



# Bulletin

Volume 93, Number 1     Newton, Kansas     December 2015

## From Your President



Dr. Nancy Bolsen  
KS AAUW President

Hello AAUW Members!

With this fall *Bulletin* the State Board welcomes two new State Board members.

**Jean Butts** is from the Newton Area Branch and is appointed as the first ever

College/University Relations Chair. She will be working on connecting with the eight current College/University Partners and to encouraging other Kansas colleges and universities to become involved with AAUW as partners.

**Marjean Harris** is also from the Newton Area Branch and will be the Public Policy Chair. She will be keeping all of us informed about AAUW Public Policy issues, connecting with branches and sharing information on state legislative related issues.

I want to encourage all of our members to attend two conferences that will be held in 2016. Be sure to mark your calendar for these upcoming AAUW events!

The excitement is building and the State Board invites you to the **Kansas AAUW Annual Meeting, Saturday, April 9** in Hesston at the Dyck Arboretum. (See page 3 for details and the February *Bulletin* for registration). We are thrilled at the effort being put into the planning of this outstanding event. Please join us at this motivating day. We will pay mileage for one car from each branch.

We also want you to join the excitement at the **Midwest Ten State AAUW Biennial Conference,**

June 3-4 at Great Wolf Lodge in Kansas City, Kansas. There will be Nationally-Known Speakers, Inspiring Workshops, Public Policy Events, and much more. We look forward to your participation in this energizing event.

We are enthusiastic about our 2015-2016 State Board mission-based goals:

1. **Get Out the Vote**-send tool kits with information and motivation to all Branches on ways to get out the vote.
2. **Send 1-2 college/university women students to NCCWSL** (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) the nation's premier conference for college women.
3. **Distribute AAUW Title IX and other materials to branches** to share with their public school system.

Sadly, we have grown smaller during this past year. Kansas now has eight active AAUW branches: El Dorado, Goodland, Manhattan, Newton Area, Olathe, Salina, Shawnee Mission and Wichita. *We may be downsized, but we can yell loudly for AAUW's mission for women and girls in our communities, Kansas, our nation and the world!*

There is stimulating information in your newest **Outlook** with in-depth coverage of the challenges women face in computing and engineering and how we can change the face of these fields. Check it out!

Lastly, congratulations to the branches who have recruited new members in the past year and are on track for more this year!

*Nancy Bolsen,*  
A Proud AAUW Member  
President, KS AAUW State Board 2014-2016  
[nancybolsen@gmail.com](mailto:nancybolsen@gmail.com)

## **AAUW LEADERSHIP CORPS**

### **NATIONAL REPORT FALL/WINTER 2015**

#### **Midwest Regional Conference – TRY IT OUT THIS YEAR!**

Exciting plans are being made for the 45th Biennial AAUW Regional Conference in Kansas City, Kansas, on June 3 & 4. The Great Wolf Lodge will be headquarters; this facility is a self-contained entity with fabulous recreational opportunities for the whole family, wonderful accommodations, and excellent restaurant and food venues. Nearby, are shopping malls and other amenities.

The Conference will begin early afternoon on June 3, 2016, and end early evening on June 4, 2016. As is always true, the Conference will consist of well-known speakers and enlightening workshops. Workshops will center on AAUW issues, programming, and new information from the recent National convention in San Diego. Also, the weekend will include a Conference luncheon, AAUW Funds money-making opportunities, an award-winning film, an open forum, public policy events, the Eleanor Roosevelt Run/Walk/Sleep-In, and other activities and events.

Room reservations are now being accepted. Call 1-866-944-9653 and use Block Code 1606AAUW. Rates are \$176.86 for a suite which sleeps six people. Conference rates apply prior to the Conference and following it. The Great Wolf Lodge is a relatively new lodge and entertainment venue with some unusual and different activities. For additional information call 314-831-5359 or 636-938-3958.



**Shirley Breeze**  
**Leadership Corps Member**

#### **Officer Resources**

A packet of officer materials (formerly white binder) should have been sent to your branch Membership Chairs; if you did not receive it, contact the AAUW Membership Office.

#### **Fellowship/Grants**

For the 2015-2016 year, AAUW is distributing \$3.7 million in grant money.

#### **Diversity/Inclusion**

There are some wonderful new materials on the AAUW website for diversity and inclusion activities. They would be good for planning a program on the topic or establishing a board position.

#### **New Headquarters**

AAUW will be moving its headquarters in June; the new building will be state-of-the-art, with spaces for simultaneous meetings.

#### **Legacy Circle**

Consider AAUW in your estate planning. You can determine what amount and/or method you want to recognize AAUW in your plans; this assures that AAUW will be able to continue to work for equity into the next century.

#### **Community Action Grants**

All Community Action grants this year are going to Tech Savvy and Tech Trek projects.

#### **Elections/National Convention**

It's not too soon to start thinking about candidates, public policy ideas, or bylaw proposals for the next round of AAUW elections. Deadlines will be announced early next year. The next National Convention will be June 14-17, 2017, in Washington DC.

#### **Tabling**

If you are tabling, there are new versions of most of AAUW's information brochures and other items. Check to see what is available in a new version.

#### **Unrestricted Funds**

When your branch or members prepare to designate the recipient of its funds at the end of this year, suggest that they consider Unrestricted Funds. Unrestricted Funds are distributed to whichever AAUW programs are in the greatest need.

***Shirley Breeze, Leadership Corps Member***

[sbreeze@mindspring.com](mailto:sbreeze@mindspring.com)

**SAVE THE DATE - 2016 KS AAUW ANNUAL MEETING -**

**When:** Saturday, April 9, 2016

**Where:** Dyck Arboretum, Hesston, Kansas

**Theme:** *AAUW: Making a Difference for Kansas Women*

**Highlights to date:** STEM panel, National AAUW Speaker-TBA



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## National AAUW FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Contributed by Dr. Barbara Gatewood, Manhattan Branch

Share this valuable information about AAUW's significant and outstanding Fellowships and Grants with others. Guidelines and applications are available online at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). Direct application questions to [aauw@scholarshipamerica.org](mailto:aauw@scholarshipamerica.org) or call 319-688-4334.

- **AAUW Career Development Grants** (\$2,000-\$12,000, deadline December 15, 2015) to support women pursuing a certificate or degree to advance their careers, change careers, or re-enter the workforce and whose bachelor's degree was received at least five years before award period.
- **AAUW Selected Professions Fellowships** (\$5,000-\$18,000, deadline: January 10, 2016) to support women pursuing full-time study in a master's or professional degree program in which women are underrepresented, including STEM, law, business and medicine.
- **AAUW Community Action Grants** (One-year, \$2,000-\$7,000 and two-year, grant, \$5,000-\$10,000, deadline January 15, 2016) to support individuals, AAUW branches/states, and nonprofit organizations to fund innovative programs or non-degree research projects that promote education and equity for women and girls.

### 49-Year Member Remembered



An AAUW life member, Dr. Neysa Eberhard, passed away on November 4, at age 93. She served in a number of state and community roles supporting women's rights through all her activities. She left the Newton Area Branch with a number of strong initiatives and enthusiasm to host this year's AAUW state meeting on April 9. Neysa joined AAUW in 1968 and is remembered as a strong influence and role model for women through the ages.

## AAUW FUNDS and YOU!



**Your individual or branch gifts to AAUW funds should be sent to Eileen Armstrong, Action Fund Chair.** She will forward to National after she tracks the Kansas contributions. Please send before December 15 to be counted as a 2015 contribution. Eileen's address is 10143 Flint St., Overland Park, KS 66214.

**Please note on your check this is for the "AAUW Fund."**



### Lisa Maatz, AAUW's Vice President of Government Relations visited Kansas

On September 26, Lisa Maatz came to Wichita for a conversation about *Strengthening and Enhancing your Organization: Tools and Strategies for a Stronger Policy Advocate*. Women

from Wichita, Newton Area, El Dorado and Manhattan Branches attended.

As AAUW's top policy adviser, Lisa works to advance AAUW's priority issues on Capitol Hill, in the White House, and in collaboration with other organizations.

Lisa invited us to get engaged and active in Public Policy:

- If you care about public policy issues use the *Two-Minute Activist* on the [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) website, collaborate with other like-minded organizations, sign up for the *ActionNetwork*, VOTE and help get out the vote.
- AAUW needs our help to get the bipartisan **Hold Accountable and Lend Transparency (HALT) on Campus Sexual Violence Act** passed. About 28 percent of college women are targets of attempted or completed sexual assault. AAUW's own research revealed that two-thirds of college students experience sexual harassment. Call all your Kansas Congressional leaders to vote for this bill to help make campuses in Kansas safer for women. Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins has a sensibility about women's issues and should be contacted.

We thank Lisa for visiting Kansas and a special thanks to all involved in making her visit a great visit.

## AAUW Public Policy – Take Action

Greetings to AAUW Kansas! I recently joined the State board as Public Policy Chair and am a member of the Newton Area Branch. As I begin learning the resources and opportunities involved with this new role, I have been studying the National Public Policy details available on the National AAUW website. AAUW and its members have a long history of speaking out about national, state and local policies and legislation important to women and girls.

The National AAUW Public Policy Program was reviewed and adopted in June 2015 and is available to inform our advocacy efforts. A key element of the policy program is opposition to “all forms of discrimination and supports constitutional protection for the civil rights of all individuals”. I encourage you to read the document in its entirety as it reminds one of the scope of AAUW and the reasons we belong to AAUW:

- Support of a strong system of public education
- Economic equity and fairness for all women
- Guarantees of equality, individual rights, and social justice for all

You can stay informed and also take action on important policy issues by signing up to be an **AAUW Two-Minute Activist** which allows you to easily support AAUW’s policy actions – in just 2 minutes!! To subscribe, visit [www.aauw.org/actionnetwork](http://www.aauw.org/actionnetwork). You can also continue writing letters and making phone calls to local, state and national legislators as well as the President of the United States.

Pursuant to all of the above, our state board policy goals will be emphasizing “Get Out the Vote” efforts; we will be providing all eight (8) AAUW KS branches and college/university partners with a “**Get Out the Vote Toolkit**” in the coming months. (See article below.)

Please contact me at [marjean@mtelco.net](mailto:marjean@mtelco.net) if you have questions or desire more information about legislation and/or policy issues. I am excited to learn more and share with you.

**Marjean Harris, Public Policy Chair**

### **SAVE THE DATE –**

#### **GET OUT THE VOTE TOOLKIT**

The GET OUT THE VOTE toolkit will be available **January 13<sup>th</sup> on the AAUW website.** [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)  
The State Board has chosen as one of our three annual goals and actions to encourage and facilitate Get Out the Vote activities and action steps at the branch and college/university level. Branch Presidents will receive a mailing from the State Board President Nancy Bolsen mid-late January with important information that you can take out in your community. Let’s remember, it’s a man’s world, unless women get out and vote!



**Voting never goes out of style.**

[aauwaction.org](http://aauwaction.org)  
#ItsMyVote

**IT'S MY VOTE**  
I WILL BE HEARD  
ROCK THE VOTE

## **AAUW CALENDAR**

### **2015**

- November 30 Non-renewed Members Removed from AAUW Database
- December 1 Deadline International Fellowships Applications
- December 7 NCCWSL Registration Begins
- December 14 Deadline for Application for Service on National Nominating Committee
- December 15 Deadline for 2015 Contributions to AAUW Funds to Eileen Armstrong. (see p. 4)  
Deadline International Project Grants Applications & Career Development Grant Due (see p. 4)

### **2016**

- January 1- March 15 Half Off National Dues
- January 13 Kick Off AAUW's *It's My Vote 2016*
- January 15 Community Action Grant Due (see p.4)
- February Black History Month
- February 6 .. State Board call, 9AM
- February 12 KS AAUW Bulletin items due to [lbjbo@cox.net](mailto:lbjbo@cox.net) in .doc or .docx format.
- March Women's History Month
- March 8 International Women's Day
- March 30 Release of New Research Report – *Women in Leadership*
- April Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- April 8 State Board Meeting, 5:30 PM
- April 9 KS AAUW Annual Meeting, Hesston
- April 12 Equal Pay Day
- April 22 KS AAUW Bulletin items due to [lbjbo@cox.net](mailto:lbjbo@cox.net) in .doc or .docx format and pictures in .jpg form.
- May 15 Mandatory Bylaw Revision Deadline
- June 2-4 NCCWSL
- June 3 & 4 MidWest Ten State Conference (see p.7)
- June 30 2016-17 Officer Reports due to National AAUW in new headquarters

## Highlights of the 2015 AAUW National Convention

Article by Barbara Gatewood, Manhattan Branch



Back row: Carolyn Dwire, Nancy Bolsen, Teresa Sullivan, and Eileen Armstrong  
Seated: Tresa Landis and Barbara Gatewood

Like most of the 1,050 participants at the **AAUW National Convention**, June 18-21, 2015 in sunny San Diego, the Kansas AAUW members **Nancy Bolsen**, **Teresa Sullivan**, **Carolyn Dwire**, **Eileen Armstrong**, **Tresa Landis**, and **Barbara Gatewood** took learning and networking seriously! The conference offered an impressive array of speakers and panelists, 30 workshops, plus pre-con activities, such as the one-day conference for state presidents, attended by Nancy Bolsen.

Opening Speaker, **Catherine Lhamon**, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education (USDE), gave an impressive talk on civil rights, Title IX, and how the law helps fight sexual assault. She stressed that more information is needed about the law, how to file a lawsuit, and how USDE can help. Other **major topics** addressed were attracting women to STEM fields, educating the homeless and under-privileged, \$tart \$mart/Work Smart, building women leaders, how to encourage more women to run for elected offices, the international women's movement promoted by the United Nations (UN) and AAUW, diversity and inclusion, expanding public policy, marketing/recruiting /retention strategies, technology's role in branch growth, maintaining branch archives, fundraising, and a wealth of information on successful branch program ideas. WOW! We couldn't help feel proud that many of our state branches include some of these major topics as ongoing branch programs.



Catherine Lhamon

AAUW's Vice President of Government Relations, **Lisa Maatz** discussed the use of social media, email and other online tools to be an activist for social change. AAUW is expanding its public policy efforts on the state and local levels. **Melissa Guardaro**, AAUW's UN Representative provided valuable insight on what AAUW is doing at the UN level and the U.S.'s global impact on achieving equality for women. AAUW has a long history of tackling



Panelists Don McPherson, Lilly Ledbetter, Noorjahan Akbar, Marianne Schnall and Kate Farrar

global women's issues, from giving out fellowships to international scholars to working with the UN.

One of the highlights of the convention was the session "What Does It Take to Make a Woman Leader." The panel included Don McPherson; Lilly Ledbetter, Fair Pay Advocate; **Noorjahan Akbar**; journalist Marianne Schnall; and Kate Farrar, AAUW Campus Leadership Programs. We are very excited that Noorjahan has accepted the Manhattan Branch's invitation to present a program on **March 8, 2016, International Women's Day** that will be open to K-State, all AAUW members, and the general public. As a leader in Afghanistan, Noorjahan has steered several human rights campaigns, authored activism literature, and co-founded [Young Women for Change](#), which focuses on fighting for gender equality and rights for Afghani women. In 2012 she received AAUW-NCCWSL Women of Distinction Award.

There were many opportunities for socializing, enjoying entertainment, and making new AAUW friends. A local scouting troop opened the convention with the singing of the Star-Spangled Banner, which generated much enthusiasm. A talented women's mariachi band escorted the participants into the convention banquet. The exhibition hall contained a special exhibit and book on [Trailblazers in Women's Surfing](#), which inspired the convention theme *Riding the Wave*.



Because there were so many great activities and resources to share, AAUW has compiled the presentations, worksheets, and materials from the conference and the results of the AAUW National elections that can be accessed at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).

## **How Can I Encourage Involvement in AAUW?**

Women are no strangers to wearing many hats—professional, mother, wife, organization member and more. How many of you have shared words about AAUW to friends or colleagues only to time and time again hear her/his plate is full? Be encouraged; the key to engaging your friends and colleagues is to give them a taste of the benefits of AAUW! Here's a quick list of those benefits to keep in mind:

- Regular exposure and access to a network of strong and interesting women to enrich your personal and professional lives.
- Access to rich, timely research on relevant issues that are important to our present lives and the generations to come hereafter.
- Opportunities for educational and lifelong learning opportunities as well as fellowship and grant support.
- Leadership development opportunities at the local, state and national level to enrich your life and professional vita.
- Connection to Public Policy so you can be part of active advocacy for policies that advance equity for women and girls.

Now that you have a few points to share with friends and colleagues, with whom will you share this information? Will your branch host a "Bring a Friend" meeting? Do you know young professional women who might be suited to start a sub-group of your branch as a Young Women's Task Force or perhaps a College/University member in your area? Use the space below or grab a pen if you're reading this electronically. Write down three women you're going to share the benefits of membership with and invite to get involved with you and AAUW! Questions or comments? Contact me at [sara.nettleingham@kwu.edu](mailto:sara.nettleingham@kwu.edu).

**Sara Nettleingham, Vice President of Membership**



### **ANNOUNCING: Graduate Students – Membership Dues Update**

Do you know a graduate student (currently enrolled in an AAUW accepted college/university) wanting to join AAUW? The state board has voted to excuse the State Dues for this year. Will your branch consider the same?

When this student joins, send student's information (email, address, etc.) to Nancy Bolsen, State President. Email [aauwstateboard@gmail.com](mailto:aauwstateboard@gmail.com)

Thank you.

## **JOIN THE EXCITEMENT!**



### **MIDWEST TEN STATE AAUW BIENNIAL CONFERENCE**



Room Reservations Being Accepted:  
Call 1-866-944-9653 for Reservations. Use Block Code 1606AAUW.  
Suite Rooms \$178.85 plus taxes and fees. Sleeps 6 people  
For Conference information call 314.831.5359 or 636.938.3958

### **A Note from Linda Hallman, CEO of AAUW**

Not enough women have careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). Women make up a disappointing 12% of working engineers and account for just 26% of computing professionals — a substantially smaller portion than 30 years ago and about the same percentage as in 1960.

AAUW is helping girls across the country break through the barriers that stand in their way, so that they can pursue satisfying, exciting, and rewarding careers in high-paying STEM fields that have been so disproportionately dominated by men.

We must give every girl who has ever dreamed of becoming an astronaut, computer scientist, engineer, industrial designer, or mathematician the chance to fulfill her goals. And that's what we are doing through our STEM programs, AAUW National Tech Savvy and Tech Trek!

Tech Savvy is a daylong, hands-on STEM conference held around the nation for middle school girls and their parents. Participants attend workshops on subjects such as paleontology, chemical engineering, and robotics. Each Tech Savvy program site also includes sessions for parents, giving them the facts and encouragement they need to reinforce and support their daughter's engagement in STEM. Find more information at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).

**Submitted by Carol Kirchmer,  
Secretary and Branch Services**



Kansas AAUW *Bulletin*  
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**AAUW - Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.**

#### AAUW Action Fund Mission

The AAUW Action Fund advances equity for women and girls through member activism and voter mobilization.

Since 1881, AAUW has been the nation's leading voice promoting education and equity for women and girls.

The AAUW Action Fund was established July 1, 2009, following a strategic restructuring of AAUW, the AAUW Educational Foundation, and the AAUW Leadership and Training Institute. The AAUW Action Fund supports AAUW's continuing goal of breaking through barriers for women and girls, and it does so through member activism and voter mobilization. Both organizations have a nationwide network of nearly 100,000 members, 1,000 branches, and 500 college/university institution partners.

A [briefing](#) on the AAUW website provides detailed information about the structure of AAUW, the AAUW Action Fund, AAUW branches, and members.

**AAUW Action Fund**  
1111 Sixteenth St. NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
800/326-AAUW (2289)  
[connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a 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.



## December 2015 Bulletin

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