



We appreciate your leadership!

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

7 - Spring Lunch Coupon

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## **President's Message**

My year as President of your NWV-AAUW Branch has been a busy and engaging one! We did so many things; both in working towards our AAUW mission goals and in having fun together at our various activities. It has been a great experience and I hope I have served you well as your President. But I couldn't have done it all without the help of all our Board members who have done their jobs and all our members who have come and participated. On April 19<sup>th</sup>, at our Spring Luncheon, I will be turning over the gavel to Rosemary Dougherty.

Whether under my Presidency or Rosemary's, some AAUW National issues need your attention. Again this year, AAUW is holding a vote to change our National bylaws to open membership to women who do not have any academic degree. Currently you can be a member only if you hold a 2-year Associate Degree, a Certificate (like a Nursing Certificate), or a College or University Degree. Again each of us, individually, will have to go on-line to the AAUW website and vote. A committee of members of our NWV Branch is working on getting you the information on how to get your AAUW member number and how to vote. Voting is being held April 25-June 9. You will receive this information on our Facebook page and as an E-blast.

Also, AAUW National has raised their dues. This increased amount is included in our Branch Membership Renewal form. With all that is happening, politically and socially, in our country right now, it is reasonable that our AAUW organization needs more money to fund our lobbying, advocacy and financial support to women defending themselves against discrimination.

I hope you all have a great summer!

Judy Neigoff, President AAUW-NWV

# Coming Events for April Clip & Post OR Mark your calendar!



Wednesday, March 28 - Education Rally "Teach In" - AZ State Capitol, 4-7 pm

Friday, March 30 - Deadline for registration for AAUW Arizona State Conference in Tucson.

<u>Saturday, April 7th - State Spring Conference, Tucson.</u> "Women, Power, Privilege: An Honest Conversation" - See story on page 6.

Thursday, April 12th - New Member Coffee - 9:30 am. By invitation. Please RSVP to Sharon Phelps or Ellen Erickson

Thursday, April 12th - Hospitality Committee Meeting - 10 am, home of Betty Merwin. Please let Betty if you plan to attend. See story on page 3.

Monday, April 16 - Incoming and Outgoing Board Transition Meeting - 9 am, Birt's Bistro

Wednesday, April 18 - Last day to mail back early ballots for CD8 election.

<u>Thursday, April 19 - "In the Pink" Spring Luncheon</u> - 11 am - 2 pm, Grandview Terrace (14515 West Granite Valley Dr., Sun City West) Reservation must be received by April 9. See coupon on page 7.

Tuesday, April 24 - CD8 Election - Use your vote. It is your voice!



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## Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee will have its annual meeting on Thursday, April 12th. We'll meet at the home of Betty Merwin, at 10am. At this meeting we will introduce the new Hospitality Chairs; Susan Rourke, Susan Reeb and Eileen Soltis. Some topics to be discussed are the Summer Survival Lunches, September & December breakfasts, meeting greeters, meeting treats, & meeting decorations.

If you will be able to attend, please contact Betty Merwin. If you cannot attend but would like to be on the committee, contact Sheryl Saddoris and let her know how you would like to help.

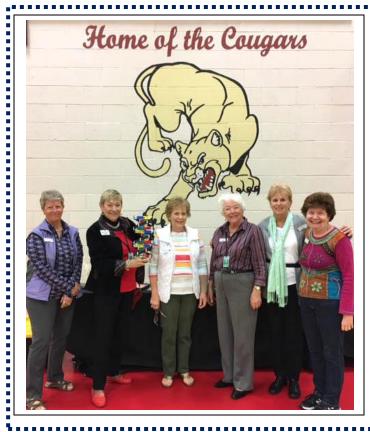
This is an open invitation for anyone who would like to help with this committee. We will be scheduling the Summer Survival Lunches and asking for hostesses and suggestions for locations. Hope to see you at this meeting.

### Thank You from Humane Borders



Many thanks for your note and the two checks! I presented the check from the AAUW and the Hershey's bar at the meeting last night. We all had some delicious chocolate! Board President Dinah Bear is holding the candy bar and the check. I also gave her your lovely check! Around her are ( left to right) John Hoelter, Stephen Saltonstall, and Phil Hungerford, all Humane Borders volunteers.

Anne Lowe



## Branch Members Assist with Stem Night

On March 1st, members of AAUW-NWV Branch, assisted Arizona Science Center with hands-on activities at Canyon Ridge School's Annual STEM Night. Activities for students and families included making an obstacle course, building with straws, float your boat, and making geometric shapes with paper and scissors, to name a few.

AAUW-NWV partners with Canyon Ridge, a K-8 Dysart STEM School at several community events throughout the school year. Branch Members have also served as classroom tutors in reading and math, judges in competitions, and donated books to the Canyon Ridge School library. This event was coordinated by Harriett Grau, Dysart School Liaison.

Shown Left to right: Sally Hamill, Barbara Lashmet, Carol Ebert, Joan Armstrong, Betty Merwin, and Harriett Grau Issue 8, Page 4

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**Missing Funding**: Since 2008, our K-12 public schools have been suffering from drastic cuts—more than 1.5 billion dollars—made during the recession. Even after ten years and a recovering economy, our classrooms are <u>still missing</u> more than a billion dollars, and we have no plan to get back to pre-recessionary investments much less a level that nears the national average.

What does the missing funding mean to our public schools? The result of this underfunding is a teacher shortage that has left thousands of Arizona students without the most basic classroom necessity: a full-time teacher. An entire generation of our kids has had to "make do" with overcrowded classrooms, outdated textbooks and technology, a loss of critical support staff such as reading specialists and counselors, and delayed maintenance of facilities and buses.

Where is the plan to address these critical k-12 school funding needs for all kids? Don't be fooled: Although the Legislature passed the bill to extend the six-tenths of one percent sales tax (.6%) (HB2158), it <u>only maintains a current funding stream and does nothing to replace the critically needed missing funding</u>. Many are concerned passage of this bill simply makes it easier for the Legislature to make cut backs in the future. In order to address the serious needs for public education, an increase of at least 1 percent to 1.5 percent is needed and/or tax credits and tax cuts need to be rolled back.

**Remain vigilant tracking legislative action:** The State Supreme Court has ruled that the initiative to block the voucher expansion can go to the voters in November, but concern remains for Legislative action to change the viability of the initiative. As always, it is important to watch the Legislature carefully at this time when striker bills are frequently introduced. *Strikers* are total replacements of the text of the *bill* where everything is stricken after the enactment clause - "Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of *Arizona.*" *Strikers* may be on an entirely different subject than the text that is deleted. Legislators use *strikers* to get around deadlines for introducing *bills* and to revive bills that have died.

<u>AZ Schools Now</u>, a coalition of dedicated volunteers, educators, parents, school board members, faith-based leaders, and children's advocates, are focused on reinvesting in Arizona's public schools. Objectives of the group are to ensure steady progress in the success of Arizona's public schools and its students. The coalition has identified four key objectives for advocacy with state lawmakers:

•Broaden existing revenue streams and reject proposals to shrink funding availability for public education through tax

cuts and the expansion of tax credits and school vouchers

• Expand and stabilize our workforce of qualified teachers through competitive compensation and professional support

Provide critical tools for classrooms with supplies and updated textbooks and technology

• Repair and maintain school facilities to give students safe, clean and functional places to learn

**AZ Schools Now partner organizations** have members across the state of Arizona. These organizations include the Arizona Association of School Psychologists, Arizona Business and Education Coalition, Arizona Center for Economic Progress, Arizona Education Association, Arizona Education Network, Arizona Interfaith Network, Arizona Latino School Board Association, Arizona PTA, Arizona School Administrators Association, Children's Action Alliance, Friends of Arizona School Boards Association, League of Women Voters of Arizona, Save Our Schools Arizona, and Stand Together Arizona Training and Advocacy Center-YWCA.

# **CD8 GENERAL ELECTION INFORMATION UPDATE:**

Wednesday March 28 - Early Ballots Mailed Out Wednesday April 18 - Last Day to Mail Back Those Early Ballots Tuesday April 24 - Election Day

If you would like to TRACK YOUR BALLOT sign up for emails/text messages at MARICOPA.VOTE

In case you missed it, the first CD8 Candidate Debate was aired on March 25, 12 News, Sunday Square Off. Here is the link for Square Off:

http://kjzz.org/content/626246/8th-congressional-district-candidates-lesko-tipirneni-debate-phoenix

### AAUW Arizona State Conference, April 7, 2018 Women, Power, Privilege: An Honest Conversation

Attend and explore how power and privilege intersects with equity for women.

Date: April 7, 2018 Check-in Begins: 9:00am Program: 10:00am – 3:00pm Location: Radisson Suites Tucson, 6555 E. Speedway Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85710 Fee: \$40.00, Student \$25 (Fee includes light breakfast and lunch.) Register by mail at AAUW-Arizona: For a copy of the registration form, click on the following link: www.arizona.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Registration-Form-spring-conference-2018.pdf Deadline to Register: March 30, 2018 Room Rates: \$104.00, Ask for AAUW rates

## How long has it been ---

### since you have perused the national AAUW website? Here is something you can find and learn about the organization and the work that your dues help to support. Some of the Ways in which AAUW Empowers Women:

**<u>Research</u>**: We analyze gender equity issues in education and the workplace.

**<u>Campus Initiatives</u>**: We help shape the lives of the next generation of women leaders.

**<u>STEM Education</u>**: We are leveling the playing field for girls and women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

**<u>Public Policy</u>**: We advocate for policies that advance equity for women and girls.

<u>Case Support</u>: We support challenges to sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.

**Educational Funding:** We provide educational and lifelong learning opportunities for women.

<u>Global Connections</u>: We respond to the global development needs of women, helping them contribute to the economic and social development of their countries.

<u>Member Leadership</u>: We provide leadership development opportunities to AAUW members.

<u>Salary Negotiation</u>: Through AAUW Start Smart and AAUW Work Smart, we are fighting to close the pay gap, one workshop at a time.

## How much do you know about AAUW Priorities and Issues?

AAUW's policy work connects and rallies advocates at the local, state, national, and global levels to empower women and girls. <u>The Public Policy Priorities underscore AAUW's mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research</u> and speak to women's needs, aspirations, and concerns across the life span.

We advocate public discussion to ensure enlightened decisions on these principles. We work to increase the number of women and other underrepresented populations in policy- and other decision-making positions. AAUW is committed to working in collaboration with diverse allies and coalitions to break through educational and economic barriers for women and girls. The priorities are to:

# To support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity, AAUW advocates

- ► Adequate and equitable funding for quality public education for all students
- Opposition to the use of public funds for nonpublic elementary and secondary education and to charter schools that do not adhere to the same civil rights and accountability standards as required of other public schools
- Protection of programs that meet the needs of girls and women in elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education, including strong promotion of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education and comprehensive sexual health education
- ► Vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to education
- Increased support for and access to affordable higher education for women and disadvantaged populations
- ▶ Increased support for programs that break through barriers for women and girls in STEM fields

#### To achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women, AAUW advocates

- ► Pay equity and fairness in compensation and benefits
- Equitable access and advancement in employment, including vigorous enforcement of employment anti-discrimination statutes
- Greater availability of and access to a high standard of benefits and policies that promote worklife balance, including quality and affordable dependent care
- Programs that provide women with education, training, and support for success in the workforce, including nontraditional occupations and women's entrepreneurship
- Strengthening programs, including welfare and career and technical education, to improve postsecondary education access, career development, and earning potential
- Strengthening retirement benefits and programs, including pension improvements and protecting Social Security from privatization

# To guarantee equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society, AAUW advocates

- Vigorous enforcement of and full access to civil and constitutional rights, including affirmative action and expanding voting rights
- Self-determination of one's reproductive health decisions
- Increased access to quality, affordable health care and family planning services, including expansion of patients' rights
- Freedom from violence and fear of violence, including hate crimes, in homes, schools, workplaces, and communities
- Support for U.N. programs that address human rights and women's and girls' concerns
- ► Freedom in the definition of self and family and a guarantee of civil rights for all family structures
- ► Passage and ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment

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## Useful Links

www.aauwarizona.org (State website)

www.aauw.org (National website)

https://www.facebook.com/groups/612025398992133http://www.northwestvalley-az.aauw.netAAUW-Arizona-NWV Branch (closed facebook group)(Branch website - in process of updating)

<u>www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/aauw-issues/</u> Become a <u>Two-Minute Issue Activist</u>: Receive urgent e-mail notices to contact the Arizona Congressional delegation via your inbox. Join the AAUW Action Network! You can sign up by going to the link shown above.

Be sure to like the organization on Facebook ---- https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.National

# NWV AAUW Annual Spring Luncheon

### Printable Coupon for Reservation

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Annual Spring Luncheon Coupon			
Name		Phone Number	
Guests			
Entrée Se	lection Tri	o Salad or _	Turkey Wrap
Dietary Restrictions:			
Check Enclosed	Number of G	uestsT	otal Enclosed \$
Mail Payment to:			on; 13940 W. Meeker Blvd.,
Suite 115-217, Sun City West, AZ 85375			

Information Contact: Stephanie Rogall. See directory for contact information. Reservations due by Monday, April 9, 2018