

## President's Message

by Deb Dillon



For those of you who don't know me, I'm a planner. I plan my schedule so I can manage my vast array of activities; I spend as much time planning for my travels as I do actually taking the trips; I create detailed plans for my yard and gardens; I have extensive lists of books I plan to read. So I was

pleased – mostly – when our national AAUW announced they were embarking on the creation of a new strategic plan.

Why just “mostly”? Two reasons: I know there will be changes, and I know change creates concern along with excitement. After gathering input from a variety of groups and individuals, AAUW hopes to complete this new plan by June 2018. Here's a preview of what may be coming:

- National AAUW has already created a streamlined organization and has reduced staffing, and the organizational chart is on this website: <https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/leadership-and-staff/>
- AAUW will concentrate on three elements: Focus, Relevance and Impact.
- Core issues on which AAUW will focus are pay equity, education, STEM, leadership, and Title IX.

These areas may or may not be what you'd like to see from the organization. Either way, there will be opportunities for member input in the next couple of

months. I encourage you to speak up and let Arizona's voice be heard.

As the national organization zeroes in on its priorities, our state and local branches should consider doing likewise. The new strategic plan may give direction to your own branch. On the other hand, your branch may have other priorities, which you may continue to pursue, though you will not be able to rely on national support for those endeavors.

I am excited to see what the future holds for AAUW at all levels.

## Contents

<b>President's Message .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Public Policy Report-ERA .....	2
Save the Date Insert .....	2
Community Action Reminder .....	2
January Board Meeting Notes .....	3
Policy and Job Descriptions Revised .....	3
AAUW AZ Spring Conference Info.....	3
Spring Conference Details .....	4
StartSmart First Person Report.....	5
AAUW and Yavapai College .....	6
Rocky Mtn Regional Conference Info .....	6
Rocky Mtn Regional Conference Flyer .....	7
<b>Branch Reports Begin.....</b>	<b>8</b>
Phoenix Branch .....	8
Southeast Valley Branch .....	8
Northwest Valley Branch .....	9
Tucson Branch.....	9
Prescott Branch .....	10
East Mesa Branch.....	10
Scottsdale Branch.....	11
Sun City/Peoria .....	12
<b>Notice: Sun Newsletter Early Edition.....</b>	<b>12</b>

*AZ Sun Editors are Angela Ulrey and Patti Allen-LaFleur. All submissions must be sent to Angela Ulrey.*

## Public Policy Report

### AAUW of Arizona is Lobbying for the Equal Rights Amendment

By Harriet Young, Public Policy Chair

The ERA was first introduced in Congress in 1923 and was reintroduced every year until its passage in 1972. The proposed constitutional amendment required three-fifths of all states to ratify the amendment



before fully implementing the ERA. State legislatures were given until 1979 to ratify the amendment, and Congress later extended the ratification deadline to 1982. By the time the final deadline passed in 1982, 35 states approved the ERA, three states short of ratification.

We have sat on the ERA since then, until NOW began to agitate for Congress to extend the deadline again (Rep. Tom O'Halleran has signed on as co-sponsor). This will allow the recent adoption by Nevada and any two additional states to complete the Constitutional requirement of a 3/5 vote of the state legislatures to approve an amendment.

[Arizona should be one of those 2 remaining states to vote yes.](#)

With this information at hand, the AAUW of Arizona voted last fall to make the adoption of the ERA by the Arizona Legislature a top priority across the state. Our Legislative, Day Feb. 20, 2018, was dedicated to this effort. Rep. Pam Powers Hannley was our featured speaker, along with Rep. Michelle Ugenti-Riva and Rep. Athena Salman. Each offered their views on the need for ERA. Given the attention paid to the issue of sexual harassment, discrimination, and abuse by the national and state media, our highly visible effort ought to be endorsed by every elected official. We plan to carry pledge

cards for our legislators to sign, promising to vote for the ERA amendment when it is introduced. Even if you don't attend, we'll send cards to each Branch for you to take when you visit your elected representatives to ask for their signature. We will ask every one of our 90 legislators to pledge or not, and we'll have the tally for your information before November, 2018.

#### Save the Dates!

<b>Mar 10, 2018</b>	Scottsdale Branch: ABC's of Advocacy
<b>Mar 15, 2018</b>	Community Action Deadline
<b>Apr 6, 2018</b>	AAUW State Board Meeting
<b>Apr 7, 2018</b>	State Spring Conference, Tucson (4-6:00 PM)
<b>May 1</b>	Deadline for submissions to AAUW Sun-Summer Early Edition
<b>May 15</b>	AAUW Summer Sun Published
<b>May 31-Jun 2, 2018</b>	NCCWSL Conference
<b>Jun 22-24, 2018</b>	AAUW Regional Conference, Salt Lake City

#### Apply for Community Action Funds!

**Deadline: March 15, 2018**

*Click on this link to contact Claudia Greenwood for more information!*

[AZ-AAUW Community Action](#)

## AAUW Jan. 19 Board Meeting Notes

by Deb Dillon



The AAUW Arizona Board met Jan. 19 at Scottsdale Community College. Among the topics discussed were the following:

*Legislative Day Feb. 20 at the Capitol* Emphasis will be on advocating for passage of the ERA. A flyer on the event was sent to board members and branches.

*Spring Meeting April 7 in Tucson* The meeting will be held at the Radisson and will focus on social justice, equity and privilege. AAUW AZ officers for 2018-2019 will be installed and Community Action awards will be presented.

*National AAUW Information* National AAUW is in the process of creating a new strategic plan projected to be finalized by June 2018. National is also looking for people to serve on committees. Committee positions are available at <https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/leadership-and-staff/committeestask-forces/>.

*National Dues Increase* National dues will increase by \$10 for 2018-2019. The board discussed ways in which both the state and the branches might respond to this challenge.

*Community Action/Special Project Funds* Branches were strongly encouraged to apply for these awards.

*Webpages and Facebook Pages* Branches were reminded that these sites need to be kept up to date and should include contact information.

*Policy Update* Sara Wolters presented a proposed update of state policies which was approved.

*Resolution on Sexual Harassment and Assault* A resolution on sexual harassment and assault was passed and is available for use by branches.

## State Revises AAUW-AZ Policies and Job Descriptions

by Sarah Wolters



The revised Policies and the revised Job Descriptions are now on [the state website](#). They are two separate documents as recommended by the Board of Directors when

the Policies were approved as revised at the board meeting on January 19, 2018.

This task was not done alone. Thanks to all of you who responded to an email asking for your comments in advance of the revisions made for review and approval of the board. I appreciate your response and assistance.

### AAUW Arizona Spring Conference 2018

#### Women, Power, Privilege: An Honest Conversation

Radisson Suites Tucson  
6555 E. Speedway Blvd.  
Tucson, AZ 85710

**Saturday, April 7, 2018**

9:00am – Check-in and light  
breakfast

10:00am – Program begins

3:00pm – Program Ends

Hosted by AAUW Tucson

**\*\*See Flyer Next Page\*\***

---

### AAUW AZ Board Meeting

Friday, April 6, 2018

4:00pm – 6:00pm

## AAUW Arizona State Conference 2018

### Women, Power, Privilege: An Honest Conversation

AAUW Tucson is pleased to host the 2018 Arizona Spring Conference. Come prepared to explore how power and privilege intersects with equity for women

**Event information:**

**Date:** April 7, 2017

**Times:** 9:00am Check-in begins  
10:00am Program begins at

**Location:** Radisson Suites Tucson  
6555 E. Speedway Blvd.  
Tucson, AZ 85710

**Registration information:**

**Fee:** \$40

**Student Fee:** \$25

**Fees include light breakfast and lunch**

**Register:** [www.aauwarizona.org](http://www.aauwarizona.org)

**Deadline:** March 30, 2017

**Room Rates:** \$104, ask for AAUW rates



**Sherard Robbins** is the Assistant Dean of Students and serves as the primary educator for staff and students on issues related to diversity, inclusion, equity, and integrity. Dean Robbins serves as a trained First Amendment Monitor and campus facilitator on free speech issues related to the First Amendment. Along with Arizona's chief free speech facilitator, Dean Robbins trains faculty, administration, and students on the intersections of free speech and bias incidents on college campuses. In 2017, Sherard's unit received the Peter Likins Inclusive Excellence Award for Staff of the Year for the division of Student Affairs. Frequently collaborating with other campus partners such as Academic Advising, Fraternity and Sorority Programs, ASUA, and the campus' Cultural and Resource Centers, Sherard works to create long lasting intercampus relationships that will benefit the institution as a whole through collaborative programming.



**Raquel Goodrich** is the Deputy Director for the National Institute for Civil Discourse. She provides strategic planning guidance and operational support to the organization. She also manages the organization's public initiatives, including the Revive Civility campaign. She spearheaded development of the Institute's Text, Talk platform, resulting in over 100,000 participants engaging in text-based, small group discussions on issues facing the nation. Raquel has over 10 years' experience in meeting facilitation and conflict resolution processes. She previously worked at the Udall Foundation's U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, where she provided mediation services, integrated collaborative technologies into conflict resolution processes and conducted training for conflict resolution practitioners. Raquel holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of Maine and a Bachelor of Social Sciences from Unity College.



**Deanna Lewis** is a Renaissance woman. By 21 Lewis made history as the first woman firefighter in the Tucson Fire Department. Public service and access to community as an emergency responder taught her the value of teamwork and cultivating relationships. A graduate of Stanford's Primary Care Associate Program, Deanna has been a physician assistant for 13 years. Her emphasis in health care has always been medically underserved patient populations, and in 2003 she founded [Dequenes](#) Community Health, promoting access to quality health care as a basic human right. Deanna served as Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation's lab director for point of care HIV testing for 5 years. She completed her MBA at the UA Eller School of Management, and also completed two years as a [U of A/NASA Space Grant Fellow](#). She is currently a 7<sup>th</sup>-year doctoral candidate at the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. She is an avid hiker, incredible soap maker, loves working with students, teaching and is passionate about social justice issues. She also serves on the committee for diversity and inclusion at the college of public health to ensure all voices are heard, and most recently is a new addition to The University of Arizona's Dean of Students LGBTQ+ Resource Center as a Graduate Assistant.





## One Young Woman's Perspective and Testimony

By Shyla Dogan, UofA Affiliate member

*\*Editor's note: The Sun received an inspiring testimony to AAUW and its work with StartSmart. Following is an edited version due to space restrictions:*

Earlier this year, I was selected to be a Paul Lindsey Intern at the University of Arizona. The program is for Education graduate students to gain professional experience through a paid internship with a participating organization of their choice...The Tucson Branch of the American Association of University Women was my first choice.

I had heard about AAUW in the past. Yet, I did not have a clear understanding about the mission or why I should care about the organization's goals. I did not completely connect to women's issues. I have never had a desire to march, carry a banner, or acquire signatures for a petition. Instead, I acquired degrees as my personal form of protest against any gender related wrongs that might otherwise affect me. Furthermore, I saw women's rights as being in competition with issues I felt were more pertinent: poverty, racism, and a multitude of others. However, recent political events led me to want to learn more about the struggle for women's rights. If we have come so far, why are we still too often mere objects for real or imagined purposes or steppingstones for male counterparts.

I was selected to work on the Start Smart initiative with a successful former corporate executive who has turned out to be an incredible mentor. I was given a unique window into the realities of so many women. I began to understand why women's issues matter. I came to recognize that engagement with women's issues is engagement with general social issues because women's issues intersect other social concerns such as poverty and racism. Women's lower pay means that a woman and her dependents have less to live on and save. Furthermore, pay rate

is frequently impacted by the race of the woman. Therefore, the gender pay gap, poverty, and racism are all linked. By failing to recognize the ways in which social problems are interconnected, I had missed how change initiatives can have a wider impact than initially planned for.

Repeatedly in our first three Start Smart sessions, I heard women in various stages of their careers and from a multitude of different fields express the same anxieties about asking for what in essence is their right -- pay equity. Fears range from a concern about being disliked, to seeming too "pushy," to being ungrateful. I have not only been educated about the issues but also about my own worth, and I have gained the skills to advocate for myself.

I am grateful for the opportunity to impact local women (and men) through our Start Smart initiative. We are working to having several thousand people educated by the end of the academic year.

Through my connection with and new membership in AAUW, I have come to realize that women's issues are not peripheral to me or the other matters which concern me as I once believed. I am proud to be part of an organization that is actively involved in working toward social change. I appreciate that the organization works for policy changes and tries to find ways to make better communities by strengthening women's role in society. I feel that I am part of an organization of change makers and am extremely grateful to have acquired a wider understanding about social matters and ways to advocate for change through education.



Have you visited the State website? Don't miss this great platform for your state news! The link can now be seen at the top of every AZ Sun page or click on the link below.

[www.aauwarizona.org](http://www.aauwarizona.org).

## **AAUW and Yavapai College: Community Action in Action**

by Claudia Greenwood

A continuously evolving partnership between Yavapai College and Prescott's AAUW was formed early in 2000 when Mary Alice Moulton and other representatives of AAUW attended a YC Governing Board meeting and urged the development of a family enrichment center. They continued to attend these meetings, lobby District I legislators, and participate in a task force on child care until the Dell E. Webb Family Enrichment Center became a reality. In 2005 AAUW entered into an agreement with the college to endow the Mary Alice Moulton Childcare Fund, providing support to children of mothers attending the campus.

Also in 2005 we launched the Sister-to-Sister mentoring program with YC partner, ETS, a federally funded program targeting first generation students in grades 6-12. Through our luncheon programs we have encouraged hundreds of young women to continue their education beyond high school.

In 2007 we initiated a second mentoring program. Thirty AAUW members joined faculty and staff from Yavapai College for a training session. For ten years our team of mentors provided encouragement to women returning to college

In recognition of Arizona's Centennial, AAUW began a new endowment: the Centennial Scholarship. This award targets second semester women in STEM fields on the Yavapai Campus. Fundraising for these two initiatives is an ongoing endeavor as our branch seeks to provide support to an increasing number of Yavapai College students.

Other branch efforts in partnership with Yavapai College have included Teen Maze (a county-wide effort encouraging youth to make good choices), the Dreams to Reality and Career Fair, Tech Savvy, and the mentors Traveling Team. Several of our members serve on college committees including the Family Enrichment Center. Our written support for

federal grants is also sought. As YC President Penny Wills has said: "We are so fortunate to have the support of AAUW."

Most recently our branch members have participated in the summer LEAD program on both Prescott and Verde campuses of Yavapai College. When our branch wrote in support of an AAUW national grant to encourage women students entering college, we also agreed to participate in the summer orientation program as mentors. Although the grant expired this past year, the college will extend the program and anticipates the continued support of AAUW mentors.

It is easy to see why the Prescott branch stands out among state AAUW branches. Its relationship with Yavapai College is unique. We are partners committed to uplifting our community.

### **Rocky Mountain Regionals Set for June**

An invitation is extended to all AAUW-AZ members from Utah, the host state, to attend and participate in **Women Unlimited and Undaunted**, the AAUW Rocky Mountain Regional Conference.

The venue is the Radisson Downtown, Salt Lake City, Utah. The conference is scheduled to begin June 22, 2018, at 11:00 A.M.

**Julia Brown** will speak at the noon luncheon on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Kim Churches** will be keynote speaker at the Saturday evening banquet.

A visit to our Utah Women Artists Exhibition will be available to those interested.

The conference will end at noon on Sunday, June 24, 2018.

Registration information will be coming soon. AAUW-Utah looks forward to seeing you in Salt Lake City, Utah, June 22, 2018, at the Rocky Mountain Regional Conference.

**See Flyer on next page for more info.**



**You are invited to join us at the  
AAUW Rocky Mountain Regional Conference  
June 22 – 24, 2018, in Salt Lake City, Utah to discuss  
*Women Unlimited and Undaunted***

**As AAUW women we continually address the issues of our time by:**

- Finding and using our political voice, running for elected office, and winning;
- Challenging and speaking out about bad actors in the public arena;
- Standing against sexual assault and the diminishing of women;
- Challenging attacks on Title IX that attempt to diminish protections;
- Standing up for civil rights, reproductive rights, voting rights, protection of dreamers' rights;
- Working for economic security, fair pay, equitable pay, paid leave, family leave, sick leave;
- Exerting influence in the business world, pressing for equality in pay and treatment;
- Focusing on equity in education, in STEM fields, and on ending student debt.

We are excited to hear AAUW's national voice from **CEO Kim Churches; Board Chair, Julia Brown**, New Mexico; **Director and Board Finance Chair, Janet Bungler**, Utah. We will also hear from **Susan Landino, formerly Susan Burhans**, a successful LAF plaintiff who took a stand against Yale University's policies on Title IX and won. Her case is on the AAUW website.

**What important issues have been addressed in your states and branches that you would like to share with the conference? If you have an outstanding member or program that we should all hear, please let us know. You may want to present a 30 minute program from your state, or a 5 to 10 minute report. In addition, individuals from your state may like to participate in a panel discussion on issues of mutual interest. Please let our program chair hear from you (see below).**

**Topics definitely on the agenda:**

- Encouraging women to run for elected office and supporting those who do run. AAUW is on the board of Real Women Run of Utah, which provides such training and mentoring.
- Standing against sexual assault and its effects, and the attacks against Title IX protections. LAF speaker Susan Landino and others can speak on these issues.
- Working within coalitions and supportive groups to achieve a larger voice for women.
- Supporting & funding STEM training for girls, and efforts of working women to return to school.

A visit to our Utah Women Artists Exhibition will be available for those interested. It is sure to inspire!

Our venue is the Radisson Downtown, close to important and interesting sites in Salt Lake City and on the TRAX line for easy access to locations further away. (More on hotel and conference costs soon.)

We were inspired and enthusiastic after the AAUW Convention in Washington D.C. We are looking forward to the comraderie of again joining with AAUW members in the Rocky Mountain Region.

**On behalf of AAUW of Utah Board of Directors.**

Co-presidents: Stephanie Bagnell, [stephaniebagnell@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniebagnell@gmail.com); Georgette Kapos, [gskapos@gmail.com](mailto:gskapos@gmail.com).  
Contact for questions: Marilyn Shearer, Program Chair, [mjshearer1@aol.com](mailto:mjshearer1@aol.com).



# Branch Reports



## Phoenix Affiliate Outlines Its Programs for the Remainder of Year

by Mary Beth Lemons



*The Phoenix Branch of AAUW holds its meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the Luther Life Center at The Beatitudes, 1610 West Glendale Ave. in Phoenix.*

**The meetings for the remainder of the year include the following:**

**March 20, 2018,** Sarah E. Suggs, President and CEO of the *Sandra Day O'Connor Institute* will describe its mission, scholarships, outreach, opportunities, and benefits of membership, as well as the life and legacy of Arizona's own Sandra Day O'Connor.

**April 17, 2018,** Phil Boas, Editor of the Editorial Pages of the *Arizona Republic* and director of the newspaper's Community Leadership Department, will present his plan and recommendations for an establishment showcasing the accomplishments of another of Arizona's own, Steven Spielberg. He will discuss *Project Firelight, An Effort to Make the Spielberg Story Part of Our Arizona Identity*.

**May 15, 2018,** Dr. Linda Thor, elected to the Maricopa Community College Governing Board in November 2016, will describe her past year on the board, what she sees as the state of our community colleges, and prospects for the future.

**June 19, 2018,** Political and legislative reporter for the *Arizona Republic*, Mary Jo Pitzl will provide the *Arizona Legislative Review* at our final meeting as she has traditionally done for seven years now.

Throughout the year we'll also continue our partnership with the YWCA to put on a series of Community Workshops called WORK\$MART. The topic is "Salary Negotiation," and there will be three workshops in the fall of 2018. The YWCA shares many values and women's issues with AAUW. We are happy to work with them.



## Southeast Valley Has Yearly International Affairs Dinner

by Toni Corrigan, Co-President



Often our International Affairs Dinner has focused on one particular country. Last year we had a different focus and enjoyed hearing about the experiences of an African refugee and being entertained by an African refugee children's musical group.

The theme for this year's International Dinner is "American Citizenship: An Elusive Dream?" The speaker will be Josh De La Ossa, a Phoenix lawyer and educator. Mr. De La Ossa grew up on his dad's cattle ranch east of Nogales on the Arizona-Mexican border. He is the managing partner in the law offices of De La Ossa & Ramos PLLC. Mr. De La Ossa is an advocate of immigrant rights and was named the Children's Law Center Attorney of the Year in 2013 and 2015.

In preparation for the dinner, members share the national origin of their ancestors and the year they came to the United States.



## Northwest Valley Branch “Votes” on Teacher Pay—*Plus*: A Book for Conversations With the Elderly

by Franz Menzl



Initiated by our Public Policy Committee, 157 ballots were distributed to the membership proposing various public policy initiatives for our branch. The response was great – 108 ballots were received and showed overwhelming agreement on an issue – item #2. That item stated “I want our branch to support legislative efforts to increase Arizona teachers’ pay”, with 101 votes agreeing. Currently, the population of Arizona teachers is overwhelmingly female, with the elementary teacher population estimated to be 85 percent female.

Craig Harris of the AZ Republic reported December 20, 2017, that, “AZ elementary school teachers are the lowest paid in the country while high school teachers rank number 48 in pay.” Wallet Hub rated AZ as the worst place to teach, and the Morrison Institute released a study that showed 42 percent of AZ teachers hired in 2013 quit by 2016. The AZ School Personnel Administrators Association report states that 526 had quit as of October 1<sup>st</sup> and found that AZ is short 1,398 teachers this school year. As we’ve read in recent media articles, those numbers have increased. There is much work to be done.

Ten members from the branch have signed up for public policy committee work and developed their strategy in January.

### *If Only You Would Ask*

Eileen Berger, a current member of the NW Valley Branch and author, recently co-published a book with her daughter, *If Only You Would Ask*! The book is based on the situation that many of us encounter

when visiting an elderly relative or friend - soon we’re at a loss for what to talk about. *If Only You Would Ask* transforms this situation. Open to any page of the book, and soon you’ll find yourself engaged in meaningful conversation.

With forty-two topics and over four hundred questions, *If Only You Would Ask* provides a framework for tapping into memories that may not have been thought about or talked about for years! Every person has stories to share. These types of conversations help you enjoy your time together now and in the future.

Eileen credits AAUW-NWV Memoirs Special Interest Group for the book idea. She graduated from the College of St. Benedict and the University of Wisconsin, River Falls, and currently teaches English as a second language. Along with her family, foreign students have been the joy of her life. Eileen divides her time between White Bear Lake, Minnesota, and Sun City West, Arizona. *If Only You Would Ask* is available on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com).



## Tucson Pursues Work with Start Smart

By Michelle Higgins



AAUW Tucson Branch has had a very busy Fall season launching its Start Smart salary negotiation workshops at the University of Arizona. We have partnered with the College of Education (COE) and Eller School of Management. Through the COE, we have a paid Paul Lindsey Graduate Student Intern, Shyla Dogan, who works with our Chair Linda Alepin. Shyla and Linda have recruited an additional five facilitators who have been trained to host workshops, including one of the assistant deans in COE. We have just facilitated our fourth

workshop and have had undergraduate students, graduate students, post-doctoral students, staff, and faculty members attend. Early trends from our evaluations have been extremely favorable. We are starting conversations with Pima Community College to offer Start Smart on their campuses and with the YWCA of Tucson to offer Bilingual Work Smart sessions in south Tucson.



## News from the AAUW Prescott Branch + An Invitation

By Lynne Murphy, President



Lots of things are happening in Prescott! You're welcome to come visit us any time. Let us know you're coming, and we'll roll out the red carpet... first we'll need to purchase one, of course.

Perhaps your branch does something similar, but in March we traditionally have our Neighborhood Meetings. Our membership is divided into geographic groups, and a member from each area or combined areas hosts the others for an in-home meeting. A board member attends and serves as a facilitator using prepared questions that help guide our focus for the following year. Members provide the food and the fellowship, and everyone gets better acquainted. Somehow it's easier to speak up in a smaller group, so we garner not only opinions, but great suggestions for future meeting topics.

On April 20, we will celebrate our second annual *Afternoon in the Garden* scholarship fundraiser. Our first one was a great success as we not only collected a generous amount of money for our two Yavapai College scholarships, but many non-members attended.

The setting is the Marcusen Sculpture Garden on the college campus. The irises will be in bloom and three different musical groups will entertain. Additionally, tapas, tarts, and wine will be served at stations throughout the garden. The award winning wines will be from the Southwest Winery in Clarkdale which hosts a degree program through Yavapai College. Second career anyone?

This year the garden party will take on a new twist. The Mad Hatter will be present, and there will be flamingos available for a game of croquet. Yes, it's an Alice in Wonderland theme! Tickets are available for this amazing event for \$45 each and may be purchased online at The Marketplace Yavapai College, [Afternoon in the Garden](#). Your tax receipt will be mailed to your address. Tickets can be picked up from the Dormouse at the entrance to the garden.

Why not come to Prescott for a weekend and visit Alice and her gang for an afternoon of fun, food, and frolic? We'd love to have you join us!

## AAUW East Mesa Musings

By Joanne Walen, President



On Saturday, February 10, East Mesa held another successful Scholarship Fundraising Luncheon. This year's luncheon was dedicated to the memory of our founder and first president Violet Larney who died in February of 2016. Our author this year was Susan Southard who wrote *Nagasaki: Life After Nuclear War*. She was a brilliant and delightful speaker even though her topic was grim—albeit timely what with the antics of the current regime in North Korea. She followed the lives of five survivors of the atomic blast on Nagasaki and researched for twelve years to assure that her account was factually accurate. It was published in 2015, the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the

dropping of the bomb. She graciously signed copies of the books provided with the luncheon ticket and included this quotation from one of the survivors: “The basis of peace is understanding the pain of others.” –Yoshida Katsuji. We also heard reports from the four scholars whom we support with proceeds from the luncheon and funds from the Larney Trust.

Our March 7 meeting will focus on STEM and ways to involve more girls and young women in those fields with a speaker from Freeport McMoran.

As has been our practice for several years, we offer two screenings of a film in honor of Women’s History Month. This year it is Michael Moore’s film “Where to Invade Next,” a whimsical look at what the USA can learn from the rest of the world as the director (Moore) playfully visits various nations in Europe and Africa as a one-man “invader” to “take” their ideas and practices for America. Whether it is Italy with its generous vacation time allotments, France with its gourmet school lunches, Germany with its industrial policy, Norway and its prison system, Finland’s educational system, Tunisia and its strongly progressive women’s policy, or Iceland and its strong female presence in government, Moore discovers there is much that America could emulate. The film and popcorn will be offered free of charge on Saturday, March 10, and Monday, March 26, in the Leisure World Little Theater, 908 S. Power Road, Mesa 85206. Movie time both days is 1:30 p.m.

Our nominating committee continues to work diligently to fill a slate of new officers—President-elect, Membership VP, and Treasurer. The Board voted to let them work through February, holding both the announcement and election at the March general meeting with installation in April.

## AAUW Scottsdale Winter/Spring Projects Underway

By Karen Ramos



Members of the Scottsdale Branch have been busy with two important projects this winter and spring.

### *Adopt-A-Book*

The Scottsdale Branch’s Adopt-A-Book program is nearing completion for this year and welcomes more donations of new or **very** slightly used books. Members have been bringing books to Branch meetings and events during the past year.

This year’s books will go to Yavapai Elementary School with each of the 300 students anticipating owning a new book. Each book will have a bookplate indicating that the book is donated by AAUW Scottsdale Branch. The books will be delivered to students during National Library Week, April 8-14, 2018.

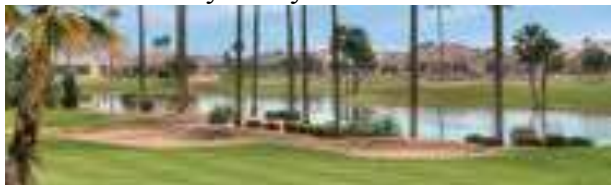
The AAUW Scottsdale Adopt-a-Book project has donated over 5,600 books during a fourteen year period to Title I schools in Scottsdale. Each pre-K through 4th grade student has received a book to “adopt” and take home. The goal of the program is to promote literacy and instill a love of reading.

### *AAUW Scottsdale Brick Paver Supports Scottsdale Community College*

During 2017, Branch members participated in several small fundraisers to help purchase a paver at Two Waters Circle at Scottsdale Community College. The purchase of this paver is in support of SCC and thanks to its President, Jan Gehler, for her support of our local Branch. The paver was recently installed at Two Waters Circle in the middle of campus in front of the Donor Wall.

## Sun City/Peoria Renews Enthusiasm With Productive Schedule

by Cathy Maninno



With our snow birds back, we have been enjoying an exciting start to our new Fall/Winter season with increased attendance and renewed enthusiasm. Two members from the League of Women Voters introduced us to the new online voting process at our October meeting. Our November speaker was Ben Roloff from the Sun City Museum who has lived in Sun City for 21 years and shared some of our town's quite interesting and very unusual history. December's meeting was a celebration of holiday festivities from around the world.

On January 25th, we were pleased to have co-sponsored (with NOW, LWV and the NW Valley Chapter of AAUW), the "Crisis in Education" forum which was timely and informative with three excellent speakers. They provided staggering statistics, but also ways to support and advocate for our AZ public education system.

We recognized our new members at our New Member Coffee/Tea in November. It has been good to see new and semi-new members step-up and assume leadership positions: Susan Hershberger will be our Publicity Chair; Debra Hjortland, secretary; and Joanna Conde, membership chair, just to name a few. In addition to the agencies we regularly support, we discovered anew, at our January meeting, the important contribution of *Benevilla*, a non-profit organization which provides services to seniors, youth, and those with disabilities, as well as managing both an adult and a preschool day care program.

We've added two new interest groups, the "Symphonic Snobs" and the "Epicureans". Our mission this year is to "expand our horizons", and we are well on our way.

### Summer Edition of the Sun to be Published Early!

Please note that the deadline for submissions for the summer Sun is May 1. It will be published on May 15.