



EMBERS

FALL 2019, NOV ISSUE

Meeting at Leisure World

The East Mesa Branch of AAUW substituted an informational “Ice Cream Social” for its first meeting of the season. 40 members attended including five new members. Our interest groups were present to sign folks up and to share their group’s activities. From dining, reading, quilting, social action, there is something for everyone. The room was a buzz of activity and discussion until time for the door prizes when we quieted down to listen for our number.

Many thanks to Jan Kelly, who coordinated the event, Cindy Deatsman, who contributed raffle prizes & ideas, Doreen Nystedt, posters & interest group tents, Betsy Flaten membership & raffle. Joanne Walen, cash & treasury. And a special Thank you to all the interest group coordinators.

At this writing we await an exciting November program. EMBers members can look forward to a full December program, which will highlight our scholarship activity, through the excellent leadership and hard work of Judy Taucher-Lewis Chair of the Scholarship Committee coordinating the activities related to this group. The work of our Scholarship Committee has been very rewarding both to our members who mentor our scholars and to all who raise the funds for scholarships.

Remember we are “Imagineering our Future Possibilities.” Share with me your “Imagineering.”

Sandra Lackore
President AAUW East Mesa Branch

Member News/Updates

UPDATE ON DEANNA LONG

Here is an update on past president Deanna Long. According to her sister Cathi, "Deanna continues to improve and can now eat food but can have NO liquids. She is allowed ice chips after brushing teeth and likes it. She is understanding and remembering more all the time. She was graced with several Belles singing to her for her birthday, Oct. 29th, and she sang along with them in her current whisper voice. She continues to get PT and OT M-F and speech therapy 4 days a week. Her right side is still weak, but getting stronger and she is using it more." Cathi says that visitors are encouraged afternoons and weekends. Her daughter Wendy maintains a Caring Bridge site for Deanna at www.caringbridge.org/visit/deannasupdates/journal. Joanne Walen or Beverly Byrd usually forward the updates to AAUW members but if you go to the site you can leave a message for Deanna and family members will read it to her.

For those who don't know, Deanna was on her way to the east coast and then Israel with her sister Cathi on September 7. She fell at the airport and hit her head hard. The paramedics took her to the county hospital, well known for its trauma unit. There the neurosurgeon recommended surgery to relieve the pressure of the blood on the brain. Surgery was successful, but Deanna faces a long recovery. Please keep Deanna and her caregivers, especially her sister and her daughter, in your thoughts and prayers.

From Cindy Deatsman

With the implementation over the past 2 months of the Remain in Mexico Policy, there is a desperate need for donations which will be delivered to the caregivers of Asylum Seekers from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador by Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest.

The list below details the needed items by the Asylum Seeker Program. All in-kind donations and/or checks are eligible as a tax deduction. Checks should be made out to Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest and should be given to Judy Ruth or Jan Kelly.

Clothing

Shoes – New or gently used for men, women and children. Sneakers preferred. For adults, smaller sizes are preferred (men's 7-9, women's 5-8).

Socks and underwear – New items only for men, women, and children. Includes bras for women.

Winter clothing – Coats, hats, scarves, and gloves of all sizes.

Reusable cloth totes – New or gently used reusable totes will be necessary to assemble donation kits for asylum seekers.

Supplies

Toiletries – Soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, combs, lotion, razors. Travel and full-sized items are both welcome.

Diapers, wipes and Adult Depends – All sizes. Travel sized wipes are appreciated, but we will also accept full size.

Medications – New, unopened over the counter medications only. Basic medications for both adults and children – pain, fever, cough/cold, anti-diarrheal, etc. No prescription drugs.

Cleaning supplies – Multipurpose cleaner, laundry detergent, glass cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, etc.

Towels – White towels preferred so they can be bleached; wash cloths and hand towels preferred.

Lg gallon size Ziplock bags, Brooms/Mops, Large Trash Cans/Trash bags

Other

Toys – Clean new toys only please. Stuffed animals, baby dolls, barbies, toy cars/trucks, and balls are preferred. Coloring books, crayons, board games, and Spanish language children's books are also greatly appreciated.

Snack packs for travel - High protein, non-perishable snacks enough for a three-day bus ride: snack sized nuts, crackers, granola bars, packaged in Ziplock bags.

Lap blankets/Baby blankets, twin size fitted and flat sheets - A blanket small enough to roll up and place in a back pack, sheets to fit over twin bed or cots.

For more information, please contact: Judy Ruth or Jan Kelly.

Great spirits have always encountered violent opposition from mediocre minds.

Albert Einstein

AAUW-AZ 2019 FALL FORUM The 2019 AAUW of Arizona Fall Forum was held October 26 at the Briarwood Country Club in Sun City West with approximately 150 members attending. A highlight of the morning's speakers was an address by Secretary of State Katie Hobbs, who addressed the issue of Arizona clean elections and the fact that Arizona will be a target state in 2020; she emphasized that strong safeguards are in place to thwart outside meddling in electronic vote counting. She did appeal for our help to assure everyone that all mail-in ballots are indeed counted, despite widespread rumors that they are thrown away. A second enjoyable speaker was Kendra Davis, AAUW Senior VP for Advancement & Partnerships, who urged the necessity of funding the "greatest needs" account. For example, when the #Metoo movement hit, AAUW had no discretionary funds to mount a campaign to join so lost the opportunity to be front and center on that highly publicized issue of women's rights. The afternoon session focused on the state of education in Arizona with a panel of educators from Glendale Community College, ASU, and Avery University.

Betsy Flaten &
Joanne Walen at Fall Forum

We are grateful to Dr. Sterling for standing in to read for the author who was prevented from attending by illness.

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The AAUW Branch November 6 general meeting centered on a script reading by Pamela Sterling, ASU professor and co-Artistic Director of Arizona Theater Matters, of a one-woman play by Jeanmarie (Simpson) Bishop: Mary Dyer: Heretic. Originally titled The Joy, the play takes place in the last moments of the life of Quaker Mary Dyer, executed by the Puritan Church/State Government in early New England.

The author says: "I have come to consider Mary Dyer the Mother of the First Amendment. It is because of her terrifying and selfless act that we enjoy the freedom of speech and to worship as we choose." Dyer's death is credited with inspiring Rhode Island's Charter of 1663 granting religious freedom, which in turn is credited with inspiring part of the First Amendment in the Bill of Rights added to the Constitution in 1791.

In an historic irony, Dyer is now honored with a statue at the State House in Boston. In 1997 Dyer was inducted into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame and into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 2000.

Hospitality Thanks

Thank you to Betsy Flaten and her committee of Ruth Pinkus, Judy Taucher-Lewis, and Diane Bennett for the delicious treats following the compelling Mary Dyer "show." They were perfect for an intermission snack between the performance and the business meeting. Next month Judy Shahrenian and her committee of Kathleen Wheaton, Carla Burman, and Lucia Causey will supply the goodies we all enjoy at our meetings.

Joyce Loland

Membership Matters

Board members Betsy Flaten, Sandi Lackore, and Joanne Walen welcomed five new and prospective members at an afternoon get-together at Betsy Flaten's home. The names of those asterisked below were able to learn more about AAUW and our branch as well as visit with each other over a cup of tea or glass of wine.

*Sandra Williamson

Trudy Russell

*Sheila Videbeck

*Brenda Yellen

*Cynthia Dodge

*Mary de Chesnay, Ph.D.

Betsy Flaten,

Membership Vice President

Kindness is a great peacemaker.

From 8,789 Words of Wisdom by Barbara Ann Kipfer.

EMBERS non-profit status as a 501 (c) (3) organization

By Sandra Lackore

President AAUW East Mesa Branch

What does it mean to be a 501 (c) (3) organization?

Tax-exemptions apply to entities that are organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes to name a few.

What is the benefit of this status for the East Mesa Branch of AAUW?

- ✓ An individual or a business can take a tax deduction on a charitable contribution.

What does this mean to the East Mesa Branch of AAUW?

- ✓ It gives us the ability when soliciting support for our scholarship luncheons to offer the opportunity for the donor to take a charitable deduction for their gift.
- ✓ It gives us the ability as individuals to support the goals of AAUW with the benefit of a tax deduction.
- ✓ It gives us the ability to encourage others to make gifts to the East Mesa Branch in their estates.

What are our responsibilities to the Federal government for granting us this status?

- ✓ The Branch will be required to file year end financials with the federal government.
- ✓ The Branch, like National AAUW, cannot endorse any political candidate.
- ✓ The East Mesa Branch members when requesting contributions must have a letter on Branch stationary that represents the non-profit status of the chapter and the cause for which support is being requested.

JOIN US for LATINA EQUAL PAY DAY

MEDIA STORM

November 20, 2019

12:00 noon

Advocates from AAUW East Mesa Branch are taking part in the #LatinaEqualPay Day Social Media Storm

Latina Equal Pay Day — the day when Latina pay catches up to that of white men from the previous year — is being observed on November 20, 2019. More than 50 years after the passage of the Equal Pay Act of 1963, Latina's typically earn only 54 cents for every dollar earned by white men. That means Latinas must work nearly 23 months to earn what white men earn in 12 months.

Given that this is the last "Equal Pay Day" observance of the year, *Latinas must typically work longer than...everyone* This disparity hurts not only Latinas, but also the families and communities they support. This is unacceptable. We need to act now and support #LatinaEqualPay.

Learn more at <https://www.aauw.org/article/pay-gap-for-latinas/> and

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/shelleyzalis/2018/11/01/what-you-need-to-know-about-latina-equal-pay-day/#271a132e8b73>

Take action. Go to <https://www.latinaequalpay.org/>

SAVE the DATE

for

AAUW Legislative Day

AAUW-Arizona urges all members to attend **Legislative Day, February 4, 2020**, in the historic Senate chambers at the Arizona State Capitol in Phoenix. Speaker will be **Katie Hobbs, Arizona Secretary of State**.

November/December Calendar

THURSDAY, Dec 12th @ 9:30 a.m.

Morning Book Club will meet at Lucia Causey's home. Elaine Webber will lead the discussion of *Becoming* by Michelle Obama. Please RSVP to Lucia no later than December 9th. For more information and a list of selected books, please contact Bev Byrd.

WEDNESDAY, Nov 20th @ 12:00 noon

The Public Policy Interest Group will meet at the home of Betsy Flaten, 98 Leisure World, for a salad lunch. Joyce Loland will lead a discussion of *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap* and members will take part in the Latina Equal Pay Social Media Storm. Contact Betsy Flaten if you plan to attend. New members are welcome.

It is curious that physical courage should be so common in the world, and moral courage so rare.

Mark Twain

WEDNESDAY, Dec 11th @ 10:00 a.m.

On Wednesday, December 11, the Public Policy Interest Group will meet at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Betsy Flaten, to discuss Equity in Education. The program will be coordinated by Marilyn Kunde. Contact Betsy Flaten if you plan to attend.

MONDAY, Dec 9th AAUW Quilters and Crafters

Meeting on Monday Dec 9th will be lunch and two Quilt Stores. Marlene Johnson and Lynn Peters are organizing the event. If you have questions please contact them. I will send out an email of the particulars when they have firmed up the event. Please join us for a fun afternoon.

Judy Shahrenian

FRIDAY, Dec 13th @ 9:15 a.m.

Great Decisions will meet at the home of Helen Sheriff. Helen will facilitate the discussion on *The United States and Mexico*. Please let her know if you will be in attendance.

Mary Hung, Chair



AAUW General Meeting: November 6, 2019 Minutes

Call to Order: Sandra Lackore, President at 1:05 pm.

Greeting to Members: 2 New members present & 1 guest

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

2019-2020 Directories were distributed.

Sandra Lackore: Quorum established

Minutes from April meeting: Posted with no corrections: approved

Treasurer's February report: Posted with no corrections; file report for audit

Introduction Of Speaker by Joanne Walen: The Mary Dyer Story by Pamela Sterling, Associate Director of Arizona Theatre Matters.

Reconvene The Meeting: 2:40pm

New Business:

- Silver Plated Tea Service: Will be returned to LW Recreation Office.
- Nomination Committee: Kay Eakin, Joanne Walen, Judy Taucher-Lewis will submit candidates no later than the February General Meeting for President Elect, Treasurer and Membership VP positions. Elections will take place at the March General Meeting.
- Larney Trust Committee: Monique Bassi, Kay Eakin, Joanne Walen, Jan Shriver, Sandra Lackore and guest Judy Taucher Lewis will meet Monday November 11.
- December Meeting Scholarship Program: With the bequest of The Violet Larney Endowment Fund, our responsibilities include handling the funds in exactly the way the bequest indicated. At December's General Meeting, Judy Taucher Lewis and Sandra Lackore will present a program on the work of the Scholarship Committee. This will include how additional funds are shaping their work and how as they Imagineering The Future, they will shape that future. Sometimes a key drawback to a large bequest is that the receivers, who have been active in raising funds, feel they can pull back on their efforts. This is not the case here. Our Scholarship Lunch does more than just raise money for scholarships. It educates, informs and raises the consciences of our membership and the community about the work of raising up women by assisting in their education.

Announcements:

- Give Back in December benefiting Lutheran Social Service of the Southwest. Details to follow in an email blast.
- Betsy Flaten announced Latina Equal Pay Day on November 20. An email will follow with more details.

Adjournment: Sandra Lackore at 3:00 pm.

Beverly Byrd, Secretary