

# **Bulletin**

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Newton, Kansas June 2019



Kristina Haahr & Louise Ehmke AAUW of Kansas Co-Presidents

#### Message from Kristina:

What a great AAUW Kansas Annual Meeting! Even though our conference is over for another year, the excitement that happens when we get together lingers. Thank you to everyone who attended and made this year so special. Thank you also to all our members, whether you attended the conference or not. Your support of AAUW locally, at the state level, and nationally makes a difference in what we collectively accomplish.

Our meeting this year did its job. We had great speakers who presented new and vital information for us. They gave us a job to do. They also inspired hope. I sit here feeling less like Sisyphus, perpetually pushing the boulder up the hill, and more like Elpis and her full cornucopia. We have been inspired by our past, educated about the battles both behind us and ahead of us, and empowered with the tools necessary to take down the next giant before us: equal pay.

By now I'm sure you've all heard about AAUW's goal to train one million women in Kansas and Missouri in pay equity and negotiating skills through the Work Smart Salary Negotiation workshop. Have you also heard about our most pressing goal to train 100,000 people (men and women) by August 31st, using the online Work Smart program? Please take some time this week and complete this program online. We've got important grant money from Coca-Cola on the line. To access, go to https://salary.aauw.org/. Log on and work through the full program to get counted. Don't worry about doing the full 75 minutes in one sitting as the program saves your place so you can finish it at your leisure. Whether you are currently in the workforce or not, this workshop is for you! ALL OF US can improve our negotiating skills! It's fun and I bet you find a way to put those skills to use once you've sharpened your sword. I can't emphasize enough how important it is that ALL AAUW Kansas members take this course -- and then recommend it to 20 of your friends!

I look forward to reporting back that we've met our online goal and I am most excited to someday very soon shout from the rooftops that at last all those working are receiving adequate and equal pay regardless of gender. Until that day, let's continue to shine brightly, be guided by our knowledge and tools, and advocate for equal pay and equal rights for all.

Kristina Haahr Co-President, AAUW KS khaahr@sbcglobal.net

# Highlights of the Kansas 2019 Annual Meeting Mission: POSSIBLE

# (with a little help from our members!)

Recap by Louise Ehmke, Co-President, AAUW KS

The 2019 AAUW Kansas meeting is a wrap. From the comments and evaluations, we found ourselves enjoying a great day to pat ourselves on the back but more importantly reminded that we have our foremothers/fathers to thank.



Dr. Elizabeth Mauch, Bethany College Academic Dean, spoke words that inspired us all to remember and tell the stories of our mentors and models. She spoke of little-known mathematicians...women and men and teachers who made such an impact on her life and led her up the path of challenge, success, failure, regroup, challenge, victory. Reminders of how our history has brought us where we are today...our personal histories and stories and our common ones as well. Yet it is each story that completes the fabric or embellishes it and creates the new. Thanks to Dr. Mauch and her students who visited our conference. It was pleasure to hear their thoughts as well.



Centennial of the 19th or Women's Suffrage ...oh, yes ....mark it on your calendar...August 18, 2020. Martha Pint, Co Chair of the Centennial of the 19th Amendment Committee in Kansas share with us all the wonderful events planned all over Kansas. The League of Women Voters in Kansas has taken the lead in chairing the committee to get Kansas on map for its celebrations. Of course, they need money for some of these projects such as the traveling exhibit celebrating all the Kansas suffragists. On Facebook find them at Centennial.Celebration.19th.Amendment. You will also see the great flag and logo design. Parades, floats, exhibits, guest speakers throughout 2019-2020...be a part of the party. Kansas AAUW is proud to be part of this Centennial Committee. You can also check <a href="https://www.lwvk.org">www.lwvk.org</a> for more information. The biggest event will be August 22-23,2020, March to the Polls. These marches will be in Kansas communities all over. Thank you, Martha, for a great update and history of our suffragists.



It was such a treat to learn first-hand from Donna Becker, AAUW president of the Newton Area Branch. She is part of the *Historical Echoes* who are recreating the stories of suffragists as historical performers. We all appreciated her insight to these historical figures.

When in Lindsborg, one should immerse in the heritage, so a Swedish-themed meal was enjoyed by many. Taking us into the next fun event of a Suffragist Song sing-a-long was musician

extraordinaire Tom Nelson of Lindsborg who created this program of fabulous songs of that era. Conferees had a real treat with Tom's selections and history. He is available for your programs...it was a new look at the fun, humor, and seriousness through song. His contact information is tomasnelson@hotmail.com. Thank you, Tom and his accompanist.



We appreciated the update from National AAUW with a video and then personal update from Shirley Breeze who we always appreciate sharing her time and talents at our annual meeting. We concluded with our business meeting with officers continuing for next year. Thank you all for a great conference which always inspires us for the coming year.

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# Branches and Individuals Recognized at State Annual Meeting



The Manhattan and Newton Area branches were

recognized as Kansas Star Branches at the State Annual Meeting in Lindsborg. The branches submitted applications that highlighted their activities and efforts in the area of membership growth, AAUW Funds support, projects and events, visibility, and membership communication.

All Kansas branches were recognized for their contributions to AAUW Funds for calendar year 2018. The total amount given for the year from all sources was \$4,042. The Manhattan branch received the award for Highest Overall Giving. The Per Capita Giving recognition was earned by the Newton Area branch. This award is based on giving per member.



#### **Sunflower Garden**

The Newton Area branch honored outstanding branch member Elizabeth Rempel with a contribution to the Kansas

Sunflower Garden. The Wichita branch donated to the Garden in memory of branch members David and Sally Dewey, Javonnie Maak, and Esther Sullivan.



A unique way to support AAUW is to join the AAUW Legacy Circle by making a planned gift to AAUW's general fund or directed to your preferred program. There are many ways to make a planned gift. You can establish a charitable gift annuity or name AAUW as a beneficiary in your will, trust, insurance policy, or individual retirement account, among other options. Let me know if you have an interest in becoming an AAUW Legacy Circle member.



Certificates of Achievement were given to branch representatives: Dr. Nancy Bolsen, for Manhattan as the branch with highest overall giving, Donna Becker, of Newton Area Branch, as the highest per capita giving recognition, and Paula Shields, Wichita, and Kandy Miller, El Dorado branches for AAUW Funds giving in 2018. Shawnee Mission representative was unavailable.

Thank you for your support of AAUW Funds! These gifts allow AAUW to create and expand our renowned research, mission-based programs, and advocacy initiatives that tackle challenges facing women and girls.

Tresa Landis, AAUW Funds



#### What can you do in 75 minutes?

- Make dinner
- Watch two episodes of my favorite sitcom
- Learn how to increase my lifetime income by \$200,000

Share this with others after you complete the WORK SMART online workshop.

https://salary.aauw.org/salary-negotiation/

Here's some proof that WORK SMART can work!

"I lowballed my net worth for a large part of my career, only to be frustrated down the road in a job where I don't feel like I'm being paid what I'm worth. I joined the local AAUW after I learned about AAUW's work on pay equity and salary negotiation."— Alyssa R., AAUW salary negotiation workshop participant (from aauw.org website)



#### Give a Grad a Gift - It's Graduation Time!

Here is a great gift for a graduate. AAUW members can **give recent college graduates a free, one-year AAUW membership <u>within two years of graduation</u>, at no cost to you or them. Membership in AAUW is open to any graduate holding an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution. Use this link: <a href="https://www.aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift/">https://www.aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift/</a>** 

#### With a gift of AAUW membership, you will...

- Expose the grad to the power that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of more than 170,000 members and supporters who believe in and advance equity and education for women and girls.
- Expand their networking opportunities through career development opportunities and community action projects.
- Keep them current on the events and people that affect their life as they receive *Mission & Action, AAUW Outlook*, Action Network alerts, and more.
- Increase their buying power with access to member only discounts.

## Time to RENEW

AAUW national dues are \$59.00, of which \$56.00 is tax deductible by the individual member; \$3.00 of that national dues payment is not tax deductible because it will be used to support the AAUW Action Fund's Section 501(c)(4) Capitol Hill Lobby Corps and get-out-to-vote activities).

Source: www.aauw.org



Your 2019-2020 Kansas AAUW Board of Directors (left to right):

Lynnette Redington, Communications/IT, Carolyn Dwire, Finance; Tresa Landis, AAUW Funds, Paula Shields, Secretary, and Louise Ehmke and Kristina Haahr, Co-Presidents.



Stay on top of AAUW Public Policy issues by subscribing to the AAUW Action Network. <a href="http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/">http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/</a>

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# Affiliate vs. Branch: What's the difference?

Every national organization with local affiliates is required to have an 'affiliate agreement'. This is a one-time report between national, state, and local organizations.

So, when you hear of a local affiliate or an AAUW branch, know that these are one and the same. You may call yourself a branch member or an affiliate member of AAUW. It's your choice!

#### Source:

https://www.aauw.org/resource/aauw-affiliate-agreement/

## Remembering Carol...

Carol Kirchmer, recent past co-president of the state AAUW, passed away suddenly last July. Her family established an educational memorial to benefit her five grandchildren.



Contribute to this fund by making a check payable to the *Kirchmer Education Fund*. Send to *Kirchmer Education Fund*, c/o Kimberly Kirchmer, 4804 Old Port Ct., Bakersfield, CA 93312.





#### Social Media - Is It Right for Our Branch?

Has your Affiliate struggled with deciding to set up a Twitter Account or Facebook page? National AAUW has tools for you...in fact there is a whole guide about this. After you log in, find it at <a href="http://www.aauw.org/resource/social-media-handbook">http://www.aauw.org/resource/social-media-handbook</a>

## **AAUW CALENDAR 2019**

May 29-June 1 NCCWSL

June 30 2019-2020 Officer updates due to National July 1 NEW AAUW YEAR BEGINS 2019-2020 August 26 Women's Equality Day September 24 National Voter Registration Day



AAUW of Kansas Board appropriated a \$750 award for a student from Kansas to attend the 2019 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).

Karol Hernandez Pineda will participate in NCCWSL, May 29-June 1 at the University of Maryland. It is America's premier conference for college women and prepares attendees to be the next generation of leaders.

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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 <u>briefing</u> on the AAUW website provides detailed information about the structure of AAUW, the AAUW Action Fund, AAUW branches, and members.

AAUW Action Fund 1310 L St. NW, Suite 1000 Washington, DC 20005 800/326-AAUW (2289) 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.

