



EMBERS

March 2019

President's Message

I begin this month's message with a heartfelt "thank you" to Judy Shahanian and all the other branch Energizer bunnies who made our Scholarship Luncheon a success on February 9. It was a definite pleasure to hear individually from each of our five scholars, who are all inspirational young women. And our speaker Jan Cleere entertained us with stories of women long gone, but whose influence is still felt in Arizona. And Jan happens to be a National Women's History Project Author/Speaker, of which I will say more in the following paragraphs.

"Visionary Women: Champions of Peace and Nonviolence" is the theme for National Women's History for 2019. This year they are honoring women who have led efforts to end war, violence, and injustice and pioneered the use of nonviolence to change society. This year's 11 honorees, living and dead, embraced the fact that the means determine the ends and so developed nonviolent methods to ensure just and peaceful results.

For generations, women have resolved conflicts in their homes, schools, and communities. They have rejected violence as counterproductive and stressed the need to restore respect, establish justice, and reduce the causes of conflict as the surest way to peace. From legal defense and public education to direct action and civil disobedience, women have expanded the American tradition of using inclusive, democratic, and active means to

reduce violence, achieve peace, and promote the common good.

From women's rights and racial justice to disarmament and gun control, the drive for nonviolent change has been championed by visionary women. These women consciously built supportive, nonviolent alternatives and loving communities as well as advocating change. They have given voice to the unrepresented and hope to victims of violence and those who dream of a peaceful world. (from *Writing Women Back into History*)

I mention the eleven honorees here in the aggregate but encourage you to read their individual stories at <http://www.nwhp.org/2019-honorees>. The living members are peace team workers, working across the globe; a humanitarian dedicated to serving women survivors of war; the founder of a community-based arts and culture organization for marginalized communities; the Director of the National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence; and active civil and human rights leaders who fearlessly protest injustice and brutal world-wide occupations. Among the deceased being honored is the gun control activist Sarah Brady, whose husband was disabled by a bullet shot at President Reagan; Dorothy Cotton, the only woman in Dr. Martin Luther King's inner circle of human rights leaders; the Peace Pilgrim who walked 25,000 miles for peace before her death in 1981; and the founder of the NAACP, an anti-lynching activist, orator, and suffragist.

We salute you all, and others like you who work for peace in our troubled world.

Joanne Walen, AAUW East Mesa President

March 2019 Calendar

Wednesday March 6

General Meeting

Leisure World Club Room 1:30pm

Amy Sailors from the Mesa Police

Department will speak on "Personal Safety:
What to Do?"

Food Drive to benefit the St. Vincent De Paul
Food Pantry

Friday March 8

Great Decisions 9:15am

Great Decisions will meet at the home of
Mary Hung, Manor 1988. Fran Johansen will
facilitate the discussion on *The Middle East:
Regional Disorder*. Please let Mary know if
you will be in attendance
(maryhung4@gmail.com).

Mary Hung, Chair

maryhung4@gmail.com

Monday March 11

AAUW Quilters and Crafters 1pm

Entries in the Egg Challenge will be judged at
the home of Elaine Prom, manor 238. Any
AAUW member can participate! Details
were in the February newsletter. Contact
Cindy for more information.

Cindy Deatsman, chair

librarian2760@yahoo.com

Monday March 11

Women's History Month Movie - 1pm

"RBG" about the life of Supreme Court Justice
Ruth Bader Ginsburg will be shown in the
Leisure World Theater

Wednesday March 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 March 21

Morning Book Group 9:30am

Carla Burman will host the March meeting at
her home, manor 1345. Judy Taucher Lewis
will lead the discussion of BEFORE WE
WERE YOURS by Lisa Wingate. Please RSVP
to Judy - jtaucher-lewis@aol.com .

Cindy Deatsman, chair

librarian2760@yahoo.com

Thursday March 21

Ladies of Literature 1pm

The afternoon book group has grown in
number but we welcome more new
members! We will meet at Mary Hung's
home, manor 1988, to discuss THE TEA
GIRL OF HUMMINGBIRD LANE by Lisa See.
Please let Mary know you will be coming.
Email Deanna for any information.

Deanna Long, chair

deannalong4y3@cox.net

Friday March 29

Women's History Month Movie - 1pm

The second showing of "RBG" in the LW
Theater.

Wednesday April 3

April Luncheon and Installation of Officers

MARCH GENERAL MEETING

For March we will be meeting on March 6, our usual first Wednesday meeting date. It should be an interesting meeting with a packed agenda.

Our speaker is Amy Sailors from the Mesa Police Department who will speak on "Personal Safety: What to Do?" She is a Crime Prevention Officer in the Fiesta district.

Members are asked to participate in our annual Community Action project by bringing items for the St. Vincent De Paul food pantry. Details on page 4.

The election of officers will be held. Judy Ruth has been nominated for Program Vice President and Beverly Byrd has agreed to another term as Secretary. Sandra Lackore has agreed to serve as President.

We will also vote on several changes to our bylaws. The changes were emailed to members and print copies were distributed at the February meeting. Contact Joanne Walen if you have not seen the proposed changes.

Sign up sheets for the April potluck will be passed. Dues for 2019 - 2020 will be collected. Details are in a separate article and membership forms will be emailed to members prior to the meeting.

The meeting will be held in the King Card Room at Rec 1, Leisure World. Please plan to be there!
Barbara Caswell, Program Vice President

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

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

Two more new members! Please add their contact information to your directory.

Maureen Luna

6605 E. Viewmont Dr. Mesa AZ 85215

(C) 505-269-9003

mobran@xetek.com

Gail Sweet

LW Manor 92

(C) 952-220-0267

gail.sweet0728@gmail.com

Betsy Flaten, Membership Vice President

HOSPITALITY

Thanks to Deanna Long and her committee of Cindy Deatsman, Betsy Flaten, and Kathy Buckner, we had Valentines at our February meeting! Each table sported cute cards and fun wedding/romantic photos and memorabilia provided by our members. The treats table was colorful in pink and red.

Besides the decorative Valentine cookies and cupcakes, we were offered a delicious red and white cheese log and strawberries with a pink dip.

Be thinking about whether you want to bring a salad or dessert to our April luncheon. A sign up sheet to indicate your preference will be passed around at the March meeting. Also at that meeting, there will be a sign up sheet for next year's hostess committees. We are currently looking for someone to head Hospitality in the coming year. Please contact Joanne Walen if you are interested.

Elaine Prom and her committee of Judy Shahrenian, Garnet Muelhausen, and Peggy Jefferson will be the hostesses providing us goodies at the March meeting.

Joyce Loland, Hospitality Chair

DUES ARE DUE!

Hard to believe but it is time for 2019-2020 dues already. Membership renewal forms and checks will be collected at the March and April meetings. You may also mail them to the treasurer, Peggy Jefferson, 287 Leisure World, Mesa AZ 85206. Please make checks payable to AAUW EAST MESA BRANCH.

The membership form will be emailed to each member. The official year runs from July 1 to June 30 and dues need to be paid by June 30th to be included in the branch directory. Everyone who pays her dues by May 15th will be entered in a drawing. The winner will be chosen at the October meeting. Please pay your dues ASAP and fill out a ticket for the prize.

Dues are \$90 (branch dues \$22, state \$9, national \$59, \$56 being tax deductible). Dual membership dues are \$31 (branch \$22 and state \$9). Paid life member dues are \$31 (branch \$22, state \$9).

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH MOVIE

In honor of Women’s History Month we will have two showings of the film “RBG” about hero, icon and dissenter on Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg’s life and career. The showings are at 1:00pm on Monday March 11 and 1:00pm Friday March 29 in the Rec 1 theater. Popcorn will be provided!

FOOD DRIVE

Our Community Action activity for this year will be at the March meeting (Wednesday March 6) and will benefit St. Vincent de Paul in Mesa. As usual around this time of year their shelves are fairly bare.

On their wish list -

Tuna and canned meat

Dry pasta, ramen noodles and bags of rice (unopened packages please)

Canned meals like Chef Boyardee, canned hash or canned stews

Fresh fruits like the fruit from your trees (bagged or boxed)

Canned fruit

Peanut butter & jelly jars (large family sizes especially welcomed. No glass jars)

If you are about to return to your home up north and are clearing out food from your cupboards they welcome your canned food leftovers. (Please check the expiration dates).

Bring your donations to the March meeting. We will have boxes & bags available to transport them. Help with delivery would be welcome - just let me know.

Thank you for helping!

Barb Caswell

STEP UP FOR NEXT YEAR

“The most effective way to do it is to do it.”

Amelia Earhart

Sometimes it is easier to not do “it” than to do “it.” But I must admit I have never been one to not do “it.” Whatever I decided to do, I set about it. What I have learned, over the years is that whatever I decide to do, I am best at it if I set out to do “it” with a team of folks that want to see the goal accomplished, the decisions made, the end result a Team effort.

I felt great trepidation accepting the position of President-elect last year and I have continued to feel that angst. But as others have come forward to fill important slots in our leadership of this East Mesa Branch of AAUW, I have begun to feel “Maybe we can just do it – Together.”

So now I need to ask you to consider joining the Team and filling a slot. Folks that have held these roles in the past are willing and able to assist. So please consider how you might be part of this “emerging Team.” These positions are available:

Legal Advocacy

Women’s History Highlights

Public Policy

E-Mail Distribution

College/University Relations

Hospitality

Communications

Scholarship Awards

Parliamentarian

Scholarship Fund Raising

Editor of the Newsletter

Editor of the Yearly Directory

Webmaster

I hope that many of you will decide to continue doing the good work you have been doing; if so, please email me. Or, if you feel you are open to a new position, let me know at cdlackore@aol.com

Sandra Lackore

President Elect AAUW

SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

Well, the 2019 luncheon is behind us.
Job well done ladies.
Thanks so much for all your help.
Everyone had a great time.
The food was delicious, especially the cannoli!
The veggie meals were great and appreciated.
The scholarship girls were awesome.
Jan Cleere was wonderful!
Waiting on a few bills to come in before we can
announce the total.
So thanks so much again for a wonderful event
And put March 28, 2020 on your calendar
Judy Shahrenian, Luncheon chair

MEET SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT ALEX COONS

Alexandria (Alex) Coons is one of our new Scholarship recipients. Alex was born in Moses Lake, Washington. Her family, including four brothers, still live in Washington. In high school, Alex participated in sports, performed in school plays, and was a cheerleader. She was a runner and broke standing school records. A severe hearing loss and poor vision did not handicap Alex. She has worn hearing aids and glasses or contacts since second grade. She also makes an effort to read lips. Despite the inconveniences, she is an excellent student. She has a beautiful smile, a great personality and is looking forward to a gratifying career. Alex is single mother. Her daughter, Kloe, is a first grader at Benjamin Franklin Charter School. Kloe loves outdoor activities. She spends weekends with her father while Alex works. Alex is in her final semester at Chandler-Gilbert Community College and has enrolled in Northern Arizona University for next year. Alex will attend her NAU classes at the Mesa Community College campus.

History has always been a passion for Alex. She is pursuing a major in education. After graduation, Alex plans to teach history in high school. Her long-term goal is to get a masters and teach history in college. She is very interested in the early history of England. Alex would love to study in England at some point. Alex is very appreciative of her scholarship from AAUW. It helps with school expenses which allows her to spend a little more time with her daughter. Marje Perkins, Scholarship Committee Member

NATIONAL COMMITTEES 2019-2021

Once again, the National Committee Task Force is putting out a call for all members to consider serving on a national committee.

Here's the link to the descriptions on the national website:

<https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/leadership-and-staff/committeestask-forces/>

We expect this page to be updated before April because there is new information; basically, the three committees of Branch Program Resources, College/University, and Fundraising have either been eliminated or incorporated into another committee.

It is really important to have representation from states west of the Mississippi, so that the poobahs of the East Coast aren't making decisions that adversely affect us. If we don't like certain policies, for example, now is the time to step up and offer to serve on the Governance Committee.

As I mention always, this is a task you can do in your pajamas from your home, if you are so inclined.

You do need an electronic means of communication (computer, iPad, notebook, etc.) and a phone because that is the way business is conducted.

Joanne Walen, President

NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Our deepest sympathy to Norma Winslow, who lost her husband, Bill, on February 11.

Vivian and John Dobbin have sold their home in Leisure World and will no longer be snow birds. Vivian is the "purple lady" - please find her at the March or April meeting and say goodbye.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 13, 2019

Call to Order: Joanne Walen, President at 1:28 pm
Greeting to Members, 2 New members & 3 guests

Thank you to Joyce Loland and the Hostess Committee for today's snacks.

Elaine Prom: Quorum established

Minutes from previous meeting: No corrections; received minutes as mailed IN EMBers and posted

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

Introduction by Barbara Caswell, Program VP;

Dianne Post, ERA Task Force, with an update on the legislation needed to ratify the ERA amendment in Arizona.

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

Unfinished Business:

Nominating Committee: The board members to be voted on in March and installed in April are Sandra Lackore, President; Judith Ruth, Program VP and Beverly Byrd, Secretary

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 8:30am. Signup is still available.

AAUW Member Information, Joanna Larson: AAUW is selling information without member or branch approval. Members should contact national AAUW to express their dissatisfaction and remove their name from the list.

New Business:

Bylaws Amendment: Rhysa Davis moved and Betsy Flaten seconded that the word "local" be added before the word "scholarship" in the committee section. A vote will be taken at the March general meeting.

Equal Means Equal Documentary: Presented on February 21st at 3:00pm in the Theatre.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship Luncheon, Judy Shahanian: Thanks to everyone for a successful event. Jan Shriver presented the preliminary financial showing a \$4,404 net income.

Cindy Deatsman invited all members to participate in the Quilters and Crafters Egg Challenge.

Scholarship Committee, Deanna Long: Scholars are grateful for our support.

Membership, Betsy Flaten: Next tea will be in March or April.

Programs, Barb Caswell: SIM Trip will be March 7 and another can be planned if there are more members interested in the tour.

The movie, RBG will be viewed March 11 and March 29 at 1:00pm in the Theatre.

Announcements: There will be AAUW positions available at the national level in April. Participation is through emails and conference calls. Contact Joanne for more information.

Adjournment: Joanne Walen at 3:00 pm

Beverly Byrd, Secretary

***This newsletter and past issues
can be found on our branch
website -***

<https://eastmesa-az.aauw.net/>

