



EMBERS

April 2019

President's Message

This is my final message as AAUW East Mesa President, a role I have enjoyed for the past four years. I will admit that I do look forward to taking off both presidents' hats — that of branch president and of state Co-President. Leaving those roles won't mean leaving an active role in AAUW, however. Now I look forward to participating in other interest groups I couldn't make time for before.

Before saying goodbye, however, I want to say thanks. Thanks to my "team" of Board members who supported me and offered guidance and advice. And thanks to all the members who showed up at meetings to support our mission and programs. This isn't an Oscar speech, so I won't name you all here, but I will honor you at the April luncheon.

What did we accomplish in four years? We had four successful Scholarship Luncheons with authors Gregg Hurwitz, Donis Casey, Susan Southard, and Jan Cleere; we established the Violet

Larney Trust Committee to recommend disbursement of funds from the Violet Larney Endowment; we completed application for 501 (c) 3 status to enhance giving to our Scholarship Funds, we hosted a very successful AAUW-AZ Fall Forum in 2018, and we increased our membership to balance those who had moved away or left us permanently. And each month we had terrific speakers on our program arranged by Barb Caswell, who spoke to our mission "From Caring to Commitment."

Enjoy your summer and come back refreshed and ready to work for the good of all.

Joanne Walen, President

April 2019 Calendar

Wednesday April 3 Annual Luncheon and Installation of Officers

Leisure World Ballroom 11:30am

Monday April 8

AAUW Quilters and Crafters

All members are welcome to join the gang as we go out to lunch at Tia Rosa's and then investigate a new quilt shop. Contact Cindy for times and/or to carpool.

Cindy Deatsman, chair

librarian2760@yahoo.com

Friday April 12

Great Decisions 9:15am

Great Decisions will meet at the home of Betsy Flaten, Leisure World Manor 98. Janet Kelly will facilitate the discussion on *The Rise of Populism in Europe*. Please let Betsy know if you will be in attendance (katperson@msn.com).

Mary Hung, Chair

maryhung4@gmail.com

Wednesday April 15

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 April 18

Morning Book Group 9:30am

Betsy Flaten, manor 98, will host MBG. Lucia Causey will lead discussion on *THE DAY THE WORLD CAME TO TOWN* by Jim DeFede. Please RSVP to Betsy -

katperson@msn.com

Cindy Deatsman, chair

librarian2760@yahoo.com

Thursday April 18

Ladies of Literature 1pm

We continue our wonderful adventures in the book world reading *THE REVOLUTION OF MARINA M.* by Janet Fitch. We will meet at Diane Bennett's home rrchef@cox.net. Please let Diane know whether you are coming or not. It will be our last meeting until November 2019. When we read *THE TEA GIRL OF HUMMINGBIRD LANE* in February we were delighted when hostess Mary Hung not only showed us the exact tea we were reading about, she made and served it in the proper style! What joy one receives from book groups!

We always welcome new members. Contact Deanna if you wish more information.

Deanna Long, chair

deannalong4y3@cox.net

SUMMER 2019 CALENDAR

May 13 - Book Group 10:00am, Anniversary Room

TBA - May Lunch Bunch

June 10 - Book Group 10:00am Anniversary Room

June 30 - Deadline to pay dues to be included in branch directory

TBA - June Lunch Bunch Joanne Walen, hostess

July 8 - Book Group 10:00am Anniversary Room

TBA - July Lunch Bunch

August 12 - Book Group 10:00am Anniversary Room

TBA - August Lunch

September 9 - Book Group 10:00am Anniversary Room

TBA - September Lunch Bunch Judy Shahanian, hostess

TBA - October Lunch Bunch Kay Eakin, hostess

Wednesday October 2

Watch your email next fall for an
announcement about a special AAUW
Activity Fair and Ice Cream Social!!

APRIL ANNUAL LUNCHEON & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The final meeting of the 2018-2019 season will be the annual luncheon and installation of officers in the ballroom at Rec 1 on April 3. Doors will open at 11:30am and we will eat at noon. Table service and beverages will be provided.

State Co-President Joanne Walen will preside over the installation of officers and recognize the contributions of members during the year.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Welcome to our new members...

Monique Bassi

4342 E Carriage Way Mesa, AZ 85297

mbassi2901@gmail.com

Cynthia Jones

3041 N Roca Mesa, AZ 85213

senoj99@gmail.com

Doreen Nystedt

650 N Hawes Rd #3722 Mesa, AZ 85207

drnystedt@aol.com

Betsy Flaten, Membership Vice President

HOSPITALITY

Thanks to Judy Shahenian, who picked up the ball at the last minute, we had yummy treats with an Irish theme at our March meeting. Lynn Peters and Peggy Jefferson helped provide goodies and decorations.. Let's hope the blinking shamrocks brought us all a little luck!

Next month, Marilyn Kunde and Sandra Lackore will head the committee in charge of the April luncheon. Nancy Rusten and Bev Byrd will assist. If you didn't get a chance to sign up to bring a salad

or dessert at the last meeting, just choose one or the other to bring to the Ballroom on April 3. We always eat well at our last meeting of the year!
Joyce Loland, Hospitality Chair

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EAST MESA BRANCH OFFICERS 2019-2021

Congratulations to our new officers who were elected at the March annual meeting. They are Sandra Lackore, President; Judy Ruth, Program Vice President and Beverly Byrd, Secretary. Their terms begin July 1.

GETTING TO KNOW OUR NEW PROGRAM VP, JUDY RUTH

Judy Ruth grew up in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and went to college at Lawrence University in Appleton, WI. After graduation and marriage she moved to Rochester, NY, where she taught 3rd grade. Then she moved to Wilmette, IL, where she taught 4th grade in Glencoe. Another move took the family to Maquoketa, IA, where she stayed home to raise three children and do volunteer work.

In 1978, moved they moved back to Cedar Rapids, and in 1988 Judy began a 16 year career in Financial Services earning a CHFC degree.

In 1988, Judy married John Ruth. They began coming to the Phoenix area about twenty years ago, renting for ten years in Leisure World then in 2010 purchasing a home here. They are winter visitors. They have four children, seven grandchildren and two grand dogs. Judy has been active in Photo Club, Mixed Chorus and AAUW for the past three years.

LUNCHEON PACKING LIST **Your salad or dessert**

**Your form and check for dues
And don't forget to ask a friend or
offer a ride to another member!**

SUMMER INTEREST GROUPS

Summer Book Group meets the second Monday May through September at 10am in the Anniversary Room. In May, members will choose the books to be discussed June through September. The schedule will be emailed to all members following the meeting in May.

Lunch Bunch also meets once a month May through October. In the summer everyone goes to lunch in one big group. The hostess chooses the restaurant and date. New members are especially invited to come to Lunch Bunch. It is a good opportunity to get to know members informally and have questions about our activities answered.

Please note that it is not possible to delete those who are not here over the summer from the database so that all members get the summer interest group notices whether they are here or not.

EAST MESA BRANCH SCHOLARSHIP EFFORTS

Since its inception in 1989, the East Mesa Branch has given 175 scholars \$214,000, established one national fellowship, and is close to completing the funding of a second!!

In 2013 East Mesa Branch completed the funding of the Marvel Bongart National Fellowship, which was initiated shortly after Marvel's death by her good friend, Jeanne Dinkel. Members worked hard with numerous activities to raise the \$100,000 required at that time. The final event was a birthday party celebrating what would have been Marvel's 80th birthday. Many members contributed \$80 or more each to complete the fellowship. The remainder needed was supplied by Violet Larney.

Violet Grace Hachmeister Larney passed away on February 11, 2016. She left a sizable portion of her well invested and earned fortune to our branch. The first allocation of that money has been used to establish a \$200,000 National AAUW Fellowship

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(the amount now required to fund a fellowship), the Violet and Norbert Larney Fellowship. We anticipate that the interest on the money will fully fund the fellowship this year.

In addition to funding the fellowship, the interest on Violet's money will be used in the future to supplement the money raised by the branch for local scholarships.

Not only do our scholars receive funds, but each has a mentor from our branch who keeps in contact with them for sharing and support. Many of our scholars do not come from well educated families, and having someone to talk to (even though we are often generations apart) can get them through some tough spots. I am so thankful for the mentors who have given time generously to our scholars. If you are interested in being a mentor, let me know.

Deanna Long, Scholarship Committee Chair

VIOLET H. & NORBERT H. LARNEY ENDOWMENT TRUST

(The following information was distributed at the March meeting. If you have questions, contact Joanne Walen or Sandra Lackore.)

In 2016 our AAUW Branch was the beneficiary of a perpetual endowment fund from the estate of our founder and first president, Violet Larney. She left us 40% of her estate, somewhat in excess of \$3 million; her Trustee chose the Arizona Community Foundation, a 501(c)3 foundation, to be the manager of the funds we inherited and from whom we receive a 5% disbursement each April to be used exclusively for our educational and charitable mission of providing scholarship funding for local women and girls, supporting public school STEM programs, as well as funding a national AAUW fellowship in the donor's name for \$200,000.

It was the express wish of the donor that the endowment be used locally rather than transferred to the national organization, except in the form of a national fellowship; therefore, we also signed a DESIGNATED FUND AGREEMENT ADDENDUM, which states that *should AAUW East Mesa ever* (continued on next page)

includes key provisions that would address loopholes in the Equal Pay Act of 1963, ensuring that employers pay women and men equally for equal work. The bill is sponsored by Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA).

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cease to exist, the funds in this endowment will remain with the ACF to make grants from the Fund annually to such programs similar to those supported by AAUW East Mesa to support and empower women and girls to pursue education, particularly in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), and be prepared to enter the workforce.

To be clear, the branch designates where ACF places the funds; ACF writes the checks and sends them; they never pass through our branch accounts.

The disbursement requests are made through the Violet Larney Trust Committee, which consists of the current president, the immediate past president, the treasurer, the immediate past treasurer, and a member-at-large.

In 2018 the following was done: \$91,000 designated by ACF for use, from which \$80,000 was made as a down payment on the Violet H. and Norbert H. Larney AAUW National Fellowship, \$7,000 was paid to MCCF for our local scholars and \$4000 was rolled back into the corpus.

In 2019, we anticipate the designation of \$255,900 from the trust. The committee will meet in April. The following is a possible distribution of the funds - \$120,000 to be used to fully fund the national fellowship and increased funding through the Scholarship Committee to MCCF.

In addition, the Trust Committee, in consultation with the Scholarship Committee, will look at future funding in accordance with the trust guidelines.

AAUW ADVOCACY

HR-7: THE PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT OF 2019

Passing the Paycheck Fairness Act is a critical step to closing the gender pay gap. The proposed law

The Paycheck Fairness Act will:

- Prohibit employers from using salary history
- Protect against retaliation for discussing pay with colleagues
- Ensure equal pay for equal work.
- Equalize discrimination claims based on gender, race and ethnicity.
- Support employers and employees to achieve fair pay practices.

Why It's Needed

Women working full time are paid, on average, only 80 cents for every dollar paid to a man—a figure that has changed by less than a nickel during the 21st century.

What to Expect

HR-7 has been reported out of the Education and Labor is expected to be on the floor the week of March 25.

The bill should pass easily, with 238 Democrats already signed on as co-sponsors. New Jersey Rep. Christopher H. Smith is the only Republican co-sponsor, but DeLauro said she hopes more GOP members will vote for it.

For more information:

https://www.aauw.org/article/pfa_factsheet2019
<https://www.rollcall.com/news/hr-1-vote-democrats-ready-move-quickly-top-10-bills>

Betsy Flaten, Public Policy Chair

GENERAL MEETING MARCH 6, 2019 MINUTES

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

Greeting to members: 3 new members and 1 returning member

Thank you to Joyce Loland and the Hostess Committee for today's snacks. Joyce distributed the sign-up sheet for the April luncheon and next year's hostesses. Joyce Loland is retiring as Hospitality Chair. Contact Sandra Lackore if interested.

Rhysa Davis (in absence of Elaine Prom): Quorum established

Introduction by Joanne Walen - Amy Sailors, Mesa Safety Officer, "Personal Safety: What to Do.: Best practices for home, transportation and self safety."

Reconvene Business Meeting: Joanne Walen at 2:22pm

Minutes from February meeting: no corrections; received minutes as mailed in EMBers and posted

Treasurer's Report: No corrections, file report as posted for audit.

Unfinished Business:

Dues now due before June 30

Report on 501 (c) 3: Form is completed and ready to send to IRS. There was a request from the Board to approve \$600 filing fee to be paid from the reserves. Motion was made by Nancy Rusten and seconded by Rhysa Davis. Vote was unanimous and carried in support of the \$600 filing fee.

Funds from Larney Endowment: The Trustee Committee will meet in April to determine 2019 disbursements to Fellowship and scholars. An explanation handout about the endowment and disbursements was distributed.

New Business:

Officer Elections: A slate of one person per position (Sandra Lackore, President, Beverly Byrd, Secretary and Judy Ruth, Program VP) were verbally voted. There were no nominations from the floor. The

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candidates were so elected and will be installed at the April general meeting.

Bylaws Amendment: There was a paper vote for the three suggested changes (Article XII, Article XVI and Article XVIII). The tally committee counted the votes with a 36 vote unanimous approval.

Committee Reports:

Programs, Joanne Walen (in lieu of Barb Caswell):

The SIM trip on March 7 has been postponed due to Barb's illness and will be rescheduled.

Auditors needed: Volunteers are needed for the year end audit due by June 30. Rhysa Davis and Monique Bassi volunteered for this task.

March movie: The documentary RBG will be presented in the Theater on March 11 and March 29 at 1:00pm. Popcorn will be served.

Women in History: Ruth Pinkus presented a biography of Mum Bett.

Adjournment: Joanne Walen at 2:55pm.

Beverly Byrd, Secretary

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

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