

# American Association of University Women



empowering women since 1881

## Grand Junction Branch Newsletter

### Executive Board

#### Branch President

Lori Wood  
234-5674

#### VP Program

Jane Fitzgerald  
241-9684

#### VP Membership

Virginia Brown  
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#### Treasurer

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Kathy Kain  
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March 2015

## March Program

### Grow Another Row



What a wonderful idea!! Donate excess fruits and vegetables so that others may eat.

The idea of **Grow Another Row** was originated by a local mom in Moscow, Idaho who was inspired by the founder of The Backyard Harvest. The local organization was started in May of 2009 by **Amanda McQuade**, who will be our speaker this month. Although our growing conditions differ, these two communities share similar assets: talented and passionate gardeners and dedicated volunteers.

Their growers include individuals with gorgeous one-acre backyards and those with beautiful patio container gardens, commercial growers, and the Colorado Agriculture Experiment Station.

Grow Another Row currently donates to 7 food banks and emergency food programs. Any Mesa County organization that provides nutritional support at no cost to those in need can receive produce from Grow Another Row. To date, the organization has donated over 40,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Come and learn more about this worthwhile organization. And learn how Amanda is able to put this all together. You will be inspired.

**When:** Thursday, March 5

**Where:** The Egg & I Restaurant (free parking in underground garage)

**Time:** Begins 11:30 AM

Please **RSVP yes or no to Jane F. by March 3** via phone (241-9684) or

# President's Notes

By Lori Wood

We have THREE really exciting upcoming projects. They are intended to promote positive social change, as well as, community awareness of our group.

**#1** I've talked with Pam Schultz who runs the Women's Medical program for Veterans Affairs. We will be starting with a brainstorming session for what our local branch AAUW is capable of. **The intention is to provide some type of service project/seminar/etc. for the local female veterans.**

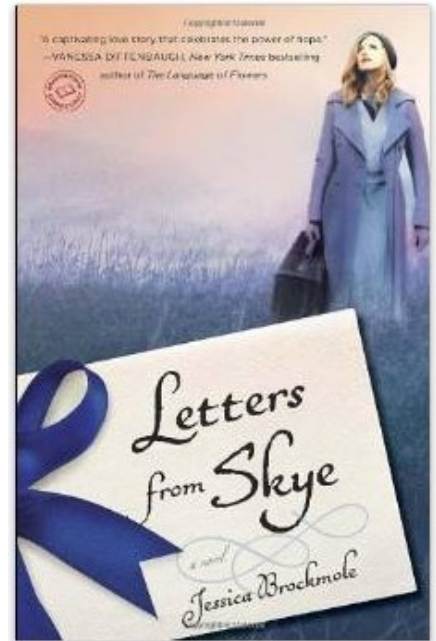
**#2** Prompted by a simple Facebook comment made by Krystyn Hartman, Publisher of GV Magazine, regarding the lack of modern day fairy tales, AAUW has another way to promote positive social change in Grand Jct. After an hour of discussion, we had a plan: **A Fairytale Writing Contest** with no Princesses allowed. Stories must be inspiring to females. **AAUW will judge the entries - a perfect job for us.** Watch for details in separate emails.

**#3** Cocktails & Convos starts March 11th. This event is open to the public and its great way for them to learn what we

## The Jane Quimby Book Club

Jean Yale will present *Letters from Skye* by Jessica Brockmole. Meeting will be held at 9:30 am on March 20th. Location is American Lutheran Church, 631 26 1/2 Rd.

"Jessica Brockmole's *Letters from Skye* is a fascinating, lyrical tale of love and loss. Gracefully weaving the tales of lovers and brothers and sisters spanning two wars, Brockmole expertly explores the toll of both honesty and deception upon hearts battered by war and society's expectations." Tantalizing and compelling, this will please readers of the *Guernsey Potato Peel Pie* society.



## Coffee and Chat

Coffee & Chat will meet on Sat., March 28th at 9:30 AM at Main Street Bagels, for spirited discussions on a wide range of topics. Call Jane at 241-9684 for info.

## The Culture Club

**Ballet from the Bolshoi.** Sunday, March 8th, *Romeo & Juliet*, 10:55am.

**Metropolitan Opera House** on Saturday, *La Donna del Lago* March 14th, 10:55 am. Location: Regal Cinema. After your ticket purchase, meet at the bench in front of theater #14 fifteen minutes prior ticket purchase so that everyone can sit together.

**Movie: *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel***—when it becomes available sometime after its release date of March 6th. Contact Anita Piscotte: 243-7113 or anitap@bresnan.net so that we know who is attending or needs a ride—no one is



## Membership News...

Please join us! Bring a Friend. RSVPs great—not required



March 11th, 5:30-7 pm  
The Ale House  
12th St. & Patterson, Grand Jct.

*Cocktails and Conversation* is a 'happy hour' for community women to gather together in a casual setting for interesting conversation. Complimentary appetizers will be provided.

For more information, call: Lori Wood 234-5674

**Presented By:**



American Association of  
University Women,  
Grand Junction Branch

## Nominations for Branch Officers

The Nomination Committee would like to present the following slate of incoming Officers for the 2015/2017 term.

Lori Wood

Branch President

Jane Fitzgerald

Treasurer

Programing will be done jointly by the board.

These offices will voted on during the upcoming March meeting.

### Continuing Officers

For 2015/2016 year

Virginia Brown

VP Membership

Kathy Kain

Secretary

### Appointed Positions

Peggy Rawlins

Parliamentarian

Marilyn Zimmerman

Member at Large

### Special Interest Group Chairs

Barbara Boudreaux

Jane Quimby

Book Club

Anita Piscotte

The Culture Club

Jane Fitzgerald

Coffee and Chat

### Projects & other Roles

Jane Fitzgerald

Budget

Lori Wood

Scholarships/CMU

Foundation

Kathy Kain

Yearbook

Jane Fitzgerald

## Future Wow!!

Our **next Program Meetings** are on **April 2** featuring Dr. Jennifer Hancock of CMU, and on **May 7-** Installation of Officers

## Gift Card Fund Raiser

Feb. 23 for orders to be available at March 5 meeting.

March 23 to be available at April 2 meeting.

April 27 to be available at May 7 meeting.

Receive your full donation back in the form of gift cards. For more info, please contact Marilyn at: [mz812@earthlink.net](mailto:mz812@earthlink.net) or calling

## Book Review...

Anita Piscotte reviewed Fannie Flagg's "The All Girls Filling Station's Last Reunion." We enjoyed a well diversified discussion that included the potent influence of our Southern states, the setting for Flagg's book and noted similar bias from each of our nations' regions on individual viewpoints. Details on the rarely recognized but vital contributions of female pilots in WW2 was noted and discussed along with shared individual experiences. Marie Filip won the impromptu bid for a calendar featuring WW2 women pilots. Proceeds of the bids will be funneled to AAUW project to help our female veterans. Visitors and hopefully new members, Kaye Workdahl and Helen Rose were wel-

Last month's Program Meeting featuring James Werner, Artistic Director of High Desert Opera was exceptional! We learned that he and his wife, Marnie, are almost solely responsible for the productions...from choosing the opera, Jim personally crafting all the sets and arranging the music for a smaller orchestra (keeping musician costs lower), Marnie doing advertising and ticket sales, to Jim appearing in the operas. Volunteers fill all other singing positions, as well as doing stagehand work. We learned why there are only 2 productions per year. We learned Jim's thoughts about current famous opera singers. And finally Jim delighted us with an excerpt from La Traviata. The audience was spellbound throughout the whole presentation. In addition several AAUW members raved

# WOW!

## The American Association of University Women supports educational programs, including vocational education, that improve women's postsecondary education access, career development,

Our global economy demands more highly skilled and educated workers every day. While more women are working than ever before, many do not have the skills necessary to obtain high-wage jobs that will adequately support themselves and their families.

**Gender and Career and Technical Education** The last few years have been particularly unkind to American women. Even in occupational sectors traditionally dominated by women, such as education and health services, men regained jobs at a faster rate than women in the post-recession economy. As our economy slowly recovers, many workers will need access to training to upgrade their skills to fit new demands.

Women tend to be overwhelmingly clustered in low wage, low-skill jobs. In high-wage, high-skill fields, women's representation falls well below the 25 percent threshold that qualifies as a "nontraditional field." A recent analysis by the National Coalition of Women and Girls in Education found that women and girls remain concentrated in career and technical education (CTE) courses that are traditional for women and are relatively low paying. Across the country, women make up 85 percent of students in traditionally female fields and only 18 percent of those in typically male fields.

Women who do not earn a bachelor's degree — and therefore constitute an important population group for CTE programming — are paid only 68 percent of the median income for their male peers.

**Federal Investments in Career and Technical Education** The Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act funds CTE programs at secondary and postsecondary institutions across the country.

The federal government's investment in high-quality CTE is essential to meeting the needs of the nation's evolving high-tech workplaces. The gender equity provisions in the law send the message that CTE is critical to ensuring that women have opportunities throughout their lifetimes to develop the skills needed to be competitive in the global economy.

**Improving Participation** A recent AAUW report, *Women in Community Colleges: Access to Success*, profiles several successful programs making strides in moving women into high-wage, high skill jobs, many of which are in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. Key to these programs' success has been active recruitment of women and meaningful supportive services. (See below.)

Participation and achievement in CTE should not be bound by sex segregation, gender stereotypes, harassment, or other barriers that prevent girls and women from becoming economically self-sufficient.

**There are many ways to improve women and girls' engagement in CTE programs:**

- State and local education agencies must be held accountable for improving the successful outcomes of women and girls in CTE programs, especially in programs that are nontraditional for their gender and

# AAUW Colorado Public Policy Day

By Marilyn Zimmerman

On Saturday, February 7, 130 AAUW Colorado members, guests and students gathered at the Denver Marriott South in Lone Tree for our annual Public Policy Day.

The day began with Jeannie Ritter, former First Lady of CO speaking on “The Status of Mental Health Care in Colorado”. Jeannie is a strong advocate for Mental Health Care and has worked on this issue for many years.

Stacy Buchanan, Vice President of Information Strategy at Qualistar Colorado, a statewide nonprofit striving to advance early childhood education across Colorado and Tracey Steward, principal at Colorado Impact: Center for Economic Prosperity, that monitors policies and programs that improve access to resources that give every Coloradan the opportunity to work toward economic stability and security, spoke about the high cost of child care, low quality and lack of sufficient spaces at child care facilities in Colorado. The lack of affordable child care continues to be an issue for many families who work in low paying jobs and work others other than day time.

Claire Levy, Executive Director of the Colorado Center on Law and Policy and Henry So-banet, Director of the Office of State Planning and Budgeting spoke about the issues and problems of funding higher education.

Copies of the speaker’s power point presentations can be found on the AAUW Colorado web-site (<http://aauw-co.aauw.net>) for further information.

Another feature of Public Policy Day is the Lobby Corps Report on Current State Legislation. Included in this newsletter is the AAUW Colorado stance on pending legislation. The

## From The Web... continued...

- Accountability and disaggregated student data collection must be the cornerstones for planning and funding decisions at all levels.
- Support services must include training-related options such as dependent care, transportation assistance, counseling, tuition assistance, and other services that allow individuals to successfully complete training programs. Teachers and administrators must be trained to create classrooms free of harassment and stereotypical attitudes.
- Career guidance and counseling must be provided to all students and delivered in a fair manner that ensures students are receiving information about high-skill, high-wage careers in nontraditional fields.
- The U.S. Office of Vocational and Adult Education must work to identify and remedy barriers to gender equity in CTE programs. 1111 Sixteenth St. NW, Washington, DC 20036 | 202.785.7793 | [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) | [advocacy@aauw.org](mailto:advocacy@aauw.org) | [@aauwpolicy](https://twitter.com/aauwpolicy)

**Additional Resources** “AAUW’s Position on Career and Technical Education” AAUW [www.aauw.org/resource/aauws-position-on-career-and-technical-education](http://www.aauw.org/resource/aauws-position-on-career-and-technical-education). “Education Data Show Gender Gap in Career Preparation National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education” [www.ncwge.org/PDF/GenderGapinCareerPrep.pdf](http://www.ncwge.org/PDF/GenderGapinCareerPrep.pdf). “Women in Community Colleges: Access to Success.”