



THE LEADER

empowering women since 1881

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AAUW's National CEO to Keynote

Oklahoma's Biennial State Convention

AAUW's new National CEO, Kimberly Churches, will be the keynote speaker at AAUW Oklahoma's biennial State Convention, to be held June 29-30, 2018 at the PostOak Lodge in Tulsa, OK. AAUW members and student affiliates throughout Oklahoma and from surrounding states and beyond are invited to attend.

Kimberly came to AAUW in June 2017 from the Brookings Institution, where she strategically guided the public policy organization, providing vision and problem-solving skills, expansive partnerships and external relations, and fundraising as the managing director. Before joining Brookings, Kimberly was an associate vice chancellor at the University of Denver, a director of development at the University of North Florida, and a division director at the American Heart Association. She has extensive experience working collaboratively on education (K-12 and higher education) as well as capacity building among grassroots groups and national and international nonprofits. Churches earned her BA at Florida State University in English Education and the Certified Fund Raising Executive affiliation in 2002.

Kimberly's remarks, as well as the convention, will focus on AAUW's four strategic issue areas: Civil Rights, Education, Title IX, and Economic Security.

Tulsa Branch President Pam McDonald and State Board Officers Gabbie Jones and Rose Unterschuetz have selected a scenic location for the state convention with many recreation activities and great meeting facilities. PostOak has quoted a room rate of \$99 per night plus taxes in a Lodge containing 16 rooms with queen sized beds and 2 rooms that are equipped for physically disabled and have double sized beds. Go to <http://www.postoaklodge.com/> for more information and reserve now to ensure availability.

Preconference registration and a group dinner are planned for Friday, June 29. The conference will officially begin on Saturday and includes a hot breakfast buffet, drinks/snacks for morning and afternoon breaks, and lunch. The evening banquet or barbeque will be available at an additional cost. Convention registration will open in April. Come early and stay through Sunday to experience Tulsa's unique Art Deco architecture, arts and music options, and world-class Philbrook and nearby Gilcrease Museums.

If you are interested in presenting a session at the Convention, please contact State Program Vice President Peggy Glenn at peggy.glenn@aol.com or (918) 822-3330.

See Page 5 for more information from Rose Unterschuetz, AAUW/Oklahoma Co-President, about the PostOak Lodge.

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Here is What's Happening with AAUW in Oklahoma!**Alva**

The Alva branch celebrated the branch's 80th Anniversary in September.



(l to r) Carol Erickson, Carol McDaniel, Cindy Pfeiffer-Hill, Nancy Knous, Carol Cook-Moore, Annie Evans, and Jennifer Paige.

Submitted by Carol Erickson

Chickasha

The Chickasha Branch meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Chickasha Library. Most months consist of a timely book review, however, in February the members will not meet, but will be participating in the Friends of the Library 6th Annual Chocolate Celebration. The branch has participated each year.

Submitted by Angie Lewis

Duncan

Since her retirement several years ago, Duncan branch member Dr. Martha Burger has continued to develop her skills as a photographer and the Duncan branch has been a beneficiary of those skills. For the past six years, Martha has used her flower photographs to create a desk calendar, *Flowers Pure and Simple*, which is available in Duncan stores and online at Martha L. Burger Photography. As a bonus, she donates to our [branch](#) the profits from calendars sold to AAUW members. The branch has used that donation and additional branch funds to support Tech Trek at SWOSU and will make a donation again this year to Weatherford's SAGE-STEAM camp.

The 15-month calendar has a display case and each month features a beautiful floral picture. The calendars are still available and cost \$15, which includes shipping, so if you are interested, please contact Martha at mburg-er@cableone.net and she can give you details. You can place single orders or if a branch wants to do a group order, that will work as well. It's not too late to get this beautiful calendar and both Martha and the Duncan branch will thank you!

Submitted by Martha Burger & Dianna Morgan

**Edmond**

The Edmond branch is preparing for the annual Girls' Hall of Honor on Sunday March 4, 2018 at 2:00 PM at the Edmond Public Library. This event honors a 7th grade girl from each of Edmond's six Middle Schools. Teachers recommend girls for this award based on each student's proven leadership abilities. This will be the third year for the event which was developed by Erma Stewart. The Edmond branch would like to see this event started in other areas by the local AAUW branch. If you are interested in learning more so you can start this event in your area, please contact Erma Stewart, erma@encore-performances.com.

Submitted by Shelli Wasson

Tulsa

Summary of the January 13 Program on “Sex Trafficking”:

This program was very well-attended and everyone learned a great deal about Sex Trafficking. The guest speaker was Todd Evans, Sergeant of the Vice Unit in the Special Investigations Division of the Tulsa Police Department (TPD). He has been with TPD for almost 33 years and has been the Vice Sergeant for 12 years. Sgt. Evans brought us up-to-date on the situation in the Tulsa area.

Facts about Sex Trafficking: Human trafficking has emerged as one of the fastest-growing criminal activities in the world. This modern-day form of slavery claims an estimated 20.9 million victims internationally. Traffickers use violence, debt bondage, and other forms of coercion to manipulate victims into engaging in commercial sex acts or labor services against their will.

Sex trafficking occurs in a wide variety of venues within the sex industry, including residential brothels, online escort services, fraudulent massage businesses, strip clubs, and on the streets. Under federal law, any minor under the age of 18 who has engaged in commercial sex is a victim of sex trafficking — regardless of whether or not the trafficker used force, fraud, or coercion. The U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime reports that 54 percent of human trafficking victims were used for sexual exploitation.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) is the main federal legislation in the United States. Much work is still left to be done at the state level.

Upcoming Programs:

February 10 *Traces of the Trade*, documentary for Black History Month

March 10 Women’s History

April 14 Pay Equity; Intro to \$tart \$mart

May 12 Visit by AAUW/OK President-Elect

Tulsa Voice, January 2018

Tahlequah

AAUW Supports Scholarships at NSU

Tahlequah AAUW's annual fundraisers, including a holiday greenery partnership with Lynch Creek Farms, supports two AAUW Scholarships at Northeastern State University. This year’s recipient of the \$500 AAUW Undergraduate Woman Scholarship is Tulsa business administration major, Tammi Green. Tammi recently completed her Associate’s degree in business administration at Tulsa Community College with a grade point average of 4.0. She decided to start a degree after working for 15 years, often in stressful call centers doing customer service. She is now a junior at NSU and wants to become an academic advisor for students who – like her – want better job opportunities but also want to avoid the burden of student debt while getting a degree.

This year’s recipient of the \$1,000 scholarship is Sky Wildcat, who is seeking a master’s in school counseling. Sky, who is from Muskogee, graduated from NSU last spring with degrees in psychology and geography. She was the 2016-17 Miss Cherokee, and in her scholarship essay, she discussed how she initially only told her audiences about the traditional role of Cherokee women, but began incorporating modern female Cherokee role models, including Chief Wilma Mankiller and current female councilmembers, into her public remarks to highlight progress.

For more information about AAUW Tahlequah, the NSU scholarships, or future program meetings, contact Peggy Glenn at peggy.glenn@aol.com or (918) 822-3330.



AAUW Graduate Scholarship recipient Sky Wildcat (l) and AAUW President Sarah Turner McGowen (r) unpack and display a fall wreath that benefits the local AAUW chapter.

AAUW/OK State Board 2016-2018

- continued

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Submitted by Peggy Glenn

Weatherford

The SWOSU AAUW Student branch helped raise awareness of breast cancer in both women and men during “Breast Cancer Awareness Month” (October). Pink ribbon-themed items were put into baskets and placed in the female and male residence halls at SWOSU. The giveaways items included bracelets, hair ties, buttons, duckies, and pencils. Breast cancer is the most common cancer in American women. Breast cancer is not only a disease that females get; men can also get breast cancer.



Students helping with the event and their field of study (l to r):

Terin Brownen — Mathematics, Finance, and Accounting

Tram To — Mathematics and Finance

Yajayara Perez — Communications

Baili Guner — Parks and Wildlife Law Enforcement with a minor in Forensics

Shelby McGhee — Pre-Pharmacy

Jackson Alex Hawkins — Communications

Tabling at CTEEC

Each Fall, the Career and Technical Education Equity Council (CTEEC) meets in Tulsa. AAUW/OK supports our branches having an information table there so AAUW can be introduced to the students and professors. The mission of CTEEC is “Increasing the effectiveness of career and technical education through focusing on high expectations and full participation for all students and employees in career and education.” AAUW information is given out to prospective members.



Sitting at the AAUW table at CTEEC are (l to r):

Nora Pugh-Seemster, State Membership Vice President, National Member

Jeanna Wing, State Secretary, Tahlequah branch

Gabrilie Jones, State Finance Officer, Tulsa branch

The photographer was Rose Unterschuetz,

AAUW/Oklahoma Co-President, Tulsa branch

AAUW Calendar

2018

January 31 NCCWSL Early Bird Registration Ends
February NCCWSL Regular Registration Opens
February Black History Month
February 4 Deadline for Submission of Art for Note Cards
February 4–March 4 Vote for Art for Note Cards
March Women’s History Month

March 8 International Women’s Day
March 16 New Dues Goes Into Effect
April NCCWSL Registration Ends
April 10 Equal Pay Day
May 31–June 3 NCCWSL (tentative)
June 29–30 State Convention, see pages 1 & 5
Submitted by Shirley Breeze

ATTENTION:

Biennial State Convention in Tulsa
 Mark your calendars now for June 29-30, 2018, for
 AAUW/Oklahoma's Biennial State Conven-

POSTOAK
 LODGE & RETREAT

Greetings Oklahoma AAUW Members,

Please Save the Date for our State Convention. Here's some background on the beautiful PostOak Lodge & Retreat. The following information was taken from their website, <http://www.postoaklodge.com/>

**OKLAHOMA'S MOST UNIQUE
 GET AWAY DESTINATION**

Surrounded by the rolling Osage hills, POSTOAK Lodge & Retreat sits on 1,000 acres just 10 minutes from downtown Tulsa. The Gilcrease Expressway provides a clear, beautiful drive to POSTOAK. Local lore says adventurous pioneers fell in love with the Osage Hill's woodlands, valleys and sparkling ponds. Storied outlaws like Jesse James, Belle Starr and the Dalton brothers are said to have found refuge in the area's hills and caves. Eventually the serenity of the gorgeous site caught the attention of the Catholic Diocese. In 1983, Our Lady of Osage Hills was built on part of the acreage as a retreat and summer camp.

Private investors acquired the property in 2003 and named it POSTOAK Lodge & Retreat, as a nod to the Persimmon Ridge- the band of timber running from Kansas down to Texas right through the property.

POSTOAK's mission is to be a restful and revitalizing destination for all guests by providing a first class experience surrounded by the natural beauty of the Osage Hills. Since 2013 there have been extensive upgrades and renovation. Come see Oklahoma's most unique and desired destination.

Sincerely, Rose Unterschuetz
 AAUW/Oklahoma Co-President

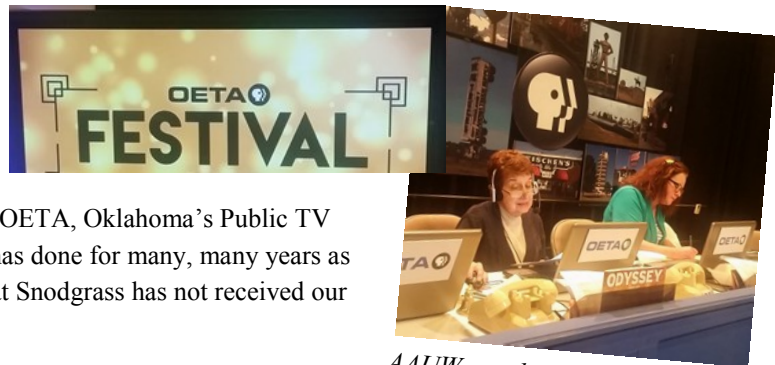
POSTOAK Lodge Contact Information
 5323 West 31st Street North
 Tulsa, OK 74127
 918.425.2112



OETA Festival in March!!

Time to answer the phones and take pledges for OETA, Oklahoma's Public TV station. **This is a public** service event that AAUW has done for many, many years as a way to introduce the viewing public to AAUW. Pat Snodgrass has not received our scheduled date for an evening in March yet.

Please email Pat, psnodgra4@sbcglobal.net, and let her know of your interest in the event so she can follow-up with you. It is more fun for AAUW members if we have enough attend to fill up all the seats in the tv studio. Otherwise, another group is booked and that group gets on-air attention that could be given to AAUW. You do not have to be an AAUW member to sit with us so bring your husband and friends with you!



AAUW members Diana Campo and Lynn Wiley, answer the phones at OETA Festival in 2017. Both are members of the Edmond branch.

Submitted by Shelli Wasson



STEAM Camp

As introduced in the September 2017 AAUW/OK newsletter, Tech Trek at SWOSU is transitioning to become the Southwest Alliance for Girls' Enrichment (SAGE) in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) camp.

There were 179 nominations of seventh grade girls received from teachers, principals, and counselors across the state of Oklahoma. Last year, there were 125 nominations. Qualified girls who apply in February will be interviewed via phone in March and notified of camper status by April 16. Up to fifty girls, along with six former campers from Tech Trek at SWOSU in 2015, will be chosen to attend the inaugural SAGE STEAM camp in June 2018.

Weatherford Branch members appreciate the continuing support of Oklahoma AAUW members. Tax-deductible donations may be made via the SWOSU Foundation. There is the option to donate online via credit card by going to <https://standingfirmly.com/givetoswosu> and selecting "SAGE STEAM camp" in the drop down menu. Checks may also be written to the SWOSU Foundation with SAGE STEAM in the memo, and sent to Lori Gwyn, 100 Campus Drive, Weatherford, OK 73096. In-kind donations of teaching and camper supplies are also appreciated.

Other ways to help include volunteering to conduct phone interviews with potential campers and their parents/guardians; identifying mentors to teach a STEAM topic; and/or by serving on one of the camp sub-committees, which will be established in February. Members may also experience camp for a day during the week of June 17 to 23 – details will be provided in the next newsletter.

For more information, please visit the website (where social media links are also found) at <http://www.swosu.edu/academics/sage-steam-camp/>, email sagesteamcamp@gmail.com, or call Lisa Appeddu at 580-774-3148. *Here we go, full STEAM ahead!*

STEM Summit

The Southwest Alliance for Girls' Enrichment (SAGE) were invited to Governor Mary Fallin's recent STEM & Entrepreneurship Summit in November 2017. A summary of Tech Trek at SWOSU from 2013 to 2017 was presented, plus they hosted interactive STEM tables. The Tech Trek presentation is found on the SAGE STEAM website.



Participants included (l to r):
Dr. Jorie Edwards, SWOSU Psychology
Dr. Lori Gwyn, SWOSU Chemistry
Ella Barnett, 2017 Tech Trek Camper from Weatherford
Breleigh Hughes, SWOSU pre-Nursing major
Kyla Risenhoover, 2016 Tech Trek Camper from Hydro
Erin Ridgeway, SWOSU Libraries
Dr. Lisa Appeddu, SWOSU Pharmacy

Submitted by Dr. Lisa A. Appeddu, Ph.D., Weatherford branch member