



AAUW NEVADA STATE CONVENTION  
Boulder City, Nevada  
Friday, May 20, 2016

5-6PM STATE COUNCIL MEETING  
BOULDER DAM HOTEL  
6-9PM RECEPTION TURNER HOUSE

REGISTRATION WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE RECEPTION

Saturday, May 21, 2016 Spillway, Boulder Dam Hotel, Downstairs

8:00-9:00 REGISTRATION

9:00 -9:10 WELCOME AND ORIENTATION  
Laura Pyzer Joyce Destefanis Doris Dowden

9:10-9:30 BUSINESS MEETING  
Doris Dowden Joyce Destefanis

9:30-10:30 MEMBERSHIP  
Caroline Panches

10:30-1045 BREAK

10-45-11:30 WHAT'S HAPPENING IN AAUW  
Alicia Hetman, Vice-President AAUW

11:30-11:45 SOCIAL MEDIA  
Byllie Andrews,

11:45-12:00 NEVADA WOMEN'S EQUITY COALITION  
Bonnie Barber

12:00-1:00 LUNCH BOULDER DAM HOTEL PATIO

1:00-2:00 LEADERSHIP: THE SILENT LANGUAGE  
Nancy Stiles

2:00-2:15 COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY  
Robbyn Tolles

2:15-2:30 BREAK



2:30-3:30 GENDER EQUALITY AS RELATES TO WORK-LIFE  
BALANCE

Sarah Blithe, PhD. University of Nevada Reno

3:30-4:30 WALKING TOUR OF BOULDER CITY  
AAUW Boulder City

6:00-8:00 BUFFET DINNER BOULDER DAM HOTEL PATIO

Sunday, May 22, 2016

8:00-9:00 BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

9:00-9:15 GOOD MORNING  
Doris Dowden Joyce Destefanis

9:15-10:00 BRANCH REPORTS

10:00-11:00 TITLE IX  
Alicia Hetman, Vice President AAUW

11:00-11:20 AAUW NEVADA STATE CONVENTION  
2017  
Fallon Branch

11:20-11:30 ADJOURN

12:00 LUNCH ON YOUR OWN MILO'S

Dear AAUW Members,

It's spring, and that can only mean one thing — state convention season at AAUW! It's also a time when we gather to recharge, reexamine, and sometimes even reinvent who we are. These are big questions: Who exactly are we as members and leaders of not only AAUW but also our local communities and the larger community of women nationally and globally? What role does AAUW play in these communities?

Last year we spoke about the concept of One AAUW — the idea that there are so many of us, so many groups all tackling the issues women face in so many ways, and yet we are still One AAUW. This year we'll look at the impact our One AAUW is having as we change the chilly climate for women and girls on campuses and in boardrooms, statehouses, courthouses, workplaces, and communities across the country. The work we do has made a difference and will continue to make a difference to every woman and girl working to achieve her career and educational dreams.



So, just what are we doing to make that critical difference? Leading the way as always is our research, with the release this spring of *Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership*. In addition to the new report, our campus leadership programs *Elect Her* and *Start Smart* and our *It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard* voter registration campaign all aim to challenge the current climate in which more men than women are in leadership positions. We're showing the nation how to unplug Capitol Hill paycheck fairness gridlock with our AAUW *Work Smart* in Boston program, and we're showing girls the way through *Tech Trek* and *Tech Savvy!* And all this wonderful work is being fueled by our highly successful *Charting the Course* campaign.

The board and staff of AAUW are proud to take part in your state gatherings as we share and learn together. We also want to learn more about what you are doing in your communities and remind you of the many resources available for you in your role as leaders and members. From our content-rich website to our many leadership trainings, to our phenomenally energizing national convention (save the date and join us in D.C., June 14–17, 2017!), we all work together to make our One AAUW the positive force for change that it has always been.

I hope you have an outstanding meeting and, on behalf of the AAUW Board of Directors, I thank you for the time, talent, and energy you invest in AAUW on a daily basis.

Sincerely yours,

Patricia Fae Ho  
Chair, AAUW Board of Directors

#### SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Alicia Hetman, Board Vice Chair

As board vice chair, Alicia assists the board chair with assigned duties. She previously served on the AAUW Education Foundation board and the AAUW board. Alicia is the immediate past president of AAUW of California; a member of the AAUW Sacramento, California Online, and San Francisco branches; and a paid life member. Alicia served on the AAUW LAF, Public Policy, and Leadership Development committees and chaired the Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Fellowship selection panel. A Title IX expert, Alicia was hired in 1993 by the California Department of Education to develop and implement the gender equity compliance program for P–12 school districts and conduct onsite reviews. She also investigated and mediated parental complaints against school districts.

Dr. Sarah Blithe, Assistant Professor of Communications, UNR

Dr. Sarah Blithe is an Assistant Professor of Communication Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno. She teaches a variety of communication courses, including intercultural, gender, and organizational communication. Her research focuses on gender inequality in work. Recent projects include her book, *Gender Equality and Work Life Balance: Glass Handcuffs and Working Men in the U.S.* in which she argues that women will never get equal wages if men don't take time off from work by using work-life policies; and a two-year study of occupational identity and discrimination in Nevada's legal brothels. Dr. Blithe has won several teaching and research awards, including a 2015 Outstanding Book award. In addition to her role as a university



professor, Dr. Blithe owns Equilibrium Consulting, Inc., a corporate training and management consulting firm helping organizations create equitable and knowledgeable work places.

#### Caroline J. Punches, AAUW Nevada State Convention Membership Session

Caroline Punches has been a resident of Nevada since 2003. She served as the Executive Director of the Northern Nevada Chapter, American Red Cross for a total of 8 years. She officially retired from the Red Cross at the end of June, 2012. Prior to working with the Red Cross in Northern Nevada, Caroline had a number of "careers." She taught elementary school and preschool for several years after receiving her bachelor's degree from Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, CA and a subsequent master's degree from San Jose State University.

She eventually left the teaching profession and began a long career working with non-profit organizations as a professional fundraiser. She has worked as an employee with organizations such as the American Heart Association, Muscular Dystrophy Association, and the aforementioned American Red Cross. Additionally, she served as an organizational and fundraising consultant for several small non-profit organizations in California.

Immediately prior to moving to Nevada to work with the Northern Nevada Chapter of the American Red Cross, Caroline served as a Development Director at San Jose State University (SJSU). Her responsibilities included raising funds for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, a collaboration between SJSU and the City of San Jose. This library serves as the library for SJSU and as the main branch library for the City of San Jose.

Caroline joined the Capital (NV) Branch, AAUW in 2013 and volunteered to fill the vacant position of Membership Chair almost immediately. Although new to AAUW in Nevada, Caroline was not new to AAUW. She originally joined AAUW in San Jose, California and served in several leadership capacities including President of that Branch.

While Caroline has served as Membership Chair for the past three years, the membership of the Capital Branch has shown consistent growth; growing from 30 members in 2013 to 53 members in 2016.

She currently serves as the Membership Chair for the AAUW Nevada State Council and is a member of the AAUW Member Trainers, having presented workshops at the Southern and Northern AAUW State meetings in 2015.

Caroline is an active member in the Capital Branch, especially enjoying the Evening Book Discussions, Great Decisions and Gourmet groups. She has agreed to serve as President of the Capital (NV) Branch of AAUW and will begin her term of office in July 2016.

#### Nancy Stiles, AAUW State Program Chair

Nancy has had a career of over 50 years as an educator and an educational leader. In that time she has taught grades 2-7, served as a talented & gifted resource specialist, a literacy specialist, a team leader, a coordinator, a professional development presenter for several school districts, and served as chair for numerous committees. Most of her career years were in Texas, but her last ten years have been in Douglas County as a gifted specialist, and then as a teacher trainerconsultant with Thinking Maps, Inc. Her love of learning is evidenced in the multitudinous trainings and workshops she has attended in addition to the ones she has prepared. She has applied her training in her leadership positions both in and out of her career, and has written a



leadership unit for gifted students and a “Communication in Leadership” workshop for adults. She recently served as Vice-President Program Chair of Delta Kappa Gamma and Vice President Program Chair of the Capital Branch of AAUW. She presently serves as Program Chair of the NV State Council of AAUW, and President of the Democratic Women’s Group of Douglas County.

## BRANCH REPORTS

### Reno Branch Annual Report, 2016

The council’s primary focus for the past two years was two-fold: stabilize revenue sources for operational expenses and maintain active membership participation at branch events.

**Revenue.** At a 2014 brainstorming membership meeting, we discussed ways to raise money. At that time, the members in attendance made recommendations, and the council put them into place. For example, request for contributions of purse coins at the monthly meetings and have regular 50-50 drawings of ticket raffle sales. Just these two practices in 2015 provided a steady stream of income to cover administrative expenses (such as insurance, website, post office box, production of bimonthly newsletters, publication of the membership directory, and speaker-related needs at the event meetings). In 2016, the council adopted Capital’s fundraising strategy of sales of chocolate pecans. These modest income-producing activities enable the council to have a constant stream of monies. Printing, postage, and mailing costs were reduced with the introduction of the online Evite RSVP for event notification, the use of the printing services at the university, and recruitment and reliance of experienced members to manage such activities.

**Membership Participation.** The brainstorming meeting also resulted in meaningful discussion on why membership attendance at branch events was low. In 2015, the council also paid close attention to what members were saying about some of the reasons for low-event turnout. One solution was to diversify event programming to spark interest in membership attendance at the monthly events and fundraiser venues. While women’s advocacy remains the major thrust of the branch’s goals and objectives, speakers from Northern Nevada were invited to address other issues of concern to members: ERA ratification, Title IX, bullying, panel of authors and editors in publishing pursuits, water conservation and management in times of drought, wealth management and planning, and advocacy efforts to combat poverty experienced by women and children. As a result, we experienced an increase in event attendance, with about 30 percent participation of our 105 members. Over \$7,000.00 was raised for scholarships and a local math camp as well as approximately \$1,200 for speakers’ fees.

**Bylaws Revision.** The branch bylaws were updated so council descriptions reflect what is expected of officers and committee chairs. A chart was created to summarize varying documents on branch council duties, responsibilities, and tasks.

**Leadership.** The branch nominating committee identified prospective candidates to fill council vacancies in the upcoming year. Each candidate received information on the bylaws descriptions of council positions, an outline of duties and responsibilities for the position they were being recruited, and examples of specific tasks they were expected to perform. As a result, the committee was extremely successful in recruiting a new president, membership chair, and secretary for the upcoming year.



Start Smart. Our branch facilitators worked with the University of Nevada, Reno and the Committee on the Status of Women in presenting a salary negotiation workshop. Start Smart is managed by the AAUW National Office in educating graduating students on wage gaps, development of budgets and target salaries, researching salary information, negotiating, and provides other job benefits such as employer/candidate role playing. Reno branch facilitators have been presenting Start Smart workshops since 2009. Centennial. The year 2017 is the branch's centennial year in operation. With a strong foundation of council procedures, growing operational revenues, and new leadership, the branch is ready to embrace the challenges of educating the public on equity for women and their families. This will be accomplished by the incoming's council's event planning and collaborative efforts with the Nevada Coalition for Women's Equity.

#### Boulder City Branch Annual Report, 2016

Our membership has remained consistent year over year, and our focus has been on education and scholarship fundraising.

This year we have raised over \$5,000 in scholarships and were able to provide 4 women a \$1,500 scholarship each that was also matched by CSN for an additional \$500, so each woman received \$2,000 each. We have requested each recipient participate in branch meetings as well as fundraisers during the year, and they have been an amazing support to our group.

We have had several great programs that have not only included our group, but our community as well, specifically on Title IX as it pertains to our counties coordinator. We discovered not only was it difficult to navigate the waters in finding the coordinator, but we found that communication was difficult and that the position was not a permanent one. This was educational for us all to say the least!

Our group strives to grow, while maintaining the sisterhood that makes our group so special. We continue to learn and change as our community changes, to ensure we can provide a great place for women to communicate, learn and grow.

#### Tahoe Nevada, Branch Annual Report, 2016

Tahoe Nevada AAUW, based in Incline Village, Nevada, had a very active 2015-16 year. The chapter hosts monthly dinner meetings on the third Wednesday evening of each month at their host Parasol Foundation building in Incline Village. Each meeting features a speaker on a topic of interest to the members. The Board of Directors meeting precedes each monthly event. The chapter has 119 regular members and 11 friends. These members and friends are involved in ongoing activities including:

Outdoor Enthusiasts meet each Monday, and activities include hiking, snowshoeing, kayaking, biking and skiing depending on the season of the year.

Book Club which meets on the second Monday of each month except July and August.

Highlights of the 2015-16 year were awarding approximately \$20,000 in scholarships for graduate and undergraduate students. We also funded middle school summer STEM camp activities, and sponsored several students for the middle school STEM field trip. The "Read with Me" program at the Incline Elementary School received \$500.

Chapter fund raisers were held throughout the year. The annual Shakespeare Festival was attended by AAUW members to see the "The Fantastiks" at Sand Harbor on August 6, 2015.

AAUW partnered with the Incline High School Boosters Club on the first joint Holiday Bazaar held in the high school gym on December 5, 2015.





The annual Christmas party was enjoyed on December 9, 2015. A game night was held on February 22, 2016 at the Parasol Building. A fun-filled evening was enjoyed by over 40 members and guests.

A movie and lunch outing at the Summit in Reno, Nevada was enjoyed by members on April 5, 2016.

Sierra Nevada College (SNC) joined AAUW as a college partner. AAUW officers attended the SNC Sustainability Fair on April 22, 2016.

Tahoe Nevada AAUW is supporting two members with a partial stipend to attend the Nevada State AAUW Conference in Boulder City, Nevada on May 20-22, 2016.

One member is being supported to attend the AAUW National Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico in July 14-17, 2016.

Currently, the AAUW Fundraising Committee is gearing up for the Third Biennial Tahoe Treasures Tour to be held on Saturday, July 9, 2016.

### Capital Branch Annual Report, 2016

This has been a busy and vibrant year for Capital Branch. Our monthly first Thursday evening programs have been mission and/or public policy-based, and have expanded our awareness in the following areas: Nevada legislation related to women and families; understanding those living in poverty; human trafficking in Nevada and locally; addiction to drugs and incarceration, and whether that involves punishment or treatment; and Title IX as seen through the eyes of three area county school superintendents. A membership brunch in September, a holiday party hosted by the Gourmet group in December, and a luncheon in May to install new officers and honor our high school scholarship recipients and their parents rounded out the year. Since September we have welcomed ten new members, for a current total of fifty-three. New members were given an orientation about AAUW at the national, state and local levels, and all members were reminded of meetings by a calling committee. Our lively monthly newsletter kept us well-informed about upcoming meetings and events, also featured on our website and Facebook. Using Survey Monkey, membership surveys were developed and distributed to engage members and to determine their interest in activities and/or program changes or continuation. With articles and a question and answer section in the newsletter, and by short presentations at meetings, we have tried throughout the year to help our members become more aware of the numerous important programs of AAUW covered under the umbrella of One AAUW, and supported by unrestricted donations.

Our two long-standing fundraisers brought in proceeds to support the AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund and \$1000 local scholarships to two high school seniors and two returning women students at Western Nevada College. The sale of fresh Georgia pecan halves and specialty pecans occurred in the fall after the new crop was available, and our Feast of Chocolate was held at the Plaza Hotel Conference Center the day before Valentine's Day. Attendees enjoyed beautifully decorated tables, many raffle and auction items, a Celtic harpist, and of course, lots of delicious chocolate made by Carson High School culinary students or donated by various stores and casinos.

We continue to collaborate with WNC staff to further our CU Partnership with the college. We have found that interest groups are a wonderful way to develop friendships with each other on an informal level, and many of our members participate in one or more of the following groups: daytime or evening book group, Great Decisions, Gourmet group, and Games group. Announced in each newsletter, we have a monthly lunch at a local restaurant for any members who care to attend.



I am proud of what Capital Branch has accomplished this year, and I look forward to expanded goals and membership under new leadership in 2016 – 2017.

Jane Johnson, President

#### Las Vegas Branch Annual Report, 2016

Judge Cheryl Moss was elected as President. She created a theme for the branch, "1+1+1" whereby members were encouraged to attend monthly luncheon meetings and bring at least one friend, try to meet one friend, and suggest/learn/share one idea from the meeting. The branch gained five (5) additional members.

Las Vegas Branch had wonderful speakers at the monthly luncheons: Patricia Price Martinelli, representing Holiday of Nations, who spoke on Native Americans in Nevada; Paula Francis, CBSKLAS TV news anchorwoman, who spoke about her career in media journalism; Michael Dimengo, Director of The Center; and Dr. Dahlia Wachs, talk show radio personality. Held annual Christmas Bazaar to raise funds for scholarships. Many beautiful gift baskets were donated for a good cause. A total of two (2) \$1000 scholarships were awarded to local college women.

Participated with Boulder City Branch in Neon Boneyard Tour in Las Vegas.

Participated with Boulder City Branch in Boulder City Historic Homes tour.

Attended AAUW Las Vegas West - Boulder City Joint Satellite meetings with Boulder City Branch.

LV Branch honored members and relatives of members who passed away:

Charlene Bolyard, Past President \*\* A scholarship was named in memory of Past President Charlene Bolyard.

Carol Chabre

Jean Anderson

Charles ("Chuck") H. Schafer

#### Fallon Branch Annual Report, 2016

In the past year our branch has suffered the loss of three of our members. Deana Terrell served as president on and off for many years, Terry Weldon was our membership chair and very active in our branch, and Carol Colip was a MAL for many years until she joined our branch. We miss them very much and have named our scholarships this year in their names. Our fundraisers are a candy sale at Christmas time and our Annual Film Festival and Dessert Extravaganza. Howard Rosenberg has been coming to Fallon for over 20 years to introduce the film and talk about Hollywood and movies. This year we awarded three scholarships: \$1000 to a high school student, \$1000 to a college re-entry student, and \$1000 for a continuing student. We host them at a Scholarship Luncheon. Our meetings are held on the first Saturday of the month. Our speakers this year were Linda Sekiguchi who spoke on her "Peace Hero's", Eleanor Lockwood, Fallon County Manager, who was from South Africa and Rachel Dahl who spoke on the downtown theater restoration. We are looking forward to a new year and new programs and some new members. Carol Roeder

President, Fallon Branch

#### Sparks Branch Annual Report, 2016





AAUW Sparks Branch consists of 15 members and we're proud to say three of our members are 50+ members. Most of us are over 70 years of age and consequently don't do a lot of the high energy requiring fund raising activities, but we feel we manage enough to contribute toward AAUW's goals.

Our programs have featured some very interesting speakers. Our dear Debbie Smith attended our October meeting and gave us an update on the status of SB411. My heart saddens when I think of it, to think a few months after that, she was no longer with us. In February Christi Pagni, who participated in the Reno Cattle Drive 2015, compiled a great power point presentation of the rough and tough experience. It made us reflect on the old days when women did not have the conveniences of modern life! We women have come a long way. Erin Breen was one of our guests. It's so interesting to hear about experiences in her life that led her to the journalism field and on to becoming an author. In April Nancy Stiles, our state Program Chair, attended our meeting and gave us an excellent presentation on ways we can incorporate more AAUW mission-based projects to next year's agendas. We were highly motivated after that and actually decided on a couple of her ideas for next year.

We contribute money annually to the Jean Ford/Florence McClure fund. At the end of the school year, we issue a scholarship to a high school Senior girl. The number of applications we receive increases by quite a bit every year. We're encouraged by that.