



Grand Junction Branch Newsletter

January Program



Julia McHugh, Curator of Paleontology The Museum of Western Colorado

Julia McHugh began her career at the Museum of Western Colorado in June 2014 as the Curator of Paleontology and Site Manager for Dinosaur Journey and jointly as an instructor in the Geology Department at Colorado Mesa University. Before coming to Dinosaur Journey, she worked as a paleontology research assistant at Oklahoma State University's medical school, instructor for the OSU chapter of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and as a research associate at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History. She has a passion for teaching and for paleontology and loves leading excavations and paleontological trips with the museum. She has worked on excavations in Montana, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and Oklahoma and has worked with natural history museums throughout the United States and South Africa. She has a B.A. in Geology from Hanover College, a M.S. in Geosciences from Idaho State University and a Ph.D. in Geoscience from The University of Iowa.

January 6th at 11:30 a.m.

The Egg & I Restaurant - 1st Street and Patterson Road

(Remember, there is an underground parking garage accessed from right side of building.)

Please contact Jane Fitzgerald at 2421-9684 Or mjfitz2cats@gmail.com if you are planning to attend.
The restaurant needs a count to set up seating properly.

Branch President Lori Wood 234-5674	VP Membership Virginia Brown 201-0386
VP Program Executive Board	Treasurer Jane Fitzgerald 241-9684
Secretary Kathy Kain 242-1323	Newsletter Editor Jane Fitzgerald

7 Feminist Resolutions for the New Year

Almost as quickly as it arrived, 2015 has flown by. As we shift our thinking from holiday shopping lists to New Year's resolutions, we're finding lots of ways to empower women and girls in 2016. If you're still brainstorming ideas, here are seven feminist-minded resolutions for the coming year. **By:** [Bethany Imondi](#)

1. Be confident, not sorry. We still live in a world where women are [paid less](#), [underrepresented](#) in high-paying fields, and [openly harassed](#), so it is no wonder they feel they have to apologize for every little thing. Instead of succumbing to the stereotypes that women are submissive and weak, resolve this year to [fight back](#). In your next class or meeting, think twice before you start a sentence with "sorry." The world won't stop turning when women assert themselves and refuse to be overly apologetic, #sorrynotsorry.

2. Register to vote. Regardless of your political affiliation, 2016 is an especially important year for voting. Whether a woman will be on the presidential ticket is to be determined, but it is likely that women's issues such as [reproductive rights](#), [paid family leave](#), and [equal pay](#) will be among the hot topics in local and national election contests. For 2016, resolve to make women's voices heard by [registering to vote](#) and [turning out](#) to the polls.

3. Negotiate your salary. Women working full time in the United States typically are [paid just 79 percent](#) of what white men are paid, a gap of 21 percent — and it's even [worse for women of color](#). Women who negotiate can earn higher salaries and better benefits, and these advantages add up over time, helping to close the wage gap. Negotiation ensures that women put a fair price on the quality of their work and sets a benchmark for future salary increases. Whether you're entering the job market for the first time or already a working professional, [AAUW can help](#) make 2016 the year you negotiate for an equitable salary.

4. Love your body. [Research](#) has proven the damaging consequences of [stereotypes](#), especially on self-esteem and confidence. But beauty takes countless forms, and it's time to embrace all of them! Not only can 2016 be a year for celebrating body positivism, but it can also be a time to confront the hypersexualization of women in society, combat negative body comments, and [discourage perfectionism](#).

5. Help young women find their voices. While women have made great advances in leadership over the decades, women's elevation to [top positions](#) is relatively rare. [Research](#) has found that college women often doubt their leadership potential, so it's important to help empower these women early. By encouraging young women, during and [after college](#), to seek out [opportunities](#) to practice their leadership skills, we can strengthen the leadership pipeline for women. [Tell a woman](#) in your life to consider taking on a leadership position, and [connect with a new group](#) of women in your area.

6. Be an ally. In order to create real change, social justice movements need to involve people beyond the affected communities. These movements can succeed with supportive allies who advocate for equality. In 2016, resolve to be a [good ally](#) by doing your research, recognizing privilege, and listening to others' opinions.

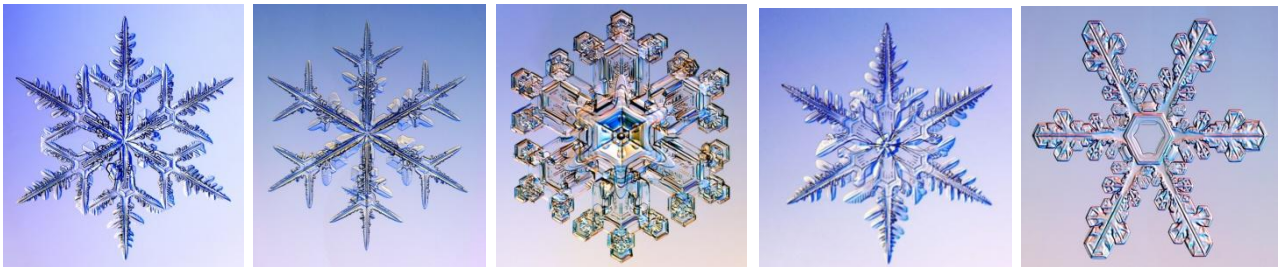
7. Carry the mantle of feminism. The "f-word" has become a [hot topic](#). Some embrace the term, while others reject it. This year, rather than simply claiming or rebuffing feminist labels, encourage more intergenerational and intersectional collaborations around identity issues like sex, gender, race, and class. Engage in conversations with women and girls of all ages and backgrounds to learn from each other, and talk about how to make the lives of future generations of girls easier. The next step? Resolve to [get involved](#) and take action.

*Message from Branch President
Lori Wood*

Thank you to all that have helped the branch over the last year and continue to work to further our cause. I appreciate each and every one of you. I hope to be able to meet more of you all throughout the coming year of 2016 at various events that we work to organize.

We had a great year for gaining new members. It truly was a gangbuster year. I hope that 2016 can be as fruitful. The larger the membership, the more fun we can have at events and the more help we will have to organize those events!

I am looking for interested ladies, who would like to help with Membership, Public Relations (writing press releases), help with the Female Veterans’ Event, scholarship selection committee, ETC. If there is something you would like to do, that we may have not started doing, please call me to visit about your ideas!



The Next Program Meeting: Saturday, February 6 at 11:30am. Place: to be announced. The speaker will be Chad Williams from **Safe Kids America**, a leader in adolescent drug abuse prevention and teen leadership development. Invite your friends and neighbors.

What You May Have Missed at the Last Program Meeting: We had a very enjoyable meeting at Bookcliff Country Club....a great opportunity to get to know each other and especially the newer branch members. Many thanks to member Anita Johnson and to Peggy Rawlins, who made several trips to BCC to plan the meeting and the menu. Each attendee received a beautiful, red poinsettia plant courtesy of your AAUW Board.

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Get Well Wishes to Betsy Zollner who broke her leg.

.....
Life asks us to make measurable progress in reasonable time.
That’s why they make those fourth grade chairs so small.....Jim Rohm

.....
Miss a meal if you have to, but don’t miss a book.....Jim Rohm

Special Interest Group News

Culture Club



The AAUW Culture Club is a loosely organized effort to inform interested members about movies, music and other cultural events in the Grand Valley. It is also a way to find others to attend these events with. If you are interested in these activities, email Anita Pisciotte anitap@bresnan.net or call Virginia Gibson at 242-7422.

Upcoming Events:

December 31 @ 7:30pm

January 2 @ 1:30pm and 7:30pm

High Desert Opera's production of Meredith Wilson's *The Music Man* at the Robinson Theater. ***Be sure not to miss seeing AAUW member **Kaye Wergedal's** performance as Mrs. Paroo.

January 9 @ 7:30pm

Broadway by Request by GJ Symphony at the Avalon Theater

January 15, 16, 17 @ 7pm and January 16, 17 @ 2pm

Alice's Wonderland Ballet at the Avalon Theater

January 16 @ 7:30pm

GJ Rockestra Concert at the Robinson Theater

January 16 @ 10:55am

January 20 @ 6:30pm (encore)

Live from the Met in HD performance of Bizet's **Les Pecheurs de Perles** (The Pearl Fishers) at the Regal Theater

January 23 @ 7:30pm

January 24 @ 3pm

Brown Conducts Sibelius by GJ Symphony at the Avalon Theater

January 24 @ 12:55pm

The Taming of the Shrew Ballet presented by the Bolshoi Ballet from Moscow, Russia. Shown at the Regal Theater.

January 29 @ 7pm

January 30 @ 2pm and 7pm

Alice in Wonderland: The Musical presented by The Theater Project at GJ High School Auditorium

Coffee & Chat



This informal group meets the 4th Saturday of each month at 9:30 AM to try to solve world/local problems through fun discussions. On January 23 we will meet at Java Junction, *located on the back side of Teller Arms Shopping Center, across from the VA Hospital.*



The Jane Quimby Book Club

Marie Filip has arranged for her good friend Margaret (Mugsy) Pearson to speak to our group about: **“Encouraging Women to Write.”**

“Mugsy” is an accomplished writer in many genres, a poet, an artist, a fabulous cook, and a very interesting, upbeat person. She is a former member of the AAUW Grand Junction Branch. For several years during that time, she led a Writing Special Interest Group. Jane Fitzgerald was a member of that group and knows first-hand how well Mugsy can bring out the writer in you. She holds a MFA in Creative Writing from Goddard College in Vermont. Mugsy grew up as a twin in New Orleans, both facts of which have influenced her writings. As a poet she has given numerous readings in the Grand Junction area, the latest at Barnes & Noble last October. Mugsy has promised to favor the group by reading several of her poems

The meeting will be at American Lutheran Church on Friday, January 15 starting at 9:30 AM. ALC is located at 631 26-1/2 Road, Grand Junction. Lois Jarre will be the hostess.

What you missed last month: We all shared a much appreciated, festive gathering, courtesy of Jean Yale, Jan Scheevel and the Congregational-UCC Church and staff. Barb Boudreaux presented the December book choice: "The Nine Lives of Christmas" by Sheila Roberts. Since this was a light-hearted "cocoa and coffee" read, the focus was on the extremely broad romance genre and the increasing sub-genres as the subject becomes more inclusive. The discussion that followed was spiked with good wit and humor, adding to the holiday spirit.

The AAUW Art Contest Opens Soon

It's almost time! [The eighth annual AAUW Art Contest begins soon.](#) Members can submit their original art online in January and vote for their favorites in February. The winning entries will be printed in a collection of AAUW note cards mailed to members and supporters this spring. The contest has featured some amazing artists over the years, so please consider participating in this year's contest and spread the word by encouraging your AAUW friends to submit!

FYI: Upcoming League of Women Voters Presentations

January 11—**Housing Low-Income People** The Grand Junction Housing Authority will talk about how the agency helps low-income people with housing.

February 8—**Help for the Homeless** A panel discussion featuring leaders from eight Grand Junction agencies describing how their organizations help the homeless.

March 14—**Pay to Play: Money in Politics** Movie presentation followed by a discussion led by League members Mary Sealing and Duane Carr.

March 28—**Substance Abuse Treatment in Mesa County: Would a Problem-Solving Court Help?** A presentation led by League members Mary Endres and Sally Olsen.

April 11—**Should Colorado Raise Its Minimum Wage?: Two Views** Two speakers from CMU will to share their insights on the minimum wage.

**LWV Mesa presentations will take place at 7 PM at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Grand Valley, 536 Ouray Avenue.*



Shop with Scrip

Have you ordered Scrip cards recently? Please do so. You can really support our branch activities by purchasing gift cards at www.shopwithscrip. Go to this web site to see all the wide variety of cards available. The good news is you get the card for the value you paid, and our branch gets a kickback percentage.

You can order on line by setting up an account. If you need help with instructions, contact Marilyn Zimmerman at mz812@earthlink.net or calling 314-7482. She can also order for you. Orders should be placed by the 22nd of each month for personal delivery at the following month's meeting.



Give a Grad a Gift

We all know that the future of our organization depends on today's graduates. **Did you know that as AAUW members, you can give a free national membership to as many recent graduates as you like?** It's free for you and free for them. You could even gift the entire graduating class of your local college or university!

With a gift of AAUW membership, you will...

- Usher your grad into a community led by women for women, increasing their network to more than 180,000 AAUW members and supporters.
- Give them resources to advocate for women and girls locally, nationally, or online.
- Expand their networking opportunities through career development opportunities and community action projects.
- Keep them current on the events and people that affect their life as they receive *Mission & Action*, *AAUW Outlook*, Action Network alerts, and more.
- Increase their buying power with access to member-only discounts.