



Gem State Newsletter

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LOOKING FOR YOU:

The nominating committee is recruiting members for 2010-2012 AAUW State officer Team. If you would be interested in being on the State Board, please call Carol Stirling at 208/233-8208 or email carolstirling@yahoo.com. We are specifically looking for Vice President, Membership; Vice President, Program; Communication; and Nominating.

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As I See It.....

AAUW Idaho's state convention will be held in McCall on May 1st and 2nd. Specific information on the program and business meeting will be distributed later in the spring. This convention is a great opportunity for members to express their opinions on the future of AAUW Idaho and to renew their appreciation of all AAUW does for women and girls. The state board welcomes all who can attend.

AAUW in the news recently includes Michelle Jaureguito Henley, who was the LAF Plaintiff at the 2008 Idaho state convention. She will be sharing her story on January 30 and 31 in California with the AAUW CA Online Branch. AAUW

member Lisa Maatz and Public Policy Director has an essay in a new book, *The Secrets of Powerful Women*. The book is a collection of essays written by 24 top women community and business leaders, politicians and journalists. Title IX issues continue to be a problem in some areas of the country. AAUW partnered with the Washington Mystics to celebrate National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

Idaho State University has been named one of the institutions to participate in the Campaign College program. This program teaches women how to run for elective office. AAUW sponsors this opportunity for college women along with American University Women & Politics

Institute and Running Start. Congratulations to the ISU Gender Center and AAUW member Rebecca Morrow for being awarded this honor.

Please participate in your local branch programs and activities as much as possible. We need to continue to keep our message about equity for women and girls visible. The branch level is where much of the action is as members do community projects.

Thanks to all of you for what you do for AAUW and its mission. Together we can break down the educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

Kitty Geidl, AAUW Idaho State President

2010 AAUW Idaho State Convention

Beautiful McCall will be the setting for the 2010 AAUW Idaho state convention. The convention will be held the weekend of May 1-2, 2010, at the Hunt Lodge (Holiday Inn Express) in McCall. Registration will begin on Friday, April 30.

The program has not been finalized. The business meetings will include election of officers, bylaws adoption, branch and officer reports and other items. A representative from Association will attend.

Please plan to attend. The convention is an excellent

time to meet other state members and have input on the future of AAUW Idaho. Along with the business meeting and program, fun activities are planned and the Long Valley Branch plans to cater the meals.

Seeking State Webmaster for 2010-2012 Term

Have you ever thought about how fun it would be to manage a website? Or have you been a webmaster and are ready to take on this task for AAUW of Idaho?

If you have an interest and/or skills in this area, please contact me for particulars about this job and related opportunities for outreach. Writers interested in blogging may find this a perfect medium for connecting with Idaho members.

The Webmaster serves the State Board by appointment, at the request of the President (or co-Presidents). The new term begins after our State Convention in early May, so there's plenty of time to get set up over the summer. This is a perfect opportunity to flex your creative and technological muscles!

Kathy Haley
webmaster@aauwidaho.org
www.aauwidaho.org

Pocatello AAUW Branch

by Carol Stirling

We've held our annual book sale last fall for the purpose of raising funds for an ISU scholarship. People worked hard on the sale but it didn't pan out as expected (publicity gets harder each year). It was disappointing but our branch never seems to give up on the sale, we brainstormed and came up with some new ideas. Mary E and Rebecca will work on coordinating the

book sale next fall with help from ISU students and staff. The fall brunch and holiday tea were well attended by members with Bonnie Pfaff, state vice president of membership giving us suggestions on recruitment and retaining members.

The group worked on goals for the rest of the year. We've decided to research ideas of how we can work with women in the State penitentiary

(housed in Pocatello). The ISU Gender Center has received a grant (1 of 10 in the country) called Campaign College that encourages and trains young women to run for student government on their college campuses. Our branch would like to assist in the training and other projects that the Gender Center is offering such as Women's History Month, and possibly a continuation of a conference they offered last year recruiting high school girls into college.

New EF/LAF Chair for AAUW Idaho

Lynn Brooks is the new EF/LAF Chair for AAUW Idaho. She was selected to fill the vacancy on the state board. Lynn is a former AAUW Idaho State

President (1996-98). She has recently returned to Idaho from Tennessee and is practicing law in Coeur d'Alene.

She will be a valuable resource for information about giving to AAUW. Lynn can be reached at millbrook61@yahoo.com.

AAUW Orofino Branch

By Patty Reggear

Starting the year with a planning session, the Orofino board met to determine which format best met the branch's needs. It was agreed to keep the monthly meeting structure. Our November program was a presentation by NOSDA (No One Shall Die Alone). Sr. Corinne Forsman spoke to AAUW members about the group's work at the

Clearwater Valley Hospital. Orofino branch's yearly fundraiser, Patchwork Bazaar, was held in December. Reflective of the economy, receipts for vendors were down. We were, however, able to award a scholarship to a local woman who has returned to school to pursue a degree in nursing and fund our giving to AAUW. This year our

AAUW branch members decided that rather than holding our holiday dinner at a local restaurant, the group would gather at a member's home to have a potluck. The money that each member felt she saved, was then donated to a local needy family. The atmosphere was much more conducive to visiting, and we enjoyed the festive evening.

AAUW Branches Encouraged to Take Part in Half the Sky LIVE

On March 4, 2010, CARE will present *Half the Sky LIVE* in movie theaters nationwide. Inspired by the best-selling book, *Half the Sky LIVE* will celebrate International Women's Day with musical performances, celebrity commentary, and the world premiere of *Woineshet*, a powerful short film

directed by Academy Award® Winner Marisa Tomei. *Half the Sky LIVE* is the perfect way for AAUW branches and members across the country to celebrate International Women's Day and stand in solidarity with women and girls all over the world. Order [Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide](#) from Barnes and Noble to

read the inspirational stories of the extraordinary women struggling under dire circumstances. *Half the Sky* is described as essential reading for every global citizen. AAUW partner, [CARE](#), is a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty.

Winter Board Meeting By Kitty Geidl

The Winter Board meeting of AAUW Idaho will be held on February 20 and 21, 2010 in Boise. The meeting will be held at the Boise State University Student Union Building in the Alexander Room. The board will meet from noon to five on Saturday and from eight or nine to noon on Sunday. Monday, Feb. 22,

will the AAUW lobby day at the legislature.

Items on the agenda include discussion of state bylaws changes, discussion on the May state convention, information from association and other pertinent items. At the board meeting, officer reports will be presented along with reports from the branches.

Progress on meeting the goals set at summer board will be discussed. Please submit any items for the agenda to Kitty Geidl, rgeidl@cpcinternet.com, by February 10th.

Attached to this issue of the GSB is the registration form for Winter Board. All members are welcome to attend.



Boise Branch Update by Lee Hipsher, Boise Branch President

We've had a grand half-year of activities, beginning with a health care briefing at our September picnic dinner. We learned about the life of Eleanor Roosevelt in October and co-sponsored a city council candidates forum with the League of Women

Voters. November brought a discussion of [Telling Stories Out of Court: Narratives About Women Discrimination](#). We gave our holiday donation to the International Rescue Committee and Bells for Books, collected at our gala Silver Tea. We celebrated our successful Wreath

Sale and Dunia Marketplace fundraisers. January's program was a tour of the newly rejuvenated Capital Building and a brainstorming session on the status of the Idaho Women's Commission.

Leadership Opportunities in AAUW By Bonnie McKay Pfaff, Idaho State V.P. Membership

AAUW offers many opportunities for us to work with others and to develop our leadership skills. Here are a few of the programs available to you. As always, if you have any questions, please call me or send me an email.

AAUW has partnered with Cynthia D'Amour, author of *The Lazy Leader's Guide to Outrageous Results*,

who specializes in creative ideas to help volunteer leaders recruit more chapters (branches) and to get more members involved. A "Chapter Leader's Playground" is an online community for volunteer leaders and it is free to AAUW Members. Your AAUW membership gives you access to more than 40 webinars annually. A webinar (short for web-

Leadership Opportunities in AAUW

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based seminar) is a presentation that's transmitted simultaneously over the Internet and telephone. Webinars are interactive; participants have the ability to give, receive, and discuss information, rather than just listen to it. Webinars coming up are: **Share the Wealth-Chop Those Projects Up!**, Thursday, February 4, 1-1:30 p.m. EST; **Orientation-It's Not Just For Newbies**, Tuesday, February 9, 1-1:30 p.m. EST ; **Boost Attendance with Meeting Themes**, Tuesday, February 23, 1-1:30 EST; and **How to Make Recruiting Cool To Do**, Wednesday, March 2, 1-1:30 p.m. EST. Contact me if you wish to register for one of these webinars.

AAUW is working with "The WAGE Project" to present Start Smart Salary Negotiation Workshops to women students on college campuses. The workshops are conducted by trained facilitators to empower young women to negotiate fair and equitable salaries and benefits as they enter the job market. You can get involved by getting trained to be a Start Smart facilitator yourself or to encourage your branch or state or local campus to host a Start Smart Workshop. To take advantage of these opportunities call Kate C. Farrar, Director of Leadership Programs, 800-326-2289 or email leadership@aauw.org.

In conclusion, I would like to mention some items of interest. In

addition to many inspiring stories, The AAUW 2009 Annual Report contains a pie chart on page 34 that gives an excellent picture of how our national dues are spent. As a reminder, beginning April 1, 2009, AAUW national individual member dues for fiscal year 2010 is \$49.00, of which \$46.00 is tax deductible; the remaining \$3.00 is not tax deductible and will go to support the AAUW Action Fund's Section 501c4 activities (Lobby Corps and get-out-the-vote activities). Likewise, of the \$17.00 Student Affiliate dues, \$16.00 will be tax deductible and \$1.00 will not be tax deductible. Also of note: you can ask your company to match the tax deductible portion of your dues. In addition, all of your donations to AAUW can be matched by your company.

EDUCATION FOUNDATION AND LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

By Lynn Brooks

Hello from the new Idaho Funds Chair. In the past, we had separate State Board positions for EF and LAF. However, as part of the streamlining of the Idaho State Board, we now have a single Funds Chair to cover both areas. Some of you may remember that I served as Idaho LAF Liaison in the 1990's. More recently, I served a term as Tennessee LAF Liaison. The responsibilities of EF are new to me. However, the common thread is getting information out to the branches and members about these programs, and to raise funds for them.

LAF. Even though I have been involved with LAF on and off for many years, in the last year or so many changes have been made to the focus and priorities of LAF. Now, the purpose of the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) is to work to combat sex discrimination in higher education *and the workplace*.

LAF works to combat sex discrimination through community and campus outreach programs, a resource library and online advocacy tools, a Legal Referral Network, and various

research reports. In collaboration with the Public Policy and Government Relations department, LAF seeks *amicus curiae* opportunities in workplace sex discrimination cases. LAF also provides support to workplace sex discrimination cases that have the potential to make a difference for all women. Read the Updated LAF Briefing from December 2008 at www.aauw.org for more information.

Support Title IX Legislation!

In January, Congress may vote on the High School Sports Information Collection Act (S. 471) and the High School Athletics Accountability Act (H.R. 2882). These bills would require high schools to report basic data on the number of female and male students participating in their athletics programs and the expenditures made for their sports teams. Schools already collect the data; the bills merely require that schools transfer this data into a publicly available report.

EF. AAUW Branch and State Local Scholarship Clearinghouse Pilot Program

Program Overview. There is a new AAUW Branch and State Local Scholarship Clearinghouse Pilot Program for scholarships to be awarded for the 2010-11 academic year.

The purpose of this program is to create a centralized, standardized, online undergraduate scholarship application posting and processing initiative that supports AAUW's local scholarship programs across the U.S. Participating branches and states determine their scholarship amounts and their eligibility criteria, providing a simple, dedicated web portal for women students seeking AAUW educational funding in their local communities and the ability to submit an application online. Applications will be reviewed by AAUW states and branches to determine selected scholarship recipients.

More information about EF and LAF programs and funds can be found on www.aauw.org. If you need assistance with Contribution Report Forms, or if I can be of assistance to you in any way, please contact me at millbrook61@yahoo.com.