



# Eugene-Lane Branch The News

empowering women since 1881

<http://eugenelane-or.aauw.net>

2013-2014

March 2014

March 8, 2014, at  
Westminster Church,  
777 Coburg Road, Eugene 97401  
9:30 social, 10:00 business,  
10:30 program

## GLOBAL FEMINISM IN MEDIA DEVELOPMENT

*(rescheduled from February)*



Gabriela Martinez  
is an international  
award-winning  
documentary  
filmmaker who has

produced, directed or edited  
more than ten ethnographic  
and social documentaries.  
She will be presenting the  
third of the programs from  
the Women's Center,  
originally scheduled for  
February.

Refreshments will be  
provided by hostesses  
Kappy Eaton and Elleen Levy.

### In this issue:

Board Meeting	5
Convention	6
Directory Corrections	5
e-Scrip	2
Happy Birthday	5
LAF Report	6
Public Policy	3-5
Rosters	7
Washington Report	6

### Sheldon Green (AAUW) Basketball Team Schedule (Sixth Grade Girls)

Sat., March 1, 2:20 p.m.  
Cal Young Middle School,  
west gym

Sat., March 8, 6:20 p.m.  
Monroe Middle School,  
large gym  
(These are the final regular  
games.)

The Invitation to honor  
Kappy Eaton at the Women of  
Achievement Awards at the  
Jean Vollum Natural Capital  
Center (The Ecotrust Building)  
in Portland on Saturday, April  
5, can be accessed with this  
link:

[http://  
rienssoforegonwomen.org/  
whats-happening/women-of-  
achievement-awards/](http://rienssoforegonwomen.org/whats-happening/women-of-achievement-awards/)

### 2014 Hostesses Schedule

**April 12** Banti Winslow and  
Stephanie Winsor

**May 10** Ardith Hinman and  
JoAnn Ellis

**June 14** Gorgie Hofma and  
Barbara Gault

### From Jo's Desk

--Jo Brew, Co-President



My desk is at a west  
facing window and  
I'd certainly love to  
be looking out at  
sunshine as I write.

No such luck, it has seemed  
like a long gray time but my  
daffodils are up and a few other  
plants showing promise.

Basketball season for our  
KidSports team is drawing to a  
close but we've been able to  
see a lot of growth in the girls  
even in such a short time. They  
have been fun to watch.

Another of our interests, the  
SPICE program has a whole  
group of events taking place.  
On March 8th, the UO Science  
and Invention Fair, in  
cooperation with Eugene and  
Springfield Public Schools and  
the Springfield Library will  
take place. It's open to all Lane  
County children in grades K-8  
and will be held on the UO  
Campus. The fair will feature  
booths and tables from a  
number of science outreach  
programs including SPICE and  
Science Factory. Each child  
will be able to design and carry  
out his/her very own  
experiment.

Since all of these projects do cost, SPICE is also sponsoring a fundraising event. The leader, now our elected Slug Queen, is having a Pi-Pie Gala Ball on March 15th. If you are interested in an evening of *Slugs, Slime and Science!* let me know and I'll pass on the information. Science-themed garb strongly encouraged! Prizes are offered for the nerdiest high fashion.

We did as much as we could with signed petitions, phone calls to legislators, and letters to the editors to help the state AAUW reach their goals toward promoting action toward Equal Pay.

Now we also have some of our own projects to work on. As we go through this month we need to be thinking about our part in supporting the future of our branch. There are jobs which aren't elected positions that will be open as our long-time contributors step down. One of those openings is for JoAnn Ellis. If no one else steps up, I'll plan to take it on but it's not the best long-term solution since age does creep up. For the good of the branch, it is important to keep the business cards coming in and they can be handed to any branch member. In addition, though, the branch needs to seriously think about other fund-raising possibilities.

There are also other non-elective tasks to plan for and this time, before our annual

planning session, is the best time for each member to be thinking about what they might be willing to do in order to keep things running well or make them run better. If there is something you would take on, be willing to say so. The other members are your friends and may find it very hard to ask—or in some cases—beg.

The ideas don't need to be exactly what we have underway now. We could use new interest groups—maybe something involving attending theatrical performances or even trips to see a special movie—anything which would be better as a group than as an individual. Or maybe a special program you'd like to see get support. I know the ideas are out there, and the women to make them work. What would each of you like to be doing that you aren't because it isn't fun or doesn't accomplish much alone?

It's Saturday, time for me to head out for the KidSports game and I even have blue skies and sunshine. Maybe they are my reward for spending some time thinking about what I wanted to say as I move toward ending my time as your columnist. Jo-



(See Page 7!)

### Are you enrolled in our e-Scrip project?

We can use our credit/debit card at any Market of Choice to earn a contribution, which we periodically forward to the Kappy Eaton Scholarship Fund at Lane Community College Foundation. Read these excerpts from the letter Wendy Jett, LCC Foundation Director, sent to us:

*“Please accept my sincere thanks for your recent \$200.00 gift to Lane Community College Foundation.....*

*This special gift will be directed to the AAUW Kappy Eaton Scholarship Fund in honor of Kappy Eaton, as you proposed. We are grateful for your commitment to Lane.*

*...Your thoughtful contribution will help provide students with the opportunity for one of the best community college educations in the country.”*

Our e-scrip members amassed this amount just by buying groceries!!! Thank you.

P.S. To enroll in e-scrip (it doesn't cost you anything ever!), go to [http://groups.escrip.com/sign\\_up/signup\\_all.pdf](http://groups.escrip.com/sign_up/signup_all.pdf) and use American Association of University Women for group name and 50003673 group ID.

## AAUW Public Policy Update March 2014

--Kappy Eaton, Public Policy Chair

### AAUW Oregon Legislative Day

More than 40 members from across the state met in the State Capitol February 21. It was an opportunity to hear about pay equity and paid family leave, also to network and go to hearings and interview local representatives and senators. An excellent presentation was made on the recent report from the Oregon Council on Civil Rights, *Pay Equity in Oregon*, with lots of good Q&A. It was followed by Brad Avakian, Oregon Labor Commissioner, advocate for both addressing pay inequity and paid family leave.

### State of the State

Note: All of the following bills are in a state of flux and captured in a slice of time (2/21/14). For the latest, google OLIS (Oregon Legislature Information System) and click on Bills. The Legislature is scheduled to *sine die* on February 28, but it looks now it will be March 4 because so many bills need closure.

### Fiscal Policy

The state economist reported the March Economic Forecast to a joint meeting of the House and Senate Revenue committees on February 12, indicating stable, steady, **low** growth for the foreseeable future. As a state, Oregon is not coming out of the recession as it has in the past, although there are economic investment improvements now beyond the Portland metro area in Bend, Medford, Salem, and a few rural areas. Eugene and the coastal region are still struggling. The good news was the assertion that the kicker refund is not projected to be operational for either personal or corporate tax payers this biennium.

Economic risks, related to sluggish housing construction, workforce availability, and an aging population, continue. The projected ending balance for 2013-15 is down 21%. The two reserve funds, Rainy Day and Education Stability,

are projected for \$210.2 million and \$176.9, respectively. The Legislature will look at any additional funding requests very carefully. On the plus side for public K-12 education, the state's Common School Fund will receive a higher formula distribution, \$98 million, due to increases from local property taxes.

### Revenue Issues

AAUW has been following several revenue measures. These remain in play:

--Still on the table is HB 4113, the Columbia River Crossing proposal. The 2013 legislative action to put \$437 million into the project if Washington did the same would be repealed because Washington did not act, but would allow Oregon to work with the federal government and its dollars to complete the project which is considered crucial to Oregon business interests. After heated public discussions in the House Transportation and Economic Development committee, the bill has been sent to Ways and Means with a likely demise.

--HB 4005, with House Revenue committee amendments that completely replace it, adds to the number of electronic (E-Commerce) zones allowed in the state (from 10 to 13), reinstates the Manufacturing Energy Business Tax Credit, caps at \$2 million, and sunsets January 1, 2016. The state revenue loss is estimated at \$50,000 annually, but the creation of jobs and economic investment counters that. Locally, there is interest in the Hyundai property because of this legislation. It has passed the House and has a hearing February 24 in Senate Revenue.

--HB 4148, relating to the senior property tax deferral program, moves the interest on the loan back to 6% per annum from 6% compounded annually that will benefit the low income program clients. It has passed the House and will be voted on in the Senate on February 24.

--SB 1534A, relating to technical corrections for the actions taken during the 2013 Special Session for the senior medical tax deduction, tax treatment of domestic international sales corporations, and distributions of cigarette taxes, has passed the Senate and will be heard in House Revenue February. 25.

## **Election Issues**

--SB 1544, relating to the Citizens Initiative Review Commission, changes the Commission makeup to add two more former panel members (from 4 to 6) and lowers the number of former panel moderators to two (from 4 to 2), changes the panel meeting time from five days to a minimum of three and up to five (total of 24 hours), and provides that any Commission compensation will be established by rule. The Senate has passed the bill, and the bill is in House Rules and expected to pass.

--SB 1504 is the omnibus measure from the Elections Division to revise, change or correct Oregon's election statutes. This bill expands the violations that prohibit an individual from paid petition circulation, allows the name of a candidate who is running for two different positions to be listed twice on a ballot, changes the timing and regulations pertaining to an unsigned ballot, and permits a person to show his/her marked ballot to another person. It has been passed by the Senate and is in House Rules.

--SB 1515 would establish an Internet Voting work group to be convened by the Secretary of State and to report back to the Legislature by December 1, 2014. There were several opponents at the hearing voicing fears about voter fraud and insecurity of such a system although that was not the issue. The committee chair had to stop some witnesses because of personal remarks and off-topic comments. The measure has passed the Senate and is in House Rules.

## **Post-Secondary Issues**

--SB 1524B has passed the Senate, is being considered in House Higher Education and is expected to pass. It directs the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to examine the viability of a program to allow students who have graduated from an Oregon high school, or completed grade 12, to attend a community college for a specified period of time without paying tuition and fees. The committee has added conditions to the study to include the number of participating students, the costs, the capacity of

community colleges, among other questions.

--HB 4019A is in Ways and Means after passing out of House Higher Ed. It would require all higher education institutions to provide students, prior to enrollment, with a fact sheet regarding program requirements, costs of education, loans, average salary or wages, loan default rates and related data. Ways and Means is considering the feasibility and costs of such information from the institutions.

--HB 4084 also was passed to Ways and Means. It directs the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development to administer a grant program for the purpose of distributing funds to community college to make child care services available to their students. A number of amendments are being considered.

--HB 4018A replaces the original bill and changes the date when any of the four regional institutions of higher education can request having an institutional governing board to May 15, 2014, and gives the power to accept or refuse the request to the State Board of Higher Education. It also allows the HECC to enter into and administer interstate agreements for post-secondary distance education. This proposal also is in Ways and Means.

## **Social Policy Issues**

Affordable Health Care Act implementation has been a priority for both House and Senate Health committees. SB 1526A requested a waiver to allow subsidies for children at 200-300% of the Federal Poverty Level. SB 1582A extended the Oregon Medical Insurance Pool to cover patients who have not found private coverage in the new system. HB 4050A regulated small group insurance under 50 employees. HB 4137 forgave student loans for primary care doctors, and HB 4109 requested a Basic Health Study on financing health care. The latter two bills are in Ways and Means. The focus has been on the technology problems in Cover Oregon implementation.

The Senate Judiciary committee has discussed two major issues and after hearing the bills, sent them to other committees. SB 1551A requires criminal history background checks on gun

registration whenever gun ownership is transferred, and SB 1556A is about the legalization of marijuana. Both are now in Senate Rules. The one action regarding marijuana that has passed the Senate, SB 1546A, allows local jurisdictions to regulate marijuana facilities. It is in House Judiciary. A bill to study the impact of the legalization of marijuana, HB 4099A, is in Ways and Means after passage because of study cost.

### **Natural Resources Issues**

Regional Solutions (HB 2620 in 2013) is now in HB 4015. We continue our interest in service delivery around the regions and the concern regarding criteria for the priorities. The bill is in the Ways and Means Transportation subcommittee. State and county parks have a shared revenue program related to the fees charged for users. The allocation currently is 65% to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept. and 35% to counties. SB 1514, in Ways and Means after a public hearing, would change the allocation to 40% for the counties, 60% to the state now, and up to 45% for counties in 2015. This action would reduce about \$6 million from the state parks allocations, but give the county facilities the ability to address more than \$80 million in maintenance backlog.

The drought is affecting Oregon and causing more discussions related to water rights. A report on the status of SB 839 (2013) dealing with water storage was presented to the Natural Resources subcommittee of Ways and Means. As a result, the Willamette and Deschutes Basin /water studies are to be funded. Advocates have asked for budget notes that would grant up to \$750,000 for Deschutes and up to \$1.5 million for Willamette. These would match federal dollars and determine the best way to provide storage in these basins.

### **Food for Thought**

Can the Legislature really accomplish much in 35 days? Trying to discuss, debate, understand all the issues and consequences, and take action on more than 200 bills between February 3 and February 28 (determined by leadership for the

end) is daunting, exhausting and nerve wracking for everybody involved. Should every legislator be allowed to introduce two bills, and every committee, three? Should there be subject limits? SJR 201 is constitutional amendment to increase the short annual session by 10 days, to 45, and reduce the longer session by 10, to 150 days. The Senate Rules committee heard the bill but did not discuss it---not enough time! It probably will resurface in 2015 along with many other proposals that also needed more time.

---

### **Happy March birthday to--**

**Kappy Eaton**  
**Miriam Aiken**  
**Pat Zeller**  
**Banti Winslow**



### **2/5/14 Board Meeting Summary**

Motions passed to pay \$25 for our participation in LCC Women in Transition graduation in January and to give two \$50 scholarships for girls to attend Tillamook STEM camp in the summer of 2014.

Suggestion to use May Annual Meeting to elicit member input for planning and setting goals for the following year; this would allow to set up suggested projects before the September meetin



### Convention Is Coming!

Mark your 2014 calendars for the first ever Oregon/Washington Joint Convention April 25-27 at the Embassy Suites, Portland Airport. Great speakers, workshops and

connections abound! Be sure to look for all the details and registration information in the convention issue of your state newsletter.



## LAF EXPRESS



### February 2014 Report

#### D.C. Circuit Hears Arguments in *Klay v. Panetta*

On February 14, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit heard arguments in [Klay v. Panetta](#), a Legal Advocacy Fund-supported lawsuit brought by survivors of military sexual assault and litigated by attorney Susan Burke. The case was originally filed March 6, 2012, and AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman spoke at the accompanying National Press Club event.

In the suit, the *Klay* plaintiffs allege that U.S. military officials tolerated sexual predators in their ranks and antagonized service members who reported rape, sexual assault, and harassment. The plaintiffs argue that this culture of sexual assault violates their constitutional rights. In early 2013, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia granted the defendants' motion to dismiss the case. The court held that the plaintiffs' injuries were "incident to their military service" and that the court was prevented by legal precedent from ruling on a military matter. Burke then appealed to the D.C. Circuit. Stay tuned for the appeals court's ruling.

#### Supreme Court Hears Arguments in *McCullen v. Coakley*

On January 15, the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments in *McCullen v. Coakley*, a case testing the constitutionality of buffer zones around reproductive health care clinics. Anti-choice activists filed suit against Massachusetts to challenge a state law designed to protect clinic patients from intimidation and harassment. The law creates a 35-foot buffer zone around reproductive health care clinics that only patients, employees, and their agents may enter, preventing anti-choice protesters from approaching patients as they enter the clinic. The plaintiffs argue that the law violates their free speech rights, claiming that they are constitutionally entitled to approach patients to offer anti-choice literature and anti-choice counseling. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 1st Circuit upheld the law, and the plaintiffs appealed to the Supreme Court. AAUW signed on to an amicus brief urging the Supreme Court to uphold the law.

We discussed *McCullen* and its potential impact on the rights of women and girls during our [Supreme Court call](#) last October. As mentioned then, *McCullen* tests the strength of a case from 2000 in which the Supreme Court upheld a different buffer-zone law. However, since that decision, the makeup of the court has changed significantly — there are four new justices — and the buffer zone mandated by the Massachusetts law is significantly larger than the buffer zone upheld in the 2000 decision. Look for LAF's analysis of the court's ruling later this year.



Mark your calendar for the next congressional recess: March 17-21. That's when your federal elected officials will be back home to listen to you, their constituents!

#### **But Because You Want To Do More...**

Explore AAUW's [how-to guides](#) and choose an activity that works for you, whether it's writing a letter to the editor, holding an in-district meeting with your elected official, or coordinating a delivery to their offices.

## Interest Groups

### Afternoon Book Group

Third Monday, 2:00 p.m.,  
Contact Betty Kjeldgaard,  
541-683-4926. [Open](#)

### Alpha Bridge

Every Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.  
Willamalane Senior Adult  
Activity Center, Springfield.  
Contact Ardith Hinman,  
541-747-4310. [Open](#)

### Fourth Monday Bridge Group

1:00 p.m. Contact Donna  
Pierce, 541-344-3365,  
[Open](#)

### Out & Abouters

Periodic trips around our  
part of Oregon; newsletter/  
ReaderBoard announce-  
ments. Contact Linda  
Wittorff, 541-844-1422.

### Out-to-Lunch Bunch

Contact Mary Ellickson,  
[maryellickson@gmail.com](mailto:maryellickson@gmail.com)

### Readers' Theatre

Contact Barbara Carter,  
541-554-2944. 1-2 OPENINGS.

## Vision

AAUW will be a powerful  
advocate and visible leader in  
equity and education through  
research, philanthropy, and  
measurable change in critical  
areas impacting the lives of  
women and girls.

## Mission

AAUW advances equity for  
women and girls through  
advocacy, education,  
philanthropy and research.

## Value Promise

By joining AAUW, we belong  
to a community that breaks  
through educational and  
economic barriers so that all  
women have a fair chance.

## Diversity

In principle and in practice,  
AAUW values and seeks a  
diverse membership. There  
shall be no barriers to full  
participation in the  
organization on the basis of  
gender, race, creed, age, sexual  
orientation, national origin,  
disability or class.

## ROSTERS

### Elected:

Co-Presidents: Jo Brew/  
Carene Davis-Stitt  
Program VP: Jill McCleary  
Financial VP: Stephanie Winsor  
Membership VP: Linda Wittorff  
Communications. VP:

Elleen Levy

Recording Secretary:

Cindy Parker

### Appointed:

AAUW Funds Co-Chairs:  
Ardith Hinman, Gorgie Hofma

Public Policy: Kappy Eaton

### Member Chairs:

Advertising Manager: (Open)

Book Exchange: Ellen Otani

Branch Brochure: Wendy Cook

Bylaws: Carene Davis-Stitt

Calling Committee: Pat Lanier

C/U Liaison, UofO: (Open)

C/U Liaison, LCC:

Cathy Lindsley

Directory: Judy Greer

Financial Records: Pat Zeller

Historian: Linda McCleary

Hospitality: Jill McCleary

Newsletter: Marian Spath

Nominating Committee :

Carene-Davis Stitt,

Ardith Hinman

(third position open)

Website Manager: Wendy Cook

**The Handy Reminder on how  
to Introduce AAUW to  
Prospective Members:**

### REAP

**Research +**

**Education +**

**Advocacy +**

**Philanthropy**

because  
**equity**  
is  
still  
an **issue**

### *The News*

is published monthly, September  
through June, by Eugene-Lane  
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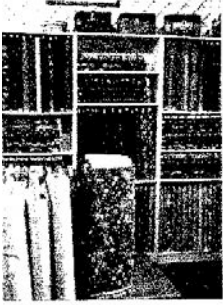
### Staff

Editor: Marian Spath, 541.686.3271  
[mspath28@comcast.net](mailto:mspath28@comcast.net)

Ad Manager: (Open)

Proofreaders:: Pat Lanier,

Stephanie Winsor



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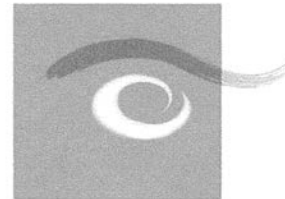
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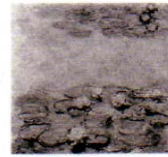
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**Meeting Calendar**

**Wednesday, March 5, 2014, 10:00 a.m., Board Meeting**

Quail Run Clubhouse *All members welcome.*

**Saturday, March 8, 2014, 9:30 a.m., Branch Meeting**

Westminster Church

**Saturday, April 5, 2014, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.,**

Women of Achievement Award, Portland

**Wednesday, April 9, 2014, 10:00 a.m., Board Meeting**

Quail Run Clubhouse *All members welcome.*

**Saturday, Sparil 12, 2014, 9:30 a.m., Branch Meeting**

Westminster Church

**April 25-27, March 2014, Oregon/Washington Joint Convention**

Embassy Suites Hotel, Portland, OR