



**American Association  
of University Women  
East Mesa Branch  
Member Handbook**

**Meeting at Leisure World  
908 Power Road  
Mesa, Arizona 85206**

# American Association of University Women East Mesa Branch

## American Association of University Women

**Mission:** AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through

- research,
- education, and
- advocacy.

**Vision:** Equity for all

**Values:** Nonpartisan, Fact based, Integrity, Inclusion & Intersectionality

### **What is American Association of University Women?**

Since 1881, the American Association of University Women has been the nation's leading voice promoting education and equality for women and girls. The Association has over a 100,000 members nationwide, 1,000 branches and 600 college/university partners.

We are advocates for women's educational, social, economic and political advancement. For 130 years, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political. Our commitment to our mission is reflected in all aspects of our work.

American Association of University Women is a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance. Your membership makes AAUW's powerful voice even stronger on critical issues affecting women and girls.

- **Membership:** AAUW is open to anyone holding an associate or equivalent (RN), baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
- **Student Affiliation:** Student Affiliation of AAUW is open to anyone who does not already hold an undergraduate degree and is enrolled in a two year or four year regionally accredited educational institution.
- **AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.** There shall be no barriers to participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

### **East Mesa Branch:**

The AAUW East Mesa Branch, started in 1989, is a local branch of a national organization of individuals from all walks of life who share a vision of and dedication to advancing education and equity for women and girls.

We are part of a network that makes a difference locally, nationally, and internationally. We welcome members from all professions and businesses who care about fundamental issues of the day: education, social reform, economic parity, and political awareness. Although we meet at Leisure World, members come from all over the surrounding area.

### **Association Communication Information:**

- **AAUW Website:** [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)
- **Phone:** 800-326-2289 (10:00 a.m. – 5:00 pm ET)
- **Email:** [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)
- **AAUW Arizona Website:** [www.aauwarizona.org](http://www.aauwarizona.org)
- **AAUW East Mesa Branch Website:**
- <http://eastmesa-az.aauw.net>

### **Membership Dues**

Membership dues in the AAUW East Mesa Branch are \$79.50 of which \$59.00 is paid to the National Association (\$56 is tax deductible), \$9 to the State Division, and \$11.50 to the Branch.

Life members do not pay a National fee and Honorary members also do not pay any fees.

The membership dues process starts in March, beginning at that month's general meeting. Dues are delinquent for renewing members after June 30.

## **Branch Meetings**

Meetings for AAUW East Mesa Branch are held at Leisure World, 908 South Power Road, Mesa, AZ 85206 on the first Wednesday of the month, November through April.

Branch General Meeting timeline (unless noted on the calendar):

1:00pm      Meet and Greet with refreshments

1:30pm      Call to Order

## **Violet Larney**

**1920-2016**

Violet Larney was the founder and first President of AAUW East Mesa branch. She graduated from high school as Valedictorian in 1938, going on to Illinois State Normal University to major in mathematics, receiving her B.Ed and her M.A. at the University of Illinois. She received her Ph.D. in mathematics in 1950 and married Norbert Larney that year.

Violet became president of the newly formed East Mesa branch of AAUW. She was generous in her donations to AAUW and Leisure World. Violet's generosity to AAUW and specifically to East Mesa continues after her death with an endowment of nearly 44% of her estate designated for a perpetual fund for scholarships, fellowships, and other AAUW charitable activities.

A permanent Violet Larney Trust Committee has been established in the branch to advise the Executive Board on the management of these funds. It will fund a permanent national AAUW Fellowship in Violet's name in the fields of math and science.

## **Special Interest Groups**

Special Interest Groups are open to all paid members and meet October through April, although some groups meet during the summer months.

### **AAUW Quilters and Crafters**

Meets on the second Monday of the month at 1:00 pm in the Leisure World quilting room.

Contact: Judy Shahanian 480-354-3170

### **Book Review**

Meets the third Wednesday of the month at 9:15 am in the Leisure World Cafe.

Contact: Pat Nixon 480-985-0839

### **Gourmet Divas**

Meets the fourth Thursday of the month at various member selected restaurants.

Contact: Lynn Peters 480-634-7502

### **Great Decisions: International Affairs**

Meets the third Friday of the month at 9:15 am at members home.

Contact: Mary Hung 480-269-0401

### **Ladies of Literature**

Meets on the third Thursday of the month at 1:00 pm at members home.

Contact: Joanna Larson 734-649-3893

### **Lunch Bunch**

Hostess will take reservation for the restaurant of choice. Each member pays for her lunch.

Contact: Marje Perkins 480-306-4757

### **Morning Book Club**

Meets the third Thursday of the month at 9:30 am at members home.

Contact: Bev Byrd 303-618-4310  
Judy Ruth 715-558-5794

### **Public Policy**

Meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at members home.

Contact: Marilyn Kunde 480-832-7012

**The Gourmets**

Meets four times a year. Two meetings include members guests.

Contact: Carla Burman 480-550-7353  
Kay Eakin 480-641-8719

**Summer Groups**

**Conversation at The Cafe**

Meets in the Rendezvous Cafe at 11:00 am every other Friday of the month.

Contact: TBD

**Summer Lunch Bunch**

Meets once a month. Hostess will take reservations for the restaurant of choice. Each member pays for her lunch.

Contact: Marje Perkins 480-306-4757

**Summer Book Club**

Meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 10:00 am in the Anniversary Room at Recreation1. May through September.

Contact: Marje Perkins 480-306-4757