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Branch Program

Holiday Tea and Poinsettia Sale

By
Stefani McRae-Dickey
mcraedic@peak.org

Reserve the Date

Holiday Tea and Poinsettia Sale
Friday, December 4 from 4 to 6 pm
at the home of Nancy William
920 NW Elizabeth Drive



Program Dev. Vice President

Stefani McRae-Dickey
mcraedic@peak.org

Membership Co-Vice Presidents

Nancy Neumann
753-1075
nrneumann@yahoo.com
Edie Lee
745-5109
edie.lee@lifetime.oregonstate.edu
Marion Dickens
753-1006
mardick4@msn.com

Treasurer

Sue Borden
752-6036
sueborden@cmug.com

Secretary

Hope Reenstjema
753-4807
hopefred@peak.org

Newsletter Editor

Martha Jenkins
758-4390
marthaj@peak.org



Please bring a small plate of cookies or dessert bread to share. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Beautiful poinsettias have been ordered and will be available at the sale. No pre-orders are necessary--just come with your money and choose the poinsettia you love! More information about cost and colors of the poinsettias will be in the December newsletter.



Scholarship Recipients Express Thanks

By Martha Jenkins
marthaj@peak.org



Each year, the Corvallis Branch provides local scholarships to the Oregon State University's Pre-college Programs for Talented and Gifted Youth for students in grades three through eight. We have received three very nice thank-you letters from the 2009 recipients. Excerpts from the letters are quoted below:

"Thank you for donating money so that I could attend Expeditions this year! I had a great time with my friends and did some very fun experiments. In Investigations in Chemistry, we got to put dry ice in film canisters and watch the lids pop off! That was my favorite day but I also liked making lemon batteries and

slime." (Expeditions is a program for third and fourth graders.)

"Thank you so much for financially helping me be able to participate in Adventures in Learning. This program is so great and it wouldn't have been possible without your generous donation to me. My KBVR-FM Radio class is my all time favorite class. For two weeks you work on a radio play and then you get to play it live on the air the last day. My favorite part of this class is doing the sound effects. This is a blast!" (From Sabrina in the Adventures in Learning program for fourth and fifth graders.)

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to partici-

pate in Outside the Box summer program. If it weren't for your generous and kind donation, I wouldn't have been able to expand my knowledge in many remarkable areas such as writing and engineering. My favorite part of the Engineering Your Future class was the hydrogen fuel cell cars." (From Jenny in the Outside the Box program for seventh and eighth graders.)

Science and Engineering Workshop for Middle School Girls at OSU

All 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls and their parents are invited to attend a free workshop called "Discovering the Scientist Within." This event will be held at OSU on Nov. 7

from 8:15 am - 1:15 p.m. The morning includes fun, hands on activities, and the opportunity to meet successful woman engineers, doctors, veterinarians, research scientists, and uni-

versity professors. Field trips to science labs at OSU will introduce girls to a variety of careers in science and engineering. For more information about the event and to register, go to:

<http://academy.engr.oregonstate.edu/discovering-the-scientist-within.html>

Registration deadline is Oct. 30.



By Public Policy Chair
Marilyn Treiman
halamari1@juno.com

Just in case you missed these recent developments of importance to women, their lives and careers--

This year's Nobel Prize winners included five women, one in literature, one in economics, and two in the sciences. Here is a website with a great short interview with Carol Greider, this year's Nobel Prize winning chemist and AAUW member:

[http://
www.nytimes.com/2009/10/13/
science/13conv.html?hpw](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/13/science/13conv.html?hpw)

President Nominates Head of Office on Violence Against Women

President Obama announced his intent to nominate Susan B. Carbon as the director of the Office on Violence Against Women in the Department of Justice. An accomplished judge, Carbon is a member of the Governor's Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence, and she chaired New Hampshire's Domestic Violence and Fatality Review

Committee. She has also served as president and faculty member for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and as faculty for the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence. The Office on Violence Against Women was created in 1995 to administer financial and technical assistance for communities across the country that have or are developing programs, policies, and practices aimed at ending domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault.

UNESCO Elects First Female Chief

UNESCO, the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, elected its first female head this week, the Associated Press reported. Irina Bokova, the former Bulgarian foreign minister, is also the current Bulgarian ambassador to France. A Saudi delegate was quoted as saying, "Women's equity, I think that is what won it over

for Mrs. Bokova. UNESCO promotes international collaboration, events, and projects on education, science, and culture through specialized centers throughout the world.

President Nominates Head of Women's Bureau

President Obama recently announced Sara Manzano-Diaz as his nominee for director of the Women's Bureau in the Department of Labor. Manzano-Diaz has served as Deputy Secretary for Regulatory Programs at the Pennsylvania Department of State and as Deputy General Counsel for Civil Rights and Litigation at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Women's Bureau was created by law in 1920 to formulate standards and policies to promote the welfare of wage-earning women, improve their working conditions, increase their efficiency, and advance their opportunities for profitable employment.

Membership

By Membership Chair
Edie Lee

Membership News

The Corvallis Branch now has 74 members for 2009-2010. Thanks for signing up for this year! Please add this member

to your membership list in the yearbook:

Gretchen Bencene
25488 Wonderly Ln

Philomath 97370
929-5598
BS in Business from OSU
gbencene@peak.org

Legal Advocacy Fund

By LAF Liaison
Marilyn Roland
rolandm2@comcast.net

LAF is actively reviewing new case support applications. If you would like to make a case recommendation, please contact laf@aauw.org.

Title IX in High School Athletics Project Update

In collaboration with the Legal Aid Society (LAS) of San Francisco, AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund released a new Program in a Box in late September on Title IX enforcement in high school athletics. The Women's Sports Foundation is co-branding some of their relevant materials on this topic for AAUW member use and working with AAUW and LAS to develop a webinar for interested members held in late October.

Case Updates

1) Feather River Community College

In the spring of 2008, the lawyers for the three Legal Advocacy Fund-supported Feather River Community College cases submitted closing and reply briefs from their November 2007 trial to the California State Personnel Board. The key issue in all three cases is retaliation for complaints of sex dis-

crimination in violation of Title IX. After more than a year, the judge in the state board hearings submitted in July 2009 a decision in favor of all three plaintiffs. The California State Personnel Board rejected the ruling, however, and said it will decide the case itself after further written or oral arguments.

2) Board of Education in Birmingham, Alabama

Four years ago, AAUW supported teacher and coach Roderick Jackson when his retaliation case went before the U.S. Supreme Court. Now his case is finally officially over. Jackson sued his employer, the Board of Education in Birmingham, Alabama, after he was fired for complaining about the unequal funding, facilities, and equipment of his girls' basketball team compared to the boys' basketball team. In 2005, the Supreme Court in a precedent-setting ruling, said that Title IX protects teachers that are retaliated against for challenging sex discrimination against students. Jackson therefore had the right to sue under Title IX for the retaliation he experi-

enced. After the ruling, Jackson's case returned to district court, where he would have had to prove that the retaliation discrimination did occur, but the parties opted to settle instead. Part of the terms of the agreement required the Board of Education to take necessary steps to provide female athletes with facilities comparable to those used by male athletes, to appoint a Title IX coordinator at the school, and to adopt a Title IX compliance policy and grievance procedure.

In 2008, Jackson filed court papers alleging that he was still being retaliated against and that the school was not adequately fulfilling the settlement agreement. On September 3, 2009, the U.S. District Court ruled that the Birmingham Board of Education complied with the original settlement agreement, formally ending the eight-year-old case.

Jackson has spoken on numerous occasions at AAUW meetings where members have appreciated firsthand his heroism and dedication to equity.





News and Notes

Making Donations to AAUW Now Easier

Making donations to AAUW is now simpler and allows you to designate your support to the programs you care about most.

- I. **Contributions to AAUW Action Fund** support the Lobby Corps and the Congressional Voting Record, and are NOT tax-deductible.
- II. **Contributions to AAUW Funds**, a 501 (c)(3) organization, ARE tax-deductible and provide general support to all AAUW programs that are not part of the AAUW Action Fund. If you wish to designate your gift to a specific program or fund, please write the name of the fund in the memo line of your check.
 - a. **Contributions to AAUW Funds that are designated to “Protect” – or “Legal Advocacy Fund”**
 - i. Case Support for LAF plaintiffs
 - ii. Plaintiff Travel and Education Grants
 - iii. Campus Outreach Projects – protects college students from discrimination, harassment and assault through on-campus programs.
 - b. **Contributions to AAUW Funds that are designated to “Educate” or “Educational Programs:”**
 - i. Fellow alumni Initiative
 - ii. Fellowships
 - iii. Grants and Awards
 - c. **Contributions to AAUW Funds that are designated to “Advocacy”** support all programs that Advocate for laws and policies that are fair to women.
 - d. **Contributions to AAUW Funds that are designated to “Research” or “Eleanor Roosevelt Fund”** support all Research to provide understanding of issues that are important to women and girls.
 - e. **Contributions to AAUW Funds that are designated to “Leadership” or “Leadership Training Institute (LTI)”** support all programs that develop women’s potential to lead in their schools, communities and country. These programs include
 - i. National Conference for College Women Student Leaders
 - ii. Campus Action Projects grants for programs that address a gender issue.
 - iii. Campaign College – leaders learn the skills to run for student government
 - iv. \$tart \$mart – Leadership and self-empowerment are developed through job negotiation skills training.

The Corvallis Branch has typically contributed to **Legal Advocacy(a)** and **Educational Programs(b)**.

Your contributions can be made through the AAUW website with a credit card. If you write a check, you may mail it directly or send it to your Branch Treasurer who will forward it to the Association office.

News and Notes

Additions/Corrections to 2009 Yearbook

New Board Members:

Diversity/Equity: Shaunia Banks
Address: 70 E. Howard Ave, Eugene OR 97404
Educational Foundation: Fria Rogers

Corrections:

Please add ** in front of Zel Brook's name. She is a Life Member.
Eneida Hallenborg's telephone number is: 929-3418

Death of a Spouse and Subsequent Social Security Retirement Benefits

When a spouse dies, and both spouses have been receiving Social Security benefits based on their own work, the survivor will now receive only one of the monthly benefits each month: the higher of the two.

If the deceased's Social Security payment was the larger amount, then the surviving spouse must apply by phone or in person to Social Security and then present a **government-issued copy of the marriage certificate** to a Social Security office. The marriage certificate signed by the person who officiated at your wedding is not acceptable to Social Security.

To obtain a government-issued copy of your marriage certificate, go to vitalrecs.com. Select your state and then the county you were married in. Then follow the directions. Your printed document may need be signed by a notary public and mailed to the address given on the website, along with the payment required. You might be able to pay online.

You may also directly contact the vital records department in the county in which you were married.

The survivor should apply for survivor's benefits as soon as possible after the

death, because in some cases benefits might be paid from the date of the application and not from the date of the death. The survivor should be prepared for a delay in payments.

A word to the wise: obtain a government-issued copy of your marriage certificate now, so you or your spouse will be prepared. Doing this now will eliminate one source of stress at a difficult time.

For more information from Social Security, call 1-800-772-1213. For the Albany, Oregon Social Security office, call 967-0596.



AAUW

Interest Groups

No Host Lunch

By Hope Reenstjerna

Join the group for lunch and good company at 11:45 on the 3rd Thursday, November 19 at the Nir-

vana Restaurant, 1945 NW 9th St (near Bi-mart). Need a ride? Just let me know. Contact:

Hope Reenstjerna 753-4807 hopefred@peak.org

Afternoon Literature Group

By Hope Reenstjerna

We will meet at 2:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday, November 10 at the home of Sally Terman, 2964 NW

Spurry Pl. The book for the month will be Under the Banner of Heaven by Jon Krakauer. Contact:

Charlotte Drost 753-7253 mkcgdrost@aol.com



Evening Literature Group

By Elaine McManus & Rosemary Cunningham

The Evening Lit Group will meet Wednesday, November 4th, to discuss People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks. Socializing starts

at 7:15; the discussion will begin at 7:45. The meeting will be at the home of Chris Smith, 3544 Goldfinch Place. Please call her

at 753-1070 or email her at big5komm@comcast.net if you plan to attend.



Great Decisions Discussion Group

By Charlotte Drost

The annual AAUW Great Decisions Discussion Group is forming for 2010. We discuss eight current world issues and events after a short reading in a discussion guidebook and viewing a brief DVD on each topic. Discussions are lively as we learn about important world af-

fairs. Broaden your knowledge base and ability to be an informed citizen! We will meet in the board room of Corvallis Caring Place, 750 NW 23rd St., Corvallis, OR. Meetings will be held on Weds. from 1 PM to 3 PM from Jan. 20 through March 10, 2010. Cost for individual

guidebook and part of DVD is \$23. Please contact Charlotte Drost group leader to sign up by deadline Dec. 18, 2009, so I can order the correct number of discussion guides. Call 753-7253 or email to: mkcgdrost@aol.com.





EVENTS CALENDAR

NOV	ACTIVITY	TIME	LOCATION
4	Evening Literature Group	7:15pm	Home of Chris Smith, 3544 NW Goldfinch Place
10	Afternoon Literature Group	2:00pm	Home of Sally Terman, 2964 NW Spurry Place
13	AAUW Board Meeting	3:00pm	Location TBA
15	Newsletter Articles due to Patti Cleveland		Email to pattic@peak.org
19	No Host Lunch	11:45am	Nirvana Indian Restaurant 1945 NW 9th St. (Next to Bi-Mart)
DEC	ACTIVITY	TIME	LOCATION
4	Branch Program—Holiday Tea and Poinsettia Sale	4:00pm	Home of Nancy William 920 NW Elizabeth Drive