



Autumn "Welcome Back" Pastry & Social

With Information about the Two Rivers Wildfire Coalition

Featuring Kamie Long

Saturday, September 17, at 9:30 am

Skyline Building, Conference Room, 751 Horizon Court, GJ
(going north on Horizon Drive, turn right at former W.W.Peppers onto Horizon Court)
conference room is just past lobby on the left

Two Rivers Wildfire Coalition is a collaborative non-profit focused on protecting Mesa County communities and natural resources by bolstering wildfire preparedness mitigation, response, and recovery efforts. With over 15 federal, state, local, non-profit, and private agencies working together, the group looks forward to completing more mitigation and education projects in the area.

Kamie Long graduated from Northern Arizona University with a Bachelor of



Science in Forestry and began working for the Colorado State Forest Service right out of college. She works out of the Grand Junction Field Office where she is the lead forester. This office focuses service delivery in five counties in Western Colorado, including Mesa, Delta, Garfield, Pitkin, and Rio Blanco.

She is lucky enough to have a lot of diversity in her job, including visiting with landowners about a variety of tree issues, educating homeowners on wildfire mitigation measures, providing forest health management guidance, and supporting communities with urban forestry issues. She earned her International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist certification, is ISA Tree Risk Assessment qualified, is a Master Gardener through the Colorado State University Extension, and is on the Grand Junction Forestry Board and on the Two Rivers Wildfire Coalition Board.

RSVP: Lori Wood at (970) 234-5674 or lwood@ggre.us. Remember that this is a courtesy to the hostesses who need an accurate count for set-up.

Branch Administrator Jane Fitzgerald 970-241-9684
VP Programs Open
Secretary Loralee Kerr 970-523-5510

VP Membership Open
Treasurer Virginia Brown 970-201-0386
Newsletter Editor Jane Fitzgerald 970-241-9684

Summary of AAUW Colorado Fall Leadership Conference

I very much enjoyed this Zoom meeting as it presented many good ideas for ways to possibly increase membership. I hope that some of you were also able to watch: if not, the conference was recorded and should be available on the state website <http://aauw-co.aauw.net>. We may want to discuss some of the ideas at our upcoming meeting on September 17.

The first speaker, Linda Newell, is a Colorado State senator who spent 2 years in a seminary getting an MA in Holistic Justice & Management. In her opinion it may not be a bad thing that membership in AAUW and other groups is shrinking....eventually the small ball that is left may blossom into something glorious. In research millennials and Gen Z seem to gravitate to 2 extremes: radical activism or fun activities....making it harder to interest them in AAUW membership. In order to do so need social media or meet where they go. She said that before a session we should all: reflect on ourselves and as a group; listen & emphasize with others; Look & ask what is needed; be open to radical change; and be willing to let go.

Next was Dianne Owens, current California AAUW President. For 2020-2022 they have concentrated on Marketing & Membership as a Project, going so far as to hire a marketing firm, which ran member focus groups and non-member groups of age 25-40. This resulted in 4 goals:

1. Recruitment of working age women
2. Recruitment of retirement age women
3. Collaboration with University & Other Groups (so far university groups not productive)
4. Social media Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram (They have hired an intern to write for these, but nothing posted yet. They also plan training materials for branch members)

California branches have been involved with the "Speech Trek" program for high school students, which establishes public discourse, showcases the AAUW mission, and increases branch visibility. They have also been involved with the "Tech Trek" program for students entering 8th grade, which focuses on STEM. At local meetings they have spotlighted AAUW Fellowship & Grant recipients or invited local small business women to discuss how they got started.

Karla Marroquin from Loveland Branch said they will be starting a series of podcasts with the local library in which they can highlight what AAUW is and discuss local events or books. She mentioned that local sculptor Jane DeDecker has been the first woman chosen for the group which will be making the Women's Suffrage Memorial in Washington, DC. Site is not yet chosen. Funds need to be raised by 2025...more info at www.womensmonument.org.

Barb Slattenow from Fort Collins said the branch celebrated 100 years in 2021. They used to own a chapter house for CSU women students. The sale from that has funded scholarships to CSU. Their scholarship includes an amount to pay for national, state, and local AAUW membership for the recipient for the year. They also fund a scholarship for middle school girls to go to STEM camp.

Please correct me if I misheard anything Jane Fitzgerald

Scholarship Awardees Announced

The recipients of the **Mary Rait/Mary Jewell Willsea Endowed Grants Fund** in the amount of \$1,750 each are:

Echo Lankford – a senior majoring in Early Childhood Special Education
Randelyn Snow - a senior majoring in English, and a recipient last year
Shonda Hill – a senior majoring in Art/Pre K-12 Education
Jordan Helliwell - a senior majoring in Nursing
Melania Ullerick – a senior majoring in Art/Studio Art
Sabrina Holbrook – a senior majoring in Psychology

Our Scholarship Selection Committee had a difficult time narrowing the fifteen qualified applications to only six recipients.

The recipient of the **AAUW Western Colorado Community College (WCCC) Scholarship Fund** in the amount of \$1,000 is:

Angelique Larsen – a sophomore majoring in Advanced Auto Service Tech

The recipient of the **AAUW Women Veterans Scholarship** for \$1,000 is:

Amber Goldberg – a former member of the US Air Force who is now a sophomore majoring in Aviation Tech: Fixed Wing at WCCC

Happy Birthday to You

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

Members celebrating a Birthday in September are:

Susan Swift on September 3rd, Jane Fitzgerald on September 8th

Coffee & Chat Special Interest Group



This informal (fun) group will meet on **Saturday, September 24 at 9:30 am.... The Patio at Spoons Bistro & Bakery**, 3090 North 12th Street, Grand Junction. The group's only agenda is to chat, about whatever topics come up, from the frivolous to the serious. Come when you can; bring a friend. Call Susan at 970-361-6517 or Jane at 970-241-9684 with any questions.