

Prickly Pear Postings

SE Valley Branch,
AAUW

Volume 22, No. 6
March 2011

AAUW ADVANCES EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH ADVOCACY, EDUCATION, AND RESEARCH

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Co-Presidents Message submitted by Nathalie Smith

Dear Members

Most of us are not spring chickens but there has been no lack of enthusiasm on the Board or from our Membership to support projects and activities that enhance the Mission of AAUW!

THANK YOU for stepping up to give that extra effort to make our Branch meaningful, fun and successful!!

The Co-Membership breakfast and the New Member Coordinators have helped our 10 new members feel welcome and involved in a membership of 100.

Our education continued to grow by inviting many speakers: Bill Gates – newspaper editor, AARP rep Rich Stevens on the New Healthcare Law, Barbara Jones - docent from the Heard Museum, Kyrsten Sinema - AZ State Senator, our own Toni Lutter on Starting a Genealogy Search, The Chordaires at the Red Envelop Luncheon, and Doug Hirano at the International Dinner - Director of the Asian Pacific Community in Action. The Outlook Magazine and Public Policy reports keep us up to date.

We personally continue our education by involvement in discussion: Two book clubs, the Southwesters' trips, the Lunch Bunch, Great Discussions group, and the Stitches and Giggles.

The Community Action project motivated members to give over 140 hours of their time to the San Marcos Elementary School. A Volunteer Handbook was created. Books for the school library were donated by our book clubs and members. An AAUW member and the school librarian submitted a grant to AAUW for books. Stuffed animals, folders and pencils were collected to give to children who have excellent grades or who have been helpful at the school. Sanitizing lotion was collected. Other volunteers contributed their time to Talk Time a project at the Chandler Library for families needing help with English.

The Education Fund was generously supported at the Holiday Red Envelop Christmas Luncheon, by the Bridge Club, and by member donations.

The Scholarship Committee provided \$1,000 to a bright, local girl in need of help. She is now a freshman at University of Arizona – School of Pharmacology. This money was raised by gift wrapping at Barnes and Noble, monthly raffle tickets for donated gifts, the golf players, the sale of note paper by Sharon Gale our member who won the AAUW National Art Contest in 2010, and the Barbara Warner Scholarship Memorial. Barbara was both a Past President of our Branch and the State Board.

Members plan to attend the State Convention in Scottsdale on April 9 and we are sending a delegate to the National Convention in Washington, D.C. in June. Our Co-

AAUW Events

- Mar. 7 Bridge
- Mar. 8 Evening Books
Singles Group
- Mar. 14 Afternoon Books
- Mar. 18 Southwesters
- Mar. 16 Board Meeting
- Mar. 21 General Meeting
Stitches and Giggles
- Mar. 23 Lunch Bunch
PPP Deadline
- Mar. 28 Golf
- Mar. 30 Great Decisions
- Apr. 9 State Convention
- Apr. 25 San Marcos Book
Fair
- June National Convention
16-19



Public Policy

President Franklin Roosevelt defined "freedom from want" as "economic understanding which will secure to every nation a healthy peacetime life for its inhabitants."

During his State of the Union address in January 2011, President Obama called for making "hard choices now to rein in our deficits," but "not ...on the backs of our most vulnerable citizens". According to the National Women's Law Center, "this principle, endorsed by recent fiscal reform commissions and incorporated in past deficit-control legislation, is especially important for women, who are at greater risk of poverty than men throughout their lives. And, it is especially important at a time when the economic recovery is still fragile, state and local governments are laying off workers and slashing services for vulnerable people, and millions of women and men are struggling to get back on their feet in the aftermath of the Great Recession."

The budget is a statement of national priorities, and in February 2011, the nation was presented with two dramatically different visions: President Obama's budget for Fiscal Year 2012 and H.R 1, the House bill for funding (or defunding) the federal government for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2011.

President Obama's budget generally protects key programs for women and girls. In contrast, H.R.1 would drastically cut programs vital to the well-being of women and their families.

AAUW ARIZONA proposes the following action by members. Tell Your Senators to Oppose Cuts to Critical Programs. Now is the time to build up our future, not chip away at it.

As the House of Representatives is poised to pass the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011(H.R.1), the Senate is all that stands between a sensible budget and House proposed cuts that would hurt ordinary Americans and have a lasting, detrimental impact on our economy.

The House's proposed \$100 billion in funding cuts would fall unfairly on the backs of students, women, and working families by terminating or cutting funding for several important programs. For example, the proposed cuts would END programs that:

- * Assist students to stay in school..
- * Assist students to pursue higher education
- * Help workers pursue job training.
- * Enable access to affordable health services.
- * Support older adults and their family caregivers.
- * Help protect workers' against sex discrimination, pay discrimination and pregnancy discrimination.

General Meeting

March 21, 2011

7:00 P.M.

Oakwood Country Club



Kyrsten Sinema serves as the Assistant Leader to the Democratic Caucus in the House of Representatives and represents central Phoenix in the Arizona Legislative District 15. Now in her third term, she is the ranking Democrat on the House Appropriations committee and the ranking Democrat on the House Judiciary committee.

Kyrsten holds both a law degree and a Master's degree in Social Work from Arizona State University, and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in the School of Justice and Social Inquiry at ASU. She is an adjunct professor in the School of Social Work at ASU and practices law when the legislature is not in session. Kyrsten also serves as faculty for the Center for Progressive Leadership, teaching tomorrow's community leaders about the political process.

Kyrsten has worked on initiatives in Arizona and around the country for a number of years, and in 2006 chaired Arizona Together, the first and only successful effort in the country to defeat a same-sex marriage ballot initiative. In 2008, she chaired Protect Arizona's Freedom, the coalition that defeated Ward Connerly's effort to place an initiative on the state ballot to eliminate equal opportunity programs. She continues to consult with political groups around the nation on electoral and legislative strategy.

Representative Sinema was chosen last year as one of the 32 state lawmakers nationwide, and the only legislator from Arizona, for the White House Health Reform Task Force. As a member of the Task Force, Sinema has worked with Arizonans to help shape national health reform so that middle-class families can have access to quality and affordable health care. The historic passage of health reform in Congress was signed into law on Tuesday, March 23, 2010.



General Meeting, Kyrsten Sinema, cont'd from page 2

Kyrsten serves on numerous community and national boards, including as Board President of Community Outreach and Advocacy for Refugees, the YWCA of Maricopa County, The Center for Progressive Leadership, and the Young Elected Officials' Network. Kyrsten is the recipient of awards for her political leadership, including the NAACP Civil Rights Award, AZ Hispanic Community Forum Friend of the Year, Planned Parenthood Legislative CHOICE Award, Sierra Club's Most Valuable Player, and the AZ Public Health Association Legislator of the Year.

Kyrsten's first book, **Unite and Conquer: How to Build Coalitions that Win and Last**, was released in July 2009 by Berrett-Koehler Publishers.

Betsy Bollinger and Cynthia Cantor

BYLAW Changes for SEVB

Current: Article VII Section 1. Meetings b.

ANNUAL MEETINGS. An annual meeting of the branch shall be held during the month of March, the exact time and place determined by the board. The annual meeting shall elect officers, fix dues, amend bylaws if necessary, receive reports of officers, committees and task forces and conduct such other business as may be necessary.

We would like to change our bylaws to say:

"SECRETARY. The Secretary shall keep minutes *of the Annual meeting of the membership in March (see Article VII Section 1. Meetings b.)* and *all* of the board meetings and shall perform such other duties as the President and board shall direct."

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Community Action

WANTED: for the San Marcos K-6 grade School Library:

- 1) Puzzles, any kind, no more than 50 pieces
- 2) Non-fiction transportation books
- 3) Disney books


Contact Hazel Bethe Lewis 480 883 8535 now or Judy Baur 480 782 1168 after March 15th.

VOLUNTEERS for the San Marcos School Book Fair held April 25th are always needed. Special need times are 7:30 AM to 8:10 AM and 2:30 PM until 3:15 PM. It is a buy one, get one free event. If a book is donated at this time, a book plate recognizing the giver will be placed in the book. If you need more information, contact Hazel Bethe Lewis or Judy Baur.

During the January Chandler School Board meeting, our AAUW book clubs donations to the San Marcos Library were recognized and appreciated.

Over 170 hours by AAUW volunteers have been given to San Marcos this school year. Thanks for all the fun, good work. It is much appreciated.

Birthday Raffle



Barb Warner Scholarship

If your Birthday is in February or March
 Bring a gift to the March Meeting

If your birthday is in April or May
 Bring a gift to the April Meeting

If you did not bring a gift this year
 Bring your gift to either Meeting



Great Decisions

Great Decisions, a global affairs educational program, promotes awareness and discussion about timely foreign policy issues. We meet in homes and discuss one topic per month.

Our March 30 topic will be "Rebuilding Haiti" conducted by Jane Wagner and hosted by Judy Manley from 3:00 to 5:00 P.M. Judy's address is 26429 S. Beech Creek Dr. in Cottonwood. Please call, 883-0944, or email manley@wbhsi.net to let Judy know you're coming.

The price of the 2011 Great Decisions briefing book (and accompanying DVD) is \$20.00. I still have a few extra books, so, if you're interested in joining, please call, 480-588-7116, or email peck.ellen@gmail.com so I will know where to deliver it.

Ellen Peck, Chair

Southwesters

Join us for our March activity. We will travel to beautiful Green Valley, AZ, located just south of Tucson, to the TITAN II MISSILE site. The Titan II Missile is the largest missile ever built by the United States. During the Cold War 54 Titan II missiles stood alert in their underground silos all across the Country, protecting the United States. In 1987 the last Titan II site was deactivated. Only one Titan II site remains today. We will explore this mammoth underground structure, now a Natural Historic Landmark, see the massive Titan II Missile up close, tour the launch control center, and experience a simulated launch. After the tour, we will have lunch at a nearby restaurant.

TRIP: TITAN MISSILE MUSEUM

DATE: FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2011, 12:00 NOON

COST: \$8.50, SENIORS; \$9.50 ADULTS

TIME: 9:00 (Leave at 9:15 A.M.)

GATHERING PLACE: EDUCATION CENTER, (Riggs and Alma School Road)

Please wear walking shoes. There will be stairs to walk down and walk up. Elevator takes only 4 persons per tour group.

RESERVE YOUR SPACE NOW, CALL TILLIE FORTNER, 480-899-9434 OR JEANNINE GARRARD, 480 883-0177.

Tillie Fortner and Jeannine Garrard

Stitches and Giggles

Projects, projects everywhere and not a moment to complete them? Treat yourself to an afternoon with the ladies of Stitches and Giggles. We devote several hours a month to individual progress on half finished sewing, knitting, embroidering or simple mending chores. Conversation is brisk and laughter inevitable. We meet on the third Monday of each month (same day as our general meeting) at the home of hostess Carmen Otero. Carmen lives at 24411 S Lakeway Circle SE in the Oakwood section of Sun Lakes. Enter Oakwood at the Sun Lakes gate and proceed to the second street on your right. Follow Lakeway Circle half way around the horseshoe and you'll find Carmen's house on the right. We hope to see all of you there!

Lunch Bunch

El Chorros Restaurant is our destination in March. It is on Lincoln Ave., in Paradise Valley. I know it is a ways away, but it is worth the drive to enjoy this outstanding abode. I am hoping we will be able to eat outside on their lovely eating area. You don't want to miss their yummy "Sticky Buns" which are served with every meal. {Go off your diet for a taste!}

**The day in the directory is wrong! We will be going on Wednesday, March, 23rd. We will meet at the Ed. building Riggs Rd. & Alma School at 10:30 A.M. to carpool. For those of you who will be driving yourselves, lunch will be served at 11:30 A.M.

**There will not be a sign-up sheet at the International Dinner. There will be a sign-up sheet at Shakespeare's English Pub at the February Lunch Bunch. If you would like to join us, please e-mail me at priscorbus@gmail.com, or call at 480-883-8365. You will be put on the list....Don't miss this restaurant, It's

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Membership Report

Ladies, brag about our Branch to friends and neighbors! Have a copy of the Prickly Pear to show others what wonderful activities and projects we have. Remember, new members pay half price until March 5. Then new members may pay full price and have the 2 extra months free. Congratulations to all new members who have become so active in our Branch!

Please revise the new members listed under Membership. They are:

Karen Kenyon 480-802-8473

Betty Robbins 480-895-4679

Leila Henrich 480-802-0177

Welcome to the new members!

Sharon Gale and Carol Knudson
Co-Membership Vice Presidents

Directory Correction:

Co-President, Nathalie Smith's, phone number is incorrect in the alphabetical listing of the directory. Please change her number to: **895-6711**.

Nominating Committee

The Slate of Officers for 2011-2012 are:

President elect-Jeanine Reynolds

Co-Program vice presidents-Janet Cox and Susan Meer

Co-Membership vice presidents-Tillie Fortner and Gail Jones

Treasurer-Cynthia Cantor

Secretary-Helen Semple

The nominating committee was composed of Linda Kleinschmidt, Tillie Fortner, and Diane Larson, Chair.



Afternoon Bridge

Our AAUW bridge will meet March 7 at 12:30 P. M. in the Saguaro Room at the Cottonwood Club House. This is a newly refurbished room where the Cottonwood Cafe formerly was located.

Everyone on my list will be contacted for a reservation. If you are interested in becoming a part of this fun group, please call Margaret Horn at 895-6419.

If any of you would like to have lunch before we play, please meet me in the Cottonwood Bar and Grill (just across the entryway) at 11 A.M. Otherwise, please bring your own beverage and any snack you might want.

We donate \$3 per player at each meeting for the benefit of the AAUW Educational Foundation and an additional \$.50 for prize money.

Margaret Horn, Chair

NEW SINGLES GROUP

All of us single people, at one time or another, have wanted to be able to 'do things' with others; with that thought, a couple of us came up with the idea of starting an AAUW Singles Group. For those of you who are single and want to do things with an AAUW member with similar interests, we are having a dinner meeting on March 8, 5:30 P.M. at the Olive Garden on Chandler Blvd. (across from the mall). Please come with ideas of what you might like to do -- in small groups or just another person, i.e., go to the ballet, spend a weekend exploring Tucson, wine tasting in Arizona or California, visiting a museum, go to a movie, or travel to Europe.

Please RSVP by March 6th to me at haseemple@gmail.com or 480 802-8199. Hope to see all of you there.

Helen Semple



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HOURS
M-F 10 - 6
SAT. 10 - 4

Board Meeting

March 16, 7 P.M.

Bradford Room, Oakwood C.C.

RSVP regrets only to

Donna Haugland
dhauglandaauw@gmail.com 802-3737

Nathalie Smith
natandbobnew@cs.com 895-6711



Scholarships

As the recipient of our first AAUW SEV Branch College Scholarship, **Bonita Harper** has set a high standard for future recipients to follow. Bonita works part time at Chic-Fil-A, holds the position of class coordinator in Alpha Delta Pi sorority, volunteers at The Ronald McDonald House, is set to rush Alpha Epsilon Delta (the health fraternity), and yet still maintains straight A's in her general education classes. She says that "Chemistry was a bit hard" and she got a B. She did however complete her summer school session with straight A's.



Bonita is a Pharmacy Major and currently lives in Graham Greenlee, the health professions dorm. She is a middle child in her family, and a first generation college student. She says being the first in her family to attend college motivates her.

Though she was not personally affected by the Tucson tragedy, she states, "I am so happy President Obama relieved some of the sorrow and furthermore inspired many of us U of A students". She also says, "Thanks for everything! I am truly grateful!"

AAUW Golf

We are looking forward to playing at Bear Creek on Monday, March 28. Play will begin about 10:00 A.M. Suevonne will contact those AAUW members whose names she already has about playing on this date. If you want to add your name to the list, contact her at 480-767-7891 or dsnegaard@msn.com. Members are contributing \$3.00 each play date to benefit our branch scholarship fund.

Afternoon Books ~ March 14 ~ 1:15 pm

Our March discussion begins 45 minutes early, in order to select books for the 2011-12 year. Please bring your ideas for next year's books.

Following book selection, we will discuss *Puccini's Ghost*, by Morag Joss. Those of you who remember *Half Broken Things* won't be surprised that Joss has written another jewel. Teen-aged Lila lives in a houseful of crazies. Mother spends her time trying to burn down the garage while listening to *Turandot* at top decibel while Father shags his secretary. Enter Uncle George and a mysterious friend who organize an amateur production of *Turandot* and you have a script for disaster. We meet in the home of Nathalie Smith for a great discussion.

Evening Book Club

On Tuesday, March 8 at 7:00 P.M., Leo Recker will lead a discussion of *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett. The book brings to life the working arena of African American women in Jackson, Mississippi.

Carmen Otero will be our hostess. Carmen lives at 24411 S. Lakeway Circle SE in the Oakwood section of Sun Lakes. Enter Oakwood at the Sun Lakes gate and proceed to the second street on your right. Follow Lakeway Circle half way around the horse shoe and Carmen's house will be on your right. Please call Carmen at 883-3192 or email, hco2@aol.com.

Please come with your ideas for next year's book selection.

In Memory of Barb Warner, our Chair

Prickly Pear Postings
 Deadline
 March 23
 Email submissions to
 Judy Manley - manley@wbhsi.net
 and
 Sue Garretson - garysue1@q.com



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AAUW ARIZONA 2011 STATE CONVENTION
Scottsdale Community College, Arizona April 9, 2011

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KATHY ANTHON AS THIS YEAR'S SPEAKERS.**

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ADDRESS: _____ CITY, ZIP _____
PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____
STATE OFFICE _____ BRANCH OFFICE _____
DELEGATE STATUS: _____ STATE _____ BRANCH _____
_____ BRANCH ALTERNATE _____ STATE PAST PRESIDENT _____ NON-VOTING _____

Registration includes Continental Breakfast & Lunch

<i>Registration Fee Postmarked by March 30, 2011</i>	\$30 _____
<i>Late Registration</i>	\$35 _____
Total Remitted	\$ _____

Lunch is "create your own salad" buffet

Make checks payable to AAUW-AZ and send **with** this form to:

AAUW 2011 Convention
C/O Geneva Rodriguez
500 N Estrella Pkwy
B2-432
Goodyear, AZ 85338



Southeast Valley Branch



The American Association of University Women values and seeks a diverse membership.
There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis
of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

AAUW National Website

www.aauw.org

AAUW Southeast Valley

Branch Website

www.sevbaz.org

AAUW Arizona State Website

www.aauwarizona.org

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