

**JEANNETTE JOHNSON**  
**Distinguished Woman 2015**  
**St. George Branch**

The Saint George Branch of AAUW has selected Jeannette Selover Johnson, Ph.D. as its 2015 Distinguished Woman of the Year. Jeannette has been a member of AAUW for over 40 years and for the last 9 years has served the St. George Branch as Education, Public Policy and Legal Advocacy Chair. Believing that AAUW empowers women, she has supported the mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.



Johnson, a native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, moved west to the mountains and deserts with her husband in 1966 and never looked back. She is married to R. Douglas Johnson, her husband of 49 years. Together they enjoy hiking, reading, music, opera, travel and live theatre. Jeannette earned her undergraduate degree in Exceptional Education-Hearing Impaired, at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, her Master's Degree and Ph.D. in Communicative Disorders at Northwestern University, Evanston IL. Early in her career she was on the faculties of the University of Southern California, Central Washington State University and the University of New Mexico. She served in the U.S. Peace Corps as Consultant in Audiology to the Republic of Korea, being the only audiologist in the country at the time. Jeannette founded two non-profit organizations, one providing hearing, speech, language and education services to Native Americans in New Mexico and southern Colorado and the other with audiology services in Washington State.

Jeannette was employed by the Province of British Columbia Ministry of Health as Hearing Consultant. Later she managed clinical research in hearing devices and cochlear implants at the 3M Company, St. Paul MN. As Vice-President of Corporate Regulatory, Quality and Clinical Affairs at ReSound Corporation in Redwood City CA, Jeannette contributed to the successful opening of European and Asian markets and participated in preparing the company for its successful Initial Public Offering. Before retirement, she served as Vice-President of Research and Planning, and Regulatory Affairs at Sonic Innovations in Salt Lake City throughout its early years as a venture-funded company and as it too became a publicly-traded company.

**Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin**  
**Distinguished Woman 2015**  
**Salt Lake City Branch**

Dr. Deneece G. Huftalin was named the eighth President of Salt Lake Community College in September 2014, and feels privileged to have served SLCC students, faculty, and staff for more than two decades.



Dr. Huftalin Distinguished Woman 2015	Kathy Boyer SLC Branch President
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In her time at SLCC Dr. Huftalin has worked collaboratively with faculty and staff to strengthen high-impact practices, learning outcomes, and inclusivity initiatives, and has led Collegewide strategic priority and assessment efforts. Prior to her current role, Dr. Huftalin served as the Interim President, Vice President of Student Services, Dean of Students and Director of Academic and Career Advising. Before joining SLCC in 1992, Dr. Huftalin held positions at William Rainey Harper College; Northwestern University, the University of Utah and the Institute for Shipboard Education.

As President, Dr. Huftalin’s goals are to significantly increase student completion and transfer rates and to work closely with industry leaders to strengthen SLCC’s responsiveness to workforce needs. She is inspired by the Sarah Ban Breathnach quote: “The world needs dreamers and the world needs doers. But above all, the world needs dreamers who do.”

For Dr. Huftalin, the quote reflects her desire to think big about what our world can be and then to go about making that happen in one’s own space. “It’s a nice marriage between invention and creativity and the daily work of making the world a better place – really make it better, not just talking about it,” said Dr. Huftalin. “You can’t just talk about that – you need to roll up your sleeves and do it.”

Dr. Huftalin teaches in Education, Leadership, and Policy program at the University of Utah and serves on a number of community boards and councils including the Salt Lake Chamber, EDCUtah, YWCA Utah, Utah Campus Compact, United Way of Salt Lake, Sandy Area Chamber, and Women’s Leadership Institute. She is also the current presidential sponsor for the Utah Women in Higher Education Network (UWHEN.)

Dr. Huftalin was born in Salt Lake City, Utah and graduated from Skyline High School. She and her husband are the parents of two sons, Max and Eli.

Dr. Huftalin earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Utah, a master’s degree from UCLA and a doctorate in Education, Leadership and Policy from the University of Utah.

## **JANET BUNGER**

### **Wasatch Branch 2015 Distinguished Woman**

A single mother of two daughters, Janet Bunger has modestly compiled a note-worthy and diverse record of volunteer activities. She earned her BA in mathematics at the University of Wyoming, followed by graduate work in statistics. Later she received a BS in accounting from the University of Utah.

Janet was employed as an accountant at Tanner & Co., and worked on her CPA which was achieved in 1982. In her next job she served as Comptroller for failed thrifts from 1985-1992. Eventually she trained with Ameriprise and in 1993 was accepted as a Financial Adviser, employed for 17 years, the last 10 years also acting as an Ameriprise Compliance Officer.

A Girl Scout leader with her girls, Janet enthusiastically volunteered in many other positions, both in Laramie and Salt Lake City. Most notably, she was treasurer for the Girl Scouts of Utah Board of Directors. This was after spending many years on the Council's membership and program committees. She also has been involved in the Utah Girl Scout alumni group since its beginning in the late 1980's.

Consistently, after joining AAUW, Janet was a willing and outstanding leader. On the National level she currently is a member of the Association Finance Committee (since 2011). She was an early supporter of the non-partisan Real Women Run, a group supported by AAUW of Utah. She has regularly supported the Utah Women Artists' Exhibitions and served as a trustee treasurer. She quietly began her AAUW career by agreeing to be branch treasurer and then branch president. Eventually she was elected to serve AAUW of Utah as State President for two terms. Most likely, her offer to continue for a second term in this position was instrumental in reviving the health of our state organization.

From 1991 to 2010, as a member of the Utah Symphony Guild, Janet was board parliamentarian, and Gift Shop treasurer and volunteer. In still another area of interest, Janet spent many hours from 1990 -1997 with the Old Deseret Foundation supporting This Is the Place Park and helping with their 150 Years Celebration. In addition, from 2010 to the present she serves as treasurer for the Friends of Utah State Parks.

Many more contributions of kindness and support could be listed. However, this is an excellent sampling. So it is with pride that we nominated Janet Bunger to be the Distinguished Women for AAUW Wasatch Branch in 2015, and were gratified when she was selected.

Marge Thomas and Connee Gates



