

NOVEMBER 2014

AAUW Eugene-Lane Branch Meeting
Saturday, November 8
9:30 am social time
10:00 am business meeting
10:30 am program
Westminster Presbyterian Church
777 Coburg Road., Eugene
Hostesses:
Cindy Parker and Betty Kjeldgaard

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

The Fantastic Tale of
Opal Whiteley



"When I grow up, I am going to write for children — and grownups that haven't grown up too much — all the earth-songs I now do

The November 8 program will be presented by Stephen Williamson, one of the top authorities on the life and writings of Oregon's controversial writer Opal Whiteley. His website, www.opalnet.org is the largest on the net about her. Williamson has an appointment as a courtesy research assistant with the University of Oregon's Center for Advanced Technology in Education (CATE).

The program is titled "The Education of Opal" and will discuss both her early teachers in Cottage Grove and also her time at the University of Oregon.

Opal Whiteley (1897-1992) grew up in logging camps outside of Cottage Grove. Opal was a brilliant student and had a near photographic memory. She was a popular leader of youth and was even admitted to the U of O before she had a high school diploma. However, she dropped out of the university after just three semesters, leaving much of her studies incomplete.

In 1920 at the age of 22 she published her childhood diary. It instantly became a best-seller, but sales soon collapsed due to questions about the diary's authenticity. Did she really write it in childhood as she claimed? Williamson believes much of it was written when she said it was, but later heavily edited for publication.

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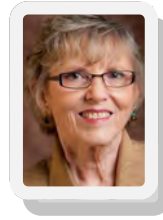
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Opal, continued from page 1

Williamson will try to answer several of the mysteries of Opal's life: such as why she really dropped out of the University of Oregon after just three semesters and left the state never to return. He will also present evidence that she did keep a diary in childhood and her use of the word "fairy" helps prove it. Find out why. He will also reveal who he believes were the real Angel Mother and Angel Father and the source of much of her knowledge about Catholicism and nature.

Whiteley also believed she was related to the French royal family. Stephen will present fascinating evidence that Opal really was related to French aristocracy (not necessarily royalty).

Williamson will conclude his talk by showing a new brochure from the Cottage Grove Historical Society with thirteen Opal Spots around Cottage Grove for visitors to explore. Attendees can take home a map of the many places Opal lived in and wrote about. <http://members.efn.org/~opal/opaltour.pdf>



Carene's Contemplations

This month I am sharing with you one of my passions – ending violence against women and girls.

October has been Domestic Violence Awareness Month which evolved from the first Day of Unity observed in **October**, 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The intent was to connect battered women's advocates across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children.

The UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women is November 25. However, the UN Secretary-General's UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign proclaims every 25th of the month as Orange Day! Orange Days will be launched on 25th day of each month, and will be repeated every consecutive month.

The objective is to raise awareness about the issue of violence against women and girls, not only once a year on 25 November, but every month.

The UNiTE campaign will also launch a new ribbon as symbol for preventing and ending violence against women and girls. With your help, we can make this symbol universal.

What can you do?

1. Wear orange on 25th day of each month.
2. Invite others to wear orange on every 25th of the month, share posts & tweet about it!
3. Use & share the photo of the UNiTE ribbon - the new symbol for ending violence against women and girls.
4. Promote the Orange Day and the ribbon.
5. Read the article in this issue from the AAUW website "Schools Must Take New Steps to End Violence on Campus" and take the suggested actions.

Together we can end violence against women & girls!



from AAUW Website

October 20, 2014

By: Anne Hedgepeth

Schools Must Take New Steps to End Violence on Campus

After years of hard work, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act is law and its campus safety provisions, sometimes called Campus SaVE, have final regulations requiring colleges and universities to take new steps to end sexual violence. AAUW documented the development of these regulations this spring, a step that provides additional details to help schools implement new laws. The Department of Education recently announced that these regulations are now final.

We've mentioned a few of the new provisions, but as a reminder here are some of the things schools must do this year to follow the law:

- 1. Report the number of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking incidents that occur on campus every year.**

This is in addition to the longstanding requirement to disclose sexual assault incidents, along with other crimes.

- 2. Add hate crimes motivated by gender identity bias and national origin bias to their annual statistics.**

- 3. Update their annual security report to include:**

- the institution's programs (available to all students and employees) to prevent dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking;
- the procedures, steps, and time lines that the institutions will follow when one of these crimes is reported;
- all of the sanctions that the school imposes following these proceedings;

- and training for all those involved in the proceedings.

- 4. Provide clear options and support to students who report an incident of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking.**

- 5. Allow students to bring an adviser of their choice to any disciplinary proceeding.**

All of this is great news for student safety. But what's missing? The Department of Education opted not to provide a federal definition of consent for every college and university to use. That means schools can develop their own; we know that more than 800 currently use an affirmative consent definition and that California and New York are implementing similar requirements.

The DOE acknowledged that some of these steps will take time and energy for schools to follow, and it included new resources with the release of the regulations. In addition, NotAlone.gov/schools continues to provide model policies, programs, and guidance to help schools make improvements on their campuses.

Schools should already be making a "good faith" effort to follow these new provisions. Have you ever checked your school's annual security report, which explains its compliance? Consider stopping by the website of your alma mater, local college or university, or the school your kids/friends/relatives attend, and type in "annual security report" in the search bar. The report should show up and have been updated on or by October 1. It should include these new statistics and mention the steps the school is taking to comply with the new law. Checking up on institutions is a great way to help implement this strong new law that you helped make a reality!



*In addition to AAUW, **Kappy Eaton** has also been active in the League of Women Voters of Lane County since 1954, when a league member knocked on her door and introduced herself. Kappy was recently featured in a Register-Guard article about the League.*

AAUW PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE—November 2014

by Kappy Eaton

Election Last Call

Be sure that you mail your ballot by Friday, October 31, to ensure its delivery to the Lane County Elections office at 10th and Lincoln streets by November 4. You can put it in one of the official white ballot drop boxes up to 8 p.m. on Election Day or bring it to the Election office. There will be a list of drop box locations in the paper.

Looking ahead to the 2015 Legislature

While Legislative committees and individual legislators are still considering issues and proposals, discussions have begun on a number of probable measures and conditions that will need to be addressed in 2015. Some are carryovers from unpassed 2013 bills and others will be the results of research contracts and task forces authorized by that session. The legislative Interim committees have met in May and September and will look at bill drafts between December 8th and 10th.

AAUW's primary Oregon legislative goal will be funding for child care at Oregon's public universities and community colleges. This is also a national AAUW priority, and the issue was discussed by the candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives, DeFazio and Robinson, at their debate in Eugene on October 15. With high tuition and living costs, many students with families face another hurdle in seeking day care. There also are other education, governance, social services, and natural resources problems to be addressed as AAUW Public Policy committee members meet and discuss additional priorities, and the ability of the personnel to cover them.

2015 Natural Resources

1. Climate Change: carbon emission taxation (pricing) – seeking targets for local governments, transportation policies to reduce reliance on automobiles, developing strategies by metropolitan planning organizations.

2. Innovations in water quality, minimum stream flow, grant/loan programs for low-income families to assist in needed water system related repairs or replacement.

3. Addressing land use issues related to climate change

2015 Human Services

1. Early childhood education issues include the Early Learning Council and the HUB model designed to pull together resources focused on children and families in defined service areas.

2. Attention to the Youth Authority.

3. Protecting the TANF allocation (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) and the Earned Income Tax Credit.

2015 Governance

1. Modernization of Oregon's voter registration system tops the Secretary of State's (SOS) list. The proposal passed the House, but not the Senate in 2013. In general terms, it would put in place an automatic voter registration when new or renewed driver's licenses are issued by DMV. The necessary information to acquire a driver's license is the same as for voter eligibility. The record would be electronically sent to the SOS where it would be compared to the statewide voter list, the individual would be automatically registered to vote in the resident county, and a notification postcard sent allowing the person to opt out, if desired.

2. Sixteen year olds would be allowed to register to vote just as 17 year olds already can in SOS proposed legislation. Again, a bill passed the House, but not the Senate, in 2013. The records are filed in the county election offices, with ballots sent after the individual reaches 18. Most Western states already have this law.

3. Campaign contribution and spending limits would be limited under a proposal being drafted by the SOS. Because the Oregon Constitution does not permit such limitations, an amendment bill would also necessary. No details are yet available.

4. Electronic cigarettes – E-cigarettes are on the agenda of the Revenue committees which had brief discussions in 2013, but took no action. Both regulation for sales and use to minors and taxation issues are expected. Documentation given at the recent Interim hearing shows a sharp decrease in combustible cigarette use in the next decade with the accompanying decline in tax revenue. The difficulty arises on the lack of studies regarding the use of nicotine, addiction, and federal inaction to date.

5. The ever present state tax credits, deductions and deferrals that cost the state about \$27-\$30 billion each biennium will continue to be discussed. Some few will be sun-setted, but will they be enough to really address the problem of lost revenue.

6. Clean air taxes or fees from the regulation of greenhouse gas emissions, generally known as the carbon tax, is being studied by the Northwest Economic Research Center at Portland State University, on contract from the state, and will report to the Legislature in December. The debate is expected to be both about the environmental impacts of carbon emissions as well as whether there should be fees or taxes for emission corporations and what to do with that revenue, if any.

7. Post-Secondary costs will be addressed by an expected task force report from the Higher Education Coordinating Commission related to no tuition charges for Oregon freshmen entering one of the state's 17 community colleges. Challenges include the number of students, the program and room capacity of the colleges, admission standards, state support, to name a few.

Public Policy— continued from page 5

8. Last, but certainly not least, the KICKER may be in play by the end of the biennium, June 30, 2015. If the ending balance for the General Fund, projected for 2013-15, is 2% above that amount, all of personal income tax revenue over that amount would be returned as a tax credit to personal income taxpayers. The projection for the corporate income revenue is already over the projection, but voters directed that surplus to the General Fund for public education in a constitutional amendment in 2012. At the end of the 2007-09 biennium, just as the Great Recession began, the Kicker caused \$900 million personal income surplus to be returned, and the State's budget had a \$900 million hole that led to severe cuts in services across the board from which we are still slowly recovering.

The state's economy is modestly moving ahead, and recent revenue reports indicate the possibility that there will be about \$300 million over the projection for 2013-15. Although there is little the Legislature can do right now, maybe they will finally act to protect the future.

Watch for our Annual Fund Contribution Letter in November

Our AAUW Funds Co-Chairs, Ardith Hinman and Pat Lanier, will be sending out a letter and form in November for our annual fund contributions. AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women. The Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for individuals seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

Legal Advocacy Fund Case

Kori Cioca always knew she wanted to join the military. As soon as she was eligible, she joined the Coast Guard. She thrived there, until one of her superiors began harassing her. After her complaints about the harassment fell on deaf ears, he escalated his behavior, assaulting her and breaking her jaw and later raping her. Kori eventually left the military, traumatized, wounded, and betrayed.

When Kori found out that about 20 percent of women and 1 percent of men in the military are sexually assaulted, she decided to join the lawsuit *Cioca v. Rumsfeld* to help change that bleak reality. She and dozens of other military member survivors of sexual violence allege that the failure of the Department of Defense to act on the issue of sexual assault in the military amounts to a violation of their constitutional rights. AAUW proudly supports these plaintiffs and their case.



Myla Haider, Kori Cioca,, and Trina McDonald at a survivor speak-out. Photo courtesy of Deb Zeitman

Monthly Branch Meeting Schedule

Monthly program information is available in the branch newsletter and on the website <http://eugenelane-or.aauw.net/Newsletter>.

November 8, 2014

December 13, 2014

Holiday Brunch

January 10, 2015

February 14, 2015

March 14, 2015

April 11, 2015

May 9, 2015

Annual Meeting

June 13, 2015

Readers' Theatre

Monthly Board Meeting Schedule

Board meetings are held on Tuesdays at 11:30 am at the Falcon Wood Village Clubhouse, 1475 Green Acres Rd., Eugene. All members are welcome.

January 6 April 7

February 10 May 5

March 10 June 9

The One Thing You Must Do...

Submit your comments and suggestions on the proposed AAUW Public Policy Program (PPP) revisions. The deadline for comments is December 1! Go to the AAUW website www.aauw.org to comment.

As you know, the AAUW Public Policy Program (PPP) establishes our organization's federal action priorities. The feedback of members like you is critical to a successful PPP revision. Your comments and suggestions will be used to shape AAUW's advocacy in the future.

Every AAUW member has a voice in this important process. Make sure to comment before the December 1st deadline!

New Resource

The *Journal of Violence* published a study assessing how at-school victimization and violence affects children in America. Researchers from the University of New Hampshire surveyed a national sample of students ages 5-17 and determined that 14 percent of children have experienced physical assault at school and 6 percent had missed at least one day of school as a result of the victimization. For more information see <http://www.unh.edu/news/releases/2014/10/bp20finkelhor.cfm>

Directory Corrections

Please make a note in your directory.

Page 8:

Gorgie Hofma is a **Life Member**

Page 11:

Donna Pierce is a **Life Member**



Remember to bring your Looking Glass toiletries to the meeting and put them in the basket. They will be delivered to Looking Glass after our December meeting ~ a little early Christmas present. Thank you.

BRANCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Board Officers

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LCC C/U Representative:	Cathy Lindsley
Looking Glass Outreach:	Pat Lanier
Newsletter:	Carene Davis Stitt
Nominating Committee:	Carol Hildebrand, Ardith Hinman
Website Manager:	Wendy Cook
Reader Board:	Marian Spath



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 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.



Interest and Project Groups

Branch members are invited to join any group. Please call the contact person for details. If you're interested in forming a new group, please contact the branch president.

Afternoon Book Group—3rd Monday at 2:00 p.m.

Meets in homes of members.

Contact Betty Kjeldgaard, 541-683-4926

Alpha Bridge—Every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

Willamalane Senior Activity Center, Springfield.

Contact Ardith Hinman, 541-747-4310

Fourth Tuesday Bridge Group at 1:00 p.m.

Contact Donna Pierce, 541-344-3365

Out and Abouters

Contact Linda Wittorff, lindaatex@yahoo.com
541-844-1422

Out-to-Lunch Bunch

Contact Carol Hildebrand, carodane@aol.com
541-344-4267

Readers' Theatre

Contact Barbara Carter, 541-554-2944



Jo Brew, our new Advertising Manager, needs business cards that you gather from those places you frequent. Just hand her the cards—she does all the rest!

The News

is published monthly, September through June, by AAUW Eugene-Lane Branch. It is distributed to members by e-mail or regular mail.

Deadline is the 20th of each month, August through May. Items are to be submitted to the editor by that date.

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