**February 2018 AAUW Newsletter**

**Loveland, Colorado**

**AAUW advances equity for women and girls through**

**advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.**

**A Note From Co- Presidents Kathy Wilson…**

Four of us attended the AAUW Policy Day on February 3 and came away with a much deeper understanding of the extent of labor and sex human trafficking in Colorado and worldwide, and what is being done along the Front Range to combat this complex and difficult problem.

During the report from the AAUW Colorado Public Policy and Advocacy Committee at this event, the Honorable Betty Boyd reviewed a listing of the proposed legislation from the current session of the Colorado General Assembly that does or doesn’t correspond with the 2018 Colorado Mission and Legislative Agenda. Each entry is color-coded as either actively supported, monitored, opposed, or actively opposed. I have posted the link to this document on our AAUW Loveland website, along with links to the CO General Assembly’s online source for descriptions of each of the bills, and the link to the contact information for all CO legislators including Rep. High McKean and Sen. Kevin Lundgren at: <https://loveland-co.aauw.net/aauw-national-information-and-news/>

On the same webpage you will also find information and several links to important state and regional events, such as this year’s AAUW Colorado Convention April 27-28 in Highlands Ranch. Please take a couple of minutes to see the opportunities in which you can take part.

Please ask friends and neighbors to support our flower sale. Be sure to let them know they are supporting graduate scholarships for women. You can find copies of the order form to print at: <https://loveland-co,aauw.net/upcoming-events/> Orders are due at our March meeting on Monday, March 26.

I hope to see you all at the Monday, February 26 meeting. Bring another woman who is interested in advancing equity for women through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. Let’s grow our branch!

**February Meeting**

Rikke M. Liska, a partner in the law firm, Procter, Callahan & Liska, LLC, will be speaking to us at our next meeting on Feb. 27 at 6:30 PM at Artspace, 140 W. Third St. She received her J.D. in 2010 from Arizona State. Her practice focuses on estate planning, probate, and elder law. We look forward to hearing about her experiences in a field that was predominately male, not too long ago. Jean Clune and LaDonna Palm are hostesses for this meeting.

**Book Sale at the Meeting**

Past years members have brought books which they have read to meetings and others can “purchase” them for a donation. The proceeds go toward the operating costs of our branch. Karla Marroquin has volunteered to chair this fundraiser this year. Any books left over can be taken home by the donor or they will be donated to the library book sale. We have found in past years that books that are newer books are the ones in which others are interested.

**Project Self Sufficiency Luncheon**

John Kinnard spoke to us at our December meeting about the work of Project Self Sufficiency. They have a fundraising luncheon every year which anyone can attend. Several have indicated an interest in attending the luncheon. It will be March 6 from 11:30 to 1:00 at the Embassy Suites. There is no cost but they provide envelopes on each table for donations. It is usually quite well attended and you may want to arrive early to get convenient parking. Go to the PSS website and register for the event. You must register by Feb. 27.

**Possible Fashion Show**

We talked at our last meeting about possibly having a fashion show from downtown business owners as a fundraiser. Karla volunteered to look into this. Because of travel plans she had and the flower sale and May luncheon coming up, the executive group decided to postpone this until next year.

**Flower Sale**

Our annual flower sale (geraniums and begonias) will again be the Saturday before Mother’s Day on May 12 at the home of Wanda Marker. You should have received an order form by e-mail. You can bring completed orders to the Feb. or March meeting or send them to Claudia with a deadline of March 26. Pick up order forms for your friends. This fundraiser makes the most money for our scholarship fund and we hope to be able to give $4,000 in scholarships again next year.

**Welcome Mary Jordan**

Mary Jordan has joined our branch. Mary lived in Longmont at one time but has recently moved to Loveland from California. She is having a new home built in Berthoud and will be moving there in June. She has a BS degree with a major in Educational Psychology from Northern Illinois University and a Masters’ degree from the University of Redlands in CA. She has taught in Illinois, Colorado, and California in grades K-8 including being a resource specialist and an ESL coordinator.

**Call for Scholarship Applications**

Each year we have been giving two $2,000 scholarships to women going to graduate school. The publicity for this event and application forms is coming out soon. If you know someone who may be interested let Kathleen Wilson, Diane Worner, or Judy Pitcher know. Also, if you are interested in helping on this committee which reads applications and awards the prizes, let them know.

**Frauds and Scams**

Jody Shadduck McNally, one of our members, recommends and encourages member to attend a session on preventing and responding to scams which will be held at 2:30 on February 23 at the Fort Collins Senior Center, 1200 Raintree. The panel of local, state, and national experts will be targeting seniors.

**Book Club**

The next book club meeting will be at the home of Wanda Marker at 1:00 on Monday, March 5. The book to be discussed is Louisa May Alcott: A Personal Biography by Susan Cheever. Carol Fortin will be the discussion leader. If you plan to attend, let Wanda know.