Education



Victorian Tea

The Events Group is planning to attend the Victorian Tea being held at the Hassayampa Inn at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 22nd. If you would like to participate, call Jo-Ann Johnson by February 17th. Her number is in the membership directory. The cost is \$15 - payable the day of the event.

Living Life and Loving it!



Janet Farrar Worthington is an award-winning science writer, founding editor of three Johns Hopkins magazines, former editor of the alumni magazine for the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, former commentator for "Marketplace" on public radio, and author of the hilarious Bumble Creek Farm. She is also working on some exciting science stories about Alzheimer's and autoimmune diseases. "To round out her busy life, she has a wonderful husband and three remarkable children. These four are the loves of her life!"

Join us as Janet shares tales of her *love of life* on **Saturday, February 14th** at the Yavapai College Community Room. Social time starts at 9:00 and we'll be seated at 9:30 for announcements. The program will begin at 10:00. We'll see you there!



Due to an unexpected cancellation of our March speaker, Neighborhood Meetings are back.....

Saturday, March 14th

Will you be willing to serve as a hostess for your area and welcome members into your home? There will be a sign-up sheet at the January meeting. A board member will be present at each meeting to facilitate the discussion, and attendees will help with refreshments.

This is an opportunity to get to know members in a more intimate setting, to give suggestions to strengthen our branch, and to enjoy each other's company. We hope you'll plan to attend!

Legislative Day is Fast Approaching

Wednesday, February 25, 2015 Time: 9AM to 2PM
Lunch: Bring your own Brown Bag



Legislative Day is just around the corner and our planning has begun. Since what happens on Legislative Day is dependent on what is happening at the Legislature that day, our plans need to stay as fluid as possible. The Branch Public Policy Chairs from throughout our state held a conference call to discuss the day's plans.

For those interested in attending Committee Meetings, they are generally held as early as 8 AM and can continue through to 11AM. We plan to have speakers between 9AM and 11AM so appointments with representatives should be made between 11AM and 1PM if possible. This is also the time you will have to eat your lunch. To save time, we are asking you bring your own lunch this year. The cafeteria is open, but remember it serves the entire complex. At 1PM we will attend the opening of the legislative session for the day. You may attend either the Senate or the House of Representatives.

Several ideas were offered in regard to what subjects might be covered by our speakers: human trafficking, the bill Representative Steele is sponsoring regarding vacating convictions, educational funding, lobbyists and their roll in the legislative process, and even several subjects that could be covered in a panel with a question/answer session afterwards. You will hear more about the program as it is designed.

Your Public Policy Chairs received some information about how to contact your legislators and will be giving you some sample letters that you can send. In addition, you can now register for ALIS from your home computer. If you need help registering, your public policy chair will help you.

“Better Know Your Leaders”

(with a nod to Stephen Colbert’s *Better know a district...a founder...a president.. etc*) Interspersed in each issue, the Newsletter Team plans to include a photos and brief bios for various Board Members and Interest Group Leaders. Wow, we are fascinating, humorous women!

Sharon Groves served as the 2011-12 AAUW Prescott Branch President and is a member of several interest groups. She is currently on the AAUW AZ Board of



Directors, serving as Membership Vice President. She and her husband make frequent trips to California and North Carolina, to see their daughters and grandchildren. She enjoys skiing (spending the kids’ inheritance) as she travels around the

world, checking off items on her bucket list. When at home, she plays bridge, loves to read and gets in a round or two of golf each week.

Donna Gaddy is Hospitality Co-Chair. She is a UCLA graduate in history and has enjoyed jobs in teaching, retail, journalism, and correctional



education. Donna has been a Prescott resident since 2001. She is active in Coalition for Compassion & Justice and Stephen Ministry as well as AAUW. Her preference would be to have

more baking and reading in her life and less exercise and housework. Presently, she is focused on surviving the first year of the puppyhood of Mike, an English Lab who is as rambunctious as he is handsome!

Randy Clark is also Hospitality co-chair. She was born in San Francisco and grew up in Marin County. She and her husband took a retirement test run in their 40’s and spent 4 years traveling around the US in their motor home. When they returned Randy went back to school and got her bachelor’s degree. She has held jobs in bookkeeping and accounting and, finally, social work. Randy and her husband retired “for real” in 2005 and moved to Prescott. She spends her time hiking, volunteering, gardening, playing bridge, birding and traveling. Randy’s big trip this past year was completing the 500-mile *Camino de Santiago de Compostela*, an ancient pilgrimage route that traverses Northern Spain.



EDITORS WANTED: NEWSLETTER AND WEB PAGE

A newsletter or web page editor is the person who compiles the various components written by others into an attractive and coherent publication. Both the Thumb Sketch and AAUW-Prescott website are in need of intermittent assistance to pass information on to members. Some skill with Microsoft Word is essential! Contact Sara DeRouche if you are interested in assisting the website or Stephanie Brown about Thumb Sketch tasks.



Stephanie Brown guides the Newsletter Team and is the AAUW-Prescott Photographer. In addition, she participates in Great Decisions, Public Policy, and co-chairs the Gourmet and Photography interest groups. Stephanie arrived in Prescott in

2007 after spending 3 years living and traveling the US in a 40-foot motorhome. She is almost equal parts New Englander and San Diegan with prior careers in sales, marketing and law offices.

Stephanie takes photos and videos of Yavapai Humane Society animals to be posted for adoptions and is active in a photography club in Prescott. For Stephanie, AAUW provides rewarding friendships and a door to the world outside herself.

Jan Wickliffe started out in Indiana and graduated from Purdue with a teaching degree. After teaching a couple years, then raising a family, she explored jobs as a Real Estate Broker and then an Insurance Agent. She enjoys the AAUW friends she has made in the Singles group. Besides the fun, she enjoys bridge, reading, cooking and church activities as she commutes back and forth from Phoenix to her Prescott cabin. She is forever grateful that Elaine Smith insisted she join AAUW!



Web Team leader and Communications chair **Sara DeRouche**y was one of those Midwesterners who migrated to California and spent 40 years there before retiring to Prescott in 2008. While raising her family, she spent 20+ years in clinical lab science and then did a

career switch in midlife to become a clinical psychologist. (Now she can read your mind AND test your blood....just kidding!) Along with retirement, she discovered how much fun some of the “techie” pursuits are - like digital photography and web design, quilting and geocaching. Throw in some hiking and she’s a happy camper. Beginning in spring 2015 Sara will begin facilitating a mindful eating program in Prescott.



Evening Book Group Begins in March

Patti Allen-LaFleur and Annette Gauthier
Group Co-leaders.

AAUW-Prescott’s latest book group will begin on the 3rd Thursday evening of every month starting March 19. The book group meets from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the Elsea Room at the Prescott Public Library. Prospective members—ones who have signed up for the group—will be contacted by email in early January. Our member limit is 12 and we have 5 openings available. Those interested in joining us can click on the [AAUW Prescott Email Link](#) and your request will be forwarded to Patti Allen-LaFleur.

What’s it worth?

Start thinking about what you will bring to the -

**AAUW-Prescott
Antiques Appraisal
Event
September 26,
2015**



Prescott's Sister-to-Sister Program Celebrates its 10th year!

Ten years ago members of Prescott Branch decided to search for a way to bring the national Sister-to-Sister program to town. They found willing partners in the Yavapai College Educational Talent Search (ETS) team and set to work to create an opportunity for first-generation college bound students to meet with college graduates. AAUW members were delighted to have lunch with the girls, to talk about the difference college had made in their lives, and to help bring into focus a future filled with opportunities for each of the teens.

What started small, about fifteen teens from one school and 15 AAUW members, has grown to include young women from five local high schools, student panelists from each of the three colleges in the area, welcome and keynote speakers, round-table discussions, and plenty of time for sharing dreams to be formed and realities to be addressed and overcome. Yavapai College now is the site of every event.

This program, supported in part by an AAUW-Arizona Community Action Grant, has already made a difference in the lives of the nearly 500 girls we have hosted. More of these students complete high school successfully and attend post-secondary programs than ever before in the tri-city area.



After the **November 13th event**, students remarked: "I liked being able to talk to a person who really tries to understand and connect." "I enjoyed how everyone was really friendly and inviting. "I got to learn a lot about the paths everyone took to be where they are today. " " I liked that we got to talk with actual university graduates!" "It's a pretty amazing program!"

Watch for the announcement of next fall's luncheon in the September Thumb Sketch or on the website.

Keynote "grad," Harriet Young, AAUW AZ-VP



Any member is welcome to join the fantastic and fun Sister-to-Sister committee, or attend the luncheon. This program exemplifies AAUW in action.



Due to the generosity of AAUW Prescott members, we gathered a large **food collection** at the November meeting. There were 63 food items, including 17 cans of tuna, salmon and roast beef, 12 cans of a variety of beans, 6 soups, four pasta, 6 cans of vegetables and a wide assortment of miscellaneous items including peanut butter, jelly and jam, popcorn, hot chocolate, and other prepared foods. The food this month will be delivered to the Coalition for Compassion and Justice, because they do such a wonderful job of feeding the homeless and hungry, as well as dispersing food items to other food pantries.

Thank you to all who have contributed. We will provide this service until mid 2015 and determine at that time, whether the membership wants to continue this practice.

Barbara Claybaugh

In AAUW Barbara was both a Membership VP and a Programs VP. Barbara had interests on a variety of levels so her contributions to AAUW's Great Decisions discussions were valued. Barb was almost always positive and upbeat. Barbara Claybaugh passed away, November 29, 2014.

Ten years ago when Barbara moved to Prescott from CA, she began to work as a fundraiser for Yavapai College and later served as



Director of Alumni Outreach. Barbara was active with the Northern Arizona Association of Fundraising Professionals and in 2006 was named the Fundraiser of the Year.

At Yavapai College an endowed scholarship honoring her will be named the Barbara Claybaugh Family Enrichment Center Scholarship Fund and will last in perpetuity. Barb was the capital campaign coordinator for the FEC, and its creation was very dear to her heart. The FEC offers quality learning experiences to a diverse group of children from both the College and the wider community, and provides invaluable hands-on teacher training to the College's early and elementary education students. To honor Barb please send memorial gifts to:

- Yavapai College Foundation
1100 E Sheldon Street PMB 6904
Prescott AZ 86301

or online at www.yc.edu/onlinegiving - Memorial Gifts.

Margaret E. (Mardy) Taylor

Mardy was active in AAUW Community Action, Reading and Bridge Groups and served as Co-Chair of the Garden Group last year. Her untimely passing occurred Monday, December 1 with her family by her side. Mardy was passionate about nursing and healthcare. She completed the first cardiovascular nurse specialist training program at St. Joseph's, and took part in the first heart transplant surgery in Phoenix. In 1991, Mardy joined Yavapai Regional Medical Center in Prescott and soon became Chief Nursing Officer. She was credited with envisioning and implementing YRMC's mission of creating a "Total Healing Environment." After retiring in 2011, she was actively involved through the YRMC Volunteers program and AAUW-Prescott.



Please consider a contribution to the Yavapai Regional Medical Center Foundation, in memory of Margaret E. Taylor, 50 Perkins Drive, Prescott, AZ 86301. Your contributions will help fund local nursing education

Portia Rey - We have just learned of the death in December of former member Portia Rey, who served on the board as Public Relations Chair.

AAUW Prescott

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