

**Holiday Social/Program Meeting**

**Saturday, December 10, at 9:30 am**

***With Information about Colorado Humanities***

***Featuring Debra Kalish***

**Debra Kalish** serves on the Colorado Humanities Board of Directors as the Chair of Program Policy and Evaluation Committee. Debra is also a member of Mesa County’s League of Women Voters. She received her law degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 1989.

Colorado Humanities is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, established in 1974. Its mission is to inspire the people of Colorado to explore ideas and appreciate our diverse cultural heritage. Colorado Humanities is the state council associated with the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Smithsonian and the Center for the Book (think National Book Awards).  It works through forging program partnerships statewide to improve education, strengthen cultural institutions and enrich community life.

**Meeting to be held at the Home of Jane Fitzgerald**

**2327 Eagle Point Court, GJ 81507**

*Directions: from the Mall take Redlands Parkway across the Colorado River.
Take the 1st left (at road construction) onto South Rim Drive.
After the stop sign at 23 Road, take the 3rd left onto Rim Drive, then the next left
onto Eagle Point Court. Jane’s house is the one with the Pink Door.*

 ***Tour the Home to see Jane’s collection of Nutcrackers***

***Beverages will be provided
Members may bring a baked goodie or breakfast item, if desired***

*Note for those with allergies: cats live here (but you might not see them)*

**Mark Your Calendar: Next Meeting on January 14….Details Coming Soon.**

 **Branch Administrator** Jane Fitzgerald970-241-9684 **VP Membership** Open
 **VP Programs** Open **Treasurer** Virginia Brown 970-201-0386
 **Secretary** Loralee Kerr 970-523-5510 **Newsletter Editor** Jane Fitzgerald 970-241-9684

We had a truly inspiring meeting at the Golden Corral….and a delicious buffet meal. Our guests were two of our eight scholarship recipients for this year. Shonda Hill is a senior, majoring in Art who hopes to become an art teacher in the schools. Melania Ullerick is also an Art major, but hopes to work into Studio Art. Both shared the amazing stories of the difficulties that they are overcoming to pursue their educational dreams.

Also present were several prospective new branch members.

Thanks to all who attended, and especially those who brought a guest….a very good meeting!

Your AAUW Branch wishes to acknowledge its members and let you know we appreciate you.
New members please contact Jane with the date of your birthday.
Members celebrating a Birthday in December are:
**Katie Zollner on the 7th, Anita Pisciotte on the 12th**

Coffee & Chat Special Interest Group ![Coffee-smiley-by-spaceageboy[1]]()

This informal (fun) group will meet on **Saturday, December 17 at 9:30 am**…. at **Be Sweet Café &** **Bakeshop**, 150 West Main 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 Jane at 970-241-9684 with any questions.
**NOTE: this is the 3rd Saturday of the month, so as not to conflict with Christmas.**

Want to Start an Interest Group?

We think of Interest Groups as ways to get to know one another, invest time in a common interest, expand your horizons in unexpected ways, and of course, have some FUN!

 Although branch membership is a criterion for ongoing participation in an Interest Group, joining in a couple of sessions may be a good way to pique the interest of a potential member in joining our branch, so bring them along to give us a try.

If you have an interest that you think others might also like to pursue, let the Newsletter Editor know the time and place of your meeting, and go for it! The Branch needs more groups to grow our membership.

**Karen Pieper Hildebrand** is from Odessa, Texas. I went to high school at Permian High, the school famous for the Friday Night Lights movie & television series. I graduated with a Bachelors of Arts degree in Sociology from Angelo State University in 1981 and a Masters in Public Administration in 2006 from University of Texas-Permian Basin. I have worked in nonprofit administration since 1982. I spent 30 years of my career with Planned Parenthood of West Texas with 23 years of that as CEO. My last position was CEO at Crisis Center of West Texas, an agency providing support services and shelter for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. I’m very proud of raising $5.2 million and overseeing construction of a brand new 60 bed shelter during my tenure. We lived in Dallas for a couple of years before moving to Grand Junction in May 2020 to be near our only grandchild, five year old Abigail. I’ve been married to Doug Hildebrand for 42 years and we have three grown sons. Collin and wife Tori live here and are parents to Abigail. Our middle son Chas is married to Janessa and they live in Vancouver, Washington. Our youngest, Cameron is single and lives in Odessa, Texas. I am basically retired at this point, but am looking for an opportunity to research and write grants for a group with a mission I am passionate about.

**Anne Landman** became a Registered Respiratory Therapist in 1982 and from 1982-1999 worked in hospital emergency rooms, intensive care units, pediatric units, at Hilltop Rehabilitation Hospital and finally in home care until 1996. She obtained a bachelor’s degree in Communications from Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction in 1992 (then called Mesa State College). From 1996-2004 she worked for the American Lung Association of Colorado as head of their Western Region Office. In 1997, while working for the Lung Association, the attorneys general from 46 states sued the tobacco industry and millions of tobacco industry documents were placed on the internet for public viewing. Anne studied these documents out of curiosity on her own time, and as a result became a professional tobacco document research specialist. From 2005-06 she completed a 15 month fellowship at the University of California San Francisco [Center for Tobacco Control Research and Education](https://tobacco.ucsf.edu/). From 1999-2006 she published studies and analyses of tobacco industry behavior in major medical journals. Anne has testified as a document archivist in trials against tobacco companies, and based on what she learned from the documents she became a national and international speaker on corporate PR strategies and tactics. From 2006 until 2012 she worked for the Center for Media and Democracy (CMD), publisher of PRWatch.org and SourceWatch.org. In addition to corporate behavior, Anne is interested in local, state and national political shenanigans, consumer scams, and more.

Anne lives in western Colorado with her husband, a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, Licensed Social Worker and Certified Addictions Counselor, and their amazingly well-behaved and trustworthy rescue dog, O.

 **Carol Airoldi received** a BA Degree in English and Art History (minor) from University of California at Davis. I substituted in all grades K-9 after receiving my lifetime credential in San Francisco, California where I did student teaching.  When I had three small children in Roseville, CA, in the 70’s and 80’s,  I belonged to an AAUW group there for the chance to meet other young mothers, belong to a babysitting co-op,  and a book club, having get togethers with coffees, luncheons, and hearing speakers, and raising  monies for scholarships.  When my husband was building his dental practice, and our three children were in school, I was in full swing into my teaching career (for 25 years). AAUW was a group I knew I would someday join again. Now retired,  and after loving traveling for many years, plus  moving first from Roseville, to Mt. Shasta, CA,  then to Tucson, AZ, and Peoria, AZ, and finally to Grand Junction, near our youngest daughter and family,  we can enjoy our retirement right here. My hobbies: quilting, travel, reading, and enjoying 6 fabulous grandchildren. So, it is now full circle for me, coming back to AAUW.  Thank you for welcoming me.  I am already enjoying being back.

**Other New Members to be Featured in Future Newsletters:**
 Beverly DeVore-Wedding, Christina Hoagland, Shonda Hill, Melania Ullerick, and ???

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| Elevator Pitch*By* ***State Membership Vice President, Jill Smith***How often do you want to ‘share’ what AAUW is with a neighbor, friend, a stranger in line in the grocery store, or anyone you may want to tell about our organization? Here is a plan for creating an “Elevator Pitch” which is a brief, persuasive speech that should include the why and what that makes our organization unique.  1. Write down four AAUW projects or issues that are important to you. 2. Develop 2 or 3 sentences around three of your items from #1. 3. Add your full name and the name of your branch to the beginning of those   2-3 sentences. 4. Have an “ask” at the end. (Would you like to be a part of our organization? Could I add you name to our Newsletter list?  Would you like to attend our next meeting? 5. Write out those 3-4 sentences and practice saying them to a fellow member.*(Hopefully you share your passion and can be inspiring in your ‘little speech’  that could be done in the time it takes to ride an elevator!!)* |

* Last month, the [AAUW-endorsed](https://click.everyaction.com/k/54627053/379145263/845138103?nvep=ew0KICAiVGVuYW50VXJpIjogIm5ncHZhbjovL3Zhbi9FQS9FQTAwNS8xLzc2OTU1IiwNCiAgIkRpc3RyaWJ1dGlvblVuaXF1ZUlkIjogIjFmZTM1ODIwLWZlNjQtZWQxMS1hZGU2LTE0Y2I2NTM0MmNkMiIsDQogICJFbWFpbEFkZHJlc3MiOiAibWpmaXR6MmNhdHNAZ21haWwuY29tIg0KfQ%3D%3D&hmac=UaxuT640ChMGZJT1Z7FR7P2ViuXSP-yGoQq5I9j2hvM=&emci=eb07c8b1-3764-ed11-ade6-14cb65342cd2&emdi=1fe35820-fe64-ed11-ade6-14cb65342cd2&ceid=994682) Campus Accountability and Safety Act (CASA) was introduced in Congress. The bill ([H.R.9316](https://click.everyaction.com/k/54627054/379145264/935880193?nvep=ew0KICAiVGVuYW50VXJpIjogIm5ncHZhbjovL3Zhbi9FQS9FQTAwNS8xLzc2OTU1IiwNCiAgIkRpc3RyaWJ1dGlvblVuaXF1ZUlkIjogIjFmZTM1ODIwLWZlNjQtZWQxMS1hZGU2LTE0Y2I2NTM0MmNkMiIsDQogICJFbWFpbEFkZHJlc3MiOiAibWpmaXR6MmNhdHNAZ21haWwuY29tIg0KfQ%3D%3D&hmac=UaxuT640ChMGZJT1Z7FR7P2ViuXSP-yGoQq5I9j2hvM=&emci=eb07c8b1-3764-ed11-ade6-14cb65342cd2&emdi=1fe35820-fe64-ed11-ade6-14cb65342cd2&ceid=994682)/[S.5047](https://click.everyaction.com/k/54627055/379145265/1746167191?nvep=ew0KICAiVGVuYW50VXJpIjogIm5ncHZhbjovL3Zhbi9FQS9FQTAwNS8xLzc2OTU1IiwNCiAgIkRpc3RyaWJ1dGlvblVuaXF1ZUlkIjogIjFmZTM1ODIwLWZlNjQtZWQxMS1hZGU2LTE0Y2I2NTM0MmNkMiIsDQogICJFbWFpbEFkZHJlc3MiOiAibWpmaXR6MmNhdHNAZ21haWwuY29tIg0KfQ%3D%3D&hmac=UaxuT640ChMGZJT1Z7FR7P2ViuXSP-yGoQq5I9j2hvM=&emci=eb07c8b1-3764-ed11-ade6-14cb65342cd2&emdi=1fe35820-fe64-ed11-ade6-14cb65342cd2&ceid=994682)) would combat sexual violence on college campuses, provide resources for survivors, and more.