



EMBERS

February 2019 President's Message

While our northern neighbors bundle up against frigid temperatures, we in Arizona celebrate our comfortable mid-70s temperatures as well as several landmark occasions in February. No doubt we all think of Valentine's Day on February 14 as the February celebration, but it is also Statehood Day: Arizona became a state on February 14, 1910. We should also note that February 1 is National Freedom Day, honoring the signing in 1865 by President Lincoln of the resolution that proposed the 13th Amendment, abolishing slavery. And we honor that President's birthday on February 12, or more formally, along with other Presidents, including George Washington, on February 18, Presidents' Day.

For women, we begin the month on February 1 with "Wear Red Day" to bring awareness to women's heart health. On February 4 we honor the birthday of Rosa Parks, the tireless civil rights worker who refused to give up her seat on the Montgomery bus to a white man. On February 15 Susan B. Anthony's birthday reminds us of the struggle for equality that is still going on

today for women and girls.

On February 16 Alaska pays tribute to Elizabeth Peratrovich, the face of Alaska Native civil rights. Peratrovich, an Alaska Native of the Tlingit nation, was the driving force behind the passage of the territory's Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945, the first anti-discrimination law in the United States. And February 18 is also Daisy Gatson Bates Day in Arkansas that honors the work of the woman who mentored the Little Rock Nine in 1957 when they desegregated Little Rock High School by enrolling—the first African American students to do so. Daisy Bates organized a plan that eventually had to involve the National Guard, the 101st Army Airborne Division, and President Eisenhower.

On a less serious note, we can also celebrate some fun(ny) holidays: Library Lovers Day (February 14), Gumdrop Day (February 16), Do a Grouch a Favor Day (February 16), or Be Humble Day (February 22)

Joanne Walen, AAUW East Mesa President

February 2019 Calendar

Wednesday February 13

General Meeting

Leisure World Club Room 1:30pm

Dianne Post of ERA AZ Task Force will speak on "ERA: Arizona Update."

January 30

New Members Welcome Tea

Friday February 8

Luncheon Set-up - 2:30pm

Help is needed to set up the Hopi/Pima room at Rec 2 for our annual luncheon.

Saturday February 9

Author Scholarship Luncheon - 10:30 am

Rec 2, Leisure World

Monday February 11

AAUW Quilters and Crafters 1pm

Q&C will meet in the Leisure World Sewing Room to watch demos of binding curves and rickrack edging.

See article on page 3 for more information.

Cindy Deatsman, chair

librarian2760@yahoo.com

Friday February 15 (note change of date)

Great Decisions 9:15am

Great Decisions will meet at the home of Bev Zengel, Manor 2678. Betsy Flaten and Judy Taucher-Lewis will facilitate the discussion on *Refugees and Global Migration*. Please let Bev know if you will be in attendance (bzengel@yahoo.com).

Mary Hung, chair maryhung4@gmail.com

Wednesday February 20

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

Thursday February 21

Morning Book Group 9:30am

MBG will meet at the home of Judy Taucher- Lewis, manor 1341. Janet Zuber will lead the discussion on AMERICA'S FIRST DAUGHTER, which is a long book - start reading it now. Please RSVP to Judy - jtaucherlewis@aol.com.

Cindy Deatsman, chair

librarian2760@yahoo.com

Thursday February 21

Ladies of Literature 1pm

LOL will discuss THE TEA GIRL OF HUMMINGBIRD LANE by Lisa See. We will meet at Mary Hung's home, manor 1988. Do let her know you are coming - maryhung4@gmail.com. We welcome new members.

Deanna Long, chair

deannalong4y3@cox.net

Tuesday February 26

AAUW State Legislative Day

Join us to lobby for AAUW issues at the Arizona State Capitol. Carpool from Rec 1 at 7am. Session begins at 8am. Lunch from the food court. Day will end at approximately 2pm. Let Betsy know if you are participating.

Betsy Flaten, Public Policy Chair

Katperson@msn.com

Wednesday March 6

March General Meeting 1:30pm

Amy Sailors from the Mesa Police Department will speak on "Personal Safety: What to Do?"

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

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

Dianne Post is a member of the National Organization of Women AZ and the ERA Task Force. Her talk is titled "ERA: AZ Update". Ms. Post, who is an attorney, has worked in over 14 countries focusing chiefly on causes such as poverty and injustice in the world. She works with vulnerable populations in developing countries, especially women and children, to achieve their human rights and freedom from violence. She is a gender expert in violence against women and children including domestic violence, sex-trafficking, prostitution and pornography.

Barbara Caswell, Program Vice President

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Please correct Kathleen Wheaton's email address in your directory - lb-kb@wheatonaz.com

The following women have joined us. Please add their contact information to your directory and welcome them to our branch.

Pat Cuendet

LW Manor 772

CuendetPat2010@gmail.com

Shirley Davis

LW Manor 2073

jrdasd@gmail.com

Dianne Safford

LW Manor 2102

dmsafford@gmail.com

Diana Sheridan

LW Manor 551

sheridandr@cox.net

Elaine Webber

7221 E Canyon Wren Dr

Gold Canyon AZ 85118

elainejwebber@hotmail.com

Bev Zengel

LW Manor 2678

bzengel@yahoo.com

Betsy Flaten, Membership Vice President

HOSPITALITY

Thanks to Jan Kelly and her committee of Judy Ruth, Judy Taucher-Lewis, and Ruth Klinge, our year started off with a festive party atmosphere and a Dare to Dream theme. They provided copious amounts of goodies, making it possible for us all to try many, many different cookies, cupcakes and other treats. Next month, Deanna Long will work with her committee of Cindy Deatsman, Betsy Flaten, and Kathy Buckner to satisfy our collective sweet tooth.

Joyce Loland, Hospitality Chair

QUILTERS & CRAFTERS CHALLENGE

All branch members are invited to participate in a contest with the Quilters and Crafters interest group. To enter, make one or more egg shaped items and bring them to the Quilters and Crafters meeting on March 11. Your entry/entries may be quilted, knitted, crocheted, embroidered, cross stitched, tatted or any other type of craft. The only requirement is that it must be shaped like an egg, either 2D or 3D. Entries will be judged by a non-partial judge and prizes will be awarded. Contact Cindy at librarian2760@yahoo.com for more information.

Members may work on their entries or come see what others are doing at the Q&C meeting on February 11 at 1pm in the Sewing Room. How to make a bias binding and apply it to a curve and how to sew rick rack edging will be demonstrated.

Cindy Deatsman, Chair

FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR FEBRUARY 9

Ticket sales have improved to 141 tickets, but we would like more. Please ask at least one new person to attend. Remember share the benefits to our scholars and all the fabulous baskets, raffle, and silent auction items. Contact Diana Kilby to purchase tickets. Deadline is February 2..

The menu with AJ's has been finalized: Garden Salad,

Chicken with Artichoke Garlic Sauce, Rice Pilaf, and Mixed Vegetables with cannoli for dessert.

If anyone has health issues, or are vegan, a substitute lunch can be provided. Please contact the ladies at your table and let me know their name and I will give them a ticket for the exchange lunch. If you do not provide me this information then I will not be able to give them a special meal. I will have the tickets at the luncheon.

Set up will be on Friday February 8 at 2:30. Napkin folders need not arrive till 3 because they are so efficient. Please bring your baskets on the 8th at 2:30 and give them to Sandra Lackore.

We also need helpers at the end of the luncheon for clean-up.

Thank you all for the work you have done so far. Any questions, email or call me.

Judy Shahenian, Luncheon Chair

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT MARIA DAWES

Maria Dawes was born in Suffern, New York and moved to Plymouth, Michigan during her senior year of high school. She now lives in north Mesa with her fiancé and her six year old daughter, Mikayla.

Maria is pursuing a degree in Public Service and Public Policy. When not taking classes at Mesa Community College, she is working part time as a program manager for the National Advocacy and Training Network (SEEDS). Maria plans to attend Arizona State to continue working on her degree after her classes at the community college are completed.

Maria has been involved with AmeriCorps and Phi Theta Kappa, served as Chief Justice for the Association of the Student Body Government for the Students, and worked with the Voter Coalition (CEEP) in the fall of 2018.

Someday Maria hopes to be able to plant and care for a vegetable and herb garden. She loves to cook and having fresh vegetables and herbs fits into the lifestyle she's working towards. Maria and her daughter have fun together by belonging to the Mesa Community College Rose Garden Society.

In the future, Maria sees herself as the director of a nonprofit with a focus on helping low income people in the community. She is a very dynamic young woman who has faced many problems and is working hard to stay on the right track to reach her goal of graduating from ASU.

Judith Taucher-Lewis, Scholarship Committee
Mentor

From our January speaker

Thank you so much for your interest in Mesa Public Schools and allowing me to come speak with your group. They were such a great audience and asked excellent questions! Thanks also for the AAUW mug, which has a prominent position in my office to remind me of the necessary caffeine fix that is so important in the late afternoon.

We have our Wish List that you so graciously solicited, but it needs some organizing. I'm working on the details and will send it as soon as we have it organized to include the item, what it will be used for and the approximate cost.

Below are the links I promised to send ... please let me know if I left out anything! Thanks again for having me and I look forward to seeing you at our SciTech Expo, if not sooner. ~ Colleen

[STEM homepage](#)

[Chief Science Officers](#)

[Girls in STEM](#)

[Space Integration Module / SIM](#)

[Aeronautical Center for Exploration / ACE](#)

[2019 SciTech Expo](#)

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Colleen Howard

K-6 STEM Coordinator

Mesa Public Schools

<http://www.mpsaz.org/ssrc>

AAUW AZ PROMOTES RATIFICATION OF THE ERA

AAUW Arizona is working with ERA AZ to bring an ERA bill to the floor of the Arizona House of Representatives during the 2019 legislative session.

What can we do? Write a letter or a postcard. Send an email to your legislators. Bills will be introduced after the beginning of the session on January 14.

A sample letter -

Dear (Senator or Representative _____)
1700 W. Washington St.
Phoenix AZ 85007

I request that you vote for a resolution in our Arizona state legislature supporting the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

Arizona was once a beacon for women’s rights. Women gained the right to vote in Arizona in 1912. Rachael Berry from Apache County was the first woman legislator elected in Arizona - in 1914 - before women in the rest of the country could even vote.

The first woman appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court was Sandra Day O’Connor, the first legislator to introduce the ERA in Arizona.

Arizona can make history and reclaim its place in the march toward equality by ratifying the ERA and making sure that the equal rights of women are included in the Constitution.

Sincerely,

Member of the AAUW East Mesa Branch

AAUW East Mesa Public Policy committee members plan to set up meetings with our LD25 State Representatives Michelle Udall and Rusty Bowers and with State Senator Tyler Pace in preparation for Legislative Day on February 26.

You can follow ERA AZ on its website <https://erataskforceaz.com> and on Facebook at <https://m.facebook.com/ERATaskForceAZ/>.

Betsy Flaten, Public Policy Director

MORE FROM THE PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

With the opening of the 2019 session of the Arizona Legislature on there is much for us to be doing in these key areas... *Ratification of the ERA. Economic Security/Equal Pay, Funding of Public Education and Access to Healthcare.*

We will updating you as bills are introduced move through the house and the senate. Committee hearings on these bills are key points at which members of the AAUW East Mesa Branch can have an impact and the timing of our response is crucial.

Remember a good first step is to let our LD25 legislators know what we stand for and what we hope they will support. You can support this effort by sending each one a brief note or an email introducing yourself as a member of AAUW East Mesa Branch sharing with them our priorities and letting them know we are watching to see if they are taking action in these areas.

The next point of influence for us is when a bill we support is up for a committee hearing. Emails and postcards supporting the legislation both to our LD25 legislators and to committee members are important at that time. And again when a bill leaves committee for a vote on the house or senate floor we need to be advocates.

Send an email....Send a postcard. Legislators stay aware of their constituents’ responses and we can make a difference!

Arizona Legislative District 25 House of Representatives

Russell “Rusty” Bowers, *Speaker of the House*
1700 W. Washington St. Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 926-3128 rbowers@azleg.gov

Michelle Udall, *Chairman of the Education Committee*
1700 W. Washington St. Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 926-4856 MUdall@azleg.gov

Senate

Tyler Pace, *Member of the Education Committee*
Member of Health and Human Services
1700 W. Washington St. Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 926-5760 tpace@azleg.gov

If you want to make a difference in the public policy area, please call or send me an email.

Betsy Flaten, Public Policy Chair

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 9, 2019

Call to Order:

Joanne Walen, President at 1:30 pm

Greeting to Members, New Members & 1 Guest

Thank you to Hostess Committee for today's snacks.

Elaine Prom: Quorum established

Minutes from previous meeting: No corrections;
received minutes as emailed in EMBers and posted

Treasurer's report: No corrections and file report as
posted

Introduction of Barbara Caswell, Program VP

Colleen Howard, K-6 STEM Coordinator speaking
about the STEM and STEAM programs in Mesa
Public Schools.

Reconvene Business Meeting: Joanne Walen at 2:25
pm.

Unfinished Business:

Signups for Legislative Day, Feb 26: Members will
meet with legislators to promote
passage of the ERA bill. Caucuses start at 10:00 am,
so we will meet with them at 8:30.

Nominating Committee: Beverly Byrd, Cindy
Deatsman and Kay Eakin are the
nominating committee for the following positions;
President, Secretary, Program Chair
and Membership (1-year term).

Committee Reports:

Ruth Pinkus, Women in History; Topic was Rose
Pesotta

Judy Shahenian, Scholarship Luncheon: Only 114
tickets have been sold, a significant
reduction from past years. Raffle tickets will be
handled differently with the winners
selecting the raffle item of their choice. Sandra
Lackore solicited for additional baskets
since participation is down. Also needed are
jewelry items, ironers for the napkins,
potpourri items and cashiers. Buy it now baskets
can be paid for immediately, another
change from last year. Set up will start at 2:30 on
Friday, February 8.

Adjournment: Joanne Walen at 3:02 pm
Beverly Byrd, Secretary

