



November Meeting – Discover El Espino, GJ’s Sister City

Speaker Anna Stout has lived in Grand Junction since 1989 and is a graduate of D51 schools and Colorado Mesa University. She is the Executive Director of the Roice-Hurst Humane Society and has over fifteen years of nonprofit and business experience. Anna’s passions are travel, writing, her pets, and making connections.



Anna is a Certified Court Interpreter, Certified Medical Interpreter, and ATA Certified Translator from Spanish to English and owns Transfinem Language & Cultural Services. She has worked extensively within the legal and medical fields and with Spanish-speaking populations throughout the state, including as an upper-division Spanish instructor at Colorado Mesa University and as an interpreter trainer throughout the Western Slope.

Anna has a master’s degree in Global Affairs with an emphasis on Organizational Leadership from the University of Denver and a bachelor’s in Spanish Literature & Language and Applied Professional Spanish with a minor in International Relations from Colorado Mesa University.

For this meeting, in honor of the **15th Anniversary of the Foundation for Cultural Exchange (FCE)**, Anna will introduce us to this local nonprofit founded to facilitate Grand Junction’s sister city relationship in El Espino, El Salvador. Anna is the founder and president of the FCE. She also organizes citizen exchange delegations to the country, including an annual spay/neuter brigade aimed at improving animal, human, environmental, and community health in the sister city community.

MEETING TIME – Saturday, NOVEMBER 9.....11:30 am (please arrive by 11:15 am)

LOCATION – The Artful Cup, 3090 North 12th Street, GJ (across from Primary Care Partners Building)

Note: There is an elevator and easier stairs at the back door on the north side of the building.

LUNCH OPTIONS - See page 2 for delectable choices.

RSVP Yes or No to – Jane Fitzgerald at 241-9684 or mjfitz2cats@gmail.com by noon on Tuesday, November 5.

Branch President Virginia Brown 201-0386

VP Program open

Secretary Becky Zlebnik 242-0918

VP Membership Kathy Singer 261-2112

Treasurer Jane Fitzgerald 241-9684

Newsletter Editor Jane Fitzgerald

LUNCH OPTIONS

When you make your reservation with Jane for the meeting, please indicate your choice of either A, B, C, or D. A, B, & C will be a **Spoons Bistro & Bakery Box Lunch for \$12**, which will include a sandwich, salad with Balsamic dressing, and a “spoonfull of sugar”. *No substitutions please.* Beverages may be purchased directly at the Artful Cup, for an additional fee.

- ❖ **A. Almond Chicken Salad Sandwich** on multi-grain bread
- ❖ **B. Ham & Cheese Sandwich** on multi-grain bread
- ❖ **C. Fresh Veggie Sandwich** on multi-grain bread
- ❖ **D. No Box Lunch** Instead, order a beverage, pastry, or gift item at the Artful Cup. Note: the group is allowed to use the room at no charge with the expectation that we would hopefully purchase something.

Your box lunch will be available at the Artful Cup. Please arrive by 11:15 am to allow time to pay Jane for your box and to order any beverages before the start of the meeting.

Coming Next Month

December 14....from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

A Holiday Social

At the Home of Virginia Brown

Put the date on your Calendar Now

Don't Miss Out on the Fun

Further Details to Follow in the December Newsletter

Thoughts from the Branch President

I find it interesting, that in 2019 we still have not achieved economic security. Based on a recent article "8 Surprising Facts about the Gender Pay Gap", we not only have the "Motherhood Penalty" but there is also evidence that the pay gap increases as women get older. In a way, this makes sense. As we work to eliminate the pay gap, younger women are most likely to not accept the starting salary offer. Instead they are negotiating to receive higher wages, while those of us with a few more years under our belt don't negotiate.

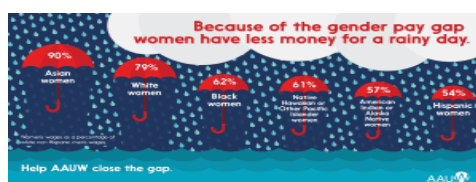
AAUW reports that "Women aged 55–64 are paid 78 percent as much as men the same age, a gap more than double that of women aged 20–24. Earnings for both female and male full-time workers tend to increase with age, although they rise more slowly after age 45 and even decrease after age 55. But as workers progress in their careers, women's median earnings grow more slowly than men's."

About a third of female college graduates experience difficulty repaying educational debt, compared with a quarter of men. Because of the gender pay gap, women have less disposable income with which to pay back their loans after graduation. That's why women hold nearly two-thirds of the outstanding student debt in the United States—almost \$900 billion as of mid-2018.

AAUW also reports that "Women are less likely to negotiate than men, and less confident when doing so. According to a recent poll, 51 percent of Americans have negotiated for higher pay, with men negotiating slightly more than women (54 percent compared to 47 percent). Men are more confident in negotiating for salaries (61 percent) compared to women (53 percent).

Negotiating can be tricky for women, but it's an important way to help close the pay gap. Research suggests that some of the behaviors that help men, like self-promotion and assertiveness, can backfire for women. Still, there are effective tactics women can use to ask for higher salaries and better benefits, including knowing what their skills are worth, making clear what they bring to the table, emphasizing common goals, and maintaining a positive attitude. AAUW's **free** online Work Smart course (<https://salary.aauw.org/salary-negotiation/>) trains women in these strategies.

I encourage you to read the article online <https://www.aauw.org/2019/04/02/8-surprising-facts-about-the-gender-pay-gap/>. You should then want to take the online Work Smart Course. And tell your friends and relatives about this AAUW research.....*Virginia*





AAUW Members:

As the 2020 presidential campaign gets underway, the power of women is on full display.

Maybe it's that there are so many women in the race — the largest number in history — or because the candidates are eager to earn our support. Whatever the reason, the issues that matter most to us are *finally* getting attention.

As a non-partisan organization, AAUW doesn't endorse specific candidates. But that doesn't mean we're not advocates for the policies that matter most to us. Indeed, we have a long history of championing policies that advance equality for women in education and the workplace.

So, in the months ahead, AAUW will be watching closely to see where candidates stand on these five issues:

1. **Equal Pay for Equal Work.** To close the stubborn wage gap, we need leaders who will pass the federal [Paycheck Fairness Act](#) and advocate for laws and policies that ensure women are not discriminated against at work.
2. **Investing in Education.** Education is the pathway for women and girls, but too many of our schools are falling short. We need to raise teacher pay, invest in [STEM education](#), protect [Title IX](#) and make education a top national priority.
3. **Reducing Student Debt.** Women hold two-thirds of the nation's \$1.46 trillion [educational debt](#). Policymakers should protect grant programs, champion tuition- and debt-free options and expand loan forgiveness programs.
4. **Strengthening Social Security.** Because of lower wages and time off from work, women collect about \$320 a month less than men do in Social Security benefits. Our lawmakers need to [address the retirement wage gap](#) women face.
5. **Implementing Paid Leave.** The U.S. is the only developed country without paid family and sick leave. Let's [adopt policies](#) to give workers paid time off for illness and caregiving.

You know how much is at stake in the next election. So, please, do what you've done in the past: Tune in, get involved, make your voices heard — and ensure that we harness the power of women to drive the national agenda.

With gratitude for all you do to guarantee a brighter future for women and girls,



Kimberly Churches, Chief Executive Officer, AAUW

Special Interest Groups

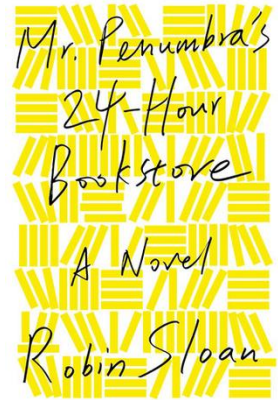
THE JANE QUIMBY BOOK GROUP

At the October meeting, following Barbara Boudreaux's superb presentation on the background of the author, Gail Collins, and highlights of her book When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present, those of us who lived through those years regaled each other with our own horror stories of life for women in the "unenlightened years".

November's read is ***Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore***.

Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore is a 2012 novel by American writer Robin Sloan. It was chosen as one of the best 100 books of 2012 by the San Francisco Chronicle, was a New York Times Editor's Choice, and was on the New York Times Hardcover Fiction Best Seller list as well as the NPR Hardcover Fiction Bestseller List. The US book cover, which glows in the dark, was done by Rodrigo Corral and chosen as one of the 25 best book covers for 2012 by BookPage.

Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore combines elements of fantasy, mystery, friendship and adventure as a way of looking at the modern conflict and transition between new technology (electronic) and old (print books). The protagonist is a laid-off Silicon Valley tech worker who begins working at a dusty bookstore with very few customers, only to start discovering one secret after another. The mysterious old books, along with the store's owner, lead to a 500-year-old secret society.



Friday, November 15th, 9:30 am
American Lutheran Church, 631 26^{1/2} Road, GJ

Presenter: Jean Yale

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. Call Jane at 241-9684 with any questions.

Join us on **November 23rd** at **The Artful Cup**, 3090 North 12th, GJ.

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.

- November 7,8,9 @ 7:30 pm and November 3,9 @ 2:00 pm
CMU Theater presents **Pride & Prejudice** – Robinson Theater in the Moss Performing Arts Center
- November 8 @ 7:30 pm
CMU Music presents **Balkan Percussion Duo** –Love Recital Hall/ Moss Performing Arts Center
- November 9 @ 10:55 am
November 13 @ 1:00 pm & 6:30 pm (encore performance)
Fathom Events presents **Live from the Met**: Puccini's **MADAME BUTTERFLY** (opera) – shown at the Regal Theater (3^{1/2} hours)
- November 14 @ 7:30 pm
CMU Music presents **Opera Scenes- Love** Recital Hall/ Moss Performing Arts Center
- November 15 @ 7:30 pm
CMU Music presents **Orchestra & Vocal Arts Ensemble- Love** Recital Hall/ Moss Performing Arts Center
- November 15, 16 @ 7:30 pm and November 16 @ 2:00 pm
CMU Dance presents **Discovering ME: The Fall Dance Concert**– Robinson Theater at CMU
- November 17 @ 7:30 pm
CMU Music presents **Faculty Trios**– Love Recital Hall/ Moss Performing Arts Center
- November @ 10:55 am
December 4 @ 1:00 pm & 6:30 pm (encore performance)
Fathom Events presents **Live from the Met**: Philip Glass' **AKHNATEN** (opera) – shown at the Regal Theater (4 hours)
- November 23 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Downtown Tree Lighting, Grand Junction
- December 7 @ 12:55 pm (Holiday Encore performance)
Fathom Events presents **Live from the Met**: Mozart's **THE MAGIC FLUTE** (opera) – shown at the Regal Theater (2 hours)

Happy Birthday to You

Your AAUW Branch wishes to acknowledge its members and let you know we appreciate you.

Therefore we wish a Happy Birthday to those with birthdays in November.

Wanda Putnam on the 3rd, Peggy Rawlins on the 11th, Linda Heinrich on the 15th

Welcome New Members

Tanya Marchun graduated from Ft. Lewis College in Durango in 2011 with a BA degree in English/Communications. After graduation she worked as a graphic artist until marriage and two young active sons (Lucas 4 and Jacob 2) came along. Currently she works part-time at Owls Nest Quilters. Tanya's husband Justin works as an electrician. Tanya relaxes by cooking, especially making candy.



Art ability runs in her family: her father is Gerald Fritzler, a local award-winning watercolorist. Her mother Irene is active with Holy Family Catholic Church. Tanya is the god-daughter of AAUW member Becky Zlebnik.

Linda Heinrich says "I'm a newcomer to Grand Junction, a retired nurse practitioner with a Master's in Public Health from the University of Colorado. My husband and I have two children, seven grandchildren and of course our dog, Callie. I've lived in Colorado most of my life and we spent many years in Fort Collins raising our family and pursuing our careers. I love the outdoors and the natural world. I'm an avid reader and do a bit of sewing and quilting. I'm grateful for the opportunity to join AAUW and support its mission." Please add to your yearbook:

Heinrich, Linda

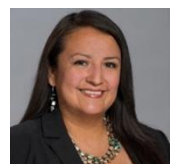
BS, University of Northern Colorado, Nursing
MS, University of Colorado, Public Health
2810 Meade Court
Grand Junction, CO 81506
(970) 628-1170 canonowl@gmail.com birthday 11/15

Navajo to Space Engineer

As a kid, **Kristina Halona** was obsessed with anything that flew. She remembers the exact moment when she looked up at a low-flying jet traveling over the isolated Navajo reservation in Arizona where she grew up.

Halona launched her own career with the help of an **AAUW Selected Professions Fellowship** in 2008, while she was pursuing a master's degree in engineering at George Washington University. Today, she is working with Northrop Grumman as the program manager of the Antares Systems Engineering Group. Antares is a rocket whose mission is to take cargo to the astronauts living at the International Space Station.

"As a Navajo I grew up in a matriarchal society. The woman is everything," said Halona. "Our mother is the main person of the household and she is the leader, which isn't like American society where males traditionally lead the household and are the breadwinners. I think this aspect of my culture helped me to take on the STEM field."



DID YOU KNOW ABOUT HER?

On December 6, 2018, the 87-year-old Dr. Gladys West, a mathematician and one of the so-called "Hidden Figures" who was lesser known for her contributions to inventing GPS, was inducted into the Air Force Space and Missile Pioneers Hall of Fame. The induction is one of the Air Force's Space Commands highest honors.

West was born in Sutherland, Virginia, a rural county area south of Richmond. West's family was a farming family in a community of sharecroppers. Her mother worked at a tobacco factory, and her father was a farmer who also worked for the railroad. West realized early on that she did not want to work in the tobacco fields or factories like the rest of her family, and decided that education would be her way out.

At West's high school, the top two students of each graduating class received full-ride scholarships to Virginia State University, a historically black public university. She was initially unsure what college major to pursue at VSU. West ultimately chose to study mathematics, a subject mostly studied at her college by men. West graduated in 1952 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics. After graduating, she taught math and science for two years in Waverly, Virginia. West then returned to VSU to complete her Master of Mathematics degree, graduating in 1955. Afterwards, she briefly took another teaching position in Martinsville, Virginia.

West began working at the U.S. Naval Weapons Laboratory as a mathematician in 1956, where West worked among a small group of women on computing for the U.S. military in the 1950s and 1960s. That group was later depicted in the movie "Hidden Figures."

That's where West also programmed an IBM 7030 "Stretch" computer that delivered refined calculations for an "extremely accurate geodetic Earth model, a geoid, optimized" for what would eventually become known across the world as the Global Positioning System (GPS) orbit.

Capt. Godfrey Weekes, commanding officer at the Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division in 2018, described the role played by West in the development of Global Positioning System: "She rose through the ranks, worked on the satellite geodesy, and contributed to the accuracy of GPS and the measurement of satellite data. As Gladys West started her career as a mathematician at Dahlgren in 1956, she likely had no idea that her work would impact the world for decades to come." West agreed, saying that she had no idea at the time that her work would affect so many: "When you're working every day, you're not thinking, 'What impact is this going to have on the world?' You're thinking, 'I've got to get this right.' "



In 2018, West completed a PhD in Public Administration via a distance-learning program with Virginia Tech.

West married Ira West in 1957, and they had 3 children.