

American Association of University Women

Grand Junction Branch News Letter



October 2014

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October Program

By Jane Fitzgerald

Do You Watch CSI ???

If you are a CSI fan, you will not want to miss listening to Dr. Melissa Connor, who is Grand Junction's own expert on bodies and graves. Dr. Connor teaches courses at CMU on forensic taphonomy and the decomposition of human remains, which are also her research interests. Dr. Connor has spent time working on mass graves in Iraq, the former Yugoslavia, Rwanda, and other locales not on the itinerary of the general tourist.

Studying Anthropology, she received a BA in 1977 from the University of Wisconsin, a MA in 1979 also from the University of Wisconsin, and a PhD in 2005 from the University of Nebraska.

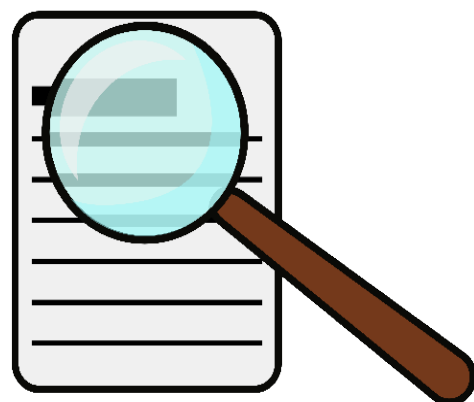
She spent 15 years with the National Park Service doing archaeology in the Rocky Mountain and Modest regions, including Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, and Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument. The archaeological work at Little Bighorn is published in *Archaeological Perspectives on the Battle of the Little Bighorn*, co-authored with D. Scott, T. Fox and D. Harmon and *They Died with Custer: Soldiers Bones from the Battle of the Little Bighorn* co-authored with D. Scott and P. Willey. She started exhuming recent remains while in Croatia working with Physicians for Human rights in 1993, and published *Forensic Methods: Excavation for the Criminal Investigator and the Archaeologist* in 2007.

More recently, Dr. Connor has been instrumental in setting up the Forensic Investigation Research Station (known locally as the "body farm") in Grand Junction. She serves as its current director.

Please come and hear this dynamic woman. Bring friends, spouse, co-workers.

When: Thursday, October 2
Where: The Egg & I Restaurant (additional parking in underground garage)
Time: 11:30 AM

Please RSVP to Jane F. by phone (241-9684) or email (fitznfitz@bresnan.net) by September 30. The restaurant needs to know for seating arrangements.



AAUW—Grand Junction Branch—Year End Financial Summary

Ending Balances:

Checkbook	\$2974.37
Money Market	\$7,757.65
Petty Cash	\$18.33

Total Income: \$6,422.52

Total Expenses: \$5,834.66

Total Dues received for 2013-4 (includes dues paid prior to 7/1/2013)

Member	\$473
Life Member	\$ 20
Branch Participants	\$180

Coffee & Chat:

Main Street Bagels, Saturday September 27 and October 25 at 9:30 AM.

Anyone welcome. Good discussions.

Contact: Jane Fitzgerald 241-9684



Mesa County Voter

Here's a list of upcoming events, including title, date & time, location and speaker. Additional detail on each event will be available in each month's issue of the Mesa County Voter. Hope to see you soon!

ISSUE FORUM

October 9: Thursday @7 PM at GJ City Hall, 250 N. 5th Street. If you wish to volunteer to help with this event, please email Lorna Naegele at lwvmesa@gmail.com.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT IN A REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY

October 27: Monday @7 PM at the CMU University Center, Room 221, co-hosted by the CMU Political Science Club. Presented by Peggy Lamm, CEO of the CMU Foundation.



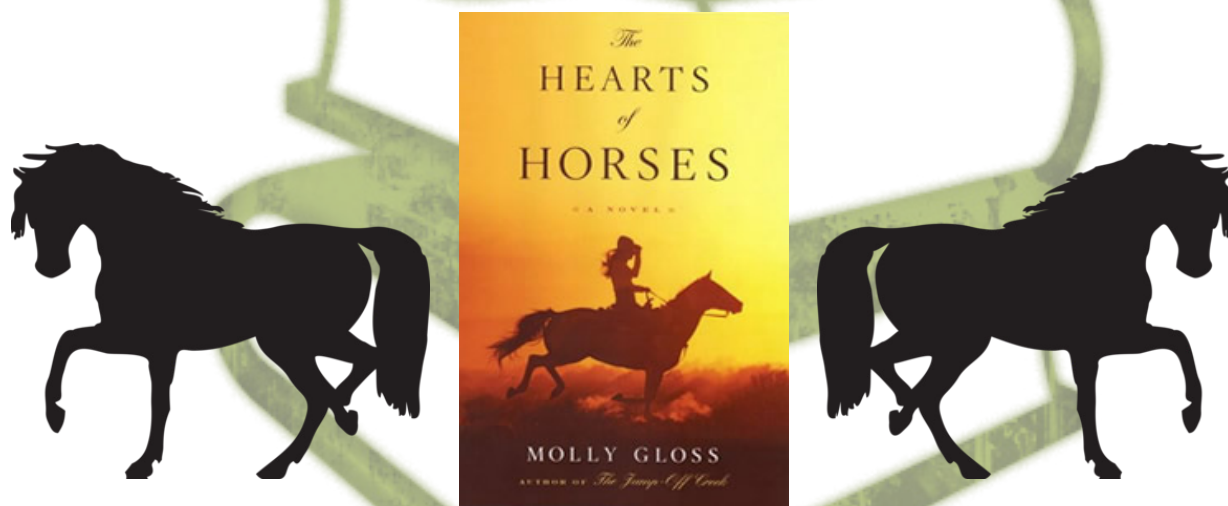
It is very important to welcome, recognize and involve new members to our organization. They are extremely important to our future. So let's give a big WELCOME and THANK YOU to:

Lilia Hansen
Jennifer Hensel

Jane Quimby Book Club

October 17th-

Deb K. (243-8308) will present “**Hearts of Horses**”, by **Molly Gloss**. The meeting will be held at Anita Johnson’s (242-6331) home in Grand junction.



“Hearts of Horses”

by Molly Gloss

(courtesy of Google Books)

In the winter of 1917, a big-boned young woman shows up at George Bliss’s doorstep. She’s looking for a job breaking horses, and he hires her. Many of his regular hands are off fighting the war in Europe, and he glimpses beneath her showy rodeo garb, a shy but determined girl with a serious knowledge of horses.

So begins the irresistible tale of Martha Lessen, a female horse whisperer trying to make a go of it in a man’s world. Along the way, Martha helps a German family, ostracised by the community, to save their horses, gentles another horse for a dying man - a last gift to his young son - and gradually earns the respect and admiration of her new neighbours.

With elegant sweetness and a pitch-perfect sense of western life, The Hearts of Horses is a remarkable a story about how people and animals make connections and touch each other’s lives in the most unexpected and profound ways.

SCHOLARSHIP THANK YOU'S

Dear AAUW Members,

I am sincerely honored to have been selected as a recipient of the AAUW - WCCC Scholarship for the Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 academic year. Thank you for your generous financial support towards my higher education. I am both grateful and excited to be presented with such an honor.

I am seeking two Associate degrees in Construction Technology and Business Administration. I am currently a junior and plan to graduate in the Spring of 2015. I have been able to maintain a 4.0 GPA for the past five semesters. After graduating, I am planning on attaining my Real Estate License. My overall goal is to own my business, where I will renovate and remodel houses, then sell them or rent them for a profit. I am a single mother with two children and I am raising them on my own. I want to teach my children that when you work hard to reach your goals, you will be able to accomplish your goals.

By awarding me the AAUW - WCCC Scholarship, I will be able to focus on my education and put all my energy into doing well in my classes. Your generosity is allowing me to make my goals and dreams a reality. I hope in turn one day I will be able to give back and help other students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.

Sincerely,
Abby V. Vigil

To My Gracious Scholarship Donors,

When I started down this path I had no idea as to how far I would come. Five years later with an A.A.S. in Mechanical Drafting, an A.S. in Physics, and one year at CMU under my belt, I am two years from my goat-T—I am proud of, and grateful, to be accepted in the CMU/CU Mechanical Engineering Partnership! Your gracious donation provides a great financial strength and I am eternally thankful.

Thank you for providing me with the tools necessary for my educational success! I will complete my goal by spring 2016 at which point I hope to work in local Colorado Industry dealing with design, prototyping, construction, manufacturing, programming and electrical. After at least a decade of solid real world industry experience I hope to complete my master's and then Ph.D. in order to be a college professor. I want to give back to the community and younger generation what I have experienced and learned in real world application. Thank you kindly to the 11th power for your support in making my dreams and goals a reality!

Gavin Chase Downey

Dear Mary Rait & Mary Jewell Willsea Endowed Grants Fund,

I was extremely elated to discover that I was a recipient of the Mary Rait/Mary Jewell Willsea Endowed Grants Fund. I am writing to thank you for your generous financial support towards my higher education.

I am a Bachelor of Science in Nursing major who plans to pursue a career in hospice and home health nursing. I am currently a Senior and plan to graduate in the Fall of 2014. After graduation, I will seek employment at one of our local hospitals with hopes of inspiring health for all, and leading persons towards improved holistic wellbeing.

By granting me the Mary Rait & Mary Jewell Willsea Endowed Grants Fund I am able to concentrate on my nursing education. This will help me achieve my goal of being the best possible nurse. Your financial generosity has allowed me to be one step closer to my goal, and has inspired me to help others by giving back to our community. One day I too hope to help students achieve their goal of receiving a higher education just as you are assisting me.

With Sincere Gratitude,
Veronica Novinsky

Dear AAUW Members,

My name is BriAnne Jacobsen and I am a 2014-2015 recipient of the Mary Rait/Mary Jewell Willsea Endowed Grants Fund Scholarship. I was and am beyond honored to receive this scholarship. This will truly make a difference in my life.

I was born and raised here in the valley. I'm currently a junior at CMU, and am now on track to be the first one in my family to graduate from college. I am starting my sixth year at CMU. In my time at CMU I have been in the Honors Program and served as Secretary. I'm pursuing a B.B.A. I am hoping to graduate in 2016, and am planning on continuing my career in public service. I have been teased by my friends for how long I have been in school saying I should be a doctor by now.

I have had to work hard and fight for my education, and I'm proud of my accomplishments. My work schedule changes every three months and it makes it hard to find classes that fit into my schedule. That and being a single mom has made it hard. The last year was very difficult. I honestly wasn't even going to go back to school this semester until I found out I was awarded your scholarship. You very well may have saved me from dropping out, and for that, I am very grateful. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for investing in me.

Sincerely,
BriAnne Jacobsen

Dear AAUW Members:

As a recipient of the Mary Rait/Mary Jewell Willsea Endowed Grants Fund, I would like to express my sincere appreciation. I am a 46-year-old single woman who is currently back in school pursuing a nursing degree. Your generosity allows me to take out fewer loans to finance my education.

I will be entering into my second year of nursing school this fall and still have a wide range of interests within the nursing field. However, I had the unfortunate, but unique, circumstance of being a nursing student and a daughter when my father was hospitalized this summer. He underwent two weeks of testing, and he was subsequently diagnosed with, and is being treated for, lymphoma.

The experiences I had over the past six weeks have been profound. I was fortunate to witness and learn from amazing, competent, and compassionate nurses. However, I was also made acutely aware of problems within the healthcare system.

Though I'm not yet sure exactly what this will look like for me, I know ultimately I want to work toward affecting change within the healthcare system for the benefit of the patients.

Once again, thank you so much for your support of my educational and career goals. The generosity of your organization is changing lives and I am honored to be a recipient of it.

With much gratitude,
Anne (Annie) Schudy

Dear AAUW members,

Thank you for choosing me as a recipient of the Mary Rait/Mary Jewell Willsea Endowed Grants Fund scholarship! I am very grateful for your generosity. This hand up will definitely help me finish my goal of graduating from college next spring. It will have been a long road traveled, but scholarships like this have truly made it possible. From the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU!

Sincerely,
Karen M. Olmedo

Program Meetings

October

Thurs, 10/2, 11:30 am
Egg & I - CMU Body Farm

November

Thurs, 11/6, 11:30 am
Egg & I - Year in Australia

December

Thurs, 12/4, 5:30 pm
TBA -Holiday Fun

January

Thurs, 1/8, 11:30 am
Egg & I - Frenship Force (?)

February

Thurs, 2/5, 11:30 am
Egg & I - High Desert Opera

March

Thurs, 3/5, 11:30 am
Egg & I - Annual Meeting & Grow Another Row

April

Thurs, 4/2, 11:30 am
Egg & I - CMU Gender Studies & Fem Club

May

Thurs, 5/7, 5:30 am
TBA - Installation of Officers & TBA topic

No Summer Programs!!!!

Board Meetings

Tues, 9/16, 1:30pm
Skyline conference

Tues, 10/17, 1:30 pm
Skyline conference

Tues, 11/11, 1:30 pm
Skyline conference

Tues, 12/16, 1:30 pm
Skyline conference

Tues, 1/13, 1:30 Pm
TBA - restaurant

Tues, 2/10, 1:30 pm
Skyline conference

