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Newsletter Nov-Dec 2022, Vol. 71 No. 5

President's Message



Penny Briner-Ewell, President 2022-23

I recently attended the 12th Annual Prescott Film Festival. I enjoyed the films I saw, but there was one in particular that struck my fancy — *Marcel the Shell with Shoes On*. When reading the description of this film, I was unsure that I wanted to go down the road of a personified shell, indeed with shoes, who lives with his grandmother and has lost the rest of his family. After seeing the trailer, though, I decided I simply had to see *Marcel*. Was I ever glad I did! It was a heartwarming, sometimes heartbreaking, comedic story, and one I hope to see again. Without giving too much away (no spoiler here since it is out on Amazon), there is a point when, with the help of the internet, Marcel is faced with the possibility of being able to find his family. In an indecisive, fearful moment he asks his grandmother, “But what if

“everything changes?” His grandmother’s reply is simple, “Oh, it will.” Regardless of Marcel’s decision, change will happen.

People speak of autumn as a time of change — cooler temperatures, bluer skies, the changing of the leaves, and a new school year. It strikes me that all four seasons are really about change, but fall seems to be the time when people are most aware. As a society, a community, and an AAUW branch, we have experienced much change in the past two years. I dare say many of us were a bit like Marcel, not knowing what to expect no matter what we did. Hopefully, you had someone to let you know, change will happen regardless; it’s what we do with the change that matters.

AAUW-Prescott has changed. We have lost members and gained new ones. We have experienced a love-hate relationship with Zoom. Attending AAUW meetings online was a change none of us could have foretold. We’ve been online, in-person, masked, and not. Some interest groups are gone and some are just starting. Yavapai College has changed some of its policies; we’ve subsequently changed our room arrangement. Reality Store, once accomplished with display boards, now uses computers. Our November guest speaker had to be changed due to scheduling conflicts, and at our Holiday Brunch, our awards will change hands. Changes abound, and our ability to adapt is strengthened.

Our seasons change, November and December await, and once again the holidays approach. Things will be different at our house this year. As a family, we will experience, for the first time, the holidays without one of our sons at home. Patrick is in Spain for a year, teaching English. I couldn’t be happier for his change, even if it means a change in how our holidays will look and feel. I know many of you have already experienced this, even many times over. Our youngest son has a new t-shirt that paraphrases Gandhi. It simply says, “Be the Change.” As members of AAUW, we have the opportunity to be the change! We can work on behalf of women and girls to make a more equitable society. We can vote on women’s issues that will impact our daughters, granddaughters, and young women we will never know. By volunteering for Reality Store, we can help students understand the importance of education in their futures and the change it will make. We can raise scholarship money by attending the Arizona Women’s Forum in January to help bring change to those students who so need the help. In the future, we can work together to create new and different community action and public policy initiatives. Change...will it happen? “Oh, it will.” Let’s be part of it!

November Program

November 12th: The Caregiving Crisis and the Role it Plays on Women's Health



Dr. Marla Jirak

Dr. Marla Jirak will discuss the current caregiving crisis and how the cost, lack of caregivers, and the large group of people that will soon need care will affect women.

Dr. Marla Jirak of CoachSmart Consulting specializes in coaching and consulting during life's transitions—career, relationships, stress management, and caregiving. Dr. Jirak conducted research at the University of Arizona, where she obtained her undergraduate degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and a Master's and a Doctorate degree from the Norton School of Family and Consumer Sciences. Her research involved clinical trials and evaluation research focused on stress, behavior change, and health. Marla has extensive experience as a life coach and consultant. She also conducts individual coaching through customized workshops and guest speaking.

9:15 Social | 9:30 Announcements | 10:00 Program

Yavapai College Community Room Building 19 Room 147

December Program

December 10th: AAUW Holiday Brunch



Prescott AAUW Holiday Brunch, Awards and Recognitions
Saturday, December 10, 2022
9 a.m. – 11a.m.

Prescott Lakes Clubhouse
311 Smoke Tree Lane, Prescott

Make a reservation (\$20) and select your menu using this link: [Brunch Reservation Form](#). Reservations must be received by Wednesday, November 30, 2022.



Mary Ann Suttles

Mary Ann Suttles will be our guest speaker for the Holiday Brunch. Mary Ann served on the Prescott City Council from November 2007 through November 2011. Currently, she is the Chairperson of the Prescott Community Development Block Grant Committee (CDBG) and serves on several other non-profit boards in the Prescott area. If you listen to the radio, you will know Mary Ann as the Friday a.m. sensation on KYCA. Her weekly radio show is all about what's going on in the greater Prescott area. Mary Ann will share what motivates her to GIVE BACK.

AAUW Branch Award Nominations

Nominations are open for our yearly awards to be presented at the Holiday Brunch. Please complete a [nomination form](#) and submit it by Wednesday, November 30th. Contact Carol Dosse for more information.



Mover & Shaker- for members who have belonged to our branch for more than 3 years and exhibit personal integrity, leadership, initiative, sustained dedication to the Mission of AAUW, and personal growth opportunities within the membership.



Rookie of the Year – for individuals who are new (within the last three years) to the Prescott AAUW Branch and have quickly stepped up to promote our mission. Criteria for selection can include personal integrity, leadership, and initiative.



Ongoing Stamina Award – for a member who has served AAUW for ten or more years. And, like the Energizer Bunny she just “keeps going and going and going.” Criteria for selection include personal integrity, leadership and initiative, sustained dedication to the Mission of AAUW, and personal growth opportunities within the membership.

Red Envelope Donation

As per our branch tradition, we will again have red envelopes for donations at this year's Holiday Brunch. Last year's donations were so successful, we have decided to benefit the local school libraries again, this year focusing on the middle schools in the library district.

The school libraries in Yavapai County have an average book-buying budget of \$0. The average date of publications within the school libraries is 1993. Without funds for book purchases, our school libraries cannot replace worn and/or outdated books. Our kids deserve better!



School Libraries Donation

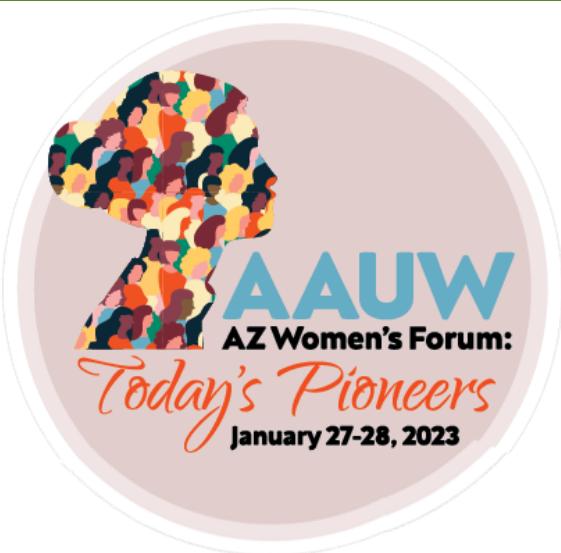
Please consider contributing to our red envelope campaign supporting the purchase of books for the school libraries. Here's how:

- Cash or checks are welcome in the red envelopes on the tables at the brunch.
- Checks payable to **Yavapai County Free Library District**, note “**School Libraries**” on the memo line.
- Tax receipts are available.

- If you are unable to attend the Holiday Brunch but would still like to contribute, please contact Penny Briner Ewell at president@aauwprescott.net.

As women whose lives have been enriched by libraries, librarians, and books, let's help pass on that legacy to another generation. Thank you for your generosity!

AAUW AZ Women's Forum



Now is the time to make your reservations for the first annual AAUW AZ Women's Forum, January 27-28, 2023!

Our theme for 2023 will be "Today's Pioneers." Our co-sponsor for this event is the Yavapai College Foundation. All proceeds from this conference will go into scholarships for deserving Yavapai College students.

The primary objectives of this conference are to educate, engage, and entertain Arizona women who support the women following in their footsteps. Additionally, this gathering gives women an opportunity to spend time with other women who share a passion for quality education.

This stellar event will be held at the Yavapai College Performing Arts Center in Prescott, AZ, on January 27 and 28, 2023. The two-day event begins Friday evening with a reception, beginning at 5 p.m., which will provide event registration, appetizers, an art show and silent auction, a book exhibit, and live entertainment provided by the Yavapai College Jazz Band.

The Saturday program will begin at 8:30 a.m. with registration, a continental breakfast with live music followed by our keynote speaker, Alice Ferris. You will recognize Alice immediately from her work with PBS (Public Broadcasting Service). She is currently also a consultant with the Yavapai College Foundation.

After our keynote speaker, participants will have the opportunity to choose two out of four-panel discussions: Literary Arizona; Paying It Forward; Healthy, Wealthy and Wise; and Mind, Body and Spirit. Our forum will close with a luncheon and a talk by Yavapai College President, Dr. Lisa Rhine. The art show will continue until the luncheon when the silent auction will close.

The ticket prices for the event are:

Friday Reception	\$50.00
Saturday Sessions	\$125.00
Combination ticket.	\$150.00

Tickets may be purchased through the Yavapai College Foundation, [AAUW Arizona Women's Forum](#). Volunteers will be needed as the event gets closer.

Membership

We have gained 5 new members since our October general meeting making a total of 9 new members since May of this year. Our membership number is currently 171.

At the general meetings, we will have directories and name badges available for all new members and for members who have preordered a hard copy of the directory.

Any questions regarding membership? Please contact Patti or Marla at membership@aauwprescott.net.

In Memoriam Committee Formed

An In Memoriam Committee was formed during the AAUW board retreat in August, to develop a way to recognize AAUW Prescott members who have died during the course of the fiscal year. Those to be recognized will include, but not be limited to, past presidents, long-time members, and current or recent members. In memoriam recognitions will take place at the general meeting in May of each year.



The committee is asking for all AAUW members to notify Patti Allen-LaFleur at membership@aauwprescott.net of a death, with the family's or survivors' consent, so that we can recognize the deceased at our May meetings.

Community Action and Public Policy

A committee meeting for Community Action and Public Policy will be held on December 11th at 1:00 p.m. at Starbucks in Frontier Village. This is a planning meeting to envision how the two committees could merge. Anyone interested in attending should contact Penny, the meeting is open to all members.

Reality Store News

Once again, we are working to present The Reality Store at Prescott High School in November. This is for the Freshman Academy and will serve about 280 girls and boys. We really need your help in presenting this effective program. Yes, you will be given a specific task to perform.

The Reality Store is an experiential process in which students pretend they are 25 years old. Each student chooses a career, their family size, and 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 can then decide if their choices can support their family or not and what needs to change. They also realize the importance of education in creating a future lifestyle. It is quite impactful as most students have no idea of the actual cost of living. They come to realize that everything is expensive and that training and/or education is essential.

I recently found this great video on Vimeo of a school in Virginia experiencing The Reality Store. It does a good job of showing how it operates and the responses from the students. Please check it out.

AAUW Prescott members have enjoyed their experience conducting the Reality Store program in the past!







If you volunteer, you will be assigned a specific task: to staff a table and interact directly with the students. Training is provided, and more information will be sent out if you volunteer. The dates for the fall are Nov. 1, Nov. 8, and Nov. 15. **Volunteers are needed for Nov. 8 and 15!**

Approximate arrival/departure times are:

- Nov. 1, 9:30 to 2:30 p.m.
- Nov. 8, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Nov. 15, 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

You can choose one date, two dates, or all three dates. But, you must be present during the entire time for each date. If you have questions, you may email Pat Mann or Lenore

Hemphill. Thanks for your support! We can't do this without you! Men are welcome to volunteer.

Sharing October's Meeting in Pictures



Past President Tracy Smiles receives an AAUW Past President's pin from the current President Penny Briner-Ewell (2022-2023).



A few of the superlative Past Presidents of AAUW Prescott attended the October Program. Back row: Becky Gunn (2019-2020), Zibby Wolter (2008-2009), Anne Barton (2013-2014), Lynne Murphy (2017-2018).
Front row: Edi Taylor-Richards (2002-2003), Tracy Smiles (2020-2022), Deb Dillon (2016-2017).
[The League of Women Voters Share Updated Information](#)

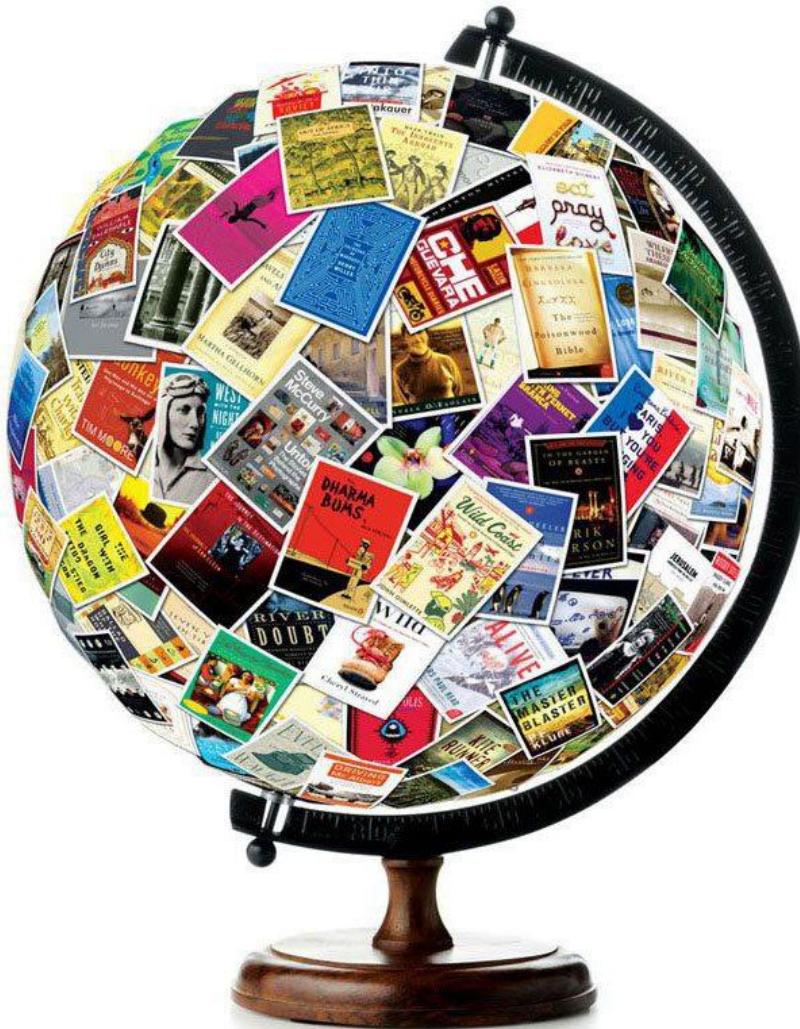


Cory Shaw and Loraine West from the League of Women Voters share election information at the October 8, 2022 AAUW meeting.

Interest Groups

Travel Discussion Group

After you vote on **November 8th**, join the Travel Discussion Group at Prescott Public Library, Founders Suite B at 1:30 pm. Our topic is Travel Expectations:



- Inflation – transportation-airfare/trains, hotels, travel insurance costs
- Physical stamina and interests at different ages
- COVID and other illnesses
- Politics – National and International
- Tour, Solo, Friends, Family
- Scheduling – how far ahead