



Arizona Sun Summer June 2009



Community Action Grants Awarded

By Pat Zajicek, AAUW AZ Community Action Chair

Five Community Action Grants were awarded at the State Convention, April 3 - 4, 2009 in Surprise. The five \$200 grants were approved for Sun City West, Glendale, Tucson, Casas Adobes and West Valley.

For the 2008 Community Action Grants, Prescott, Northwest Valley and Sun City/Glendale have submitted reports and expenses have been reimbursed. Phoenix and Scottsdale have not yet submitted their final reports.

A request for reimbursement of branch funds given to a facility as a donation was denied. A point of clarification — branches are free to make donations, but Community Action Grants are designated for reimbursement of branch expenditures necessary to complete Community Action Grant Projects.



Jeanne Clarke to Run for Second Term on AAUW Board of Directors!

Jeanne Clarke, Tucson branch member and current two year member of the AAUW Board of Directors will be running for a second term. "Our organization is in the middle of a critical reinvention process and I think that it is important to see it through the next two years!"

If elected her priorities include: (1) Ensuring that AAUW remains a professional organization com-

posed of women and men with a post-secondary degree. (2) Creating an AAUW-wide undergraduate scholarship program that builds upon what a majority of our branches are already doing. (3) Strengthening the relationships among branches, states and the Association.

Arizona is privileged to have **Jeanne Clarke** represent our Rocky Mountain Region. Help keep her there by voting at the AAUW National Convention.



Be There!

AAUW Association Convention, June 26-28, 2009, St. Louis, MO.

There are several important bylaws changes being considered which will dramatically shape the organization. Each branch is entitled to delegates based on their number of members.

The state is entitled to 17 delegates. There are still several state positions open for delegates. If you decide to attend, register as a state delegate and let **Barbara Neubert**, know at beneubert@q.com.

There will be a lunch on June 26 for the AZ delegates. If you have anything you want to bring forth we can have a discussion at that time. **Jeanne Clarke**, Tucson Branch, is running for a second term on the AAUW Board of Directors. AZ members will need to help in this effort and hand out literature for Jeanne.

Take advantage of letting your voice be heard on these issues. If we do not attend and vote then we are choosing not to have a voice in the proposed changes.





Meet Your New AAUW-Arizona Board of Directors

Executive Committee:

Barbara Neubert	President
Liz Rielly	Program Vice President
<u>Shirley Talley</u>	<u>Membership Vice President</u>
<u>DeDe Agosta</u>	<u>Recording Secretary</u>
Rita Daninger	Corresponding Secretary
Gail Garrison	Treasurer

Appointed Members:

Susan Youngdahl	Bylaws/Policies
Vacant	College/University Relations
Patricia Zajicek	Community Action
Sandra Brantley	Diversity
<u>Connie Harrison</u>	<u>Educational Foundation</u>
Sara Wolters	Finance
Sharon Chamberlin	International Relations
Mary Shenefield	Parliamentarian
Vacant	Public Policy
Baleka Baker	Arizona Sun Editor
Karen Willett	Webmaster
Eloise Fredrickson	Nominating Committee

President's Council:

Jane Adrian	Co-Chair
Judy Hodgins	Co-Chair

President's Message

Barbara Neubert,
AAUW-Arizona President



Thanks to the efforts of Ann Mitchell and her committee from North West Valley Branch we had a successful state convention. We had informative speakers and workshops.

We were given the opportunity to meet our new Executive Director, Linda Hallman. She has had experience in the not-for-profit sector. Her guidance will help the staff be more effective in their jobs.

Thanks to the members who came forward, we were able to fill the Membership Vice President and Recording Secretary positions. **Shirley Talley**, West Valley Branch, is our new Membership Vice President, and **DeDe Agosta**, Scottsdale Branch, is our new Recording Secretary. **Shirley Talley** and **Dede Agosta** were members of the board and have changed positions. **Connie Harrison**, Tucson Branch, has been appointed as the new Educational Foundation Chair. We welcome these members to the AZ Board of Directors, they bring a wealth of experience in AAUW to the AZ Executive Board.

The dedication shown by our outgoing officers and committee chairs has been greatly appreciated. **Ruth Duperrret**, EF Chair, has had to resign because of family health issues. **Judy Neigoff**, Recording Secretary, and **Bonnie Boyce-Wilson**, Public Policy Chair, are leaving because of pressing obligations in other organizations. AAUW AZ wishes them the best in their new endeavors.

We have a new Nominating Committee which will be working ahead to next year to find nominees for a new president. We have no president-elect at this time.

There is still time to register for the Association Convention. Important bylaws changes are being voted on. Each branch needs to have their full number of delegates attend. The state has 17 delegate spaces to fill. Contact me if you can fill a state delegates spot.

(Continued on page 3)

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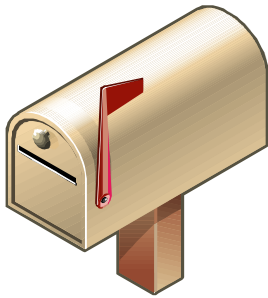
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DEADLINE FOR THE FALL ISSUE
IS AUGUST 29th

(Continued from page 2)

I have enjoyed visiting the branches during my first year as your president. There are interesting programs and interest groups going on in the branches. Many scholarships are being given across the state. Branches continue to encourage women around the state to continue their educations. I appreciate all the courtesies shown to me on my visits.

I hope your summer is filled with interesting experiences and restful moments. I hope to see many of our Arizona members at the convention.



We Really Need Your Help!

*By Baleka Baker,
AZ Sun Newsletter Editor*

Important for All Members to Read, Especially Branch Membership Chairs

The post office has changed the rules for the AZ Sun newsletter mailing. I have tried to keep it simple but it just seems to get more complicated all the time. This is one of the main reasons the state has changed to emailing

your AZ Sun and made it available on the web.

I hope you have taken to heart the request about being sure that you keep your address current and your change of address prompt. This is because the post office now requires us to certify all our mailing addresses as corrected every 95 days. If they are not, the state gets charged \$.44 for every item that is returned to us with an address correction. Remember that bulk mail is not forwarded so you are missing your newsletter for the months that are not correct.

It has been brought to my attention that many members are dual members or winter members and leave for the summer months to return in the winter. They may not actually change their address but they are temporarily away. **We just found out that the post office doesn't forward bulk mail to temporary addresses! For every person who goes away for the summer as temporarily away, your state pays \$.44 in return postage to let me know you are away.** At that point I must remove you from the address list and you will not get your newsletter again until you let me know when you are coming back.

This is all a BIG headache, I know! But if you let me, **Baleka Baker**, AZ Sun Newsletter Editor, know your summer and winter addresses with the dates of residence I will try very hard to be sure you receive your newsletter without interruption. Branch Membership Chairs please, please

keep up with change of addresses and notify me promptly of any address changes you have.



Get Well Wishes!

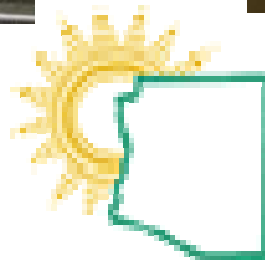
Dorie Roepke, outgoing Membership Vice President, has undergone two surgeries this summer. We all wish her a speedy recovery. She has been an important member of the state board, and has performed outstanding service in her position. We are anxious for her to be actively with us again.

DeDe Agosta, AZ Recording Secretary, has broken both her wrists. She is having a pin placed in one wrist. We hope for her speedy recovery, as she takes the minutes at the state board meetings.



I've learned that every day
you should reach out and
touch someone. People love
a warm hug, or just a friendly
pat on the back.

Maya Angelou



AAUW Arizona State Convention
April 3-4, 2009
Surprise, Arizona





*Pictured: Liz Rielly, AAUW AZ Program
Vice President with Linda Hallman
AAUW Executive Director*

State Convention News! Surprise, Surprise!

*By First Timer, Nieves Miljure,
Tucson Branch*

The first part of this adventure began when I looked for carpooling and a roommate for the AAUW State convention, April 3 and 4, 2009. We are all so fortunate to have company and traveling companions to the State Convention!

It appeared that the Tucson members all had the same idea to save gas and money; carpooling is more economical than driving alone, plus you get to know the people in the car!!

Well, we were fortunate to stop off at this really neat and modern shop on the way to Surprise. This stop gave us an inexpensive, tasty lunch, some retail therapy, and I had a great time playing in the bathroom with those "new-fangled" hand dryers; very efficient and saves on paper and energy.

Then, along about 3:30 p.m. Fri-

day, we blew into Surprise, AZ. Our accommodations seemed to be out in the middle of nowhere, but nice and new. We had time to unpack and say hello to fellow members in the lobby. At 5:30 we left to try and find our new place for dinner. The plans for dinner were changed due to high winds. We had an adventure trying to find the new place, but it was well worth it, and we were thankful for the good food. The mayor of Surprise welcomed us and joined us for dinner.

The following morning, we had a good breakfast at our hotel, and went over for registration and a day of meetings. The Dysart Administrative Building was close, and we had time to look over the fabulous baskets and informative story boards of the branches' projects. As a newcomer to AAUW, I found the boards very helpful. They explained and illustrated what the branches are doing to meet the AAUW mission and help women. The great planning and work Northwest Valley Branch did was reflected in the efficient registration, and the fact that they chose a new facility; a place great for a meeting.

After the ceremonial flag opening, **Linda Hallman**, AAUW Executive Director, provided us with a summary of AAUW Bylaws and changes. She was very informative, but we had limited time for questions and answers.

Then, we broke up to attend four different sessions. The Membership panel session was short,

with a lot of information presented by the panel. It would have been a more productive session had we had more time, to ask questions, and clarify the proposed changes in the Bylaws.

Next **Dilyana Pavlova** made her presentation. I can see how this young woman is a scholarship recipient! She is very knowledgeable about process and her graphs and slides were very interesting. Again, a lot of information was presented in a short time!

Many kudos to the Convention Planning Committee for the great tasting food, the entertainment, and the organization of the luncheon. Notice, I put food first? That is just me; the entire luncheon was great! And, we found that **Ms. Hallman** has a great singing voice. Of course, Connie and her group did a fantastic hundredth birthday skit, too. Thank you.

The last part of the state meeting was the business meeting, leaving those who did not have to go to this session, time to rest, relax, or catch up on their walking, or retail therapy. The baskets were raffled, and from the looks of the baskets, and comments from winners, it appeared that everyone enjoyed the chance of winning a basket. We know the money from this raffle is all for a good cause.

I had a great time and hope you did, too. I'm planning on attending again!

See you all next year!





Branch Presidents Alert!

It is that time of year to update the officers and committee chairs list for each branch. To make your changes for next year go to www.aauw.org and use your membership number to get into the program for the Association. You also need to email **Rita Daninger**, AZ Corresponding Secretary, rdaninger@juno.com, with your new officers and their addresses for the 2009-2010 year. Rita will be making the new state directory for next year. Please do this as soon as you can so that she will be able to have that information for us in the fall.



Membership Report

By Dorie Roepke,
AAUW AZ Membership Vice President

Membership of the Arizona branches is down 4.93 % from 2008. Branches reported that fees associated with membership dues were a factor. Nationwide, non-profits' income decreased 52%, while volunteering is skyrocketing. AmeriCorps has a 400% increase in volunteer participation from February 2008 to February 2009. This seems to indicate that using volunteer creativity and innovation in future projects with fewer funds available is warranted.

The results of the survey "Why Did You Join AAUW?" by branch Membership Vice Presidents gives credence to the importance of interest groups as well as the AAUW mission. (One member opined that "Interest groups are the glue that holds our branches together.")

The "Membership, Communication, and Marketing" panel discussion offered at the State Convention presented an overview of the survey and **Joye B. Kohl**, Ed. D. proposed several communication plans to make sure branches know how marketing can help "get the word out." Handouts of successful programs and special interest groups compiled from our own Arizona branches were distributed to attendees.

"Fulfilling the AAUW Mission: Promoting Equity for Women and Girls," gives a current media update on the barriers that still exist for women. These continuing barriers are the reason for avid continuation of AAUW branch projects. Very obvious is the fact that the **Mission is not yet accomplished!**



Leadership Opportunities! Vacancies!

There are positions open on the state board of directors. Needed are a **Public Policy Chair**, a **College/University Relations Chair**, and an **International Affairs**

Chair. The state board of directors meets four times a year, one of those times is before the state convention. The meetings are held in the Phoenix area. Chairs are asked to write articles for the *AZ Sun*. They are also asked to keep in contact with their counterparts in the branches. A report at the end of the year for the state convention program is also written.

If you are willing to help the state organization in any of these positions contact Barbara at beneubert@q.com.



A Capitol Visit

By Ann Mitchell and Jan Sodos,
AAUW Co-chairs, *The Next Step*

AAUW mentors and Dysart student mentees participating in the Community Action Project **The Next Step** completed a trip to the Arizona State Capitol on February 12, 2009. They were inspired by the presentations of the following "Successful Women": **Charmion Billington**, Secretary of the Senate; **Lisa Graham Keegan**, Chair of the State Advisory Council on Education; **The Honorable Barbara Mundell**, Presiding Judge, Maricopa County Superior Court; and **Miryam Gutier-Brown**, Community Education Specialist, ITT Technical Institute. Miryam, who is a new member of the Northwest Valley Branch, was responsible for

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

gathering this prestigious group of speakers. Each woman had a personal story to tell. They shared themes of striving to reach their goals, the importance of education, changing careers, overcoming obstacles, and keeping a positive attitude.

The group then went on tour of the original Capitol and the Arizona Senate. While in the Senate gallery they were joined by **Senator John Nelson**. Senator Nelson explained how bills were conceived and voted upon. This was an interesting learning experience for teens and adults.

Jeanne Blackman, Community Development Manager, APS and President of the Surprise Regional Chamber of Commerce, was the luncheon speaker. APS provided box lunches for the mentors and mentees.

Over the summer our mentees will become high school seniors. At this exciting time in their life these young adults are considering what will be their **Next Step**? At the last two meetings of the school year the mentees were given plenty of food for thought. In March they met the staff of the new Interfaith Community Care facility and toured the building with its President and CEO, **Michelle Dionisio**. Careers in Human Services were discussed as well as the value of volunteerism.

On April 24 we finished the first year at Rio Salado College. AAUW mentors helped their mentees investigate their future plans with a

computer program called AZCIS (Career Information System.) **Francis Owens**, a member of the Rio Salado College staff, used a power point presentation to take the students through the steps necessary to go to college. The day was capped off with a luncheon speech by **Dr. Linda Tnor**, President, Rio Salado College. In many visual ways she shared the positive outcomes of the college experience.

Year Two will kick off in September 2009 with a visit to the new Communiiversity @ Surprise. This campus is located at the City of Surprise's Civic Center Plaza and is due to open early this fall. The Communiiversity will feature online classes, regular classroom classes and a hybrid of the two. A recent article in the *Arizona Republic* stated "Students who attend the new Communiiversity @ Surprise will be able to choose course offerings by three community colleges, two four years universities and a technical school, all in the same building." **Dr. Todd Aakhus**, Director of Partnership Programs, Rio Salado College, will introduce the Communiiversity to our mentors and mentees and lead them on a tour.

Other programs throughout the 2009-2010 school year will feature exploring careers for women in: Health Care; Hospitality and Tourism; and the Arts - visual and performing. The year will conclude with a dinner for mentees and their families where they will be awarded a certificate of comple-

tion.

The Next Step welcomes new AAUW mentors **Miryam Gutierrez-Brown** and **Sondra Southard** to the program. If you would like to be an alternate mentor, please contact either Ann Mitchell or Jan Sodos.



Save the Date!

**Remember
2009 Fall Forum**

**Scottsdale
Community
College**

**Saturday,
November 7, 2009**



AAUW

American Association of
 University Women
 Arizona Sun
 P.O. Box 40822
 Tucson, AZ 85717-0822

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www.aauwarizona.org

AAUW Association website:
www.aauw.org



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AAUW Mission Statement

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

AAUW, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold an associate's or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university. In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There are no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.



Inside this issue

A Capitol Visit First Steps	6,7
AAUW Convention	1
AZ State Board of Directors	2
AZ State Board of Directors Vacancies	6
Branch President Alert	6
Community Action Grants Awarded	1
Get Well Wishes	3
Jeanne Clarke to Run for AAUW Board of Directors	1
Membership Report	6
President's Message	2
State Convention News	4,5
We Really Need Your Help!	3

AAUW Value Promise

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

The AAUW "Value Promise" is a product of the recent Strategic Process undertaken by AAUW members and leaders over the past couple of years. Establishing this Value Promise has been an important element in helping to clarify our identity, purpose and key strategies, and is helping to guide our decisions for the future.

