




No Program Meetings until September (or Newsletter)

Coffee & Chat Special Interest Group will Meet

Mark your calendars for **Saturday May 27th, June 24th, July 22nd, and August 26th**.

on  This informal (fun) group will continue to meet during the summer **at 9:30 am**
The the patio at **Spoons Bistro & Bakery**, 3090 North 12th Street Grand Junction.
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.

Welcome Your New Branch Board



The women listed below were elected and inducted at the Annual Meeting of the Grand Junction Branch on May 13, 2023 which was held at First Congregational Church. Their term of Office will begin officially on July 1. Please congratulate them and thank them for their willingness to serve the Branch and AAUW.

Branch President Jane Fitzgerald 970-241-9684
VP Programs Karen Pieper Hildebrand 432-312-4747

VP Membership Lori Wood 970-234-5674
Treasurer Carol Airoldi 530-379-2700

Newsletter Editor Jane Fitzgerald 970-241-9684

Secretary Lorelee Kerr 970-523-5510

President's Message

I want to thank those people who helped me this year after I volunteered to complete the year as a Branch Administrator when the President position became open in September. Jill Smith and Linda Davies from the State AAUW, and dual members of this branch, were a lifeline to National policies and to figuring out the National website and resulting membership problems. Thanks to the attendees at the Coffee & Chat Special Interest Group who used that meeting time to come up with wonderful program ideas and meeting sites. Thanks to all of you who attended the program meetings and brought friends to those meetings. This year we have gained five new members.

A really big thanks to those who worked so diligently on the "Women Who Make History" award luncheon.... Karen Pieper Hildebrand, Lori Wood, Carol Aioldi, Lorelee Kerr, Susan Swift, Linda Heinrich and Virginia Brown. This event was a new experience for those of us on the committee. While the attendance was less than we had hoped, resulting in expenses exceeding income by almost \$300, and no proceeds available for the Woman Veterans Scholarship as hoped, those in attendance enjoyed the event and the branch did get some media attention. Also, working together to make the event a reality bonded the group, so that several are now installed as Board members for the coming year.

I am looking forward to serving as President in the coming year and growing the Grand Junction Branch.....with the help of all of you.....Jane Fitzgerald

What You Missed at May's Program Meeting

Tauma Lee is a youth mentor and artist with a background in architectural illustration and watercolor. She has a BA in English from Texas A&M University with an emphasis in creative writing. Tauma has studied and worked in journalism and business writing, Spanish studies and teaching, architectural illustration, and in child development.



In 2020, she founded the nonprofit Trail Lamp Youth Services and in Spring 2022 started the **BAM!** Business Art Mentorship Youth Program. Be sure to check out BAM!'s website at <https://bambizart.org/> for more information.



~ Empowering underrepresented youth through art & business mentorship ~



Please plan to attend the BAM! Futuristic Art Show to be held at the First Congregational Church UCC from 4-7:30pm on **July 29th, 2023**.
Come support the youth artists of BAM!

Scenes from the Women Who Make History Award Luncheon honoring Heidi Ragsdale

April 15, 2023



Heidi wrote to the Branch on April 22

"Thank you so much for everything at the event last week. I truly appreciate all those who helped bring this magical celebration to life. Please pass on my sincere gratitude. Thank You Again!"



*Note: Flower Arrangements Donated and Made by Lori Wood...
Include flower stems to honor a STEM educator.*

*AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.
The Grand Junction Branch is a 501(c)(3) organization.*

Dues Renewal Information

Here is NEW, important information for all members to renew your membership:

1. Each member will begin receiving monthly reminder renewal information in your email box from National.
2. The amount for membership dues will be a total of \$108 this year because of a \$5 increase in National dues. Our Branch, \$26 and State, \$10 dues will remain the same. (\$94 is tax deductible) You will receive information to either pay online OR by check to the branch treasurer, as you prefer.
3. **For those making payments online:** Visit the [AAUW Login page](#). If you have visited the Community Hub before and have already established an account, log into your Personal Snapshot. Scroll down to the bottom and review your Membership End Date. If your membership is expiring soon, click on the RENEW button to renew your national, branch, and state memberships.
4. **Forgot Your Password or First Time Login:** Click on “**Forgot Your Password**” or “**Don’t Have An Account**”. *Hint: Enter the email used for this notification as it matches AAUW National records.* Connect@aauw.org will send you an email with instructions to complete your profile setup. *Hint: It may take a few minutes for the email to arrive. If it doesn’t come through within 5-10 minutes, check your Junk and Promotions folders.* Follow instructions in your email from AAUW National, clicking to get to the setup page. Enter your email. Click “Create and Confirm your Password”. Access your “Personal Snapshot” and click RENEW at the bottom of the screen to renew your national, branch, and state memberships.
5. **To Pay By Check:** Do not send membership checks to National. Instead, mail a check payable to “AAUW Grand Junction Inc” in the amount of \$108 to Carol Airoidi at 2528 Woody Creek Drive, Grand Junction, CO 81505.
6. Once dues have been paid, you will not receive more reminders until the next renewal date.
7. Members have a three-month grace period following their expiration date to renew.
8. All Dual members (those who belong to more than one branch) pay online only!
9. Honorary Lifetime Members (50+ years) do not pay dues!
10. All renewed memberships will receive a free subscription to Ms. Magazine from AAUW. As of now, we are unsure if this is automatic. Here is a link to order one: [free, one-year subscription](#).

Consider Adding to Your Dues Amount

In the process of paying your dues online, you will have a line asking if you want to add a donation. Please consider adding to the **Greatest Need Fund**. If you pay by check, just indicate in a note the amount you are adding for this fund.

The **Greatest Needs Fund** allows AAUW to respond rapidly, in communications and advocacy, to critical issues affecting women as they emerge — whether it’s a new threat to Title IX, an opportunity to partner with employers, or the dawn of a social justice movement like #MeToo. When donations are not restricted to fellowships or specific projects, National has the funds needed to pivot as the national dialogue shifts. Greatest Needs is also what supports AAUW’s groundbreaking research and effective advocacy work to pass fair-pay laws and other key equity legislation. Check this [link](#) for more information.

AAUW will give \$6.3 million dollars this year to 285 fellows and grantees to pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls. A donation to the **Greatest Needs** helps ensure AAUW’s continued visibility, relevance and sustainability in other areas as well. As you go through the process to renew your membership in the coming weeks, please consider a contribution to this important fund on the membership renewal form.