

Branch Newsletter

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AAUW promotes equity for women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.



"What's Bugging You?"

(Learning While Having Fun with Creepy, Crawly Creatures)



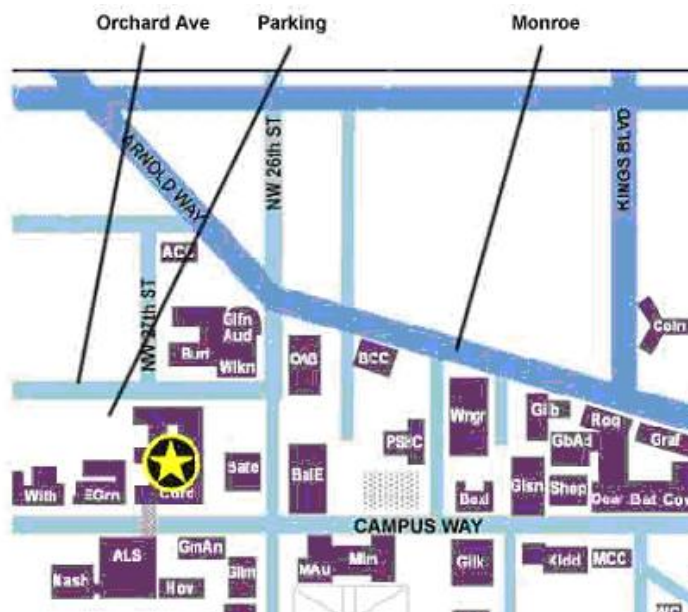
Saturday, February 21, 2004
10:00 AM

OSU Campus
Cordley Hall Room 3058

Sujayo Rao, Asst. Professor of Entomology in the OSU Dept. of Crop Science, will introduce us to BUGS, and we will very likely come away thinking of them with greater respect! She received her Ph.D. in entomology from the Univ. of Minnesota and was awarded a post-doctoral appointment from the Univ. of California Berkeley and UC/Davis/Extension. She joined AAUW after arriving in Corvallis three years ago. Her research interests are studying interactions between plants and insects, and developing environmentally friendly insect control strategies.

Guests (of all ages) are welcome. Parking on Saturday is permitted in OSU Staff Parking lots. A map is shown below. Further questions? Call Beverly Arthur 745-7568.

Location: 3058 Cordley Hall, at the corner of 27th and Orchard. Park in lot on left of building on the map. Locate the entrance at the northwest end of building, go straight, turn right before the double doors. Take elevator to 3rd floor. Turn right to 3058. Signs will be posted.



President

Stefani McRae-Dickey
929-7988
mcraedic@peak.org

Program Development Co-VPs

Beverly Arthur,
jread@peak.org
Marge Bromley,
bromleymb@comcast.net
Carolyn Moore,
CrCAROLYN@aol.com
Marilyn Roland,
rolandm2@comcast.net

Membership Co-VPs

Rosemary Cunningham,
cunninghamrt@comcast.net
Jan Rounds,
donjan@peak.org
Dorothy Ruff,
druff@mycidco.com

Treasurer

Nancy William
753-1979

Secretary

Diana Bernstein
738-8292
dianatbernstein@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor

Martha Jenkins
758-4390
marthaj@peak.org

Newsletter & Website Administrator

Cynthia McMahon
MBC Corp.
cynthiamcm@peak.org

From Stef's Stylus

AAUW: Women Making a Difference

The Iowa Caucuses are over and it is time for Oregon to make a choice. We are faced with a declining state budget and increasing social services costs. AAUW has always supported public education and encouraged women and girls to pursue advanced degrees. Without healthy schools, we cannot ensure that all women and girls have the opportunity to graduate from college.

Our schools are facing a budget crisis even more extreme than the one faced last year. We cannot continue to cut school days, increase class size, radically reduce spending on textbooks and supplies and still maintain high educational standards. The future of our citizens and our economy depends upon a public school system which provides the best education possible.



AAUW of Oregon supports Yes on Measure 30. Our board has voted to join AAUW of Oregon in support of Measure 30. We encourage all members to vote Yes on Measure 30.

Measure 30 creates certainty for Oregon: certainty for schools, businesses, police and fire officers, seniors, and the disabled. By providing certainty, Measure 30 keeps Oregon's economic recovery on track.

Measure 30 is about Oregonians pulling together. The organizations that support Measure 30 represent over 800,000 teachers, businesspeople, seniors, health care providers, and community volunteers who are pulling together for the common good. It's about deciding what we want Oregon to be.

Measure 30 provides the only real and responsible balanced budget. It does not rely on accounting tricks, secret plans, or borrowing schemes to provide the services Oregonians value.

Measure 30 provides a full school year and protects basic education services for Oregon's kids. It prevents teacher lay-offs and bigger class sizes.

Measure 30 protects seniors. It keeps most low-income seniors on their prescription medicines and allows them to remain independent and in their homes.

Measure 30 is good for Oregon's businesses. The Oregon Business Association and Nike have endorsed Measure 30 because they value the certainty for schools and economic recovery it will provide.

Measure 30 ensures an adequate public safety system. Judges, district attorneys, police, parole and probation, and fire officers will have more resources to protect Oregonians in their communities.

What can you, as an AAUW member do? You can write a letter of support for Yes On Measure 30 to the *Gazette Times*. You can distribute flyers, or work the phone bank. You can talk with your friends and neighbors about Measure 30 and why you support it. It was passed by a bi-partisan super-majority in the legislature. Our Governor supports it, as do our local legislators from both parties. For more information please visit <http://www.yeson30.com>.

A Yes vote on Measure 30 is the responsible action of an informed citizen. Please give your support to Yes on Measure 30.

Stefani McRae-Dickey

President

PS: If you should write a letter against Measure 30, please do not sign the letter as a representative of AAUW. Since AAUW of Oregon has come out for Measure 30, we cannot endorse the opposite position as a representative of AAUW.

V.P. Membership
Jan Rounds, 754-7730
Rosemary Cunningham, 753-1319
Dorothy Ruff

Membership news: We've reached 100 members!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

A big "Thank You" to so many members for introducing people to our branch and to what AAUW stands for.

Let's plan to keep growing!



Getting Acquainted with New Members

Please welcome a very famous person: our 100th member—**Renee Senior**. A graduate of Stanford University with degrees in political science and education, Renee had a 33-year career as a middle school teacher, and moved to Corvallis a year ago. While she is not new to the AAUW organization (she was a member in Burlingame, Calif.), we do thank Joyce Carver for her role in bringing Renee to our branch.

Renee has three children and five grandchildren and enjoys duplicate bridge and travel. Renee, we hope you not only find many new friends in the Corvallis Branch, but also many new interests and meaningful activities.

Prospective Member Request

The Membership Committee is requesting names and addresses of prospective members so we may send them a copy of our monthly newsletter and invitations to AAUW events. Please respond to either Rosemary Cunningham, Dorothy Ruff, or Jan Rounds.

AND—half-year dues are in effect for a brief time for those joining. Another reason to tell friends and neighbors about AAUW!

NEW MEMBER:

Renee Senior

4691 SW Hollyhock Circle

Corvallis, Or 97333

753-1458

reneesenior@comcast.net

CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS:

Kathy Higdon

kshigdon@comcast.net

Jane Ann Warkentin

jane4art@msn.com

Caring and Sharing

(Contact Stefani McRae-Dickey at mcraedic@peak.org with information)

Anita Francis has been diagnosed with breast cancer. Anita says the cancer was discovered when she had her annual mammogram and encourages us all to remember to get our mammograms. Our thoughts and good wishes go out to her. We hope her treatment is a complete success.



Sue Borden
sue.borden@cmug.com

Ineffective Sexual Assault Policies Overhauled Amid Scrutiny

...from LAF Update, Fall 2003, article by Michelle Moye

Safety on college campuses is a growing concern for most students. With sexual assaults, harassment, rape, and other forms of violence against women students increasing at an alarming rate on college campuses nationwide, students and parents question what their college is doing to make safety a priority. Most schools rely heavily on sexual assault policies, in addition to other measures, to thwart sexual misconduct. But when the US Air Force Academy, one of the country's premier military institutions, came under fire for its ineffective sexual assault policies and procedures, inadequacies were also recognized at many colleges.

Problems in the US Air Force Academy's policies and procedures were made public when more than 50 female cadets charged that they were disciplined and ostracized after reporting sexual misconduct. Instead of receiving support after reporting assaults, female victims were penalized and blamed for "drinking or engaging in sexual activity." Alleged offenders often received a "slap on the wrist" for their actions; their behavior was viewed as misconduct not a crime.

A 13-member panel appointed by Congress to investigate the claims did in fact find flaws in the sexual assault policies and procedures at the Academy. In June, the panel produced a new—and-improved sexual assault policy that outlined 40 directives to correct policy flaws and make women feel safer when reporting and addressing issues of sexual assault on campus. Yet in late July—after the new policies were implemented and four top-ranking officials at the academy were reassigned—new allegations of sexual assaults surfaced. The directives did establish amnesty for cadets who report being assaulted, provided all-female dormitories, and created a task force to address all future sexual assault reports. The panel, headed by Air Force Inspector General Mary Walker, prompted the subsequent investigation of current policies at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

The problem is not unique to military institutions. At Yale University, a former, female student won the right to take the academic giant to court for inadequately protecting her against harassment. She alleges that the university did little when she was raped. The Yale Women's Center has taken the lead on advocating change in the policy. Yale argues that changes to the current policy are unnecessary since very few incidents of sexual assault are reported on the campus.

The US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights has launched its own investigation into the legalities of Harvard University's new sexual harassment policy, which forces victims to produce "corroborating evidence" before an investigation into any sexual misconduct can ensue. Such evidence may include contacting campus security, a visit to the campus health clinic or hospital, or a conversation with a friend, according to Harvard officials. Critics argue this new policy violates current Title IX legislation and places an undue burden on victims to "prove" misconduct before the university even responds. Harvard disagrees and offers that instead the policy only attempts to protect the parties involved, both the victim and the accused.

Ensuring a safe and secure campus for all students through a clear and effective sexual assault policy is an obligation that all academic institutions must meet. To do so, policies must detail what sexual assault entails, establish appropriate consequences, and foster a supportive campus environment in which coeds are comfortable lodging sexual assault complaints. There is still much work to be done to eradicate sexual assaults and harassment, but the first step is for institutions of learning to establish effective and adequate sexual assault policies and procedures.

NOTE: You can review the OSU Sexual Assault Policy on the web at <http://oregonstate.edu/dept/affact/policy/sexual.html>



Bucks for Books: Keep collecting used books to donate to our LAF used book sale at our April branch meeting. This is a good way to share your favorite books and make some money for LAF.

Afternoon Literature Group

Meets on the second Tuesday at 2 p.m.

Louise Livesay, 753-4813

February 10

Life of Pi by Yann Martel

Hostess: Sally Terman
1964 NW Spurry Pl.

Reviewer: Jan Rounds

March

Bella Tuscany by Frances Mayes

Hostess: Jan Rounds
Reviwer: Charlotte Drost

Evening Literature Group

Meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Nancy Tolin, 752-6656
Mary Mills, 745-7961

February 4

Nickel and Dimed by Barbara Ehrenreic

Hostess: Julie Searcy
2854 NW Angelica Drive
753-9471
jsearcy@peak.org

Reviewer: Kerry Mullin

March 3

Botany of Desire by Michael Pollan

Hostess: Denise Nervik
2850 SW DeArmond Drive
752-2841
nervikd@cmug.com

Reviewer: Rosemary Cunningham

Gourmet Group

We enjoyed our Russsian Dinner—delicious food and plenty of it. Thank you to Sally Terman for hosting the Jan. 17th dinner in her home. We had a wonderful evening.

Still wanting to attend a dinner? That's easy! Each AAUW member and a guest are welcome to the dinner. Just mark your calendar for **Saturday, March 13th, at 7:00 pm**, when we will savor South American cuisine; specifically, Argentina and Brazil. Christine Cantey will host this dinner in her home.

Please let me know by Sunday, February 29th, if you would like to attend. We'd love to have you join us. Carolyn Moore (e-mail CrCAROLYN@aol.com) or (tel. 758-0271)

No-Host Lunch

Several of us enjoyed a tasty lunch at Grempey's on Thursday, January 15th. We laughed and talked and had quite a discussion about Vitamin E.

Remember, the lunches are now planned for the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:45 a.m. Mark your calendar and plan to join other AAUW members for a relaxed, informal, good time.

February's lunch will be held on **Thursday, February 19th**, at **El Sol de Mexico**, 1597 NW 9th Street (across from the Ramada Inn at Garfield), at **11:45 a.m.** Hope to see you there!

R.S.V.P. Carolyn Moore, CrCAROLYN@aol.com, or 758-0271, or **JUST COME!!**

FEB	Activity	Time	Location
4	Evening Lit Group	7:30 p.m.	Julie Searcy, 2854 NW Angelica Drive
9	Board Meeting	12:30 – 2 p.m.	US Bank, corner of Ninth & Walnut
10	Afternoon Lit Group	2 p.m.	Sally Terman, 1964 NW Spurry Pl.
19	No-Host Lunch	11:45 a.m.	El Sol de Mexico, 1597 NW 9th St.
21	Branch Meeting	10 a.m.	OSU Campus Cordley Hall Room 3058

MAR	Activity	Time	Location
3	Evening Lit Group	7:30 p.m.	Denise Nervik, 2850 SW DeArmond Drive
8	Board Meeting	12:30 – 2 p.m.	US Bank, corner of Ninth & Walnut
13	Gourmet Group	7:00 p.m.	RSVP to CrCAROLYN@aol.com by February 29th.