

February Program Stem Schools...Steam Schools?



Come and discover what our local schools are doing to encourage students – especially young ladies – to excel in science, technology, engineering, math and now art. Join us and the team of educators, including some students, we have invited as our guest speakers to share information and answer questions. Snacks will be served.

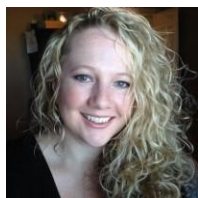


Terry Schmalz is an educator, learner, and principal. Her professional experience includes teaching primary and multiage grade students at the elementary level. Terry is a National Board Certified teacher and has her Educational Specialist degree in Literacy and Leadership from the University of Colorado at Denver. Currently, Terry is the creator and principal of the New Emerson STEAM School.

Heidi Ragsdale serves as a STEM advisor for the MESA program (Math, Engineering, Science Achievement) at West Middle School. Her professional teaching experience includes 16 years of 8th grade science with an emphasis in Problem-Based Learning, adult professional education, mentoring and more, all for the advancement of STEM education for women and underrepresented populations. She has a long-list of STEM related activities, but her favorite work is as a Space Liaison Educator for the Space Foundation, and in April 2017 took students to the Space Foundation Discovery Center in Colorado Springs for a Martian Mission!



Aubrey Hoffman has been an educator for 10 years, specializing in intermediate grades, STEAM, and literacy. She holds a B.A. in English Literature and in Elementary Education and a Masters degree in English Speakers of Other Languages. She is passionate about innovation in education and in building students' self-efficacy in their learning lives (and beyond). She believes strong public education is the "Great Equalizer." This is her seventh year teaching primarily 5th grade at New Emerson S.T.E.A.M. School.



When: Tuesday, February 6th 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Where: Mesa County Central Library, 443 North 6th Street, GJ

Please **RSVP** for this meeting. Email jeanniedunn01@gmail.com or call (970) 242-3177. Please let Jeannie know if you invited a guest, which we hope you will do, as we hope to have more attendees than speakers.

Branch President Virginia Brown 201-0386
VP Program Jeannie Dunn 242-3177
Secretary Jean Yale 257-0697

VP Membership Open
Treasurer Jane Fitzgerald 241-9684
Newsletter Editor Jane Fitzgerald

7 Feminist Resolutions for 2018

If 2017 has taught us anything, it's that our activism is needed now more than ever. It's crucial that as we look ahead to new challenges and accomplishments to be achieved in the New Year, we prepare to protect the progress we've already made. In order to be ready for anything 2018 throws at us, we need to become better, more efficient, and more stalwart activists.

1. **Know your rights at work.** In 2018, resolve to know your rights around sexual harassment in the workplace so that you can empower yourself and others to recognize and report sexual harassment and assault.
2. **Vote.** Keep up with the schedule of your state and local elections and make sure you're ready to make your voice heard on women's issues such as reproductive rights, paid family leave, and equal pay, to name just a few.
3. **Negotiate your salary.** Resolve to make 2018 the year you ask for the raise or promotion you know you've earned — and the year you help empower others by bringing AAUW's salary negotiation workshops such as AAUW Start Smart to your community.
4. **Support the next generation of innovators.** Commit to helping girls realize their potential this year with AAUW's new STEM curricula.
5. **Help young women find their voices.** This year, commit to making progress toward getting more women into leadership, whether that woman is you or someone else you know. Speaking out against workplace sexism and learning best practices to improve gender equity in the office can help dismantle some of the prejudices and stereotypes that work against women's advancement, but it's important to prepare women for leadership as early as possible, too. Encourage a college student you know to help close the leadership gap by attending the AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders 2018.
6. **Be an ally.** When we understand that overcoming and dismantling biases and systems of oppression advances equity for everyone, we can begin to make real change. Make 2018 the year you recognize and learn about your privilege, find out what you can do to leverage that privilege to help others, and prioritize the voices of people of marginalized communities above your own.
7. **Get involved.** Your voice matters all the time, not just during elections. AAUW has a number of ways you can get involved in promoting equity for women and girls. You can become a Two-Minute Activist and receive alerts of opportunities to weigh in on important issues when you're needed the most; join or start an AAUW student organization to empower students on your campus; read up on women's issues such as the student debt crisis so you can be ready to educate others; and share AAUW's work on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and anywhere else you can use your platform to make a difference. Be sure to keep up with local politics, issues, and events so that you can get involved locally, too. In 2018, resolve to remember that it's never the wrong time or too late to make yourself heard and to do what you can to fight for the issues that matter to you.

Summarized from a post written by AAUW Editorial Assistant Femi Sobowale.

What You May Have Missed Last Month

The January meeting at the Egg & I restaurant featured speaker **Mary Harmeling** who presented a very informative overview of the Victim Services provided by the GJ Police Department. Former President Reagan started the idea of helping victims by establishing a task force to study the issue after he was shot. Victim Rights legislation was passed by the Colorado legislature in 1992. These Victim Rights cover only personal, but not property, crimes. Mary oversees a cadre of Victim Advocate volunteers who are on-call for 12-hour shifts. They go to crime or accident scenes to help the victims, which may include families of murder or suicides. They may spend hours with the victims, but normally do not interact with them again. The volunteers, or police on scene, are required to provide a Victim Rights Brochure. Mary did mention that there are special trained nurses for sexual assault exams which last for about 3 hours. Mary also oversees a Victim Compensation Fund which is funded by fees paid by lawbreakers.

NOTE RECEIVED FROM MARY HARMELING: "Thanks again for the opportunity to speak at your AAUW meeting. Such an engaged group of women! I certainly didn't expect a gift, but thanks so much for the generous gift certificate. What a sweet surprise. I will probably eat my way through it at a local restaurant. ☺So kind of you. Hope the Women's March goes well. Gratefully, Mary"



What Not to Miss Next Month

MARK YOUR CALENDAR(S)
for
Wednesday, March 7th, 11:30 am
Place TBA

Our Speaker will be Barbara Traylor Smith
Financial Advisor and a Grand Junction City Council Member

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 February.

Lori Wood on the 4th

SAFeway

BARNES & NOBLE



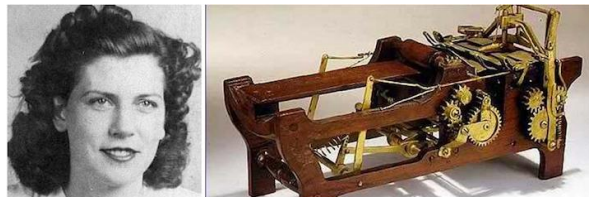
Shop With Scrip

Easter, Mother's Day, Graduation...all upcoming occasions where one might give a gift card.
"Guess What"? We have these available for purchase. Or, just order for your own use.

To see what is available, go to www.shopwithscrip.com and hit the "Learn More" and then the "Our Retailers" tab at the top of the page. There are gift cards for groceries, restaurants, travel, almost anything you could use. See page 9 of the 2017-2018 yearbook for more information.

You can order on line by setting up an account. If you need help with instructions, contact Jane Fitzgerald at mjfitz2cats@gmail.com or 241-9684. She can also order for you. After ordering, the company mails all the cards to Jane for distribution. Order by February 20th to receive on March 7th.

Did You Know? Inventions by Women



Margaret Knight invented a machine in 1871 that makes today's square bottomed paper bags. She almost didn't get credit when Charles Anan tried to steal her work claiming that it wasn't possible for a woman to create this brilliant invention. (Margaret also invented a safety device for cotton mills when she was 12... that invention is still being used today.)





HOMETOWN REALTY
of Grand Junction

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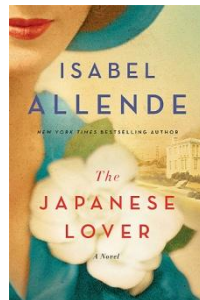


This Space Available for only \$5.00 per issue

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The Jane Quimby Book Group

At the January meeting of the Jane Quimby Book Group we discussed "The Lost City of the Monkey God", by Douglas Preston. It seemed that the book was really enjoyed by the membership. This is a non-fiction account centered on a mysterious ancient city in Honduras, and the extensive research which the author conducted is evident through-out the story – ranging from archeology (of course) and also the plethora of diseases, pandemics, leishmaniasis parasites ... you get the idea. Deb Krabacher presented a summary and then led the subsequent discussion about the book. Thank-you to Barb Boudreau for hosting.



February's "read" is "The Japanese Lover" by Isabel Allende. *Isabel Allende has built her reputation on romantic love. But her new fairy tale of a novel, "The Japanese Lover," doesn't allow love to get in the way of comfort. As in all of Allende's fiction, we find a large, colorful cast of characters, this time swirling around the octogenarian Alma Belasco, happily if peculiarly ensconced in Lark House, a retirement home in San Francisco. Foremost is Irina Bazili, the young Moldovan immigrant whose repressed "terrors" of adolescence form a drumbeat of foreshadowing through the three years of her service to Alma. But as the story lurches back to the late 1930s and then to the highlights between, we also meet Alma's Jewish family in pre-World War II Europe; the San Francisco relatives who adopt her; the entire family of her Japanese lover, Ichimei Fukuda; and a host of other lovers, care givers, evildoers and saints. No character is so minor as to lack a back story. At the same time, no character, including Alma and Irina, manages to fill in his or her outlines and command our undivided attention.*

The book will be presented by Deb Krabacher. Hostess....any volunteers?

Friday, February 16th, 9:30 am
American Lutheran Church, 631 26½ Road, GJ

I sincerely hope everyone who couldn't attend last month will be able to join us. Stay (& keep) well, everyone!

– Deb

Coffee & Chat



This informal (fun) group normally meets the 4th Saturday of each month at 9:30 AM to try to solve world/local problems through discussions. Hope to see you there. On **February 24th** we will meet at **The Artful Cup**, 3090 North 12th, GJ. Call Jane at 241-9684 with any questions.

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.

- January 3 @ 4:00pm
Free Cello Concert at Colorado Mesa University – Love Recital Hall
- February 4 @ 12:55 pm
Fathom Events encore presentation of *Direct from Moscow*: The Bolshoi Ballet's **The Lady of the Camellias** shown at the Regal Theater (3 hours)
- February 10 @ 10:00 am
Fathom Events presentation of *Live from the Met*: Donizetti's **L'Elisir D'Amore** (opera) shown at the Regal Theater (3 hours)
- February 10 @ 7:30 pm and February 11 @ 3:00 pm
Grand Junction Symphony presents **Rachmaninoff & The Firebird** at the Avalon Theater
- February 14 @ 1:00 pm and @ 6:30 pm
Fathom Events encore presentation of *Live from the Met*: Donizetti's **L'Elisir D'Amore** (opera) shown at the Regal Theater (3 hours)
- February 14 @ 7:00 pm
The play **A Man and His Prostate Starring Ed Asner** at the Avalon Theater
- February 16 @ 7:30 pm
GJSO Chamber Series presents **Mesa Winds** at Two Rivers Winery & Chateau
- February 17 @ 7:00 pm
BYU's Vocal Point – a 9 member A Cappella group at the Avalon Theater
- February 22 @ 7:00 pm
Fathom Events presentation of *National Theater Live from London*: Tennessee Williams' **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof** shown at the Regal Theater (3 hours)
- February 22, 23, 24 @ 7:30 pm and February 25 @ 2:00 pm
Colorado Mesa University presents the musical **Thoroughly Modern Millie** at the Robinson Theater
- February 24 @ 10:30 am
Fathom Events presentation of *Live from the Met*: Puccini's **La Boheme** (opera) shown at the Regal Theater (3 hours, 30 minutes)
- February 28 @ 1:00 pm and 6:30 pm
Fathom Events encore presentation of *Live from the Met*: Puccini's **La Boheme** (opera) shown at the Regal Theater (3 hours, 30 minutes)

*Message from Virginia Brown, Branch President***GREAT NEWS !!!**

Sometimes, you work towards a goal for so long that you feel you will never get there. That is how I have felt in regards to getting a formal AAUW University Partnership with Colorado Mesa University. However, I have great news to share! Thanks to some very wonderful young women who attend CMU, we finally are going to have that partnership. Lehua La'a, a CMU student, is the driving force in making this happen.

For those of you unfamiliar with an AAUW University Partnership, the advantages to the university are that for a small fee they can connect with more than 800 other AAUW partner schools which are committed to supporting students, faculty and staff. Support for students may include: the **Start Smart** workshops on salary negotiations; training for students to run for student offices and future elected offices by bringing the AAUW **Elect Her** to campus; sending students to the AAUW annual **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)**; grad students may apply for **AAUW fellowships and grants**; inspiring change on campus or in the community with a **Campus Action Grant** project; and empowering students to form an AAUW student organization.

The latter is exactly what Lehua has also accomplished. She has been given the go ahead by CMU President Tim Foster to start a student branch of AAUW at CMU. She has been busy dotting all the i's and crossing the t's, drafting a constitution for the group, gathering advisors and meeting with Tim.

An AAUW University Partnership also provides tools to faculty and staff: enhancement of a CV through prestigious review panel appointments; allows them to recruit the best students for graduate programs through the NCCWSL; get access to AAUW's latest research on women's issues, education, leadership and more; and provides for 2 free AAUW national memberships.

So, how was this finally accomplished? GJ Branch leadership had met with Tim Foster and various department heads over several years to discuss becoming an AAUW University Partner with no success. But then last November at the branch general program meeting, as many of you members will recall, we met with the scholarship winners and other CMU students. As the members told their stories about how they worked to receive their degrees, the hardships they had to overcome to do so, and about their AAUW connections, the students became more and more impressed. Afterward, they vowed to try to advance AAUW on campus. And here we are today. A very large THANK YOU to Lehua, Annessa Bryant, Sarah Beth Walsh, Bri Slater, CMU faculty member Rose Willett and our own Jeannie Dunn for organizing that meeting. You are all amazing!

In the meantime, Lehua will be spending her birthday with me at Public Policy Day. Annessa had wanted to attend with us; however, her internship work schedule does not allow her to. And, we have submitted all of the student's names to AAUW National so that they will receive an invitation to participate in NCCSWL.

I hope that all Grand Junction AAUW members will be supportive of this student branch.



And Some **BAD NEWS.....GOOD NEWS**

Some of you may consider this to be “Bad News”. AAUW members voted at the last National Convention to **raise the National dues from \$49 to \$59** starting with the 2019 fiscal year. This is not something we can vote on locally now. What this means for you is that the dues the branch starts collecting in May of 2018 will be \$87...up \$10 from last year. We are giving you a “heads-up” so that you might start putting aside any loose change to cover this increase. We certainly do not want to lose any of you valued members.

This increase, the organization’s first since 2008, is necessary to maintain AAUW’s ability to react to current challenges and deliver the services and programs that are a vital part of our mission. Donations are, and have long been, an important part of AAUW’s funding.

It is, however, impossible to budget effectively based on what support *might* come in. Annual dues are a more stable source of income. They provide the framework for AAUW’s mission and programs. Indeed, a combination of both dues and donations is critical to supporting AAUW’s salary negotiation workshops, groundbreaking research, advocacy efforts, campus leadership programs, and so much more. Even fully funded programs, such as the Legal Advocacy Fund and fellowships and grants, require an ongoing financial infrastructure to work effectively.

Another factor in the decision is how prices have changed since AAUW’s last dues increase in 2008. It would be difficult to name even one item that has not increased significantly in price during that time period. That means we’ve been paying more and more to keep our programs running. AAUW’s **proposed increase comes out to only about 83 cents per month**. Just think of the return that investment brings to the lives of countless women and girls.

So, the Good News is what AAUW has done with your dues’ monies.....

Looking back at just a few of AAUW’s overall accomplishments during 2017, we sent more than 270,000 messages to lawmakers. Through AAUW Start Smart and Work Smart workshops 17,000 people learned to negotiate their salaries; but we’re not resting on those laurels. We plan to train 20,000 women by 2020 — and that’s just in San Francisco with a new partnership launched in December 2017! Stay tuned for news about additional partnerships we’re launching across the country.

We awarded \$3.7 million to women and community projects, and we held science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs in 35 states! We celebrated 100 years of awarding International Fellowships to more than 3,600 women representing more than 140 countries, and we travelled to Morocco, Tunisia, and Dubai to share our research and programs with women leaders and activists.

AAUW has a Legal Advocacy Fund which pursues cases of discrimination. Updates on the Legal Advocacy Fund cases can be found at <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/strategic-case-support/laf-cases/>.