



WASATCH WATCH

September, 2014

TIME TO RECONNECT AND START A NEW YEAR!

September Meeting:

Soup 'n' Salad Benefit for the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF)

Date: Monday, September 8, 2014

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Place: 1580 E Vine Street (6100 S) in the Cottonwood Presbyterian Church Fellowship Room



We've had a beautiful summer and most of us hate to see it coming to a close, but autumn on the Wasatch Front can't be beat. To help kick off the beginning of this colorful season and a new season of AAUW meetings and programs, we will have our annual Soup 'n' Salad buffet mixer-dinner hosted by our branch board members. The Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) will be the recipient of donations collected; members are asked to make a minimum donation of \$5.00. If you wish, bring photos and/or souvenirs of your summer for the mixer and reconnecting after the summer break.

So please join us for an evening of delicious soups, salads, and desserts, as well as information on this coming year's activities. Contact Sandra Roach sroach05@msn.com for further information or to volunteer any help.

To Benefit Educational Opportunities Come to a Chili Cook-off and Bunko Party

This year our Wasatch Branch Educational Opportunities fundraiser will be a Chili Cook-off and Bunko Party. We will have several volunteer chili chefs vying for bragging rights for the best chili recipe followed by a rollicking game of Bunko. Many of us have been involved in a Bunko game or two before but perhaps never on this scale. We hope to have 60 players enjoying the food and fun and getting to know each other in the process...if they can stop laughing long enough to do that.

And while we're having such a great time, we will raise money to give to AAUW Funds for Fellowships and Grants that will support post-graduate study/research and/or community projects to empower women and girls.

Your check for \$20.00 each will guarantee \$15.00 tax-exempt donation to Fellowships & Grants. There will be a Gift Basket for the Bunko Champion and fun gifts for runners up and for the one on the other end of the score sheets (hate the word "loser").



Please invite significant others and friends, both male and female, from beyond the branch membership to enjoy the evening with us. That's the way we'll be in line for the Guinness Book of Records for the largest Bunko Party! We'll begin accepting your checks for the event at our September 8 meeting.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2014 6:00-9:00 P.M.
COTTONWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH GYM

President's Message

"Empowering Women Since 1881" - This is what AAUW is all about. Let's take a look at what else was going on in our country at this same time. Helen Hunt Jackson published "A Century of Dishonor" the first detailed examination of the federal government's treatment of Native Americans in the West. Her findings shocked the nation with proof that empty promises, broken treaties and brutality helped pave the way for white pioneers.

About the same time the Grimke sisters of Charleston were leading abolitionist gatherings as well as bringing to light women's issues. It was just ten years later that Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton lead the Seneca Falls Convention for women's rights. So in the midst of all this action our fore-mothers came together and formed AAUW. What a heritage we have.

Plan to attend the opening meeting of the 2014-2015 AAUW year and hear an update on what AAUW is involved in nationally. Sandra Roach our Legal Advocacy Chair will share information regarding how AAUW supports women in legal situations and acts as a pulse for social justice issues.

Many thanks to all of you who have volunteered in leadership roles for this year. In addition the support of all members helps us focus on the mission of AAUW and provides us with the ability to continue empowering women. We have an invigorating year planned and look forward to seeing you at the LAF dinner on September 8th at Cottonwood Presbyterian Church.

Ann Williams Co-President



2013-14 Wasatch

Branch Officers

Co-President
Dottie Bingman
Ann Williams
Pres. Elect
Carolyn Wiggins
Co-Program VP
Lynne Romney
Laura Osburn
Membership/Diversity Co-VP
Sally Hoffmeyer-Katz
Brenda Clausen
Helen Nix
Secretary
Louise Jarvis
Marilyn Steward
Treasurer
Desta Aure
Marilyn Shearer
AAUW Grants & Funds (EO)
Sue Nissen
AAUW Grants & Funds (LAF)
Sandra Roach
Public Policy
Trudy Duncan
Sharyl Smith
Wasatch Watch Editors
Kathy Horvat
Marge Thomas
Yearbook
Chris Sebba
Sunshine Chair
Jane Cooper
Hospitality
Lucretia Roy
Colleen Alter

YOUR AAUW MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Please welcome our newest AAUW member: Gwen Schamel. Due to established Monday commitments, Gwen will not be able to join monthly meetings on a regular basis. Please look for her at Out and About and other AAUW functions.

Our membership is currently at 57. We ended last Spring with 68 members, and our current goal is 65. ALL AAUW members are encouraged to invite and recruit potential members.

New brochures from National have been updated with Wasatch Branch specific information and are available from your new Membership VP's: Brenda Clausen and Helen Nix.

We look forward to seeing you the 2nd Monday of each month.

Wasatch Branch Calendar

Monday September 8, 7:30PM

Soup N Salad Social at Cottonwood Presbyterian Church, 1580 E. Vine St. See more details on page 1.

Monday September 22, 7:00PM

Board Meeting at Kathy Horvat's.



Public Policy

- Trudy Duncan

National Registration to Vote Day -- September 23

September 23 is National Registration Day. We can all recognize this day by contacting our friends and family to register to vote or to update their registration if they have moved, changed their name or changed their political affiliation since the last election.

In 2012, the U.S. Census Bureau released estimates of the voting age population of each state. This showed 1.94 million Utahans are old enough to vote. That same year Lt. Gov. Greg Bell reported that only 1.47 million Utahans were registered to vote. That means one in four Utahans who are eligible were not registered. Obviously, there is much work to be done to prevent Utah from having the lowest voter turnout in the nation again.

Wage Gap – College Graduates vs. Non-College Graduates

A new study by the Economic Policy Institute found that earning a college degree, despite rising college costs, is still economically worthwhile. Four-year college graduates made 98 percent more an hour in 2013 than individuals without a degree. This is the largest pay gap between college graduates and non-graduates to date.

Gender Pay Gap

AAUW research has consistently shown that there is a persistent gender pay gap in just about every field -- in male-dominated occupations and in so-called “pink collar” jobs and at the highest levels of leadership.

The Paycheck Fairness Act would allow for both transparency and stronger deterrents to stop gender pay discrimination from happening.

We need to urge our Congressional Representatives to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act. We need to have a real conversation in our communities and workplaces about double standards for women in leadership.

AAUW was founded to foster and support women in their efforts to break through barriers. It will continue to

- support the fight for the Paycheck Fairness Act,
- help train the next generation of women leaders on college campuses,
- support hardworking women challenging discrimination in the workplace, and
- produce the latest in ground-breaking research on women and girls.

National Women’s History Museum Progresses Slowly

This summer the House of Representatives passed legislation that would create a bipartisan commission to study the logistics of creating a National Women’s History Museum. The vote was 383 to 33 with only two women voting against it. A similar bill has been introduced in the Senate.

Women’s Equality Day – August 26, 2014

Women’s Equality Day recognizes the day in 1920 when the 19th Amendment was added to the U.S. Constitution giving women the right to vote.

This November, voters in nearly half the country are expected to face new voting restrictions at the polls that weren’t there during the last midterm election four years ago. The number of voters who will be affected depends on the

(Cont.on pg4)

outcomes of pending court challenges, but it seems clear that these voting restrictions will hurt women, minorities, young voters, and the elderly the most.

The question is ... WHY? The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was supposed to stop states from passing these kinds of voting restrictions. But a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision weakened the law.

AAUW believes that Congress needs to pass H.R. 3899/S.1945, a bipartisan amendment to the Voting Rights Act of 1965 which would require certain states that have demonstrated a history of voting discrimination to obtain preclearance prior to any voting changes.

Urge your member of Congress to support H.R.2899/S.1945!

Important Dates for Your Calendar

Sept. 10 ... Senate District 4, House Districts 36 and 37 candidate debates.
Holladay City Hall, 7 to 9 PM

Sept. 18 ... Forum sponsored by League of Women Voters to discuss the future of the Wasatch Canyons.
Tessman Auditorium at Salt Lake City Main Library, 6:30 to 8:30 PM

Jan 10 ... Legislative Panel – sponsored by AAUW, Wasatch and Salt Lake Branches and League of Women Voters.
Girl Scout Headquarters 10 AM to Noon. (Light refreshments at 9:30 AM)



Of Interest

Following is a schedule for current Interest Groups of Wasatch Branch. If you wish to participate, let the contact person know. New members are always welcome and knowing how many to expect is helpful for those hosting an event.

Bridge: We will meet on **Monday, September 15**, at the home of Janet Bunger, 6441 Tanner Lane. Play begins at 7 p.m. Contact Leona to arrange to play. All skill levels are welcome.

Daytime Book Group will meet on **Thursday, September 4, at 11:30 a.m.** at the home of Eva-Maria Bates, 2968 Glenmare Street(2968 S-1560 E). The book discussion will be on *Natchez Burning*, by Greg Iles. In October, the Daytime Book Group will meet on **Thursday, October 2**, at 11:30 a.m. at Jane Cooper's home, 933 E Statice Ave (933E-10420S), Sandy. The book discussion will be *The Light in the Ruins*, by Chris Bohjalian. Bring a sack lunch to the meetings; dessert is provided. For information, call Jane at 801-571-2350.

Evening Book Group: The next meeting will be held on **Monday, October 6, at 7:30 pm**, at the home of Sue Nissen, 3097 Teton Drive, Salt Lake City. The book is *Out of Order*, by Sandra Day O'Connor. Contact Leona Blackbird for more information.

Meet and Eat: We will meet for lunch on **Wednesday, September 24 at 11:45** at Finca Restaurant, 1291 South 1100 East. Contact Carol Copene, ccopene@comcast.net if you would like to join the group.

Genealogy Group: The Genealogy Group usually meets the fourth Thursday of each month, except for a combined November and December meeting on a date to be determined. The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 25, at 10:00 a.m.** at the home of Carolyn Clarke. We will discuss summer genealogical activities and make plans for future meetings. New members are welcome to join this group. For more information on this group, contact Carolyn: cclarke@xmission.com.

Out and About: This group arranges tours for Wasatch Branch members and their guests periodically through the year. No decision has been made yet for the first outing of the year.

Mission: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

Value Promise: By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

Vision Statement: AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

AAUW Wasatch Branch of Salt Lake County
c/o 6224 Rainsborough Circle
Murray, UT 84121

