



Breaking through Barriers

Grand Junction Branch Newsletter

Happy Valentines Day



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January 2011

Executive Board

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712-0474

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Newsletter Deadline
for included articles is
the 20th of each month.

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February Program

submitted by Lori Wood

Jean Paradis will present a Power Point presentation update about the current conditions in Haiti on **February 12, 2011 at 11:30 a.m.** We will meet in the Lower Level Community Room (#1&2) at **Community Hospital on 12th St. and Walnut.** Jean's presentation will take place **FIRST** with lunch at the cafeteria afterwards. Jean has made several humanitarian trips to Haiti since the earthquake. She will have just returned from her latest trip prior to our meeting. As you enter the lobby, watch for signs. An elevator is available. No need for any RSVP as we will be ordering separately in the cafeteria. Please bring a friend or spouse. This will be a very interesting and up-to-date presentation.



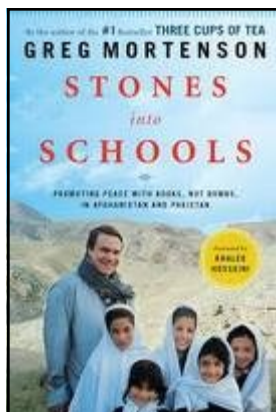
(Note: Jean Paradis is the property owner who donated her commercial building to us for our wreath sale. This will give us opportunity to personally thank her.)

Follow-up On January's Program Meeting

Last month's interesting program on women in Cambodia precipitated a phone call from Virginia Gibson to say that the January 2011 issue of the **Smithsonian Magazine** features an article of interest entitled "Catching The Bamboo Train." Cambodians have created "norries" to run on the old train rails built by the French in the 1920s. A norry is basically a breadbox-size motor on top of a bed-size bamboo platform on top of two independent sets of metal wheels which have been gleaned from the old trains.

Jane Quimby Book Group

As there will be no designated presenter, our meeting will be a group discussion of the book Stones Into Schools by Greg Mortenson. We will



meet at Lee Comstock's home, 2267 Cortina Court, with Wanda Putnam as our co-host. We will meet at **9:30 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 18.**

C
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Upon the real estate closing of a Listing or Sale with an AAUW member or a verified referral from an AAUW member, Lori Wood will donate **\$500.00** to our Mesa State College AAUW Scholarship. Fund.

Lori R. Wood, CRS GRI, TRC
Broker Assoc/ Owner
970-234-5674 - Direct
Working for your future

GraystoneGroup



Table Games Group

Want to keep your mind active? Interested in socializing with other members? Need something different to do in these winter months?? Come and play with us?? Our **“Table Games Group”** meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. We meet with the **Scrabble Club** which meets downstairs at the Mesa County Central Library on the first and third **Wednesdays** from **6:00 to 7:45 p.m.**. We had a great time and we'll be joining them again! RSVP to Kathy Kain at 242-1323 or kkain@bresnan.net so that we can look for you to join our table on February **2nd and 16th.**



Reader's Theater

If you would like to read plays or stories aloud with other members to create an on-the-spot “production” of literature, ours is the group for you!! We have great fun gathering and “performing” together. Sometimes we even don a special hat for our character. We will meet next on **Saturday, February 25th at 9:30 a.m.** at Jane Fitzgerald's home at 2327 Eagle Point Court. Call Jane to RSVP at 241-9684 or to get directions.



BRING A FRIEND

Just a reminder, to bring a friend to a branch meeting. This is a good time of year to recruit new members, as they can join at half price through March for this year. We need to increase our branch membership and ask that you help us do that by inviting a friend to a meeting.

BRANCH BYLAWS

We will present new branch bylaws for approval by the membership at the Annual Meeting in March. Rather than cleaning up and making many changes in our current bylaws, we have used the model bylaws provided by AAUW and modified them for our branch to create new bylaws. Copies of the proposed bylaws can be requested by contacting Marilyn Zimmerman, President. We will also have copies available for review at our February and March meeting.



Special Interest Groups

Special interest groups are a fun way to meet with other AAUW members who have a similar interest and want to socialize together. Any member can lead a special interest group. If you are interested in starting a new group, here's how:

- Give your group a name and announce its formation in the newsletter.
- Announce the first meeting, when and where and ask for an RSVP.
- Meet with others to discuss what you will do, lay some ground rules and enjoy your topic together.



For Sale

Grand Junction Branch's

Chocolate Lovers Cookbook

This great cookbook has delicious chocolate recipes and anecdotes and would make a great Valentines gift. Call Lori Wood at 234-5674 to purchase for \$10.00.

Newsletter Space Provided

All members have the opportunity to use our newsletter to announce important news or occasions in your life. If you want to announce for example, a **birthday, anniversary, special event or something for sale**, please send your information to the editor, Kathy Kain at kkain@bresnan.net by the 20th of each month.

AAUW

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Mark Your Calendars

February 2 & 16 —Table Games Group
 February 18 —Jane Quimby Book Group
 February 12—Program Meeting
 February 25—Readers Theater

We're on the web.

coaauw.org

Christie Burns Photography

970.433.8212

www.christieburnsphotography.com

For every session with an AAUW member or a verified referral from an AAUW member, Christie will donate 10% of final print order to the MSC Scholarship Funds.

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Debra J. Pace

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Technology and You! First of a three-part series on Social Media

Do You Speak Twitter?

Twitter is a fun and engaging way to stay informed. Here are a few words and definitions to get you started on Twitter.

TWEET: [n] A 140-character or less response to the question, What's happening? [v] the act of answering the what's happening question.

TWEETER/TWITTERER: [n] Someone who tweets

RETWEET/RT: [v] To forward someone else's tweet to your followers

TWEETUP [n] Putting the social in social media: a face-to-face meeting through Twitter

FOLLOW: [v] To sign up to view someone's tweets on your Twitter home page

FOLLOWERS: [n] Your audience

Source: *Outlook, The Magazine of AAUW*, Spring/Summer 2010, Vol. 104/No 2, p. 22.

Support Our New Fund Raising Project by Marilyn Zimmeman

Our branch needs the support of our members to make our ongoing gift card sales successful so as to generate income for our branch activities. You can purchase gift cards at their face value and our branch receives a percentage of the cost of the gift card. This project involves no selling on your part, just thinking ahead about where you do your shopping and other activities.

- Do you eat out at any of the following restaurants? Applebee's, Chili's, Old Chicago, Olive Garden, Red Lobster, or Red Robin. Gift cards are available for all of these restaurants and others.
- Do you have a home project coming up? Order Lowe's or Home Depot gift cards.
- Do you shop at WalMart or Target on a regular basis? Order gift cards for these stores and support our AAUW branch fund raising efforts.

It is simple and easy to order. You pay the dollar value for the card and our branch receives a percentage of the cost of the gift card. This project involves no selling on your part, just thinking ahead about where you shop and do other activities.

To Order Gift Cards:

1. Go online to www.shopwithscrip.com.
2. Create your family account, using our enrollment code 841F7L5328L51.
3. Order gift cards from the companies, in the amounts you want.
4. Mail a check, payable to AAUW for the total amount to Jane Fitzgerald.

I receive an e-mail notice when orders are placed, then I coordinate all of the orders placed and submit them. The gift cards that you ordered are then mailed to you.

If you don't have internet access, we will have a computer at meetings and I can help you place an order or you can always call me at 712-0474 or 314-7482 and I can place the order.

This is an easy, simple way to support our AAUW branch with your every day purchases.

If you have any questions, please contact me.





Marj Carey, E.A.
Making the Complex...Simple
 Tax Preparation—Payroll
 Small Business Bookkeeping
 970-245-3329

C O U P O N

Marj Carey will donate to the Mesa State College Scholarship Fund, 15% of the total cost of 2010 tax returns for all new clients that are AAUW members or for verified referrals from AAUW Members.

Public Policy Report

by Peggy Rawlins

Most of us realize that Congress has been raiding the Social Security Trust Fund for years (\$2.58 trillion) and \$185 billion, last year alone. Of course Congress is talking about cutting benefits (this year there is no increase as in other years in benefits) and raising taxes to “fix” the Social Security crisis. This \$2.58 trillion is in meaningless IOUs which will never be paid back, which is a serious problem that needs to be fixed.



Attacks on Social Security are constant. George W. Bush tried it with his privatization plan which went down to defeat. Privatization means diverting the money we pay into Social Security to private stock accounts which supposedly will grant a person a richer retirement. People forget the stock market does not work perfectly and people don't always come out ahead. Worse, under privatization, there is no plan for saving spousal and dependent's benefits claimed by widows and divorced older women.

Social Security is the main retirement program for older women in the U.S., 57% of all 62 and older beneficiaries are women and 68% of all beneficiaries are 85 and older. Since the average annual payout is \$12,132 for women and \$15,744 for men, this is not a “fat cat” retirement.

Women's national organizations for years have pushed for a payroll tax cap on incomes above \$106,000 as Social Security taxes are no longer removed from those pay checks. This change would make the taxes more equitable and is only a partial solution women leaders have asked for, for decades.

Contact your Congress members and state that you do not want the Social Security Trust Fund to be used as Congress's private piggy bank to raid for their pet projects. There is a bill ready that states that is its purpose. Make that call.



Happy Valentines Day
To you and those you love.

