



Spring 2021, April

President's Message

I am so looking forward to being together on April 7th for lunch, **cupcakes, and yes, we will provide water and coffee.** Come, visit from 11a to 1p, and celebrate our new officers and their installation. Joanne Walen will be with us to conduct the installation.

I also want to thank each of you for your participation in our meetings this season by ZOOM. It has been a challenging year, but we have held it together which says a lot about our group fortitude.

I am proud to be a member of the East Mesa Branch of AAUW. The women who have gone before us to form us, and the women who will come after us are all part of the fabric we create together. We are like a Heritage Quilt—small scraps of fabric from many garments, stitched together to make a whole. We are stronger together than any single piece of fabric.

Gratefully Yours,
Sandra Lackore

“Normal Day, let me be aware of the treasure you are. Let me learn from you, love you, savor you, before you depart. Let me not pass you by in quest of some rare and perfect tomorrow. Let me hold you while I may, for it will not always be so.”

An excerpt from *A Normal Day* by Mary Jean Irion
Sandra

INTEREST GROUP UPDATES--APRIL

The Book Review Group

Welcomed new members on a Zoom meeting. We will meet on Zoom again on April 21st and again May 19th at 9:15. (3rd Wednesday each month). New members are welcome: just email me: leepatnixon@cox.net. Pat Nixon, chair.

Great Decisions will meet by Zoom on Friday, April 9, at 9:15 a.m. Kay Eakin will be facilitating the discussion on China's Role in Africa. Betsy Flaten will be sending out the Zoom invitation. Mary Hung, Chair (maryhung4@gmail.com)



April Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch interest group's goal is to get to know members in small groups while enjoying lunch at local restaurants. The Lunch Bunch will end the year with two ZOOM lunch dates in April. Hopefully, we can have lunch in person in the fall. Have a great summer.

Marje Smith Perkins

Marje.perkins@gmail.com

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

APRIL 12

The April meeting will examine the new PBS series “The Black Church” presented by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. This historical perspective on the Black Church speaks volumes to the Black History experience in America. If you have not been part of the group previously and would like to participate please contact Sandra or Betsy.

Mary Linnemann has led us in our postcard campaign as we write our legislators to protect the Invest in Education Initiative and to prevent voter suppression bills from passing at the Arizona legislature.

We will continue our postcard campaign by supporting legislation to extend and enhance the work of the Study Committee on Missing and Murdered Indigenous People. We will also advocate for the Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) at the federal level and for domestic violence legislation being proposed by The Arizona Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence at the state level.

If you are interested in joining the Diversity and Inclusion Interest Group, contact Sandra Lackore at cdlackore@aol.com or Betsy Flaten at katperson@msn.com.

INTEREST GROUPS, cont.

Ladies of Literature

3rd Thursday at 1 p.m. via Zoom

The Ladies of Literature will meet via Zoom on April 15, 2021 at 1 p.m. via Zoom. Our book will be *The Deepening Stream* by Dorothy Canfield Fisher and will be facilitated by Ruth Pinkus.

Please let Joanna Larson know if you would like to attend:
kirbydog3@icloud.com.

Morning Book Club meets April 15 at 9:30 am via Zoom.

The April Selection is *Last Boat Out of Shanghai* by Helen Zia.

“Zia weaves together the stories of four young Shanghai residents who wrestled with the decision to abandon everything for an uncertain life as refugees in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the United States.”

Morning Book Club meets the third Thursday of the month at 9:30 am.

New members are welcome, so please contact Bev Byrd or Judy Ruth if you are interested in participating.

Beverly Byrd
ybbord13@hotmail.com

FYI:

Summer Book Club is conducted by Marje Perkins. We will be discussing merging the 2 book clubs at our April book club meeting.

The Gourmets

We will be eating at an outdoor restaurant in April. The exact date and venue will be decided at our April Zoom. If you are interested in joining us, contact Carla Burman burmancl@yahoo.com.

Heretic: The Mary Dyer Story. For those of you who remember this fantastic presentation in November 2019, and for any new members who would like the experience, Jeanmarie's play is now available on YouTube. In the interest of diversity, the play is being signed in ASL, but the voice is that of the playwright Jeanmarie (Simpson) Bishop. If you recall, we were prevented from hearing/seeing Jeanmarie perform because of illness, so this is your opportunity (if you like) to hear her in person, even though it's virtual. To hear Jeanmarie speak about Mary Dyer, check out this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmahOKuwAXs> We also supported the Arizona Theatre Matters with a grant in 2019. Here is the link for the performance:

<https://youtu.be/3HXJJDXGcSA>

If the link won't take you to the page, please copy and paste it into your browser.

Joanne Walen

I asked Bev to give us her vitae so we would have a better understanding of her life experience. True to her nature, she was concise. I just want to add I was pleased to learn that she was also from Massachusetts (note her nursing degree was obtained in Worcester MA, the town next to where we will be spending our summers). I know you will all welcome her warmly when she is installed President on April 7. --Sandra

Beverly Byrd

Member since 2016

Secretary for 3 years

Chair of Morning Book Club

Member of Gourmets, Diversity & Inclusion

Graduated University of Denver: Business degree

Graduated Worcester City Hospital School of Nursing: RN and maintain active license

Volunteer at Castle Pines Library (CO), 10 years

Relocated to AZ full time 2020

Hobbies: golf, reading, volunteering

DUES ARE NOW DUE!

It is time to renew your AAUW membership and pay your 2021-2022 dues. Membership renewal forms and checks will be collected at the April 7 meeting. Please make your \$80 check (or \$18 check if you are a Paid Life Member or a Dual Member) payable to **AAUW EAST MESA BRANCH**. If you prefer to pay by credit card, our Treasurer will email your credit card payment instructions.

**AAUW - EAST MESA BRANCH
DUES RENEWAL FOR CURRENT MEMBERS**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____

CELL _____

EMAIL _____

I would be interested in helping with:

- Hospitality Fund Raising Programs Publicity
- Membership Newsletter Scholarship Luncheon
- Public Policy/Diversity & Inclusiveness Website/Facebook
- Other (explain) _____

2021-22 Renewing Member Dues: \$80 --

Apportioned: National-\$62 (\$59 is tax deductible); State-\$9; Branch-\$9
(Branch reduced its dues by \$2.50 this year to help compensate for National's \$3 increase)

Dual Membership: \$18 (Branch and State dues)

Paid Life Member: \$18 (Branch and State dues)

Honorary Life Member: \$0 (will automatically be renewed)

Make check payable to **AAUW East Mesa Branch**

Mail to AAUW EAST MESA
 Attn: Treasurer
 P O Box 6792
 Mesa, AZ 85216

For the good of the order. . .

1) **AAUW ELECTIONS.** Soon AAUW members will vote on a proposed change to the national Bylaws recommended by the Board of Directors and the Governance Committee. This change would eliminate the degree requirement for membership as it explicitly denies access for those without college degrees. AAUW's mission is to advance gender equity, and the current policy is exclusionary.

Voting will take place online via the email on file with National AAUW beginning April 7 and closing May 15 unless a member sends a specific request for a paper ballot. More information is available on the National AAUW website at <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/open-membership-toolkit/>. If you can't click the link, copy and paste it into your browser.

2) **EAST MESA BRANCH STRONG:** The 2021-2023 Board will be installed on April 7 with terms starting July 1. While the board assumes responsibility for the branch's business obligations, committees such as membership, program, and scholarship, also need volunteers to bring new ideas and energy into their initiatives. Volunteering, whether board positions or committees, is a key component to maintaining a strong, healthy and vibrant branch as you each have skills and ideas to contribute. Contact a member on the board or committee Chair for more information.

Volunteer and let's all work together to empower our East Mesa branch to be the best.

AAUW East Mesa Board 2021-2023:

President: Beverly Byrd, ybbord13@hotmail.com
Program VP: Mary Linnemann, mklinnemann@charter.net
Membership VP: Betsy Flaten, katperson@msn.com
Secretary: Janice Dill, janicekdill@gmail.com
Treasurer: Sandy Williamson, swvistas@gmail.com (to 2022)
Scholarship: Judy Taucher-Lewis, jtaucherlewis@aol.com (to 2022)

Communication: Shirley Davis, jrdasd@gmail.com
Event Chair: Judy Shahenian, dmsjas@mac.com
Parliamentarian: Elaine Prom, mepromia@hotmail.com

**American Association of University Women of East Mesa (AZ) Branch
General Meeting Minutes March 3, 2021**

Program - Joy Klein, Senior Director of Education and Scholarships with the Arizona Community Foundation (ACF) was our speaker. Joy shared with us how the ACF Scholarship Program impacts women's educational needs with a focus on minority women. She also shared how the Foundation participated in the CARES act financial distributions.

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 2:05 p.m. by President Sandra Lackore.

Quorum established - 34 members present

Women in History - **Mary deChesnay**; This month's wonderful woman was Mary Leakey, a British paleoanthropologist. She spent decades working in East Africa. Her husband was Louis Leakey. The children's book about her life - Fossil Huntress. Thanks Mary!!

Secretary's Report: Minutes from February meeting accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's report: Report was printed in the March EMBers. Cash balance as of 2-18-21 \$19,528.67. Motion by Mary Linnemann, second by Kay Eakin to accept the report and file for audit.

Scholarship Event Report - Judy Shahanian - Judy reported that the webinar with William Kent Krueger hosted by Barbara Peters of The Poisoned Pen was very positive. More than 75 people attended, and enjoyed the author's down to earth style of discussing his books. Judy has sent thank you notes to Patrick Milliken and Barbara Peters.

Amendments to Bylaws Approval - The changes to the bylaws were approved by the Board on 1-27-2021 and presented in the March EMBers. Changes were coming from a committee; there was no need for a motion. Changes in bylaws were passed unanimously by the members present.

Election of Officers - Nominated officers: Beverly Byrd, President; Mary Linnemann, Program Vice President; Janice Dill Secretary; Judy Taucher-Lewis, Scholarship Chair. There were no nominations from the floor. The officers were duly elected and will be installed at the April meeting. You have just elected your slate of officers for the 2021-2023 program year. In accordance with our bylaws the duly elected president and the duly elected treasurer will be signers on the bank accounts. Motion carried.

Other Business/Announcements:

- March Board meeting - March 24, 2021 @11: 00 am. It will be a lunch meeting, please bring your own lunch and beverage. Dessert will be provided. This meeting welcomes the new officers and says thank you to the outgoing officers.
- All meetings are open to all members. Contact Sandra Lackore if you want to attend.
- The next Branch Meeting will be April 7, 2021 at Rec 1 on the Promenade. Bring your own lunch and your beverage cupcakes will be available for dessert.
- Dues Payments - Sandy Williamson will send an email; they are due after 3/15/21 - \$80.00
- A volunteer is needed for the EMBers newsletter. If interested contact Beverly Byrd, Sandra Lackore or Joanne Walen.
- Mary deChesnay volunteered to put together a basket of all the children's books she collected this year to auction off at the last meeting. Thanks!!

Adjournment: - meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Dill, AAUW Mesa East Secretary

AAUW EAST MESA BRANCH

FINANCIAL REPORT

BRANCH ACCOUNT

	Number of 2020-21 Branch members	66		
Cash Balance at 2/28/2021		\$	19,529.12	
INCOME				
		FY to date	Spending Plan	Remaining Budget
	Larney Reserve Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transferred from Sclrshp Acct	Fundraiser	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Donations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Interest	\$ -	\$ 8.00	\$ -
(budgeted \$11.50 X 80 members)	Member Dues Deposit	\$ -	\$ 920.00	\$ -
	Total Income	\$ 19,529.12	\$ 928.00	\$ -
EXPENSES				
(annual Box rental due 3/21)	PO Box rental	\$ 118.00	\$ 80.00	\$ (38.00)
(pd \$337 on 5/29/20)	Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Room Rent/Programs	\$ -	\$ 700.00	\$ 575.00
	Hospitality-meetings	\$ -	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00
	Directory printing	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
	Newsletter-postage/printing	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
	BOD end-of-year luncheon	\$ -	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00
	State Conventions	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
	Regional Conventions	\$ -	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
	AAUW Funds-Nat'l & State	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Total Branch Expenses	\$ 118.00	\$ 2,085.00	\$ 1,842.00
BOARD MEMBERS				
	President	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 92.25
	Program VP	\$ -	\$ 110.00	\$ 110.00
	Membership VP	\$ -	\$ 133.00	\$ 133.00
	Secretary	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
	Treasurer	\$ -	\$ 30.00	\$ 22.50
	Communications	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
	Total Board Expenses	\$ -	\$ 423.00	\$ 407.75
2019-20 LARNEY RESERVE GRANTS remaining funds		\$ -	\$ 5,509.00	
East Mesa Branch - Dedicated Donation Funds		\$ -	\$ 7,654.85	
Mesa Public Schools Foundation	\$5,000 eye exams/glasses; \$8,500 technology; \$2,000 clothes & shoes			
AZ AAUW grant reimb. for Education donator (\$500)				
AAUW National-Emerging Needs		\$ -		\$ 1,000.00
EMB Programs		\$ -		\$ 1,000.00
Scholarship Lunch Expenses		\$ -		\$ 4,500.00
Dir/Officers Liability Insur-due 6/2021		\$ -		\$ 500.00
	Month's Total Grant Expenses	\$ -	\$ 13,163.85	\$ 7,000.00
CASH BALANCE 3/15/2021			\$19,411.12	
LARNEY TRUST RESERVE & CONTINGENCY FUND				
Remaining LT Grant Monies & EMB Dedicated Funds		\$ (13,163.85)		
* Contingency		\$ (1,500.00)	\$ 1,500.00	
	FUNDS AVAILABLE for use at 3/15	\$	4,747.27	