

Branch Newsletter

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AAUW promotes equity for all 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.

Saturday, September 18, 2004

10 a.m.

**Stoneybrook Clubhouse
4710 SW Hollyhock Circle**

It is requested that each member bring either fruit or a breakfast bread. Beverages, table service, etc. will be provided.

The featured speaker will be Brenda Smith. Brenda has a business called ORGANIZE. She helps organize any area of a home or business.

Raffle tickets, for two hours of Brenda's time, will be sold at our meeting. The funds raised from the raffle will go to our scholarship fund.

Brenda is also a member of CHANTEUSE. CHANTEUSE sang on Mondays at Monteith Park this summer, and the crowd enjoyed their a capella harmonies. We look forward to hearing them at the brunch.

There should be something for everyone at this brunch. So dig up your breakfast bread or fruit recipe, and look forward to visiting with old and new friends at this event.



Directions to Stoneybrook. Take 53rd south to Country Club Drive. Turn east on Country Club Drive (left), go a couple of blocks to SW Stoneybrook Street and turn south (right). The Clubhouse will be on your right as you reach the lodge. Parking is limited, so please car pool or plan to park on the street rather than in Stoneybrook parking spaces. Most parking spaces are reserved for residents. Thank you!

President

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From Stef's Stylus

A warm welcome back to all as we begin our year of "Celebration". At our Welcome Back Brunch, we will celebrate our 87 members, preview exciting programs and events, and renew our friendships. I would now like to share with you some important changes at Association.

AAUW at Association level is experiencing a difficult financial future because of a sharp drop in member dues and in non-dues revenues during the past year. The magnitude of the financial situation has required substantial staff reductions and cancellation of multiple programs. Association is determined to resolve these financial difficulties and emerge stronger and more active than ever. Faced with an even greater deficit than expected, the AAUW Board of Directors feel that their responsibility is first and foremost to ensure the future of AAUW. They believe that it is not possible to do this and to continue paying dues to the International Federation of University Women (IFUW) until they substantially improve their own financial situation. AAUW President Nancy Rustad indicated that it is unlikely that there will be any change in this policy in the near future. According to IFUW's Constitution (art. II.6(2)), membership is lost after an affiliate has allowed arrears in the payment of annual dues to accumulate over a period of three years. This means that AAUW's membership would continue to be valid through the end of 2007.

The Educational Foundation (EF) and Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) are also experiencing financial difficulties. Here is a brief summary of some of the measures being taken to reduce costs and ensure AAUW's financial security.

LAF/EF Merger

To reduce operating costs, the LAF and EF boards have approved a motion to pursue a partial merger of the Legal Advocacy Fund corporation with the Educational Foundation, as a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC). At the Spring meeting, a Foundation Board committee was appointed, chaired by Barbara O'Connor, to develop an operational agreement to implement this motion. However, the first step in pursuing this action requires filing an application with the IRS to get approval of this merger. At this stage the Board does not know how long this application process will take, but is hopeful that approval and final actions can be completed within the next six months.

Building

The AAUW building was purchased for cash by the Foundation (EF), as was the last building, and represents a large amount of equity. Due to financial shortfalls for all three corporations, the reduction of the AAUW work force and its use of space, and because the Board asked the staff to suggest ways of addressing the budget deficit, the idea of selling the building was addressed. Several alternatives were presented involving selling and either buying or leasing other space. A building committee was appointed, chaired by Coco Siewert, to continue working on this matter with the hope that the Foundation can reach a decision prior to but no later than the October Board meeting.

Foundation Board Structure

After an email discussion of means to reduce costs, the Foundation Board decided to reduce the the number of at-large directors from twelve (12) to six (6), three of whom will be elected by the delegates at convention and three of whom will be appointed by the Board. The Foundation Bylaws Committee made recommendations for bylaws changes to make this possible and the changes were approved by the Foundation Board at the annual meeting this year.

Programs

The Foundation Board voted to increase the amount needed to complete an American or International Fellowship from \$100,000 to \$200,000 and stipulated that the funds must be raised in fifteen years as opposed to the current twenty. Similarly, the Board approved an increase for Research & Projects endowments from \$35,000 to \$75,000, and stipulated that those funds be raised in ten years as opposed to the current fifteen. In all cases, please note that these new levels and time limits are NOT retroactive. Any endowments and fellowships currently in process will not be affected by these changes, only those that began after July 1, 2004.



V.P. Membership
Jan Rounds, 754-7730
Rosemary Cunningham, 753-1319
Dorothy Ruff, 929-4629

Getting Acquainted with New Members

A BIG welcome to two new members: Marla McVay and Pam Duren.

Marla McVay is a long-time Corvallis resident, but new to our branch! She is a retired educator with a B.S. from Oregon State University and a masters degree from the University of Oregon.

Marla has lived in Washington, Florida, North Carolina, Texas, Louisiana, Georgia, and Colorado ((whew!)). She has two sons and one granddaughter and enjoys her family, as well as crafts, travel, sports, and reading. She is a part-time consultant in education.

Thanks to Ann Mills and Nancy Tolin for inviting Marla to our branch.

New member (and a new Corvallis resident) **Pam Duren** has a B.S. in Home Ec from the University of California. She taught for 25 years at middle school and elementary levels. A California native, Pam also taught overseas in Turkey, Germany, and Okinawa for the Dept. of Defense.

Pam met her husband, Jack—also an educator—in Germany. They have been married for 30 years and have two children+: a son in the Sacramento area; a daughter who is a senior at Chico State; and the + is Sadie, their German shepherd. If you meet Sadie, don't tell her she is a dog and not a person. She doesn't know!

Now that Pam is retired she has time to enjoy quilting, reading, cooking, and traveling. And she loves Oregon! Nancy Sanderson told Pam about us. Thanks, Nancy.

Senior Woman of the Year at OSU

At each university holding corporate membership in AAUW, a senior woman is recognized annually for her outstanding scholarship, character, and personality; her contributions to campus and community life; and potential for future achievement. AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

The 2004 AAUW Outstanding Senior Woman Award for Oregon State University, including a certificate and a keepsake trophy, was awarded to Britta Hinrichsen by AAUW president, Stefani McRae-Dickey. Britta is a woman of accomplishment from Anchorage, Alaska. A student in the Honors College, Britta graduated with a double major in Environmental Science (with a minor in Oceanography) and Environmental Economics, Policy and Management (with a minor in Natural Resource and Environmental Law and Policy).

Britta's service to the university includes her involvement with the College of Agricultural Sciences Writing Committee charged with evaluating the current writing curriculum and proposing ways to improve these targeted issues. Britta was able to represent the students' perspective on various writing courses offered at OSU. The proposed changes will provide an enhanced writing curriculum to better serve the graduates of the College of Agricultural Sciences in their professional careers. An outlet of Britta's artistic creativity is her performance as a cellist with the OSU Symphony, at weddings, and at the Honor's College talent show.

Last summer, her oceanography internship at the Institute of Marine Sciences at University of Alaska, Fairbanks on a Mesoscale Survey Cruise for the Northeast Pacific program of U.S. GLOBEC, was a collaborative effort by scientists across the country to better understand how climate change influences the distribution and abundance of marine organisms, including salmon. As a Public Outreach Coordinator for the cruise, Britta collected and analyzed data and then gave public presentations at the Alaska SeaLife Center in Seward, Alaska.

This fall, Britta will enter the Vermont Law School where she will earn her Juris Doctor as well as a Masters of Studies in Environmental Law.

EF PROGRAMS

This year promises to be a truly "celebrated" year. We have planned some of the traditional EF fundraisers (the poinsettia sale and holiday tea) and some new programs. Since this is the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark trip, we will have a speaker on "A Personal Voyage of Discovery" in January. (More about this later.)

Also this year we're trying a brand-new idea. AAUW will sponsor on-going bridge tournaments, starting in October and lasting through April. The finale will be a celebration evening of cards, refreshments and PRIZES!! The charge will be a one-time \$18 per person to play once a month with a chosen partner. Evelyn Stephens and Sue Borden (see the article below) are in charge of the event and are hoping to raise lots of money to be split between EF and LAF.

Bridge Marathon Fundraiser

AAUW has taken on the popular Bridge Marathon as a fund raiser. We acquired the project from Assistance League of Corvallis. Evelyn Stephens and Sue Borden have agreed to chair the project. We hope it will raise a substantial amount of money for EF and LAF.

Here's how it works: To participate in the Marathon, bridge players register with a partner. Each player pays \$18 to play. Six pairs are grouped together, and those six pairs must play each of the other pairs in their group (five games) before the Final Night in April. Scores are kept and prizes are awarded to the top pair in each group. On Final Night, all the players are invited to play at the same location (Most likely Stoneybrook Clubhouse). At the end of the evening, prizes are awarded to the group winners as well as to the overall winners.

We hope to have the groups organized and playing by early October. It's fun and NOT nearly as intimidating as the name might make you think!

How can YOU help? There are several ways.

- (1) Play bridge—find a partner and register for the Marathon. You'll have a lot of fun and meet some new people. All the profits will go to EF and LAF.
- (2) The Grand Prize has often been substantial – such as a weekend (or even one night) at a condo, time-share, etc. Would you be willing to donate such a prize? Such a donation would, of course, be tax deductible. Other kinds of prizes (gift certificates, etc.) would also be appropriate.
- (3) Give us suggestions for other prizes that we might pursue.

Please contact either Evelyn (johnstephens@proaxis.com)(754-7327) or Sue (sue.borden@cmug.com) (752-6036) if you would like to play, if you can donate a prize, or if you have ideas about other substantial prizes we might pursue.





Fall Festival booth volunteers needed



Our AAUW branch will once again have a presence at Fall Festival. Our booth will be up for both Saturday and Sunday, September 25 and 26, and we need two people for each of the 1-hour time slots.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the Welcome-back Brunch. Staffing the booth is easy, fun, and is a great way to let people know who we are as an organization. There will be shade *and* refreshments for those of you who help out! So, please sign up!

Caring and Sharing

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

Kathy Skelton, former Corvallis Branch member, is now Co-President of the Portland Branch! Congratulations Kathy! Our loss is Portland's gain. You may email your good wishes to her at inthebeaumont@att.net.

Judy Rudolf's husband, Rudy, is in Corvallis Manor following surgery for complications of diabetes. Further surgery may be required. Your cards and notes of support and encouragement to both of them would be appreciated. We all hope Rudy has a smooth and successful recovery.

Marilyn Treiman has just returned from a much needed vacation. She visited China, returned home for a short breather, and then visited her children in Michigan for a week. Marilyn is caring for her husband who has severe health problems. Your calls and support are welcome.

MESSAGE

Continued from Page 2

For several years now, Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Fellows awards program has not been self-sufficient. Funds have been borrowed from other sources, most notably reserves, in order to sustain it. In addition, the number of applicants has not been at all what was originally conceived or hoped for, despite numerous changes, and added publicity, etc. Therefore, the Board voted to put that program on hold for a year in order to assess it carefully and see how it might become a more viable program. In addition, when cuts to the current '04 budget were proposed, two of those affected the Teacher Fellows: 1) to drop funding for those Fellows selected in March 2004 and 2) to eliminate July 2004 Teacher Institute.

I will keep you posted on changes as I learn about them. AAUW is rising to the challenge of these troubled times while continuing to promote equity for all women and girls. It is you, the members, which make AAUW strong. Our Association and Foundation leaders are optimistic about the future of AAUW. If you would like to read the reports from Association, the Foundation and the IFUW regarding these changes, please email your request to me at mcraedic@peak.org and I will forward the original documents to you. Please see the following article on Page 6 for information about how AAUW's withdrawal affects IFUW and how you may help.

Stefani McRae-Dickey
President

International Federation of University Women (IFUW)

Financial Crisis at IFUW AAUW Withdrawal Reduces Income by 36%

The International Federation of University Women is an international non-governmental organization of over 150,000 women university graduates from seventy-seven national federations and associations throughout the world.

AAUW's decision to remove IFUW membership from the annual budget will have an enormous impact on the budget of IFUW beginning next year: ninety percent (90%) of IFUW's income is dependent on membership dues; AAUW currently pays forty percent (40%) of this amount.

Although the members of the IFUW Board and Finance Committee had been aware of AAUW's tight financial situation because of communications during the past months, this withdrawal of support was unexpected. AAUW's decision means that drastic measures will have to be taken. Both the Conference and Councils addressed the situation, its repercussions and possible solutions at the August IFUW Conference. More information will be available soon.

Meanwhile, this is an appeal for your immediate help to keep IFUW alive.

Almost as soon as IFUW's peril was realized, people from all over the world approached the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund (VGIF), an accredited non-governmental organization of the United Nations, with the same idea: could VGIF coordinate an effort to raise funds, consolidating the spontaneous offers for donations arising in many quarters? The VGIF board responded to this emergency appeal with a resounding "Yes!" A VGIF member is personally staffing and coordinating this interim effort to bolster IFUW. It will take place this way:

A check in any amount should be written to IFUW (not a tax deductible donation) and mailed to:

The Interim Committee for IFUW
1336 Dasher Lane
Reston, Virginia 20190

A committee of VGIF volunteers will record the donation and forward it immediately to the IFUW-US treasurer, Karen McKee, who will deposit it in the IFUW account. If you want more details about the specific circumstances of this dilemma, please contact Myrna Brown at mrsmlbrown@cs.com. She will forward documents to you from both AAUW and IFUW giving useful information. Meanwhile, please send your check and support this worthy effort.

Many thanks for your patient attention. I hope you will join the great network of those who firmly believe in international work and the necessity of maintaining this valuable connection. Keep the idea flying! Feel free to contact others by forwarding this article to those you know who are interested in IFUW's continuation.

For more information about VGIF visit: www.vgif.org

For general IFUW information visit: www.ifuw.org

For general AAUW information visit: www.aauw.org

Afternoon Literature Group

Meets on the second Tuesday at 2 p.m.

Louise Livesay, 753-4813

September 14

Year of Wonders by Geraldine Brooks

Hostess: Louise Livesay

Reviewer: Rosemary Cunningham

Evening Literature Group

****Special time for Sept. 1 potluck meeting: 6 p.m.****

Mary Mills, 745-7961

Shirley Wirth, 754-7186

September 1

The First American – The Life and Times of Benjamin Franklin by H.W. Brands

Shirley Wirth

3994 NW Boxwood Dr.

754-7186

shirleywirth@comcast.net

Reviewer: Shirley Woods

Gourmet Group

The August Dinner did not happen, so you didn't miss it, in case you were wondering.

Watch for details of the next dinner, either in e-mail or the next Newsletter.

In the meantime, a moment of silence for Julia Child, and oh yes, Bon Appetit!

Your Gourmet Committee: *Christine Cantey, Denise Nervik, and Carolyn Simmons*

No-Host Lunch

Join other AAUW friends for a bite to eat on the third Thursday of **September**, which is the **16th**. We will meet at **King Tin**, 1857 NW 9th St., Corvallis, at 11:45 a.m.

Questions? Call Carolyn Simmons 758-0271 or e-mail CrCAROLYN@aol.com.

You can reserve a spot or just drop-in. Hope to see you at lunch!

SEPT	Activity	Time	Location
1	Evening Lit Group	6 p.m.	Potluck Shirley Wirth 3994 NW Boxwood Drive
14	Afternoon Lit Group	2 p.m.	Louise Livesay
15	Newsletter deadline		
16	No-Host Lunch	11:45 a.m.	King Tim, 1857 NW 9th Street
18	Welcome Back Brunch	10 a.m.	Stoneybrook Clubhouse 4710 SW Hollyhock Circle
25-26	Corvallis Fall Festival		Central Park