

May 2015

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

## AAUW Eugene-Lane Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 9

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
 777 Coburg Road, Eugene.

Social time: 9:30 am  
 Annual Meeting: 10:00 am  
 Workshop: 10:30 am

Hostesses: Cindy Parker & Ardith Hinman

Please join us for our branch’s Annual Meeting. We will be voting on the 2015-16 Budget and our branch officers.

Thanks to the **Nominating Committee**, Ardith Hinman, Carol Hildebrand Peg Emery for their efforts and their report which was given at the March 14 branch meeting and is published below:

**Membership Vice President**—Jo Brew  
**Communication Vice President**—Elleen Levy  
**Secretary**—We still need a volunteer to fill this critical board position. Please consider serving your branch in this capacity.

We will be reviewing our goals from last year’s annual meeting and evaluating our progress.

During the program portion of the meeting Carene and Cindy will facilitate a workshop, **“Spice Up Your Programming”** that was developed by AAUW National. Carene participated in the online training and is now a “member trainer”.

With your participation, this workshop will provide the foundation we need to hold programming that is mission based, engages our members, and builds our branch.



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## AAUW PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

### Kappy Eaton—May 2015

#### Oregon AAUW Convention

The 70<sup>th</sup> Oregon Convention at Eagle Crest was excellent in every respect, in my opinion, reflecting on many over the last 50 years. Having two members of the Association staff available for conversation as well as interestingly presented workshops was appreciated, including Dr. Jill Birdwhistell, Chief Operating Officer, and Catherine Gibson, AAUW Senior Manager, Major and Planned Giving. Eugene-Lane branch was recognized as 7<sup>th</sup> out of the top branches in the state in total AAUW Fund giving, and the 7<sup>th</sup> in LAF giving.

Some highlights included the music provided by a talented women's chorus from Bend, started several years ago by women seeking solace from various kinds of loss; a Salem Reader's Theater presentation on the outstanding women who, starting in 1848, worked towards the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment in 1920 giving women the vote; and a lovely group of young ballerinas from the Bend Victor School of Performing Arts, featuring ballet music and historic information. Lauren Mancuso, a successful LAF plaintiff, spoke about her case against UC Davis regarding women's athletic discrimination.

The workshops covered several current topics. The one on AAUW's research concerning the lack of women in engineering and math, now continued by the sequel, "Solving the Equation: Women on Engineering and Computing", helped understand why it is important to close the gender gap, and how.

Public Policy was discussed by the Oregon AAUW committee chair, Trish Garner, who engaged the local branch chairs in ways to inform members about both state and national issues, communicating with legislators and attending the May 12 AAUW Lobby Day in Salem.

#### Oregon Women's Health and Wellness Alliance

At the meeting April 21, the legislative issues concerning women were updated after the deadline for hearings and work sessions passed. Several investments for women's health and safety are included in the proposed Department of Human Services budget, HB 5026, now in the Joint Ways and Means committee and expected to pass. SB 492 which allows use of sick or personal business days for employees who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking has passed the Senate. A work session was held April 21 on SB 525, dealing with possession of firearms by a person subject to a restraining order or domestic violence conviction was held in Senate Judiciary, and expected to move forward. SB 759A which requires all public and private universities and colleges in Oregon to adopt written protocol for victims of sexual assault has passed the Senate.

SB 894, an omnibus bill on women's health and safety, has been removed from the 2015 legislative agenda, and will be considered in the 2016 session. HB 2007, wage transparency discrimination has passed the House, but HB 2006, pay equity is not predicted to move forward. Also, the minimum wage bills HBs 2008, 2009 and 2012, have been moved from the House Business and Labor committee to the House Rules committee where their future is uncertain.

Please register for the May 12 AAUW 2015 Lobby Day in Salem. Forms can be found on line.

#### Other Legislative Proposals

##### GOVERNANCE

##### Ethics Issues

Both the Governor and the Republican (Rs) leadership have

drafted revisions to the state's ethic statutes. The House Rules committee will hold a hearing April 27 on the Rs proposals.

HB 3505 relates to public records law which goes back decades and is in need of revisions, particularly to the provisions for the public's access to information. This bill would require the retention schedules of certain materials and establish a three year retention requirement. Additions include legislative and social media information, electronic media, maximum fees for copying, and consequences for the delay in providing the materials requested. HB 2790 would require public agency testifiers to take an oath as to accuracy and truth of their information; HB 2791 makes falsification of statements to legislative committees a crime; HB 3043 would require that the Governor file ID information for the First Spouse to the Oregon Government Ethics Commission and set policies and procedures regarding the public role of the First Spouse, prohibiting policy-making or agenda-setting; and HB 3331 which would allow the Legislature to appoint an independent counsel by joint resolution.

The Governor's bills are SB 9, and HBs 2019 and 2020. They are related to important ethics revisions on public record keeping, and for policies regarding the First Partner as a public official. The Rules committee should be encouraged to consider all of the proposals and seek common ground for amendments.

#### **National Popular Vote**

HB 3475, the National Popular Vote Compact (NPV), had a positive hearing April 15 in the House Rules committee, with Dr. John Koza, president of NPV, providing the lead testimony. It is expected to move out of the committee within the week. The Interstate Compact, now supported by 11 states and the District of Columbia, would require the counting of all votes in a Presidential election, to determine the person receiving the most votes across the country, so that the winner would be that person and every vote would count. Candidates would need to visit in many states to win votes, not just the six or seven "battleground" areas.

#### **Tax Credits**

The first meeting of the Joint Tax Credits committee was held last week to adopt committee Rules and organize. They will be considering all of the credits scheduled for sunset in 2016. These credits have been considered by the policy committees in the topic areas where they exist, and recommendations for repeal, revisions or expiration will be made to the Joint committee. The Joint Ways and Means committee has allocated \$14 million for retention in the proposed 2015-17 Budget, with the current allocation at \$64 million, so cuts are critical as to survival.

#### **Limits on Political Contributions**

SJR 5, a constitutional amendment to allow the Legislature and the public, by initiative, to set limits on candidate political campaign contributions, was heard April 21 in Senate Rules with a packed room audience. Few were in opposition, reflecting Oregonians (74% favorable polling) continued support for limits, especially in this era of limitless dollars. Oregon had limits from the early 1900s until 1975. Costs spiraled upward from \$3000 for a House seat and \$5000 for a Senate seat, to \$30,000 for the House and \$50,000 for the Senate in 1974. Limits set through a 1994 initiative were denied by the Oregon Supreme Court that ruled allowing any such limits required a constitutional amendment to authorize. Action now rests with the committee.

#### **NATURAL RESOURCES**

Major issues still going through hearings or budget allocations include water quality standards, aerial spraying and pesticides, creation of a commission to determine the future of the state Elliott Forest, a "right to mine" on agricultural lands (think Lone Pine and Thistledown locally), carbon pricing as related to climate change, and \$4 million for a DEQ loan program to assist low-income owners of failing septic systems in sensitive areas.

Measures that have "died" include Coal to Clean to Oregon transition away from coal to clean energy, and an exception to land use to allow development on forest or agricultural lands if certain employment goals were met.

#### **SOCIAL POLICY**

The House has passed approval to provide conduit bonds for the construction of residential facilities for mental health and substance abuse clients, domestic violence victims and people with disabilities. County governments can request bonds for non-profit agencies facilities, to be paid back by the agencies. The fight for fire arm background checks on private sales continued with a 10-hour hearing April 22 in House Rules, after a huge hearing in the Senate Judiciary committee.

After passage by the House, the Senate Judiciary committee will now discuss the proposal to allow county mental health staff to interview those with C Felony charges, but who appear to be unfit to proceed on criminal charges, to determine if they can be treated in the community.

#### **Post-Secondary Education**

The Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB) is at the top of Oregon's public education structure, with the Oregon Chief Education Officer as their staff head. Under its jurisdiction are the Early Learning Council and the Higher Education Coordination Commission as well as numerous other education bodies. They are all part of Oregon's 40-40-20 plan for seamless education from birth through graduate school levels. There is considerable speculation as to its future, with amendments to the budget.

**AAUW Kappy Eaton Scholarship Endowment**  
 Annual report for one year ending December 31, 2014

**Purpose: Scholarships for Women transferring to the University of Oregon.**

**Date Endowment was established: 1/2/2008**

**Total Gifts received through 12/31/2014: \$44,280**

**Endowment Value as of January 1, 2014: \$55,480**

Gifts in current year 60

Investment Gains/(Losses) net of fees 1,321

Appropriated for Spending (2,037)

**Endowment Value as of December 31, 2014: \$54,824**

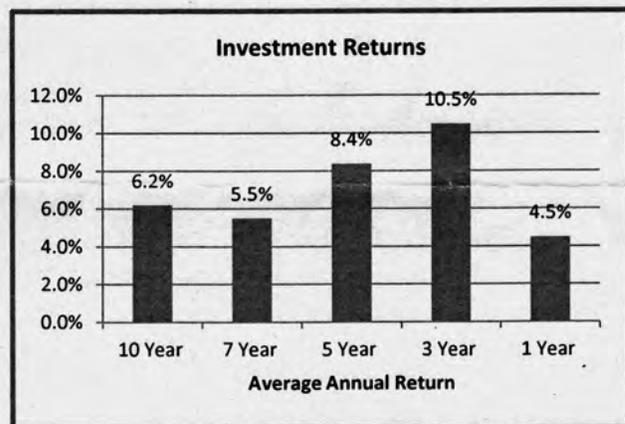
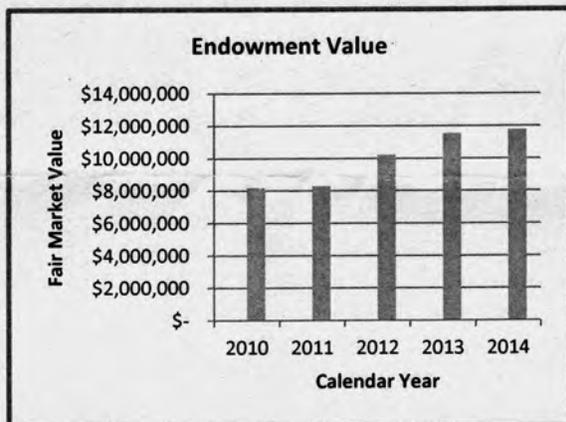
**2014-2015 Endowment recipients**

*Keri Hagler*

*Linda Mejia*

*During the last seven years this Scholarship paid \$13,300 in support for students.*

**Lane Community College Foundation**





## *Soaring to New Heights* AAUW of Oregon

### 2015 Oregon State Convention Report

By Cindy Parker, Program VP

The 2015 AAUW Convention held April 17-19 at the Eagle Crest Resort included many national level speakers, workshops geared to current Branch needs, and a successful Silent Auction coordinated by our Eugene-Lane Branch. I particularly enjoyed the Keynote speaker, author Jane Kirkpatrick, who expanded this year's theme, "Soaring to New Heights".

It was also gratifying to hear Lauren Mancuso's story because AAUW supported her 7-year court battle against UC Davis for violations of Title IX. Our contributions to the Legal Advocacy Fund really do make a difference.

My favorite workshop was Empowering Women on Campus. We have a wonderful opportunity here in Eugene to partner with women in higher educations since we are home to the University of Oregon, Lane Community College, Northwest Christian University, and Pacific University.

I would like to discuss some goals in this area at our May annual meeting. I enjoyed meeting AAUW members from all around the state, and I would encourage more of our members to go to next year's convention in Medford.

### SILENT AUCTION REPORT

By Jo Brew, Chair

Although my name was listed as in charge of our effort, I was only one small part of a very efficient team who made the silent auction at convention successful.

With much organizational help from Carene, Cindy, and Lisa, a little leg-work from Ardith and myself and Bend volunteers to provide in room presence during the open hours, we pulled it off successfully, on time and did provide a \$2780 contribution to AAUW Funds, split between the Educational and Legal Advocacy Funds.

Kudos to an impressive team!





## Carene's Contemplations

What an eventful month our branch has had! In my absence, Program VP, Cindy Parker presided over our April branch meeting.

We hosted our first annual UNhappy hour in recognition of Equal Pay Day on April 14 (see photos and report on the facing page).

Led by Silent Auction Chair, Jo Brew and myself, Ardith Hinman, Cindy Parker and Kappy Eaton (aided by Lisa Stitt) prepared for and executed a successful Silent Auction at the 2015 AAUW of Oregon State Convention at Eagle Crest Resort in Redmond, Oregon. Thank you so much for your efforts. I am grateful, as well, to everyone who participated by bringing books and other items for our baskets.

The weather in Redmond was beautiful and the speakers and workshops informative. There are other reports in this newsletter. I particularly enjoyed working with and getting to know Kathi Dew, the LAC committee chair and our newly elected State President and putting faces with the names we see in emails.

Looking forward, please plan to attend our branch Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 9. We will be voting

## Invitation to UO Special Lecture



Cultural critic William Deresiewicz will share his thoughts on higher education in America today in his lecture, "What is College For? A Defense of the Liberal Arts." Deresiewicz will discuss the meaning and value of a liberal arts education, and its relevance in today's world. He asks, "What does it mean to 'learn how to think,' and

what are you supposed to think about and why?" It will take place on Wednesday, May 13th, at 7:30 p.m. in 156 Straub Hall (a new 500-seat auditorium) on the UO campus, and will be followed by a book sale and signing. The lecture is free and open to the public. For information, contact [ohc@uoregon.edu](mailto:ohc@uoregon.edu) or call (541)-346-3934.

on officers and making plans and decisions for next year. Our newsletter designer, Lisa Stitt, has moved out of state to take a new position. So, I created this month's issue based on Lisa's design. We need to think about who will do this next year, so come with your ideas.

We will also have a special workshop called "Spice Up Your Programs" that was developed by National AAUW. I was trained as a member trainer to facilitate this and five other workshops and, with the able assistance of Cindy Parker, I'm looking forward to presenting it to our branch.

See you soon!

*Carene*



## The Out-to-Lunch Bunch

La Perla Restaurant  
1313 Pearl Street, Eugene  
Wednesday, May 13, 11:30 am

Features Pizza, plus salads,  
sandwiches & soups

Email Banti Winslow to reserve  
your place [bjwin98@aol.com](mailto:bjwin98@aol.com)

Everyone welcome!  
Plenty of free parking.



Above and left: AAUW Eugene-Lane members and guests commiserating .

Right: Ami Tajiri and Mallory Presno-Dunne from the UO Journalism Department videoing an interview with Kappy Eaton.



**Our first annual UNhappy Hour** was held April 14 at the LaVelle Tap room in Springfield to bring attention to Equal Pay Day; women must work until this day in 2015 to earn as much as men earned in 2014. Eleven attendees commiserated with each other and two students from the UO Journalism Department took photos and interviewed Kappy and Carene for a class project that could end up on KVAL.com. They found out about the event in the Eugene Weekly, so kudos to Communications VP, Elleen Levy for the publicity and to Program VP, Cindy Parker for making the event arrangements.

Information was available to learn how to contact our legislators regarding Congressional action on the Paycheck Fairness Act: [http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action\\_KEY=13741&killorg=True](http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=13741&killorg=True). Please visit this website and notify your Congressional delegation. It only takes 2 minutes. This gap isn't going away any time soon, and we need to work to close it here in Oregon, and nationally.

## BRANCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

### Board Officers

President:	Carene Davis-Stitt
Program Vice-President:	Cindy Parker
Interim Membership VP:	Jo Brew
Finance Vice-President:	Stephanie Winsor
Communications Vice-President:	Elleen Levy
Recording Secretary:	Linda McCleary
AAUW Funds Co-Chairs:	Ardith Hinman
Public Policy:	Kappy Eaton

### Member Chairs

Advertising & Branch Fundraiser:	Jo Brew
Book Exchange:	Ellen Otani
Branch Brochure:	Wendy Cook
Bylaws:	Peggy Shippen
Calling Committee:	Judy Greer
Directory:	Carene Davis-Stitt
Financial Records:	Pat Zeller
Historian:	Gorgie Hofma
Hospitality:	Jill McCleary
LCC C/U Representative:	Cathy Lindsley
Looking Glass Outreach:	Board members
Newsletter:	Carene Davis Stitt
Nominating Committee:	Ardith Hinman Carol Hildebrand Peg Emery
	Alternate: JoAnn Ellis
Website Manager:	Wendy Cook
Reader Board:	Marian Spath

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

## 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**

## 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 20<sup>th</sup> of each month, August through May. Items are to be submitted to the editor by that date.

### Staff

Editor: Carene Davis-Stitt, 541-344-9704  
carene@deltanet-consultants.com  
Ad Manager: Jo Brew, 541-688-8546  
Jo@Jo-Brew.com

## 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-to-Lunch Bunch

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

### Readers' Theatre

Contact Barbara Carter, 541-554-2944

## 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.

**May 5**

**June 9**

## Monthly Branch Meeting Schedule

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

**May 9, 2015**—Annual Meeting

**June 13, 2015**—Readers' Theatre



## Coming Soon: 2015 AAUW of Oregon Lobby Day May 12!

### ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY MAY 8!!!

Learn about Legislative Priorities and Lobby your Legislators.  
**Early registration** improves your chance of a meeting with your Representative!  
 Help us get you on your Representative's schedule. **REGISTER today!**

**Registration Fee is \$15** and includes lunch. *Please send payment to Patricia Garner  
 2017 N. Skidmore Terrace Portland, OR 97217.*

*Please state a Meat or Vegan option with an M or V in the "other data" box  
 on the RSVP form and provide your Legislative District.*

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE May 8, 2015 – Register Now**

**<http://aauw-or.aauw.net/welcome/aauw-of-oregon-lobby-day-2015/>**

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