



THE SAGE HEN

A Quarterly Publication of the AAUW Nevada State Council



2020 - Volume 2 - October

Mission Statement: AAUW has dedicated more than 120 years to the advancement of education. To this day, AAUW continues to break through barriers to improve educational opportunities for women and girls.

President's Message:

Thanks to all of you who participated in our Women's Equality Day Conversation with Senator Catherine Cortez Masto and Lt. Governor Kate Marshall on August 26th! We had a great turnout with each branch represented. It was a great start to our year!

Speaking of starting our year, I am sure all of you have had your branch Fall Kickoff events. Not exactly what we are used to...but it is nice to know AAUW branches in Nevada are moving forward with exciting plans and activities. I am enjoying reading the branch newsletters and learning about your branches.

*With an election coming up on November 3rd, I am sure your branch is busy with "Get Out The Vote" activities, voter registration events, and other election related activities. Just a reminder – **AAUW is a nonpartisan organization and does NOT endorse candidates.** We do, however, provide educational information about candidates and issues. The AAUW Capital (NV) Branch collaborates with League of Women Voters and Sierra Nevada Forums to present Candidate and Issue forums. Because of COVID-19, the forums will be virtual this year. NGBN.TV will be streaming these events. You can see the calendar elsewhere in the newsletter. **Many of you residing in Congressional District 2 should note that this forum is scheduled on Friday, October 16th.** At this time, both Congressman Mark Amodei and Patricia Ackerman have confirmed their participation..*

Here are a couple of items you might want to share with voters in Nevada – whether they are members, friends or acquaintances. As you know there is a lot of misinformation found on social media and elsewhere. AAUW advocates for accurate information being distributed to voters. The Nevada Secretary of State's office has created two documents that are worthwhile reading AND sharing. The first document is a list of processes, facts, and myths about the 2020 General Election. This can be found at

<https://www.nvsos.gov/sos/elections/elections/information/2020-election/2020-general-election>.

The second document is an easy-to-read Facts & Myths. Here's the link:

https://sondracosgrove.files.wordpress.com/2020/08/factsvsmyth_2020generalele-2.pdf

As always, I am so proud to be a member of AAUW and appreciate all that each of you do to advocate for equity for women and girls.

*Caroline PUNCHES
President, AAUW of Nevada*



AAUW Governance Committee Survey of AAUW State Presidents

The AAUW Governance Committee conducted a survey of AAUW State Presidents in mid-June asking for input on two questions. Caroline Punches, our AAUW Nevada State President, contacted our branch presidents, and, in turn, shared their insights with the Governance Committee. The two questions were:

- What is it about our current affiliate structure that is impeding the ability of branches (and state organizations) to implement the AAUW mission?
- Can you share examples of branches in your state that are using simplified or nontraditional models of governance?

As the Governance Committee noted in their summary report, “The responses were very informative and their diversity reflected the range of branch sizes and the diversity of the 31 States represented. All Branches are trying to find creative solutions to supporting the AAUW mission with our declining and aging membership. Many states face unique challenges of geography, political orientation and demographics.” They further stated that the purpose of the summary report is simply to keep state presidents up to date on the input received. Implementation of any suggestions would be part of a process.

The four-page summary report will be shared with our Executive Council as well as Branch presidents. The report contains a lot of suggestions as well as concerns. We are sure this report will be most helpful as the Governance Committee looks at AAUW’s Organizational Structure and membership requirements.





School Board Candidate & Regent Candidate Conversations

Sondra Cosgrove, President League of Women Voters of Nevada, Nancy Scott, President League of Women Voters of Northern Nevada and Caroline Panches, President, AAUW of Nevada met with several school board candidates from Clark and Washoe Counties, Carson City, Nevada State Board of Education, as well as for the regent candidates for NSHE.

These conversations were conducted via Zoom. Each conversation was approximately 45 minutes in length. The recorded conversations are available on the LWV blog.

Each candidate was asked to respond to four questions:

1. Opting to have elected officials manage education necessarily produces governance by individuals with a wide variety of backgrounds. How does your background make you a good fit for education governance?
2. For the second time in ten years, albeit for vastly different reasons, education budgets have been drastically cut. How will you include all stakeholders in decisions on cuts to services and projects, while also ensuring equity is prioritized?
3. What outcomes should public education in Nevada produce to treat every student equitably?
4. What are your views on education funding in Nevada?

All videos can be viewed at <https://lwvnblog.org/conversationswitheducationcandidates/>
The candidate's contact information is noted in the "chat" portion of the recording.

PUBLIC POLICY *By Debbie Nicholas*

So much is happening (and has happened) on our national and local fronts over the next few months. There are several articles on the AAUW.org website which have compelling information about the pandemic and its effects on women.

Women suffer distortional effects of the economic downturn caused by the pandemic as they are more likely to be working in *essential worker* fields, are more likely to be in part-time positions, or in positions lacking health and retirement benefits. Women are disproportionately impacted by the closure of schools and childcare.

To learn more about this topic, indepth articles, and information on how AAUW is addressing these issues through research and funding of relief efforts, you can visit the website at

<https://www.aauw.org/considering-covid-19-through-a-gender-lens/>

Don't forget to check your voter registration, make your plan, and vote!

Options abound this year, including voting by mail or utilizing registrar drop boxes, voting early (October 17-30) or on Election Day (November 3).

Important and updated information and important deadlines regarding the election can be found at the Nevada Secretary of State: <https://www.nvsos.gov/sos/elections/election-information/2020-election/2020-general-election> or your local count website, registrar of voters.

The League of Women Voters has a link to pro and con arguments for the 5 ballot questions from the Secretary of State's Office: <https://www.nvsos.gov/sos/elections/2020-election>

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**PUBLIC POLICY**

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**NEVADA COALITION FOR WOMEN'S EQUITY
2020 CANDIDATE SURVEY RESPONSES**

For those who are not familiar with the Nevada Coalition for Women's Equity (NCWE), it is an alliance of organizations that was formed in 2015 with an AAUW impact grant. The members believe women should be treated with impartiality, free from harassment and abuse. We are working to make a significant impact in the lives of women and their families in Nevada. The members are: AAUW Nevada, League of Women Voters of Nevada, Make It Work Nevada, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Nevada Advocates for Planned Parenthood Affiliates, Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence, Nevada Women's Lobby, Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (PLAN), UNR Committee on the Status of Women, and Women of Washoe-WOW, a chapter of Alliance for Retired Americans.

In contrast to previous election cycles, the NCWE team expanded its 2020 Nevada Assembly and Senate Survey so that candidates could elaborate on their positions on issues of importance to the coalition.

All Nevada State Assembly and Senate candidates were contacted multiple times seeking their response to NCWE's survey on issues affecting Nevada's women and families. **If you do not see a candidate's response, they either elected not to respond or they responded well after the August 3rd extended deadline.** See the responses at

**www.nv4equity.org or
<https://nevadawomenslobby.org/2020-candidate-survey-responses/>**

Please feel free to share with your networks here in Nevada. Please provide feedback as to whether you feel the information was helpful. You may send this to Debbie Nicholas, Public Policy Chair, AAUW Nevada at **nicholas89451@gmail.com**.





BRANCH NEWS

From Janice Flanagan, Past President AAUW-NV:

As we celebrate our suffragist heroines, I want to celebrate our local AAUW heroines. Thank you all for everything you do, all the time, month in and month out, some for decades, for our AAUW branches. Without stalwart volunteers, our organization could not exist. Your dedication to our issues, and to the advancement and welfare of Nevada's families, is remarkable. I'm impressed! As I traveled to our NV branches, when I was president of our AAUW State Council, I met women who were examples for all of us. Keep up the good work. You are a shining star!

From Janet Usinger, President AAUW Tahoe Nevada:

AAUW Tahoe Nevada has been able to have in-person general meetings, albeit on a smaller scale during August and September, by taking advantage of some of our members' beautiful backyards. After celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment in August, we kicked off the 2020 election cycle in September with a discussion of Ballot Question 1, which would remove the constitutional status of the Board of Regents. Carol Del Carlo, a past-president of our branch and current Regent for District 9, made an outstanding presentation of the status of public higher education in Nevada, as well as the policy implications of Question 1.



We will be holding a LunaFest fundraiser November 18-19, with a ZOOM discussion the evening of the 19th. Please see our website for further information: <https://tahoe-nv.aauw.net> Everyone is invited!

From Dr. Jennifer Verive, Co-President AAUW Capital:

The AAUW Capital Branch Fall Member event took place on 9/12 via Zoom, discussing goals for the year, public policy issues, planned programs, skill building initiatives and interest groups. Introduction of our scholarship recipients and short video presentations from each were a meeting highlight.

October plans are focused on Voting and Public Policy, including 10/6 meeting presentations from local elections officials and a special Voting Virtual Happy Hour which will be open to the public and other branches addressing general voting facts, a NV Ballot Issue overview and application of AAUW policy.

Capital Branch continues making efforts to register new voters, and we are brainstorming ways to modify our fundraising projects in the environment of Covid-19. Speaking of which, our delicious Schermer pecans are available now! For more information, contact aauwcapbr@gmail.com

From Marian Stanton, President AAUW Las Vegas:

Las Vegas branch has had a newsletter every month throughout the summer, and our Board has met virtually each month. We ran a Recipe contest for best recipe to be awarded at the end of September, with a bag of groceries from Trader Joe's as the prize. One scholarship was awarded at our meeting on September 19th, and we plan to award another at the end of the year for the Spring semester. We are having virtual meetings and plan to have a combined meeting in October with the Boulder City Branch and the League of Women Voters. Happy Fall!



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BRANCH NEWS

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From Doris Dowden and Sara Velez, Co-Presidents AAUW Reno:

The Reno branch kicked off year 103 (yes, we are the oldest branch in Nevada by over three decades!) on September 12 in a smashing virtual fashion. Like everyone else, we will continue to have Zoom meetings until it's safe to resume in-person gatherings. Our members really miss the social aspect of meetings, so we're searching for fun and engaging activities to entice participation. Please share your ideas with us at info@aauwreno.org.

We announced the 2020-2021 programs and interest group activities (all are meeting as scheduled except for the bridge groups). The Fall programs will feature an October discussion about the electoral college and the general election (Dr. Sondra Cosgrove, LWV), a November update on "How a 100-Year-Old+ Government Education Policy Still Hurts Today" with a virtual tour of the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center & Museum (Stacey Montooth, Nevada Indian Commission), and a December holiday party.

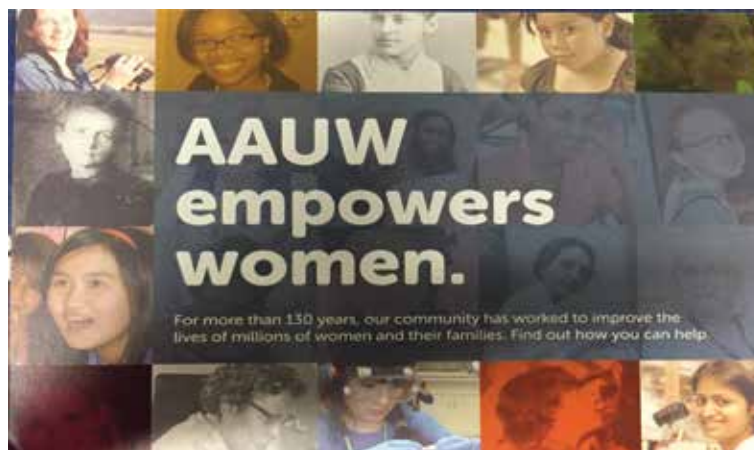
We were finally able to show the video created by AAUW Nevada's 2019 Scholarship recipients for the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). All branches were asked to show it at a membership meeting. If you missed it and want to hear what the young women have to say about their experience, you can access it from the state website on the "scholarships" page at <https://aauw-nv.aauw.net/scholarships/>.

From Dr. Valerie Jean McNay, AAUW Boulder City:

The Boulder City branch has been able to award two \$1,200.00 Scholarships for fall semester to two Nevada State College (NSC) students: Tanya Smith and Alyssa Baker. In addition, we were encouraged to invite Nevada State College (70% of student body women) to join AAUW. The Nevada AAUW Board members (Caroline Punches and Marian Stanton) had put us in touch with Angela Cooper, Senior Manager, Connect and the Advancement & Partnerships for National AAUW. AAUW is currently rethinking its relationships with colleges and universities, so the new website doesn't bring everything together just yet. Angela provided information to share with NSC on becoming a member of AAUW for a small investment (\$175) enabling access to some powerful resources including education funding, professional development, networking and learning opportunities. Stay tuned in as we pursue!

From Carol Roeder, AAUW Fallon:

So far our branch has had no activity. We are working to find a safe way to meet. Many of our members are older and have some health problems. We hope to come up with something and are always open to ideas.





League of Women Voters of Northern Nevada


Sierra Nevada Forums

AAUW of Nevada



2020 Virtual Candidate Forums and Ballot Questions

Send questions for the candidates via email by October 1 to: infoforum333@gmail.com. State which date and panel the question is for. Questions must be brief, to the point, and appropriate for all candidates on the selected panel to answer. Questions will be screened by the LWV and consolidated where appropriate.

October 9	October 12	October 13	October 16
Assembly District 40 Sena Loyd (Democrat) Philip "PK" O'Neill (Republican) Moderator: TBD	Carson City School District Trustee District 7 Joe Cacioppo (Non-partisan) Joy R Trushenski (Non-partisan) Board of Supervisors, Ward 2 Maurice "Mo" White (Non-partisan) Stacie Wilke-McCulloch (Non-partisan) Moderator: TBD	Question 1 Board of Regents Question 2 Recognize All Marriages Question 3 Pardons Question 4 Voter Rights Question 6 Energy Pro and con speakers or an explanation of the ballot question will be presented. Moderator: Sondra Cosgrove, LWVNV president Link to pre-recorded event	U.S. Representative in Congress, District 2 Patricia Ackerman (Democrat) Mark Amodei (Republican) Janine Hansen (Independent American) Moderator: Sondra Cosgrove, LWVNV president
 NGBN-TV and the Nevada Appeal are co-sponsors of the Candidate Forums. All Candidate Forums will be broadcast live. Watch on these Connected TV platforms by downloading the NGBN TV app: Roku TV, amazon fire TV, androidTV and appleTV. Forums are available for later viewing on the NGBN website and app, YouTube, and accessible through links on each organization's Facebook page and website. For more info on these forums email: LWVNVNV@gmail.com LWV of Northern Nevada www.lwvnn.org Sierra Nevada Forums www.sierranevadaforums.com AAUW www.aauw-nv.aauw.net			



AAUW NEVADA LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY						
OFFICE	Term ends	First Name	Last Name	EMAIL	HOME PHONE	CELL PHONE
STATE						
President/Administrator	6/30/22	Caroline	Punches	cpunches206@charter.net	(775) 246-1850	(775) 443-8318
Program	6/30/22	Marian	Stanton	mikistanto@aol.com	(702) 263-1028	
Membership	6/30/22	Jennifer	Verive	jmvverive@gmail.com	(775) 315-4758	
Finance (co)	6/30/22	Dorthiann	Taylor	dtaylor506@aol.com	(775) 771-1212	
Secretary	6/30/22	Pam	Sheldon	pamelasheldon961@yahoo.com	(775) 298-7309	
Public policy	6/30/22	Debbie	Nicholas	nicholas89451@gmail.com	(775) 843-0775	
College & University Relations	6/30/22	vacant				
Newsletter Editor	6/30/22	Millie	Szerman	milliesz746@gmail.com	(775) 833-3311	
Communications	6/30/22	Doris	Dowden	dsquared2@sbcglobal.net	(775) 827-2481	(775) 750-1560
Advisor/Past President	6/30/22	Janice	Flanagan	janflangan@aol.com	(775) 828-1993	(775) 742-1994
Branch Presidents						
Boulder City		Valerie	McNay	vjm5020@gmail.com		(702) 845-0907
Capitol (Carson City)		Jennifer	Verive	jmvverive@gmail.com	(775) 315-4758	
Capitol (Carson City)		Janice	Noble	djanicenoble@gmail.com	(775) 300-1125	
Fallon		Carol	Roeder	ccroeder@charter.net	(775) 423-0224	
Las Vegas		Marian	Stanton	mikistanto@aol.com	(702) 263-1028	
Reno		Doris	Dowden	dsquared2@sbcglobal.net	(775) 827-2481	(775) 750-1560
Tahoe-Nevada		Janet	Usinger	President@tahoenvaaauw.org	(775) 831-0343	



OCTOBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6 AAUW Capital Branch Membership Meeting @5:30 p.m.	7	8	9 Candidate Forum Assembly Districts 39 and 40 @6:00 p.m. Streaming on NGBN.TV (See Notes Below)	10
11	12 COLUMBUS DAY Candidate Forum Carson City Board of Supervisors AND Carson City School Board Streaming on NGBN.TV @6:00 p.m. (See Notes Below)	13 Nevada Ballot Issues Streaming on NGBN.TV @6:00 p.m. (See Notes Below)	14 AAUW Tahoe-Nevada Gen'l Meeting (Outdoors or via ZOOM)	15	16 Congressional Candidate Forum Streaming on NGBN.TV @ 6:00 p.m. (See Notes Below)	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 NEVADA DAY Nevada Women's History Project Historic Living Flag Marches Again (See Notes Below) HALLOWEEN

September 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Notes:

October 9, 12, 13 and 16 @ 6:00 p.m. - Candidate Forums - Broadcast on NGBN.TV. Sponsored by League of Women Voters, AAUW and Sierra Nevada Forums

October 16 - Congressional District 3 Candidates (Amodei, Ackerman, Hanson)

October 31 - Nevada Women's History Project: Historic Living Flag Marches Again. See Page 4 for registration information.

November 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 ELECTION DAY	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 AAUW Tahoe-Nevada sponsoring LUNAFEST as a fundraiser. ZOOM discussion on 11/19. (See Notes Below)	19 LUNAFEST ZOOM discussion - 6:30 p.m.	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

October 2020

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Notes:

November 18-19: AAUW Tahoe-Nevada fundraiser:
LUNAFEST - \$25.00 pp (\$15.00 for student). For further
information, visit <https://tahoe-nv.aauw.net>

November 19: AAUW Tahoe-Nevada LUNAFEST ZOOM
discussion at 6:30 p.m. Visit <https://tahoe-nv.aauw.net>
for more information.

December 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		



DECEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

November 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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Notes:

January 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						