



September 12 General Meeting to Focus on AAUW Prescott's Scholarship Funds

Scholarship Fundraiser Promises to be Noteworthy Event

By Anne Barton

Our first program for the 2015-2016 year will be an exciting and different event for all of us. *It will offer a unique opportunity to support our scholarship funds and tour an outstanding facility.*

On Saturday, September 12, we will visit the many learning and growth opportunities for children at the Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center, located on the campus of Yavapai College. A strong group of AAUW members and Mary Alice Moulton, our AAUW Prescott President for 2001-2002, were influential in persuading Yavapai College to create and support the Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center. Our scholarship fund offering financial assistance for childcare is named for Mary Alice Moulton. We will begin with refreshments in the YC Community Room. In small groups, we will tour the Center and learn about the students, the staff, and the exciting learning that takes place there for the Early Childhood Development students as well as for the children.

After our tour, we will return to our regular meeting room next to the Yavapai College Library. At that time, we will have presentations about the two AAUW scholarships we support—the [Mary Alice](#)

[Moulton Scholarship](#) and the [Centennial Scholarship](#). We will hear about the origins of the scholarships, the recipients of each fund, our goals for growing these endowments, and how our contributions assist women in our community

continue their educational pursuits. Speakers will include Vicki LaMotte, Family Enrichment Center Director; Paul Kirchgraber, Director of Development for the Yavapai College Foundation; and parents of children in the Center.

As an organization, our goal is to grow the principal in our endowment accounts to generate more funds for these worthy students, so *put September 12 on your calendar now, with a reminder to bring comfortable shoes and your checkbook.*

We guarantee that you will enjoy this very special program and fundraising event!



Vicki LaMotte reads with her students.

Reminder: Directory Updates Due

If you need to change, add, or delete anything in your Directory listing for the new Directory, please send changes to Marlene Walsh by July 20. The new Directory will go to press August 15. It will be distributed at the September 12 meeting. If you cannot be at the meeting, please arrange to have a friend pick up your copy.

President's Message

Gail Shay

Greetings and Happy Summer!



As I embark on my presidency of AAUW Prescott Branch, I reflect with pleasure on the past few years in which I began my association with AAUW. Not only was I new to Prescott, I was a newcomer to AAUW, and very happy to become involved with such a vital,

caring and capable organization (and ditto for the members!) I look forward to serving all of you for the coming year and keeping our branch in its position as a growing and positive force in our community. I also want to acknowledge Patti Blackwood, our outgoing President, for all her work, help, and encouragement.

Our May general meeting at Granite Mountain Middle School on *STEM Becomes STEAM* was a big hit. The school's enthusiastic teachers and students presented their very creative project and video *Robotics and Odyssey of the Mind*, encompassing all the areas of focus: science, technology, engineering, math, and the newly added arts. The energy, talent, and presence of the students impressed all of us in attendance. Although Granite Mountain Middle School will change into an elementary school next year, the kids and mentors will still be active and engaged in Prescott schools, and have achieved statewide recognition for their efforts.

On Wednesday, June 10, our popular Summer Social event, where we invite potential new members of AAUW and socialize together, was held at Yavapai College. We had excellent attendance and food, and we were able to share information about AAUW's mission as well as our branch's Community Action, Public Policy, and Scholarship programs. We also shared loads of

information about our interest groups. Members and guests alike circulated to talk with members at the interest group tables, sign up for new groups, or simply obtain more information.

Our program vice-presidents have been hard at work planning the coming year's meetings and topics. In September, we will kick off the new year with a program about the Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center at Yavapai College (Yes, we even get to tour it!) and our two scholarships. Many of you have asked us to consolidate our fundraising requests and this is it – our once-a-year local request for support of our local scholarships. Please consider supporting these worthwhile efforts and bring your checkbook. See you in September and have a great summer!

This *Thumb Sketch* includes:

Sept. Meeting for Scholarship Funds	p. 1
President's Message	p. 2
Appointed Board Members	p. 3
New Directory Features Photos	p. 3
Public Policy	p. 4
Programs	p. 4
Summer Mentorship: The Lead	p. 5
Summer Social Report	P 5
Interest Groups	P 6
AAUW National Report	P 7

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

I speak of the black experience, but I am always talking about the human condition—about what we can endure, dream, fail at, and still survive.

Maya Angelou

One of the many quotes from [The Last Word: A Treasury of Women's Quotes](#) by Carolyn Warner

2015-16 Appointed Board Members Announced

By Gail Shay

We are pleased to present the **Appointed Members** of the Board of Directors of the Prescott AAUW branch. All of these dynamic women are qualified, responsible, and eager to serve.

When you have a chance, please thank each of these ladies for agreeing to serve in these important positions.

Archivist.....Julie Pavri

Communications

Co-Chairs.....Sara DeRouche
Patti Allen-LaFleur

Community Action

Co-Chairs.....Louise Dubel
Eileen Cotter

Directory/Address Book

Co-Chairs.....Dot Williamson
Suzanne Scudder

Hospitality Co-Chairs.....Anne Jacques
Katie Wrigley

Newsletter Team.....Janet Orr
Cindy Cassady
Patti Allen-LaFleur
Edi Taylor-Richards

ParliamentarianEdi Taylor-Richards

Public Policy Co-ChairsDeb White
Susan Lanning

Scholarship Co-Chairs.....Anne Barton
Lynn Murphy

Web Site TeamChris Maxwell
Melinda Anderson
Elaine Lawson
Edi Taylor-Richards

YRMC Council of

Electors RepresentativeKaye Shriver

2015-16 Directory Features Members' Photos

By Stephanie Brown



Our new 2015-2016 Directory will be distributed at the September meeting and for the first time will have a photo next to each member's contact information. This feature has often been requested

but not until this year, when Dot Williamson volunteered to take it on, did we have a chance to accomplish this big project.

It is a complicated task, with Dot creating the database and Wendy Jones, Stephanie Brown, and members of the photography interest group capturing photos. The small black and white image will help both our new and long-time members connect the names and faces of our ever-growing, 200+ members.

Currently, we have photographs for 87% of our members. We have contacted those members for whom we have no photo; we would like to include the missing people.



If you choose not to have a photo next to your name, you can opt out by contacting Dot Williamson or Stephanie Brown. And if you have a photo you especially like, please send that to Stephanie Brown, no later than July 31st. (Contact information is in the Directory.) We thank you all for your cooperation and help.



Prescott Public Policy Committee

By Deb White, Co-Chair



The AAUW Prescott Public Policy Committee will continue to meet on the first Tuesday of the month beginning in September and running through May. Debra White and Susan Lanning will be serving as Co-Chairs.

AAUW National will have a new Public Policy Brochure [available soon](#) which you can download from the National web site. Copies will be

printed as soon as they are available, so look for them at the general meetings. We will be working with the AZ State Public Policy Committee to coordinate needs and topics, as we have in the past.

We will again be having a State Legislative Day in February and are looking at ways to make this an interesting and valuable day for our members, since we would like to increase our branch attendance.

Because education continues as a priority we are looking to invite our three local superintendents to a meeting, particularly since two are new. We have never had the opportunity to visit with the Chino Valley Superintendent who was new after our last round with the local superintendents. We are hoping to be able to learn more and support the override effort for Prescott Unified. Other topics of interest in education include teacher retention and plans for education funding updates.

We are certain that women's health will remain a topic of interest and that the issues of sex trafficking will remain of concern.

All branch members are welcome to attend Public Policy Meetings. Information is always posted on the branch web site regarding meeting topic and locations.

Upcoming Programs for General Meetings Taking Shape

By Jeanette Polvani, Co-Chair



We are excited to give you an initial look at our programs for 2015-16. We know that our members will be informed, enlightened and impressed by our fall and spring programs.

- **The Life and Times of Mary Jane Coulter**, Designer and Architect (at the Phippen Museum)
- **The Challenge of Aging with Class...** Tips and Strategies - Dr. Sam Downing, Prescott Area Leadership's Man of the Year (2009) and his wife Leigh, a chaplain.
- **History of Arizona Legislature and 2016 Key Bills affecting Arizona's Future** – Dr. Anne Schneider, Arizona State University
- **Women's Health and Motherhood in the 20th Century** –Dr. Mary Melcher, author and Education Director at Sharlot Hall Museum
- **History of Women in the Military** – Our own Natalie Stewart-Smith helps us celebrate the anniversary of the Women's Army Corps (1942)

To celebrate the season, our Holiday Brunch will be at the historic Hotel St. Michael. Refer to the [AAUW Prescott](#) website and future issues of the *Thumb Sketch* for specific dates and program topics.



The Summer Social Report: See Page 5.

Summer Mentoring Program

By Claudia Greenwood

In December of last year AAUW Prescott was invited by Yavapai College to participate in the application process for an AAUW National Community Action Grant to fund a summer mentoring program called *The Lead*. *The Lead* is an



Several AAUW Prescott members were on hand at the kick-off picnic for the summer program The Lead.

8-week program that seeks to help recent high school graduates who meet certain requirements. These students, both male and female, must qualify for federal assistance, be the first in their family to continue education beyond high school, and lack family support for continued formal education.

In other words, they are students like those who participate in our Sister-to-Sister program.

We sent a letter of endorsement and an offer to mentor the young women enrolled in the program. We explained our current mentoring programs at the college. We built an impressive case! Yavapai College was committed to the program whether or not they received the funding, but at the welcome event on May 31 we learned that AAUW national had, indeed, funded the program!

Several of our members have committed to meeting the girls at lunch once a week throughout June and July. The goal is to make the transition from high school to college successful so that they will be prepared to continue their academic program in the fall. By developing one-on-one relationships with

the students, we will provide the guidance and support critical to their success.

Profound thanks to all who are participating. Some are pictured at the welcome picnic in the photo to the left.

We will provide a summary of the program in the fall newsletter.

Summer program coordinators: Mary Bauer, Donna Gaddy, and Claudia Greenwood

Summer Social: Good Company, Good Food

By Deb Dillon

Ninety-five women, including 26 guests, met Wednesday, June 10, at Yavapai College for AAUW Prescott's annual Summer Social. The room was full, with lively conversation and an excellent meal provided by AAUW members.

President Gail Shay presided over an introduction of guests, officers, and interest groups, and representatives of the interest groups provided displays and information. Table hostesses and door greeters ensured that guests were welcomed and introduced to AAUW members.

Thanks go to the many members who contributed to and attended this event. Thanks, too, to the Summer Social committee.



Sara Wolters describes the Photography Interest Group activities, while Elaine Lawson (L-Genealogy) and Edi Taylor-Richards (R-Crafts) look on.

Interest Groups Leaders Required to Ask for Member Commitments

If you are an Interest Group Leader, please contact the members of your group by August 15 to see who will be continuing with your group as AAUW begins its new fiscal year.

Additionally, any Interest Group Leaders who have been contacted by membership regarding new members interested in joining are required to contact the new member with a status of the Interest Group.

As a reminder, AAUW Prescott Interest Group Guidelines state:

“Any paid member may call an Interest Group Leader and ask to join an IG. If the group is full, the member will be waitlisted in chronological order with all other persons on the list. No priority or preference is to be given anyone except chronological order. If an IGL is notified by membership that a new member is interested in joining the group, it is the responsibility of the IGL to call the new member with either an invitation to join or, if the group is full, advise the new member of the current waitlist.”

Dining in All Directions

By Dot Williamson

The [Dining In All Directions](#) interest group is winding down another successful year with many interesting dinners having been enjoyed by members and partners. We are now looking forward to a Kick-Off for the new season in mid-to-late August, where we meet the members of our new dining groups and make plans for the new season. Anyone thinking about or planning to join this interest group for the next year should **contact Dot Williamson or Wendy Jones ASAP**, so you can be included at the August 29 meeting. This is the only time the entire group meets. After that, we divide into groups of 6-8 for dining adventures for the rest of the year. Since this is one of the few couples (as well as singles) groups, it is a chance for the men to meet your

AAUW friends.

Dot and Wendy hope you will consider joining this fun group.



From left: Dot and Bill Williamson enjoy a great meal with fellow diners Chip and Gail Shay and Delores and Art Manburg.

Travel Discussion Group Meets in July to Plan Year

By Bonnie Waterer

Each summer the [Travel Discussion Group](#) has a July meeting at the home of one of its members. At this meeting we have time to eat, socialize, and plan

our discussion topics for the coming year. This summer we are meeting at the ramada area by Julie Appletree's home on July 28th at noon. It will be a potluck lunch and Julie has invited a guest speaker from Grand Circle/OAT. If you are



Bonnie Waters takes a break at Cricova Underground Winery near Chi sinau, Moldova.

planning to join us that day, please **let Bonnie Waterer know by July 17th** and tell her what food you are bringing. When Bonnie has your reply, she will send directions to Julie's place.

AAUW National Convention Inspiring, Thought Provoking, and a Perfect Time for Collaboration

AAUW National Convention Inspiring

By Paula Fuhst

The AAUW convention was an inspirational learning experience! I attended a program on how to start an AAUW student organization, which would be an enriching experience for Yavapai College students. I learned about the Tech Savvy program and plan to discuss the possibility of offering such a program on the Yavapai campus, as it would promote recruitment and teach middle school students about STEM careers. I would like to utilize AAUW materials to offer programs for the general student population on salary negotiation and the gender pay gap.

I was inspired by the many speakers at the convention. Catherine Lhamon spoke about the progress that has been made with Title IX and indicated that we still have a long way to go to prevent hostile environments and sexual violence. Noorjahan Akbar from Afghanistan, who is studying public affairs at American University, demonstrated wisdom beyond her years as she advocated for progress for all women, especially those in her home country. The opportunity to hear Lilly Ledbetter speak was a special treat. The AAUW Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Awardee, Juanita Johnson-Bailey, told stories of her encounters with racism as well as the sources of support that sustained her. She stated that a common factor in cultures around the world is the oppression of women. Her work in academia was personally meaningful for me.





National Convention Brings AAUW Issues to Forefront

By Gail Shay

Conventions bring many teachable moments, and AAUW National in San Diego was no exception. As Dr. Juanita Johnson-Bailey put it in her talk, we should be asking “Why is this happening *for* me, not *to* me.” For me, the convention was about bringing back the enthusiasm for our AAUW mission and seeing just how far we still need to go in creating new and equal opportunities for women and girls, around the world and in our neighborhoods. What I’m bringing back are ideas for mission-based programming, marketing and collaboration with our community.



National Convention Brings Fresh Ideas

By Patti Allen-LaFleur

In addition to inspiring speeches and thought-provoking panel discussions, I participated in some great workshops focused on building branch communications and getting our AAUW message out to our members. I loved meeting lots of like-minded women and men. A highlight for me was the Arizona Reception hosted by AAUW Arizona president Jane Adrian. In addition to her husband Ed’s homemade beer and wine at hand, we met with many Arizona members and got to meet Lilly Ledbetter, who dropped by to visit us.



The Mary Alice Moulton Scholarship, awarded to YC students for childcare tuition at the Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center, is named for a former AAUW Prescott President. Mary Alice died suddenly in 2004. From the time she joined AAUW in 1994, she was a tireless advocate for a Childcare course of study at Yavapai College and for the creation of an early childhood center. Her efforts ultimately **resulted in the building of the Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center in 2007.** Because of her passion for the center and hard work in helping plan the center, the Prescott Branch of AAUW named this unique scholarship in her honor.

Our second endowed scholarship is the **AAUW Centennial Scholarship**, which benefits female students who have completed at least one semester at Yavapai College and who have earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Preference is given to students selecting a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering or Math) curriculum.

AAUW Prescott

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