

## President's Message



When we are successful, we don't just do it individually. Of course, our effort is essential, but we cannot do it without others. AAUW is a prime example of this belief of

mine. It may not be obvious, but we do a lot in AAUW – for the community, for Yavapai College, for the Foundation, for young women, and for education. And all of us contribute a great deal in time, talent and treasure.

This year we set a goal to raise \$20,000 for our two endowment funds for the Yavapai College Foundation. We were hopeful, but not assured that we could meet that goal. Well, we made it – we have already exceeded our goal by about 50%. How did we do it? With the coordination and efforts of our Scholarship Committee headed by Anne Barton and Deb Brown, we managed to have two stellar scholarship events. Kudos go to the Scholarship Committee! But do not discount the fact that it took our whole branch's effort to make this happen. Your generosity and your involvement were critical. Thank you, Thank you!

We have many unsung heroines in our organization. One of those who receives a little credit for all she does is Karen Leja. She is our liaison with Yavapai College and the Foundation. She helps coordinate all of our events with the college, including our meetings. But it is more than that. She is the face of our

organization with our partner – Yavapai College. Without her representation, we would not have the strong relationship that we have. So, it is with gratitude that I extend our appreciation to an unsung heroine. Applause is appropriate!



Don't forget that we as a partner with YC are endorsing three events: Framing the Future on March 6; Start by Believing on April 1; and Rider's Read presentation by author Rebecca Skloot on April 17.

We will see you at our Community Conversations on March 7.



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## March 7th Program

### Community Conversations

This month AAUW will hold its annual “Community Conversations” (previously titled “Neighborhood Meetings”). Based on feedback from last year, we are going to meet in the Community Room of Yavapai College for treats, provided by the board, social time, and announcements, per our usual meeting format as opposed to meeting at individual members’ homes. After a short meeting, we will move to assigned meeting rooms within the YC library where a board member will facilitate activities and discussion with each group. Members will have the opportunity to interact in order to get to know each other better and provide input to the Executive Board on a range of topics. Both whole and small group activities are designed to build community, spark lively conversation, and have fun. We look forward to celebrating International Woman’s Day (March 8) in collaboration with you through this interactive event.



*PLEASE NOTE: The meeting is being held on March 7, one week earlier than the usual meeting date due to Yavapai College’s Spring Break closures.*



## April 11th Program

### The City of Flagstaff’s Climate and Adaptation Plan



Mayor Coral Evans,  
City of Flagstaff

The Honorable Coral Evans, the Mayor of Flagstaff, will be presenting the City of Flagstaff’s Climate and Adaptation plan. “The Plan recognizes the value of the community, the thriving economy, the neighborhoods, and the people. To protect what we love about Flagstaff, we need to ensure that we are

prepared for change. The benefits of planning ahead are innumerable: we see that value through forest treatments that help us avoid catastrophic wildfire and flooding, as well as through investments in services that keep our vulnerable community members safe. This Plan was made by and for the Flagstaff community. Hundreds of residents contributed through open houses, online surveys, and coffee and climate conversations.”

Mayor Coral Evans was elected in November 2016. Although new to the position of Mayor, Ms. Evans is not new to the Flagstaff City Council. She was first elected to serve on the Flagstaff City Council in 2008 and reelected in 2012. She served as Vice Mayor of the City from 2012-2014. She is the third generation of her family to live in Flagstaff. Her family, the Dorsey’s, have been an active part of the Flagstaff and the greater Northern Arizona community since the early 1900s. In addition to serving on the Council, Ms. Evans is the Executive Director of a nonprofit organization,

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association of Flagstaff, Inc., and is a small business owner, Destiney's Creations.

## AAUW Business

### Look What We Did!

This year, AAUW Prescott decided to focus on just one goal: Reaching the full endowment levels for our two Yavapai College scholarships. This would require raising a total of \$20,000. Many were skeptical of our ability to reach this goal, but believed it was a worthy effort. Well, not only have we reached it, we have blasted past it, with the results of our spring scholarship fundraiser not yet included!

The Mary Alice Moulton Scholarship had a full endowment goal of \$100,000. As of Feb. 3, the total for that scholarship was \$106,033. The Centennial Scholarship, with an endowment goal of \$50,000, now stands at \$54,876. In total, we have exceeded our goal by more than \$10,000 so far!

A huge thank you to all our generous donors, both this year and in the past. You DO make a difference! Thanks, too, to the Scholarship Committee who have worked tirelessly on promoting these scholarships.

## Board Brief: January-February 2020

*Current membership total: 211*



Discussions are still being held regarding Sister-to-Sister. The program likely will be suspended for this year with plans being made for next year.

The program co-vice presidents will be working on the 2020-2021 general

meeting programs this spring and early summer. Contact Co-VP Ellen Anderson soon if you have suggestions.

AAUW will be supporting several events at Yavapai College this spring:

- March 6 – Framing the Future Cocktail Reception supporting the Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center. Elaine Smith will be posthumously recognized at this event.
- April 1 – Start by Believing Global Awareness Event helps people understand how important a positive, supportive response is to a disclosure of sexual assault.
- April 17 – Riders Read, where the entire campus community reads and discusses the same book, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. The author, Rebecca Skloot will speak on April 17.

President Becky Gunn, Katie Wrigley, and Deb Dillon met in January with Dr. Lisa Rhine, President of Yavapai College, and Rodney Jenkins, YC Vice President of Community Relations & Student Development, to share

information about AAUW's ongoing relationship with the college. They discussed past successes and future possibilities in a very positive exchange.



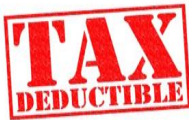
## Non-Partisan Statement

AAUW is a nonpartisan organization that promotes equity for women and girls, and it has a long history [of creating social change through public policy efforts](#). Because this work is often done within the political world, there is sometimes confusion about AAUW's political work versus our nonpartisan stance.

Our work has always been political but has never been partisan. Put simply, being political is a way to influence legislation and regulation through government or public affairs, while partisan activities have a firm adherence to a party, faction, or person.

As the current election cycle heats up, please remember that our organization includes members from all partisan persuasions, and we need to make every member feel welcome.

## Tax Deductible



This is just a reminder that a portion of your National AAUW dues is tax-deductible for the year 2019. If you paid the full amount of \$95 for the year 2019-20, you can deduct \$56. If you joined at a Shape the Future event and paid 1/2 price dues to National, you can deduct \$26.50.

## Public Policy

### Pilgrimage to Prescott Valley



Sue Marceau

Prescott will host other AAUW-Arizona branches on a pilgrimage to Prescott Valley to recognize the centennial of the 19th Amendment. The day will include a visit to the "Not-So-Gentle Tamer," a 10-foot-tall bronze statue of a female pioneer, at 7501 E. Civic Center Circle; a visit to The Bronze Works, the studio where the statue was created; lunch; and a presentation honoring the real-life women of grit who helped found the Arizona territory. The event most likely will be held in **May**. For more information, email [publicpolicy@aauwprescott.net](mailto:publicpolicy@aauwprescott.net)

## Legislative Day 2020

The 2020 AAUW-AZ Legislative Day was held **Feb. 4** at the Arizona State Capitol. Prescott attendees were President Becky Gunn, President-Elect Tracey Smiles, Program Co-VP Jan Herbert, and Public Policy Chair Sue Marceau. Topics included the Arizona budget focus on education, infrastructure, and



Katie Hobbs, Arizona Secretary of State

healthcare; fighting legislation that would criminalize abortion and make advertising for birth control a misdemeanor; and the retention of Roe v. Wade amidst national efforts to overturn it.

## March PPC Meeting

The PPC next meets **Tuesday, March 3**, from 1 to 3 pm in the Training Lab at the Prescott Public Library. In Honor of Women’s History Month, attendees will view and discuss the film “By One Vote: Woman Suffrage in the South,” produced by Nashville Public Television. The April meeting is slated for **Tuesday, April 7**, from 1 to 3 pm, location TBD.



## Community Action

### Reality Store News



Pat Mann

We are looking for volunteers to staff “The Reality Store” on **April 23, 2020**, at Prescott High School Library. Arrival will be about 7:15 a.m. and we will finish about 1:30 p.m. We are excited that this is part of the AAUW Community Action program at PHS. This is for the Freshman Academy and will serve about 180 boys and girls. This is the other half of the

Freshman class. The first half attended Reality Store last fall.

Volunteers will be assigned specific tasks, which will be to “man” a table and interact with the students directly. We anticipate around 180 boys and girls will participate. Training is provided and more information will be sent out to those who choose to volunteer.

We will also be presenting the Reality Store for the Teen Launchpad’s “Women’s Empowerment Breakthrough” conference (WEB) on **April 4, 2020**, in the afternoon, at the conference center at the summit of Mingus Mountain.

Transportation will be provided. Please consider volunteering! More info to follow when you volunteer. They anticipate around 30 girls will attend.



The Reality Store is an experiential process in which each student pretends that he/she is 25 years old. Each chooses a career, receives a paycheck and then circulates among many tables choosing and paying for their family’s needs for a month. The idea is that they choose and experience the lifestyle that their line of work and paycheck affords them. They are then able to decide if the lifestyle is acceptable or not and what needs to change. They also realize the importance of education in creating the future lifestyle of their dreams. It is quite impactful as most students have no idea of the actual cost of living.

If you have any questions, you may email or call Pat Mann. Thanks for your support! We can’t do this without you!

## AAUW Authors

### AAUW Members Who Write

AAUW Prescott is a vibrant organization comprised of intelligent, accomplished, and energetic women who actively engage in a range of creative pursuits. This article highlights several women within our organization who have recently written and published books representing a variety of genres, including bio-fiction, self-help, mystery, and history and who participated in last year's literary luncheon.



Submitted by Tracy Smiles



Carol Haack

**Carol Haack** holds a B.S. in English and Psychology and an MA in Communication. She worked as a corporate technical writer before becoming a college professor.

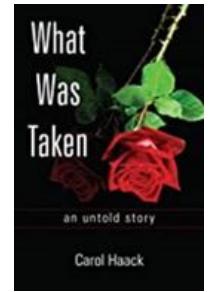
Her latest work, *What was Taken*, is a page-turning story of evil. Set

in the 1970's, this bio-fiction begins with coming-of-age stories in the author's life after she, herself, was abducted, at the age of ten, by serial killer David Torgerson. The narrative brings readers into Torgerson's other murder victims' lives and the cruel twists

of fate that brought them across his path.

Haack posits, "Killing those close to him was Torgerson's fatal mistake.

Society's psychiatric and judicial failures, along with continued victim condemnation, remain ours."



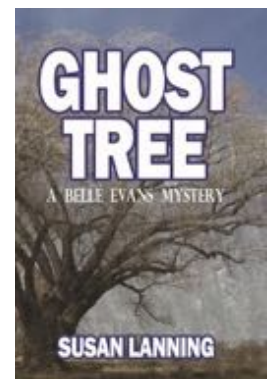
Susan Lanning

**Susan Lanning**, the author of suspense and mystery novels, is a retired teacher from Ohio now living in Prescott Valley, Arizona, with her husband. Her past books, *Harper's*

*Bluff*, *The Danesboro*

*Line*, and *The Day of the Beast* are modern suspense novels. *Imperfect Union* is historical suspense, taking place during the post-Civil War era. *Granite Justice* is her first Belle Evans detective mystery trilogy, with *Ghost Tree* the second, and now *Deadly Event* her third.

Her latest book, *Suffer the Witch*, was released in October 2019.



**Denelle Harris**, a long-time resident of Arizona, is a certified life coach. She teaches the popular “Wise Women Gathering” course at Yavapai College and has shared her expertise with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Her engaging talks continue to entertain local audiences.



Denelle Harris

Denelle Harris

Her newly released book, *Keys to Kindness*, is a new collection of true stories from her life, whereby Harris demonstrates her ability to find simple answers to complex problems while in the role of an executive, a divorced mom, and an innkeeper, sometimes all at once.

Harris knows when to step in, when to advise, when to follow, and how to discover help when needed—drawing her wisdom from her mom, from the Universe, and from her own instincts. Her engaging solutions make these short stories an amusing read. The gems at the end of each story are truly pearls of wisdom.



Kathy Lopez

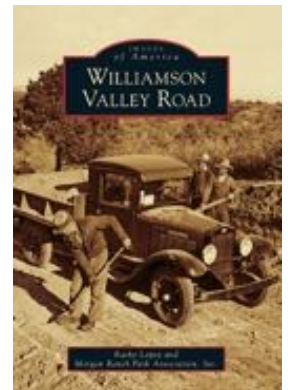
Author **Kathy Lopez**, along with being an active AAUW member who co-chairs both the Travel Discussion and Adventure interest groups, is the Morgan Ranch Park founder and president of the Morgan Ranch Park Association, Inc. She

authored, along with contributing board members Pat Briody, Donna Parra, and Keith Rosewitz, and recently published *Images of America: Williamson Valley Road*.

This beautiful book documents, through historical photos and descriptive excerpts, the rich history of Williamson Valley, beginning with the earliest known Native inhabitants, through European exploration, military activity, European settlement, railroad construction, to present day (retrieved from <https://www.arcadiapublishing.com/>).

Proceeds from the sale of the books go to Yavapai County’s Morgan Ranch Nature Park, whose mission is to maintain the park and preserve the area’s history.

You may contact these authors using their contact information in the AAUW Directory.



## In Memoriam



We lost vibrant, funny, wise Elaine Smith in January. A member of AAUW since 2000, she was Membership Co-VP in 2004-2006. She did not stop there and continued as a productive and hard-working fundraiser for both AAUW and the Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center. Elaine was the second recipient of the Mover and Shaker Award.

Doris Piatak remembers Elaine as a Worker Bee for AAUW. She never wanted to hold office, but she worked hard on any project—organizing fundraising events, making centerpieces and displays, being available to arrive early and stay late to set up and take down and do whatever needed doing. She devoted much energy to fundraising for the Del E Webb Family Enrichment Center, including arranging appealing gift baskets. She designed lovely greeting cards for her many friends and for donations to AAUW fundraisers.

Elaine and Tom gave wonderful Minnesota-style New Year's Day parties. During the many years of Tom's declining health and the 10 crisis-filled years following his heart transplant, she remained ever cheerful and optimistic. She was a dear friend. I mourn her loss.

Wini Daniels's memories of Elaine echo the words from Doris: Anything or anyone that needed help, Elaine was there. She was one of those delightful AAUW organizational backbones. The kind of person who is a gift to any organization. We were blessed to call her our friend. She was a very dear person.

Linda Rodarte added these details: Elaine was a master crafter who was very knowledgeable about craft supplies as well as techniques, and was willing to share that knowledge. She started a card-making group to teach several of her friends those techniques, and we are still using the techniques she taught us. Of course, you know how much she was involved with AAUW and very proud of the work that AAUW does. She was involved with the transplant support group since Tom had his heart transplant and continued supporting them after his death. Elaine was always happy to help her friends and we will miss her so very much!

*—Contributed by Doris Piatak, Wini Daniel, Linda Rodarte, and Stephanie Brown*



## Scholarships

### Spring Gala A Big Success

The Annual AAUW Spring Gala in 2020 was “A Taste of Mardi Gras”. The Krewe of Javelina”



consisted of over a hundred costumed attendees, who listened to music from three musical groups—Anne Badger, harpist; Mark Dillon and Friends, folk and rock artists; and the Yavapai College Brass Ensemble. The Brass Ensemble led the group in a fun, rambunctious Second Line Parade and a 2020 Court, including a King, Queen, and Jester for the Krewe of Javelina, was crowned.

Fabulous food was served by Sodexo and “Uncle Bud’s Restaurant”—gumbo, jambalaya, beans and rice, bread pudding with bourbon and vanilla sauces, and king cake.

A good time was had by all!



## Interest Groups

**Remember to Wear your NAME Badge at all AAUW activities!**



As members, you each received a name badge to wear at **ALL** AAUW meetings and events. Please

remember to wear it, as there are always new members who would like to get to know you. If you would like a customized AAUW Prescott, Arizona Branch badge, ask any board member.

## Craft Group



Margie Crider has assumed leadership of the Craft Group. She replaces Edi Taylor-Richards and will be in touch with group members when she has lined up a project.



## Travel Discussion Group

Tuesday, March 10th at the Prescott Public Library in Founders Suite A from 1:30 to 3:30, the group will be discussing travel to countries in



Scandinavia including, Iceland, Greenland, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden, and nearby islands. The topic to be discussed will focus on travel delays: bad weather, travel advisories, flight cancellations and of current interest – “travel in the age of the corona virus.”

**Decisions!**

