

August AAUW Newsletter Loveland, CO

**The mission of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls
through advocacy, education, and research.**

Potluck Picnic

Our annual picnic will be Sunday, August 25 at 5:30 at the home of Susan Gerrard, 5400 W. Highway 34 (just to the east of Sweetheart Winery). Bring a dish to share. We do need desserts but more main dishes, sides, and salads. You are invited to bring your spouse or and/or a potential member.

You are also reminded to bring items that can be used in the baskets we have at Conversations with Authors. We like to have a gift certificate in each and some other items such as a new book, candle, notecards, chocolates, or something else that you think would be nice. If you patronize someone who might give a gift certificate, please ask them if they would like to donate one. If you cannot bring items to the picnic, please deliver them to Karla's home by September 15.

State Leadership Conference

The leadership conference will be Saturday morning, August 24 from 9:00 to noon. The theme will be AAUW in Action – Collaboration with Community Organizations. The meeting which includes a keynote and breakout sessions will be on zoom and at no cost. You need to register on the Colorado AAUW website by August 22. You have a chance to get and share good information in the comfort of your home.

Conversations with Authors

This event will be October 5. There is a brochure attached to this newsletter or you can get a copy at the picnic. You will need to register for this event by September 21. If you will not be able to attend, perhaps you could buy a ticket for a friend. Proceeds support our Scholarship Fund.

September Meeting

The first regular meeting of the year will be at First United Methodist Church at 6:30 pm on September 29. Our speaker will be Tina Harris, Larimer County Clerk and Recorder, speaking about elections in Larimer County.

Book Club

Usually the book club meets the first Monday of the month at 1 pm. Since the first Monday in September is on Labor Day we will meet the second Monday, September 9. **We still need a host for this meeting.** E-mail Martha DiCicco if you can host this meeting. We will be discussing books by the authors who will be at Conversations with Authors – Dan Danbom who wrote I Met Another Dead Man Today and Jacqueline St. Joan who wrote My Sisters Made of Light and The Shawl of Midnight.

Great Decisions Discussion Group

This group will be discussing “Invisible Indonesia” the second Wednesday of September - September 11 from 10 am to noon at the Loveland Public Library meeting room in the area of the reference desk.

New Members

We are happy to introduce you to two new members in this issue of the newsletter – Joanne Dobie and Judy Kwiatkowski.

Joanne Dobie has a BA in English from the University of California – Davis, a Master of Divinity from Pacific Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and the University of Aberdeen – Scotland.

She has lived in Loveland since 2010 after serving in some interim Presbytery Executive positions in Greeley(2001 – 2004) and Western CO living in Montrose in 2008. She then lived with her father in CA until he passed away.

She has held several positions in the Presbyterian Church since 1978 and has been all over the US in those capacities. Before that she served as a teacher for underprivileged children and served in two capacities in Medical Records in Veterinary Medicine and human medicine. As a woman in ministry during its pioneering years, she had the opportunity to advocate for women in ministerial capacities. She has also been active in advocating for racial understanding and equality and for underprivileged children.

Joanne loves to sing!!! Since she was in the 3rd grade she has sung in either church or community choirs everywhere she has lived from CA to FL. She also loves to travel and has been all over the world, many times with choral groups. She has also spent quite a bit of time in Scotland, her ancestral heritage.

As a single parent since her children, Scott and Kristen, were small, they both live in this area and are one of the reasons she relocated here...plus she loves snow. She now feels she has become a Coloradan!

Judy Kwiatkowski earned her BA from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1972. She says that she and her husband John moved to Colorado in 1974 “when it was still open and wild.” Their Wisconsin friends and relatives felt it was bold of us to move to Loveland without jobs, and no detailed plan. But they just hopped into their little Gremlin with their two dogs, pulled a small U-Haul trailer and “got out of Dodge” and it all worked out.

Judy retired from the City of Loveland after 26 years and prior to that worked for the Larimer County Treasurer’s office. She says she was born in 1950 and women’s issues have changed significantly since that time. She tries to surround herself with strong women. Her hobbies

include hiking, biking, cooking, baking, reading, traveling and spending time with my 3 independent and active granddaughters, ages 12, 14, and 15, whenever possible. She says "I put energy into staying connected with friends and encourage others to realize that they have value in the world. I count my blessings daily.

Her husband of 51 years died recently and she is making plans for his celebration of life and the move of her brother to Loveland. After those things are accomplished she will have time to commit to our branch.