



November-December Newsletter 2016 Vol 65 No 6

President's Message



Deb Dillon, President

Our AAUW program year has gotten off to a fabulous start! At our September meeting, we had an excellent review of upcoming election issues and our October program on banned books was a real eye opener. I am proud to be a part of such a vibrant organization.

There is, however, one concern I hear fairly frequently: Why does AAUW keep asking me for money (or other donations)? Before I explain the reason for the requests, I want to say unequivocally that **the only money you are obligated to give to AAUW is your dues**. Anything more is at your discretion, and you should feel neither guilty nor embarrassed if you decline further requests.

Some of the requests you are likely to have received recently are as follows:

- Authors' Luncheon
- Items for Interest Group baskets for the Authors' Luncheon
- "Opportunities" for the Little Free Library to be given away at the Authors' Luncheon
- "Opportunities" for the Interest Group baskets to be given away at the Authors' Luncheon
- Books to be used as table decorations at the Authors' Luncheon then used for Sister-to-Sister
- Wine Tour
- Holiday Brunch
- Various and sundry requests from AAUW National

Every one of these requests supports our scholarships, and I hope you have noticed that the majority of the local requests also provide some sort of return for your money: meals, entertainment, potential acquisitions. In addition, we have tried to move away from simply requesting money and toward activities where persons outside of AAUW are encouraged to participate, as is the case with the Authors' Luncheon and the Wine Tour. Our Scholarship Committee, headed by Anne Barton, toils tirelessly at this process.

But why do we ask for these contributions at all?

I hope you are aware that our branch sponsors two scholarship funds at Yavapai College. One, the Mary Alice Moulton Scholarship, is for children of YC students to attend the Family Enrichment Center, giving the children a great head start and the parents an opportunity to further their education. The Centennial Scholarship is for women studying in a STEM field.

You may not realize, however, that because these are endowed scholarships (meaning they will continue in perpetuity and scholarships are paid out only from the investment income), the current size and number of the awards is quite small. Last year we gave three \$500 Mary Alice Moulton Scholarships and one \$500 Centennial Scholarship. That seems like such a drop in the proverbial bucket! Our goal is to bring our endowments, managed through the Yavapai College Foundation, to a level where we can award more and/or greater scholarships.

We also make an attempt to find financing from outside our branch. We recently received \$1,000 for our scholarships from the Kiwanis (see article in this *Thumb Sketch*) and we have applied for and received a variety of grants from AAUW of Arizona for other purposes, such as our Tech Savvy program. If you have other suggestions for securing funds, we would welcome your ideas.

This Thumb Sketch includes:
President's Message
November General Meeting
December Holiday Brunch
Red Envelopes at Brunch
Hospitality Committee Request
New Members' Gathering
Public Policy Meets Nov. 1
Annual Award Nominations Due
Kiwanas Donate \$1000
Authors' Luncheon Slideshow
Scholarship Save-Dates
AAUW Prescott on FaceBook
Ladies Bridge Interest Group
Geocaching Little Libraries
Evening Book Club Full

We recognize that not all of you are in a position to contribute or participate in our fundraising efforts. We also want to honor your choices of where to give your financial support. We hope, however, that many of you will choose to give some of your discretionary funds to our philanthropic efforts. Thank you for this (and so much more!).

Feel free to share your feelings and comments on this topic with me.

November 12 General Meeting

Women Who Changed the World

Sherry Koopot, Docent, Phoenix Art Museum



Our meeting begins with social time at 9:00 AM, followed by general announcements at 9:30 AM; our featured program begins at 10:00 AM. The meeting will be held at the Yavapai College Community Room in Building 19. Our guest speaker this month is Sherry Koopot, an award-winning docent at the Phoenix Art Museum.

From the beginning of time, women's decisions have had a significant impact on our lives. These women might not have set out to change the world, but their decisions and actions did indeed change their world and ours. Their paths to influence were alternately accidental, forced-upon, willful, dramatic, or calm. They were leaders, wives, mothers, artists, writers, athletes, inventors, and scientists. Come join us to learn about their lives through paintings, sculptures and photographs.

Sherry Koopot moved to Arizona in 1971 from Chicago. She got "hooked" on art through the Masterpiece Art Program in the schools and joined Phoenix Art Museum's docent program in 1986. She has served as the Museum's Speakers Bureau Chairman, National Docent Symposium Co-Chairman, Training Chairman, and President. She was selected as Docent of the Year for the Phoenix Art Museum for fiscal year 1994-95. In 2013, she was nominated for the Governor's Award for an individual in arts education.

December 10 Holiday Brunch



Join us Saturday, December 10, at 9:00 AM at The Club at Prescott Lakes, 311 E. Smoke Tree Lane for our Annual Holiday Brunch. This year, we will honor our Star Awardees (50 year members) and announce the Mover & Shaker and Rookie of the Year awards. Additionally, the luncheon will feature a brief musical program by Song of the Pines, a performing and competing Sweet Adelines chorus from Prescott. They are an exuberant group of women who will sing a few selections in four-part harmony.

The brunch will offer two entrée choices, and includes coffee, tea, and water.

The cost is \$20.00 per person. Please send your check, made out to AAUW Prescott (with Holiday Brunch on the memo line), to Gayle Rumble (address in the directory) or to AAUW at P.O. Box 10881 Prescott, AZ 86304. **Registration forms and checks can be mailed ([click on this link for printable copy](#))** or you can make a reservation and payment at the November 12, 2016 general meeting. **Please make sure to INCLUDE your entrée choice!**

Red Envelope Event at Holiday Brunch

The December 10 holiday brunch also marks our annual red envelope event supporting National AAUW scholarships and grants. Red envelopes will be available for members who wish to make contributions to this national fund. Please make out your tax-deductible check to **AAUW Funds**. If you wish, you may specify on your check a fund you wish to benefit: Legal Advocacy, Education, Research or Leadership. You may also make a general donation that will be distributed as needed. For more detailed information, see our National AAUW website [here](#).

Hospitality Committee Requests

Contributed by Kathy Lopez

Thank you to all the members who have provided refreshments for the General Meetings.



There have been several requests for gluten-free snacks at our general meetings. Many of the foods currently showing up on the table are naturally gluten free: fresh vegetables, fruit, veggie chips, dried fruit & vegetables, peanut butter, almond butter, cream cheese, Parmesan crisps, nuts, candies, eggs, etc. Our members who prefer to eat gluten-free foods will appreciate any of these delicious items.

If you bring a dish that is not clearly gluten free, for example, baked goods (homemade or purchased), please label them. Additionally, it would help those members with dietary restrictions if you place a label or recipe beside your dish to clarify ingredients. If you do have a gluten-free diet, please consider bringing a yummy item to share when it's your turn to host.

October Gathering Hosts 7 New Members

Contributed by Betsy Peek

On Saturday, October 1, seven new AAUW members and seven board members met at Betsy Peek's home for an enjoyable morning of refreshments and great informal social discussion. The board members shared their history with AAUW and their current involvement in committees and Interest Groups. All of the AAUW Interest Groups and community programs were highlighted.



New members take time to pose for a picture during their gathering in October.

It was great fun to hear to hear about the new members' various and interesting backgrounds.

Since June of this year we have enrolled 22 new members. New members can be identified by the green ribbons on their nametags. Introduce yourself and hear their stories. One of these extraordinary women owned and operated an alpaca farm!

Public Policy Meeting November 1



Contributed by Molly Divine

The Public Policy committee meeting will be November 1, 2016, 1:00 pm in the Bump Room, of the Prescott Public Library. The November speaker will be Kevin Dickerson, Chief Financial Officer, Prescott Unified School District. He will speak on the fiscal challenges faced by local districts.

And one last reminder from your Public Policy Chair:

Don't Forget to Vote!

Award Nominations Due November 10

We will be having our annual presentation of the Mover & Shaker and Rookie of the Year Awards at the Holiday Brunch on December 10. Please consider nominating someone for one or both of these awards.

The Mover & Shaker Award honors a member who works tirelessly on branch initiatives and is a leader in the branch. It honors a person who gives of her time selflessly to further the work of the branch in our community and to help it grow through her leadership, special projects, and involvement in all aspects of the branch.

The Rookie of the Year Award is given to a member who has been in the branch for three years or less. She is honored for her outstanding involvement in branch activities – usually contributing in several areas.

Nomination Forms are available [at this link](#). Please download the form and return to Deb Dillon either at prescottaauwbranch@gmail.com or in person at the November General Meeting

Kiwanis Donates \$1,000 to AAUW Scholarships

The Kiwanis Club of Prescott recently sent a check for \$1,000 to aid AAUW Prescott's two scholarship funds – the Mary Alice Moulton Childcare Assistance Fund, which provides tuition help at the Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center at Yavapai College for children of student parents and the Centennial Scholarship Fund for female students in STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), also at Yavapai College.

We greatly appreciate this community response. If you know anyone in our local Kiwanis organization, please share our appreciation with them. Former AAUW Prescott member Wendy Jones was responsible for securing this donation, and we thank her also!

Authors' Luncheon a Great Success

Take a look at this slide show to see the beautiful book baskets and the winners of the Little Library drawing at the October 22 event.



Admiring a Display



Peregrine Books showed up with a dynamic array of books



FaceBook is Coming to AAUW Prescott

AAUW Prescott will soon have a Facebook page. Lenore Hemphill has graciously agreed to create and administer this page, and we expect it to go live after our November General Meeting. We also plan to provide a very short training session after that meeting for anyone who would like to learn more about accessing and using our page.

***Publishing Photographs**

With the arrival of an AAUW Facebook page and our ever-expanding website and Thumb Sketch, we feel we need to develop a policy on the publication of photographs. At this point, here's our best advice: If you do not want your picture published, remove yourself from any photographs which are destined for that purpose. We will not publish candid photos without the consent of anyone who is recognizable in the photograph.

If you have further input on this policy, please contact Deb Dillon.

Contributions from Interest Groups Are Always Welcome!

Ladies Social Bridge

Contributed by Kristi Edwards.



Our ladies social bridge group meets at 1PM on the first and third Friday of the month. We rotate hostess duties and play in members' homes. There are currently 15 members and 4 substitutes, who do not hostess. Light refreshments are served and the ante is one dollar with the kitty being awarded to the two high scores and the lowest score of the day. We play American Contract Bridge, League style, and Kristi Edwards is the group coordinator. If you are not a seasoned player, we can provide suggestions on where to take bridge lessons.



Geocaching Hunts for Little Libraries!

Susan, Lynn and Marlene, members of the Geocaching Interest Group, enjoyed discovering geocaches hidden in Little Free Libraries around Prescott. When you see one of them, ask about their findings!



New Evening Book Group Fills Rapidly

Contributed by Molly Divine

The newly established Evening Book Group isn't open to new members right now, but group members and any others interested in our reading list can look on [our page](#) on the AAUW Prescott website.

Details for our November meeting: Tuesday, November 8, 7:00 p.m.

- Each member will bring, and prepare to discuss, her choice of a book of historical fiction. (This is instead of all discussing one common book.)