

Eugene-Lane Branch The News

<http://www.eugene-laneauw.org/auw/index.html>

2010-2011 Year

December 2010

**Saturday,
December 11, 2010
Eugene Hilton Hotel**



9:30-10:00
Social Hour
10:00 Brunch
10:30 Program
and Silent
Auction

Great food, great entertainment by **The Eugene Gleemen** and the silent auction to benefit LAF all make this a special annual event! Bring your parking ticket to the 12th floor to have it validated for free parking in the Hilton garage!

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From Jo's Desk

*--Jo Brew, Branch
President*



November flew by without my noticing. I spent a few hours with my daughter in Tigard one Friday and noticed a bowl of brightly colored leaves she'd gathered and put on her kitchen table. I can't remember another November when I haven't collected even a few--sometimes a lot if I had a special project underway. This year I'm just trying to do a little raking whenever I have time.

One major event that has taken a lot of my at home time was my mother's one-hundredth birthday. Even with three sisters combining to put the event together, it was a job and a half. Mom is alert and didn't want to miss any of the

possible festivities. The youngest sister collected pictures from all of us and put together a video of mom's life, did the invitations and hosted the event. The sister in the middle sent for the president's letter, did the newspaper interview, obtained the one hundred roses and handled mom's transport. I did the cake (Metropol), snack food, managed the music and most of the grandchildren for the sing-a-long.

The party went off very well. Mom looked thrilled and lovely. All her children and grandchildren were there, most of her great grandchildren and three of her "great greats" as well as a few family friends. She sang along with several of the songs and smiled the whole time. When I saw her a week later, she'd rested up and would have liked to do it all over again. I'm glad it was a success but I'm also glad I can have a little time off the freeway from here to Vancouver before the next visit.

It's also been a month when I've learned a lot from the younger people in my life. All of them:

Our visiting Oregon AAUW President, Cynthia Rauscher,

Meeting Calendar

Wednesday, January 5, 2011,

1:30 p.m., Board Meeting

Quail Run Clubhouse. *All members welcome*

Notice the new time for 2011 Board meetings!

Saturday, January 8, 2011,

9:30 p.m., Branch Meeting

Westminster Church.

April 15-17, 2011, State

Convention,

Ashland Springs Hotel

June 16-19, 2011, National

Convention,

Washington, D.C.

gave me several interesting ideas for increasing our community involvement and making ourselves more visible.

When Dan Armstrong, our November speaker mentioned several grains I'd never heard of, I thought I'd try and find out more about them but not this month. As it happened, the dinner with my daughter involved a frozen vegetable mix from Trader Joe's that included Quinoa, one of those he mentioned. She began using it as a suggestion from Weight Watchers several years ago. I'll be adding that mix to my shopping list as I head to Trader Joe's the next time. She added a couple more healthy suggestions to my menu before I left.

The Eugene arrival of the grandson attending Gonzaga caused an extra visit from my youngest son and his family, the group from Corvallis. My young granddaughter taught me how to download the pictures from my camera to the computer. Even how to put them on Facebook. Then I learned about memory cards for the camera and a little more about the computer. She was very patient with me. Her older brothers are willing but go faster than I can take it in. I often feel like the young speak in a coded language I don't understand, but I do make steps forward every once in awhile.

With the winning of the grant from AAUW Oregon and the connection to a KidSports

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December 2010

girls basketball team established, we'll be getting a schedule and more information about our team soon. Wendy Cook is working on finalizing the order for shirts to support our team. The shirts will also be fun for the summer picnic and maybe for some of the future Out and About trips.

November also began the year-long celebration of AAUW's 130th Anniversary. I'm sure we'll hear more about it as the year goes on. Maybe we could even find ways to acknowledge it in our own branch. Think toward a display we could use at our meetings and take to convention – or even a brief profile we could include in one of our meetings. Ideas would be welcome.

I am hoping to see you all at the December Brunch!

Directory Changes

Welcome new members:

Deborah Duke
Joan Laughlin

A Timely Tax Tip

A win-win contribution!

You've received your AAUW Funds letter from Chair Barbara Carter by now; the only thing new this year is how to mark the memo section of check, per the instruction sheet.

Every dollar we contribute to the Funds, no matter which one we specify, is tax-deductible for us! A bargain that benefits us and our organization!

Greeter Schedule

December 11 (Hilton):

Janice Dresser,
Marian Spath

January 8 (Westminster):

Ardith Hinman
Lida Herburger

AAUW PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE December 2010

*---Kappy Eaton, Public Policy
Chair*

AAUW-League of Women Voters Legislative Process Workshop

An opportunity to learn more about the workings of the Oregon Legislature and to network with members of both AAUW and the League is scheduled for Thursday, January 13, at the State Capitol in Salem. Governor John Kitzhaber has been invited to speak at lunch. How the legislature operates will be discussed, along with a mock hearing on the probable contents of a new bottle bill (performed by the Not Ready

for Prime Time players of both groups), and a panel of political journalists from various state media talking about their coverage of the legislature. A tour of the Capitol will be available for those interested.

The cost is \$18 including lunch and background materials. A registration form will be included in the January *News*. The deadline is January 7, and carpooling can be arranged. This event takes place every two years and usually is both educational and fun.

State of the State

Good news and not so good was the report of the state economist November 19 as he provided the December economic forecast for Oregon.

The unemployment percentage still lurks above 10%, but there was an increase of 2,992 jobs since the September, the largest for two months in almost five years. The housing market is still fragile and will not be the leading factor in bringing the state slowly out of the deep recession. For the first time in two years there was no decline in revenue projected, and although the amount was not great, no further cuts to programs and services will be necessary through June 30, 2011. However, for the 2011-13 biennium, which begins July 1, there will be more than \$1 billion less than in the current one.

Rainy Day and Educational Stability reserve funds are now projected to be \$174.5 million; however, there is no projected amount for an ending balance in the General Fund on June 30. While recovery from the recession is expected to continue over five years, a bright spot is word from Intel that it intends to spend from \$6-8 billion on new construction and tech projects, primarily in Oregon and Arizona. The economist stated that this represents 2% of the entire country's annual investments in industrial and manufacturing and translates into thousands of jobs.

The State Treasurer discussed the state's bonding capacity, explaining that the desired ratio formula is no more than 5% of the General Fund to be allotted to debt service. It currently is about 5.3%. The joint Revenue committees were advised to carefully consider any borrowing requests over the next two years. Our current bond ratings remain good.

One of the state's popular programs is that of the Senior and Disabled property tax deferral project. It allows qualified citizens to delay paying all or part of the property taxes on their homes. The state pays the taxes from a revolving account funded by the repayments which participants make when leaving the program or through an estate. There has been a 25% increase in the number of

people seeking state assistance, as well as a decline in repayments, and the current fund has been able to pay only 67% of the taxes due this November to county tax assessors. The remaining 33% will be paid in May. An important element of this program is Oregon Project Independence which keeps elderly persons in their homes instead of nursing homes. The Department of Revenue is requesting legislative changes to insure that the revolving fund is maintained and able to meet the needs of its users.

AAUW Oregon Public Policy Committee

Betty Haus, Salem AAUW, has been appointed to chair the state Public Policy Committee. Betty is a long-time advocate for public education, a past chair of the committee, and a lobbyist at the Legislature. She works particularly on issues of K-12. Marcia Kelley, Salem, covers health and revenue issues, and I work on governance (elections, initiative reform, finance reform, ethics) and higher ed matters. We all follow women and family matters, and participate in the Women's Health and Wellness Alliance. Betty and Marcia also work with the Health and Human Services Coalition, and Marcia and I with the Revenue Coalition. We encourage any member to assist us in

following proposed legislation. You don't have to come to Salem. It can be done by monitoring hearings on line and keeping us informed with notes, etc.

Happy December Birthday to.....

- Barbara Gault
- Ellen Otani
- Eva LaMar-Fridlund
- Ginger Newman
- Donna Pierce
- Lee Seaton



Member News

Linda Wittorff has undergone surgery for injuries she incurred. Her address is 51457 Blue River Drive, Vida, OR 97488. A speedy recovery, Linda, from all of us!

We have been invited!

Another opportunity for our branch to provide a community service and gain recognition

South Eugene High School will devote a day to the ideals of Dr. Martin Luther King by having a Day of Respect on January 11, 2011. This will give students the opportunity to speak openly about issues of race and diversity, experience presentations by local agencies working on issues of social justice, and learn and discuss in "hot button topic" sessions on

such issues as immigration and the causes of poverty. Students and staff will participate in a march and listen to a keynote speaker to top off the day.

Branch board tentatively proposes a "quiz" session on women's suffrage to enlighten the students about a part of history so important but not always well known. If you are interested in helping, please let Marian Spath know.

Hostesses Schedule

- January:** Carol Hildebrand, Gorgie Hofma
- February:** Linda Wittorff, Pat Lanier
- April:** Elleen Levy, Greta Fridlund
- May:** Martha Pavlat, Peggy Shippen
- June:** Barbara Carter, Carol Miller

November 2010 LAF Update Case Support

The parties in *Foltz, et al. v. Delaware State University*, an important class action Title IX lawsuit brought by members of the university's women's equestrian team, have reached a [settlement](#). The settlement requires DSU to comply with Title IX's requirements to provide equitable participation opportunities and recruitment support to women's athletics. [LAF provided funding](#) for an expert witness.



LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATES
Paycheck Fairness Act Blocked by Senate

The Paycheck Fairness Act (S.3772) was blocked on a procedural vote by a minority of senators on Wednesday. The 58 [votes](#) in its favor fell just below the 60 required to open substantive debate on the legislation. As AAUW Director of Public Policy and Government Relations Lisa Maatz [put it](#), "This de facto filibuster of fair pay by Senate Republicans ensured that we never got to a debate on the bill's merits. Strategically, I can't blame them --- they can't win a fair fight against pay equity."

Following the vote, President Obama issued a [statement](#) noting his deep disappointment and pledged to continue his administration's support for stronger protections of women's equality in the workforce. Maatz and AAUW received [personal thanks](#) from the president for all the [hard work](#) on behalf of the Paycheck Fairness Act. To watch his remarks, [click here](#).

Take Action! Let your senators know how you feel about their vote on the Paycheck Fairness Act, and [urge](#) them to support future legislation aimed at closing the wage gap.

President Obama Recognizes AAUW's Leadership Role on Paycheck Fairness Act
 White House Council on Women and Girls Blog (Wednesday, November 17)
 President Barack Obama personally thanked AAUW's Lisa Maatz and acknowledged AAUW's leadership role in advocating for the bill at a special Roosevelt Room meeting held after the Senate vote on the Paycheck Fairness Act. Maatz, who sat next to the president, was among the guests invited to the White House on November 17 for a discussion with high-ranking officials and leaders about how to close the wage gap, create jobs, improve family economic security, and address work-life balance issues.

AAUW Research Figures Prominently in Pro-Paycheck Fairness Arguments

A number of recent articles used AAUW research to argue for passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act, the much-needed update of the Equal Pay Act of 1963. The author of a *New Republic* article titled "[A Sad Day for Equal Pay](#)" said that "the very fact that the Equal Pay Act has been around for almost 50 years and women still earn less than men for the same work, should generate support for this act."

Diversity Inc. Writer Comments on AAUW Dialog Post about Fight for Paycheck Fairness

[AAUW Dialog](#) (Monday, November 15)
 Gail Zoppo, a writer for Diversity Inc., commented on the AAUW Dialog blog post "Join Batgirl in the Fight for Paycheck Fairness." Zoppo talked about being her family's main breadwinner and never asking for time off for family matters — "that is, with one exception: When my mother who lives 3,000 miles away died in Aug., I (an only child) asked my employer for two weeks off unpaid to clean out her condo and prep it for rental. Result: I was terminated from my job! ... Once more women move into leadership positions, organizations will be able to make smart decisions based on real-life issues to hang on to their most valuable talent — women." The AAUW/CAP [Batgirl versus Unfair Pay](#) campaign appeared on at least a dozen blogs, including TBD's [Amanda Hess](#), the National Education Association's [NEAtoday](#), [LeftinAlabama](#), [DadsandDaughters](#), and [Comics Alliance](#).

Our Mission
 AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.
Our Vision
 A viable, visible and diverse community organization

Our Projects:

- Looking Glass
- e-Scrip
- Book Exchange
- KEaton Fund*
- Our advertisers
- Entertainment 2011

***Here's another opportunity to avail yourself of a tax-deductible contribution!!**

Interest Groups

Afternoon Book Group
 Third Monday, 2:00 p.m.,
 Contact Betty Kjeldgaard,
 541-683-4926. [Open](#)

Alpha Bridge

Every Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.,
 Willamalane Senior Adult
 Activity Center, Springfield.
 Contact Ardith Hinman,
 541-747-4310. [Open](#)

Fourth Tuesday Bridge Group

1:00 p.m. Contact Donna
 Pierce, 541-344-3365,
[Open](#)

Out & Abouters

Periodic trips around our
 part of Oregon; newsletter/
 ReaderBoard
 announcements. Linda
 Wittorff, 541-822-1199.

Out-to-Lunch Bunch

Contact Ruth Nelson,
 541-689-4020.

Readers' Theatre

Contact Barbara Carter,
 541-544-2944. 1-2 OPENINGS.



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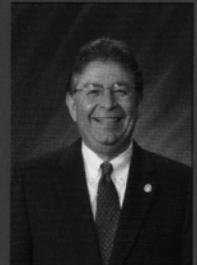
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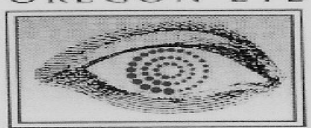
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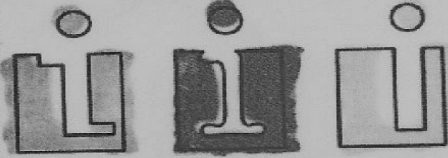
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