

January 2020 AAUW Newsletter

Loveland, Colorado

Our mission is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

A note from the president:

Happy New Year and New Decade! Thanks to all of you for your generous contributions to our annual Christmas charity. This year we gave about 8 dozen pairs of socks and 40 sweat pants to Truscott Elementary School students who are in need of winter clothing. The school greatly appreciated our donation.

I'd like to mention to everyone that we have some committees that have openings. For our new members this is a great time to get to know your fellow AAUW members better. To accomplish our goals not only of fundraising for our scholarships, but moving forward as an organization, we need your energy!

Flower Committee – plans for our scholarship fundraiser by selling flowers to the community which takes place in early May. The first organization meeting on Jan 22 at 1:00 pm will be at the home of Claudia Ward, 615 W. Third St. Contact Claudia at 440-371-0910 or Linda French at 970-663-6771. **Scholarship Committee:** plans and coordinates the interviewing and choosing of our scholarship recipients. This committee will begin in February. Contact Diane Worner at 970-219-4654. **Conversations with Authors Committee:** Plans for our fundraising October event when two CO authors are invited to speak at a brunch. This committee will meet in late February. Contact Martha DiCicco, 970-461-5794, Beth Franklin 970-663-0893, or Karla Marroquin 571-338-4922, **Membership:** Contact Linda French 970-663-6771 or Stel Barnett 720-204-6209. **Social:** Contact Stel Barnett 720-204-6209 for information. **Nominating:** two volunteers and one person elected to nominate next year's officers. Officer positions are for two year terms so some of the positions are not rotating this year.

More information on these committees will be given at our Saturday, January 25 meeting. Karla Marroquin

January Program

The January meeting will be held on **SATURDAY, January 25 at 9:00 AM at Artspace** at the corner of 3rd St. and Railroad St. There is more than adequate parking so invite your friends and any former members to join us. The meeting will begin with a short presentation by a member of the SAINT organization, a transportation service for seniors. The main program will be **"A Taste of Flavor"** by new member Lori Bratton. Lori was originally scheduled in November when we were battered by a snowstorm. She has graciously agreed to present her program this month.

Lori recently completed a 33 year career in the flavor industry. She began as a lab technician, completed a three year training program to become a certified flavorist and a member of the national flavorist society. She went on to hold a variety of directors' positions with the company. The program will include smelling and tasting exercises to plan to do some

important work. The flavor and fragrance industry began in the 1700s and has become a 25.5 billion dollar industry touching our lives on a daily basis numerous times.

Our next meeting is **FEBRUARY 24** at Artspace at 6:30 pm. Plenty Pharma will give a presentation on CBD. We need a head count on January 25 for Plenty Pharma. If you can't attend on Jan. 25 but plan to attend in February please call Wanda at 970-744-1406 before February 3.

Hostesses for January are Teri Smith, Stel Barnett, Claudia Ward, and Martha DiCicco.

Public Policy Day

The Immigrant Conversation will be the topic for the statewide AAUW Public Policy Day to be held at the Holiday Inn in Lakewood on Saturday February 1 from 8:30 to 2:30. This will be a very informative day with 100 or so attending. In addition to the keynote presentation by Senator Julie Gonzales from Colorado District 34 (parts of Denver), there will be a panel talking about immigration. Senator Gonzales has been a tireless advocate for immigrant rights across Colorado. There will also be a session talking about the legislative priorities that AAUW will be supporting in this year's legislative session. The cost is \$45 and includes lunch. You can register online or mail in your registration. For the form and more information google Colorado AAUW. **You must register by Wednesday, January 15.** If there are several who plan to go, it would be good to carpool. If you plan to attend, call Karla at 571-338-4922 and she could tell you if there are others attending.

Directory

There is a new directory on the website with all of our new members on it.

.Interest Groups

Book Club – On Monday, February 3 the book club will be meeting to discuss The Gentle Subversive by Mark Lytle, a biography of Rachel Carson, at the home of Ronnie Patterson, 11 Gregg Drive at 1 pm. Ronnie will also be leading the discussion. Please e-mail Ronnie at verolee@earthlink.net and let her know if you will be coming.

Fiber Arts – This interest group will meet on January 20, 1:30 pm at Claudia Ward's house at 615 W. 3rd St. Remember you are not required to do any sort of craft. Just come for conversation and laughter. Please join us.

Martin Luther King Holiday Event

Jan Witt, one of our new members, sends this info to us: Please plan to join the community in celebrating "...a renewed dedication to humanity." This year our free event features a dance performance by the Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble's 2nd company, Cleo II. Cleo Parker Robinson Dance is an international arts institution, rooted in African-American traditions, committed to honoring diversity and inclusiveness throughout the global community.

Winning artwork and essays by Thompson School district students will also be featured. The celebration begins at 6:30 pm (doors open at 6:00) at Mountain View High School. It is co-sponsored by the MLK Loveland Events Committee, Thompson School District, Thompson Education Foundation, and the City of Loveland.

New Member Information

Four of our new members were featured in last month's newsletter. Let me introduce you to some others. **Janice (Jan) Witt** is a graduate of UNC with a major in French and a minor in business. Although she is a graduate of Loveland High School she lived in Denver for 30 years where she used her business minor in several ways. She taught high school business classes, ran a custom picture framing and art business with her husband, and worked for what is now Excel Energy. She moved back to Loveland in 2001 commuting to Denver for several years. He enjoys hiking, her vegetable garden in the summer time, baking, canning, and caring for house plants. She has 2 children and 4 grandchildren living in CO. Right now she is busy on the planning committee for the Martin Luther King celebration.

Lori Bratton has a BS in Consumer Food Science from Iowa State University. She had a 33 year career with Givaudan Flavors in Cincinnati, Ohio as a flavorist and technical director. She is married, has two children, two cats, and two dogs. After retiring she moved to their new home south of Loveland after maintaining a long distance relationship with her husband for 5 years. Her hobbies are golf, cooking, camping, fishing, hiking and sewing. She joined AAUW for the opportunity to meet other professionals, for volunteering opportunities and to promote the advancement of women.

Kari Gomez-Smith is a Denver native who moved to Loveland three years ago. She is a graduate of UNC with majors in home economics and vocational education and has her masters from CU-Denver in early childhood education. During her 34 year career in the Denver Schools she taught junior high math, foods, and child dev. She developed an innovative neighborhood program where 9th grade child development students worked with preschool children, worked in a federal grant program helping teenage parents attending high school, set up semester long internships for high school seniors with Denver businesses, and finally as a public relations manager for the Emily Griffith Opportunity School. She and her husband have 5 children and 6 grandchildren. She enjoys reading, watercolor, hiking, book clubs, and cooking and baking. Right now she is spending the winter in Green Valley, AZ.

There will be more info on new members in the next newsletter.

Membership Concerns

Our president, Karla Marroquin, will be having a bunionectomy on January 15. Our secretary, Diane Worner, had two hip replacements in the last three months but is doing very well. Chris Wertheim's son in Arizona recently had serious surgery and she will be going to stay with him and his wife to help with his care. Jane Noll will be having hip surgery this month.

10 Ways AAUW Made the World Better for Women in 2019

- 1. Trained 102,000 women in salary negotiation skills through Work Smart and Start Smart programs funded by a 500,000 grant from the Coca-Cola Foundation.**

2. Implemented Empower, a new leadership development and networking event hosted in six cities in the US.
3. Raised funds to advance our mission thanks to AAUW Champions – individuals and branches who give \$5,000 or more as well as partnerships with many corporations. These funds have gone to support Our Greatest Needs fund to respond to our most pressing gender-equity challenges.
4. 4. Advocated for equity on Capitol Hill leading the effort to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act in the House and delivering testimony to Congressional Committees on the Equal Rights Amendment, LBBTQ anti-discrimination protections, and paid family leave.
5. We helped 11 states pass equity legislation. Now nearly every state has some form of equal pay legislation in place.
6. Championed the next generation of women at the annual National Conference for College Women attended by nearly 800 young women from 37 colleges and universities.
7. Produced groundbreaking research updating The Simple Truth About the Gender Pay Gap with census data showing that women still only get about 82 cents for every dollar paid to men. In the latest version of Deeper in Debt we show that women now hold about 2/3 of the country's 1.4 billion student debt. And in November, we released a new report Limiting Our Livelihoods indicating that sexual harassment can have long term repercussions on women's health, economic security and access to leadership positions.
8. Provided more than 4.3 million in fellowships and grants to 270 recipients across the globe. AAUW members have been so generous over the years that the organization now has sufficient funding to support fellows and grantees for the next 50 years!
9. Spread our message far and wide as our work was covered by over 140 media outlets as well as garnering over 5 million impressions on social media outlets.
10. Prepared for 2020 as we will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment of the Voting Rights Act by launching a project called "Every Voice Every Vote" in keeping with our mission to advance equity. There are still problems with voter access and voter suppression which is why we are focused on ensuring that everyone's vote counts.

Susan's Dream - Susan B. Anthony Play

Plans are moving along for the presentation of this play on March 12 under the sponsorship of the Loveland Museum and AAUW as part of the commemoration of the passing of the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote in 1920. The play was originally written and performed around 20 years ago by Veronica Patterson, one of our members, and her daughter Carrie Lee Patterson. We are fortunate to have Carrie, a professional actress who lives in the Chicago area, play the part of Susan B. Anthony as she did previously. The play will be in the downstairs auditorium of the Museum at 6:30 pm and there will be limited seating.

There will be no charge due to the generosity of the museum but a \$10 donation will be requested. We will be asking for the consensus of the membership at our January meeting to give the proceeds to our scholarship fund and the Every Word We Utter Monument. Carrie will also be re-enacting Susan B. Anthony during Women's Night on the Town at the museum, the next evening, March 13 as well as serving as an Artist in Residence in three schools during that week.

Every Word We Utter – Celebration of 19th Amendment Monument

Jody McNally, one of our members and President of the Every Word We Utter Monument (hopefully to be placed in Washington DC) Board tells us that the group has their IRS determination letter for 501 3c status which was holding up the procedure for a vote in the US House. They are expecting to receive details soon on the next step. They are continuing to keep the sculpture in front of the new staff in both Senator's DC offices as well. To see pictures and read more go to the project's website: EveryWordWeUtter.com In October the Culture and Cuisine interest group of the Aurora AAUW came to Loveland to visit Jane's studio and see the monument as well as visiting Benson Sculpture Park.

Vote: A Centennial Celebration

2020 Women and the Vote, a community project that supports events celebrating women's suffrage throughout the 2020 calendar year is presenting an art exhibit called **VOTE: A Centennial Celebration** at the Loveland Museum **Feb. 8 – April 5**. This is a brief outline of the programming schedule.

Feb. 8, 11 am – 2 pm – Opening Exhibit Reception

Feb. 13, 5:30 pm – Poems in Response to VOTE: A Centennial Celebration

Feb. 20, 6-7 pm – The Passage of the 19th Amendment – sponsored by the Martin Luther King committee and the League of Women Voters.

Feb. 27, 6 pm – Linda Osmundson will address the challenges women faced in the fine arts.

March 5, 6-7 pm – A living re-enactment of the suffragists' ratification of the 19th Amendment presented by Jean Wyrick and sponsored by the League of Women Voters and NOCO NOW.

March 12, 6:30 pm – Susan's Dream: If Thee Must, Thee Must - play co-sponsored by AAUW

March 13, 6-8 pm – Women's Night on the Town –portrayal of women important to the women's movement to gain the vote.

Writing Workshop

Women Write is a writing class with a female focus. Activities, discussions, writing prompts, and challenges help participants capture and share memories. Three new six session classes taught by Cheryl M. Thurston are beginning soon - meeting for 1 ½ hours every other week. E-mail to register or ask questions: cherithurston@gmail.com Deadline for registration is January 18.

National AAUW Art Contest

The contest is now open through January 28. Submit your photography or a digital image of your painting or sketch through the AAUW website. All entries are accepted, but we encourage you to consider works that speak to AAUW's mission of advancing gender equity. AAUW members can then vote for the artwork they would like to see featured on a collection of notecards we will mail this spring. You can see last year's gallery online as well. Linda French, one of our members had her artwork featured on the notecards two different years recently. You could be our next winner!