



# Eugene-Lane Branch The News

empowering women since 1881

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

2013-2014

November 2013

**Saturday, November 9  
Westminster Church  
9:30 - 10:00 Social Hour  
10:00 Business Meeting  
10:30**

### The Future of Medicare and Social Security

We each either are currently enrolled in both of these or we will be eventually. So the buzz about changes is alarming, to say the least!.

**Bonnie Yates**, a CPA and volunteer with AARP, who recently retired from the Washington State Department of Revenue after twenty-two years of service, will talk to us about the future of these two entitlements. You'll want to be here, for sure!!

Pat Lanier and Linda Wittorff will provide the refreshments.



**We are having a Basket Raffle this year!**

You can buy tickets for one, two, or three baskets:

- A Seaside Basket
- A Christmas Basket
- A Pampering Basket

And tickets are only \$1 each or 6 for \$5--what a deal!

◆ You can buy one ticket for one of the choices, or you can buy tickets for each or all of them!

❖ Tickets will be on sale **only** in November and December.

❖ Bring your November tickets to the Brunch.

❖ The lucky winners will take their baskets home after the Brunch!

Don't miss out--your dollars will buy chance(s) for Christmas gifts and will raise funds for (LAF). Learn about the Fund at <http://www.aauw.org/>



**Holiday Brunch is December 7, 2013, at Westminster Church!**

**RSVP for you (and any guests) by November 16th!**

Write your check in the amount of \$20 **for each** reservation, make it out to *AAUW Eugene-Lane Branch*, and send it to **Stephanie Winsor  
2560 Agate St., Eugene 97403.**

- ★ Social hour 9:30 to 10:00--when you can buy Basket Raffle tickets for the big drawing at the end of the party!
- ★ Special catering by Market of Choice!
- ★ Spirited Holiday entertainment at 10:30!

**Remember: RSVP to Stephanie by November 16!**

Questions? Call Jill McCleary at 541-556-8149.

**The Out-to-Lunch Bunch is also meeting in December!**  
**See announcement on Page 2!**

In this issue:	
Board Meeting Summary	3
Directory	3
From Jo's Desk	2
Happy Birthday	2
Hostesses Schedule	3
Interest Groups	7
LAF Express	6
Mission Statement	7
Out-to-Lunch Bunch	2
Public Policy Update	4-6
Rosters, The News	7
Scholarships	3,4
Washington Update	6

## From Jo's Desk

---Jo Brew, President



From my computer desk, my big window lets me look across the street at a series of trees in my neighbor's yard. They range in color from bright yellow in the shortest to an orange and tan in the tallest. When the sun hits them I can barely look away.

I have learned something the last couple of days. When I think of a drive to see the colorful leaves I usually think of driving east and up the Mc Kenzie. This week when I was working on stories about the west side of the valley north of Corvallis, I turned into the hills to the west of Camp Adair. There were not the vine maples to give clusters of color but the individual trees were spectacular, every shade of red imaginable. I'll add a trip up there to my must-do list next fall.

The reports from the National AAUW Public Policy committee have been encouraging on the outlook for a bipartisan budget agreement in Congress which will let us have a productive fall and winter season. However, I haven't seen anything that leads me to think this will be the year when we move toward pay equity. There are more women moving into leadership positions though, so we may be making a tiny step closer. Not to count chickens, I do remember the old game of "Mother May I?" where every time I was able to make a giant step forward, the next call might be for me to take two steps back.. It wasn't my favorite game but it was probably one step above dodge ball. Like a lot of my classmates, I wanted to win and the opportunity often depended on who the "mother " or caller was. However, the teacher or person in charge usually maintained fairness over time. There was always hope for the next game.

I'm looking forward to the activities for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Activities of ASUO Women's Center for reminders of how far we've come, and we really have, but also to hear some ideas on how to move forward. I do hope those of

you who agreed to help have registered. It's easy. [40th Anniversary of the Center for the Study of Women in Society – Nov 7-9, 2013](#)

The New Member Tea was held on Sunday, October 20 with Linda Wittorff, our Membership VP hosting. Most of the board members and a few other members were present to greet new members Edna DeHaven and Kathleen Stearns. It was good to have Janice Strupp with us again.

Judy Greer has her Christmas basket ready for the raffle on November 9 and I know Kappy has hers ready. Time for me to get busy on mine. I guess I'll be working in some extra shopping this week. Hard to think about how fast time is going.  
\*\*\*\*\*

### Welcome to December Out-to-Lunch Bunch!

All members are welcome to join the Out-to-Lunch bunch on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 11:30 at Sweetwaters at Valley River Inn. The Inn is always decorated for the holidays, and they give us a table by the windows, so this is an especially good time to join us.

**Contact Carol Hildebrand (541) 344-4267 to make a reservation by December 1.**

### Happy November Birthday to.....

Sandra Murray  
Marian Spath



## Hostesses Schedule

Please sign up at the branch meeting

2013

**December 7** Holiday Brunch

2014

**Jan. 11** Cindy Parker Carol Hildebrand

**Feb. 15** (1 open) Carol Miller

**Mar. 8** Kappy Eaton, Stephanie Winsor

**Apr. 12** Elleen Levy, Banti Winslow

**May 7** (2 open)

**June 4** Gorgie Hofma, Barbara Gault

## Eaton 2013 Scholarship Awardee

### THANK YOU!

I would like to thank you for choosing me to receive the AAUW Kappy Eaton/Hites Foundation Scholarship. I have big dreams of one day owning my own business and giving back to my community. Your scholarship makes my dreams more obtainable and less daunting. I am a first generation college graduate and my family couldn't be more proud. They support my decision to continue my education and are just as grateful for this scholarship as I am. They too recognize that scholarships help take the burden off of me and instead give me breathing room to concentrate on my studies.

I have recently graduated from Lane Community College with my Associates of Science Oregon Transfer Degree in Business and am currently enrolled at the University of Oregon where I plan to get my Bachelors of Arts in Business. I plan to focus on both Marketing and Entrepreneurship and minor in Japanese.

I plan to work for a company for a few years after I graduate to make sure that I understand how business works and ensure that I can handle the stress of running a business. During that time I plan to work on my business plan so that I can start my plans for owning my own business. I would like to open a restaurant and nightclub here in Eugene. While I understand the competition is tough I plan to have a set idea or theme to help make my club stand out.

I would like to thank you once more for creating the AAUW Kappy Eaton/Hites Foundation Scholarship. Because of your generosity I am able to continue on my education and be the first in my family to receive a bachelor's degree. I cannot thank you enough for giving me this financial support and helping support my dreams.

Keri Hagler  
Recipient of the AAUW Kappy Eaton/Hites Foundation Scholarship (2210)

## Shining Star Scholarship Event

The Shining Star Reception is a special celebration to honor Lane scholarship recipients and the generous donors who make these scholarships possible.

The reception this year will be held on November 18, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. in The Center for Meeting and Learning (Building 19, Room 103). For additional information, call (541) 463-5226.

Your donations to the scholarship fund are tax deductible. There are several ways to donate: log on to <http://eugenelane-or.aauw.net> choose "Participate," then scroll down to Eugene-Lane Branch-The News  
November 2013

"Scholarships." A win/win way to help your own finances and a worthy student.

Thank you!

## A Special Help-Wanted Ad

As you know, our wonderful Ad Manager, **JoAnn Ellis**, has retired, and now one of our members has an opportunity to take over with JoAnn's mentoring.

You will be continuing the program that eliminates the need for the branch to annually hold fund-raising activities because the ads cover expenses our dues don't. We are able to help KidSports (see letter on Page 4) as a community effort to break barriers, among other great activities, without constantly asking for contributions

You will find the position very rewarding, and the best part is you don't have to solicit customers because we, the members, will give you business cards from those establishments we like. And, even better, you can make all of the contacts via the phone!!

Two branch members--Jo Brew and Carol Marusich buy ads!

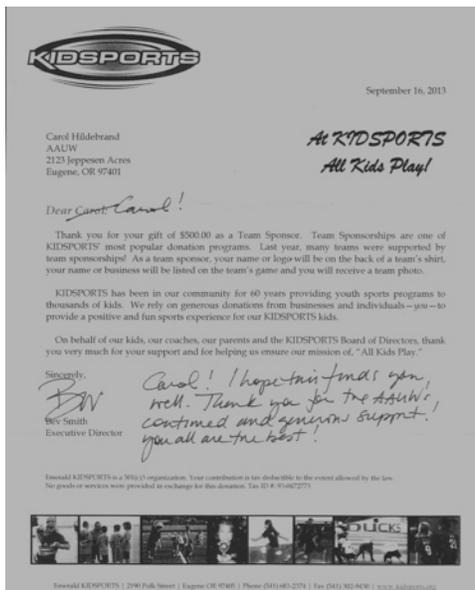
Please consider taking this position on as part of your AAUW commitment. And remember, it only happens once a year!

Call JoAnn at 541-747-4715 and talk with her about it.

\*\*\*\*\*

## 10/9/13 Board Meeting Summary

1. Question of adding voting chairs to the board will be addressed in the next Policies update.
2. Stephanie Winsor, as check dispenser, is contact person for Lane Foundation.
3. Motion passed to appoint Carol Hildebrand as Bylaws chair.
4. New Member Tea scheduled for Sunday, October 20, at the home of Linda Wittorff.



## AAUW Opportunities

Cathy Lindsley provided this summary of her talk to the branch at the September meeting:

### AAUW - Career Advancement Award

- started in 1972
- for women preparing to advance, change careers, enter workforce. priority for women of color and women in non-traditional fields
- has to be a break in education. Last round, required bachelors earned before 2009
- filing fee of \$35
- deadline is Dec. 15, apply online
- award is \$2,000 to \$12,000
- AAUW members can apply online to be on the selection committee for this and other scholarships

More information on this and other awards:

<http://www.aauw.org/issues/>

### Lane Community College Scholarships:

#### *Kappy Eaton Scholarship Fund*

- Give online or send a check to Lane Community College Foundation
- Also counts as match for Oregon Cultural Trust
- Lane Community College Foundation Board is a 501-c-3
- Scholarship reception on November 20, 2013.
- Lane awarded almost \$700,000 in scholarships last year
- We use community readers to review/score the applications. If you'd like to be a reader, let me know.

Eugene-Lane Branch-The News  
November 2013

- We offer a workshop in January on a Saturday called "How to Pay for College in One Day!"

- You can find more information at [www.lanec.edu/foundation](http://www.lanec.edu/foundation)

\*\*\*\*\*

## AAUW Public Policy Update November 2013

--Kappy Eaton, Public Policy Chair

### State of the State

#### Fiscal Policy

It wasn't easy, but on October 2, 2013, the Oregon Legislature came together to enact a series of forward-moving laws that enhance public education at all levels, improve the mental health system, protect seniors, assist the working poor, adjust the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS), and pave the way for research and future action on the issue of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). As more than one legislator said in the Senate and House chambers, after the votes, "This is Oregon, not Washington, D.C., and we have acted as Oregonians."

Following is a summary of what took place in the Capitol between September 26 and October 2, after Governor Kitzhaber called the Legislature in to a Special Session scheduled for September 30. The House Speaker, Tina Kotec, and the Senate President, Peter Courtney, established the Special Committee on the Special Session which consisted of both House and Senate members from both political parties, and which they co-chaired. Five legislative concepts (LCs) were drafted for consideration by the committee, based on the bills that were defeated at the end of the regular 2013, 77th Session of the Oregon Assembly, July 8.

Two public hearings on the five LCs were held on September 26 and 27. Each session lasted about five hours, there were overflow audiences, and passionate pro and con arguments were presented by legislators, organizations, local governments, business representatives and citizens. Obviously, legislative leaders, staff of Legislative Counsel (bill drafters), staff of the Legislative Revenue and Fiscal offices and the

Governor worked over the weekend to consider proposed amendments and have the five proposals put into final bill form.

For reference (to look them up on line), SB 861 modifies the PERS cost of living adjustment (cola). SB 862 excludes certain increases in salary made by employers to pay for insurance coverage from calculation of the final average salary for members of PERS. SB 863 makes a legislative finding and declaration that regulation of agricultural seed, flower seed, nursery seed, and vegetable seed products of agricultural seed, flower seed, nursery and vegetable seed is reserved to the state. HB 3601 increases the corporate excise tax rate on taxable income between \$1 million and \$10 million and raises the cigarette tax; grants an increase from 6% to 8% for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC); reduces the amount that can be subtracted from the Oregon income tax on federal itemized personal exemptions based on income; increases the age (to 67) and adds a means test for the Oregon senior medical subtraction; and cuts a small business tax. HB 5101 increases the biennial appropriation for the State School Fund. HCR (House Current Resolution) allows the Legislature to adjourn the Special Session *sine die*.

On September 30, the Legislature formally met in Special Session, and spent the day waiting for the Special Committee to hold a work session on the five bills and move them to the respective chambers for discussion and passage. That didn't happen until October 1, after several delays from the 8:30 a.m. schedule. The House took its first vote on HB 3601 since this was the proposal to raise the revenue needed to accomplish the goals of PERS reform and more dollars for schools at all levels, mental health, and the working poor. If it failed, the whole deal was off. The majority required was 3/5 because revenue was being raised (constitutional requirement) which meant at least 36 representatives must support the bill. Five House members were excused. The vote was 33-22. The Speaker immediately disappeared, and the Democrats met in caucus.

In the meantime, the Senate was discussing its three bills related to PERS and the GMOs. Each bill was presented jointly by a Democratic and a Republican Senator, and they all passed with bipartisan support. The House took another vote, and after some arm twisting by both caucuses, the revenue bill passed, along with the increase for the School Fund. The two chambers exchanged bills, passed them, and adjourned on October 2. So what is the result?

An additional \$244 million has been added to the 2013-15 adopted budget. Most of the changes will take place on July 1, 2014. Of the \$140 million for public education, the 197 school districts will share \$100 million, Community Colleges \$15 million, and the four year institutions \$25 million. The budget note mandates that the higher education funds must be used for tuition relief. The cigarette tax, which will rise to 13 cents next year, and another cent per year until 2017, will become a dedicated revenue source for mental health programs, with \$20 million next year. The EITC increase to 8% to assist the working poor, protecting services for the elderly, the cuts for small businesses, and the education dollars come from the reduction in PERS colas (from 2% to 1.25% for pensions up to \$60,000 and .15% for those over \$60,000), the senior medical subtraction revision, and the reduction in the personal income itemized tax deduction for individuals with incomes over \$100,000 and couples over \$200,000.

Legislators, for the most part, felt good about accomplishing positive outcomes for education and PERS. The attitude seemed to be that if problems arise as implementing the changes moves forward, they can be discussed in the 2014 session.

### **Tax Reform**

When the 2013 Legislature held hearings on the possible taxation of carbon emissions, the Governor and others requested that there first be a study committee to research the issue (which was done) and that there be a discussion about long-term tax reform. To that end, the Governor is asking two groups that have proposed initiatives

for the 2014 General Election not proceed with them. The subject matter relates to the right-to-work (generally anti-union) and increased taxes (generally for higher income and corporations). He wants consideration of the whole tax system before any further changes.

### **Interim Committees**

As the planning for the 2014 session continues, the Interim committees will meet November 20-22 to decide on draft proposals for Legislative Counsel and hear progress reports from various task forces and special committees. The December Revenue Forecast will be presented to a joint meeting of the House and Senate Revenue committees November 22.

\*\*\*\*\*



September Letter

### **Supreme Court Rules on Employee Rights**

The US Supreme Court decision in *Vance v. Ball State University* made it easier for employers to escape liability for discrimination and harassment in the workplace. The court limited the definition of “supervisor” to include only those employees with the power to take “tangible employment actions,” such as hiring or firing, against the complainant. This decision means workers will now have a much harder time proving workplace harassment and discrimination under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. AAUW opposes limits on a worker’s ability to seek remedies for harassment and discrimination, and we are working with Congress to restore this worker protection.



October 25, 2013

This week, the White House invited AAUW to attend an event with President Obama and Vice President Biden and asked AAUW to have a representative on the stage with the President and Vice President. Why? Because YOUR actions demanding immigration reform have been noticed here in Washington, D.C.

Since AAUW members voted in June to add to our public policy priorities support for "the civil and human rights of all immigrants, including a fair and just path to legal status," AAUW activists have sent messages to representatives from almost every congressional district, demanding immigration reform now. In addition, the AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corps has delivered this message to over 200 Senate and House offices.

An AAUW intern who is a Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (“DACA”) student was chosen for the honor of representing all of us. I hope we can count on you to keep up the pressure to pass immigration reform before the end of the year. ”

A new survey released this week reaffirms the "STEM shortage," meaning that businesses are struggling to find qualified employees to fill job openings in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

- AAUW supports efforts to supplement our own home-grown STEM workforce through a STEM education initiative implemented as part of immigration reform legislation. The initiative would be funded through fees collected from U.S. employers who recruit foreign STEM workers and used to educate the next generation of American STEM workers. Write your representative today and ask him or her to include this fund in any immigration proposal!

## 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:  
JoAnn Ellis  
Book Exchange: Ellen Otani  
Branch Brochure: Wendy Cook  
Bylaws: Carene Davis-Stitt  
Calling Committee: Pat Lanier  
C/U Liaison, UofO:  
C/U Liaison, LCC:  
Cathy Lindsley  
Directory: Judy Greer  
Financial Records: Pat Zeller  
Historian: Linda McCleary  
Hospitality: Jill McCleary  
Newsletter: Marian Spath  
Nominating Committee :  
Website Manager: Wendy Cook

### *The News*

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### Staff

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

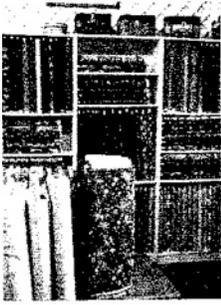
Ad Manager: (Open)

Proofreaders: Pat Lanier,  
Stephanie Winsor

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

**[REAP](#)**  
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because  
**equity**  
is  
still  
an **issue**



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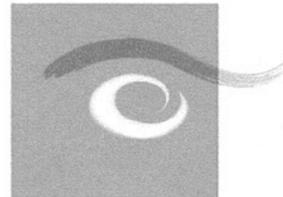


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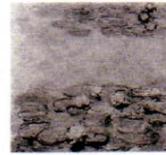
Carol Marusich, OD, MS, FCOVD  
Robin Bautista, OD

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**Eugene-Lane Branch AAUW  
533 Covey Lane  
Eugene, OR 97401**

**Meeting Calendar**

**November 7-9, Center for the Study of Women in  
Society**

**No Board Meeting scheduled for December 2013.**

**Saturday, 9:30 a.m., December 7, 2013, Holiday Brunch**  
Westminster Church

**Wednesday, January 8, 2014, 10:00 a.m., Board Meeting**  
Quail Run Clubhouse *All members welcome.*

**Saturday, January 11, 2014, 9:30 a.m., Branch Meeting**  
Westminster Church

**April 25-27, 2014, Oregon/Washington Joint Convention,**  
Embassy Suites Hotel, Portland, OR