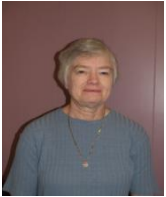


Empowering women since 1881



President's Message

Mary Gernaat

I hope that all the Montana AAUW Branches are busy with their projects, are scheduling great programs for their meetings and are working on getting new members.

Attending the national AAUW meeting was a wonderful experience and I thank you, as members, for helping finance my trip. The next meeting will not be until 2020 to coincide with 100th year anniversary of the vote to allow women to vote nationally-- even though Montana allowed this in 1914, years earlier.

This change in scheduling the national meetings will prove interesting as that is the year we would also have our biennial meeting. The new Board of Directors will need to decide how to handle that situation

Great Falls will host our biennial State Meeting May 19-20, 2018. There will be more information in the spring *Treasure Stater*.

CALENDAR

STATE MEETING--GREAT FALLS

MAY 19-20 2018

We will be proposing the slate of officers for 2018-2020, the Public Policy Program and Resolutions. If you have suggestions for the Public Policy and Resolutions please send them to me. The nominations committee is currently working on preparing the slate of officers.

I am interested in visiting Montana Branches for either a branch meeting or special event. It provides me an opportunity to meet more of our members and see the great things that your branch is accomplishing

Mary Gernaat

AAUW-MT Mailing List

If you aren't already a member, send a message to Susan Lee (suelee000@msn.com) to add you to the list.

To post to this group, send an email to aauw-montana@googlegroups.com

To unsubscribe from this group, send email to aauw-montana+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com

Visit this group at <https://groups.google.com/d/forum/aauw-montana>

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AAUW Member Helpline

1-800-326-2289

AAUW Website

www.aauw.org

In the spring of 2017, the AAUW-MT Salary Negotiation Project oversaw the production of eight workshops throughout the state of Montana with over 100 students receiving valuable Start Smart training.

New workshops took place in Havre and Butte, with continued workshops in Billings, Great Falls, Helena, two in Kalispell and another in Missoula. Kudos to all that helped make this possible!

The Montana Women's Foundation recently announced a continuation of the grant funding our workshops. We are excited to share that a new soon-to-be signed contract will expand our reach to students at tribal colleges, private schools, and community colleges.

We will continue to provide workshops at those campuses in the Montana University System. The grant allows for the AAUW-MT Salary Negotiation Project to cover the licensing fees (\$300 per workshop), facilitator training fees, administrative expenses, and potentially some of the other costs involved in hosting a workshop.

If you are interested in hosting a workshop at a campus near you, or would like more information about our upcoming workshops, go to START SMART/WORK SMART WORKSHOPS tab on the top homepage menu bar of the AAUW-MT website or send an email to startsmartmt@gmail.com. We look forward to working with you!

Jesse Kuntz

Program Vice President
Grant Manager, AAUW-MT Salary Negotiation Project

Branch News

BILLINGS

Some members of the Billings AAUW affiliate met this summer for lunch in July, and we enjoyed a speech in September by former City Administrator Tina Volek. In October, our Bites & Beverages event on cider-making attracted many new people. We recently donated to the Billings office of Girl Scouts of America and the Women and Gender Studies program at MSUB.

GREAT FALLS

Great Falls branch is in the middle of their fund raising event, the annual book sale. We have been working all summer and fall collecting books from generous local people, then getting them sorted. The first week of our sale is now over and we are heading to our half-price sale, then sack sale and final disposal of (hopefully few) left overs. It is a major undertaking but the membership seems to enjoy the hunt for the special books. The money we earn from the sale allows us to give generous scholarships to young women in the area, afterschool programs, and local libraries.

Our program committee has again found interesting people to speak at our monthly meetings.
September—Phil Drake, Political reporter for the Great Falls Tribune
October—Kevin Langkiet, Head of the Benefis Emergency Department
November—Mike Rawlings, Weatherman from KRTV
December—Holiday Brunch
January—Dandelion Foundation—Child Abuse Prevention
February—Twila Croft, UP Academic Support Center Director
March—Beth Thomas, Science Teacher at GFPS
April—Sheila Rice, Tasmanian Trip
May—Spring Awwards Luncheon
May—New/Old Board Pot Luck

AAUW Membership Statistics

170,000 members & supporters

1,000 local branches

800 college & university partners

AAUW Fellowships & Grants

American Fellowships

Applications Due November 15

AAUW American Fellowships support women scholars who are completing dissertations, planning research leave from accredited institutions, or preparing research for publication. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Candidates are evaluated on the basis of scholarly excellence; quality and originality of project design; and active commitment to helping women and girls through service in their communities, professions, or fields of research.

Career Development Grants.

Applications Due December 15

Career Development Grants provide funding to women who hold a bachelor's degree and are preparing to advance or change careers or reenter the workforce. Primary consideration is given to women of color and women pursuing their first advanced degree or credentials in nontraditional field.

Selected Professional Fellowships

Applications Due January 10

Selected Professions Fellowships are awarded to women who intend to pursue a full-time course of study at accredited U.S. institutions during the fellowship year in one of the designated degree programs where women's participation traditionally has been low. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Community Action Grants

Applications Due January 15

Community Action Grants provide funds to individuals, AAUW branches, and AAUW state organizations as well as local community-based nonprofit organizations for innovative programs or non-degree research projects that promote education and equality for women and girls

For more information on AAUW fellowships and Grants, or if you would like to join a selection panel go to the AAUW Educational Funding Page at:

<https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/>

Scholarship Guidelines

The scholarship/Award's purpose must be within the scope of the Organization's purpose.

Use a blind process. Academic scholarships must be awarded on an objective and nondiscriminatory basis.

Identify a charitable class. A charitable class refers to an indefinite group of potential beneficiaries as opposed to a small group of identifiable individuals.

State the purpose of the scholarship.

Identify the selection criteria including all academic indicators, recommendations from instructors & references as well as financial need.

Use an impartial selection

Supervise the scholarship and identify reporting requirements.

Documents should be retained that contain information that demonstrates adherence to best practices in the event that your program or tax deductibility of a donor is challenged.

Documents should identify the criteria used to vet the qualifications of potential recipients and contain documentation verifying compliance with IRS regulations.

The amount of each scholarship, terms & conditions of the funding and procedures for supervision of the recipient's performance and review of grantee reports must be documented.

From AAUW National

National Convention Report

The AAUW National Convention was held in Washington D.C. June 14-17. The following attended from Montana—Program Chair--Jesse Kuntz, Kalispell, Barbara Brown, Bozeman, Katy Caldwell, Great Falls, and President-- Mary Gernaat, Great Falls. Membership Chair Jane Hashley, Great Falls, was in the area visiting relative and joined us for part of the convention.

The biggest project was Lobby Day at the Capitol. We had an orientation session concerning the 2 issues we were to discuss with our legislators or their staff—Student Loan Debt and Title IX. We were given very obvious AAUW t-shirts and bussed to the Capitol. Senator Tester's aide was a young girl from Highwood MT, who was familiar with AAUW and assured us that Senator Tester would support any legislation regarding the issues.

Senator Daines aide was not familiar with AAUW and could not make any commitment about Senator Daines vote. Representative Gianforte had been elected, but was not yet in office so there was no commitment there.

We also toured the new AAUW headquarters, newly purchased and renovated. It was very nicely done.

AAUW is encouraging all branches to enroll in the [Membership Payment Program](#) (MPP). This secure online dues-processing payment plan is an easy and convenient way for members to pay their dues. Branches can complete the application in the Members Services Database. It is quick and easy.

We were introduced to our new Chief Executive Officer, Kimberly Churches. She conducted a panel of women whose lives have been positively influenced by AAUW's efforts in pay equity, Title IX and campus leadership. These women reinforce the benefits of the accomplishments of AAUW.

I appreciated the opportunity to attend this very meaningful event. It is so inspirational to see all the wonderful things AAUW accomplishes and it reinforces my desire to belong.

ELECTION RESULTS

To see the proposed Public Policy Program, Bylaws Amendments and Resolutions refer to the [Spring 2017 Outlook](#).

AAUW's Public Policy Program, adopted every two years, establishes the federal action priorities on which members focus their advocacy efforts and guides the work of the national staff and state action. The entire proposed Public Policy Program passed.

Bylaw Amendments--Proposals 1 and 2 failed; Proposals 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 passed; Proposal 8 failed.

Resolutions on Equal Rights Amendment and Human Trafficking passed.

Our new national president is Julia T. Brown from New Mexico. She will be a definite asset to AAUW.

Mary Gernaat
AAUW-MT President



Remembering Jane Lopp

Jane Lopp

Jane Lopp was an activist who never let her medical disability (she had a rare form of muscular dystrophy) affect what she thought she could do, or where she could go even though she was confined to a wheelchair for over 35 years. Her husband Bob had always been at her side and together they made a wonderful team.

At her funeral last spring, it was apparent that she took her drive and “why not?” with her to every organization she touched. Jane was a mentor to many people and encouraged them to be more, and do more, than they thought they could be. She was an inspiration to many, many, people.

I will be forever grateful for her tutelage as a young AAUW member who didn't have much experience, and yet Jane, (and Mary Gibson) saw some leadership potential in me during the 1970's and 80's.

Her AAUW legacy has spanned over 45 years, and when she was the Montana State AAUW President in the early 1980's, she made sure that things got done. She attended many National Conventions and brought back cutting-edge ideas to the State. She was a lobbyist, on the Human Rights Commission, Flathead County Library Board/Foundation, Rotary and many other organizations. Jane was an expert networker and no matter where she was, a recruiter for AAUW membership.

She was instrumental in keeping the Kalispell Branch proactive and was the Branch President twice. She especially treasured the 40-year old Kalispell Lunch Bunch Book group that she helped co-found. Jane was a great promoter of women and girl's issues, especially those relating to sports. Jane also sponsored many well renown speakers such as, May Sarton and Carolyn Heilbrun.

Since 1989, Jane was highly respected and successful in her work as a Prudential Financial Planner. According to Mary Gibson, she took extra time to make sure that her clients received the best possible outcomes, too.

Jane approached me at the last State Convention in May 2016, and asked if I would help her with the State Nominating Committee. Naturally, I said no, since I had been out of contact with State AAUW for many years. She asked again, and then again, and I said no... well... maybe... and then finally, OK. That was classic Jane. She wouldn't take no for an answer! Little did I know that I would be accepting her challenge and in her honor, carrying on the Nominating Committee work.

Much has changed in our world in the past 30 years, and AAUW has had to change with the times. “Somehow”, Jane told me, “AAUW has become less focused and without a cohesive core or sense of community”. She was ready to take on another challenge and try to bring back some spark to the Montana organization. I humbly am trying to follow her wishes... but I will miss her pointed questions, her laughter, her spark and her leadership.

Stacy Jovick

Will You Run for a State AAUW Board Position?

“On average, it takes a woman being asked 7 times to run for a political office”, said Stacie Anderson recently at the Park Affiliate meeting in Livingston. She is the Executive Director of Carol’s List for Montana, an organization dedicated to promoting strong female leadership candidates for political office. Some other problems of getting women to run is they often don’t feel qualified, they have families, and jobs and don’t think they have the time. For Carol’s List, they also need to be progressive and a Democrat. What does it take to run for a Montana AAUW Board position?

According to Carol’s List, it takes asking potential officers 7 times if they will run!

WILL YOU RUN FOR A STATE BOARD POSITION?

Finance: Do you like working with numbers, have at least two years’ experience as an Affiliate Finance chair, are detailed oriented and have a solid understanding of QuickBooks?

WILL YOU RUN FOR A STATE BOARD POSITION?

Communications (Secretary): Are you capable of recording the minutes of meetings, able to mail/email out mailings in a timely fashion to all designated people? Are you interested in passing on your enthusiasm to others?

WILL YOU RUN FOR A STATE BOARD POSITION?

Membership Vice-President: Do you like sharing the benefit of being a member of AAUW? Are you a good record keeper, do you like to share ideas on how to promote and retain members?

WILL YOU RUN FOR A STATE BOARD POSITION?

Program Vice-President: Are you interested in providing quality programs that promote AAUW issues and topics? Do you like to coordinate workshops that will inspire members to take ideas back to their own Affiliates and implement? Are you a planner and organizer?

WILL YOU RUN FOR A STATE BOARD POSITION?

President: Do you like to set goals and work with people to accomplish those goals? Are you organized and have a passion for bringing the State AAUW board together as the leaders of the Community Affiliates? Is your glass half-full? Do have consensus building skills from your work/volunteer experiences? Have you been an AAUW Affiliate officer?

WILL YOU RUN FOR PRESIDENT OF THE MONTANA STATE BOARD?

Do you have two years to devote to strengthening AAUW in Montana? Will you listen to the members, inspire confidence, accept challenges, and represent AAUW to other organizations? Are you interested in learning how each Montana Affiliate is the same yet different as you travel around the state during the two-year term?

WILL YOU RUN FOR PRESIDENT OF THE MONTANA STATE BOARD?

The slate of Officers for the 2018-2020 term is in the process of being compiled for the State Convention in May of 2018. Mary Gernaat has graciously served as President for 6 years, which goes above and beyond what most people would do.

We need, as Montana AAUW members, to step up and get involved at the State level. We need to be willing to help each other make AAUW stronger.

So, now that you have been asked 7 times if you will run for a State Board Office by your Community Affiliate President or the Nominating Committee, please be ready with your answer, “YES, I WILL.” You can also call the Nominating Chair, Stacy Jovick at 406-223-0200, and indicate which office inspires you to action.

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