

## President's Message

By Cathy Corbin-Mannino



As I prepare to write my first column as Co-President, I thought of the words of Rev. Edward Hale, (Unitarian Minister, circa 1850).

*I am only one,  
But still I am one.  
I cannot do everything,  
But still I can do something;  
And because I cannot do everything,  
I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.*

The phrase that really struck me was “*I cannot do everything, but still I can do something*”. There is so much happening in our world today that it feels quite overwhelming at times. So many social justice issues, where do I

even begin? Just taking on this new responsibility as Co-President feels a bit daunting when I am surrounded by so many who are more qualified than I with a much broader

range of leadership experience. It was certainly timely for me to have the opportunity to hear our CEO, Kimberly Churches, at the recent Rocky Mountain Regional Conference. She told us that the strategic planning task force decided to look at AAUW's mission, vision, and values, and then focus on key areas where we are positioned to make the greatest impact as issues arise. They chose to

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“fill in the gaps” rather than compete with agencies that are much bigger with larger budgets and greater resources. I thought it might be wise of me to follow that example – I will learn from our current skilled leaders and see where I may be able to “fill in the gaps”. I'll not use this column to repeat what has already been provided to you through this informative newsletter as well as our excellent website, but will encourage you to use both of these wonderful resources to keep abreast of state and branch activities — it's all there; who we are, what we do, how we spend our time and monies, special events and projects, branch news, etc.

In my part-time work as a hospice chaplain, a patient recently asked, “How do I live my life now when I know I'm just going to die soon anyway?”

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Such a powerful question, and one we can all ask ourselves whether or not we've been given a "terminal diagnosis" because, frankly, none of us will "get out of this alive". In researching and discussing this question, it was determined that we humans require a purpose for living...and that it is ours to create each day. As a group, we can adopt National's mission and vision, of course, but we can also create our own. Mission statements are based in the present and designed to convey a sense of why an organization exists. A mission statement is actionable; a vision statement is aspirational. In other words, a vision statement is an articulation of our hopes and dreams for the future. I would love to see each branch share with all of us its hopes and dreams for the future and for each to create its own mission and vision, one that will support and build upon the overall mission and vision of National AAUW. Taking the time to really read the new strategic plan would be a great first step. Let me know your thoughts and opinions on this newly published working document. I hope to meet many of you at our Fall Forum, October 5-6. In fact, that might be a good venue in which to start our dialogue.



## AAUW AZ Fall Forum 2018 to Focus on Upcoming Election Cycle

[This year's Fall Forum](#) will take place **Friday evening, October 5 and Saturday, October 6**. In addition to our Saturday event, we're kicking off the Forum on Friday evening with a 6:30 PM Welcome Dinner at Sam & Luca Rustic Kitchen in Mesa. Seating is limited to the first 25 registrants, so be sure to register early and send your check in to Ana Nygren. Registration details are on the last pages of this newsletter or [online](#).

The theme, *From Caring to Commitment: Make Your Voice Count!* will include presentations on the *Save Our Schools Arizona* movement, the

upcoming propositions and ballot initiatives, a *Candidate Panel* focusing on participating candidates' support of AAUW Issues, a discussion on civil discourse, and an update on our push for ERA in Arizona.

**The Fall Forum Location:** 908 S. Power Rd, Leisure World, Mesa Az, Clubhouse Rec 1 Ballroom ([Click here for map](#)).

**Accommodations:** Special Fall Forum prices at Country Inn & Suites—Mesa \$89. **Members should book their rooms by phone** at 480-641-8000. Be sure to mention you want the AAUW discount rate! To get the discount, note the date of arrival (10/05/2018) and departure (10/06/2018) and refer to "American Association of University Women" in order to receive the special group rate of \$89 per night.

Country Inn & Suites – Mesa ([click here for map](#))  
6650 E Superstition Springs Blvd  
Mesa, AZ 85206  
480-641-8000

**Friday Evening, Oct. 5, 6:30 PM**  
**Welcome Dinner at Sam & Luca Rustic Kitchen**  
*Reservations limited to 25! Register early for this dinner!*

Sam & Luca Rustic Kitchen ([Map to restaurant](#))  
([Click here for evening's menu](#))  
1959 S. Power Road, Mesa, Arizona 85206  
Tel: 480-659-6716

**Saturday, Oct. 6 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM**  
**Leisure World, Mesa**

**Fall Forum Flyer:** See last pages of this newsletter or [Click here](#)

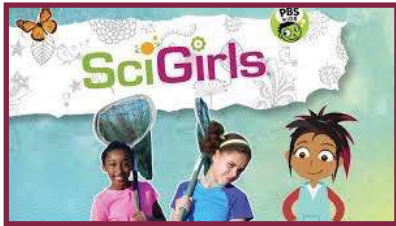
**Registration form (including limited dinner reservations):** See last pages of this newsletter or [Click here](#).

***The registration form and flyer for the Oct. 5-6 Fall Forum are on page 7 and 8 of this newsletter. Register today!***

## STEM Event Updates Easy and Essential to Access

By Michelle Higgins, STEM Chair

If you are planning a STEM event for girls, or partnering with other organizations, make sure you



are including the most up-to-date information on engaging girls in STEM. The national organization, SciGirls Connect,

makes it easy. Their publication, *SciGirls Seven:*

*Engaging Girls in STEM* (<http://www.scigirlsconnect.org/scigirls/>) outlines a proven, educational approach that helps to get girls interested in STEM. Want more information? Explore their award-winning videos on their YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/scigirlstv>).



## NCCWSL Details Due Early Fall

by P. Allen-Lafleur, C/U Relations Chair



AAUW National will be announcing the NCCWSL 2019 dates and updated scholarship and registration policies by the early fall.

Notices will go out to

branch board members and to branch presidents as soon as national sends details. NCCWSL scholarships are available through AAUW-AZ and may also be available through local branches. Begin the conversation with your members now! We will be providing NCCWSL information and scholarship application details at the Fall Forum for this inspiring program.

Additionally, you can follow NCCWSL on social media for the latest information: @NCCWSL and @AAUW on Facebook and Twitter and @aauwnational on Instagram.



## AAUW-AZ Launches New Help Page for Branch Leaders

By Margaret Noser

*Do you have AAUW Leadership Questions? Are you stumped on an AAUW problem? Help is now available!*

**Dear AAUW-AZ: Your Leadership Questions Answered**, a new AAUW-AZ service open to all Arizona Branches, is now available 24/7 at no cost! A dedicated Leadership Panel of experienced AAUW innovators from across the state have agreed to offer ideas and solutions for questions submitted.

**It's easy to use!** Send in your specific leadership questions or problems to Margaret Noser at [recordingsecretary@aauwarizona.org](mailto:recordingsecretary@aauwarizona.org). A couple of weeks later, check the [Leadership Tips](#) page of the AAUW-AZ website to see the replies. In the meantime, the new page is up and running now and has some excellent tips and suggestions to get you started!

Please be patient. Items will be organized by subject and will be added as received, so check multiple times. No names will be included. The page will grow as it is used, so branch leaders will have an excellent resource to utilize in the future.

Any major ideas or changes should probably be discussed with your branch leadership before being implemented.

Everyone needs a new idea or some extra help once in a while. Go ahead and give *Dear AAUW-AZ* a try today!





# Branch Reports



## Phoenix Branch Looks Forward to an Active Year

By Mary Beth Lemons

Jillian Herner, our scholarship awardee and branch member, spoke about her college experience at the Maricopa County Community Colleges Foundation award dinner. Jillian elaborated on what Phoenix College has meant to her. She told about how difficult her earlier life had been and how the Community College was a symbol of better things for the future. Her talk was met with a standing ovation! Congratulations, Jillian. The link below will take you to a very moving video of Jillian's speech. It begins at 45:34. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1ARhT4zt8M>.

**In other news, Phoenix Branch Member Kathy Knecht is running as an independent for the Arizona Senate in Legislative District 21.** She is active in the community as a public school advocate and has been on her local school board for more than a decade.

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.

## Branch Meetings and Programs for 2018-2019

**Sept 18** Eric Ehst: What's really in the ballot propositions/who's paying for your vote?

**Oct 16** Kathy Knecht: Education update for Arizona's primary and secondary schools

**Nov 20** Phil Boas: Media and fake news. Also announcement of scholarship winners

**Dec 18** Pastor Robyn Bezanson: Women's education and equity post incarceration (and holiday giving)

**Jan 15** Constantin Querard: The national popular vote interstate compact, the Electoral College and Arizona

**Feb 19** Marty Brounstein: Dinner with the Author of *Two Among the Righteous Few*, a true story of courage in the holocaust

**Mar 19** Robert J McWhirter: Are you talking to me? Just who are the people in the constitution and 10<sup>th</sup> amendment?

**April 16** Lyla Maroufkhani: More about *Helping Hands for Single Moms*

**May 21** Anne Schneider, PhD: Education, Legislation and social justice

**June 18** Mary Jo Pitzl: Arizona's children and Arizona's legislators



Kathy Knecht, a Phoenix Branch member, is running as an independent for the AZ Senate in Legislative District 21.



**Become  
a Two-Minute  
Activist!**

Receive urgent e-mail notices to contact your members of Congress right in your inbox. [Join the AAUW Action Network today!](#)

## Prescott Branch Plans for New Year

By Molly Divine



Fall is in the air. One of the things I most love about living in Prescott is the noticeable change of seasons. Fall will officially start for me with the general meeting, Saturday, September 8. We are pleased to be welcoming Joe Howard, from the Prescott Unified School District, as our guest speaker to discuss current issues in education.

Mentoring is an important part of the mission for our branch. Our first opportunity for the year is coming early with the Reality Store at Yavapai College on Thursday, September 13. We eagerly look forward to the project, a major Community Action branch event.

Our first major scholarship fundraiser will be our Author's Lunch on Friday, October 26 at 11:30 in the Community Room at Yavapai College. The event is open to the public, and guests are welcome.

The board has been busy this summer preparing for all the programs that will be presented this year. We are all excited about our plans and look forward to a vibrant year.

### Save the Dates!

<b>10/5/18</b>	<b>BOD Meeting, Country Inn and Suites, Mesa</b>
<b>10/5-6/18</b>	<b>Fall Forum, Leisure World, Mesa</b>
<b>11/15/18</b>	<b>Submissions due for Winter Edition of Sun</b>
<b>12/1/18</b>	<b>Winter edition of Sun published</b>
<b>January 2019</b>	BOD Meeting, Location and date TBD
<b>April 2019</b>	BOD Meeting, Location and date TBD

## Sun City/Peoria Has Meaningful Summer Discussions

by Cathy Corbin-Mannino

The Sun City/Peoria Branch has been enjoying a new summer series. This year the programs were designed to be reminiscent of “the good old university days” when we sat on the lawn or held coffee klatches in the hope of solving the problems of the world. Prior to the meeting, members were emailed a discussion question. One member had been invited to present a brief talk and lead the discussion. The topic was a current and pressing issue of the day such as immigration or education. For example, August's discussion was on “white privilege”. The wealth of experience and the depth of intelligence of our branch members never ceases to amaze. Not only has our attendance been stable throughout the summer, we have even welcomed a few new members. New or continuing Board members for the coming year are pictured below.



2018-19 board members include (l-r) Correne Hall, Mary Ellen Foskett, Carol Becket, Ella Broderick, Corina Santora, Arlene Schindler, Cathy Corbin-Mannino



## **Northwest Valley Branch Plans for Very Active Year**

By Joyce Keane

The Northwest Valley branch has made a great start for the year. Our website ([click here to view](#)) is up and running with updated information about our branch's happenings. And our Facebook page has posts almost daily to keep our members current. Our Special Interest Groups continue to expand. We just added a new Special Interest Group, *Girlfriends and More*, to give our members a chance to engage socially on outings to restaurants, theaters, museums and more.

We have an active publicity campaign in gear, with a goal to get a news stories about our events and gatherings into local newspapers and publications. This effort has been very successful; we have gained many new members this summer because of the publicity.

We're gearing up for our new programs this year and have exciting speakers lined up. On September 20, Aaron Jensen, Border Community Liaison Agent will speak on *Detection and Prevention: US Border Patrol at Work*. On October 18, Brandon Pfeiffer of Arizona Public Service Electric Company will share his thoughts on *Current and Near Future Technologies and Drones*; and on November 15, Eric Anderson will present *Autonomous or Self-Driving Cars*.

Our College Connections team has organized a collection of food for the food pantry at Glendale Community College during our November meeting. This food drive is in response to an article on the Maricopa County Community College District stating that "A high priority issue for the MCCCDC is the food insecurity of some students. Having well run food pantries is critical to the academic success of far too many students." In addition, members will be asked to donate used professional clothing for the students of the Women Rising Club.

The Northwest Valley branch has a dynamic STEM Initiative Committee, and we are actively

researching the best ways to help. We are doing some heads-down investigation, interviewing schools, community colleges, and other organizations about what our branch can best do to promote and lead girls and women into more lucrative careers, especially targeting the STEM fields.

Our branch holds a major fundraising event annually to support our local scholarship program. The *Stride into Style* Luncheon and Fashion Show is scheduled for Monday, January 28, 2019. Plans are already underway for this event which will feature a display of exciting clothing and accessories with time allowed for shopping.



## **Scottsdale Abides by Branch Mission: Civility with Focus, Fun and Fellowship**

by Barb Morris, President

AAUW Scottsdale begins the fall with a newly elected board of directors installed last May. Officers include President, Barb Morris; Co-Presidents Elect, Jennifer Quinn and Joan Gold; Vice President Membership, Cynthia Peplinski; Vice President Finance, Gail Stempel; Vice President Programs, Karen Ramos; Recording Secretary, Sue Jaros; and Corresponding Secretary, Jacqui Sasser.

Our September 15, 2018, branch meeting will be held in the Scottsdale Community College Turquoise room. The newly appointed Interim President of SCC, Chris Haines, has been invited. Our speaker will focus on school safety and STEM.

Future speakers promise to enlighten our members on the upcoming election, Legislative Day (February), Title IX updates, Advancing Civics Education, Civic Engagement, and Civil Discourse. Our two fundraisers, the Holiday Luncheon and the Author's Luncheon, provide funds for the National and local scholarship awards.

We are continuing our successful Adopt-A-Book, Work Smart, and SCC scholarship programs as well as our variety of Special Interest Groups. Above all, the mission based branch meetings will be in alignment with the national focus presented by new CEO, Kim Churches.



## Northwest Tucson Programs Stimulating and Informative

By Gail Parsons

Our program for 2018-19 includes a wide range of topics and should prove to be an informative and entertaining year for our members. We encourage other branch members to attend if they are visiting the Tucson area.

If anyone needs additional information about locations, etc., please contact our Program VP, Pat Lee, [pe11805@yahoo.com](mailto:pe11805@yahoo.com).

10/13/18	Mountain Vista Complex	Dustin Williams, Pima County Superintendent of Public Schools will speak on Education issues and the November ballot.
11/10/18	Mountain Vista Complex	Karen Kuciver, Former Joyce Strothmann Scholar, will speak on "My Story".
12/8/18	Skyline Country Club	Holiday Luncheon
1/12/19	Mountain Vista Complex	Charles (Chuck) Tampio, TMA Docent, will speak on "Overlooked and Forgotten: Women Artists of the Italian Renaissance".

2/9/19	Mountain Vista Complex	Deanna Lewis, Dr. of Public Health, will speak on "Eyes Wide Shut: A look at the Role of Privilege in Civil Discourse Social Behavior".
3/16/19	Oro Valley Country Club	AAUW Funds Luncheon/Fundraiser
4/13/19	Mountain Vista Complex	Ann Ellsworth, branch member, will speak on "A Brief History of Wonder Woman as an Icon of Feminine Power".
5/11/19	Splendido – Oro Valley	End of year luncheon

## East Mesa Musings...

By Joanne Walen, President

AAUW East Mesa branch finished the year with its traditional salad & dessert installation luncheon on April 4. All interest groups except Summer Book Group and Lunch Bunch cease until the Fall when we gear up again with our 2018-2019 theme of "From Caring to Commitment." We are looking forward to programs on civil discourse, education, personal safety, immigration, and STEM, as well as our annual Scholarship Fundraiser Luncheon on February 9, 2019.

We were pleased this spring to make a down payment of \$80,000 for a second national Fellowship sponsored by East Mesa branch. This one is in honor of our Founder and first President Violet Larney who remained an active member until the time of her death in February 2016 at the age of 95. Due to Violet's generous bequest to our branch, we will be able to complete this Fellowship in three years as well as establish additional local STEM scholarships for women and girls.





## AAUW FALL FORUM

Friday, October 5 – Saturday, October 6, 2018

**From Caring to Commitment: Make your voice count!**

Topics include:

Save Our Schools Arizona Action Plan  
Upcoming Propositions & Ballot Initiatives  
Candidate Panel on Support of AAUW Issues  
Civil Discourse and Arizona ERA: #Us Too!

**Location: Leisure World, 908 S. Power Rd, Mesa, Arizona\***

**Welcome Dinner:** Friday, Oct. 5, 6:30PM at Sam & Luca Rustic Kitchen  
(Limited seating, register early!)\*

**Featuring speakers on NCCWSL and Washington DC experiences**

**Check-in:** Saturday, October 6, 8:30AM

**Continental Breakfast and Lunch included**

**Saturday Fall Forum:** Fall Forum begins at 9:00AM and Ends 2:30PM\*

**\*Registration & Itinerary details including Group Hotel Rates and Maps to venues are available on the [AAUW Arizona Website](http://www.aauwarizona.org).**





## AAUW Fall Forum 2018 Registration Form

*From Caring to Commitment: Make Your Voice Count!*

**October 5-6, 2018, Leisure World, Mesa, AZ**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Branch or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

### **DINNER AND EVENT PREFERENCES:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Friday Welcome Dinner (\$35)** *Seating at Sam & Luca is limited, register early! See website for complete menu and map to restaurant.*

**Select one entree:**

- ☐ Chicken Marsala,
- ☐ Eggplant Torta and Butternut Squash Ravioli
- ☐ Tomato Caper Salmon

\_\_\_\_\_ **Saturday Full Day Event (\$25)**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total amount enclosed**

**Mail checks payable to  
AAUW Arizona and send to:**  
Ana Nygren, AAUW AZ Treasurer  
5448 N. Crescent Hill Place  
Tucson, AZ 85718  
For questions, email at  
[treasurer@aauwarizona.org](mailto:treasurer@aauwarizona.org)