



## October Program - TITLE IX

### Speaker Tony Giurado, Chief Academic Officer-School District 51



Tony Giurado is the Title IX contact person for School District 51 and will share information about what kind of Title IX concerns are happening and how these concerns are being dealt with.

As the Chief Academic Officer of School District 51, Tony is responsible for providing leadership, monitoring, and support for all 44 schools. He also works with executive team members to provide goal focus and cohesiveness for all academic departments in research, development, and implementation of strategic initiatives. In addition, Tony collaborates with the Superintendent and the Chief Operations Officer to support all district operations and in building relationships with various community partners.

Prior to joining School District 51, Tony worked for 23 years for Jeffco Public Schools in the Denver area where he served as a teacher, the principal of a state and nationally awarded school, and as a Community Superintendent. In his personal time, Tony loves living on the Western slope of Colorado and enjoys spending time outdoors with his wife and son hiking, biking, kayaking, and playing tennis.

**You won't want to miss this one!** Our speaker is dynamic and interesting. We'll also have the opportunity to tour the Career Center, a school that was rebuilt a few years ago to better serve students. Members are encouraged to bring a guest to our meetings.

**Date: Monday, October 2**

**Time: 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.**

**Location: Career Center, 2935 North Avenue, Grand Junction**

**Light refreshments will be provided.**

**Please RSVP (YES or NO) for this meeting** by email to [jeannedunn01@gmail.com](mailto:jeannedunn01@gmail.com) or by calling phone number (970) 242-3177. Please let her know if you invited a guest. This helps to know how many chairs to set up and the amount of refreshments to have available.

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**Branch President** Virginia Brown 201-0386

**VP Program** Jeannie Dunn 242-3177

**Secretary** Jean Yale 257-0697

**VP Membership** Kaye Wergedal 314-7644

**Treasurer** Jane Fitzgerald 241-9684

**Newsletter Editor** Jane Fitzgerald

## *Message from the Branch President*

Dear AAUW GJ Branch Members,

There is so much to share. September has been an amazing month, but even better, was the AAUW State Fall Leadership Conference in August. There were many things that Jeannie Dunn and I learned at Conference. For instance, one out of every 4 students in college is a single parent. Of those, 1 in 8 is a single father. Having been a single parent attending college, I know how hard it is to balance work, family and studies. Add to that, there is a high percentage of all students in college that are either hungry (20%) or homeless (13%) or hungry and homeless. Literally, they are staying in an abandoned building, auto, or other place not meant as housing. You can read more at <http://wihopelab.com/publications/hungry-and-homeless-in-college-report.pdf>.

Our challenge as AAUW is: How do we attract students, when they are barely surviving? One of the things that we could do is to host very short meetings on campus, offering high protein content foods that they can grab and go. This includes things such as protein bars that they can slide into their backpacks for later when they don't have access to food.

My challenge to you is: How can we as a local chapter meet this need? What ideas do you have? Are you willing to make a donation to cover the cost of providing food for the students? Are you able or willing to host short but frequent meetings at WCCC or CMU to raise awareness of AAUW while providing food? Feel free to reach out to me. My phone number is [970-201-0386](tel:970-201-0386) and my email is [virginia.brown1313@gmail.com](mailto:virginia.brown1313@gmail.com)

For those of you who missed the September meeting, our speakers were very informative. Please check out the [SD51 Foundation](#) and learn more about our upcoming mill levy and bond issue for the local schools. Not only are our local schools very underfunded, but the long-term effect of not having the funds needed for proper maintenance is critical at this time. We need to not only fund repairs and replacement of buildings, we need to fund additional days of school in a school year so that our students can compete against students from better funded schools later when they do go off to college or in the workplace.

One of the questions I have heard or read often about is why are the schools not getting any grants to offset the costs? The reason behind that is that even though these grants are applied for, the fact that our community does not fund our schools via mill levy and bond issues means that we are not selected as finalists for the grants. In other words, because we are not putting skin into the game, we are not being selected.

One of our upcoming opportunities is a joint School Board Candidate panel meeting with the League of Women voters. I am hopeful that this topic will be one of the items discussed.

I look forward to seeing you on October 2, at 4 pm at the Career Center for our October meeting.

~ Virginia Brown

## *What You May Have Missed*

**August 26<sup>th</sup>** – The Women of Excellence meeting at the Museum of the West, including M.L. Henson's "**Grit & Grace**" presentation, went very well. AAUW was a cosponsor. Per note from Executive Director Peter Booth "*I am pleased to report that the attendance this weekend ...was exceptional. You had 95 for the presentation and 150 for the reception. That is great. Thank you.*"

**September 7<sup>th</sup> – General Program Meeting** held at Home Loan Community Room with beverages, and a delicious array of cheeses and fruits with crackers, provided by VP Membership Jeannie Dunn

Our monthly meetings are a fun way to get together and visit while learning new information from interesting speakers. The two speakers at our September meeting were delightful! First to speak was Dr. Angela Christensen, Executive Director of the School District 51 Foundation. The mission statement for the foundation is: *To raise funds for academic growth and achievement and promote outreach to benefit kids and community.* She went through many examples of the fundraisers and projects they have supported -- see [www.d51foundation.org](http://www.d51foundation.org).

The Foundation was created in 2010 to support our local public schools by providing private support for key education initiatives. As a 501(c)(3) organization, the Foundation provides an opportunity to make strategic investments, and is actively engaging parents, students, and the community to rally behind Mesa County Valley School District 51. The volunteer Board of Directors is made up of community leaders, business owners, parents, elected Board of Education members and district staff.

Next to speak was Sarah Shrader, a co-owner of Bonzai Design, who presented a PowerPoint presentation of the School District 3A and #3b upcoming ballot issues. She said that she became involved because her business has had difficulty in recruiting employees, some of whom have refused positions after determining the quality of education Grand Junction schools can offer their children. She really detailed the spending priorities, why the additional revenue is needed, and how the additional funds would be spent.

Thank you to all the members who attended!

## *But, Do Not Miss This*

(October 2 meeting...see page 1....)

**Then, mark this date in your calendar: November 2**

We'll have a very special meeting at Western Colorado Community College from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. to exchange information between our members and women who are currently attending college.

Our scholarship and grant recipients will be invited.

Further information will be included in our November newsletter.

**Teaser Alert: A possible Book Event is planned for a December meeting.**

**Watch this space.**

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

### 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. Note: Peggy Rawlins at 263-4741 is the contact person for the group.

- October 4 @ 7:30 pm  
Indies at the Avalon – **A Ghost Story**. Independent film at the Avalon Theater, GJ (87 minutes)
- October 6 @ 9:30 pm  
**Los Rieloros Del Norte** (Mexican 3-time Grammy nominees) at Two Rivers Convention Center
- October 6 & 7  
**Downtown Art Festival**, Main Street, Grand Junction
- October 7 @ 10:55 am  
Fathom Events presents *Live from the Met: Norma*, an opera by Bellini shown at the Regal Theater (3½ hours)
- October 11 @ 1:00 pm & 6:30 pm  
Encore presentation of **Norma** shown at the Regal Theater
- October 14 @ 7:00 pm  
**Bow Wow Film Festival** benefitting Royce-Hurst Humane Society at the Avalon Theater
- October 14 @ 10:55 am  
Fathom Events presents *Live from the Met: Die Zauberflote* an opera by Mozart shown at the Regal Theater (3½ hours)
- October 18 @ 1 pm & 6:30 pm  
Encore presentation of **Die Zauberflote** shown at the Regal Theater
- October 20 @ 7:00 pm & October 21 @ 1 pm and 7 pm  
Absolute Dance presents the full-length ballet **Snow White** at the Avalon Theater (60 local dancers)
- October 22 @ 10:55 am  
Fathom Events presents *Direct from the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow: Le Corsaire* (ballet) shown at the Regal Theater (3½ hours)

### Coffee & Chat

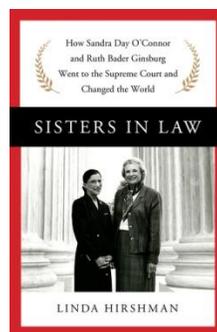
This informal (fun) group normally meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month at 9:30 AM to try to solve world/local problems through discussions. On **October 28th** we will meet at the Artful Cup, 3090 North 12<sup>th</sup>, GJ. Hope to see you there. Call Jane at 241-9684 with any questions.

## The Jane Quimby Book Group

Our first meeting was a wonderful discussion of the book *“Soldier Girls”*, about women and the military and the problems confronting soldiers in action and re-entering into civilian life. Those present had a lot of personal experiences regarding different war-time stories – e.g., World War II, Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Thank you to all twelve members who were able to attend.

A very special thanks to BARBARA BOUDREAUX for her hard work and truly exceptional presentation of this challenging subject. Also “thank you” to LOIS JARRE’s hostess-ing treats.

October’s book will be *“Sisters-in-Law: How Sandra Day O’Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg Went to the Supreme Court and Changed the World”* by Linda Hirshman.



The relationship between Sandra Day O’Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg—Republican and Democrat, Christian and Jew, western rancher’s daughter and Brooklyn girl—transcends party, religion, region, and culture. Strengthened by each other’s presence, these groundbreaking judges, the first and second to serve on the highest court in the land, have transformed the Constitution and America itself, making it a more equal place for all women. *Sisters-in-Law* combines legal detail with warm personal anecdotes that bring these very different women into focus as never before.

Linda Hirshman’s dual biography includes revealing stories of how these trailblazers fought for their own recognition in a male-dominated profession—battles that would ultimately benefit every American woman. She also makes clear how these two justices have shaped the legal framework of modern feminism, including employment discrimination, abortion, affirmative action, sexual harassment, and many other issues crucial to women’s lives.

**Friday, October 20, 9:30 am**  
**American Lutheran Church, 631 26½ Road, GJ**

The book will be presented by Anita Pisciotte. The hostesses will be Betsy and Katie Zollner.

*Thanks again for such a wonderful discussion. I hope to see you next month.  
Please feel free to bring a guest. - Deb*

## Happy Birthday to You

Your AAUW Branch Board wishes to acknowledge its members and let you know we appreciate you. Therefore we wish a Happy Birthday to those with birthdays upcoming in October.

Lori Newsome on the 1<sup>st</sup>

Eleanor Hoefner on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

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## Order Gift Cards NOW



**BARNES&NOBLE**

*The HOLIDAYS are fast approaching*.... upcoming occasions where one might give a gift card. "Guess What"? We have an easy way to purchase these.

You can support our branch activities by purchasing gift cards at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) rather than at a local store. You just pay the usual value of the gift card, but our AAUW branch then receives a kick-back percentage of the cost varying from 2% to 11%. And your AAUW branch makes money in a very easy & convenient way. No bake sales for you. No selling tickets to strangers. EASY. **Order by October 15** to receive by the November 2 meeting.

To see what is available, go to [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) and hit the "retailers" tab at the top of the page. There are gift cards for VISA, groceries, restaurants, travel, almost anything you could use. Buy some for yourself too. The enrollment code is 841F7L5328L51. Just put the items in your "cart", and Jane will be informed that the order is waiting for processing.

If you need help with instructions, contact Jane Fitzgerald at [mjfitz2cats@gmail.com](mailto:mjfitz2cats@gmail.com) or 241-9684. She can also order for you. After processing the order, the company mails all the gift cards to Jane for distribution.

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## Treasurer's Report

**GENERAL FUND:** We began the fiscal year on July 1<sup>st</sup> with a balance of \$1,043.88. We took in \$228 of dues in July and an additional \$144 in August. We paid expenses of \$77 to National AAUW, \$110 for Leadership Conference registration, \$9.80 for stamps, and \$100 to Museum of the West for sponsorship. Balance as of August 31, 2017 was \$1,119.08.

**MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT:** The balance at the beginning of the fiscal year was \$8,609.97. We added interest income of 55 cents during July and August, plus a donation of \$98. We transferred \$1,000 to CMU Foundation to fund this year's Female Veteran Scholarship. The remaining balance was therefore \$7,708.62, which is split \$3,000 for General Fund Reserves, \$4,708.30 remaining of the McClure Bequest, and 32 cents in Miscellaneous from interest earned.



## Burhans V. Yale: A New Wave in Title IX Cases

The epidemic of campus sexual assault has gained national attention in recent years, and student activists have been at the forefront of the work to reform schools' complaint procedures, support survivors, and implement prevention programs. But change at an institutional level requires the commitment and courage of university administrators who are willing to address the problem and work with students to make change. Susan Landino (formerly Susan Burhans) represents those administrators. Supported by the AAUW [Legal Advocacy Fund](#), she sought justice for students and administrators facing retaliation. Her case was settled favorably in 2017.

### The Story Behind the *Burhans* Case

Susan Burhans was hired by Yale University in 1999 as a communications specialist and served the university as a security education coordinator. In 2012, Burhans filed suit against Yale, alleging sex discrimination and unlawful retaliation under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and other laws. Burhans claims she was discriminated against and eventually terminated after years of attempting to help survivors of sexual assault on campus and alert Yale to potential Title IX violations.

Although campus sexual assault has always been a serious problem, the issue did not gain national attention until recently. Long before much of the country — and many campus administrators — understood the severity of the problem, Burhans recognized some of the issues on Yale's campus. She says that over the course of more than 10 years as a Yale employee she tried repeatedly to notify Yale's administration of potential Title IX violations stemming from the university's sexual assault complaint procedures and to help student survivors access justice. Burhans claims that rather than address her concerns, the administration ignored her warnings and severely retaliated against her, narrowing her authority, humiliating her, and eventually terminating her position.

The case was filed in federal court in Connecticut. AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund began supporting the case in 2015.

### Why *Burhans* Matters

**AAUW Members and Supporters Make It Possible** In order to keep students safe and fulfill Title IX's promise of equity in education, educators and administrators must step forward. The fact that Title IX helps protect students from campus sexual assault means little if administrators face retaliation for trying to enforce that protection. Employees like Burhans who speak out must be supported and empowered to make change on their campuses.

*Burhans v. Yale* represents a new wave of significant Title IX cases. In recent years, many administrators and victims' advocates have faced retaliation for trying to protect their students and ensure that their schools comply with Title IX — in other words, for trying to do their jobs. Burhans' case highlights the crucial role that campus administrators play in preventing campus sexual assault and the importance of supporting administrators of conscience.

The [AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund](#) has been crucial to the success of many gender discrimination cases since 1981. The [case support program](#) provides financial and organizational backing for plaintiffs who are challenging gender discrimination in education and the workplace. **The funds come directly from the generous contributions of AAUW members.**

# THANK YOU

From a Mary Rait/Mary Jewell Willsea Grant Recipient

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Dear American Association of University Women,

I would like to give my heartfelt thank you for the scholarship for the 2017-2018 academic year. I am honored to be chosen for this scholarship. Your generosity will help lessen the financial strain on me and my family as I continue my education.

In the fall of 2017 I will be starting my final semester for my Associates of Arts in Early Childhood. I continue to work as a teacher at the Olathe Early Childhood Center and continue to grow and learn with my families and children. When I graduate, I intend to continue my current position. Colorado Mesa University has recently started a Bachelor's program in Early Education that I am also interested in pursuing.

Once again, I would like to thank you for your generosity and support and your investments of Colorado Mesa University Students like me.

Sincerely,

*Stacy Trickel*

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## Digital – Yes Or No ???



### **AAUW Outlook Magazine**

This summer was the beginning of many new chapters for AAUW, and the current issue of *Outlook* iterates them in content but also in presentation. As of this issue, your quarterly magazine has gone digital. You [can opt in](#) to receive a print copy for a limited time, but we're moving toward a more dynamic, timely, and efficient publication to deliver the latest news and analysis about the challenges we face and the solutions we're working toward.

This issue of [Outlook](#) showcases what an investment in robust digital content can provide you. You'll be able to see a slideshow from our rigorous research and watch videos that supplement and enhance our stories.

**Note:** This means that if you do not opt in, you will no longer receive a mailed copy of *Outlook*. I have not had any luck with the "opt-in" feature on my computer, so far. So, if you would like me to contact AAUW Headquarters to ensure that you receive a mailed copy of *Outlook*, please let me know.

### **AAUW Branch Newsletter**

Please let me know if you would prefer in the future that I email your monthly newsletter, rather than receiving a mailed copy.

Jane Fitzgerald at 241-9684 or [mjfitz2cats@gmail.com](mailto:mjfitz2cats@gmail.com)