

Branch Newsletter

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Inside this issue:

President's Message	2
Membership	2-3
Public Policy	4
Educ. Foundation	5
Legal Advocacy	6
Interest Groups	7
Events Calendar	8

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Branch Program



Holiday Tea And Poinsettia Sale To Support The Educational Foundation

Friday, December 5, 2008

4 to 6 pm

Home of Nancy Sanderson

1165 NW 17th Street

(between Beca and Buchanan)

Corvallis

757-0832

Please bring a small plate of cookies, bread, or other favorite item to have with tea and coffee.

Enjoy fine fellowship, creative treats, and at the same time support EF by purchasing poinsettias or by giving a donation to EF. Consider purchasing one or more of the lovely poinsettias for yourself or as a gift for friends or family. The

profit from the \$10 poinsettias directly benefits the AAUW Educational Foundation.

When purchasing poinsettia(s), checks should be made payable to "Corvallis AAUW".

If you wish to support EF and not purchase a poinsettia, your tax-deductible check may be made out to *AAUW Educational Foundation*. Cash is also accepted.



President's Message

By President
Janice Abele
jlabele@aol.com



"In order to preserve the momentum that we have and to, hopefully, gain more momentum, we must stay engaged in our Association and as Ghandi said, "Be the change in the world you wish to see." "

-Janice Abele

When I joined AAUW, I joined for primarily one reason... LAF. I was enamored of the idea that AAUW gave money to support women who were seeking legal redress for inequity in the workplace. I thought that was a fantastic thing. As the mission of the Association has shifted, so has LAF. I found myself needing to focus on the greater mission and not the means by which we get there. Nothing remains the same. As times change, organizations and individuals struggle to stay current. Sometimes decisions are made during that struggle that cause one to question if the choices made will take us where we need to go. Staying unified in the face of change is difficult. In order to preserve the momentum that we have and to, hopefully, gain more momentum, we must stay engaged in our Association and as Ghandi said, "Be the change in the world you wish to see."

Our branch has three votes that we can cast at national convention in June 2009. The issues on which we will vote are significant. My fond hope is that we will have someone from our branch representing us at the National Convention to cast our votes; that we will be able to send the message that the change we seek is best represented by educated women promoting equity for women in all aspects of life.





AAUW

Membership

By Membership Co-Vice President
Marion Dickens
mardick4@msn.com

New Member Biography—Linda Seekatz

LINDA SEEKATZ has a BS from State University at Plattsburgh, NY and a Masters in Learning Disabilities from the College of New Rochelle, NY. She is a retired

elementary school teacher. She has lived in Chile, SA, Hartsdale (Westchester County) and North River (Adirondacks), NY. Her husband is Richard. She enjoys

hiking, kayaking, biking, traveling and experiencing new things. She has joined AAUW because of her belief in our mission statement.

New Members

Friah Rogers

356 NW Autumn Place
autumn@peak.org
758-3222 Home

BA—S.F. College for Women
Medical Technology and Nuclear Medical
Technology

Linda Seekatz

1102 SW West Hills Place
seekatz@comcast.net
230-1107 Home

Masters—College of New Rochelle
Education

Returning Members

Christine Cantey

3830 West Hills Rd
cantey@comcast.net

BA—University of Colorado
Latin American Studies

Sharon Reese

2898 NW Silktassel Dr
sharon.reese@comcast.net
758-0379 Home

BA—Linfield College
Music

Elizabeth Strong

4650 SW Hollybrook Circle Apt 210
753-6386 Home

AB—State University of New York
Math

Audrey Varseveld

1715 NW 14th St
752-5338 Home

M Ed—OSU
Education

Public Policy

By Public Policy Chair
Marilyn Treiman
halamaria@juno.com

AAUW CONGRESSIONAL VOTING RECORD

I hope you have all received a copy of the latest AAUW publication, the AAUW Congressional Voting Record for 2007-8. In it, the Association ranks all members of Congress on votes they have made on selected issues based on AAUW Public Policy priorities and principles. If you have not received it, just call me at 758-6337 and I'll be glad to provide you with a copy so you can see how our national legislators voted during this biennium. In our district, it is only the US Senate race for which there is relevant election information since Peter deFazio is essentially running unopposed and as Darlene Hooley is retiring, the two contenders do not have records in the Congress.

You will find that in the 110th Congress, Gordon Smith voted for legislation backed by AAUW 70% of the time. That is, he voted to support the AAUW position for seven out of ten selected bills. The same information as appears in the publication is also available online for at least six earlier Congresses. So it is possible

to trace Senator Smith's voting record relative to AAUW priorities during his entire term of office. For the 109th Congress he voted in favor of the AAUW position on 20% of the issues; for the 108th, 43%; for the 107th, 38%; for the 106th, 20%; for the 105th, 17%.

The AAUW voting record also shows that Senator Wyden (who is not a candidate in this election) had a 90% rating for the 109th Congress and 100% for all the others.

BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS—AAUW'S UNIFYING FOCUS

The AAUW and AAUW Educational Foundation Boards have supported **Breaking through Barriers** as the unifying focus for AAUW. This program focus embodies our legacy, personalizes our mission and illuminates our path into the future. It captures both the spirit and the strategy implied by our new Value Promise. It becomes the foundation, the rationale and the catalyst for program initiatives that address societal needs. It announces that what we do brings value----to members, to those we serve and to society.

Breaking through Barriers - not breaking them down, is a way of describing our methodology. We make strategic decisions that identify barriers that we are prepared and equipped to attack, and select tactics that capitalize on the strengths of our association. Because of our size, 100,000 members, we "carry a big stick". Because of our research, credibility is always a key part of our arsenal. Because of our history of achievement we have a reputation for effectiveness. Because of our commitment to investing in our mission--"putting our money where our mouth is"--our adversaries know that AAUW is a force to be reckoned with, and that we have "staying power" in our dedication to breaking through the barriers that we target.

In announcing our new unifying focus, **Breaking through Barriers**, we are issuing fair warning - we ARE breaking through barriers. We mean it; we've done it before, and we are "coming after them" again...and again and again, if we have to! All of us, all the time.

Watch for the next barrier breakthrough! We'll report on it!





Legal Advocacy Fund

By LAF Liaison
Marilyn Roland

rolandm2@comcast.net

Congratulations to Oregon

We can be proud of the fund-raising efforts for LAF in Oregon. We are third in the United States in our total giving to LAF! In individual branch giving, Beaverton was seventh in the nation.

AAUW Hosts LAF Discussions

(The following contains excerpts from the Association's "LAF/UPDATES" published this summer to clarify some of the changes in the LAF focus being considered.)

As part of the Legal Advocacy Fund's expansion, AAUW hosted a luncheon on July 22, 2008, with key leaders of women's and civil rights organizations to discuss our plans to support strategic litigation in the wider workplace and to gain their collaboration in those efforts. The organizations included in this discussion have lawyers on staff litigating cases related to LAF priorities.

AAUW Executive Director Linda Hallman noted that over the years, in addition to a continued commitment to fight discrimi-

nation in the academic arena, AAUW members have increasingly indicated a desire to support cases in the wider workplace.

In February 2008, the Educational Foundation Board of Directors voted to expand LAF case support to the wider workplace and to focus on strategic cases with precedent-setting potential. At the luncheon, Hallman stressed that case selection is a critical aspect of this strategy and asked attendees to use their legal expertise to help us identify significant cases to support. As she explained, "For twenty-five years, AAUW has been proud to support plaintiffs through difficult and trying times in their lives, and now we are very pleased that we can support key cases that will not only help specific plaintiffs but also will impact all women."

AAUW Director of Public Policy and Governmental Affairs Lisa Maatz further expanded on the vision for LAF and how AAUW hopes to partner with the organization represented at the meeting. "We want to find out

where AAUW can make a difference," Maatz said. "We want you to help us understand what cases are in the pipeline, so we can be strategic in applying our support."

Maatz explained that while AAUW is certainly interested in supporting sex discrimination cases in the workplace, AAUW's public policy agenda is broader than just that issue, so AAUW staff would be open to learning about and potentially supporting cases beyond sex discrimination as long as they fell within our mission.

Maatz gave examples of the range of ways LAF could partner with organizations engaged in litigation, including signing and/or funding amicus briefs, funding expert witness or filing fees in the courtroom, paying plaintiff travel expenses, and providing plaintiffs with emergency funds if they are in a financial crisis due to their lawsuits. Maatz emphasized that AAUW could also lend important nonmonetary support through our 100,000 caring and dedicated members.

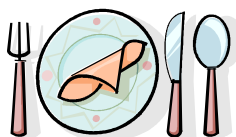




Interest Groups

Gourmet Group

By Brenda Rowley



The second Gourmet Dinner of this season will take place on Sat., Dec. 6th. Our theme this year is, "Gourmet Every Day" which means, for those partici-

pating, easier food preparation without compromising quality or taste. If you love to cook and would enjoy spending an evening with

fellow AAUW members and their guests, please make your reservation with Brenda Rowley at 752-6779 by the 22nd of Nov.

No Host Lunch

By Carolyn Simmons



Plan to drop in for a bite of lunch and a bit of chat with other AAUW members. It's always enjoyable, low-key, and a great way to brighten up a day--especially during these somewhat bleak

times. Give thanks for your friends and maybe even make some new ones on Thursday, November 20, 2008, at Ruby Tuesday's, 1895 NW 9th Street, at 11:45 a.m. No reservation nec-

essary; just drop in. Hope to see you there! Contact Person: Carolyn Simmons, 758-0271, CrCARO-LYN@aol.com

Afternoon Literature Group

By Carolyn Simmons

On Tuesday, November 11, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. we will meet at the home of Marilyn Roland, 4099 NW Live Oak Place. Sandra

Edinger will lead us in a discussion of The Worst Hard Time, the wrenching story of the 1930's Dust Bowl, written by Timothy

Egan. Contact Person: Carolyn Simmons, 758-0271, CrCAROLYN@aol.com



Evening Literature Group

By Carol Sumner & Ann Brodie

The Evening Lit Group will meet Wednesday, November 5th to discuss The Practice of Home. The author, Charles Goodrich, will be present to discuss his book and his writing. Socializing

starts at 7:15; the discussion will begin at 7:45. The meeting will be at the home of Nancy Tolin, 2679 NW Ginseng. Please call her at 752-6656 or email her at ntolin@comcast.net if you plan

to attend. You might be interested at looking at Charles Goodrich's website <http://charlesgoodrich.com/index.html>

Great Decisions Discussion Group

By Charlotte Drost

The Great Decisions Discussion Group is forming for winter. We review topics in foreign affairs, watch an informative DVD and utilize a briefing booklet to guide our discussion. The

eight class series will be held in the Corvallis Caring Place meeting room at 750 NW 23rd St., Corvallis, OR. on Wednesdays, January 21 through March 11, from 1-3 PM. Cost of the booklet

is \$18 plus share of DVD for a total of \$23 per person. Please call facilitator Charlotte Drost at 541-753-7253 or e-mail at mkcgdrost@aol.com by Dec.18 to order your booklet for the class.



EVENTS CALENDAR

Nov	ACTIVITY	TIME	LOCATION
5	Evening Literature Group	7:15pm	Home of Nancy Tolin 2679 NW Ginseng
10	Board Meeting	12:30pm	Corvallis-Benton Chamber Business Alliance, 420 NW 2nd St.
11	Afternoon Literature Group	2:00pm	Home of Marilyn Roland 4099 NW Live Oak Place
15	Newsletter Articles due to Patti Cleveland		Email to pattic@peak.org
20	No Host Lunch	11:45am	Ruby Tuesdays, 1897 NW 9th St.

DEC	ACTIVITY	TIME	LOCATION
5	Annual Educational Foundation Holiday Tea and Fundraiser	4-6:00pm	House of Nancy Sanderson 1165 NW 17th Street
6	Gourmet Dinner—"Gourmet Every Day"	TBD	Call Brenda Rowley, 752-6779
18	Great Decisions Discussion Group Registration Deadline		Charlotte Drost, 753-7253