



No Program Meetings until September (or Newsletter)

But Coffee & Chat Special Interest Group will Meet



This fun and informative group will meet starting at **9:30 am** on the **Patio** at **Spoons Bistro & Bakery**, 3090 North 12th Street, Grand Junction.

Mark your calendars for:

June 22.....Discussion Topic will be "The new modern menopause movement"

July 27.....Discussion Topic will be "To be determined at prior meeting"

August 24....Discussion Topic will be "To be determined at prior meeting"

Photos from the Annual Meeting



Branch President Jane Fitzgerald 970-241-9684

VP Programs Karen Pieper Hildebrand 432-312-4747

Secretary Loralee Kerr 970-523-5510

VP Membership Lori Wood 970-234-5674

Treasurer Carol Airolti 530-949-4448

Newsletter Jane Fitzgerald 970-241-9684

WHAT YOU MISSED LAST MONTH - Minutes from the Annual Meeting of the Grand Junction AAUW

The meeting was held on Monday, May 13, 2024, at Enzo's on Horizon Drive from 11:30 to 1:30. This is the final formal meeting of the branch until fall. The interest group will continue to have their 3rd Saturday Coffee and Chat meetings.

Initially people made their lunch orders. During that time, Branch President Jane Fitzgerald introduced several of our guests. She stated that there was a need for a Vice President of Programs. One person interested in the VP position has a conflict with our 2nd Monday time frame. Jane solicited other ideas for future programs. The goal of our programs should be something that promotes women. We also need new members. Some possibilities raised for activities for members were a book club – with or without wine – and eating out occasionally.

After lunch, Jane and the group thanked our current officers. She presented them with a box of Belgian Chocolates. Carol Airoidi read the treasurer's report and presented copies for the other officers. Jean Yale read the report from the Scholarship Committee. They presented 6 scholarships in the amount of \$2,162 to women attending CMU and a \$1,000 one to a woman at CMU Tech.

We then held an election of officers: Jane Fitzgerald will continue as President: Lori Wood will continue as Membership VP: Lorelee Kerr will continue as Secretary: Karen Pieper Hildebrand will step down as Program VP: Carol Airoidi will step down as Treasurer.

We held elections: for Treasurer, Karen Pieper Hildebrand was nominated and elected. For VP of Programs, Debby Powell and Bonnie Kosanke were nominated and elected to serve as Co-Chairmen. Jean Yale conducted the induction of the new officers who will start serving on July 1.

There was discussion about needing to revise our local by-laws, but the plan is to hold off on that until we are provided with some revisions to the state and national by-laws. That task will take place over summer. Mary Beth Buescher volunteered to serve on the bylaws committee.

We then had an excellent Chautauqua presentation by Jessica Downing-Ford representing Abigail Adams.

Note: The ending bank balance of the General Fund in April was \$1,9231.02. At the end of April the balance in the Money Market account was \$5,566.99, which consists of \$3,033.30 in the McClure Bequest Fund, \$2,500.00 in Reserves, and \$33.69 in Miscellaneous (Interest earned).

From Branch President Jane Fitzgerald

SAVE THE DATE....SEPTEMBER 8....AFTERNOON

I will be celebrating a Milestone Birthday at the Botanical Gardens, and will be looking forward to my AAUW friends being there.

(An invitation will be sent closer to the date, with all the details....Have a lovely summer.)

AAUW National's Election Results

The votes have been tallied:

The open membership initiative **did not pass**. Changes to AAUW's bylaws require 2/3 majority (66.6%) to pass. AAUW members voted 65.1% to approve the measure, just shy of passing.

AAUW Members

The 2024 AAUW election is now complete and we are grateful for all those who took the time to vote. Congratulations to Melissa LaDuke, Dianne Owens, Sona Pancholy, and Christine Schmitz on their election to the AAUW Board!

On behalf of the AAUW Board of Directors, we are disappointed that the initiative to open AAUW's membership did not pass. We understand that this outcome may feel exclusionary to some. But AAUW's history is one of continual change and growth, even in the face of challenges. That same resilient spirit must guide us now as we seek to fulfill AAUW's purpose to advance equity for women and girls.

There are many ways to engage with AAUW and support our mission beyond membership. Please encourage members and non-members alike to engage with us — to become [Two-Minute Activists](#), to attend our webinars and events, to apply for a [fellowship or grant](#), and to share the information and resources from our [website](#), which support women's economic empowerment.

The AAUW Board of Directors is committed to AAUW's future and to strengthening the connection with all our members and our community of branch and state organizations. We can all do more to support AAUW's efforts — and we will won't stop working for an equitable future for women and girls.

Julia T. Brown, Esq.
Board Chair, 2017-2024

Cheryl Sorokin
Board Chair, 2024-2025

We also have some impressive policy wins to share this month:

- The White House announced and celebrated [President Biden's executive order](#) to strengthen the recognition of women's history in sites across America, honoring the legacy and contributions of women and girls to the country. [Watch the celebration here.](#)
- The Equal Opportunity Employment Commission (EEOC) [recently issued new guidance on workplace harassment](#). It provides clear standards to prevent and address harassment targeting any protected characteristic. By implementing policies, training, and reporting procedures, employers can uphold the right of all workers to a safe, respectful environment free from unlawful harassment.
- On April 19, the U.S. Department of Education issued comprehensive protections against discrimination in school through their final Title IX rules. The new regulations clarify that student survivors of sexual harassment, pregnant and parenting students, and LGBTQ+ students have equal educational opportunities free from sex discrimination. The new rules take effect on August 1, 2024. [Read our press statement here.](#)

OBITUARY for a Former AAUW Member

Barbara Ellen Taylor Boudreaux

JULY 2, 1934 – MAY 28, 2024



Barb appreciated rural and small town life while being born and raised in Kirkland, Washington. She graduated from High School in 1952. She worked several jobs, involving a convoluted coast to coast travel with many stops, and adventures along the way. After 2 years, she secured enough money to start her journey towards a College Degree via the University of Montana at Missoula. Twenty-three years later, she finally achieved her Bachelor's degree via Chico State University in California. En route, she married a cowboy (John), has 3 children, and much enjoyed ranch life in Little Shasta Valley, California. She was active in the Siskiyou County School District via substitute teaching and helping in the Juvenile Justice Programs.

Her mother's declining health eventually returned her to the Kirkland/Seattle area where she worked as a nanny. She adored the children she cared for them and has kept in touch with them and their families throughout the rest of her life. She was also an enthusiastic gardener and spent many satisfying hours digging, planting, and enjoying her "pretties". She was also introduced to Ballroom and Folk dancing in Seattle, which filled her off duty hours with fun for over a decade.

When she retired at 74, she moved to Mack Colorado to be near her daughters. She joined the national "Spellbinders Association" and treasured the hours of storytelling to kindergartners at Rimrock Elementary in Fruita, Colorado. She also was an avid Pinochle player and participated regularly with a group at the Fruita Community Center. She was a voracious reader and eternal student. She led the American Association of University Women's Book Club for 7 years, in addition to participating in other book club groups. She also discovered the Kindle and spent many hours enjoying book after book, when driving limitations, hearing issues, and Covid kept her home.

She is preceded in death by her youngest daughter, Valarie Jo Boudreaux of Fruita; her brother, Dick Taylor of Kirkland; and her parents Chet and Ethel Taylor of Kirkland.

She is survived by the daughter she loved sharing a home with for the past 15 years, Bonnie Ann Currie of Mack, CO; and her son John C. Boudreaux (Glenda) of Stayton, Oregon; Grandson John C. Boudreaux jr. (Vanessa), and great grandson's Colton and Cameron Boudreaux; her niece Mitzi Taylor Wolfer (Jim) and grandnieces Paige and Macey Wolder.

Barb requested cremation with no funeral or special services.