



## September Program - School District 51 Foundation

We are so excited about our guest speaker, **Dr. Angela Christensen**, Coordinator of the School District 51 Foundation, [www.d51foundation.org](http://www.d51foundation.org). Dr. Christensen earned a Ph.D in Education and Human Resource Studies in 2003 from Colorado State University. She is a 1996 graduate of Colorado Christian University with a Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction. She worked as a Language Arts Instructor at Palisade High School and a College Instructor at Colorado Mesa University. Dr. Christensen will provide information about the D51 Foundation and its mission -- *to support academic growth and achievement and promoting outreach to benefit kids and the community*. Our members will have an opportunity to ask questions about the upcoming School District 51 Bond Election as Dr. Christensen will bring someone who can provide information.

- Thursday, **September 7** from **11:30 am** to 1:00 pm in the **Community Room** at the **Home Loan Building**, 205 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, GJ. The Community Room is located in the basement level of the building and you will see a sign in the lobby directing you to the elevator or stairs.

Based on feedback from our members, we are not meeting at a restaurant. Rather than **lunch**, refreshments will be available - cheese & crackers, fruit, cookies, and water or lemonade to drink. Members and guests are welcome to bring their own lunch or drink with them.

**Parking options** for the Home Loan Community Room are as follows: the City of Grand Junction Parking Garage across the street or parking meters that may be available on the street.

**Please do not park** in the parking lot between the building and 3rd Street marked "Reserved for Employees & Tenants of Home Loan," nor in the Home Loan State Bank customer parking on the west side of the building.

**Please RSVP if you plan to attend this meeting** by email to [jeannedunn01@gmail.com](mailto:jeannedunn01@gmail.com) or calling my home phone number (970) 242-3177. Please let me know if you invited a guest. This helps to know how many chairs to set up and the amount of refreshments to have available.

I look forward to seeing all of our members and guests at our first fall meeting.

*Jeannie Dunn, VP Program*

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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*

Hello and Welcome to the 2017-18 AAUW Grand Junction Branch

I am very please to share that our local board has been working hard this summer to plan the upcoming year for our branch. Kaye is hard at work promoting membership, Jeannie Dunn has excellent programs in the works, Jane has been busy with not only treasurer duties, but also the newsletter and proving the proper tax form was filed a few years back for our branch. Jean Yale has taken on the role of Secretary for the board. Becky Zlebnik has graciously been attending board meetings as a member at large. I am very pleased with this team and all of their hard work. As time goes by, I may be asking you to consider filling a board position. The more who are involved with the board, the more variety we will be able to provide to our membership.

Jane and I were just working on the annual membership booklet for our group. I was surprised (because our members do not toot our own horns) to realize that there are 4 of you with PH.D level degrees, 1 with a Jurist Doctorate, 11 who have Master level degrees, and of course all the rest of us with our variety of Bachelor and Associate degrees. Please do pat yourself on the back. We have all worked hard to earn our education.

AAUW's mission is to empower women. I feel strongly about the Education component. We need to not only fight to make sure our daughters, granddaughters, nieces, sisters have a right to equal education, but to also have the right to be paid equally for our knowledge and skills as our male peers. When you are confronted with a value statement that is in direct conflict with your personal beliefs, I ask that you take a deep breath and educate yourself on the opposing point of view. I am not asking you to change your mind, just try to understand.

For instance, recently there have been massive protests over removing statues of historical figures/events. My personal value is basically that we must listen to history to not repeat the same mistakes, so let us leave them up for a history reminder. Then I read an article on the statues of "J. Marion Sims, a 19th-century physician lionized as the "father of gynecology." The article went on to describe in great detail of how and on whom (slaves) he performed his experiential surgeries. After reading the article, I am tempted to march for the removal of all statues and busts of this man. But, first; I wish to do additional research on the man and his experiments. If you would like to read the article, you may do so here: <http://jezebel.com/columbia-mayor-asks-south-carolina-to-remove-sculpture-1797898453>

On to happier thoughts, those of you who have email should have received an email about the event that our local branch is co-sponsoring at the Museum of Western Colorado. The temporary exhibit "Women of Excellence" honors women who have ties to Colorado that have had a major impact on our local history. I hope that you if you were not able to attend the event on August 26th, that you will pop into the museum before September 4th when the exhibit will be removed.

Please do plan on attending our first program meeting of the year on September 7th. We are not meeting in a restaurant, so a meal will NOT be provided. I believe we are providing light snacks, or you may bring a sack lunch to eat. A donation to offset the cost of the snacks will be appreciated.

Jean and I are attending the State Fall Leadership Conference in Thornton on August 25th & 26th. We look forward to being able to share with you information from the conference in the near future.

~Virginia Brown

## 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.

- September 3 @4 pm  
CMU Guest Artist Series : **Seventh Roadrunner** at Moss Performing Arts Center
- September 8 @ 7 pm  
Live in the Vines Concert Series presents **The Navigators** at Wine Country Inn, Palisade
- September 13 @ 7:30 pm  
CMU Music Department presents the **CMU Faculty Gala** at the Moss Performing Arts Center
- September 14 @ 6:30 pm  
**Avalon Festival: Night of Music** at the Avalon Theater
- September 14, 15, 16 @ 7:30 pm  
CMU Experimental Theater presents **Bright Ideas** at Moss Performing Arts Center
- September 15 @ 7 pm  
**Cross Orchards' Summer Concert Series** at Cross Orchards
- September 16 @ 6 pm  
Live in the Vines Concert Series featuring **Music by Tim & Richard** at Wine Country Inn, Palisade
- September 23 @ 7:30 pm & September 24 @ 3 pm  
Grand Junction Symphony plays **Mahler & Mozart (GJ Symphony Classics)** at the Avalon Theater
- September 28 & 29 @ 7:30 pm  
CMU Theater presents **Rodgers & Hammerstein's "A Grand Night for Singing"** at the Moss Performing Arts Center
- September 30 @ 7:30 pm  
Sandstone Concerts presents **Ottmar Liebert Luna Negra** at the Avalon Theater

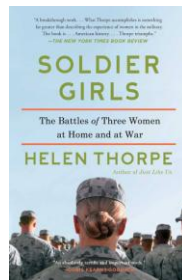
## Coffee & Chat

This informal 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....especially good if you cannot vent anywhere else. On **September 23** we will meet at the Artful Cup. Hope to see you there. Call Jane at 241-9684 with any questions.

## The Jane Quimby Book Group

Welcome Back Ladies. I hope you all had a relaxing summer.  
It's time to come together for our first meeting of the 2017- 2018 year.  
The Jane Quimby Book Group is back in session !!!!!

More women have served in Iraq and Afghanistan than in any other conflict in our nation's history, and today they compose about 15 percent of the armed services. **Soldier Girls** follows the experiences of three women in the Indiana National Guard -- one a young college student, one a single mother, and one a grandmother -- who chose to enlist for different reasons, never expecting they would go to war. Though quite far apart in age and in their political views, the three women become close friends, and through their daily interaction we see how military service changes their relationships with their families, their lovers, and their children.



In **“Soldier Girls,”** Helen Thorpe — a veteran reporter— recounts what happened to Ms. Brooks, Ms. Helton and Ms. Fischer when their National Guard units were deployed. In doing so, she gives us a dynamic understanding of what it's been like for Guard members who unexpectedly found themselves shipped off to the front lines of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, their lives and plans disrupted, their families thrown into disarray. She chronicles how these once ordinary civilians were abruptly transformed into full-time soldiers, and how they coped with the boredom and isolation and terror of serving in places where land mines and I.E.D.'s and roadside bombs were a constant threat.

**“Soldier Girls”** is based on four years of interviews that Ms. Thorpe did with the women (one did not want her real name used, and is referred to throughout by a pseudonym) and on information gathered from their emails, letters, diaries, Facebook postings and photographs.

**Friday September 15, 2017 ---- AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH at 9:30 a.m.**

Our presenter is Barb Boudreaux and our hostess is Lois Jarre.

I hope you enjoy this month's read and can't wait to hear your pros and cons about it.

See you there ~ Deb Krabacher

## May 2017 Activities



*Jane Quimby Book Group*



*"Quimbys" Thank Barb Boudreaux*



### *Installation of Officers - May 2017 Annual Meeting*

Kaye Wergedal, Jeannie Dunn, Virginia Brown with Kathy Kain Presiding

## Membership Information

**NEW THIS YEAR** - - - YOU (yes, YOU) will now be in charge of your nametag. These will no longer be kept (hermetically sealed ☐) by the branch, but will be your responsibility. Kaye will bring them to the Museum event on the 26th - and again to the September 7th meeting. PLEASE get yours from her.

If you would now like to order a magnetic name tag, please let Jane Fitzgerald know. The 1<sup>st</sup> one will be provided at a discount rate of \$5.

AND . . . BE SURE to WEAR your AAUW nametags, when you come to any and all AAUW events. Be proud to be an AAUW member!

In other news, let's make it a goal to increase our active branch membership to 30 this year, 35 next year, 40 the year after, etc. Currently the Grand Junction Branch membership is:

- Dual member - 1
- Honorary Life Members - 5
- Paid Life Member - 1
- Branch Members – 22
- Branch Participants - 5

**YOU** are our best advertisers and promoters!  
Tell folks about us. Invite them to our events and meetings.

Looking forward to our own year of "Empowering Women", here in the Grand Valley. Please join us as often as you are able!

*Warmly..... Kaye Wergedal, VP Membership*

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## 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 September and those since last May.

**June** – Erna Kay Ingram (2<sup>nd</sup>), Mary Beth Buescher (8<sup>th</sup>), Ruth Edfast (28<sup>th</sup>)

**July** – Lorelee Kerr (14<sup>th</sup>), Virginia Brown (29<sup>th</sup>)

**August** – Lynnda Ebright (2<sup>nd</sup>), Kathy Kain (10<sup>th</sup>), Jean Yale (26<sup>th</sup>)

**September** – Susan Swift (3<sup>rd</sup>), Jane Fitzgerald (8<sup>th</sup>), Yvonne Spaulding (13<sup>th</sup>), Marie Filip (17<sup>th</sup>) Lois Jarre (27<sup>th</sup>)

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**Always remember that you are absolutely unique. Just like everyone else.**

*Margaret Mead*



# Congratulations



We are pleased to announce that on June 21, 2017, the Colorado State Board of Education approved the appointment of our branch member **Kaye Wergedal** to the Gifted Education State Advisory Committee (GE-SAC) for a 3-year term. GE-SAC acts as an advisory committee to the State Board of Education in matters that have influence or impact on gifted student achievement and growth.

Gifted Education was Kaye's vocation during her professional life. She taught, administered, and volunteered in various staff positions and volunteer organizations in the states of California, Iowa, and Colorado for over 25+years.

Last year, she was recruited to serve as the Co-Chair of the District 51 Gifted Education Advisory Committee, and as part of that responsibility, attended a CDE State Advisory Committee meeting, where she was asked to apply for the Community Representative for Congressional District #3. Continuing as the MVSD Advisory Committee Co-Chair, for the 2017-18 school year, Kaye is involved in exploring the options available for bridging programming services for gifted students with the newly adopted District 51 educational model (i.e. Performance Based Learning), reporting findings, and making recommendations to the Board of Education.

Kaye says "As a past president of the Colorado Association for Gifted and Talented (CAGT), Iowa Association for Talented and Gifted (ITAG), and a current member of the Colorado Academy of Educators for the Gifted, Talented, and Creative (CAEGTC), I am pleased to be able to continue serving K-12 students in my passion for bringing the best educational practices to all educational settings in Colorado schools."

## Order Gift Cards NOW

**BARNES & NOBLE**

***The HOLIDAYS are fast approaching***.... upcoming occasions where one might give a gift card.

“Guess What”? We have these available for purchase. Order by September 15 and we should have them by the October meeting.

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%.

As an example, if you ordered a \$50 gift card, you would send the AAUW branch treasurer \$50, and she would then complete the card order. The card you receive will be worth the full \$50. BUT, later the Scrip company deducts the rebate amount from the amount the branch owes for the cards, i.e. \$2, if the rebate percentage was 4%, or \$4 if the percentage was 8%. And your AAUW branch makes money in a very easy & convenient way. No bake sales for you. No selling tickets to strangers. EASY.

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 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.

You can order on-line by setting up an account. 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.



## AAUW Remembers Betty Dukes, an Everyday Hero

Gender equity titan Betty Dukes passed away last month. Dukes was an example of how ordinary people can display extraordinary courage and resolve.

In 2001 Dukes, a former Walmart employee, was the lead plaintiff in [a class action suit](#) filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California against Walmart. The suit alleged that women employees were denied advancement and training opportunities, paid less than men for the same or comparable work, steered to lower-paying departments, subjected to a sexually hostile work environment, and retaliated against when they attempted to address sex discrimination. Dukes' suit remains the largest employment class action suit in the nation's history. The case was argued before the U.S. Supreme Court on March 29, 2011.

AAUW representatives were with Dukes and other plaintiffs the night before the 2011 hearing. In addition to providing financial support, AAUW signed an [amicus brief](#), issued press releases, attended the Supreme Court hearing, and held a rally in support of Dukes and the other women of Walmart.

AAUW is [proud to have stood with Dukes](#) through her amazing journey. [Hear her experience in her own words.](#)