



# EMBERS

## January 2019

As we come to the end of another year, there is much that I want to thank you for. It is not an understatement to say that our work and advocacy for women's rights and equality are possible only because of your support. I know, though, that at our December meeting many of you were troubled by the announcement that AAUW had disseminated your personal information to public companies. Please read the two articles sent in an eblast that address that issue directly.

On a positive note, let us welcome in 2019 as the Year of the Woman. There is much to look forward to on the local, state, and national scenes where we saw an unprecedented election of women to political office. But it doesn't end with simply the election. AAUW of Arizona has identified five (5) areas of Public Policy to support: 1) Public Education funding; 2) Economic Security/Equal Pay; 3) Ratification of ERA; 4) Women's Health Access; 5) Title IX/End to Sexual Harassment. Bills have not yet been introduced in the AZ legislature, but we are following the process and will keep you informed.

You may be receiving a "salsa" memo via AAUW asking you to learn the names and email contacts of your Arizona legislators: 2 members of the House and 1 Senator. The memo from national will tell you how to learn what your district is (if you live in Leisure World, it is LD 25) and how to access your legislators. Each of you should write a letter/email to each legislator to introduce yourself as an AAUW member (especially so if you vote in an AZ LD). We are an important part of our community and should be known as such. Cathy Corbin-Mannino and I as state co-Presidents are writing congratulatory letters to Secretary of State Katie Hobbs, Superintendent of Public Instruction Kathy Hoffman, Corporation Commissioner Sandra Kennedy, and US Senator Kyrsten Sinema. AAUW of Arizona will also be hosting a reception in January for new AZ women legislators.

There are other ways to be involved: the Women's March on January 19, 2019, and AAUW Legislative Day, February 26, 2019 at the AZ State Capitol. Our Public Policy Director Betsy Flaten ([katperson@msn.com](mailto:katperson@msn.com)) can also provide you with information on other ways. You obviously don't need to do all: pick one you're passionate about or choose one to be passionate about, and do that. Stay tuned, but be involved: it's your daughters', granddaughters', and great-granddaughters' futures at stake. Joanne Walen, AAUW East Mesa President

# January 2019 Calendar

## Wednesday January 9

### General Meeting

Leisure World Club Room 1:30pm

Colleen Howard, the STEM coordinator for Mesa Public Elementary Schools, will speak on "Creating Opportunities to Attract, Inspire & Retain More Girls in STEM."

## Thursday January 10

### The Gourmets

A Winter Holiday celebration with spouses/partners will be held in the Banquet Room at Rec 1. Kathleen Wheaton, Diana Kilby and Pat Nixon are coordinators. Contact Carla Burman at [burmancl@yahoo.com](mailto:burmancl@yahoo.com) for further information or if you would like to join this group.

Kay Eakin [eakin1@cox.net](mailto:eakin1@cox.net)

## Friday January 11

### Great Decisions 9:15am

Great Decisions will meet at the home of Judy Taucher-Lewis, manor 1341. Kay Eakin will facilitate the discussion on *South Africa's Fragile Democracy*. Please let Judy know if you will be in attendance ([jtaucherlewis@aol.com](mailto:jtaucherlewis@aol.com))

Mary Hung, chair [maryhung4@gmail.com](mailto:maryhung4@gmail.com)

## Monday January 14

### AAUW Quilters and Crafters 1pm

We will meet at the home of Lynn Peters, manor 988, to complete the quilt for the

AAUW luncheon. Come help or join us with your own handwork. Contact Cindy for details.

Cindy Deatsman, chair

[librarian2760@yahoo.com](mailto:librarian2760@yahoo.com)

## Wednesday January 16

### Book Review 9:15am

Book Review will meet at the cafe at Rec 2.

One person reviews a book of her choice.

We welcome new members - come check us out!!

Pat Nixon, chair [patleenixon@cox.net](mailto:patleenixon@cox.net)

## Thursday January 17

### Morning Book Group 9:30am

Charlotte Kingsbury will host MBG at her home, manor 2175. Judy Ruth will lead the discussion on LOVE AND OTHER CONSOLATION PRIZES by Jamie Ford. Let Charlotte know if you will be there ([cak\\_2175@outlook.com](mailto:cak_2175@outlook.com))

Cindy Deatsman, chair

[librarian2760@yahoo.com](mailto:librarian2760@yahoo.com)

## Thursday January 17

### Ladies of Literature 1pm

LOL will meet at the home of Jocie Iszler, manor 95, to discuss Isabel Allende's historical romance, IN THE MIDST OF WINTER. New members are welcome. Do let Jocie know if you are planning to be there or not - [jocie.iszler@gmail.com](mailto:jocie.iszler@gmail.com)

Deanna Long, chair [deannalong4y3@cox.net](mailto:deannalong4y3@cox.net)

## JANUARY AND FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETINGS

*Two meeting dates on special weeks! Mark your calendar for January 9th and February 13th.*

Our branch is having two speaker presentations in January and February that are not on the first Wednesday of the month.

The first will be on **January 9** at 1:30pm in our usual place in the Leisure World Card room. The scheduled speaker is Colleen Howard, elementary school STEM coordinator and specialist for the award winning Space Integration Module/SIM in Mesa Public Schools.

Ms. Howard has experience as a classroom teacher in Special Education, upper elementary grades and as a middle-school flight instructor. She has received the PBS Teacher Innovation Award and the National Science Teachers Association's "Making a Difference" Award among other awards for promoting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) education. The SIM program is a part of the Science Department promoting STEM. Both members and non members are welcome to come. It's free and open to the public.

The February meeting will also be on the second Wednesday, **February 13** in the Leisure World Club room. Our speaker will be Dianne Pope, who will give us an update on the progress of the Equal Rights Amendment. Details in the February newsletter.

Barbara Caswell, Program Vice President

## HOSPITALITY

Many thanks to Kathleen Wheaton, Carla Burman and Marjorie Perkins, who outdid themselves at the December meeting. They made the best of limited space and turned the theater into a lovely Christmas setting for our meeting. Besides the beautiful and creative decorations, the sweets were positively exceptional.

Next month our treats will be provided by Jan Kelly and her committee of Judy Ruth, Judy Taucher-Lewis, and Ruth Klinge.  
Joyce Loland, Hospitality Chair

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**Watch this space for  
information on five  
new members  
next month!  
(could your friend be #6?)**

## LUNCHEON DETAILS

The Author's Scholarship Luncheon is February 9, 2019 and tickets are on sale now. Diana Kilby and her team have already sold 13 tables with at least that many left to sell. So be ready to buy tables or individual tickets on January 9 at 12:30 before the regular meeting. Our goal is to sell at least 200 tickets, so we all need to be asking friends, neighbors, etc. to attend our luncheon. Remember all the money goes to scholarships for our deserving young ladies. Call Diana ahead of time if you want a table or tickets before the 9th of January.

Sandra Lackore will be taking sign-ups for baskets.

She wants to top our 25 baskets from last year.

Sandra will have some ideas for baskets in January.

Kathleen Wheaton and Carla Burman are our jewelry ladies. They already have a good start but need your upscale jewelry that you are no longer using.

Cindy Deatsman is collecting items for the Potpourri table. Crafty items as well as collectibles are wanted. If you aren't sure about an item give Cindy a call. We also need volunteers to work the table the day of the luncheon.

Jan Kelly is so excited to have a new spin on the Raffle this year. She has collected tickets to some of the neatest places in the valley, besides a \$100.00 bill. So tell your friends to buy tickets and take a chance in winning.

We're looking forward to a wonderful event with Jan Cleere as our speaker. A book will also be included in the price of a ticket - \$40.00. Several if not all of our scholars will be attendance for you to chat with before lunch is served.

If you have any questions please give me a call.  
Judy Shahenian, Luncheon Chair

Betsy Flaten and Shirley Davis, Public Policy Comm.

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## JAN CLEERE & HER BOOKS

Jan Cleere is an Arizona author who writes non-fiction books mainly about historical figures who lived in Arizona and Nevada. Her website - [www.jancleere.com](http://www.jancleere.com) - includes information about all her writing and the awards she has received. Each luncheon ticket will include a copy of her book, LEVI'S AND LACE: ARIZONA WOMEN WHO MADE HISTORY. Among her other books are NEVER DON'T PAY ATTENTION: THE LIFE OF RODEO PHOTOGRAPHER LOUISE SHERPA, AMAZING GIRLS OF ARIZONA: TRUE STORIES OF YOUNG PIONEERS, NEVADA'S REMARKABLE WOMEN and OUTLAW TALES OF ARIZONA. She will be selling and signing her books at the luncheon.  
Cindy Deatsman, Author Relations committee

## SAVE THE DATE - TUESDAY 2/26 AAUW ARIZONA LEGISLATIVE DAY

On Legislative Day 2019 we are going to advocate for an AAUW of Arizona legislative agenda. Instead of listening to legislators tell us what they will do, we plan to tell them what we, as AAUW members and citizens, want.

The five items on our Legislative Agenda are

- \*Adequate Funding for Public Educations
- \*Equal Pay for Equal Work
- \*Ratify the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment) in 2019
- \*Access to Health Care for Women
- \*Protect Title IX and Prevent the Sexual Harassment of Women

Plan on going with East Mesa Branch members to the Arizona State Capitol to join with AAUW members from all over the state. Our goal is to have a large group of AAUW members attend this event to let our legislators know that we have expectations about how our issues are considered and voted upon and that we vote. Given that some legislative races have become close, all who got elected will have to listen to their constituents more closely or lose in 2020.

## PROPOSED CHANGES TO TITLE IX

The American Association of University Women strongly supports Title IX and **opposes any efforts that would weaken its effectiveness or undermine its enforcement.**

Title IX of The Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination in educational institutions that receive federal funds requiring schools to eliminate sexual harassment and sexual violence, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects on campus. For details see Title IX: Sexual Harassment and Assault at

<https://www.aauwarizona.org/advocacy/2862-2/>

Unfortunately, Title IX enforcement by the U.S. Department of Education is under attack. Proposed new rules would significantly narrow what counts as sexual harassment. Under this proposal, harassment must now be "so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to education." Thus, a one-time offense, even rape, might not be investigated as it was not "pervasive". Additionally, the new rules specify the right person must have "actual knowledge" of the student's report, the right person often being someone high up in the administration and inaccessible to the student.

The Department of Education's plans weaken Title IX's protections by narrowing the definition of sexual harassment to exclude much of the abuse students experience, limiting when schools will respond, and making it more difficult for students to report sexual harassment or assault. This will make schools less safe for students.

AAUW is urging Betsy DeVos, as the Secretary of Education, to withdraw the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Title IX and to work to ensure that schools protect students from sex discrimination by fully enforcing, not rolling back, Title IX's protections.

Find out how you can make your voice heard in support of Title IX:

## DECEMBER 2018 MINUTES AAUW EAST MESA BRANCH

December 5, 2018

Call to Order: Joanne Walen, President at 1:32 pm

Greeting to Members and five guests, all of whom attended the Welcome Tea last week

Thank you to Hostess Committee and attendees for today's desserts.

Elaine Prom: Quorum established

Minutes from 11/7/18 meeting: No corrections; received minutes as mailed to EMBers and posted.

Treasurers report: No corrections to October 2018 report and file report as posted

Introduction of Sarah Richardson, Outreach Director for Save Our Schools: Presentation AZ ED 101 - non-partisan grassroots efforts dedicated to informing citizens about education funding in AZ.

Reconvene the Business Meeting at 2:46 pm

Unfinished Business:

LAF Business: LAF goals and services were explained. Donations should be given to Rhysa Davis.

New Business:

Nominating Committee: Members of the nominating committee will be announced at the January general meeting. Positions to be filled are President, Program VP, Membership VP and Secretary.

Committee Reports:

Ruth Pinkus, Women in History; Topic was Mary Lyon, the founder of Mount Holyoke College.

Judy Shahenin, Scholarship Luncheon: 13 tables have been sold. There will be a quilt raffle, baskets

(aiming for more than last year), potpourri table and jewelry. Jewelry donations should be given to Kathleen Wheaton and Carla Burman. Sandra Lackore will be handling baskets so email her if you will be donating one. Need volunteers to type the program, iron napkins and in charge of hostesses. Program VP, Barb Caswell: The next general meeting is January 9 with the speaker Colleen Howard, SIM Program Director. The February meeting is on the 13th.

Betsy Flaten, Public Policy & Membership: Betsy announced that February 26 is Legislative Day. The four focuses are Education and Training, Economic Security, Equity For All and Leadership. Participation is encouraged.

Joanne Walen: Joanne announced that national has been selling our information to companies. We were not informed of this activity nor given the opt out ability. It was moved that we should write national to tell them they should have been more transparent, that we should have been notified with the ability to opt out and our branch member names should be removed from their list. Moved by Rhysa Davis and seconded by Betsy Flaten. Motion voted and unanimously approved.

Announcements: As read by Bev Byrd: Almarene Cook died November 16, 2018. She was a 50 year honorary member of AAUW from California.

Adjournment: Joanne Walen at 3:24 pm

Beverly Byrd, Secretary





