

MONTANA TREASURE STATER

Empowering women since 1881



President's Message

Mary Gernaat

I hope everyone survived winter and you are enjoying our beautiful early spring.

Start Smart has become a reality in Montana. We had fall workshops in Billings, Bozeman, Helena, and Great Falls. All of those sites will have spring workshops, plus Kalispell. It has been a bit of a struggle, but I feel much better about our progress. We still need to engage Northern and Montana Tech.

The Great Falls Branch is busy working on the Biennial Meeting to be held May 14-15, 2016. The theme of the meeting is *Building a Better Future for Women and Girls*. Our special guest will be Lisa Maatz, Vice President of Government Relations for AAUW in Washington D.C. She is a very dynamic person and should greatly enhance our meeting. More information and the registration form is later in this newsletter.

At the last AAUW-Mt Board of Director's meeting we decided that a fitting tribute for Bozeman AAUW member and past AAUW-MT Finance and President Diane

CALENDAR

April 16 Missoula	Start Smart Workshop
April 21 Kalispell	Start Smart Workshop
May 2 & 3 Bozeman	Governor's Equal Pay Summit
May 14 & 15 Great Falls	AAUW-MT Biennial Meeting
June 2 - 4 College Park, MD	Nat'l Conference for College Women Student Leaders NCCWSL

Ehernberger would be to provide a scholarship for a Montana undergraduate women to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. It will be held June 2-4, 2016 at the University of Maryland, College Park Md. More on that later in the newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you in Great Falls in May.

Please contact me if I may be of assistance in any way.

Mary Gernaat

MEET AND GREET

AAUW-MT members are invited to attend a "Meet & Greet".

Friday, May 13, 2016

7:00-9:00 P.M.

Hampton Inn-Breakfast Area

Board of Directors

President

Mary Gernaat, 452-8769
gernaatwcm@aol.com

Program

Lynn Allison 761-3212
riclynallison@msn.com

Membership

Verna Carpenter 365-4465
Velcro@midrivers.com

Communications

Bess Lovec, 259-8117
besspl@bresnan.net

Finance (Interim)

Debbie Blackburn 570-5273
deb4cats@aol.com

Public Policy

Trudi Schmit, 452-7215
trudischmidt@q.com

AAUW Funds

Linda Harris, 862-6671
tcgsinc@montanasky.net

Bylaws/Parliamentarian

Corky Bush, 599-4670
Corkyb43@yahoo.com

Newsletter

Susan Lee, 453-8860
Suelee000@msn.com

AAUW Member Helpline

1-800-326-2289

AAUW Website

www.aauw.org

START SMART

The AAUW-MT is in its second year of bringing free salary negotiation workshops to eight campuses of the Montana University System (MUS). This project, funded for another year by a second grant from the Women's Foundation of Montana (WFM) provided workshops during the last academic year (2014-15) and will also provide workshops during the current 2015-16 academic year. Additional project funding was also received from the Montana Governor's Commissioner of Higher Education (OSHE), the Presidents' Offices at MSU and UM, and the MSU Women's Center.

In the 2015 spring semester the AAUW-MT Start Smart Grant Project provided salary negotiation workshops and facilitator training sessions at three campuses (UM, UMW, and MSU). During these sessions 27 Montana facilitators were trained.

The 2015-16 project will provide workshops at most of the 8 MUS campuses during fall 2015 and also in spring 2016. A spring 2016 Kalispell workshop is also currently being planned.

If you are interested in attending a Start Smart and/or Work Smart workshop or becoming a workshop facilitator, please check the list of workshop locations under the [START SMART/WORK SMART WORKSHOPS](#) tab on the top AAUW-MT homepage menu bar.

For further information or inquiries, please contact the AAUW-MT Start Smart Executive Committee by email at: <mailto:startsmartmt@gmail.com>

MONTANA EQUAL PAY SUMMIT

May 2 & 3

This year's theme is Women in Business. We have an exciting lineup of informative panels, resources, and tradeshow of women-owned businesses.

Join Governor Steve Bullock and the Equal Pay for Equal Work Task Force for the 2016 Equal Pay Summit at Montana State University May 2-3 as we address fair pay for all Montanans.

This year's keynote speaker is Dr. Jen Welter, the first woman to be hired to coach in the National Football League. She was recognized at the United Nations as Sports Pioneer of the Year and named by ESPNW as one of the 25 most influential women in sports in 2015.

The Equal Pay Summit is free and open to the public.

For more information go to:

<http://www.equalpay.mt.gov/>

AAUW – MT Biennial Meeting

Building a Better Future for Women and Girls



Keynote speaker

Lisa Maatz

As AAUW's top policy adviser, Maatz works to advance AAUW's priority issues on Capitol Hill, in the White House, and in coalition with other organizations. She is a sought-after speaker across the nation and in our nation's capital, and has a large and devoted following on Twitter.

Lisa also provides leadership to several coalitions working to advance opportunities for women and girls, including the National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education and the Paycheck Fairness Act Coalition. Recently featured in the book *Secrets of Powerful Women*, Lisa has developed a reputation for her strategic approach to legislation and advocacy. She has done similar work for the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund and the Older Women's League, and was a legislative aide to U.S. Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (D-NY).

Her grassroots advocacy career began when she was the Executive Director of Turning Point, a battered women's program recognized for excellence by the Ohio Supreme Court. Lisa is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Ohio University, and currently serves on the university's Diversity Alumni Advisory Board.

She has two master's degrees from Ohio State, and holds an adjunct appointment with the Women and Politics Institute at American University.

Honors include the National Committee on Pay Equity's Winn Newman Advocacy Award (2013), National Association of Partnerships in Equity's first-ever Public Policy Advocate for Equity Award (2012) and the U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce's 10th anniversary Trailblazer Award (2011).

Lisa has also received the Women's Information Network's Karen Mulhauser Award (2010) for mentoring and service, and WIN's Young Woman of Achievement Award (2001); she has served on that organization's Advisory Council since 2003. She was a recipient of the Mentor Award from the Public Leadership Education Network (2003), and was recently named to their board of directors (2012). Lisa was awarded a Congressional Fellowship in Women and Public Policy from the Women's Research and Education Institute (1997) and was a mayoral appointee to the Washington, D.C., Commission on Women (2006–10).

Lisa has been with AAUW since 2003. During that time, she also spent 16 months serving concurrently as the interim director of the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund.

Slate of Officers 2016 – 2018

President

Mary Gernaat

I have been a member of the Great Falls Branch for 23 years. I joined when I retired after 27 years of teaching Home Economics at C.M. Russell High School.

Being Chair of our Used Book Sale for several years was my biggest challenge. Our branch is so dedicated to this sale that it is truly a group effort. I also had the honor of being President of our branch in 2006-2007 and again in 2011-2012 and have attended four National Conventions. I am a graduate of Iowa State University and came to Montana to teach in 1965. After retiring from teaching I have continued with my favorite hobby—sewing. I now do alterations, make curtains for the KOA Kabins and Cottages and various other sewing jobs.

My husband, Bill, of almost 32 years, passed away four years ago from complications of pancreatic cancer. That has made a big change in my life. We have 2 daughters and 6 grandchildren and now two great granddaughters and another due in June. I am looking forward to continuing my activities with AAUW-MT.

The biggest challenge the last two years has been getting Start Smart workshops into the Montana University system. The committee has been successful, but we still have several colleges to bring into the program. Serving as the Communications officer for 4 years and President of AAUW-MT the past four years has made me more aware of the mission of AAUW, which I totally support.

Program VP

Jesse Kuntz

AAUW Experience

Kalispell Branch member since July 2012

Kalispell Branch Secretary 2013-2014

Kalispell Branch President 2014-2016

AAUW Montana State Conference in Great Falls, MT 2014

AAUW National Convention in San Diego, CA 2015

AAUW Montana Board of Directors 2014-2016

Project Manager for the AAUW-Montana Salary Negotiation Grant Project 2016

Education

Liberal Studies Bachelor of Science from Montana State University Billings in May 2009

Master of Science in Public Relations from Montana State University Billings in May 2011.

Communications

Bess Lovec

Bess has served as secretary and president of the Billings Branch of AAUW, plus attended several national conventions. She currently serves on the Executive Board of Planned Parenthood of Montana. Bess holds degrees from the University of Utah (BFA in Dance), Eastern Montana College (BS in Education: English), and MSUB (Masters of Education: Health and Wellness). Having earned 20 years in the Montana Teachers Retirement system, she taught in public schools. Currently Bess teaches yoga, Pilates, and other fitness classes in five locations in Billings. Her immediate family consists of one of each: a husband, daughter, grandson, and son-in-law; although the two small dogs rank highly, too.

Finance Director

Debbie Blackburn

Graduated from the University of Tennessee with a degree in Education. Worked for 15 years in insurance, taught high school math for five years, and worked for 15 years as a tax accountant. Am now working part time as Stated Clerk of Yellowstone Presbytery. Joined AAUW in 2000. Have been on the Bozeman Branch Board since 2001, serving as either Finance Director or Membership Chair. Moved to Montana in 1999 when husband Rick retired. Have been married for 38 years. We have no children but our four cats and two dogs are family. Am very active with my church, enjoy fly-fishing and reading. I stepped in as State Finance Director in the late summer of 2015 when Diane Ehernberger's illness prevented her from continuing.

Membership VP

Jane Hashley

I graduated from Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI with a BS in Medical Technology (now known as Clinical Laboratory Science). My work involved laboratories in hospitals, private offices and most recently the Great Falls Clinic. I've worked in mental health and business, both non-profit and private and was briefly director of the HANDS program (before and after school child care started by the Great Falls AAUW). I joined AAUW in 1981 for the intellectual stimulation of programs and study groups outside my realm of expertise. I've attended two National conventions and held various positions in the Branch including President, Program VP and Membership VP and of course, my favorite, working the book sale.

Exploring Montana and the natural beauty of the rest of the states is one of my passions. My travel bucket list includes hiking in all the National Parks. Unfortunately, with seven grandchildren all living out East, we don't seem to make it to many of the parks.

AAUW – MT Biennial Meeting
Building a Better Future for Women and Girls
May 13 – 15, 2016

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday Night May 13

7:00pm-9:00 pm. Meet & Greet—Hampton Inn Breakfast Area
Sponsored by Great Falls Branch

Saturday May 14

9:30am Registration Opens—Hampton Inn

10:00am State Board Meeting—Current Officers, Appointees & Branch Presidents/Representatives

11:30am-noon Follow-up Discussion

11:30am Treasure State Branch Membership and Board Meeting

12:00pm Lunch, Meeting Opening

12:45pm Panel Discussion—Abuse & Assault in Montana
Moderator: Terry Reynolds
Panel Members: TBA

2:15pm Break

2:30pm Public Policy/Resolutions

4:00pm Break

4:15pm AAUW Informational Sessions
Membership Payment Program—Susan Lee & Grace Lacy, Great Falls Branch
Start Smart—Laura Wight, Great Falls Branch

6:0pm Silent Auction & Social Hour (No-host bar)

7:00pm Dinner

7:45pm Keynote Speaker—Lisa Maatz – AAUW Vice President Government Relations

Sunday, May 15

8:00am Table Topics & Hotel Breakfast or on your own. \$6.95 if not staying at hotel

9:00am Business Session

10:45am Break

11:00am Honors Brunch

1:00pm State Board Meeting

AAUW-MONTANA 2016 MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

Building a Better Future for Women and Girls

Full Name _____

Badge Name/Nickname, if different than above _____

Address _____

Primary Phone _____ Other Phone _____

Email Address _____

Affiliation (branch or organization) _____

Current Branch Office _____ Current State Office _____

AAUW-MT Member Yes ____ No ____

Please sign up for the following (please indicate number attending/ eating)

Registration () \$15 if postmarked before May 1, 2016
() \$25 after May 1, 2016

Friday Evening () Welcome Reception sponsored by the Great Falls Branch
Hampton Inn.
No Charge, but we need to know if you plan to attend.

Special Needs/Diet? (please specify) _____

Saturday Lunch () \$12 Deli Sandwich, Chips, and Green Salad

Saturday Dinner () \$22 Chicken Cordon Bleu

Select Entree () \$22 Baked Ham with Chutney Sauce

() \$15 Linguine with Roasted Vegetables

Sunday Brunch () \$13 Quiche Buffet

Registration Total \$ _____

Meal Total \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____

Payment: Please make your check payable to AAUW-MT and mail with your completed registration form to Debbie Blackburn, PO Box 526, Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730.

Lodging: Hampton Inn, 2301 14th St. SW. Phone 406.453.2675. to make your reservation. The AAUW rate is \$109.00, plus tax, for 1-4 people. A block of rooms will be held at this rate until May 1, 2016

Questions: Contact Mary Gernaat at 406.452.8769 or gernaatwcm@aol.com



DIANE EHERNBERGER TRIBUTE

Amy Fiel has been selected to be the recipient of the Diane Ehernberger Scholarship to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. She is a student at MSU Bozeman, majoring in Family & Consumer Sciences and minoring in Women and Gender Studies. She plans to graduate Spring of 2017 and remain in Bozeman. Amy is part of a core team through the Diversity Awareness Office and a Peer Leader for incoming first-year students. Her applications states that she “will return to my university and community dedicated to continuing to engage other in meaningful dialogue and action around issues of injustice and inequality”. Amy is a worthy recipient and this scholarship is an ideal way to honor Diane.

SILENT AUCTION

We encourage each branch to support AAUW Funds by contributing a basket for this year’s silent auction to be held during this year’s AAUW-MT convention. This is your opportunity to present a basket full of amazing, astounding, unique, and wonderful items that will tempt convention attendees and, more importantly, will enable AAUW to continue breaking through barriers for a broad community of women.

So put on your thinking caps to help your branch create a basket—or even more than one— so tempting that all participants at Convention will be outbidding each other for the chance to take it home. And remember to bring your checkbooks so you’ll be ready to bid on your own favorite.

BRANCH NEWS

Great Falls- We are very fortunate in Great Falls to have resources available that will present outstanding programs for our branch meetings. In January, we had a field trip with Dave Snugg at the business “My Neighbor in Need”. This business coordinates anonymous assistance from donors to individuals in the community with validated needs. In the past 4 years, over 6,000 people were helped in the Great Falls community. Adrian Ehrke, the volunteer coordinator from the Great Falls Police Academy, spoke at our February meeting. This program was started in 2013 and currently has 30 volunteers who help out in the police office at least 4 hours a week. In honor of International Women’s Day, March 8, Janine Giordano Drake, UGF history professor, gave a presentation on notable women activists of the early 20th century. Our April branch meeting will have Kerry Callahan sharing about her trip to Cuba. This certainly ties in well with the recent Cuban visit by President Obama. The May spring luncheon culminates our active year by honoring a community member, local AAUW members, and awarding college scholarships to women from our community.

Park County-- The Park Branch’s biannual New to You Arts and Antiques Sale was held in March at the Livingston Depot. Months of planning culminated in a beautifully presented sale, filled with high quality consignments and silent auction items, a popular wine and cheese table, delectable desserts, and hard work. Proceeds from the sale support our annual college scholarship, the Park High School Academic Awards Night, candidate forums, and operating expenses. A new slate of officers will be presented at our April meeting. We will wind up the year in May at a spring fling social and then reconvene for our new year beginning in September.

Bozeman-- In October, the Bozeman Branch with AAUW-MT co-sponsored a Start Smart Salary Negotiation workshop on the MSU campus. Cheryl Juergens and Martha Joh Reeder co-facilitate the workshop. Mary Gernaat, AAUW-MT President attended and helped host the workshop for the nine women attendees. In November, the Branch Board approved joining the Bozeman Area Chamber of Commerce (BACC). The Branch hosted its annual Holiday Brunch in December. Members were encouraged to bring guests and several attended. Two of the guests later joined the branch. Diane Ehernberger’s daughter was invited and attended the brunch. The program included giving a gift to Diane’s daughter’s family of a membership to the MSU Museum of the Rockies. A new and larger room from the previous few years was scheduled which worked well with the number that attended.

AAUW – MT
1720 10th Ave South
Ste 4 #239
Great Falls, MT 59405
suelee000@msn.com
Empowering Women Since 1881

***Building a Better Future for Women and Girls
Biennial Meeting Schedule and Registration***