

President's Message

Jane Adrian, Co-President



The DREAMer's, those twenty-something unauthorized youth who were brought to the United States of America as children and who remain undocumented, and bravely joined the AAUW Arizona Fall Forum to

tell their stories— their voices continue to haunt me. I am outraged regarding the injustice in the refusal of the current Congress to permit them a legitimate pathway to citizenship. Even after President Obama granted DREAMers temporary recognition through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals last year, the state of Arizona immediately denied them access to a valid driver's license. This is where the DREAMers and we stand now; the future can be different for them, depending on who the leaders are, both nationally and locally.

Concurrently, I watch as hopeful presidential candidates slog through the debates— a full year out from the 2016 elections— and wonder at their varying positions on an array of topics. Then I remember the DREAMers. Whoever becomes the 45th President brings a vision of the future and sense of justice that is critical to each of their futures.

A leader brings a vision, one that drives the future through her finely aligned optic. It simply matters who the leader is. If I have learned anything through the honor to serve as AAUW Arizona co-president, it is this: LEADERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE. It matters what the leader believes, hopes and is willing to risk.

The Spring meeting, scheduled for April 2, 2016, is focused on cultivating leadership, in ourselves, in others, and within AAUW Arizona.

Additionally, I have learned that AAUW Arizona is a well-respected and well-positioned organization, recognized for our effort to advocate for public funding for education, for equal pay as well as for a host of social justice issues such as prison reform and protection for the victims of human trafficking. This high regard is the result of the efforts of our past and present leaders. We are fortunate to have the AAUW as a tool of change in Arizona. And we are especially fortunate to have a group of current leaders who have stepped into branch and state governance positions past and present.

Regard this as a call to future AAUW Arizona leaders. Emily Taft Douglas, a Representative from Illinois (1945-1947) once said, "If women understood and exercised their power, they could remake the world." My wish is to encourage each of you to "remake" our world and to transition into a leadership role within AAUW Arizona. For those of you who

Contents

- President's Message1**
- Public Policy Outline for Year.....2**
- Board Positions Opening Up.....2**
- Inter-Club Council3**
- Community Action3**
- Save the Dates.....3**
- Campuses Value AAUW4**
- Fall Forum Report4**
- DREAMer Definition4**
- Fall Forum in Pictures6-7**
- Branch Reports Begin.....8**
- E.Mesa, Flagstaff, Prescott.....8**
- NW Valley.....9**
- Current Elected Board.....9**

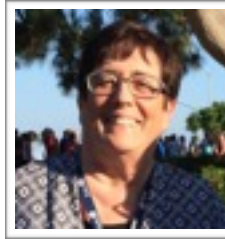
already serve in a position, thank you; while mentoring another member to step into your current role, consider the nature of your next challenge. For those of you who are teetering on the brink of engagement within the organization, please step up.

The Spring meeting, scheduled for April 2, 2016, is focused on cultivating leadership, in ourselves, in others and within AAUW Arizona. Thank you in advance to the leaders of the Casas Adobes, Tucson, and Green Valley Branches for creating the venue and the invitation to this opportunity for members to explore the ongoing and oncoming leadership roles within our communities. We will explore together innovative ways to partner, collaborate, address injustices, support education, and change lives.

I do not know what will happen a year from now, do not know who will become the 45th president and members of the Congress. But I do know this; whoever these leaders are will determine the future of nearly 1.5 million children and young adults who call themselves the DREAMers and for all of us.

Arizona Public Policy: Outline for the Year

by Sharon Hettick



It appears this year we will be continuing with our “Point Person” or subject matter expert as I like to call them. (See box below.) This worked well last year and brought others into the loop of Public Policy. We will be working on a variety of issues, many of which will be led by our members. Listed

below are the point people and they will be/or are already on the AAUW AZ web page with their email addresses. Please contact them to get involved.

Please let me know if any of you or your Branch would be interested in working on any of these issues or if you are interested in being a Point Person in a particular Public Policy area.

Objectives for 2015-16

- **Increase Attendance by 10% on Legislative Day.** Takes place Feb. 23 at the State Capitol with the emphasis on education. 73 members attended last year
- **Earned Sick Day Ordinances Pass** in Tempe and Tucson
- **Increase statewide sign-ups for AAUW’s Two-Minute Activist alerts by 30%.** We currently have 3452 people signed up in Arizona.

This last objective is directed towards members who wish to be informed about the policy decisions that are being made at the Federal and State levels. If you currently do not know about, or are not signed up for, the Two-Minute Activist, please [click on this link](#) to find out more.

Contact me with questions and concerns or if you are in need of assistance. I can be reached at publicpolicy@aauwarizona.org.

AAUW State Leadership Opportunities 2016-17 Call for Nominations

- ☑ Co-President
- ☑ Vice President Programs
- ☑ Vice President Finance
- ☑ Corresponding Secretary

Contact: Shirley Talley
co-president@aauwarizona.org

Public Policy Who’s Who

Education	-----Joye Kohl
Human Trafficking	-----Beth Jacobs and Janet Larkin
Women’s Health	-----Jody Liggett/Judi Lindquist
Pay Equity (Work Smart/Start Smart Facilitator only)	-----Jean Johnson
Earned Sick Day Leave	
Tempe:	-----Debra Lukca
Tucson:	-----Shirley Muney
Prisons	-----Nancee Noel
Border Security	-----Poly Daly (answering questions mostly)

AAUW Represented on Inter-Club Council

by Karen Ramos



Image from Interclub Council
Webpage: <http://iccfaaz.org>

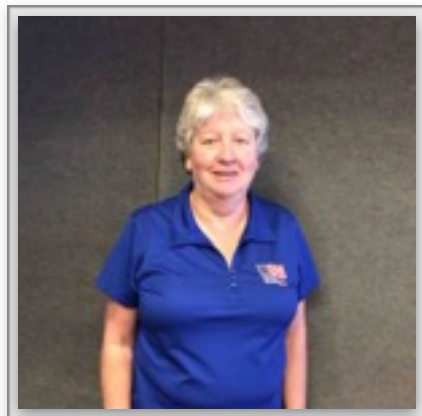
AAUW Arizona is a member of the Inter-Club Council, a coalition of women's organizations in the Phoenix metro area that meets bi-monthly with a different theme for each meeting. For November the theme of Veteran's Day included a presentation by Joan Sisco, Founder and CEO of [VeteransFirst](#). The organization's mission is to "Enhance the lives of our Women Veterans", and their Vision is "Stabilize lives through Advocacy, Programs and Services". The organization conducts a statewide outreach program to locate struggling women veterans in the communities where they live and connect them with services to help in whatever way is needed. The goal is to prevent homelessness and stabilize lives. VeteransFirst also provides safe, affordable housing in a healing environment.



Above, Carol Comito (in black jacket) President of the Inter-Club Council, collaborates with and inspires AAUW Arizona.



Right: Joan Sisco, Founder & CEO of [VeteransFirst](#).



Community Action Looking for Some Action!

By Claudia Greenwood



Has your branch been considering ways in which it can become more visible as a contributor to your community? Have you considered a Community Action project to accomplish that? It works.

Really!

Has your branch been considering ways in which to build membership? Have you considered a Community Action project to accomplish that? It, too, works. Really!

Think about your community. Are there partners just waiting for someone to take the lead on a project that would make a difference or support a project that they can't quite accomplish without help? Girl Scouts make great partners. Community Colleges make great partners. The League of Women Voters is one of AAUW's best and closest partners. Think about teaming up to make a difference.

Poll your membership and determine what is possible, then submit an application for a 2016-17 Community Action Grant by the March 1 deadline! Contact Claudia Greenwood, the state board Community Action Chair. She will help you plan and present your action project. Your branch could receive up to \$500 in support.

Save the Dates!	
Feb 15, 2016	AZ Sun Spring Submissions Due
Feb 23, 2016	Legislative Day
Apr 2, 2016	Spring Meeting
Mar 1, 2016	AZ Sun Spring Issue Release
May 15, 2016	Deadline AZ Sun Summer Submissions Due
Jun 1, 2016	AZ Sun Summer Issue Release

Campuses Value Our Attention

by Sue Pervi



Conversations with current and prospective institutional partners have resumed, and while we are working with a number of new faces on campuses, we are encouraged by the responses to our outreach. Some of our

partners have allowed their AAUW membership to lapse in the face of budget cuts, while new member prospects have been struggling to justify an AAUW membership in light of competing priorities and shrinking budgets. However, we continue to make a case for the benefits of an AAUW institutional membership to campus leaders.

Our efforts are beginning to pay off! We have welcomed a new partner in Glendale Community College.

Thanks to a timely dialogue with the Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs for the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCD), we are positioned to pursue a more robust partnership with the other MCCD campuses.

Branch members are responding well to our requests to promote AAUW memberships and programs on campuses. New initiatives aimed at building college partnerships are being developed. For example, the Northwest Valley Branch has formed a “College Connection Team” to identify initiatives for engagement with the area community colleges. Other branches in the West Valley will be briefed and invited to join in this collaborative effort. The East Mesa Branch is renewing conversations with Mesa Community College, thanks to an active alumnus and past scholarship recipient recruited as a member of the branch.

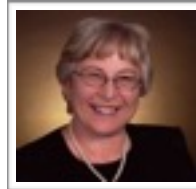
The news on the campus front is encouraging, the effort is on-going!

Again, I invite our members to offer feedback as we move forward with our conversations and initiatives.

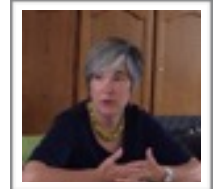


2016 Fall Forum Insightful, Informative

by Shirley Talley and Harriet Young



On Thursday, Oct. 29, ASU’s West campus held an all-day film festival featuring films



illustrating the voting rights struggles our nation has witnessed through the past 100 years. Films included “Voting Rights” a documentary by ACLU Freedom Files, “Iron Jawed Angels” depicting the struggle for women’s voting rights in the 1900s, “Selma” covering the major conflict in 1960 regarding Black rights, and finally “Recount” about the Bush/Gore vote recount efforts in Florida in 2000. An ASU professor or community expert led spirited discussions and Q and A following each film. Many students became aware of the awesome privilege we have when we cast our vote.

On Friday, Oct. 30, a double-hitter included a round-table discussion at ASU in the afternoon and an evening dinner party at the University Club in Phoenix. Associate Dean and Associate Professor Eduardo Pagan moderated the round-table discussion between the 1960 Activists and the new DREAMers. It focused on the difficulties Hispanic people have in being recognized by lawmakers, the courts, and the major political parties.

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The University Club in Phoenix was the scene of a quieter and more relaxed time to reminisce and reflect on where we were in our youth and what we

did to make changes that would impact the future of our nation. After a delicious meal, Retired ASU Professor Peter Iverson, Retired UA Professor Jeanne N. Clarke from Tucson, Bea Kabler from Green Valley, Sylvia Wilcox Ringen from Washington and Abby Young from California were honored as 1960s Civil Rights Activists. They and many others in attendance shared recollections of the Civil Rights Movement and how it subsequently has impacted their lives. All agreed that the work never ends and the rewards are priceless, both personally and historically.

On Saturday morning, Oct. 31st at the ASU West Campus, President Shirley Sandelands, of the Arizona League of Women Voters and our own AAUW CAE Executive Director, Linda Hallman brought their greetings. They outlined their organizations' work in the future to increase voter awareness and in getting voters to the polls.

Tom Collins the Executive Director of Arizona Clean Elections Commission then treated us to a presentation on his work to ensure those voters' voices are more powerful than special interest money and big business lobbyists. This work continues to be challenged by local, state, and federal lawmakers. Pastor Warren H. Stewart followed Mr. Collins with a powerful message on the power of the African American vote and how they can use that power to benefit all. Pastor Warren H. Stewart is Senior Pastor from First Institutional Baptist Church in Phoenix. Our third speaker was

*Jodi Liggett
walked us
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the voting rights
history in
Arizona.*

Dr. Stephen Nuno from NAU who shared his thoughts on just how our votes impact policy now and in the future. Professor Nuno was also a part of the round-table discussion on Friday, and his insights into American politics, immigration, political behavior, and Latino politics kept us focused on important steps we can take as voters. Jodi Liggett, CEO Arizona Foundation for Women and Chairwoman of Phoenix Women's Commission walked us through a startling look at the voting rights history in Arizona including the passing of Proposition 200 in 2004. That referendum added many restrictions to voter registration and public services for the undocumented in our state.

Our last speaker for the final day was Dennis K. Burke, former U.S. Attorney General and now Principal and General Counsel of GSIS. Mr. Burke recalled the importance of expanding voting rights to all segments of the population as the key to insuring that our government reflects the interests and values of everyone. He drew attention to repeated legislative attempts to narrow the rights of the American people to vote since the Supreme Court decision that weakened the Voting Rights Act. The struggle between state legislatures and federal laws is the center of this fight, and the legislators are asserting a state rights power to control all aspects of voting, despite the supremacy clause. In short, Mr. Burke warned us to watch the courts and who gets appointed for hints at the future of voting rights.



To clarify what DREAMers are, here is a definition from the American Immigration Council: “entered the United States before age 16; have lived continuously in the country for at least five years; have not been convicted of a felony, a “significant” misdemeanor, or three other misdemeanors; and are currently in school, graduated from high school, earned a GED, or served in the military. Immigrants who meet these criteria are commonly referred to as “DREAMers” because they comprise most (though not all) of the individuals who meet the general requirements of the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act.” DREAMers are fighting to get their education, citizenship rights, meaningful employment, and a better life for their children, much the same issues as those the black Americans faced until the 1965 Voter’s Rights Act was passed. A lively challenge was issued by the DREAMers for all of us to get into the fight by helping wherever we can writing letters and e-mails to people in power.

Fall Forum in Pictures



Dinner on Friday included guests from out of state, NAU, and representatives from the League of Women Voters.



Fall Forum in Pictures



The Celebration of 50 years since the passage of the Voting Right Act was a 3-Day event. The photos on this page are from the Fall Forum on the third day.



We were honored to have Linda Hallman, CEO of AAUW, in attendance.



Branch Reports



News for East Mesa Branch

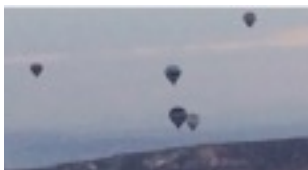
By Joanne Walen



The East Mesa Branch celebrated ‘Membership Matters’ in November by recognizing four new Honorary Life Members: Lucia Causey, Neva Hargreaves, Jo Harker, and Violet Larney (East Mesa’s first President), for their 50 years of dedicated membership. Additionally, Membership VP Linda Phar conducted a hands-on round-table demonstration of STEM activities. We held a raffle drawing for those members who brought guests and gained three new members. Our December meeting will focus on the “Season of Giving,” especially to national AAUW projects, with our speaker Sandra Lackore, who spent her career as a fund raiser for non-profits. And we continue to prepare for our big Scholarship Author Luncheon on Saturday, March 19, 2016.

Glendale Branch Thriving

By Pat Zajicek

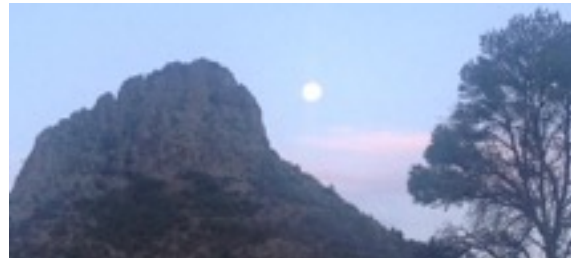


The Glendale Branch continues to thrive. Projects for this coming year include an evening activity with Doves, a shelter for abused women over 50. A new project includes contributing needed supplies to Justa Center, a day support center in Phoenix for homeless men and women over 55.

In addition to the monthly lunch meetings, Glendale will continue the traditional Holiday Brunch at Palmbrook Country Club. Former members are invited to join us. We will also attend a December performance of Arizona Broadway Theater.

Prescott Accepts Tech Savvy Grant

By Patti Allen-LaFleur



Led by members Paula Fuhst and Deb White, AAUW and Yavapai College joined forces this fall and applied for the Tech Savvy grant offered by AAUW national. The grant was approved and the Tech Savvy Committee got right to work organizing and planning for a Saturday event in April, targeting seventh and eighth grade girls.

The grant involved certain agreements between the Prescott Branch and Yavapai Community College and included YCC’s agreement to serve as the Tech Savvy site. The program, to be held April 23, will run a full day, will provide breakfast and lunch to all participants, and will include a full day parent/guardian component.

For the adults attending, speakers will provide information for families on relevant and rewarding STEM careers as well as academic and financial preparation for college

Student workshops and “savvy skills” will include curriculum that focuses on hands-on STEM learning and real-life skills, such as public speaking and negotiation. Both AAUW Prescott and YCC college are enthused about the Tech Savvy grant, seeing it as a valuable addition to STEM curriculum for middle school girls in Yavapai County.



Northwest Valley Branch Celebrates 35 Years of Leadership for Women

By Sue Pervi



Thanks to the dedication of a small but determined group of women, our branch was formed and granted official recognition by AAUW on April 1, 1980.

As we celebrate our rich history and enduring traditions, we are also responding to changes we believe are essential for us to thrive as a branch today and to build our legacy for the future. We look to preserve the best of the past, introduce meaningful programs, and pursue new ones as we incorporate the needs of our membership and community partners in our initiatives.

We had a special program for our welcome back breakfast on September 17. Dr. Winnie Fritz, former assistant surgeon general of Jordan and US Army nurse, took us on her journey of lifelong service dedicated to improving healthcare services around the world. She addressed a packed room of AAUW members and guests, stayed for our branch meeting, and afterwards, engaged in conversations with attendees.

Since last spring, we have seen our renewed membership recruitment efforts generate a number of new and prospective branch members. Great news! However, we also recognize our need to retain members from year to year. We have begun conversations about how best to do so.

A number of our members are leaving the area for the summer and not returning until late fall, presenting a challenge as we implement program initiatives and continue to fill branch leadership positions. We have been adapting to this new reality as we look to advance initiatives that were begun in recent years including website upgrades, college-university relationship building, membership engagement, and public policy programs.

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

News from the Green Valley Branch Monthly Program meetings

By Henne Queisser, Co-President



The Green Valley branch has a great schedule of enlightening programs for the 2015-16 season.

In September, we received an update on legislative issues by all three of our state legislators: Andrea Dalessandro, Rosanna Gabaldon, and Chris Ackerley.

The October Program Meeting featured Chelsea Hall as guest speaker. Chelsea and her husband, Andy Hall, are co-founders of Southern Arizona Against Slavery (SAAS). Chelsea is serving as an intern to U.S. Representative Martha McSally and is currently working on an M.A. in Social Work. She spoke about the work SAAS does to fight human trafficking, which includes labor trafficking, sex trafficking of adults, and sex trafficking of minors. The three hallmarks of all types of human trafficking are force, fraud and coercion. More information can be found at:

www.polarisproject.org, www.endsextrafficking.az, and www.slaveryfootprint.org. Additionally, the National Trafficking Hotline is 888-373-7888.

Some of the upcoming Program Meeting topics include *Art in Territorial Tucson*, *Human Rights Advocacy*, *Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse*, and *Causes of Poverty in Pima County*.

Public Policy Group

Our Public Policy Group has been hosting presentations focused on education, human trafficking, and border issues.

In September, Scott Hagerman, Superintendent of Continental School District, Virginia Juettner, recently retired Superintendent of Continental School District, and State Representative Chris Ackerley discussed educational funding issues.

The October Public Policy meeting featured an eye-opening presentation by Blake Gentry on the

mistreatment of immigrant women, children, and families who have been placed in short-term detention. Blake has also conducted research on how language barriers affect indigenous speakers as they attempt to navigate the US Immigration system.

A discussion on human trafficking related to nail salon workers, led by our own Linda Laird who has researched the topic, is on the November agenda. A series of articles from the New York Times presents a comprehensive overview of the issues: [Perfect Nails, Poisoned Workers](#); [The Price of Nice Nails](#); [3 Ways to Be a Socially Conscious Salon Customer](#).



Bea Kabler, Lorna Kitchak, both from the Green Valley Branch, swapped voting rights stories with Ron Talley.



"Service is the rent we pay for being. It is the very purpose of life and not something you do in your spare time."
-- [Marian Wright Edelman](#)

Art and quote courtesy of the website [Do One Thing](#).

Volunteer to Serve on your AAUW State Board!

AAUW has a dynamic board and Co-Presidents Jane Adrian and Shirley Tally are pleased to work with a tireless group of professionals. **Some terms expire in 2016, and we are looking for volunteers to step up and serve on the state board for a two-year term.**

Listed below are the current board members, their positions and terms. Click on the highlighted positions to access a link that explains the responsibilities of each. Is there a board position that resonates with you or describes an AAUW leader in your branch? Help us continue our efforts to sustain the excellent service AAUW Arizona provides to so many women and girls across the state.

Current Elected Board

[Co-President](#): Jane Adrian (2014-2016)

[Co-President](#): Shirley Talley (2015-2017)

[Vice President Programs](#): Harriet Young (2014-2016)

[Vice President Finance](#): Susanne Burgess (2014-2016)

[Recording Secretary \(Pg4\)](#): Margaret Noser (2015-2017)

[Corresponding Secretary \(Pg4\)](#): Donna Haugland (2014-2016)

[Vice President Membership](#): Mary Rea (2015-2017)

