**AAUW March 2023 Newsletter**

Loveland, Colorado

**Our mission is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research,**

**education and advocacy.**

**March 27 Program**

 Sosamma Samuel-Burnett J.D., founder and president of G.L.O.B.A.L. will talk to us about the significance of education for women and girls’ human rights locally, nationally, and internationally. She has more than 30 years of experience as a human rights advocate and policy professional and nearly 20 years as a college professor. She advises many organizations on justice, human rights, geopolitics, gender/race, leadership, non profit management and faith. The meeting starts at 6:30 pm, March 27 at Artspace, 140 W. Third Street.

 For those interested in socializing before our monthly meetings, we are gathering at the Pourhouse Bar and Grill (124 E. 4th St.) in downtown Loveland at 4:00. After some great comraraderie, food and beverage, we can then head over to Artspace for our 6:30 meeting.

Questions/comments, contact Jan Witt.

**Flower Orders**

Flower orders are due Monday, March 27. You may bring them to our meeting. If you will not be able to attend please get them to Teri. Just a little over a week to sell those flowers! Remember this is the main fundraiser for our scholarships.

**Hiking Group**

Our hiking group (the Wild Women) continue to hike together once a month, typically the 3rd Tuesday of each month (weather permitting). February was a great hike to the overlook at Rabbit Mountain outside of Lyons. We even had a herd of deer wander the mountain with us! We then drove into Lyons for lunch at Smokin’ Dave’s
BBQ.

 On March 21 we are planning to meet at Mehaffey Park at 9:00 and carpool to Horsetooth Mountain Open Space. Lots of trails to explore there. Should be a fun day.

Contact Jan Witt with questions or suggestions.

**Book Group**

Our April meeting will be April 3 at 1:00 at the home of Martha DiCicco, 225 Alden Drive in Loveland. Martha will lead the group in a discussion of Leadership in Turbulent Times by Doris Goodwin. E-mail her at marthavd@msn.com if you plan to attend.

**Great Decisions**

 This group meets the second Monday of each month from 1 – 3 pm at the home of Jill Osofsky. On April 10 the group will be discussing War Crimes.

**Thank You from Claudia Ward**

 As most of you know Claudia has been spending time in Cleveland, Ohio with her son who has had recurring heart problems and surgeries. She has been his “chief cook and bottle washer” as well as chauffer and mood elevator. After members contributed she was sent a subscription to a meal service for a period of time. This is the note she sent to us:

 “Thank you, Thank you, Thank you everyone! What a wonderful surprise. Your kindness and love means the world to me and my son, David. To have someone else plan meals with ingredients delivered makes this a double gift.

 Today marks the beginning of 12 weeks of Cardio Rehab in addition to physical therapy twice each week. I am tracking lots of car time reading while I wait. David has made incredible progress with physical therapy. He has a long way ahead of him, but we are very hopeful for a full recovery.” Claudia

**April State Convention**

The state convention will be in person for the first time since Covid. If you have not attended a state convention this one will be close to us in Aurora. You can attend one or both days – April 21 and 22. There was more information about the convention with the theme of *Empowering Women: Keeping Up the Good Fight.* Phil Weiser, Colorado Attorney General will be the keynote speaker on Saturday. You received information through e-mail with a way to register or you can register on the state website – Colorado AAUW. If you plan to go, e-mail Karla (babieweemus@aol.com) so carpooling can be arranged.

 Katie Wallace, a member on the Women’s Suffrage Monument Foundation Board will also be speaking and giving us an update on the progress that has been made and the positive direction the project is heading. Before she was part of the Board, Katie was on Rep. Joe Neguse’s staff and assisted in getting the bill passed. Wanda, one of our members, has given us the following website where you can read an article in Forbes Magazine on this effort to place a suffrage monument on the National Mall.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/erinspencer1/2023/01/31/theres-no-womens-monument-on-the-national-mall-members-of-congress-aim-to-change-that/?sh=12f12d4c3bec>

**New Members**

We have three new members this month – Jean Clune has rejoined after a hiatus, and Tam Paquette and Susan Gerrard. Here is some information from Susan. “I have four years of general study at multiple schools (just couldn’t decide), and ended up with the degree of Assoc. of Science in Physical Therapy from Arapahoe Community College in 1991.

 I have lived in CO since 1968 when my father’s job transferred us from New Jersey. We were part of the tech industry moving West. My mother was an administrative assistant for various companies.

 I am a Physical Therapy Assistant and have worked for Life Care Centers of America for 22 years and before that worked for McKee Medical Center for 10 years. Before my interest in the medical world began, I was a hairdresser for many years. Since retiring, I am working PRN for the same company, which means they call when they need extra help-.

 I have been married to Greg for 40 years and we have 2 children, Stephanie and Steven. They both fortunately live close by. I have 3 grandchildren Makenna 15, Anabelle 13, Sawyer 1, and another on the way. My husband is a general contractor still working, my son has a lawn maintenance business and my daughter is a supervisor in the records department of Boulder CU Police Dept.

 Things that interest me and I like to do are reading, walking/hiking, spiritual curiosity, alternate medicine healing, cooking and eating new things, gardening, watching movies and doing volunteer work.

 I support women’s rights in all aspects of life. I am a Democrat, but sometimes I vote the person and not the party. The first march I attended was the women’s march in Denver a few years ago and it was awesome to be surrounded by so many like-minded people. That is another reason why I was called to be a member of this group, to be with other like minded women making a difference in the community they serve. Thank you for including me.

**In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks 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.**